

# Lion

The Wesley College Community Magazine

Edition 132 • April 2018



## Forty years of coeducation

### Features:

Coeducation – forty years on | ‘Opening’ season | Senior Australian of the year delivers some truth for the ages | Glen Waverley students commence 2018 in style

## A True Education



WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

SINCE 1886

A True Education

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# Contributors

**Publications Manager:** Anna Davies

**Copy Editor and Features Writer:**

Dawson Hann

**OWCA Editor:** Lucy Gilfillan

**College Correspondents:**

Jacinta Janssens (Elsternwick)

Dean Triplett (Glen Waverley)

Paul Munn (St Kilda Road)

Ben Marsland (Clunes)

Hayne Meredith (Outdoor Education)

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our mailing list, please contact the OWCA  
office on (03) 8102 6475

*Front cover image:*

*The 1978 'Beginners' (Prep) class graduating  
in 1990, the first coeducational cohort to move  
through Wesley from Prep to Year 12.*

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

# Editorial

**It's perhaps unsurprising that, as I get closer to my 'use-by' date in this** rather extraordinary school community, a significant part of my life for more than four decades, all kinds of epiphanies, moments of illumination, assert themselves.

It is more than likely that our Principal is experiencing similar moments, since the Council has just announced that her own splendid tenure – the third-longest in Wesley history – finishes after 15 dedicated years at the helm. These are partly nostalgia, nature's way of easing the pain of separation, and eliminating the darker spots so that the past can blur happily with the present. But they also remind us that it often takes a lifetime to comprehend the complexity of what you have experienced.

Most of this understanding lies in simple moments only half-remembered and indistinct in detail, but powerful in effect. For me, countless moments in the classroom when a small act of kindness, one student to another, or a shouted helpful insight, or a hard-won collective moment of understanding, were unifying for those present in that place and time. The goodness of others was recognised and endorsed, if not always articulated. Or moments on the sporting field, or on the stage in countless productions across different year levels, when the unconditional support of students for each other was simply inspiring. These provide the raw material by which, in retrospect, you can get the measure of a place.

They were most often personal and intimate, defined by a space, and shared by a few. One public moment stands out for me, though, and has resonated ever since. It was 10 years ago this year when Kevin Rudd made his apology, on behalf of the Australian people, to the stolen generation. I went to watch it on the big screen in the Senior School Lecture Theatre, not expecting a crowd. It was lunchtime, after all. But the place was packed to the rafters. The respectful silence, followed by a spontaneous applause, by which the students engaged with this historic moment was indeed the epiphany of the decade for me. It confirmed what I had known for a long time – that I was in a good place.

These revelations are there about us all the time, and we need to be on the alert for them, and draw sustenance from them. So I was especially moved by a recent correspondence from an OW a long time left, but still clearly deeply engaged with the present Wesley, and finding it a better place than the one he remembers. None of those 'Back in my day ...' platitudes for Tony Harnell (OW1961) who asks poignantly 'What Happened to the school I knew? Gone and will never return.' But he only wrote for one purpose, he insists: 'To praise the school ... Contemporary Wesley is a joy.' This is a tough perception in a way, because it disturbs the comfort of nostalgia, and the blissful contentment of perceptions of the good old days. But its honesty and truthfulness confirms that past and present, school and a changing society, sit harmoniously together in any good place.

**Dawson Hann** | Copy Editor and Features Writer

## A True Education

Wesley College's website  
provides great insight  
and information about the  
school. Have a look at  
[www.wesleycollege.net](http://www.wesleycollege.net)



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# Principal's lines



**This year I will have** completed three five-year contracts as Principal of the College and news of the end of my tenure is now widely known. I take this opportunity to breathe deeply and reflect a little on my time at Wesley which, incidentally, constitutes roughly a third of my life. These have been seminal years. I had no thought that, when I joined the

teaching staff in 1989 to teach English and Biology, Wesley would hold my destiny. As a classroom teacher, as a Head of Senior School at St Kilda Road, as the Principal's Associate for the IB, and finally, as Head of Glen Waverley campus, all were exciting times back then. Even so, when I left in 1997 to become the Academic Director for the International Baccalaureate in Wales, I had little idea of what was ahead. But I knew and loved the school, felt I understood its ethos, and was overjoyed ultimately when in 2003, I was approached and appointed as Wesley's first female Principal, itself an honour and privilege.

As oft quoted, there is a season for everything, there's a time to arrive and a time to depart, and now is this time. It is difficult to stabilise in my head everything that I have loved about the whole experience. Above all, what has made my time at Wesley so satisfying and enjoyable has been the interaction and collegiality of our students, staff and the wider community, something frequently touched upon in this publication: that much-admired sense of the Wesley family. We are a dynamic community, open to new ideas, while holding on proudly to history and traditions, at the same time allowing our beliefs and values to accommodate new perceptions and insights about what is best for our community of students, staff, parents and alumni.

My earlier time at the school had revealed much about the precious sense of belonging we all seek in any place of work. The shared humanity has frequently been inspirational, I have always felt supported, and the pulse of Wesley's heart has been a source of energy and power through some often challenging and changing times. I have been privileged to be a part of an environment that is so creative, so inventive, critical and inquiring.

One of the most exciting innovations and an outstanding example of partnership and cooperation has been the establishment of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School in the Kimberley. Thirty nine Aboriginal students have successfully completed Year 12 at Yiramalay. In addition, significant new

partnerships have been established over the last decade with schools in Guangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing, Madrid, and Lyon in France.

The expansion of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme, including the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and the Diploma Programme (DP), the introduction of the Senior Years Learning Framework, and specialist language programs including English language preparation for international students, and enhanced Chinese immersion for all students in PYP, have all been transformative. The culture of learning at Wesley has been so much enriched by the exceptional quality of the Performing and Visual Arts across the College and by the developments in Wesley sport.

Throughout, I have been fortunate to lead a strong executive leadership team whose members may have changed, but whose objectives for the wellbeing of the school have never wavered. The College Council, the Uniting Church, Parents' Associations and the OWCA have been unstinting in their support, and wise in their counsel.

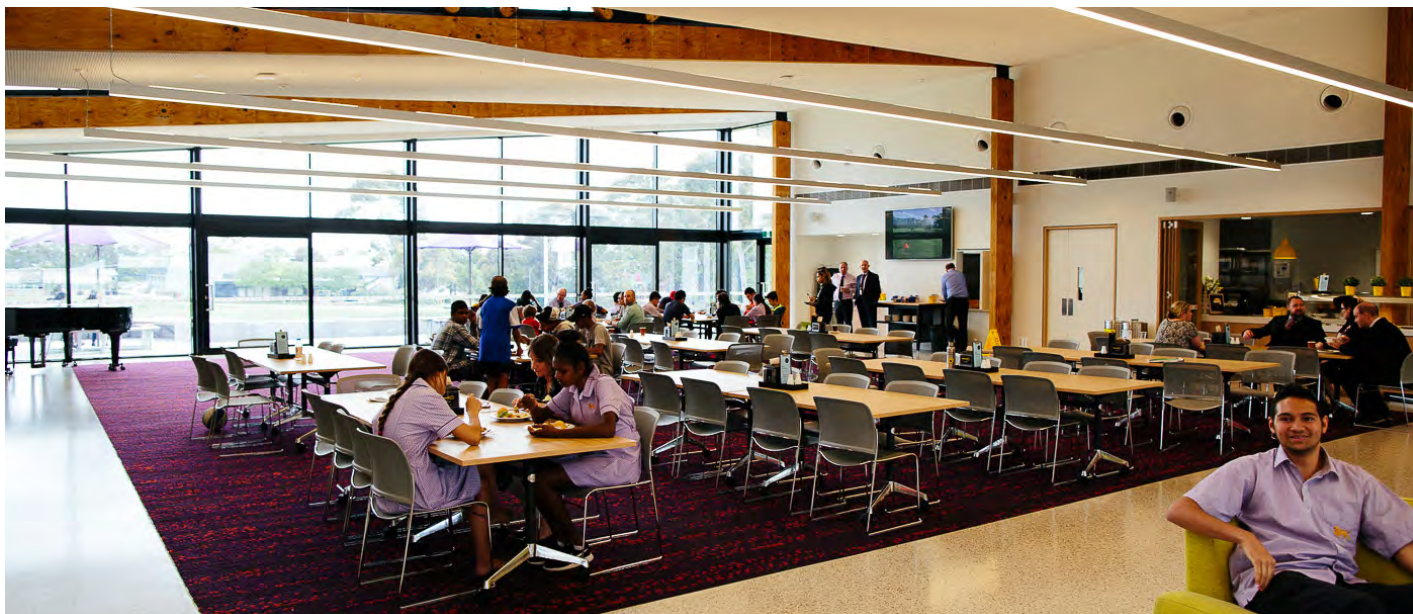
It is historically coincidental that, in my last year as Principal, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the introduction of coeducation. While this is written about in one of the feature articles in this edition, I would like to add a couple of thoughts of my own.

The most significant change in the philosophy and structure of the College's 152-year history has been the implementation of coeducation. In 1978, when David Prest, the then Principal,



*Principal David Prest's final speech night in 1991. Pictured with school captain Scott Grierson (left) and two young students.*





*Hartnell Dining Hall at Learning in Residence*

proposed such a momentous change, he probably didn't envisage fully what amazing transformations would ensue, and I'm sure that he looks back with a mixture of pride and some nostalgia.

The success of the well-planned development of coeducation is the cornerstone of contemporary Wesley, and it has been transformative in every facet of Wesley life. It was never simply a matter of adding girls; it was about transforming ideas and attitudes of everyone at the school, boys and girls, men and women. An authentic conceptualising of an education for all, across gender divides. Within the normalising, socialising environment of coeducation, it was primarily understood that boys would become better men and girls would be offered a first-class and equal education, preparing both more comprehensively for the world in which they would live. Now, 40 years later, Wesley is proud to be a world-leading independent coeducational school.

The introduction of coeducation in 1978 meant the imminent closing of the boarding house, to the dismay of many traditional rural boarding families. Happily, I will leave knowing that the situation has been redressed after 40 years, and that the first full year of *Learning in Residence* (coeducational) at the Glen Waverley campus has meant the return of boarding to Wesley after all this time. I am confident it will be one of our beacons into the future.

Finally, on a very personal note, I have thrived on the relationships with our staff in their various roles and capacities, with our students, past and present and with our Wesley and Yiramalay families, and the Wesley and Bunuba communities. I leave with a feeling of tristesse – that blend of joy and sadness when there is a realisation that a most influential time in one's life has come to a close. There is much to rejoice about and so much to celebrate, and I am honoured to have been the College's third-longest-serving Principal. Thank you all for everything over the years.

With best wishes,

**Helen Drennen**



*Prefects Dinner in the Cato Room, St Kilda Road*



*Yiramalay students at the Glen Waverley Commencement Service 2017*



# Coeducation – forty years on

**The beginnings of Wesley as a coeducational school are** remembered by just a few extant members of staff. So successful was Wesley's transition from being, for more than a century, an eminent boys school, into the country's largest coeducational school by the last decade of the old century, that the original impetus for change has quite naturally been obscured in the mysteries of the past. Ironically, the Principal who oversaw the passage to enlightenment, David Prest, had experience, as a student, senior teacher, and educational leader, only in conservative boys' schools. He was not a 'man on a mission', but in a visionary way felt the pulse of the age, and also the willingness of the school he joined in 1972 to embrace new and progressive ideas. It was the 1970s, and 'the times were a changin''. In fact, in an interview with the student magazine *Purpurea* in 1973, Prest asserted that he detected very little pressure in the Wesley community to go coed, since it needed to be a 'whole community' decision, and he confirmed publicly a year later that everyone was fairly quiet on this issue.

But in less than five years the first girls had been 'embedded', as it were, in a male domain, and the history of contemporary Wesley was underway. So, what changed? The answer is simple enough, as basic really as Prest's growing belief, held likewise by then Council President Keith Ditterich, that in order to broaden the concept of Wesley as a community (surely our most-treasured modern value), a much more comprehensive and inclusive view of society and gender equity needed to be embraced. This impulse for an expanding vision of community has been a driving force since then. It came slowly, but with conviction and thorough planning, led by inspirational educational thinkers such as Tony Conabere and Ian Ling, and was based on a considerable amount of theoretical literature on the subject. Chief among these was RR Dale's influential *Mixed or Single Sex School?*, which unequivocally stated that, 'It is ... established beyond any doubt that most of the opposition to a coeducational school stems from ignorance, for to teach in a coeducational school is a near guarantee of conversion'.

It's fair to say that there were some anxieties among long-standing members of staff of the era, for whom a sudden change in practice must have been threatening. Many, understandably, felt secure in ancient rites and practices of the kind vividly promoted in *Boy's Own Annuals* and the culture of 'chaps'. Staff meetings were held regularly in which the anxieties were not merely dismissed in favour of a 'new world order' but

comprehensively and sensitively addressed, even though the winds of change blew ever stronger. And Prest had also appointed a whole coterie of new staff – still mainly male at this stage – who brought with them some of the passions and idealism for change inherent in their 1960s and early-1970s university educations.

The story of coed is thus inextricably linked with our highly prized notion of community, and its foundation thinkers were absolutely spot-on in affirming that no community embracing the 'Wesley family' ethos would be meaningful if it excluded half of the gender composition of the world. Modernity stamped its foot, and the sound reverberated with increasing volume. But alongside this, Wesley was seeking to reinvent itself in the face of its competitors, and this was a way too of stealing a march on schools less likely to shake themselves free of the impediments of the past, and of local history. So, the decision from an historical perspective was at least partly commercial.

When the Principal and Council announced that from 1978 the whole school would become coeducational, beginning with the lowest forms in that seminal year, three points were emphasised over and over: that the case for coeducation is educational and social; that it is not for financial reasons (at least not primarily, but a factor); and that Wesley does not believe coeducation is good mainly for boys. The idea that coeducation only benefitted boys, was a popular, if ill-founded argument of the time. However, the comprehensive success of Wesley's transition into a genuinely well-balanced school, with a keen eye for both the similarities and differences between boys and girls, validates the College's initial case for coeducation. It also stands as testament to the clear thinking of the Principal and Council from those now impossibly 'far off' days, which ultimately ensured that a truly communal spirit was the basis for all developments.



*The 1980 Jazz Ballet class strike a pose*



*Before: the St Kilda Road (Pahran) staff in 1960*



*After: the Glen Waverley staff in 1978*

## New teachers for a new time

Prest signed up for a course at the University of Oregon in Eugene, which would help him confidently lead the school through the brave new world he was helping create, especially in the recruitment of female teachers. He would supervise their successful integration into the all-male preserve, and as powerful players in their own right in leadership positions. In 1979 at Pahran (now St Kilda Road), there were only 14 women listed on the staff of 92, and most were part-time. Perhaps the most memorable was Meegan Pannu, appointed at the beginning of 1979. In some ways she was the forerunner of a host of exceptional women who would come into the school in the 1980s and help steer this wondrous new vessel. Meegan was fond of her students, provoked their thinking and dared to treat them all, girls and boys, as young individuals worthy of her attention. Her outrageous humour was just slightly scandalous – a compelling way to imprint one's values and expectations. In an unexpected way, she set the tone for the generation of teachers, male and female, to follow. She would also later spend some time as Deputy Head.

