

Lion

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

*Historic win
at Head of the River
Girls First VIII bring
home the trophy*



Contents

Editorial	2
Principal's lines	3
Features	
Inspired to Lead	4
International Women's Day	6
Flourishing in a <i>harsh land</i>	8
Begin with the child	10
Getting real-world ready	12
College snapshots	14
Archives	20
Foundation	22
OWCA	
Features and reports	28

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All smiles: Our Girls First VIII rowers celebrate winning the Head of the River at Lake Nagambie, see story page 18

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Editorial

We all innately understand that schools are a microcosm of society, but when the ills of our wider society – such as a disrespect for women – appear in our own community, we are shocked out of our complacency.

In his *Principal's Lines* in this edition of *Lion*, Nick Evans delivers an adroit moral statement. Australian society urgently needs leaders to step forward and occupy the moral space vacated by those who are essentially leaders in name only. Nick is such a person. He has given us, and the Victorian community, a lesson in authentic leadership. We thank Nick for his willingness to openly confront the difficult issues for the betterment of our school, and, as the ripples spread, for the long-term betterment of our wider community.

For all the pain and discomfort the school has experienced in recent days, there is, as always, much we can be proud of, and indeed this edition of *Lion* celebrates authentic leadership in its many guises. Sheriden Vella writes about what inspires her in her new role as Head of Campus at Glen Waverley. Three very different women – Professor Sharon Lewin, Kate Dempsey (OW2012) and Jessica Macpherson OAM – each share their stories and their thoughts on how we might *choose to challenge* in our feature on last month's International Women's Day breakfasts. Indigenous Wesley alumnus Alena Landers (OW2020) breaks new ground in the art world and at university, showing others what's possible in their lives.

And we celebrate our rowers, who, with their focus and determination, produced some remarkable wins on the water this season. In doing so, they've gifted future generations of Wesley rowers with the belief that anything is possible. How wonderful that the strength of our rowing program could be so viscerally demonstrated this year as we celebrate 150 years of rowing at Wesley.

Anything is possible... It's a liberating thought. I'll leave the last word to past Wesley parent Professor Sharon Lewin, who, at St Kilda Rd's IWD breakfast, left her audience with this message: '2021 is a wake-up call for all of us. Every woman on the planet should feel they can shoot for the stars and that they can do anything. We need to be sure that when we see misogyny or casual sexism in our daily lives or our institutions, everyone must call this out and *choose to challenge*.'

Paul Munn

Lion Editor and features writer

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A True Education

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



Principal's lines



As an OW, a parent, student or future Wesley family, you would rightly be concerned about the recent reports of misogyny, disrespectful behaviour and sexual misconduct within our student community at Wesley College.

The media attention this issue generated earlier this year was discomfiting. But it is a small price to pay for the attention it has provided to a critical problem that confronts us as educators and the community more broadly. As I have said on more than one occasion, Wesley College is a microcosm of Australian society, and reflects all the ills and wonders of its broader host. But we do have one substantial advantage. We can change faster.

I am heartened by the discussions now taking place in a range of student and staff forums on each campus to address this deep cultural issue. The College has put in place a number of measures and initiatives to begin to deal with the issues as we work together to provide a safe and inclusive community for all.

- We have entered a phase of deep listening. We need to better understand the experiences of our students; the issues they face, how they feel, the impact such challenges are having on their health and wellbeing and ideas about how we can further support them at this time.
- We have arranged for one of our counsellors to work solely in this area and we have engaged with the South East Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) as a referral service.
- We have engaged with educational consultants (Educational Data Talks) who will use a combination of surveys and focus groups to provide us with

baseline data on attitudes within the student body.

- We have supported the creation with the Senior Schools on both campuses of a group called WesFem, which will provide the campus leadership with an opportunity to engage with students. The formation of this group was student driven, it is student-led, student-focussed and student-run.
- We have engaged YourCall, our independent whistleblower service provider, to provide us with a facility called WesleySAFE. This will enable students and families to report incidents to an independent body at arm's length from the College.
- We have engaged Bravehearts, who will provide a student program delivered in small groups that explores the topics of respectful relationships and personal safety for adolescents and is presented in age-appropriate modules. Topics include respectful relationships, understanding emotions, consent, confidentiality, bullying, internet safety, sexting, pornography, stress and seeking help. There is also a staff program which will encompass all staff at the College and will expand their knowledge about managing trauma in the classroom, understanding problem sexual behaviour and sexual harm, teaching personal safety, recognising and responding to grooming, responding to disclosures and mandatory reporting, creating Child Safe Classrooms, the indicators of

harm and an explicit understanding of Wesley College policy and procedures. These programs will begin in Term 2.

- We will be reviewing the student leadership structures within the College. There is a clear need for a more effective student voice.

We are also reviewing the policies and procedures that exist around the reporting of sexual harassment and assault to the College. It is clear we need more clarity for staff to the processes to be followed when we have harassment and assault reported to us.

But this is not going to be just the responsibility of the College. It will take a community that moves as one, that acknowledges the urgency of the situation, that commits to changing the fundamental injustices that blight it. Men, in particular, need to listen to the lived experience of women. They need to listen with compassion and with empathy. They need to listen deeply and without defensiveness. They need to call out behaviour that falls short.

There is something stirring that is not going to be silenced. We all need to make sure we are on the right side of history. To be on the right side of history, you need to be on the right side of justice. As Martin Luther King Jr. noted, 'the moral arc of the universe is long, but it tends towards justice.'

It is also easy, of course, to descend into despair. I have heard much over the past weeks that would plunge me thus. But there is much around the College that inspires and provides hope. The leadership over recent weeks of many young women within Wesley has been inspiring. The courage they have shown, and the way in which they have been constructively angry has been inspiring. Their new ideas, and the manner in which they passionately argue for them, has been inspiring. The victory of the Girls First VIII in the Head of the River, the first such victory since 1987, has been inspiring. The selection, and success, of Meika King, the first Wesley girl to be selected to play in the APS First XI cricket competition, has been inspiring.

It has been discomfiting. It has been difficult. But we have faced up to our issues with courage and honesty. We are in the process of change. I can therefore hope that Wesley College will be an inspiration to others in the months and years ahead.

Nick Evans (OW1985)





Inspired to lead

Being a Head of Campus at Wesley is a big job. While it offers great rewards, it also presents sobering challenges. Newly appointed Head of Campus at Glen Waverley **Sheriden Vella** shares what inspired her to take on the role.

When I joined Wesley Glen Waverley in 2012 I had been teaching for a little over a decade, and from the moment I started I knew I was joining a community of curious, focused and invested learners. It was apparent that this community of learners included not just the students, but also the staff, and not just the teaching staff, but in fact the entire staff. I understood, in a very short period, that I was part of a learning culture that would encourage and support me to be my best, whatever the endeavour.

The importance placed on the acquisition of knowledge and how to apply it in real contexts was something I witnessed daily. As I wandered into classrooms, I began to form an understanding of the culture of this place, in my role as Head of Middle School. As a teacher of History and Drama I knew I was experiencing *learning to know* and *learning to do* firsthand, because my two passions gave me the background to understand what I was seeing. I then keenly observed how, without the lessons being explicit, students in this coeducational

environment were *learning to live with* as they engaged and interacted with one another in positive and meaningful ways. The classrooms were buzzing hives of inquisitive energy and action, or quiet spaces of critical thinking and reflection. The common thread in all classrooms was the spotlight on growth and achieving personal best.

It was also apparent that I had joined a school in which developing the whole person was the ultimate, non-negotiable goal. My cocurricular background includes directing and producing musicals and plays, as well as participating in the sport program as Team Manager of Girls Firsts Basketball. I also travelled to Thailand and Cambodia on Service exchanges. So a holistic education was crucial in my philosophy of how to develop lifelong learners who were outwardly focused and people of good character.

All of these experiences left an indelible impression on me. I was a woman in leadership; I needed to embody these same traits.



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from left to right

Sheriden Vella, Head of Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus, has a strong sense of the inclusive and growth-focused culture at Wesley

For Sheriden, this community of learners includes not just the students, but also the staff

Student advocacy rang through as I observed one student at a leadership meeting quote Martin Luther King Jr.: 'Our lives begin and end the day we become silent about things that matter'. As an adult watching this play out, I became acutely aware of how young people can propel serious issues into view, and more so, how they can handle these profound issues with such care for those they impact. It made me take stock of what I considered important, as well as coming to understand that young people can be independent advocates for issues that matter.

It's also the resilience and adaptability of this community that was most emboldening. Faced with the devastating fire of 2016, the aftermath resulted in continuing campus redevelopments, culminating in a complete rethink of the Middle School precinct and the construction of The Drennen Centre. Along with the events of the global pandemic last year, I knew this was a community of people I wanted to lead. With staff who are student-focused and students who are growth-focused, I was overwhelmed with pride time and time again in the way we saw adversity not as something to succumb to, but rather as something that impelled us to do better and be better. Challenges have been plentiful over the last few years; however, the positive spirit of the campus has never been in question.

That brings me to *learning to be*, and how with the support and encouragement of this eclectic, growth-focused, inclusive community I feel buoyed every day as I establish my place as Head of Campus.

Sheriden Vella is the Head of Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus

Once I moved into the Deputy Head of Campus role in 2015, I had the privilege of working with teachers from across the campus and across all learning areas. I came to understand this place as one of best practice in teaching and learning, with staff who look to inform their pedagogy with evidence-based data. I saw *innovation and wisdom* played out in classrooms and offices across the campus. Collaboration was common, support was readily offered and a willingness to trial new and up-to-the-minute initiatives was encouraged. In the face of this, it was hard not to ride the wave of consistent improvement.

All of these experiences left an indelible impression on me. I was a woman in leadership; I needed to embody these same traits.

Yet it was the diversity and inclusivity of this place that impacted me most. A coeducational community made up of so many cultures, represented by a variety of religions, all living and working alongside each other, growing in understanding of differences and embracing one another for it. Coupled with this was the strong sense of social justice, with even the youngest of our students raising awareness about important societal issues. More than that, time after time, our students made an impact by driving change and improving the lives of others.

Working with student leaders, as I often did, I could see firsthand the global citizens the campus was fostering. The focus on 'think global, act local' was a mantra, coupled with a desire to be agents of change. There was also an appetite to make meaningful connections between school and the wider community, creating action rather than simply bringing issues into view.



Choose to Challenge: International Women's Day Breakfast 2021



This year's IWD celebrations in Australia seemed charged with an even more urgent call for gender equality than ever before. Last month, audiences across the campuses celebrated three very different women who shared their own stories and their ideas on how we each might choose to challenge.

Given the year we've just endured, it'd be hard to think of a more apt speaker for St Kilda Road's IWD Breakfast than Professor Sharon Lewin, infectious diseases physician and laboratory scientist. With a PhD in virology, her work in HIV research over decades has been substantial. She was Head of Infectious Diseases at the Alfred Hospital before she took on an even bigger leadership challenge as inaugural Director of the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity.

Over 700 people work at the Institute, a very diverse, multidisciplinary team that brings together laboratory science, public health, epidemiology and clinical medicine. Founded in 2014, the Institute had spent its first years doing 'fantastic work on many infectious diseases,' said Professor Lewin.

And then COVID-19 struck.



Clockwise from left

Jessica Macpherson OAM provides plenty of food for thought at the Glen Waverley breakfast

Professor Sharon Lewin speaks at St Kilda Road

Some footy fun: IWD celebrations were a bit different at Elsternwick this year

'It changed everything for us,' she said. 'We were very much designed to be an institute to respond to a pandemic, and so when the first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in Australia our entire team was ready to respond.'

That response was swift. Virologist **Dr Julian Druce (OW 1982)** isolated the virus within two days of obtaining a patient sample, and they decided to share it with the world. 'It put the Institute in a highly visible position which was fantastic for us and what we could achieve,' said Professor Lewin. She's been firmly in the international spotlight ever since. For her, leading such a prominent organisation in the global response was very challenging. 'I'm very proud of what we've achieved.'

'2021 is a wake-up call for all of us. Every woman on the planet should feel they can shoot for the stars and that they can do anything.'

Professor Sharon Lewin

Something that troubles her is the greed of wealthy nations in stockpiling COVID vaccines. '80 per cent of vaccines have been bought by 11 countries. Vaccines need to go to everyone, not just rich countries... Really, no one's safe until everyone's safe.'

It's clearly been a momentous time in the history of public health, and Professor Lewin declares that '2021 is looking to be an equally momentous time for women in Australia.' The recent disturbing stories of sexual assault and impropriety in the Australian Parliament and the mishandled response to them are 'a scary reminder that much still needs to change in Australia.'

Two inspirational women for Professor Lewin are Australian of the Year Grace Tame and Brittany Higgins. 'They've brought their personal and chilling stories of sexual assault to all of us, and we're learning that they're not lone voices,' she said. 'They've reminded all of us that despite great success in what women have achieved, there's still a very long way to go to achieve equality. And

I don't mean equal representation in leadership roles and in certain professions. I just mean feeling safe at school, feeling safe at work and feeling safe just walking home at night.

'2021 is a wake-up call for all of us. Every woman on the planet should feel they can shoot for the stars and that they can do anything. We need to be sure that when we see misogyny or casual sexism in our daily lives or our institutions, everyone must call this out and choose to challenge.'

Rather than hosting a breakfast, we made IWD celebrations at **Elsternwick Campus** a bit different this year, holding a *Choose to Challenge* special assembly with all students from Years 3 – 9 and interested staff. Our guest speaker was the remarkable **Kate Dempsey (OW2012)**.

Kate made the most of her time at Wesley and was always happy to give anything a go. She could often be seen out on the pitch, pool, or court, excelling in sports such as softball, soccer, volleyball, swimming and tennis. It wasn't only in the sporting arena she excelled, as she was both a Draper and Alexander Wawn scholar.

Currently a qualified psychologist and working in the area of mental health, Kate also plays for the Richmond Football Club. She was drafted by Richmond with the club's tenth selection and the 84th pick overall in the 2019 AFL Women's draft and made her debut against Greater Western Sydney in the 2020 season.

'Be yourself, challenge yourself, challenge the views of others.'

Kate Dempsey (OW2012)

With her engaging, energetic persona, Kate's message to the Wesley Elsternwick community was clear: *be yourself, challenge yourself, challenge the views of others*. When Kate advised us that the best response to being told 'You kick like a girl' is to say 'Thank you!', we clearly

understood her messaging around inclusivity, equality and being your own person. She reminded us how fortunate we are to live in the time that we do, where anyone can pursue their passion, regardless of gender.

After her presentation, she finished her visit with a fun-filled footy clinic.

Jessica Macpherson OAM, CEO and founder of St Kilda Mums impressed the **Glen Waverley** audience at our IWD Breakfast as she described how St Kilda Mums began when a group of volunteers came together to sort out donated goods at her local Maternal Child and Health Centre. The pleasure that the volunteers attained from their day of organising was a huge reward and 'they became hooked'. From these humble beginnings, St Kilda Mums grew: within seven years the organisation was employing 44 staff and over 3000 volunteers were involved in Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat.

True to this year's *Choose to Challenge* theme for IWD, the audience was surprised to hear that Jessica has recently resigned from her role to take on a new challenge starting a charity to help people get well paid and flexible jobs in technology. She listened to her inner voice and followed her desire to do something new. She challenged everyone by suggesting that if you have a passion or interest which you enjoy doing, maybe do more of it.

For Jessica, 'having a sense of social justice younger in life is good'. She said that we're lucky to be in Australia, but we're 'citizens in a very big world and there is a lot we can do from our position of privilege'. She also stressed the power of friendship, recommending surrounding yourself with people that make you happy and support you in what you do.

