

# Lion

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

## On the Runway

Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984)  
leads 450 choristers and musicians  
on stage at Hamer Hall

### *International Baccalaureate*

Celebrating 30 years  
at Wesley College

### *Our School Captains*

10, 20 and 30 years on...

### *Montevideo Maru*

Remembering the OWs  
lost at sea during WWII

*A True Education*



WESLEY COLLEGE

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### Front cover image:

Prof. Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984) on stage at Hamer Hall during final rehearsal for his composition *The Runway*, performed as the massed item finale at the 2023 St Kilda Road Music Festival.

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ISSN: 2209-3699 / Print Post: 100018730

## Editorial

Welcome to the June issue of *Lion*. In this edition, we're looking at some big moments in the life of our school, present and past.

Our cover story plots the development and world premiere performance of massed item *The Runway*, a specially commissioned work for choir and symphony orchestra at this year's St Kilda Road Campus Music Festival. The Hamer Hall stage, stalls and balconies swelled with 450 performers bringing this unique collaboration between composer **Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984)** and the Music Department to life. It was a big moment.

A very big tragic moment – in fact, the largest in Australian maritime history – is covered by **Philip Powell (OW1973)** on page 20 in his moving story on the discovery of the wreckage of the *Montevideo Maru* in April this year, after 80 years lost at sea.

We also look at a big moment in our school's more recent history: it's 30 years since the introduction of the International Baccalaureate into our curriculum. Indeed, 1993 was a particularly busy year for Wesley; students were issued with laptops for the first time, and Glen Waverley's Senior School hosted its first Year 12 cohort.

30 years... we use the decades as markers, don't we? Passing chunks of time against which we measure our lives. Where was I – who was I – 10... 20... 30 years ago? And what has unfolded since? We asked a handful of our past Captains and Senior Prefects to look back across the decades and share their stories with us. You'll find them on page 10.

It's also a 'decade year' for Chum Creek – regular camps started there 70 years ago. College Principal **Nick Evans (OW1985)** was there recently, and in a nostalgic moment found some comments he'd written as a Year 9 student in a 1982 camp diary. You can read about it in our Campus Snapshots on page 19. It's a small story, but it loomed large for him, as 40-odd years in his life momentarily dissolved.

The small moments can resonate just as loudly in our lives as the big ones sometimes, can't they?

Paul Munn, *Lion* Editor and Features Writer

## A True Education

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Wesley College occupies the lands of many Traditional custodians: the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung of the Kulin Nation, Gunai Kurnai, Dja Dja Wurrung and Gunditjamara. We also recognise our ongoing partnership with the Bunuba people as traditional custodians of the Yiramalay Studio School. We offer our respect to their Elders, both past and present, who have cared for and cultivated this land, its waterways and the surrounding communities for many thousands of years and we acknowledge these groups as part of one of the world's oldest surviving cultures.



## Principal's lines

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It is likely that everyone reading this edition of *Lion* is connected to Wesley in one way or another.

As such, readers are also likely to know that in May each year, we celebrate Founders' Day; a day set aside to recognise the enormous task and challenges our founders undertook and overcame in opening a school in the Methodist faith in Melbourne in 1866. They were extraordinarily young when they founded the school and they worked for a decade to raise the funds to do so.

Founders' Day was the invention of LA Adamson (Headmaster from 1902 to 1932). It became a great day of celebration in the Wesley and OWCA calendars and remains so today. Adamson devoted considerable time in his early years as Headmaster to rebuilding the OWCA as a means of developing school spirit. He wanted all boys who left Wesley to cherish their old school and their memories of it. This sentiment is conveyed in the words Adamson wrote for Grey Towers, from the Wesley College Songbook:

*Grey towers at night are keeping  
their watch o'er Wesley sleeping  
moonlight is softly sweeping from above.  
Stars in the sky are shining,  
their golden eyes divining  
how close the Old School's twining round  
our hearts her love...*

*...And so - rough or calm weather -  
Old School, we'll hold together,  
so strong the binding tether love has made.  
May lives of strong endeavour  
defend your honour ever:  
our love for you can never,  
never, never fade.*

Adamson declared that Founders' Day should be celebrated in pomp and style, not just at a large celebration in Melbourne at the school, but at any place where Old Wesley Collegians might be gathered. The first such celebration was held on 28 May 1905, which was the birthday of late founder and benefactor, Walter Powell, though the date was later moved. Adamson was keen for dinners to be held in many parts of Australia and at the main celebratory dinner in 1906, telegrams were read out from smaller dinners and 'smoke nights' across the country. By 1907, dinners were held as far away as Johannesburg and London. The OWCA held its third Founders' Day dinner by gaslight in the brand-new Adamson Hall in May 1908. It would have been a very cold affair, as in those days the hall was unheated!



Acting Principal Morag Howard with Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) at the 2023 Founders' Day Lunch

When you meet Wesley folks here and yonder on your travels, it is amazing how varied their memories of Wesley and Founders' Day are. At the most recent Founders' Day lunch at the Kooyong Tennis Club, Principal Nick Evans (OW1985), at his last event before commencing his sabbatical, told the audience he has two enduring memories of the meaning of Founders' Day. The first was in 1983, while he was in Year 10. The President of the OWCA was the guest speaker for the assembly in Adamson Hall. That President was Dr Neil Evans - his father - and he got up and said, 'I'm not here to talk about how great Wesley is and all that rubbish!' Possibly quite mortifying for a Year 10 student!

His other recollection was of the Founders' Day song which was always sung at assemblies. The music was composed by LA Adamson in 1907 with words written by Burnett Gray (OW1902), to be sung at the first Founders' Day dinner. It fondly reminisces on where you might meet a fellow collegian. The third verse reads:

*On ocean tramp you will meet them,  
where grimy steamers throng  
at Liverpool and London, Colombo and  
Hong Kong.  
Good mates at school - they're still so -  
warm-hearted, staunch and true,  
and just the friend in bad times to see their  
old chum through.*

When Nick was in Indonesia earlier this year, sitting two rows behind him on the plane was a bloke that he had been at school with, and two rows in front, was

someone that he had taught. What brought them together, he reflected, was the school.

My own first memories of Founders' Day are of resplendent assemblies full of toe-tapping performances by Big Band, Jazz Band and Jazz choirs, together with inspirational speeches delivered by old Collegians who were working, performing or achieving in a huge array of fields. This was quite a sight for a recently graduated teacher with no experience of school spirit on this scale! In one fanciful moment, as I was walking into assembly in 1991, I remember thinking that so important was this day to the fabric of the school, we should all be wearing richly coloured velvet robes!

Echoing the words of the Principal at the recent lunch, I ask you to give a thought to every person who has dedicated themselves to this great school, giving of their energy, time, talent and treasure over one hundred and fifty-seven years.

I leave you with some words from the school song *The Best School of All*, most recently sung by those 150 members of the Wesley Community who gathered at the Founders' Day lunch:

*For though the dust that's part of us  
to dust again be gone,  
yet here shall beat the heart of us -  
the School we handed on!*

**Morag Howard**  
Acting Principal



# On the Runway

Stuart Greenbaum's (OW1984) anthem premieres at Hamer Hall

It's a mid-May morning at Hamer Hall, and the final rehearsal for the St Kilda Road Campus Music Festival is in full swing. The stage and stalls are heaving with people and instruments; the matter of the moment is the staging of the grand finale - a massed item for choir and full symphony orchestra involving a cast of 450...

**Paul Munn** reports.

'This is some serious stuff!' gasps Year 5 chorister Piper Lloyd, newly seated in the auditorium and gazing up and up in wonderment at Hamer Hall's cavernous, dimly lit interior.

Some serious stuff is happening on stage as well - it's awash with choristers, musicians, music staff and technicians busily rehearsing for the climax of the evening - the world premiere of *The Runway*, a massed item for choir and symphony orchestra, specially commissioned for the Festival and created by internationally-known composer, Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984).

No stranger to composition - he's the author of over 230 works, including five symphonies and two operas - Stuart is there for the final run-through, and he seems as charged as the performers on stage; a piece on this scale is something new, even for him.



Orchestral score for *The Runway*, an original composition by Prof. Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984)



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A massed item is a truly unique experience for all those involved. The idea to stage this twenty-first century classical piece came from Head of Music, Philip Walsh. 'It gives our students an opportunity to experience the breadth and depth of what music can offer,' he says. 'I also like to involve our students with professionals out in the workplace in music.'

For this project, Stuart was the perfect fit: 'He's a Wesley parent, Professor and Head of Composition at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, and he's an OW.' Philip contacted him about writing the new work late last year, and Stuart got thinking.

The inspiration for the piece was sparked by an arresting image that he had seen 12 months earlier, captured amidst the chaotic scenes at Hamid Karzai airport during the Taliban's re-taking of Afghanistan – many hundreds of Afghans, desperate to escape the new regime, crammed onto the cargo deck of a US military C-17 Globemaster.

'For reasons I can't explain, this image lit up again for me,' remembers Stuart. 'The idea, not only of a harrowing escape, but an amazing doorway to a better future. And this is simultaneously playing out during a readjustment to pandemic lockdowns. I fixated on the runway – *the boat... the shore... the place... the runway*. So I had this dual image, of escape for those less fortunate, but also the idea of a post-pandemic anthem for all of us, re-emerging into the wider world as travel restrictions were lifted and borders re-opened.'

It struck a chord with the students too. 'Before every rehearsal, we read about the meaning, and if there was ever a moment when we rehearsed and we didn't feel that emotion, we reminded ourselves of it,' says chorister and Arts Prefect, Louise Coote. 'We reflected on our memories of watching it on TV... while we were stuck in lockdown, those in Kabul were desperately trying to get out of their country. I found the lyrics incredibly thought provoking; they made me question and wonder about my own experiences during COVID and more broadly, my life.'



Stuart discusses *sforzando* (dynamics) for a pizzicato section with cellist Kingsley Squire



Stuart listens to members of the Harmony Choir (L-R): Ebony Harridge, Sunday Clare Baikie and Marlo Stephenson at rehearsal





## Features

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In Hamer Hall, surrounded by Wesley music students, the seasoned composer feels the poignancy of the moment. 'When I was at Wesley, I played in the orchestra, concert band, guitar ensemble and big band. It was the centre of my universe,' reflected Stuart. 'At the age of 15, I knew that writing music was what I wanted and needed to be doing. Looking back, I'd say I was fortunate to be in an environment that was musically rich.'

In the evening, with the Music Festival reaching the grand finale, there's a sense that the baton is being passed on... 'What a great opportunity and special experience for our students,' says Philip. 'To see an OW do this, and to envisage their own futures as professional composers or musicians is inspiring. They can see the journey, the pathway... the runway! This is real, this is tangible.'

In the half-light, the performers swell across the stage and choir stalls, spilling onto the front balconies. The massed piece begins, and that's exactly the feeling: a visceral sense of mass. There's something about the wall of sound produced by a full symphony orchestra and a choir of 380 voices that creates a unique experience for performers and the audience alike.



Prof. Greenbaum discusses the 'feel' he wants for a particular section with drummer Raphael Geer-Bourke and electric guitarist Kelly Hardy from the Symphony Orchestra

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450 students and musicians gather on stage at Hamer Hall for the world premiere performance

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Conductor Stephen Rabach leads the Symphony Orchestra through the finale

Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra, Stephen Rabach, likewise felt the energy of the performance. 'It demonstrates how well the music resonated with the students,' he says. 'It was also a fun piece to conduct because of the different elements and changes of style.'

Choir conductor, Belinda Parsons, felt proud of what her huge group of singers achieved in rehearsal and performance: 'It's pretty exciting when 380 singing students cut off a perfect 'T' at the end of the word "boat". Aside from that, I think the way the piece builds is something really astounding. There are some extraordinarily moving moments in the piece when we're all together.'

Reflecting afterwards, the composer himself is clearly taken with the premiere performance of his work. 'The students were really great and deserve to be proud, delivering a world premiere, and the conductors and music staff are very experienced and professional,' says Stuart.

'An evening of all-Australian music at Hamer Hall – that's pretty bold and inspired programming. Kudos to Philip Walsh and the music department staff for putting it out there.'

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



Head of Choral and Voice, Belinda Parsons with Stuart and Symphony Orchestra Conductor, Stephen Rabach

Stuart's aim was for 'something oscillating between apprehension and elation', and the sound of this contemporary classical piece reflects that emotional tension, the space between entrapment and escape: the downward inflections of voice and instrument finally resolving into uplifting, expanding notes at the end of melodic phrases, a dramatic sound picture of the cargo plane lifting from the runway into the sky, away from the chaos and towards freedom.

Violinist and Leader of Orchestras, Matt Zhang (Year 12), enjoyed that sense of drama. 'I really liked the contrast between the beginning and the ending of the piece, especially the sudden change in dynamic and character in the middle,' he says.

For Year 12 Leader of Choirs, Will Martin, the performance was one-of-a-kind. 'It was an incredible feeling performing in a group of that size,' he says. 'The volume and energy coming from that many performers was really amazing. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I'll never forget.'

## *The Runway* by Stuart Greenbaum (OW1984)

*I am standing  
At the foot of the mountain  
I am walking  
I'm running (to you)*

*I am here  
At the top of the runway  
I am flying*

*The boat, the shore  
The plane, the runway*

*The sun is on the horizon  
And we'll leave  
nothing behind us*



Scan the QR Code to watch the world premiere performance of

## *The Runway*

recorded live at Hamer Hall





# Celebrating

## 30 years of IB at Wesley

1993 was a big year for education at Wesley College.

With the age of personal computing just taking off, laptops were being introduced into the classroom for the first time. The newly opened Senior School at Glen Waverley hosted its first Year 12 cohort, meaning we boasted two fully operational Senior School campuses. And there was a major shift in our curriculum offering – the introduction of the International Baccalaureate program.

The last decades of the 20th century saw Wesley College become increasingly active in its pursuit of a global educational perspective. International students were beginning to enrol at Wesley in larger numbers, and partnership exchanges with schools in China, Thailand, Indonesia and Japan were flourishing. We were increasingly engaging with the world, so becoming an 'IB World School' seemed a natural progression. In the words of St Kilda Road's Head of Campus at the time, Tony Conabere, the IB's 'proud presence' at Wesley would 'write the critical message of internationalism into the fabric of this sentimental old school.'

Enthusiasm was high with one hundred Year 11 students starting the two-year IB Diploma Program (IB DP) in that first year. Thirty years and 3,200 students later, the IB is now an indelible element in Wesley's educational makeup. With the Primary Years Program (PYP) having arrived in 2003 and the Middle Years Program (MYP) in 2017, we officially became an 'IB Continuum School'. Our students benefit from a continuum of learning and a

*Then...*

The introduction of laptop computers was serious business back in 1993



*...and now*

Laptops are now part of normal, everyday life at Wesley

coherence to their education, with the same principles and values underpinning all three rigorous and developmentally appropriate IB programs.