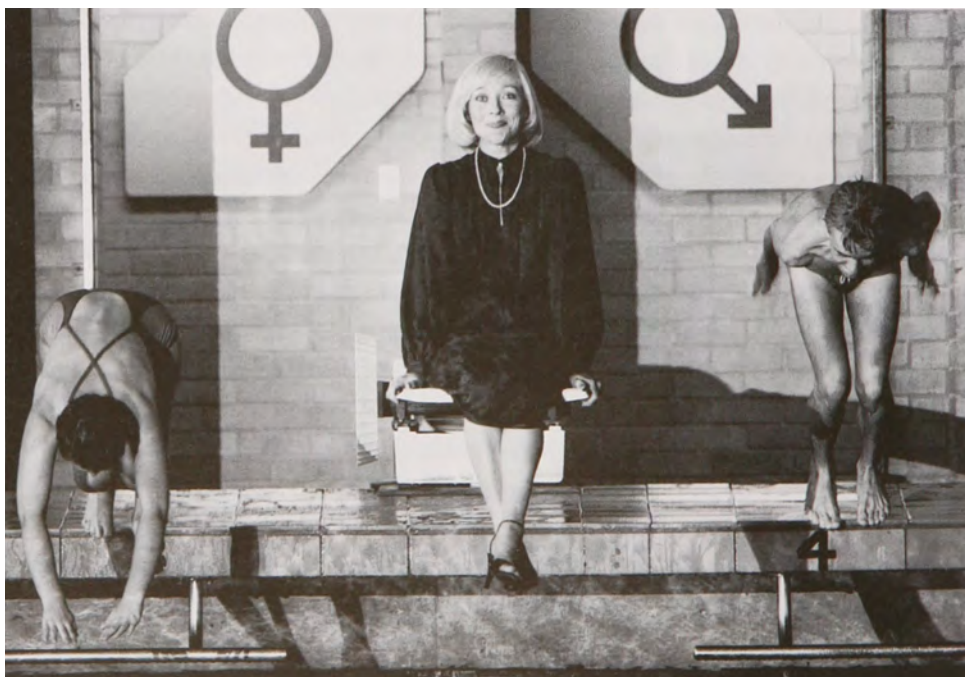
Readers of *Lion* who were around at this time will doubtless recollect with affection and admiration many of the women who answered Wesley's call, and who made indelible impressions.

They helped provide the foundation upon which the new community would be erected, and if not all stayed as long as might have been hoped, it was because they were poached by other schools, for senior positions. Barbara Lynch was one who stayed and became Head of Glen Waverley after Tony Conabere relocated to Pahran. They proved a formidable duo for the new age. Prue Gillies, Hilary Walker, Diane Fleming, Nancy Hillier and Rosa Storelli were others from this time who, having survived Wesley, went on to distinguished leadership roles elsewhere. The number of Principals, both male and female, who came out of Wesley during the inspirational decade of 1979–1990 was astounding, almost certainly unique in Australian schools before and after.

Which brings us to an understated note in the *Chronicle* of 1989: appointed to the staff, to teach Biology and English, was a Helen Drennen. Little did we know at the time how this incidental aside would eventually lead to the summit of the Wesley coeducation story. Some 15 years into the future – and, symbolically, in the first decade of the new century – Helen was appointed as Wesley's first female Principal. After gaining enormous experience as Head of Glen Waverley from 1994–1997, and with the burgeoning International Baccalaureate Organisation as Director of Academic Affairs from 1997–2003.

The winds of change blew her south once more. Helen taking the reins at a school she already knew, and whose values she warmly endorsed, and with an advanced understanding of the role of females in every domain, provides a fitting end to the narrative of Wesley's ever-growing community aspirations, so deeply embedded in the principles of coeducation.

And, of course, let us never forget those first girls, each one a part of Wesley history. What a brave, enterprising, resilient and resourceful bunch they were. So too their families who, by enrolling them, had the nerve and foresight to help Wesley on its early confident steps into a progressive future.



*Meegan Pannu was always one to dive in at the deep end*



# ‘Opening’ season

The Biblical reminder that ‘to everything there is a season’, and that the world is always turning, provides an unexpectedly fitting description for the opening of new or upgraded facilities to kick off this new Wesley year. No less than eight significant places across four of our campuses are enjoying more than just a facelift. These are driven by a number of reasons – calamity (such as the Glen Waverley fire), time (things do eventually fall apart) and need (new ideas about how best to educate our students demand a re-assessment of the physical environment). All have, in one way or another, played a role in this unusually active season of openings. And Wesley does thrive on a good opening, even if it only involves a quick get-together, a cup of tea, or something stronger if appropriate, and a yarn about the school. The flux of time and change also determines much about our treasured notion of community.

At St Kilda Road, the stunning new Visual Arts and Design Precinct, located in the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind (on a minimum 20-year lease), was officially opened on St Valentine's Day. This is a long-term \$2.3m upgrade, beautifully managed from start to finish by Colin Brennan, working comprehensively with the architects and renovators, and with reliable support as ever provided by Cameron Moroney and the indefatigable Colin Westhorpe. Together, they have accomplished something truly marvellous in this famous building from the Victorian Age. Art students will have the privilege of working with their imaginations in a heritage space. Old masters take note: creative inspiration will be at the highest level, if we concede that the artistic spirit is nurtured by environment.

The relocation of the art school means that the spaces they occupied adjacent to the Nye Quad have provided room for new classrooms (for increasing enrolments) and an additional science laboratory. These too are now open for business, as it were.

Out east, new stars have also been sighted above the Glen Waverley campus, signifying the completion of several new projects there. A brand new Early Childhood Learning Centre classroom is operating, which means that a whole new group has started its Wesley life here. This puts in place the final piece in the overall Glen Waverley Junior School refurbishment. In addition,



*Spacious outdoor decking at Yiramalay's new student housing*



*Glen Waverley Years 5 and 6 Centre*

the old Wells Library building has been converted into a Years 5 and 6 Centre. Three Year 5 and three Year 6 classrooms and a re-jigged atrium space are also fully up and running, so that all Junior School students are now in a contained area. Thus, the early stages of their Wesley life can be experienced with a truly meaningful sense of community, at the heart of our deepest convictions about suitable areas for certain age groups. This opening also represents the final stage of the rebuild of this area after the catastrophic fire; out of crisis arises something splendid, embodying the best in progressive educational thinking.

Being constantly responsive to new pedagogies is also behind a smaller but equally important restructure, now open for the year ahead, in another part of the campus. Based primarily on Individual Needs (IN) requirements, there has been a swapping of positions between IN and the Sports Directorate in the Sports building, also necessitating some refurbishing and rethinking of spaces. The fine tuning of what is best for all members of our student community is once again a driving force behind reimagining the use of buildings.

Down south things have been humming along as well, once again in response to our acknowledgement that shared spaces for gatherings of all kinds are central to our notions of community. At Elsternwick, Fitchett Hall, grand old dame that she is, has long been in need of a facelift, and so that campus is thrilled with the opening this year of a wholly refurbished space ideal for assemblies, performances, functions, and general community use. The ‘heart’ of the campus is beating with renewed verve, without losing its historical rhythms.



*St Kilda Road Visual Arts and Design Precinct*

And just to complete the compass orientation, way out in the north-west of the country (point a compass in any direction and somewhere you will find a Wesley location), the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School will be joining in the general flurry of openings in 2018. Four new student houses have been built to augment the four existing ones, themselves having undergone a necessary touch-up, and together these buildings set the tone for the whole of this inspiring place. Its expansion speaks volumes about its significance for the local indigenous community and those from the Melbourne campuses who make their annual pilgrimages, providing short but life-enhancing experiences.

Our season of 'openings' is well underway. And together they sketch a compelling narrative of the College's ever-widening

response to the equally ever-changing educational and social needs of our students and their teachers.



*The new and improved Fitchett Hall*

## Senior Australian of the Year delivers some truths for the ages

**No problems finding a speaker to inspire students at the** St Kilda Road campus Commencement Service held traditionally now in St Paul's Cathedral a couple of weeks into first term. We just nabbed one of our own. Professor Graham Farquhar (OW1964) was named Senior Australian of the Year for 2018, in recognition of his work protecting food security in a changing climate – so who better to tell the coming generation some significant truths about the world they inhabit? Graham crops up quite regularly in *Lion* as we are always pleased to acknowledge his outstanding international reputation as a biophysicist. In 2017 he was the first Australian awarded the Kyoto Prize (equivalent to a Nobel Prize) for his ground-breaking application of his two chief loves – mathematics and physics – to his research on plants and their environment. And just two years before that, he was honoured with the Prime Minister's Prize for Science. He also has the distinction of being Wesley's only Nobel Prize winner – hardly surprising, given how relatively few have made their way down under. This was shared by Graham in 2008 with other scientists on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Wisdom acquired from experience, and an accompanying humility, were at the heart of what Graham had to say to both students

the half a dozen 'tips for leadership' he outlined for those many in the congregation on the cusp of a new life, and new challenges, beyond school. Perhaps what resonated most was his insistence on the need to struggle for honesty, to demonstrate integrity in whatever you undertake, and, most importantly, to accept mistakes sometimes, and to use failure positively.

These were apt and powerful words for a generation perhaps too much raised on the notion that no one is allowed to be less than successful in everything they undertake. Graham offered an antidote to this somewhat facile view of human experience and, indeed, of education generally. Leadership requires, Graham pointed out, loyalty 'up and down', being open to both sides of any argument, and some liberal doses of empathy.

Graham also delivered a telling message about 'struggling' – not a word we hear enough of in the present obsession with the equilibrium accompanying unchallenged 'self-esteem'. There is a powerful element of struggle in every facet of our growth to a fuller humanity: the struggle to improve, the struggle for honest self-appraisal, the struggle to evaluate and deal with one's prejudices.

Tellingly, Graham emphasised exercising the body as the path to mental acuity. The brain-body links have become more and more established. Confessing to being 'a mediocre sportsman' he turned to learning ballet and modern dance while doing his PhD, performing in shows all over the place. Later he helped form the Canberra Dance Ensemble. There are other sides to all of us, again an important message for the young in his audience.

Graham was able to deliver his messages about struggle and creative leadership with composure born of a life lived with, one suspects, unflinching self-awareness. The students could take away from his address some inspirational understanding of how one lives 'the good life', just as the nation will also, in the coming 12 months, as Graham fulfils his role as Senior Australian of the Year with the quiet assurance and good humour that wisdom delivers. We just have to be smart enough to get hold of it.



*Graham Farquhar (OW1964)*

and their parents at the Commencement Service. Both these qualities were evident in the gentle and unassuming tone with which Graham confronted, and communicated, his themes about leadership in whatever field, and the need to be creative in the example you set, and how you encourage others. 'Creativity in leadership is surely to be treasured' were his words, and was the encompassing idea in



# Glen Waverley students commence 2018 in style

Now in its third year, the **Glen Waverley Campus Commencement Service** at St Paul's Cathedral is a highly anticipated event. This year was no exception. The student leaders from Junior School in Year 4 to Year 8 and 9 in Middle School, and the Captains and prefects of the Senior School, were all formally inducted into their roles. The venue is the perfect setting for the musical talent of our students to shine. The mix of soaring instrumental and vocal pieces, words of wisdom about leadership, and the wonderful address by our guest speaker, left all students, parents and staff uplifted by the experience.

This year the guest speaker, Rev. Dr Jennifer Byrnes, crafted an address that had important messages for all. The theme of place, space and service for the betterment of all was inspiring. In talking about the fact that St Paul's was one corner of a busy intersection in the middle of the city, Jennifer reminded all about the partnerships that link our community together. The advice that one needed a strong spine and a soft front to be a good leader was a message all leaders, young and older, could take to heart. Strength at the core of making the right decisions, at the same time ensuring there was empathy for the individual, was a skilfully delivered message.

The place and space that is St Paul's provided a wonderful opportunity to reinforce shared values and inspire our 2018 leaders. It was a fitting setting for the talent of our students to shine and make everyone present feel they were part of something bigger than the individual, but also that every individual matters. As an event that celebrates the school at the start of the academic year, this service provides lingering memories for all those who were privileged to be there.



*Flag bearers entering the Cathedral*



*The Glen Waverley student choir performs*

## Farewell to Andrew Aronowicz



*Andrew (OW2007) develops a new composition for the violin*

**Andrew Aronowicz (OW2007) has been a member of the Wesley community** for the past 23 years, commencing his Wesley journey as a Prep student in 1995 at the Elsternwick campus. Andrew began learning the violin with Wendy Tooke and continued to develop his passion for music throughout his years at school. He was Arts Captain in Year 10 at Elsternwick and continued his involvement in the Music program at the St Kilda Road campus. He studied music composition at The University of Melbourne, where he eventually taught composition.

Andrew's inquiring mind and passion for music led him to writing and hosting his own classical music program on the community radio station 3MBS.

He maintained his violin skills and added teaching to his repertoire of musical talents, returning to Elsternwick to assist Wendy Tooke and the string program. His talents as a composer were clearly recognised when the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra recently performed one of his compositions. Andrew was farewelled by the Elsternwick community earlier in Term 1 at school assemblies with music and speeches; his contribution to music at the Elsternwick campus can never be underestimated. He leaves to embark on the next chapter of his musical career, taking up a position as a producer for Australia's prominent classical music radio station, ABC Classic FM. We congratulate Andrew on this appointment and wish him all the best in the knowledge that his contribution to the Melbourne music community and beyond will continue to grow.

## Elsternwick's Fitchett Hall reinvented

**The Elsternwick Campus Fitchett Hall, named after** Rev. Dr William Henry Fitchett (1882), the establisher of the Kew MLC, has undergone a total refurbishment with a focus on developing a multipurpose, flexible space for performing, learning and connecting as a community.

With a vision to reflect it as a more modern space for 21st century learning, it has also been developed in a way that reflects our greatest priorities, these being to ensure a greater capacity and a more communal space with increased and broadened usage, particularly for Creative Movement, Dance and Drama. The four Cs of critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity are central to this shared community space.

As we develop the whole person through the four timeless principles of learning, it is a place 'to know' and one in which our students can explore the joys of learning by observing, listening and experimenting, as well as using imagination and reason.

Within and beyond these walls, there is much 'to do' as students explore, experiment and discover. It is a place for performances and to celebrate achievements in the arts, especially in music, theatre and the visual arts. Confidence is built in a creative and stimulating way. As we 'live with' and learn alongside others, it is a place to develop understanding of others, highlighting social responsibility and celebrating community service. Above all, it is a space in which 'to be' and where we encourage students



*Fitchett Hall, before and during the renovations*



to develop a sense of belonging, to learn who they are, and of course how they best learn.

The retractable seating has transformed Fitchett, and it can change from a formal presentation space to a spacious open area within minutes, and the mere push of a button. The internal façade has been refreshed with painting, new lighting and audio visual and modernised features such as blackbutt hardwood flooring, with a sectioned sprung dance floor, floor-to-ceiling mirrors and new stage curtains. Backstage there is ample storage for Dance and Drama, audio visual and music equipment and resources. Natural lighting permeates the hall, as double glass doors now open onto an extensive deck that not only supports learning within and outside of the building, but also encourages social interactions.

It is with great excitement that the Elsternwick community has begun the 2018 school year with a transformed space that is the very essence of all we represent: a closely connected community.



*Retractable seating at the new multipurpose Fitchett Hall*

## A coveted award



*Richard Brenker, Donna Banks and Rob Gow celebrate Glen Waverley's award with current students*

**For two years running, the Glen Waverley** campus Early Childhood Learning Centre (ECLC) has been awarded a coveted 'Excellent' rating (the highest rating a service can achieve under the National Quality Framework) by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA).

A single such rating is difficult to achieve. But two years in a row is indeed an outstanding effort; it is a testament to the exceptional practices and programs the staff of the ECLC have devised, implemented and maintained. As Robert Gow, Head of Junior School, observed: 'This is a significant achievement and acknowledges the exceptional standard of education and care that our Early Childhood Learning Centre is providing, and its commitment to improving outcomes for children and families'.

In recognition of this exemplary achievement, the CEO of ACECQA, Ms Gabrielle Sinclair, in a lovely ceremony, congratulated the ECLC staff and presented the Early Learning Centre with the 'Excellent' award.

The Excellent Rating award is available to view on the ACECQA website.

# Burning the Midnight Oil

**The year that St Kilda Road trumpet teacher Jack Howard just** had served as another clear reminder of the rich experience Wesley music teachers bring to their work at our school. His was a year that many a musician, both professional and prospective, would drool over. Jack took leave to perform in the horn section of legendary Australian band Midnight Oil, on their triumphant The Great Circle 2017 World Tour – a 77-show musical odyssey performed in South America, North America, Europe, South Africa, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. A member of the highly respected Hunters and Collectors in the 1980s and 1990s, Jack had ‘helped out’ for Midnight Oil on tour before, so he was very much a known quantity: playing trumpet, flugelhorn and percussion, and also providing backing vocals, he says ‘they knew I’d be low stress and low maintenance on the road. I was a good package!’

