

# Lion

The Wesley College Community Magazine

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Purple reign:  
the legacy of  
Helen Drennen

Dr Finkel and the uncanny valley  
A unique language journey

*A True Education*



WESLEY COLLEGE

MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA - SINCE 1866



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Front cover image: Portrait of Helen Drennen

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# Editorial

All of us who are part of this community, whether current student, OW, friend, family member or staff member, are only too aware that life at Wesley, while constant in its daily routines and rituals, is also constantly changing. We always feel that keenly at this time of year, having said farewell to our current Year 12s who are moving out into the wider world to begin their young adult lives.

We feel it particularly keenly this year, however, as we say farewell to Helen Drennen who, as Principal, has guided Wesley for 15 illustrious years. Her profound contribution to our community, dating back to 1989, is naturally being celebrated in this issue of *Lion*. We have Dawson Hann, supported by Kenneth Park, and Isaac Quist to thank for two poignant and engaging reflections.

There is also a significant change for *Lion* this year, as Dawson sets his pen to rest as Editor after 10 years. Most will know that Dawson has worked at Wesley College for well over 40 years, so it's fair to say that he is now a Wesley 'cultural treasure'. If that makes him sound a bit like Barry Humphries, one hopes that Mr Hann would feel reasonably comfortable in that company. Many of us have appreciated what Dawson's Editorship has meant for this magazine over the last decade: deftly written feature articles and deeply thoughtful editorials, set aglow by his rich cultural knowledge, his abiding sense of what this school is all about. It goes without saying that following in Dawson's footsteps is a rather daunting prospect.

So, who is your new Editor? My relationship with Wesley goes back to 2004 when my sons Miles (OW2006) and Elliot (OW2009) joined the St Kilda Rd Campus, in Years 10 and 7 respectively. It's a little trite to say, perhaps, but the Remington line from Victor Kiam II, 'I liked the product so much I bought the company,' rings true here, in that Wesley, in both environment and ethos, felt just like home to me, and I happily joined the staff as a senior English teacher in 2007. It has been my great good fortune to have worked closely with Dawson both as a colleague teaching Literature and as the St Kilda Rd Campus correspondent for *Lion* since 2012.

I was a 'late starter' as a teacher, having first worked in photography and video production, initially as a technician then as a producer, director and writer, ultimately running my own company with my wife Mary. I finally saw the light, and have now been teaching for 13 years. Sometimes you make a career change and it just works: I'm a teacher and I get to spend my time working with Wesley students and staff. Best job in the world.

## Paul Munn

*Lion* Editor and features writer

## A True Education

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



## Principal's lines



Helen Drennen at Speech Night: also 'graduating' with the Class of 2018

I always enjoy our spectacular Speech Nights at the Melbourne Town Hall, principally because behind the ceremonies and the rituals, important in themselves, I sense something of a family gathering. We are there above all to farewell our graduating classes. They are going out into the world after their 'coming of age' in a place that has looked after them, in many cases, for most of their young lives. They are leaving home in a very real sense, and it is both joyful and moving to see each have their individual moment on the stage. That has always said so much to me about how we prize each individual, and celebrate them within a profound sense of community.

As you can probably guess, these thoughts were much in my mind at our Speech Nights this year, since I too am 'graduating' with the Class of 2018,

enjoyed some of the richest experiences of my life here. Our culture is at the heart of this, shaped and nurtured over a century and a half.

***I have enjoyed some of the richest experiences of my life here. Our culture is at the heart of this, shaped and nurtured over a century and a half***

after the privilege of having led this great school for a decade and a half. I feel blessed and, as I did on those two memorable occasions, I wish to share with Lion readers my deeply felt appreciation of the College I am handing on. I have

Culture is critical to our lives as human beings, determining how we relate to one another, and to our place and time, shaping our thinking about difference, fairness, equality, gender, all of this and more. The debate the rest of the

nation seems to be having about inclusiveness in relation to religious belief, gender and sexuality was resolved at Wesley long ago. One example of this, among many, has been our advancement of coeducation, an achievement that has reinforced our values in new ways and, in turn, built the trust and confidence in Wesley that we enjoy today. It has been the evolution of Wesley's culture, the Wesley spirit, that makes me most proud.

Modern Wesley is a dynamic institution, always finding ways to re-energise itself in a focussed and purposeful way. We see ourselves, rightly, as creative and inventive in the ways we take responsibility for our own future, like a true pioneer.

***It has been the evolution of Wesley's culture, the Wesley spirit, that makes me most proud.***

Many describe the spirit which has been so uplifting during my time here as that of a real family: everywhere I have watched as girls and boys of every age learn to be themselves in a respectful and harmonious environment. I have had a genuine sense that many recognise that they are at Wesley, not just for the formal part of education, but to take part in a process which leads to a better understanding of the world, a process which will last a lifetime. This famous 'Wesley spirit' forges our sense of belonging and ignites our feeling for something greater than ourselves, as any 'true education' should.

I would like to think that all our diverse personas – academic, artistic, cultural, communal and social leadership – have, in the past 15 years, continued to advance, based as they are on a rich and solid past and a dynamic and resolute present. I have so enjoyed those countless evenings at concerts and plays, and being at thrilling and challenging sports events, where the Wesley spirit has been so much in evidence and is such a compelling part of this school. It has been a privilege to have been in and amongst all this.



*Helen Drennen at the Valedictory Service: 'We must use our capacity to feel deeply in a positive way. In leadership, I discovered this is the gold standard'*

Of all the personas that make up the Wesley whole and by extension the Wesley soul, though, our leadership in Aboriginal education and community enlightenment has perhaps been foremost. From the Aboriginal women of the Fitzroy Valley I have learned so much. No other of the numerous challenges presented by Wesley has matched this one in touching both heart and mind. The crucial importance of knowing who you are, what you believe in and what you ultimately stand for, was modelled for me by these women.

***I have learned how important it is for a leader to connect emotionally with those they are privileged to lead.***

The culture we inhabit – indeed the culture we create – is critical to our lives as human beings. I have learned how important it is for a leader to connect emotionally with those they are privileged to lead. Everything fundamentally important in life lies in the realm of emotional responses to, and from, those for whom we care. Think about it: friendship, relationships, appreciation of beauty, all inhabit the world of feeling. Fear and love are built into our brains, so we must use our capacity to feel deeply in a positive way. In leadership, I discovered this is the gold standard.

In these, my final Principal's Lines for *Lion*, I can think of nothing more appropriate than my favourite Haiku from the 12th century:

*Spring passes  
The flowers come to their blooming  
I am weighed in memory*

Our garden is in full bloom, and for those many wonderful colleagues and friends with whom I have shared this often challenging but always exhilarating process, it is not merely memory, it is now a part of who we are. I am indeed weighed in memory in a thoroughly joyous and uplifting way.

With best wishes to all

**Helen Drennen**



*'Modern Wesley is a dynamic institution, always finding ways to re-energise itself in a focussed and purposeful way'*



*2018 graduates of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School: 'Our leadership in Aboriginal education and community enlightenment has perhaps been foremost'*



*Students in the new Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School uniform on country*



# Helen of Wesley

**DAWSON HANN, with KENNETH PARK, reflects on the legacy of the woman they call ‘Helen of Wesley’ – Principal Helen Drennen.**

It was a fortunate day for Wesley College – although we didn’t know this back then – when Dr Helen Drennen came out of the west in the late 1980s. She came bearing gifts, but distinctly missing was anything resembling a Trojan horse.

After completing her Doctorate in Biology and being engaged in numerous subject-related projects, she cut her educational teeth in the tough world of Altona North

High School from 1979 to the end of 1988, and many of her deeply felt educational convictions were established there.

She carried from those 11 formative years, on which she always reflected with great affection, a sense of purpose and foresight that would underpin her resilience and strength in the number of distinguished roles in broader fields that awaited her.

She came to Wesley to teach Year 12 English and Biology – itself indicative of her comprehensive intellectual interests – but was very soon on a path that would lead to

her being not only Wesley’s first female Principal, but also its third longest-serving, after David Prest and LA Adamson.

It has been frequently observed that Prest prepared Wesley for the 21st century. Helen Drennen well and truly secured it there.

Her instinct for what has been needed to embrace the challenging contemporary world and integrate this with Wesley’s traditional values has been the essential component in our present school, flourishing under her application, discernment and, above all, energy.



Her first Wesley colleagues, in 1989, will recall that these qualities were demonstrative from the start. Also abundantly evident were her sheer enjoyment of the spirit of school life, the fun and fellowship, the sharing of ideas, the power of community and the splendour of new friendships. These have remained at her philosophical

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core throughout. Though her roles have necessarily kept her some distance from the day-to-day life of the classroom, her respect and admiration for this have never diminished.

Once at Wesley she was quickly on the move. A couple of years after arriving, Helen's obvious competence saw her appointed as one of the Heads of Senior College at the Prahran (now St Kilda Road) Campus, and in 1994 she became Head of Campus at Glen Waverley. While this was great training for a school she would eventually lead, the bigger world called, and for six years from 1997 to 2003 she

worked in senior roles for the International Baccalaureate Organization as Academic Director, in Wales, and then Regional Director, in Singapore. As a result, she was, in 2003, truly 'ready to go' as Principal at Wesley, with this wealth of experience to draw upon. She had enriched her own life enormously through her own initiative and drive, and would use this in enriching the life of the school she was selected to lead for these past 15 years. She came back to old friends, an ethos she loved and a community to which she has had no trouble at all being devoted. Her awareness of Wesley's need to expand its international horizons has been a consequence of those vital years away.



*In 2009 at a Junior School Assembly, speaking about the many 'hats' one wears as Principal. The students were each wearing one of her hats, including her swimming cap: 'Those who know her as a friend will talk of her tremendous capacity for laughter, for spontaneous whimsy in thought and deed, for self-deprecation, for revelling in the company of others, as host or guest.'*



*With Dawson Hann: 'Those who know her as a friend will talk of her tremendous capacity for laughter'*

Helen's appointment in 2003 in some ways was a natural progression from the introduction of coeducation in 1978. As a female leader, she has been proactive and formidable, never intimidated by tough decisions while remaining sensitive to the human fall-out.

Her sense of goodwill, of looking after her teachers, has prevailed through the many difficult times a school faces year after year. Nor has her focus ever been distracted from the reasons why schools exist – the students and their needs. She has always pursued on their behalf the best academic outcomes, but has also loved what the school offers them recreationally and communally.

For those who have been privileged to witness such moments, unscripted and more often than not unseen, nothing has made her happier than seeing students happy, individually and collectively.

It is not too far-fetched to see her as the head of a family, a tightly-knit group that is the kids, their parents, the teachers and alumni. Her educational planning, and its implementation, has not strayed from this conception.

***Helen's work ethic is well known, especially to those who only get the briefest glimpse of a stylish figure flying by. But she has always slowed down long enough truly to enjoy the accomplishments of Wesley students.***

Helen was an outstanding classroom teacher in her day, and has brought this enduring strength to her leadership role. She has developed staff as leaders partly in her own mould – resilient, restless, driven, determined, not shirking hard work and long hours – but has also allowed for their individuality, their way of doing things. It is sometimes a fine balance, requiring wisdom and judgement.

Under her leadership, Wesley's values have been promulgated, widely known, and respected. Our present position in the community is its strongest for years, and testifies to her faith in others, as

well as her own understanding of what a contemporary school must look like.

***She has developed staff as leaders partly in her own mould – resilient, restless, driven, determined, not shirking hard work and long hours – but has also allowed for their individuality, their way of doing things.***

Helen's work ethic is well known, especially to those who only get the briefest glimpse of a stylish figure flying by. But she has always slowed down long enough truly to enjoy the accomplishments of Wesley students, thousands of them over half a generation. Amazingly, she has found time to be at endless concerts, plays, art exhibitions, student forums and sports of every code, thereby enabling herself to engage at first hand with the human complexities that drive a school.

Amidst all this flurry and fury of human activity, Helen has maintained some abiding principles long present in the Wesley ethos, particularly the belief that a broader social awareness and community engagement is imperative for reaching full maturity. This surely has led to arguably her greatest legacy: the establishment of the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School at Fitzroy Crossing, a living testimony to what can be achieved through cross-cultural determination and sensitivity.

As a result of the capacity to envisage the future and plan accordingly, the physical regeneration of all campuses has been a priority for Helen, but not an obsession, with its chief objective being to keep abreast of expanding educational ideas and insights. Alongside Yiramalay, and complementary to it, is the recently completed Learning in Residence at Glen Waverley, another vivid embodiment of Helen's deeply held beliefs in the role of Wesley in reaching out to the wider Australian community, and in cementing an important connection between school and society. This has elements of what politicians call 'nation building', and is a small but crucial part of our betterment as a society.



*With Professor Geoffrey Blainey (OW1947) in 1996: 'She came to Wesley to teach Year 12 English and Biology – itself indicative of her comprehensive intellectual interests.'*

There is little opportunity often for a Principal to show in a school as big as Wesley the more personal and intimate aspects of a life only rarely lived privately, but Helen's personal life has also been endowed with the strengths that have characterised her professional life. Those who know her as a friend will talk of her tremendous capacity for laughter, for spontaneous whimsy in thought and deed, for self-deprecation, for revelling in the company of others, as host or guest. Nor will most know how, in a day that stretches from before dawn to way past dark, she has managed to care superbly for her ageing mother, and been a brilliant and loving mother to her son Frank (OW1995) and a devoted wife to former Wesley Head of English Tony Winder, her beloved intellectual sparring partner – and doubtless willing human laboratory for testing ideas.

In her spare time, she has also designed and built a house on the Atherton Tablelands in Queensland. Helen has likewise been a loyal friend to those many at the school she has known over half a lifetime, and whose ideas and affections – and even, heaven forbid, advice – she has invariably recognised and valued.

A recent letter from an OW speaks more comprehensively, yet succinctly, than Winder, her beloved intellectual sparring partner – and doubtless willing human laboratory for testing ideas. In her spare time, she has also designed and built a house on the Atherton Tablelands in

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Queensland. Helen has likewise been a loyal friend to those many at the school she has known over half a lifetime, and whose ideas and affections – and even, heaven forbid, advice – she has invariably recognised and valued.

A recent letter from an OW speaks more comprehensively, yet succinctly, than perhaps all of the above. The writer, Tony Hartnell (OW1961), 60 years on from his own Wesley experience, expresses his 'unqualified joy' in contemporary Wesley, exhorting from us all 'recognition and applause' for the Principal, Dr Drennen, 'who has driven the school brilliantly'. There is, too, a mention of our most famous description, 'the best school of all', and nothing would strike more truly at Helen of Wesley's heart than this. For, you see, she is sentimental in the best way possible, loving the songs and the great and enduring traditions. But she has also been a pragmatist, knowing from the start, and through the duration of her tenure, that these on their own are not enough.

*Dawson Hann is a former Head of English and Editor of Lion, and is currently a features writer for Lion. Kenneth Park is Curator of Collections.*

# True educational leadership



*Helen Drennen in 2018: her leadership has been defined by strategic renewal, enhancement and growth in every one of the many dimensions that make up Wesley*

**Visionary. Courageous. Determined. An institution builder. Compassionate. Diligent. A true learner. An instigator. A believer in Wesley. As ISAAC QUIST's retrospective reveals, Principal Helen Drennen has been all these things.**

There is no avoiding any of these words and phrases when one seriously reflects on Helen Drennen's leadership of Wesley College over the past 15 years. Used to describe her, the words are anything but inert – they pulse with breath and motion, are vibrant and alive!