The IB emphasises the importance of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary learning. It cuts across traditional subject silos in a way that reflects real world problems by providing a framework to

make connections across traditional bodies of knowledge, which is so important for students' development and understanding of the many challenges that humanity faces. 'The transdisciplinary approach enables even our youngest learners to see the importance of the world around them and to take action with all they learn,' says Elsternwick PYP Coordinator, Angelee Jarrett.



MYP Coordinator at St Kilda Road, Linda Pizzarello, puts it this way: 'A strength of the IB program is the value it places on developing the whole child, with the ultimate goal being to empower students to be change-makers in the world. There is an emphasis on both breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding.'

New subjects emerging in the IB curriculum, such as IB DP Design Technology, IB DP Sports Exercise and Health Science, and the enrichment subjects in the MYP, encourage this empowerment. For example, 'Build a Body Part', developed for Year 10 students, enables students to test their critical thinking and problem solving skills while learning how biology, technology, maths, design and innovation can come together to solve a complex medical problem.

It's an absorbing R&D project, in which students use real-life case studies to design a prosthetic implant for a body part in CAD software before 3D printing their final design. Year 10 students recently visited Anatomics, a Melbourne-based medical technology facility which manufactures a range of medical device applications, to see the real-world context of their case studies.

For student Kasia Payne, the real-world context of the design process has been fascinating. 'The whole content within this course is exciting: using different machines to build an implant, the process between the surgeon and the implant provider, how body parts are measured for an implant, short and long-term impacts on the patient, and more.'



**Community-Action-Service (L-R): Saskia Elliott, Edie Stonell, Clara Mayo, Mila Jennings, Poppy Tutton-Gill and Bridgette Fechner volunteer their time at the 2022 Melbourne Marathon**

At the heart of this broad learning experience within Senior School is 'The Core', which comprises three key elements, something IB DP Coordinator Liz Cameron lists as another strength of the program. 'The Extended Essay helps students develop research and writing skills that are invaluable to post-school study; Theory of Knowledge encourages students to think critically and challenge assumptions about knowledge; and Community-Action-Service (CAS) allows students to explore their own creativity, complete activities related to physical wellbeing and make a meaningful contribution to their community and society,' she says.

Liam Quach, last year's St Kilda Road Campus Dux, took the IB program all the way through, from PYP to MYP to IB DP. 'Participating in the program with like-minded people allowed me to grow as a learner alongside my friends,' he says. 'Requirements such as CAS help to develop skills for all-rounder students. It doesn't just focus on academics, and teaches us that there is life beyond textbooks and classrooms.'

Lucinda Campbell (OW2022) also completed the whole IB program, and says it 'not only encouraged me to become a critical thinker; it also gave me the confidence to become an independent thinker and form my own ideas based on a wide range of information and viewpoints.'

In the same way that the IB program has, for 30 years, expanded our students' learning horizons, the possibilities for our teachers have likewise grown throughout Wesley's IB journey. As one of 5,600 schools that offer the IB worldwide, we're part of a global network supporting not only our school, but also our teachers and their professional development.

As Linda says, 'The IB's approach to teaching and learning are informed by the most up-to-date pedagogical research, so there is no need for schools to reinvent the wheel; we know we're engaging in best practice when we're adhering to these approaches.'

A best practice school teaching a best practice curriculum... surely the recipe for success in making the world a better place through education.



**(L-R): Year 10 students Nikita Williamson, Lilly Argus and Felix Cherrey research prosthetic implants as part of an exciting new subject called 'Build a Body Part'**



# Where are they now?

## 10 years on...



Annie Williamson and Matt Singleton, 2013 Senior Prefects

### Annie Williamson (OW2013)

Annie Williamson (OW2013) completed the IB DP then went on to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford, after which she worked as a health economist in Mexico before going to medical school at Barts and the London Hospital in the UK. 'There have been lots of great highlights along the way, from marching in the Oxford Pride parade as part of the NHS LGBTQ community to spending time back at the Royal Melbourne Hospital for my medical school elective.'

Annie has certainly packed a lot in over the past 10 years. She is now an incoming doctor focused on infectious disease at St Thomas' Hospital, one of the largest public hospitals in the UK. She also works for a thinktank on health inequality.



Annie Williamson with brother Nick (OW2015) who was also a School Captain, on a recent trip to Italy

'I'm still in touch with a great group of Wesley mates, who I see every time I'm back in Melbourne, and when many come to the UK!' she says. 'I think Wesley really prepared me for a varied career and life so far, jumping at opportunities as they arise and taking joy in a wide range of experiences, rather than narrowing my focus too early.'

### Matt Singleton (OW2013)

Matt Singleton (OW2013) has always been a 'nature nerd,' fostered during his youth by many family trips around the Otways. After leaving school, he completed an undergraduate degree in International Business followed by a Masters of Urban and Environmental Management. These days, he works in environmental conservation and environmental investment as Strategy Director with the Odonata Foundation. 'I work with organisations and landowners, designing conservation programs to reverse threatened species loss, as well as establishing investment models to support these programs. I started this pathway by volunteering at Mount

Rothwell, a nature reserve designed to breed populations of threatened species, by keeping foxes and cats out with fences.'

Matt works with people all over Australia, including private landholders and First Nations groups. He has always been passionate about sport and the environment and is still pulling the boots on down at the Collegians Football Club.

Matt met his wife, Saacha Sharp (OW2011) at Wesley, though not until after they had both finished school – he was coaching basketball and Saacha was completing a teaching round. Matt has two younger sisters, Hannah (OW2014) and Nikita (OW2017), and uses the diversity of their post-school paths to demonstrate one of the things he loved most about the school.



Matt with a sanctuary partner in Murrumbateman, NSW. Photo credit: Annette Ruzicka

'Wesley was a school that fostered everybody's individuality,' he said. Hannah now works at the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, managing its youth programs and Nikita is studying to be a psychologist.



Reflecting on 30 Years of the IB at Wesley, we thought we'd track down a selection of past Captains and Senior Prefects to see what they have been up to for the past 10, 20 and 30 years.

One theme came through in all of the conversations – gratitude: for a school and a community that celebrated them as individuals, encouraged them to challenge and forge their own path, taught them the value of continual growth and learning, inspired them to effect positive change in the world and most importantly of all... dared them to be wise.

## 20 years on...



Senior Prefects Amy McAlister and Daniel Lister with Head of Glen Waverley Campus, Chris Poulton

### Daniel Lister (OW2003)

Daniel Lister (OW2003) always wanted to join the Navy, which he did straight out of school. For many years, he specialised in mine warfare – finding and disposing of underwater mines. He is currently based in Sydney and is an Operations Officer for the Sea Training Group in the Australian Navy, auditing ships and conducting operational assessments. Daniel feels that he has taken a different path from most of his peers at school as he has not come across many OWs in the Navy! As he is at sea a lot of the time, it makes it hard to get to any events, but Daniel is still connected to his OW mates and fondly recalls his time at Wesley.

### Amy McAlister (OW2003)

Amy McAlister (OW2003) was involved in all facets of life at school - music, sports, theatre and immersed herself in every opportunity on offer. After school, Amy went to Melbourne University to study a Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communications, after which she took six months off to travel the USA (with family), Europe (with school mates) and Asia (solo), spending a month in Kuala Lumpur working as a volunteer, teaching women to speak English. After an internship at university, Amy spent 10 years working in public relations and communications, focusing on corporate communications and government relations. 'I felt I wanted to do something more meaningful, so I went back and did a Masters of

Secondary Teaching, which I completed around having my two boys,' she says.

Amy is now teaching secondary school English and English Language at Mentone Grammar and remains very connected to Wesley as the Secretary of the OWCA Executive. 'I was drawn back to teaching because of my experience at Wesley. It instilled in me a strong sense of gratitude for education and the values that were prevalent throughout my time at school – it was always so much more than academia. It was about making a difference and having an impact. Teachers focused on the whole student and our interests and it inspired the teacher I wanted to be.'

Amy maintains that Wesley set her up to have a really well-rounded life, and offered something for everyone with so

many amazing opportunities. 'I love that it was a truly community-minded education, encouraging us all to have empathy for others and to always show compassion. Wesley doesn't have that elitist mentality – we appreciated we were privileged and fortunate but that led to gratitude, and it was never taken for granted.'



## 30 years on...



1993 College Captains, Sarah Purdey and Andrew Quayle

### Andrew Quayle (OW1992)

Andrew Quayle (OW1992) was one of our first College Captains in 1993, a role he shared with Sarah Purdey (OW1992). Though it was a role that would last less than a decade, Andrew had no reservations about returning to school for another year after finishing Year 12. 'Glen McArthur approached me one afternoon and asked me what I would do if I were to come back for another year of school,' he says. 'I wasn't sure what I wanted to do after school and so I saw it as an opportunity to undertake some extra study

while developing leadership skills as well as getting involved in rowing – a sport I had never been involved in.'

Andrew's role as College Captain saw him spend time at all three campuses. He enjoyed time in the classroom with Junior School students at Elsternwick, studied at Glen Waverley and spent a lot of time at St Kilda Road and the rowing sheds, where he relished being in a crew with students from the Victorian College of the Deaf. 'I wasn't overly academic, but I just loved school. It was a safe place for me. I had no fear about my marks – my parents were very supportive, if I was happy, they were

happy. This taught me a lot about how to support my kids in their education. I also love that Wesley was very multi-cultural which prepared us for life – Greeks, Italians, Jewish, deaf, blind – anyone and everyone was accepted. There was always a genuine culture of acceptance.'

Andrew stayed connected to the school after leaving, playing for the Collegians Football Club. He completed a carpentry apprenticeship, after which he spent a few years travelling around Australia, Europe and Canada. Settling down on the Surf Coast with wife Anna, they started their building company Bolder Constructions, specialising in the construction of architectural homes which keeps him very busy, along with three active boys. He keeps in touch with a core group from school and enjoys connecting with OWs based in and around Geelong.



### Sarah Purdey (OW1992)

Sarah Purdey (OW1992) has just come back into radio after 16 years raising kids. Some of you will remember her many performances on stage with the Adamson Theatre Company in productions such as *Anything Goes* and *Evita*, and at the Glen Waverley Campus in *Larrikins*, *Oliver* and *Desperado*. She was also fortunate to join school drama tours to the UK and NZ during her time at Wesley.

After school, Sarah worked at radio 3AK with John Blackman which was a real highlight. 'I read the traffic on air with John which was lots of fun. One day he had a dig at Wesley and I was forced to defend my old school!' she laughs. Realising that she wanted to work with audio, Sarah completed an Advanced Certificate in Sound Production and worked with Joe

Camilleri in his Balaclava-based company, Woodstock Studios. 'After that, I moved to central Victoria with my partner and life became about raising kids. Many mums will relate; your life becomes so much about them for a long time.'

These days though, Sarah feels like she's exactly where she's meant to be. Having relocated to the Surf Coast, you can now catch her dulcet tones doing voiceovers for ads at K-Rock and Bay 93.9 in Geelong. She is also busy learning how to panel for K-Rock's football broadcasts. Sarah recalls fondly, 'I had the most amazing time at Wesley. I am so grateful for my experience there and I am striving my hardest to give my kids an experience that is even remotely comparable – it is a really hard thing to match. I always talk to my kids about making the most of all opportunities. *Sapere Aude* indeed – GO GET 'EM!'





Lucas Docking and Amy Cohn at the APS Athletics in 1993

## Lucas Docking (OW1993)

Lucas Docking (OW1993) was always interested in motorsports. He studied Mechanical Engineering straight out of school and was fortunate to undertake industrial based training in Silverstone, England where he had an uncle with a successful Formula 3 team. Once his visa ran out, Lucas returned to Australia and was offered a job with the Holden Racing

Team – the top team in Australia at the time, working with drivers such as Peter Brock, Craig Lowndes, Mark Skaife and Jason Bright. After ten years with the HRT, Lucas joined Mark Skaife for five years, looking after various motorsport operations and enjoyed running the Australian Motorsport Foundation, a program where public donations and government grants helped young Australians make it overseas in international programs.

After this, he changed tack, going into business with school friend Jo Ransom (Rodgers-Wilson) (OW1993) in a Sales/Marketing and Production role with Custom Cargo. This was a far more creative field than Lucas was used to, and he enjoyed providing pop-up shipping container installations for Mount Buller, the Spring Racing Carnival and the Australian Open, to name a few. After a nine-year stint in the event industry, Lucas has more recently moved to a Business Development Manager role at Taskforce Australia, a company that provides safety compliance inspections for rental properties.

He remains very connected to his OW mates, and after having played four years in the First XI Soccer team at school, he gave AFL a go, playing for the U19s

Collegians Football Club, adding, 'It was the best year of sport I'd ever had due to the football camaraderie.'

Reflecting on the opportunities that Wesley gave him, he notes, 'My old man worked really hard to send Jon (OW1988) and I to Wesley, ensuring that we would be well connected to a diverse network on leaving school. He risked a lot to send us there, and I really respect him for that.' He also said, 'School was the best time of my life – I'd go back in a heartbeat. Amazing culture, great teachers and great mates. We have all gone on to do such different things and the school fosters that.' Lucas is married to Kathryn and has two boys, Jimmy and Jasper - the real best time of his life!



Amy Cohn in her school days

## Amy Cohn (OW1993)

Amy Cohn (OW1993) completed her medical degree at University of Melbourne followed by a Masters in Genetics before going on to specialise in Ophthalmology, becoming an eye surgeon and mother of three (and a Wesley parent!) 'I am an absolute believer

in coeducation and my experience of going to school with boys has helped me navigate a career in a traditionally male dominated world. For various reasons, surgical specialities have typically attracted predominantly men and I feel privileged that the environment I was educated in allowed me to believe that I too could pursue this as a career.'

Amy maintains that the extra-curricular opportunities provided at Wesley were second to none. 'I made the most of it - I was in the APS swimming, water polo and netball teams through to Year 12.' The cross campus and multi-level nature of these sports was another factor that unified students and fostered amazing friendships. 'I met one of my closest friends through sport at school. I was a couple of years younger than her, but we connected through swimming and remain very close to this day. In fact, we still swim every weekend together! The opportunity to create these relationships

is something I have never taken for granted.' Amy is also still friends with a huge group of OWs and they are all looking forward to their 30 year reunion in October this year.



## Campus snapshots

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### Wesley music: Strong for generations



Students head towards the largest marquee in the southern hemisphere for 'Generations in Jazz'

Generations in Jazz is a very big musical event; not just because the largest marquee in the southern hemisphere houses its main stage amidst the wide Mt Gambier paddocks!