Jack couldn’t just sit back and enjoy the ride, however: ‘Midnight Oil are demanding in terms of playing and their expectations – they’re very good musicians’. As such, he practised constantly, despite the numerous live performances. ‘I kept my practice up relentlessly on

tour. For example, while waiting for a connecting flight at Heathrow, I played for 45 minutes in the shower stall of an airport lounge bathroom’. Hard work, but clearly there were huge rewards, and Jack doesn’t have to think too hard to list them, ‘The thrill and sheer adrenaline of performance and performing with an incredible band (example: getting up and playing to 50,000 people in the Czech Republic!) ... meeting new people, seeing new places. It’s tiring, but it’s not just fun – there’s something really satisfying about it. You feel you’re doing something really special’.

As well as teaching trumpet, Jack mentors young Wesley bands, and has plenty to share with them about such experiences to help them further their own performance skills. While he was away, Jack also had regular reminders about our school’s global reach, ‘Throughout the tour, ex-Wesley students turned up all over the place ... Wesley really is an internationally minded school. Be it ex-staff or ex-students, people all over the world would remember me from teaching at Wesley’.



*Jack in the spotlight*



*Jack and Peter Garrett charm the crowd*

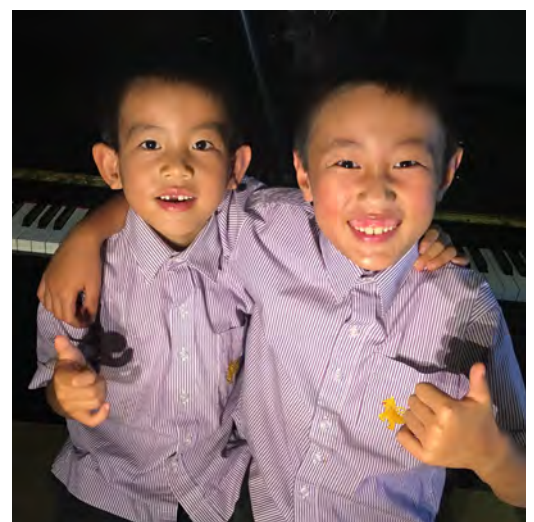
## Wesley at Carnegie Hall? Unlikely, but true

**Imagine for a moment that you’re in Carnegie Hall, midtown Manhattan,** where past composers like Richard Strauss, Igor Stravinsky and Leonard Bernstein conducted premieres of famous musical works. Imagine as well two young boys sitting before the stage piano; they both deliver virtuoso recitals.

For two young brothers from the Glen Waverley Junior School – Lionel and Dillon Lin – this scenario is soon to become a reality.

Acting upon their piano teacher’s advice, the boys’ mother, Lin, submitted recital videos to the prestigious Golden Classical Music Awards (NYC). The Golden Classical Music Awards seek to discover artists of outstanding personality and provide awards which can help to launch international careers.

Thrillingly, both boys won awards: Lionel received first place, Dillon third. Amazingly, they have been invited (as winners) to perform at Carnegie Hall in November 2018. Excitedly, Lin wrote to the school, finishing her email with: ‘Thank you for always cultivating and stimulating their love and interest in music’.



*Dillon and Lionel Lin*



# Social Thinking at Elsternwick

**The Social Thinking approach has been a powerful addition** to the Junior School pastoral program at the Elsternwick campus. Students have been empowered with a common language to discuss their thinking and feelings when communicating about their emotions and decision-making. They have also been armed with numerous strategies to self-regulate their emotions to support positive social experiences with their peers.

To further strengthen the knowledge of our students, parents were invited to a Social Thinking workshop run by Student Counsellor, Jane Morgan, and Head of Junior School, Kieran McCrohan. This workshop introduced the parents to the language of Social Thinking, as well as the conceptual understandings being developed in our youngest students through this approach. Parents were given examples of how this language could be incorporated into their home life.

As our students continue to master the language and strategies of Social Thinking, teachers are now looking towards the art of social behaviour mapping to help guide our students with their choices in social situations. Although a safe haven for our students, the playground provides a myriad of challenges for those seeking comradery and enjoyment. There are a countless number of choices made by children to seek fulfillment and it is with each one of these choices that social behaviour mapping can be used as a tool to support the process. On reflection, a child or group of children can review the choices they have made, and the resulting consequences, using a social behaviour mapping tool. This explicit approach can enable our students to understand how their choices have impacted on others and the alternate choices they could have made. Such a process is aimed at building empathy in our students and seeks to develop a positive learning environment for everyone.



Jane Morgan, Elsternwick's Student Counsellor, leads parents through the guiding principles of Social Thinking

## Elsternwick Commencement Chapel – 'All of us are one'

**Taking inspiration from our 2018 Wesley College theme, 'Learning Through Partnerships',** Elsternwick campus' Commencement Chapel used the lyrics from our College Hymn 'All of us are one' as a point of reflection.

The celebratory mood was cemented immediately by the rousing brass processional and continued with a choral rendition of one of John and Charles Wesley's most beloved hymns, 'Lead me, Lord'.

Pastor Kaylea Fearn led us in contemplation as we considered how Jesus' call to love one another could be the key to strong and lasting partnerships in our classroom, community and world today.



Jacqueline Aracosta (Year 6) plays the pipe organ at the Elsternwick Commencement Chapel

# Students with soul

**The Glen Waverley campus Soul Band consists of students** from Years 10 to 12. Under the peerless direction of 'Mr Soul' himself, Daniel Davies, the Soul Band has an impressive reputation. Originally formed to cater for jazz-inclined students, the band not only plays soul music, but has, in recent years, diversified to incorporate contemporary genres.

Daniel accounts for the huge popularity of the band in this way: 'One difference about Soul Band compared to most other school ensembles is that they don't have a conductor. When Soul Band take to the stage there are no teachers. The students run the performance themselves'.

Of course, the Soul Band is not just about sublime music; it is also supplemented by accomplished movement and choreography. Moreover, the students in the band have a great deal of autonomy, contributing their own ideas about what to wear, what repertoire to play, and so on.

Recently, the Soul Band played at the Ashburton Festival. They pulled a big audience and put on a crowd-pleasing show. Just as the band were starting, however, a storm hit, sending the sound man running to cover the speakers. Nevertheless, the band kept 'souling' on, putting on, as Daniel said, 'a cracking show! The stuff of legend!'



*The Soul Band performs at the Ashburton Festival*

## Electronic innovation: a new musical pathway

**The Glen Waverley Music Department has always welcomed** musical innovation. Back in 1975, for example, the music teacher of the time, the legendary Jim Wastell, wearied by the incessant pleas of students, grudgingly allowed the music of Alice Cooper into the hallowed sanctuary of his classroom. Today, Alice Cooper is a past pop phenomenon. In his place, a new music phenomenon has arisen: electronic music.

The Glen Waverley campus is leading the way in regards to electronic music. Two students deserve mention. Year 8 student, Bryce Tereszkievicz, was first introduced to electronic music via a video of an electronic musician performing live. Bryce was intrigued by the performance and wanted to learn. A lot of Bryce's early learning came from watching tutorials on YouTube. He then quietly worked away at home, developing his craft, and, over summer, won a large international remix competition, beating 860 entrants from around the world.

This year Bryce has enrolled in the Year 10 Electronic Music subject. This will give him the opportunity to further develop his electronic music composition skills, while also developing skills to transfer his music into a live performance. Bryce and his classmates will be showcasing their performance skills at the Electronic Music Showcase. He hopes to be signed to a large electronic music label in the future, and work as a professional electronic music producer.

Tim Ziguras (aka 'Zig-Zag') was first introduced to electronic music through a track a friend played for him when he was in Grade 5, sparking his fascination with the art form. Tim started experimenting with electronic music while in Year 7. Tim's electronic music has been well received, with some independent European music labels currently expressing interest in signing him. He is now a member of Wesley College's first class of Year VCE/VET Music Industry (Performance).



# Jemima walks (fast) into the games

**When Jemima Montag (OW 2016) started Little Athletics** in Brighton at age seven, she could hardly have guessed that a few short years later, just after leaving school, she would be representing Australia in the race walking competition at this month's Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast. For teachers and colleagues from St Kilda Road, however, the news she'd made the team came as no surprise. Jemima engaged in Wesley life with the same passion, energy and total commitment she applies to everything in her personal life. Her academic and co-curricular achievements were many; her sporting achievements have obviously moved into a league of their own. 'I always had many sports going on at once, including soccer, basketball, swimming, tennis, cross country, athletics and 10 years of ballet. It wasn't until I was 15 that I decided to really dedicate my time to improving my race walking performances', says Jemima.

So what did she need to qualify for the Australian team?

'For automatic selection, you had to walk 20 km in 1:36:00 or faster, and be in the top two females over the line in the trial at the National Championships in February. As the race progressed and three of us broke away from the rest of the pack, my mind was able to process that making this team was a big possibility, and in the last 200 m I put on the accelerator to go past one girl and secure second place. We had completed 20 km in 1:31:18 which just felt unreal! Many happy tears followed upon the realisation that I'd be off on my first senior Australian team', she said.



*Jemima (OW2016) (far right) on her way to qualifying for the games*

At the games, Jemima says that the Australian women are going to be amongst the fastest in the field, 'so top five, or even a medal would certainly be my goal'.

And what of the future for Jemima? 'After these games, I just want to continue enjoying the sport as much as I do at the moment because it is in that state that you can really perform at your best and continue to improve. I'll take each year as it comes, but I certainly have my eyes set on the 2020 Tokyo Olympics! Olympic gold is the pinnacle of our sport, which would be the most incredible feeling. We shall see where my path leads!'

# Taking the mess out of finger painting, but not the fun

**When many of us were in Year 2, finger painting was a somewhat aimless yet doubtless highly creative, fun-filled endeavour.**

How things have changed. Finger painting at the Glen Waverley campus is now a much loved, creative, and importantly, purposeful activity; it is fully harnessed within the Year 2 Unit of Inquiry entitled: How We Organise Ourselves. Through the act of finger painting, students tuned into their admittedly limited understanding of what makes a community. Focussing on their experiences in Visual Art, they identified ways in which they connect as a community of learners. Students also learned about how artists can work together as part of a community, exploring aesthetic experiences to create a group art piece.

As a starting point for their artwork, students began to sort through their understanding of who they are and where they fit in. Their sense of belonging to a community of Primary Years Programme (PYP) learners was a strong feature of their initial discussions. After researching images, students collectively agreed upon the fingerprint as their chosen representation. The PYP language was embedded into the lines of the fingerprint, symbolising how the attitudes and attributes are a key feature of how they are learners at a relatively early stage of primary school. The artwork progressed with students working in pairs to complete sections of each line. They simultaneously worked on an individual fingerprint, so that they could draw comparisons between the experience of working in a group, and working as individuals.

This in turn led them to come to some conclusions about the role Visual Art can play in developing a sense of connection with others.



*The fingerprint developed by the PYP students*

# Healthy body, healthy mind

## **‘Great care is taken with the physical development of each boy.’**

When you take a look at the history of Wesley College, there are many fascinating and sometimes surprising stories, not the least being the program of regimented and rigorous physical training, with accompanying regular medical inspections. At the beginning of the 20th century, Wesley pioneered the introduction of a ‘physical culture’ program that would be adopted in variant forms by other schools.

Wesley was the first Victorian School to establish a thorough system of medical inspection of all boys. The Headmaster of the day was LA Adamson, who was widely recognised as an educational innovator, and leader in the promotion of amateur sport. ‘Every boy in the Preparatory School during his first term will be subjected to a strict medical examination by the College medical officers and they would be checked throughout their time at the College,’ he stated. The doctors would check each lad for any health issues, and follow his physical development – right down to the measurement of chest and muscles. At the time, Wesley was a school of just a few hundred boys, and Adamson knew them all. Armed with medical evidence and advice from his professional colleagues, academic and physical development programs were tailored for each boy in order to bring out his very best.

‘Careful records are made of all results. The passing years have proved the system to be exceedingly valuable. Some boys have been found to possess an unsuspected weakness, and have been prevented from doing themselves serious harm. Knowledge of weakness has led to special care to overcome the deficiency, with satisfactory results in many cases. As each boy’s record is added to, year by year, very valuable information has been acquired as to the rate of growth and development of boys of various ages and temperaments.’ This special care to rid a boy of weakness came in the form of exercises devised by Mr Frank, the Gymnastics teacher.

The great public schools of the Victorian and Edwardian eras promoted a philosophy that was centred on the ideal of developing a healthy mind and healthy body. This found expression in a health and strength training movement known as ‘physical culture’ that originated during the

19th century in Germany, England and the United States. Conveniently linked to this was the ‘Muscular Christianity’ movement of the late 19th century, advocating a fusion of energetic Christian activism and rigorous physical culture training.

Wesley adopted a system of physical culture created by the German circus performer Eugen Sandow, often described as the ‘father of modern bodybuilding’. Sandow’s *Magazine of Physical Culture*, established by the afore-mentioned in 1898, has been regarded as the first bodybuilding magazine. Sandow was an interesting character who sought to model his own body on the Grecian ideal of the perfect body, something that would have no doubt inspired that great classicist, LA Adamson. In fact, by the late 19th century, reformers worried that white-collar workers were suffering from various ‘diseases of affluence’ that were partially attributed to their increasingly sedentary lifestyles. It remains a concern today. To combat this, a range of exercise systems emerged. Physical culture programs were promoted through the education system in the USA and UK, particularly at military academies, as well as via public and private gymnasiums. Thus began an industry worth billions of dollars today.

Certain items of equipment and types of exercise common to several different physical culture systems could be found at Wesley, including exercises with Indian clubs, medicine balls, wooden or iron wands, and dumbbells. Combat sports such as fencing, boxing and wrestling were also widely practised as forms of physical culture in their own right. This was certainly the case at Wesley, where junior boys would attend with their fathers after school for wrestling and boxing sessions. Ladies were admitted only on special occasions.



*Indian Clubs (pictured above) were commonly used in Victorian era fitness regimes*



The 1904 Chronicle affirmed that ‘the school will receive daily instruction in physical drill. Sandow’s system of physical culture will be followed as closely as possible’. The Chronicle reported on the opening of the new Prep School Sports Pavilion. ‘It is a very roomy building 36 ft. long by 18 ft. wide. Every boy has a locker. Seats run down the sides, and a shower, bath, and lavatory complete a much-appreciated want in our sports system. In our physical training, the convenience of the pavilion is particularly noticed. Now we are able to carry out our new physical culture scheme in its entirety. Boys all change daily into a costume consisting of sweater and serge knickers, so that their bodily growth and development is unhampered by close-fitting clothes, and the harmful braces are entirely dispensed with.’ In the summer months, the boys also headed to the St Kilda Baths for swimming. Sensibly, boys were required to pass a swimming test before being permitted to take up rowing. As present older readers can testify, once Wesley had acquired its own pool, Mr Frank established a regimen for swimming that would now seem rather a step too far. Not everybody exhibited Apollonian credentials, yet all had to be displayed.

Physical culture for girls was recorded in the school magazine for MLC Cato in 1931: ‘Our scholars thoroughly enjoy Friday afternoons, when they go to the Hawthorn College (MLC) for physical culture, and try to do many wonderful things in the fine gymnasium there.’ Later, in 1935, ‘Rhythmic movement was performed with stately dignity, under the direction of the senior physical culture mistress Miss Blaxland.’

The introduction of a program of physical culture in the early 1900s provides a fascinating insight into the Victorian–Edwardian mindset. The belief in the notion of a balanced mind and body was paramount. In this respect, the headmaster of the day, Adamson, was very keen that every boy achieve his potential – both academically and physically and, where needed, the school should tailor physical culture and academic programs for each individual. It was an extraordinary concept for the day, but as history reveals, so many of Adamson’s students went on to achieve great things in so many fields of endeavour.



Image of the Physical Drill in action, as appeared in the 1902 Chronicle



N.D. Murdoch and the Wesley Rowing team circa 1905

Wesley College.	
NAME	Murdoch
1903	May Sept.
Weight	10-10
Height	6.0
Chest ...	35 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
„ Expd.	87 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Biceps	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Forearm	10
Thigh...	20 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Calf ...	13 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
700	

Documented progress: Student N.D. Murdoch's fitness records

Wesley College.	
NAME	N. D. Murdoch
1905	April 20 Sept.
Weight	12.4
Height	6 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Chest ...	36 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
„ Expd.	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Biceps	12 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Forearm	10 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Thigh ...	21 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Calf	14
Sova. 700	

# Launch of The Nicholas Circle

On 14 December 2017, the Foundation launched a very significant coterie group named in honour of the Nicholas family. Membership is offered to any individual or family that donates a minimum of \$1m either as a cash donation, a bequest or a combination of both. It acknowledges and celebrates individuals and members of the same family who join philanthropically to support the development of Wesley College. The Foundation welcomed six inaugural members who have now been joined by another this year.