Full disclosure: I was not at Wesley when Helen began her journey as Principal – I encountered the story *media res*, as it were. Even before then, however, in faraway Cardiff, news had begun to filter through of a leadership temperament that was not going to be shy of the unpopular in a dedicated pursuit of all that is good and just where the education of students is concerned.

Helen's consciousness of being the first female Principal in the then 137-year history of Wesley College was palpable

and, judging from her approach to the role, she sought to make it count.

On her side was a very deep conviction in Wesley's size, complexity even, as a force for good: she was undaunted by a prevailing culture of thought that courted caution against doing any more than simply keeping this behemoth of a ship afloat.

For both Helen and Wesley College, the past 15 years may well be described as a defining chapter. For her, everything that had come before – her successful introduction of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma and headship of the Glen Waverley Campus, succeeded by momentous leadership of the IB Curriculum and Assessment Centre, as its Director of Academic Affairs (where, for reasons quite obvious, she went by the hushed alias, Helen *Adrenalin*) – was critical preparation for her principalship of this 'great Australian school'. For the College, it has been a period marked by its relentless push forward on a range of fronts, internal and external, domestic, national and global; a period in which new and unfamiliar threads have been deftly woven into the skeins of the familiar, the traditional.

This has been a chapter defined by strategic renewal, enhancement and growth in every one of the many dimensions that make up Wesley – a chapter positive, aspirational and open in outlook, with a spirit unapologetically activist in its quest to foster the several competencies required to navigate a world forever increasing in complexity. In action, it has been a chapter that has been altogether daring, forward looking and rigorous in execution, a chapter all-penetrating in its reach. From renewal and recasting of Wesley's overarching vision for learning as the intelligence that guides and directs its planning and priority setting across all spheres, nothing has been left untouched: Wesley's curriculum programs and frameworks for learning, the culture of teaching and learning, and its expectations of staff; the College's diverse programs, structures and settings; the dynamics of Wesley's governance arrangements and community engagement. Forever puzzling the Rubik's Cube for coherence, relevance and sustainability, Helen's leadership of Wesley has been comprehensive. She has demonstrated that she is a true educator, truly focusing on the development and growth of the whole child and, in this case, the 'whole school'. Her impact has been total.

They say that an organisation's lived culture is often no more than a reflection of the temperament and inclinations of its leader. The jury may well be out on this one, but, under Helen, Wesley has discovered anew its restless, innovative essence – an essence shaped by the desire to make good on its enduring, and endearing, promise as a school of force in the pursuit of what has been crystallised in its most apt strap line – a *true* education. The endeavours that have shaped this pursuit are nothing short of transformational, and Wesley is now a centre to be reckoned with in Australia and internationally as a powerhouse of educational thinking and practice.

Always collaborative, Helen has worked strategically with various teams and sought to surround herself with the best

minds and relevant skills to create, articulate and implement the vision of a Wesley that would remain true to its traditions, yet remain truly engaged with the needs of the times. Hers is a Wesley prosecuting an education both relevant and responsive to the needs of the individual student, to the needs of Australia, and to the needs of a world finding its way at the start of a new century, bewildered by new revolutions in science and technology; by the conflicts, contradictions and paradoxes of globalisation; by the anxieties that attend informed reflections about the ongoing sustainability of our planet.

Helen's tremendous capacity to learn from all, regardless of age, status or gender, thereby availing herself properly of a rich resource of diverse perspectives and strengths towards the common good, has been another abiding characteristic of her leadership, a veritable *modus operandum*. This capacity has been in evidence time and again: the conception, entrepreneurship and activity that yielded the Yiramalay/Wesley Studio School, the processes that led to the establishment of *Learning in Residence*, and the creation of the Wesley College Institute are all significant examples. To be clear though, Helen has never really been at the mercy of the collective resource – it was a resource she regularly tested and contested to sharpen and refine its thinking and approaches and, thereby, breathe new life into old, familiar concepts. In everything, Helen, the astute, determined learner, always on the front foot about Wesley's standing and future, has been there for all to see.

Her legacy? What will endure beyond the physical structures and facilities in all their refurbished, renewed and newly minted glories? Without a doubt, Helen has taken Wesley well beyond itself and consistently challenged this College she so clearly loves. She has consistently demanded that Wesley hold itself to a higher standard of responsibility to its students, and in ways that fully realise Wesley's much-revered values of openness, inclusiveness,



*In 2009 with Barry Humphries*

commitment to social justice and all that is encapsulated by its time-honoured motto, 'Dare to be Wise'.

Well may it be said of Helen's stewardship that in her steady, skilful, and sophisticated focus on building Wesley's capacity for responsiveness to the present and what's to come, she brought purpose, direction and relevance to Wesley's restlessness. It should be interesting to see how these substantial additions – hallmarks of the modern Wesley – fare as she moves on to other pursuits. Uppermost in thought: Wesley's partnership with Indigenous Australia; curriculum programs; international engagement especially with Asia and its cultures; the concept of an Institute that brings the best of the world to Wesley and takes the best of Wesley to the world; the notion of 'one Wesley' regardless of campus or site. The attainment of each has been an act of courage and conviction in the pursuit of all that will make Wesley's encounters with its community of students, staff, families, alumni and friends *true*.



*In 2007 with Heather Henderson standing before a portrait of her father, Sir Robert Menzies KT*

Helen has lived her commitment to Wesley College by setting it on a course of enduring significance as a key actor on the global stage of education praxis. Will the future Wesley be as courageous and committed? What will Wesley remember of its first female Principal, who would not take a backward step in dragging a school all too comfortable with itself into living up to its tremendous promise?

*Isaac Quist is the Executive Director of Curriculum and International Strategy and Deputy Director of the Wesley College Institute.*

# Dr Finkel and the uncanny valley



Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel, at this year's Samuel Alexander Lecture: the task is not to resist AI, but to work out how humans and technologies can 'play nice and get along'

**Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel, took attendees at this year's Samuel Alexander Lecture into the uncanny valley, where technologies are human enough to be familiar, yet robotic enough to be creepy. PAUL MUNN reports.**

Opening this year's Samuel Alexander Lecture in August, our guest speaker, Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel AO, is on familiar ground as he shares his pleasure at 'being invited here, to the school that nurtured my two sons, Victor (OW2004) and Alex (OW2007), intellectually, socially and musically.' Dr Finkel is, however, here to share his informed perspective on a pressing topic – Prospering in the Artificial Intelligence World – and the ground soon moves from the familiar to the very unfamiliar: the unsettling, shifting terrain of 'the uncanny valley'. The uncanny valley is an intriguing idea, and in explaining what it means, Dr

Finkel calls on his love of debating. He announces he might be 'lowering the bar a bit' with his address, because 'Samuel Alexander pretty much excelled at everything.... His greatest gift was undoubtedly his philosophy. His phenomenal brain could Hoover up the strands of thousands of years of human thought and knit them into a vision of stupendous breadth. Language, logic, the art of persuasion... heights only an exceptional human brain could ever reach. Or at least, so we think.'

Enter IBM, with its enthusiasm for pitching human against machine in tests of intelligence, and its most recent desire to take up 'the most Wesleyan challenge of them all – the challenge at which Samuel Alexander excelled – debating'. IBM designed Project Debater – a debating robot that adeptly articulates arguments in debate with human opponents. Swapping notes about Project Debater with son

Victor – a very keen Wesleyan debater who, together with a team mate, went on to win the 2011 World Debating Championships – Dr Finkel notes, 'Victor was rattled. Not because of the possible threat to people who make their money producing reasoned and persuasive arguments; I suspect the disquiet was more fundamental. We had walked straight into what's known as the uncanny valley, where technologies are human enough to be familiar, and yet robotic enough to be a little bit creepy.'

Dr Finkel presents another example of that disquiet with the Mattel company's artificial intelligence (AI) product 'Aristotle', an automated 'child raising' robot that was designed to take over a variety of tasks in raising babies and children, and the two 'worries' surrounding such an app. Worry #1: the child won't learn to socialise with other children. Worry #2: the child will be trapped in a web of surveillance. Mattel

withdrew the product in response to a petition with more than 17,000 signatures.

Notwithstanding fears of a HAL 9000 situation, where HAL in *2001: A space odyssey* refuses to obey human commands, Dr Finkel notes that for every troubling application, we can just as easily find AI technology harnessed for good. In the hands of a gifted teacher, it can be used as a teaching tool to tailor the level of challenge to the learning needs of the individual. Those needing extra help and

teenagers, and in science, the fact we can do things in days that just a decade ago would be the work of an entire PhD.'

For Dr Finkel, the task is not to resist AI, but to work out how humans and technologies can 'play nice and get along' – always prioritising the human. He cites the medical profession's Hippocratic Oath to make his point. Penned by Hippocrates in the third century BC, the oath is based on three foundation principles: I will do no harm; I will use treatment to help the sick

***Dr Finkel notes that for every troubling application, we can just as easily find AI technology harnessed for good. In the hands of a gifted teacher, it can be used as a teaching tool to tailor the level of challenge to the learning needs of the individual.***

those flying ahead can be better catered for. And consider the needs of students with disabilities. AI can convert spoken words into text, help children with autism to recognise facial expressions, and tell a child with visual impairment that his mother has entered the room and that she is smiling. 'Would we throw the opportunities for all these children away?' Dr Finkel asks.

'And would we throw away the even greater promise of AI in all our lives? Consider the faster and more reliable medical tests, the robots that can get you in and out of surgery on the same day. The self-driving cars that I, for one, see as a brilliant alternative to self-driving

according to my ability and judgement; and I will never share personal information without the patient's explicit permission.

Dr Finkel, clearly passionate about education, notes, 'You can think exactly the same way about the standards you should expect for AI in the classroom. First: do no harm. If educational AI is undermining the relationship between the teacher and the student, then it is doing harm. Second: ensure that all decisions are for the good of the student. We need to insist that there will always be a human in the loop. Third: educational AI should always respect the privacy of the student, so that the relationship between the students and the teacher is a trusted one.'



*Dr Finkel notes that for every troubling application of artificial intelligence, we can just as easily find it harnessed for good*

This fits very much with the 'golden rule' described earlier this year by Home Affairs Secretary, Michael Pezzullo, that No person should be deprived of their fundamental rights, privileges or entitlements by a computer rather than an accountable human being. So a computer might give you privileges, but it can't take them away.

Spirited questioning from an obviously deeply absorbed audience follows this year's Adamson Hall address, and in amongst his considered responses Dr Finkel produces an advance on the golden rule – the *platinum* one: 'Every AI should have an OFF switch'.

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



*The Samuel Alexander Lecture stimulated a vigorous question-and-answer session, during which Dr Finkel proposed, 'Every AI should have an OFF switch'*

# A unique language journey



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

**Students are learning Chinese, and much more, through an approach that integrates content and language learning, as PAUL MUNN reports.**

Visit any Junior School classroom at Wesley on any given school day and the children's energy and enthusiasm is plain to see. Today at the Elsternwick Campus Iris Wang's Year 2 class is learning about transport. They're sitting on the mat at the front of the classroom, discussing buses and trains. In response to Iris's questions, many hands go up, and stay up. Getting up on their knees in their urgency, the children are all keen to be the next one to answer a question. Nothing out of the ordinary, you might think, except for one thing: the entire exchange between Iris and her students is being conducted in Mandarin Chinese.

This everyday reality in our Junior School classrooms is the result of the vision Principal Helen Drennan articulated back in 2009. The goal? That Wesley should become a *leading languages school*.

Says Dr Drennan, 'Our language vision is forward thinking and driven by the expectation that language skills and cultural sensitivity are essential to living in today's increasingly multilingual world. Wesley learners are increasingly mobile and globally focussed. In our classrooms, developing world views means that language education has to be a priority.'

Becoming a leading languages school has required an innovative approach. 'We wanted to get away from the traditional apparatus of Languages other than English (LOTE),' says Isaac Quist, Director of Curriculum and International Strategy. 'Students spent years in LOTE and many came out with limited skills. We needed a far more rigorous language program, one that provided adequate time to teach the second language, and all the research points to starting language learning as early as possible – the earlier the better.'

Everything was pointing towards the need for an immersive approach, with students having to use the language to access other parts of their learning.

Cue the introduction of Wesley's Enhanced Language Program (ELP), developed in consultation with Dr Jane Orton from Melbourne University, an expert in Chinese language education. Elsternwick Campus took the first brave step, introducing the program in 2016. The ELP involves devoting 20 per cent of curriculum time to learning Mandarin Chinese. That means the students at every year level, from three-year olds in the Early Childhood Learning Centre to 11- and 12-year olds in Year 6, spend 50 minutes every day, five days each week, not just learning Chinese, but learning *in* Chinese. 'This has been a huge commitment for us, requiring a lot of planning,' says Head of Campus Jacinta Janssens. 'To develop proficiency in a language you need consistency and regularity. You need time and an authentic approach.'

The approach applied in the classroom – called Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) – is authentic because, as the name suggests, it directly links the content being investigated with the

language being used to investigate it. Kate Kiernan, Year 3 Homeroom teacher at Elsternwick, explains CLIL this way: 'Through this program, the students really become communicators, because instead of learning language in isolation, they're having to apply conversation skills to share what they know, and as they move through different areas of inquiry and through different content, they're still drawing on the skills they've used before to show how much they extend in their learning.' Adds colleague Shellene Hurle, Year 2 Homeroom teacher, 'It's been an amazing journey. The children started with one or two words, and three years into the program they're speaking in whole sentences. Very swiftly they pick up the language and transfer what they've learnt into other areas of inquiry.'

Based on this success, the ELP expanded to the Glen Waverley and St Kilda Road Campuses in 2017.

So why Chinese in particular, given the added complexity of learning a character-based language? Jacinta sees Chinese, a truly world language, as 'the language of the future'. Isaac Quist concurs. 'Geographically and economically, Australia's fortunes are tied to Asia,' he says. 'Deep understanding of the languages and cultures of Asian neighbours would be beneficial to Australia.' Clearly there may be rich career

opportunities for Wesley graduates fluent in Mandarin. Wesley is also forging strong partnership relationships with schools in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

That said, there are challenges in planning and delivering the ELP, as Elsternwick

**'We get to read characters and it's a whole different language. You get to learn a new style of life or know how other people see things or you get to learn interesting words. You get to see other people's perspectives.'**

Primary Years Program (PYP) Coordinator Nicola Rule notes. 'To try and teach Mandarin is hard. To put it into a concept-based inquiry learning framework is even harder,' Nicola says. 'To marry the PYP, the Australian Curriculum and CLIL takes so much planning to do properly. What's the content, how are you going to teach it? It's a delicate dance between content and language.'

Difficulties aside, you know something is definitely working when a student like Sophia Katsieris from Iris's Year 2 class offers her own enigmatic reflections. 'She's teaching hard stuff, but in an easy way!' Sophia says. With a twinkle in her eye, she adds, 'I feel happy when I speak Chinese, it's like a hobby for me. I can speak to people in Chinese and others don't know what we're saying. It's really funny.'

The expertise built up at Elsternwick over nearly three years led Nicola and colleague Yayoi Nikakis to deliver a very well-received conference presentation entitled 'A Unique Language Journey' attended by more than 100 people at the IB Global Conference in Singapore earlier

this year. Says Yayoi, 'The delegates were excited about what Wesley's doing because they could see the process of curriculum design and how this was engaging. They could see how we planned for the unit from the very beginning right through to the end.'

