

Lion

The Wesley College Community Magazine

Vale David Prest

Yiramalay:
Two-way learning

Jemima Montag:
Purple and
(Commonwealth Games) gold

A True Education



WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA - SINCE 1866

Contents

Editorial	2
Principal's lines	3
Features	
David Harris Prest AM 1931-2018....	6
Prestie and me.....	8
Skudda girl: the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School	10
Jemima Montag: A gold medallist in race walking – and life	12
College Snapshots	14
From the Archives	20
Foundation.....	22
From the OWCA	
Features, reports and information.....	30

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Front cover image: Portrait of David Prest

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Editorial

I have written for *Lion* for a decade now, and time's 'winged chariot' has stopped to pick me up. I have loved doing the job chiefly for the unexpected perspectives it has given me on a place I thought I knew pretty well, and has brought me once again into contact with so many former students who might otherwise have merged with all the phantoms of the past. It's a strange business, being a teacher. You establish often quite intimate connections over a short period of time, and then these dissipate – at least superficially – because all our lives move on. This is exactly as it should be, but strangely unsettling too.

The investment of a great deal of emotional energy into the young often dissolves 'into air, into thin air', eventually becomes, as Prospero confirms in *The Tempest*, 'the baseless fabric of a vision'. Life seems a series of disconnections, but is full too of the joy of reconnections. There is nothing quite like catching up unexpectedly with former students to discover that we have been a part of each other's lives in entirely unthought-about ways. A brief encounter is often enough to reignite the memories of school. And to recognise that what was once shared, though not ever scrutinised in any conscious way, has been carried forward through time, and can once again be easily shared. This may all sound alarmingly philosophical, but it takes a lifetime to recognise the value and significance of the past, and that moments lived with great intensity, though long slotted into a 'back in the day' file, can never be wholly put aside. School is humanity's common experience, and our memories of it, often distorted and embellished in the company of others, are treasures of the mind, to be dug up whenever the mood strikes. When shared, they are doubtless the source of something invigorating and life-affirming. Memories are at the core of our being, they define us as much as present action, and we should never be frightened to rely on them for consolation and even wisdom. I enjoy them all, and will continue to, even the rare bad ones. Perhaps especially the bad ones, those that the passage of years manages to transfigure in often delightful ways.

I never thought, in the beginning, to stay at Wesley all these years. But I knew from early on, as did my first Principal, David Prest, whose eulogy I recently had the honour of delivering, that it was the right place for me. Every memory reassures me. All my students, and all their stories. Their wonderful growing-up craziness. I have seen the school re-shape itself in the most emphatic ways across more than four decades, but what has never changed is the often outrageous humour, the generosity of students to their teachers, and vice versa, the frequent eccentric moments we call 'the Wesley way', the compelling notions of community which are wholly real and embracing. Final word? Sorry to disappoint my thousands of English students across the years, expecting something more evocatively literary – but I wouldn't have swapped it for quids.

Dawson Hann
Lion Editor and features writer

A True Education

Wesley College's website provides great insight and information about the school. Have a look at www.wesleycollege.net

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



Principal's lines



Glen Waverley School Captains Sarah Matthews and Thomas Pewtress at the Anzac Day Assembly at the Glen Waverley Campus

The morning of Saturday 2 June this year brought back for me the very pleasant memory of the Monday morning, 15 years ago, when I stepped into the role as Principal of this exceptional school. Over the years, I have lost count of the number of assemblies and community gatherings I have attended, but not the powerful experience each one has engendered. I have invariably found each occasion to be very moving.

I have experienced many outstanding moments, but it is being with our students, staff and families together in one place that lies at the heart of these occasions. This togetherness, and the fact that as individuals – even if sometimes feeling isolated and alone – we can also feel part of a greater whole, confirms for me the

strength of our community. Not to mention that we are frequently privileged to be exposed to some extraordinary individual lives presenting challenging ideas, and are put in touch with aspects of our history too that illuminate who we are, and how we function, in the present.

A feeling of connectedness is as important an aspect of a true education as is prowess in the things we learn in the classroom, laboratory, performance space, sporting arena, art or music studio, student residence, dining hall, or on country, wherever at Wesley that may be.

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Assemblies at Wesley, and mob meetings at Yiramalay, are important communal experiences, which are short introductions to living in a broader world. I am sure that at certain times students experience something uplifting, being inspired by a thought or two from a guest speaker, or from one of their school leaders, or from acknowledging the special success of one or more of their peers. I am not for a

moment arguing that these are necessarily indelible moments, but I am convinced that at least a few of them will continue in the memory in unexpected ways. April and May have always been among my favourite months for assemblies,

mainly because we follow up the commemorative power of our Anzac Day gatherings with another critical aspect of our history – Founders' Day. Both of these this year have already secured a special place in my memory.

Anzac Day this year at the Glen Waverley Campus was simply spellbinding for students and adults alike, as we listened to 101-year-old Second World War veteran, Jack Bell, speak about his recognition of the important qualities in life – tolerance, respect, empathy – that had, in a most astonishing way, grown out of the deprivations of war. Jack had been a prisoner of war in Italy, and spoke movingly, not about the miseries of incarceration, but about the humanity of his captors. The depth of his humanity, and indeed, his humility, was an inspiration to all of us who heard him. And for me, the truly affecting aspect was hearing this in company with a large body of people; those of us who have lived through, and know something of life in all its challenging variety, and those on the brink of more demanding things. The collective response, the respect and the admiration, will remain with me for a long time.

This year I had a special Founders' Day role, as the guest speaker at the Glen Waverley Campus assembly. While I am always there at one or other of the Wesley campuses on Founders' Day, to be a 'special guest' in my own school

was rather daunting. But in this, my final Founders' Day occasion, I was free to explore a couple of favourite themes. Firstly, that change is a fact of life, and we must learn to use it creatively. Wesley has been a great teacher for me in this respect. We are a dynamic community, understanding how change can herald new opportunities, which, properly handled and executed, can be transformative. It was also, I hope, a message of faith for the young listeners, who will have their own strategies for

Change is a fact of life, and we must learn to use it creatively. Wesley has been a great teacher for me in this respect. We are a dynamic community, understanding how change can herald new opportunities, which, properly handled and executed, can be transformative.

dealing with change. As a Principal, I have been enriched by an environment that can be quick on the uptake when challenged by new ideas, and I sensed that those assembled will discover this for themselves post-school. Their school has been a good role model.

I was also able to share a story from my own experiences in the Kimberley, at an indigenous ceremony on *country*, back in 2006. It was a gathering of a different kind, but one in which the shared activities opened my eyes to the fundamental phenomenon we call 'culture': how we live, how we are brought up, different ways of communicating, our relation-

ships, our faith and religious practices, all apparent in one gathering of people.

I felt this was a unique opportunity to share these ideas at a very different assembly, but the differences really are only superficial. For at our assemblies we also articulate our deepest values, as Wesley College, which have resonated through the generations: the value of a shared community, fairness and equality, the importance of social understanding, the acceptance of difference. We never

take these things for granted, and have reinforced them over and over across the years, when we gather as a community.

Two other important assemblies so far this year – the Founders' Day lunch, when we heard from a remarkable young Collegian, Jemima Montag, who personifies what we treasure, and the opening, and Bunuba naming, of the new student residences at Yiramalay – are other examples of where coming together as one is really the only way to articulate meaningfully the culture we have developed. I am pleased that both Jemima and the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School are the subject of special features in this edition



From left, Glen Waverley Head of Campus, Richard Brenker, Principal, Helen Drennen, Thomas Pewtress, Jack Bell, Sarah Matthews, President of Council, Marianne Stillwell at the Anzac Day Assembly



From left, Glen Waverley Campus Yiramalay Prefect, Mahalia Lane, Elsterwick Campus Middle School Captain, Nichloas Gelagotis, Glen Waverley Campus students, Maxie Coppin and Alison Lockyer, and Elsterwick Campus Middle School Captain, Christina Kamenev, at the Reconciliation Assembly at the Elsterwick Campus

of *Lion*, and so you can read about them in detail elsewhere.

Earlier this term in late April, the extended Wesley family assembled to mourn the loss of an outstanding past Principal, David Prest, someone whom we legitimately recognise as the father of modern Wesley. He is Wesley's second longest-serving Principal after LA Adamson, and was at the helm for 20 years, from 1972 to 1991. David was a true visionary, and the changes he oversaw amounted to a re-imagining of the whole school. Coeducation, the development of the arts and our international engagement are chief among his legacies. Two former colleagues have written tributes in the pages that follow, but I would like to recognise the role he played in my own Wesley life.

I was appointed by him to the staff as an English and Biology teacher in 1989, and then sent by him the following year to explore the International Baccalaureate and its model for education in the United

World Colleges across the world. I have remained inspired by the authenticity of his vision for this school ever since, and remain forever touched by his great humanity and wisdom.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge and to thank long-serving colleague and long-time friend, Dawson Hann, for the brilliant contribution he has made to *Lion*. Dawson has been Editor and features writer for the past 10 years. He has also been a regular contributor to other Wesley publications, including producing and overseeing the sesquicentennial book, *All of Us Are One*. His insights, acuity, sharply evocative illustrations and clearly articulated commentaries on the College's history, its traditions and values, and its spirit of community have been second to none. Over the years, I have greatly appreciated Dawson's expertise and support, and I thank him most sincerely.

With best wishes to all

Helen Drennen



Elsa Wang explores Chinese calligraphy



Kevin Oscar, Chair of the Yoramalay Foundation and Bunuba Elder, at the opening of new student ccommodation, May 2018



Gapuwiyak Dancers (The Good Boys), from left, Geronimo Mimiyanyawuy, and Maxwell, Quincy and Aaron Wunungmurra at the opening

David Harris Prest AM

1931-2018

Former Head of Campus at both Glen Waverley and St Kilda Road, TONY CONABERE, pays tribute to the Principal whose colleague he was from 1972 to 1991, and who remained a friend until his recent passing.

David Prest was both daring and wise: he was also brilliant, humble, fearless and empathetic. He will stand with Adamson and Frederick in the Wesley pantheon of visionary reformers. He loved teachers, his profession and the community of his students. He chose education above all else. He cherished the chance to lead and influence schools, great schools. He led by doing, by enthusing, by congratulating and thanking. For Adamson, educating was about strength, team, pride and sentiment. For Prest, educating was about showing to students the best each could be, about enthusiasm, encouragement and energy, about contribution. In his wilder, more idealistic moments, it was about peopling schools with a profession who truly believed that 'every student was a being of infinite worth'.

It was such a privilege to be on Prest's team but I struggled sometimes with his idealism. In making individual worth so central, did he want a culture that failed to recognise the best, in favour of motivating the half-hearted and the work-shy? Was he not flirting with creating a school driven by self-centredness, even sophism and solipsism? He would shake his head, concerned that I could not see what he could.

He saw the importance of diversity, of valuing difference and eccentricity, and of that ultimate Christian love for the neighbour, whoever and whatever that neighbour was. If each was infinitely worthy, then one might build a society of adults who loved complexity and individuality, who did not discriminate or harangue, who allowed the young to err so that they could learn from their mistakes, who would be slow to anger, and even slower to don the khaki of war. He saw his great contribution as



David Prest

furthering, even reinventing, Wesley's contribution to removing the discriminators of religion, ethnicity and gender. Rabbi John Levi and Wesley's historic liberal Jewish connection were both fundamental to David's thinking. So, he was delighted when Melbourne's Greek community 'adopted' Wesley. He knew then that the time was right to begin the College's march to become an exemplar for coeducational practice in Australia. Boys and girls were people first. They should learn to understand each other. He would have been equally pleased with the contemporary ties Wesley is establishing with the people of Fitzroy Crossing.

The Wesley David Prest had come to in 1972, while still a great APS school, was a little rusty. Frederick's great reforming staff had grown old together. Few welcomed the arrival of the 'new' man. The Common Room planned to remain strong in its defence of traditions, and its space. It was a shock when the new Headmaster asked the staff to call him 'David', not 'Sir' or 'Headmaster', the prevailing practice. It was an even greater

shock when he regularly invaded the Common Room to take his morning tea with his 'colleagues'. In his very singular way, he was letting us all know that he considered himself 'first among equals' and that we had simply better get used to this idea. Prest was an evolutionary, not a revolutionary, but he could also be a very impatient and tireless evolutionist.

His Council knew that their College needed re-inventing. While it could still boast Menzies and Holt, enjoy its past brilliance and current good fortune in teachers like Arthur Phillips, Lindsay Newnham, Ken Merry and Alan Mitchell, and could win the Head of the River relatively regularly, the glory days of the 1950s and '60s was fast fading. Academic results were below par, and enrolments, especially in the lower years, were flagging. While the dust rose in Adamson Hall as the staff processed each morning to assembly, Prest and his Council were formulating a new view for Wesley College, Melbourne. His respect for the Council was unquestionable: he saw himself blessed by their expertise, vision and devotion to the school. He and his

senior colleagues contributed to Council deliberations, but once a decision was made, or a new policy struck, 'DHP' was solely accountable for its implementation. Education was a professional matter, not to be tampered with by those who might have seen themselves as educators.

Andrew Lemon's history, *A Great Australian School: Wesley College examined*, tells of the remarkable achievements of the Prest years. I know David was absolutely delighted by the growing number of independent school Principals his Common Rooms produced, arguing, 'It is so much better to have a great teacher for a few years before that teacher furthers their career at another school than to have ordinary teachers who stay forever!' That said, I don't think there were any ordinary teachers at Wesley. In moments of humility, he would claim that if he had any exceptional talents, they were to be found in his ability to identify and recruit brilliant teachers and professional staff. So, even when the College had become the largest school in Australia, he retained the right to veto the appointment of any new member of staff his Campus Heads, or Heads of Faculty, may have wished to employ. Moreover, as the school grew, so did the demands upon the Principal. Yet he increased his workload to meet these demands, while always remaining close, and accessible, to all his staff.

Like so many other Wesley colleagues, I owe David Prest almost all of my professional life. He showed us the ways we needed to follow through teaching, administration, management, further learning and leadership with encouragement and pride in our successes. Also, often angrily, he pointed out errors and foolish mistakes. The blast David could deliver, usually in private but occasionally in public, was unforgettable. It resembled a thunderstorm that comes out of nowhere, delivers its violence and then is gone, replaced by the calm of a beautiful day. He would usually open with lines like, 'I simply can't believe that a person of your intelligence could make so stupid an

error...'. He would then turn on his heels and disappear. No argument. Hear what I say. If you saw him, even 10 minutes later, he acted as if nothing had happened. Calmness itself. Of the many Prestian thunderstorms I weathered, I think he was wrong on only two occasions. Then, like the calm day returning, he would focus again on the work. I was his colleague, and the students or the staff had several pressing needs we had to deal with.

