

Lion

THE WESLEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Historic victory

Boys' Athletics team
breaks 75-year drought

Class of 2022
Celebrating the many
faces of achievement

Harold Holt
Always One Step Further

PYPX 2022:
Projects of Passion



A True Education



WESLEY COLLEGE

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Contents

Editorial	2
Principal's lines	3
Features	
APS Athletics - Boys' Historic Win	4
Celebrating the Class of 2022	6
Harold Holt: Always One Step Further	10
PYPX 2022: Projects of Passion	12
Campus snapshots	14
Archives	20
Foundation	21
OWCA	28

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Wesley Athletics Captains, Lachie Falconer-Boag and Hugo Hanak, lift the APS Athletics Premiership Cup for the first time since 1947.

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ISSN: 2209-3699 / Print Post: 100018730

Editorial

In our first edition of *Lion* this year, we celebrated the history-making academic achievements of the Class of 2021; we're bookending that in this edition with a celebration of the diverse achievements, big and small, of our Class of 2022 students outside of the classroom.

One of the big achievements of the year was the historic win for the Boys' Athletics team in this year's APS Athletics Competition - the first time we've lifted the Premiership Cup since 1947. Our cover story details how they did it and takes us back to that last win via two of our OWs, who witnessed it themselves some 75 years ago. We also celebrate our girls' team for their dominance in the athletics arena over the past decade.

Achievement has many faces, and our next feature shines a light on the various guises of success for the Class of 2022. Six of our final year students share what accomplishment in Year 12 looks and feels like for them. Our Junior School students also felt a sense of accomplishment with the presentation of their own special passion projects at the PYPX: Primary Years Program Exhibition. In our story on pages 12-13, the Year 6 teachers at Glen Waverley Campus explain the guiding principles behind this annual rite of passage, and the young presenters share what they learnt in the process.

We also turn the pages of a new biography about Harold Holt, written by Ross Walker (OW1974) and launched at a special event at Wesley in September. It's an absorbing story that opens up the life of the lesser known of our two Old Wesleyan prime ministers, who occupied the top job for less than two years before tragically drowning on the Mornington Peninsula. Ross's broad research and lively story-telling combine to form a fascinating portrayal of Holt, the person and the politician. His research produced some surprises. Particularly interesting given the nature of Holt's tragic end is his comment that he 'hadn't realised just how reckless he was. I uncovered a clear pattern of him putting himself in harm's way.'

If there was one good thing to come out of the pandemic years for our Class of 2022, it was their heightened appreciation of the now and their readiness to experience the moment, surrounded by others. And, thankfully, we were at last able to make so many moments available to them again. As Silas Mitchell says in his reflection on page 9, 'Wesley is the place to have a leave-no-stone-turned mentality, because there's so much opportunity everywhere you look.'

Watching the Year 12's grab these opportunities - the excitement of the sports, the energy of the shows, the House activity hysterics, the anything and everything goes - was a lesson in itself.

We're not all young, of course; but what a life, if we take on that spirit for ourselves.

Paul Munn, *Lion* Editor and Features Writer

A True Education

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



Principal's lines

My mind has drifted of late, for several reasons, to ponder the impermanence of our stint on this mortal coil. This was sparked first by a strange feeling of shock at the passing of a 96-year-old. I am sure I was not alone in feeling some sense of loss at the death of Her Majesty the Queen. She has been a presence, albeit peripheral, albeit symbolic, all my life. I first became aware of her at primary school. We would assemble in serried ranks on an asphalt playground every Monday morning. All eyes would be directed to the flag atop a modest flagpole. Boys (only the boys) would be instructed to salute the flag, after which the Oath of Allegiance was said in unison by all present: 'I love God and my country, I honour the flag, I will serve the Queen and will cheerfully obey my parents, teachers and the law.'

How the world has changed. But the Queen abided.

The oath, at some point between my Years 1 and 4, disappeared. We all stayed up to watch a fairy tale wedding in Year 8, which then devolved into stark reality. Her family became fodder for the tabloids. There was a referendum in this country to become a republic, a move I wholeheartedly supported despite the lingering effects of swearing oaths and saluting flags in my formative years. She became older, and eventually more infirm, but she abided.

It has become a cliché to note that the Queen's life was distinguished by service. She was swearing in a new prime minister two days before she died. Like many, I was transfixed by her funeral and committal service, and was struck by the



Wesley College Principal, Nick Evans

words of the Garter King of Arms as the Queen's casket was lowered into the vault of St George's Chapel: 'And thus it hath pleased Almighty God to take out of this transitory life... Elizabeth the Second.'

The Queen found meaning and purpose in 'this transitory life' through the consolations of a deep religious faith and a remarkable dedication to service. A sense of service to something much bigger than yourself can provide extraordinary meaning to any life.

My other reminders of this transitory life are more local, but were lives of service nonetheless. All three are former members of staff who were significant in my life.

The August edition of *Lion* contained a tribute to Bruce Tozer, the first Head of Middle School and my cricket coach. Those who encountered Bruce, having earned his right and proper wrath, would have found him an austere and forbidding presence. Those of us who had a slightly different relationship with him, largely through cricket, were privileged to see a man who cared passionately for standards, who cared more about how the game was to be played than winning. I treasure a letter he sent me on my appointment as Principal.

This edition contains tributes to the two others.

Ken Merry was my Head of Campus when I was at the College. He appointed me Vice Captain of the School and was always keen for a chat every time I ran into him after leaving school. He retired in 1985, my last year as a student, after 32 years of outstanding service to the College, including periods as Acting Principal.

Finally, David Graham was my Head Coach of Athletics. David was a more impish and more unpredictable presence than Mr Tozer or Mr Merry. He became a colleague and a dear friend. David retired in 2010 after 37 years of dedicated service to the College. I did not get to show him the APS Boys' Athletics trophy, won this year for the first time since 1947.

Each of these men lived lives of service to this school. The Queen lived another such life. Such service to one institution or, indeed, a life of service to others, is perhaps the hallmark of another age. I hope not. It would leave our society the poorer.

Nick Evans (OW1985)



Boys' Athletics team secure historic win



A huge congratulations to our boys for their gritty performance at the 115th APS Sport Combined Athletics at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park, securing the Premiership for the first time since 1947. We also congratulate our girls' team who achieved an admirable third place overall.

75 years is a long time between victories, and in 1947, only three points separated first and second place, with Wesley edging out Geelong Grammar and Melbourne Grammar to claim the APS Athletics Championship.

Fast forward to 2022 and the margin was slightly more comfortable, with Wesley securing the Premiership by 59 points with a score of 552.5 in a program that has expanded significantly in recent years. Our peer schools were formidable, and we congratulate the strong performances of all teams, in particular the runners up, Melbourne Grammar, who placed second on 493.5 points and Scotch College who finished third on 447 points.

Head Coach of Athletics, Tim O'Shaughnessy, was ecstatic. 'I'm immensely proud of what both teams have achieved, and the boys' Premiership win was truly a day to remember,' he said. 'Well done to all and a special congratulations to our Team Captains, Hugo Hanak and Lachie Falconer-Boag, who have been involved in athletics since Year 7.'

'What stands out for me is how hard the coaches and athletes have worked - not just this year, but over the last few years and remotely during COVID which was a time of great uncertainty. This consistency and commitment really helped set us up for the successes we witnessed at this event.'



Logan Janetzki smashed the 48-year-old Open 3000m record set by Robert De Castella in 1974

A day of record-breaking performances

There were a number of stand-out performances on the day, notably Year 12 student Logan Janetzki's record-breaking win in the Open 3000m, taking an incredible three seconds off the time set by a young Xavier College student named Robert de Castella in 1974, with a time of 8 minutes, 18.4 seconds.

'Setting the APS 3000m record has definitely been a goal of mine this year; however, I wasn't sure it would be possible!' exclaimed Logan. 'Given the number of years Robert has held this record, I was thrilled to break it.'

Logan plans to pursue athletics on a professional level after completing his studies at Wesley. 'I would love to represent Australia in the marathon at the 2032 Olympics. Until then, I will continue to race and train in Australia and overseas where the opportunity presents.'

Other athletes who set new records on the day include: Zulq Haider (U14 90m Hurdles, U14 100m and 200m), Johannes Thokchom (U15 Discus), Tom Tsatas (U16 Discus), Trent Marotta (Open Shot Put), Hugo Hanak (Open 400m) and the Open 4 x 800m relay team which comprised of Mitchel Langborne, Bailley Morrell, Jhye Hadfield and Wolfgang Cotra Nemesi.

Wesley Athletics Captains, Hugo Hanak and Lachie Falconer-Boag, celebrate the historic win with Principal Nick Evans and Head of Sport, Dan Church.



The girls do us proud

Year 8 student, Daisy Nousis, was named the Most Outstanding Athlete in the Girls team, scoring the most points for Wesley across the day. Daisy competed in seven individual events, taking out first place in the U15 Girls 100m, 200m and 400m races, and placing in a number of field events. An incredible effort for such a young athlete, and a promising sign that Wesley girls' athletics – so dominant in the last decade with seven premierships in a row from 2012 to 2018 and third place in 2019 – is set to dominate into the future.



Year 8 student Daisy Nousis was named Wesley's 'Most Outstanding Athlete'



(L-R) Members of the winning APS Athletics team of 1947: John Stafford (OW1947), Captain Geoff Marriott (OW1947), Peter Coombs (OW1949) and Greig Foletta (OW1951) with the APS trophy (on loan from Melbourne Grammar) in 2017

A long wait for the boys!

The 1940's was a golden age for Wesley Athletics, with the team also winning the intensely competitive APS Championship in 1942, 1944 and 1945. Since then, Athletics has evolved in both size and scale. Our 1947 Boys' Athletics team comprised just 10 boys who competed in 16 events, measured in yards and miles, with the results of the relay events not counted in the overall team score. In 2022, the boys team comprised 61 athletes taking part in some 63 track and field events.

Peter Le Get (OW1951) was a Year 9 student in the crowd that day in 1947, and having been interested in athletics all his life, returned to the track to see the boys break their 75-year drought. 'I think I'm the only person to witness both victories,' he said. 'It's been a long wait!'

John Gellie (OW1951) was there that day too, winning a medal in the Boys U14 High Jump. Now 88 years old, memories of that day still bring him goosebumps.

'Wesley was just one of the schools to have the lead during the competition, and we were in second place before the

last event,' said John. 'The win by Frank Strapp in the Open 440 yards was inspiring, and memorable in Wesley's history. In that team of ten, there were four members who won their event, with Geoff Marriott winning two, the Open 100 yards and Open 120 yards Hurdles. Four years later in 1951, when I was in the Wesley Athletics Team of twelve, we almost pulled off another win but came in second, just three points behind Geelong Grammar School.

'Having to wait 75 years to win another Boys APS Championship demonstrates just how hard it is,' he said. 'We took great pride in the Wesley Girls APS Athletics winning streak from 2012 to 2018 – an incredible achievement over consecutive years, and what some of those girls have achieved internationally, like Emma Carney, is just fabulous to see. So, a warm and hearty congratulations to the Wesley Boys team, now 2022 APS Athletics Champions.'

Well done and congratulations to all of those involved – athletes, coaches, staff and parents.



ATHLETIC TEAM, CHAMPIONS, 1947.

Standing : R. B. Duncan, H. G. Foletta, G. V. Smith, G. J. Castles, J. L. Stafford, A. R. Bartram.
Sitting : P. S. Coombs, G. W. Marriott (Captain), Mr. A. J. Dodd (Coach), F. R. Strapp (Vice-Captain), K. U. Snowden.



Features

The many faces of achievement

Celebrating the
Class of 2022

Too often, 'achieving' at school is defined in narrowly academic terms. But as we all know, a true education involves accomplishing things way beyond the scholastic.

Our final year students, returning to a relatively 'normal' school life this year, emerged from beneath the pandemic cloud with a keen sense that new-found freedoms present new opportunities, and that if a moment calls your name, you should answer the call.

Each member of the Class of 2022 leaves us with their own stories of personal achievement this year, and we celebrate this with them. When they look back, wherever these accomplishments were realised and however they were recognised - from the loudest public triumph to the quietest personal celebration, these moments will no doubt stay with them longer and be felt far more deeply than any fleetingly relevant ATAR score.

Here six voices from our Class of 2022 reflect on their final year at Wesley, and share what achievement looked and felt like for them...