We were honoured that Marjorie Nicholas OAM officially launched the Circle and her very thoughtful speech is reproduced below:

'The Nicholas family name is indeed synonymous with philanthropy at Wesley College through the extraordinary gift of Alfred and George Nicholas in the 1930s, that both provided employment for hundreds of people during the depression, and transformed Wesley's St Kilda Road campus into the College we have today.

'What did motivate Alfred and George Nicholas to make a gift of such magnitude to Wesley College? I don't know whether they themselves ever actually answered this question in as many words, but undoubtedly the values and ideals on which Wesley College was founded would have resonated strongly with them.

'Alfred and George Nicholas grew up in a family of Cornish origin with a strong Wesleyan Methodist ethos, and the values the family lived by became for Alfred and George the guiding principles they carried into their adult lives.

'I think they must have taken deeply to heart John Wesley's exhortation to his followers:

"Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can."

Which Wesley also paraphrased succinctly as: Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.

'True to these principles, as men of genuine social conscience and humanity, the Nicholas brothers saw and fully embraced it as their moral obligation to give extremely generously of the material wealth that came to them through their success in business.

'High on the list of Alfred and George's ideals was their determination to create opportunities for young people to realise their potential in life, and in this they clearly recognised education as a powerful tool. Their visionary and inspirational benefactions to Wesley College (and of course to my own school, Methodist Ladies' College) bear eloquent witness to this, and I believe it is fair to say that this remarkable demonstration of faith has been well and truly affirmed. Old Wesleyans here this evening will well understand how much the College has contributed to who and what you are today.



*Helen Drennen AM, Marjorie Nicholas OAM and Joanne and William Crothers*

'So much has changed in education, but the values and ideals on which the College was founded hold true. Since opening its doors in 1866, Wesley has continued to build its reputation as a leader in education:

- in teaching and learning practices
- in the breadth of curricular and cocurricular offerings
- in the College buildings and infrastructure
- in recognising and embracing the mind-stretching challenges and unprecedented opportunities presented by today's technological revolution
- in ground-breaking engagement with indigenous communities (I am thinking especially of Yiramalay)
- in the heart-warmingly holistic concept of Learning in Residence
- in promoting and supporting the personal growth and wellbeing of every one of its students as an individual human being.

'The pre-eminent school that Wesley is today is in no small measure due to the generosity of so many previous generations – a generosity that seeks not only to benefit the students of the day, but looks to the future. Philanthropy has always been, and always will be, a vital pillar of support for the College – a pillar that remains critical if Wesley is to continue to lead the way in offering the best and broadest possible learning experience for its students, both now and in the years, and centuries, to come.

'Coming back to the Nicholas family for a moment, my husband Hilton – a son of George Nicholas – was, of course, a Wesley student himself, and a boarder. Hilton's Wesley days left an indelible impression and he often remarked that boarding at Wesley was the best thing that could have happened for him to prepare him for life after school – a life after school that commenced when, in 1943, on turning 18, he joined the wartime RAAF – surely something of a baptism of fire. But Wesley had equipped him brilliantly for what lay ahead.



'Hilton was thrilled when boarding was reintroduced at Wesley, and he was delighted to be invited, along with Geoffrey Blainey and Peter Nixon, to be a Patron of Learning in Residence. I am especially happy to say, too, that when making his will he very sensibly translated his delight into real, tangible and substantial terms. Hilton would have dearly wanted to be with us today, and he would have been greatly honoured on behalf of the whole of the Nicholas family in the naming of The Nicholas Circle to recognise the ongoing generosity of this very special fellowship of supporters of Wesley College.

'It is my great pleasure to officially launch The Nicholas Circle. To the inaugural members of The Nicholas Circle, I acknowledge with gratitude your most generous practical affirmation of your belief in the power of education for good, and I do sincerely thank you.

'I encourage you all to continue to support the vital work of the Wesley College Foundation for the benefit of current and future generations alike, and to equip our Wesley graduates to go out into the world and make it a better place.'

## Chu family award

**David and Grace Chu are parents of former students** who have very kindly endowed an annual award for students in Learning in Residence in recognition of their family's long association with the Glen Waverley campus. They moved from Hong Kong to Melbourne in 1992 and, ironically, all their children now live and work in Hong Kong. The education of their three children – Alexander (OW2003), Brian (OW2004), and Claire (OW2006) – was of utmost importance. This led to a thorough process to seek the most appropriate school for their children. Their evaluations were based on academic excellence, personal development, pastoral care and resources, extracurricular activities, language training, and single-sex or coeducational schooling. Eventually, they subscribed to the 'total development' approach of Wesley College and enrolled their children at the Glen Waverley campus.

Over the years, David and Grace collaborated with Wesley College to discover what was best for their children at different stages of their development. They were very impressed by the manner in which the school explored the unique qualities of each student and the subsequent development of each child's self-confidence.

In support of Wesley College for their pursuance of excellence in developing leadership skills for students, they endowed the 'Chu Family Awards for Excellence in Leadership and Service'. These are annual awards for one male and one female student in Learning in Residence who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in serving the student community.

The 2017 inaugural winners were Oliver Courtnay and Leia Varley, both Year 10 students. Oliver is from Geelong and Leia is from Finley, New South Wales. They are very mature students who are developing their leadership skills. In addition to very good academic results, Oliver competes at the state level in shot put and discus and is an excellent pianist. Leia is also very talented academically and competes at the state level in shot put and soccer.

The Foundation thanks the Chu family for their generous support and congratulates Oliver and Leia on their awards.



*Oliver Courtnay and Leia Varley receive their awards from David Chu*

## Rowing parents function

**This year's cocktail function was very** kindly hosted by Stephen Tudge and Fiona Nicholson in their beautiful Toorak home. It was a successful event that raised funds to support our rowers. Thanks go to the organising committee and to the parents who donate funds and products to help ensure its success. The live auction was again a highlight of the evening and very ably conducted by parent, Jeremy Fox, from RT Edgar.



*Martyn Lavery, Stephen Tudge, Fiona Nicholson, Dimi Niteros and Mojdeh Pleasants*

# 2017 donors and volunteers function

The Foundation acknowledges the generosity of Elsternwick parents Judy Gu and Gang Ding who hosted this annual event at their beautiful display suite at 88 Melbourne in Queensbridge Street. Their son, Peter, welcomed guests on behalf of their family and spoke about their very positive experiences as part of the Wesley community. This was a wonderful way to conclude 2017 and for Helen Drennen and Peter Harrison to thank the many donors and volunteers who do so much to assist the College and Foundation.



*Lenore Matthews, Elly Shugg, Sheridan Dixon, Marisa Colli and Carmela Nankervis*



*Host Judy Gu, Peter Ding and Lewis Igini*

## Doug Oldfield Bursary

**It is hard to believe that August 2018 marks 10 years since the legendary Doug Oldfield (OW1946) passed away.** His family believes this is now an appropriate time to instigate an award in his honour.

Doug came to Wesley College from Caulfield North Central in 1942, the year the College moved to Scotch College when Wesley's buildings were taken over for the war effort. Although he was new to Wesley, he found this an interesting exercise, and thus made many life-long friends from Scotch College as well as from Wesley.

Doug did well at school and excelled in accountancy subjects, which led to a very successful career as a Chartered Accountant until his retirement in 1990. In retirement, he had several directorships including Danks Holdings for 27 years, with four years as Chairman. He was also a financial adviser, and was made a member of the Court of Honour to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons from 1984 until 2008, retiring just months before he died.



*Doug (OW1946) and Jean Oldfield*

Doug also excelled at sport at school and was awarded Triple Colours in 1945 for athletics, football and rowing, but he never changed his blazer pocket to the entitled shield as he did not want to put the cost on his father. He became quite a leader at school, was a cadet-lieutenant in the Wesley College Cadet Corps and in 1946, his last year at school, he was School Captain of the College. After he left school, he continued athletics for several years with the Collegians team at the old Olympic Park.

Doug kept his interest in Wesley long after he left school as a member of the OWCA, becoming its treasurer, then president and was made a Fellow of the OWCA. Later, in 1969, he became a member of the College Council for 25 years, including eight years as President. He was very honoured to be made a Fellow of Wesley College. In 1996, he was again honoured to be awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to Wesley College and the Community.

His wife Jean said, 'My interest in Wesley grew over the years by attending special events and functions with him, and in 2005 I was invited by the Principal to become a Co-Patron of The Sapere Aude Bequest Society. Doug loved school, sport, his family and his chosen career and he always said, "there was never a day I didn't want to go to work". Wesley was a great interest for him and it gave him immense satisfaction as well as so many wonderful, life-long friends.' Endowing a bursary for a Year 12 student studying accounting will assist with purchasing texts and other resources. It is hoped that future recipients of the Doug Oldfield Bursary will get as much pleasure from attending Wesley College as Doug did back in the 1940s.



# The Lesser Family Scholarship

**This scholarship acknowledges the important contribution** of Wesley in the life of a family connected with the school for more than 100 years, and recognises the family's considerable contribution to the life and development of the school, especially through the work of Louis Emile (Narse) Lesser (OW1929).

It was endowed by John Lesser (OW1969) on behalf of his parents and sister to assist a student who could not otherwise afford a Wesley education. It supports the family's strong and fundamental belief in the value of a quality education in building a successful life and future, and, in doing so, making a positive contribution to family, the wider community and the world.

Narse Lesser (1911–1979) attended Wesley between 1918 and 1929. In his final year, he was a prefect. On matriculating, he went to the University of Melbourne (1930–1933) and completed an honours degree in Arts, majoring in history and economics.



*Louis Emile (Narse) Lesser (OW1929)*

In 1932, before completing his degree, the famous Wesley Headmaster, LA Adamson, offered Narse a part-time teaching position. He also became a Resident Master in the Boarding House. After graduating in 1934, Narse joined the Wesley staff as a full-time teacher and remained almost continuously until his retirement in 1973. He worked under six headmasters – Adamson, Stewart, McNeil, Frederick, Coates and Prest. In all, Wesley was central to his life for 50 years.

Narse mainly taught English and History throughout his career. He was actively involved in many aspects of school life outside the classroom, including boy scouts, cadets, Chronicle and Way House Master. He was also a long-serving member of the Wesley Masonic Lodge and a Fellow of the OWCA.

Narse's son, John, attended Wesley between 1959 and 1969. In his final year, he was Captain of Hockey, for which he received Honour Colours. On matriculating, he went to Monash University, graduating in Arts and Law. His varied career included teaching, practising as a solicitor, sitting as a member of several Victorian



*Enez Lesser*

and Commonwealth Tribunals, and as President of the Mental Health Review Board (now Mental Health Tribunal). He was appointed a Victorian Magistrate in December 2009, a position he still holds.

Narse's daughter, Ainslie (1950–1996) attended Elsternwick Methodist Ladies College, now the Elsternwick campus of Wesley, from 1959 to 1966. His wife, Enez (nee Ainslie) (1916–2012), was a dux of Presbyterian

Ladies College, a Law graduate of Melbourne University and a practising solicitor, when there were very few women in the legal profession. She devoted many hours in support of John and Ainslie's education at Wesley and MLC in parents' organisations and activities, as well as attending many staff and school functions with Narse.

## Thank you to our generous sponsors

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges our generous 2018 sponsors who support our events, programs and activities.



# Golden Age Group Sponsorship



*Jeff Xu, Helen Drennen and Kevin Louey*



*Peter Pan, Jessica Yu, Lenore and David Matthews*

**The Foundation has an active sponsorship program that** assists to underpin the substantial annual events, programs and activities that engage both parents and alumni. Golden Age Group was a valued sponsor of Wesley's Sesquicentenary in 2016 and we are delighted to welcome them back as a very significant sponsor as they develop Sky Gardens at The Glen and 85 Spring Street in Melbourne.

To launch our sponsorship, we co-hosted an event in their stunning display suite at 85 Spring Street on 15 March. The evening featured talks by Wesley parent, Cr Kevin Louey, Chair of the Prosperous City Portfolio, who spoke about developments in the City of Melbourne, Kristen Whittle, Director of Bates Smart, about architecture and Jeffery Copolov, Interior Director of Bates Smart on interior design. We also heard from founder and Managing Director of Golden Age Group, Jeff Xu, and Helen Drennen spoke about the importance of sponsorships and creative culture. We were also delighted that Lyric Soprano, Shauntai Batzke, performed two arias for our guests.

Golden Age Group and Wesley College's relationship is a stroke of fate with two of their developments in proximity to two of our campuses – Opera on St Kilda Road and their soon-to-be launched Sky Garden in Glen Waverley above The Glen Shopping Centre. Besides property development, Golden Age Group has a capital and investment arm. Education is one of the main areas of investment aside from agriculture and medical.

'We know how important education is', Jeff Xu says, 'We are pleased to sponsor the Wesley College Foundation and other organisations that enhance educational outcomes and bring benefits to the community'.

## Glen Waverley redevelopment project – capital campaign

**This stunning, \$20m multi-storey building will be the most significant project at the Glen Waverley campus since the Senior School was developed 20 years ago.** Featuring a two-level campus library, languages centre, Year 9 precinct, Charlaftis Family Teaching and Learning Centre, chapel and campus administration, it will create a vibrant, contemporary educational hub for the campus.

The Foundation has launched a fundraising campaign to raise \$5m to assist the College with this historic project. More than \$1.8m has already been raised for this project and parents will be personally contacted during this year for their support. This facility will be of enormous educational value to current and future students and the support of parents will be very important.

For further information on this development or our tax-deductible capital campaign, please contact Debra Stiebel: [debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.net](mailto:debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.net)



*Helen Drennen, Marianne Stillwell and the Glen Waverley Middle School Captains mark the commencement of construction*



## Co-Presidents' report

As always, it has been a busy start to the year for the OWCA with many events and reunions either already underway or being planned. Recently we had the St Kilda Road 1998 20 Year Reunion with a fantastic turn-out, and many good times were the joyful subject of reminiscence.

The 50 Year Reunion was held on 16 February with more than 60 OWs attending. The evening was a resounding success. Jack Ayerbe, who was fortunate enough to attend both evenings, was amazed by how different the events were formatted for each age group. The ability of the OWCA to cater to such a diverse range of members makes it a fascinating group to work with.

On 9 February the Wesley First XI played Geelong College on the Front Turf at St Kilda Road. As an initiative, former cricketers from both sides were invited to join the OWCA for refreshments and reliving old times. It was a remarkable success and we hope to extend this to other kindred schools.

The first of our business networking evenings was held on 28 February at Volvo Cars South Yarra, where a large crowd heard Mark Jackman speak of 'The Business of Going Driverless'. As the Head of the Vehicle Safety Division at Bosch Australia, his discussion on where the industry and radical technology is heading was inspiring and exciting.

This year sees a return of our premier event, the Founders Day Dinner, re-vamped and re-invigorated. Historically held early in May, Founders Day Dinner is the celebration of the founding of Wesley College. Thanks to Kate Evans (OW1998) and the subcommittee who have been working tirelessly in the planning and preparation, Saturday 5 May is set to be a great evening with tradition upheld and a new exciting line-up for the evening. Myer Mural Hall will house the event, with great food and wine from The Big Group. Tickets are now on sale and there are fantastic packages, including discounts for our young Alumni (OW2013–OW2017), head of table and generational discounts (for OW parents who attend the event with their OW sons and daughters), so get your OW group together and come along for what will be a night to remember.

As always please reach out through our social channels or email if you have any great stories or interesting news. We love hearing what all OWs are up to.