The richness of this unique language journey can perhaps best be summed up by Dylan Quick, Year 2 student at Elsternwick, who gets to the heart of the Wesley ethos: 'We get to read characters and it's a whole different language. You get to learn a new style of life or know how other people see things or you get to learn interesting words. You get to see other people's perspectives.'

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



Planning and delivering the ELP is a complex task: 'It's a delicate dance between content and language'

# Return home for our new Principal



Wesley's next Principal, Nicholas Evans (OW1985), will take up his appointment in July 2019

When the new Principal, selected to succeed Dr Drennen, was announced by President of the Wesley College Council Marianne Stillwell, it turned out our 17th Principal is no stranger to the school he will lead into its immediate future. Nicholas Evans (OW1985) is only the second former student to be chosen for this role – the first was Harold Stewart in 1933; he is also a much-loved, admired and respected former member of staff. So two birds with one stone in this case.

Nick was Vice-Captain of the School in 1985 and a Triple Sports Colours recipient for Football, Cricket and Athletics. After university, and some life-enhancing experiences in the mining fields of Western Australia, Nick eventually decided that teaching was the way to go, and he returned to Wesley in 1994 where, over 20 years of exceptional service, starting as a teacher of history, he became Head of

Middle School and then Head of Senior School at the St Kilda Road Campus, roles he filled with his customary inspiring enthusiasm for school life and the teaching profession.

He will be remembered by many from that time as a stalwart of the Adamson Theatre Company at St Kilda Road. Not surprisingly, his reputation aroused interest elsewhere, and he was employed by Melbourne Grammar School, where for the past five years he has been Deputy Headmaster and Head of Senior School.

Nick comes to us with a brilliant leadership style and a wealth of experience that will guide Wesley into, and through, its next phase. More will be said about him in *Lion* when he takes up his appointment in July 2019. In the meantime, welcome back Nick.

# The Glen Waverley Winter Concert 2018



A night to remember at the Glen Waverley Winter Concert at the Melbourne Recital Centre

The Glen Waverley music students' Winter Concert at the Melbourne Recital Centre was a night to remember. The Winter Concert lifted the performance of all students to new heights. As Year 7 brass player, George Mackay, explained, 'I was blown away by the sheer size of the theatre. I felt excitement, nerves and

amazement. As we started playing, I was astounded by the skill of the Year 12 brass players.'

Music Prefect, Patrick Edwards, also waxed lyrical about the night. 'It was wonderful to know that all the sound produced on stage will alight and dance

upon the wooden walls and structures throughout the auditorium before descending upon the audience and lighting up their imaginations,' Patrick said.

The audience was treated to solos from Vikram Chunilal, Jack Edwards, Ariana Wally, Sylvia Huang, Lauren Lok, Freya Parr and many more from individual ensembles. There were wonderful concertos from Lianni Zhang, Freddy Ge and William Wu, along with impressive performances from the orchestras, Brass Fanfare, Senior Vocal and the Campus Choir. Carrick Dix-Draper, Atticus Stones, Aaron D'Silva and Will Holdsworth took the stage for 'The Toreador Song' from *Carmen!* It was spectacular to witness all this talent in such a musically symbolic and atmospheric space.

The finale proved, yet again, that there is nothing quite like a massive choir singing with a massive orchestra – a brilliant way to conclude many years of wonderful music for every Year 12 student, singing or playing with peers from Years 5 upwards.

# Passionate like Puccini

You're sitting in a darkened theatre. On stage, there's pulsing light, seething turmoil, and a wall of sound hammering your ears. You don't expect to see a life-sized helicopter descend through the haze, hover, land, take on passengers, and take off. But then you remind yourself you're watching an Adamson Theatre Company Senior School musical, and the production they're staging is *Miss Saigon*, so you figure you really shouldn't be surprised.

Set during the Vietnam War, *Miss Saigon* – an imaginative reworking of Madame

*Butterfly* – carries the same operatic sense of drama as Puccini's original work. It's a story that requires complete emotional commitment from its players, so it's impressive to watch the St Kilda Road students – performers and musicians alike – throw themselves into the task with a passion to match the sensational theatrical effects.

This was certainly the case for Freddie Grieves-Smith, who played Chris. 'It was a constantly demanding role, but I enjoyed the challenge,' he said. 'In other

productions, I've been able to convey the emotions through acting, but this time everything had to come through the singing.'

As Co-Director Fiona Atkin explained, *Miss Saigon* is unusually technically very complicated for performers and musicians. 'They had first to learn the technical part, and then go through the process of delivering that with precision, but also emotion,' she said.



A scene from *Miss Saigon*: students threw themselves into the production with a passion to match the sensational theatrical effects

# Indigenous storytelling and performance



Year 5 and 6 students gained insights into Indigenous culture through storytelling and performance

Students in Years 3 to 6 gained an insight into Indigenous culture through storytelling and performance when Sean Choolburra visited the Elsternwick Campus. With strong links to the Primary Years Programme Indigenous Unit, *Country, language and community are significant to the lives of Indigenous people*, students embraced Sean's underlying message to try your best, whatever opportunities come your way. Born and raised in Townsville, Indigenous performer Sean has trained and toured internationally with the Bangarra Dance Company and is the founder and leader of Naroo Dancers.

# A thriving theatre scene

Student theatre is thriving at Glen Waverley. 'It all speaks well for the inclusive and collaborative nature of drama at Glen Waverley, an ethos of which we are most proud,' Student Theatre Director, David Dunn, said. 'Students' collective aspiration to achieve the highest standard of excellence in performance was strikingly evident in the opening play for the season, *The Electra Legacy*. Our Senior School students excelled in an epic retelling of the classic ancient Greek tragedy by Sophocles, and it was great to see Yiramalay students Maxie Coppin as the Boatman and Alison Lockyer as the Messenger perform with distinction.'

It was no surprise to have a completely sold-out season of *The Wizard of Oz*, always a crowd pleaser. With a complete double cast, both combinations of Dorothy (Tahlia Mills and Isabelle Statkevitch), Tinman (Rowan Parr and Matthew Millson), Scarecrow (Asher Ronalds and Dimitri Nicolettou) and Lion (Yazeed Evans and Errol Woods) were brilliant, as were the Wicked Witches of the West (Madison Torres-Davy and Ashleigh Gear) and the Glindas (Shruti Kumar and Ruby Thorpe). The wonderful ensemble of more than 85 students was supported impressively by a technical crew consisting entirely of students, with lighting by Year 11 student

James – 'The Magician' – Nankervis and sound by Year 7 student Max Huang.

The Middle School now has two *Standing Up for Shakespeare* classes in Year 8. With more than 60 students involved, the level of interest in Shakespeare from young people is truly impressive. One student's comment is typical of their enthusiasm: 'The Year 8 Shakespeare performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Malthouse Theatre was one I will remember forever. I remember the dazzling glare of the lights, the anxious but determined faces of the students and the merry atmosphere as the audience cried with laughter. Before I knew it, we were taking our bows, drowned in the roar of applause from the audience.'

Following a Prime Ministerial call to all school principals to do more to discourage bullying, Glen Waverley students decided to perform *Urban Hero* as the major piece for our tour to Germany and England, and performed this confronting play with maturity and sincerity.



Aaron Da Silva as Agamemnon in *The Electra Legacy*

# Singing is alive and well at Wesley

'What a huuge stage!... Wow!... Look at how many levels there are on the stage... Are we going to sing to all those people...? Amaazing!' So said our Piccolo and Dolce Canto choristers from the Glen Waverley Campus when they entered Melbourne Town Hall for this year's Biennial

Independent Primary School Heads of Australia Festival. Held in August, the festival provides the opportunity for independent schools to share choral music.

Our students waved the Wesley flag proudly, singing and performing, listening,

sharing, following instructions, giving their best and being 'in the moment'.

Piccolo and Dolce Canto sang two contrasting songs. 'Colours of the Wind,' from the Disney movie *Pocahontas*, and 'Johnny One Note' from the musical *Babes in Arms*. The choirs had lots of fun performing this song and it quickly became their favourite number due to its dramatic nature.

The Massed Finale with all schools combining forces was a gentle, reflective song entitled 'Just Sing,' written and composed especially for this event. With so much music on offer, as Lyn Richardson, Junior School Music teacher, noted, 'Singing is alive and well at Wesley Glen Waverley – hooray!'



Lyn Richardson: 'Singing is alive and well at Wesley Glen Waverley – hooray!'

# The legacy of Wendy Tooke

Wendy Tooke, Head of Strings at the Elsternwick Campus, will take her final bow at the end of 2018 when she retires after 25 outstanding years of service to Wesley College. Her firm belief in Dr Shinichi Suzuki's method of violin teaching is founded on Suzuki's premise that children should be taught to play

the violin before they learn to read music, since they learn to speak before they learn to read.

Wendy's lessons are fun yet direct and always musical. Many visitors to public group lessons are transfixed by the ability and the joy of the young student

performers as they collectively play the carefully selected repertoire.

Wendy cites many benefits of playing with other musicians in an orchestra and she has always given generously of her time attending the annual school Music Camp, and the many concerts and soirees at school and in the wider community.

Wendy has been the driving force behind many of these rich musical experiences for our students at Elsternwick and will be greatly missed in our Music Department and by all the Elsternwick Campus.

We wish her a rewarding retirement, knowing that her legacy lives on in the lives of the many who were fortunate to have been taught by her, have witnessed her teach or worked alongside her.

Wendy Tooke, take a bow!

*Wendy Tooke with Year 3 student Georgie Rhodes*



# A riveting address

Events hosted by the Public Questions Society (PQS) have been a fixture in the Senior School at Glen Waverley for many years, but recently we held our first PQS address in Middle School – and it was riveting.

Our guest, Sarah Rejman, who established a rehabilitation facility for children with disabilities in Tanzania, Eastern Africa, issued the following challenge: 'What does a country like ours do to help the many millions of people in need throughout the

world?' Government aid aside, she asked what each one of us can do to help others in need.

Sarah began by speaking in Swahili, explaining, 'If you are born with a disability in a rural community in Tanzania, you bring shame to your parents, and you may well be killed.' The students were glued to her every word.

Student Stephen Antoniadis thanked Sarah and presented her with a cheque on behalf of Wesley College to support her work. Students discussed their social justice work providing meals at the Salvation Army's Glen Waverley Centre, and stressed how much they enjoyed this activity. Their contribution blended perfectly with Sarah's address and showed students that every individual act of generosity can help.

*Sarah Rejman, middle, flanked by Glen Waverley Head of Middle School Simon Thompson, and PQS coordinator Ros Crommelin, with Middle School students*



# Preparing for life in the real world



Year 7, 8 and 9 Elsternwick students attended a two-day entrepreneurship program focused on developing entrepreneurial skills in preparation for life beyond school, as part of a program in support of the College's strategic priority to enable *learning in an expanded world*. Led by Enterprise Education, students worked in House groups across year levels on essential skills for the future workforce, as well as those needed to start a business. Students devised creative solutions to a real-world problem and presented a proposal for a new product.

*Jensen Pillinger, Bryn Francey and Nicolas Berelov prepare their product presentation*

# Creating worlds through writing

'We're kind of the Gods of the worlds we create...' If your intention is to hook in a group of Year 7 and 8 students at a creative writing workshop, that's a pretty good opening statement, isn't it? With more than 20 years' experience working with young people, and as author of more than 20 young adult fiction novels, Scot Gardner should know what works. Scot was speaking at this year's *Readers and Writers Festival* at St Kilda Road, joining writer and journalist Alice Pung, writer and comedian Ben Jenkins and graphic

novelist and illustrator Bernard Caleo. Our unique, ongoing partnership with the Melbourne Writers Festival ensures our students enjoy rich offerings each year in the exploration of writing and storytelling. For festival coordinator Sonia Otterbach, this year's program was inspirational. 'The students couldn't help but be inspired by the power of words,' she said. 'The whole of Year 7 was completely enthralled with (Alice Pung's) session.'

Students asked her about 30 questions afterwards. I thought we'd never get out of the hall!

Scot was impressed with the poise shown by Wesley students. 'There's a potential for students to draw attention to themselves by being ridiculous or silly. They took the task seriously. It makes me hopeful, because I like to think characters are worthy of respect. They were invested in the wellbeing of their characters, even though they were fictional,' he said.



*Scot Gardner with creative writers from Years 7 and 8*

# An instrument for change

'What do you think of when you hear the phrase 'mentally ill'? Moody? Unpredictable? Crazy?' With these words, St Kilda Road Year 12 student Sebastian Shultz began his Stuart Hollaway Memorial Oration at the final Senior School Assembly of Term 3. Sebastian was the winner of last year's award, established to honour the memory of long-time staff member Stuart Hollaway who tragically lost his life in a climbing accident in 2015. The Stuart Hollaway Memorial Prize is awarded annually to

a Year 11 student who has made a significant contribution to the debating program and public speaking, has demonstrated a passion for argument and discourse, and embodies the College motto, 'Sapere Aude,' in the application of rhetoric and reason in the defence of others and the pursuit of justice.

Poignantly, it was Stuart, a long-time debating coach and mentor, who introduced Sebastian to debating in Year 7. Sebastian spoke about mental

illness and the critical need to 'destigmatise and demystify.' 'In Middle School, Mr Hollaway taught me how to use public speaking as an instrument for change. I want to use this skill to try to change the way we, as high-schoolers, perceive mental illness,' he said.

Stuart's mother, Heather Hollaway, was again in attendance, and watched on as Year 11 debater, Jay Foster, was named this year's award winner. Admitting to being both 'honoured and confused' by this recognition, Jay said, 'Debating is something that I like to do and I enjoy – it's something that I've found a passion for.'

Finding his passion has clearly worked for him: he was a standout member of his Division B team this year, winning Best Speaker in five out of the team's six debates. In addition, competing at the international level in the World Scholars Cup in August, he individually placed fourth in the debating section and fifth overall, out of 800 competitors from 82 countries.