Lauren Mayhood

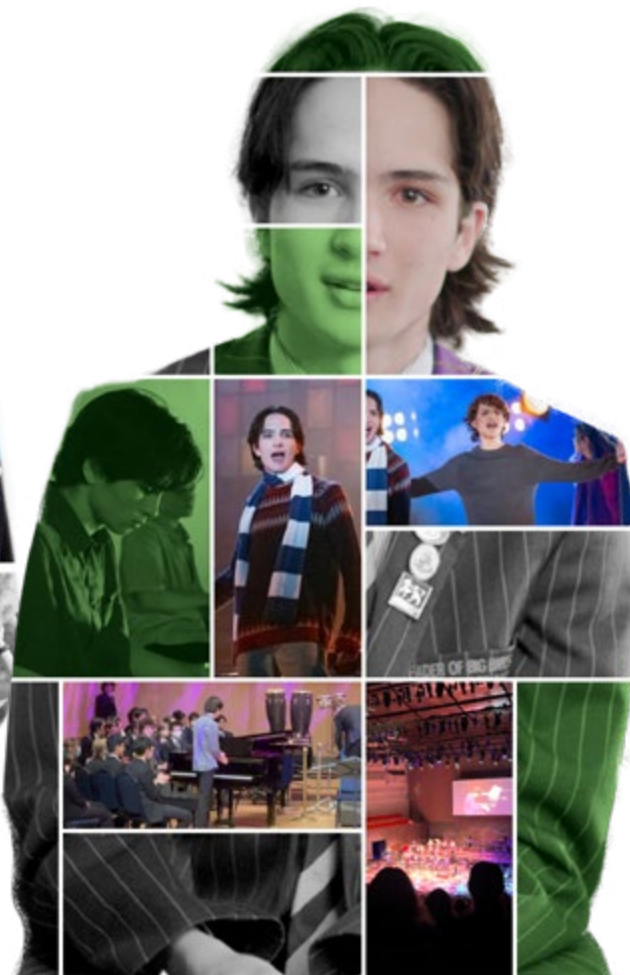
Glen Waverley

'My first highlight of the year was rowing – I got to do it with an awesome crew of girls, and we won Head of the River! We won two years in a row, which felt like pure euphoria. It also felt like relief – the second time around there was the expectation that we would do well...

My second highlight was being a House Captain – a lot of work, but a lot of fun, and I got to do all of that with my peers, which is the best part.

This year, I've forged great friendships with the Learning in Residence students. It's been cool to hear their different stories - the country kids, and Harriet from Abu Dhabi! They stay with my family a lot on the weekends.

I also got involved with the Junior School's 'Wonderous World' science project, mentoring two brilliant Year 3 girls who insisted on investigating slime. It was awesome – they brought this wonder to learning that's sometimes lost in Senior School.'



Patrick Leong

St Kilda Road

'I started playing piano at age five or six and then picked up more instruments along the way: guitar, percussion, drums, and singing. It's amazing how in the span of five days, I can go from a music rehearsal with amazing musicians, to running training, to a theatre rehearsal; they're all so rewarding, and I often think about how lucky I am to be at Wesley and be able to do all of these things at once.

It's been hard to balance my time with rehearsals every night and weekend commitments, as well as all my study, but that challenge has brought a sense of joy because I find when I'm really busy and I'm surrounded by people also doing the things I love it makes everything really easy.

A highlight for me this year was winning an 'Outstanding Soloist Award' for jazz piano at the All-State Jazz Competition. I got to play with professional musicians at the Gala Concert and experience what being a jazz muso might be like.'



Features

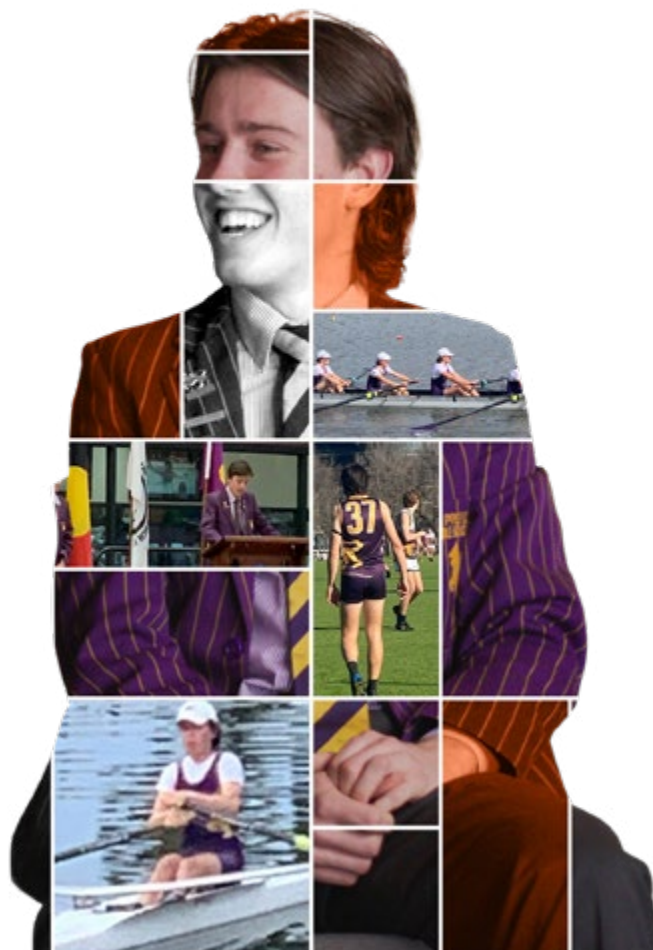


Edie Salamito
St Kilda Road

'As Wesmob Prefect, I've headed the reconciliation movement, ensuring visibility and celebration of our local Indigenous people, culture and language. It's an area I've always been really passionate about - not just focussing on the inequalities and justices, but more on celebrating the richness and diversity within our country - the unique knowledge and understanding of our land that has the capacity to solve many of the problems we face.

I started debating because I get nervous with public speaking. I have the habit of doing the things that really scare me to prove to myself I can do them! When it comes to issues I care about, I learnt that you can sound serious and you can sound passionate - you don't have to water it down.

All the different cocurricular opportunities at Wesley... I've tried most things, including plays, musicals, choir, sport and debating. I've really enjoyed those experiences and I've been able to find what calls my name. In my experience, it's doing all those other things that makes school memorable.'



Will Humphries
Glen Waverley

'At Wesley, you're really encouraged to do what you want to do. I've gone into lots of things and having the flexibility to do that has been really special.

I represented the College on the Monash Youth Advisory Council - a committee of young people working with our local State MP on youth issues. You learn a lot from listening to other people and how they approach things - it gives you a perspective outside of your own little bubble.

Some of my fondest memories come from rowing. It shows you don't have to be the best athlete in the world to have fun! The social side appealed to me; you spend so much time together as a crew and you form unique and special relationships.

As Senior House Prefect this year, organising House events has been such a rewarding experience. After the lockdowns, I wanted a year when everyone could get involved and interact with each other again.'

Harold Holt: Always One Step Further



This portrait of Harold Holt (OW1926) is proudly displayed in the Holt Wing at Wesley's St Kilda Road Campus. Generously donated by Ian (OW1982) and Michele Thomas

'Harold Holt inhabited two worlds: the worlds of politics and of the sea...' So begins Ross Walker's (OW1974) absorbing biography of a man whose significant political legacy has long been overshadowed by the controversial and conspiracy-laden circumstances of his drowning at Cheviot Beach on the Mornington Peninsula. **Paul Munn** turns the pages.

Launched in a special event at our St Kilda Road campus in early September, Ross's *Harold Holt: Always One Step Further* details Holt's life as both a person and a politician, and offers us a fascinating insight into Wesley's second OW prime minister, who followed our first - Robert Menzies (OW1912), into the top job upon Menzies' retirement in January 1966.

He chooses to tell his story in three sections: Holt's life from childhood, leading up to his prime ministership, his first year as prime minister, and his second and tragic, final year.

The eyes of Wesley readers will naturally be drawn to *Chapter 3: Harold Holt goes to Wesley*. Holt attended Wesley from 1920 to 1926. Of his time here as a boarder, Ross notes it gave him the stability that was missing from an unsettled childhood, where 'flux was the only constant.' For him, Wesley became home, and he flourished. In his final year, Headmaster L.A. Adamson made him Acting School Captain and he was named Alexander Wawn Scholar, awarded to the boy who had best attained outstanding achievement in academics, sport and general character.

Ross presents Holt as a man of contradictions – mild-mannered yet passionate, socially extroverted yet drawn to the solitude of the underwater world, life-affirming yet seemingly self-destructive.

The contradictions carried through into politics – he dismantled the White Australia Policy in 1966 and championed the 1967 referendum on citizenship for First Nations Australians, yet controversially escalated Australia's involvement in the disaster that was the Vietnam War.

His close personal friendship with US President Lyndon B Johnson, which developed after Johnson spent time in Melbourne as a young Congressman Lieutenant Commander during the war, is of great interest here: How much of his staunch decision to go 'all the way with LBJ' in Vietnam was influenced by it?

Written over a period of about six years from 2015, Ross's book has literally been a labour of love: 'Holt was the first Australian prime minister I remember,' he says. 'When I saw him on TV, I was beguiled by his charming personality... There's also the matter of Holt's fascination with the sea, which has always been my favourite element.'

The sea was very much Holt's happy place. For all his gregariousness, he loved the solitude it offered, and would go spearfishing, snorkelling or scuba-diving whenever he could. For him, to be alone under the water was to be free. 'There is the sheer exhilaration of contact with the sea – of being one with the ocean,' he once said. As Ross observes, 'This was his other world, and he had fallen under its spell.'



Ross Walker (OW1974) launches his biography on Harold Holt at our St Kilda Road Campus in September



Harold Holt and Sir Robert Menzies, our OW prime ministers



(L-R) Author Ross Walker (OW1974), Geoffrey Blainey AC, Hon Peter Nixon AO, Joanne Christie and Wesley Principal, Nick Evans

While he already knew quite a lot about his subject going into the project, the research process shifted Ross's perceptions about Holt.

'My father once said Holt was "just a nice man" and I agreed, but I discovered that he was not just a nice man – he was very capable. I found that he made an outstanding contribution to Australian life in the decades before he became Prime Minister. He was an outstanding Minister for Labour, where he exploited his interpersonal negotiating skills. He was an accommodator, a seeker of middle of the road solutions.'

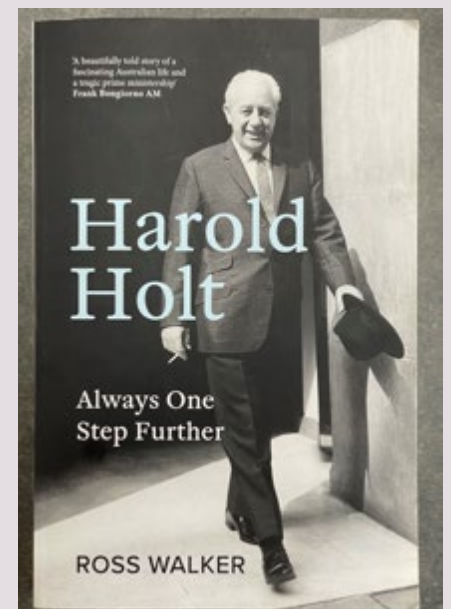
He also says he hadn't been aware of 'how difficult his last six or seven months in office had been, and the extent to which he appeared to lose confidence. I was repelled by the way some of his colleagues were working to defeat him.'

There was another side to Holt's personality that surprised him: 'I hadn't realised just how reckless he was. I uncovered a clear pattern of him putting

himself in harm's way. There was definitely something self-destructive about him. And he was often nervous and perhaps sometimes doubted his abilities.'

So what can we learn from Harold Holt and his story? Given the increasingly toxic nature of political discourse around the world, Ross's response is timely and instructive:

'Holt recognised that if you pushed people away because you disagreed with their politics, you could lose the company of many estimable people. He was friendly with people who held very different political views. In 2022, there is often a tendency to dismiss people who hold the 'wrong' opinions – 'cancel culture.' Evident in this country but very, very marked in the United States, where political opponents are often seen as enemies. Holt exhibited a high degree of courtesy and respect in his public life – these qualities are often missing today in politics and in many other workplaces.'



In writing this book, Ross aimed to strike a balance between biography and narrative non-fiction – history told as a story. In his prologue, he quotes from Lyndon Johnson's biographer Robert A. Caro, whose approach as a biographer was thus: 'You've got to have the facts and you've got to get them right, but you can't forget that you're telling a story.'

In *Harold Holt: Always One Step Further*, Ross doesn't forget, and he tells us a good one.



PYPX 2022: Projects Of Passion

We know we do our best work when we're driven by passion. For the Year 6 cohort at Glen Waverley campus, that's been the guiding principle behind this year's Primary Years Program Exhibition, otherwise known as PYPX. **Paul Munn** reports.

