

Edition 155 June 2025

# *Lion*

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

## *Wesley in the world*

Celebrating our global  
OW network

*Saviour of the Reef*  
John Büsst (OW1927)

*Wesley in WWII*  
80 years on...



WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA - SINCE 1866



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Editorial

Welcome to the June edition of *Lion*.  
  
We’ve always had an outgoing spirit at Wesley and OWs have always taken that shared spirit with them beyond the school gates and out into the world. In our lead feature in this edition, we turn our focus to that Wesley diaspora, tracking the different paths that a sample of our OWs have taken around the globe: where they’re living, what they’re doing and how they’re making a mark on the world.  
  
In these pages, we also celebrate a remarkable OW who made his own significant mark on the world, but whose achievements have remained largely unknown.

In the 1960’s, John Büsst (OW1927) played a pivotal role in protecting the Great Barrier Reef, not to mention huge sections of Queensland rainforest, from exploitation by agriculture, mining, oil drilling and the military. Büsst was a fascinating character in many ways. Independently wealthy, artistic and fond of a party, he could easily have spent life indulging himself in a sub-tropical paradise, but he chose to become a formidable warrior for the natural world. Historian Patricia Clare described him as ‘at once a man of emotion and a wickedly cool organiser.’ We tell his story on page 8.


It’s 80 years since the end of World War II and in our feature on page 10, we examine the far-reaching involvements of our OWs during that tumultuous time in history. We have Philip Powell (OW1973) to thank for the three years of research he undertook to document the 1,844 OWs who, as members of the ‘Greatest Generation’, played their part in the war effort. From generals to storemen, ‘in nearly every action involving the Australian army or air force or navy, invariably an OW was there,’ says Philip.


One of the fascinating tales we share concerns the reunion of legendary Wesley teacher Jack Kroger and Werner Wildermuth (OW1936), a Wesley boy from his own class in 1935, who was languishing in a PoW camp in Egypt after having reluctantly fought for the Germans. Of their meeting, Jack reflected, ‘Never has a British officer and a German soldier danced such a happy jig when they met one another.’


The postscript to this story is that Werner stayed a week with Jack and his family, and visited his old school, when he came back to Australia for a trip in 1964. From a shared Wesley College Commerce class in 1935, to a North African PoW camp reunion in 1944, to family dinners around the table in 1964, the bond between the two endured.

It says something about the outgoing Wesley spirit, doesn’t it?

**Paul Munn, *Lion* Editor and Features Writer**

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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 Gunditjmara. 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.

To find further information and news about Wesley College, visit our website at [wesleycollege.edu.au](#)



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Principal’s lines



Last month marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day. It went rather unremarked and unnoticed. The end of the Second World War in Europe was an epoch-making event. It was only 23 years before I was born but now feels a very long time ago. The generation who fought the war are now numbered in the tens rather than the tens of thousands. The living witnesses, those who comprised the Greatest Generation, are being winnowed away by the inevitable ravages of time.

The world has changed a great deal since the end of the Second World War. 1945 marked the beginning of a world dominated by two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. Only one of these remains a superpower, the other having disintegrated. China was in the midst of a civil war. The Chinese

Government represented at the newly formed United Nations was comprised of Chiang Kai Shek’s Nationalists. After the defeat of the Nationalists in 1949, China was ruled by the Chinese Communist Party, who remain in power to this day. Computers were nascent. Cars were not yet widely owned and were yet to be manufactured in Australia. The vast majority of women married and did not work after marriage. Birth rates were rising as the first Baby Boomers arrived on the scene. India was still part of the British Empire. The British Empire still existed.

Suffice to say, much of the above has changed beyond all recognition. Those few people still alive who fought in the Second World War or who experienced it as adults must look at the modern

world and, in equal parts, marvel and despair. I hope the sacrifice they and their contemporaries made, to live in a world in which freedom of thought and expression and association was protected, a world in which savage military expansion was resisted and in which tyranny was fought to a standstill, was worthwhile.

And yet, where do we find ourselves today? Tyranny still exists. There are murderous wars happening in various parts of the globe with no obvious end in sight. China is potentially gearing up for the last chapter in the civil war that ended in 1949 with an invasion of Taiwan. Far right wing parties are on the ascendant in Europe and other parts of the world. Racist abuse has become frequently common in the streets, with Muslims and Jews attacked for being obvious representatives of their faiths.

A synagogue has been burned. In Melbourne.

It is hard not to see echoes of the 1930s in the above. As Mark Twain once said, ‘History does not repeat, but it sometimes rhymes.’ The historical rhymes today remind me of the years before the war.

But history need not repeat. It is often said that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing.

Wesley College will not do nothing. In writing this piece, I express our strong support for all members of our Wesley community who are feeling marginalized and frightened as a result of attacks based on race or religion. We have hosted the Australian Special Envoy against Antisemitism at an assembly this term. Next term, we will be hosting the Special Envoy against Islamophobia. We continue to strive to educate our students to be thoughtful, tolerant citizens of the world.

The Wesley College Chapel at the St Kilda Road Campus has, on both sides, the symbols of Judaism and Islam next to each other, along with those of Buddhism and Hinduism. Everyone in this country deserves the right to live in a country in which they need not fear their fellow citizens as a result of their race or religion, in which they can freely express themselves, and freely associate with whom they wish. This is so self-evident that it is tragic it needs to be said. But it does.

**Nick Evans (OW1985)**





# Wesley in the world

From the laneways of Melbourne to the beaches of Mozambique, from research labs in London to studios in Tokyo, OWs are making their mark across the globe.

We've always been an outward-looking school, and our extended community reaches far beyond the College gates, across continents, cultures and careers.

OWs are living and working in all corners of the world, contributing to fields as varied as the arts, medicine, technology, education, humanitarian work, law, hospitality and entrepreneurship. Some are volunteering in remote communities, some are leading corporations, others are pioneering research, building startups or creating films. Their stories reflect a shared spirit of Wesley daring – to be curious, to be active, to make a difference.

This global network of OWs is as dynamic as it is inspiring. While their journeys may be vastly different, they remain connected by a common thread: the values, friendships and formative experiences of their time at Wesley.

In this feature, we take a closer look at how our OWs are shaping their worlds, and celebrate the richness and reach of the OW diaspora. Wherever you go in the world, there's a good chance another OW is just around the corner.



**SIMON HEAD** (OW1984)  
Jiangsu province, China

Based in China since 2021, Simon is Head of School at UWC Changshu, part of a global education movement for peace and sustainability. He has led and taught in IB schools across five continents and is a strong advocate for the transformative power of education. Elected to the IB Heads Council in 2019 and re-elected in 2024, he represents schools worldwide and contributes regularly to global forums on innovation and leadership.



**ANDREA BIDEN** (OW1993)  
Jangamo Bay, Mozambique

For the past decade, Andrea has co-directed Love The Oceans, a marine conservation charity in rural Mozambique. Under her leadership, Jangamo Bay became a Mission Blue Hope Spot, and her team received the Gender Just Climate Solutions Award at COP29. Building the organisation from the ground up, Andrea has led a holistic approach to conservation, combining marine research with education, gender equity, and alternative livelihoods in a region facing extreme poverty. Love The Oceans has produced world-first data, taught over 3,000 children to swim, reached 1,500+ with ocean literacy, and helped train the first female swim instructors and lifeguards in the region.



**DR SANDRO DEMAIIO** (OW2003)  
Seoul, South Korea

Former VicHealth CEO, Sandro led the agency through the COVID-19 pandemic, launched a 10-year health strategy, and served as Deputy Public Health Commander for Victoria. He now heads the WHO Asia-Pacific Centre for Environment and Health, driving regional efforts across 37 countries to address the links between climate, environment, and health. At WHO Geneva, he helped shape the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, led the Lancet Series on the Double Burden of Malnutrition, and contributed to WHO's 13th Global Programme of Work. Sandro also advises Pictet's Nutrition Fund, government taskforces, and UNICEF's State of the World's Children 2019 report.



**ISOBEL HYMER** (OW2014)  
Brisbane, Australia

Isobel was named the 2023 CPMEC Queensland Junior Doctor of the Year at the Australia and New Zealand Prevocational Medical Education Forum, recognising her outstanding contribution to education and training. While a Junior House Officer at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, she also served as President of the Junior Doctor Society. She recently completed a Masters of Public Health and now works as a PHO in General Surgery at Redcliffe Hospital.



**ASHER LESSELS** (OW1997)  
Paris, France

Asher works for the United Nations, where he leads a team that supports developing countries across Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean and Eastern Europe on initiatives that promote sustainable, low-emission development and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Key projects focus on areas such as electric mobility, sustainable cities, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable cooling. Asher has been with the United Nations since 2012, with previous assignments in Germany and Brazil.



**ALIA PAPAGEORGIOU** (OW1994)  
Brussels, Belgium

Alia is Vice President of the Association of European Journalists and President of the Press Club, Brussels, Europe. After studying European Law in the UK, her career took her to Athens and then Brussels in 2008, where she reported on the economic crisis. She later served as press officer for the EU Delegation to Australia in Canberra. Alia has run in both European and local Brussels elections. In 2022, she founded the Writers Festival of Belgium, which she plans to tour across cities until 2029 before returning it to Brussels.



**JASON TABALUJAN-CHONG** (OW1998)  
Jakarta, Indonesia

A private equity fund manager by trade, Jason is the owner and co-founder of Celestia, a 45-metre luxury yacht he fully funded and commissioned in June 2023. He discovered his love for sailing at Wesley, sparking a lifelong passion for the outdoors. Built during the pandemic in collaboration with his sister, New York fashion designer Jasmine Chong, Celestia blends traditional Indonesian craftsmanship with modern luxury and offers bespoke voyages through Indonesia's archipelago. The yacht features seven staterooms for up to 14 guests and has welcomed many of Hollywood's finest. It was named one of TIME's World's Greatest Places of 2025 and featured in the Golden Globes gift bags in 2024 and 2025.



**LUCY RICHARDS** (OW2006)  
Castlemaine, Victoria

Lucy is passionate about the intersection of mental health, the environment, technology, and social justice. She runs The Regenerative Leader, a business focused on designing restorative approaches to leadership and organisational culture. Aiming to counter the extractive nature of traditional capitalism, her work brings energy, resilience and renewal to leaders and the systems they influence. She is about to launch a six-month program for non-profit CEOs, guiding them through a learning journey titled Inner Work for Outer Action.



**DAVID DICKSON** (OW1996)  
San Francisco, USA

Until recently, David was Senior Vice President of AI at Sage, where he built and led a global team of 70+ experts and helped position the company as a leader in finance AI. He previously led engineering and data science at a San Francisco startup. Now launching his next AI venture, David is focused on creating software that combines technical excellence with human-centred design.



**CLAIRE CHU** (OW2006)  
Hong Kong

After graduating from Wesley College, Claire completed a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at the University of Melbourne, then worked as a veterinarian in Hong Kong until she became a full-time mum. Three children later, Claire rekindled her love for soccer and joined the Hong Kong Football Club Women's Team in 2018. At 35 years old, Claire transferred to Kitchee SC, the top women's team in Hong Kong, and made her semi-professional debut, starting both games at the 2024 AFC Women's Champions League Preliminaries in Bhutan.



**ANDREW STONE** (OW2002)  
New York, USA

Andrew is Chief Brand & Culture (CMO & CPO) at Bluestone Lane, an Australian café and specialty coffee roaster with 65+ locations across the USA. He also works alongside brother Nick (OW1999) on Old Mates, a proper Aussie pub that opened in Manhattan earlier this year. After nearly a decade in New York City, Andrew has recently moved to Long Island with wife Ashleigh (founder of Poolside NY) and three young kids (with #4 on the way!) As well as growing three businesses, he is also training for his fifth New York City Marathon.



**YEBREEN YSABELLE BOO** (OW2016)  
London, United Kingdom

Ysabelle is a Real-World Evidence Manager at AstraZeneca, using health data to support public health and the development of new medicines. With a background in epidemiology and project management, she recently completed a PhD at Oxford, where she developed a model to improve maternal and newborn care in India. Her passion for epidemiology began at Wesley, sparked by her love of maths, human geography, and biology. She is committed to building stronger health systems and advancing public health around the world.





# A World of OWs

As we approach 160 years of Wesley College, we invite you to share where life has taken you and the remarkable things you're doing.

With a global network of over 24,000 members, the OWCA is one of Australia's largest and most diverse alumni communities.

Our founders could scarcely have imagined the vibrant, interconnected world of OWs that exists today. This map offers just a glimpse of the many paths our alumni have taken.

Wherever you are in the world, your story is part of the Wesley legacy.

Let's reconnect, celebrate our shared journey and honour the spirit of our College.



**Where in the world are you?**  
We'd love to connect with you.

## United States

🦁 Peter Sun (OW2015) – Venture Capital  
Stephen Byth (OW2012) – Musician  
Sebastian Lindner (OW2010) – Medical Software  
James Bedogni (OW2005) – Diplomat  
Andrew Stone (OW2002) – Hospitality  
Nick Stone (OW1999) – Hospitality  
David Dickson (OW1996) – AI Technology  
Jarrod Dudakov (OW1996) – Science/Research  
Terry Charalambous (OW1993) – Finance  
🦁 Robert Tanzmann (OW1982) – Real Estate  
Richard Hall (OW1979) – Lawyer  
🦁 Ethan Edwards (OW1978) – Engineer

## England

🦁 Yebeen Ysabelle Boo (OW2016) – Medicine  
Hannah O'Donnell (OW2013) – Aviation Sales  
🦁 Cassandra Triandos (OW2013) – Lawyer  
David Parr (OW2012) – Sports  
Rory Loder (OW2010) – Hospitality  
Adam Baidawi (OW2007) – Journalist  
Levi Fernandez (OW2005) – Social Enterprise  
Nikki Hill (OW1996) – Nutritionist  
🦁 Kate Hesse (OW1989) – Veterinary Physio  
Trent Smyth (OW1988) – Board Member

## Belgium

Adam Gerencser (OW2003) – Diplomat  
🦁 Alia Papageorgiou (OW1994) – Journalist

## Portugal

Leilani Elliott (OW1994) – Lawyer

## France

Asher Lessels (OW1997) – Climate Change  
🦁 Roger Glanville-Hicks (OW1968) – Musician

## Germany

🦁 Oliver Koo (OW2014) – Automotive Industry

## Indonesia

🦁 Adi Janitra (OW2005) – Architecture  
🦁 Pauliady Widjaja (OW2006) – Industrial Gas  
Jason Tabalujan (OW1998) – Hospitality  
Michael Klim OAM (OW1994) – Sport/Health/Writer

## Malaysia

🦁 Allan Tan (OW1999) – Software  
🦁 Kenny Tan (OW1972) – Business Consultant  
🦁 Eddy Lo (OW1958) – Medicine

## South Korea

🦁 Junwon Lee (OW2009) – Accounting  
🦁 Richard Kim (OW2005) – Textiles  
🦁 Catherine Kim (OW2004) – Consulting solutions  
Dr Sandro Demaio (OW2003) – Health

## Hong Kong

🦁 Dr Claire Chu (OW2006) – Veterinary Science/Sport  
🦁 Jimmy Jin (OW2006) – Lawyer  
🦁 Li Low (OW1989) – Consulting

## China

🦁 Beini Zhang (OW2009) – Data Engineering  
Simon Head (OW1984) – Education

## Singapore

🦁 Mark Samlal (OW1982) – Entrepreneur  
🦁 Alvin Oei (OW1972) – Telemedia

## Sri Lanka

Navid Munas (OW2007) – Accounting

## Japan

🦁 Shun Iwabuchi (OW2012) – Software Architect  
Bryan Tang (OW2008) – Photographer

## Taiwan

🦁 Steven Parker (OW1983) – Commerce

## Thailand

🦁 Mai Prasertbodin (OW2010) – Digital Marketing  
🦁 Eugene Boonpiti (OW1980) – Metro Resources

## Dili

Nick Oats (OW1996) – Social Enterprise

## Guam

Dean Huntsman (OW1984) – Community Projects

## New Zealand

🦁 Nick Sautner (OW1994) – CEO Sports

## Australia

Gio Fitzpatrick (OW2014) – Conservation  
Isobel Hymer (OW2014) – Medicine  
Harriet Johnson (OW2013) – Hospitality  
Adam Sasinowski (OW2009) – Medicine  
Lauren Thurin (OW2008) – Commerce  
Lucy Richards (OW2006) – Social Enterprise  
Carolyn Dunstan (OW2004) – Education/Small Business  
Ollie Howard (OW2003) – Hospitality  
Chantal Hoare (OW1998) – Fashion  
Julian Clark (OW1996) – CEO Hospitality  
Kick Gurry (OW1994) – Actor/Entertainment

## Dubai

🦁 Andrew Sayers (OW1995) – Sales (Aviation) Travel

## Mozambique

Andrea Biden (OW1993) – Marine Biology

## Rwanda

Trent Knox (OW1997) – Hospitality

## South Africa

Fred Cilliers (OW2001) – Musician



**Global OW Contact**  
See page 50 for details.



# Saviour of the Reef

He's probably the greatest conservationist hero you've never heard of. Unlike David Attenborough, Jacques Cousteau or Steve Irwin, his name is virtually unknown, but John Büssst (OW1927) is an environmental giant, for he was instrumental in saving the Great Barrier Reef.