I sat with him on three occasions in his final days when, despite his protestations, he could no longer be cared for at home. Aging is both melancholic and sad. He knew me again momentarily and we shared some special moments. He was, in such moments, clearly the brilliant young man I had first met in 1972 who asked me to stay at Wesley. But then he was also that wonderful colleague who had inspired almost all that I have ever done in education. And he was also that private individual who drew a very strict line between his professional and his private life, a line which I have never wanted to step over. I count it a privilege that he wanted me to meet his family, all

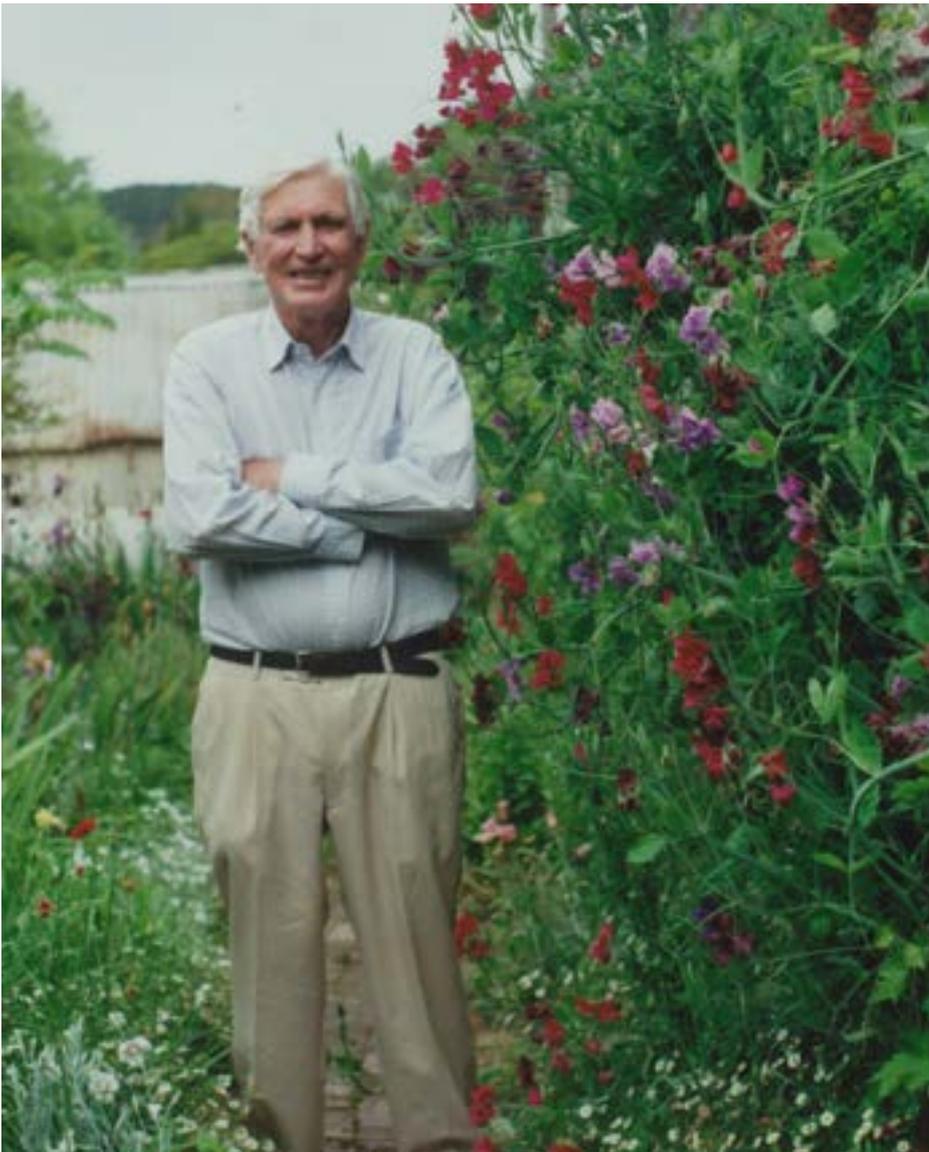
those most dear to him. I can feel their grief and their loss. Cheekily, on one of my late occasions with him, I mentioned one of the moments I thought he had got things wrong and improperly blamed me for a mistake I had not made. His mind was still like it had been on that first day I met him. Sharp. Investigative. Exceptional. 'No, you were wrong, Tony. I see so much clearer than you the importance of life, of each being, each student, each parent, each teacher, the importance of each of nature's brilliant creations. I am a scientist, you are a philosopher. If only you could bridge that difference.'

I have thought on that conversation ever since. I can see now his 'infinite worth' thesis better because I can see his infinite worth. I am just one of thousands whom he saw as beings of infinite worth and for whom he gave whatever energy, encouragement and enthusiasm he could muster for their development as individuals. His has been a majestic life in so many ways. Wesley is a greater school because of it, and so too the world of education in Victoria and beyond.



From left, Tony Conabere, David Prest and Council President the Rev Prof Norman Young at the opening of the EA Wells Memorial Library at the Glen Waverley Campus

Prestie and me



David at home

In his final edition as Lion Editor and features writer, DAWSON HANN reflects on the Wesley Principal, and the school, that changed his life.

David Prest took a chance and brought me over from Adelaide to teach English in 1973. I was still adrift, after the 1960s, full of ideals, and no destination for any of them. He asked for three years, and 45 years later I had the honour of delivering his eulogy, just a couple of months short of leaving Wesley myself. Life unfolds more mysteriously than we ever imagine, and my association with Prestie and Wesley turned out to be a blessing. It gave me a rich professional and personal life; Wesley turned out to be the right

place for me, and David Prest sensed this early on. In her moving address at the funeral on behalf of the family, which became – in unexpected ways – my own too, David's daughter Lydia reminded us that her father had a fondness for the naughty boys. I know exactly what she meant, and how accurate this was.

It should come as no surprise that his favourite parable was that of the lost sheep, that 'helping lame dogs over stiles' and finding a place for those who didn't naturally fit in was as much our duty as basking in the talents of the gifted, that all of us are indeed one.

David was a god-send for the many young teachers who filled the classrooms in the early years of his tenure, those

whom he perhaps identified as being less than comfortable with convention and orthodoxies; he brilliantly re-imagined a school around them without ever compromising its core values and traditions. In one of his more sublime moments late one libidinous evening, former Head of English, the somewhat notorious Laurie Humphries, declared: 'Frederick dragged Wesley into the 20th century, Prest prepared it for the 21st.' Spot on. Laurie, by the way, was rarely that succinct.

For me, and for so many, Prestie's primary strength as a leader and educator was his unqualified faith in the teacher's role. He was profoundly generous in his support of those at the coal-face, and gave so many of his staff the self-belief to do things their way, within a well-managed structure. The boundaries were flexible, within reason. The teacher he venerated was the one who fronted up day after day, taught their subject with undimmed passion and enthusiasm (his favourite words), threw in dubious prowess in some area of after-school activities, and did the same thing the next day, and the next. This perspective was, and is, authentic and inspirational, and for the many like myself who grew through the Prest years, it provided the spine and sinew for our own ways of educating the young.

Prestie and I were also bonded by our South Australian origins, exiles from home in hostile territory, historically damaged by Victorian thrashings on the football field. David ensured that early on I came to dinner every Monday night to give some anchorage to an otherwise fairly fluid existence. I felt a part of the family from then on, and a place at the dinner table

was always extended to the many who came and went in the Prest family home. I became more or less permanent.

The astonishing Jean, ever a model of decorum and discretion amidst potentialities for mayhem, had, it turned out, pushed an infant me around in a pram in SA, way back. Adelaide was a small town. And coincidentally, we holidayed annually near each other on the beaches south of Adelaide year after year, free from our Wesley preoccupations, unknown and unrecognised, but sliding into school matters every now and then over Jean's slightly charred barbecued fish and a McLaren Vale shiraz or two.

Prestie was much given to partying, chiefly as a way of enjoying the company of his teachers in their variety and frequent eccentricities, seeing them at the very centre of the liberal and pluralistic environment he continued to build year after year. Apple in hand every lunchtime, he made a bee-line for the Common Room. He gave people their space, admired their talents and took pride in seeing just what they could achieve, with the provision of some support when needed. This for 20 years was his enduring strength as Principal. It was not chance that saw some 15 or 16 Principals and Heads of other schools emerge from Wesley during the Prest years.

He was a friend, mentor and inspiration, to me and numerous others. There were so many of us heartened by the deep humanity of his educational thinking. I sensed this powerfully in the many former teachers and long-term friends I chatted to after the funeral service. At last we had the opportunity to articulate what we had long known and felt. It should come as no surprise that his favourite parable was that of the lost sheep, that 'helping lame dogs over stiles' and finding a place for those who didn't naturally fit in was as much our duty as basking in the talents of the gifted, that all of us are indeed one. The much-loved school hymn, whose genesis was during his time in office, has carried this conviction into the future.

David's essential Australianness was ever-present in his humour, resilience and boundless faith in the capacity of each of

us to do better than we might think. He loved the bush all his life. Its harsh light and muted colours were deep in his soul, and surely helped generate his empathy for those who might find themselves lost in the wilderness of a quickly burgeoning school. But he found ways to soften its edges, none more important than in his support for the arts and their humanising qualities. The arts became essential to his expanding vision of a balanced school, and the area which perhaps brought David and me into closest contact. And while I can't ever recall us discussing this as a grand notion or prevailing principle of a contemporary school, as powerful and necessary as coeducation, there was always an unspoken recognition between

us that we inhabited the same place – most of the time.

There was a kind of genius behind the larrikin exterior that Prestie himself would never have been presumptuous enough to acknowledge. Wisdom and insight were wrapped up in his faith and good humour, and these remained for me a source of comfort long after he had left Wesley. For you see, he never lost sight of the joy of just being a teacher, with all its ordinary demands. He never tilted at windmills, yet was just a little bit enraptured by the educational and personal adventures that Wesley offered, relishing always the company of those who joined him for the ride.



David with students on the Chapel steps, St Kilda Road Campus

Skudda girl



Helen Drennen and June Oscar at the Marninwarntikura Women's Bush Meeting, 2007, in the Mingalgala community

PAUL MUNN reports on the growing impact of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School.

A phone call from Legal Aid in Halls Creek starts it all. It's 2004, and Helen Drennen is Wesley's new Principal.

'Would Wesley College be interested in becoming involved in a project to digitise dying Aboriginal languages with the Kimberley Languages Resource Centre in Fitzroy Crossing?'

An unusual invitation, yes, but Helen has just returned from seven years in the United Kingdom and Asia working for the International Baccalaureate Organisation, where language and culture has been central to all educational programs. She's very aware that little attention is being given in Australian schools to the knowledge systems, languages, culture, and history of Australia's First People. So she jumps at the chance.

In Fitzroy Crossing, a significant connection is made. 'Meeting Bunuba leaders June Oscar and Joe Ross was a game changer. We connected immediately and discovered shared and deep aspirations for the education of our children both at Wesley and in the Fitzroy Valley. Our commitment to a partnership took very little time to develop and the rest, as they say, is history,' says Helen.

'The example of leadership modelled by the Aboriginal women of the Fitzroy Valley has been the most influential leadership experience of my career.' HELEN DRENNEN

That commitment to a Bunuba/Wesley partnership, and the initiatives that followed, led to the founding of our Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School, which opened in August 2010. The school has had a powerful impact on the people who choose to be involved, none more so than Helen herself: 'The journey uniquely and fundamentally shaped my skills as a

Principal and a leader, and has changed me as a person. I have said on many occasions that the example of leadership modelled by the Aboriginal women of the Fitzroy Valley has been the most influential leadership experience of my career. The patience, wisdom, perseverance, trust and, most of all, the love of these women in the most challenging of circumstances has been the guiding light.'

Clearly the respect is mutual. For Kaylene Marr, Bunuba woman and traditional owner of Yiramalay, 'Helen is a wonderful lady who had a big dream. Her dream was to bring people together from different backgrounds and different cultures for a two-way learning experience.'

Yiramalay Executive Director Ned McCord offers his own form of praise. 'Helen has this remarkable foresight for education and where it should be, and most people are just catching up.' A clear sense of pride comes through when he adds: 'Yiramalay is doing something that no one else has been able to achieve in education in Australia and much of the world. What has been developed and continues to be developed is a unique educational model.'

The uniqueness that Ned speaks about springs very much from the authentic partnership that sits at the beating heart of this enterprise. Says Helen, 'Education is critical, and this is a central feature of Yiramalay. We call it *two-way learning or learning side by side*. We recognise that Wesley is an equal participant in this learning, and that much of our learning will be led by the Aboriginal people *on country* at the Studio School. Here, students learn from each other across cultures, build understanding and respect for each other, and grow in personal confidence. We hope they all find the courage to become the best person they could be.'

Nearly 1,000 students from Wesley's Melbourne campuses and the Studio School have been part of Yiramalay's evolution. Thirty-nine Aboriginal students have successfully completed Year 12, and nearly 200 students have

completed Years 10 and 11. Some 800 students from Wesley in Melbourne have participated in 34 Year 10 Induction programs over the past nine years. There are 14 Aboriginal languages spoken at the school today, Aboriginal language preservation being the reason the partnership was established in the first place. Participating teachers from Melbourne have continually reflected that their teaching has fundamentally changed for the better after their experience at Yiramalay. 'I am enormously proud of the achievements and development of Yiramalay to date,' says Helen. 'This has been a transformative, life-changing experience across all levels — governance, community, executive leadership, management, teaching, and most of all for students and families who've been part of the school.'

Indeed, the effect of the experience on the Melbourne students who go to the Kimberley on the three-week Induction is significant: 'It has shifted me in a way I can't describe' is the returning students' common refrain. Big life lessons are learned, such as the powerfully simple understanding that, 'People from another culture are just like me.' Sophie Hunt (OW2014) went on the Year 10 Induction program in 2012 and has returned twice as a volunteer staff member. For her it's the ripple effect that Yiramalay has on the students who go there and bring their cultural education back to the

family dinner table: sons and daughters who wouldn't say much at meal times but who now want to talk about politics and society and big ideas in our world. Current St Kilda Road Wesmob prefect Alinka Carmichael agrees. 'My attendance at Yiramalay opened my eyes to Indigenous culture. It taught me that I have much to learn about the culture of the first Australians, and I was challenged by questions of justice and injustice, opportunity and discrimination.'

There is a lot of talk in Australia of reconciliation. To our credit, we are walking the talk — Yiramalay is a living, flourishing model of it — and the walk is a valuable one, in so many ways. We have Helen Drennen and the Bunuba traditional owners to thank for leading us on our first steps.

Helen's part in helping the 'big dream' become a reality is perhaps best summed up with the eloquent simplicity of Kaylene's final words:

'The partnership is growing, the dream is getting bigger. 'Dreams can come true. 'You jalungurru wiyi. Skudda girl, Helen Drennen.'

jalungurru: good;
wiyi: woman;
skudda: awesome, deadly.



Yiramalay Steering Committee, May 2018

A gold medallist in race walking – and life



Jemima Montag crosses the line for gold in the 2018 Commonwealth Games Women's 20 kilometre race walk

When Wesley's Peter Hawkins interviewed Commonwealth Games gold medallist Jemima Montag at this year's Founders Day lunch, he discovered more than an elite athlete, as DAWSON HANN reports.

Most Collegians will be aware that our own Jemima Montag (OW2016) won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in the Women's 20 kilometre race walk. Jemima had been the subject of a short piece in the previous edition of *Lion* which recognised her inclusion in the Australian team, documenting her excitement at having made her first open Australian team, after a silver medal at the National Championships – and the under-stated conviction in her spoken aspiration to, 'Perhaps finish in the first five.' Those watching on that brilliant Sunday morning in Queensland will have sensed something extraordinary in a performance that won her the gold medal. Competing against older and more experienced athletes, everything about her that morning, and in that moment, revealed something more than just a competitor, but a person fully attuned to her own understanding of the promises of life itself.