Held over a single weekend in May, it attracts around 6,000 young musicians in bands and choirs from around Australia and New Zealand, as well as internationally renowned jazz players from around the globe.

All the more exciting then that our student musicians, so ably supported by our passionate music department staff, have performed so well this year:

- Seven-member Cawaya, directed by Belinda Parsons, won the Division 1 Small Jazz Vocal section for the second year in a row
- The Intermediate Choir, directed by Heather Michael, won the Division 3 Large Vocal Ensemble section
- The Senior Choir, directed by Belinda Parsons, came 4th in the Division 1 Large Vocal Ensemble section
- The Big Band, directed by Philip Walsh, came 4th in the Division 1 Stage Band section



Head of Music at St Kilda Road Campus, Philip Walsh, conducts the Big Band

Three students were selected for the Division 1 Big Band Super Band: Satch Anstee (Year 12) on double and electric bass (recognised as the Number 1 bass player in the competition), Sara Lindstrom (Year 11) on tenor saxophone (recognised as the Number 2 tenor saxophone player in the competition), and Eric Wang (Year 11) on vibraphone (recognised as Number 1 vibes player in the competition).

The good vibes continued with Year 8 vibes player Xin Ni Zhang selected for the Division 3 Jazz Band Super Band. Having started out playing the piano, Xin Ni said, 'I really love vibraphone because it sounds great and the layout is like a piano keyboard, so I know where all the notes are... But the best thing was definitely

watching our bands and choirs perform and win because I could be as loud as I wanted cheering them on. That was fun!'

Year 11 saxophonist Jacqueline Aracosta from Big Band was also nominated for the Future Finalists award for musicians demonstrating great potential in improvisation.

The value in the competition comes not just from playing, but also from listening. As Intermediate Choir Director Heather Michael explained, 'It's inspiring hearing other schools' bands and ensembles present their programs and discover new and contrasting repertoire. It's an excellent way for younger students to listen and learn the stylistic features of jazz.'



All ready to play: Music teacher Emily Brice with Glen Waverley's Show Band



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## Recognition for Sharon and Charlie

Two of our Elsternwick community members have been acknowledged at the Glen Eira City Council Community Awards.

Sharon Quick, President of Wesley Parents, was thrilled to receive a 'Volunteer Recognition Award' and Charlie Shields, Year 8 student, was nominated for 'Citizen of the Year.'



Sharon and Charlie receive their awards from City of Glen Eira Mayor, Cr Jim Magee



### About Sharon

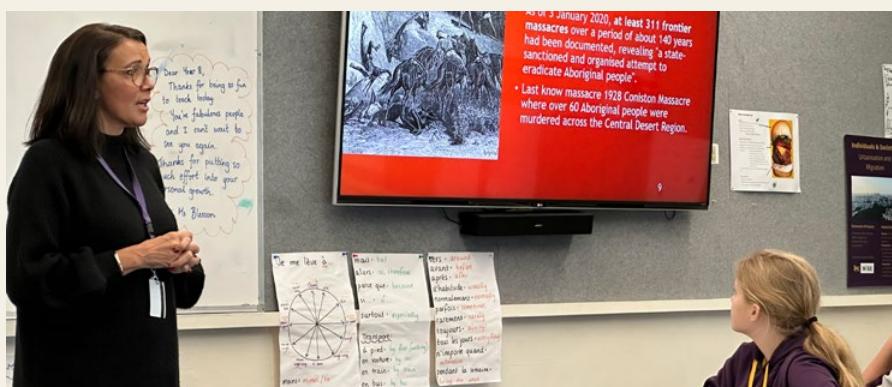
As President of Wesley Parents Elsternwick, Sharon's energy, drive, dedication and enthusiasm helps ensure the Elsternwick Campus is a connected community. Welcoming new families, speaking at information sessions, organising regular school fundraisers like the cupcake stall, planning community events such as the Trivia Night, Primary Disco and Staff Appreciation Lunch, and supporting milestone events like the Year 4, Year 6 and Year 9 Graduations are just some of the initiatives led by Sharon, a valued community member and worthy recipient of the 'Volunteer Recognition Award'.

### About Charlie

Elsternwick Campus student, Charlie Shields (Year 8), is a much-respected member of the Wesley College community. Highly motivated, committed to learning and actively involved across all areas of school and community life, Charlie makes the most of all learning opportunities available to him, and can be seen helping peers and teachers around campus on a daily basis. He has an endlessly positive outlook and is willing to give anything a go. Charlie is an exemplary member of our school and wider community, bringing energy and enthusiasm to everything he does. His good cheer and infectious optimism inspires everyone he meets.

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## Opening up real conversations at Elsternwick



Guest speaker Shelley Ware addresses Year 7 students at our Elsternwick Campus

As part of their inquiry into memoir and the importance of remembering stories, Year 7 students at Elsternwick have been spending thoughtful time making connections between themselves and 'The Seven Domains of Self', a concept integral to Indigenous identity. They're also developing an appreciation of the sacredness of Country, especially

the Kulin Nations on whose lands the Elsternwick community resides.

They recently welcomed guest speaker, Shelley Ware, to Elsternwick while exploring First Nations culture, history and identity through Doris Pilkington's novel, *Follow the Rabbit Proof Fence*. Deeply passionate about embedding

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture into our classrooms, Shelley has worked hard and achieved much in many different fields throughout her career, including sport, corporate speaking, journalism, media and education.

Shelley was open and honest in all that she shared, including teachings about the songlines and trading routes that cross Victoria, the importance of self-checking stereotypes and the prejudices we all hold, and the responsibility of educating ourselves on First Nations culture and our shared history so as to recognise the past before we can move forward.

She opened up very real conversations and shared important facts and stories that very much need to be heard in Australia today. The students were keen to engage and asked considered questions regarding Shelley's personal experiences, culture and perspective on history. Such workshops from first-hand resources help bring learning to life at Wesley.



## Campus snapshots

### Building a sense of belonging

Building a sense of belonging and connectedness to peers and place is a crucial focus within Learning in Residence (LiR) at Glen Waverley.

Primarily, this is because we understand - from a large body of internationally recognised research - that students who feel a strong sense of belonging are more engaged with the life of the school and are more likely to have a strong sense of wellbeing.

With over 30 new boarders - the largest number of new boarders entering LiR at the one time since its inception - creating opportunities to have fun, build connections and learn new skills has been a key feature of the residential curriculum in 2023.

Many day-school students often ask boarders: 'What do you do after school and on weekends?' The answer is that there is no simple answer! The program is student-centred and will be different for everyone depending on their interests, commitments and preferences.



Lara Rees (Year 10) leads the cake decorating competition within LiR

New additions to the program that have been a highlight for many include regular visits to Ronald McDonald House to prepare meals for families experiencing

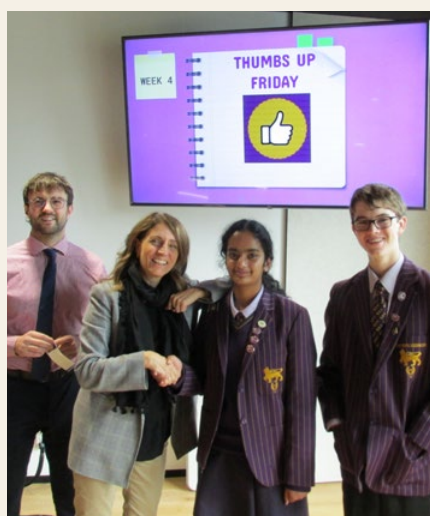
challenging circumstances as part of our community service program, mat pilates, hot yoga, virtual reality, self-defence classes, cake decorating competitions, AFL games at the MCG, learning to drive and learning to swim programs.

These residential curriculum experiences form many of the best and longest-lasting memories students have of boarding at Wesley, creating connections that often develop into lasting friendships.



Cooking up a storm at Ronald McDonald House. (L-R) Mackenzie Dalton (Year 12), Jennifer Taylor (Year 12) and Julian Kaufhold (Year 11)

## All thumbs up and ready to ROAR



Teachers Dylan Hatfield and Di Osborn celebrate 'Thumbs Up Friday' with Year 9 students Gini Srivastava and Patrick McGurn

After a long and busy week, students and staff are usually feeling a little drained and tired, so what better way to lift spirits and boost morale than by using our ROAR principles to create an engaging and vibrant atmosphere at the start of the day!

In Years 8 and 9 at Glen Waverley, students participate in 'Thumbs Up Friday' and in Year 7, there is the ROARward. Different names, same concept: it's about 'catching the good' in our students, however small. During the week, students and staff alike nominate anyone who has been seen to demonstrate the ROAR principles. Then, on Friday mornings, we come together to acknowledge each other's good deeds.

Each nomination is linked to the ROAR framework. For instance, 'Respectful' actions are acknowledged, along with students who take advantage of the

'Opportunities' offered to them, students who 'Achieve' and those who show 'Resilience'.

The great thing about 'Thumbs Up Friday' is that it is student led. Students frequently speak to their peers about the activities they have been involved in that week, announce the nominations and in Year 9, there's also a fun Tutor Group vs Tutor Group quiz! The 'Thumbs Up' sticker that students receive was even designed by a student.

Best of all, the students love it! Bailey Ronalds (Year 9) said, 'To me, 'Thumbs up Friday' is a great way to feel good about what you have achieved during the week. It gives students motivation to be kinder and nicer people. 'Thumbs up Friday' is also something to look forward to on a Friday morning because it's fun and a good way to end the week.'



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## Developing Global Mindedness



(L-R): Year 9 students Thomas Hall, Scarlett Evans and Thomas Li pedalling for hope and raising funds for the ASRC

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A key focus of the International Baccalaureate program involves helping students develop a sense of global mindedness. This involves building a connection and understanding of the world in which they live, how they fit into that world, and inspiring a willingness to take action on issues of international importance so they truly become 'citizens of the world'.

Glen Waverley students recently participated in two activities which provided an amazing and exciting opportunity for them to develop global mindedness.

### The Model United Nations

The Model United Nations (MUN) is an educational simulation of the United Nations General Assembly, where students role-play as delegates from different countries to address a specific topic.

Held annually at the Glen Waverley Campus, the aim of the MUN is to provide Year 9 students with a platform to discuss and understand complex global issues from the perspective of a different country.

The topic for this year's discussion was 'Refugee and Asylum Seekers'. Working together in small groups, students researched the country's policies and

position on the issue, participated in debates and negotiations with other delegations, formed alliances, drafted resolutions and sought supporters for their motions to promote and protect the interests of their 'countrymen'.

Year 9 student Gemma came away with a 'new perspective, thinking about how other countries might be feeling, and what they may be experiencing.'

### Pedalling for Hope

To make the Refugee and Asylum Seekers issue more hands on, Year 9 students 'pedalled for hope' on stationary bikes over three days to replicate the distance

that refugees need to travel to find safety and security. They collectively pedalled 870km over the course of the week, raising funds for Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), an independent not-for-profit organisation whose programs support and empower people seeking asylum to maximise their own physical, mental and social wellbeing.

We're so proud of them for their dedication, perseverance and commitment to expanding their knowledge and improving their understanding of complex global issues. What a great way to become empathetic and compassionate members of our community!



Delegates for China at the MUN  
Mia Foged and Jenaya Perer

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Jasmine Holt, Ria Im and Yulan Bai represent the Ukraine at the MUN General Assembly

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## Campus snapshots

### The Dream Puppets: Making magic happen

*It has been raining heavily outside for days and days now. Dreamer has been playing inside the bedroom but longs for more adventures and a friend to share them with. When the rain eases, a glorious rainbow appears, from which a Rainbow Tiger emerges...*

It sounds like a marvellous bedtime story, but it's a Tuesday morning in May at St Kilda Road's Junior School Campus and the three- and four-year-olds from the Hutch are sitting in total darkness in their movement and drama room, absorbed in a remarkable puppet show.

With no dialogue and set to an immersive soundscape, the story is told visually. Using black light and fluoro-painted sets and puppets, the Dream Puppet show is a mesmerising glow of vivid, riotous colour, and the children are transfixed by the magical and convincing illusions.

'The story is one of hope, imagination and friendship during challenging times,' says creator and puppeteer, Richard Hart. A gifted artist who has designed and made all the sets, props and puppets, he calls puppet shows 'the theatre of the impossible'.

'Puppet shows give you the freedom to just do anything – there's no limit to the imagination,' he says. 'It's a very intimate theatre experience; because it's small



Students are mesmerised by the black light and vivid colours of the fluoro-painted puppets and sets

scale, you can do what's impossible on a larger scale.'

For Dance and Drama teacher Caroline Bechervaise, the show offers the children something increasingly rare: a real-life theatrical experience.

'This is one person working really hard behind a stage to make magic happen for the children,' she says, 'and then giving them the opportunity to have the magic revealed to them afterward.'

As four-year-old Lucy Shelmerdine exclaimed after the show, 'How can one person with two hands do all that?!'



Puppeteer Richard Hart reveals his magic to the children after the show

### Milestones at Clunes



Enjoying the moment at Clunes  
(L-R): Mia Messervy-Stone, Ava Scurrah,  
Neve Horsley and Zara Schmidt

Wesley at Clunes offers many rich opportunities for growth and development. It is often while reflecting on their time here – sometimes years afterwards – that students recall reaching important personal milestones.

For parents, teachers and staff involved in the Clunes program, this may be the MYP Community Project, affectionately known as PAC (the Passion, Agency and Connection project), achieving a drone licence, running 15 km without stopping, using woodwork tools to create something useful, or camping overnight in the bush – all great achievements!

But for students, it could be anything from the simple to the significant: making a meal for peers in their household;

forming new friendships; accepting that homesickness is inevitable but worth working through; negotiating personal challenges with agency; looking after themselves; accepting and being proud of who they are; enjoying a conversation with peers on a deeper level than usual; learning to enjoy their own company without devices; contributing to the community, and more.

For this reason, we encourage our Year 9s to make the most of every moment and opportunity in this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Challenge is where growth and development occur. At Clunes, students embrace this in their own way and determine their own milestones.



## Margaret Simons and the fight to save journalism



Margaret Simons: Discerning and determined

When the journalism industry is dying, how do you revive it?

That was the main issue on the mind of university lecturer, author and journalist Margaret Simons when she delivered a deeply thoughtful Public Questions Society address to Year 11 and 12 students at the St Kilda Road Campus last month.

Simons is the author of 14 books which include biographies of two of the most powerful women in politics, Tanya Plibersek and Penny Wong, as well as countless pieces of journalism. She described her career as being 'an adventure into the lives of sometimes unwilling politicians on behalf of young voters'. Although acknowledging the

'difficult ethical boundary' between the invasion of privacy and genuine investigation, Simons believes that politicians have a responsibility to the public and so do journalists.