Paul Munn uncovers his story.



John Büssst (OW1927)

He was a hard drinking, hard partying, very funny man who fancied himself an artist. And yet this same man, facing enormous obstacles, ultimately led a successful eight-year, worldwide campaign to save our Great Barrier Reef from ruination by mining and oil drilling. How did this happen?

Born into a wealthy Bendigo family in 1909, John Büssst attended Wesley from 1919 to 1927. Notably, he began a life-long friendship with future Prime Minister Harold Holt while at school, and they shared a room at Queens College when they both studied at the University of Melbourne. Unlike Holt, however, who went on to practise law before entering politics, Büssst dropped out after little more than a year, opting to embrace Melbourne's nascent bohemian scene instead.

*'a slender, enthusiastic man full of laughter, a compulsive smoker and a lover of good company'*

He wanted to become an artist, and first stop on that journey was the Montsalvat artist's colony in Eltham. He helped build the stone and mudbrick commune, and lived there for some time before following well-known artist Noel Wood to Bedarra Island in north Queensland in 1940. It was a significant move, for there he fell in love with the natural world, and became obsessed with the science of ecology.

1940 was significant for another reason: aged 31, he inherited half the family fortune, the other half going to his sister, Phyllis. Together they bought most of the island, and he also set about spending some of that fortune on enjoying himself – he loved a drink, and he loved to party. Fellow activist Judith Wright, the celebrated poet, described him as 'a slender, enthusiastic man full of laughter, a compulsive smoker and a lover of good company.'

His first passion had been painting, but soon enough he would find his true calling as a conservationist, and he would become a formidable warrior for the natural world.

In the 1950s he married, sold up Bedarra Island, and moved to Bingil Bay, just north of Mission Beach. His activism began when he became involved with campaigns to save north Queensland's rainforests, and it was here that he learnt how to be an effective campaigner.

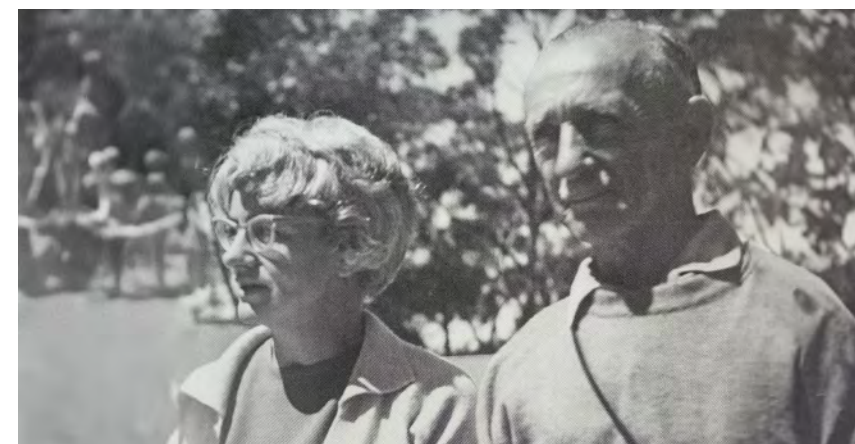
By the 1960s, the Reef and surrounding rainforests were under lethal threat. In 1967, at the helm of the 'Save the Reef' campaign, John coordinated a number of influential environmental groups who brought a court case against cane farmers who had applied to mine Ellison Reef, just north of Bingil Bay, for agricultural lime, falsely claiming the reef was dead. They narrowly won the case, and the legal precedent was set for not mining the Reef.

Then a bigger battle ensued to protect the Reef from oil exploration. The Queensland Government had granted leases on huge tracts for companies to drill for oil. Büssst had been leading the demand for the Commonwealth to take control and ownership of the Reef, but progress was slow, and an Ampol oil rig was on its way to central Queensland to begin drilling. What to do?

Büssst masterminded a coordinated action with Queensland unions to impose a union black ban on oil rigs drilling the Reef. It was a winning strategy, ultimately stopping oil exploration long enough for a Royal Commission on Oil Drilling to be called, and a new government, led by Gough Whitlam, to enact the legislation to protect the Reef from oil drilling and mining.

How did he do it all? His friend Harry Holt was always in his corner, but just knowing people in high places would never be enough. He worked inclusively with a myriad of people, organisations and media, across a broad political spectrum. His wife Alison, who often typed letters for him, estimated that he had despatched over 4,000 letters around Australia and the globe. His energy and devotion to the cause was prodigious. Saving the Reef was his obsession, and fighting for it took up 99% of his energy. Inevitably, something had to give, and, sadly, it was his marriage.

He continued to work relentlessly as if tomorrow would be his last day on



The poet and the painter: Judith Wright and John Büssst  
(Photo credit: Friends of Ninney Rise, Virginia Edlington Collection)

Earth... and then, one day, it was. John had been battling throat cancer for most of the Save the Reef campaign, and in April of 1971, he finally succumbed.

Four years after his death, the Commonwealth took over the Reef's management with the establishment of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act, and it became the world's largest marine protected area. Finally, in 1981, the Great Barrier Reef gained UNESCO World Heritage status.

A truly remarkable man, John Büssst was a pioneer defender of the environment. With our natural environment again under such monumental threat, we are sorely in need of more warrior protectors like him.

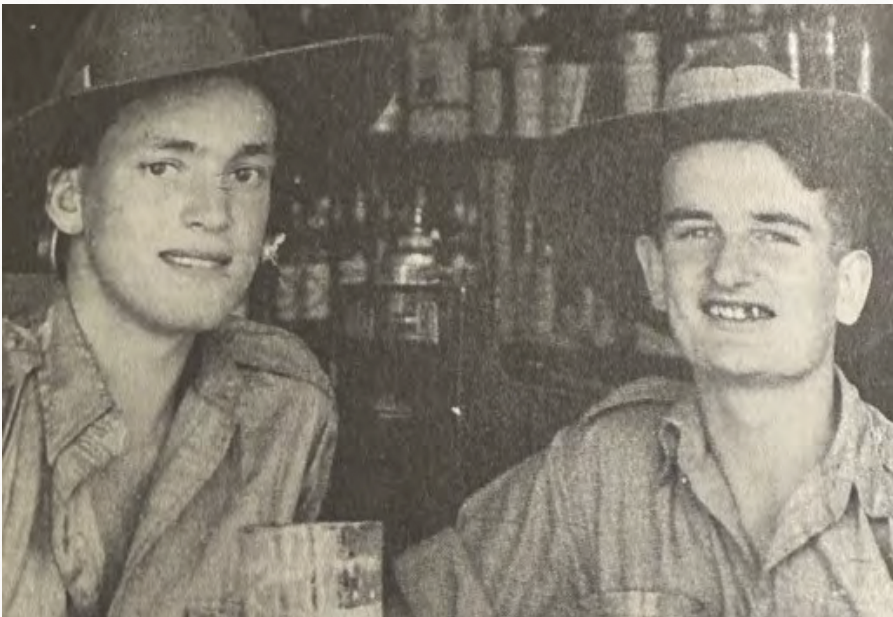
John's memorial plaque on the rocks at Bingil Bay  
(Photo credit: Liz Gallie)

“  
*John Büssst*  
*Artist & lover of beauty*  
*Who fought*  
*That man and nature*  
*Might survive*  
”



# WESLEY in World War II

80 years have passed since the end of World War II, but despite the march of time, that tumultuous, momentous period in our history, which saw nearly one million Australians enlist and 40,000 die, still haunts us and remains deeply personal for many Wesley families.



Jager (OW1930) and Travers (OW1936) enjoy a well-earned beer in Cairo after their escape

Wesley great grandfathers, grandfathers, fathers, uncles and brothers served in the war, and while the spectrum of their experience can never be fully absorbed, Fellow of the College and former Vice President of the College Council Philip Powell (OW1973) has spent the last three years researching and writing a comprehensive account of the war experience of the more than 1800 OWs who served. His research provides a fascinating overview of the tragedies and triumphs, sacrifices and successes of OWs at war.

‘OWs were everywhere,’ says Philip. ‘In nearly every action involving the Australian army or air force or navy... invariably an OW was there.’

The greatest numbers of OWs served in the army and saw action across the major theatres of war. We had four serving army generals: George Vasey (OW1907), Edward Milford (OW1908), John Whitelaw (OW1909) and Herbert Lloyd (OW1898). Notably, as Commander of the 7th Division in Borneo, it was Milford who accepted the Japanese surrender in that area in September 1945.

While OW involvement in the more august events is well recorded, the research also uncovers a healthy number of stories about Wesley larrikins.

Take, for example, the exploits of Charlie Jager (OW1930) and Ben Travers (OW1936) who were captured by the Germans during the Battle of Crete in May 1941. They escaped into the mountains and lived with the locals for some time, before Jager was recaptured and interrogated by the Gestapo. He promptly escaped again, and they both fled by boat to Greece, where they purloined a sailboat and sailed to Egypt, getting shot at by both the German and the British air forces on the way!

The navy was the first into action in 1939, and those OWs that joined saw action around the world. Later in the war, nearly all of the young lads who left Wesley went to the navy. ‘Joining the navy was the quickest way to see action,’ says Philip. ‘You’d go down to Cerberus, have three or four weeks of training, then you’d be on a boat.’

Philip’s research also uncovered the contributions of the women who joined the war effort: MLC Elsternwick, now Wesley’s Elsternwick Campus, saw at least 19 former students serve, mainly in the army, from 1942 when Japan entered the war.

152 OWs died in World War II. Although less than a third of our OWs served in the air force, they made up more than half of

our total wartime casualties. The urgent need for pilots, navigators, wireless operators and maintenance crews called for young, intelligent men who had excelled at school. Tragically, the rigours of training proved deadly for many, with mechanical failures and crashes claiming the lives of at least 18 OWs before they even saw combat. At war, we lost several fighter pilots and coastal patrol flyers, but the attrition rates in Bomber Command were infamously high, and 34 OWs lost their lives flying bomber missions.

*‘Never has a British officer and a German soldier danced such a happy jig when they met one another.’*

Legendary Wesley teacher Jack Kroger was famous amongst the Wesley boys of the late 1940s and 50s for his WWII exploits, notably an adventurous escape from the Germans on a railway train that was moving PoWs from Italy into Germany after the Italian surrender in 1943. Escaping to Switzerland, Captain Kroger made his way back to Australia in 1944, was promoted to Major, and went on to serve in the Borneo campaign.

Interestingly, we also had an OW who served on the other side. Werner Wildermuth (OW1936) came from Germany to Wesley in 1935 and was in Jack Kroger’s class. A strong athlete, he won the 880 yards for Wesley at the APS sports in 1935, then played football and matriculated in 1936 before returning to Germany to start an engineering degree in 1937. In 1939, he was conscripted into the German army and, with the nickname of ‘Aussie’, served in France, Russia, Greece and Italy.

He contrived to be captured by the allies in Italy in 1944 and was sent to Egypt. Having by now rejoined his division in North Africa, Jack Kroger met his old student at the PoW camp where he was being held. Fondly recalling their reunion, Jack recounted, ‘Never has a British officer and a German soldier danced such a happy jig when they met one another.’

Philip’s book, tentatively called *Come on Wesley*, should be published later this year, fittingly coinciding with the 80th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific.

## Under the same Moon

### An Australian battalion at war and a family at home

*The HMT Orcades looked a splendid sight as she weighed anchor and sailed out of Colombo harbour...*

Reads like the opening line from a Joseph Conrad novel, doesn’t it? But the adventure that follows actually recreates the lived experience of a Wesley family thrust into the turmoil of the Second World War.

A work of ‘creative non-fiction’, the recently released *Under the same Moon* by Peter Mitchell (OW1966) intricately weaves together the lives of the Mitchell family, their sons, and the men of the battalion they join, all set against the backdrop of a bygone Australia during World War II.

Peter’s parents, Clarence (Cal) (OW1931) and Jean, had died within a few weeks of each other in 2000. The book’s genesis occurred with Peter’s discovery of a trove of their personal papers

and other effects, including complete correspondence between the two of them between 1939 and 1945, other letters from family members and army friends, official documents, photograph albums, almost 20 hours of recorded history on cassettes, and unpublished memoirs.

Peter’s book offers a deeply personal exploration of the lesser-known Australian campaign in the Middle East. It captures the dramatic separation of a group of men from their Australia-bound convoy and their arrival in Java, teetering on the brink of collapse. The narrative also illuminates the fears and anxieties of families left in the dark.

*Under the same Moon* has already met with high praise. Author and speech writer Don Watson said, ‘As a contribution to the extensive history of Australia at war, and as a human story, it’s a gem.’



## A new name for the WWII OW Honour Roll



**John ‘Jack’ Robert James (OW1937)** has been added to our WWII OW Honour Roll, following revelations about his short life recently uncovered when a family member donated some of his Wesley items to us.

Jack was born in Grahamvale, near Shepparton. His family were orchardists and helped establish well-known food company SPC. His parents sent him to Wesley to enhance his prospects of getting a job with a bank, which he did in 1938.

A clerk with the National Bank in Sale, he enlisted on 12 October 1940 after prior militia service. He trained locally and got his flying badge in April 1941.

Where OWs served in WWII:	
Army	1,073
Air Force	556
Navy	184
Royal Air force	9
British army	8
Merchant Navy	4
Royal Navy	4
Malayan Volunteer Units	2
Indian Army	1
NZ Forces	1
South African Forces	1
Tonga Defence Unit	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,844</b>

He arrived in Egypt in July of that year and joined the RAAF 450 Squadron in October. He was injured in a landing mishap in February 1942 and was reprimanded for his role in an early morning disturbance at a Cairo club in April 1942.

On 8 June 1942, flying a Kittyhawk, he was escorting fighter bombers to attack enemy positions at Bir Hakeim, Libya. He was instructed to strafe the enemy with machine gun fire and met with intense anti-aircraft fire. He was initially posted missing in action and, sadly, later presumed to have died on that mission.

He had 43 sorties before his death at just 21 years of age. His name is recorded on the Alamein Memorial, El Alamein War Cemetery. He brings the total number of recognised deaths of OWs in WWII to 152.