PYPX is the culmination of the Primary Years Program (PYP) education journey. It's essentially a passion project for the Year Sixes, with collaboration at its heart, and much of Term 3 dedicated to it. Students work in groups on their area of passion, researching and ultimately coming up with a new way to take action. 'They focus on self-management skills, independence, organisation, social skills, and many more along the way,' says Year 6 teacher, Clare Kelly. 'These skills are scaffolded throughout their PYP journey, enabling students to "learn how to learn" and flourish as life-long learners.'

'We framed this year's PYPX by asking students, "What do you think are key issues impacting humanity in 2022?" and we connected their responses to the United Nations Sustainability Goals,' says Clare's colleague, Haydn Thompson. 'Students chose to work in diverse fields, exploring issues such as racism, climate change, gender equality, poverty, viruses and mental health.'

Students in the research phase are asked to learn from experts in the field. They generated their own questions to gain information and interacted with experts to provide real-world context.

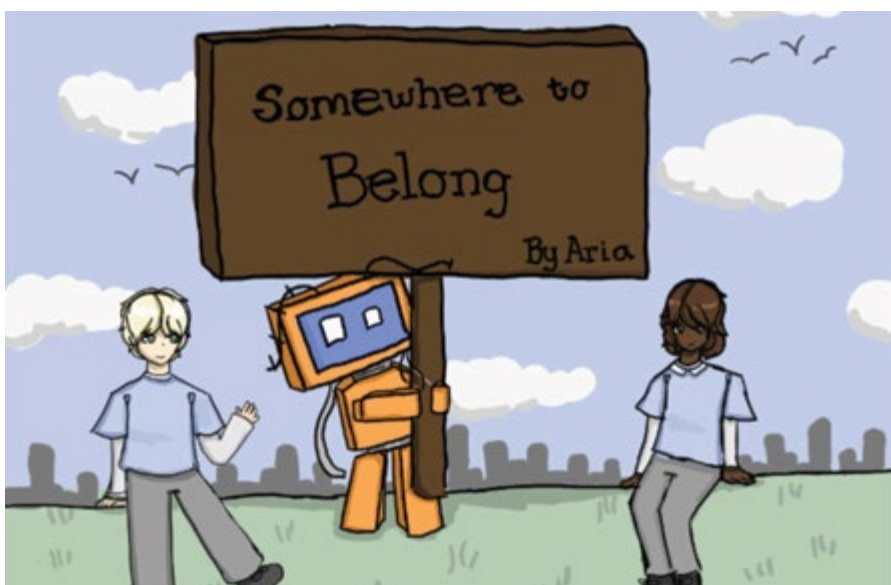
'Our Glen Waverley community, comprising staff and families, were our main experts this year. The wealth of knowledge, experience and passion they shared with our Year 6 students is invaluable,' says Head of Years 5 and 6, Daniel Mackay. 'Making the research phase more interactive through conversation and a casual exchange of questions allows our students to connect to the real world, bringing understanding and truth to their investigations.'



Keila proudly shows off the 2022 PYPX launch poster



Aria with the book she wrote and illustrated about racism



Spreading awareness about racism. Aria's picture book: 'Somewhere to belong'

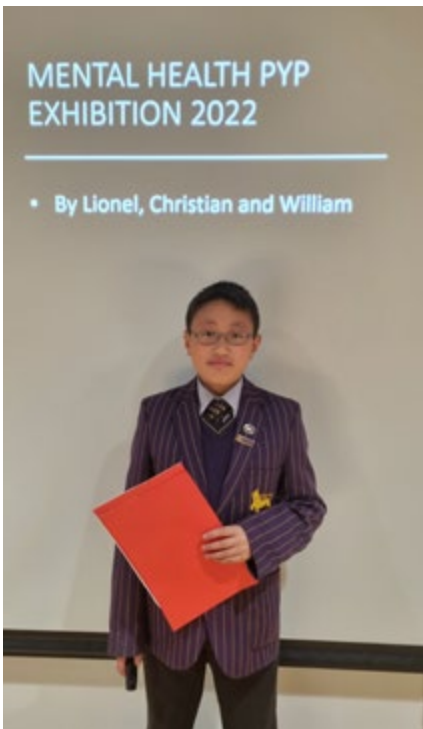
This year's exhibition also had a special twist — our alumni community coming on board to support the students in their research.

Current St Kilda player Tom Campbell (OW2009), who created the not-for-profit AFL Players for Climate Action, was very impressed with the Climate Change group he worked with, comprising Karissa Zhan, Nina Zhou, Kanav Sethi,

Leon Tanuatmadja and Finn Hoskins. 'Their questions were thoughtful and touched on some really important issues within the broader climate change issue,' he said. 'I was inspired by their passion, and it gives me hope that a group of young students are working to be a part of the solutions to address climate change.'



Joseph in front of his 'Climate Change' groups workstation



Lionel introduces his groups presentation on 'Mental Health'



Jono, James and Veer prepare for their presentation on 'Racism in Sport'

The interview process was clearly a rich learning experience for the children. The 'Racism in Sport' group conducted interviews with ex-AFL footballer Michael O'Loughlin and Ken Jacobs, former CEO of Cricket Victoria. 'We didn't think we'd be able to interview someone, as none of us had ever done it before,' they said. 'Our first ever Teams interview was with Michael O'Loughlin, so we were pretty nervous, but he was really nice and spoke to us for half an hour.'

The eight-week process culminated in the Exhibition itself, staged in the Charlaftis Learning Hub in the last week of term.

Aria Ta and her group presented on racism, examining the inequalities that exist for Indigenous people, the way race is represented in the media, and the effects of racism on individuals. She wrote, illustrated and printed a picture book about racism called 'Somewhere to belong.' The group intend to visit Year 3 and 4 students at school to share what they have learned about racism and give them a copy of Aria's book. 'I want to keep spreading awareness, particularly about 'casual racism' as it's a huge problem and it's so wrong,' said Aria.

Lionel Chan and his two partners chose to investigate mental health. 'I learnt how important it was to have a trusted adult or friend I could talk to, and that if I was really struggling, organisations like Kids Helpline and Beyond Blue are here to help,' he said. 'We also came up with actions we could each take to look after

our own mental health. I might draw or read to quieten my mind and try to stay off screens.'

With their obvious concern for taking action on what they've learnt, the children showed a healthy understanding that real change requires going beyond awareness and discussion.

'While our students gained a great deal of knowledge about the issue they were investigating, we challenged them to consider "So what? What action are you going to take as a result of this learning?"' said Year 6 teacher, Carrie Wilton. 'We want to equip our students with the skills and attitudes to navigate this ever-evolving world successfully.'



Campus snapshots

The wonderful world of glass



Year 9 students Jenna Mitelman and Sienna Rowe share their love of science with our youngest learners

Enzo Jauze (left) and Noah Pangu from Year 9 create bubbles with Year 1 students



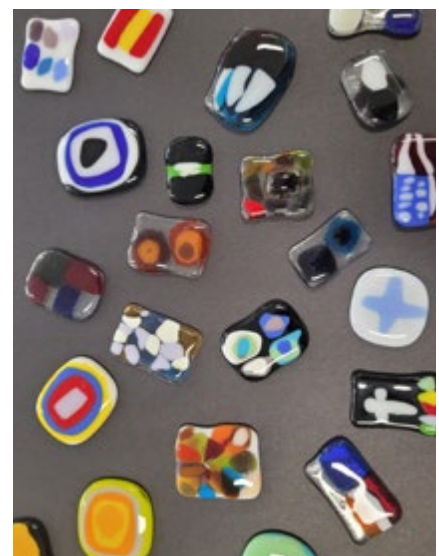
The UN describes glass as one of the most important, versatile and transformative materials in history. Glass will continue to have an enormous impact into our future, not only for its many applications, but also for the integral role it will play in sustainable development.

Given this, the choice to make 'Glass – more than meets the eye' the theme for Science Week this year was an excellent one. Science Week is an annual celebration of science and technology, putting science in the spotlight so our young people can learn more about the world in which we live.

Year 9 students at Elsternwick campus immersed themselves in a project which fostered authentic student agency, curating activities and events with a glass theme for all year levels, from ECLC through to Year 9.

Students also participated in an engaging information session about the 'Bionic Eye.' Lisa Lombardi, guest speaker from the Centre for Eye Research Australia, shared the latest research with students.

To celebrate this year's theme and to congratulate the Year 9 cohort for all their efforts, they were treated to a glass fusing workshop - a hands-on opportunity for them to experience the wonderful world of glass art.



Glass artworks created by students at our Elsternwick campus

Choose your friends wisely

Speaking in front of 600 people would be anxiety-inducing for most people, but St Kilda Road Year 12 student Luca Jolson took it to another level when he delivered his 2022 Hollaway Oration to the Senior School Arts Assembly audience late last term. He shared with them an intimate story about a 'friend' he had a very difficult relationship with last year: Anxiety.

Luca was the winner of last year's Hollaway Memorial Prize for Debating, established to honour the memory of long-time staff member Stuart Hollaway, who tragically lost his life in a climbing accident in 2015. The prize is awarded annually to a Year 11 student who has made a significant contribution to the debating program and public speaking. This year's prize was awarded to Eloisa Belmar Osborn.

The return of assemblies this year meant that Stuart's mother, Heather Hollaway, could again take part in the event.

In personifying Anxiety, Luca cleverly helped his peers consider their own 'relationship' with anxiety to see it as just one 'voice' among many. 'Just because one voice might be the loudest in the room, does not necessarily mean that what they have to say is worth listening to,' he said. 'Focus instead on seeking out the more discrete voices of two, sometimes flighty, friends: Trust and Confidence. One of the best ways to deal with anxiety is by finding ways to transform its nagging voice into one that is motivational, propelling you to prove it wrong by achieving whatever it is that it made you believe you couldn't.'

Luca's insights into his 'not-so-sweet high school sweetheart' were avidly absorbed by his peers. By sharing his own



Luca Jolson, Heather Hollaway and Eloisa Belmar Osborn at the Hollaway Oration

vulnerability, he showed us what is possible when we choose to spend more time with trust and confidence. 'The truth is, many of us will endure anxiety, and while we often choose to internalise our feelings, understand it's okay to voice your emotions, as no one deserves to suffer in silence,' he said.

Clunes - The Next Chapter



Semester two at Clunes has seen the return of many iconic and memorable events that were unable to occur for the past two and a half years due to the pandemic. This includes Festival Day, the Clunes Open Day, the Clunes Agricultural Show and the official opening of *Clunes - The Next Chapter* redevelopment.

Festival Day for Group 91 saw students present their learning, and in many cases, their Community Projects, developed during their time at Clunes. These projects involved students completing a period of sustained inquiry with the aim of contributing to a community of their choosing. This 'service as action' ranged from students building and creating items to assist their chosen community, to creating artworks with messages that raise awareness for local issues. It was such a pleasure to see hundreds of Wesley community members interacting with students as they presented their findings in our wonderful new buildings. Thank you to all parents, staff and students for their efforts in making this day a great success.

(Top): Magnus Cath-Fawcett on the tools



(Bottom): Abigail Krause and Grace Hutton cook up a storm in the new demonstration kitchen



The Governor of Victoria, the Honourable Linda Dessau AC and husband Anthony Howard AM KC (centre), with Principal Nick Evans (far right), Head of Clunes Campus, Dan Lukies (far left) and current Clunes students, Zahra and Amos

Last month, Group 92 was the first group in two years to participate in the Clunes Agricultural Show. One of the oldest shows in Victoria, this day sees Clunes students enter items for judging, perform and contribute to different community stalls throughout the day.

And excitingly, on the 20 of November, we had the official opening of our *Clunes - The Next Chapter* redevelopment, with the Governor of Victoria, the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, unveiling the plaque to commemorate this significant milestone.



Campus snapshots

URSTRONG!

Last term, Elsternwick students from Years 3 to 6 had the joy of participating in a 'Day of Friendship' with Tyson Greenwood from URSTRONG. This special day kicked off a partnership that Wesley College has embarked upon with URSTRONG which, through its 'Friendology' curriculum, gives students the skills and strategies needed to be better friends and navigate friendship challenges in a positive and healthy way. A series of 'Friendship Facts' helped students to set realistic expectations; for example, Fact #1: Friendships change, and Fact #2: No friendship is perfect!

Using simple language and grounded in the principles of Positive Psychology, URSTRONG empowers students to successfully navigate friendship



Developing healthy friendships: Year 3 and 4 students with Tyson from URSTRONG

challenges. Through our Wellbeing program, staff will deliver the 'Friendology' curriculum to explicitly teach students how to develop healthy friendships and manage conflict respectfully - a skill they will use for the rest of their lives.