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



An afternoon at the cricket

## New to OWCA events

**The OWCA welcomes Zena Eastburn to the office. As the Administrative Assistant,** OWCA, Zena is your go-to person in the lead up to events and reunions and can assist with invitations, bookings and details of each event. Her background is in event management and administration and she has worked for several years with Compass Group, one of the largest event and catering companies worldwide. Having worked in stadiums in the UK, and within the university and secondary education sectors within Australia, her calm and caring manner, mixed with cool efficiency, will certainly offer members of the Association tremendous support. Also, her experience in booking spaces and negotiating arrangements, with a full understanding of event outcomes, will be an asset to the smooth running of the office. Welcome Zena!



Zena Eastburn

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# 1987 30 Year Reunion: The first cohort of coeducation

**This much-awaited reunion was always a great party waiting to happen.**

The 1987s are a dynamic and ebullient bunch who leave little time for eating or singing, especially when there is fun to be had. There was a well-timed opportunity for actor and former School Captain, Nicole Nabout, to hold the floor and sweep from story to story around the room with the microphone, before finally encouraging in counterpoint, actor and former School Captain, Chris Gabardi to speak effortlessly and warmly about his Wesley experience and the special nature of the 1987 leavers. Like all good 1980s students, a stylish after-party was already planned in Greville Street, with the charge led by Melissa Jackson. Can they wait a whole 10 more years for their next reunion?



*Emma Pears,  
Sara Liversidge,  
Jodie Dobson,  
Michelle Armitage,  
Sonia Orchard and  
Karen Davis*



*Former School Captains, Nicole Nabout and  
Chris Gabardi, then and now*



*Alex Guest, Megan Hatfield, Tara Mooney and Dani Valant*



*Craig Brassington, George Manoliadis, Matthew Tagkalidis, Andrew Hudson  
and Alan Benger*

## MND luncheon

**Motor Neurone Disease (MND) is a devastating condition that sadly** seems to be encroaching on more of our closer circle of friends and family. One such dear friend of Wesley, and of many OWs, was Richard Ball (OW1974) (dec). A special luncheon was held in his honour in December 2016, on what would have been Richard's 59th birthday. It was held in the Cato Room at St Kilda Road, and was a fundraiser for MND. Our small group of around 80 (mostly OWs) raised more than \$20,000 for research to find a cure for this debilitating condition. Quite an amazing feat of generosity.

One of Wesley's most generous and forever 'purple' couples, Susie (OWCA Honorary Life Member) and Peter Rodgers-Wilson (OW1965), were not only at that luncheon, but helped organise it, and donated several of the items for the live auction. One of the items auctioned was a three-course dinner for eight, planned, prepared and hosted by the very talented Susie, at their amazing residence at '505', with stunning views over Fawkner Park and appropriately in sight of the Grey Towers at Wesley on St Kilda Road. A spectacular evening of fine food, wine and company was enjoyed by the Dobson, Woolhouse and Tatterson families.



*Byron Dobson, Audrey Dobson, Jacqui Dobson (OW1988), Susie  
Rodgers-Wilson, Jodie Dobson (OW1987), Norman Tatterson,  
Ken Woolhouse, Julie Woolhouse, Brad Woolhouse (OW1988)*

Contributed by Jodie Dobson (OW1987)



# The business of going driverless

**OWCA Business Networking got off to a great start this** year at Volvo Cars South Yarra, with former parent Mark Jackman speaking about his contribution to automated driving in Australia, where he has led a team at Robert Bosch, developing a functioning vehicle that is turning heads. Mark's deep understanding of vehicle safety technologies, with 25 years in the industry, is setting a benchmark for Australian decisions in this area. Following a welcome by OWCA Gold Sponsor, Stillwell Motor Group's Michael Stillwell, Mark offered unique insights into the world of automated driving, both in Australia and overseas, with some jaw-dropping statistics and predictions. The evening offered a unique opportunity to hear from specialists, including Volvo's expert, Gianni Iannisco, outlining the radically different semi-autonomous XC60 model which was on display.

Guests were also treated to the launch of the OW Auto Club, a new OWCA initiative, by Trent Smyth (OW1988), President of the Ferrari Club of Victoria, and who serves on the boards of both the Grand Prix Corporation and Motorclassica, covering each end of the vehicular spectrum. The Auto Club, which hopes to organise

both opportunities to display and rally OW treasured cars, has attracted the attention of a diverse range of OWs who have a passion for both collectable and outstanding automobiles. It was also the perfect opportunity to announce the latest OWCA Purple sponsor, law firm Hicks Oakley Chessell Williams, who look forward to their support of the diverse OWCA events program.



*John Livitsanos (OW1996), Alex Sutherland, Mark O'Leary, Robert Morley (OW1998) and Tony Merlo (OW1974)*

## Blazing a trail

**When OWCA Affiliates Liaison Officer, Mark Hibbins** (OW1978), set off on long service leave, his first stop was Japan's bustling Tokyo. Not long after stepping off the plane, with the ultimate aim of skiing, Mark, always sartorially elegant (when not in his trademark sporty purple leisurewear) investigated one of the more glamorous shopping streets. Hanging in the window of a high-end vintage shop was a classic Wesley blazer. A closer inspection of the pristine garment revealed PC Williamson's (OW1969) embroidered Cashes label, and Peter, whom we later tracked down, is delighted by the blazer's journey. Wesley blazers proudly adorn the windows of all sorts of second-hand merchants here in Australia but the chances of coming across one in the middle of Tokyo, when you randomly choose to turn a corner, does seem a little far-fetched. Try as he might, it certainly looks like Hibbo just can't get away from us!



*Tokyo shop window*



*Mark Hibbins*

## Proudly sponsoring OWCA events

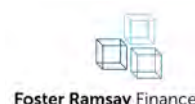
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Contact 03 9629 7411 or visit [www.hocw.com.au](http://www.hocw.com.au) for more information.



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



# OWs bring tech innovation to STEM education

## Reflecting back, I get so frustrated that it took me leaving

school to fall in love with STEM. Typically, I'd blame the school, the teachers, or my parents (the favourite fall-back positions). What I've learned since leaving school, is that science, technology, engineering and maths have been central to so many advances in modern history. Having spent the best part of the last decade working in tech start-ups in Australia and the United States, I've seen first-hand the way that disruptive innovators have revolutionised entire industries. Why hasn't anyone done this for education?

In a trendy office in Abbotsford, there's a passionate team of teachers, scientists and engineers rewriting the book on STEM (figuratively – not literally). What's unique about Stile Education, is that unlike conventional publishers, the team didn't go about creating a 'better textbook'. The result is a platform designed to empower teachers with everything they need to inspire their classes.



*CEO of Stile Education, Byron Scaf (OW2004) with Head of Marketing and support Laurence Savin (OW2004)*

Today, Stile is Australia's fastest growing STEM resource for schools - this year, at least one in four schools will use Stile (including Wesley). What's shocking, is that schools tell us how the Stile experience is far better than anything else available in education. With so much opportunity to innovate in education (and seemingly not on anyone else's radar), the Stile team is just getting started. I joined Stile because the user experience

expectation isn't 'Hey, let's make a better textbook', it's 'We're creating, innovating, testing and fine-tuning an education tool to provide the world's best teaching and learning experience'.

Today, Stile invests more in research and development than ever before. We've set the bar so high for the product that we'll never be done building it (and that's the way it should be). Whether you're a teacher, a student, a parent or an OW, that's something to get excited about.

We are also proud of the OWs at Stile including Byron Scaf (2004), CEO, Laurence Savin (2004), Head of Marketing and Support, Alex Finkel (2007), Software Developer and David Browne (2008), Events and Operations.

Contributed by Laurence Savin (2004)

## Dynamically visual

### Three young OWs from 2016 have not only

launched their own business, but are establishing new ground rules for on-trend, high-definition video production in Australia. For founders of Dynamic Visuals, Walter Mather (OW2016), Kieren Barber-Wilson (OW2016) and Louis Francis (OW2016), entrepreneurship is not a new concept. Beginning in 2010, Dynamic Visuals initially created online content for their YouTube channel. Their short, video-game-inspired films grew the channel to 30,000 subscribers and over 12 million views while the co-founders were still Wesley students.

Co-founded by three digital-natives, Dynamic Visuals naturally entered the industry through the online space, and when it comes to creating online corporate video in the digital age, the Dynamic team has unique talent and flair.



*Olivia Spanos (OW2016) on location with Walter Mather (OW2016)*



Since their start as a full-production house in November 2016, Dynamic Visuals have already produced commercial videos for a range of clients both big and small, including RMIT University, Wesley College, WorkSafe Vic, Linkfluencer, Sempo and The Australian Institute of Soft Skills Training.

In addition to commercial ventures, Dynamic Visuals have also had the opportunity to be a part of creative projects. For example, working alongside the Melbourne-based company, Linkfluencer

– described by *Forbes Magazine* as ‘The #1 Leading LinkedIn Training Company in the World,’ the team now produces, on average, eight videos a month for Linkfluencer, as well as their weekly ‘Ask Linkfluencer Show.’

In 2017, after graduating with her Bachelor of Film and Television from Swinburne, Meg Duncan (OW2014) joined the team as Creative Director for commercial projects. Olivia Spanos (OW2016) also joined the team as an Operations Manager.



Walter Mather (OW2016) and Kieren Barber-Wilson (OW2016) filming



Walter Mather (OW2016) filming at a Linkfluencer shoot in early 2017

## Verve and panache

**Launched in late 2017, Verve is an online multimedia** magazine dedicated to promoting young and emerging Australian talent. Athina Wilson (OW2016) and Clementine Girard-Foley (OW2016) went ahead with the idea after attending an impromptu poetry reading with a group of friends in a backyard. Seeing all the amazing work that people their age do, but rarely have the opportunity to share with a broader audience, the idea, turned tangible project, has since been guided by a team of editors aged 18–21, who come from a mixture of backgrounds, opinions and visions.

The magazine has featured everything from Indian street photography, sci-fi short stories, poetry, abstract art series, opinion pieces on the kibbutz and exclusive music interviews. Verve also tries to act as a voice for Australian youth (especially those in Melbourne) by promoting events listed in the events section of the website, and by running events itself.



Verve's creative team working on the magazine's launch video. Image by Harry Burmeister (OW2016)

The magazine publishes a variety of online content every few days. In addition to this, they will be hosting a neosoul event at ‘The Belleville’ in early May, combined with a small art exhibition. They then hope to run a series of workshops later in the year at which more experienced creatives can mentor a group of emerging artists, musicians, writers, and so on. They are also looking for potential spaces and sponsors.

As Verve is the organic result of what its contributors create, there is no set ideology to the magazine beyond being as inclusive as possible and fulfilling the role of a stepping-stone for people who do not have access to the mainstream media as a viable publication platform. For further details go to [www.vervezine.com](http://www.vervezine.com), Facebook @Vervemagazinemelbourne or Instagram @verve.zine

# Affiliates



*Bowls players at the 2017 APS tournament*

## Bowls

The OWCA Bowls Club is keen to introduce new bowlers into our ranks for the 2018/2019 summer season. In order to allow individuals to experience the wonderful game of lawn bowls, we are holding a couple of 'come and try' days for anyone interested in playing.

We will commence the season with a social day at the West Brighton Bowls Club at 22 Park Street Brighton, on Wednesday 19 September at 1 pm.

We would also be very pleased to hear from, and see, any experienced bowlers who would be interested in bowling for the OWCA. For further information contact Richard Sluggett on 0403 023 288 or [bowlis7@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bowlis7@optusnet.com.au)

## Hockey

Collegians-X Hockey Club is gearing up for season 2018 on a high after our men's Firsts narrowly lost last year's preliminary final. With a strong pre-season under our belts, this year we will be going bigger and better. We have men's, women's and Masters' teams playing at different levels, and we welcome everyone to join us as we strive for success.



Our men's Firsts will be looking to do one better this season after losing the preliminary final in a penalty shootout. Our women also saw marked improvement on previous years, just missing finals in fifth spot, and our always solid Masters' team is looking forward to a more consistent season, with a restructured Masters' League in 2018. Strong recruiting, and a commitment to enjoyable hockey with an emphasis on fun, has put the club in an excellent position to get back into the finals mix in 2018 across the board. Please feel welcome to come on down.

We cater for all standards, whether you're new to the game, keen to pick up a stick again, or looking for a new club with a healthy attitude. We train and play at Monash University Clayton, on one of Victoria's best water-based pitches. Feel free to come down and join us. Any questions, contact Mark Perraton (OW1995) on 0417 312 989, email [info@collegiansx.com](mailto:info@collegiansx.com), or find us at [facebook.com/collegiansx](https://facebook.com/collegiansx)

## Tally Ho

Tally Ho Fitness Group has returned, yet again, to Wesley College, Glen Waverley. This is their 31st year at the College. For those who are up and about on Saturday mornings, this group is regularly seen having their morning work-outs. The morning programs are tailored according to abilities, for as some members grow older, then so their capabilities lessen. Younger members of the group receive more intensive training exercises, so all finish their morning fully satisfied.



*Tally Ho: a variety of fitness options*

OWs and friends are welcome to come along as guests and participate from between 7 am and 8.30 am often with a half-hour swim afterwards. Program details are on the website [www.tallyho.org.au](http://www.tallyho.org.au) or phone Lindsay Spittle, ex-President on 0419 114 050 for further information.



*Fitness group in action at Glen Waverley*



## Cricket

It was 5.34 pm, Sunday 4 March and all plans for the Labour Day weekend were suddenly out the window. As 12 players sat tired, sweaty and dirty on the Glen Waverley turf, the goal was now in sight. They undid their laces and chatted in jovial fashion – the Old Wesley Cricket Club had progressed to the Grand Final.

After losing two close games early in the season, the Lions quickly found form with a number of dominant bonus-point victories, ensuring they finished the year on top of the ladder in what was a wonderful effort by the boys. Led by captain, Rick Morris (OW2004), the team developed a strong squad and achieved great consistency in both effort and performance.

We're always on the lookout for new additions whether it be regular players or those keen for the occasional hit. So if you want to get involved and have an enjoyable hit of cricket on some of the best turf wickets in the country, then look no further, contact Rick Morris on 0438 081 886.

The Old Wesley Cricket Club were victorious in their Grand Final vs Old Haileybury winning by a commanding 74 runs on the main oval at Glen Waverley!



## Collegians Football Club

As season 2018 approaches, the players, both boys and girls, have been busy training since mid-November 2017. This year Collegians will be fielding six sides: Men's Seniors, Development, Thirds and Under 19s, and Women's Seniors and Development sides. Both men's and women's recruiting has been strong and a number of high-profile recruits have settled at the Harry Trott Oval for 2018 and beyond. Taylor Hunt from Richmond/Geelong, George Burbury from Old Geelong and Geelong VFL, as well as players from interstate, Lachlan Harper from Canberra and Campbell Walker from Queensland, will all help us in 2018.

On the women's side we have Georgia Stirton joining us from basketball in the USA and recently we have had three-time Olympian Nat Titcume join us. Also Nikita Singleton (OW2017) joins sister Hannah (OW2014) and brother Matt (OW2013) to make three

Singletons at the club. Mum and dad will have a lot less travelling to do on home games to see them all play at the Trott.

We have recently welcomed Andrew 'Crackers' Kenneally (OW1989) back to the club to coach our Under 19s, and he is really looking forward to getting into coaching again. Any players looking for a game, and who have left Wesley in the last two years, should contact 'Crackers' on 0430 305 341.

Coaching appointments for 2018 are as follows:

Seniors – Shane Joyce Assistants – Andrew Scott (OW2004)  
Michael Cove and Kyle Emley  
Development – Josh Kamener (OW2007)  
Thirds – Paul McGowan  
Under 19 – Andrew Kenneally (OW1989)  
Women's Seniors – Nick Hibbins (OW1982)  
Women's Development – Paul Tyson (OW2008)

The club this year is having a big push for memberships; if we are to remain at the top level of Premier Section in the VAFA, we need to continually develop our facilities and provide equipment and coaches for our players to be successful. We have three different membership levels – Club Membership \$175, Player Sponsor \$375 and Coterie Membership \$975. Memberships can be purchased at [www.collegiansfc.com.au/memberships](http://www.collegiansfc.com.au/memberships)

We encourage anyone interested to buy a membership and get on board for what is looking like an exciting year. If you have any queries about playing or memberships, please contact Co-President Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) on 0412 687 430 or [rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au](mailto:rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au)

Go Lions! Become passionate, paid-up and purple in 2018!