His name will be added to the Honour Boards in the library and the Book of Remembrance in the chapel at the St Kilda Road Campus.



Lest we forget.



Wesley Junior School Boarding in the War Years: 1943 – 1945



Photo courtesy of the Australian War Memorial

The Back Turf at Wesley College, looking towards Punt Road and the Chapel. As headquarters for Military Ordinance for the entire Australian Army, it became a testing and storage site for sophisticated military equipment and was trenched with air-raid shelters in 1942-1943



Peter Norman OAM (OW1949) c.1951

Peter Norman OAM (OW1949) was a boarder in the Junior School at Wesley during World War II when, in 1942, the St Kilda Road school was acquired by the Australian Army as Headquarters for Military Ordinance for the entire army, and the Senior School relocated to Scotch College. The Junior School relocated to St Margaret’s School in Mayfield Avenue, Malvern.

Here Peter recollects his childhood experiences in these dramatic years:

*‘I began boarding at Punt Road Junior Boarding School in 1942 when my father enlisted for war service. In 1943, we relocated to Bromley on Irving Road in Toorak, a large mansion in spacious grounds with many large rooms.*

*The older boys slept inside in dormitory style rooms and the younger (and hardier!) boys slept dormitory-style on the upstairs verandah, with heavy canvas blinds to shield us from the weather. It was quite comfortable in the warmer weather, but for much of the year we needed warm blankets and moved speedily going to bed and getting up in the morning.*

*Our clothes were in cupboards in a room inside the house, so after showering we dressed in comfortable conditions. Overall, the ambience was that it was a pleasant place to live.*

*The Junior School at Mayfield Avenue meant a walk of several kilometres each way, up and down hills and valleys. It took 30-45 minutes which tested our resolve on many days, particularly during the winter months – unless you were lucky enough to have a penny and could catch the tram.*

*In 1944, the Junior Boarding House relocated to Kooringa on Hamilton Road, in Malvern, another large mansion, which backed onto St Margaret’s School, so the walk to school was now only a two-minute stroll.*

*Both Bromley and Kooringa had large gardens, but Kooringa was larger, less formal and more rambling, and had a vacant paddock attached. During the year, we would collect burnable rubbish and build a bonfire on the vacant paddock; on 5 November, Guy Fawkes Night, we would have a great night of fireworks, supervised by the Housemaster.*

*We were well fed by both boarding house and wartime rationing standards, and often at weekends, the baker would deliver bread in his horse and cart and would give us a loaf or two of fresh bread to fill the void.*

*In 1946, the Junior school returned to Punt Road, and I moved to the Senior College boarding house. While many did not enjoy boarding, I still regard the years I spent as a boarder at Wesley, both at Junior and Senior School, as some of the happiest years of my early life.’*

Peter Norman OAM (OW1949)

Honouring tradition through music



Drum Major Harrison Merrifield leads the St Kilda Road Campus Marching Band

Wesley College has a long and proud history of military service and community engagement, so it was fitting that our new St Kilda Road Campus Marching Band made its debut at the 2025 Anzac Day Commemoration parade.

The ensemble brought colour, music and solemn tribute to this important national occasion. With instruments ranging from flute to sousaphone, the band reflected the diversity and unity of our Wesley community.

Drum Major and staff member Harrison Merrifield captured the spirit of the moment: ‘The marching band stands as a fitting tribute to Wesley College’s heritage of service and our commitment to developing well-rounded students. Through music, our students are learning the values of discipline, collaboration and community - echoing the spirit of those who came before them.’

Year 11 student Martina (alto saxophone) said, ‘I feel incredibly proud and humbled to have represented our community at such a significant event. I hope this is the start of a new tradition.’

Scan here and Watch the St Kilda Road Campus Marching Band at the 48 minute mark of the parade



Booktown flourishes with help from Group 101



Going floral: Clunes students create a wall of colour for the Kid’s Village

The Kid’s Village at the Clunes Booktown Festival was constructed with an extra flourish this year, when our students from Group 101 decorated the space to resemble an enormous garden. Given Costa from Gardening Australia was taking part, sharing stories about

flowers and creating flower craft with children, the floral theme they chose was particularly apt. Our ‘Be Creative’ art elective students made streamers, giant banners, signs and even a wall stand hung with ‘kokodamas’ (Japanese moss balls) to create the effect.

‘It was pretty fun during the process of setting up for Booktown,’ said art elective student Natalia. ‘I got to make some cool stuff that people from outside saw when they came to the event.’

Clunes was buzzing with excitement as book lovers flocked to the festival. All of our students volunteered in some capacity over the weekend, working in various roles alongside members of the local community. They took great pride in welcoming visitors from near and far, eagerly sharing the knowledge they had gained throughout their time at Clunes. Locals praised their genuine enthusiasm, with many students also contributing to the entertainment, adding to the vibrant atmosphere.

‘The musical performances at Booktown showcased their talent and the fun spirit we’ve come to expect from this group,’ said Tara Clark, Head of Wesley at Clunes. ‘It was heartwarming to see them supporting one another in the audience as well. I couldn’t be prouder of them all.’





Campus snapshots

Girls’ First XI receive ‘baggy purple’ honours



Wesley Girls’ First XI don their 'baggy purples'

In a proud and historic moment, Wesley’s Girls’ First XI Cricket team received their first-ever baggy purple caps at the end of the summer season, marking a major milestone in the growth of girls’ cricket at the College.

A long-standing symbol of pride in the boys’ program, the baggy purple now celebrates the girls’ dedication, teamwork and development. For the players, receiving the cap was both empowering and emotional.

‘It’s very special to receive a Baggy Purple,’ said Captain Mikayla (Year 12). ‘It’s a reward for all our hard work.’

Vice-Captain and boarder Acacia (Year 12), who joined the boys’ team when she came to Wesley in Year 10, added, ‘I saw how much it meant to the boys. Now we’re building something for future generations of girls to aspire to.’

Wesley’s girls’ cricket has come a long way - from early participants having to join boys’ teams to now proudly fielding over 20 passionate girls competing in two dedicated teams, fuelling the sport’s momentum. The program also boasts three state-level players - Mikayla, Acacia and Eva (Year 9), who is currently in contention for selection in Australia’s U19 T20 World Cup team in 2026.

Girls’ Cricket at Wesley is not just making history; it’s setting the standard for generations to come.

Grow Your Mind podcast goes global



Sound technician Cinnamon Nippard records Mia for the podcast

The acclaimed *Grow Your Mind* podcast, which champions social and emotional learning and plays a key role in Wesley College’s wellbeing curriculum, has listeners tuning in from over 140 countries.

Excitingly, in March, five Year 7 students from the Elsternwick Campus - Lucy, Mia, Lucian, Christopher and Yvette, got to share their voices with this global audience in two brand new episodes to launch Series 5:

- Episode 1 - Invisible Sam (kindness)
- Episode 2 - Belonging and Inclusion are BFFs.

These episodes explored powerful themes of kindness, inclusion and standing up to racism, encouraging listeners of all ages to be active upstanders in their communities.

Working closely with podcast producer Alice Peel, the students wrote and recorded the episodes on campus,

supported by professional sound technicians who ensured a polished, high-quality production.

This experience formed part of their 2024 PYP Exhibition, reflecting the central idea: The information we are given can influence what we think about communities.

Through this project, the students turned learning into meaningful action, using storytelling to promote empathy, inclusion and social justice.

Reflecting on the experience, Mia said, ‘No matter who you are, or where you are, you can be an upstander against racism by calling it out.’

‘It’s important to stand up for what is right in your community,’ added Lucy, highlighting the courage it takes to lead with integrity.

Tune in to *Grow Your Mind* (Series 5) here:

Bringing our school to life through student art



Year 11 artists Theresa (left) and Helen with William, Elle, Mia and Hudson from Year 2

The Glen Waverley Campus has undergone a stunning transformation, with the doors to the Lynch Multimedia Room now adorned with photographic artworks by past and present IB DP students, bringing new life to the Senior School cafeteria area.

Carefully curated by Head of Visual Arts, Michele Maher, these pieces not only celebrate the diverse beauty of Victoria’s landscapes, but also highlight the exceptional artistic skill required for such a prominent display. This installation stands as a testament to our students’ talent and creativity, turning the space into an inspiring visual experience for everyone to enjoy.

‘The artwork makes the space feel much more welcoming and showcases students’ work across generations, which is really valued at Wesley,’ said Kirra (Year 12).

Jensen (Year 12, IB DP) added, ‘It’s inspiring to see student artwork integrated into the Senior School. It fosters a sense of belonging and encourages us to contribute to the school’s legacy.’

This celebration of student creativity continues in the Junior School, with Year 11 students Helen and Theresa bringing a splash of colour to the playground with a vibrant rainbow mural.



The doors to the Lynch Multimedia Room following their stunning transformation

‘Our goal was to use our love of art to spread positivity and inclusivity within the school, brightening the space and bringing smiles to the students’ faces,’ said Theresa.

They certainly achieved their goal, taking time to visit the Junior School to connect with Year 2 students and hear firsthand the joy their artwork has brought:

‘I like that there are so many different things to look at in the painting.’

‘Just looking at this makes me smile and feel happier at school.’

The mural is already inspiring future generations of artists, with one student saying, ‘Maybe one day I’ll grow up to be an amazing painter like Helen and Theresa and create something for Wesley too.’

‘Creating this mural means a lot to us,’ said Theresa. ‘We are grateful to everyone who helped make this possible and for the opportunity to contribute to our community.’





Noises Off!

A play about putting on a play, especially when that play is a farce, offers endless possibilities for merriment and madness, and that’s exactly what audiences got with the Adamson Theatre Company’s Senior School production of Michael Frayn’s *Noises Off* last term at the St Kilda Road Campus.

For the uninitiated, *Noises Off* is a stage direction denoting sounds coming from offstage, and the delight with this show is that the whirlwind of offstage mishaps and misadventures, normally hidden from the audience, is placed front and centre.

The young players brought a madcap energy to this production, relishing the opportunity to play larger-than-life characters with generous dollops of slapstick comedy. In short, there was lots of shouting, doors opening and closing and trousers falling down, all timed to perfection.

In Act I, we watch the play in chaotic rehearsal, before the set is flipped in Act II for a literal backstage view of an even more chaotic performance.

‘Act II had no dialogue, making character work and movement essential to the storytelling,’ said Alessi (Year 12), who played Poppy. ‘Working through the humour and physicality of the scenes was incredibly fun.’



Noises Off: lots of shouting, doors opening and closing, and trousers falling down

‘The organised chaos every actor on stage has to portray was definitely a challenge,’ said Jack (Year 12), who played Lloyd, the director. ‘Making sure you’re in the right place at the right time, before you have to go sprinting to do your next action, was quite tiring and often very confusing.’

Ethan (Year 12), agreed. ‘You’ve got to place absolute faith in your cast mates - that they’ll be in the right place, with the right prop, at the right time and be able to improvise with you to cover any mistakes!’

The success of the show was all the more impressive for the fact it came together in five short weeks of rehearsal.

‘Farce relies on timing and precision,’ said Marcus Pinnell, who co-directed with Haley McNally. ‘There’s definitely a misconception that drama is harder to perform than comedy. For comedy to work, you need the show to be incredibly tight and for your audience to be generous. Young actors can only really control one of those things.’

Black Comedy sparkles in the dark



Matt and Olive as Harold and Carol

The curtain had scarcely come down on *Noises Off* when similar merriment and madness ensued at the Glen Waverley Campus with a triumphant production of Peter Shaffer’s celebrated farce, *Black Comedy*. Directed by Head of Student Theatre Marcus Pinnell, the infectious charm of this play lies in its brilliant mix of physical comedy and witty dialogue, highlighting deception, social

pretensions and like all good farces, the absurdity of human behaviour under pressure.

The pressure in *Black Comedy* notably arrives when struggling young sculptor Brindsley Miller ‘borrows’ his absent neighbour’s expensive furniture without permission to impress his guests, but just as they arrive, a power cut plunges his apartment into total darkness. The delicious conceit of the situation is the inversion of reality: the stage is fully lit when the characters are in total darkness, and the stage goes dark when the lights are restored. As the characters fumble through the dark, confusion escalates...

Patrick (Year 11), who played Brindsley, says the added difficulty of pretending to be in complete darkness ‘meant no looking other actors directly in the eyes, no avoiding obstacles, no looking away from where you’d already decided to

go... essentially, ignoring every basic instinct!’ Just one of the many challenges of practical comedy.

Keira (Year 12), who played Brindsley in the alternate cast, agrees: ‘Some parts were painful - throwing myself down the stairs, running into walls and a lot of falling on knees, but thankfully, there were no lasting injuries, which was reassuring for some of my teachers who saw the show!’

The pay-off beyond the pain, of course, was the audience response. ‘My favourite part was seeing the performance come to life when we finally put it on stage,’ says Annabel (Year 12). ‘I remember being perched on the couch as Miss Furnival and listening to the audience crack up over jokes we had heard numerous times during rehearsals. The atmosphere was electric.’

Founders’ Day across the College

Throughout May, Wesley College proudly celebrated 159 years of history with a series of vibrant Founders’ Day assemblies across all campuses. These events blended fun, reflection and tradition, bringing the community together to honour the past, celebrate the present and look to the future.

The festivities were filled with joyful moments, from the appearance of Wes the Lion and a giant birthday cake, to music, dance, confetti and a nostalgic fashion show featuring past uniforms, creating a lively atmosphere while paying tribute to the College’s rich heritage.

Beyond the celebration, Founders’ Day offered a moment of reflection. Students paused to consider the College’s humble beginnings and bold ambitions, inspired by the enduring motto: ‘Dare to be wise’. This spirit of reflection reminded all that while traditions evolve, Wesley’s core values remain a guiding light.

A highlight was the return of Old Wesley Collegians. At our St Kilda Road Campus, Sharelle McMahon (OW1995), a netball legend and Sport Australia Hall of Fame member, shared her inspiring story of resilience. At the Glen Waverley Campus, comedian and broadcaster Richard Stubbs (OW1975) captivated students with humour and wisdom.

At the Junior School, OW staff members Kate Evans (OW1998), Gareth Briglia (OW1995) and Kerrie Penhall (OW1993) joined a special panel, proudly wearing their purple and gold blazers. Their heartfelt stories highlighted how Wesley’s values extend far beyond the classroom. At the Elsternwick Campus, staff celebrated by wearing blazers from different eras, symbolising the enduring Wesley spirit.

Head of Campus, Jacinta Janssens, tested the students’ knowledge of our school’s history, with a campus wide quiz, ‘Who wants to be a Wesley expert!’

Founders’ Day 2025 was more than a celebration, it was a powerful reminder of the legacy, values and unity that define Wesley College. It inspired all to carry forward this proud tradition with passion and purpose.



Happy 159th Birthday Wesley!



Richard Stubbs (OW1975) speaking to students at the Glen Waverley Campus



Sharelle McMahon (OW1995) speaking to students at the St Kilda Road Campus



OW staff members Kate Evans (OW1998), Gareth Briglia (OW1995) and Kerrie Penhall (OW1993)



A special visit from Wes the Lion



Students enjoyed a fashion show of past school uniforms at the Elsternwick Campus, as well as a visit from Wes the Lion





Teamwork delivers APS glory



Our triumphant Boys' Firsts Volleyball Team: 2025 APS Premiers

The summer of 2025 will be remembered as a season of growth, achievement and historic milestones for Wesley College sport.

But the standout moment of the summer was our historic victory in Boys’ Volleyball - APS Premiers for the first time in Wesley College history, sharing the title with Melbourne Grammar.

In the final match of the season against ladder leader Melbourne Grammar, our boys showed the same determination that earned them a gold medal at the 2024 Australian Volleyball Schools Cup on the Gold Coast last year, coming from two sets to one down and holding their nerve to win the fifth and deciding set 15-12 to finish joint premiers.