As educators, parents and advocates for young people, we know that friendships are the most important relationships for our students. They are at the heart of wellbeing and learning. By supporting and coaching our students to get them right, we know that their experiences at school and in life will become richer and more valuable.

Wesley on (the big) Screen returns



How to Start a Revolution (A Beginner's Guide)
by Year 12 student, Daisy Day

The excited buzz as the lights went down and the titles rolled clearly signalled the delight that St Kilda Road students, staff and parents felt to be back in Adamson Hall to once again enjoy *Wesley on Screen* for the first time in three years.

This year was really diverse, with our media and film students producing a range of high-quality films that spoke to their individual interests and personalities.

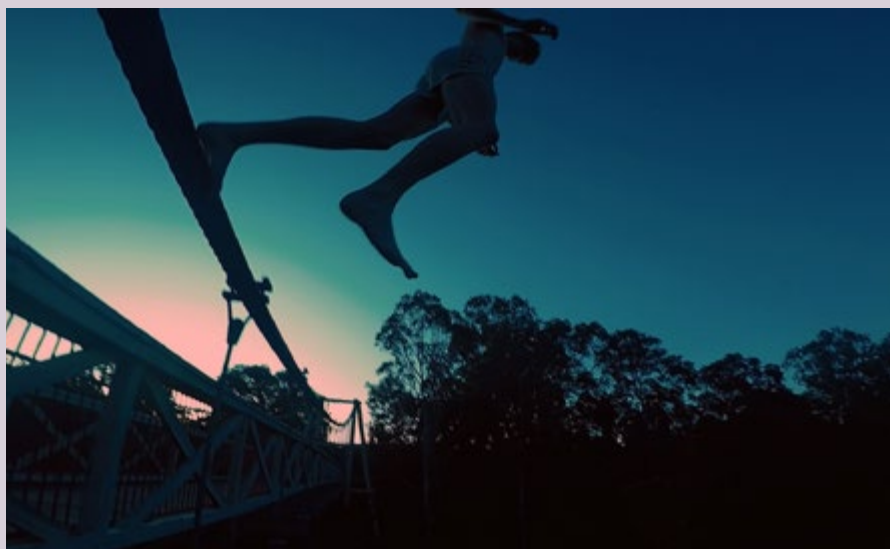
'Aesthetic qualities were the focus this

year, with incredible and deliberate displays of cinematographic shots and colour manipulation used to evoke emotion from audiences,' said Senior Media Studies teacher, Karissa Robertson.

'From experimental and exhilarating narratives to entertaining music video

clips, demonstrations of kinetic typography and comedic Wesley-themed shorts, *Wesley on Screen 2022* was a whirlwind of awe, shock and laughter.

'There was even an instructional manual on how to start a revolution! We are so proud of the incredible effort of all our students,' she said.



Lord by Cezary Carmichael



Elsternwick Middle School students take *Shrek* to the stage at the National Theatre in St Kilda

Elsternwick students take *Shrek* to the stage

Our Elsternwick students have staged musical productions at the National Theatre in St Kilda since 2007. This year, Middle School students presented *Shrek the Musical* at the National in August. A cast of 50 was assisted by a further 35 students who helped at front-of-house,

backstage, off-stage and even under the stage (in the orchestra pit)!

Led by our Head of Music Alexandra Cameron, the production team included three former Wesley Elsternwick students. Gemma Livingstone and Harpo Barrett (both OW2018) worked alongside staff and students, taking on the Stage Manager role at the theatre. Former Elsternwick student Ashley Reid (OW2021) showcased his passion for theatre by designing the set and creating

a scale model of the National, complete with bars to hang backdrops and set the props.

The three performances were well attended by an enthusiastic audience, encouraging the young Middle School cast aged just 14 years and younger to perform at their very best. The future of musical productions from Wesley's Elsternwick campus looks healthy for many years to come!



(L-R): Year 9 Glen Waverley students Lauren Rowe-Roberts, Phoebe Prattis and Annabelle Major settle in for the night at the 'Big Purple Sleep'

The Big Purple Sleep

On a cold Friday night deep in the middle of winter, 50 Glen Waverley students arrived at the Sports Centre and entered a 'Big Purple Sleep'. It may sound like the plot for a science fiction film, but in fact it was arranged by the Social Justice team, led by Prefect Chloe Mathias, to give students a glimpse of what it might feel like to experience homelessness.

The students were shocked to learn that only seven percent of people who are homeless are sleeping rough. This is the 'visible' side of homelessness. Almost a quarter of homeless people in Australia's are aged between 12-24 years old. This includes around 19,400 children aged under 14 who don't have a safe place to call home.

A panel of guest speakers from the Salvation Army, including two social workers, helped the group learn about the different reasons why people become homeless, the work the Salvation Army does, and different actions we can take to help address homelessness.

The students were eager to learn different ways that they could offer support in reducing homelessness. During the final part of the night, they made their way to the sports centre to 'rough it' and after some excitement, finally managed to fall asleep.

The event was a great success, helping raise awareness about homelessness, as well as \$701 for the Salvation Army, the largest provider of homelessness services in Australia. Great work Social Justice Team!



Campus snapshots

Fast fashion – a pressing issue

Fast fashion causes detrimental effects to our environment, our physical and mental health, and to humanity itself. According to the Australian government, the average Australian throws out 23kg of clothing a year! That's after making around 27kg in individual purchases.

To help raise awareness of this issue, Alana Lopera, Environmental Sustainability Prefect at Glen Waverley Campus, organised a 'Sustainable Market Day.' Students volunteered their time after school to set up and run their own stalls, selling an array of second-hand clothes, beeswax candles and baked goods. The Senior School at Glen Waverley came along and supported the event, purchasing and buying each other's clothes and items.



(L-R) Environmental Sustainability Prefect, Alana Lopera, with fellow Year 12 student, Chloe Mathias

'The aim of this day was to remind people of the power of community, and how we can all make a difference by reusing what has already been created,' said Alana. 'I hoped to plant a seed in people's minds to think locally before purchasing globally. Sometimes, convenience needs to be sacrificed for a greater good. This could be as sustainable as borrowing clothing from a friend, buying from an op shop, or supporting ethical and sustainable small businesses.'

So next time you need something new to wear, take a moment to ask yourself these simple questions: 'What environmental impact am I having? What ethical impact am I having? Where else can I source this? And more importantly, how does it make me feel?'

The Teddy Bears are back!



Glen Waverley students enjoying the cross-age Teddy Bear's picnic luncheon

One of the best moments in the Junior School calendar at our Glen Waverley Campus has always been the cross-age Teddy Bear's picnic luncheon. After a two-year absence, this simple activity sees our Year 12 Prefects return to the Prep classrooms where children big and small come together to share and celebrate their love for their Teddy Bear.

Coming in all shapes and sizes, colours and 'loved conditions', the joy and happiness this type of engagement brings is difficult to measure and we're not sure who enjoys it more! One thing's for sure, the laughter, goodwill and friendship is warm and genuine. Our thanks to the 'big kids' for engaging with the Prep children so meaningfully.



The ensemble cast of *Beauty and the Beast* with James Calabro as Gaston

Beauty and the Beast comes to Glen Waverley

Early this term, Wesley Student Theatre on Broadway presented *Beauty and the Beast* as the 2022 Senior Musical. Based on the smash hit 1991 Disney animated feature and late 18th-century classic French fairy tale, Glen Waverley students relished the opportunity to bring the much-loved tale to life in their own distinct way.

Year 12 student James Calabro, who played Gaston, reflected on the production and the rich benefits to be had from getting involved:

'I was hesitant to be part of this year's production due to sporting and Year 12 commitments, but I am so glad I did. This musical provided a break from my busy schedule and allowed me to express myself, be creative and have heaps of fun with old and new friends.

Productions are never easy and this year, with the challenges presented by COVID, was no exception. Not only were there

several absences during rehearsals, but there was a COVID outbreak the weekend before the performances, which lead to many last-minute changes on opening night.

Despite these challenges, the ensemble and incredibly hardworking staff rallied to bring together a show we were extremely proud of. I could not believe how supportive everyone was of each other and what amazing talent was on display this year. I loved working with all my peers and the awesome teachers that helped me develop throughout the show.'



Senior School students from St Kilda Road Campus tear up the stage in *Rent*

Up for Rent

Rent has often been described as 'the show that changed Broadway'. It was one of the first shows to have LGBTQI+ characters at the heart of the story, and after a huge 12 year run on Broadway and numerous productions around the world, it made its way onto the Adamson Theatre Company stage at our St Kilda Road campus last term.

Co-directors Fiona Atkin and Marcus Pinnell first chose the show as the 2020 Senior School musical. Says Marcus, 'Obviously, that show never made it to the stage, and I know the cast at the time and the production team were devastated to start a show about the AIDS epidemic, only to have it cancelled because of the COVID epidemic.'

Watching this year's production, you got a real sense that the 2022 cast were relishing the opportunity to make up for the lost time: the energy they brought to their roles in this challenging show was remarkable.

Very loosely based on Puccini's opera *La Boheme*, *Rent* is set in New York in the mid-1990's at the height of the AIDS epidemic. True to its New York vibe, the show is frenetic in pace, and the students were definitely up for it. The musical and dance moments, ranging from the subtle to the explosive, were adeptly handled by this year's strong cohort, with the performances of singers, dancers and musicians alike all astonishingly good.

'The score is incredibly taxing on young performers, but beyond that, we're asking them to perform in roles that are complex and mature,' says Marcus. 'It's a show with a modern rock score that tackles issues that are important to our students. It's a show about community and inclusion, and I think for the St Kilda Road campus students, it's vital that there is positive representation of members from the LGBTQI+ community on the stage in Adamson Hall.'



The death of a Queen...then and now



The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York
Courtesy : State Library of Victoria

The year is 1901. A great Queen has died and a new King ascends the British throne. After a 62-year reign, the death of Queen Victoria sees the throne pass to her eldest son, Albert Edward, to be known as King Edward VII. This is the beginning of the Edwardian era.

On 1 January that year, just three weeks before the Queen died, our seven colonies become the Commonwealth of Australia. In May, Prince George and Princess Mary - the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, visit Australia to celebrate Federation, presenting prizes to the combined Public Schools of Victoria at the Royal Exhibition Building.

It was a momentous start to a new century, but not a peaceful one, as the Boer War, which began in 1899, raged on. Many OWs fought in the war, notably William Organ Willis, whose medals and sword are displayed each ANZAC Day at our Glen Waverley Campus.

At Wesley, the four Chronicles of 1901 (editions 89 to 92) were filled with the activities and achievements of the 268 students who attended the College. There were stories on cricket, football and rowing, including the first of what would become eight 'Heads of the River' wins in ten years under the leadership of new coach, Charlie Donald.

There are notes on the Library as new books were donated, stories about



The medals of William Organ Willis

'smoke nights' - informal gatherings with lectures, music and much discussion, and the activities of the Cadets were enthusiastically recorded.

Eighteen students matriculated that year, with 14 separate honours and numerous scholarships received.

In sport, Wesley was an equal Premiership holder in football and took second place in the Cumming Cup and the Sargood Shield in Cadets.



Charles Donald (c. 1919)

Want to know more about the early days at Wesley?

Copies of Chronicle from 1877 onwards are available to read online at <https://wesleycollege.recollect.net.au> or simply scan this QR code with your phone.



Wesley Chronicle No.90 from 1901

1901 was also the end of an era, with Headmaster Thomas Palmer unexpectedly replaced at the end of the year by L A Adamson, who would go on to become our longest-serving leader.

Since that time, we have had numerous wars, innovations, financial catastrophes and two pandemics. We might become fearful about world events now, but history shows us that our school, our country and the world will go on.

Do you have **something to contribute**?

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

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

Philanthropic Families

Kate Campbell (OW1990) and family



Alexandra, Kate and Max Campbell

The Foundation is always delighted to hear from alumni and parents who want to 'give back' to the College for what they and their children have gained from their experiences.

Kate Campbell is appreciative of her Wesley education and for the opportunities offered to her two children, Max and Alexandra, which have enabled them to thrive in Wesley's dynamic, co-educational environment. Kate is supporting the philanthropic programs of the Wesley College Foundation, including becoming a member of our Sapere Aude

Bequest Society. We thank Kate for her support and for explaining her motivation below:

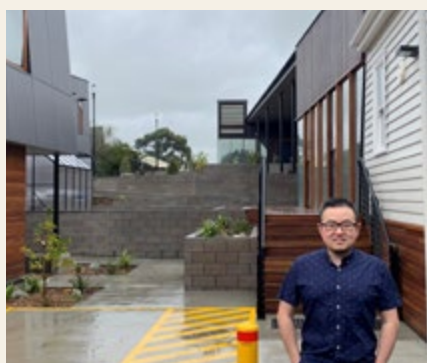
'As my children approach the end of their schooling at Wesley, I realise that my involvement at Wesley has comprised a sizeable part of my life. I was fortunate as a student - way back - to have time at both the Glen Waverley and St Kilda Road Campuses and, through my own children, we have again been fortunate to have experiences at both campuses, highlighting for us the diversity and opportunities across the whole school.