*From left, Year 12 student Sebastian Shultz, Heather Hollaway and Year 11 student Jay Foster*



# CSI comes to Elsternwick

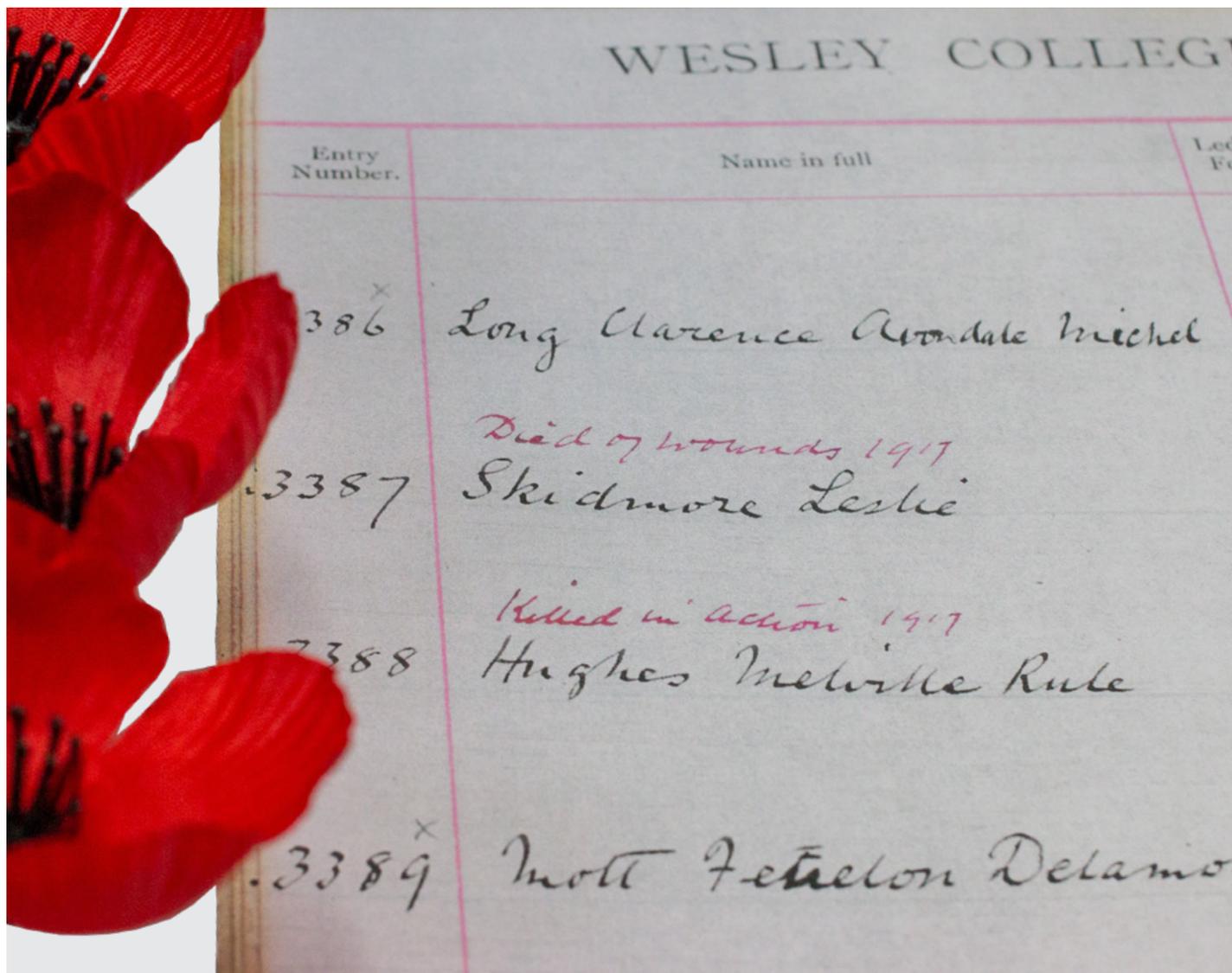


To celebrate National Science Week, the Year 7 and 8 Middle School students at the Elsternwick Campus participated in a hands-on forensic science workshop by *Education Interactive*.

Presented with a real-life murder, the students visited interactive stations to examine and record evidence and form possible theories to explain the crime. The students were led through the investigative process needed to solve a murder.

Student feedback highlighted the value they found in investigating an authentic case that involved using scientific processes and tools.

*Year 9 students Millie Dodos and Jaimie Stratopolous examine and record crime-scene evidence*



A page from the College Entry Books with the words in red ink, probably by LA Adamson, 'killed in action'

## Lest we forget

**As 2018 comes to a close, 100 years since the end of the First World War, PHILIP POWELL takes one more look at the 'war to end war'.**

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. In recognition of this, we have, over the past four years, looked back at this conflict, the involvement of more than 1,000 OWs and the impact of their war service for the College.

In this edition of *Lion*, we look at several unique and important objects in the College's Archives collection, and reflect on what was known as the 'war to end war'.

The most important wartime item in the Archives collection is Captain Robert (Bob) Grieve's (OW1904) Victoria Cross (VC), given to the College following his death in 1957. Captain Grieve served with the 37th Battalion and was awarded the VC following a gallant charge against multiple machine gun emplacements during the Battle of Messines in Belgium on 7 June, 1917. Since 2003 his VC has been on permanent loan for display at the Shrine of Remembrance, and in recent months on loan to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

The College also holds other service medals including EA Cato's Military Cross and the medal set of Captain William Willis (OW1890) who was killed at Gallipoli in

May 1915. The College acquired a collection of Captain Willis's medals, sword and letters in 1995. The sword is always honoured at the Glen Waverley Campus Anzac Day service, and during the rest of the year is on permanent display in the History Gallery at the St Kilda Road Campus. Included in the collection is a powerful letter from a young Thomas Blamey to William's widow explaining the circumstances of Captain Willis's death.

Other precious items in the Archives collection include some 130 letters and cards written by OWs on service and sent to the Headmaster or the Secretary of the OWCA. The contents of these letters were published in the *Chronicle* to update the



Captain Robert (Bob) Grieve's (OW1904) Victoria Cross



EA Cato's Military Cross

community on what the OWs were experiencing. In the fire of 1989 some of these letters were lost and many of the remaining letters are burned at the edges, a reminder of another major event in our history.

The St Kilda Road Campus has many memorials to the OWs who served in the First World War. One is the Alan Kerr door into Adamson Hall. This was the first memorial door and was originally located at the western entrance to the Hall. Alan died in the terrible conditions of Pozieres in 1916. While the door has now been moved to the southern side and the lock changed to modern security levels, Archives retains the original key to the door.

Perhaps the most practical of all of our items are the Entry Books. Each boy's basic details when he commenced at Wesley were documented in these books. They are used almost daily as we respond to queries from relatives and others who are researching the stories of these lads. Poignantly, as we go to these books we often see written in red ink, probably by LA Adamson himself, the words 'killed in action.' On one 1906 page that lists 12 boys, six would die on service.

The School will never forget.

*Philip Powell (OW1973) is the Managing Director of Irowat Pty Ltd and the author of 'Come On, Lads': Old Wesley Collegians and the Gallipoli campaign and Captain Robert Cuthbert Grieve VC: 'For most conspicuous bravery'.*



Original key to the Alan Kerr door into Adamson Hall, the College's first memorial door



The sword of Captain William Willis (OW1890)

# Nicholas Circle welcomes new members



The *Nicholas Circle* acknowledges and celebrates donors and bequestors who have committed \$1 million or more to the Foundation's Building Fund or Scholarships Fund. This coterie group was established in November 2017 with six inaugural members and we were delighted to welcome three more families at a special event in September.

Hosted at '85 Spring Street' by the Foundation's sponsor, Golden Age, guests were treated to a performance by internationally renowned cellist, Chris Howlett (OW2002) and Year 11 St Kilda Road student, David Cui. Chris spoke passionately about how a Wesley scholarship changed his life.

Guests at the *Nicholas Circle* event

## The Tabalujan family



Benny Tabalujan (OW1978) with past parent, Marjorie Nicholas, and Principal Helen Drennen

We acknowledge, with enormous gratitude, the Tabalujan family, which has been a major benefactor to the College over many years. Their benefaction commenced with a major gift towards the redevelopment of the Coates Pavilion at Glen Waverley, followed by an endowed scholarship,

and a gift to redevelop the Middle School classrooms at St Kilda Road.

According to Benny Tabalujan (OW1978), who was Dux of Humanities, the Tabalujan family has been blessed through its association with Wesley College. 'Hans (OW1970) and James (OW1971) paved the way,' Mr Tabalujan said. 'They were followed by me. Hayley, who went to PLC, married Sam Chong (OW1969) while their son, Jason (OW1998), led the next generation. My children followed at Glen Waverley: Timothy (OW2011), who was Dux of IB, and Joy (OW2016), who was School Captain. Several more Tabalujans have attended or still attend Wesley and we hope this association will continue well into the future.

'A key reason for Wesley's success through the years is the outstanding leaders and teachers who have influenced generations of students. For Carlo Tabalujan, who passed away in 2011, and his wife Tine, now 92, one such individual was former Principal Dr Tom Coates, who warmly welcomed their sons, Hans and James, as boarders at the St Kilda Road Campus in the late 1960s,' Mr Tabalujan said.

'David Prest is remembered for his courtesy and care. Dr Helen Drennen is noted for her vision and deft balancing of tradition and innovation – all graced with that winsome smile.

***'It is to salute a splendid school, cheer on the numerous teachers and staff who make it what it is, and give back to the wider community, that we feel privileged to be part of the Nicholas Circle.'***

'We'll honour yet the School we knew – 'The best School of all.'



Chris Howlett (OW2002) and David Cui perform at the *Nicholas Circle* event

## Marianne Stillwell

The President of College Council and Wesley parent, Marianne Stillwell, was also welcomed as part of the *Nicholas Circle*. Marianne has three children: Julian (OW2014), Cameron (OW2017) and Claire in Year 9. Other members of her family have also had a very close association with the College: Nicholas and Kylie are current parents of Camille, Sidney and Leo; Robert is a past parent, father of Andrew (OW2002), as is Chris, father of Caley (OW2015) and Colin (OW2013). Marianne's brother Michael has been most supportive, particularly through the family's

corporate arm, the Stillwell Motor Group. Marianne and her family have been generous benefactors to the College over several years. Marianne's benefaction includes her gift to name the Stillwell Recital Salon in the St Kilda Road Music School in honour of her mother, Gillian Stillwell. Marianne is also a bequestor to the College through the *Sapere Aude Bequest Society*. The Stillwell Motor Group has been a long-term sponsor of College newsletters and events associated with both the Wesley College Foundation and the OWCA, which has been greatly appreciated.



From left, Marjorie Nicholas, President of College Council Marianne Stillwell and Principal Helen Drennen

## Extraordinary philanthropy

A most extraordinary benefaction has come from a person who has had absolutely no association with the College: John Pattison. He is the second member of the *Nicholas Circle* with no link to Wesley to leave his Estate to the College to endow scholarships.

The Wesley College Foundation and *Sapere Aude Bequest Society* were recently notified of a significant bequest to the Scholarships Bursaries and Prizes Fund. Unbeknown to the College, John Pattison had included Wesley College in his Will 10 years ago and decided he wanted to notify the College of his future intentions and outline his wishes to the Foundation.

Frank Opray, our Bequest Manager, and Debra Stiebel, our Donor Relations and Fundraising Manager, visited John to hear his extraordinary story of hardship, love and his urge to do something transformational to honour his siblings.

John's sister, Frances Marie, and brother, James (Jim) Edward, were born with severe intellectual and physical disabilities. John has expressed his desire to endow two scholarships in their names.

We warmly welcome John to our *Sapere Aude Bequest Society*, the *Nicholas Circle* and the Wesley College family, and extend our heartfelt gratitude for his generous gift.



Principal Helen Drennen with John Pattison

## Irvin Rockman bequest

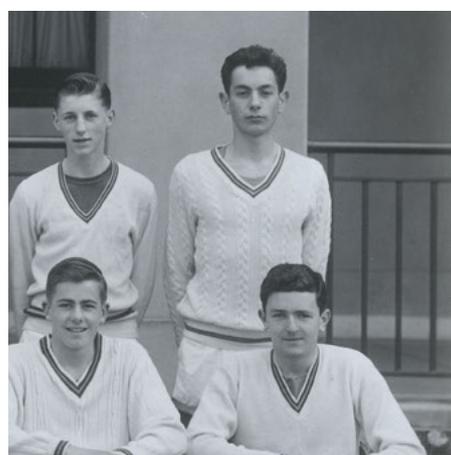
Through his membership of the *Sapere Aude Bequest Society*, Irvin Rockman (OW1955) left the College a very significant bequest. Irvin had many happy memories of his school life and continued the friendships and connections he made at Wesley long after he left. He was a nationally ranked quarter-mile hurdler, rowed in the 1954 First Eight and was captain of the 1955 Championship Athletics team.

Irvin sent his three sons to Wesley, and Zachary (OW2017) is now studying at the University of Melbourne Victorian College of the Arts. Irvin also attended the University of Melbourne and graduated with Honours

in Commerce. His daughter Rachel attends MLC and, like her father, has a passion for sport, especially rowing.

Irvin left a legacy to Wesley to help the College maintain its position as a leading, progressive educational institution.

When Irvin passed away, his widow Lyn and children donated a rowing eight, the *Irvin Rockman*, in memory of his rowing days at Wesley. The Wesley College Foundation acknowledges, with enormous gratitude, Irvin's incredibly generous bequest and the commitment that Lyn and her family have made to the College.



Irvin Rockman (OW1955), at top right, with other members of the 1953 athletics team

# Alumni network in Hong Kong

Allan Kwok, guest speaker at the Foundation's second Alumni Business Forum at the Eton Club in Hong Kong, investigated the Australian economy and investment opportunities.

Addressing the topic, 'Australia – More than just a mine,' Mr Kwok, Chief Representative of Hong Kong Investment, Government Affairs and Ministerial Travel, Victorian Government Trade and Investment, spoke at the Alumni Business Forum courtesy of the efforts of former Wesley parent, David Chu.

The event enabled guests to ask questions and interact with Allan on the topic, network and attend private briefings on College developments.

In addition to this event, private meetings were held with alumni, parents and past parents to also brief them on College developments. This included meetings with Vienna Law (OW1992), Catherine Law (OW1995) and other members of the Law family. Vienna, a donor to the Wesley College Foundation, joined Wesley in Year 8 at the Glen Waverley Campus and graduated from the St Kilda Road Campus in Year 12.

'I am always proud that I was a student at Wesley,' Vienna said. 'The teachers and

classmates were all friendly and helped me so much when I was new to Australia. Wesley provided an all-round education as the foundation that helped me through my further education and now in my work life.

'It is very important that the school continues to invest in enhancing facilities, providing new buildings, increasing the

number of scholarships, developing its academic programs and enriching co-curricular activities. My small donation to the Foundation provided a chance to say thank you and support the school's development. I will surely continue to support the school and definitely send my children to Wesley if I am living in Australia.'



Guests hear from Allan Kwok at the second Alumni Business Forum



Members of the Law family in Hong Kong

SAVE THE DATE

## 2019 Foundation Business Breakfast Are company directors up to the task?

Panellists James Shipton, Elizabeth Proust AO, Ben Gray and Graeme Samuel AC will address this issue. What will be their verdict?

Join us at the 12th Annual Wesley College Foundation Business Breakfast to find out.

TIME 7am | DATE Tuesday 28 May 2019 | PLACE Sofitel on Collins

For further information or to reserve tickets or tables, please contact: [events@wesleycollege.net](mailto:events@wesleycollege.net)



**James Shipton**  
Chair, Australian Securities and Investments Commission



**Elizabeth Proust AO**  
Advisory Board Chairman, Bank of Melbourne



**Ben Gray**  
Managing Partner, BGH Capital



**Graeme Samuel AC (OW1963)**  
former Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

# Wesley in China



*Principal Helen Drennen with guests in Shanghai*



*Peter Pan with guests in Beijing*

The Foundation was delighted to host functions in Shanghai and Beijing in June. Principal Helen Drennen met parents and prospective parents in Shanghai and provided an overview on developments across all College campuses. Parents and prospective parents in Beijing enjoyed hearing about the College from Jack Moshakis (OW1973), Director, Foundation and Alumni.

Both events were made possible through the support of Wesley parent, Peter Pan, who also liaised with guests and acted as translator. Peter is a great ambassador for the College and a passionate supporter of the Foundation. His work with Wesley's Chinese families over many years has enabled us to build closer ties through more effective and timely communication.

## A career in international business and finance

The Foundation has been most grateful for the support provided over the years by Jason Tabalujan Chong (OW1998), particularly for our Asia Business Networking Forums.

As reported in the August edition of *Lion*, Jason organised a panel of high-profile entrepreneurs and venture capitalists to address the OWCA Alumni Business Forum in Jakarta, Indonesia, in the offices of Tedy Djuhar (OW1972).