Plenty of food for thought, not least for Year 12 student Olivia Khouw. 'Often, we tend to think of feminism as a monolith that should be superimposed on everyone regardless of their own individuality, so it is interesting to hear from someone who highlights not only professional, but also domestic opportunities for women,' she said.



Features



Alena Landers is proud to share her family history through her artwork

Flourishing in *a harsh land*

There's a lot happening for **Alena Landers (OW2020)** right now. Her stunning artwork is being exhibited at the NGV, she's started the art course of her dreams and she's negotiating the whole new world of university life. She talks to **Paul Munn** about Life, the University and Everything.

Congratulations Class of 2020!

Our Class of 2020 faced and met many challenges in their final year, with many weeks spent learning remotely. Their personal growth and academic successes are significant. They have gone on to pursue further study in a diverse range of fields, reflecting the cohort's unique talents, interests and capabilities.

Find out more about our most recent graduates in the online edition of *Lion* at wesleycollege.edu.au/lionmagazine

For Alena Landers, life is suddenly going very large. The first person in her family to go to university, she's in her first year of a Fine Arts degree in Visual Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA). She's in residence at Queens College. And she's exhibiting her work *A Harsh Land* at the National Gallery of Victoria as part of the 2021 Top Arts Exhibition. 'Top Arts' – curated and administered by the NGV – showcases exceptional work created by students in VCE Art and VCE Studio Art.

A Harsh Land is the high point of an artistic journey Alena started as a child in Broome and continued through Yiramalay to Learning in Residence (LiR) and her Studio Arts course at Wesley Glen Waverley. The work is a series of mixed media collages that explore aspects of her Indigenous heritage, along with the land and environment.

Alena explains it in her artist's statement: 'As a young Indigenous woman in 21st century Australia, from the Djugun and Noongar tribes of Western Australia, I'm constantly navigating the worlds of my Aboriginal culture from my hometown of Broome with that of my education here in Melbourne,' she says. 'I worked with natural bush plants, such as eucalyptus leaves to eco dye the fabrics, prior to collaging and stitching each work using symbolism to create small narratives of my identity, my people and my culture.'

'My parents taught me to creatively express myself through art since I was young,' Alena says. 'Working on *A Harsh Land* was at times a challenging experience. I explored my family history which revealed their resilience and tenacity living on their country while being treated as outcasts. It reinforced the value of family and friends in my life and allowed me to explore my identity in a safe space.'

Alena's Studio Arts teacher Michele Maher is very proud of Alena and what she has achieved, both as an artist and a person. 'Being open minded about what one's making lets the work take on a life of its own, and that is what Alena did. It's why her artworks were so engaging in the end,' she said. 'She's a highly resilient student and was able to put a lot of her own story into her art, which is perhaps why it was selected for Top Arts.'

One gets the feeling that for Alena, the art will take care of itself while she's studying at the University of Melbourne; right now, the big challenges for her are coming from elsewhere.



From left to right

Heart, detail, from A Harsh Land

Nan, detail, from A Harsh Land



Far right, top to bottom

My pop, detail, from A Harsh Land

Mission, detail, from A Harsh Land



'This new period of my life is very exciting but intense; I'm still only very new to adult and uni life – it's a pretty big shock to me! Not everything is straightforward like ticking it off a list. It can be a bit overwhelming,' she admits. A bit like being drawn into a whirlwind...

Fortunately, she's surrounded by 'an amazing support system' between Yiramalay, Wesley College, Queens College and support services on campus. And then there's the friends she's made along the way. 'Meeting so many new people from all over Australia, with different cultural backgrounds and experiences has been by far my favourite thing. My new friends have made it easy to make new connections and friendships.'

'Time is something I worry about. A lot. I worry about how I'm going to juggle my life with uni, friends outside of uni, college life and my personal life. I'm learning to manage my time better, which is going to be hard but a very valuable lesson that will help me in the future.' Here Alena voices the realisation that comes to us all in this particular rite of passage: 'At college you are your own responsibility.'

And what of life at Queens College?

'O Week (Orientation Week) at College was jam-packed all day with activities from 7.00am to 11.00pm every day for eight days. I found it at times exhausting, but I felt better knowing I wasn't alone in it, like the other 120 freshers at my College. You become really close with people really quickly.'

'Queens follows LiR's sense of family and community, but it is very much self-driven; no one's taking you to your doctors' appointments, telling you to go to dinner, school, meetings... It's not like you are a part of a community, it's more like you are the community - it's a very close college. I'm excited to really set down roots and make this my home, just like I did with LiR.'

Alena's experience speaks volumes for the value of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School and Learning in LiR experience as a safe and supportive pathway our Indigenous students can take – should they choose to – into a broader landscape of social, educational and professional opportunity: 'I was very shy before I arrived at Yiramalay and avoided a lot of socialising with others. My time at

Yiramalay and Wesley allowed me the space to explore my cultural identity in a safe environment. I'm much more comfortable with who I am and more open to making friends and having new experiences.'

The flourishing Ms Landers may feel like she's riding a whirlwind right now, but it's lifting her into a bright future of her own making. Her final remark speaks powerfully about what happens when we create a space within our community for people to flourish: 'I hope to someday become an art teacher. My art teacher Ms Maher really inspired me over the past two years and hopefully one day I can model her teaching to other kids back home in Broome.'

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

You can see Alena's *A Harsh Land* in the 2021 Top Arts exhibition, currently showing at The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia at Federation Square until Sunday 11 July.



Begin with the child



Our approach begins with the child, and each learning experience is different

When children in the early years – aged three, four and five – begin at Wesley, it's vital they transition smoothly and feel they belong in a secure and familiar learning environment. As **Jacinta Janssens** and **Kieran McCrohan** explain, that's why everything at Wesley begins with the child.

'Begin with the child and the rest will take care of itself.' So said 20th century educational thinker and practitioner Loris Malaguzzi. For Malaguzzi, the founder of the Reggio Emilia approach to early years education, the environment isn't simply the place where learning happens; it plays a significant role as the third teacher in developing and supporting children's learning through inquiry and discovery – the place that helps make learning happen.

The student-centred approach at Wesley literally begins, every day, with the child, understanding that we all acquire our knowledge, skills and attitudes through experiential learning in relationship-based environments. But it's not just the environment that's student-centred: every element of our approach *begins with the child*. That's because students never suddenly stop learning. Their progress – or learning growth – depends on the discoveries and inquiries that result from their engagement in meaningful experiences; not just learning to know, but also to do, to live with and to be.



The student-centred approach at Wesley literally begins, every day, with the child, understanding that we all acquire our knowledge, skills and attitudes through experiential learning in relationship-based environments.

Forming a strong connection

A strong foundation is crucial for success. The positive and nurturing experiences of our Early Childhood Learning Centre (ECLC) children form a solid foundation and a clear pathway to their success in Prep and beyond. Their sense of security, familiarity and belonging helps them manage the novel environments and experiences of Prep.

Prep is a significant milestone for each child and their family, and it's vital that it is a positive and successful experience for everyone involved. It's for this reason that our main intake into the Junior School is from the ECLC program – although we also have some limited places to welcome new students into Prep as well. The key is for each child to establish a strong connection with school early on. Getting to know each child and understand who they are as a personality and a learner helps our staff to further nurture their curiosity and confidence. This provides a strong foundation for their successful transition into Prep, ensuring they thrive as confident, inquisitive learners.

Being familiar with the campus is one of many ways we ensure our Preps experience a comfortable transition. For our ECLC children, this can be something as simple as visits to some of the 'big school' spaces or joining with older peers for Junior School assemblies and celebrations.

For our new Preps, the transition is a two-way street, with transition days so children can experience their new school, spending time in their new classroom and other learning spaces, and getting to know their peers and teachers. Our teachers also visit the student in their own environment, at kindergarten or at home. This way, our teachers get to know and understand each child and build strong relationships, so they feel comfortable and confident even before their first day at school.

The transition experience involves families, too. Transition isn't only about each child's sense of security, familiarity and belonging at school but also their family's sense of connection. Transition from this broader view is really about the partnership between early years educators, Prep teachers and school leaders, and families working together to create a community around each child.

A progressive curriculum

Because our approach *begins with the child*, each learning experience is different. That means there's a lot of individualised attention, but also a lot of opportunity for children to work together, share and develop friendships. Our programs are guided by a robust curriculum, while at the same time recognising each child's individual learning needs and the best next steps for them to take in their learning. That learning program continues throughout each child's journey through Wesley.

Our learning program at Wesley is guided by the International Baccalaureate, specifically the Primary Years Program (PYP) for children from 3 to 12 years of age. We've chosen to use the PYP because it also *begins with the child* as the best way to ensure learning is engaging, relevant, worth their while, challenging and significant. It supports our focus on the child by providing a roadmap, if you will, that guides our inquiry-led, experiential approach in terms of what students learn, how our teachers teach and how they assess each child's learning. It enables us not only to identify appropriate next steps in teaching and learning, but also to gauge the effectiveness of their teaching strategies.

The interested reader might recall we began this article with Loris Malaguzzi and his view that, if we begin with the child, the rest will take care of itself. In truth, there's a lot that goes on behind the scenes to make sure that the rest takes care of itself, but that in no way diminishes the principle that every good parent knows: you really do have to begin with the child.

Jacinta Janssens is the Head of Campus and Kieran McCrohan is the Head of Junior School at Wesley's Elsternwick Campus.



Getting real-world ready

The Primary Years Program (PYP) at Wesley involves students in real-world learning to address real-world problems, and, as **Emily Watson** explains, sets them up for success as they transition into Year 7.

The culmination of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (PYP) is the Year 6 PYP Exhibition, which gives every student the chance to demonstrate not only how much they have learned through the program but also how that learning informs effective action to address real-world problems.

Tackling real-world issues

Working in small groups, students undertake an extended, in-depth, collaborative project, tackling a real-world problem that's important to them, in ways that make a real difference. Presenting their work at the PYP Exhibition, students are able to demonstrate and share what they have learned, but also – importantly – what they have done to address that issue or problem with the wider-school community.

In 2020, students shared their work virtually via Microsoft Teams as well as face-to-face presentations at school. They explored and took measures to address food security, family violence, animal protection, digitalised communication for children with cerebral palsy, refugee welfare and how LGBTQIA+ pride actions promote social equality and inclusion.

The PYP Exhibition does more than demonstrate students' understanding; it celebrates their IB learner attributes, including their identities as inquirers who nurture their curiosity and develop investigation and research skills, as thinkers who use critical and creative thinking to address complex problems, and as communicators who convey information and ideas creatively and in multiple ways.

Beyond that, it also provides us and all our students with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their transition to the next phase of their education – and sets them up for future success.

Looking back, what do Year 7 students say?

For Indiana Shannon, those learning skills are both *instrumental* to the collaborative work students put into the Year 6 exhibition and *demonstrated* by the exhibition. 'Our theme for last year, "Choose to care, fight for fair," really captured the essence of the learner profile attributes that helped us through our PYP years, especially being open-minded and caring,' Indiana said. 'Being open-minded helped me to try new things through my PYP journey, weigh my options, take risks with my learning and think about issues from different perspectives. Being caring has been really important to me as a life skill.'

Josh Merrick's PYP journey started when he was just three years old in the Early Childhood Learning Centre (ECLC), learning the difference between purple and gold. 'The most important skills I've gained are organisation and communication skills,' Josh explained. 'Time management, collaborating and taking responsibility for our different roles were crucial. My group addressed puppy farming. We made dog biscuits to raise money for Oscar's Law Foundation, which required a lot of organisation; and we spoke with volunteers at Oscar's Law and made our own investigations into current legislation so we could advocate for change, which required good communication skills.'

As Ben Summers explains, the PYP journey from Prep to Year 6 enables students to develop their knowledge and skills but also crucial attributes like critical and creative thinking and collaboration. 'I learnt that to collaborate well, you need to share ideas, listen to others' ideas and respect all members of the group,' Ben said. 'It's a skill I know will come in handy throughout the rest of my years of school and beyond.'

Setting students up for success

According to Year 9 student Jack Vincent, the PYP and Year 6 exhibition develop enduring skills and mindsets. 'The Year 6 exhibition helps students develop as open-minded learners. It also taught me the importance of communication,' Jack said. 'It was vital that everyone's ideas were heard. Working in groups is all about being collaborative, organised and reliable, but also open minded: really understanding the ideas and skills that everyone in the group brings to the project. These are lifelong skills I use to this day.'

'Different perspectives as we researched our chosen issue and tested our solutions were invaluable. Working together is also fun and motivating. The Year 6 exhibition is designed to support us as independent learners. We had a mentor, but we really had to plan and do things on our own. For instance, we had to identify how best to pitch our solution to our chosen issue. Taking matters into our own hands meant we learned a lot.'

Year 10 student Eric Wang says the PYP and Year 6 exhibition also fosters students' ability to think creatively and critically. 'Creative and critical thinking are two essential skills, not only for studies in the Middle Years Program (MYP) or the VCE or IB Diploma Program, but also as an effective and ethical member of society,' Eric said. 'The process of collaborating as 12-year-olds was sometimes bumpy, but we did more than learn about tolerance and flexibility: we also understood that tolerance and flexibility generate great outcomes. The exhibition was also a personal milestone for me; it gave me the confidence to trust in my own creative ideas and share them with my peers and mentors. It prepared me as an independent learner so I can thrive in the MYP and beyond.'

Emily Watson is PYP Head of Learning – Science, Technology and Social Studies at Wesley's Elsternwick Campus.

Sahra Blumentahl, Pedro Cortes, Hunter Forbes-Harper, Dex Bloom, Rudy Nass and Henry Mims investigate and explore



'The process of collaborating as 12-year-olds was sometimes bumpy, but we did more than learn about tolerance and flexibility: we also understood that tolerance and flexibility generate great outcomes.'

Eric Wang, Year 10, reflects on the PYP



College snapshots



Year 7 students came together from across the College at the Wesley Uniting Church

Which would you choose, a gold bar or a shovel?



'Which would you choose?' Pastor Kaylea Fearn delivers the sermon

Last month, Year 7 students from across the College were the first Wesley College cohort to worship in our newly renovated spiritual home, Wesley Uniting Church on Lonsdale Street.

For the past few years, our Year 7 Combined Chapel has taken place at St. Michael's Uniting Church whilst we awaited the completion of the extensive renovation.

Students had the opportunity to see the place where Wesley College was conceived in the 1850s, and to share in the stories of how the founders of the College dreamed it could be an educational institution befitting the burgeoning colony.

'Which would you choose, a gold bar or a shovel?' asked Pastor Kaylea Fearn, the Chaplain at Elsternwick Campus. Whilst most people who descended on Victoria during the gold rush chose to pursue the gold bar, Walter Powell, one of our College founders, chose to invest in shovels.

Students heard that few of those who chose the gold bar struck it rich, but Powell amassed a fortune selling them the tools they needed to dig for gold. Walter Powell was the personification of our motto, *Sapere Aude*.

But it wasn't his daring decision to sell shovels that made him wise, it was what he chose to do next that set him apart. Powell did not then hoard his fortune for himself, but rather became the major benefactor of the Wesley College construction. His generosity and foresight were the catalysts for the educational opportunities we are afforded today.

Reverend Sally Apokis, St Kilda Road Chaplain, and newly commissioned Pastor Bradon French, Glen Waverley Chaplain, led our Year 7 students in reflection on what wisdom truly means, as our students begin their secondary education together. How special that they will together be the graduating Class of 2026.