For me, coeducation is a non-negotiable and fundamental part of education and indeed, life. The other fundamental for me is a holistic approach to education where arts, drama, music, sport, extracurricular community development programs and academic education are all equally valued and celebrated. I consider this is a great strength of the College. I know the journey through school is a different experience for everyone, but I think the opportunities students are provided through incredible and diverse educational experiences and programs are a unique and special part of Wesley.

The people you meet along the way are also part of the journey and experience, and it is amazing where and who you run into when you leave school. The Wesley networks are extraordinary, both nationally and internationally. Returning to Wesley as a parent was a bit like a school reunion for me with many parents, who were fellow students, returning with their children. It's quite the walk down memory lane, and wonderful to see each other as adults and remember our own journeys and adventures through the school. Having Old Collegians return with their children says a lot about the College.'

The Foundation is most grateful to Kate and her family for their ongoing commitment to Wesley and for their philanthropic support. For further information about our fundraising programs, please contact **Jack Moshakis (OW1973)** at jack.moshakis@wesleycollege.edu.au

Clunes Supporter



Bobby Shen with the historic home and demonstration kitchen to his right and new student accommodation to the left

The new facilities at Clunes provided the perfect backdrop for a recent visit to the campus by Bobby Shen (OW2003), an alumnus and parent of the College who is supporting 'Clunes – The Next Chapter,' the historic and exciting redevelopment of the campus.

Touring the campus, Bobby was delighted to see its growth and evolution, from the original historic buildings and student houses through to the current redevelopment which incorporates a purpose-built demonstration kitchen, learning spaces and new student houses.

It also provided an opportunity for Bobby to discuss possible future curriculum activities that can be supported by his family business, Peppers Mineral Springs Hotel in Hepburn.



Bobby Shen with Clunes Head of Campus, Daniel Lukies



Nicholas Circle – Celebration

The Foundation acknowledges and celebrates all donors, bequestors and sponsors for their support of Wesley's philanthropic programs, no matter the size of their gifts. One such group is the Nicholas Circle, whose members have donated and/or bequeathed \$1m or more to support College developments or scholarships. The Circle was launched at the home of Nicki and Jonathan Isaacs in November 2017 to thank our inaugural members, and the Foundation has been extremely grateful for the support of an increasing number of members ever since.

We were delighted to return to their beautiful home in October to formally acknowledge our newest members, the Greenham family and The Sheenan-Birrell Foundation. This event provided a wonderful opportunity for members of College Council and College Executive to meet and personally thank donors and sponsors.

The Chair of the Wesley Foundation, Nicki Isaacs (nee Lefkovits) (OW1990) and Nick Evans thanked all Foundation supporters and spoke about the importance of philanthropy for the future of the College, both in relation to future developments and to increase the number scholarships for worthy students who would not otherwise enjoy the benefits of a Wesley education.

The occasion provided opportunities for donors to meet and reflect on the development of the College in more recent years and the outstanding educational facilities and programs our students now enjoy. The Foundation was grateful for Nicki and Jonathan's support in hosting this special event at their home, which was greatly appreciated by all our guests.



(L-R): Peter and Lucy Greenham, Nick Evans, Chris Morris and Nicki and Jonathan Isaacs

For further information about the role of the Wesley College Foundation, please visit: www.wesleycollege.edu.au/community/support-us or contact Jack Moshakis (OW1973) at: jack.moshakis@wesleycollege.edu.au



Chair of the Wesley Foundation, Nicki Isaacs



Craig Joel



Frank Colli and Peter Pan



Rebecca Cherk and Jessica Yu



Richard Hartnett

Sapere Aude Bequest Society

Peter Williams – celebrating our heritage



Peter Williams at the ACMI event

Throughout his life, Peter Williams OAM (OW1954) has been an avid collector of historical objects and documents, as well as art and other treasures. His passion for history, especially maritime history, is boundless. Indeed, he was recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2020 'For service to maritime history.'

Peter attended Ivanhoe Grammar in his primary years before moving to Wesley College. He would go on to study at RMIT, graduating in both Graphic Design and Advertising. His professional life included many years with the Kraft Foods Company in advertising roles.

Peter's commitment to history is evident through his involvement in many organisations. In 1970, he helped found the Maritime Trust of Australia, serving as Secretary from 1970-2008 and President from 2008-2018. Peter was extensively involved with the restoration of HMAS Castlemaine which is a now a much-loved museum located at Gem Pier in Williamstown.

In 1967, Peter was a founding member and later President of the Heidelberg Historical Society. He was also very active with Maritime Museums of Victoria.

Peter's extraordinary knowledge of maritime matters has resulted in several books and articles on Australian and Victorian maritime history. He has been active with the Ship Modellers Society of Victoria, serving at various times as Chairman, Librarian, and Editor of the Slipway magazine. He has also been a longstanding member of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Williamstown Historical Society and Ship Lovers Society of Victoria.

Wesley College is blessed to have Peter Williams as a friend and supporter. Over the years, Peter has regularly gifted objects, curios and documents to Wesley's Archives. He also donated the Order of Service booklet for the funeral of Prime Minister, Harold Holt, and the autographed book presented to Holt and his wife by President Johnson at the White House, which he bought at auction.

Peter is a delight to be around and always has a wealth of stories to share. He is passionate about the College and its history. Peter is a member of the Sapere Aude Bequest Society, and his legacy will not only enable the College to celebrate our heritage but will support Wesley College in its educational endeavours.

Visit to the State Library of Victoria

On 17 August, members and friends of the Wesley College Foundation and Sapere Aude Bequest Society were treated to an inspirational tour of the State Library of Victoria (SLV) which focussed on the history and redevelopment of the building and introduced two of the major exhibitions. In one of the best SABS events to date, our tour was hosted by the SLV Philanthropy Manager, Judy Buchan. Guests delighted in seeing the ongoing transformation of the library. They were even more surprised by the crowds of users and the extraordinary range of library services on offer.

The SLV pulled out all stops for our group and we were privileged to be joined by Anna Welch, Senior Librarian, History of the Book & Arts, who introduced the exhibition, 'Mirror of the World: Books & Ideas' and Linda Short, Senior Curator, Audience Engagement, who revealed the recently opened 'Handmade Universe' exhibition. The expert insights they offered on producing the exhibitions were truly illuminating. We all felt we experienced something very special on this tour. A big thank you to the State Library of Victoria.



Guests in the Domed Reading Room of the SLV

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

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

The Society offers a rich and varied program of activities for members and their guests. We are delighted that our program this year has attracted so many alumni and parents to experience the breadth of our Society's activities.

We have included a small snapshot of some of the events recently held.

If you would like to join any of our activities and/or enquire about joining our Sapere Aude Bequest Society, please contact Debra Stiebel at debra.stiebel@wesleycollege.edu.au



Foundation

Wesley's Indigenous Art Exhibition

A wonderful opportunity was made available by the Sofitel on Collins for Wesley to exhibit some of our most significant Indigenous Art works. On display from July until the end of October 2022, these works were shown to the public in Sofi's Lounge. The official opening was timed to coincide with NAIDOC week celebrations. This is the first time this collection has been shown together, as you would normally find them spread across the walls of our three campuses. Almost all of these works have been donated through the Federal Government's Cultural Gifts program.

Nick Evans also spoke to thank donors to our Yiramalay program, members of our Bequest Society and other generous



(L-R) Georgie Mason, Janine Hendry, Anna Morton and Louise Dunn at the Indigenous Art Exhibition

donors. There have been a lot of positive comments from the public who are surprised and interested in Wesley's support for the Arts, and Indigenous Arts in particular.

The College is always looking to expand its collection of art and can facilitate donations of art and other objects



Russ and Pauline Baker at the Indigenous Art Exhibition

through the Cultural Gifts program. This provides tax benefits for the donor and will bring many years of enjoyment to our students and College community.

Mission to Seafarers and Maritime Art Exhibition

The Mission to Seafarers is an international mission of the Anglican Church that cares for the practical and spiritual welfare of seafarers of all nationalities and faiths. It dates back to

1857 when it was established in the Port of Melbourne, and now operates as one of 29 port agencies nationally and over 230 port agencies worldwide.

Our members and guests had a tour of the beautiful building, ably led by a volunteer (coincidentally, a former Wesley parent) who spoke about the fascinating history of the Mission. The tour included seeing the beautiful St

Peter the Mariner Chapel, Flying Angel Club (as it is known to seafarers) and the spectacular Norla Dome where the Maritime Art Exhibition is currently housed. The Mission houses an archival collection of maritime and social history of state and national significance.

The tour was followed by a light lunch and our guests were delighted to be able to ask questions, catch up and wander around the amazing dome to see the artwork. Yet another Wesley connection was found when we learned Lance Ross (OW1953) had two paintings entered in the competition.

We are always delighted to see some of our Society members and importantly, some new faces, and we look forward to welcoming everyone to our next event.



Guests at the Mission to Seafarers

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

The Wesley College Foundation gratefully acknowledges our 2022 sponsors who support our events, programs and activities.



Light and Art Exhibition at ACMI

On 15 September, members and guests visited the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) to see the exhibition *Light: Works from Tate's Collection*. It was fully subscribed. The group enjoyed a morning coffee at Hero at ACMI, followed by an excellent presentation on the exhibition by educator, Dr Susan Bye. We then invited our guests to explore at their own pace the beautifully curated display of more than 70 magnificent artworks. Our visit was timed perfectly as the gallery spaces were closed to public. Only our group was present which really did make the visit special.

The exhibition was organised in cooperation with the Tate in London as part of Melbourne Winter Masterpieces® 2022. It was billed as 'See art in a new light' and sought to '...celebrate ground-breaking moments from over 200 years of art history, and the artists who



Guests enjoy the *Light: Works from the Tate's Collection* exhibition at ACMI

harnessed this elemental force through painting, photography, sculpture, drawing, installation, and the moving image.'

It featured major works from the likes of J.M.W. Turner, John Constable, Wassily Kandinsky, Josef Albers, Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Alfred Sisley. It also presented modern and contemporary artists: Olafur Eliasson's crystalline sculpture 'Stardust Particle' (2014), Yayoi

Kusama's kaleidoscopic 'The Passing Winter' (2005), James Turrell's immersive 'Raemar, Blue' (1969), Tacita Dean's 16mm film 'Disappearance at Sea' (1996) and Liliane Lijn's moving sculpture, 'Liquid Reflections' (1968).

Everyone in the group was impressed by the exhibition. The works were superbly spaced and beautifully lit which added a further dimension to our visitor experience.

College Choral Day Returns

The Wesley College Chorale concert was performed on 26 June for the first time since the lockdowns. Members and guests were thrilled to hear the wonderful voices brilliantly arranged and choreographed by the Heads of Music at Wesley. It was terrific to have students from all three campuses looking and sounding so wonderful and what a delight to be part of a live audience again!

After the performance, our guests joined Kenneth Park and Debra Stiebel, Alexandra Cameron, Head of Music at Elsternwick campus, and Philip Walsh, Head of Music at St Kilda Road Campus, Matthew Tng and Jenny Mathers, guest choral clinician. The conversation was lively, engaging and productive. Our guests enjoyed the opportunity to speak to Wesley Music staff to learn more about the programs offered at the College. Richard Brenker, former Head of Glen Waverley Campus, spoke about the important work of our Bequest Society, endorsing scholarships as being transformational in the life of a student.



Students performing at the Deakin Edge Concert at Federation Square



Gala Night

The theme for this year's Gala Night was 'All That Glitters' and the Wesley community did not disappoint! Over 600 guests sparkled and shined at the Melbourne Town Hall on the first Saturday in September.

Lara Joyce (OW2021) kicked-off the fun with a show-stopping rendition of 'Diamonds are Forever' while the Matt Hetherington Band kept the dance floor full until the doors closed.

There were glitter body painters for guests who wanted some extra zhuzh and a 'Sparkle Bar' for those that preferred to chill out and catch up with friends.

We look forward to seeing you at next year's Gala on Saturday 29 July at Plaza Ballroom... the biggest night on the Wesley calendar.