Coach Mick Stevens was overwhelmed with emotion after this historic victory. ‘The fighting spirit of this team was incredible. They had to face some big moments and showed great maturity under pressure. The belief they had in each other carried them through every challenge, achieving the goal they set for themselves at the start of the season. I am immensely proud of this incredible group.’

Ready to make a difference:  
State Youth Leadership Conference 2025



(L-R) Jess, Ema, Rachel and Caitlin

In March, Year 9 student leaders from the Elsternwick Campus had the opportunity to attend the State Youth Leadership Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre, an event that brought together 1,800 student leaders from Years 7 to 12, from 180 schools across Victoria.

Aiming to equip young leaders with the skills and confidence to become change-makers within their schools and communities, the day-long event was vibrant and engaging, filled with opportunities for students to connect with peers from other schools while reflecting on their own leadership journeys.

Participants heard from three keynote speakers who shared their unique leadership experiences:

**Fiona Sanford**, CEO of The Flourish Journey, a passionate youth advocate and mental health champion committed to empowering young girls.

**Noah Yang**, founder of We Are Mobilise and one of Australia’s Top 100 Future Leaders (AFR). Noah’s charity supports people experiencing homelessness, helping them forge their own paths toward independence.

**Wil Masara**, 22-year-old founder of Youth Leadership Academy Australia - the organisation behind the event and a respected changemaker, social entrepreneur and Gen Z advocate.

Reflecting on the experience, Year 9 leader Rachel said, ‘My biggest takeaway from the conference was learning about all the different tools and questions you can ask yourself to identify what might be holding you back from being the best person you can be.’

Charlotte ‘found it really interesting and inspiring to hear the stories of how people got to where they are today.’

The day left students feeling inspired, empowered and ready to take action in their communities. We’re proud to support them as they take the first steps in their own leadership journeys.

The Archies come to Wesley



The Archies art exhibition at the St Kilda Road Junior School



The much-loved Archies art exhibition at St Kilda Road Junior School began with a flash of inspiration from art teacher Elise Beattie when she was watching the ABC television series, *Finding the Archibald*.

‘I thought it might be a great experience to run a school Archies with students painting an inspiring person they are very connected to,’ says Elise.

Now in its second year, the program encourages our young artists to explore different styles of painting and respond to the artworks in the Archibald and the Junior Archies by creating their own masterpieces on canvas, using acrylic paints, a variety of brushes and styles and collage, with boxes of fabrics, leather, glass tiles and wallpaper donated by a Wesley family of designers.

Each artwork tells a story. From family members and friends, to teachers and sports coaches, students painted portraits of those they deeply admire, bringing their stories to life with vibrant colours and heartfelt artist statements.

Just like last year, kindness, gratitude and inspiration emerged as common themes, values that shine brightly in our Junior School community. Art has the power to connect, inspire, and express gratitude. We are so proud of our students’ creativity and the thoughtfulness behind their incredible work.



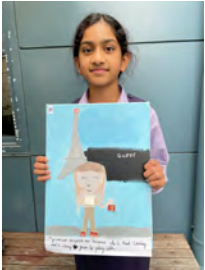
Freya (Prep)



Felix (Year 1)



Ray (Year 2)



Nora (Year 4)

Freya from Prep painted her cousin Amy because ‘she is rather nice and she tells jokes to me.’

Felix from Year 1 painted his dad ‘because he cooks the best food.’ When asked what makes Dad happy, Felix thinks for a brief moment and says ‘That he has me.’

Ray from Year 2 says he was inspired to paint his dad because ‘he’s not one of those dads who kind of just stays inside; he’s one of those outside guys – a sporty person. I wanted to represent that I love him even more than he knows I love him.’

Nora from Year 4 painted her cousin because ‘she’s always looking after me. She’s so kind and I painted her in this exact clothing because she told me it was from Paris. And so I thought, maybe I should draw her in Paris.’

‘The most amazing thing about *The Archies* was the amount of time the word KIND was used in the students’ statements,’ says Elise. ‘Kindness always wins!’

Parents and friends enjoyed seeing the exhibition at the St Kilda Road Junior School. Fernanda, Ray’s mother, said, ‘We love Ray’s portrait and we’re really proud of his achievement. *The Archies* is a great opportunity for all the children to create and share something meaningful. The Art program at Wesley is fantastic.’





Mayo College student exchange



Mayo College exchange students with supervisor, Ms Sethi Garima at the MCG



Mayo College students enjoy the view of Bridgewater Lake from Lochend Campus



Mayo College students enjoyed caving at Lochend with Year 10 students Audrey and Harry, who will travel to India in Term 4 for the return leg of the exchange



Exchange Buddies Audrey and Inaya soak up the Aussie spirit at Brighton Beach

During the month of May, we were thrilled to welcome five students from Mayo College, Ajmer, India to Wesley College Melbourne for the inaugural exchange between our two schools.

Based at our Glen Waverley Campus, the students quickly immersed themselves in classes, cocurricular activities and everyday life at Wesley, connecting with their Wesley Exchange buddies and engaging with students from the Senior School and our boarding community.

They experienced some Aussie classics - a tour of the MCG, a night of bowling and of course, a BBQ dinner! Other adventures included trips to Lochend, Chum Creek and Clunes.

‘I didn’t anticipate how quickly we would bond as a group,’ said Exchange Buddy Audrey (Year 10), one of four Wesley students who will travel to Mayo College later this year as part of the return visit.

‘We found more common ground than differences and I feel proud to have walked beside them as they experienced Wesley College/Aussie life. I am much more prepared and excited for my visit now and know this will be an experience I’ll cherish for the rest of my life.’

Make a WiSSH and see what happens...

A key annual fundraiser in the Middle School at the St Kilda Road Campus, WiSSH (Wesley is Supporting Sacred Heart Mission) just keeps getting bigger every year. The wonderful thing about WiSSH Week, held near the end of Term 1, is that at its core, it’s a genuinely student-led initiative.

Our Middle School classes devise and run a weird and wonderful array of stalls as part of the fundraising effort during lunchtimes across the week. This year, Senior School students also got involved, coming back as WiSSH mentors to their younger peers, and even running their own stalls.

Our chief organiser, Charities and Community Service Prefect Ethan, said students ‘blew it out of the park with some awesome creativity and execution.’

Students buy ‘WiSSH Tokens’ and use them at any of the stalls, be it games of skill and chance, or tables offering delights such as cupcakes or mini pancakes. The showstopper this year was the right dowsing Ethan and Head of Senior School, James Brown, endured as the two people who had ‘earned’ the most tokens for the ice bucket challenge.



Feeling refreshed: Fraser (Year 9) and Eva (Year 12) give Ethan and Mr Brown a right bucketing

‘WiSSH is a logistical beast; the spreadsheet was just about ready to crash the server!’ said Service Learning Coordinator, Claire Meath. ‘Having the school community so engaged helped to create a wonderful sense of community spirit and it really felt as if we were living our ‘Connections that matter’ theme.

This year, an impressive \$10,359 was raised, bringing the total amount raised for Sacred Heart Mission since WiSSH began just four short years ago to over \$45,000.

Remembering a beloved Chum Creek companion



Ready when you are: Bo at Chum Creek

Bo - the gentle black and white border collie who brought joy, comfort and companionship to students at Chum Creek camps from 2012 to 2015, passed away in December last year, but his memory lives on.

Bo wasn’t just a dog; he was part of the Wesley Chum Creek family. Calm and affectionate, Bo helped make camp feel a little more like home. Whether students were heading out for bushwalks or playing outdoor games, Bo was happy to tag along. His favourite pastime was fetch. With so many students eager to take turns throwing the tennis ball for him, Bo was always excited to join in on every camp.

Bo also had a special gift for sensing when someone needed comfort. He loved a pat and tummy rub, so would often sit quietly beside a student, his head resting gently on their knee.

His calm demeanour helped ease nerves and settle homesick hearts and he gave countless students the simple, but powerful, gift of feeling loved.

In his old age, he was spotted by an OW walking the streets near our Glen Waverley Campus. His steps were slower, but his presence unmistakable. This former student, now a young adult, recognised him and came up to say hello. After a quiet moment of greeting and pats, she exclaimed, ‘Bo made such a difference to my camp experience!’

While he retired from camp life in 2015, Bo’s legacy remains. His pawprints are etched not only in the dirt tracks of the campsite, but also in the memories of many students and teachers who shared those special moments with him.

Rest in peace, Bo. You were truly one of a kind!







# Giving 2025 Day

## Honouring our legacy, empowering our future

On 1 May 2025 – coinciding with Founders' Day – the Wesley College community came together for our inaugural Giving Day. In a powerful show of unity and generosity, alumni, parents, staff and friends across generations and campuses joined forces to celebrate Wesley's founding vision and help shape our future.

In 24 hours, we raised \$163,772 towards our 2025 Annual Appeal – a remarkable achievement that reflects the depth of connection, pride and purpose shared across the Wesley community.

We gratefully attribute part of this success to the support of our Matching Partner, Compnow. Their generous matching funds were exhausted in just a few hours – a testament to the passion and commitment of both Compnow and those who gave on the day.

### Inspired by our founders' vision

Giving Day wasn't just about raising funds - the date was chosen with intention. Founders' Day is a time to reflect on the principles that have guided our College since it was established in 1866 - a belief in a progressive and inclusive approach to teaching and learning and the transformative power of a holistic education.

It's a day that honours those who 'dared to be wise' – our founders and the generations who followed – who gave generously to create opportunities for students to grow, thrive and contribute to our community, and to the world.

Their vision was courageous and forward-thinking and their legacy is evident in the vibrant, inclusive and future-focused Wesley College we know today. Giving Day called on the community to continue that legacy, to be part of the next chapter in Wesley's story – and the response was extraordinary.

### People, places and programs – our Giving Day priorities

The funds raised through Giving Day launched the 2025 Annual Appeal, ending 30 June. This year's appeal focused on three key priorities, enabling community members to reflect and give to the area that was most meaningful to them:

- **Scholarships**  
Helping more young people of outstanding potential benefit from life-changing access to a Wesley education, regardless of personal circumstances. Our rigorous Scholarship Program awards a limited number of scholarships across academic excellence, general excellence, music and boarding.
- **Buildings and facilities**  
Transforming learning spaces such as the Punt Road precinct and music and sports facilities, refreshing our historic buildings and preparing for future campus developments. Gifts can be allocated to the campus of your choice.
- **Bursaries**  
Supporting students facing financial challenges to participate in transformative educational programs, such as the Clunes experiential learning program and the Yiramalay Induction Program.

Every contribution – no matter the size – helps us invest in the people, places and programs that make Wesley exceptional.

Compnow was honoured to support Giving Day and help make a difference. As a Wesley parent, it was a joy to be part of such an inspiring and meaningful day. I hope it becomes a lasting tradition.

— Adam Blacklock, CEO Compnow,  
Matching Partner and Wesley parent

“  
'I'm backing the  
Wesley of tomorrow  
– because the Wesley  
of yesterday backed  
my generation’  
”

— Tom Pewtress (OW2018),  
OWCA President

### The impact of collective giving continues

While Giving Day has passed, its momentum continued through the 2025 Annual Appeal ending on 30 June. Many more meaningful contributions were made and helped support the programs and priorities that shape Wesley's future.

We extend our deepest thanks to all who gave so generously on Giving Day - to Compnow for their vital role in bringing our vision to life and amplifying the day's success, and to all who continue to support Wesley's journey.

Together, we are building a future worthy of our past, continuing a legacy of collective generosity – and ensuring that Wesley remains a place where every student can learn, grow and thrive.

To learn more about the 2025 Annual Appeal, visit:  
[wesleycollege.edu.au/community/giving](https://wesleycollege.edu.au/community/giving)

“  
Education is the  
foundation of progress  
and we believe that  
by investing in quality  
infrastructure we can  
create an enriching  
environment for  
students to learn,  
grow and thrive.  
”

— Wesley staff member

“  
There is a strong  
sense among our parent  
community that we're  
part of something bigger.  
We're not only thinking  
about our own children,  
but also what we can  
help make possible  
for future students  
”

— Michelle Marchiori, President  
Wesley Parents, St Kilda Road

### Leaving a legacy: St Kilda Road Parents' Association supports Wesley's future

A highlight of Giving Day 2025 was a generous \$15,000 gift from the St Kilda Road Parents' Association, directed toward buildings and facilities at the St Kilda Road Campus.

Led by President Michelle Marchiori, the Association has spent considerable time engaging with the parent community about how best to support Wesley's evolving needs.

With many committee members also Old Wesley Collegians and many families with children in Senior School, the group's focus is long-term: creating a legacy that will benefit future generations.

The Association hopes their gift will help catalyse the next stage of campus development at St Kilda Road – projects that honour the College's heritage while embracing innovation and excellence.

Their contribution is a powerful reminder of what Giving Day represents: a community united by both a rich history and a shared commitment to Wesley's future.

## A new chapter for the Wesley College Foundation



Foundation Chair, Marianne Stillwell  
and immediate Past Foundation Chair,  
Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990)

I'm thrilled to step into the role of Chair of the Wesley College Foundation. Having served on the College Council as both Director and Chair, I welcome the opportunity to connect with passionate members of the Wesley community on the College's philanthropic mission.

I'd like to warmly acknowledge Nicki Lefkovits (OW1990), who has led the Foundation with energy and dedication over the past seven years. Her passion for Wesley and the importance of giving has inspired many. I'm pleased that Nicki will continue to serve the College in her role as Council Member.

This year, we welcome Cameron Bacon (OW1987), former Chair of the College Council's Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee (FARM) and Hugo Stephenson (OW1991), former Council member, as new Directors. Joanna Johnson will lead FARM as its new Chair.

We are also delighted to welcome former Council member and Foundation Chair, Peter Harrison (OW1969) as Co-Patron of the Sapere Aude Bequest (SABS), joining dedicated Patron, Susie Rodgers-Wilson.



SABS Co-Patrons, Susie Rodgers-Wilson  
and Peter Harrison (OW1969)

SABS plays a vital role in supporting the College's future by cultivating a community of individuals who choose to give through estate planning, as well as through its engaging program of talks, tours and social events.

A heartfelt thank you to the entire Wesley community for your support on Giving Day, where we raised an incredible \$163,772. We were especially encouraged by the number of individual donors, showing the depth of connection across alumni, staff and current and past parents.

A special thanks to our Matching Partner, Compnow, and to our Foundation team for launching both Giving Day and the Annual Appeal.

The Foundation plays a vital role in enabling Wesley's educational mission. We have high aspirations to deliver on expanded scholarship offerings and the underpinning of a new masterplan for the College.

I look forward to engaging with many of you and sharing insights on how the College's Foundation enables the Wesley of the future.

**Marianne Stillwell**  
Chair, Wesley College Foundation





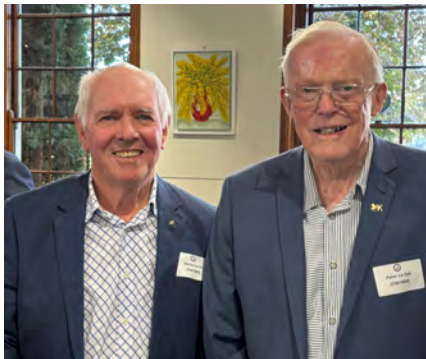
Remembering the service and sacrifice of **Wesley’s WWII Alumni**



Philip Powell (OW1973) shares stories of OWs in World War II



Prof. Geoffrey Blainey AC (OW1947) and Bryan Kenneally, past staff



Darcy Curtis (OW1963) and Peter Le Get (OW1950)



Peter Harrison (OW1969) and Philip Powell (OW1973)



Peter Milford (OW1971), Frank Benjamin (OW1958) and Kate Evans (OW1998)

On Tuesday 15 April, Old Wesley Collegians (OWs), family and friends of Wesley College gathered for an engaging presentation by Fellow of the College and former Vice President of the College Council, Philip Powell (OW1973).