Staying safe online

Keeping our students safe online is as important as their safety in the offline world. In the Junior and Middle Schools across the College, students have been engaged in workshops designed to support, empower and equip them with the knowledge and skills to maintain their digital safety and digital wellbeing when connecting online.

The Cyber Safety Project sessions are interactive, informative and engaging. Staff have also taken part in workshops and parents will be invited to take part in sessions from Term 2. The parent workshops will share insights and practical resources to help support and manage online safety. As a community, we have a responsibility to educate and guide our young people in making good choices, helping them to be informed and assisting them in developing strategies for when or if they find themselves in unsafe situations online.



Elsternwick Year 6 students learning about cyber safety and digital wellbeing

Well-known psychologist Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg urges parents to make sure that they are aware of what their child is doing online. Setting boundaries and ensuring there are filters on what your child can access is important.

Throughout the year, students will engage with these safety sessions through online tutorials facilitated by their Homeroom, Tutorial or Health teacher.

Imogen makes the team

The International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) is quite a big deal for Geography students, and now even more are taking a keen interest after Year 12 St Kilda Road student Imogen Cooper was selected to represent Australia. It's an annual competition for 16 to 19-year-olds from all over the world, and the students chosen to represent their countries in the Olympiad are the very best.

In April last year, well over three thousand students enthusiastically participated in the Australian competition. Imogen was among them, sitting the demanding multiple choice test along with the rest of her peers in Ms Lindsey McCormac's Year 11 Geography class. By October, she'd pretty much forgotten about it...

This soon changed when she heard she'd placed first in Victoria. To qualify for the Australian team, she'd have to sit a two-hour written test.

'There was a lot of analysing of information, applying knowledge I already had, and using data and statistics I was supposed to already know,' she said, her sheepish grin signalling less-than-



'I got in!' Imogen and Ms McCormac celebrate her achievement

complete knowledge. 'A couple of questions I kind of made up the answers, but... apparently it turned out well!'

Quite the understatement really, for in February a beaming Ms McCormac called Imogen into her office and told her she'd made the team – one of only four students across the country to do so.

'I was very excited,' she said. 'I went home and my mum and I jumped around squealing for half an hour – Yay, I got in!'

Scheduled to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in August, COVID-19 restrictions have meant the competition will now be held virtually, with the Australian team meeting in Brisbane for the week-long event.

This doesn't take the shine off t for Imogen, however, who clearly just loves geography. 'I'm really passionate about it,' she said. 'It explains a lot about how the natural world works and about how societies work. I find that really, really interesting.'





Ben Marsland; Elaine Pounder-Smith, one of Clunes' most passionate supporters; Daniel Lukies; and Wesley College Foundation Chair Nicki Isaacs visiting Clunes to see the developments.

News from Clunes

What an incredible start to 2021 it has been at Clunes after the disruptions of last year. Although we were glad to offer a condensed Clunes experience to every Year 9 student in 2020, nothing quite compares to our full program of experiential learning opportunities in the stunning and historic surrounds of Victoria's Goldfields region. It's thrilling for us to welcome each new group onto campus as we return to 'business as usual'.

Perhaps the biggest news of the year at Clunes has been breaking ground on the most significant building and renewal program at Clunes since the program's inception in the late 1990s. An additional two student houses, a demonstration kitchen, four purpose-built

learning studios and new storage facilities are due for completion late 2021. This project, a key component of *Clunes, The Next Chapter* (our strategic roadmap), will transform learning opportunities for our Year 9 students and open a realm of new possibilities for future programs at Clunes.

In another change, we farewell Ben Marsland, who is leaving Wesley after 23 years with the College and five years as Head of Clunes. Ben will take up the role of Deputy Principal at Scotch Oakburn College in Launceston, Tasmania. Dan Lukies will be our new Head of Clunes from Term 2. Dan brings considerable leadership experience and has been a valued member of the Clunes Leadership Team for the past two years. We thank Ben for his magnificent leadership at Clunes and wish him the very best for his exciting new role in Launceston.

Wesley team travels to the year 2065

It's not often when someone asks you what you did in the holidays you can say 'Oh, some of the Wesley guys and I travelled to 2065 and designed a space settlement...'

Over three days in January a small team of students from Glen Waverley took part in the Australian Space Science Design Competition (ASSDC) finals. They were the only Victorian school to get there (albeit virtually). Roger Lu, Jerry Lin, Curtis Chan, Insbruck Ong, Tom Avent, Ian Ji and **Numa Lemoh (OW2020)** formed part of a futuristic aeronautical engineering company set in the year 2065. Wesley College was paired with Caroline Chisholm College, Perth Modern School and Corinda State High School to form Team Borealis.

The group showed great skills in communicating, collaborating and negotiating with their colleagues to respond to a Request For Tender (RFT) to design a space settlement set in a fictional solar environment, which humans are beginning to colonise. After forming their engineering organisation, teams were tasked with producing a tender response of up to 50 pages which detailed how their design meets the requirements established in the RFT. Their leadership



Some of the members of Team Borealis, (From left) Roger Lu, Insbruck Ong, Curtis Chan and Tom Avent.

and ability to respond to the challenges of communicating remotely across three different time zones was impressive. Clearly our students had gained many skills from the challenges of learning remotely for much of 2020, as their abilities and respect for others when communicating online were something to behold. While our students did not come away with the big prize, they can feel very proud of their efforts in making it to the finals.

Reflecting on the program Tom said, 'Doing the ASSDC wasn't only fun from a technical standpoint, but from a collaborative standpoint. The competition wasn't just about how good you were at Design or Science but how well you could work with others in a team environment when designing something together. It gave the impression that this is what it would be like actually working in industry with a team, which I hadn't really got a chance to experience before'.



Antonio Vaitohi



Meika King

Rural students relishing their Learning in Residence life

Boarding runs deep in the culture of Wesley College, and our modernised version of it – Learning in Residence (LiR) at Glen Waverley – represents a contemporary approach to the development of the whole person in an inclusive, coeducational environment.

This year the majority of LiR students are from rural Victoria, with only a quarter of students with parents residing or working overseas. Meet two students – Meika King and Antonio Vaitohi – who are embracing their LiR life...

Meika made history in March as the first girl in Wesley history to play on a Firsts cricket team. Prior to the game – which Wesley won! – she was formally welcomed to the team and presented her cap by former Australian fast bowler Damien Fleming, a bowling coach at Wesley. Meika joins Meg Lanning and Georgia Gall as the only female cricketers to play at this level in the APS.

Meika has fully embraced her life at LiR. Outside cricket she is the inaugural LiR Captain and a Senior School Prefect. She moved from Sale to be closer to cricket training, which has in turn given her more time to spend on her studies. She says that living on campus ‘allows me to be a part of more programs and

has given me more time to focus on my academics.’

As a Year 12 student this year she has a single room with ensuite so she can study according to her own schedule, without disturbing a roommate.

Antonio from Shepparton is a Senior School House Prefect who has lived in LiR for two years. He loves *all* of the desserts from Hartnell Dining Room, but he does not let that get in the way of his biggest passion, sprinting. Antonio currently holds the title of eighth fastest man in Australia and is well on his way to becoming a 100m sprinter in the Olympics.

Antonio loves the LiR atmosphere and says ‘the will to do well is contagious.’ Not only has living on-campus made it easier for him to study, but he also enjoys having the well-equipped training facilities and coaching on his doorstep – something he says he struggled to find in rural Victoria.

Before moving to Melbourne, he was filled with nervous excitement; the thought of boarding was a ‘chance to leave my comfort zone and experience everything Melbourne had to offer.’ Now, he says the thought of leaving Melbourne fills him with dread!



Even the big kids wanted a go: all action on Day 1 of the new playground opening.

Never too old to play

While the new playground at Elsternwick was originally designed to cater for the Junior School students, it’s been no real surprise that even the Middle School students have found it irresistible. Responsive to the needs of a campus which uniquely caters for students 5 to 15 years old, the initial educational brief revolved around the interests and developmental stages of the Prep to Year 4 students. The varying heights and stimulating features of the structure have more than satisfied the aim for the new equipment to provide challenging features, stimulate curiosity, encourage interaction and ensure lots of fun.

With quality finishes and the use of durable wood and aluminium, the playground has added colour and interest to an area shared by the two mini-schools. Vibrant modern colours, soft surfacing and a range of features to develop gross motor skills were a priority. The result of the exceptional design is that students of all ages rush to play on it throughout the school day!



College snapshots



Wesley's winning weekend on the water

We're hugely proud of our Girls First VIII who last month, for the second time in APS rowing history, stormed home in the final to win the Head of the River at Lake Nagambie by a thumping two lengths. The last time a Wesley senior girls team lifted the trophy was in 1987 with the Girls IV crew; fittingly, this was the year when the first girls reached Year 12 at our newly coeducational school.

From left – right:

Girls First VIII crew

Boys 10A crew

VCE Product Design taking off

Now in its second year of operation, the Technology Centre at the Glen Waverley campus, and the courses which run from within, are building momentum. Packed to capacity on most days, the Technology Centre serves classes from Years 8 to 12, enabling students to explore the many diverse ideas of Design and Technology.

Product design, digital design, systems engineering and architecture are key elements of the IB Middle Years Program

(MYP) Design, with students utilising the tools and equipment available to prototype and test their creations. Industry and university links are also explored within MYP and VCE Design, with incursions from our entrepreneur-in-residence Omar de Silva and from Selim Ahmed – the CEO of app design agency Bourne Digital – and excursions and workshops developed through continued work with Swinburne University of Technology.

VCE Product Design & Technology has recently been offered at both the Glen Waverley and St Kilda Road campuses for the first time. In this course, students

learn sustainable design strategies, work collaboratively to design and manufacture products and liaise with real end users, designing solutions to real world problems. Prior to COVID-19, renowned Melbourne designer **Paul Charlwood (OW1978)** of Charlwood Design presented a lecture to students providing insight into sustainable product design and development. This year, the current Year 12 cohort will visit commercial design and manufacturing hubs, including cutting-edge 3D print service Evok3D, to see how many of the products made in class could translate into the real world.



Student Designs:
Design option (CAD render) for CNC birch plywood entertainment unit by Max Forthun



'Eco-pony', CNC birch plywood child's toy, by Nisha Kijkanakorn



CNC birch plywood side table with laser cut blackwood 'living hinge' detailing, by Mia Agnew

No one was more proud of the girls' achievement than Principal Nick Evans, who watched on as they dominated the race. 'It was truly a wonderful moment,' he said. 'It brought a lump to my throat and a tear to my eye.'

Congratulations to Leyla Kenneally, Saskia Blackburn, Emily Hill, Lauren Mayhood, Lucy Thomson, Thea Coull, Christina Kamenev, Zara Lavery and Fiona Dow (cox) for their superb win.

But there was much more to the winning weekend. Our Boys 10A crew led their final from start to finish to win their A Final, becoming Wesley's first 10A crew to do so in College history. And our Female Open Coxed Four won the A Final. And our Senior Boys won the B Final.

Continued on page 49.



PQS Prefect Jess Patishman with Ally Watson: Inspiring women to enter the world of coding

Code like a girl!

When Ally Watson, founder and CEO of Code Like a Girl started her computer science degree, she walked into 'a sea of men' at her first lecture, and immediately thought about dropping out: 'I really questioned my own gender and intelligence - everywhere I looked in tech, there wasn't a woman in sight.'

Invited to St Kilda Road campus by Public Question Society Prefect Jess Patishman, Ally spoke to interested students about her journey into a software engineering career and what drove her to establish the Melbourne-based social enterprise, which offers training and support to women seeking a career in the tech industry.

Fortunately, Ally challenged her own misgivings about having the skills she needed to succeed. 'I realised this wasn't innate for men, it was conditioned and learned from a young age,' she said, 'and then I realised the Spice Girls had betrayed me - the role models I'd grown up with had never encouraged me to think about science, about tech.'

The realisation spurred her on. 'There were moments when it was really hard, but I grew so much as a person in my degree. There's never been anything that's really truly worth it unless it's been a bit of hard work,' she said.

Given her own uncomfortable first steps into the tech world, Ally wanted to create something accessible and inclusive for women new to the field, and so she started Code Like a Girl.

Ally is passionate about making the online training available for all - for every four students that go through the program they give a full scholarship for a woman from a marginalised background. 'I really wanted to build a business that allowed women of all backgrounds to succeed.'

And succeed they have. 'We just placed our 75th woman into a software engineering role, and 71 per cent of our interns move into permanent jobs as software engineers,' she said.



Wesley Art, Old & New



Stroll through the halls of any of the campuses and you'll see a bold range of artworks, pieces by current students mixing with those from Wesley's considerable collection. As a community, we can be incredibly proud of our art collection, which has been growing ever since the large bequest of the Alec Cato Collection in 1980.

One of our most historically significant works is Sir Arthur Streeton's *Honesty and Artichokes*, also known as *Thistles in a Vase*, painted on cedar draper's panel for the historic '9 x 5' exhibition in 1889. Streeton was one of the early founders of the 'Heidelberg School', a style of painting capturing life in the Australian bush in a way no European-born artist had been able to do.

Honesty and Artichokes has been exhibited several times, including a national tour in 1995, and this year it will be on show again at the NGV's Ian Potter Centre at Federation Square in the 'She-Oaks and Sunlight: Australian Impressionism' exhibition, until 22 August.

In some ways it has never been far from Wesley. At the exhibition in 1889 **Dr Springthorpe (OW1872)** bought it and held on to it for some decades. It was sold at auction to **Alec Cato (OW1900)** in 1934. He too treasured this work for the rest of his life, before bequeathing it as part of his art collection to his old school.

More recently, we purchased a new artwork specifically for the Elsternwick Campus, thanks to the generosity of private Wesley donors and the Mandel Aboriginal Art Gallery. The work, titled *My Grandmother's Country*, is very fitting for a campus that was girls-only until 1989, when it became part of Wesley College. Elsternwick is very much a grandmothers' place, as the Decades Reunions attendees will tell you.



Opposite page

Head of Campus, Jacinta Janssens, with the new artwork My Grandmother's Country

The Cato bequest included several works by Arthur Streeton for students to later admire, including:



Clockwise from left

Arthur Streeton's Honesty and Artichokes

Arthur Streeton's Winter Landscape

Arthur Streeton's Yea

The artist, Michelle Possum Nungurrayi (b.1970), was taught these stories and symbols by her paternal grandmother, whose ancestral lands are about 250km west of Alice Springs.

Michelle's father was a well-known artist (now deceased, so his name will not appear out of respect) and he taught Michelle, her sister Gabriella and brother Lionel to paint. Their works appeared together in a Possum Family exhibition in Brisbane in 1987, when she was just 17-years-old.

The painting is a wonderful reminder of the care and significance of grandparents and all they have lived through, their stories, wisdom and experience, and how they support us.

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

Information provided by the Gallery explains the imagery in Michelle's piece:

In this painting the artist depicts motifs that gives symbolic form to tribal women engaged in cultural activities in a desert environment known as Yuelamu, which the women inherited from their Ancestral Grandmother, who travelled to this Anmatyerre site in the Tanami Desert during the Dreamtime at Creation.

Represented as symbolic U-shapes, the women are shown in different areas, along with digging sticks, searching for bush food. The small and large dots represent berries and bush plums. Carry baskets sit nearby, red oblong shape with rounded ends, to gather the collected berries and plums. Yams are nearby.

Waterholes are large discs with concentric circles of dots in shades of pale ochre. Campsites are the same pattern but in warmer reds and yellows. The campsites are where women gather for ceremony and engage in ritual song and dance, while others create body paint and designs in the sand. Broken rocks show other elements in the desert landscape, and star shapes indicate the night sky and stories told about Creation.