After graduating from Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus, Jason has lived for 11 years in the United States, where he earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and an MBA from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and nine years in Indonesia. He is a member of Mensa International and has completed executive education

coursework at IMD Business School in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Jason recalls being introduced to Epistemology (Theory of Knowledge) at Wesley by Tony Davidson, who developed a course about critical reasoning and intellectual curiosity. Jason also developed a holistic approach to learning and development, and a love for the outdoors, which led him to endeavours such as climbing the peak of Mount Rinjani and trekking the windy glaciers of Antarctica.

Jason is currently a Director at SSG Capital Management, a USD 4 billion hedge fund formed by senior partners at Lehman Brothers. Jason developed his understanding of business by learning from his father, Chong Guan Seng (OW1969) and his grandfather, Carlo Tabalujan, an entrepreneur in

Indonesia, past parent and benefactor to Wesley College.



*Jason Tabalujan Chong (OW1998) with former Jakarta neighbour Paul Wolfowitz, then US Ambassador to Indonesia and later US Deputy Secretary of Defence and President of the World Bank in 2005*

# Seat in History at Fitchett Hall

A *Seat in History* has been donated by Anne Clare (née Tanner) in memory of her MLC Elsternwick friend, Gail Winsome (née Buchanan). Gail was a student from her Kindergarten year at MLC Elsternwick in Elsternwick in 1943 and completed her final year at MLC Hawthorn in 1955. She was married in 1969 in Fitchett Chapel to Maurice Winsome, with Anne Clare as her attendant.

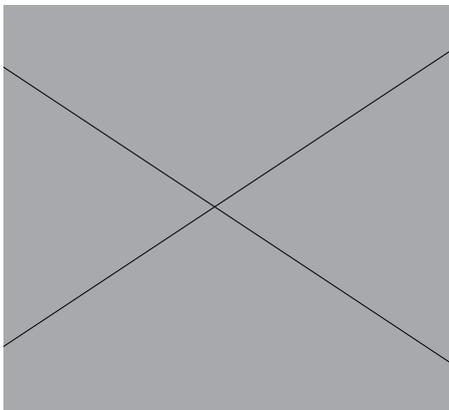
Gail's values – 'To whom much is given, much is required' – were instilled in her at school. Born in 1939, mother of Paul, Katy and Jodie, grandmother of 10 and great grandmother of one, Gail lost her fight with cancer in 2013. A true MLC girl to her very last hour, with her guiding 'Silver Star' twinkling on her dressing table, Gail replied, when asked how she felt, 'I am very well, thank you!'

Anne and her school friends are delighted that Gail has a legacy of special significance in Fitchett Hall.



*Gail Winsome (née Buchanan) recognised with a Seat in History*

# Sapere Aude Bequest Society



*Members of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society Executive*

After many years of outstanding service to Wesley College – as a member of the Foundation Committee and Bequest Manager, and formerly as Treasurer of College Council, Director of Development, and President and Treasurer of the OWCA – Frank Opray (OW1963) retires at the end of the year.

Frank has worked assiduously over many years to foster relationships with our alumni, especially in South East Asia, and promote the work of the Foundation and our bequest program, which

continues to grow. Currently, the number of known bequestors stands at 259, making the *Sapere Aude Bequest Society* one of the largest in Australia.

Frank will continue his involvement with the Foundation in a consulting capacity in key areas such as our activities in Asia, where he has developed strong relationships. The Foundation expresses its sincere appreciation for Frank's work and commitment to benefit current and future generations of students.

# PM's cabinet comes to Wesley



*Peter Williams (OW1954) with Harold Holt memorabilia*

Wesley counts two former Prime Ministers among its alumni: Sir Robert Menzies and Harold Holt. We have been fortunate to acquire from the Menzies Foundation a large mahogany display cabinet and beautiful antique silverware gifted to Sir Robert by close friends Henry Jack Heinz II from Pittsburgh, USA, and Baron Richard Casey, 16th Governor



General of Australia and his wife, Ethel Sumner (Maie) Casey. The cabinet also contains some desk items and a red leather case embossed with the letters 'PM' – not for Sir Robert but for Dame Patty Menzies – containing tapestry and beading work, just as she had left it.

Our other Wesley PM, Harold Holt (OW1920), is also greatly revered. A portrait of the PM in the Holt Wing was donated by the College Head of the OWCA, Ian Thomas (OW1982) and family, while Peter Williams (OW1954) has loaned precious Holt memorabilia – a black leather folder containing the Order of Service from his State Funeral in 1967, and a gift from US President, Lyndon B Johnson.

# Wesley rowing memorabilia

Kim Luff (OW1961) and his son Karl (OW1995) have donated a unique piece of Wesley rowing memorabilia to the College – a trophy cabinet built from a boat hull. Originally purchased as part of a fundraiser through the Alan Mitchell Club, the trophy cabinet will form part of our collection to be displayed in the redeveloped Wesley Boathouse.



Karl and Kim Luff with the trophy cabinet

# Connecting with 'lost' alumni



Helio Chen (OW2009) with wife Yating and son Ayden

The Foundation and OWCA are always looking to connect with alumni and we have been very pleased to reconnect with Helio Chen (OW2009) who now lives in California. After completing his Master's Degree in Economics, Helio moved to the United States as the Chief Operating Officer of YTL International Inc, which imports and distributes products from China to key customers in the US including Lowe's and Home Depot.

# New pianos – can you help?

The St Kilda Road Music Department is in urgent need of a grand piano – about \$30,000 – and an upright – about \$7,000. Director of Music, Robert Breen, observes, that the performing arts program is one of Wesley's great

strengths, with large numbers of students involved throughout their time at the College; however, our pianos are old and in need of replacing. Robert and the Music Department would be very pleased to hear from anyone wishing to contribute

any amount towards the purchase of these much-needed pianos. Please direct initial inquiries to Jack Moshakis +61 3 81026385 or [jack.moshakis@wesleycollege.net](mailto:jack.moshakis@wesleycollege.net)

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



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



# Co-Presidents' Report

The OWCA has been alive with initiatives and events. We are both really enjoying our time as Co-Presidents and are privileged to be working with a highly professional team.

In order to plan for the future and ensure that the OWCA remains relevant to our constituents, we held a Strategic Planning Day at the College in August. The day proved to be highly successful and a number of beneficial initiatives will be implemented as a result.

This quarter has seen the OWCA involved in a number of functions and events. The Wesley College Gala, held at the Melbourne Town Hall, was a

remarkable event. The entertainment, hospitality and conviviality was of the highest quality – congratulations to the organisers! Once again, a dinner was held in Canberra with an encouraging turnout of OWs, who enthusiastically received an address by Principal Helen Drennan. Numerous reunions organised by the OWCA Executive have been of a high standard and well attended.

Jack attended the Old Melburnian's dinner which was an excellent night with an address by former Premier Ted Baillieu.

We were privileged to have Andrew Westacott (OW1982), CEO of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation,

as guest speaker at the inaugural Leaders Series Keynote Address in June. At once entertaining and inspiring, Andrew gave an insight into his ability to rise through adversity and provided a fascinating understanding of why the Grand Prix is important to Melbourne and Australia.

The Golden Lions Lunch was held in September and was addressed by Peter Schwab. Well known for his involvement in AFL circles, Peter is currently Head of Program for Development of Sport and Acting Head of Sport. He presented a colourful picture of the trials, tribulations and challenges of sport at the College.

The OWCA, of course, fully supports the Collegians Football Club. We were thrilled that the Seniors made this year's Grand Final for the second year in a row and commiserate with them on the narrowest of losses. We can only say, 'Third time lucky!'

The OWCA team looks forward to the next few months of College activities. We'd like to reiterate how much we are enjoying the Co-Presidency, particularly being in office to congratulate the Principal on the profound work she has achieved this past 15 years. *Sapere Aude!*

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



*At the OWCA Canberra Dinner: Senior Australian of the Year, Prof Graham Farquhar AO (OW1964) with Principal Helen Drennan AM*

**Stillwell Motor Group proud supporter of the Old Wesley Collegians' Association**



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*Old Wesley Collegian Sir Percy Byrnes (OW1911)*

## Byrnes-Kimberley family

In 2020, when Edward Kimberley starts his Wesley journey, he will be following in the footsteps of his great, great grandfather Sir Thomas Percy Francis Byrnes (OW1911).

Thomas Percy Francis Byrnes (1893-1973), known as Percy, was born in Eidsvold, Queensland, son of Victorian-born parents, Thomas Byrnes and his wife, Annie Louisa, née James. In 1907 Percy won a scholarship to Wesley College as a boarder, where he excelled in History, English, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry. In his time at Wesley

he was also appointed librarian, a prefect and a lieutenant in cadets, rowed as Stroke and won various shooting titles, both as captain and coach, earning him a scholarship to Queen's College, University of Melbourne, where he studied Agricultural Science. Initially working in the State Rivers and Water Supply Department, he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on 24 January 1916 and served on the Western Front with the 3rd Pioneer Battalion.

Suffering from tuberculosis, Byrnes returned home and was discharged in December 1917. He was advised that a rural climate would assist his recuperation and moved to the family farm at Nyah in Victoria where, on 5 June 1918, he married Dorothy Elizabeth Gretchen Judd.

Concern for the welfare of soldier settlers drew Byrnes into politics and in 1942 he was elected uncontested as the Country Party Member for the Legislative Council province of North Western, a position he held until his retirement in 1969.

Appointed to the Hollway-McDonald coalition government in 1947, Byrnes introduced legislation providing for reconstruction of land in the Mallee. He became leader of the Country Party in the Legislative Council in 1949, held the public works and

lands portfolios in the McDonald government of 1950-52 and was government leader in the Legislative Council.

With the election of a majority Liberal government in 1955, Byrnes retained leadership of the Country Party in the Legislative Council where his party held the balance of power until 1970. Astute in his dealings with Labor and Liberal leaders, he advanced Country Party interests, while winning the respect and affection of his parliamentary colleagues for his good humour and hard work.

Knighted in 1964, Sir Percy resigned from parliament in September 1969. He died at Swan Hill on 5 March 1973 and was accorded a state funeral.

Descendants of Sir Percy also to have attended Wesley include Noel Byrnes (OW1935), Ross Kimberley (OW1981), Scott Kimberley (OW1993), Aaron Kimberley (OW1995), Alex Kimberley (OW2012) and Jack Kimberley (OW2013), continuing the amazing legacy of a truly remarkable man.

When Edward puts on those famous colours for the first time, somewhere Percy will be smiling that familiar, welcoming smile constituents and politicians from both sides found so engaging.

## Start your engines at the inaugural OW Auto Club Event

Inviting all OWs to share their motoring story. Proceeds to the Bruce Gregory Scholarship Fund.

**Display fee:** \$50

**General entry:** Free

**Venue:** Front Turf, St Kilda Road

**Date:** Sunday 17 February, 2019

**Time:** 11am

**Enquiries:** to request a registration form, please contact Zena Eastburn on +61 8102 6750 or [zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)

## Two wars too many

In May 2018 Rodney Thorpe (OW1973) and Philip Powell (OW1973) visited war cemeteries in Israel and Egypt to pay their respects to the 19 OWs buried or commemorated in memorials resulting from their service, nine in the First World War and 10 in the Second World War. In Israel, they

visited cemeteries and memorials in Jerusalem, Beersheba and Ramleh and, in Egypt, cemeteries and memorials in Cairo, El Alamein and Alexandria. Unfortunately, security issues meant they could not visit the El Tel Kebir cemetery where one First World War OW is buried.



*The Jerusalem War Cemetery with the grave of Charles F Fuhrmann (OW1902) in the foreground*

## Golden Lions Lunch

The John Lee Band Room played host to this year's Golden Lions Lunch, one of the most eagerly anticipated events in the OWCA calendar. Guests at this annual event for OWs over the age of 75 were treated to a wonderful three-course lunch while hearing from much-loved AFL figure Peter Schwab, which was especially topical with the AFL Grand Final on the horizon.

Peter spoke of his experiences as a player, coach and administrator in an ever-changing football landscape, as well as his recent appointment to the role of Acting Head of Sport at the

College. Lunch guests also enjoyed a tour of the College led by Wesley's Curator of Collections, Kenneth Park, which included an impromptu tuba performance by one of the College's talented music students in the Stillwell Recital Salon!

As is customary at the event, those OWs attending for the first time were presented with their Golden Lion

lapel pin by Co-President of the OWCA, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), who also performed admirably when it came to leading guests in the traditional singing of the College classics.

We look forward to a similarly successful event in 2019, with yet more of our own Golden Lions in attendance.



*This year's pride of lions at the 2018 Golden Lions Lunch*

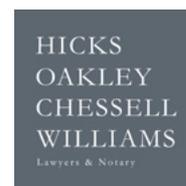
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# Canberra OWs farewell the Principal

Canberra-based OWs enjoyed an OWCA dinner with guest speaker, Dr Helen Drennen, who reflected on her 15 years as Principal. The opportunity for a diverse group of OWs to hear firsthand reflections and highlights from our third-longest-serving Principal was enjoyed by all.

Our OW community in Canberra includes students, business people, academics, politicians, media professionals, diplomats and administrators who are always ready for a stimulating 'question time' when they meet. Dr Drennen candidly answered questions and described personal moments of growth and challenge, after which an appreciative OWCA



*OWs enjoyed good company and an elegant dinner at QT Hotel, Canberra*

Co-President, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), presented a gift from the OWCA.

Joining the guests were Senior Australian of the Year, Graham Farquhar (OW1964), Curator of Collections, Kenneth Park, and Heather Henderson, daughter of former Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies (OW1912), who brought serious diplomatic experience to

the dinner table. The combination of young alumni and retired and semi-retired OWs always makes for an interesting occasion, and the surrounds of the artistic and stylish QT Hotel did not disappoint. Thanks again to our representative in Canberra, John Fuhrman (OW1961), who is always keen to catch up with OWs who land in the nation's capital.