President's report

Season's greetings to all! This is my first report since being re-elected. Once again, I am honoured to have been voted into the role of President of the Old Wesley Collegians Association, one I hold with great pride and passion. I thank our supportive Executive Board for the opportunity to serve in this position again. I'm happy to announce that we have a new OWCA Vice President in the always-devoted Tom Pewtress (OW2018), and a new Secretary in the ever-loyal Amy McAlister (OW2003). Our entire Executive Board also opted to re-elect themselves for another two-year term at the AGM in August.

It was a pleasure to attend the Collegians Football Club's 130th Ball at the end of July, with key members from the OWCA Executive Board. The night was a wonderful celebration of everything great about the historic and successful club. It brought together Collegians players, volunteers, fans, partners and supporters. Congratulations to the Collegians on a successful evening, and special congratulations to the integral Mark Hibbins (OW1978), Rod Nancarrow (OW1982) and Emma Carney (OW1989).

August saw a remarkable turnout out for the 1982 40 Year Reunion, with 82 Old



Kate Evans (OW1998) and new OWCA Vice President Tom Pewtress (OW2018)

Wesley Collegians in attendance, filling the Cato Room at St Kilda Road. With a group that has been held together by key OWs such as Ian Thomas, Mark Samlal, Cam Williams and Rob Sharpe, the atmosphere was joyous, their obvious connections over their four decades since leaving school extending broadly across Collegians FC, university, weddings, the Executive Committee of the OWCA and much more.

Our reunion program is well and truly back in full force. We have had fantastic attendance rates at our organised catchups; the Glen Waverley 1997 25 Year Reunion, Glen Waverley and St Kilda Road 2002 20 Year Reunions, and the St Kilda Road 1992 30 Year Reunion.

#oldwesleycollegians
#bleedingpurpleandgold
#WomenofWesley

Connect with your OW network

Attend an OW event or join an affiliate group:

- Reunions
- Founders' Day
- Networking Events
- Collegians Football Club
- OW Cricket
- Collegians X Hockey
- OWCA Bowls
- Alan Mitchell Club (Rowing)

Follow us on social media



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owca@wesleycollege.edu.au
View our calendar of events:
owca.net



Join our global OW business directory:



Chief of Staff



Trent Smyth AM (OW1988) at Exeter College, University of Oxford in September

Considering the wealth of experience and connectivity behind Trent Smyth (OW1988) and his exciting career, meeting him is a disarming experience. Smooth to a fault and charming, Trent remains feet on the ground, proudly Australian and generous with his time and knowledge. At home in embassies and amid a myriad of protocols, one gets the impression he is just as at home with his family as he is sharing a laugh at a BBQ or with his head under the bonnet of a yet-to-be-restored rusting but rare automobile.

Recently Trent has taken on the remarkable role of CEO of the Chief of Staff Association (CSA). For those who appreciate this prestigious international organisation, this position is more a reward for years of service rather than a job opportunity. His passion for delivering seamless operation, breathtaking multi-channel communications and sage ambassadorial wisdom will inspire each graduating cohort from the CSA Executive Education program, offered in partnership with Saïd Business School at Oxford University.

The Chief of Staff Association (CSA) is the largest membership organisation for chiefs of staff in the world, with members occupying positions of influence in more than 48 countries; its purpose is to 'enhance the effectiveness and influence of chiefs of staff and build recognition for the profession.'

In real terms, it is so much more than that. It not only ticks the boxes of professionalism and best practice, but it is also a learning environment where members receive confidential advice from their peers and work together to enhance their capability, improving their effectiveness. The CSA, which began on the East Coast of the US, offers an education platform that leads to the industry-recognised credentials of Certified Chief of Staff™ and Master Chief of Staff™. The CSA, through Saïd Business School at Oxford, offers a world-first tailor-made program that contextualises the chief of staff role within the global community and business, enabling professionals to respond to the unique challenges they face.

'An executive working as a chief of staff takes on complex organisational and leadership responsibilities while occupying an ambiguous position in the hierarchy,' says Trent. 'Previously associated primarily with the military and politics, the role is becoming increasingly common in professional firms, businesses of all sizes, and non-profits. However, it remains little understood. Now there is a sense that it is becoming a 'destination role' and a professional occupation in its own right. This raises questions about who the chief of staff is responsible to, the infrastructure around them, the type of experience needed to fulfil the role, and the skills and qualities that lead to success.'

So, what does it take to become the chief of such a remarkable global organisation linking world business, governments and countries? With the benefit of a Wesley education, a Bachelor of Commerce from Melbourne University and an MBA from Melbourne Business School, Trent has built an admirable reputation in Government, NGO and NFP circles, specialising in government relations, negotiation, administration, events strategy and community engagement. Between 2012 and 2021, Trent was the Consul for Malawi in Australia and Secretary of the Consular Corps Melbourne.

With its beginnings at Wesley in rowing and hockey, Trent's passion for sports has drawn him toward several non-executive board positions, including a six-year stint as a Director of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation and his present role as Chairman of AFL Europe. For ten years, he was Chief Curator at Motorclassica, Chairman at the Sports Diplomacy Foundation, and President of the Ferrari Club of Australia (Victoria).

Despite now living almost 17,000kms away, the purple and gold network remains incredibly valuable to Trent, who proudly tells us that the video production for The Chief of Staff Association is produced by his dear Wesley friend, Robin Payne (OW1988).

In 2021, Trent was awarded the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to international relations, to motorsport and to business.



Uniting nations on climate change

Working for the United Nations supporting 17 Latin American and Caribbean countries to address climate change, **Asher Lessels (OW1997)** found the inspiration to learn a language and describes the breadth and benefits of his important work.

'I'm not studying languages!'

It was the start of Year 9 and Mum and I were having one of 'those' discussions. Since Grade 4, I had passed through classes of Italian, Japanese and Indonesian and couldn't say more than 'Hello' in any of them. I just wasn't good at languages. In Year 9, I studied music and graphic design instead and loved them. However Mum, being a language teacher, was a bit confused. She knew that I loved to travel. So why wouldn't I want to speak to the people I met? As I finished Year 12 and went on to uni, the travel bug continued. I backpacked around South America and became frustrated that I couldn't speak to anyone. I couldn't tell my friends to pass me the ball when we played soccer. I couldn't ask anyone what that great song was on the radio and I couldn't speak to my Argentine friends about why their country was in an economic crisis. To be honest, I didn't even know what an economic crisis was until I visited Argentina. Why was this country poorer than ours? This curiosity led me to want to study languages, so I started learning Spanish. Mum, thankfully, didn't say anything. (I was waiting for the 'told you so!')

Today, I work for the United Nations, supporting Latin American and Caribbean countries to address climate change. I work with 17 countries across the region, helping them to develop and implement projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while at the same time, advancing sustainable development. To undertake these projects, the countries receive financing from a global fund based in Washington. The idea is that this financing supports these countries to choose low-emission projects over more polluting ones. For instance, I am working



Action on climate change with an electric car in Antigua and Barbuda: Asher Lessels (OW1997) (second from the right) with National Government representatives and local taxi drivers



Asher Lessels (OW1997) (top left) meets with the Secretary of Environment of the Federal District of the City of Brasilia to discuss the installation of solar panels on public buildings

with the tiny Caribbean country of Antigua and Barbuda to introduce electric cars instead of conventional combustion vehicles. At the same time, I am working with Argentina to support its cities to develop more sustainably through town planning which promotes people to use non-motorised transport (e.g. bicycles) and recycle waste. In Bolivia, my team is supporting the country to transform its streetlamps to LED lights, which use a lot less energy. Having language skills is fundamental for supporting these countries to make this change. Using the local language also means understanding the local cultural context and knowing

how to communicate in a locally appropriate way.

I've been with the United Nations for ten years now, always working on climate change issues. As a global community, we all need to do more to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, otherwise we will end up in a world with more and more extreme weather events, such as large scale bushfires, floods and coral bleaching. In Latin America and the Caribbean, as in Australia, these events are already way more common than in the past. The countries that I work with, many of which have economic difficulties, are taking steps to show that a low-emission future is possible now.

Dr Corrigan and the Education Act 1872

December 2022 is the 150th anniversary of the Education Act 1872. This legislation made Victoria the first Australian colony (and one of the first jurisdictions in the world) to offer free, secular and compulsory education for its children.

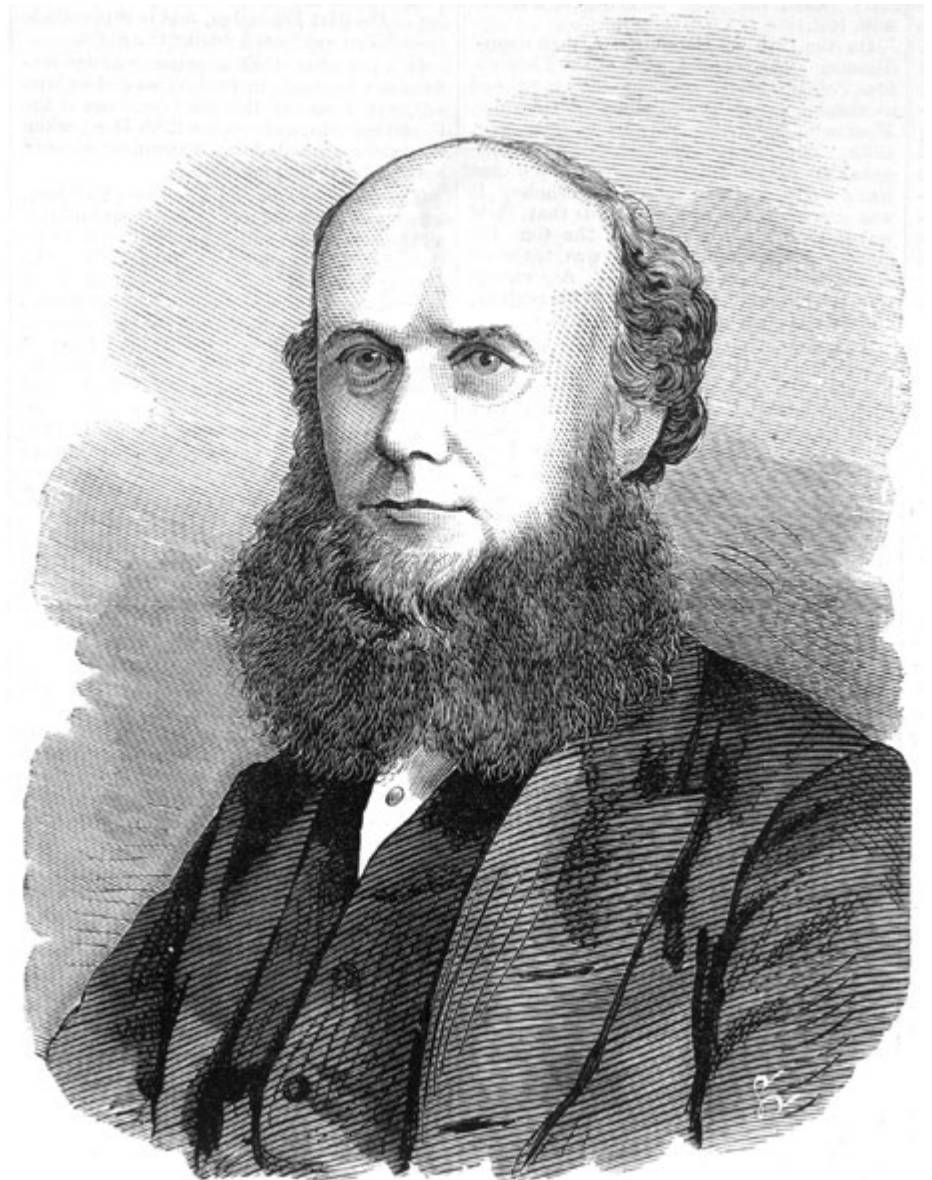
James Corrigan, an Irishman and the first Headmaster of Wesley College on its commencement in 1866, played an important role in building the foundation of this legislation.

In 1862, through the Common Schools Act, the Victorian Parliament created a single Board of Education to control Victoria's primary schools. However, in late 1866 the government, concerned about the continued funding of religious schools, established a Royal Commission on education to examine the question of church-state relations.

As a recognised educationist, Corrigan was appointed to the Royal Commission denominational schools, he believed that religion had a place in education and supported the final compromise recommended by the commission, which allowed for religious instruction based on a 'common Christianity' in the government schools.

However, a bill introduced into State Parliament in May 1867 failed to win sufficient political support and was withdrawn. Later that year, Corrigan was appointed to the Board of Education. He became its Chairman in October 1870 and held this position while continuing his role as Wesley's headmaster.

Corrigan fell ill suddenly at the end of 1870, but refusing to rest, he collapsed while working at the offices of the Board of Education and died of rheumatic fever at his St Kilda home on 7 January 1871. He was only 47 years old. His death was a great shock to the school and the wider Melbourne community.