Collegians Football Club

# OW updates



David Crow (OW1967)

Former MCC Vice President and cricket chairman **David Crow (OW1967)** was recognised for a decades-long contribution to MCC sport in November 2017, when he was presented with the prestigious Hans Ebeling Award. Perpetuating the memory of one of the MCC's greatest contributors, the Hans Ebeling Award was introduced in 1981 to honour those who have given outstanding service to the MCC's Sporting Sections.

David joined the club in 1967 to play cricket, and debuted in the First XI that season as a budding fast bowler. The potential that the talent scouts saw in David was evidenced by him winning the First XI bowling average in 1969/70. David, like many fast bowlers, was plagued with injury and played in various grades before heading overseas for five years after the 1972/73 season.

He returned to the club in 1978/79 where he captained the Fourth XI for two seasons. He moved on to play for the Cs in the MCC Club XI competition, captaining them for three years. After 'retiring' at the end of the 1983/1984 season, he was lured out of retirement and jumped ship to play for and captain the As for four seasons before finally giving it away at the end of the 1988/89 season.

When joining the Club XI competition as a player, at the same time he took on the role of MCC Club XI Cricket competition convenor, which he held for nine seasons. This involved running a cricket competition virtually single handed and David was instrumental in the vibrancy the competition experienced during his time.

David's affinity with cricket and the sporting heritage of the MCC were constants during a 24-year stint on the MCC Committee (1993–2017), the last four years as vice-president. Among David's most significant contributions were his terms as chairman of the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame, an MCC creation that now lives proudly in the National Sports Museum, and his role as MCC Cricket chairman in the establishment of our inaugural MCC women's cricket teams five years ago. He also played a major role in the resurgence of Club XI cricket and passionately pursued an MCC Foundation Sports Giving Program that is in its formative stages.

Apart from his cricket service, David has been a strong supporter of MCC heritage operations. He initiated an MCG statues program, which led to the Tattersall's Parade of the Champions project and the more recent Australia Post Avenue of Legends series in Yarra Park.



James English (OW1998)

**James English (OW1998)** was appointed to the Board of Directors of Parking Australia in November after being named the winner of Individual Excellence in Parking at the Parking Australia Awards in October. This was an incredible acknowledgement of James's contribution to the industry. This prestigious Award celebrates the achievements of an individual in both facilities and innovation throughout the parking sector. James demonstrated that he is a leader in the industry, and a strategic thinker. His positive approach to business clearly enhances the parking industry and its people.

His work with charities and community groups both in Australia and abroad saw him undertake self-funded travel to work in orphanages and on building projects. In July 2017 James embarked on a Social Venture program to Thailand, helping some of the most impoverished people in the world. To participate in this program, he was required to fund his own travel, meals and accommodation and reach a fund-raising goal. The money raised contributed towards the community projects he worked on during his journey. The community programs he was involved in, included 'Khlong Toei Slums' of Bangkok, where a house was demolished and a home was built, and 'Home Hug Orphanage' and 'Sirom' in Yasothon.



James English (OW1998)



Catherine Smyth-McMullen (OW2005)

Since graduating with a double Arts/Law degree, **Catherine Smyth-McMullen (OW2005)** has been



led by her literary passions down another road entirely. She is fast establishing herself as a screenwriter for film and television, with a most promising career in this competitive industry already well underway. Most recently her script for a feature film *The Other Lamb* cropped up on a number of important lists as one of Hollywood's best unproduced scripts. It is also currently under option with Rumble films, who produced *Drive* and *Whiplash*. She was also on the 2016 Inside Film list as one of the Australian screen industry's rising talents. She has formerly been short-listed for a number of national and international awards, winning the International Emmy's Ustinov Award for television screenwriting, was short-listed for an Australian Writers' Guild award, and her feature *Driven* was a semi-finalist in the 2016 Academy Nicholl Screenwriting Awards, as well as a finalist in the 2016 Page International Screenwriting Awards.

If you think this doesn't make her busy enough, her writing for television and film follows hard upon some extensive publishing successes in a number of magazines dealing with short fiction. For example, her short story Monday-child was voted by subscribers of the magazine *Aurealis* as 'Best Short Story' of 2013. You can find out more details about Catherine's diverse career at <http://www.csmcmullen.com/bio/>



Andrew Weiss (OW1998)

After spending eight years in motorcycle sport at the national and state governing bodies, **Andrew Weiss (OW1998)** started his own company, My Sport Live, which provides an outlet for sporting organisations to be able to promote themselves. The company

has been set up as a niche provider in the sporting industry, providing media, communications, video production and live streaming services. Since it began, My Sport Live has streamed over 360 events across more than 40 different sports – ranging from working with Arnold Schwarzenegger at the Arnold Sports Festival each year, to international, national, state and club-based events. The company has also streamed a number of events in the UK. In addition, Andrew lectures at Latrobe University in the Master of Business (Sport Management) course, where he teaches specifically about managing innovation within the sporting industry.



Victoria Campbell (OW1999)

**Victoria Campbell (OW1999) (Kahn)** enjoyed her role as the Sports Science/ Sports Medicine Manager and team physiotherapist with Equestrian Australia. Following the London Olympics/Paralympics, she remained with the team, attending the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games as the team physio and medical manager for the Australian Equestrian Team. Since

Rio, she has finished her work with Equestrian Australia and is now Sports Physiotherapist with the Australian Wheelchair Rugby Team (the Steelers). The Steelers are current Paralympic gold medallists, winning gold in both London 2012 and Rio 2016, and current world champions. Victoria went to the USA and Japan with the team in 2017, as they prepared for the 2018 World Championships. She is also still consulting at Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre in Melbourne.



Bill Black (OW2010) (right)

**Bill Black (OW2010)**, who has been working part-time in the OWCA office over the last 18 months, updating membership data and finding lost alumni, took up a great opportunity to expand horizons by spending a couple of months volunteering at the Yiramalay Studio School at Fitzroy Crossing last year. Bill is changed by the experience and delighted to have been able to take part, commenting that it was more about discovering similarities rather than differences, and applauding the work that staff and community do at this remote location.



Victoria Campbell (OW1999) (centre back)

# Kicking goals at the Geelong Regional Lunch



CEO of Geelong Football Club, Brian Cook, with Peter Stubbs (OW1971)

One of the highlights leading up to end of 2017 was the OWCA Geelong Regional Lunch, held at the recently completed Charles Brownlow Stand at Simonds stadium, home of the Geelong Football Club and held in conjunction with Queen's College alumni. Comfortable spaces and magnificent views could not overshadow a brilliant and funny series of interviews compered by Peter Stubbs (OW1971). Featured guests included the CEO of Geelong Football Club, Brian Cook, current Collegians Football Club player Christine Nancarrow (OW2016) and past Geelong and Richmond great, Gareth Andrews.



Richard Wallace with Christine Nancarrow (OW2016) and father, Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)



Peter Scott (OW1952) with Peter Clark (OW1960)



Mary Mauger, Mal Hastings (OW1958), Rob Mauger (OW1963), Jan Hastings and Len Hatfield (OW1955)

## Fifty Year reunion judged a success

The Cato Room at St Kilda Road ran near to capacity for the 1968 50 Year reunion this year. The evening began with a funny and heart-warming address by OWCA Co-President, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), which touched upon his connection to the year group through his late brother Tony Ayerbe (OW1968). Following an excellent meal, the guest speaker, The Hon Justice John Champion (OW1968), recently appointed Judge of the Supreme

Court of Victoria, who has worked for years as a Barrister and later as Director of Public Prosecutions, surprised guests by, rather than covering the more gruesome and life-altering stories that had crossed his path, spoke of his love of music, and in particular his lifelong connections through performing in the band, *The Lex Pistols*. The band has had significant gigs and shared billing with well-known Australian artists.



1968 50 Year Reunion:  
Cato room nears capacity



1968 50 Year Reunion:  
Guest speaker The Hon Justice  
John Champion



1968 50 Year Reunion: Ian Ellis, Philip Monk, Brian Hall, Roger Hawthorn and Rob Oliver



1968 50 Year Reunion: Robert Banks-Smith, Michael Kahn, Ross Bastiaan and Derek Hawkes



# Australia Day Honours 2018

## COMPANION (AC) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

### Mr David Lawrence Bardas – past parent

For distinguished service to the retail fashion industry, to the Jewish community, and through philanthropic contributions to Indigenous, educational, cultural, social welfare, visual arts, and medical organisations.

### Professor Rhys Jones – past parent

For eminent service to mechanical and aerospace engineering, and to education as an academic, researcher and author, particularly in the area of aircraft structural mechanics, corrosion repair and airworthiness.

## OFFICER (AO) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

### Ms Pamela Beryl Pryor – past parent

For distinguished service to occupational health and safety through leadership and advisory roles, particularly in developing standards for education frameworks.

### Mr John Royston Siddons (OW1945) (dec)

For distinguished service to manufacturing, particularly to the mechanical and engineering sectors, as an advocate for sustainable solar technologies, to the Parliament of Australia, and to the people of Victoria.

## MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

### Mr Jon Meredith Hickman – past staff

For significant service to the community, particularly to education, heritage preservation, infrastructure and financial planning, and to public administration.

### Mr Peter Campbell Jones (OW1978)

For significant service to the tourism and hospitality sectors, particularly through event management, as an advisor, and to the community.

## The Honourable Professor

### Howard Tomaz Nathan QC (OW1954)

For significant service to the law and to the judiciary through the Supreme Court of Victoria, and to a range of cultural, arts and educational institutions.

### Professor Frank Oberklaid OAM – past parent

For significant service to medicine in the field of clinical paediatrics, child development, and public health policy, as a researcher and academic.

## MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

### Dr Michelle Sue Dewar (Elsternwick MLC 1972) (dec)

For service to the community of the Northern Territory.

### Mr Richard Lentell Head ESM (OW1963)

For service to alpine emergency search and rescue organisations.

### Mr Vincenzo Princi – past parent

For service to football and to the community.

### Mr John Lyall Snare (OW1968)

For service to the information technology sector and security standards.

## PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

### Ms Cheryl Ann Batagol – past parent

For outstanding public service to environmental protection and sustainability in Victoria.

# OWCA/OSCA Golf Day

**Date:** Friday 18 May

**Location:** The National Golf Club – Long Island Course

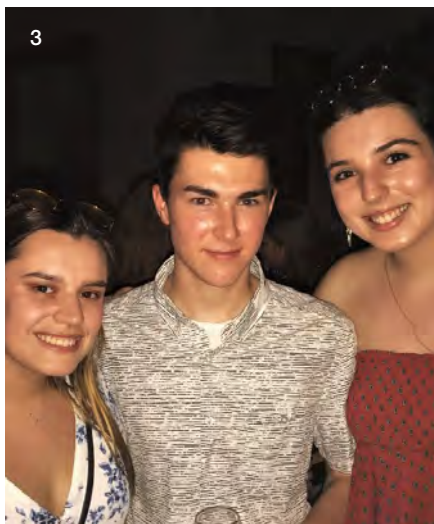
Enquires to Peter Johnson (OW1995) 0419 119 786

Parents welcome

For information and bookings visit:  
[www.osca.com.au/OSCAEvents](http://www.osca.com.au/OSCAEvents)



# Reunions



1. SKR 2016 1 Year Reunion: Lachlan Berry, Daniel Kudriavcev, Atid Shahak, Athol Taylor, Jeff Kiat, and Timothy Bliss 2. SKR 2016 1 Year Reunion: Olivia Spanos, Hannah Moss, Tahj Mande, Zach Raghdoo, Lidia Mclean, and Jesse Fleiszig 3. SKR 2016 1 Year Reunion: Sarah Curley, Flynn Halliwell, and Lucinda Kolitsis 4. 2017 Elsternwick Decades Reunion – Cato College 1977: Back (L-R) Julie Dunstan (Taylor), Gaye Downes (Atcheson), Kay de Jong, Gayle Sunstrom (Jones) Centre: Kerrie Lemon (Read), Michele Keller (Saba), Joanne Kyrkilis, Theodora Xindaras (Manassi), Jill Yeatman, Frances Russell (Taylor), Jacqueline Paynter (Sanderson) Front: Wendy Sharpe (Yourn), Gillian King, Anne-Marie Elias (Ziltzer), Ilana Ornellas (Segal), Janine Cochrane, Joanne Lobocki, Angella Katis, Grace Skene (Ross) Absent from photo: Margaret Haycroft (Barnes) 5. 2017 Elsternwick Decades Reunion Former Cato College teacher, herself a former Cato College student of 1977 and also current staff member at Glen Waverley campus, Julie Dunston (Taylor), seen here second from right, together again with Cato College students she taught in 1987: (L-R) Karen Talia, Jenny Shedden (McKee), Justine Wilkinson (Marshall), Aphrodite Servos (Metaxas), Lisa Johnson (Rosenberg), Rochelle Jonson and Katherine Bishop 6. 2017 Elsternwick Decades Reunion – MLC Elsternwick 1957 Lesley Barden (Jones), Lorraine Betts (Smith), Annette Kuhn (Phipps), Alison Coburn (McPhee) and Patsy Kemm (Hunter)





**7.** 2017 Elsternwick Decades Reunion – MLC Elsternwick 1957 Lesley Barden (Jones), Lorraine Betts (Smith), Annette Kuhn (Phipps), Alison Coburn (McPhee) and Patsy Kemm (Hunter) **8.** SKR1998 20 Year Reunion: Fiona Bingham (Wiseman), Kate Evans and Natalie Vogel **9.** SKR1998 20 Year Reunion: Chantal Hoare, Samara Spencer (Weddell) and Georgia Katz (Puttock) **10.** SKR1998 20 Year Reunion: James Fry, Tim Krotiris and Josh Gold **11.** SKR1998 20 Year Reunion: Tim Rodgers-Wilson with Peter Gray **12.** GW 2016 1 Year Reunion: Freddie Fraser, Christopher Chew and Benjamin Martin **13.** GW 2016 1 Year Reunion: Micheal Schwab, Aston Mayer, Ben Edwards, Elodie Compton, Julia Johnston, Amelia Elliott, Sabrina Oelhafen and Xavier Smith **14.** GW 2016 1 Year Reunion: Luqman Aly, Angie Grasso, Tom Molinaro, Alex Marucchi, James Pullan, Isabella Bembic and Lucinda McGaritty

# OWCA Events – 2018

May			
Saturday 5	Founders' Day Dinner	Myer Mural Hall	7.00 pm
Friday 18	OSCA/OWCA Golf Day	The National Golf Course – Long Island	Registration open 11.00am
Friday 25	Founders' Day Lunch	Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club	12.00 pm – 3.00 pm
June			
Friday 1	GW 2008 10 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Friday 15	SKR 2008 10 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Friday 22	GW 1993 25 Year Reunion	Coates Pavilion	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Tuesday 26	Leaders Series Keynote	TBA	6.30 pm – 8.30 pm
July			
TBA	Canberra Event	National Portrait Gallery	TBA
Friday 20	GW 2003 15 Year Reunion	Coates Pavilion	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Friday 27	SKR 2003 15 Year Reunion	Cato Room	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
August			
Friday 10	GW 2013 5 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Sunday 19	Sydney Lunch	Bang Bang, Darling Square	12.00 pm – 3.30 pm
Friday 24	SKR 2013 5 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Tuesday 28	Business Networking Evening	TBA	6.00 pm – 8.30 pm
September			
Friday 7	SKR 1978 40 Year Reunion	Cato Room	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Sunday 9	Elsternwick 1947 Reunion	Prest Room	12.00 pm – 3.00 pm
Friday 21	Golden Lions Lunch	John Lee Band Room	12.00 pm – 3.00 pm
October			
Tuesday 2	Mornington Peninsula Lunch	TBA	12.00 pm – 3.30 pm
Friday 12	GW 1998 20 Year Reunion	Coates Pavilion	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Tuesday 16	Business Networking Evening	Stillwell Recital Salon	6.00 pm – 8.30 pm
Friday 26	SKR 1988 30 Year Reunion	Cato Room	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
Friday 26	APS Golf Day	Commonwealth Golf Club	TBA
November			
Sunday 11	Elsternwick Decades Reunion	Fitchett Hall	12.00 pm – 3.30 pm
Friday 16	GW 2017 1 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm
TBA	Geelong Lunch	TBA	12.00 pm – 3.30 pm
Friday 23	SKR 2017 1 Year Reunion	Union Hotel	7.00 pm – 10.30 pm



# Lion cubs

We are pleased to welcome some new little cubs to our pride!  
Please let us know your happy news by contacting the OWCA office  
on 8102 6475 or email [lucy.gilfillan@wesleycollege.net](mailto:lucy.gilfillan@wesleycollege.net)

## Children of alumni

We are always delighted to welcome children of alumni to the College. Due to increasing demand we recommend you register your application for enrolment as early as possible. Applications are prioritised based on the date of receipt and many families apply shortly after their child is born. As valued members of our community, the application fee for children of OWs is waived.