Emu footprints can be seen walking through the desert, and past clumps of spinifex shown by a 'starburst' pattern of dark discs with tiny white dots in the middle, and red outer strokes. Feathers trail behind the emus.

Rain is lighter coloured dots, nourishing the earth and creating clay and paint used in rituals.



Sapere Aude Bequest Society



Orlan, Simon, John and Alba Denton

Five generations of Dentons at Wesley

John Denton (OW1962), who founded the firm Denton Corker Marshall, is one of the many distinguished architects the College has produced who have contributed to the profession both nationally and internationally. **Prof Brian Lewis (OW1916)** at the University of Melbourne was the first Chair of Architecture in 1947; others have included **Arthur Peck (OW1873)**, **A. Best Overend (OW1924)**, **David McGlashan (OW1946)**, **Daryl Jackson (OW1953)**, **Michael Peck (OW1956)**, **Robert Peck AM (OW1957)**, **John Castles (OW1958)**, **Dr Norman Day (OW1964)**, **Nicholas Day (OW1967)** and **Peter Sandow (OW1966)** to name a few.

This year, the Denton family celebrate an extraordinary 120 years (1901 to 2021) and five generations at Wesley. To acknowledge this great tradition, John has joined our Sapere Aude Bequest Society and is also supporting our Clunes capital campaign. The Wesley Foundation is honoured to have John's support. Here he reflects on his family's long association with Wesley:

When I reflect on my time at Wesley, I remember good school mates who made school days fun. I remember teachers who influenced me. In Junior School I was introduced to art by William Delafield Cook. My interest in art still lives in my long-term chairing of the Board of the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art. Also, in later years, Ken Merry influenced me to look at architecture (or engineering) as a career, which became my life. The quality of teaching staffs at the core of a great school. Wesley had, and still has to this day, inspiring and wonderful teachers.

*I didn't recall much about my family's history at the College; however, I recently came across a letter in my aunt's documents when she died about a year ago. The letter was to my late grandfather **Frank Bengrey Denton (OW1929)** from Headmaster Harold Stewart thanking him for agreeing to serve as Secretary of the OWCA and acknowledging the debt Wesley owed him for taking on this task.*

This same letter then reminded me of the long relationship my family has had with Wesley: five generations over 120 years. My grandchildren Alba (Year 10) and Orlan (Year 9) are current students at the St Kilda Road Campus.



Peter Sandow in front of the Boathouse

Sandow Family

Peter Sandow (OW1966) is the architect behind the redevelopment of Wesley's iconic Boathouse that was originally designed by **David McGlashan (OW1946)**. He is passionate about Wesley rowing and this project has been a real labour of love for him for many years. He is also a great supporter of Wesley through the Wesley College Foundation as a donor to this project and is a member of our Sapere Aude Bequest Society. Peter believes bequests are a simple and effective way for alumni and others to show their support of the College and he hopes that other former rowers join him in becoming bequestors.

This significant project has given him an opportunity to reflect on his family's long association with the College:

This COVID period has been challenging on so many fronts and has affected people in different ways. Consequential impacts have revealed new realisations – forced isolation for so many allowed times for reflection, re-evaluation of personal priorities and those relationships that have been taken for granted.

*My mother, Alison Freda, passed away last September as old age finally proved its point, coming to rest at 101. My parents had lived a vivacious, happy, entertaining life in harbourside Sydney for the last 50 years. For my brother **John (OW1969)**, the circumstances of her passing were entirely different to what we had been prepared for. John lives in Hobart; I was in Melbourne and Mum was in Sydney. The COVID state boundary embargoes reduced all traditional family funeral celebrations to detached, remote bureaucratic processes.*

My grandfather, Frank Bengrey Denton, entered Wesley in 1901. After leaving school he went to work in banking, first at the Royal Bank and then as a bank manager at the ES+A Bank, including some years based in Wangaratta. I always remember him telling me of his weekly trips with armed guards to collect the gold from the El Dorado mine. He was always involved in the school, serving as Honorary Secretary of the OWCA from 1941 until 1960, including 18 years as the OWCA representative on the School Council. He was also very active in the Wesley Masonic Lodge.

My father, **Frank Rutherford Bengrey Denton (OW1929)**, entered Wesley in 1928 but left in December 1929 at the time of the Great Depression, which began with the Wall Street crash that year, and had a huge impact. My grandfather took the opportunity to get my father a job at the ES+A Bank which he thought would be safe in the depression. Frank continued to study part-time and became an accountant.

During World War II my father joined the Airforce and became a navigator on bombers flying in New Guinea. After

the war, through the Methodist Church, he took a job as Business Manager to the Methodist Mission to the Islands, based in Fiji, where I was born in 1945.

I entered Wesley in 1957. I was in the Junior School for Years 7 and 8, and then the Twenty XX with 'Bod' Kennedy. I matriculated in 1962 and studied architecture at the University of Melbourne, including a gap year in 1966 where I hitchhiked around Europe, worked in London then took three months driving from London to Madras (Chennai) via Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. A real adventure for a 21-year-old.

After architecture I also did a post-graduate diploma in Town and Regional Planning and started out in the world of architecture. I have had a practice, Denton Corker Marshall, now for more than 45 years and am still working. (See dentoncorkermarshall.com, if you are interested.) In recent times, I have been honoured with an Honorary Doctor of Laws from Monash University and an Honorary Doctor of Architecture from the University of Melbourne for services to Architecture.

Continuing the Wesley tradition, my son **Simon Denton (OW1988)** started at Wesley in 1984 and after VCE went on to study at the University of Melbourne. However, having been involved in the hospitality industry from an early age, he decided to pursue hospitality and opened Verge, his first restaurant, in 2000. This was followed by Izakaya Den and more recently Hihou and the Denton Wine Bar, with the pandemic causing the closure of all but Izakaya Den. Simon now devotes more of his time to the Denton Vineyard, which we established in 1996 (dentonwine.com).

The Denton generational history has made me also reflect on the importance of the cultural diversity of the school's students – Simon being part of the 'undefeated' First XI soccer team that consisted of highly skilful kids from backgrounds including Greek, Indian, Turkish and Anglo. Their bond on and off the pitch was an essential part of their success and learning.

My grandchildren Alba and Orlan now enjoy and appreciate the benefits of a Wesley education, carrying on the Denton family association.

My parents' home remained untouched, sitting vacant and undisturbed. But there was one weekend before Christmas when the borders momentarily opened when my son Nick and I made a road trip dash to Sydney to start the alarming process of dismantling the lifetime collection of our parents' personal belongings. Our presence in the house was intruding. The emotional emptiness was vacuous. I tried the thin joke: 'She'll be back in a moment – just gone next door!'

But in our random rummaging, Nick found a treasure – a cedar box of sepia prints, which we had never seen before and certainly Mum never had ever mentioned. They were all of my father **Max (OW1936)**, aged one through to his teens, invariably with his parents, Maudie (nee Wilson) and Les Ivan William Sandow. Posed and candid, family shots, some in his Wesley uniform, beside the Chevrolet, on picnics,

in the bush at Macrae and at home, in High Street, Glen Iris. His life, well before Mum had come into his frame.

The manner of his stance, his gaze and demeanour, the way he held his hands, I realised I was looking at my grandchildren. The family continuum becomes inescapable, traits undeniable. A genealogical momentum ticks in perpetuity; the mould is unavoidable and recurrent.

My Wesley education was provided at a time when competitive sport could be played as a priority over academic performances. The intense crewmanship of rowing became my social addiction. Like so many, it later became a family affair with **Ben (OW1995)**, **Nick (OW1996)** and **Tom (OW1999)** all understanding the implications of, 'Bow, you're hurrying! Bow, you're late!'

At school my passion for drawing and rendering led me to architecture. The diversity of the craft appealed, offering the endless challenge of converting temporal social structures into the enduring but adaptable built forms that can outlive the immediate generations.

Our Wesley Yarra Boathouse redevelopment has been supported by donations and with generous endowments to become 'The Alan Mitchell Centre', a comprehensive water-sports learning centre. Internally, the entire main recreation/gymnasium room is named 'The Bill Crothers Room' and the three storage bays, the 'Ron Rosanove Bay', the 'Jack Joel Bay' and the 'John Hall Bay'.

These wonderful benefactors have contributed significantly, ensuring future generations will enjoy a living legacy ('E'en now methinks I scent the Yarra mud!'). I am so pleased I can contribute to maintaining our family impetus and energy for the future of our Wesley generations, including my grandchildren.



Bequests

Creating more scholarships and securing Wesley's future

The Foundation is most grateful to the increasing number of alumni, current and past parents, staff, and friends of the College who have remembered Wesley in their Wills. Many prefer to direct their bequest to our Scholarships program to enable more worthy students to attend Wesley, while others are happy to leave it to the Principal to direct their bequest to the area of greatest need.

Becoming a member of our Bequest Society provides opportunities to enjoy a range of interesting, bespoke events, activities, talks and special behind-the-scenes tours. It's a great way of meeting people with similar interests and maintaining Wesley connections. We have arranged a full schedule of events for the year and propose continuing our popular online presentations.

APS Wills and Estates is delighted to continue sponsoring Society events and activities. Phil Lambourne (OW1980) can be contacted at p.lambourne@apswills.com.au

This year's events include: A Trip to Venice; The Jewels of a Modern-Day Princess; Walking Tour of Docklands and Afternoon Tea at the new Marriott Hotel; Presentation on Faberge; Wesley Choral Event at The Edge, Federation Square; NGV Winter Masterpieces Exhibition Morning Tea and Tour; Maritime Seafarers Mission Tour and Art Exhibition; and our Annual Members Christmas Lunch, to name just a few. Our Patrons, Susie Rodgers-Wilson and **Peter Boag (OW1963)**, look forward to meeting members and their guests at some of these events.



Bernard and Debbie Evans



Russell Austin (OW1958), Maisie Weller, Sam Weller (OW1990), Sheriden Vella, Sue Weller, Peter (PJ) Weller (OW1992), Danica Waterson (nee Weller OW1994) and Tom Weller.

Hockey pitch resurfaced

Ironically, while COVID-19 provided the perfect opportunity last year to resurface the hockey pitch at our Glen Waverley campus, this substantial undertaking required the Foundation to seek support from Wesley hockey families to help fund this project and, in this process, to acknowledge the contribution of the late Peter 'Sam' Weller (OW1962). Members of the Weller family visited the campus to see the newly resurfaced facility and to be thanked by Head of Campus, Sheriden Vella. The Weller tradition continues with Tom in Year 8 and his sister, Maisie, who will commence next year.

Without the support of our donors, in particular, Grassports Australia and **Bernard (OW1973)** and Debbie Evans, this project could not have been undertaken last year. It is now in use by students for

both school sport and APS competition matches. Bernard and his company, Grassports Australia, have had a long association with Wesley and this prompted him and Debbie to become not only donors but also members of our Sapere Aude Bequest Society. Bernard reflects on this association:

After leaving Wesley in 1973, I commenced working in the family business which included tennis court construction. Fast forward 48 years and my company, Grassports Australia, is recognised as a leading company constructing synthetic sports facilities throughout Australia and the Pacific.

My first project for Wesley was more than 15 years ago when we resurfaced two hockey pitches with state-of-the-art surfaces. Since that time, we have

constructed numerous sports and leisure facilities at all the school campuses. The association between the school and Grassports has been built on trust, reliability, workmanship and high-quality products.

When the hockey field at Glen Waverley needed upgrading, Deb and I were pleased to offer financial support for the project given my hockey days at school and with Collegians Hockey Club, and my love of the sport. As both our fathers attended Wesley, Daryl Ritchie and Ronald Evans, and my son Sam received a scholarship in 1999, it was an easy decision to become members of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society as a way of giving back to the school that has provided so much to our family over many years.

Bequests have made a significant contribution to the College over many years. At a time of funding uncertainty, they're playing an increasingly important role in assisting to secure the future of our great school. We welcome all inquiries and stress that bequests of any quantum are greatly appreciated.

For a confidential, no obligation chat, please contact our Bequest and Donor Relations Manager Debra Stiebel on debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.edu.au or phone 8102 6121. Debra can also post a copy of our new bequest brochure or it can be downloaded at: wesleycollege.edu.au/supportus



Clunes

The Next Chapter redevelopment

Our 20-year celebration last year had to be postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions but the College is planning to revisit this event towards the end of this year to coincide with the official opening of the new facilities. This \$6m development is the most substantial since Clunes was first established and coincides with a refreshed educational program.

Work has recently commenced, and we are highlighting this campaign as part of our 2021 Annual Giving program; and you'll find a giving form enclosed in this magazine. Recently, Clunes' most passionate supporter, Elaine Pounder-Smith, visited the campus and met Nick Evans, Morag Howard, Nicki Isaacs and the new Head of Clunes, Daniel Lukies. It was an opportunity to personally thank Elaine for her ongoing benefaction and to be updated on the redevelopment. Elaine also met a number of students who spoke about their experiences, the program and making new friends from other campuses.

The development includes new teaching and learning spaces, a demonstration kitchen and additional student accommodation. There are opportunities to donate as little as \$50 and we hope that current and past families and students will be part of this important project.

For further information please visit:
wesleycollege.edu.au/clunesredevelopment



Nick Evans and Elaine Pounder-Smith in front of the development site at Clunes.



Foundation



Euan and Liel Pizze in front of portraits of their grandfather and great grandfather.

Pizze Family Donation

Liel (OW1968) and Euan (OW1965) Pizze contacted the Foundation to donate Wesley memorabilia for our Archival collection and books to Wesley libraries that belonged to their late father, Merv Pizze (OW1940), who passed away last year. There were three historic photographs: the 1939 winning crew on Albert Park Lake, the 1940 Second Crew and the First XVIII in 1940, all framed and in excellent condition. There was also a set of Wesley crested book ends.

We welcome donations of Wesley memorabilia, photographs and other objects. Margot Vaughan, our Associate Curator of Collections, can be contacted at: margot.vaughan@wesleycollege.edu.au

Boathouse Fundraising Campaign



Etch your name in Wesley's rowing history

Our redeveloped and extended Boathouse provides world class facilities for our rowers and their coaches. The Foundation acknowledges, with gratitude, all the donors who have supported this exciting development. In particular, the families who have made naming gifts in their name, or in memory of their fathers: Mitchell, Crothers, Rosanove, Joel and Hall.

There are still opportunities for current and past parents and alumni to make a tax-deductible gift and have their names acknowledged on the Boathouse Donor Board. For further information, please visit: wesleycollege.edu.au/boathouse

Sponsorship



Adrian Santini

Be part of a community of 25,000 members

The Foundation is very grateful for the continuing support of our existing sponsors and for the new sponsors that have joined them this year. Sponsorship

provides a great way of supporting Wesley and contributing to the life of the school. In addition to a suite of benefits including tables at all our events, acknowledgement and website links, we arrange several bespoke boardroom functions which facilitate business networking.

Wesley parents, Adrian Santini and his wife Sandra Palermo, are long standing donors to our Glen Waverley Campus and continue their corporate sponsorship through their new real estate firm, Your Property Agent (YPA), Shop 1, 303 Stephenson Road, Mt Waverley. Adrian would welcome any inquiries from members of our College community and can be contacted at: asantini@ypa.com.au or 0401 199 661.

If you would like to know more about how your business can get involved, please contact Jack Moshakis (OW1973) at jack.moshakis@wesleycollege.edu.au or 8102 6385.

13TH ANNUAL

Business Breakfast

THE SOLE PURPOSE OF BUSINESS IS TO MAKE PROFITS... OR IS IT?