Such personal qualities were very much on display again in the more relaxed setting of the Founders Day lunch on May 25 at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club. In a similar set-up to last year's encounter with former tennis champ Frank Sedgman, Jemima submitted herself to an interview about life after Wesley, sport and growing up interested in just about everything. Under the skilful questioning of the affable and insightful Peter 'the Hawk' Hawkins, Head of Wesley Sport, Jemima confirmed the truth of what was said, in the previously published piece, about her 'passion, energy and total commitment' while a student at Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus. Little by little, the interview revealed a still very young athlete, also academically inclined, who is considerably more than a Commonwealth Games gold medallist, as fine a triumph as that is.

But of course everyone wanted to hear about the race and the lead-up, and Jemima happily obliged, in the process

illuminating yet another lesson easily overlooked. At what point does a young 'wannabe' feel comfortable with belonging in more experienced and more celebrated company? It's a question for the ages, and the listeners were spellbound hearing her speak modestly,

Competing against older and more experienced athletes, everything about her that morning, and in that moment, revealed something more than just a competitor, but a person fully attuned to her own understanding of the promises of life itself.

almost off-handedly, about the moment in the National Championships when she knew she had arrived, that second place would secure her a place in the Games team, and that such a moment would prove retrospectively to be even more memorable than the gold medal win some weeks later. It was that embracing of belonging that was both moving and profound. Always wishing to earn that place and see herself in contexts bigger than an individual win, Jemima also conveyed something of the still-lingering excitement of being a member of a senior Australian team for the first time, and enjoying an opening ceremony.

Peter Hawkins asked rather mischievously when had Jemima realised that she was on another level to Kath and Kel – those ludicrous and highly entertaining exponents of street-walking, beloved of a national television audience, from Kath and Kim? Again, her answer was illustrative of a young person with a remarkably mature understanding of the developing moments of life, and how everything must be accorded its place. Yes, there was her membership of an Australian team to China in 2014, and her captaincy of the team for the World Youth Championships in Columbia, but there were also 10 years of ballet, and the myriad sporting choices and opportunities she adored throughout her Wesley years. Clearly, in Jemima's remarkable – for one so young – perception of her own busy life in which she just likes 'keeping it interesting', there is a place for everything, and everything in its place. She reminded us of how much we love balance, authenticity and integrity. The infectious energy of her answers to

the Hawk's thoughtful questions had surely a special resonance for an audience mainly comprised of those for whom the tougher races of life have largely been negotiated. Jemima at school got a perfect IB score, was a musician, acquired fluency in Spanish, was awarded Triple Colours

for cross country, athletics, music and debating, and – no surprises here – was the Charities and Community Service Prefect. Now a science student at the University

of Melbourne, she is also an active ambassador for Maddie's Vision, which highlights the need for better understanding bone marrow failure syndromes. Her awareness of global health is an insistent part of her present pre-occupations, outside being a champion athlete.

Jemima will doubtless 'keep her future interesting'. Of course, the Tokyo Olympics are definitely on the radar, but so too a myriad of other causes and interests. Having grabbed life by the throat, Jemima is an inspiring example of finding and developing purpose in everything she encounters in a still very-young life. The applause which ended a wonderful 20 minutes in her presence spoke volumes.



Commonwealth Games gold medalist Jemima Montag at the Founders Day lunch

Celebrating – and living – Indigenous culture

Members of Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus community have held many events to celebrate the Indigenous cultures present within the Wesley community and more broadly.

Attendees at the Reconciliation Breakfast gained an increased knowledge and understanding of Indigenous Australian culture and history. Organised by Yiramalay students, guest speakers for the breakfast included Wesley's own Tyrone Bean, Kaylene Marr and the Yiramalay students themselves. In sharing personal narratives and anecdotes, the speakers brought to life Indigenous Australian culture and history in a format that was vivid, enriching and deeply imagined for all present.

All funds raised at the Reconciliation Breakfast go to support the Gibb Challenge – a 660 kilometre team relay cycling event held annually that raises community awareness and funding for charity. To support the health and wellbeing of students, and the development of educational and pastoral projects that are taking shape at Yiramalay, the Studio School has registered a Yiramalay team in the Gibb Challenge.

The team of 10 riders – eight students, together with support staff – aims to raise \$10,000 for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, which supports vital healthcare and emergency services, including life-saving operations in the Kimberley region, where the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School is located. Funds will also be used to cover event participation costs, including the cost of the bikes and equipment, and to support suicide prevention in the Kimberley.

The Gibb Challenge provides students with a unique learning opportunity, as well as supporting community inclusion and cohesion. This is the second time a Yiramalay team has participated in a challenge of this magnitude.



Members of Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus community celebrate Indigenous culture and history at Reconciliation Breakfast

Pioneering approach to learning Chinese

As Wesley continues its journey towards being a Leading Languages School, a transdisciplinary approach to teaching language is enabling students to learn and apply their Chinese language knowledge and skills across the curriculum.

At the Elsternwick Campus we are now into our third year of a pioneering Enhanced Language Program (ELP), which integrates students' Chinese language learning with their learning across the key learning areas of the arts, languages, mathematics, as well as personal, social, spiritual and physical education, science, social studies and technology.

This approach, called Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) essentially uses the language being learned – in our case Chinese – as the

medium for teaching and learning in 'non-linguistic' areas.

The CLIL approach is based on research on language immersion, which has revealed that students' language acquisition is most successful when it takes place across the curriculum.

Nicola Rule, Wesley's International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme Coordinator, and Yayoi Nikakis, an ELP teacher at the Elsternwick Campus, presented a paper on the CLIL approach at the IB Global Conference in Singapore. Their paper, 'A unique language journey: learning Chinese through the CLIL approach,' inspired great interest in Wesley's approach, with many international educators and curriculum leaders determined to visit us in the future.



Yayoi Nikakis and Year 3 students take a transdisciplinary approach to the curriculum as part of the Enhanced Language Program at Wesley College's Elsternwick Campus

Young leader's wise words

It was with immense pride that former Elsternwick student and 2017 St Kilda Road Campus School Captain, Charlie Joyce (OW2017), was welcomed back to the Elsternwick Middle School as guest speaker for Founders' Day.

While marking the anniversary of the founding of the school which, Charlie pointed out, has given so much to us all, his intention was to talk about his time at this school, and his transition from the Elsternwick to the St Kilda Road Campus, imparting some advice along the way. 'Your time at school,' he told the assembly, 'might often seem dull, monotonous and repetitive, but in retrospect it is anything but. Much of my individual memories have seemed to blur together into a bit of a haze – a purple haze. But the important moments still stand out.' Charlie said he remembered his Elsternwick years with nostalgia, 'being still tremendous mates with people I met in the first weeks of Year 7 here.'

Charlie, who was Elsternwick Music Captain, St Kilda Road School Captain, rowed in the First VIII two years in a row, played first trumpet in the St Kilda Road Big Band and achieved the marks he needed to get into the University of Melbourne, traced his apparent success to decisions he made during his time at Elsternwick. Those decisions were the result of opportunities presented to him.

'Wesley will give you some of the most amazing opportunities you can get, and will sustain you and be dedicated to your success along the way,' Charlie said. 'If you take advantage of this, anything is possible. Acknowledge your privilege in these matters, and take full advantage of this, not only to improve yourselves, but to use these privileges to help improve the lives of those around you.'

Charlie's message was that not everyone gains the opportunity to go into society with an objective to do good, an opportunity that motivated Wesley's founders. 'These were men of intense drive and desire to create an institution that would open up the minds of those who walked its halls, and in turn have the world opened up for them. The Wesleyan teachings on which this school was founded deeply value the importance of education, and its power to change the lives of many.'

'By taking every chance that Wesley gives you,' Charlie told the assembly, 'you will get greater enjoyment and fulfilment out of your time here. You will not look back on these years with a sense of "what if?" And who knows, you may even get a chance to make the world a better place, and change the narratives.'



Charlie Joyce addresses Elsternwick Middle School students on Founder's Day

Elsternwick's big morning tea

The Common Room Association (CRA) at Wesley's Elsternwick Campus celebrated Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in Term 2 to raise funds for Cancer Council Australia. Staff members shared homemade cakes, biscuits and scones, and sipped on artisanal teas in the staff room, collecting more than \$200 towards cancer research, prevention and support.

'Everyone has been affected by cancer in some way, whether personally or through caring for family and friends. This morning tea was a great way to come together in solidarity as a staff community and spend some time together, whilst supporting a great cause,' said Tanya Davies, CRA President at Elsternwick.



Pictured, Common Room Association staff at Wesley's Elsternwick Campus celebrate Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

The power of story-telling

Students from Wesley's Elsternwick Campus Middle School had the opportunity to listen to visiting author Alice Pung early in Term 2. Writer of numerous memoirs and fictional works, and editor of

Growing up Asian in Australia, Ms Pung inspired the students with her story-telling, weaving a series of tales highlighting the courage and challenges faced by her family. These stories ranged from her

parents surviving the horror of the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia, to the challenges that she and her family faced growing up as a minority group in the western suburbs of Melbourne.



Alice Pung with Elsternwick Campus students

Year 7 students were fortunate to have Ms Pung return to the Elsternwick Campus to run two very successful workshops in which she provided some important tips that proved invaluable for the students writing their own memoirs, as part of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme unit 'Memoir and Me'.

Her intention was for students to leave the workshops feeling empowered, knowing that each has a special story to tell, and that through the power of story we have a chance of better understanding each other.

Words and pictures

Award-winning Australian illustrator Anna Walker and author Jane Godwin visited Wesley's Glen Waverley Junior School Campus in May to work with students who had been reading and studying their picture books in library classes. The students were very excited to meet the illustrator and

author in person, and make links between the stories they had read and their actual creators.

The duo gave a wonderful presentation, explaining the process of working together, and the inspiration behind their picture

books. The students enjoyed hearing from Jane about the creative writing process, discussing how ideas, themes and a storyline are developed and refined over time. Anna explained the importance of collaborating with the author to best understand the kinds of illustrations to create, so the picture can also tell the story. She also spoke about the process of illustrating, from collecting fabrics, and choosing colour palates and textures to creating storyboards.

Students also enjoyed creating their own illustrations. It was an excellent and very memorable experience for all those lucky enough to be at this special event.



Picture book illustrator Anna Walker speaks with Glen Waverley Junior School Campus students

Honouring our ANZACs

Students from the St Kilda Rd Campus represented Wesley in a special way at this year's Anzac Day March in Melbourne – carrying a new banner created for the 37th Battalion, 3rd Division Australian Imperial Forces (AIF). In doing so, the students reconnected our school with a tradition that goes back to the early 1960s.

Wesley has the distinction of having a Victoria Cross recipient – Captain Robert Grieve VC – among its past students. Captain Grieve served with the 37th Battalion and was awarded his VC following a gallant charge against multiple machine gun emplacements during the Battle of Messines in Belgium on June 7, 1917.

The VC was presented by Captain Grieve's family to the school in 1959, and in 1963 Wesley cadets first carried a newly created 37th Battalion banner in the Anzac Day March, leading 40 soldiers who, due to their increasing age and declining strength, required the help of the students to act as the Colour Party. The banner was kept in the care of the school, but was lost in the great fire at the St Kilda Road Campus in 1989. This, together with Wesley ceasing to have a Cadet Corps and fewer soldiers being able to march for the AIF due to infirmity, meant the 37th was no longer a visible presence on Anzac Day.

Special thanks to Don McGregor, grandson of Lieutenant Norman McNicol MC, who had arranged for the earlier banner to be made, for keeping the tradition alive. 'Anzac Day must not be forgotten if history is not to repeat the same mistakes. We each have a duty to remember our men and women forebears' sacrifice for their community, through the ordeal of years of war and sacrifice in foreign places and at home,' Mr McNicol said. 'I have worked with Margot Vaughan, Philip Powell and David Edwards to have the relationship re-established between the school and the 37th Battalion.'

The guest speaker at the St Kilda Road Campus Senior School Anzac Day was Major-General Jim Barry AM MBE RFD ED (Retired) (OW1950). Maj-Gen Barry spoke about the 1918 battles that turned the tide in favour of the Allies in the First World War: the second Battle of Villers-Bretonneux in April, the Battle of Le Hamel in July and the Battle of Amiens in August 1918, as well as the role of Australia's most famous military leader and strategist, Sir John Monash. This year, 22 descendants were very proud once again to represent the Battalion on Anzac Day, and Wesley College was represented by Year 9 students Claire Peters, Leyla Kenneally, Denzill Nicholls and Oscar Nyholm as the Colour Party.



Top, from left, Leyla Kenneally, Denzill Nicholls, Oscar Nyholm and Claire Peters carry the new banner; bottom, from left, St Kilda Road Chaplain, Sally Apokis, Head of Campus, David Edwards, Principal Helen Drennen, Major-General Jim Barry and Head of Senior School, Oliver Thompson

Not check-mate – just yet



Year 5 and 6 participants in the Victorian Interschool Chess Championships, back row, from left Jarvis Dart, Henry Orner and Madeleine Edwards, and front row, Carly Minc, Weibo Luo, Jenna Mitelman and Thea Dodos

In June, the Wesley Elsternwick Campus hosted the Victorian Interschool Chess Championships. A strong cohort of 40 or so Wesley students from Years 1 to 6 enjoyed the in-house experience on their own campus. One hundred and thirty students from schools across Victoria participated in the intense competition. Year 5 Elsternwick student Jenna Mitelman achieved the highest score from our team, winning five out of seven games. Wesley Elsternwick qualified for the next stage, the Victorian semi-finals, which will take place later in the year.

Huh? Wow!



Thea Yiannoulidis with 'House on the Corner', winner of this year's Annual Acquisitive Art Prize

'Good art should elicit a response of "Huh? Wow!" as opposed to "Wow! Huh?"' So said noted American pop artist Edward Ruscha. Ruscha's understanding that good art stimulates *perplexity* followed by *excitement* was the response of Annual Acquisitive Art Prize judge Kate Rohde when she saw 'House on the Corner', this year's award-winning work by Thea Yiannoulidis (OW2017). Thea, who is inspired by pop artists like Ruscha and Howard Arkley, said their influences have had a huge impact on her work. 'I wanted to use colour and line to create an abstract depiction of my grandmother's house that represented it as out-of-the-ordinary – coming back to pop art,' Thea said. 'I'm also a bit obsessive, so I repainted a lot of the layers multiple times before I was happy with it.'

St Kilda Road Campus Art teacher Amelia Judd concurs with the award winner's self-assessment. 'Thea is a perfectionist and, although this winning artwork looks fairly simple, getting the perspective right,

using a jig-saw to cut it herself, airbrushing, layering and sanding of layers of paint to get it looking flawless, were some of the hurdles she overcame.'

Completing Year 12 IB Art last year with a final mark of 98 per cent was another well-deserved reward for the recent Wesley graduate. 'I think that the process of going through Art in Year 11 or 12 is a very valuable lesson for anyone who does want to go down a creative path later in life,' Thea said.

Currently on a gap year, Thea also received a Chancellor's Scholarship to the University of Melbourne to study a Bachelor of Design, specialising in architecture and construction management. 'For as long as I can remember I have wanted to be an architect. I think that this passion for design comes from my love of physics, maths and visual art. I am so excited to finally be starting my course, and hope that I can merge my love for art with the career that I follow in life,' she said.