Philip shared an insightful account of the bravery, sacrifice and often unexpected roles played by OWs and MLC Elsternwick alumni who served their country during World War II - shining a light on their enduring legacy more than 80 years on.

Philip’s presentation included captivating stories from notable figures such as Generals George Vasey (OW1907) and Edward Milford (OW1908) and teachers Jack Kroger and Louis ‘Narse’ Lesser (OW1929). Sadly, he also provided details of the deaths of some 152 OWs - from heroes killed in action to regrettable accidents which occurred during training.

Following Japan’s entry into the war in 1942, former MLC Elsternwick students began enlisting in the women’s branches of the military and the Australian Women’s Land Army. Among the 19 women identified are Sgt Judith Overend, Sgt Betty Lorna Ward and staff member, Dr Ruth Blatt.

Philip played a pivotal role in researching and supporting many of the activities commemorating OWs who served in World War I. He is currently finalising a new book, set to be released later this year, which unveils the results of his latest research into the lives and service of the so-called ‘great band of brothers’ – OWs who served with distinction in World War II.

The stories shared really struck a chord with our audience. The Sapere Aude Bequest Society, the Wesley College Foundation and the OWCA would like to publicly acknowledge Philip’s extraordinary contribution to the preservation of the College’s history and to uncovering stories of courage, sacrifice and resilience of our brave OWs and MLC Elsternwick alumni.

Shifting gears: **Wesley driving change on and off the track**



Guest speaker, Krystina Emmanouilides (OW2008), top and centre, Computational Fluid Dynamics Engineer at Stake F1 Team Kick Sauber, in conversation with Andrew Westacott (OW1982) and event host, Pete Lazer (OW1995). Bottom left: Wesley College students Milla and Lola enjoyed learning about career pathways for women in motorsport



The Wesley College Foundation Breakfast at the Formula 1 Louis Vuitton Australian Grand Prix 2025, held on Thursday 13 March at the Albert Park race track, brought members of the Wesley community together to celebrate innovation, leadership and the role of education in shaping future careers.

Guests had the opportunity to hear from two remarkable Old Wesley Collegians who have forged successful careers in the global motorsport industry - Andrew Westacott (OW1982) and Krystina Emmanouilides (OW2008).

As the former CEO of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, Andrew Westacott reflected on his career highlights and his passion for creating opportunities for young people to

engage with motorsport. Under his leadership, the Melbourne Grand Prix introduced programs such as Pit Lane Walks, STEM pathways into the Grand Prix and Grid Kids - all designed to inspire the next generation of motorsport fans and professionals. His contribution to the industry was recently recognised with the 2024 Community Changemaker Award.

Joining Andrew in conversation was Krystina Emmanouilides, Computational Fluid Dynamics Engineer at Stake F1 Team Kick Sauber, who shared her extraordinary journey into the world of Formula 1. As one of the few female engineers working at this level of international motorsport, Krystina spoke candidly about her path from Wesley student to engineer, her passion for problem-solving and the challenges and

opportunities of working in a traditionally male-dominated field.

Host Pete Lazer (OW1995) led the discussion with an engaging and insightful conversation on innovation, career pathways and the future of motorsport, including a compelling segment with renowned German motorsport journalist and broadcaster, Inga Stracke.

With many current students and young alumni in the room - including a strong representation of young women - the Wesley Foundation Breakfast reinforced the College’s commitment to creating an environment where students are encouraged to pursue their passions, embrace new challenges and shape their own futures, wherever they may lead.



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



Seasoned German motorsport journalist and broadcaster Inga Stracke shared behind-the-scenes stories and expert insights from her time in Formula 1

Community Honours 2025

Several members of our Wesley community have been recognised for their accomplishments and service to the wider community in the **2025 Australia Day Honours** and **King’s Birthday Awards**.

We are delighted to extend our congratulations and acknowledge their achievements. Scan the QR code to learn more.





Foundation

In grateful remembrance



Ed Dickinson (OW1955)

We are honoured to recognise a generous bequest from Ed Dickinson (OW1955), who passed away at the age of 86 in October 2023.

Ed often spoke of the lasting impact of a kind gesture from Headmaster W. H. Frederick.

During a school trip to Chum Creek, when Ed was too unwell to join the others on a hike, the headmaster instead invited him to plant the very first pine tree seed - a moment carried out with great ceremony.

Sometime later, Ed was summoned to the headmaster's office - a summons that usually brought dread. But instead, with dramatic flair and joyful excitement, the headmaster spun around, gown swirling, arms waving and exclaimed, 'Dickinson, the seeds are up!'

That memory of kindness, growth and care resonated deeply with Ed. It is beautifully echoed in the stained-glass Frederick Window in the St Kilda Road Chapel, which was designed to represent life and growth. A pinecone, nestled in the design, symbolises not only Frederick's connection to Chum Creek, but also his love of nature and his dedication to the wellbeing of his students.

Ed went on to live an extraordinary life. He became an accomplished author and a celebrated public speaker, winning accolades through the Rostrum Club and international competitions. He shared his passion by teaching speech-making at universities and TAFE colleges, and as a member of the National Speakers Association of Australia.

Former Curator of Collections at Wesley College, Kenneth Park, recalls that Ed was a regular attendee at Sapere Aude Bequest Society events and was always willing to offer words of advice on how to present effectively. 'Ed kept me on my toes,' said Kenneth. 'His praise was fulsome and generous, and his comments were always welcome.'

Ed's generous gift to the Scholarship Fund reflects his enduring belief in the transformative power of education and his commitment to the values instilled in him during his time at Wesley.

We are incredibly grateful for Ed's gift and remember him fondly as a valued member of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Gwen and family.



The stained-glass 'Frederick Window' inside the St Kilda Road Campus Chapel



Ed Dickinson (OW1955) at Chum Creek



The College we know today owes much to the values and vision of our founders and importantly, inspiring acts of generosity through donations, gifts and bequests over many generations.

Thank you to all that have left a gift to the College in their Will.

The Sapere Aude Bequest Society (SABS) was established in 1996 to honour those who have remembered Wesley College in their Will. If you wish to notify us of your bequest to Wesley College, we would

be honoured to welcome you as a member of SABS and to share with you our exciting calendar of events and functions. We are delighted that so many alumni, current and past parents and members of our wider community have experienced the breadth of our SABS events this year.

For a confidential discussion on leaving a Bequest to the College, please contact **Prue Lowther**, Bequest Manager at [prue.lowther@wesleycollege.edu.au](mailto:prue.lowther@wesleycollege.edu.au) or +61 3 8102 6213

An afternoon at the cricket:  
A celebration of Wesley's sporting legacy



(L-R): David Verlinden (OW1982), Paul Montgomery (OW1982) and Mark Samlal (OW1982)



Post match festivities in the Rose Garden

On Friday 21 February, the Sapere Aude Bequest Society gathered under bright sunshine to watch the Wesley College Boys' First XI take on Carey Grammar in the opening day of their two-day match on the Front Turf.

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for OWs and cricket enthusiasts to enjoy the game while reconnecting with old friends and the wider school community. Guests were treated to drinks and canapés in the Rose Garden; the perfect backdrop for cricket and conversation. OWs shared fond memories of their own cricket days at Wesley, creating a vibrant atmosphere of nostalgia.

A standout moment was the post-match Q&A session with Barry Neivandt, the Boys' First XI Coach and Paul Montgomery (OW1982), current Head Coach of Cricket. Their passion for the game was evident as they discussed the development of the school's cricket program, their approach to coaching both the boys' and girls' teams, and the rich history of cricket at Wesley.

As the game reached its conclusion on Day 2, Wesley emerged victorious, with Team Captain Sam, son of Stuart Anderson (OW1992), scoring an impressive 100 not out. The match was a hard-fought contest, right down to the last hour of play, with the final score Wesley 4/229 defeating Carey 225.

The afternoon served as a powerful reminder of the role that sport plays in connecting generations, as well as the enduring legacy of Wesley's sporting community. We can't wait to host this event again in 2026!

Wesley College Foundation Partners

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our Partners towards the College's philanthropic priorities and the Foundation's program and initiatives





President’s report



OWCA President Tom Pewtress (OW2018) with our 2025 School Captains

As 2025 unfolds, the OWCA community has already enjoyed a dynamic and inspiring start to the year. From sporting triumphs to milestone reunions, our network continues to thrive, fuelled by the passion and commitment of our members.

Our annual reunion program kicked off with a series of events across February, March and April, bringing together Old Wesley Collegians to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate shared experiences. We look forward to continuing the program in the second half of the year. I had the pleasure of attending The Boat Race Dinner at Leonda by the Yarra which was a standout evening, bringing together past and present rowers in a more inclusive format that welcomed all senior crews. This continued change has certainly sparked greater interest and is set to become a key fixture for Wesley’s rowing alumni.

The Grand Prix Breakfast at the Chicane Pavilion, Albert Park, was a high-octane event. Guests were treated

to an engaging keynote speech by Krystina Emmanouilides (OW2008), a Computational Fluid Dynamics Engineer at Stake F1 Sauber. Her insights into the world of Formula 1 were captivating.

The Collegians Cricket Club set the tone for the year with a thrilling premiership win early in the year. This victory not only reflects the team’s hard work, but the enduring support of the OWCA. A heartfelt thank you to Rick Morris (OW2004), OWCA Board member and long-time contributor to the club’s success, whose dedication helped pave the way for this achievement. OWCA Bowls, under the dedicated leadership of Richard Sluggett (OW1972), successfully hosted their annual West Brighton event despite an earlier postponement, and I commend the club for their commitment to this valued tradition.

Collegians Car Club marked an exciting milestone with its first OW Auto Day as an official affiliate. More than fifty vehicles lined the Gregory Oval at Glen Waverley Campus, creating an impressive display visible from High Street Road.

Congratulations and thanks to Brad Gavin (OW1994), Alex Iljin (OW1982), Mark Samlal (OW1982), Stephen Grasby (OW1982) and Bruce Van Twest (OW1982) for their vision and leadership in launching the club and making the event such a success.

We celebrated Kate Evans (OW1998), who was named a Fellow of the OWCA at the Founders’ Day Lunch in May. Kate’s leadership as OWCA President, Head of OWCA and now, as interim Director of Community Engagement at Wesley, has driven significant reform and strengthened our community. As only the second female Fellow in OWCA history, she exemplifies the strong female leadership within our alumni.

We also proudly acknowledged Dr Jack Ayerbe (OW1963) for over 20 years of service on the OWCA Board. A visionary leader, Jack has championed reforms in gender inclusion, supported the growth of our affiliates and helped establish the Collegians Future Fund. His recent initiative to support elder OWs has already made a meaningful impact.

I would like to thank everyone who has joined us at an event this year. Your presence helps keep the OW spirit alive and each occasion reinforces the strength of our network - something all members, both current and future, can take pride in. I look forward to seeing more of you in the coming months as the remainder of our 2025 events program unfolds.

Tom Pewtress (OW2018)  
OWCA President

#oldwesleycollegians

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

Interested in becoming involved in the Board? Contact:  
President of the OWCA  
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

2025 Boat Race Dinner:  
Celebrating legacy, leadership and lifelong bonds



Generational Seat photo - 'Three Seat' unite

Held in the days following the Head of the River, the Boat Race Dinner remains a cherished Wesley tradition. It is a night steeped in legacy, camaraderie and celebration of our vibrant rowing community across generations.

The 2025 dinner drew a full and enthusiastic crowd of alumni, students, parents and coaches. It was a lively evening marked by genuine connection, shared memories and plenty of conversation - a reflection of the strong community that continues to surround Wesley rowing.

This year also saw the welcome return of the traditional song *Bow, You're Hurrying*, adding a touch of nostalgia and unity to the evening’s program.

Guests enjoyed heartfelt toasts from Simon McCloskey (OW2004) and Cath Thomas (McArthur) (OW1996), each offering their reflections on the friendships, values and life lessons formed through rowing at Wesley and honouring rowing parents and coaches.

Captains of Boats 2024 Caitlin Woods (OW2024) and Hunter Issacs (OW2024) offered a toast to current crews and they responded with a vote of thanks to the community and an update on their season.

A standout moment of the evening was a special conversation between dual Olympian and former Australian rower Frank Hegerty OLY and Wesley’s Head Coach of Rowing, Matt Ryan.

He spoke candidly about his personal battle with lymphoma, highlighting the importance of resilience and the support of the rowing community during challenging times. His story served as a powerful reminder of the strength found in both sport and community.

Another highlight of the night was the presentation of the Paul Guest Medal - an award given to a current first crew rower who has demonstrated exceptional inspiration, leadership and humility.

Named in honour of Paul Guest (OW1957) - Olympian and lifelong champion of rowing - the medal was first awarded in 2020 and recognises not just athletic ability, but the character and spirit that elevate a crew and leave a legacy.

Voted by the current First VIII crews, this year’s medal was presented by Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) to Tom (Year 12, Glen Waverley Campus), a rower widely respected for his integrity, work ethic and leadership, both on and off the water.

A major talking point on the night was the unveiling of the Generational Seat photo series - a moving visual tribute to Wesley rowers across the decades. Alumni were photographed in the seat they once rowed, grouped by position, creating a powerful testament to the enduring spirit of the sport.

Each image captured stories of challenge, triumph and the shared identity of those who’ve sat in the same seats - years apart, yet with a shared experience.

Adding a unique and generous touch to the evening, an auction was held for a beautifully crafted rowing boat coffee table. The proceeds will go towards supporting the Wesley Rowing Parents Support Group and ensuring the ongoing success of the Boat Race Dinner for years to come.

The 2025 Boat Race Dinner was more than a celebration - it was a living expression of Wesley’s rowing legacy: bold, enduring and deeply human. With traditions honoured, stories shared and future leaders recognised, the spirit of Wesley rowing continues to inspire and connect generations.

YOUR OWCA

OWCA Board

President

Tom Pewtress (OW2018)

Vice President

Alessia Francese (OW2016)

Treasurer

Rob Lancaster (OW1982)

Secretary

Emma Carney (OW1989)

Board Members

Frank Opray (OW1963)

Alex Iljin (OW1982)

Kunal Rastogi (OW2002)

Rick Morris (OW2004)

Luca Jolson (OW2022)

Jen Talyor (OW2023)

Oscar Leeton (OW2024)





# Collegians Car Club ignites automotive enthusiasm at the OWCA Auto Day 2025



A beautiful way to spend a sunny Sunday morning at the Glen Waverley Campus



(L-R): Brad Gavin (OW1994) President, Collegians Car Club, Tom Pewtress (OW2018) President, OWCA, Stephen Grasby (OW1982), Alex Iljin (OW1982), Mark Samlal (OW1982) and Bruce Van Twest (OW1982)

The day's festivities included the presentation of three playful awards:



**People's Choice:**  
Voted by attendees, this award honouring the most beloved car on display was presented to Zac Calabro (OW2004) for his Jaguar E-type.



**Organisers' Choice:**  
Chosen by the CCC, this award honoured a vehicle that truly captured the spirit of the event and was presented to Andrew Wood (OW1996) for his E9 BMW.



**Best Worst Decision:**  
Celebrating the quirkiest and most unconventional vehicle, this award, a tribute to the owner's bold and daring choices - went to the proud owner of a stretched Land Cruiser.



**Join Collegians Car Club today!**  
Connect with fellow Wesley alumni and friends who love classic, vintage and street-rod vehicles. For just \$50 a year, enjoy exclusive drive days, social events, VicRoads Club Permit support and receive a club cap and sticker.  
Whether you're a returning member or new to the club, now is the perfect time to join. As a VicRoads-registered club, we make it easy to add or renew your Club Permit Scheme.  
Follow us on socials @collegianscarclub and join the ride!