Presenters



Alan Joyce

Chief Executive Officer
QANTAS



Elana Rubin

Chair
Afterpay



Georgia Rekaris-Hinton

General Manager,
Asia Pacific
3shape



Paul Guerra

Chief Executive Officer
Victoria Chamber of
Commerce & Industry

Moderated by



James Kirby

Wealth Editor
The Australian

An outstanding panel of expert speakers will address this very topical issue.

We hope you can join us.

Venue: Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, 25 Collins Street, Melbourne

Date: Wednesday 26 May 2021

Time: 7.00am – 9.00am

Book online at: wesleyevents.edu.au/businessbreakfast

Enquiries: natalie.krug@wesleycollege.edu.au or 8102 6991

Proudly presented by the Wesley College Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

The Wesley College Foundation gratefully acknowledges our 2021 sponsors who support our events, programs and activities



President's Report



OWCA President, Kate Evans (OW1998) at the Boat Race Dinner with Olympic rower Bob Duncan (OW1949), official Race Starter at the Head of the River regatta for forty years!

Welcome to 2021 from your OWCA. We are pleased to report it's looking extremely optimistic with regard to doing what we do best – bringing OWs together – for the remainder of the year. Our event schedule is a continuous 'work in progress', moving with changing restrictions, but we are hopeful that our reunions, dinners, networking events and celebrations will be in full force again by the middle of this year.

To cater for those OWs who missed out on their reunions last year due to the pandemic, we are combining year groups so that you all have the opportunity to #stayconnected. Our St Kilda Road 1995/1996 Combined 25 Year Reunion was a successful combo in March.

I had the wonderful honour of attending the iconic Boat Race Dinner in March for the first time, which celebrated the 2021 First VIII rowers at Leonda by the Yarra. We also acknowledged and celebrated the 2020 Firsts who missed out on their Boat Race Dinner last year and awarded the OWCA Paul Guest Rowing Medal for both years on the night. Many thanks to the Alan Mitchell Club for continuing their sponsorship of such a treasured annual event.

Guest speaker on the night was Noel Donaldson, Head Coach at the Victorian Institute of Sport and Victorian Performance Pathway. Noel was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1999 having represented Australia in the rowing eight at the 1979 World Championships. It was great to hear him speak about his great passion for rowing, his 30 years of rowing experience and his fond memories, and his thoughts about the future of the sport.

With virtual events such as the Women of Wesley (WOW!) Women in Sport and other online opportunities to showcase OWs, this year we will explore what we have learnt about community in 2020, and how a new suite of experiences can mould our future.

OWConnect, our alumni directory app, has been in play now for a good six months, made possible by our partnership with Incarta. We strongly urge all our OWs to create a profile and upload your

business details and imagery. It's an invaluable opportunity for you as an OW to link up with OW businesses, discover employment, mentoring and career opportunities, social networking and support – all in a positive, safe and secure environment. To register, visit OWConnect.net.

We continue to keep the graduating 'Class of 2020' top of mind and we are workshopping ideas as to how we can support them as they transition into the next stage of their life. Stay tuned 2020 leavers – and keep your eyes peeled for special opportunities we will create specifically for you, so we can formally welcome you into the OWCA, and so we can celebrate and commemorate this special moment over the next few months. Your unique perspective and experience now form an important chapter of Wesley's amazing 155 year history – let's read that chapter together!

Once again, we remind you all to reach out and check in on a fellow OW you may not have seen in a while to #stayconnected. Whether that be via phone, mail, email, text, FaceTime, Zoom or social media. Let's continue to look after each other and ensure our connections to associations such as the OWCA stay strong.

See you all at Founders' Day Dinner 2021 at Myer Mural Hall on Saturday 8 May. After our ground-breaking online event last year, this year's in-person Dinner is sure to be one to remember!

Kate Evans (OW1998)

#oldwesleycollegians
#bleedingpurpleandgold
#WomenofWesley #FDD2021
#stayconnected

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150 years of Wesley rowing securing Wesley's future

Rowing is one of the oldest competitions on the Wesley College sporting calendar. This year marks an extremely important historical milestone in the story of rowing – especially with the inauguration of our redeveloped Boathouse on the Yarra River.

Competitive rowing had its beginnings in the late 1860s. The first Public School boat race in Victoria ‘...was rowed on the Upper Yarra down stream on 18th June, 1868.’ Wesley joined in 1871 with the Headmaster of the day, Professor Martin Howy Irving, coaching the crew. Wesley won the major race, ‘Head of the River’, for the first time in 1874 but had a long wait for a second victory in 1896. The Head of the River was rowed in four-oared boats from 1868 to 1900. In 1901, some 121 years ago, several headmasters of leading schools for boys – that would go on to establish the Associated Public Schools of Victoria (APS) in 1908 – made several important decisions that have shaped the nature of interschool rowing to this very day. They decided that the race should be conducted in eights instead of fours. The boats used would be clinker-built eights with sliding seats. It was also in 1901 the term ‘Head of the River’ was first used. Previously, the race had been more generally referred to as the Public Schools’ Boat Race. ‘The thirty-fourth Head of the River was rowed on 12th October on the Lower Yarra which enabled a first and final. Wesley won in fine style, 1 1/2 lengths in front of Scotch College.’

In 1901, Wesley College appointed Charles Donald as, arguably, Wesley’s first professional rowing coach. Charlie was an oarsman of great repute and widely regarded as an innovative coach, as his 10 wins in 12 races for Wesley indicate. On 12 October 1901, coached for the first time by the great Charlie Donald, Wesley won the 34th Head of the River as already noted ‘in fine style’. Wesley dominated on the Yarra in this period, with 12 wins from 15 starts; Scotch being the only other victor in 1907 and 1908, during a period of unequalled rowing supremacy. The golden age of Wesley rowing really came to an end in 1913, although Charlie saw two further wins, in 1915 and 1933, and continued to coach Wesley crews until 1940. Charlie’s extraordinary achievement earned him the sobriquet, ‘Prince of Coaches’.

Today, rowing is not only part of our legacy, but continues to be an important part of Wesley life throughout the summer sport season. Since its modest beginnings in the 1870s, rowing has remained a popular and thriving sport. The College has redeveloped the iconic Wesley Boathouse under the direction of well-known architect and former Wesley rower **Peter Sandow (OW1966)**. Our students – present and future – will enjoy a stunning contemporary facility with an additional fourth bay for storing boats, redeveloped interior, boat trailer storage

and sealed car parking. The interior of the existing building will be transformed into a large multifunctional space, with new change rooms, gymnasium and kitchen. Much of this work has been made possible through donations to the Wesley College Foundation from members of our College and alumni communities. There is still more work to be done at our Boathouse and continued support is required to ensure that our boys and girls crews can perform to their very best. The Wesley College Boys First Crew last won the Head of the River in 1984 and thrillingly, the girls won this year – for the first time since 1987.

Of course, winning is the aspiration, but participation is just as important. The Wesley College *Song Book* is full of songs about rowing and for many rowers being in a crew forges lifelong friendships. The annual Boat Race Dinner, held every year for the past hundred years, is evidence of the love of rowers for their old school and cherished rowing memories. Rowers know that rigorous and disciplined training is one of the key elements in the winning formula and having a new state-of-the-art facility will hopefully contribute to greater success.



From top left to right

One of our oldest surviving rowing photographs, Wesley’s successful coxed four in the second crews’ race of 1879

The First Crew of 1901, the year of the first Head of the River eight-oared race

Photographic portrait of Charlie Donald



The architect of Double Purple



Very much at home with the concept of Double Purple on Phillip Island in December 2020 are (Back left to right) Maya Fredman, Joel Fredman (OW1990), Lorice Fredman (Cohen) (Elsternwick MLC 1962), Gregory Kolt (OW1980), (Front left to right) Leni Fredman, Jeanette Oberklaid (OW1992), Clive Fredman (OW1956) and Emma Fredman (OW1987).

When coeducation began at Wesley in 1978, no one was focused on outcomes other than a richer and more balanced learning and social environment to prepare students for the real world. Few could have imagined a world where OWs would be marrying OWs such as we see regularly today, where a love for the school is only matched by the love of another OW! A phenomenon we like to call Double Purple. But where did it all begin?

We love welcoming architect **Clive Fredman (OW1956)** to events, always filled with enthusiasm for his school, his family and all things tennis, and sporting his blazer and school cap.

The Fredman family's four-generation history at Wesley began with his father **Stanley Fredman**, the only child of Joel and Miriam Fredman, who attended Wesley College from 1915–1918 before entering Melbourne University to study Medicine. He established a practice in Reservoir and later bought the practice of Dr Manny Rosanove in Northcote, whose wife, Joan, became Victoria's first female barrister and QC and a close friend of **Sir Robert Menzies (OW1912)**.

Brothers Lionel, Malcolm and Clive all attended Westgarth Central School, before progressing to Wesley Senior School. **Lionel (OW1948) (dec.)** graduated with distinctions and obtained Law and Arts degrees at Melbourne University. He furthered his academic career in the US and returned to Australia for a lifetime academic career in History at the University of Newcastle. **Malcolm (OW1951) (dec.)** although not a ball sportsman, coxed the 2nd crew in the Head of the River 1951. Malcolm studied Medicine at Melbourne University, obtaining further degrees in London. Returning to Melbourne he worked in various medical practices, establishing the East Bentleigh Medical Group in the early 1970s where he remained for nearly 30 years.

In 1950 at Westgarth Central School, Clive met a new young teacher, **Bruce Gregory (OW1944)**, and so began decades of friendship. Clive entered Wesley in 1952 in The Twenty and early experiences included two weeks at Chum Creek in 1953, the first full year of its operation. He really enjoyed tennis and was a member of the school team in 1954–56, representing Wesley in the

1956 Combined APS Tennis team. A treat was to have a lunchtime hit on the front oval with the 'Boof', Headmaster W.H. Frederick, still a skilled tennis player, tennis Captain **Fraser McEwing (OW1956)** and future international player **Wayne Reid (OW1955)**. Clive went on to study Architecture at Melbourne University, and commenced his own architecture practice in 1965, when he married **Lorice Cohen (Elsternwick MLC 1962)**. He continued his practice until retiring at the end of 2019, after 55 years.

Daughter **Emma (OW1987)** started Wesley in Year 5 in 1980 and loved performing in school musicals and enjoyed the visual arts. She has strong memories of playing basketball and tennis against 'boys-only' schools, who were very wary of the Wesley girls. After developing her love of theatre at Wesley, she studied at Melbourne University and became the first drama teacher at Bialik College. She now lives in Bondi, NSW with her husband and adult children where she is Head Drama Teacher at Kensington Primary School. Significantly for the history books, her marriage to **Dr Gregory Kolt (OW1980)** on 23 February 1992, was the first between two OWs!

As if that brush with history is not enough, Clive's son **Joel (OW1990)** began at Wesley Glen Waverley in the first year of Prep in the very first class of coeducation beginners, graduating in 1990. He played in the Firsts tennis team from Year 9, and was captain of the Premiership Firsts tennis team in 1990. He is now a consulting town planner with his own practice. To continue a remarkable story, in 2004 Joel married **Jeannette Oberklaid (OW1992)**, who had also played tennis for Wesley! As the concept of Double Purple was born, so was the fourth generation of Fredmans at Wesley, with Maya commencing in 2018 and Leni in 2020. Not surprisingly, they both love tennis!

A more recent history of service

In recent years, substantial work on improving our knowledge of the service of OWs in the conflicts of WWI and WWII has been undertaken.

However, there is also the matter of military service in the post-1945 period. For one reason or another, the recording of OWs in service since that time does not match the records for the years prior to that.

Work has commenced to remedy that. **Leigh Treyvaud (OW1963)** has stepped forward and started the task to find the stories of our post-1945 men and women in service, by combing through College records, conducting internet searches and following leads as names are put forward. Leigh is ideal for this task, having commenced two years National Service in 1967 and spent time at the Officer Training Unit, Scheyville, NSW before being posted to the 1st Armoured Regiment at Puckapunyal.

One person who has emerged from this research is **Robin McBride (OW1964)**. Robin served in the Army for over 25 years, including SAS service. He has recently published a story of his SAS patrol experience in Vietnam and is also writing the story of his father **Ian McBride (OW 1924)**, who led an amazing escape from Japanese forces on Ambon in 1942. The McBride military story extends back to Robin's great-uncle **Allen McBride (OW1905)** who served in France in WWI, unfortunately dying of influenza during that pandemic in November 1918.

So, if you are an OW or you have a family member who served in uniform post-1945, please contact Leigh via the OWCA office: OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au. He would be most pleased to hear from you.



At home researching OW military service post-1945, is Leigh Treyvaud (OW1963), who welcomes stories and enquiries.

Memories from The Hutch



Remembering fond times of The Hutch back in 1958 were (L – R) Matthew Critchley (OW1968), Peter Mitchell (OW1966), Robert Burns (OW1967), John Durlacher (OW1967), Roger Mendelson (OW1967), Peter Dixon (OW1966), Russell Levy (OW1966) and Allen Nosworthy (OW1967).

Beyond our Reunion and Events program are the wonderful stories we hear of OWs getting back together to celebrate unique bonds and experiences. It was terrific to receive this photo of eight OWs

who were together in 1958 in Grade 4 of The Hutch, then a house located on the High Street side of the St Kilda Road Campus. They reunited recently at The Pantry in Brighton.

According to **Roger Mendelson (OW1967)**, a central figure of this group and devoted OW catalyst, 'It was truly a very special occasion. The spirit of Miss Hattam would have been looking down from her heavenly abode, peering over her glasses, with her stern demeanour, which would melt into a (slight) smile. She helped to produce a pretty good bunch!'

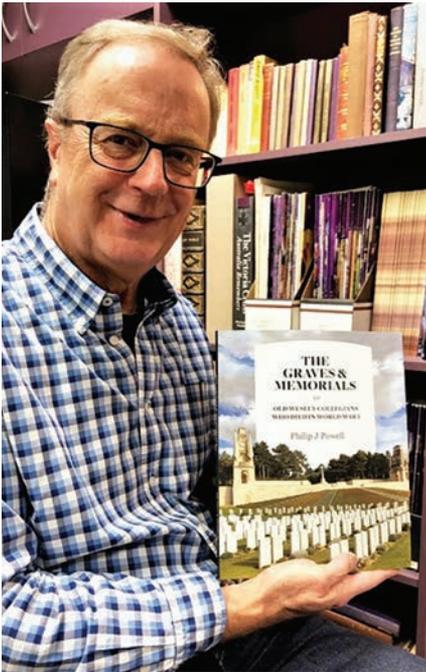
The Hutch, once the name for the Junior School at St Kilda Road, continues its tradition in the form of the Early Childhood Learning Centre (ECLC) at the Junior School in St Kilda Road, where a whole range of new traditions have been formed over the past 25 years.

There were 24 students back in Miss Hattam's class in 1958 and we're sure that this group would love to hear from others. On this occasion they received apologies from **John Butler (OW1967)**, **Robin McBride (OW1966)**, **Field Rickards (OW1966)** and **Andrew Roberts (OW1966)**.

The OWCA Office are happy to assist in making contact. You can email us at OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au



Grave reflection inspires a poignant new book



Philip Powell (OW1973) with his outstanding new book honoring fallen OWs from WWI

The 2020 COVID-19 lockdown was not wasted by our Anzac historian, **Philip Powell (OW1973)**. In deciding it was time to organise his photos of the graves and memorials of OWs who died in WWI, he concluded it was time to use them as a basis for a book.

‘It is the logical follow-up to my *Come on Lads* book published in 2019 which is a very word intensive book,’ said Philip. ‘This is image-based and brings together a journey visiting scores of cemeteries and memorials in Australia, UK, Europe and the Middle East.