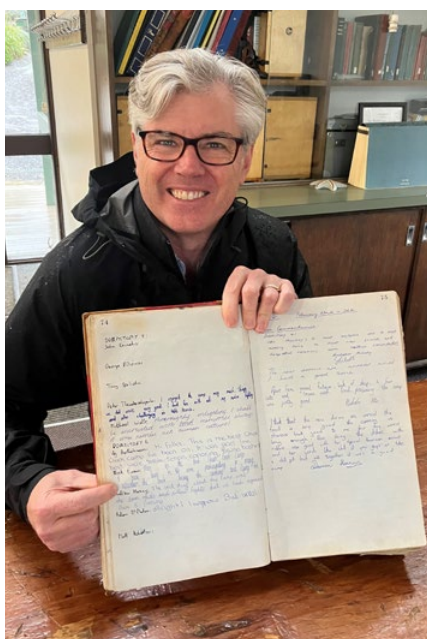
This presentation ultimately took the form of questions for the newest generations, Generation Z and GenAlpha: How will we get our information? What will we believe? Will Artificial Intelligence take over from our journalists?

Journalism, according to Simons, is becoming an unpaid industry that is not only no longer profitable, but because it functions in real time - with consumers receiving their news within minutes of world-affairs taking place - humans are becoming obsolete in fields where this kind of split-second response is called for.

But human journalists possess the discerning and determined nature that AI lacks. Margaret Simons, who thankfully is not an AI, is passionate about bringing down the boundaries between the public and the politicians as 'we all live here, so we should all have our say.' It is journalists like her who are keeping the industry alive.

Olivia Camillin, Year 12

## The Chum Creek diaries...



Happy times at Chum Creek!  
Nick Evans finds himself in the camp diary

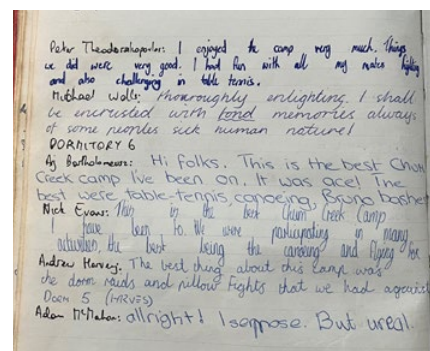
Principal Nick Evans' (OW1985) visit to Chum Creek last month took on a particularly nostalgic flavour when Head of Outdoor Education, Kate Hogarth, showed him a diary entry he had written as a Year 9 student back in February 1982. 41 years momentarily dissolved for Nick as he reconnected with his Year 9 Chum Creek self.

It's now 70 years since the regular camping program started at Chum Creek, and the camp diaries provide a precious link back to the lived experience - in all its colourful variety - for thousands of Wesley students across the decades. Program Leader at Chum Creek, Brad Hanrahan, is currently in the process of appropriately archiving these precious moments in time.

And what did Nick Evans of Form 9H write in the diary in 1982?

'This is the best Chum Creek Camp I have been to. We were participating in many activities, the best being the canoeing and flying fox.'

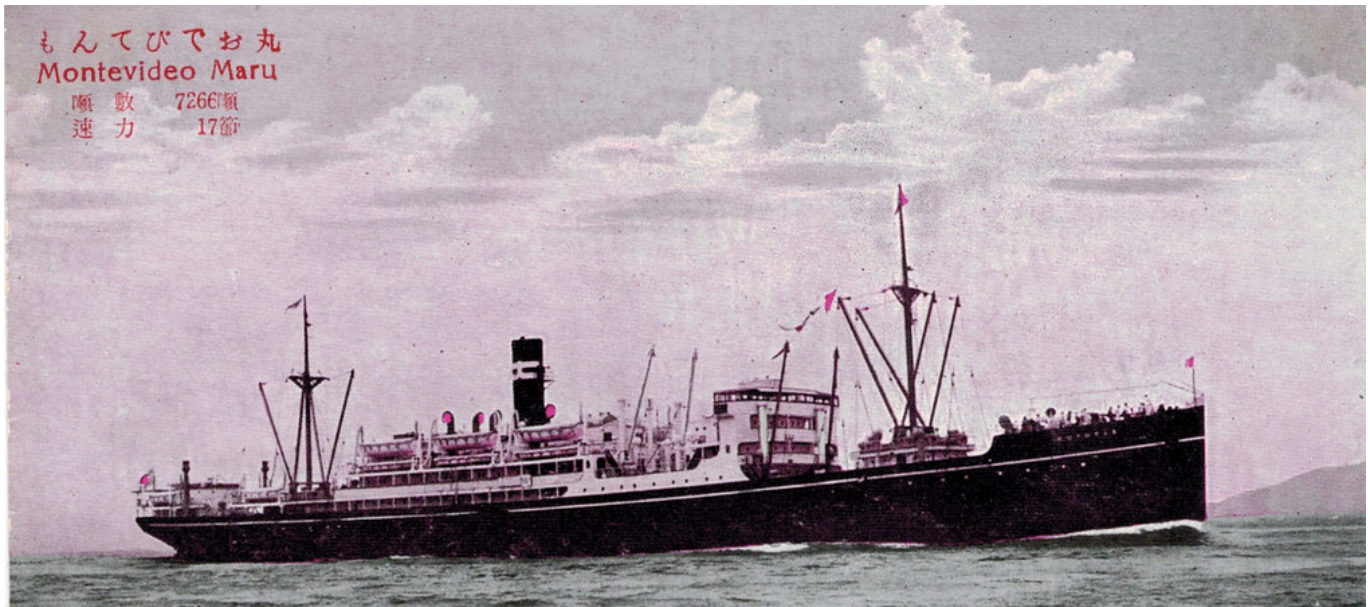
A diary entry on the page adjacent to Nick's, penned a week later by Nicholas Yates from 9G, is also positive about the Chum Creek experience. Clearly a glass-half-full sort of person, Nicholas shares with us that 'Apart from general fatigue, lack of sleep, a few cuts and bruises and food poisoning, the camp was pretty good.'



Chum Creek Camp 1982 logbook entry  
by Nick Evans



# The tragedy of the *Montevideo Maru*



The *Montevideo Maru* was built as a passenger vessel in Nagasaki in 1926. During WWII, it was used by the Imperial Japanese Navy as an auxiliary vessel, transporting troops and provisions throughout South East Asia

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The location of Japanese transport ship *Montevideo Maru* has been a mystery since it was torpedoed by US Navy submarine, USS *Sturgeon*, on 1 July 1942.

Lost at sea for over 80 years, the wreck was found in April 2023 off the coast of Luzon Island, which sits at the northern end of the Philippines in the South China Sea, after a 12-day search using an autonomous underwater vehicle with in-built sonar.

Lying at a depth of more than 4,000 metres – deeper than the *Titanic* – the final resting place of over 1,000 allied prisoners of war and civilians captured at the fall of Rabaul – including three OWs – was finally confirmed.

There were no survivors, making it the largest maritime disaster in Australian history. No information about its sinking, or the tragic loss of life, was provided by the Japanese Government until after the war had ended, and inaccurate and unreliable record keeping means a full list of those on board will never be known.

The three OWs presumed to have lost their lives in this tragic event were:

- Corporal **Guy Charles Lumby**
- Lance Corporal **Edward John Newton**
- Civilian **Harry Orton Townsend**

Also on board the doomed vessel was Methodist Missionary Reverend Lawrence Archibald McArthur, the father of Glen McArthur, who became the 14th Principal of Wesley College from 1992 to 1996.

Glen was born in Papua New Guinea but was evacuated from Rabaul with his mother Daisy and elder brother before the outbreak of war in the Pacific. Rev. McArthur was captured at the fall of Rabaul in late January 1942 and held in a prisoner of war camp before being loaded on troop transport ship the *Montevideo Maru* for his final journey.



(L-R) Glen, Daisy, Malcolm and Rev. Lawrence McArthur (1904 – 1942)

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The families of these men had to endure over three years of silence, not knowing the fate of their loved ones, as their last letters home had been received in early January 1942. It wasn't until after the war, in October 1945, that details of the sinking of the ship and its passengers was found in Japanese records.

Its recent discovery is a reminder of the brutal losses of WWII on Australians and serves to honour those who sacrificed their lives. Lest we forget.

**Philip J Powell (OW1973)**



Glen McArthur  
Wesley College Principal (1992-1996)

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# Our lost OWs



Corporal Guy Charles Lumby  
Enlistment photo, taken June 1940



Lance Corporal Edward John Newton  
Enlistment photo, taken June 1940



Harry Townsend (middle row, third from left)  
with AIF Officers in 1919

## Corporal Guy Charles Lumby VX29635 2/22nd Battalion, age 33

A farmer from Corowa in NSW, Guy enlisted in June 1940, was married in August 1940 and arrived in Rabaul in March 1941. He spent two years at Wesley (1923 and 1924) before returning to the farm. He was a smart lad and was named Dux of Form IVb.

The records of Headmaster Adamson say that 'he left far too early to go back to the land'. The Lumbys had been pioneer farmers in the Corowa area and his father's farm 'Blair Athol' was located at Buraja, a few kilometres north of Corowa. His father died in August 1945, never knowing the fate of his son.

## Lance Corporal Edward John Newton VX21625 2/22nd Battalion, age 30

A farmer at Binginwarri, near Yarram, Edward enlisted in June 1940, arriving in Rabaul in April 1941.

He only had two years at Wesley (1926 and 1927), but his allocation to the Twenty (a Government scholarship program) and Form Va (5th a) indicated he was a very good student.

## Harry Orton Townsend Civilian, age 49

Harry started at Wesley in 1907. He did well in his studies, passing the Commonwealth Public Service examination and joining the Postmaster-General's Department in 1909.

He was with the PMG when he enlisted with the First AIF as a private in 1915. With service in administrative duties at Gallipoli, France and London, he was eventually promoted to the rank of Captain and in 1918, was the liaison officer between General Birdwood's Fifth Army and Sir John Monash's Australian Corps. He was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal and appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

Upon his return to Australia he rejoined the Australian Public Service, but in 1922 commenced a career of public service in New Guinea as its Treasurer. Townsend became chairman of the Territory's Purchase Board in 1932.

The following year, he was appointed to New Guinea's first Legislative Council, on which he served until 1942. He was made acting collector of customs in 1936 and commissioner of employees' compensation in 1939. He was captured while assisting in the evacuation of expatriates from Rabaul. He is one of the few OW civilian deaths recorded in WWII.

### Want to know more?

To learn more about the OWs who have served our country, visit our digital archives at [wesleycollege.recollect.net.au](http://wesleycollege.recollect.net.au)



Scan the QR Code to watch a short video about the discovery of the *Montevideo Maru*, led by Silentworld Foundation

## Do you have *something to contribute*?

We often receive requests from family historians and welcome the opportunity to add information about past students, families and events to our database.

If you have information that you would like to share or something of historical significance that you would like to donate to the Wesley community, please contact [archives@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:archives@wesleycollege.edu.au)



# Grand Prix Breakfast

The Foundation hosted another very successful breakfast trackside on 30 March with a full house of 270 guests. We were privileged to welcome Formula One presenter and host of the BBC's radio program, *Racing Torque*, Rosanna Tennant as our guest speaker. Rosanna leads F1's coverage on race weekends, hosting the F1 Live pre- and post-race shows, as well as the Weekend Debrief on Sky Sports F1. In 2021, Rosanna led the F1 race commentary and became the first woman to call an F1 race start.

Aside from her work in Formula One, Rosanna is also a talented journalist, writing for numerous publications and contributing to motorsports broadcasts. She is known for her engaging interviews with drivers and team members, providing a behind-the-scenes look at the sport.

In conversation with our MC, Pete Lazer (OW1995), Rosanna discussed how she became involved in Formula One and the challenges of being a female in a predominantly male environment. With her unique perspective, Rosanna provided some very entertaining insights into the world of motorsports.



Sponsors with the GP trophy at the 2023 Grand Prix Breakfast

She was joined by the outgoing CEO of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, Andrew Westacott (OW1982), who reflected on the enormous success of the event and how highly the Melbourne race is regarded internationally by the drivers and their respective teams. We were grateful that Andrew was able to join us during such a busy time.

The Chair of the Wesley College Foundation, Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990),

thanked guests and Foundation sponsors for their ongoing support and highlighted the Foundation's Annual Giving program with its focus on scholarships.

**For further information about the role of the Wesley College Foundation, please visit:**  
[wesleycollege.edu.au/community/support-us](https://wesleycollege.edu.au/community/support-us) or email us at [foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au)

## Sapere Aude Bequest Society

### Jock (OW1945) and Nancy Balding Bequest

John (Jock) Methuen Balding entered Wesley College in 1942 as a boarder and left in 1945 having gained his Leaving Certificate. He enjoyed school and was an allrounder in sport, proving useful on the cricket field, excelling in diving and achieving football colours in 1944.

Upon leaving school he went straight to work, as all hands were needed to support the war effort. Jock had a very successful career, distinguished by his

long-time employment with Ansett Airlines (Transport Industries) in senior management roles, including a stint as Inflight Services Manager. Jock maintained a very active connection with the Old Wesley Collegians as a golfer, playing in many competitions during his working life and retirement.

He and Nancy joined the Sapere Aude Bequest Society in 2005 and enjoyed the many functions and events on offer. Jock and Nancy had no children, but valued education and appreciated the lifelong friendships forged through their association with Wesley.

They made a bequest to the College a few years ago, and following Jock's death in 2019 and Nancy's passing last year, we are the recipients of \$750,000, generously donated for the benefit of current and future students.

The Foundation is grateful for their generous benefaction that will greatly assist the College to further enhance the educational opportunities for students. For further information about Wesley's bequest program and membership of our Sapere Aude Bequest Society, please email [foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au)

**The Sapere Aude Bequest Society plays a vital role in the Foundation's philanthropic programs.**

It brings together like-minded members of our College community who have a passion for assisting young people in their educational journey.

The Society offers a rich and varied program of activities for members and their guests. We are delighted that our program this year has attracted so many

alumni and parents to experience the breadth of our Society's activities.

If you would like to join any of our activities and/or enquire about joining our Sapere Aude Bequest Society, please send an email to us at [foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:foundation@wesleycollege.edu.au)



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## Chu Family Awards for Excellence in Leadership and Service

Sean Cox, Head of Learning in Residence (LiR), was delighted to host Mr David and Mrs Grace Chu at the annual end-of-year Christmas dinner, which celebrates student talents and achievements and also acts as a farewell celebration for any departing staff.

The evening was filled with musical performances from our boarders, farewell speeches from staff and the personal presentation of the 'Chu Family Award for Excellence in Leadership and Service' by David and Grace to the two LiR recipients.