# Wesley College's 1965 First VIII Crew Reunited at 2025 APS Regatta



Members of the 1965 First VIII crew with Principal Nick Evans (OW1985)

At the 2025 APS Regatta at Nagambie Lakes, six members of Wesley College's legendary 1965 First VIII crew reunited to mark the 60th anniversary of their historic Head of the River victory.

Thanks to 'The Social Ramble' bus service and support from the Old Wesley Collegians Association and the College, Stephen Bennett (OW1965), Chris Manson (OW1965), Robert Price (OW1966), Peter Sandow (OW1966), Mark Stephens (OW1965) and David Troon (OW1966) travelled north to join the celebration.

As honoured guests of the APS Delegates Committee, they enjoyed a special luncheon overlooking the finish line alongside other past champions. It was a day to reconnect, reminisce and reflect on the enduring bonds forged through rowing.

Watching the current rowers compete, the 1965 crew shared memories of their challenges and teamwork, inspiring all with their timeless dedication. Their presence celebrated not only a past triumph, but the ongoing legacy of excellence and camaraderie that defines Wesley College rowing.

# Tall Ships – Still sailing strong



The Tall Ships lunch, April 2025

One of the most remarkable alumni groups within the Old Wesley community is arguably the quaintly named Tall Ships group.

Founded by three fiercely strong Wesley supporters - Jack Joel OAM (OW1949) (dec), Gordon Newton OAM (OW1950) and Geoff Wagstaff (OW1949) (dec), the group began meeting as a monthly luncheon gathering in 1988 at the Tall Ships Restaurant in Port Melbourne. This was during the Bicentenary celebrations when a fleet of 'tall ships' visited Port Melbourne, re-enacting the First Fleet's voyage.

From its modest beginnings, the group grew steadily to include around 30 Old Wesley Collegians from the late 1940s and early 1950s. It has continued to meet monthly despite the closure of its original venue, and today the Tall Ships group meets at the Malvernvale Hotel on the first Wednesday of each month, except in December, when they gather for a Christmas lunch at the Wesley boatsheds on the Yarra.

Many of this group have given outstanding service to Wesley over the decades, and include members of the College Council, Presidents of the

OWCA, the founding President of the Wesley College Foundation, long-term staff members and keen supporters of Collegians Football Club. Many have been honoured for their service, recognised as Fellows of the College and Fellows of the OWCA, and have been substantial donors and/or bequestors.

In recent years, with numbers dwindling, the group has welcomed wives and family members to the luncheons, along with a younger generation of OWs who have brought renewed energy to the group.

As the photograph from the April 2025 luncheon illustrates, the camaraderie and Wesley spirit remain strong. With stories of Wesley days gone by continuing to flow freely, the Tall Ships group sails on, buoyed by loyalty, legacy and lasting friendships shared by members such as Gordon Newton OAM (OW1950), Andrew Torok (OW1951), Peter Le Get (OW1950), Susie Rodgers-Wilson (SABS Patron), Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), Frank Benjamin (OW1958), Jan Barry, Jim Barry AM MBE (OW1950), Frank Opray (OW1963), Peter Norman OAM (OW1949), Barry Fenton (OW1951), John Partridge (OW1950) and John Westacott OAM (OW1951).





Founders' Day Lunch 2025



MC Mark Hibbins (OW1978) and panellists Alastair Clarkson, Hannah Singleton (OW2014) and current staff member, Darren Crocker

On Friday 16 May, the Wesley College community came together for a truly unforgettable lunch at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club. With record-breaking attendance, this year’s event was the largest in its history, a testament to the strength and unity of the College network.

Hosted by the OWCA and MC Mark Hibbins (OW1978), the afternoon celebrated Wesley’s proud connection to AFL and AFLW. The highlight of the event was a dynamic panel discussion featuring voices from across the Wesley football community: Alastair Clarkson, Hannah Singleton (OW2014) and current staff member, Darren Crocker. Their conversation explored the many dimensions of Australian Rules Football, from grassroots beginnings to elite competition, coaching philosophies and community impact.

Alastair Clarkson is one of the most accomplished coaches in AFL history. From his early days as a bus driver and teacher at Wesley to leading Hawthorn to four premierships, and now as Head Coach of North Melbourne, Clarkson’s story is one of resilience, vision and connection. One guest recalled him inviting his Year 7 PE students to his wedding in the Wesley Chapel, which provided a touching reminder of the bonds that last a lifetime.

Hannah Singleton (OW2014), Head of Programs & Impact at the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, brought a powerful and inspiring perspective on the role of sport in shaping lives and communities. Her journey from Wesley student to inaugural Collegians AFLW team member to community leader has been marked by a steadfast commitment to inclusion, gender equity and social impact.

Darren Crocker, a former premierships player, current Wesley College AFL Development Coach and Head Coach of North Melbourne’s AFLW team, offered a fascinating look into the rapidly evolving world of women’s football. His leadership has guided the team to finals appearances every season, culminating in an historic premierships in 2024. Crocker’s insights into player development, leadership and the future of the game resonated deeply with the audience, highlighting the importance of adaptability and vision in today’s sporting landscape.



Alastair Clarkson, former Wesley staff member turned AFL legend and current senior coach of the North Melbourne Football Club



Hannah Singleton (OW2014), Head of Programs and Impact at the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation



Darren Crocker, AFL Development Coach at Wesley College and Head Coach of the North Melbourne AFLW team

Adding a current perspective, Brent Thiele, Head Coach, Football, shared updates on Wesley’s football program, noting the increasing competitiveness of the APS system, where 25% of AFL draft picks now come from APS schools. His remarks underscored the importance of nurturing talent and maintaining excellence in both our boys’ and girls’ football programs.

The afternoon concluded with the traditional singing of College songs, led by ‘A Chorus Lion’ and our 2025 School Captains. Guests left with full hearts, renewed friendships and a deepened appreciation for the legacy of being part of ‘the best school of all’.



(L-R:) Frank Opray (OW1963), Kate Evans (OW1998), Doug Oldfield (OW1970) and Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)

Founders’ Day Lunch also provided the perfect opportunity to recognise the remarkable contributions of two distinguished Old Wesley Collegians - Ms Kate Evans (OW1998) and Dr Jack Ayerbe (OW1963).

Kate Evans’ recognition as a Fellow of the OWCA is a milestone in more ways than one. As only the second woman to receive this honour, Kate’s appointment is both historic and deeply deserved. From her early leadership as College Captain to her four years as OWCA President, Kate has shown unwavering commitment to the Wesley community. Her service on the OWCA Board has been characterised by integrity, vision and tireless dedication to fostering connection among alumni.

We also honoured the remarkable legacy of Dr Jack Ayerbe, whose decades of dedicated service and leadership in governance, alumni engagement and community building have left an enduring impact, profoundly shaping the direction and culture of the OWCA.



(L-R): Special guests: Alistair Clarkson, Darren Crocker, Hannah Singleton (OW2014) and Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985)



Our 2025 School Captains join ‘A Chorus Lion’ for the singing of ‘Wesley Now and Always’

Connect with your OW network

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

Follow us on  

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





# Reunions

Glen Waverley Campus (OW2000)  
25 Year Reunion



Glen Waverley Campus (OW2005)  
20 Year Reunion



St Kilda Road Campus (OW1965)  
60 Year Reunion



St Kilda Road Campus (OW1975)  
50 Year Reunion





St Kilda Road Campus (OW2000)  
25 Year Reunion



St Kilda Road Campus (OW2005)  
20 Year Reunion



St Kilda Road and Glen Waverley Campuses (OW2015)  
10 Year Reunion



St Kilda Road and Glen Waverley Campuses (OW2020)  
5 Year Reunion





Affiliates



New Life Member Ian Rice (OW1972)



Max Pinchbeck (OW2019) and Nick Canny enjoy that winning feeling

Collegians Football Club

After a strong pre-season, we headed into the 2025 season with optimism for a better on-field performance across our teams.

As we approach a third of the way through the season, we are sitting mid-table in the Seniors.

Again, we face challenges with injuries to key personnel that provide opportunities for our younger players to get involved at the highest level.

Our other teams have had a strong start and are well positioned to have a chance at September action.

Our women's program for 2026 is starting to take shape, with some key appointments to be announced in the coming months.

We would like to thank our loyal partners as without their generous support, we wouldn't be able to provide the level of coaching and medical support to our players as we do.

It was a privilege to sit in on the Strategic Plan Sub-Committee and see the enthusiasm of the group to lay the platform and discuss a plan for the club over the next five years.

The committee is working on some amazing initiatives to set the club up going forward. I look forward to presenting these to our community soon.

It was a pleasure to host a lunch to induct Ian Rice (OW1972) as our newest Life Member of the club. We heard some great stories from the 70s, with Peter Milford (OW1971), Jimmy Bulling (OW1973) and Clint Hinchin sharing memories about the enormous amount Ian did to contribute to the club's success. There is not much Ian hasn't done for the Collegians Football Club. A champion on the field and off!

Andrew Kenneally (OW1989)

Support our club!  
Become a member today



COLLEGIANS - PARTNERS

Lion Partners

Old Wesley Collegians Association  
AVC: The Smith and The College Lawn  
Bastion: Fergus Watts (OW2003)  
Bendigo Bank  
Central Star  
Jefferson Automotive: Brett Jefferson (OW1988)  
KOR: Tom Pewtress (OW2018)

Gold Partners

Aitken Partners: Dylan Burch (OW2007)  
Media Republic: Steve Fagan (OW1988)  
Selwyn Allen: Geoff Allen (OW1960)  
Tellurian  
Texco  
Total Facility Maintenance:  
Brad Woolhouse (OW1988)

Purple Partners

Big Wet Springwater: Michael Opie (OW1989)  
JGC Electrical: Corey Cassidy (OW2010)  
Sports Clinic Melbourne

OWCA Bowls



OWCA Bowls 2024 APS Tournament team

We play various games throughout the year at MCC Swinburne and MCC Glen Street against other APS schools. We have had varying success with our games.

Our last game in this competition on 12 February had to be cancelled at lunchtime due to the high temperature. However, the competition is always enjoyable and our host Terry Connelly for MCC does a wonderful job.

The annual West Brighton match had to be postponed from September 2024 due to inclement weather, so Old Wesley gave Brighton the opportunity to play a match on the 18 February as a catch up.

Unfortunately, Old Wesley had to hand back the trophy to the West Brighton Club as we had two rinks down and a tie in the third match. We look forward to our return match in September 2025 so that we can get the trophy back in its 'rightful' hands.

Our last game for this season is the APS tournament at Glen Waverley Bowls Club Inc. The program for the day is two bowls triples of 10 ends. Each school must provide 12 players which means that we have four rinks to compete against other APS schools.

Like other schools, we're struggling to get 12 players on the day, despite the huge number of past students, so think about playing bowls for Wesley. The luncheon is

a good time to catch up on what has been happening in each other's lives over the past year.

We appreciated the presence of Alessia Francese (OW2016) and Frank Opray (OW1963) representing the OWCA. This year, Old Wesley was the host school for the tournament, so it was great to have the support of the OWCA. At lunchtime the respective standings saw Wesley in first place. However, after lunch we saw that position change dramatically and we ended up in fifth place behind eventual winner, Caulfield Grammar.

If you would like to join us for our future games, please contact me via the OWCA office or mobile 0403 023 288. We are always looking for new blood to boost up the ranks as we are not getting any younger!

Richard Sluggett (OW1972)  
Co-ordinator OWCA Bowls

OWCA Cross Country



Adam Pyke (OW2013) takes the silverware after another epic win

The 2025 running season is now underway. The season commenced with a 5km run at Scotch in April and continues with regular runs every 2-3 weeks at different locations around Melbourne until September.

The OW Cross Country team competes against 11 other clubs with run distances ranging from 4km to 21km. Five of the events, including two relays, have a team format. In these events our combined OW team results count towards the overall club championship. In 2024 our Div 1 team finished a very solid fifth in the championship and our Women's team went even better and finished in third. Over 2025 we are looking to build on these results.

Adam Pyke (OW2013) had another amazing season in 2024, winning seven events and taking out his fifth 'Athlete of the Year' award for the overall competition.

We're always looking for new and returning runners to the club. Whether you're an OW, a current student, or a family member of an Old Collegian, everyone is welcome to join us for a run. You don't have to attend every event - we're all about having fun, staying and connecting with fellow runners. Whether you're a seasoned athlete or just starting out, our events have something for everyone, including optional shorter runs to cater to all abilities. We would love you to come and be part of our community!

For recent school leavers, joining OW Cross Country provides an excellent opportunity to stay connected with Wesley running. Plus, the annual registration fee is waived for runners under 20 years of age.

If you are interested in getting involved or would like any further information, contact **Adrian Pile (OW2000)** via **adrian.pile@bigpond.com** or check us out on Instagram/Facebook **@ow.cross.country**



OW baton change at the Tan Relays



OW runner pushing hard to the finish





OW Cricket Club



Captain Rick Morris (OW2004) and teammates with the premiership trophy

The 2024/25 season has been one of the most memorable in recent history for Old Wesley Cricket Club. After years of re-building, the club is now reaping the rewards, in both on-field success and a growing sense of community. Strong recruitment saw the First and Second XI teams thrive, with a mix of OWs, fathers, sons, new faces and returning favourites. At its core, the club remains inclusive and family-friendly, united by a shared love of the game.

For the Second XI, the season was a rollercoaster, but under the leadership of newly appointed skipper James Dowland (OW2017), the team found its rhythm. Competing in Division 4 of the MCC competition, they built a solid core group of players who will no doubt be a force to be reckoned with next season. Maxy Shah finished as the side's top batsman with 156 runs, while Dowland himself led the bowling with 11 wickets. Jack Poulos (OW2020) made his mark in the field, taking six catches across the season.



The team unites to celebrate their win

Meanwhile, the First XI went from strength to strength, not only expanding their squad but consistently delivering quality cricket. All the hard work culminated in a Division 2 Premiership victory with the grand final win being played on the St Kilda Road Front Turf. It was victory made all the better by the support of the OWCC fans, friends and family who came down to watch. Wade King was the standout batsman of the season, racking up an extraordinary 770 runs – 360 runs clear of second place, as well as a Man of the Match medal for the Grand Final. Rick Morris (OW2004) led the bowling attack with 17 wickets for the season, as well as captaining the team.

Beyond individual performances, the club recognised several standout contributions. Matthew Grant claimed the Golden Goose award for an unfortunate two torn hamstrings in one game, while Noah Martine was named Best Young Player after his outstanding 6/8 in Round 3. The Best on Ground award, sponsored by DSC,

went to Khush Shah for his contributions throughout the season.

A club is more than just its players, and none of this would be possible without the incredible support behind the scenes. A special thank you goes to Breanna for her work in growing the club's social media presence - something that will only continue to expand. The unwavering support of families like the Wilsons, Martines, Shahs, Kangs, Kings and Harbos is deeply appreciated, as is the dedication of Mr Robbie (Rob Savedra) (OW1985), the club's beloved groundsman, whose efforts in preparing wickets - sometimes for two teams at once - never go unnoticed.

The committee has been crucial to the club's success. Rick Morris (OW2004) provided exceptional leadership while managing the finances. Ben Symon (OW2012) ensured the club's interests were met while organising everything from presentation nights to semi-final BBQs. James Dowland expertly handled administration, proving his value both on and off the field. Despite being injured all season, Kyle Clarkson remained a key support through coaching and technical advice. Ollie Browning (OW2011) was a true clubman, stepping up wherever needed, playing across teams, managing tough conversations and handling the covers. Huge thanks to the whole committee for a fantastic year.