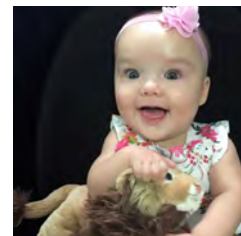
Applications can be completed online by visiting  
[www.wesleycollege.net/Admissions/Domestic-applications](http://www.wesleycollege.net/Admissions/Domestic-applications)



Flora Gieroba



Billy Bishop



Delilah Poulton

# Birth notices

## BAXTER

To Nick (OW1998) and Kate on 23 May 2017, a daughter Sienna Kate, a sister for Harry and Oliver, a niece for Matthew (OW1993), Andrew (OW1996) and Tim (OW2004)

## BEDNAR

To Simon (OW1995) and Jennifer (OW1996) (Smart) on 19 November 2017, a son, Harrison Gerhard, a brother for Willow and Maia, a Grandson for Kenneth Smart (OW1968)

## BISHOP

To Ed (OW1995) and Maryke on 18 January 2018, a son, Billy

## BORDER

To Isabelle (OW1999) and Matthew Snow on 1 October 2017, a son, Campbell Anthony Border, a brother for Isla, a nephew for Lucille (OW1995)

## BRASS

To Natalie (OW1998) and Craig Jones on 13 July 2017, a daughter Molly, a sister for Jimmy, a nephew for Nick (OW1997)

## BRAUDE

To Natalie (OW2000) (Hoenig) and Michael on 26 August 2017, twin sons, Harvey and Jesse, brothers for Ethan, nephews for Mark Hoenig (OW1997)

## BURROWES

To Sarah (OW1993) and Lamshed, Claudio and Andrew on 8 June 2017, a son, Luca Matteo, a brother for Sophie, a nephew for Ian (OW1996) and Alistair (OW1999)

## DAI

To Nelly (OW2008) and Michael Ge on 14 September 2017, a son, Alan Boyuan Ge

## FELD

To David (OW2001) and Nikki (OW2001) (Miller) on 9 August 2017, a daughter Lily, a sister for Max, a niece for Matt Feld (OW2003), Natalie Miller (OW2004) and Hayden Miller (OW2008)

## GIEROBA

To Tess (OW2005) (Malseed-Harris) and Tom on 25 September 2017, a daughter, Flora Zofia, a sister for Ella Rosalind, a granddaughter for Tim Malseed (OW1962), a niece for Jules Malseed-Harris (OW1999), Joanna Parkinson (OW2002) (Malseed-Harris) and Chris Parkinson (OW1999)

## JORGENSEN

To James (OW2002) and Emily on 20 November 2017, a daughter, Mila, a granddaughter for Sally (past staff), a niece for Alice (OW2005)

## KRONBORG

To Erik (OW2001) and Mia (OW2001) (Brakey) on 22 September 2017, a son, Frederick (Freddie) Dale, a brother for Phoebe, a grandson for Ian (OW1966), a nephew for Joel Brakey (OW1996), Harry (OW1998) and Emily Kirborg (OW2005) (Kronborg)

## LO-DOHERTY

To Anthony (OW1985) and Mark on 12 October 2017, a daughter, Octavia En Duan, a sister for Emily En Mei, a niece for Daniel Lo (OW1989)

## OSMAN

To Meera (OW1994) (Aurora) and Rory on 22 November 2016, a son, Asher Lennon, a brother for Jai

## PARKINSON

To Joanna (OW2002) (Malseed-Harris) and Christopher (OW1999) on 16 July 2017, a son, Edward Tim, a grandson for Tim Malseed (OW1962), a nephew for Jules Malseed-Harris (OW1999), Timothy Parkinson (OW2001) and Tess Gieroba (OW2005) (Malseed-Harris)

## PINNELL

To Marcus (OW2001) and Kristy (OW2002) (Wood) on 3 January 2018, a son, Frederick Jack, a brother for Lincoln, a grandson for Phillip (former staff), a nephew for Lauren Deane-Johns (OW1995) (Pinnell), Taryn Hughes (OW2004) (Wood), Mark Hughes (OW2002), James Wood (OW2008) and Kaitlyn Wood (OW2010)

## POULTON

To Adrian (OW1995) and Ingrid on 3 November 2017, a daughter, Eve, a sister for Anna, a granddaughter for Chris (past staff), a niece for Julia (OW2002)

## POULTON

To Julia (OW2002) and Koji Honda on 26 August 2017, a daughter, Delilah Naomi, a granddaughter for Chris (past staff), a niece for Adrian (OW1995)

## SIEW

To Sein-Huei (OW1996) and Chris Tay on 2 September 2016, a son, James, a brother for Jessica, a nephew for Leit-Chin (OW1994)

## SILVER

To Alan (OW2001) and Natalie (OW2003) (Grauer) on 9 November 2017, a daughter Stevie Layla, a sister for Jackson, a nephew for David (OW1998) and Leon Silver (OW2000) and Elise Grauer (OW2002)

## STONE

To Nicholas (OW1999) and Alexandra on 5 October 2017, a daughter, Arabella Lindsay, a niece for Andrew (OW2002)

## THOMAS

To Simon (OW1996) and Kristie Nevill on 6 November 2017, a son, Jackson, a nephew for Oliver (OW1998), Jill (OW1999), Jacqueline (OW2004) and Caroline (OW2010)

## THOMPSON

To Simon (OW1995) and Sara on 27 October 2017, a daughter, Audrey Charlotte, a niece for Sarah (OW1997)

## UNSWORTH

To Nick (OW2000) and Kate on 17 January 2018, a son, Owen Maxwell, a brother for Zachary and Abigail, a nephew for Campbell (OW1998)



*Rev Peter Burnham, Jennita Harrison holding daughter Mykala Lee with Christopher Harrison (OW2001) and son Cooper*

## Christening

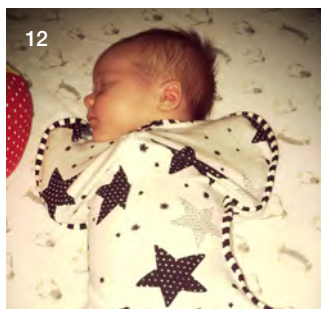
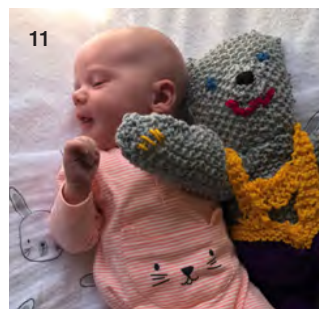
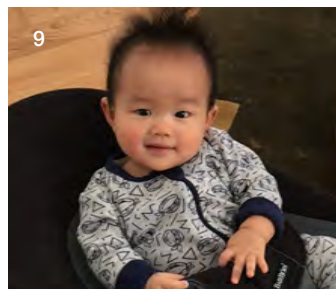
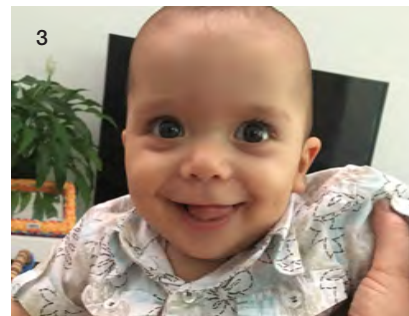
### HARRISON

Mykala Lee, daughter of Jennita and Christopher Harrison (OW2001) and granddaughter of Peter Harrison (OW1969) on Sunday 19 November 2017.

Did you know that the Chapel at St Kilda Road campus is available at times during the College year for approved OW services?

Special rates apply. For details, please contact Community College on 8102 6266 or [Peter.Banfield@wesleycollege.net](mailto:Peter.Banfield@wesleycollege.net)

## Births



1. Sienna Kate Baxter 2. Campbell Border 3. Luca Burrowes 4. Isabelle Greenway 5. Freddie Kronborg 6. Octavia Lo 7. Asher Osman 8. Edward Parkinson 9. James Siew 10. Stevie Silver 11. Arabella Stone 12. Jackson Thomas 13. Owen Unsworth 14. Sophie Pie



# Engagements

**CANTLON – FLETCHER**  
Megan (OW2005) to Jarred

**PELOSI – COSTANZO**  
Michael (OW2006) to Cynthia

*Michael Pelosi (OW2006)  
with fiancée  
Cynthia Costanzo*



# Marriages

**FREDERSDORFF – DARCY**  
Jeremy (OW1995) to Cate on  
10 February 2018

**GRIMA – RALTON**  
Lauren (OW2008) to Alexander  
on 26 November 2017

**JOHNSON – SALVADO**  
Pete (OW1998) to Amy on  
20 January 2018

**MORRIS – MENADUE**  
Rick (OW2004) to Rachael on  
29 April 2017

**POULTON – HONDA**  
Julia (OW2002) to Koji on  
7 October 2017

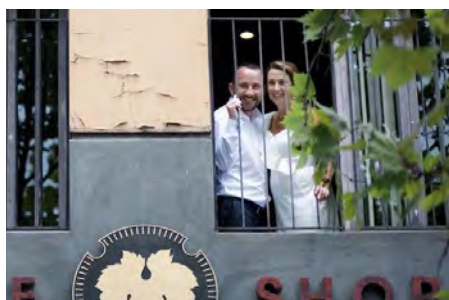
**STEWART – O'BRIEN**  
Jessica (OW2011) to Brendan on  
25 February 2018



*Charlie Lodge (OW2008), Emily Davis (OW2008),  
Lauren Grima (OW2008), Alexandra Grima (OW2010)*



*It has been a pleasure for Lucy Gilfillan (OW1995), seen here solemnising the  
marriage of Lauren Grima (OW2008), to preside over a number of OW weddings  
recently, including those of Pete Johnson (OW1998) and Jess Stewart (OW2011)*



*Cate and Jeremy Fredersdorff (OW1995)*



*Julia Poulton (OW2002) and Koji Honda*



*Amy and Pete Johnson (OW1998)*



*Brendan O'Brien and Jess Stewart (OW2011)*



*Rick Morris (OW2004) and Rachael Menadue*



# Obituaries



**RICHARD (DICK) GEORGE BITCON**  
(OW1947)

09/01/1929 – 6/01/2018

Dick was one of four boys from Numurkah in Victoria: Richard (OW1947), Robert (OW1948), Donald (OW1955) and James (OW1957), always called Dick, Bob, Don and Jim. Their father Jack (OW1919) (dec) was a boarder when the school was the 'Grey Towers' and 'Dickie' Adamson was Headmaster. He won the high jump for Wesley at the Combined School Sports in 1919. Following Jack's early death at 40, the boys all attended Wesley as boarders, thanks to a bequest by their grandfather, who owned one of the local general stores in Numurkah.

At Wesley, Dick played football (First XVIII) and cricket (Second XI), was a probationer in the Boarding House under house prefect Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947) and a Cadet Lieutenant in Fred Pott's era. He was one of the leads (as Captain Scott) in a radio play 'The Fire on the Snow' produced by AA 'Tosh' Phillips in Adamson Hall. He was there in 1946 when Headmaster McNeil died suddenly, leaving AE 'Fido' Gwillam as Acting Headmaster, until he also died suddenly 12 days later. They were sad and challenging times for Wesley until the appointment of the new headmaster, WH Frederick.

After Wesley, he returned to Numurkah and worked in the family store, but his love of the land won out, and he left to gain agricultural experience. For two years he worked on relations' properties, including that of uncle, George Selleck (OW1915) (dec), who was in two winning Head of the River Crews, in 1913 and 1915. Dick managed a family property in Griffith and by 1953 had met and married an attractive teacher at the local school, Margaret Welfare. They had three children, Sue, Louise and Chris. He never lost interest in Australian Rules Football and played in the Griffith team's first Grand Final and eventually became an Honorary Life Member.

Over the next decade the family moved three times: first in 1962, managing a large cattle and sheep property near Cootamundra in NSW, then in 1965 moving to Tongala in Victoria, with the chance of owning their own land. The odds in the government ballot for land were slim

and in 1968 he made an astute decision to buy a produce business in Bundaberg, Queensland. Dick would say it was the best move he ever made. It was very successful and the business flourished. During the early 1970s, Dick joined the Bundaberg Amateur Turf Club, was President for many years, and became an Honorary Life Member. He spent several years on the Wide Bay Electricity Board and for 11 years was a member of the Bundaberg Abattoir Board, including four as Chairman. He played regularly at the Bundaberg Golf Club and was an Honorary Life member of the Bundaberg Sportsman Association.

He was an active member of the National Party (now Liberal National Party (LNP)), was Chairman of the Hinkler Divisional Council and elected to represent Wide Bay on the State Management Committee. As Campaign Director for Paul Neville, a Minister in later LNP governments, he assisted him to win seven elections over 20 years. Dick was made an Honorary Life Member of the Queensland Liberal National Party, his fourth Honorary Life Membership of a volunteer organisation.

Dick's first wife, Margaret, died in 1993 and Dick married Carmel Walsh in 1995, who gave him a new life. They travelled widely. Dick was proud to say he had married two wonderful women and he leaves Carmel, Sue, Louise and Chris and all the extended family with great memories.

Contributed by Bob Bitcon (OW1948)



**GRANT MAXWELL BURLEY (OW1983)**

20/05/66 – 28/10/17

After finishing at Wesley in 1983, Grant immediately commenced his career in the workforce. Grant worked in various facets of the insurance industry before specialising, and becoming recognised as a pioneer in insurance premium financing.

At the age of 32 Grant became a Chief General Manager at Allianz, with responsibility for various specialist businesses within the group. In 2000, Grant left Allianz to commence his own business, Pacific Premium Funding and by 2004 Pacific was the market leader in premium financing in Australia. In 2008 the business was sold to GE, providing Grant with the opportunity to spend more time at his property in Johns River on the Central Coast of NSW and to commence his business consulting practice.

The GE/Pacific Premium business was subsequently acquired by Macquarie Bank. Today the Macquarie Pacific Funding business that was founded by Grant employs some 60 staff, and through a network of 600 insurance brokers, services a client base in excess of 60,000 nationwide. Grant has left an indelible legacy to the insurance premium funding industry. In addition, he was on the insurance advisory boards to the NSW and Queensland governments, and was a key advisor to the Australian and New Zealand governments in relation to anti-money-laundering legislation as it related to insurance premium funding.

Grant's passion in life was aviation, and over the years he flew over 5,000 hours, which included a number of solo ferry flights from the United States and other parts of the globe. He had the unique capability to fly both fixed-wing aircraft as well as helicopters, and owned variations of these aircraft. Grant also utilised his aviation resources to fly countless amounts of Angel Flights providing children living in regional Australia with access to much-needed medical treatment.

Grant's years at Wesley were less focused on classroom activities and more on the sports field. He rowed and played hockey primarily. In recent times, through the various reunions, Grant had re-connected with many of his fellow OWs where old friendships were re-established and new friendships formed.

Grant's life was cut short following an aviation accident near his property at Johns River.

Contributed by Alister Burley (OW1988)



**GRAHAM STUART DAFF (OW1954)**

31/10/1936 – 07/11/2017

Graham was a legend of Collegians. He was an instrumental part of five Collegians premierships, playing at centre half back during the great days of the late 1950s and early 1960s, where Collegians won Premierships in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1961. Graham was Vice President from 1956 to 1966 and played 254 senior games for Collegians. He represented Victoria and was the club delegate from 1956 to 1958. He served as runner for the 1981 season and then was a specialist coach from 1983



to 1985, after which he coached the Under 19s from 1987 to 1989. He is remembered as being very welcoming to new Under 19 players during his specialist and Under 19 coaching days and, as good a footballer as he was, he was also just as nice a person; the Collegians community will be all the sadder for his passing. Graham always loved getting back to games when he could, and loved catching up with all his Collegians friends, just as his friends loved catching up with him.