The 2022 recipients, Forrest Lo (Year 10, from Hong Kong) and Zara Boynton (Year 11, from Bright in regional Victoria), exemplify the leadership and service criteria for the award. They ensured all new students who commenced at LiR during the year felt welcomed and included, were involved in the running of numerous community events within the Residence and the broader Senior School, and were actively engaged in service program initiatives organised as part of the LiR curriculum at weekends.



(L-R) Grace Chu, Forrest Lo, Zara Boynton, David Chu and Sean Cox from Learning in Residence

The College is grateful to David and Grace Chu who presented this prize in gratitude for the education their children received at Wesley College. The family moved from Hong Kong to Melbourne in 1992, undertaking a thorough process to find the most appropriate school for their children, Alexander, Brian and Claire.

Their evaluations, which centred on academic excellence, personal development, pastoral care and resources, extracurricular activities, language training, and co-educational schooling, led them to Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus where they embraced our 'total development' approach to teaching and learning.

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## Dorise Chen and Alan Xu – generous supporters of the Annual Giving program

The focus of our Annual Giving program this year was supporting our College Scholarship Program to enable additional students to benefit from a Wesley education. A number of Wesley families and alumni support this crucial philanthropic program with donations and bequests. One such family is Dorise Chen and Alan Xu, who are parents at our Elsternwick Campus.

Dorise explains her motivation for supporting this program: 'I firmly believe that students are our future, and the world will soon be depending on them.

It is therefore vital that we continue to support talented students to help them achieve their full potential, especially those whose parents cannot afford a Wesley education.'

'As Wesley parents, we and our children have benefited from the cultural diversity, inclusiveness and new ways of learning in literacy, numeracy, wellbeing, social, music and sport. The Wesley values, ethics and working principles are very much aligned with our own and we hope other Wesley parents feel the same. It is our honour and pleasure to support the Wesley College Foundation, College community and students via donations towards Wesley's scholarship program and we hope our contribution will assist more talented students achieve their future endeavours.'

The Foundation acknowledges, with enormous gratitude, the support of Dorise and Alan and all donors to our Annual Giving and other philanthropic programs.



Dorise Chen, Alan Xu and family



# The Greatest Gift - History of the Cohen family



*The Greatest Gift: Trevor Cohen (OW1955) proudly holds his family history in his hands alongside author, historian and friend, Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947)*

Wesley College has a long and proud tradition of educating generations of Jewish families, and the Cohens are one such family with an extraordinary history. This history was researched over many years by Trevor Cohen (OW1955) and published in late 2022.

Spending time rummaging through his grandfather's garage at 15 years of age ignited Trevor Cohen's passion for both his own family's history and Australian history. When COVID struck and lockdowns were in place, Trevor began writing about his family's 200-year connection with Australia, particularly Melbourne, where his great-great-grandparents settled in 1840.

After receiving encouragement from his dear friend Professor Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947), who read an early draft and commented that it should 'reach a wider audience than your king-sized procession of ancestral families,' Trevor finished the book, and in November 2022 *The Greatest Gift* was finally launched.

The story begins with a wedding in 1815 London, followed by the trial, conviction, and transportation of two teenage brothers to Georgetown, Tasmania. Earning their freedom after years of severe punishment, they embraced the opportunities available in their new homeland and before long, Trevor's great-great-grandparents, along with numerous other family members, began making the migration to Australia.

We also learn of Michael and Betsy Cashmore – Trevor's great, great grandparents, who were shipwrecked on the 90 Mile Beach on New Year's Eve 1841, whilst on their honeymoon! Cashmore played a significant role in Melbourne's early history and became a highly respected figure who was involved in many of its first institutions.

He was the first President of the Jewish Congregational Society, an active Freemason and member of Melbourne's first Masonic Lodge (later to become Master of the Lodge), member of The Mechanics Institute and the first Jew elected to Council as a member for the Latrobe Ward, City of Melbourne. He also sat on the 'Separation Committee,' actively supporting the separation from NSW to become an independent colony.

Michael and Betsy Cashmore, whose ten children included the first Jewish girl born in Melbourne, lived and worked on the corner of Collins and Elizabeth Streets where they ran a drapery store. This address was the site of Melbourne's first multi-story brick building. Using a contemporary lithograph from Trevor's extensive private collection, its image has

been reproduced on the front cover of this beautifully produced and illustrated book.

Continuing a family tradition on both his paternal and maternal sides, Trevor began his Wesley College journey at the Junior School Campus in 1945 and stayed until completion of his Higher School Certificate. Old school friends and classmates, teachers and principals, sports days, education, swimming sports and punishments during his time at the College are recalled with vivid detail. There are many wonderful illustrations throughout the book, including a photograph of the Wesley College Primary School Footballers of 1922, which includes Trevor's father, Godfrey, and two other family members, standing with Sports Master W T Kennedy, whose nose was broken following a collision with Godfrey on the football field.

The Wesley tradition has continued, with future generations of the wider Cohen family having attended the College; in particular, both of Trevor's sons and five of his grandchildren.

The book also traces the arrival of his maternal family from Europe during the 1850s following the discovery of gold at Ballarat, whilst the final chapters are a personal reflection of his youth, growing up in Melbourne during the war, living by the Elwood foreshore surrounded by his huge extended family, romance, marriage and family, all shared with warmth and good humour!

The book contains a wonderful foreword written by Geoffrey Blainey where he describes *The Greatest Gift* as 'One of the most unusual books written about an Australian family... a story of frictions as well as friendships, it is exceptionally frank, judged by the standards of most family histories.'

Trevor's dedication and commitment to the preservation of Australian and Jewish Australian history and heritage has seen him commit to a number of committees and restoration projects in the hope that our past is preserved and our future protected. In 2019, he was honoured with a Membership of the Order of Australia for 'services to heritage and to the Jewish community.'

For further information about *The Greatest Gift*, please visit [www.thegreatestgift.info](http://www.thegreatestgift.info)



# The Paul Guest Coaching Hub



(L-R): Rowing Head Coach, Matt Ryan with Chair of the Wesley Foundation Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990), Paul Guest (OW1957) and College Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985)

**The Wesley College Foundation is enormously grateful for the very significant donation from the Honourable Paul Guest OAM KC (OW1957).**

The College has recognised this gift through the naming of the Paul Guest Rowing Hub in our redeveloped Boathouse. He is a distinguished alumnus and three-time Olympian.

Paul began rowing at Wesley College in the First crew in 1956 and 1957, but for most of his school days was an athletics track specialist. He was enticed back to rowing by Ian 'Porky' Douglas who invited him to try out for the Melbourne University Eight in 1958. By 1959, he had won a place in the Victorian King's Cup squad and in 1960, secured a spot in Australia's Olympic rowing team, partnering with Neville Howell in the coxed pair. His comments on equipment at those Games were clear: 'The boat was a barge – very little thought was given in those days to equip the rowers adequately.'

After taking a year off to pursue a law degree, he joined the Alan 'Jake' Jacobsen stable at Banks Rowing Club in 1962. In that year, Jake's crew won the Kings Cup (the Australian eight-oared championships), a gold medal at the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Perth, and finished fifth at the first-ever World Rowing Championships in Lucerne, Switzerland.

In his career, he rowed in five winning Victorian King's Cup crews, the 1966 (Yugoslavia) and 1970 (St Catherine's) World Championships and the Tokyo Olympic Games in 1964.

Perhaps one of the greatest crews he rowed in was the 1968 Olympic pair in Mexico with David Ramage. Unbeaten in Australia, it has been described as one of the finest pair-oared crews Australia has ever produced. However, in the semi-final, while in a commanding position and just short of the finish line, David partially collapsed, suffering oxygen deprivation

in the high altitude, and they were relegated to the small final (now called B final) by 1.18 seconds, in a time that would have won the other semi-final. They would go on to win the small final some 6 seconds faster than the eventual gold medal winners.

From 2009 to 2015, Paul rowed competitively at Masters' regattas in crews with David Ramage. At the 2015 World Rowing Masters' Regatta, they won four gold medals. They also rowed and won several races together in the Australian Masters' Championships.

After retiring from the elite level, Paul coached the 1975 Victorian Men's Eight to a third place in that year's King's Cup. In 2000, he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal and in 2011, he was inducted into the Victorian Rowing Hall of Fame. In 2013, he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division. He served terms as President of the Banks Rowing Club and as Chairman of Rowing Australia Appeals Tribunal and was appointed a Life Member of both the Banks Rowing Club and Rowing Australia. He has also successfully competed in Masters' rowing events in Italy, Belgium, the United Kingdom and the USA.

Paul was a barrister; he was appointed a King's Counsel and is now a retired judge of the Family Court of Australia. He is quoted as saying 'I love rowing; it is the sport of kings. Those who have never rowed could never understand.'

He was the first 70-year-old in history to break 7 minutes for a 2000 metre ergo, has held World Records in the 70-74 and the 75-79 age groups, and currently holds the 80-84 world 2000-metre record which, fittingly, was officially conducted at the Wesley College Boathouse in 2020.

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

The Wesley College Foundation gratefully acknowledges our 2023 sponsors who support our events, programs and activities.



# President's report

May is my favourite month of the year, and for good reason – it's Founders' Day month! More than ever, the Old Wesley Collegians Association is finding ways to celebrate and engage our passionate OWs from all walks of life.

To kick off the celebrations, the St Kilda Road Junior School recently welcomed some very special guests at their Founders' Day celebration. Principal Nick Evans (OW1985), and six OWs whose children now attend the College, dug out their purple blazers and summer dresses and proudly shared stories from their time at Wesley, some words of wisdom and explained what wearing the iconic purple uniform meant to them. Common themes were the 'unlimited opportunities' available at Wesley, the 'lifelong friendships' (and even marriages!) that were formed, and the community and network they are all still so proud to be part of. It was a very special moment to have our alumni standing proudly beside their children who are now Wesley students... and our next generation of OWs!

We also celebrated by inviting some very special OWs back to all three campuses of the school. Inspirational guest speakers Emma Carney (OW1989), Natalie Porter (OW1998), Tom Browne (OW2000) and Nana Owusu-Afriyie (OW2016) shared their personal stories and fond memories of their days at Wesley. Emma is a world record-breaking triathlete; Natalie is a former WNBA player, Olympic silver medallist and



**Members of the OWCA Executive Board attend the 2023 Founders' Day Lunch**

current Head of Basketball at our Glen Waverley Campus; Tom is an AFL news reporter for 7NEWS Melbourne and radio presenter; and Nana is an athlete who represented Australia at the 2019 World Athletics Championships.

The iconic Founders' Day Lunch, traditionally held at the end of May, was the biggest since our sesquicentenary year and featured a panel of marketing experts from the Wesley community, including Ben Lilley (OW1989), Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004) and Melinda Geertz (past parent and current Wesley College Council Member).

We extend a heart-felt congratulations to the newly named Fellows and Honorary Life Members of the OWCA.

Mark Hibbins (OW1978) and Ian Thomas (OW1982) were awarded fellowships for their dedication and commitment to our organisation. Long-serving Wesley College staff members, Sara Liversidge and Sabino Del Balso, were also made Honorary Life Members of the Association.

This July, the OWCA will travel to the UK to host an event and connect with alumni and families based in London. We extend a warm invitation to our network with the opportunity to meet Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985) on his first important engagement in Europe. I look forward to meeting and reconnecting with our alumni based abroad.

We encourage all OWs to create a personal profile and upload your business details and imagery to our community app, OWConnect. It's an invaluable opportunity for you to link up with other OWs and OW businesses, and stay up-to-date with employment, mentoring and career opportunities, social networking and support.

**Kate Evans (OW1998)**  
OWCA President

#oldwesleycollegians  
#bleedingpurpleandgold  
#WomenofWesley



**Ineke Shelmerdine (OW1999) with children and current students, Sam, Ben and Lucy**



**Does it still fit? Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) dons his old purple blazer**



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# Prof Graeme Samuel AC (OW1963)

## Fellow of Wesley College

On Wednesday 3 May, the College was pleased to bestow a fellowship of Wesley College upon Professor Graeme Samuel AC LL.B (Melb.) LL.M (Monash) FAICD.

Graeme began as a student in The Hutch in 1950. He was a talented swimmer and still holds a school record as part of the Under 16, 4 x 50 yards relay team. This is a record unlikely to be broken since the College received a donation from one Graeme Samuel to take the pool at the St Kilda Road Campus from 25 yards to 25 metres!

His father Ralph (OW1930) (dec) attended the College between 1927 and 1929 before the economic headwinds of the Great Depression forced his withdrawal. Graeme's brothers Brian (OW1965), Ian (OW1967) and Neil (OW1970) and children Warren (OW1990), Grant (OW1995), Davina Onas (Samuel) (OW1996), Georgia (OW1999) and Jack Davies (OW2020) also attended the College.

Upon leaving school, Graeme completed a law degree at University of Melbourne and a Masters of Law at Monash University before joining the law firm Phillips Fox and Masel. He was awarded the Law Institute of Victoria's Solicitor Prize in 1971 and became a Partner of the firm in 1972.

He developed a reputation as a leading lawyer in takeover and tax law and developed a lifelong passion for public policy. He became Executive Director of Hill Samuel Australia, which later became Macquarie Bank, before starting his own boutique investment bank, Grant Samuel and Associates.

Graeme was a member of the National Competition Council of Australia from 1995, and President from 1997-2003. He was Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, and Associate Member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority until 2011.

He has been Chair of the Melbourne and Olympic Parks Trust, a Commissioner of the Australian Football League, President of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chair of Playbox Theatre Company and Opera Australia, Trustee of the Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust, a Commissioner of the Australian Rugby League Commission and Chair of its Risk, Audit and Investment Committee from 2013 to 2017. He was also a member of the National Health and Medical Research Council and Chair of the Health Innovation



Principal Nick Evans (OW1985), Graeme Samuel AC (OW1963) and President of the College Council, Prof. Rachel Webster AO

Advisory Committee from 2015 to 2018.

Graeme is currently a Professor in Monash University's Business School, President of Dementia Australia, Chair of Australian Dementia Network Ltd (ADNet) and Chair of Dementia Australia Research Foundation.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1998 and in 2010, elevated to Companion of the Order of Australia for 'eminent service to public administration through contributions in the areas of economic reform and competition law, and to the community through leadership with sporting and cultural organisations.'

Graeme first became involved at the College through the Wesley College Foundation, succeeding Geoff Wagstaff (OW1949) as President in 1988, a role he held until 1995. He was an integral part of the raising of funds to rebuild the College after the Great Fire of 1988, at the same time the College was raising funds to build the new Senior College at Glen Waverley. He was a member of Wesley College Council from 1990 until 1995 and while on Council, was a member of the Executive and Property Committees.