Chinese visit has a musical side

Students and staff at Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus hosted 21 Year 6 to 8 students and three teachers from Shanghai East Experimental School, China, in Term 2. Many of the visiting students were excellent musicians, being proficient on both Chinese traditional instruments and standard orchestral instruments.

The Shanghai students presented two concerts for students at Glen Waverley, performing on a range of Chinese instruments including the Gu Zheng (or Chinese zither), Pipa, Hulusi (traditional flute) and Erhu (or Chinese violin). Wesley students were very lucky to experience these wonderful performances, along with the thoughtful introductions given by the students, helping to explain the background and meaning of each piece.

Another rewarding experience presented itself when Geoff Smith, Head of Music, invited the Shanghai East musicians to combine with the Glen Waverley Corelli Strings, directed by Helen Holt. The students combined to rehearse and perform *Xanadu*, by Chinese-Australian composer Stephen Chin, at the Principal's Farewell Dinner in the Alex Room.



Shanghai East Experimental School students join Corelli Strings to rehearse *Xanadu* by composer Stephen Chin

All that jazz

Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus held its annual contemporary music night, *Not Just Jazz*, at Leonda by the Yarra, a venue eminently suited to this genre of music, in May. With styles ranging from big band jazz to rock guitars, and Frank Sinatra covers to contemporary versions of Irish and Italian folk songs, the ambience was suitably laid back.

Five soloists – Patrick Edwards, Nicholas Lazzara, Jamie Hobbs, Maddison Martin-Hill and Atticus Stones – were featured; all performed their solos to much acclaim. Nicholas (aka 'Little Issy') Lazzara, a Year 12 soloist, who has played at six Not Just Jazz nights while a student at Wesley, said it was amazing to find himself in the same position as those he had looked up to for years. 'Highlights for me were getting to Leonda early in the morning to set up for the evening, and the opportunity to arrange Jeff Buckley's "Dream Brother" for me and Patrick Edward's Year 12 concerto.'

All 135 student performers should be congratulated for their performances and dedicated preparation leading up to this successful showcase of their considerable talent.

Musical talent was also on show at the recent *Generations in Jazz National Jazz Band and Vocal Ensemble Competition* in Mount Gambier – although 'festival' would be a more appropriate description.

Glen Waverley students not only competed in their various sections on the Saturday, but also enjoyed listening to both their peers from across the country and some of the world's best musicians in a series of amazing concerts and workshops. Add in a concert by the *Cat Empire*, with 5,000 teenagers standing on their seats pumping the air, and it's clear the event is much more than a competition.

Special mention must go to the Show Band for its Honourable Mention in Division 2 and to Sobi Arulampalam and Sasha Lethbridge for winning a place in the Division 2 Superband on baritone saxophone and trumpet respectively. The Divisions 1 and 2 Superbands performed their respective test pieces to a very appreciative audience in the final Sunday concert – a great effort to be a part of this finale.



Top, on the road – performers in Mount Gambier for *Generations in Jazz*; bottom, soloist Nicholas Lazzara performs at *Not Just Jazz*

International dinner – in wonderland

Students at Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus held the annual Alice in Wonderland-themed International Dinner in May. The International Dinner is not only an opportunity for all students from different cultures to come together to celebrate and dress up, but also an opportunity for students to expand their social circle.

Students from the International Relations Club planned the dinner, creating many entertaining events and beautiful thematic decorations. The event included limbo, vocal performances by students Victor and Ruth, dancing, kahoot trivia, a beautiful ceiling arrangement of suspended balloons and flamingo croquet.

One of the highlights of the event is the opportunity for students to dress up as their favourite characters from the classic novel *Alice in Wonderland*. Featured on the

night were the White Rabbit, Mad Hatter, Queen of Hearts and Royal Cardsmen, all displaying the students' creativity.



Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus students at the annual Alice in Wonderland-themed International Dinner in May

The books that tell more than one story



Precise and time consuming: putting Prize Books back together at Artifact Conservation

Wesley Archives is the grateful recipient of many interesting and old objects. Sometimes these come in the form of Prize Books, often from the early 1900s, but occasionally older. Our oldest dates from 1869. These stopped in 1949, when the Gift Book was introduced.

The early Prize Books were beautifully leather-bound, gold tooled, with marble paper fly leaves, and a plate indicating who received it, and for which subject. They also show evidence of an earlier Latin motto – *Sua Praemia Laudi*: 'Its Own Rewards'. With titles such as *How England Saved Europe* in four volumes, or *Physiology of Common Life* with dense text, small print font and only a few illustrations, it's more than likely they did not always appeal to a small boy, and were put carefully away at the back of the cupboard, to be found two or three generations later when 'cleaning out

Grandfather's house'. Sometimes the books were well loved and frequently read, incurring a torn front cover or damage to leather corners.

The very special ones are sent to our conservators at Artifact Conservation, who know our collection well, having restored much of what was salvaged from the fire in 1989.

The process of putting them back together is precise and time consuming, but the result is well worth it. Old glue is scraped off and the exposed spine is covered with Japanese mulberry paper, used in restoration as the fibres are longer and therefore stronger, while being lightweight and almost transparent. This might also be used to repair tears in pages.

Often new leather is required for the spine, and new gilding of the title and decorative

elements. Paint is blended to match the original colours, and corners and areas of loss are touched up. The fundamental principle in restoration and conservation is that whatever is done to an object can be undone by later conservators without destroying the object.

While the books themselves are interesting, whatever happened to the boys who received them?

John Booth came to the school twice. His first Entry Book date is 1867, as student number 161, aged 10. For reasons unknown he left but came back the following year, as student number 277. His father was one of the early English settlers. Abraham Booth arrived at Port Philip Colony in 1840 as a young farm labourer. He was very successful raising cattle and had a steady market when gold was discovered. The family was staunchly

Methodist. In 1863 he bought Oakover Hall in South Preston, which remains the oldest home in the area, now heritage listed by the National Trust. Perhaps because South Preston was so far from the school, John was a weekly boarder.

John Booth went on to gain a certificate in civil engineering and, in 1884, his Masters. He married Marian Parker in 1879 and a son was born in 1882. John had two brothers who became doctors; one of his three sisters kept a diary of life in semi-rural Preston. John had a successful career, was on the Council of the University of Melbourne, and was President of the Microscopical Society as well as the Society for Chemical Industry, organisations that still exist to this day. He died suddenly at his home aged 63.



A Prize Book in need of repair



Top, restoring the exposed spine with Japanese mulberry paper; Prize Books of Robert James McCutcheon and Robert Osborn Straw

Robert James McCutcheon, 1884, was the son of Robert George McCutcheon, from Ireland, who became a very successful printer and later conservative politician. Robert James had four brothers and three sisters, as well as many cousins. His father's printing business was the largest in Melbourne. Within this one family are connections by marriage to George Vasey CBE, and the Cato family. Through these families, and over generations, Wesley is the centre point.

Robert Osborn Straw, student number 122, together with his brother Frederick Martin, number 123, were two of the earliest boarders, arriving in 1867. Later Robert's nephew Keith, 1907, and great nephew Philip, 1936, would attend the school. Robert played in Wesley's first Public School Football match against Melbourne Grammar School in 1869. He died in 1926. His brother Fred discovered new waterfalls in the Otway ranges, still called Straw Falls, and Fred's son Keith became a Director of Munitions in Wales during the First World War, and later Director of Explosives and Gas Inspector for Victoria, dying suddenly in 1943.

Albert Cherbury David Rivett (OW1900) appropriately won his prize for science. David was the 1907 Rhodes Scholar,

and later set up what became the CSIRO. He was knighted for his outstanding contribution to the development of Australian science in 1935. His son Rohan also went to Wesley, became a journalist, newspaper editor and author, and during the Second World War was a POW on the Burma Railway.

Each Prize Book now tells three stories – of its title, of its restoration and something of the life of each student who initially received the prize.

Fitchett Hall courtyard naming donor



Head of the Elsternwick Campus Jacinta Janssens, Gang Ding, Albert Ding, Principal Helen Drennen, Peter Ding, Judy Gu and Nicki Issacs

Elsternwick parents Judy Gu and Gang Ding have made a very generous leadership gift to our Fitchett Hall Capital Campaign in appreciation of the wonderful education and opportunities provided by the Elsternwick Campus to their son Albert. In the relatively short time Albert has been a student at Elsternwick, his confidence has increased and he has involved himself fully in the life of the campus, playing sport and several musical instruments including drums, piano, clarinet and saxophone.

Judy and Gang appreciate the importance of education and their

support of the Foundation's philanthropic programs provides them with an opportunity to give back to the College.

'When our family first immigrated here, Albert had a lot of help from Wesley teachers and students. I feel Wesley is like a big family, and we are very happy to be part of it. I am very grateful that Wesley offered this chance for us to contribute to Fitchett Hall,' said Judy.

In recognition of their support, the new courtyard adjacent to the Hall will be named in their honour. This substantial courtyard provides students with

an additional recreational space, and as a breakout area from the newly renovated Hall.

Glen Waverley capital campaign

The Foundation has launched our fundraising campaign to support the exciting \$20 million Glen Waverley redevelopment project. We acknowledge, with enormous gratitude, the donations already received from parents and alumni. We are pleased to highlight three

families that have donated to support this important capital campaign.

To date, \$2 million has been raised towards our capital campaign. Prospective donors will continue to be contacted personally this year and in 2019.

For further information or to make a donation, please contact Debra Stiebel, Wesley College Foundation, on + 61 3 8102 6121 or debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.net

Adrian Santini and Sandra Palermo



From left, Deputy Principal and Head of the Glen Waverley Campus, Richard Brenker, Adrian Santini, Ava Palermo-Santini and Sandra Palermo

Adrian Santini and Sandra Palermo are delighted with the educational opportunities afforded to their daughter Ava at the Glen Waverley Campus, and fully support the redevelopment that replaces the original 1960s building. They are also very supportive of the Foundation's fundraising campaign to assist with this development, and any other projects that will help improve children's educational opportunities.

'Our family is delighted to support this exciting redevelopment at the Glen Waverley Campus,' said Adrian. 'The Glen Waverley Campus is a warm, inviting, vibrant community that makes everyone feel important and listened to,' he said.

'When we celebrated 150 Years of Wesley Sport in April 2016 at the MCC, the sense of pride, community and achievement that was established by previous generations

of Wesley students and alumni was amazing. Within eight hours of the end of the function, we witnessed the devastating fire that destroyed a substantial number of original classrooms and spaces, and elicited much emotion from children, parents, teachers and the local community. It was a clear reflection of the fact that the College is far more than bricks and mortar.'

Sandra said that witnessing the Wesley family come together after the devastation, with inspirational leadership from Principal, Dr Helen Drennen, Chief Financial Officer, Cameron Moroney, and President of College Council, Marianne Stillwell, as well as the Foundation, staff and so many parents and children supporting each other had inspired her family to support the redevelopment.

'Typical of the foresight and vision of the College and its leadership, a decision

was made to research the long-term educational needs of students and develop a brief for a significant new building, rather than simply replace what had existed. So out of the ashes of the old arose a phoenix that will provide outstanding, state-of-the-art facilities for our children, both now and into the future,' she said.

'This investment will ensure that our children have the very best facilities to achieve the highest standards in education and provide them with all the necessary skills to enter our ever-changing workforce. We encourage other families to join us in supporting the Wesley College Foundation, as previous generations have, to be part of Wesley's exciting future.'

Gary Baldwin and Weiwei Li

Gary Baldwin and Weiwei Li are thrilled with the redevelopment and were one of our early donors. Their two children, Li and Lily, both commenced in three-year-old ECLC. 'To say we are very happy with their education at the ECLC and Junior School is an understatement,' said Gary. 'We are very appreciative of all the educators at Wesley who are guiding their students to become life-long learners and global citizens—ultimately for the enhancement of the community at large.'



From left, Deputy Principal and Head of Glen Waverley Campus Richard Brenker, Weiwei Li, and Li and Lily Baldwin

Guerra family

The three Guerra brothers, and their wives, chose Wesley College as they each believed it would provide their children with the best and truest education.

Paul and Amelia, parents of Daniela (OW2017), Matthew (Year 11) and Stephen (Year 9), said, 'We were really impressed with the ability of Wesley to offer such a diverse range of opportunities for each of our three children.'

According to Mark and Adriana, parents of Lauren (Year 10) and Luke (Year 8), 'We wanted a great education mixed with a great sporting program for our children.' Peter and Fiona, parents of Emily (Year 11) and Olivia (Year 9), said, 'We wanted our girls together in a school environment that provided for their needs.'

'We have been delighted with the Wesley education and all it has offered, and we have the bonus that all our children, cousins as they are, get to see each other every day, which just reinforces the family aspect of the College.'

Although the redevelopment will be completed after all seven children have moved into the Senior School, they will still benefit from the new campus Library, Teaching and Learning Theatre, language classrooms and Chapel. The Guerra family supports the Foundation's capital fundraising program and encourages all families to consider how they too can support this program.

'Wesley has been fantastic for our children, and we have a belief that you should leave things better than you found them. This very significant, multi-functional building will be a wonderful addition for the Glen Waverley Campus, and our contribution is a small way of saying thanks for the great education, opportunities and friendships our children have benefited from.'



Members of the extended Guerra family, from left, Mathew, Lauren, Luke, Stephen and Daniella (OW2017) with Principal Helen Drennen. Absent: Olivia and Lauren

Asia Alumni Business Networking Forums

The Foundation and OWCA continue to provide our alumni in Asia with opportunities to connect and network with each other. The largest such event to date was held in Jakarta with a very impressive panel of speakers organised by Jason Tabalujan-Chong (OW1998).

As the fourth most populous nation in the world, with 260 million people, Indonesia is positioned to be a leading digital economy, particularly given its favourable demographics and rapidly growing population of internet users.

Wesley alumni and friends gathered in the offices of our generous host Tedy Djuhar (OW1972) in Jakarta in April to hear from a panel on 'Navigating Indonesia's Digital Economy,' featuring Eu Gene Hong (Deputy Managing Director, Grab Indonesia), Stephanie Yeo (Venture Partner, Fenox Venture Capital)

and Roderick Purwana (Managing Partner, Sinar Mas Digital Ventures).

The first panellist, Eu Gene, was instrumental in setting up the Grab business in Indonesia as a 'unicorn' – a start-up valued at more than USD 1 billion. Grab was valued at more than USD 6 billion in 2017.

The second panellist, Stephanie, sources promising start-ups in Indonesia on behalf of a Silicon Valley-based venture capital firm and was named one of the Ten Inspirational Female Tech Entrepreneurs from South East Asia by *Forbes* in 2017 and one of the Top 50 Women in Indonesia by *Warta Ekonomi* in 2018.

The third panellist, Roderick, a graduate of Stanford University, has a background in management, operations, investment

and portfolio management in Silicon Valley and South East Asia. He currently leads one of the most prominent venture capital firms in Indonesia.

The panel was moderated by Nic Lim (OW1994) who travelled from Singapore to be part of this event. Special thanks also to OWCA Indonesian representatives Pauliady Widjaja (OW2006) and Adi Janitra (OW2005).

Our event in Singapore in April was kindly hosted at Deloitte by Wesley parent, Tim Phillips. This was a more informal gathering of alumni in an interactive forum with Nic Lim. Nic spoke about his experiences in establishing and developing his various businesses.



The Foundation and OWCA continue to provide our alumni in Asia with opportunities to connect and network with each other. The largest such event to date was held in Jakarta, hosted by Tedy Djuhar (OW1972).