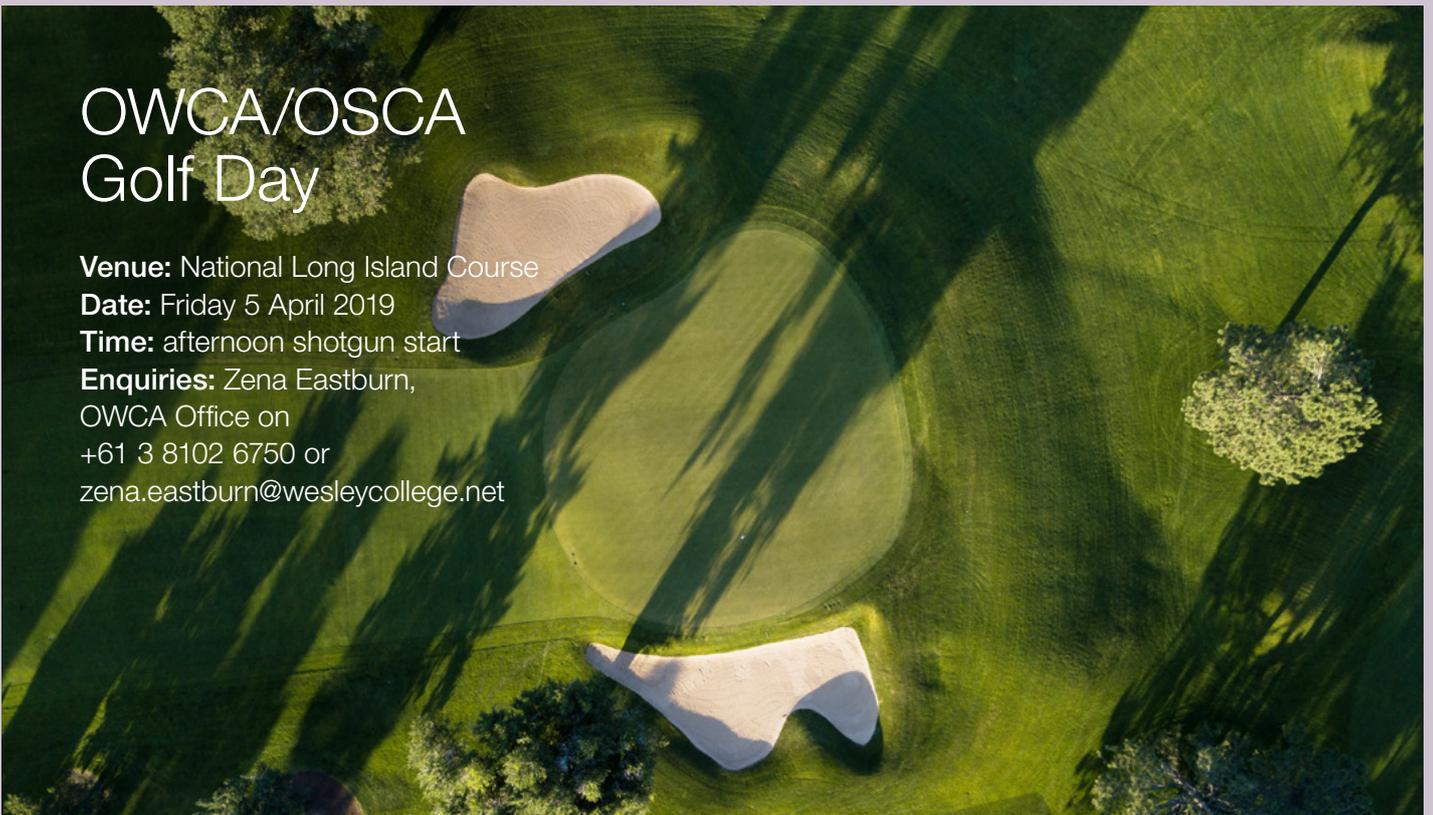
## OWCA/OSCA Golf Day

**Venue:** National Long Island Course

**Date:** Friday 5 April 2019

**Time:** afternoon shotgun start

**Enquiries:** Zena Eastburn,  
OWCA Office on  
+61 3 8102 6750 or  
[zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)



# Wesley hosts 'State of Origin'

Simon Fraser (OW1984) was recently back on the Kroger Front Turf at the St Kilda Road Campus – after a 34-year hiatus! Since leaving school, Simon and his wife Natalie have been living and working overseas, but now live at Freshwater Beach, just 17 kilometres from Sydney's central business district.

With their teenage children Emily and Lachi, they have been actively involved in local and school sporting communities, including Redlands (formerly SCECGS Redlands), the Manly Warringah Gymnastics Club, the Freshwater Surf Club, the Gordon Cricket Club and the Manly Bombers AFL Football Club, where Simon is currently coaching the Under 15 team.

As part of this year's football fixture, Simon worked with Wesley College Head of Football Brent Thiele to bring his Manly Bombers' team to Melbourne on the Queen's Birthday long weekend to play a 'friendly' against Wesley's Year 9 and 10 players. The game was part of a broader engagement strategy to help players and parents from Sydney understand and appreciate

AFL culture in Melbourne. Brent did a magnificent job running a joint Manly/Wesley warm-up training session, then a 'coached' game with Simon umpiring, regularly pausing the game to instruct players from both sides.

The game was played in great spirit and the Manly boys were very appreciative of Brent, the skill of the Wesley players and the opportunity to play on the Kroger Front Turf.

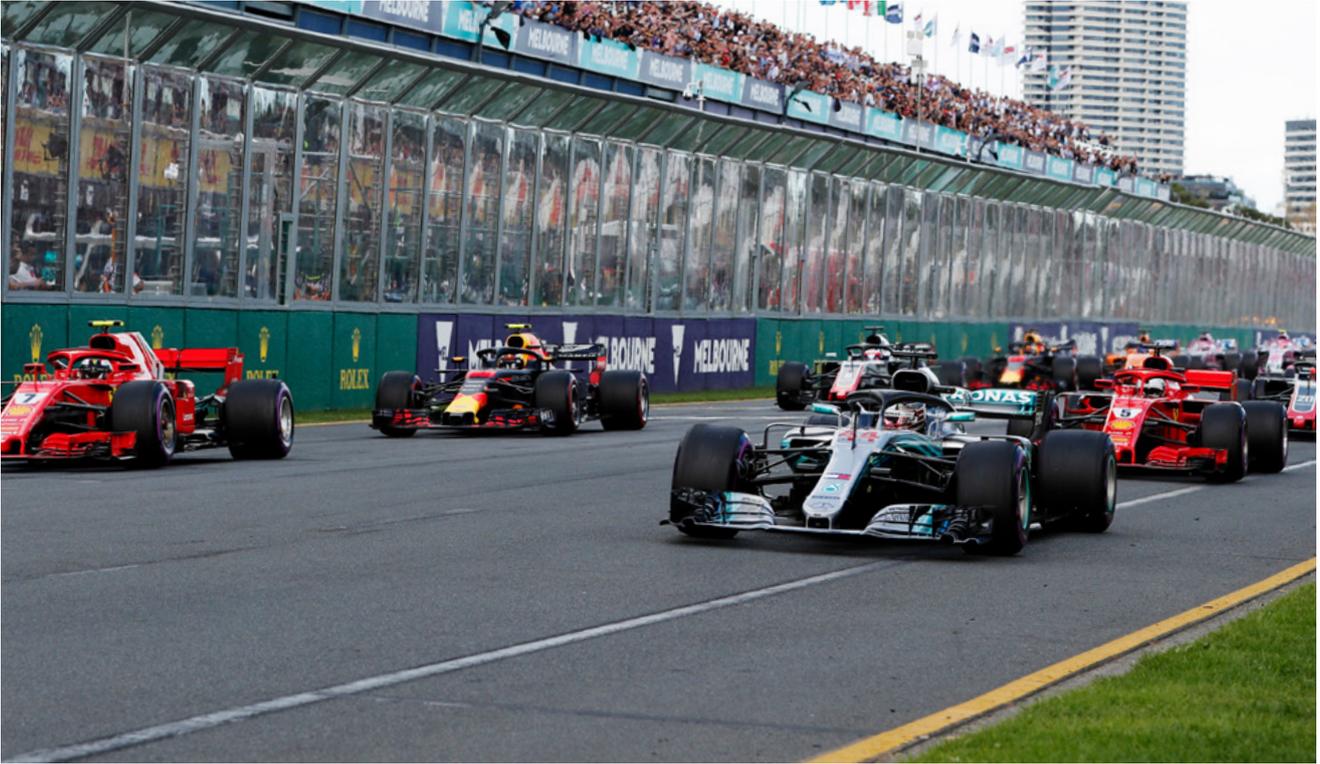


*Manly Bombers and Wesley players shared their appreciation of AFL culture on the Kroger Front Turf, three or so kilometres from another hallowed ground, the MCG*



**ELSTERNWICK  
SILVER STARS  
LUNCH**  
HONOURING  
FITCHETT: THE NAME  
BEHIND THE HALL

**Venue:** Fitchett Hall,  
Elsternwick Campus  
**Date:** Sunday 7 April, 2019  
**Time:** 12pm  
**Enquiries:** Zena Eastburn,  
OWCA Office on +61 3 8102 6750 or  
[zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)



# Grand Prix CEO takes OWs behind the scenes

A big crowd was on hand to hear Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Andrew Westacott (OW1982) deliver the OWCA's inaugural Business Networking keynote address.

All were captivated as Andrew recounted his journey to becoming one of Australia's most successful business leaders, although many were surprised to hear that he started his professional life as a chemical engineering project manager before taking up senior positions in logistics, procurement and supply chain management with MasterFoods Australia New Zealand and Uncle Ben's, Australia.

Having commenced at the Australian Grand Prix Corporation in 2006 as the General Manager, Operations, and rising through the ranks to become CEO, Andrew's unique insight and behind-the-scenes account of exactly what goes in to making the Australian



*Image of this year's race courtesy Australian Grand Prix Corporation. At the Business Networking event, from left, Glen Waverley PQS Prefect Leo Pan and School Captain Thomas Pewtress, Andrew Westacott (OW1982), Michael Stillwell and Head of the OWCA, Ian Thomas (OW1982)*

Grand Prix such an enormous success was truly fascinating.

Those on hand were particularly impressed by footage of the event being set up, transforming the streets around Albert Park Lake into one of the world's

best Grand Prix street circuits and accompanying carnival.

Andrew spoke glowingly of his time at Wesley and highlighted the valuable lessons learned that have served him well throughout his highly successful business career.

## Sydney Soirée

The vote is in: more events like this one please! It was all excitement and neon at the OWCA's Sydney Soirée at newly launched and OW-owned restaurant, Bang Bang Izakaya. Thanks to generous hosts Somkit Chookitsomboon (OW1986) and Ray Fan (OW1986) for sharing their fabulous new bar and restaurant with our community.

Guests, including new OWCA Treasurer Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999) were thrilled by the relaxed atmosphere of Bang Bang and were made to feel immediately at home, choosing from a never-ending

degustation of cutting-edge Japanese finger food and exceptional drinks. With a strong representation of OWs from the 1950s, '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s, and many partners also in attendance, the soirée guaranteed engagement as many shared stories of their time at Wesley and their experiences in Sydney, with plenty of humour.

The catalyst that brought together this diverse group? Special guest Dawson Hann, former teacher, outgoing Editor of *Lion* magazine and Honorary Life Member of the OWCA. Dawson gave a typically relaxed and poignant summation of the Spirit of Wesley, which was at once touching, funny and uplifting. As a result, the laughter was loud and honest. All soirée guests enjoyed the informal gathering in such an on-trend and vibrant setting.



*Peter Whitehead (OW1974) with special guest Dawson Hann*

## Business Networking Evening

### The business of not-for-profit

Levi Fernandez (OW2012) – Major Donor and Philanthropy Manager at international development not-for-profit, ygap – <https://ygap.org>

**Venue:** Cato Room, St Kilda Road

**Date:** Wednesday 27 February 2019

**Time:** 6pm

**Enquiries:** Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on +61 3 8102 6750 or [zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)



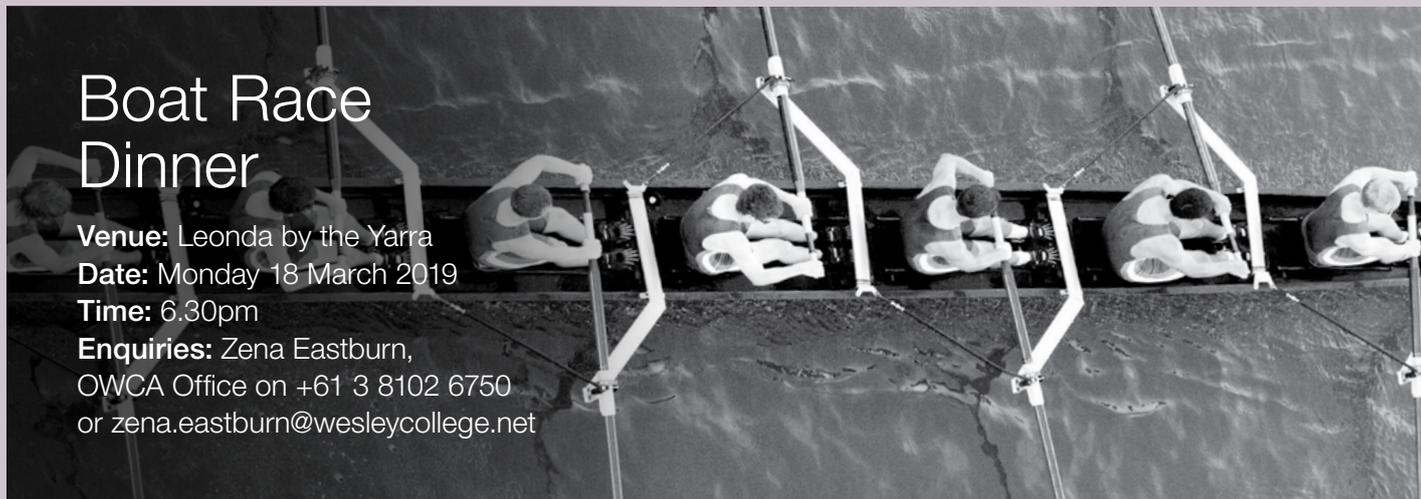
## Boat Race Dinner

**Venue:** Leonda by the Yarra

**Date:** Monday 18 March 2019

**Time:** 6.30pm

**Enquiries:** Zena Eastburn, OWCA Office on +61 3 8102 6750 or [zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net)



# Affiliates

## Elsternwick Cato Golf

Early in October the Elsternwick Cato Golf Group enjoyed its annual event at Peninsula Kingswood Golf Club, Dingley. The weather was magnificent and the course in excellent condition. We welcomed some new faces and next year hope to expand our group further. Jenny Yelland (MLC Cato 1974) won the day with a score of 31 stableford points and Pam Moule (MLC Elsternwick 1958) was a close runner up with 30 points!



*Enjoying perfect weather on the day, participants this year proved you can have your cake and eat it*

In April 2019, we will field a team of four players in the Women's Inter-School Challenge Cup. Next year celebrates 90 years of this interschool golf competition, a wonderful achievement for women's golf. We also invite all former Elsternwick and Wesley women to celebrate 30 years of Wesley coeducation at the Elsternwick Cato Golf Day next year.

To join the list, contact Zena Eastburn at the OWCA Office on +61 3 8102 6750 or zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net or the Convenor, Debbie Catchlove, on +61 425 711 386 or dcatchlove@hotmail.com



*Participants at this year's Elsternwick Cato Golf Day at Peninsula Kingswood Country Golf Course, Dingley, with winner Jenny Yelland (MLC Cato 1974)*

## Hockey

Collegians-X Hockey club is a fun and family oriented hockey club that has been providing a home for former Wesley hockey players since 1931. We pride ourselves on combining fairplay and fun, and are welcoming to everyone.

Our annual Collegians-X vs Wesley match and BBQ in August, dubbed 'The Schoolies vs the Oldies,' saw a Collegians team with players ranging from the youngest, Daniel Par (OW2017), to the oldest, Mark Perraton (OW1995), take on a spirited and enthusiastic student team. A fantastic day was had by all, and it's safe to say that hockey was the real winner on the day.

Collegians-X has been growing steadily over the past few seasons and now fields five teams. We are always looking to welcome new players, coaches and spectators. If you have played before or always wanted to give it a go, feel free to come on down. The main winter season runs from Easter until the end of August and we also play a social summer season from October to December, which is always a great opportunity for those looking to have a go.

For further information, visit the Collegians-X website at [www.collegiansx.com/wordpress](http://www.collegiansx.com/wordpress) or contact Mark Perraton on + 61 417 312 989.