In his time on the Wesley College Council, he was part of the decision-making process for an extraordinary range of decisions, including but not limited to:

- the development and building of the Senior School at Glen Waverley
- the integration of Cato College and the creation of the Elsternwick Campus
- the progression of coeducation at the College
- the adoption of notebook computers as an integral part of a Wesley College education
- the adoption of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

Graeme has been involved in the OWCA Business Breakfasts since the very beginning and has played an integral role in their ongoing success. Wesley College has gained an enormous amount from the service of Graeme Samuel and it is with great pleasure that we bestow upon him the highest honour in the gift of the College, that of Fellow of Wesley College.



# A Remarkable Artistic Life

Renowned artist Margaret Dawson (Elsternwick MLC 1962) started teaching art in 1967, giving lessons from the art studio she had set up at home in Chirnside Park.

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In those days, she sold her art at 'The Art Bank' open-air arts and crafts stalls on the Upper Esplanade in St Kilda on Sunday mornings. It was also a source of pocket money to supplement the income of a then young married couple.

While raising her family, Margaret was commissioned to create artworks for the Australian government in Canberra and entered art competitions, creating more success by winning and enhancing her reputation.

Margaret bought her first art studio in East Ringwood in 1979 and soon entered into business for herself, having proved her worth as a commercial creative artist and designer.

Dealing with Myer Melbourne led to Margaret receiving a major contract to design and manufacture the animated icons displayed in the Myer Christmas windows. This contract was to continue for 12 years. More large contracts followed with other shopping centres nationally from 1986 to 2003.

Having already achieved a diploma majoring in sculpture, Margaret continued to study, majoring in fine art at Monash University and spending a year studying in Prato, Italy.

In 2001, Margaret began visiting Nepal, trekking high up into the Himalayan mountains where drawing and sketching in her art diaries formed the



Transgender woman and former AFL coach and footballer, Danielle Laidley, is the subject of Margaret's 2023 Archibald Art Exhibition entry

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basis for further creative works back home. Margaret was invited to attend an exhibition in China, known for its Lingnan painting, which is often done on rice paper. A principal Chinese exponent of Lingnan painting, upon seeing Margaret's work in this coveted art form, commented that her work 'put his to shame.'

Margaret also assisted the Aboriginal clans around Mt Mulligan - known to the local peoples as the legendary birthplace of the 'Rainbow Serpent' - with the creation of a seal for the purposes of joining all the clans in their protest against a mining authority's proposal to prospect and frack their sacred land.

Elder Judulu was greatly impressed with the concept of the Rainbow Serpent petition and said that his people would be keen to add their names and totems to it. Subsequently, the application for an 'Authority to Prospect' was withdrawn.

Margaret has now entered the Archibald Art Exhibition, Australia's foremost portraiture prize, four years running. Her 2020 entry was of her husband, Keith Kelly. 'He was my first boyfriend and I his first



Margaret Dawson and grandson Harvey

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girlfriend... before parting for 54 years. We met again for my 70th birthday and married in 2018.'

Margaret's 2021 entry was of former Liberal politician, Heidi Victoria, who is now a professional photographer. 'Heidi and I met when I opened my gallery in Bayswater and have remained close friends,' said Margaret.

In her 2022 entry, Margaret captures former television star Bert Newton's adoration for wife Patti. The stunning



portrait sees Patti donning a glamorous ensemble as she poses by a window, while Bert smiles down at her from the moon. Margaret gifted Patti a special watercolour of 'Moon' which so wonderfully represents Bert's spirit and adoration.

Margaret has yet another entry in this year's Archibald Prize, her subject – transgender woman and former AFL footballer and coach, Danielle Laidley.

Channel 9 have been documenting the progress of her artwork and process with the big reveal airing this year. In her artist statement, Margaret noted, 'Amid our nation's struggle for identity, hate, bigotry, human rights abuses and injustices still need to be addressed. Danielle's emotional desire to identify as a woman stems from her belief that she has been trapped in a male body from childhood.'



Patti Newton poses with Margaret's 2022 Archibald Award entry



Margaret's first Archibald Art Exhibition entry was a portrait of husband Keith Kelly

Society sometimes tries to crush those who identify outside the 'norm', not least the transgender individual who suffers ridicule unfairly. Danielle spoke of her pride after her gender transition and her ability to walk a red carpet unashamed and unmasked. Wearing a dress generally represents a feminine gender, and this artwork of Danielle in her white gown is a conduit that amplifies her message of identity.'

'She is so brave bringing gender identity into the spotlight to open a pathway to general acceptance in our society,' she says. 'I am hopeful that my entry will strengthen her position.'

There is no doubt that Margaret has found herself an artistic lifetime of free expression, painting in oils, watercolours and acrylics, engaging in china painting, ceramics, clay, sandstone and styrene sculpture. Needless to say, painting, production of art, design, print making and sculpture have never ceased since Margaret first picked up a brush, drew a conceptual sketch or slapped down a pug of clay.



Margaret's 2021 entry of former Victorian politician and friend, Heidi Victoria



Margaret's watercolour of 'Moon'





## 'Captains of Industry' inspire our borders



Our OW 'Captains of Industry': (L-R) Caroline Efron (OW2003), Charlie Dean (OW2019), Natalie Vogel (OW1998), Dori Kabillo (OW1989), Carla Fetter (OW1999), Dr Deb Morawetz (OW1998) and Cayman Deely (OW2017)

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During May, the Learning in Residence (LiR) team worked with Wesley Alumni Relations to create a College first: a careers and networking opportunity for current borders to engage with 'OW Captains of Industry' from a number of selected fields.

Our incredible line-up of guests included:

- Dori Kabillo (OW1989), Director of Nexus Psychology
- Dr Deb Morawetz (OW1998), Paediatrician
- Natalie Vogel (OW1998), Barrister
- Carla Fetter (OW1999), Director at Jellis Craig Real Estate
- Cayman Deely (OW2017), Structural Engineer
- Charlie Dean (OW2019), Player, Collingwood Football Club

Sean Cox, Head of Learning in Residence, welcomed everyone to the communal Dining Hall for dinner before inviting our OWs to introduce themselves and share some of their fondest Wesley memories.

Our 'Captains of Industry' then broke into smaller groups to speak to students who were highly engaged and had obviously done their research, asking lots of pertinent questions about our OWs' experiences and the pathway they took to achieve success in their chosen fields.

'It was great to chat to someone in the workforce who is specialised in their career, and learn how I can improve my soft skills, because I know they will be so important when I enter the workplace,' said Forrest Lo (Year 11), from Hong Kong.

Amelie Shelley (Year 11) from Kerang, agreed: 'I loved the variation of industry leaders, as it meant everyone could find someone to relate to.'

Our guest speakers also enjoyed the opportunity to be back on campus. 'The event was really well organised, and the students were truly a great bunch!' said Director of Nexus Psychology, Dori Kabillo (OW1989). 'I felt a real connection and high level of engagement on our table and hope the students got a lot out of the experience.'

After such a successful evening, we have decided to run more collaborative events as part of the OWCA x LiR 'Pride Series'.





Head of Learning in Residence, Sean Cox, welcomes our OW 'Captains of Industry' back to Wesley



Director of Nexus Psychology Dori Kabillo (OW1989) and Barrister Natalie Vogel (OW1998)



Structural Engineer Cayman Deely (OW2017) and Real Estate Agent Carla Fetter (OW1999)



Collingwood AFL Footballer Charlie Dean (OW2019) shares his story with a captivated audience



Dr Deb Morawetz (OW1998) shares her knowledge and experience over dinner



Dori Kabillo (OW1989) is kept busy answering lots of questions

## Music Matinee – Wesley College Connection

For six years, Simon Ralton (OW1962), Andrew Tonkin (OW1962) and Michael Butcher (OW1962), together with a group of other music lovers, have been organising monthly lunchtime chamber music concerts at The Scots' Church in Collins Street, Melbourne.

These live and free concerts are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month from 1.00pm to 1.50pm. They include piano and organ recitals, chamber groups and choirs.

Musicians are drawn from ANAM (Australian National Academy of Music), VCASS (Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School) and occasionally

include such notables as Douglas Lawrence (organ) and Harold Fabrikant (OW1960) on piano. Music Matinee is an unaffiliated, not-for-profit association.

If you work in the CBD, or just visit from time to time, this is a delightful way to unwind over lunchtime.

To register for concert details, email [musicmatinee.org@gmail.com](mailto:musicmatinee.org@gmail.com) or visit [www.musicmatinee.org](http://www.musicmatinee.org)

Wesley is delighted to support these enthusiastic OWs by hosting a fundraising concert and afternoon tea in the Cato Room at the St Kilda Road Campus at **2.00pm on Sunday 22 October, 2023**. For booking information, visit [www.musicmatinee.org](http://www.musicmatinee.org) closer to the event.



Music Matinee's Simon Ralton (OW1962), Michael Butcher (OW1962) and Andrew Tonkin (OW1962)

## Singing all the way from Wesley to Nashville



Suzy on stage and in her element

Suzy Jamieson (Axup) (OW1995) always had music in her heart and a song in her head. At school she sang in every choir, treading the boards in countless Adamson Theatre productions, and became a vocalist for the Big Band. Her passion for the arts also led her to become a Music and Drama Prefect in her final year.

'Music has always been a big part of me. I believe music isn't something you choose but more of a calling – a gravitational pull I guess you could say.'

Initially, Suzy studied and worked in commerce where she helped her husband, Alex Jamieson (OW1994), build a boutique financial planning firm, AJ Financial Planning, but the undercurrent beat of music never left her.

After having kids, Suzy felt she needed to do something for herself. So over the past six years, she has nurtured her talent and has become an amazing artist – a true singer-songwriter – and Nashville is starting to take notice!

Suzy has been travelling to and from the home of country music for the past two years, writing and creating country-pop music. Working with acclaimed Music City producers and some of Nashville's finest musicians, Suzy has written and recorded some truly beautiful songs. 'I grew up on pop and love their catchy hooks, but I have also fallen in love with country music and the way they are such beautiful storytellers. I think my songs are a blend – the best of both worlds!'

In Nashville, Suzy has collaborated with some renowned songwriters who have had #1 hits in the country music charts. 'Nashville is known for its co-writing sessions, and I have been so grateful to learn and hone my craft from these musical wizards.' With six songs out already and many more in her catalogue, Suzy is living proof that it is never too late to follow your dreams. 'Through my music, I want to show my two boys that life is what you make it and it's never too late.'

While Suzy has put her voice to her own songs for now, she is currently working with agents in Nashville with the goal of having her songs sung by other artists and heard all over the world. You can follow and support her journey @suzyjmusic and [suzyjmusic.com](http://suzyjmusic.com)



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## Draculas on Tour

CEO of Newman Entertainment, Luke Newman (OW2009) is responsible for taking Draculas on the road on its first major national tour.

'Our flagship Gold Coast venue is still going strong, entertaining locals and tourists five nights a week, year-round. But it's been a goal of ours ever since I can remember to take Draculas on the road. We've finally made that a reality, and the audience response across the country has been incredible,' said Luke.



Luke Newman (OW2009)  
CEO of Newton Entertainment

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The production house behind Draculas is a family affair. Brothers Paul (OW1978) and Mark (OW1979) have been Directors for many years, as well as Julian (OW2011), Taylor and Sion who have all been involved in various aspects of the business, both on and off the stage.

The touring production mashes years of Draculas signature brand of punchy variety into one blood-buster show,

delivering fan favourites and most requested acts, live rock music, sultry burlesque, jaw-to-the-floor costumes and razor-edged comedy. The show has been on tour since April along the east coast and will head to Perth before visiting five cities across New Zealand later this year.

Visit [www.draculas.com.au](http://www.draculas.com.au) for details.

## Taking on the 'Worlds' in Turkey



Jimmy shows grit and determination representing the green and gold at the 'Worlds' in March

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James (Jimmy) Fry (OW1998) was Captain of the First Tennis team in his final year of school.

He put down the racquet at age 19 to play football for Collegians, pulling on the boots in no less than 230 games. But he never lost his love for tennis and after hanging up his footy boots at the age of 32, he took up the sport once again.

In March this year, Jimmy represented Australia in the World Tennis Masters in Turkey and is currently ranked #1 in the world for men aged 40-45.

The 'Worlds' tournament is played over two weeks; the first week was 'teams' which saw Australia compete against Mexico, Great Britain, South Africa, Norway and India. Jimmy was Captain of the Australian team and our #1 player.

The second week was an individual tournament which saw Jimmy come up against a number of former professional tennis players.

'I am incredibly proud and grateful to have had the opportunity to put on the green and gold and represent Australia,' said Jimmy.

'I played my heart out and gave it everything I had to compete with some of the best in the world in my age group. I came up a bit short in my expectations, but you live and learn and hopefully I can do a bit better next time round. I met some incredible people along the way and made some great friends.'



## OCWA – Events spotlight

### Class of 1963 - 60 year reunion



60 year reunion group together again outside the Cato Room

On Friday 14 April, 39 OWs attended a reunion marking 60 years since they had left the St Kilda Road Campus.

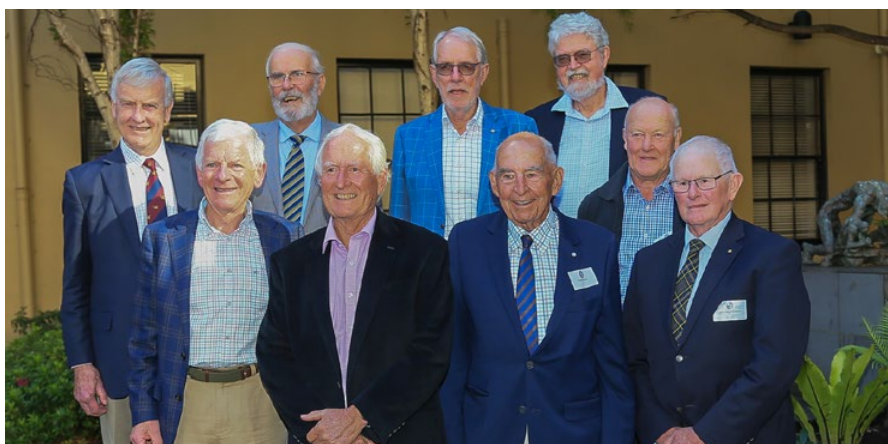
After a brief tour by Wesley College Foundation Director, Jack Moshakis (OW1973) and OWCA President, Kate Evans (OW1998) to showcase some of the breathtaking changes that have occurred since the cohort last visited the campus - and to briefly touch on future plans - the Class of '63 gathered for lunch in the Cato Room.

Many thanks to Master of Ceremonies, immediate past Co-President of the Old Wesley Collegians Association and member of this cohort, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), for hosting an entertaining afternoon which featured interviews with 1963 School Captain Hugh Price, Vice-Captain Martyn Smith and 1999 College Captain, Kate Evans (OW1998), providing an interesting 'compare and contrast' discussion about uniforms, prefects, teachers and co-education.