As the season ends, it's clear something special is building at Old Wesley Cricket Club. With strong foundations, a thriving team and a growing culture, the Lions have momentum - and a Premiership - to build on. Bring on next season!

**Bran Guar (OW2012)**  
**President of OWCC**



Sexual Abuse Prevention



A partnership between the College and IGFF to provide support to former students who may be suffering as a result of historical abuse.

Practical welfare and therapeutic referrals  
Providing trauma-informed and confidential support to Survivors and Secondary Survivors  
Engagement with the National Redress Scheme  
Supporting Survivors, families and communities impacted by Institutional abuse  
Professional advocacy and mediation

Help Health Hope

1300 12 IGFF (1300 12 44 33) igff@igff.org.au www.igff.org.au

Collegians X Hockey



Collegians X Hockey in defensive mode

A new season is here, and there's never been a better time to get involved! Whether you're a seasoned player or have never picked up a hockey stick, we're inviting you to be part of an exciting, dynamic and welcoming club. The 2025 season is shaping up to be one of our best yet, and we want you to be a part of it!

Hockey isn't just about competition, it's about teamwork, fitness and being part of a supportive community. We welcome all skill levels, from experienced players looking to take their game to the next level to beginners eager to learn and have fun. Our club is committed to developing players, fostering friendships and creating an inclusive environment where everyone can thrive.

This season, we're expanding our programs with competitive teams, social competitions and skill-building training sessions, giving everyone a chance to get involved at a level that suits them. Whether you're looking to improve your fitness, challenge yourself or simply enjoy being part of a great team, we've got a place for you.

We're not just a club, we're a family. Our members are here to support, encourage and grow together, making every training session and match an opportunity to improve and enjoy the sport. We provide a welcoming environment where new players quickly feel at home, learning from experienced teammates while having fun.

Beyond the game, we host social events and club get-togethers to make your experience even more rewarding. Whether you're on the field or off, you'll be surrounded by great people who share your passion for the sport and enjoy being part of a close-knit community.

Ready to be part of something great? Contact **Scott Booth (OW1985)** on **0418 553 212** for more information or to sign up today! Don't wait - join us for an incredible 2025 season and be part of the action!



Brittany Collins (OW2012) on BBQ duty

**Come Play Hockey**



Players wanted to join our welcoming and inclusive club. Whether you've played before or not. Based at Monash Uni in Clayton. Men's and Women's teams available.

Contact us on  

OWCA Golf

On Friday 9 May, the annual APS Golf Day was held at the beautiful Riversdale Golf Club, bringing together former students from across the APS community.

The Old Wesley team was well represented by a passionate and enthusiastic group of players. Despite their best efforts, our performance on the course didn't quite match our determination and we finished 7th overall, with Old Scotch securing the top spot in the final standings.

We are looking forward to the opportunity to redeem ourselves at the OWCA v OSCA Golf Day, to be held on Friday 14 November at Kew Golf Course. After a resounding victory in 2024, the OWCA team is keen to go back-to-back in this annual event which dates back to WWII.

For information about how to enter a team or join in the fun, please contact **Peter Johnson (OW1995)** on **0419 119 786**.



Scott Booth (OW1985), Jon Raymond (OW1985), Stephen Grasby (OW1982) and Anthony Wheaton (OW1993)



David Crow OAM (OW1967), David Kennedy (OW1966), Prof Field Rickards (OW1966) and Robert Burns (OW1967)

**OWCA v OSCA 2025**  
7:45am, Friday 14 November  
at Kew Golf Course  
Good golf and great company.  
All welcome!



Birwin Yu (OW1995), Tom Duggan (Elsternwick Campus Sports Manager), Peter Johnson (OW1995) and Nick Shortis (OW1995)





A Chorus Lion



A Chorus Lion welcomes its new Director, Maggie Dunleavy

We have had a very exciting start to the year as we welcomed our new director, Maggie Dunleavy, B. Mus. and several new choir members. Maggie and our pianist, Carl, have been working together to introduce us to several new songs and lots of interesting warm-up routines, some of which have really challenged our brains!

Our AGM was held in March with the new committee being appointed:

- **President:** Carolyn Withers
- **Vice President:** Jan Sparke
- **Secretary:** John Milliken
- **Treasurer:** Barb Hoad
- **Community Relations:** Susie Rodgers-Wilson (OWCA Honorary Life Member)

We enjoyed Founders’ Day Lunch in May, leading the singing of the school songs and a concert at Malvern East Horizons Care Community also in May. We will have a Family and Friends’ concert later this year as well. We’re always happy to hear from anyone who may have a suggestion of a group who might enjoy a choral recital!

We rehearse each Wednesday during the school term in the Stillwell Centre at St Kilda Road and new members are always welcome. If you’d like to come to a rehearsal, call Susie for more information.

**Susie Rodgers-Wilson**  
(OWCA Honorary Life Member)  
Community Relations  
0419 898 933

Ski and Snow Board Club



Collegians Ski Club at Breathtaker Spur on Mount Buller

The 2025 snow season is now upon us with the official opening on the King’s Birthday long weekend. Club members and guests are hoping for a season of good snow and social connection at the well-appointed Collegians Club Lodge.

Collegians Ski Club at Mount Buller is situated in a spectacular position on Breathtaker Spur, with magnificent views across surrounding slopes and valleys from either the comfortable lounge 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.

The lodge features eight bunk rooms, three with ensuites and 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, all rooms are centrally heated for comfort, and a spacious drying room is available for use by all. The basement includes space for storage of club supplies, lockable ski racks, snowboard racks and individual lockers for members’ food, clothing and equipment.

To make a booking

Contact the booking officer at [bookings.collegians@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.collegians@gmail.com), listing your connection to Wesley College (e.g. past student year, enrolled children, or staff member). You will then be provided with a digital login to the Collegians Ski Club site, where you can make a booking at any time, subject to availability.

Deaths

BARNES

Brian Robert Benne (OW1949) on 17 February 2025, husband of Barbara (Stoddart) (MLC Elsternwick 1948), grandfather of Rachael Carroll (Dacy) (OW1994)

BRERETON

Richard Campbell (OW1969) on 13 December 2024, son of Max (OW1940) (dec), brother of John (OW1968)

CAMPBELL

John Alfred (OW1959) on 11 December 2024, son of Hod (OW1929), father of Andrew (OW1982)

CASTLE

Peter John (OW1963) on 13 December 2024, son of John (OW1927) (dec), brother of John (OW1958) (dec) and Kenneth (OW1960), father of John (OW1995)

EADE

David (OW1965) on 26 December 2025, brother of Alan (OW1964)

HARRIS

Ian Francis (OW1965) on 2 August 2021, brother of Graeme (OW1963)

HAWKEY

Jonathan (OW1997) on 27 September 2022, brother of Amanda (OW1991), uncle of Noah Hutton (OW2020)

HEALEY

Gavin Thomas (OW1948) on 19 November 2024

HODGE

John Raymond (OW1957) on 18 March 2025

JONES

David Campbell AO OBE KSTJ (OW1954) on 24 February 2025, father of Peter (OW1978) and Richard (OW1981)

JURY

Byron Noel Healey (Noel) (OW1949) on 9 August 2024

KNOWLES

Alan Flawith (OW1958) on 14 October 2018, father of John (OW1983)

MARKS

Kenneth Formby (OW1949) on 2 May 2025

MONKHOUSE

Donald (OW1948) on 17 Nov 2022

MORLEY

Colin (OW1966) on 27 March 2025, son of Colin (OW1937) (dec), brother of Robert (OW1970)

NIXON

Hon Peter James AO (OW1946) on 1 May 2025, son of Percival (OW1918), father of Mark (OW1977) and Chris (1980), father-in-law of Peter Christie (OW1974)

NORMAN

Douglas Leslie (OW1964) on 12 January 2025

PEARSE

William (Bill) Ellis (OW1950) on 3 March 2025, grandson of John (OW) (dec), son of William (OW1921) (dec), brother of John (OW1953) (dec)

PURTON-SMITH

Brian (OW1957) on 13 January 2025

RUSH

Philip (OW1957) on 14 March 2025, son of John (OW1927) (dec), brother of Maxwell (OW1953) (dec) and Robert (OW1962), cousin of Colin (OW1958)

SCOTT

Peter John (OW1952) on 17 October 2024, son of Walter (OW1925) (dec), brother of David (OW1960) (dec)

SHIELDS

Warwick (OW1958) on 14 March 2025

SHOESMITH

Owen (OW1958) on 22 February 2024

STEWART

Bishop John Craig (OW1957) on 2 April 2024

TADGELL

David (OW1980) on 3 March 2025, son of John (OW1945) (dec), brother of Peter (OW1982)

TAYLOR

James Wesley (Wes) (OW1955) on 5 March 2025, uncle of Peter (OW1976)

TRIMBLE

John (OW1961) on 21 January 2020, father of Geoff (OW1989)

TURPIN

George (OW1953) on 6 May 2025

TUTTON

Brian (OW1948) on 8 October 2024, father of Derham (OW1975)

WADDINGTON

Mark David (OW1982) on 25 August 2022, brother of John (OW1980)

WAGSTAFF

Geoffrey Charles (OW1949) on 27 January 2025, brother of Ern (OW1946) (dec), father of Scott (OW1975), grandfather of Jamie (OW2006), Emma (OW2009), Luke McKenna (OW2010) and Claire McKenna (OW2012)





# Obituaries

## THE HON PETER JAMES NIXON AO (OW1946)

22/03/1928 – 01/05/2025



Born and raised on a farming property outside Orbost, Peter attended Wesley College as a boarder and was a keen footballer in his youth. He played football on a Saturday morning before heading off to watch a League match.

He said, ‘It was two pence on the bus. We came to Punt Road one day and Jack Dyer took three of us in. We were standing in the corner of the race, and he took us into the rooms and the three

of us remained Richmond for the rest of our lives.’

Sidelined by a hip injury from football that saw him spend eight months in hospital, Peter returned to East Gippsland after school, the fourth generation of his family to work the land.

Peter went on to become a universally admired politician, serving under five former Prime Ministers - Harold Holt (OW1926), John McEwen, John Gorton, Billy McMahon and Malcolm Fraser. While the Member for Gippsland in the Federal Parliament for 21 years, Peter held the portfolios of Minister for the Interior, Postmaster-General, Minister for Shipping and Transport and Minister for Primary Industry.

In 1984, Peter was appointed Chair of Southern Cross Broadcasting. During his tenure, Southern Cross underwent significant expansion, acquiring Melbourne radio stations 3AW and 3AK, Perth radio stations 6PR and 6IX, Tasmanian television station TNT and Canberra television station CTC. He also served on the Board of Linfox.

In 1994, Hugh Lamberton wrote in *The Canberra Times* that Peter was, 'one of the few long-serving politicians to have established a post-parliamentary

life not overburdened with a nostalgic dependence on past achievement'.

Outside of broadcasting, Nixon was a member of the Victorian Football League Commission from 1985 to 1991. As a staunch supporter of the Richmond Football Club, Peter was Club Patron for over 40 years. In 1981, he was appointed a Premier Patron of the Richmond Football Club, a position he held until his death, and from 1995-2004, he was a consultant for the Board. At the end of 1984, Peter was selected as one of the four original VFL/AFL Commissioners on the League’s governing body.

Following the fortunes of Tigerland from within the inner sanctum, he always had the ear and respect of powerbrokers Graeme Richmond, Alan Schwab and Ian Wilson.

Peter’s time as an AFL Commissioner coincided with that of Chairman Ross Oakley (OW1961) and Graeme Samuel (OW1963), whilst all three were simultaneously heavily involved with the Wesley College Foundation. It was not uncommon that urgent AFL matters sometimes pushed the Wesley agenda aside at Foundation meetings!

In 2015, Peter became one of the patrons of the Wesley appeal to fund the building of a new boarding complex on the Glen Waverly Campus, known as Learning in Residence. He took on this role notwithstanding his vigorous opposition to the closure in 1980 of the Wesley boarding facility he remembered fondly – Adamson House – on the St Kilda Road Campus. Such was the fierce loyalty Peter had for Wesley.

His two sons Mark (OW1977) and Christopher (OW1980) likewise were boarders at St Kilda Road, and his daughter Joanne married Peter Christie (OW1974) who was also a Wesley boarder.

Peter and his wife Sally were regular and enthusiastic attendees at Wesley functions, and he engaged with all and sundry with the gentlemanly demeanour he became renowned for.

Contributed by Frank Opray (OW1963)

## GEOFFREY CHARLES WAGSTAFF (OW1949)

15/07/1930 – 27/01/2025



Geoff joined his brother Ernie (OW1946) at Wesley College after attending Elsternwick Primary School. Geoff’s parents, Ern, a butcher and Christine, a dressmaker, lived in Gardenvale. His brother Ernie was an Olympic yachtsman at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964.

In his early childhood, Geoff spent two years on his back in bed for Perthes Disease and vascular insufficiency in his legs at The Children’s Hospital in Frankston. This perhaps shaped his determined outlook and his wish to live life to the fullest.

Geoff excelled at Wesley in everything, except academia! Sport was his love. He repeated his leaving certificate (Year 11) and in his final year in 1949, Geoff captained the First XI cricket team to a premiership. From that year on, Wesley won the next five out of six years. Perhaps Geoff started a new era of success for Wesley Cricket! He was honoured to be invited to present the Premiership Cup at Wesley Speech night to the winning cricket captain in 1993.

Geoff continued to excel in sport after school, becoming the Club Champion at Yarra Yarra in 1952 and the runner-up in the Victorian Amateur Golf Championships in 1954. He organised the Old Wesley Golf Day for many years and won the trophy on multiple occasions.

Geoff married Billie in June 1955 in the Wesley Chapel. They settled in Beaumaris then bought their long-standing family home in Eskdale Road, Caulfield. They enjoyed 60 years of marriage raising two children, son Scott (OW1975) and daughter Robyn McKenna, a teacher at Wesley’s Glen Waverley Campus for 27 years.

He was driven to succeed in business, starting in the textile industry before commencing a lengthy career selling life insurance. In 1976, Geoff purchased Oxley Brothers net business in Port Melbourne which he ran for over 18 years before retiring to Portsea with Billie.

Geoff was involved with many of Wesley’s affiliate clubs including the Old Wesley Cricket Club, Collegians Football Club, the Ski Club at Mt Buller and the Old Wesley Masonic Lodge where he became a Life Member. He served on the College Council, the OWCA and the Foundation, holding almost all positions available from President to Treasurer.

He was ultimately awarded a Fellow of the College in 1988. The honour is bestowed on a few men and women who have given exceptional service to the College. It was a proud moment for the Wagstaff family when it was presented to him at Speech Night.

Geoff was delighted to have had his four grandchildren - Jamie Wagstaff (OW2006), Emma Wagstaff (OW2009), Luke McKenna (OW2010) and Claire McKenna (OW2012) and Jamie’s wife, Sally Naylor (OW2007), attend the College.

We remember Geoff for his strength and determination to succeed. He provided support for his family to thrive. He taught them the importance of resilience and hard work.

Contributed by Scott Wagstaff (OW1975)

## DAVID CAMPBELL JONES AO OBE KSTJ (OW1954)

15/05/1936 – 24/02/2025



David enjoyed school and was a Prefect during his time at Wesley, but he will perhaps be best remembered as former President and Honorary Life Member of the MCC. He led the club from 2003 to 2007 and governed during a period of great transformation and celebration for the club and Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

The MCG’s 150th anniversary celebration, marked by the unveiling of a tapestry work displaying the rich history of the ground that now holds pride of place outside the Long Room, was the first of several milestones noted during his time as President. He served whilst much of the construction of the northern stand redevelopment project took place in which the Ponsford, Olympic and Members’ Reserve stands were rebuilt to enhance the amenities on offer for members and public patrons alike.