Top, from left, Jakarta Forum moderator Nic Lim and panellists Eu Gene Hong, Jason Tabalujan-Chong, Roderick Purwana and Stephanie Yeo; bottom, participants at the Jakarta Forum

Entrepreneurial spirit

Nic Lim (OW1994), a member of the Foundation's Asia Advisory Group, moderated our very successful Alumni Business Forum in Jakarta, and was the keynote speaker at our Singapore event. Nic is one of the increasing number of alumni in Asia who have become more engaged with the College in recent years through their involvement in alumni networking and Foundation activities.



Nic Lim (OW1994)

An Internet 1.0 veteran, Nic in 1999 co-founded Catcha.com, a company that has evolved to become a successful internet group in Asia. He left active involvement in 2003, remaining a shareholder, to pursue a career in finance until early 2012 when he was attached to Morgan Stanley (Fixed Income Sales, Investment Bank) in Singapore.

He has since returned to the technology scene as the Managing Partner at 8capita, which has invested in more 40 technology start-ups over the past six years. His main focus today is as Founder and Executive Chairman of 8common, a publicly listed company on the Australian Stock Exchange that delivers its Expense8 software platform to government agencies and corporates, include the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and Woolworths.

Wesley provided the opportunity for Nic to pursue university Commerce and Arts streams, which led to double degrees in Commerce and Law. 'The Wesley culture and being able to indulge in politics, legal studies and more was very liberating. It made all the difference and enabled me to chart my path,' Nic said.

'Since my involvement with the Asia Advisory Group and the Alumni Business Forums, I have connected with a number of alumni across South East Asia. I have also gained a greater understanding of the important work of the Foundation. When approached to consider supporting the exciting new development at the Glen Waverley campus, I was very pleased to do so. I encourage other alumni to consider what they can do to support their old school.'

Sapere Aude Bequest Society at the CitiPower Centre

Members of the *Sapere Aude Bequest Society* visited Cricket Victoria's recently opened new home, the CitiPower Centre at the Junction Oval, St Kilda, in April. Since Collegians Football Club is a co-tenant with Cricket Victoria at the Harry Trott Oval, *Sapere Aude* members and their guests were able to enjoy a guided tour of the comprehensive new training facilities and lunch overlooking the ground with an international 20/20 in progress. The tour excluded player areas under a restriction applied under International Cricket Council (ICC) lock-down guidelines that address international online betting – notwithstanding that the match was an Australia-Pakistan U16 game.

Lunchtime speaker and former ICC President, Malcolm Gray AM (OW1957), provided an honest appraisal of the state of Australian cricket following the recent ball tampering controversy in Cape Town, South Africa.

Attendees appraised the excellent training and administrative facilities, designed by Cox Architects who are Wesley's retained architects, and built at a cost close to \$40 million.

Introduced by Shaun Graf our host and Cricket Manager at Cricket Victoria, Malcolm was recognised for his extensive work for world cricket, and a little-known fact – that Wesley Headmaster from 1902 to 1932, LA Adamson, was in 1906 the President

of the Victorian Cricket Association, now Cricket Victoria, and chaired the inaugural meeting of the Australian Board of Control, now Cricket Australia.

Sapere Aude Bequest Society events provide members with privileged access by virtue of Wesley contacts. To be part of the invitee listing, please contact the Coordinator of the Society, Frank Opray by email at frank.opray@wesleycollege.net or + 61 3 8102 6304.



Members of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society with Cricket Manager at Cricket Victoria Shaun Graf at the CitiPower Centre

Boathouse capital campaign

Work has commenced on the redevelopment of our iconic Boathouse to provide substantially improved facilities for rowers and coaching crew. Our fundraising campaign continues with opportunities for individuals or families to acknowledge their names on a donor board for a tax deductible sum of \$1,250 per year for two years.

One recent donor was Martin Boland (OW2000). Martin rowed in the Wesley sixth VIII in 1998 and progressed to the First VIII and was Vice-Captain of Boats in 2000. He later rowed for Mercantile Rowing Club, represented Victoria and was a National Championship medallist.

Reflecting on the benefits of rowing, Martin said, 'Rowing is a unique sport in that it challenges you to perform both physically and mentally in a highly competitive but also team-oriented environment. Some of the most important learnings from my school days came from rowing, not to mention many great friendships. It's been far too long since Wesley won a Head of the River and I encourage other rowing alumni to support the Boathouse Campaign.'

Three boats were recently named to honour donors: *The Peter Smedley* named by Nicholas Smedley in honour of his father, *The Spirit of 47* named by William Crothers in honour of his father Bill Crothers, who was a member of that winning crew, and the *Crothers Family* by Grant Crothers, as well as a scud named by the Pleasants Family.



Top, Martin Boland; Middle left, Chris, Kobee, Mojdeh and Josh Pleasants; right, Alice, Emma and Sebastian Smedley; bottom left, Grant Crothers; right, Joanne, Will and Nick Crothers

Eleventh Annual Business Breakfast



'The Future of Work' was a timely theme for the Annual Business Breakfast in June, as the technology revolution inexorably sweeps across our lives, affecting how we produce the goods we purchase and supply the services we use.

As machines and robots do more of the tasks previously undertaken by humans, those affected are asking our leaders where their jobs will come from. So how do we employ those whose jobs are being displaced by machines?

The distinguished panel assembled at the Sofitel Melbourne on Collins to discuss this issue comprised Jennifer Westacott, Chief Executive, Business Council of Australia; Karen Chester, Deputy Chair, Productivity Commission; Dr Ziggy Switkowski AO, Chancellor, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology; and Professor Hugh Bradlow FTSE, President, Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.

The Foundation was most grateful for the time and expertise that each speaker brought to the event and topic; Wesley parent, Graeme Samuel AC (OW1963), for his ongoing support for this event; our MC, Peter Lazer (OW1995); and our generous sponsors who help to ensure the success of this prestigious annual event.



Top Annual Business Breakfast panellists, from left, Hugh Bradlow, Karen Chester, Ziggy Switkowski and Jennifer Westacott; middle, Annual Business Breakfast panellists with Principal Helen Drennen and sponsors; bottom, participants at the 11th Annual Business Breakfast

Seats in History

The Wesley College Foundation is most grateful to Elizabeth Cohen (nee Kent, 1975) and Edward Cohen (OW1973), who have generously donated two *Seats in History*: one in Fitchett Hall and one in Adamson Hall.

Elizabeth, who came to Cato MLC in Year 10, has very fond memories of the campus and has been delighted to see the renovation of Fitchett Hall, now home to so many musical performances. It was the music program that drew Elizabeth to the College and she has pursued music throughout her teaching career. In Year 11 Elizabeth won the Graeme Blomfield Scholarship. She joined the madrigals and became a soloist, and vividly remembers speech night at Dallas Brooks Hall, where she performed several solos.

After completing a Bachelor of Education and Creative Arts, Elizabeth's first teaching

appointment was in Hamilton, followed by a stint at Dandenong High School, where she ran the music department and went on a huge learning curve.

Elizabeth married Edward in 1984. They have three daughters.

Edward came to Wesley in 1963, commencing in Year 2 in the Hutch. His family has a long association with the school: his great grandfather, Frederic Michaelis, was an OW who came to the College in 1902 and held the office of President of the OWCA during the First World War; his brother Charles commenced in 1960.

Edward's grandfather on his mother's side, Julius Benjamin, and all his siblings, attended Wesley. Edward went to what was then Syndal in Years 5 to 8, and

completed his schooling at the Prahran Campus. He completed an Arts degree at La Trobe University and recalled being taught by Dr Jean Prest, a past Patron of our *Sapere Aude Bequest Society*. He then worked in credit management in a variety of different industries.

His fondest memories of Wesley are the hymns and the great School Songs, and he occasionally attends reunions. Edward remarked that he was destined to come to Wesley as both his mother and his aunt grew up at 574 St Kilda Road, with a view across the front turf.

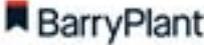
The Foundation would love to hear from others who attended Cato MLC College and married Old Wesley Collegians. Please email Debra Stiebel at debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.net



Elizabeth and Edward Cohen

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

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



Co-Presidents' Report

So here we are again, an unlikely but collaborative Co-President duo, in for our second year. It has been an honour and a privilege for both of us to serve the wider Wesley community and work with such a considerate, intelligent and progressive executive team. We would like to extend our congratulations to new members of office. We welcome Kate Evans (OW1998) and Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999) to the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer respectively. Both have been a fantastic asset to the OWCA Executive, and we look forward to working with them closely over the next year.

We also warmly welcome Anastasia Malishev (OW1995), Tim Foster (OW2003) and Rob Martyn-Wilde (OW2004). Anastasia recently moved back to Melbourne after a long stint in Singapore as Managing Director of Design INC, an interior design firm. Tim brings a great wealth of

knowledge, currently working at EY after studying both Economics and Law in Australia and internationally. Rob's experience in strategy and marketing brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the Executive.

It has been a fabulous quarter for the OWCA and broader Wesley community. On behalf of our members, we have attended functions at Caulfield Grammar School, Scotch College and St Kevin's College, and a gathering of Presidents and executive members at Geelong Grammar School. We also hosted a drinks function in London, which was well supported by a small number of OWs. The London contingent is determined to make this occasion grow.

The first weekend in May saw a re-invigorated Founders' Day Dinner at the Myer Mural Hall. More than 250 guests enjoyed a chic evening with dinner, dancing, photo booths and, of course, school singing. It was great to see a vast array of OWs and affiliates support the evening, and safe to say tickets will be hard to come by next year to this sell-out event, so make sure you get in early.

The Founders' Day Lunch at Kooyong saw a large contingent of our older alumni join in a great setting for an important event on the OWCA calendar. This year we were treated to hearing firsthand about Jemima Montag's (OW2016) road to gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Interviewed by Peter Hawkins, Head of Sport, Jemima spoke about race walking, her experiences at College and beyond, and the day of her gold-winning race in April. See page 12 for more.

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

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



From left, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004) and Principal, Dr Helen Drennen, having just been presented with the College Flag



Horn of plenty

Horn player Isaac Shieh (OW2013) is currently pursuing advanced study in Cardiff, Wales, with renowned period hornist Anneke Scott, thanks to generous scholarships from the University of Melbourne and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and the encouragement of his very supportive Wesley music teachers.

Isaac, who studied at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music with Spiros Kessarlis, Dr Erin Helyard and Dr David Irving, has focused on aspects of historical performance practice.

Isaac is emerging as one of his generation's most exciting natural hornists and has developed into a versatile period performer. Known for his interpretations of the Mozart Horn Concertos, he won the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music Brass Concerto Competition in 2016 and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Concerto Competition this year.

While Isaac will be performing in the British Horn Society Festival later this year, his activities are not confined to period horn playing. He is also passionate about rediscovering and performing rare works, and collaborates closely with emerging Australian and international composers to premier solo and chamber works.

Isaac currently holds the Grant Award for Natural Horn with Italy's Theresia Youth Orchestra and will be performing with them regularly until 2020.



Noel Jackling (OW1956) with the Ridder or Knight of Oranje-Nassau of the Kingdom of the Netherlands medal

A night's tale

Few may remember, firsthand, the remarkable story of the emergency night landing on the Albury Racecourse in 1934 of Uiver, a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines' Douglas DC-2, and the united community spirit that led to the survival of the passengers on it. For university educational developer and lawyer-turned-historian Noel Jackling (OW1956), however, the story of Uiver, and his passion for its historic recognition, has resulted in him receiving the Netherlands' highest honour, the Ridder or Knight of Oranje-Nassau

of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, a distinguished medal normally reserved for those of Netherlands heritage. On 6 March, 2018, the Ambassador for the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Australia, HE Mrs Erica Schouten, travelled from Canberra to make Noel a Knight of the Order for 'his longstanding and dedicated work on the promotion of the Uiver story, and the preservation and extension of the now heritage-listed Uiver collection at the Albury Library Museum.'

The Uiver was competing in the London-to-Melbourne MacRobertson International Centenary Air Race and was on the final leg of the Charleville-Melbourne crossing of the Victorian Alps when it encountered a severe electrical storm. The people of Albury no doubt saved lives by broadcasting on local ABC Radio 2CO, calling all cars to the Albury Racecourse to create a lit runway, while the town lights were illuminated by the community and sequentially flashed in morse code. At 1.17 am on 24 October 1934, Uiver touched down in one piece on the racecourse. By the light of day, everyone helped to drag the plane from where it lay bogged and the plane once again set off, to reach Melbourne in second place, taking out the handicap prize. To put this in context, this was the first commercial air passenger crossing from Europe to Australia. This not only contributed to the development of air travel in

Australia, but also led to our first migration agreement with a foreign country, when signed by Australia and the Netherlands just five years after the near-tragedy. Noel first became interested in the amazing story through his friend's father, former ABC 2CO announcer Arthur Newnham, who galvanised support that evening.

At a surprise ceremony in Albury and in front of family members, local dignitaries and members of the Uiver Memorial Community Trust, the Ambassador awarded the prestigious medal, which was followed by a special dinner in Noel's honour. The award follows years of work and research on the events of the night of the emergency landing, the rich stories of ceremonies, cultural gifts and especially composed music, and the strong relationships that have forever linked Albury and Australia with both KLM and the Government of the Netherlands.

The author of several books, Noel has facilitated major donations to the Albury Library Museum of Memorabilia where the story is now preserved and told in exhibition. Forming part of that exhibition, Noel also successfully advocated to keep a memorial sister plane, in Uiver livery, in Albury to be restored locally, and the collection has been listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

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Andrea Biden (OW1993) with a local Guinjata child

Waves of change

A micro non-profit marine conservation organisation working in Guinjata Bay, Mozambique, called Love the Oceans has a strong Wesley connection. Andrea Biden (OW1993) co-founded Love the Oceans in 2014, after a career in the oil and gas industry that began in Melbourne and took her to 70 countries, and further university study in four more. Andrea's transition to a career focused on corporate sustainability began in 2008 and has taken her to the stunning coastal region of post-civil war Mozambique, where she encountered a problem in paradise: the shark fin trade.

The shark fin trade is one of the most unsustainable wildlife trades, with somewhere between 26 and 73 million sharks caught for their fins to produce shark fin soup – an expensive traditional dish, used to demonstrate wealth and affluence throughout Asia.

While Andrea initially aimed to tackle the fin trade, she realised a multi-pronged approach to creating incentives for conservation was necessary, in particular to address the underlying issue of desperate poverty. Focusing on research, education and diving, Love the Oceans has altered the mission of the marine charity to establish a community-managed Marine Protected Area (MPA) in Guinjata and its surrounding bays.

Love the Oceans' research is published in scientific journals and used to lobby for legislative change. For the MPA to be successfully monitored and maintained it must be supported by a community that possesses the skills and knowledge to effectively manage it. In Guinjata, the literacy rate is estimated at 20 per cent in males and 10 per cent in females, and the population is severely impacted by poverty – which has led to illegal shark finning. To address both issues, Love the Oceans works in partnership with the local communities, and at two local schools, to significantly improve teaching facilities and provide education in basic science, marine resource management, sea safety and marine conservation.

Love the Oceans has lobbied to have Guinjata recognised as an area of key marine significance and it was recently nominated as a Hope Spot under Sylvia Earle's Mission Blue Foundation. 'We are so thrilled. This proves it's of real value to the marine ecosystem and not just because of the amazing humpbacks calving in our waters,' Andrea said.