A fantastic time was had by all, with much storytelling, reflection, reminiscing and comradeship. With so many engaged OWs within this group - Rob Mauger, Frank Opray, Graeme Samuel and Warwick Teasdale just to name a few, we have agreed that their next reunion should be held more often than every ten years. We look forward to welcoming this group back to the College very, very soon.



Master of Ceremonies Jack Ayerbe (OW1963) with the Reunion Panel: Hugh Price (Captain), Martyn Smith (Vice-Captain) and OWCA President, Kate Evans (OW1998)



Our 1963 Boarders: (L-R) Back row: Frank Opray, Rob Curnow, Darren Goodman and Rohan Walker  
Front row: Brian Castles, Hugh Price, Rob Cook, Alistair Trease and John Diprose



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## Founders' Day Lunch

More than 150 Old Wesley Collegians packed the Kooyong Tennis Club for this traditional event, held on the final Friday of May to celebrate the founding of our great College.

MC David Kennedy (OW1966), immediate past Vice-President of the OWCA, charmingly welcomed guests and invited Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) to share some personal reflections of Founders' Day.

OWCA President Kate Evans (OW1998) then had the pleasure of celebrating our newest Golden Lions, awarded two Fellowships of the OWCA to Mark Hibbins (OW1978) and Ian Thomas (OW1982), and presented two OWCA Honorary Life Memberships to long-serving and beloved staff members, Sara Liversidge and Sabino Del Balso.

We were then entertained by a panel of esteemed marketing and brand experts from the Wesley community including Ben Lilley (OW1989), Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004) and Melinda Geertz (past parent and current member of the Wesley College Council).

The singing, led by our OW choral group, A Chorus Lion, showed that the Wesley spirit is still well and truly alive within our past student community, regardless of their age!



Chair of the Wesley College Foundation, Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990) and Luca Jolson (OW2022)



Guests at the Founders' Day Lunch enjoy the presentation by marketing and brand experts (L-R) Melinda Geertz, Ben Lilley (OW1989) and Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)



Ian Thomas (OW1982) front row, centre, celebrates his OWCA Fellowship Award with wife Michele and 1982 classmates



Our award recipients: (L-R) Ian Thomas (OW1982), Mark Hibbins (OW1978), Sara Liversidge and Sabino del Balso





## Affiliates

### Collegians Football Club

Collegians have started the year off very positively. After eight rounds, the men's seniors are six wins and two losses and sit in second place on the ladder. The women's seniors are five wins, three losses and sit in fourth place. Both teams are playing in the top section of the VAFA.

There have been many positives but the men's team winning two consecutive games by over 100 points is a feat we can be very proud of. The historians don't know if this has ever been done before but I am sure someone will tell me if it has happened or not!

Numbers on the track are good; having a winning culture and making it hard to get into the team is something we have always pushed for but hasn't always happened. Our women's teams, both the reserves and the seniors, have terrific numbers while many other club's numbers are going backwards. We need to thank our Senior Women's Coach, Dom Lucarelli and our Women's Football Director, Steph Leondidis for all the work they are doing to keep our female sides so strong.

Our first club lunch was a great success with 80 people coming together at the Trott for our first home game. Sponsorship and membership income is also up this year, but we are always



Ellie George and Trish O'Neill (OW2004) are both enjoying dominant seasons for Collegians Women in the VAFA Premier A Division

looking for more; to keep competing at the top level, we must properly resource the club and like everything, this comes at a cost.

To stay up-to-date with Collegians, visit [www.collegiansfc.com.au](http://www.collegiansfc.com.au) where you can also subscribe to our newsletters and purchase your season membership.

Follow Collegians on Instagram  
[@collegiansfc](https://www.instagram.com/collegiansfc)

For further information, call President Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) on **0412 687 430**.



Luke McCleary (OW2016) sends the team into attack. Go Lions!

### Cross Country



Cross Country: A pace for all ages!

The 2023 Cross Country season is now well underway.

We compete against ten other APS clubs in 12 events over the season that runs from April to September. Always open to new runners, the competition is as social or as competitive as you want it to be. It's also a great way to keep fit over winter.

There are a range of events and distances held at different locations around Melbourne. It is also a great way for recent school leavers to stay connected with Wesley running as the annual competition registration fee is waived for anyone under 20 years of age.

If you are interested in getting involved or would like any further information, contact President Adrian Pile (OW2000) on [adrian.pile@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.pile@bigpond.com) or call **0404 891 608**



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## A Chorus Lion

A Chorus Lion is the Wesley College Community Choir and is open to alumni, parents and friends of the College. Led by Doug Heywood AO, the choir rehearses each Wednesday evening during term time in the Stillwell Recital Centre at the St Kilda Road Campus, singing a range of songs.

We perform at various school functions and have a concert booked at Cresthaven Aged Care in East Malvern in June. Performing Christmas Carols at the Sapere Aude Bequest Society Christmas function was one of the highlights of last year, closely followed by leading the singing at the Founders' Day Lunch.

We're always looking for new members, so if you enjoy a singalong (no audition required), please contact our secretary John Milliken at [choruslionwes@gmail.com](mailto:choruslionwes@gmail.com) for more information.

**Susie Rodgers-Wilson**  
(OWCA Honorary Life Member)  
Community Liaison



Members of 'A Chorus Lion' lead the singing at the 2023 Founders' Day Lunch

## OWCA Bowls



Ian Wilson (OW1960), Jill Anderson and Richard Sluggett (OW1972)

The OWCA Bowls season is set to commence in September 2023 with our annual match against the West Brighton Club. We have not been able to hold this event for the past two years due to COVID, but we are hopeful that we can return to our normal schedule of games this year.

OWCA Bowls finished last season on a high in equal second position, but were relegated to third place on percentage. This the best result we have had for several years. Xavier won the event by one point from Old Carey and OWCA. We hope to claim the prize in 2023.

It was fabulous to have our OWCA President, Kate Evans (OW1998) with us for the luncheon at the Glen Waverley Bowling Club. Kate inspired our team as we won all our matches after lunch to almost finish winners on the day.

If you would like to join us, please contact coordinator Richard Sluggett (OW1972) on 0403 023 288. All welcome.

### 2023 MATCH SCHEDULE:

**Wednesday 20 September**  
v West Brighton at West Brighton

**Wednesday 11 October**  
OW OM and MCC v Old Scotch at MCC Swinburne

**Wednesday 25 October**  
OW OM and MCC v Old Scotch at MCC Swinburne

**Wednesday 8 November**  
OW OM and MCC v Old Scotch at MCC Glen Street

**Wednesday 6 December**  
v Old Melb at MCC Glen Street



## Ski and Snow Board Club, **Mount Buller**



Adam Pyke (OW2013) leading the field at the start of the final event of the 2022 season

The 2023 snow season has begun, and club members and guests are looking forward to another season of good snow and social connection at the well-appointed Collegians Club Lodge.

Collegians Ski Club is situated in a spectacular position on Breathtaker Spur, with magnificent views across surrounding slopes and valleys from the comfortable living areas or the wide balcony. From the family style lodge, you can ski directly onto Standard and Wood Run, and it is a short walk or shuttle ride to the Ski School and

Bourke Street, the chairlifts to the Summit, and to adjacent slopes.

Collegians Ski Club was formed in 1963 to foster skiing amongst Old Wesley Collegians and their families and to encourage alpine sports amongst students of Wesley College.

Construction of the architect-designed lodge began in 1963 by Club Members and friends. Over intervening years, it has been continually updated and modernised, so that it retains its early Mount Buller heritage charm, yet provides every

modern comfort and facility required by today's snow sports enthusiasts. Most recently, Collegians completed updates to the upstairs common areas, bar, TV room and bunk room ensembles.

The lodge features eight bunk rooms, three with ensuites; the remaining with dedicated bathrooms, and a spacious entertaining area which includes a lounge with an open fire, bar, two TV rooms, dining area and a fully equipped communal kitchen.

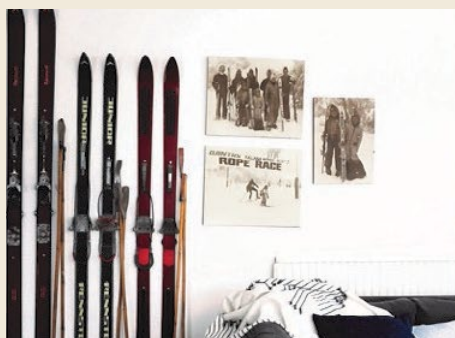
The passageways and bunkrooms are carpeted throughout, and all rooms are centrally heated for comfort and enjoyment. A spacious drying room is available for use by all. The basement has space for storage of Club supplies, lockable ski racks and individual lockers for members' food, clothing and equipment.

Collegians Ski Club offers 'Friends of Collegians' preferential bed rates and booking opportunities each season.

Contact [bookings.collegians@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.collegians@gmail.com) and list your connection to Wesley College such as peer year, enrolled children or member of staff. You will be provided with a digital login to the Collegians Ski Club site where bookings can be made at any time online, subject to availability.

We are looking forward another great season and hope to welcome new members of the community to Mt. Buller.

**Marianne Stillwell**



*The Old Wesley Collegians Association is proud to have recently formed a new working and pro-bono relationship with KPMG, the global network of professional firms. We thank them for their support.*



## Collegians X Hockey

The Collegians X Hockey Club is currently midway through the early part of the season, and it's been an exciting time for our teams. A significant achievement for us this year is the successful return of our women's team after not being able to field a team in 2022. It's fantastic to have them back on the field, and they are showing great determination and skill.

Our three men's teams have also been performing impressively, displaying strong competitiveness and achieving notable results. The players have been putting in a lot of hard work, which is evident in their performance on the field. Additionally, our Monday night Open team has had a couple of wins, showcasing their talent and teamwork.

At Collegians X, we welcome players of all skill levels and have openings available in various teams. Our top league, League 2, offers a high level of competition for those seeking a challenge. Coaching sessions are held on Wednesday nights from 7.00-8.30pm at Monash Clayton, led by a professional coach who brings expertise and guidance to our players.

We provide free uniforms to our members and it's a great opportunity to be part of a supportive and passionate community. We look forward to seeing you on the field!

If you're interested in becoming part of the Collegians X Hockey family, please call Scott Booth (OW1995) on **0418 883 212** or email [secretary@collegiansx.com](mailto:secretary@collegiansx.com)



Collegians X Hockey in action!

## OW Golf



Peter Dakin (OW1963), Peter Hammet (OW1965), Richard Sandner (OW1963), Birwin Yu (OW1995), Will Crothers (OW1974), Alan Jager (OW1973) and Ian Lockwood (OW1984) at the APS Golf Day

The Old Geelong Collegians Association and the Victoria Golf Club hosted the 2023 APS Golf Day on 12 May. The excitement was palpable before the first ball was struck, with many OWs catching up for the first time since 2022. Due to a number of unfortunate late withdrawals, we only had seven players, but our OWs fought valiantly and with great spirit against their APS opponents. With the best eight scores contributing towards each school's final score, we were undermanned and ultimately unable to replicate the heights of our 2019 victory.

Congratulations to Alan Jager (OW1973) with best par score for the OWCA (-2).

We now look forward to the annual OWCA and Old Scotch Collegians Association (OSCA) Golf Day which will be held at Kew Golf Club on Friday 1 December. The rivalry continues after a three-year hiatus due to COVID. Unlike the APS Golf Day where numbers are limited, we can welcome as many players as we like, so get a group of four together and enjoy a day on the course catching up with old friends. The more players we have, the better our chances of getting the cup back!

We look forward to renewing the strong fellowship that has developed through this event. For more information, contact Peter Johnson (OW1995) on **0419 119 786** or email [peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au](mailto:peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au)



We would love to hear from OWs interested in competing in a fun, casual, social tennis competition.

Expressions of interest to  
[owca@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:owca@wesleycollege.edu.au)



# Births



## BEILBY

To Daniel (OW2006) and Genevieve Adams on 9 December 2022, twins, Hazel and Charlie, a sister and brother for Teddy and Felix, a niece for Rachel (OW2006)



## HEYES

To Danielle (Elmer) (OW2009) on 5 April 2023, a daughter, Marcelle



## JEFFREYS

To Emily (OW2008) and Daniel Nelson on 16 January 2023, twin daughters, Charlotte Elle and Maya Sienna, nieces for Sam (OW2010)



## JONES

To Eliza (OW1998) and Ben Farrelly on 20 April 2023, a daughter, Quinn Anne, a niece for Cameron (OW2001), Gareth (OW2002) and Zoe (Zaparas) (OW2001)



## PEEL

To Emma (OW2007) and Jess Kenneally on 19 April 2023, a son, Darcy Thomas, a brother for Olive, a nephew for Mikaela (OW2009)



## SYMON

To Andrew (OW2009) and Nat Braude on 26 March 2022, a son, Elliott Richard, a nephew for Ben (OW2012) and Caitlin (OW2012)



## SZTAR

To Rob (OW1998) and Amanda on 12 December 2022, a son, Harry Benjamin, a brother for Sophie and Georgia



## WRIGHT

To Ainsley (Weeks) (OW2006) and Oliver on 31 October 2022, a son, Xavier James, a brother for Louis, a nephew for Chris Weeks (OW2004)

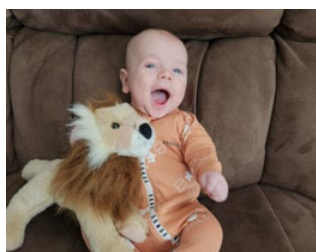
# Lion Cubs

We are pleased to welcome the next generation of Lion Cubs who have applied to enrol at Wesley.



## CASTRAN

Bodhi, son of Max (OW2010) and Ally, grandson of Paul (OW1978), great nephew of John (OW1974) and David (OW1980), nephew of Zoe (OW2012)



## HORVATH

Harrison, son of Simon (OW1997) and Alyssa



## MORTON

Owen, son of Bernice Boo (OW2006) and Lachlan (current staff)



## MUNAS

Zayn and Alayna, children of Navid (OW2007) and Michelle, niece and nephew of Ashad (OW2008) and Azahn (OW2011)



# Weddings & Engagements



**KATSAMBANIS – BOUNDY**

Ross (OW2012) married Monica on 18 March 2023



**SHUTLER – MAHER**

James (OW2010) and Claire on 15 April 2023



**YOUNG – DAVISON**

Breanna (OW2010) married Joel on 25 March 2023



**MARSH – ASHMAN**

Sam (OW2013) engaged to Madison

ENROL

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](https://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.