*Collegians-X vs Wesley College at Glen Waverley*

## Cricket

After last season's premiership, the Old Wesley Cricket Club invites regulars and those just looking for the occasional hit to join the 40-overs-a-side competition, played on Sundays on some of the best grounds in Melbourne. Training is less a part of our program than just getting out there and playing. It's a wonderful competition and a decent standard. To get in contact and join a team that blends current First XI players and older statesmen, message or call Captain Rick Morris (OW2004) on 0438 081 886.



*Last year's premiership-winning team*

## Football

Collegians Football Club finished the 2018 season, as in 2017, losing our Seniors Grand Final to St Kevin's by points, a result that hurts all the more as we had a really good preparation and were ready for the game. At this level you have to take your chances when they are presented.

In what has been another great year, our Seniors were runners up, our Reserves finished third and our Thirds just missed a finals berth. The Under 19s had a more difficult year, but this was expected given we had won the previous two premierships and many players had moved up to the Seniors.

In the women's program, we fielded a second team this year and it was great to welcome more women into the club. The second women's team is still learning the game but a couple of wins gave the girls some real encouragement. The Senior women's team finished fifth in a higher section than last year and ended up the highest-placed team from their section last year, but we need to recruit more women footballers for 2019.

The club is fundraising to improve our Albert Park facilities, with donations being tax-deductible through the Australian Sports Foundation.

For further information, visit the Collegians website at [www.collegiansfc.com.au](http://www.collegiansfc.com.au) or contact Co-President Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) on [rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au](mailto:rnancarrow@iprimus.com.au) or + 61 412 687 430.



*All focus for Collegians players before the bounce*

## Cross country

Old Wesley Cross Country had a good year finishing third in the Women's and fourth in the Men's Open division. Anna Kasapis was Women's Athlete of the Year, while Glen Waverley teacher Mark Frater came third and Antony Richards (OW1989) fourth in the Men's Athlete category. The Men's team won the Jamieson at Scotch College and the Women's team won the Dyson at the Tan. Field Rickards (OW1966) won the Handicap at Brighton, while the ever-improving Adrian Pile (OW2000) is mixing it with the best in the competition.

Join us, choose the events that suit you and keep fit. Contact Ross Tennant on [tennantr@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tennantr@bigpond.net.au)



*From left, Matt Bowden, 2018 winner of the Ken Orchard Handicap at Albert Park, with Bill Franzke (OW1965), Elizabeth Orchard (Elsternwick MLC 1966), niece of Ken Orchard (OW1937) (dec), Peter Le Get (OW1950) and Frank Opray (OW1963)*

## Bowls

Our opening event for the season at West Brighton Club in September was a great day for bowls. We retained the trophy for the third year in a row. Although we had three rinks down out of four, we still managed to win the day with 50 shots to 48. The scoreboard reflected our narrow but still exciting win. We won 68 shots to 57 in 2016 and 50 shots to 35 in 2017, so this year we were really challenged by West Brighton. All players had a wonderful day and the hospitality from our hosts is always fabulous.

We thank Peter Clark and Geoff Fuller for filling in to balance the sides for OWs.

Bob Loder (OW1944) played a great game for OWCA – it must be the stick he uses!

Sixteen players arrived at MCC Swinburne on Wednesday 24 October, and we combined with Old Caulfield Grammarians to make five sides to compete against Old Scotch. Wesley had two rinks up and one rink down for the day, but the combined sides defeated Scotch 42 shots to 40 – a second win against Scotch.

If you would like to join us for future games, please contact the OWCA office or Richard Sluggett (OW1972) directly on 0403 023 288.



*Commencing the season with a social day at the West Brighton Club: West Brighton v Old Wesley*

# OW Updates



Peter Saisanas (OW2012)

## PETER SAISANAS (OW2012)

Riding the crest of a growing eSports wave is our own Peter Saisanas (OW2012). Peter has been involved in professional video gaming for some time but came to prominence in 2015 when, representing South Melbourne FC, he finished top eight in a national FIFA eSports competition. He has since participated in the FIFA Interactive World Cup qualifiers in Doha and the World Finals in Sydney where he again finished in the top eight. Last year, Peter joined the Football Federation of Australia's inaugural E-League and, representing Perth Glory FC, made the competition semi-finals.



Bill Meldrum (OW1977)

## BILL MELDRUM (OW1977)

Bill Meldrum (OW1977) has retired after a lengthy career as a journalist, including 16 years as a senior journalist at the *Portland Observer*. His career includes lengthy stints at the *Advocate* in Burnie, the *Border Watch* in Mt Gambier and the *Bendigo Advertiser*.

Bill counts the Port Arthur Massacre in 1996 as his most confronting and challenging assignment. He was one of the first journalists to arrive, spending four days at the scene.

Prior to his career in journalism, Bill worked for the National Party as a field officer in South Australia, Victoria and Queensland.

Bill shares with his son, Andrew, a love of Norwood Football Club. In retirement, he plans to enjoy spending time watching his favourite team. He will remain in Portland.



Adam Cerra (OW2017)

## ADAM CERRA (OW2017)

Fremantle Football Club's Adam Cerra (OW2017) had a tremendous first year playing 21 of a possible 22 AFL games and being nominated for the AFL Rising Star Award. One of the few bright spots in Fremantle's disappointing season, Adam showed poise, courage and an ability to find and use the ball with a determined toughness that quickly endeared him to Freo's 'Purple Army'. He kicked two goals in his Round 2 debut in a win over Essendon, while in Round 11 against Adelaide he collected 30 disposals and contributed to an upset Dockers win. As a result of his outstanding year, Adam has signed a two-year contract extension until 2021.

## ALEX SKIADAS (OW2013) AND BEN CAIRNEY (OW2013)

Founders of clothing brand Rural Collective, Alex Skiadas (OW2013) and Ben Cairney (OW2013) are doing their bit to help the battlers. In a bid to raise awareness for Aussie farmers in need, they have joined forces with Rural Aid to produce a t-shirt and tote bag, the sale of which will see all profits go to those struggling through drought. The collaboration came about through a shared appreciation of rural

landscapes and the acknowledgement that the land we live in is beautiful but harsh, and when combined with the high demand for produce, causes intense strain on farmers. To support Alex and Ben's community-mindedness, t-shirts and tote bags can be purchased from the Rural Collective website at [www.ruralcollective.com.au](http://www.ruralcollective.com.au)



Alex Skiadas (OW2013) and Ben Cairney (OW2013)

# Reunions

## SKR 2008 10 YEAR REUNION



Matthew Cramer, Alice Carter, Kristina Little and Kathleen McMullan



Kate Turnbull, Francesca Kavanagh, Brinley Hosking and Fei Gao



Alexandra Borzillo, Josh Smart and Celina Jackson

## GW 2003 15 YEAR REUNION



Jordan Chin, Nilushan Nagarajah and Jordan Gaylard



Jane Korneyko and Megan Maguire



David Pyke, Emma Powell, former Head of Campus, Peter Dickinson, and Amy McAllister

## SKR 1978 40 YEAR REUNION



Ian Rennie, Steven Richards and Peter Little



Greg Seers, Benny Tabalujan, Tim Hurren, Ian Rennie, Tim Heazlewood and Robert Chan



Grant Beard, James Hoadley, Steven Richards, Mark Hibbins, Affiliates Liaison Officer, OWCA, and Peter Robson

## GW 2013 5 YEAR REUNION



Patrick Mustafa, James Emmett, Alan Lamshed and Mitchell Burrows



Sarah Thompson, Alyssa John, Amber de Luca-Tao and Jacqui Krew



Former School Captains Cassandra Charlaftis and Nicholas Ensor

## GOLDEN LIONS LUNCH



Peter Charrett (OW1957), Harry Payne (OW1946), Philip Cumming (OW1948) and Geoffrey Ward (OW1957)



Russell Elliott (OW1948), Bruce Curry (OW1951) and Ian Allen AM (OW1955)



Andrew Lumb (OW1955), Mick Lumb (OW1955) and Andrew Wilson (OW1954)

## ELSTERNWICK 1947 REUNION



From left, Elsternwick Head of Campus, Jacinta Janssens, Anne Cox (King), Jill Atchison (Atkinson), Margot Gogel (McLennan), Valerie Falk, Annabel Hahn (Reddrop), Jean Sedgman (Spence), Liz McQuire (Callaghan), Felicitie Campbell (Hall) and, seated, Marjorie Russell (Floyd)



From left, Ann Cox (King) cutting the cake, Liz McQuire (Callaghan), Jean Sedgman (Spence) and Marjorie Russell (Floyd)



Enjoying school songs together again, 71 years on!

## NETWORKING EVENING: GLOBAL DESIGNER ON THE MOVE



*Thoughtful by design: Anastasia Malishev (OW1995) addresses her highly engaged audience, before a vigorous Q and A*



*Anastasia Malishev (OW1995) explores the business of design*



*A considerable crowd attended the Business Networking event*

## OWCA Events 2019

February	March	April	May	June
<p><b>Friday 1   4–6pm</b> Cricket on the Lawn <i>Front Turf, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Friday 15   7–10.30pm</b> SKR 1999 20 Year Reunion <i>Rose Garden, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Sunday 17   11am</b> OW Auto Event <i>Front Turf, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Friday 22   7–10.30pm</b> SKR 1969 50 Year Reunion <i>Cato Room, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Wednesday 27   6–8.30pm</b> Business Networking Evening <i>TBA</i></p>	<p><b>Saturday 2   7–10.30pm</b> Hobart event <i>Venue TBA</i></p> <p><b>Sunday 17   12–5pm</b> Albert Park Race View <i>Rooftop 574 St Kilda Road</i></p> <p><b>Monday 18   6.30–10.30pm</b> Boat Race Dinner <i>Leonda by the Yarra</i></p> <p><b>Friday 22   7–10.30pm</b> SKR 1994 25 Year Reunion <i>Rose Garden, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Saturday 23   7–10.30pm</b> Adelaide event <i>2KW</i></p> <p><b>Friday 29   7–10.30pm</b> GW 2004 15 Year Reunion <i>TBA</i></p>	<p><b>Friday 5   pm shotgun</b> OWCA/OSCA Golf Day <i>The National Long Island</i></p> <p><b>Sunday 7   12–3pm</b> Silver Stars Lunch <i>Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick</i></p> <p><b>Friday 12   12–3pm</b> SKR 1959 60 Year Reunion <i>Cato Room, SKR</i></p> <p><b>Sunday 28   12–3pm</b> Elsternwick 1945 Reunion <i>Prest Room, Elsternwick</i></p>	<p><b>Saturday 4   7pm–12am</b> Founders' Day Dinner <i>Myer Mural Hall</i></p> <p><b>Friday 31   12–3pm</b> Founders' Day Lunch <i>Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club</i></p>	<p><b>Friday 7   7–10.30pm</b> GW 1994 25yr Reunion <i>TBA</i></p> <p><b>Friday 14   7–10.30pm</b> SKR 2009 10 Year Reunion <i>Union Hotel</i></p> <p><b>Tuesday 18   6.30–8.30pm</b> Leaders Series Keynote <i>Senior Lecture Theatre SKR</i></p> <p><b>Friday 21   7–10.30pm</b> GW 2009 10 Year Reunion <i>Union Hotel</i></p> <p><b>Friday 28   6.30–10.30pm</b> SKR Past Prefects and Catalysts <i>Cato Room, SKR</i></p>

## PENINSULA LUNCH



Former Presidents of Council, Warrick Mitchell (OW1959) and Daryl Jackson (OW1953)



Proud parents of our next Principal, Nick Evans (OW1985), Neil (OW1957) and Eril Evans



OWCA Co-President, Jack Ayerbe (OW1963), with past parent and Sapere Aude Bequest Society member, Stanley Goricane

## CANBERRA DINNER



OWs enjoyed good company and an elegant dinner at QT Hotel, Canberra



Paula Chadderton (OW1988) with Martin Barrier (OW2004) and Emma Wilson



Margaret Lewis with John Ley (OW1955) and his granddaughter Emma Parke

### July

**Friday 19 | 6.30-10.30pm**  
GW Past Prefects and Catalysts  
Alexander Room, GW

**Friday 26 | 7-10.30pm**  
Brisbane event  
TBA

### August

**Friday 9 | 7-10.30pm**  
SKR 2014 5 Year Reunion  
Union Hotel

**Saturday 17 | 7-10.30pm**  
Sydney Soiree  
TBA

**Tuesday 20 | 6-8:30pm**  
Business Networking Evening  
TBA

**Friday 23 | 7-10.30pm**  
GW 2014 5 Year Reunion  
Union Hotel

**Friday 30 | 7-10.30pm**  
SKR 1979 40 Year Reunion  
Cato Room, SKR

### September

**Friday 6 | 7-10.30pm**  
SKR 2004 15 Year Reunion  
TBA

**Sunday 8 | 12-3pm**  
Elsternwick 1947 Reunion  
Prest Room, Elsternwick

### October

**Tuesday 1 | 12-3.30pm**  
Mornington Peninsula Lunch  
Montalto

**Friday 4 | 12-3pm**  
Golden Lions Lunch  
Cato Room, SKR

**TBA | TBA**  
Cato Ladies Golf  
TBA

**Friday 11 | 7-10.30pm**  
GW 1999 20 Year Reunion  
TBA

**Tuesday 15 | 6-8:30pm**  
Business Networking Evening  
TBA

**Friday 18 | 7-10.30pm**  
SKR 1989 30 Year Reunion  
Cato Room

**TBA | TBA**  
APS Golf Day  
TBA

### November

**Friday 15 | 7-10.30pm**  
GW 2018 1 Year Reunion  
Union Hotel

**Sunday 17 | 12-3.30pm**  
Elsternwick Decades Reunion  
Fitchett Hall, Elsternwick

**Friday 22 | 7-10.30pm**  
SKR 2018 1 Year Reunion  
Union Hotel

**Friday 29 | TBA**  
Graduate Recruitment Event  
TBA

# Birth notices



## ALEXANDER

To **Bethany OW2004 (Mitros)** and **Dean** on 16 February 2018, a daughter, **Grace Jane**, a niece for **Edward Mitros OW2008**



## BARTON

To **Rebecca OW2000** and **Kurt Nolan**, on 9 April 2018, a son, **Henry George**, a grandson for **David OW1971** and nephew for **James OW1996**

## BRANIGAN

To **Robyn OW2002 (Carland)** and **Chris** on 7 February 2018, a daughter, **Isla Margaret**, a sister to **Evie**, and niece for **Leanne OW2002** and **Briony OW2001**



## BRAVO

To **Mitali OW2001** and **Ed Tiplady**, on 22 January 2018, a daughter, **Zoe Valentine Tiplady**, sister to **Harper**

## BREHERTON

To **Ingrid OW2003** and **Eric George**, on 8 July 2018, a daughter, **Alice Lily**, a niece for **Tristan OW1999**



## DU

To **Mohan OW2004** and **Vanessa**, on 22 June 2018, a son, **Mase**



## FREDERSDORFF

To **Jeremy OW1995** and **Cate Darcy**, on 23 July 2018, a son, **Spencer John**, brother for **Charlie**



## GU

To **Jenny OW2002** and **Petrus Aryanto**, on 1 March 2018, a son, **Wesley**

## KELLY

To **Aidan OW2002** and **Alana** on 28 December 2017, a son, **Lewis Edward**, a nephew for **Rhys OW2004**

## LEVI

To **Mark OW1999** and **Lisa**, on 1 May 2018, a son, **Sonny Luca**, a brother for **Eden** and **Macy**

**LINSKENS**

To **Meegan** OW2004 and **Shawn Notley**, on 4 September 2017, a daughter, **Zoe Terrin**, a sister for **Jackson**, a niece for **Terrin** OW2006