For Andrea, outreach work is just as important as research. Educating local communities about their work, building classrooms to encourage more families to access education as well as teaching swimming lessons (the local beaches have strong rip tides and there have been multiple drownings with less than five per cent of locals able to swim) is just the beginning.

The approach used by Love the Oceans has proven successful in other developing nations with similar issues. Indonesia, for example, has just established one of the largest MPAs for manta rays in the world, covering more than six million square kilometres. This has not only protected manta ray populations, but boosted ecotourism.

To volunteer or fundraise for, or donate to Love the Oceans, email info@lovethеоceans.org or visit lovethеоceans.org



'New' 1930s buildings at the St Kilda Road Campus discovered on Facebook

A quick photo

When former Wesley parent, Peter Quick, found an image on Facebook of the 'new' 1930s buildings at the St Kilda Road Campus, he wasn't sure of our interest, or indeed if we had the original. It turns out that the image he discovered is part of a collection of images taken by the plasterers, who worked around the clock to bring the remarkable project together in record time. The family of third-generation plasterer Andy Hoppo did the plastering at Wesley and many other Melbourne landmarks. At one time, their business employed more 500 people, a remarkable success in the Great Depression. Thankfully the company took photos of all the buildings they worked on and, in this one from their collection, crisp lines are revealed, once the (plaster) dust had settled.



Jasmine Valcic (OW2015) receives her New Colombo Plan scholarship from Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon Julie Bishop MP

Passionate and diplomatic

Jasmine Valcic (OW2015) has always wanted to make a difference in a global context. She found a passion for international diplomacy when, in Year 9 at Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus, she became involved in the United Nations Youth Victoria program. Now in her third year of a double degree in International Relations and Law at Bond University, Jasmine has won an elite scholarship offered by the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan (NCP), a transformational

program that aims to deepen Australia's relationships in the region. The NCP scholarship will take her to Thailand in September for a year.

Jasmine will study at Maidol University International College for a semester, and then, in her words, 'I'll be undertaking a couple of full-time internships for six months as well as a month of full-time language training in Thai. As a side project, I'm also hoping to train in Muay Thai.'

If that looks like a full program, it's safe to say that Jasmine has always kept herself fully occupied outside of academic study, and cites this as a key reason she was successful in winning an NCP scholarship. 'If I wasn't as involved in the community and extracurricular activities at Wesley as I was, I don't think I would have had the confidence to be as involved in university life,' she said.

Already a livewire with an irrepressible smile, Jasmine lights up when she speaks about international relations, and her passion is infectious. This, too, clearly impressed the NCP selection panel. 'I think the biggest factor was being personable; the reality is they are selecting people they think will be good ambassadors for Australia, and who will make strong person-to-person relations and connections.'

Unsurprisingly, Jasmine's eventual aim is to work for the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, even in conflict zones. 'In an increasingly globally connected society, international relations and diplomatic relations are crucial to protecting individuals and maintaining a peaceful global community,' she said. 'And I find the intricacies of international relations fascinating.'

Class of 1958 60 Year Reunion celebrated with laughter and warmth



Peter Axup, Michael Day, Robert Trembath and Ian Purbrick

The class of 1958 returned to the College in April for an afternoon of memories and merriment to celebrate their 60-year reunion, and did so with a lunch in grand style. The camaraderie of the old boys was evident with fantastic stories shared and friendships reignited over lunch in the Cato Room. Master of Ceremonies, Malcolm Hastings, was warm and funny, and everyone was held spellbound when Roger Vincent thoroughly entertained all with tales of his varied occupational escapades, and the celebrated social company he kept, which extended to his French citizenship, and time in Europe with actress and dancer, Leslie Caron. The celebration ended with rousing School Songs and the promise from several guests that they would be joining us later this year at the OWCA Golden Lions Lunch. See page 42 for more.



Portrait of WH Frederick, Headmaster of Wesley from 1947 to 1956, the period during which Michael McCarthy (OW1957) was a student at the school

A middle path

Following the announcement by the President of Council, Marianne Stillwell, regarding the Principal's final year, OWs have responded with warmth and insight. Michael McCarthy (OW1957), himself a former teacher, wrote back with the following thoughts.

'Wesley in the 1950s was in many ways an excellent school, but as a twelve-and-a-half-year-old in 1953, I found the place rather overwhelming – as I imagine did many coming from small primary schools to join a community of 600 dominated by 17- and 18-year-olds. In my first month I arrived late one morning. I was confronted by the Head Prefect, Lex Hibbins. "Have you permission to be late?" he asked curtly. "No sir," I replied. (I didn't know you didn't call the prefects "sir".) "No I haven't."

'Some weeks later, I left the classroom to get a textbook I should have brought to class. I was confronted by The Boof, a strange epithet for the brilliant and personable WH Frederick, Headmaster and later to become Professor of Education at the University of Melbourne. "Why?" – that is, "Why aren't you in class?" – he asked me emphatically. I explained, and he ticked me off. But it was his energy, good humour, oratorical skill and general efficiency that typified what made Wesley what it was.

'As an all-male school, Wesley was a fairly macho society, but that was ameliorated decades ago by the inclusion of girls, benefitting Wesley greatly. Some years ago, studies suggested that the division of schools into primary and secondary, each providing six years of education, was dysfunctional, because it made for a big change when we most need stability and continuity.

'Ideally, students aged 10 to 14 should remain in the same school environment throughout this difficult period, so they can cope with all the other changes affecting them without also having to adjust to what amounts to an alien world. It would surely not be impossible for the various school systems, and most schools outside them, to move from the traditional primary-secondary division to a junior-middle-senior model.

'I understand Helen Drennen was responsible, as Principal, for the introduction of the present structure of the middle years of schooling at Wesley. Her legacy is extensive and remarkable, but for this initiative alone she deserves our profound gratitude and appreciation.'



Alumni Relations Officer,
Cameron Evans

New to the OWCA office

New to the OWCA office as part of a major restructure, is Alumni Relations Officer, Cameron Evans. Cameron brings close to a decade of experience in the alumni relations field, working specifically in education at both a secondary and tertiary level, and is here to exercise skills in areas such as social media, research and alumni communication. Cameron also provides a high level of support for alumni projects and enhanced services, and looks to ensure all OWs are getting the most out of their OWCA membership. Cameron comes to us from University College at the University of Melbourne.



APS Golf Day

Venue: Commonwealth Golf Club | **Date:** Friday 26 October, 2018 | **Time:** All day
Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office
on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net

Queen's Birthday 2018 Honours List

COMPANION (AC) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Colin HARCOURT AO (OW1949)

For eminent service to higher education as an academic economist and author, particularly in the fields of Post-Keynesian economics, capital theory and economic thought.

OFFICER (AO) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Dr John George McHUTCHISON (OW1975)

For distinguished service to medical research in gastroenterology and hepatology, particularly through the development of treatments for viral infections, and to the biopharmaceutical industry.

MEDAL (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Dr Donald Ian ALLEN (OW1955)

For significant service to education through roles in the development of public policy and accreditation standards.

Mr Morry FRAID – Current parent

For significant service to the community through philanthropic support for a range of charitable organisations and foundations.

Mr Joseph (Joe) KRAMPEL – Past parent

For significant service to the Jewish community of Victoria, particularly in the area of aged care, and to sports administration.

Dr Ian John KRONBORG (OW1966) – Past parent

For significant service to medicine, particularly gastroenterology, and through innovative substance abuse treatment programs.

Professor Christine Faye McDONALD – Past parent

For significant service to respiratory and sleep medicine as a clinician-researcher, administrator, and mentor, and to professional medical organisations.

Professor Jeanette MILGROM (Elsternwick MLC 1968) – Past parent

For significant service to psychology as a researcher, advisor and administrator, to education, and to professional organisations.

Professor Peter Anthony SALLMANN – Past parent

For significant service to the legal profession as a leader and advisor to professional judicial organisations, and as an educator.

MEDAL (OAM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mrs Patricia Bette COOK

For service to the community of Clunes.

Ms Dorothy Madge GRAFF (Elsternwick MLC 1962)

For service to the Jewish community.

Mrs Margaret Lesley HAYCROFT (Cato College 1977)

For service to the community of South Gippsland.

Mr Ian Robert MENCE (OW1955)

For service to the community of Brighton.

Professor John Carl Pollaers – Past parent

For service to the manufacturing sector, education, and business.

Mr John Moore SHARWOOD (OW1951)

For service to the community through a range of roles.

MEDAL (OAM) IN THE MILITARY DIVISION

Royal Australian Air Force

Sergeant Katrina Louise LISTON (Cato College 1980)

For meritorious service in instruction, case officer support and training medical supervision as a Divisional Senior Non-Commissioned Officer at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

Victoria

Mr Richard BOLT – Current parent

For outstanding public service through leadership, and innovation in energy, agriculture, education, transport, economic development and carbon policy in Victoria and nationally.

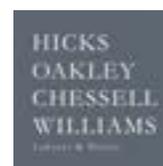
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Founders' Day Dinner

The 2018 Founders' Day Dinner committee had every right to be proud as guests began to arrive on the purple carpet at the historic Myer Mural Hall for Founders' Day Dinner on Saturday May 5. The lounge area was well and truly abuzz before the Hall itself was revealed, and 250 guests found their places and were magically soon in full song. They were more than suitably impressed when students from the Elsternwick Campus descended the stylish staircases to form a choir and join them in singing 'The Best School of All'.

Following a warm welcome from the Principal, now in her final year, Co-Presidents of the OWCA, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963) and Belinda Danks-Woodley (OW2004), re-enacted a moment from Founders' Day Dinner in former Headmaster LA Adamson's final year, presenting Helen Drennen with the Flag of Wesley College in a touching ceremony. An enormous number of younger leavers from 2000 to 2017 were at the event, thanks to consistent work on social media, the fantastic support of the Collegians' Football Club and flexible ticketing options, including the initiative of a generational discount for OWs and their OW children.

Many experienced the amazing heart and soul of Founders' Day Dinner, and its very own school spirit, for the first time. The great diversity of ages attending, and the fun that was had by all, meant that the quality, strength and warmth in singing of the final School Songs was something that will be long remembered. Guests were interrupted only occasionally, allowing for endless conversations and opportunities to enjoy the incredibly popular selfie station, live social media feed on the giant screen, late night DJ or further drinks in the lounge, ahead of the inevitable after-party. On the stroke of midnight, it was time to leave, but mingling with the well-behaved OW revellers were still just a few delighted Council members.



Affiliates

Collegians Football Club

Collegians has started the year just as well as last year. At the halfway mark of the season the Senior men's team sit equal top with eight wins and one loss and have defeated both St Kevin's and Old Brighton, our nearest challengers. Everything augurs well for a serious challenge at the premiership. Serious season-ending injuries to Anthony Bruhn, Lachie Harper and Ollie Jones and long term injuries to Will Johnson (OW2007) and Matt Jenkinson will test our depth, but we look forward to welcoming back Lachie Ferguson (OW2010) in the next few weeks.

The boys' development team currently sits fourth and is pushing strongly for finals. The Thirds put three weeks of great football together to win three games in a row, more wins than they have had for the last two years. The Under 19s are running on a short list of players, but are only one game out of the four.

Our women's program has been just fantastic and stepping up to two teams this year has been a big move forward that will hold us in good stead for future years. The senior girls, up a section this year, are only one game out of the four.

Congratulations to Christine Nancarrow (OW2016) on becoming the first Collegians woman to represent the club in the Victorian team on the Queen's Birthday weekend in Adelaide. The boys team had George Burbury as Captain, Sam Hibbins (OW2011), Viv Michie (OW2009), Courtney Hylton

(OW2010) and Corey Cassidy (OW2010) representing the club and all performed brilliantly.

The club played Old Scotch at Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus in the ANZAC round for the newly formed 'McNeil Cup' in honour of former Wesley Principal and Scotch student, HN McNeil. It was a great day: Collegians duly won the cup after a great pre-match lunch in the Coates Pavilion. In June, we also held our first coterie lunch for 2018 with guest speaker former Hawthorn premiership captain, Don Scott, who did not hold back on his views of the AFL, and a lunch at the Trott to celebrate Women in Football with guest speaker, three-time Olympian Nat Titcume.

Collegians welcomes all supporters to our games and lunches. For further information, visit www.collegiansfc.com or contact Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) on rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au or 0412 687 430.



Collegians and Old Scotch at Wesley's Glen Waverley Campus in the ANZAC round before playing for the 'McNeil Cup'

Elsternwick Cato golf

The 89th Women's Inter-School Challenge Cup was held at Kew Golf Course on April 16 2018. Our team, made up of Jennifer Round (Cato MLC 1974), Jenny Yelland (Cato MLC 1974), Judy Horton (Elsternwick MLC 1966) and Debbie Catchlove (Cato MLC 1974), performed well in windy conditions, placing within the first eight schools from a field of 20. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed participating, reconnecting with friends from other schools and concluding with a delicious lunch. We look forward later in the year to our very own golf day to be held at Peninsula Kingswood Country Golf Club on Monday 1 October.

All past students from the Elsternwick Campus, MLC Elsternwick, Cato or Wesley, across all age groups, are very welcome to join in. If you would like to be added to our list for the next golf day, please contact Zena Eastburn at the OWCA office by email zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net or on + 61 3 8102 6750. For further information, contact Debbie Catchlove on 0425 711 386 or dcatchlove@hotmail.com

OWCA/OSCA golf

The annual OWCA/OSCA (Old Scotch Collegians Association) golf day was held at the National Golf Club Long Island course on May 18 2018. Players were greeted with a well-presented course, on which their game was sternly tested. There was some fine play on show in the cool afternoon conditions. In the end, OSCA was successful in regaining the trophy. A strong fellowship has developed through this event and we look forward to the 2019 edition. *See page 43 for more.*

Interested OWs, parents and past parents are all welcome to play at our next event. To join our list, please contact Zena Eastburn at the OWCA office by email at zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net or on +61 3 8102 6750. For more information please contact Peter Johnson (OW1995) by email at peter.wendy@optusnet.com.au or on 0419 119 786.