# Calendar

## July

**London OWCA Alumni Evening**  
Thursday 6 | 6.30pm  
One Aldwych  
1 Aldwych, London WC2B 4BZ

**Belgium OW Plaque Unveiling**  
Sunday 9 | 11am  
Town Square of Mesen Ypres, Belgium

## August

**GW 2018: 5 Year Reunion**  
Friday 4 | 7pm  
Union Hotel, Windsor

**SKR 2018: 5 Year Reunion**  
Friday 11 | 7pm  
Union Hotel, Windsor

## August (cont'd)

**SKR 1983: 40 Year Reunion**  
Friday 25 | 7pm  
Cato Room, SKR

## September

**Elsternwick Stars Reunion**  
Friday 22 | 12pm  
Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick

## October

**GW 1993: 30 Year Reunion**  
Friday 13 | 7pm  
Alex Room, GW

**GW 2022: 1 Year Reunion**  
Friday 13 | 7pm  
Union Hotel, Windsor

## October (cont'd)

**SKR 1993: 30 Year Reunion**  
Friday 20 | 7pm  
Cato Room, SKR

**SKR 2022: 1 Year Reunion**  
Friday 27 | 7pm  
Union Hotel, Windsor

**Cato Golf**  
Monday 30 | PM session  
Riversdale Golf Club

## December

**OWCA / OSCA Golf Day**  
Friday 1  
Kew Golf Club

## Connect with your OW network

- Reunions
- Networking Events
- Affiliate Groups
- OWCA/OSCA Golf Day
- Founders' Day
- Gala Dinner
- Regional and International Events
- Foundation Events

Follow us on  
social media



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[owca@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:owca@wesleycollege.edu.au)  
View our calendar of events:  
[owca.net](http://owca.net)



Join our global OW business directory:

## YOUR OWCA

### OWCA Executive

#### President

Kate Evans (OW1998)

#### Vice President

Tom Pewtress (OW2018)

#### Treasurer

Rob Lancaster (OW1982)

#### Secretary

Amy McAlister (OW2003)

#### Executive members

Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)

David Kennedy (OW1966)

Alex Iljin (OW1982)

Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Vibeke Pedersen (OW1996)

Kunal Rastogi (OW2002)

Alessia Francese (OW2016)

### Key contacts

Address and email updates |  
Lion stories | Social media, OW updates and  
connections | Birth, Marriage and  
Death notices | Grant enquiries from  
Affiliates | Administrative enquiries |  
Academic transcripts  
Event enquiries | Calendar enquiries  
[owca@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:owca@wesleycollege.edu.au)

#### Interested in becoming involved in the Executive? Contact:

Kate Evans (OW1998), President, OWCA  
[kate.evans@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:kate.evans@wesleycollege.edu.au)



# Deaths

## BENSON

Lawrence (Mark) (OW1971) on 24 April 2023, husband of Arianna (past staff), father of Chris (OW2003) and Cesca (OW2006)

## BROOKING

Robert AO KC (OW1947) on 11 September 2022, father of Chris (OW1974) and Richard (OW1977)

## CARNE

Geoffrey Clifton (OW1953) on 1 January 2023

## CURRIE

Robert (Bob) Richard (OW1969) on 17 October 2022

## DANKS

Graeme (OW1967) on 5 May 2023, son of John (OW1944) (dec), brother of Michael (OW1969), father of Penny (OW1997), Emily Condon (Danks) (OW2000) and Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)

## EDWARD

Kenneth Walter (OW1943) on 17 August 2013, brother of Geoffrey (OW1940) (dec), uncle of David (OW1971)

## FURZER

Peter Reginald (OW1962) on 9 August 2022, son of Reg (OW1922) (dec), nephew of Max (OW1925) (dec), cousin of Michael (OW1957)

## HALLINAN

Jonathan James (OW1993) on 23 March 2023, sister of Melissa Davies (Hallinan) (OW1990)

## HARRIS

John Weetman (OW1954) on 1 November 2022, brother of Peter (OW1958) and Geoffrey (OW1965), father of Ross (OW1978)

## JACKSON

Peter Andrew (OW1990) on 17 April 2023, sister of Jenny (Cato College 1983)

## JAEDE

John (OW1955) on 22 May 2022

## JAMES

David Ernest (OW1945) on 30 March 2017, brother of Brian (OW1948)

## JONAS

Michael (OW1954) on 16 November 2022

## KIMPTON

Herbert Graham (OW1953) on 5 February 2020

## KURUNATHAN

Nallathamby (Nathan) (OW1960) on 11 April 2023

## MILLER

Bruce William (OW1954) on 23 September 2022

## SIMMONS

David Henry (OW1944) on 21 January 2023, brother of Alfred (OW1950)

## THOMLINSON

Dale Andrew (OW1988) on 19 March 2023, sister of Nadine Morrison (Thomlinson) (OW1987)



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[selwynallenfunerals.com.au](http://selwynallenfunerals.com.au)



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[www.igff.org.au](http://www.igff.org.au)



# Obituaries

## Jonathan Hallinan (OW1993)

30/05/1975 – 23/03/2023

Jonathan 'Jonnie' Hallinan's story at Wesley began as a student in Year 7, where he embarked on a transformative path of education, growth and camaraderie.

It was during his time at Wesley that he formed lifelong bonds with cherished friends such as Andrew Ogilvie (OW1993), Angus Constable (OW1993), Daniel Harvey (OW1993), Gerard Jansen (OW1993), Hamish Glen (OW1994), Stuart Perry (OW1993), Stuart Roberts (OW1993) and Adam Burlock (OW1993). Together, they shared countless memories, laughs and adventures that would forever shape their lives. The friendship they shared served as a strong foundation for Jonnie's character and future successes.

Jonnie's pursuit of excellence led him to become a successful property developer, forever changing the skyline of Melbourne and Brisbane. With an unwavering vision and an entrepreneurial spirit, his developments grace the cities he loved. Jonnie's commitment to quality, innovation and sustainability revolutionised the industry, leaving a legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

However, Jonnie's accomplishments were not solely measured by his professional achievements. He was a loving son to



Annemarie and Ivan, a devoted brother to Melissa (OW1990) and father to Archie, Estelle and Hudson, and adoring husband to Mikka. Their unwavering support and unconditional love were the pillars upon which Jonnie built his life. His family provided him with the strength and encouragement he needed to chase his dreams and reach new heights. He cherished his family dearly, and his love for his three children was evident in every aspect of his life.

Jonnie was also an extraordinary friend; his genuine care and compassion touched the lives of everyone he encountered. His friendships were built on a foundation of trust, loyalty and unwavering support. Jonnie was the kind of friend who would be there in good times and bad, offering a listening ear, a comforting embrace and a shoulder to

lean on. His generosity knew no bounds, and he went above and beyond to ensure the happiness and well-being of those he held dear.

Jonnie's spirit of giving extended beyond his inner circle. He recognised the importance of making a positive impact on the lives of others. His philanthropic endeavours were a testament to his belief in the power of compassion and his desire to create a better world. Whether through charitable donations or acts of kindness, Jonnie's generosity touched the lives of countless individuals, leaving an indelible imprint on their hearts.

May his soul find eternal serenity and may his legacy shine brightly in the hearts of all who knew him.

*Contributed by Stuart Roberts (OW1993)*



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**V O L V O** Volvo Cars South Yarra

**V O L V O** Volvo Cars Camberwell



## Nallathamby (Nathan) Kurunathan (OW1960)

11/11/1940 – 11/04/2023



Upon arriving in Australia from Singapore and joining the Wesley community in 1959, Nathan stayed in lodgings in Finch Street, East Malvern with other Asian students. He made friends very easily and introduced many of us to Asian cuisine, often inviting several of his Wesley mates around for dinner. He moved to East St Kilda before returning to Singapore years later.

He commenced his studies in Leaving (Year 11) and completed his Matriculation (Year 12) in Maths and Sciences the following year, earning credit for his achievements overall. He was an accomplished hockey player, playing centre-half and represented Wesley in APS competition in the First XI team.

After graduation, Nathan studied Mechanical Engineering at the Caulfield Institute of Technology, graduating with distinction, and at the same time, worked at Spencer Street Railway Station during vacations to meet his expenses. His education was paid for by his elder brothers, and in years to come, Nathan funded his younger brother's education in Tasmania.

Having completed his studies in Australia, he returned to Singapore in 1969 to be with his mother and taught Maths at the SAFTECH (Military School). He then sought a career change, setting up his own business, JN Builders, before becoming a successful entrepreneur in the hospitality industry. In 1998, he saw an opportunity to dabble in high technology and set up Millennium IT. He retired in 2001.

Nathan married Rajes who became a director of the business he had established, and shared many of the demands such an endeavour requires. They had a daughter, Maha, who completed an LL.B. (Exeter) in the early 2000s and who, particularly in recent times, has been the most devoted, caring and nurturing daughter. She now holds a senior position in business, advising on

legal and compliance matters in Singapore.

We visited Nathan many times either on special occasions or when passing through Singapore. He and his family were always very hospitable, and we all shared many happy meals together, both at their home and at Nathan's favourite seafood restaurants.

Our deeply felt sympathy goes out to his family. He was a unique character who always had a twinkle in his eye and the ability to share insightful exchanges with those he engaged in conversation. Nathan was a deeply spiritual person and a devout Hindu who regularly attended Temple prayers and services, and always valued our presence when we attended places of worship with him. He was also deeply concerned with social injustices and was outspoken and creative in his attempts to provide solutions to these problems.

With all those who had the good fortune to know him and his family, we say vale good friend. May all that you have prepared come to fruition in the time ahead.

*Contributed by Peter Andrews (OW1960), Eddie Street AM (OW1960) and David Gilbert (OW1960)*

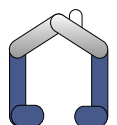


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W: [vacsec.com.au](http://vacsec.com.au)



# Contacts

## Affiliate groups

### Athletics/Cross Country

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### Basketball

Ben Rollo (OW1994)  
+ 61 402 266 633 ben.n.rollo@gmail.com

### Bowls

Richard Sluggett (OW1972)  
+ 61 403 023 288 rmsluggett21@gmail.com

### Chorus Lion

Susie Rodgers-Wilson  
(OWCA Honorary Life Member)  
+ 61 419 898 933 choruslionwes@gmail.com

### Concert Band

Angela Zeng (OW2020)  
+ 61 452 510 409 angelayxz@hotmail.com

### Cricket

Rick Morris (OW2004)  
+ 61 438 081 886

### Elsternwick Cato Golf

Debbie Catchlove (MLC Cato 1974)  
+ 61 425 711 386 dcatchlove@hotmail.com

### Football

Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)  
+ 61 3 9859 8699 rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au

### Golf

Peter Johnson (OW1995)  
+ 61 419 119 786  
peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au

### Hockey

Scott Booth (OW1985)  
+ 61 418 553 212 sbooth@nightandday.com.au

### Masonic Lodge

Gavin Birch (OW1971)  
+ 61 438 448 854 mgc\_birch@hotmail.com

### OW Auto Club

+ 61 3 8102 6695 owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

### Rowing - Alan Mitchell Club

Ana McCloskey  
+ 61 403 394 486 ana.mccloskey@gmail.com

### Ski and Snow Board Club

Marianne Stillwell  
+ 61 414 939 061  
bookings.collegians@gmail.com

### Tally Ho Fitness Group

Lindsay Spittle  
+ 61 419 114 050 lspittle@bigpond.net.au

### Tennis Club

Dr Justin Lim (OW1993)  
+61 400 114 046 jlim@yolandlim.com.au

### Theatre/Drama Productions

Branford Gruar (OW2012)  
+ 61 488 176 302  
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### Water Polo

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## Victoria contacts

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+ 61 418 509 033 rickdungey@bigpond.com

### Chinese alumni 中国同学校友会

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### Geelong and Bellarine Peninsula

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### Goulburn Valley Jim Vasey (OW1970)

+ 61 409 140 029 jim@vaseyequine.com.au

### Mornington Peninsula Geoff Wagstaff (OW1949)

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## National contacts

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**Cairns** Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004)  
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**Canberra** John Fuhrman (OW1961)  
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**Noosa** Tom Standing (OW1964)  
+ 61 408 177 960  
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**Sydney** Bruce Dufty (OW1963)  
+ 61 412 015 319 brucedufty@gmail.com

## International contacts

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### China (Chengdu)

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### China (Nanjing)

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

### Hong Kong (Causeway Bay)

Li Low (OW1989)  
+ 852 9538 3755 li.low@hk.ey.com

### Hong Kong (Happy Valley)

Claire Chu (OW2006)  
+ 852 6462 1062 claire.chu@gmail.com

### Hong Kong (Tai Kok Tsui)

Jimmy Jin (OW2006)  
+ 852 5989 8197 jimmy.mq.jin@gmail.com

### Germany (Hesse)

Oliver Koo (OW2014) kabira960@gmail.com

### Indonesia (Jakarta)

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+ 62 81 812 5666 adijanitra@hotmail.com  
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### Japan (Tokyo)

Shun Iwabuchi (OW2012)  
+ 81 3 6380 9305 isha2643@gmail.com

### Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)

Allan Tan (OW1999) allantctan@gmail.com

### Malaysia (Petaling Jaya)

Kenny Tan (OW1972) + 60 12 207 4585  
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### Malaysia (Perak)

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### New Zealand (Auckland)

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

### Singapore

- Alvin Oei (OW1972) + 65 9850 8698  
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## London OWCA Alumni Event

Meet Wesley College Principal Nick Evans (OW1985), OWCA President Kate Evans (OW1998), Director of Community Engagement, Fiona Dickson and other UK-based alumni. All welcome!

**Date:** Thursday 6th July 2023  
**Time:** 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

**Location:** One Aldwych,  
 1 Aldwych, London WC2B 4BZ, UK

Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets now. Alumni and families welcome.

## Belgium OW Plaque Unveiling




*To honour Captain Robert Grieve VC (OW1904)*

Sunday 9 July at 11.00am  
 Town Square of Mesen Ypres, Belgium  
 No RSVP required. All welcome.



### Come and see us at the Australian Schools Expo


25 June Hong Kong	10 September Phnom Penh
1 July Shanghai	16 September Ho Chi Minh City
2 July Beijing	17 September Hanoi

Visit [wesleycollege.edu.au/events](https://wesleycollege.edu.au/events) for full details



### Regional Events

6-7 August Sheepvention Rural Expo, Hamilton	19-21 September Henty Machinery Field Days	3-5 October Elmore Machinery Fields Days
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### 15th Annual Wesley College Foundation Business Breakfast

**Topic:**  
*'Australia's Energy Future'*

Moderated by Prof. Graeme Samuel AC (OW1963)  
 Date: October/November (TBC)  
 Email [events@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:events@wesleycollege.edu.au) to be notified when tickets are on sale





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