**PAVET**

To **Emily** OW1999 (Carkeek) and **David**, on 5 July 2018, a son, **Jasper**, a brother for **Chelsea**



**PERRY**

To **Victoria** OW2002 (Casey) and **Sam**, on 27 April 2018, a son, **Ted Ryland David**



**PERRY-KEENE**

To **Alexandra** OW1999 (Peters) and **James**, on 2 March 2018, a son, **Tex**, a brother for **Addison**

**RUSSELL**

To **Stephanie** OW2001 (Lawther) and **Nicholas**, on 26 April 2018, a daughter, **Willow** June, a sister for **Monte**, a niece for **Natalie** OW2011 and **James** OW2000



**SANDHU**

To **Tessa** OW2000 **Yallop** and **Dalip** OW1999, on 24 April 2018, a son, **River**, a brother for **Lennox**, a nephew for **Nicholas** OW1999, **Kuldip** OW1997 **Surjit** OW2000 and **Sherine** OW2004

**SALLMANN**

To **Haydn** OW1998 and **Kate**, on 7 June 2018, a daughter, **Coco Rose**, a sister for **Jack**, a granddaughter for **Debra** (current staff), a niece for **Matt** OW1992, **Zoe Woolley** OW1995 (Sallmann), **Hope** OW1999 and **Inge** OW2003



**SALTER**

To **Jay** OW1991 and **Melissa**, on 8 June 2018, a daughter, **Claudia Linda**, a sister for **Ella**

**SAUTNER**

To **Nick** OW1994 and **Eliza**, on 3 May 2018, a daughter, **Anastasia Rose**, a niece for **John** OW1990 and **David** OW1992



**WONG**

To **Sandra** OW1996 and **Mark Lim**, on 8 May 2018, twin daughters, **Alicia** and **Olivia Lim**, sisters for **Dylan**

**WELSH**

To **Sally** OW2000 (Lipshut) and **Matthew** on 27 August 2018, a son **Theodore Jonathan Jack**, brother to **Cooper**, a nephew for **Rebecca** OW2003



**ZHANG**

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

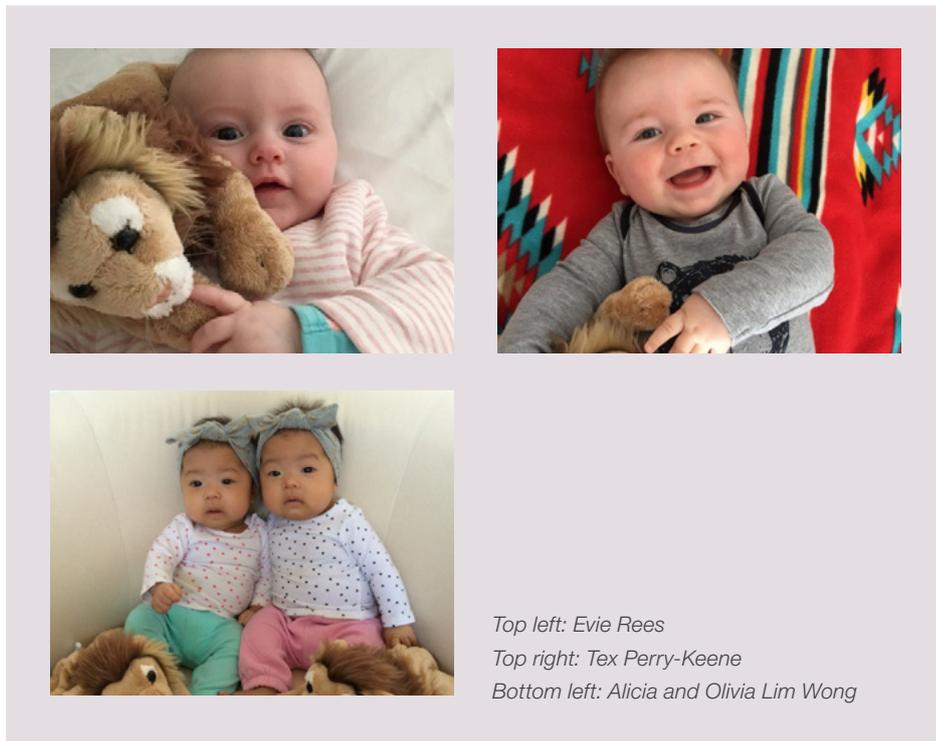
# Lion cubs

**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 [zena.eastburn@wesleycollege.net](mailto:zena.eastburn@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](http://www.wesleycollege.net/Admissions/Domestic-applications)



*Top left: Evie Rees  
Top right: Tex Perry-Keene  
Bottom left: Alicia and Olivia Lim Wong*

# Engagements

**Apted – Cornish**  
*Huw (OW2007) and Charlotte*

**Phillips – Harutyunyan**  
*Alex (OW2009) and Argine*

**Gumley – Jager**  
*Jessica (OW2006) and Mitchell OW2006*

**Wardrop – Stewart**  
*Meg (OW2009) and Anthony*

# Marriages



**Mitros – Alexander**  
Bethany (OW2006) and Dean on 9 April 2017



**Cohen – Scott**  
Hugh (OW2004) and Martine on 11 July 2018

# Deaths

## ADAMS

Robert (Bob) John (OW1947) on 2 March 2018

## BARR

John Tasman (OW1951) on 28 June 2017

## BELL

Malcolm McGregor (OW1956) on 31 July 2018, brother of John (OW1953) (dec)

## BOX

Peter John (OW1946) on 16 August 2018

## DAWES

Leon Frank (OW1948) on 16 August 2018

## DITTERICH

Robert John Richard Ditterich (OW1970) on 18 August 2018, son of former Council Head Rev Keith Ditterich (OW1929) (dec), nephew of Frank Ditterich (OW1912) (dec) and Raymond Ditterich (OW1913) (dec), uncle of David McLeod (OW1984), Geordie McLeod (OW1988) and Matthew Fraser (OW1995) and brother-in-law of Ross Fraser (OW1962)

## DONNET

Ann (MLC Elsternwick 1954) (Boyes) on 26 April 2018, sister of Brian Boyes (OW1950) (dec)

## EARL

Maxwell Richard Harling (OW1941) on 7 April 2017

## FRANCIS

Russell Champny (OW1953) on 5 May 2017

## GREEN

Robert (OW1952) on 25 June 2017

## JOYCE

Geoffrey James (OW1957) on 12 May 2018

## MARTIN

Kenneth Lytton (OW1955) on 16 July 2018, twin brother of Bob (OW1955)

## NICHOLS-MCCASKILL

Pamela Olive (MLC Elsternwick 1945) (Weber) on 8 August 2018, cousin of John Moule (OW1955) and Robert Moule (OW1958), aunt of Judy Jagla (OW1959) and niece of Arthur Moule (OW1921) (dec)

## PERMEZEL

Geoffrey Yniol (OW1950) on 9 March 2018, son of Yniol (OW1919) (dec), nephew of Eric (OW) (dec), Glynne (OW) (dec), Louis (OW) (dec) and Yorke (OW1017) (dec), cousin of John (OW1942), Eric (OW1944) and Robert (OW1959)

## PINKERTON

James Alexander (OW1946) on 11 April 2018, brother of Norman Pinkerton (OW1947) (dec)

## ROBINSON

Cyril Max (OW1950) on 13 February 2018

## RYAN

John Warwick (OW1992) on 29 July 2018

## SYKES

Victor Leslie (OW1944) on 27 July 2018

## UNKENSTEIN

Ian George (OW1955) on 28 August 2018, son of Otto (OW1924), husband of Helen (MLC Elsternwick 1954) (née Stocks), father of David (OW1980)

## WALKER

Ross Stanley Edgar (OW1962) on 24 July 2018, brother of Rohan (OW1963)

## WHITTEN

Capt Robert John (OW1946) on 4 June 2018

## WOOD

John Samuel (OW1944) on 27 September 2017, son of William (OW1920) (dec), nephew of Samuel (OW1927) (dec), brother of Ted (OW1946) (dec), father of Bill (OW1969), Doug (OW1973) and Ian (OW1977)

# OWCA Executive

## Co-Presidents

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

## Vice President

Kate Evans (OW1998)

## Treasurer

Chris Foster-Ramsay (OW1999)

## College Head, OWCA

Ian Thomas (OW1982)

## Executive members

Scott Hudson (OW1993)  
Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)  
Tim Foster (OW2003)  
Rob Wilde 2004

## Alumni Relations

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](mailto:ian.thomas@wesleycollege.net)

# Obituaries

## IAN GEORGE UNKENSTEIN

1955 28/1/1937 – 28/8/2018



Ian was born in Melbourne on 28 January 1937, the third child of Freda and Otto George Unkenstein (OW1924).

After five years at Auburn South Primary School, Ian began his lifelong association with Wesley College.

He attended Junior School between 1947 and 1950 where his achievements included Junior School Captain, Powell House Captain, Captain of Cricket and Football,

Athletics Champion and an OWCA Scholarship. At Senior School, he proved himself a competent scholar and outstanding sportsman playing in the 1st XI in 1954 and '55 and 1st XVIII in 1953, '54 and '55, and winning selection in the APS representative sides in 1954 and '55. In 1955, Ian was appointed School Captain and received the Alexander Wawn Scholarship.

In 1956, Ian began studying accountancy: he worked at Hungerford Accounting during the day and attended night school, and became a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1966. With his father, he established OG Unkenstein & Son, Chartered Accountants, which initially traded at Temple Court, 422 Collins Street, Melbourne, before relocating to 44 Macfarlan Street, South Yarra, in 1980. There he worked until retirement in mid-2018.

Ian was a member of the No. 5 National Service Training Unit, No. 1 Squadron, RAAF Laverton in 1957. There he learned to navigate and fly Tiger Moth and Chipmunk trainers.

Sport continued to be his passion. He played with Old Wesley Collegians in the Victorian Amateur Football Association and was a member of the B Grade Premiership side in 1956 and the A Grade Premiership

sides in 1957, '58, '59 and '61. After seasons at Hawthorn-East Melbourne Cricket Club, Ian joined Malvern Cricket Club for the 1961-62 season. He played 73 games, won the Club Championship in 1965-66 and served on the Management Committee for four years before retiring in 1966-67.

Ian's other great love was Helen Stocks (MLC Elsternwick 1954): they met in 1957 and married at the Wesley College Chapel on 6 January 1961.

Ian continued his association with Wesley College as Honorary Treasurer, then President, of the OWCA between 1956 and 1979, and as a Member of the College Council between 1976 and 1978.

Ian died on 28 August 2018 after a short illness. He is survived by his wife Helen, children David (OW1981), Anne and Catherine, and grandchildren Maddie, Georgie, William, Harry, Annabel and Elsa. He was admired and loved as a humble and generous man committed to the betterment of his family and clients through giving rather than receiving.

*Contributed by David Unkenstein (OW1981)*

## CAPTAIN ROBERT JOHN WHITTEN OBE

(OW1946) 10/5/1929–4/6/2018



Robert John Whitten OBE (OW1946) of Deakin in Canberra, was born in Newtown, Victoria. He joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1952 as a Naval Airman. He qualified as an Observer in 1954 and was commissioned as a Sub-Lieutenant in 1955. He served in 817 Squadron (Gannet ASW aircraft), was promoted Lieutenant in 1956, and after further flying training in the United Kingdom, he qualified for photographic duties in 1958 and joined 725 Squadron on his return.

Robert was promoted Lieutenant Commander in 1961 while serving on the staff of the Flag Officer-in-Charge East Australia Area. He commissioned Supply in the UK in 1962 and in 1964 went to Navy Office to the Directorate of Manning and Training. He completed a helicopter conversion course (Wessex) at Albatross in

1966 and then went to the UK for a Staff Course. On return he was posted to the Navy Office to join a team preparing for the introduction of the highly contentious Group Pay Scheme into the RAN. When the scheme was introduced, his role was to explain its rationale and its effects on individual pay packets to groups of sceptical and disgruntled sailors.

For his success in doing this he was awarded an OBE in 1970. As his citation observed, 'Commander Whitten by his tireless efforts and dedication contributed markedly towards the introduction of the new Group Pay system for the RAN. This required long and intricate negotiation with other government departments and an outstanding degree of efficiency under continual and sustained pressure.'

*Photo reproduced with kind permission  
Royal Australian Navy*

**CYRIL MAXWELL ROBINSON**

(OW1950) 14/12/1934–13/2/2018

Maxwell (Max) Robinson (OW1950) was born in Melbourne to Edith May and Cyril Hammond Robinson and was brother to Geoffrey Hammond Robinson (OW1936).

While his time at Wesley in the late 1940s was unassuming and by all accounts rather quiet, his secondary school years were to lay the groundwork for what was to come. Max was always painting in the art room, supplying backdrops for school plays, honing his compositional skills on canvasses and sketching schoolmates at every opportunity, usually during a science class.

Max went on to become one of the key father figures of Australian graphic design. His work was featured on the cover of America's *Graphis Magazine* and he was one of six Australians chosen to be represented by that publication in the internationally recognised *Who's Who of Graphic Art* in 1961, sitting alongside Walt Disney, Saul Bass and Picasso.

Notwithstanding that recognition, Max's true love was fine art. Recognised at a very early stage of his career as one of Australia's most promising artists, he was included in the influential Recent Australian Paintings exhibition at the Whitechapel Galleries in London in 1961. Here he exhibited alongside William Dobell, Sydney Nolan and many others, including John Olsen and an unknown artist residing in London at the time called Brett Whiteley.

Max had one of his paintings acquired by the Tate gallery but it took a while for him to get to London due to design commitments in Australia, and by the time he arrived in 1962, his painting at the Tate had been shelved. This could have soured his outlook, but my father had a very strong constitution.

He returned to these shores in 1973 and, among other briefs, began working with the Reserve Bank of Australia. In the mid-1990s he designed the \$10 note, only recently removed from circulation. Out of respect for Max, its replacement has been composed with almost exactly the same layout.



From left, Principal Helen Drennen and Hammond Robinson (OW1985) in 2014, holding the 1948 painting by Max Robinson (OW1950), while Deputy Principal and then Head of the St Kilda Road Campus Richard Brenker looks on

When we arrived in Australia in the early 1970s, one of the first things I found in Max's childhood home was a small canvas that he had done at Wesley in 1948. It was a painting of a statue of a lion. It seemed as if this beautiful characterisation had come from

another world. I was proud to present this artwork to the school in 2014 and I hope that my father's memory will live on through it.

*Contributed by Hammond Robinson (OW1985)*

# OWCA contacts

## Office

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Zena Eastburn Administration and Events  
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## Affiliate groups

### Athletics/Cross Country

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### Basketball

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### Big Band

James Mustafa (OW2010)  
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### Bowls

Richard Sluggett (OW1972)  
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### Elsternwick Cato Golf

Debbie Catchlove (MLC Cato 1974)  
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### Concert Band

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### Cricket

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### Football

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### Golf

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### Hockey

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### Masonic Lodge

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### OW Auto Club

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### Rowing Alan Mitchell Club

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### Ski Club

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## Tally Ho Fitness Group

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### Chinese Alumni 中国同学校友会 Peter Pan (潘勇)

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### Mornington Peninsula Geoff Wagstaff (OW1949)

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**Adelaide** Tiffany Kappen (OW2010)  
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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FOUNDERS' DAY DINNER**  
**SATURDAY 4 MAY 2019**  
**MYER MURAL HALL**

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