‘It enables a recording of the circumstances of the nearly 160 OWs who died, with images of their grave or memorial. I am no trained photographer – all of my photos are taken with just an iPhone or iPad. But in reviewing them, I felt the need to share them with the community.’

The result is a 200-page book, *The Graves and Memorials of Old Wesley Collegians who died in World War I*, published in January this year.

‘This is not a commercial exercise – just a personal project. Initially I thought I would print ten or so books, but encouraged by those who read early drafts, a print run of 200 copies was ordered,’ he said.

The book has been well-received by all who have seen it. Wesley College Principal, **Nick Evans (OW1985)**, who famously taught History at Wesley for many years said, ‘It is an astonishing achievement... Even a Great War obsessive found something to learn.’

Philip has provided a number of books for the College, OWCA and alumni. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please make a donation to the Foundation for a proposed plaque for **Captain Robert Grieve VC (OW1904)** in Belgium.

Please contact the OWCA office in the first instance, which will be handling distribution at OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au or by calling 03 8102 6750.

Jemima continues to lead from the front



Congratulations to the always impressive **Jemima Montag (OW2016)** who was selected as one of 25 new International Olympic Committee Young Leaders.

The role aims to empower young people to develop a sustainable sports-based social business in response to a pressing local issue. Over the next four years, Jemima will receive mentorship and funding to launch her chosen pursuit – women’s participation in physical activity.

‘Growing up as a young sporty girl I was really lucky to be surrounded by an active family and to attend a school

that was really encouraging and fostered all my athletic passion,’ Jemima said.

‘But having that foundation also made me acutely aware of the drop-off in adolescent girls participating in sport. From the onset of puberty and in later high school years when PE lessons were not compulsory, the number of girls competing in sport and physical activity dwindles.’

The 25 Young Leaders, selected from amongst 350 applicants, demonstrate universality and diversity, with 13 female and 12 male candidates, from 25 countries across five continents represented.

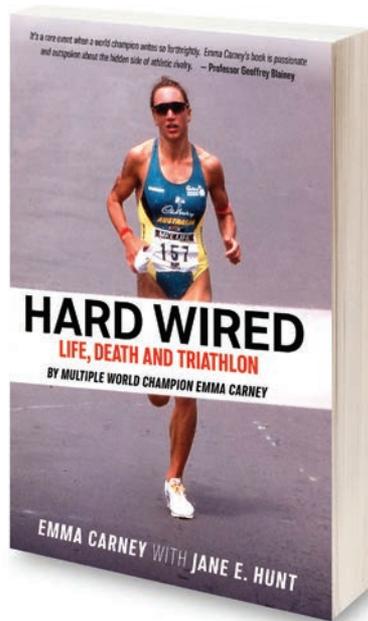
A winning read that's hard to put down

If 'everyone has a story to tell', then **Emma Carney (OW1989)** has more than most.

With a life packed full of triumph and tribulation, tragedy and titles, Emma decided to put them all down on paper in the form of her new book and soon-to-be bestseller *Hard Wired. Life, Death and Triathlon*. It tells the tale of a young girl fresh out of school who found the sport of triathlon, and changed it forever.

With an unmatched record, she devastated the international circuit, reaching the pinnacle of her sport and was later inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame. Defined by a relentless pursuit of sporting excellence, she was known to detest losing more than she loved to win. A fiercely independent athlete, fitting in and conforming was never her style.

Somehow, between writing a book and everything else going on, Emma has also found time to take on the role of Collegians Football Club's Partnership and Media Manager. Her world-class knowledge of sporting sponsorship, community engagement and sports governance, particularly with regard to



the inclusion of women, is unsurpassed and made her a natural for the position. In her role she will work closely with sponsors, members, donors, government authorities and the College to continue to deliver outstanding results for Collegians. And as if that's not enough, she will also be managing the Club's social media platforms and website! We wish Emma every success in this role and for the sale of her new book. The OWCA looks forward to working closely with Emma and Collegians in 2021.

You can pre-order *Hard Wired. Life, Death and Triathlon* at ryanpub.com.au/hardwired

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Jeremy Fox | Director
0418 339 650



Australia Day Honours

Companion (AC) in the General Division

Rabbi Dr John Simon LEVI AM
Past Parent

For eminent service to Judaism through seminal roles with religious, community and historical organisations, to the advancement of interfaith understanding, tolerance and collaboration, and to education.

Member (AM) in the General Division

Ms Lisa Michelle ALEXANDER
Former staff

For significant service to netball at the elite level.

Mr Philip David MAYERS
Past Parent

For significant service to the community through a range of organisations.

Emeritus Professor Wilfrid Robertson PREST (OW1956)

For significant service to tertiary education, and to the law and legal history.

Medal (OAM) in the General Division

Dr Peter James DAVIS (OW1972)

For service to the Jewish community of Melbourne.

Dr Hilary Louise RUBINSTEIN
Past Parent

For service to community history through a range of roles.

Mr Neil Howard SAMUEL (OW1970)

For service to people living with dementia, and to the community.



The power of a strong coffee

US-based Bluestone Lane and its founder **Nick Stone (OW1999)** are partnering with NBA Champion, three-time Olympian and proud Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patty Mills. The partnership will see one of Australia's greatest ever basketballers represent Bluestone as an official brand ambassador and share his passion for the iconic coffee brand in Australia and the US, as well as collaborate on innovative initiatives to improve the socioeconomic conditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.

One such initiative is the Keriba Ged program kicking off in 2021/22. Keriba (meaning 'Our') and Ged (meaning 'Home' or 'Place') is a unique program that will give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people the opportunity to develop premium business and hospitality skills at Bluestone Lane locations in the US. The program will open up pathways to live and train abroad, enabling the participants to learn and develop valuable leadership, project management, networking, financial, communication and customer service skills.

You can read more about this wonderful initiative at:
bluestonelane.com/keribagedprogram

Updates



Kang Nyoak

Kang Nyoak (OW2018) recently accepted a scholarship to Northern Arizona University, one of the strongest distance running universities in the US.

Over his time at Wesley, Kang combined both football and running during the winter season, often on the same day, and excelled each time he competed. One week in 2016 he played in a winning APS Firsts Football game on the Friday afternoon, and won the APS Schools Cross Country at Haileybury, the next day!

Kang was a member of three winning APS Cross Country titles from 2016 to 2018, the Open 800m in 2017, and three consecutive 4x800 metres events at the APS Combined Athletics. He would also go on to represent Australia at the 2019 Oceania Championships, in the 800m & 1500m, taking home Bronze in the 1500m.



Seth Masters

Associate Professor Seth Masters (OW1996) and his team from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute are working on a promising new class of treatments which they think will dramatically slow the progression of Motor Neuron Disease (MND) and may be able to give people with MND another 10 years of life.

The team discovered how inflammation in MND is triggered, and found by blocking an immune sensor they could prevent much of that inflammation in cells.

Treatments are still in the pre-clinical stage, but Seth is bullish about the team's achievements so far, holding great hope for the future outcome of the project and what it will mean for millions of MND sufferers.



Fraser Rosman

Under-19 Collegians player and APS standout **Fraser Rosman (OW2020)** became the latest purple and gold footballer to join the ranks of the AFL when he was selected at Pick #34 by the Melbourne Football Club in the 2020 AFL Draft. This is the first step for the former Sandringham Dragons product in what we're sure will be a long and glittering career. Well done Fraser!



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Affiliates



The Womens team involved in competitive training

Collegians Football Club

The Collegians Football Club commenced the new season on Saturday 10 April. The Club fields three Senior Mens teams, an Under 19 Mens team and two Senior Womens teams in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). Information regarding all aspects of the club including fixtures, functions, memberships and donations can be found on our website collegiansfc.com.au and for regular updates and information, follow us on:

Instagram @collegiansfc
 Facebook @CollegiansFootballClub
 Twitter @collegianslions

Training for all teams began in small groups last November and continued right through to the end of March. This year, we have welcomed many new

players and look forward to seeing them pull on the Purple and Gold jumper. New players are still most welcome **at any stage of the year!**

Collegians is also pleased to announce the appointment of Jared Rivers as the new coach of the Senior Men's team and Jordan McKenzie as the new coach of the Under 19 Men's team. Both Jared and Jordan bring a wealth of AFL experience to the club.

In November, the Club appointed **Emma Carney (OW1989)** as its Partnership and Social Media Manager. Emma is a multiple World Triathlon Champion, and Sport Australia Hall of Fame athlete. Being a sponsored athlete all her adult life, Emma brings her lifelong experience to Collegians regarding sports sponsorship, media and partnership relations.

The Collegians Football Club is constantly striving to remain as one of the leading clubs in the Premier Division of the VAFA. Over the last decade our Mens senior team has competed in seven final series, four grand finals and won two premierships. Our Womens teams are foundation members of the VAFA and enter their fifth year of competition.

The club is extremely thankful to the OWCA and the wider Wesley College community for its continued strong support. We would like to acknowledge our major partners who are crucial to our success:

- East Malvern Community Bank (**Peter Norman OW1949**),
- Jefferson Automotive Group (**Brett Jefferson OW1988**),
- Total Facility Maintenance (**Brad Woolhouse OW1988**),
- Tellurian Wines (**Daniel Hopkins OW1990**),
- Simonds Homes (**Rhett Simonds OW2002**) and
- Bastion Collective (**Fergus Watts OW2003**).

With over 2,000 people on our database and a large membership, including an active Coterie group, we would love to see you at a game or two supporting the Lions in 2021.

To be placed on our database or for further information regarding partnership opportunities and memberships, contact either **Emma Carney (OW1989)** at info@collegiansfc.com.au or the Co-President, **Mark Hibbins (OW1978)** on 0409 406 442.

Go Lions!



After match satisfaction

Alan Mitchell Club

The lockdowns in Melbourne have presented challenges for many people to keep their levels of fitness up, as well as increasing social isolation. As part of the Wesley alumni community, the Alan Mitchell Rowing Club has responded to these challenges by lowering the barriers to getting started again. Any former school rowers who wish to join the club for social or competitive rowing will have a flat annual fee of \$120 (covering boat use, insurance and Rowing Victoria accreditation) for the first three years after leaving Wesley.

The Club welcomes both social and competitive rowers, and can help individual rowers who join to be placed in a crew. If you are interested in having a row, or thinking about joining, please email the club President, Ana McCloskey at ana.mccloskey@gmail.com for more information and to get started.



Alan Mitchell Club member Julian Millar (OW2007) enjoying sculling on the Yarra

YOUR OWCA

OWCA Executive

President

Kate Evans (OW1998)

Vice President

David Kennedy (OW1966)

Treasurer

Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999)

College Head, OWCA

Ian Thomas (OW1982)

Executive members

Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)

Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)

Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Amy McAlister (OW2003)

Thomas Pewtress (OW2018)

Rob Wilde (OW2004)

Director, Foundation and Alumni

Jack Moshakis (OW1973)

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

Key contacts

Lion Stories | Social media | OW Connections | Transcripts | OW Updates | Bereavements | Club enquiries | Grant enquiries from Affiliates | Club advice
Cam Evans | Alumni Relations
cameron.evans@wesleycollege.edu.au
+ 61 3 8102 6695

Administration | Membership records | Birth notices
Prue Lowther
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au
+61 3 8102 6750

Event enquiries | Calendar enquiries
Natalie Krug (OW1991)
natalie.krug@wesleycollege.edu.au



Events

Boat Race Dinner

After the 2020 Boat Race Dinner was cancelled due to the pandemic, Wesley's rowing community were thrilled to be back at Leonda by the Yarra for the 2021 event. The Firsts crew from 2020 were acknowledged and presented to the guests alongside the presentation of the 2021 First Crews.

The OWCA was delighted to have Noel Donaldson, Head Coach, Victorian Institute of Sport and Victorian Performance Pathway, as guest speaker. Noel's decades of experiences, many involving rowers in that very room, were both amusing and inspirational.

This wonderful night was further enhanced by the presentation of both the 2020 and 2021 OWCA Paul Guest Rowing Medal. Based on three inherent values of Leadership, Humility and Inspiration, the Olympic quality medal is voted upon by crew members of the Boys and Girls Firsts crews by secret ballot. The Principal awarded the 2020 medal to Evelyn Dow (OW2020) and the tied 2021 medal to Leyla Kenneally and Lucy Thompson.

The OWCA thanks the Alan Mitchell Club (AMC) for sponsoring all students of the 2020 and 2021 Firsts Crews to attend at no charge. We thank the President of AMC, Ana McCloskey, for the club's continued support, and encourage all OWs who would like to experience or return to rowing to contact the Club.



Joe Bryant (OW2020) OWCA Paul Guest Rowing Medal winner of 2019 and Captain of Boats in 2020, and Evelyn Dow (OW2020), Captain of Boats in 2020 and OWCA Paul Guest Rowing Medal winner for 2020 propose the Toast.



Hannah Burke (OW2018), Iris Hasting (OW2018), Courtney Neiwand (OW2017), Tess Ogilvie (OW2018)



1970 winning crew members Garry Grace (OW1970) and Craig Williams (OW1970), Olympian Bob Duncan (OW1946) and 1970 winning crew member and coach of the winning girls crew of 1987, Peter Benjamin (OW1970)

Reunions

1971 50 Year Reunion



Ernie Ewert, Tony Hill, Wayne Marriott



Ken Watson, Keith Round, Daryl Corp, Jim Milne, Nick Varigos



Daryl Corp, Ken Marshman, Neville Sampson

1995/1996 25 Year Reunion



Suzy Jamieson (Axup), Jamie Sutton, Rory Luff



Nikki Condon (Rowston), Tania Wallace (Orbach), Jennifer Lucy, Tim De Young



Christie Petsinis, Elizabeth Langslow, Amy Lindsay

2000/2001 20 Year Reunion



Mark Hibbins (OWCA/OW1979), Daniel Lawrence, Al Silver, Elle Zoltak (Lubenfeld), Joshua Pura, Andrew Hind, Henry Fudge, Richard Morris



William Mountford, Sarah Crean, Nick Midgley, Loren McBride (Sahely)



Tamara Eastham (Same), Jo Kaylock (Somerville), Erin Louis, Elle Zoltak (Lubenfeld)

This year we are determined to combine as many of the reunions we lost to the pandemic (all but two couldn't go ahead) with our 2021 events. So on a balmy March evening in the Wesley Rose Garden we saw the first of our combined celebrations as the SKR Classes of 1995 and 1996

gathered at their 25 Year reunion. Well over 100 people attended on the evening making it a truly memorable evening and an outstanding success.

We were also able to hold two other reunions at the St Kilda Road Campus

recently – the SKR 1971 50 Year and the SKR 2001 20 Year reunions. We can't wait for our next ones!

Follow us on Facebook for more.