In the club’s 2005/06 Annual Report, David wrote: 'I've always considered it a privilege to serve this great club of ours and never more so than over the past year when we have seen our hopes and dreams realised as redevelopment work completely transformed the MCG into what we believe is the finest sporting stadium in the world.'

Construction works concluded ahead of the 2006 Commonwealth Games where, as President, David saw the benefits of the redevelopment come to life when the MCG hosted the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and athletic events.

History and heritage were a particular focus of David’s. He was instrumental in securing sponsorship from Tattersall’s – a link to his role as former Executive Chairman of the company – for the acquisition of sporting memorabilia including John Famechon’s ring belt and Olympic rower Peter Antonie’s comprehensive collection.

Perhaps most notably, his passion for our sporting history survives in the Tattersall’s Parade of Champions project that sees ten statues of our sporting superheroes from a range of disciplines surround the MCG.

Often described as a popular leader of the Club and revered for his personable demeanour, David was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Club in 2008 following the conclusion of his tenure as President and 19 years on the Committee. Supported through it all by his beloved wife, the late Diana Jones AM.

David is survived by children Richard, Vicki and Peter.

Source: MCC





PETER JOHN SCOTT  
(OW1952)

13/01/1935 – 17/10/2024



Peter was one of two children of Walter, a dental surgeon practicing in Box Hill and Echuca, and Muriel (Weymouth). He was educated at Loreto Convent and Wesley College, and subsequently at the University of Melbourne and RMIT.

As a schoolboy, Peter excelled at cricket, football and gymnastics at Wesley and represented the Associated Public Schools (APS) in cricket. In 1953, he was a member of the celebrated First XI Championship team which included fast bowler Ellis Hicks (OW1953) who gained notoriety for taking four Melbourne Grammar wickets in the first four balls in the opening over of the match on Wesley's famed Jack Kroger Front Turf. As a gymnast, Peter won State Championships at junior and senior levels. After leaving Wesley, he played cricket for the Melbourne and South Yarra Cricket Clubs.

He lived variously in Echuca, Toorak, Elsternwick, Hawthorn, Hamilton and eventually in Newtown, Geelong.

In 1960, Peter married Ann Gilchrist, a schoolteacher. They went on to have two daughters, Elizabeth and Kate. Peter's occupations were diverse and included working as a wool classer with the Wool Testing Authority and as a medical representative for various pharmaceutical companies. His real love, however, was school and community sport, and he became Sports Master at Hamilton and Alexandra College and at Monivae College in Hamilton.

Peter had gained considerable farming experience as a young man on his father's sheep and cattle property and he and Ann subsequently built their home at Strathkellar, some 6km northeast of Hamilton. Here they grew beef cattle and produced wool. He farmed there until 2002.

From 1976, Peter played and coached at Hamilton's St Andrew's Cricket Club, being involved in many premiership sides in various capacities, including Captain and President. He was awarded Life Membership in recognition of his contribution. Peter's involvement with sport in Hamilton extended well beyond St Andrew's. He instigated Western District schoolboy cricket tours of English public schools which led him to becoming Director of Cricket at St Joseph's School in Suffolk. He also coached the Highton Cricket Club and coached cricket at Geelong Grammar School.

He went on to coach gymnastics and was co-founder of the Hamilton Gymnastic Club where he was also awarded a Life Membership. He gained experience coaching gymnasts at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra and at the Ladywell Gymnastic Club in London, England. He was a cricket umpire for the APS and also umpired for the Hamilton District Umpires

Association. Peter also coached and judged diving and swimming.

Peter's other key sport was football. He played for and coached Collegians Football Club in the Victorian Amateur Football Association, during which time they won multiple premierships. He also coached Old Geelong Grammar Amateur Football, which went on to win a premiership. Later, in 1976, he coached the Cavendish Football Club in the Western District. As a result, he was awarded the Service to the Community Medallion in 2000.

Outside of sport, his hobbies included classical music, gardening, travel, reading, collecting antiques and art and border collies.

Peter and Ann moved to Geelong in 2002, having purchased a National Trust Heritage classified historical property, 'Newtown Brae.' This property kept them very busy - learning, renovating, enjoying and valuing the fruits of their labour. Consequently, they gained an extremely beautiful home, surrounded by a very extensive garden.

In 2004, the National Trust of Australia Heritage Award was presented to Peter and Ann in recognition of the outstanding renovation of this historical property. Apart from all of this, Peter and Ann went on regular overseas trips. He liked to remind anyone listening that they had visited every corner of the world, plus a few crevices!

In his later years, Peter was an enthusiastic member of the Old Wesley Tall Ships luncheon group, the longest lasting OW reunion group, which has met monthly for lunch for almost four decades. Of all his Wesley friends, it is this OW group, in particular, which mourns his passing.

Contributed by Peter's daughter, Kate Tol and Frank Opray (OW1963)

BRIAN ROBERT BENNE  
BARNES (OW1949)

10/07/1931 – 17/02/2025



Born in 1931, Brian was a proud Wesley boy who made his mark as a businessman, a keen and successful international sailor and global traveller, but most fondly, a committed and proud family man. Brian and wife Barbara (MLC Elsternwick 1948) were married in the Wesley Chapel at the St Kilda Road Campus in 1956. With two daughters, Julie and Lindy, arriving when Welsey was a boy's college, Brian had to wait until the arrival of granddaughter Rachael Carroll (Dacy) (OW1994) before the Welsey tradition could continue.

Brian was a regular feature at St Kilda, Sandringham and Safety Beach Yacht Clubs, where he and his crew raced on Port Phillip Bay on his various dinghies and yachts, all named 'Barnstormer'. Brian and Barbara represented Australia in the 1978 Fireball championships in Thailand, with Brian at the helm and Barb, all 50kgs of her, on the trapeze.

Alongside managing property and a yacht chandlery business, Brian found time to travel the entire globe with Barbara, sharing adventures with many friends and later, his children and grandchildren. This kept Brian extremely fit well into his 80s and 90s and he was still able to drive, sail and ferry around his six great-grandchildren.

Brian happily attended the 2024 Founders' Day Lunch, proudly singing 'Grey Towers' alongside his granddaughter and fellow collegians. He was a special man who lived life to the full. While he will be greatly missed by Barbara, Julie, Lindy, Tory and six great-grandchildren (a seventh is on the way), we can only but celebrate a brilliant man and a tremendous life well lived.

Contributed by Rachael Carroll (Dacy) (OW1994)

COLIN ARTHUR MORLEY  
(OW1966)

05/11/1948 – 27/03/2025



Colin followed his father, Colin (OW1937) to Wesley College. The family lived for some years in Sydney and Colin was brought up on rugby. He caused quite a stir when he started playing Aussie Rules Football in the Junior School. Colin was a strong and muscular lad for his age. He was well known for grabbing the ball, placing it under his arm and running toward goal. When the umpire blew his whistle and penalised him for holding the ball, he got quite annoyed.

Colin was never a house captain, dux, prefect, form captain or similar. He was a challenge to his teachers, not too interested in disciplined learning and was his own man. He trained as a mechanic at Stillwell Ford and was then conscripted for two years, becoming a Tank Commander. This was followed by various stints in the auto business, including about five years with Morley Ford, a well-known Melbourne institution run by his father. His first business was in Mornington, followed by owning and running Riverina Ford in Finley.

Colin married Carol and became the proud father of Steven and Leanne, and the grandfather of six. After many years and a marriage break-up, he married Pam and set up Morley Ford in Echuca. This business became an institution in the area and his son Steven ran it with him. When he retired two years ago, Steven took over as manager. The knock-about kid became a respected citizen, successful family man and sustained business success.

His Wesley background gave him the confidence and discipline to succeed in life, but he never lost his sense of humour, sense of the ridiculous and his warm heart. It also taught him about supporting his community, family and friends.

Contributed by Roger Mendelson (OW1967)

DAVID TADGELL  
(OW1980)

06/03/1963 – 03/03/2025



After leaving Wesley College, David studied Science at Monash University. He worked for Ormonde Fitzpatrick as a Patent Attorney for 40 years, becoming a partner in 1993. David continued to work for Ormonde Fitzpatrick right up to his retirement due to illness. He had also worked overseas for a short while in the late 1980s for ICI in England.

David had many recreational activities and loved being at the family holiday home in Phillip Island. Many of David's activities involved the outdoors and he loved bike riding, walking, swimming and skiing. An avid sportsman, David was an active member of Metropolitan Golf Club and even took up playing for Camberwell Hockey Club when his boys started playing there. Continuing the tradition of being actively involved in the interests of his children, David started a parent's water polo team with Melbourne Collegians Water Polo Club where two of his boys also played.

'Tage' as he was fondly known, was a very good footballer, playing for Collegians Football Club in the 80s and 90s. Later in his career, he wanted to give back to the club, so he captained and coached the Thirds side at Collegians. This was typical of Tage who always had the club at heart, doing whatever was needed at the time.

Tage will be fondly remembered by everyone who knew him and knew the sort of person he was. Taken from us far too early, the brave fight he put up battling his illness was typical of the person David was.

Our thoughts are with his family - wife Lisa and children Ben, Jamie, Lachie and Billy.

Contributed by Rod Nancarrow (OW1982)





Births



**ABBEY**  
To Nick (OW2005) and Elly Welch in January 2025, a daughter, Harriet Marlow, a granddaughter for Ross (OW1970), a niece for Laura (OW2007) and Olivia (OW2010)



**BARTRAM – HEDE**  
To Alice (OW2009) and Nick (OW2009) in September 2024, a son, Sonny Jack, a grandson for Hugh Bartram (OW1968), a nephew for Hugh Bartram (OW2002), James Bartram (OW2003), Ed Bartram (OW2005) and Jeremy Hede (OW2008)



**CHEN**  
To Otto (OW2007) and Tingmei in January 2025, a daughter, Khloe, a niece for Benny (OW2014)



**CROFT – WEST**  
To Zander (OW2010) and Gabrielle (OW2010) in February 2025, a daughter, Millie B, a great granddaughter for Geoff Henry (OW1955), a niece for Harry Croft (OW2007), Alberta Gray (OW2007) and Daniel West (OW2012)



**DALKIN**  
To Nic (OW2008) and Georgie in October 2024, a daughter, Elsie Joan, a sister for Louis



**FOSTER**  
To Todd (OW1996) and Eva Zhai in December 2024, a son, Edward Foster, a brother for Ivy and Zoe



**KRETSCH**  
To Jordan (OW1997) and Sarah Dallimore in September 2024, a daughter, Alice Pamela, a sister for Georgia, a niece for Marissa (OW1998)



**LINDNER**  
To Sebastian (OW2010) and Cherese in January 2025, a daughter, Katerina Irving, a niece for Phoebe (OW2007)



**LODER**  
To Alex (OW2003) and George Woodyard in April 2025, a son, August Jack, a grandson for Rick (OW1973), a nephew for Jack (OW2006) and Rory (OW2010)



**LODER**  
To Rory (OW2010) and Ash in April 2025, a son, Arthur (Artie) John Maxwell, a grandson for Rick (OW1973), a nephew for Alex (OW2003) and Jack (OW2006)



**MURDOCH – MARTIN**  
To Lachie (OW2005) and Jacqui (OW2005) in September 2024, a son Finnegan Robert Martin, a grandson for Rob Murdoch (OW1970), a nephew for Daniel Murdoch (OW1997), Steve Martin (OW2000), Chris Murdoch (OW2000) and Anthony Murdoch (OW2003)



**NEWMAN**  
To Luke (OW2009) and Natasha in December 2024, a son, George John, a brother for Summer, a grandson for Paul (OW1978), a nephew for Yano (OW2011)



**O'REILLY**  
To Amanda (Goricane) (OW2003) and Shaun in September 2024, a daughter, Elise Lea, a sister for Maisie, a niece for Alicia Goricane (OW2007)



**RAWORTH**  
To Esther (OW2009) and Ben Andrew in September 2024, a son, Oliver, a brother for Freddie and Lucy, a nephew for Harry (OW2013)



The young Lions with this symbol next to their photo have already applied to enrol as a future student of Wesley College. We look forward to welcoming them.

Engagements



**KNIGHT – SAMUEL**  
Isabelle (OW2011) and Roger



**SANDS – BROPHY**  
Aurora (OW2009) and Hugh



**TUDOR – GRUENEWALD**  
Annabelle (OW2009) and Dominic

Weddings



**ABBOTT – STENT**  
Dom (OW2005) and Lucy (OW2005) on 1 March 2025



**FINDLAY – FELMAN**  
Rachael (OW2011) and Will on 15 December 2024



**ROBERTS – HENDER**  
Alexander (OW2009) and Mariah on 21 December 2024



**SHORE – DEVIENNE**  
Jenna (OW2002) and Marc on 6 April 2025



**SMORGON – POYNTON**  
Daniel (OW2010) and Emily on 5 April 2025



**ZENT – MINGOS**  
Alex (OW2000) and Jasmin (OW2006) on 29 March 2025

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.



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Calendar

July
<b>OWCA Past Presidents Dinner</b> Thursday 24 July   7:00pm Cato Room, SKR
August
<b>Wesley Gala Night</b> Saturday 9   6:30pm Palladium at Crown
<b>SKR (OW1985) 40 Year Reunion</b> Friday 22   7:00pm Cato Room, SKR
September
<b>17th Annual Business Breakfast</b> Thursday 11   7:00am Sofitel Melbourne on Collins
<b>Cato x Wesley Old Collegians Golf Day</b> Friday 12   12:00pm Riversdale Golf Club
<b>GW (OW1995) 30 Year Reunion</b> Friday 12   7:00pm Alexander Room, GW
<b>GW (OW1995) 30 Year Reunion</b> Wednesday 24   12:00pm Waugh Room, SKR
October
<b>Elsternwick Silver Stars Lunch</b> Friday 3   12:00pm Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick
<b>SKR &amp; GW (OW2023) 1 Year Reunion</b> Friday 10   7:00pm The College Lawn Hotel, Prahran
<b>Rob Webster Lunch</b> Friday 24  12:00pm Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club
November
<b>OWCA v OSCA Golf Day</b> Friday 14   7:45am Kew Golf Course
<b>SKR (OW1995) 30 Year Reunion</b> Friday 14   7:00pm Cato Room, SKR



# Golden Lions Chauffeur

For OWs aged 75 and older

Call +61 3 8102 6750 to book your driver for an OWCA event



## 2025 Regional Events

**3-4 August**  
Sheepvention  
Rural Expo  
Hamilton

**23-25 September**  
Henty Machinery  
Field Days

**7-9 October**  
Elmore Machinery  
Field Days



## Come and see us at the Australian Schools Expo

**Phnom Penh**  
Sunday 7 September  
Hyatt Regency

**Hanoi**  
Sunday 14 September  
Lotte Hotel

**Ho Chi Minh City**  
Saturday 13 September  
Sheraton Grand Opera Saigon

**Bangkok**  
Saturday 20 September  
Marriot Marquis

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



Our Instagram has changed. Follow Wesley College on our new Instagram account: [wesleycollege\\_melbourne](https://www.instagram.com/wesleycollege_melbourne)

## Wesley 17th Annual Business Breakfast

‘We’ve been hacked! Now what?’

Thursday 11 September  
Sofitel Melbourne on Collins  
[www.wesleycollege.edu.au/breakfast2025](https://www.wesleycollege.edu.au/breakfast2025)





WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA - SINCE 1866

# Wesley *Gala Night*

**6:30pm, Saturday 9 August**  
Palladium at Crown

Enjoy a three course dinner and fine wines by award-winning Crown Events,  
along with five star entertainment to keep you dancing all night long.

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