Contributed by the Collegians Football Club



**JOHN FRASER (OW1953)**

**26/03/1937 – 06/11/2017**

John, affectionately known as Johnny or Frase, loved life and a big part of what made him happy was the Collegians Football Club (CFC). As a modest footballer (his words, not mine) he ran around in the Seconds and Thirds for a few years from 1961 with many of his childhood and school mates. In the mid-1980s he became a more permanent fixture around the club after I left school and pulled on the boots for the CFC. In my whole footy career (Mt Waverley FC, Wesley and Collegians) my guess is Dad missed fewer than a handful of games. He loved his three boys playing sport and did everything he could to encourage our endeavours. At Collegians he was always there to help, whether it was as a team manager, runner, water carrier or one-eyed Collegians supporter. He loved being around the club and the players, regardless of the grade. It was less about the footy and more about the people. Some of his best times were spent hanging out with the Club XVIII where he was super proud to be awarded 'The Golden Water Bottle'. I think the thing he actually enjoyed most was giving the opposition 'advice'. I am pretty sure under today's AFL Code of Conduct Johnny would have been ejected from most of the games he attended. I honestly can't believe he didn't ever get his block knocked off by a frustrated opposition player!

There are a lot of people who are going to miss Dad; the footy club, his clients, the Liberal Party, the MG Car Club, the High Street Road church, the L2P program and all his family and friends. He was a one-off, and lived a full and happy life.

Contributed by Simon Fraser (OW1984)



**GARRY LE GET (OW1957)**

**16/07/1940 – 09/02/2018**

My young brother Garry started at Wesley in fourth form in the Junior School in 1949, aged eight. Assemblies were held in the school Chapel and very early Garry decided that he liked the sound and power of the pipe organ and wished to be able to play it. Our parents duly met the music teacher, Jim Wastell, who told them yes, he could learn the organ but would first have to learn the piano for four years (a) to attain the necessary keyboard skills and (b) to let his legs grow long enough to reach the pedal board on the organ. He persevered and from 1954 learnt to play the organ, becoming school organist in 1956/57. He played for Junior School assemblies, some Senior School Chapel services and even when Mary and I were married in the Chapel in 1956. But he wasn't able to play the organ again regularly after leaving school.

Garry played a lot of sport at Wesley including swimming and running, was in the hockey team in 1956/57 and rowed in the Third crew in 1957, the last time the Head-of-the-River was rowed on the Yarra. He gained his Leaving Certificate that year.

When Garry was aged about 10 our parents moved to country Victoria with the bank, and we went to live with our aunt in Hawthorn to continue our schooling. This meant that on school holidays, Garry was able to spend time with farming and pastoral families, first near Koroit and Warrnambool and later in the Latrobe Valley. As a result, he was able to get a taste for country life, which he built on by going from school to Longerenong Agricultural College. He enjoyed life there and received a good grounding in all aspects of farming. This gave him the chance to join the Soil Conservation Authority, later Conservation Forests and Lands, and in various regional postings, to work his way up to executive positions in the government departments.

Through farming friends, Garry met Wendy Rudduck, who had grown up in rural Western Australia in a family with Wesley connections. Following a long-distance courtship, they were married in Perth in 1965 and, after further Victorian country postings and with three children, returned to live in Melbourne in 1978.

A career highlight was running Soil Conservations' most complex district at Broadford, which included restoration of military properties at Puckapunyal and Mangalore, and complex water-catchment projects at Eppalock and in the Macedon ranges. Garry retired from the formal workforce in 1997 but, maintaining his interest in farming, every year from then until 2011 he and Wendy went back to the family property in WA to help with seeding and sometimes harvesting, up to 4,000 acres of crop and pasture. He particularly enjoyed working on the big tractor (boys with toys!).

But this was only a part of the story. In each town where he was stationed Garry, and later with Wendy, had made a point of being involved in whatever clubs and activities were available in order for both to contribute and make friends in each place. This resulted in membership, at one time or another, of an amazing number of community organisations such as Young Farmers, Apex, Jaycees, Rotary, Probos and Scouts. He also played country football and golf. In each case, membership was never just to belong. Garry always occupied official positions and, particularly with Apex and Rotary, was a pillar of the branch he belonged to, serving as President during his membership. He represented both clubs internationally and in Rotary was appointed Paul Harris Fellow, later with added Sapphire.

While Garry was still employed in country Victoria, Wesley was rumoured to be closing the boarding house, a reason that his boys later attended Scotch. This in turn led him to return to rowing after 28 years, with the Cardinal Club (Old Scotch Rowing), and later Old Scotch Bush Walking. Again, when serving the Cardinal Club, he became President, requiring an amendment to its constitution to permit a non-Scotch Collegian to hold this office. He also had a scull named for him. He was an active Masters rower for many years, a member at Waverley Golf Club and a long-suffering supporter of Melbourne in the AFL, as an MCC member. One of Garry's more unusual achievements was to be named on an honour board at both Wesley and Scotch, for organ-playing and rowing respectively.

Three years ago, Garry suffered the onset of a severe illness which was thought to give him only a few months to live. His battle to carry on with a reasonable quality of life amazed all who knew him. The large attendance at his funeral service, including many OWs, celebrated a life well-lived and full of achievement and, in accordance with his own practice at meetings, the service was well-organised and well-presented.

Contributed by Peter Le Get (OW1950)

# Death notices

## BITCON

Richard George (OW1947) on 6 January 2018, brother of Bob (OW1947)

## BURLEY

Grant Maxwell (OW1983) on 28 October 2017, brother of Alister (OW1988)

## COOK

Alexander Austin (OW1940) on 31 January 2018, brother of Bill (OW1937) (dec), father of Andrew (OW1975), uncle of Bill (OW1968)

## DAFF

Graham Stuart (OW1954) on 7 November 2017, brother of Gordon (OW1950), father of Andrew (OW1979)

## DENMAN

Russell (OW1963) on 9 December 2018

## FRASER

John (OW1953) on 6 November 2017, father of Scott (OW1983), Simon (OW1984) and John (OW1987)

## LE GET

Garry William (OW1957) on 9 February 2018, brother of Peter (OW1950)

## MARSHALL

Graeme Thomas (OW1975) on 8 December 2017, brother of Colin (OW1975) and David (OW1977)

## MATTERS

Barry John (OW1971) on 2 February 2018

## MCCUTCHEON

Hon Andrew Arthur (OW1949) on 16 December 2017, brother of Stephen (OW1947)

## MITCHELL

John Leonard (OW1948) on 17 July 2016

## SMITH

Geoffrey Valentine (OW1948) on 18 February 2018, brother of Harold (OW1944) (dec)

## THOMPSON

Alfred John (OW1948) on 2 February 2018, brother of Bruce (OW1951) (dec), Jim (OW1951), and Graeme (OW1953) (dec)

## WOODHEAD

John Arthur (OW1959) on 21 February 2018, cousin of Frank Opray (OW1963)

# OWCA executive

## Co-Presidents

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

## Vice President

Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999)

## Treasurer

Richard Hartnett (OW1993)

## College Head

Ian Thomas (OW1982)

## Executive

Frank Opray (OW1963)  
Scott Hudson (OW1993)  
Yana Podolskaya (OW1993)  
Kate Evans (OW1998)

Mark Hibbins (OW1978)  
Affiliates Liaison Officer

Zena Eastburn  
Administrative Assistant

Jack Moshakis (OW1973)  
Director, Foundation and Alumni

## Interested in becoming involved?

The OWCA is always looking for new input.

Please contact  
Ian Thomas (OW1982),  
College Head, OWCA  
on +61 8102 6475  
or [ian.thomas@wesleycollege.net](mailto:ian.thomas@wesleycollege.net)

# Founders' Day Lunch

Founders' Day Lunch continues to be a rewarding and enjoyable afternoon for OWs. Come along to enjoy an afternoon filled with good food and great company!

**Venue:** Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

**Date:** Friday 25 May, 2018

**Time:** 12.00pm

**Enquiries:** Zena Eastburn on 03 8102 6750  
or [zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)





# OWCA contacts

## Office

### Ian Thomas (OW1982)

College Head, OWCA  
Tel: + 61 3 8102 6475  
Email: ian.thomas@wesleycollege.net

### Mark Hibbins (OW1978)

Affiliates Liaison  
Tel: + 61 3 8102 6405  
Email: mark.hibbins@wesleycollege.net

### Lucy Gilfillan (OW1995)

Communications Officer  
Email: lucy.gilfillan@wesleycollege.net

### Bill Black (OW2010)

Alumni Administrative Assistant  
Tel: + 61 3 8102 6358  
Email: bill.black@wesleycollege.net

### Zena Eastburn

Administration and Events  
Tel: +61 3 8102 6750  
Email: zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net

## Affiliate groups

### Athletics/Cross Country

Ross Tennant (OW1982)  
Tel: 9563 0324  
Email: tennantr@bigpond.net.au

### Basketball

Ben Rollo (OW1994)  
Tel: 0402 266 633  
Email: ben.n.rollo@gmail.com

### Big Band

James Mustafa (OW2010)  
Tel: 0400 951 517  
Email: jamesmustafamusic@gmail.com

### Bowls

Richard Sluggett (OW1972)  
Tel: 0403 023 288  
Email: bowls7@optusnet.com.au

### Elsternwick Cato Golf

Debbie Catchlove 1974  
Tel: 0425711386  
Email: dcatchlove@hotmail.com

### Concert Band

Sally Goldsmith (OW1999)  
Tel: 0411 284 008  
Email: sally@lulustore.com.au

### Cricket

Rick Morris (OW2004)  
Tel: 0438 081 886

### Football

Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)  
Tel: 9859 8699  
Email: rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au

### Golf

Peter Johnson (OW1995)  
Tel: 0419 119 786  
Email: peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au

### Hockey

Mark Perraton (OW1995)  
Tel: 0417 312 989  
Email: president@collegiansx.com

## Masonic Lodge

Gavin Birch (OW1971)  
Tel: 0438 448 854  
Email: mgc\_birch@hotmail.com

## Rowing – Alan Mitchell Club

Roland Scollay  
Tel: 0438 044 223  
Email: rolandgs1@gmail.com

## Ski Club

Lew Targett (OW1969)  
Tel: 0417 385 117  
www.collegiansskiclub.org.au

## Tally Ho Fitness Group

Lindsay Spittle  
Tel: 0419 114 050  
Email: lspittle@bigpond.net.au

## Triathlon Club

Emma Carney (OW1989)  
Tel: 0418 121 885  
Email: emma@emmacarney.com

## Theatre/Drama Productions

Branford Gruar (OW2012)  
Tel: 8102 6412  
Email: branford.gruar@wesleycollege.net

## Water Polo

Scott Emerson  
Tel: 0418 373 550  
Email: se.arch@bigpond.net.au

## Victoria contacts

### Bendigo

Rick Dungey (OW1964)  
Tel: + 61 418 509 033  
Email: rickdungey@bigpond.com

### Chinese Alumni

中国同学校友会  
Peter Pan (潘勇)  
Tel (Australia): 0401 339 988 (澳洲手机号)  
Tel (China): 13439579588 (中国手机号)  
Email: aut881@gmail.com

### Geelong & Bellarine Peninsula

Jack Ayerbe (OW1963) Co-President, OWCA  
Tel: + 61 419 310 686  
Email: jackayerbe@hotmail.com

### Goulburn Valley

Jim Vasey (OW1970)  
Tel: + 61 427 575 802  
Email: jim.vasey@veequine.com.au

### Mornington Peninsula

Geoff Wagstaff (OW1949)  
Tel: + 61 3 5984 2573  
Email: gcwagstaff@bigpond.com

## National contacts

### Adelaide

Alan Hicks (OW1956)  
Tel: + 61 402 331 717  
Email: ahhicks@adam.com.au

### Brisbane

Don Leembruggen (OW1974)  
Tel: + 61 414 819 644  
Email: don.leembruggen@barrynil.com.au

## Canberra

John Fuhrman (OW1961)  
Tel: + 61 404 887 137  
Email: john.fuhrman@bigpond.com

## Noosa

Tom Standing (OW1964)  
Tel: + 61 408 177 960  
Email: tomstandingnoosa@bigpond.com

## Sydney

Bruce Duffy (OW1963)  
Tel: + 61 412 015 319  
Email: bruceduffy@gmail.com

## Tasmania

Ben Walker (OW1982)  
Tel: + 61 404 843 511  
Email: walker\_ben@inet.net.au

## International Contacts

### China (Chengdu)

Ningchuan Li (OW2003)  
Email: liningchuans@hotmail.com

### China (Shanghai)

Beini Zhang (OW2009)  
Email: beini\_zhang@hotmail.com

### Hong Kong

Li Low (OW1989)  
Tel: + 852 9538 3755  
Email: lllow10@bloomberg.net

### Claire Chu (OW2006)

Tel: + 852 6462 1062  
Email: claire.chu@gmail.com

### Jimmy Jin (OW2006)

Tel: + 852 9589 8197  
Email: jmq1218@hotmail.com

### Indonesia (Jakarta)

Adi Janitra (OW2005)  
Tel: + 62 81 812 5666  
Email: adjanitra@hotmail.com

### Paulidy Widjaja (OW2006)

Tel: + 813 23 888 222  
Email: pauliady.widjaja@gmail.com

## Japan

Jeff Lu (OW2004)  
Tel: + 81 80 7968 3010  
Email: jeff.c.lu@hotmail.com

## Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)

Allan Tan (OW1999)  
Email: allantctan@gmail.com

### Kenny Tan (OW1972)

Tel: + 60 12 207 4585  
Email: ken10tan@gmail.com

### Eddie Lo (OW1958)

Tel: + 605 675 3359  
Email: dreddylo@live.com.my

## New Zealand

Nick Sautner (OW1994)  
Tel: + 64 27 237 0288  
Email: nsautner@edenpark.co.nz

## South Korea

Junwon Lee (OW2009)  
Email: leejw321@gmail.com

### Catherine Kim (OW2004)

Email: musicart85@gmail.com

### Richard Kim (OW2005)

Email: kimdw86@hotmail.com

## Singapore

Alvin Oei (OW1972)  
Tel: + 65 9850 8698  
Email: alvin\_oei@sttele.com

### Mark Samlal (OW1982)

Tel: + 65 917 24606  
Email: mark@smsms.com.au

### Katrina Mooney (OW1989)

Tel: + 65 964 73777  
Email: katrina.mooney@me.com

## Thailand (Bangkok)

Eugene Boonpiti (OW1980)  
Tel: + 66 2 632 4000 (w)  
Email: boonpiti@crystaljadethai.com

### Mai Prasertbodin (OW2010)

Email: s.prasertbodin@gmail.com

## United Arab Emirates (Dubai)

Stewart Routledge (OW1963)  
Tel: + 971 050 559 5856  
Email: sroutledge45@hotmail.com

## United Kingdom (London)

Campbell Unsworth (OW1998)  
Email: campbell@generalstandards.co

## United Kingdom (Suffolk)

Kate Hesse (OW1989)  
Tel: + 44 7763 921024  
Email: kate.hesse@rossdales.com

## United States of America (Arizona)

Ethan Edwards (OW1978)  
Tel: + 928 870 0733  
Email: ethanjedwards@earthlink.net

## United States of America (New York)

Robert Tanzmann (OW1982)  
Tel: + 212 841 5912  
Email: robert.tanzmann@cushwake.com

## United States of America

(North Carolina)  
Peter Sun (OW2015)  
Email: peter.sun0097@gmail.com



**Elsternwick**

5 Gladstone Parade Elsternwick Victoria 3185

[elsternwick@wesleycollege.net](mailto:elsternwick@wesleycollege.net)

**Telephone: + 61 3 8102 6888**

**Glen Waverley**

620 High Street Road Glen Waverley Victoria 3150

[gw@wesleycollege.net](mailto:gw@wesleycollege.net)

**[www.wesleycollege.net](http://www.wesleycollege.net)**

**St Kilda Road**

577 St Kilda Road Melbourne Victoria 3004

[stkildaroad@wesleycollege.net](mailto:stkildaroad@wesleycollege.net)

ABN 55 611 238 530 CRICOS 00354G