Calendar

May

Friday 28 12.00pm

Founders' Day Lunch

Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

June

Friday 4 7.00pm

GW 1996 / 1995 25 Year Reunion

Senior Café, GW

Tuesday 8 7.00pm

Canberra Dinner

Friday 18 7.00pm

SKR 2010 / 2011 10 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

July

Friday 16 7.00pm

GW 2010 / 2011 10 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

Tuesday 20 6.30pm

Leaders Series Keynote

Senior Lecture Theatre, SKR

Friday 23

Brisbane Dinner

August

Friday 6 7.00pm

GW 2015 / 2016 5 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

Friday 13 7.00pm

SKR 1980 / 1981 40 Year Reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Saturday 14 7.00pm

Sydney Dinner

Friday 20 7.00pm

2020 1 Year Ball

The Park

September

Friday 3 7.00pm

SKR 2015/2016 5 Year Reunion

Union Hotel

Friday 17 – Sunday 19

OW Boarders Weekend

Bendigo

October

Friday 1 12.00pm

Golden Lions Lunch

Cato Room, SKR

Friday 8 7.00pm

GW 2000/2001 20 Year Reunion

Senior Café, GW

Thursday 15 12.30pm

Geelong Lunch

Geelong Boat House

Friday 22 7.00pm

SKR 1990/1991 30 Year Reunion

Cato Room, SKR

Wednesday 27 12.30pm

Mornington Peninsula Lunch

November

Friday 5 7.00pm

GW 2019 1 Year Reunion
(rescheduled from 2020)

Union Hotel

Sunday 14 12.30pm

Elsternwick Decades Reunion

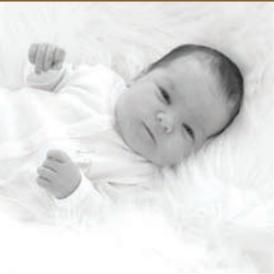
Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick

Friday 19 7.00pm

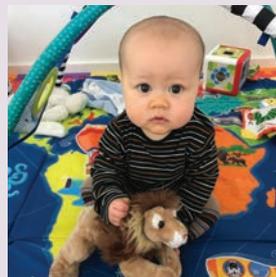
SKR 2019 1 Year Reunion
(rescheduled from 2020)

Union Hotel

Births

<p>BEILBY</p> <p>To Daniel (OW2006) and Genevieve on 12 November 2020, a son, Felix David Luke, a brother for Teddy, a nephew for Rachel (OW2006).</p>			<p>< BLACHFORD</p> <p>To Tom (OW2005) and Kate Ballis on 27 January 2021, a son, Sylvester Sky.</p>	
	<p>< KAPLAN-WORSLEY</p> <p>To Raf Kaplan (OW1998) and Aife on 7 August 2020, a son, Albert Jarlath, a brother for Terry.</p>			<p>< KRELTSZHEIM</p> <p>To Kristy (OW1999) (Brown) and Michael on 30 November 2020, a son, Michael Peter, a brother for Olive and Ivy.</p>
<p>KUS ></p> <p>To Jimmy (OW2010) and Amanda on 16 January 2021, a son, Samson James, a nephew for Ed (OW2005), Henry Howson (OW2011) and Lily Howson (OW2013).</p>			<p>MCDILL ></p> <p>To Alistair (OW2005) and Tina on 16 December 2020, a daughter, Sophie, a sister for Pamela.</p>	
		<p>PERRY ></p> <p>To Tori Perry (OW2002) (Casey) and Sam on 9 August 2020, a son, Barney Michael Banjo, a brother for Ted.</p>		
	<p>< PILGRIM</p> <p>To Charles (OW1994) and Alison on 30 October 2020, a daughter, Olive Mary Dianne, a sister for Eve, William and Arthur.</p>	<p>WALLIS ></p> <p>To Katya Crema (OW2006) and Liam Wallis on 9 November 2020, a son, Massimo Crema.</p>		<p>WILSON</p> <p>To Tim (OW1996) and Kristiarne on 1 January 2021, a daughter, Alfie, a sister for Willow and Otis, a niece for Chris (OW1998) and Alex Dakin (OW1996).</p>

Lion Cubs



We are pleased to welcome new lion cubs to the Wesley pride!

Please let us know your happy news by contacting the OWCA office at OWCA@wesleycollege.edu.au +61 3 8102 6750

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From top left to right

Henry Shadbolt

Damian Xu

Amelia Jin

Jed and Jesse Trepper

Charlotte Jayatilake

Kyle Gregorczyk

Charlotte Dunlop

Ayla Blumenthal

Bonnie Barca

ENROLLING

YOUR CHILD

AT WESLEY



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

**Don't leave it too late.
Apply today**

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

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

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

Weddings & Engagements



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Engagements

CASTRAN - COGAN
Zoe (OW2012) and Dan
(Pictured)

**LAMBROPOULOS
- STATHOPOULOS**
Nicole (OW2010)
and Peter

NEWMAN - PARAMOR
Luke (OW2009) and Tash



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Weddings

DIAMOND - TIKTIKAKAS
Caroline (OW2009)
and Andrew on
26 February, 2021
(Pictured)

**ANGELUCCI -
ANTONUCCIO**
Stephanie (OW2010)
and Cameron on
23 January 2021

LODGE - GRIMA
Charlie (OW2007)
and Lauren (OW2007)
on 21 February 2021

SWANN - WOCIAL
Stephanie (OW2010)
and Sebastian on
9 October 2020



Deaths

ANTONIOU

Denis (OW1988) on 27 November 2020

BOYT

Andrew Reginald (OW1953) on 26 January 2021, son of Reginald (OW1917) (dec.) and brother of Michael (OW1955) (dec.)

BOYT

Michael Francois (OW1955) on 21 December 2020, brother of Andrew (OW1953) (dec.)

BRUHN

Albert Trevor (OW1943) on 27 September 2020, brother of Geoffrey (OW1945)

BURTON

Graeme John (OW1957) on 9 February 2020

CAMPBELL

John Pritchard Stewart (OW1943) on 24 October 2019, brother of Ken (OW1949)

CHARRETT

Peter (OW1957) 7 October 2020, father of Adam (OW1987)

CHOSICH

Nikola (Nik) (OW1975) on 5 November 2020

CODDINGTON

Graham Macdonald (OW1974) on 22 January 2021

GIST

Colin Lewis (OW1955) on 4 Dec 2020, brother of Lindsay (OW1951)

GLEESON

John (Bob) Robert (OW1936) in October 2020

HICKS

Brian William (OW1967) on 26 December 2020, brother of John (OW1953), Ellis (OW1953) (dec.) and Robert (OW1955), uncle of Clinton (OW1979) and Matthew (OW1980)

HOSKING

John Ernest (OW1950) on 3 December 2020, brother of William (OW1943) (dec.), uncle of John (OW1981), Andrew (OW1984) and Peter (OW1984)

KING

Noel John (OW1951) on 7 July 2019

LODER

Robert (Bob) Edward (OW1944) on 1 January 2021, son of Louis (OW1918) (dec.), brother of Ian (OW1952) (dec.), father of Rick (OW1973) and Tim (OW1976), father-in-law of Peter Rodgers-Wilson (OW1965), grandfather of Jo Resson (OW1993) and Lucy Gilfillan (OW1995)

MARRIOTT

Geoffrey William (OW1947) on 20 October, father of Ian (OW1970), Wayne (OW1971) and Denis (OW1977)

MORRISON

Bruce William (OW1971) on 6 November 2020, son of William (OW1941), brother of Colin (OW1981)

PAINTER

Kenneth Cairns (OW1941) on 29 February 2020, son of Francis (OW1911) (dec.), father of Graeme (OW1978) and Stuart (OW1981), grandfather of Michael (OW2011), Sean (OW2016), Tom (OW2018) and Jack (OW2018)

PARKER

Richard Weston (OW1952) on 30 October 2020

PORRITT

Darryl (OW1958) on 11 February 2020

THOMAS

Geoffrey Graham (OW1948) on 8 November 2020

WALDRON

Judge Glenn Royce Donal AO (OW1948) on 29 September 2020, brother of Keith (OW1946) (dec.)

WELLS

Dr William George AM (OW1957) on 4 February 2021, father of David Wells (OW1988) and Liz Sharrock (OW1990)

WILSON

Shirley (MLC Elsternwick 1938) on 21 November 2019, sister of Beres Witt (MLC Elsternwick 1936) (dec.) and Dersa Westley-Smith (MLC Elsternwick 1939) (dec.)

ZWAR

Michael K (OW1949) on 25 September 2019

Obituaries



Robert Edward Loder (OW1944)

13/11/1926 – 01/01/2021

Bob was the second son of Jean and **Louis Loder (OW1915)**. School days began for young Bob aged six at Carey Grammar, which was within walking distance of his home in The Ridge. When he was 11, he started at Wesley College. He loved Wesley, where he made many precious and lifelong friends, including **Ian Duncan (OW1945)**, **David Chancellor (OW1945)**, **George Bickford (OW1944)**, **Lex Stubbs (OW1944)**, the **Hibbins brothers**, **Geoff (OW1948)** and **Ian (OW1945)** and many more. He loved English at school but described himself as quite poor in other subjects. His English teacher, VK Brown, had the boys hand in a composition each Friday. The first one for the year, Bob was given 9/10. Then, every week thereafter he got 10/10 until the final week, when VK marked his paper with 11/10 so his average for the year would be a perfect 10! Bob excelled at sports and in his final year at school was Captain of Athletics. That year, at the APS Sports, he won the 880 and also in a very memorable race he won the prestigious 'Mile' event. On the following Monday the heading in the *Argus* read 'Loder's Mile Wins PS Sports for Wesley'.

It was during his school years when he was 16, and he was 17, that he met the love of his life, Ruth Archer. Ruth's father

George (OW1916) was at school with Bob's father Louis, and her brother, **Jim (OW1944)**, was in the same year as Bob.

Bob left school at the end of 1944 and joined the Navy in January 1945. He was sent to Officer school, but by the time his training had finished the war was over. However, Bob remained with HMAS Shropshire and sailed to England for the victory celebrations. He left the Navy at the end of 1946 and entered the Agricultural Science faculty at the University of Melbourne.

Bob married Ruth at the Wesley College Chapel on 21 December 1949, at the end of his third year at University. It was the beginning of a very happy marriage lasting 70 years. Bob played football for Collegians, as his father and father-in-law had done before him, and his two sons, **Rick (OW1973)** and **Tim (OW1976)** after him. His daughter, **Susie Rodgers-Wilson (OWCA Honorary Life Member)** spent many years on the committee, and is a Life Member of the Club. Bob and Ruth enjoyed attending the home games for lunch until 2019.

Bob always enjoyed his association with Wesley, and in later years, gained a lot of pleasure playing with the OWCA Bowls team, perhaps because they referred to him as 'Young Bob'. He was always keen to attend Sapere Aude functions, even though he wasn't particularly mobile!

Bob Loder was a very special person. Through his unwavering positive attitude to life, his kindness, generosity, tolerance and compassion, he has provided everyone he met with a shining example of how we should live our lives.

He never got angry. The clear-minded way he dealt with problems ensured that he would always find a rational and sensible solution. He was always there to offer sage advice to those who needed it. He was the voice of reason.

After Ruth died in June 2020, Bob was determined not to be glum or to burden others with his grief, although life wasn't quite the same without her. He believed if everyone could give a smile the world would be a happier place.

Bob was a passionate family man and will be missed by his four children, 12 grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.



Kenneth Cairns Painter (OW1941)

08/10/1924 – 29/02/2020

Kenneth Cairns Painter was the only child of Wilfred and Zoe Painter. He grew up in Glen Huntly and Glen Iris during the Great Depression. As a child he enjoyed Sunday School, Cubs, gardening, and horse riding. From 1936, Glen Iris was his home for 83 years.

Ken spent four years studying at Wesley College from 1938 to 1941 on a scholarship. He was in 'The Twenty', and his school reports note his scholastic diligence, pleasant and cooperative manner, and excellent contribution to the school's life. As a parent and grandparent, Ken continued his association with Wesley when his sons and grandsons maintained the family tradition – **Graeme (OW1978)**, **Stuart (OW1981)**, **Michael (OW2011)**, **Sean (OW2016)**, **Tom (OW2018)** and **Jack (OW2018)**.

Ken was Secretary of the Prahran Parents' Association in 1980/81. Before he died, Ken donated his collection of *Chronicle* magazines to Wesley. It comprised every edition from 1938 until today.

From 1942 to 1944 Ken studied a civil engineering degree full time at Melbourne Technical College. He started work with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board in January 1945. The Tramways was to be his lifetime career. He worked there for 43 years until 1987. The design, construction, and maintenance of the permanent way,

the tram-tracks etc., of the world's largest tramway network provided him with a rewarding working life. Ken was a member of the Association of Professional Engineers, Institute of Engineers, and Chartered Institute of Transport.

His commitment and contribution to Melbourne's public transport system was recognised in 1978, when he was awarded the rare distinction of Fellow of the Permanent Way Institution in England.

Ken married Gwenda Joyce Jenkin, daughter of **Francis Jenkin (OW1911)** in 1960. They were married for 51 happy years until Gwenda died in 2011. Theirs was the epitome of a loving, caring, devoted Christian marriage, grounded in faith in God. Their family home was invariably humorous and welcoming. Ken and Gwenda were delighted that Stuart and his wife Marcelle gave them the joy of six grandchildren – Rachel, Michael, Felicity, Sean, Tom, and Jack, whom they loved dearly. They rejoiced when Graeme married Robyn in 2010.

Ken's purposeful and giving nature was reflected in his trademark smile and generous contributions to the local community. He was a long-term member of the Methodist/Uniting Church, VFL, MCC, John Gardiner Ski Club, 1st Camberwell South Scout Group Parents Committee, and Freemasonry. These organisations benefitted from Ken's love and support for others, hard work, sense of duty, talents, intelligence and expertise. Overall, his combined volunteer service amounted to more than 100 years. He was a wise role model who always had an interest in people and events. Ken's unassuming friendliness was encouraging and infectious.

Ken was a decent, kind, uncomplaining, inoffensive gentleman. He faced adversity with quiet courage, admirable determination and strong resilience. He had a wonderfully endearing spirit and an accepting personality. He lived his long life of service to others with humility and equanimity.

Kenneth Painter loved life, and his was a splendid life, extremely well lived.





Chief Judge Glenn Royce Donal Waldron AO (OW1948)

25/11/1930 – 29/09/2021

After completing articles with E Edgar Davies & Co, Glenn signed the Bar roll in 1955 and took silk in 1973, joining the Victorian Bar Council in 1976. In 1982 he was appointed Chief Judge of the County Court.

Chief Judge Peter Kidd said of His Honour Glenn Waldron, ‘Under Chief Judge Waldron’s leadership, the County Court dramatically widened its civil jurisdiction, commenced upon the path of engaging with information technology, engaged in significant pre-trial case management reform and oversaw the development of the Court’s current landmark building... In recognition of his lasting achievements, the Court’s Waldron Hall was named in his honour.’

With permission of the Law Institute, we reproduce here an abridged version of the article ‘Chief Judge leaves his mark’ written by Jason Silverii for the Law Institute Journal upon Glenn’s retirement in 2002. The full article is available in our online edition at wesleycollege.edu.au/lionmagazine

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Beverley and his family.

When barrister Glenn Waldron QC was appointed Chief Judge of the County Court he inherited a court that was showing classic signs of middle-child syndrome. While the Supreme Court was taking the spotlight by conducting the state’s most serious trials and the

Magistrates’ Court received kudos for ploughing through the state’s petty crime cases, the County Court was largely being ignored.

After almost 21 years under the leadership of Chief Judge Waldron, the County Court has shrugged off its inferiority complex.

The Court is now Victoria’s pre-eminent trial court. It has also dramatically widened its civil jurisdiction and has become a world-leader in the use of information technology.

It has also moved into a 42,000 square metre building that has quickly become one of the most striking and functional court buildings in Australia.

The new building has become a potent symbol of the changes the Court has gone through over the past two decades.

The Court with an inferiority complex has moved into a superior complex. Even the make-up of the judges of the Court has changed. In 1982 there were no women among the 34 judges on the County Court Bench. Now there are 17 women on a Bench of 58 judges.

These changes occurred during Chief Judge Waldron’s reign, yet ask the man himself for his take on the transformation and he is humble. ‘It is about what the Court has achieved,’ he said.