OWCA v OSCA Annual Golf Day Trophy

Won by OSCA

H J Kroger 4 Ball Best Ball Trophy

Won by Steve Laussen (OW1979) and Ray Berzins (OW1979) (+7)

Dr John Kennedy Handicap Trophy

Won by Matthew Allan (OW2014) (+3)

R W Chenoweth Championship Trophy

Won by Peter Johnson (OW1995) (88)

Nearest the pin

3rd hole: Tony Beaconsfield (OW1984)

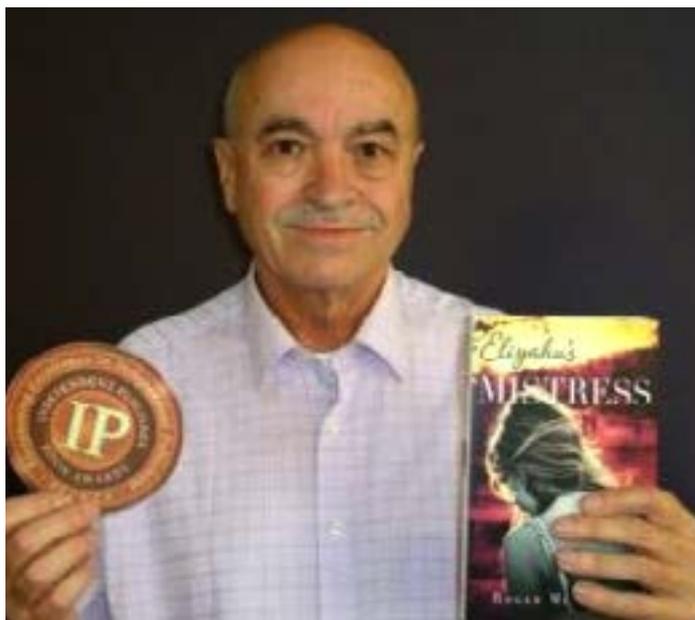
9th hole: Geoff Nash (OW1961)

12th hole: Peter Dakin (OW1963)

Longest drive

18th hole: Jon Docking (OW1988)

OW updates



Roger Mendelson (OW1967)

Eliyahu's Mistress by Melbourne debut novelist, Roger Mendelson (OW1967), won the Bronze 'IPPY' Book Award at an awards ceremony in New York City in May. The IPPYs or Independent Publisher Book Awards recognise exemplary independent, university and self-published titles. *Eliyahu's Mistress* won the Bronze Award for Best Regional Fiction from Australia/ New Zealand. Roger, a lawyer, prominent business owner and president of a major Jewish organisation, was honoured to receive the accolade for his first foray into fiction. 'I'm thrilled to win the award and gain international recognition for my book,' he said. 'While I started my fiction journey late in life, the heart of the book incorporates insights that I have learned over the past decades.' *Eliyahu's Mistress* tells the story of Frances, a middle-aged Catholic woman living in the Dandenong Ranges, and the working – and eventually personal – relationship she has with a Jewish, but not religious, marketing manager known as Steven. For copies, or more information, visit www.mendelsonbooks.com.au



Lian Im Fong (OW1995)

When Lian Im Fong (OW1995) completed Year 12 she undertook a medical degree at the University of Melbourne and then trained as an intern at the Western Hospital, Footscray before returning to Singapore where she completed an additional two years of training in anaesthesia before switching to family medicine. She left institutional practice in 2008, completed a post-graduate diploma in family medicine, and went into private practice. She is kept busy with three children, running her own practice and managing a hectic family life. She has an interest in running and tennis. Reflecting on her time at Wesley, Lian said, 'It was an eye-opening experience to go to Wesley College. I am grateful to my parents for giving me this opportunity to immerse myself in a completely different school culture from the one I was used to.'



Brenda Fong (OW1996)

Brenda Fong (OW1996) studied a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) and a Bachelor of Business Systems as a double-degree program at Monash University before being employed in the Monash graduate trainee program. She returned to Singapore in 2005 to work in the financial industry, and is currently at Deutsche Bank. She has two young daughters who are in primary school and enjoys jogging, a recreational activity she became hooked on in Melbourne, with its great running paths and favourable weather. She also enjoys travelling to assist on medical mission trips to places such as Nepal and Sikkim. Brenda enjoyed her time at Wesley and said, 'I'm still in touch with some Wesley alumni and I look forward to reading *Lion* magazine. One thing is certain, Wesley is now very well known in the education sector throughout Asia.'



Nicholas Cooper-Brown (OW2002)

After leaving Wesley, Nicholas Cooper-Brown (OW2002) completed a Bachelor of Dramatic Art (Technical Production) at the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA). In his final year at NIDA, Nic completed a four-month internship on Broadway's Tony Award-winning revival of *42nd Street* at the Ford Theatre. Returning to Australia, Nic has worked for Disney Theatrical Productions and Bridges PR before a move to England to work in stage management, before returning to Australia, where he has worked on numerous shows. 'I have to thank many incredible people who created a wonderful theatre program at Wesley which has given the industry some outstanding performers, musicians and technicians: namely, Tony Scanlon (dec), Clare Cooper, Nick Evans (OW1985), Felicity Pearson, Dawson Hann, Diane Walker, Melendez Stevenson, and countless others,' Nic said.



Norman Liaw (OW2002)

Medical research scientist Dr Norman Liaw (OW2002), now at the Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University Medical Centre in Göttingen, Germany, is conducting research to better understand the human heart. 'We take human blood or skin cells and genetically reprogram them so they can then be transformed into cardiomyocytes – the cells that give heart muscle its contractile property. We then use these cells to make engineered human myocardium (EHM),' Dr Liaw said. 'By building "human hearts" in the laboratory, we're able to study all types of heart disease from children with congenital heart defects to older patients who are progressing into heart failure. This also allows us to test the effects of newly synthesised drugs in a safe way.' Visiting Melbourne in July to present research findings at the annual conference of the International Society for Stem Cell Research, Dr Liaw also spoke to senior students of Biology at the St Kilda Road Campus about his work, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics – or STEM – pathways more broadly.



Miles Munn (OW2006)

Miles Munn (OW2006) made his Melbourne International Comedy Festival debut this year with *Romance Novel*, his first solo show. Many OWs saw the show and recognised some references to the St Kilda Road area, where the satirical fake romance novel is set. The show struck a chord with audiences and critics alike, and Miles was invited to extend the season for an extra week. It received high praise from *Timeout* Melbourne Performing Arts Editor Tim Byrne. After such a successful first run at a comedy festival, Miles is taking the show to Sydney before writing something new for the Melbourne, Adelaide and Edinburgh festivals next year.



Leon Chen (OW2009)

Until recently Leon Chen (OW2009), originally from Zhongshan in Guangdong Province, was an alumnus of whom the OWCA had lost track after he left Wesley. As a result of an ongoing effort to reconnect with lost alumni, especially our international alumni, however, we tracked Leon down in Singapore. He was delighted to be back in touch with the College and had a most interesting story to tell. After graduating from Wesley, Leon completed a Science degree at the University of Melbourne before undertaking a degree in Dentistry at the University of Western Australia, along with his partner Elfreda. Leon explained that he was destined to do dentistry as it was part of an important tradition in his family that began with his great grandfather, who left China to study dentistry in Japan. Leon expressed his gratitude for a Wesley education. 'Wesley provided students like me with an opportunity to flourish, to get to know who I am and what I can become.'



Eloise Bagnara (OW2016)

Former School Captain Eloise Bagnara (OW2016), while on university exchange at Columbia University in New York, decided to make the most of her unique experience by landing a lead role in their musical *Into the Woods* in April. Starring as the Witch, Eloise was inspired to get involved after seeing a poster on campus. 'As a visiting student from Australia I wanted to throw myself into something that would integrate me into the Columbia community,' Eloise said. 'I saw a poster advertising the show and, that night, I went to the auditions and never looked back!'



Elora Ledger (OW2009)

Elora Ledger (OW2009) has recently signed up with Pacific Opera in Sydney. A prolific performer during her time at Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus, Elora completed a double degree at ANU, majoring in music and history-based arts, and has performed major roles in productions in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra, Auckland, New York and Siena. Elora had the privilege of studying in the United States and Italy under Metropolitan Opera Principals, Neil Rosenshein and Ashley Putnam, and has sung for film in Australia and England.



Kenny Ong (OW2011)

Kenny Ong (OW2011) – part of the 2010 Wesley Football Premiership team and a great athlete – completed a Commerce degree at the University of Melbourne and then entered the graduate program at Telstra. He played VFL football with Sandringham for four years and was on the verge of selection for the AFL when he decided to concentrate on his career, playing for the Collegians Football Club for a year before a move with his partner, Rachael, to Singapore to work for Telstra International in Global Product Marketing. Kenny is part of a growing number of alumni who now live and work in the Asian region and particularly Singapore, which has become a dynamic business and finance hub. He would be pleased to hear from his school friends who live in, or are travelling to, Singapore.

Reunions

1958 60 Year Reunion



Founders' Day Lunch



SKR 1993 25 Year Reunion



1 60 Year Reunion attendees 2 Peter Axup, Michael Day, Robert Trembath and Ian Purbrick 3 Peter Parkinson and Robert Trembath 4 Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947), Peter Williams (OW1954) and Peter Norman (OW1949) 5 Alex Law (OW1994), Kate Evans (OW1998) and OWCA Vice President, and Cam Unsworth (OW1998) and OWCA London contact 6 Clive Fredman (OW1956), John Harcourt (OW1948), Trevor Cohen (OW1955) and Graeme Tibb (OW1957) 7 Deputy Principal and Head of the Glen Waverley Campus, Richard Brenker, with Warrick Mitchell (OW1959) and OWCA Honorary Life Member Dawson Hann 8 Scott Hudson, Adam Kreuzer and Warner Godfrey 9 Flavia Jason, Shari Bhatt and Yana Podolskaya 10 Richard Hartnett and Jeremy Keane

OWCA Events 2018

September	Friday 7 7-10.30pm	Sunday 9 12-3pm	Friday 21 12-3pm	October	Monday 1 8.30am tee off	Tuesday 2 12-3.30pm	Friday 12 7-10.30pm	Tuesday 16 6-8.30pm
	SKR 1978 40 Year Reunion Cato Room	Elst. 1947 71 Year Reunion Prest Room	Golden Lions Lunch John Lee Band Room		Elst. Cato Golf Day Peninsula Kingswood Country Golf Club	Mornington Peninsula Lunch Lindenderry	GW 1998 20 Year Reunion Prest Quadrangle	Business Networking Evening TBA

Elsternwick 1945 73 Year Reunion



OWCA Golf Day



GW 2008 10 Year Reunion



11 April Fuller (Adams), Margaret Marshall (Hutchinson), Ruth Symons (Freedman), Fay Campbell (Foster), Alison Bain (Smith), Val Cuming (Bailey) and Barbara Patience (Western)
 12 Peter Johnson (OW1995), Geoff Allen (OW1993), Michael Aung (OW1992) and Birwin Yu (OW1995) 13 David Crow (OW1967), Robert French (OW1967), Ed Johnson (OW1964) and David Kennedy (OW1966) 14 Steve Laussen (OW1979), John Yates (OW1979), Andrew Daff (OW1979) and Ray Berzins (OW1979) 15 Harrison Polites, Joanna Green, Jake Pedley and Ashlee Thomas 16 Christopher Clarke, Alexander Chin, Anthea Proudfoot and Rick Stephan 17 Kaitlyn O'Sullivan, Brenton Perry and Veronica Pike

Friday 19 7-10.30pm	Friday 26 All day	Friday 26 7-10.30pm	November	Sunday 11 12-3.30pm	Friday 16 7-10.30pm	Friday 23 7-10.30pm	TBA 12-3.30pm
SKR 2003 15 Year Reunion Union Hotel	APS Golf Day Commonwealth Golf Club	SKR 1988 30 Year Reunion Union Hotel		Elsternwick Decades Reunion Fitchett Hall	GW 2017 1 Year Reunion Union Hotel	SKR 2017 1 Year Reunion Union Hotel	Geelong Lunch TBA

Engagements

RAFTOPOULOS – FOWLER
Kathryn (OW2010) to Benjamin

CASTRAN – FETTLING
Max (OW2010) to Alice

Marriages

DONNELLY – KAVANAGH
Shauna (OW2005) to Michael on February 17 2018



Shauna Kavanagh (OW2005) and Michael Donnelly, with guests

LIM – BONG
Justin (OW1993) to Yulia on March 3 2018



Dr Selina Lim (OW2003), Professor Yoland Lim, Dr Justin Lim (OW1993), Yulia Lim (nee Bong), Grace Lim, Dr Elaine Lim (OW1996), Mark Miller (OW1996), Hugo Lim-Miller (prospective Wesley student)

Mornington Peninsula Lunch

Venue: Lindenderry at Red Hill | **Date:** Tuesday 2 October, 2018 | **Time:** 12 pm
Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net



Elsternwick Decades Reunion

MLC/Cato Class of 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978 and 1988

Venue: Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick Campus
Date: Sunday 11 November, 2018
Time: 12 pm

The Elsternwick Decades Reunion is a special event to welcome back past students from 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978 and 1988, but all are welcome. Please join us and catch up with friends from these years.

Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net

Lion cubs

We are pleased to welcome some new little cubs to our pride!
Please let us know your happy news by contacting the OWCA office on + 61 3 8102 6475 or email lucy.gillfillan@wesleycollege.net

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

Applications can be completed online by visiting www.wesleycollege.net/Admissions/Domestic-applications



Edward Ricci



Emily Stone



James Willcocks

Birth notices

**BEACONSFIELD**

To Mark (OW1976) and Natalie on May 18 2018, a son, Basil, a brother for Indi, Jade, Julia, Mitchell and Alexander, a grandson for Rex (OW1945)

BOLAND

To Martin (OW2000) and Louise Budd on February 2 2018, a son, Thomas John, a brother for Finn, a nephew for Frank (OW2003)

BRADY

To Marc (OW1994) and Karina on February 16 2018, a daughter, Lena, a sister for Fenn

**GILFILLAN**

To Lucy (OW1995) (Rodgers-Wilson) and Dan on July 5 2018, a son, Fergus Robert William Giffillan, a brother for Harry and Clementine, a great grandson for Bob Loder (OW1944), a grandson for Peter Rodgers-Wilson (OW1965) and Susie Rodgers-Wilson (OWCA Honorary Life Member), a nephew for Jo Ransom (OW1993) (Rodgers-Wilson), Abby Traeger (OW1997) and Tim Rodgers-Wilson (OW1998)

HUGHES

To Craig (OW2003) and Leah (OW2002) (Evans) on March 9 2018, a daughter, Harper Mila, a sister for Peyton, a granddaughter for Ian (OW1971), a niece for Kade Evans (OW1999), Mark Hughes (OW2002) and Taryn Hughes (OW2004) (Wood)

LEE

To Tony (OW1997) and Tracey Louey (OW1999) on January 6 2018, a daughter, Jordan, a niece for Timothy Lee (OW1993) and David Louey (OW2000)

**MENDELSON**

To Sam (OW2003) and Ashleigh Bennett on March 1 2018, a daughter, Zola, a granddaughter for Roger (OW1967), a niece for Tessa (OW1993) and Toby (OW1995)

REES

To Sammy (OW1997) and Kate Lamb on April 20 2018, a daughter, Evie, a sister for Tommy

RICCI

To Amanda (OW2004) (Pascoe) and Matt on December 19 2017, a son, Edward Raymond

ROBERTS

To Liz (OW1998) and Evan on April 17 2018, a son, William Ned, a brother for Bonnie and George

**STEELE**

To Meg (OW1999) and Josh Byrne on April 7 2018, a son, Jack Steele, a grandson for David (current staff), a nephew for Ellen (OW2001) and Bridget (OW2006)

**WILLCOCKS**

To Charlotte (OW2002) (Kelly) and Elliot on March 29 2018, a son, James David

ZHANG

To Yu Chen (Steven) (OW2006) and Shanshan (Carrie) Feng (OW2006) on April 17 2018, a son, Stanley

Death notices

ALLEN

Robert (OW1958) on March 13 2018, son of William (OW1925) (dec), nephew of Robert (OW1928) (dec), father of David (OW1999)

DOWTY

Denis Geoffrey (OW1953) on April 8 2018, nephew of Kenneth Bartram (OW1926) (dec), father of Murray (OW1979) and Pat (OW1981)

FLENTJE

William (Bill) Maxwell (OW1939) on December 1 2014, brothers of Fred (OW1932) (dec), Jack (OW1935) (dec) and Noel (OW1939) (dec)

GREENAWAY

Paul (past staff) on September 27 2017, father of Janet Harris (OW1987)

HIBBINS

Geoffrey Williams (OW1948) on March 10 2018, brother of Ian (OW1945) (dec), Colin (OW1949) (dec) and Lex (OW1953), uncle of Guy (OW1977) (dec), Mark (OW1978), Nick (OW1982) and Andrew (OW1985), great uncle of Sam (OW2011) and Jack (OW2015)

MAURICE

Gregory Edouard (OW1958) on July 23 2017

MCCUTCHEON

Peter Ian (OW1968) on May 11 2018, son of Clive (OW1930) (dec), nephew of Sir Osborn (OW1923) (dec)

PREST

David Harris (past Principal) on April 10 2018, father of David (OW1977) and Ian (OW1979), grandfather of Elizabeth (OW2009) and Alexandra (OW2012)

SCARFE

Allan John (OW1947) on October 9 2016, brother of Ronald (OW1949) (dec)

WOOD

John Samuel (OW1944) on September 27 2017, son of William (OW1920) (dec), nephew of Samuel (OW1927) (dec), brother of Ted (OW1946) (dec)

WOOLF

Lewis Benjamin (OW1940) on March 4 2018, brother of Godfrey (OW1938) (dec), grandfather of Jonathan Lazarovits (OW2004)

Obituaries

WILLIAM (BILL) MAXWELL FLENTJE

(OW1939)

21/7/1918 – 01/12/2014



Bill (OW1939) passed away on December 1 2014 after a six-year battle with dementia and other illnesses. He was the fourth child of Rev Frederick Flentje and teacher Ada May Horne. His older brothers, Fred (OW1932) (dec), Production Manager at Rosella, and Jack (OW1935) (dec) Methodist/Uniting Church Minister, and younger brother Noel (OW1939) (dec) the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, also attended Wesley College. At Wesley, Bill was a keen sportsman and enjoyed rowing, cricket and football. After graduating from Wesley, Bill studied for

three years at the Forestry School in Creswick to become a Forest Officer. He and Jack, also a Forest Officer at the time, hoped to enlist in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) but the Forest Service had been declared a Reserved Occupation so their applications were denied. As the war progressed, this was relaxed and Bill was accepted into the RAAF.