JAMES CORRIGAN, M.A., L.L.D.—FROM A PHOTO. BY G. W. PERRY.—SEE PAGE 31.

Wesley's first Headmaster Dr James Corrigan. Wood engraving by Samuel Calvert (1828-1913), from a photograph by George W Perry, published in 'The Illustrated Australian News for Home Readers' Courtesy, State Library of Victoria

The political situation changed during 1872 and the reforming Education Act 1872 was finally passed in December.

Contributed by Philip Powell (OW1973), author, historian, former Vice President of Council, honorary Fellow of Wesley College and regular contributor to Lion magazine.



40 Years On - The 82s celebrate in style



Those unstoppable 82s ,40 Years on. Any excuse for a party!

The much-anticipated 1982 40 Year Reunion, miraculously missing the COVID restrictions of reunions past, was a party just waiting to happen. In classic fashion, precisely 82 members of this well connected and fun cohort combined with former staff to celebrate in style.

Forming an organising committee early on, the event delivered a slick tag team of speakers and entertainment, including an astonishing collection of video messages from their friends around the globe set into a pacy and fun travelog format. The committee included Mark Samlal and Ian

Thomas who welcomed guests, thanked all who had contributed and highlighted the many achievements of the group.

Official guest speaker, Cam Williams, had the crowd in stitches with his commentary on nicknames, culminating in an award ceremony, and Rob Sharpe's sincerity and care was priceless as he roamed with the microphone for stories from the floor. Ian and former School Captain, Jason Stephens, read 'telegrams' from former staff, including a wildly amusing and heartfelt message from Dawson Hann, who was waylaid in Adelaide.

Highlighted throughout was the commitment of the 82s to the life of Wesley - as staff and former staff, as past and present Wesley parents, and as amazing volunteers through affiliate groups, the OWCA and the Foundation. Another highlight was a fundraiser for the Foundation in the form of specially designed and very popular purple and gold '82' caps, which no doubt will be seen at future get-togethers for years to come.

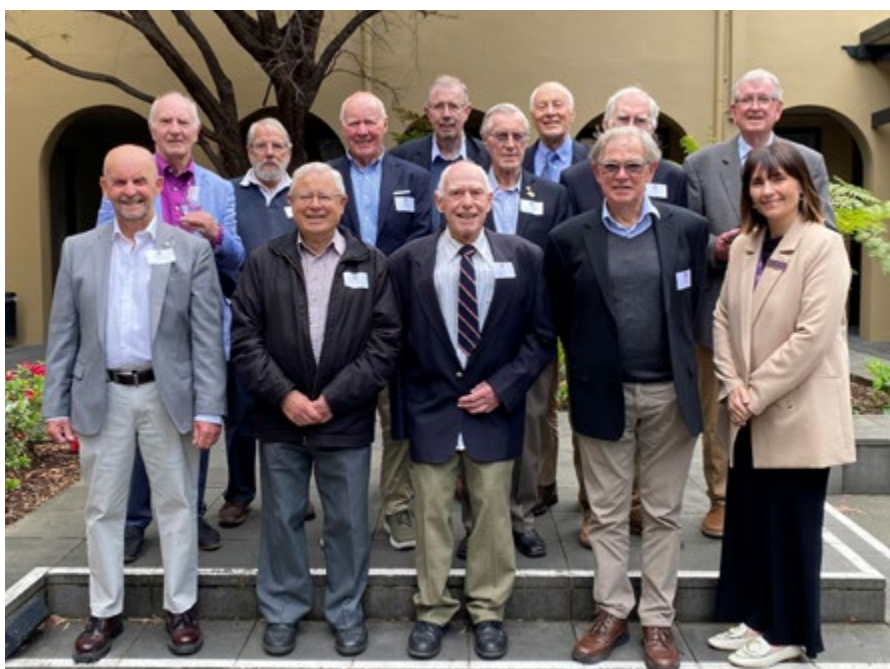
The lighting, 80s background music, cocktails, dinner, singing of school songs and the afterparty were first rate; nothing about this reunion disappointed, other than it drawing to a close dangerously close to the midnight hour. The College and OWCA staff involved are all to be applauded for delivering such a fine event. These OWs care a great deal for each other and their time at Wesley and seeing them enjoying every minute 40 years on was quite a sight to behold. Wesley Now and Always? There's no doubt about it!

Prep Form VIII – 70 Years on!

Eddie Wells's 1952 Prep Form VIII class together again after 70 Years!

On the last day of September this year, 12 out of the remaining 19 'boys' from Eddie Wells's 1952 Prep Grade VIII class attended a special reunion marking 70 years. It is thought that this reunion possibly represents the longest currently running reunion from 'The Best School of All.'

After a brief tour of the school by Wesley College Foundation Director, Jack Moshakis (OW1973), primarily to showcase recent additions and share future plans, the group gathered for an enjoyable luncheon in the Waugh Room. The group noted the layout of the 'Prahran' campus had certainly changed during the intervening years. Needless to say, a good time was had by all. For obvious reasons, it was recommended by the dwindling group, and agreed by the OWCA, that the next reunion should be held earlier than every five years. We shall see them all again very soon.



Eddie Wells's 1952 Prep Form VIII class together again after 70 years!

Collegians Football Club - Celebrating 130 Years



Men's Seniors before the great wall of Premiership flags on display at the Collegians 130 years Ball

The Collegians Football Club community gathered at The Park, Albert Park on Saturday 23 July to celebrate 130 years.

The night proved to be a spectacular celebration of their wonderful history and people. One wall at the back of the room was entirely covered by premiership flags - it looked magnificent, showcasing an impressive history.

Sporting legend Damien Fleming was guest speaker, and guests also heard from an array of Collegian legends about what the Club means to them, and the

friendships forged from playing football at Collegians.

Also announced on the night was a team of the last 25 years as chosen by Mark Hibbins (OW1978), Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) and Nick Roach (OW2000), who have all been heavily involved during those years.

There were past players from many decades there on the night, lots of current players, and many parents of current players also attended. Comments from the night highlighted just how good



Outgoing Co-President Rod Nancarrow (OW1982) with immediate past Co-President, Mark Hibbins (OW1978)



Mums and sons: Jenny and Corey Cassidy (OW2010) with Michelle and Ben Howard (OW2020)

it was to catch up with old friends. Guests also said the night went far too fast and that they all wanted longer to catch up with other members.

Sydney OW evening - with Principal Nick Evans

After two years, a Sydney event for all OWs in the region returned to our calendar in mid-August. With approximately 30 OWs in attendance along with some partners, there was much to celebrate, including Nick Evans' (OW1985) first Sydney event as Wesley College Principal.



Yaniv Bernstein (OW1998), Katya Henley (OW1998), Chloe Groom (OW1998), Principal Nick Evans (OW1985) and Ineke Shelmerdine (Diamond) (OW1999)

Held at the stunning InterContinental Double Bay, OWCA President Kate Evans (OW1998) welcomed the group and gave a brief update on the Old Wesley Collegians Association. The Principal then gave a general College update, touched on the Association's plans to hold a Sydney event every two years henceforth and discussed the renewal of boarding at Wesley - Learning in Residence at the Glen Waverley campus.

Old Wesley Collegians from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, 2000s, and 2010s made for a vibrant and interesting evening with the sharing of Wesley stories and memories, and many attendees continued to celebrate after the event at The Bar Double Bay.

We look forward to seeing all our OWs based in Sydney, and beyond, again in August 2024!





Julia Lu (OW1996)

Congratulations to Julia Lu (OW1996), a finalist in this year's Women's Agenda Leadership Awards. These awards recognise women who have demonstrated strength, courage, collaboration, empathy and innovation to excel and help pave the way for future generations.

Head of Strategy and Venture Design at AGL Australia, where she is part of the AGL Next team driving progress in Australia's energy transition, Julia is an entrepreneur, strategist, innovator and leader with over twenty years experience in industries including energy, logistics, retail, education, telecommunications and technology. Julia was a university lecturer and published author before transitioning to strategy and innovation in some of Australia's largest corporates. She has helped launch successful new businesses in corporates, coached start-ups, and mentored MBA students.

Julia is passionate about innovation, intrapreneurship and entrepreneurship and has been an invited speaker and judge at numerous innovation events such as the Hult Prize, Hult Foundation, United Nations, and the ASES Summit. The Affiliated Stanford Entrepreneurial Students (ASES) is Stanford University's global entrepreneurship society.



**Dr Joe Johnson (OW1961)
CSC OAM AAM**

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the post-war Australian Antarctic Program, which established a continuous presence in Antarctica. Australia was the first nation to do so.

In August, this was marked by a luncheon in Hobart, which included two presentations – one to Sir Guy Green, former Governor of Tasmania (above right) who when Governor, made a visit to Macquarie Island, where he assisted with the unloading of the relief ship and walked over much of the island. He has maintained a strong interest in the Antarctic program and its interface with Tasmania, which is the location of the Antarctic Division and the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. Sir Guy was made an Honorary member of the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) Club in recognition of his contribution to Antarctic Affairs in Tasmania. The other presentation was the Phillip Law Medal to Joe Johnson (OW1961) (above left). The Medal is awarded to 'an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Antarctic Affairs and the Antarctic Community'. Details of the medal can be found at <https://www.anareclub.org/phillip-law-medal/>



Carla Fetter (OW1999)

Carla Fetter (OW1999) was recently named the third top female real estate agent in the state by the *Herald Sun* with almost \$308 million worth of transactions in the housing market between 2021 and 2022.

She leads the top-performing sales team in the nation at Jellis Craig Stonnington, where she is a partner in the business with two decades dedicated to the Stonnington property market. Carla has built an enviable network of repeat and referred clients. Carla is recognised by REB (Real Estate Business) as one of Australia's top women in real estate.

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Josh Piterman (OW2003)

Actor and singer Josh Piterman (OW2003) performed the role of 'Phantom' in Cameron Mackintosh's most recent production of *Phantom of the Opera* in London's West End just before the COVID pandemic struck.

He is now transfixing audiences in Australia, having kicked off the Melbourne season in November after a sell out run in Sydney. Prior to each performance, Josh patiently sits through hair and make-up for up to 75 minutes which no doubt reminds him of his Adamson Hall days!

While at times terrifying in the role of Phantom, off-stage Josh remains one of the warmest, most generous people you could meet and has done much to engender goodwill while overseas, especially in the UK during COVID. His colourful global experiences in recent years include recording with the Prague Symphony Orchestra and dining with the future King Charles III.

This must-see production of *Phantom of the Opera* is on at the Arts Centre, Melbourne until February 2023.



Jemima Montag (OW2016)

Congratulations to race walking superstar, Jemima Montag (OW2016), for her Gold Medal winning performance in the 10km Walk at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in August this year. Jemima also won Gold in the Commonwealth Games 20km race on the Gold Coast in 2018.

Studying Medicine at the University of Melbourne, this inspirational 24-year-old is an IOC Young Leader, with her latest project - 'Play On' - bringing 60 girls from Years 8-10 to St Kilda Football Club for workshops with expert presentations by Olympians, sports physicians, dieticians and leaders on topics ranging from body image and nutrition to inclusive sporting spaces.

As an Ambassador for Bluearth Foundation, Jemima supports work across metropolitan, regional and remote communities to provide positive experiences for children in movement and activity, teaching educators, parents and carers about the importance of being positive, active role models in children's lives.

Learn more about the Bluearth Foundation at <https://www.bluearth.org/>



Yifan (Bruce) Qin (OW2011)

Recently married to Jiani Ding (Mia) and about to leave to study in the US, Yifan made time to visit the Glen Waverley campus where he was a General Excellence Scholar.

After leaving Wesley, Yifan attended the University of Melbourne, graduating with a Bachelor of Science and a Diploma in Music (Piano) in 2014 and a Master of Engineering (Civil) in 2016. He then worked as a civil engineer at Aurecon, a global engineering design firm, for five years, designing some of the largest infrastructure projects in Australia, including Melbourne Airport Rail. This year, he decided to quit his job and travel to the US to study an MBA at Columbia Business School in New York City.

If there are OWs who would like to learn more about the application process for MBA programs at US business schools, Yifan is keen to share his experiences and lessons learnt. He can be reached via the OWCA office.

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OWs collaborate on the fringe

Theatre goes at this year's Melbourne Fringe Festival immersed themselves in a brilliant new play by multi-talented Actor, Writer, Director Olive Weeks (OW2019).