Other leaders of the legal profession are more direct. Law Institute president David Faram described him as one of the best judicial administrators in Victoria’s history.

‘He has overseen an almost complete redevelopment of the Court and the way it handles its business,’ Mr Faram said. ‘His leadership of the Court has addressed a whole heap of problems, particularly hearing dates, trial lengths and delays in both the civil and criminal jurisdictions.’

Victorian Bar Council chairman Jack Rush QC said Chief Judge Waldron had moulded the Court into the leading county or district court in Australia, while state Attorney-General Rob Hulls thanked him for his ‘exceptional contribution in strengthening our justice system’.

Yet, despite these accolades, Chief Judge Waldron refuses to yield to self-congratulation. It is all part of his philosophy that the work of the Court speaks for itself.

Among the many reforms made to the County Court during his time on the Bench, he counts three as the most significant.

The first is the changes to trial and case management procedures, such as increased use of pre-trial hearings before listing judges, that has led to fewer trials collapsing on the day they come to court, shorter trials and cost savings.

The second reform has been the increased use of technology, which has led to a world-leading array of videoconferencing, court reporting and case management facilities.

And the third reform is the new County Court building, which was the culmination of almost 15 years of lobbying by Chief Judge Waldron and other judges of the Court.

‘There is no more beautiful building in the world than the Supreme Court. But as a functional court, I think it has to be said that [the new County Court building] is far and away the best in the land and, probably, I suspect the world,’ Chief Judge Waldron said.

On the subject of media scrutiny, Chief Judge Waldron said one aspect that he has been passionately opposed to has been a growing trend to give a large volume of coverage to cases just before sentence is passed. The argument for the media to do so has been based on the reasoning that judges are independent and intelligent enough not to be influenced.

‘But when either in a newspaper or on television it is said that with a particular individual a heavier sentence is required... pressure is being brought on the judge to exercise his or her discretion in a particular way. I think that is quite invidious.’

But he quickly makes the point that he is not anti-media and believes the media has an important role in informing the public about the Court’s work. Work that he has heavily influenced – for the better – over the past 20 years.



John Steward (Sam) Wheller (OW1966)

05/10/1948 – 15/10/2020

Father of **Rochelle Cardell (Wheller) (OW1999)** and **Simon (OW2000)**, and a passionate Essendon supporter, seen here not long ago with friends **Peter Mitchell (OW1966)** and **Ian Marshman (OW1966)**, Sam Wheller would meet regularly with his mates from school as part of a lunch group, and often met for enjoyable dinners with friends and their partners. We have combined the memories of his close friends here as a fitting tribute to a good friend and a kind man.

Sam had a tough upbringing. His father, a marine captain, was believed to have drowned when Sam was just a child. Naturally his mother was very protective of her only child. Sixty years after his first day at Wesley in Grade 6, Sam is fondly remembered as a large, roly poly guy rolling on the asphalt playground being tickled and harassed by another boy. This was the essence of Sam and how he was his whole life, full of fun and laughter. A gentle giant at school, Sam is remembered as a humble man with not a mean streak to be had. A very friendly man and a good bloke.

Beyond Wesley, Sam went to ANU and thereafter qualified as an accountant. He became a partner in the firm TWB Chartered Accountants – the ‘W’ standing for Wheller – and helped build up a successful accounting practice in Murrumbidgee. He was a good citizen through his work with Rotary and his contribution to several community-based

not-for-profit organisations. His work ethic and business rigour were exceptional. He had a strong group of loyal OW friends as clients. He was caring, helpful and always provided sound, practical advice. Even in retirement, Sam continued to be associated with the firm right up until the end, with clients still wanting him to do their work.

Sam was a sports nut and a walking encyclopedia on anything cricket and football. He was a stalwart fullback in one of the lower open age teams. Once they left school, they had memorable annual cricket matches at Blairgowrie and East Brighton homes, usually accompanied by a barbecue, made even more memorable by the persistent way Sam managed each year to burn the sausages.

Field Rickards (OW1966) spent his teenage years with Sam at the Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron, crewing on a three-man yacht under the guidance of a wise helmsman called Ken Ross. He was like a second father to both of them in terms of life wisdom. Indeed, he introduced them to dirty jokes, some of which may even have made their way back to Wesley. They were formative years with great memories.

Peter Mitchell’s (OW1966) days with Sam at the MCG, at football and cricket matches, over a 60-year span are too many to count. One game that they always remembered and spoke of as being the best final they saw was the 1970 Grand Final. Peter’s parents thought the world of Sam and he was a frequent visitor, playing cricket in the driveway or in the backyard, or taking the footy down to the nearby park for kick-to-kick. During University days, **Ian Marshman (OW1966)** fondly recalls playing ‘very ordinary’ club cricket in Dandenong and Malvern.

Sam was also a ‘music nut’, and apart from his music collection he and his partner Trish went to all manner of concerts here and overseas. He even went to see the Messiah and AC/DC on the one day! Peter Mitchell and his wife joined Sam and Trish for many an evening at the Continental Café in Greville Street before sadly it closed its doors. More recently they went to see Fleetwood Mac together.

Roger Mendelson (OW1967) wrote, ‘When I think of Sam, the Wesley “Leaving Song” sounds in my ear but with different words:

‘No more Tax Returns for me, for me,
In Heaven I’m free, I’m free,
And yet somehow, I don’t feel very glad,
In fact, I feel a little sad, a little sad.’

His will and spirit were astonishing right to the end. Two days before he died, Peter Mitchell went to see him at his home. He was drifting in and out of consciousness. ‘We had a bit of a chat and at one point he looked at Trish and said, “I’m happy.”’ Peter goes on to say, ‘I have no particular religious inclination, but I do believe that there is something inside each of us, what we might call the spirit. Wherever it might be that the most good and the most decent on Earth enter afterwards, Sam will be there.’

Vale Sam. A gentleman.

The combined memories of **Peter Mitchell (OW1966)**, **Ian Marshman (OW1966)**, **Field Rickards (OW1966)**, **Roger Mendelson (OW1967)** and other close friends.





William Richards (Bill) Lumley AM (OW1937)

12/06/1920 – 21/09/2020

Bill was born in St Kilda during the final days of the previous pandemic, to parents William and Elizabeth Lumley.

In 1934, like his brother **Robert (OW1930)** before him, Bill came to Wesley from Toorak Central School, while their sister, Mollie, went to MLC, Hawthorn. It was a milestone year for Wesley, founded 68 years earlier and in need of urgent attention. The Nicholas family, with funds from developing Aspro, gifted money for rebuilding the school ready for the new school year. Bill was encouraged in all activities, particularly Saturday sport (cricket, football, athletics, gymnastics and swimming) as well as music, drama, and debating. Bill tried football and cricket, but was not picked for teams, so turned to athletics. In senior years he enjoyed rowing in the Third Crew at the 1937 Head of the River.

‘Education at Wesley was of a fairly high standard, but I was not of the same material,’ Bill said. He obtained his Leaving Certificate in 1937, although he wanted to continue for a chance in the First VIII. Studying Applied Science at Melbourne Technical College (later RMIT) in 1938, he joined other students converting an old T-Model Ford to use alternative fuel because of petrol rationing prior to World War II. Fitted with a charcoal burner and being the only one to drive, a test drive from the College down St Kilda Road and across to Punt Road hill and back left a memorable trail of smoke.

Bill joined the Militia Citizens Army and in 1941, joining the A.I.F. as a gunner. As 2nd Lieutenant he was in charge of 2nd/2nd Field Regiment with plans for Libya. When Singapore fell, the Regiment remained to defend Australia, particularly

in WA. In 1944, the day after discharge, he joined the RAAF and obtained special Leave to marry Barbara Eltis, beginning 62 years together until her death in 2007.

In July 1945, Bill began working in his brother’s Windsor pharmacy, studying at the Pharmacy College in Melbourne. He became first President of the Victorian Pharmacy Students’ Association. When it became the National Pharmacy Students’ Association, he became its first President, graduating in 1949.

In 1950 they moved to Chelsea and he established his own pharmacy, forming close bonds with local residents. In 1953, he was elected a local Councillor, was Mayor for 1955 and 1956, and became a Justice of the Peace. He eventually sold his business in 1964 to become an Inspection Pharmacist for the Department of Health until retiring in 1983.

Bill represented Chelsea Council on many boards, including Chelsea Bush Nursing Hospital for 31 years (with the last years as President), State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, Mentone Girls College and Edithvale State School which his children attended, and he was on the committee of the new Aspendale Technical School which both sons attended. He was a First Aid Officer, training with St Johns Ambulance Brigade at Mordialloc, and he remained a Life Member. He was also a committee member of the Chelsea Life Saving Club and its treasurer for some years. Later, Bill and Barbara moved to Frankston South to downsize.

Bill served on the Board of Peninsula Ambulance Service for 30 years and was President for five years whilst it moved from a voluntary organization to a professional one, becoming the Melbourne Metropolitan Ambulance Service. He retired from his role as President in 1989.

In 1991, Bill was awarded Member of the Order of Australia AM in recognition of his work for community and the ambulance services.

Bill enjoyed our Golden Lions Lunch as part of sesquicentenary celebrations in 2016 and most recently was living at Village Glen Aged Care, Capel Sound. Between lock downs, he celebrated his 100th birthday with a drive-by of vintage ambulances to the music of pipe and drums provided by Ambulance Victoria. A great occasion for television news and a lasting memory.

Bill is survived by his cherished daughter Cath, sons Ian and Mike, eight grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.



John Sugden Woodhouse (OW1946)

02/04/1928 – 13/03/2020

The Woodhouse family moved to Melbourne from Albury in 1942 in time for **John (OW1946)** and **David (OW1950)** to start at Wesley at the beginning of second term. John began in the afternoons at Scotch College, as the army had taken over Wesley at St Kilda Road, while David attended at Mayfield Avenue, Toorak. Family tradition at Wesley continued with his son **Geoffrey (OW1974)** and nephew **Colin (OW1978)**.

John became involved in music, playing in the cadet band and taking up the French horn, which later became a very important part of his life. He loved woodwork, and assisted backstage at school plays, and David followed. In David’s final year, the *Chronicle* recognised the Woodhouse brothers’ 10 years’ backstage service! John loved rowing, despite lacking the weight to reach First Crew.

John commenced Medicine at Melbourne University in 1947, one of the large number of ex-service men and school leavers who were sent to the Mildura Branch, set up in the old RAAF base. He obtained his degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) in 1957. John’s connection with the University did not end there. In the photo above, John stands proudly before a portrait of his grandfather, Wesleyan clergyman and educationist Rev E H Sugden, the founder of Queen’s College.

John worked as resident Medical Officer at Bendigo Base Hospital, then as an assistant in an Albury private practice. He then moved to the Mount Beauty Medical Centre, working with the Tawonga and District Hospital.

This appointment included regular visits to Bogong Village and Mackay Creek Power Station, and he attended to many fractured legs from Falls Creek.

His first wife Betty's ill health necessitated being closer to Melbourne and he joined the Traralgon Medical Group. Eventually needing to be closer still, he joined a practice at Boronia. Betty died in 1973, and it became necessary for a further career change, leading to him marrying Enid – widowed with five children – in December 1974. They built an extension to her home in East Malvern, John joining the East Ringwood Medical Group where he remained for four years.

John approached the Health Department seeking an opening into psychiatry, sensing a need. He was offered the position of a Medical Officer at the Malvern Clinic, where he received valuable experience with psychiatrists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, teachers and social workers. He later moved to the Mental Health Department at St Nicholas Hospital. Many changes were taking place and he found himself caring for 105 of the most seriously mentally and physically affected children in the state.

John once said, 'The most important thing I have contributed to the medical profession has been the establishment of the Customised Seating Service.' From 1978 until retirement, he worked with the Health Department, and continued in a voluntary capacity until 2005. A manual and CD for the customised seats were prepared, which included working with terry towelling covers, pioneered by Enid. When St Nicholas closed in 1993, about 700 individual customised seats had been provided.

John loved his music, and he played the French horn throughout his career. He began with the bugle in the Albury Boys School Band, trombone in the Albury Town Band, and then played in the Wesley Cadet Corps Band. With two school friends, John began lessons on French horn and the three boys began training as the Horn section of The Melbourne Junior Symphony Orchestra. He was able to join in local orchestras in each of the country towns in which he worked, deriving great pleasure. He fondly remembered playing with the Zelman Memorial Orchestra, the Australian Doctors' Orchestra, and the U3A Chamber Orchestra. Towards the end of his life, he and Enid – playing flute – became regular members of the Ewing Memorial Church Ensemble, providing church music for a number of years.

150 Years of Wesley Rowing Celebrating in style



From top left to right

Gold medallists: Our U17 Schoolboy's Coxed Eight champions on the podium at Nationals

Our winning U19 Women's Coxed Four with their gold medals

Going for gold: Our U17 Schoolboy's Coxed Eight giving it their all on the water

As we celebrate 150 years of rowing at Wesley, it seems the rowing gods are shining on us. Off he success at the APS Head of the River (see story on page 18), our crews travelled to Lake Barrington in northern Tasmania to compete at the Australian Rowing Championships from 22 – 28 March. Wesley achieved some stunning results:

- U19 Women's Coxed Four – Gold (Lucy Thomson, Thea Coull, Christina Kamenev, Zara Lavery, coxed by Fiona Dow)
- Schoolgirls Eight, A Final – Fourth (Leyla Keneally, Saskia Blackburn, Emily Hill, Lauren Mayhood, Lucy Thomson, Thea Coull, Christina Kamenev, Zara Lavery, coxed by Fiona Dow)
- U19 Women's Coxless Pair A Final – Seventh (Christina Kamenev, Zara Lavery)
- Schoolboys Single Scull A Final – Silver (Wesley Hudson)
- U17 Schoolboys Coxed Eight A Final – Gold (Quentin Marchiori, Max Guthrie,

Jeffrey Jiang, Leo Bakhache, Nicholas Bryant, Lachlan Idle, Charlie Johnston, Amos Kirk, coxed by Josh Feferkranz)

- U19 Men's Coxed Eight A Final – Gold (Nicholas Bryant, Lachlan Idle)

A number of OWs also competed with outstanding results as members of the Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS), Melbourne University Boat Club (MUBC) and University of Technology Sydney (UTS): **Evelyn Dow (OW2020)** MUBC; **Aaliah Dawson (OW2019)** MUBC; **Joe Bryant (OW 2020)** MUBC; **Dom Williams (OW2019)** MUBC; **Nick Smith (OW2018)** MUBC; **Rohan Lavery (OW2018)** VIS, MUBC; **Nick Lavery (OW 2016)** VIS, UTS.

Most notable was the Lavery brothers' win in the prestigious Kings Cup as members of the Victorian Kings Cup crew, an incredible race that saw the NSW and VIC crews separated by only 0.16 sec.

Thanks go to all the coaches who have contributed to such a successful season, making this one of the College's most successful on record.



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FOUNDERS' DAY LUNCH

*with special guest speaker Julian Druce (OW1982)
Head of Virus Identification Laboratory,
Doherty Institute*

Date & time:

Friday 28 May at 12.00pm

–

Venue:

Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club
489 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong

–

Book Now:

[wesleyevents.edu.au/
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day-lunch](https://wesleyevents.edu.au/events/70/2021-founders-day-lunch)

Founders' Day Lunch returns to Kooyong in 2021 with special guest speaker Dr Julian Druce.

Dr Julian Druce is Head of the Virus Identification Laboratory at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, who made world headlines when he successfully grew COVID-19 from a patient sample – a crucial breakthrough in helping medical scientists around the world accurately diagnose and develop a vaccine.



WESLEY COLLEGE

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A True Education

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