Training was first in Victor Harbour and then Benalla, where Bill met up with fellow Old Collegian Ian Johnson, and obtained his Wings there. After further training in Canada and Scotland, Bill was posted to the Middle East, where he was introduced to the Wellington MK14 aircraft. He had further training for Coastal Command and subsequently joined the 458 Squadron in Italy and later in Gibraltar, and served as a second pilot until VE Day, patrolling the Mediterranean, Adriatic and the Atlantic Ocean in Vicker Wellington Bombers.

In his free time with the RAAF over the three years, he was able to do some sightseeing in San Francisco, Calgary, Montreal, New York, London, Aberdeen, Belfast, Cairo, including the pyramids, Jerusalem, Naples, Foggia, Bari, Gibraltar, Rabat, La Linea and Casablanca. He played hockey, ping pong, football, and cricket, including one match on Gibraltar for the squadron. He went to church every week. After obtaining an enlarger, he managed to develop the many photographs he had been taking.

While awaiting repatriation to Australia from the United Kingdom, he became a chauffeur to Sir Roy Robinson, the Chairman of the British Forest Commission, who encouraged Bill to complete the Diploma in Forestry at Oxford University, which he did.

Back in Australia, he re-joined the Victorian Forest Commission and worked in many districts, including Taggerty, Mildura, Stawell, Castlemaine, Woodend, Matlock (where he met his wife to be, Betty Rae), Beaufort, Mirboo North, Dimboola (in which posting Bill and Betty were married), Noorinbee, Casterton, Horsham and Bendigo. At each place he would attend the local Methodist church, play cricket, join the Rotary Club and play the organ in church if required.

Bill retired in 1978 and pursued his love of bird photography and recording. He produced two tapes, 'Some Birds of the Victorian Forests' and 'Night Sounds of the Forest'.

He is survived by Betty, his wife of 61 years, his two sons, Rodney and Neil, and his daughter Linden.

GEOFFREY WILLIAM HIBBINS

(OW1948)

13/11/1929 – 10/3/2018



Where does one start to talk about 'Generous Geoffrey, the Fruiter's Friend' or, as he later described himself, the 'thinking woman's man'? Born in 1929, some of Geoff's (OW1948) earliest memories were of the Great Depression, which no doubt heavily influenced his attitudes – he was ruthlessly spendthrift, and famously reluctant to spend anything on himself.

In the 1930s the four Hibbins boys lived in Murphy Street, Gardenvale and, with no internet or television, spent their free time playing cricket in the summer and football in the winter. One can only imagine the battles that occurred. Geoff's love of sport, and that of his three brothers Ian (OW1945) (dec), Colin (OW1949) (dec) and Lex (OW1953), started in those years.

In the late '30s Geoff followed his older brother Ian to Wesley, starting his life-long association with the school. Schooling, to Geoff, was what happened between various sporting pursuits. A Wesley friend, SEK Hulme (OW1947) (dec), once noted that on one Friday in August 1945 the teacher asked about the significance of the day and the week. According to SEK, Geoff's immediate response was that St Kilda had regained one of its best players for the weekend fixture – far more important to him than the end of the Second World War.

According to *The First Hundred Years* by Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947), James Morrisey (OW1946) (dec) and SEK, Geoff started 1946 roving for the Seconds before moving into the First XVIII in the ruck – speed was not natural for the Hibbinses, so it's hard to imagine him as a rover. He was Captain of the First XVIII in 1947 and 1948, and Wesley's best player in the 10 APS games he played in those years. He also represented Wesley in the First XI and was very proud to tell anyone that he once bowled John 'Cocky' Chambers (OW1940) (dec), who later went on to play for Victoria, in 1947 with his infamous 'wrongun'.

Geoff finished school as Head Prefect in 1948 and started with his father Bill in the wholesale fruit and vegetable market the following year, where he worked for 50 years. From 1949 to

the '60s, Geoff and Collegians Football Club became inseparable. Geoff's career started at Collegians in 1948 when he played a few games while still at school. During his first full season in 1949, he was selected in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA) team to play Tasmania. In 1952-53 Geoff played in the VFL for St Kilda as an amateur, and returned to Collegians in June 1954 to play 11 games, and win the B Section Best and Fairest along with the Collegians Best and Fairest.

Geoff will most likely go down as the club's greatest ever player and his honours include six times Collegians Best and Fairest in 1950, '51, '54, '55, '56 and '61; B Section Best and Fairest in '54 and '55; A Section Best and Fairest in '51, '58 and '61 (losing on a count back in '59); Club Captain, Coach and Secretary from '55 to '58; Captain and Coach in '61 and '62 and non-playing coach in '67 and '68; first selected in the VAFA team in 1949; representing and captaining the VAFA and the Australian Amateur sides many times; inducted as one of five Legends of the VAFA; and Life Member of Collegians.

One of the highlights of Geoff's sensational career was to be appointed Captain of the Australian amateur side that played the VFL in a demonstration match at the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne. His jumper from that game sits proudly in the Collegians rooms to this day. To Geoff, the game of football was simple: 'It's a game of keepings off; keep possession and you win.' He played 32 games with St Kilda from 1952 to '54 as an amateur and won Best First-year Player in '52, beating future Brownlow medallist Neil Roberts. Football to Geoff was always just a game that he enjoyed playing with his mates and success, while important, was secondary.

In 1958, Geoff's father Bill died, and Geoff and younger brother Lex took over the family business until Geoff left the market in 1997. In May 1962, Geoff married Janet Elizabeth Coad and shortly thereafter his three children appeared on the scene. Janet remained the love of his life.

As children we spent many winter Saturdays at the Harry Trott, manning the scoreboard, walking the raffle board around the oval, or helping with afternoon tea. Geoff and the others gathered on the half-forward flank at the Harry Trott (aptly renamed 'knockers corner') at half-time, chipping in five cents each, and seeing who could kick a goal from the boundary. In summer it was cricket and Geoff was heavily involved both as a player and then as an ex-player in ensuring the cricket team continued to provide an opportunity for mates – many of whom went to school together – to play. In a nice touch, the Old Wesley Cricket Club team won the premiership, wearing black arm bands, the day after Geoff died.

When Geoff's cricket days were over in the late '70s we wondered how he would occupy his summer Saturdays but soon an invitation arrived to join a group of Wesley colleagues on the Mitchell's court. I remember Geoff's hesitancy at first, but he took to this with his usual vigour and many years ensued playing Saturday tennis.

He cared deeply about helping others – supporting a wide range of people over many years in a private way. Much of this will only be known by those who received his help.

He loved Grand Final day as it gave him the chance to catch up with many he didn't see regularly. The annual Grand Final ticket exercise really was a major event in Geoff's year. In 70 years he missed two Grand Finals – one in the mid-1950s, and then last year when he wasn't physically able to get there. In itself this was a remarkable achievement. In retirement, Geoff kept up his fitness right into his late 80s by riding his bike every morning down to the Middle Brighton Pier and doing his exercises, while talking and doling out advice to the morning iceberg swimmers.

Geoff was full of contrasts but fundamentally he was a very honest, principled and private person. He came from a family that started with little, but had big hearts. He enjoyed the company and camaraderie of those he respected. You earned his respect with the quality of your character and your integrity, not the size of your wallet, or sporting prowess or intelligence. He treated everyone equally. We never thought the indomitable force that he was would pass, but sadly he has. We were all lucky to have had the time with him that we did.

Contributed by Kelly, Kirsty and Simon Hibbins



PETER IAN MCCUTCHEON

(OW1963)

15/5/1946 – 11/5/2018



Peter (OW1963), son of Clive McCutcheon (OW1930) and nephew of renowned architect Sir Osborn McCutcheon (OW1923), was one of Wesley's most accomplished school pianists. Peter is fondly remembered by his Wesley friends as an extremely talented and – to those who were lucky enough to work with him in performance – wonderfully supportive and

versatile accompanist. The 1961 *Chronicle* predicted that during the next few years Peter will 'join the ranks of Wesley's more famous and able musicians,' and that certainly played out. With the improved and growing Wesley College Music Festival came musicians of great distinction and two years later, with his piano solo of Schubert's *Impromptu in A Major*, Peter 'enthralled the audience with his fluent style, expression and brilliant technique.' Having accomplished pianists and teachers T Elwyn Brown and James Wastell (OW1938) encouraging him would have been a great support, and Peter's considered and thoughtful disposition made him a very popular musician.

As predicted, Peter grew to be an extraordinarily gifted musician, and is probably best remembered for his role as resident pianist on the long-running Australian television variety show *Hey Hey It's Saturday* for many years. In the early 1980s he was part of the show's first in-house band: a trio consisting of Wilbur Wilde on sax, 'Animal' on drums and Peter on piano, pre-dating the show's big band era, in which he also played a major part.

The show's host, Darryl Somers, would often burst into song seemingly out of nowhere but Peter, being the true professional, would jump in almost instantaneously to accompany him, hitting the perfect pitch every time. It may well be the case that he knew every song ever written.

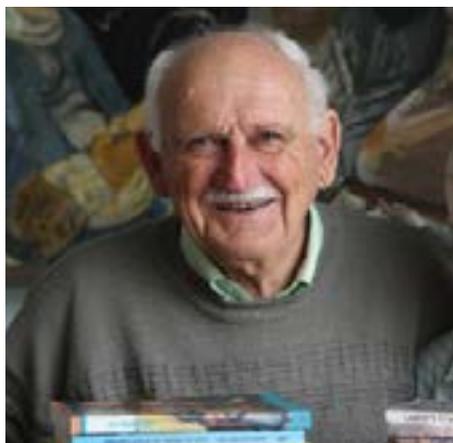
Outside of his unquestioned musical talent, Peter was also a genius in computer science, working at a very high technical level with Telstra for a number of years. All those who worked alongside him would agree that he had a joyful and engaging nature with a smile that radiated warmth. A more caring and genuine person you could not hope to meet, and he left all who came into contact with him better off for the experience.

Peter passed away in May at the age of 71 after a battle with cancer.

ALLAN JOHN SCARFE

(OW1947)

30/3/1931 – 09/10/2016



Allan (OW1947) enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a teacher and author. He and his wife Wendy, also a teacher and author, taught in Victorian secondary schools, English secondary modern schools, and in an experimental rural school in India, which they conducted for the Gandhian Village Uplift Movement.

They jointly wrote and published biographies, oral history and school texts while individually publishing poetry, novels and short stories. The Australia Council Literature Board twice awarded them a Special Purpose Grant and subsidised the publication of their book *All That Grief*. The Indian government also subsidised a Hindustani translation of their book *JP: His biography*.

An article in *Lion* magazine in 2012 reported, 'A Wesley student from 1945-1947, Allan recalls even now some moments that set him on his parallel journeys into social activism and writing. He remembers how, as a young boy, he paraded with the Wesley Cadets in front of the Melbourne Town Hall to celebrate the victory in the Pacific: the fear of Japanese invasion had passed, but the war had brought out a profound commitment to the Australian community. Wesley's emphasis that life should be spent for the betterment of society probably emanated largely from the Chaplain and "Tosh" Phillips, whose staging of the mind-opening wit and social analysis of George Bernard Shaw, and of the spine-chilling self-sacrifice in Douglas Stewart's *Fire on the Snow*, prepared the way for [his] later receptivity to the ideas of Ritchie Calder, Chester Bowles and MK Gandhi. As scoutmaster, "Narz" Lesser launched [him] into writing outside school work, requesting patrol notes and a Christmas article for a United Kingdom scouting magazine. Then the College conducted a short story competition, and with [his] contribution to it [his] writing career had begun. "A profound commitment" to not just the Australian community, but communities world-wide, has delivered Allan and Wendy Scarfe rich and meaningful lives, allowing them to use their love of writing to leave a literary legacy that also bears witness to deeply held beliefs about individual responsibility and social action.'

The couple lived overseas for some time in India, which led to the first book they wrote together, *A Mouthful of Petals*. The experiences of that time continued to inform much of Allan's writing, as did his sense of wonder, often imagining and writing about what might have happened next in a small incident he either witnessed or read about.

Allan and Wendy's bibliographical listings include *Who's Who of Australian Writers*, *Writers Directory (Chicago)*, and *International Who's Who of Authors and Writers (London)*.

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Kate Evans (OW1998)

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Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Tim Foster (OW2003)

Rob Wilde (2004)

Alumni Liaison Officer

Cam Evans

Affiliates Liaison Officer

Mark Hibbins (OW1978)

Administration and Events

Zena Eastburn

Director, Foundation and Alumni

Jack Moshakis (OW1973)

Interested in becoming involved?

The OWCA is always looking for new input.

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



Business Networking Evening Global designer on the move

Anastasia Malishev (OW1995) – international interior architect and businesswoman

Venue: Stillwell Recital Salon

Date: Tuesday 28 August, 2018

Time: 6 pm

Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net

Sydney Soirée

Venue: Bang Bang Izakaya, Darling Square, Sydney

Date: Saturday 18 August, 2018

Time: 6 pm

Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net

GOLDEN LIONS LUNCH



**Guest speaker Peter Schwab,
Head of Sports Program Development and past parent**

Venue: John Lee Band Room, St Kilda Road campus

Date: Friday 21 September, 2018

Time: 12 pm

Enquiries: Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office
on + 61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net



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