Actor Olive Weeks (OW2019) celebrated her debut as Writer/Director with *A Play about Ivy, that is really about June* at the Melbourne Fringe Festival this year

Playing on the main stage at Theatre Works, *A Play about Ivy, that is really about June* showcased not only her insights into love and human nature but raised the concept of OW collaboration to a whole new level! No less than five other OWs had key roles in putting this show together and the crowd funding that got the production over the line no doubt caught the attention of other OW friends. Joining Olive on this journey were Tansy Gorman (OW2014) as production dramaturg, Ella Newton (OW2018) as script dramaturg and playing the role of June, Sian Tjia Hennessy (OW2018) as both stage manager and sound designer,

Antigone Yannoulidis (OW2019) as both costume and set designer and Vasilika Tsingos (OW2019) as the play's visual artist, all driven no doubt by their combined Wesley theatre experience.

This two-person play covering the complexities of an all-encompassing friendship, was at once gritty, brazenly heartfelt and delicately intimate - a coming-of-age story that interrogated the perimeters of friendship as we know it. In a new apartment devoid of June, Ivy faces being alone for the first time in her life. She reconciles with her own company, heartbreak, and solitude,

learning how to be alone, and healing. Then June comes to visit. It is the first time June is coming over to the new place after leaving Ivy in their home of two years. 'This play makes my heart ache and scream with joy all at once,' Olive said in a recent interview. 'The play was born during a period of time when I felt completely awestruck by my bursting love, connection and gratitude for those around me.'

We applaud this dynamic and new independent piece of theatre created by a team who were only recently in a Wesley classroom.



Costume and set designer, Antigone Yannoulidis (OW2019)



Production dramaturg Tansy Gorman (OW2014)



Script dramaturg Ella Newton (OW2018), who also played the role of June



Visual artist, Vasilika Tsingos (OW2019)



Stage manager and sound designer, Sian Tjia Hennessy (OW2018)



(L-R) Ella Newton (OW2018) and Olive Weeks (OW2019) Writer/Director

Women of Wesley present...



Our AFLW OW Superstars

Join us in February 2023 to celebrate Wesley's AFLW Superstars.
A panel of AFLW OW stars will be interviewed by:

Hannah Singleton (OW2014)

Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Youth and Schools Program Manager and Collegians first female player

Abby Howard (OW2018)

Geelong Cats AFLW data analyst and Collegians statistician

For more details, keep your eye on the OWCA social channels and December's edition of MANE Events, our quarterly newsletter



Affiliates

Collegians Football Club

2022 will go down as a competitive year for most of our teams, with our Thirds winning the Premiership. This was an improvement on our previous season, where some teams really struggled, having had a bad run with injuries.

We had four out of six teams in Finals, including both Women's teams, our Men's Thirds and our Men's Seniors.

The Senior Women lost the first Semi-Final and the Women's Reserves lost their Grand Final by just 2 points.

The Senior Men won ten games in a row leading up to the Finals to finish the home and away season in second place. Losing the second semi-final to St Kevin's and then the Preliminary Final to Old Brighton left a bitter taste, but nevertheless, we had a great season.

The Thirds only started the team in February but showed improvement each week and ultimately won the Grand Final by some 70 points! What a terrific result for all involved.

Rodney Nancarrow (OW1982) will be standing down as Co-President at this year's AGM in December after six years in the position. The Club is looking for new committee members and needs to increase its sponsorship for season 2023. We would love to hear from likeminded OWs who want to get involved - or would like to get their business a higher profile. We have over 1,000 people on our database and all are active with the Club.

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

2022 Best & Fairest winners

Men's Seniors

Kenny Ong (OW2011)
by one vote from David Mirra

Men's Reserves

Luke Smith (OW2017)

Men's Thirds

Callum Regan (OW2011)

Men's Under 19's

Tom Sargent (OW2020)

Women's Seniors

Jenna Colwell

Women's Reserves

Gabrielle Kurdyla



Collegians FC's David Mirra current staff (above) and Kayla Dingle (below)



OWCA Bowls



Gerald Quigley from West Brighton Club awards the Bowls trophy to Ian Wilson (OW1960)

The opening event for the season at West Brighton Club on 28 September saw us win back the trophy from West Brighton after losing it pre-COVID. Scores for the game were:

- Team 1 - OW 17 defeated WB 16
- Team 2 - OW 16 defeated WB 13

It was a wonderful day of bowls and the hospitality from our hosts was fabulous as always. My thanks to Ian Wilson (OW1960) for coordinating the day for Wesley.

We have a longer season this year, but our player numbers are declining and we badly need new blood to boost our list.

At the APS Tournament and throughout the competition season, we accept bowlers who are Wesley Collegians and their relatives. The OWCA will supply your top, the rest of the uniform is owner-supplied. Wesley caps or bucket hats can also be purchased at cost.

If you would like to join us, please contact the OWCA office or me on 0403 023 288. All newcomers welcome

Richard Sluggett (OW1972)
Co-ordinator OWCA Bowls

2023 MATCH SCHEDULE:

Wednesday 18 January 2023

OW and OCG v Old Scotch at MCC Swinburne

Wednesday 15 February 2023

OW and OM v MCC at MCC Swinburne

Sunday 26 March 2023

v APS Inter Schools at Glen Waverley Bowling Club
Host club: Old Carey Grammarians

A Chorus Lion

'A Chorus Lion' came to life in 2009 when a small group of parents discussed the idea of a community choir, and an expression of interest was placed in this magazine. From baby steps with half a dozen voices singing 'a capella' and first meeting in homes, 'A Chorus Lion' has grown into an established choir with a regular attendance of up to 25 singers comprising sopranos, altos, tenors and basses.

We are grateful to our current musical director, Doug Heywood OAM, our accomplished pianist Carl Stevens, and Alexandra Cameron, Head of Music at Elsternwick Campus, who miraculously bring out the best in us! We are privileged to be able to rehearse in the amazing facilities of the St Kilda Road Music School every Wednesday evening during the school term and grateful for all the support from Wesley, including The Community College, St Kilda Road Music School, OWCA and the parent body.

2020 and 2021 was a challenge for all choirs; however, we managed to stay engaged as a group and met on-line via Zoom with Doug and Alex, who did a fantastic job as hosts. 2022 finally brought us together again as a group which was such a joy.



'A Chorus Lion' performing at the Family and Friends Soiree in September

Performances over the 13 years have included musical soirées for family and friends, Wesley Parent events, Christmas Carols at the Langham Hotel, an Elsternwick Campus concert and performances at Aged Care residences. This year, a small group of us led the singing at the OWCA Founders' Day Lunch. In 2023, we are keen to learn a new suite of songs and to perform for a variety of audiences, including OWCA and other community events.

'A Chorus Lion' welcomes OWs, parents, staff, friends and friends of friends who have an interest in singing and performing together in harmony for the sheer joy of singing as a group. We sing a wide variety of songs and NO auditions are required - that's your invitation to join us! For enquiries, please email 'A Chorus Lion' Secretary Rosanne Osborn at choruslionwes@gmail.com

OW Cricket

After an exciting 2021/2022 season which ended with an unexpected Grand Final appearance, the boys in the baggy purples are back and ready for another summer of cricket!

The Club has continued to experience growth which has resulted in the addition of a second team which will compete in Division 4 of the MCC Club XI Competition, along with our established Division 2 team.



Both teams are excited to be back training in full at both the St Kilda Road and Glen Waverley campuses on Thursdays, followed by dinner at The College Lawn Hotel who are our major sponsor.

We are on the lookout for new players! You can play just a couple of games or every week, it's up to you. All you need to know is:

- Matches are played on Sundays, starting at 12.30pm
- We play on the best turf wickets in Melbourne (including the SKR Front Turf)
- You can play Saturday cricket and still play with us!
- Play as many or as few games as you like
- Training is not compulsory

If you're interested, please contact Captain Rick Morris (OW2004) on **0438 081 886**.



OW Cross Country



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

The 2022 Cross Country season concluded in September, and it was great to be able to participate in all 12 events after two years of partially or fully cancelled seasons. This year also saw the return of the post-run afternoon teas and medal presentations that are such an important social part of our competition.

OW Cross Country Club competes against ten other APS Collegian clubs in the Associated Public Schools Old Collegians Amateur Athletic Association (APSOC). The season runs from April to September and includes both road and cross-country events ranging from 4km to 21km. For some events, there is the option to choose

between longer and shorter distances. Several of the events have a team format, whereby the combined result of teams of four or six runners counts towards the club championship result, and two of the events are a relay format.

We had several highlights this year, including Dave Nicholson (OW1991) winning the handicap event at the 81st running of the OW hosted 10km at Albert Park, and Adam Pyke (OW2013) having an amazing season, taking out 'Athlete of the Year' for the overall competition. Adam needed to win the final event of the season to avoid a tie for the award and it came down to a sprint to the finish where he



Congratulations to 'Athlete of the Year 2022' Adam Pyke (OW2013), seen here at the Associated Public Schools Old Collegians Amateur Athletic Association (APSOC) presentation night in September

prevailed over his main competitor from Old Scotch by 0.12 seconds to take the win!

We are always keen to welcome new runners of all abilities. Family members of collegians and current students are also more than welcome to run with the OW club. It's also a great way to keep fit over winter in a fun and supportive environment.

If you are interested in getting involved or would like any further information, contact adrian.pile@bigpond.com or call 0404 891 608.



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Collegians X Hockey

After two years of playing half seasons or not at all, it was great to complete a full season of hockey this year.

If you are keen for a run, we have teams in both summer and winter competitions. For those who have only ever played winter hockey, summer hockey is fantastic fun and a great opportunity to stay fit and keep your skills up.

We welcome anyone who is interested in playing to come on down and we have various standards available. We're based at Monash Clayton and train on Wednesday nights, from February through to August, from 7pm - 8:30pm.

If you want a run or just want to see what we're about, call **Scott Booth** on **0418 883 21** or email secretary@collegiansx.com



OWs in action: Lachlan Lee-Archer (OW2000) and Matt Facey (OW2015)

Alan Mitchell Club



Alan Mitchell Club members after rowing on the Murray-Darling rivers to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctors

2022 marked the 30th anniversary of the first involvement of the Alan Mitchell Rowing Club in raising money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Club members participate in a row-a-thon held on the Murray and Darling rivers. Typically, the row-a-thon (the hardest row in Australia) is conducted with four legs, each approximately 20 kilometres long.

Proving age is no barrier to participation and fundraising, 88-year-old Ernst Wirtz, past parent from the Alan Mitchell Rowing Club, had the distinction this year

of being the oldest rower to compete. He was also the recipient of the Lee Mann fundraising award for the highest individual fundraiser in 2021.

We are really proud of Ernst and extend a welcome to all Wesley alumni to get involved in fitness and fun by joining the Club.

For details, contact our club president, Ana McCloskey at ana.mccloskey@gmail.com

Tennis anyone?



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

Expressions of interest to owca@wesleycollege.edu.au



Reunions

Big Bands 50th



OWs 1991: Hugo Stephenson, Natalie Krug, Nina Ferro, Amy Valent Curlis and Brad Crick



Matthew Hicks (OW1980) plays the piano at the Big Band 50 year celebration



Nina Ferro (OW1991) sings alongside guest artist Ross Irwin at the Big Band 50 year celebration

GW 1997 Reunion



Neil McCann, Emma Morris and Barnaby Chessell



Nicholas Dillon, Richard Arnott, Sally Sinclair, Layton Pike and Fiona McGregor



Sharon Waters, Michael De Boer and Rachel Lohan

Prep Form VIII Reunion



Bill Fone (OW1956), David Sumner (OW1957) and Clem Gruen (OW1956)



OWs 1957: Hugo Goetze, Peter Renkin and Jim Tayton



Malcolm Corben (OW1956), Noel Jackling OAM (OW1956) and Peter Renkin (OW1957)

SKR 1972 Reunion



David Gregory, Geoff Lawford and Chester Metcalfe



Ian Rice, Richard Sluggett and Peter Mason



Michael Fudge, Paul Ulrick and Peter Andrews

SKR 1982 Reunion



Brendon Davis, George Houssos and Tom Gravius



Gab Miltenoff, Cam Williams and Greg Miltenoff



Bruce Van Twest, Stephen Grasby and Mark Heffernan

Sydney Evening



Ian Brown (OW1962), Jack Moshakis (OW1973), Belinda Brown and Richard Hosking (OW1996)



Bruce Dufty (OW1963), Yaniv Bernstein (OW1998), Chloe Groom (OW1998) and Katya Henley (OW1998)



Steve Dammerer (OW1974), Will Owens (OW1973), Michael Coonan and Emma Wartski-Coonan (OW1997)



Births

Dagley



To Michael (OW2000) and Laura on 9 February 2022, a son, Leo William, a brother for Aurelia, a grandson for Nerolee (Corp) (Cato MLC 1973) and Ian (OW1971)

Fleisher-Sharbanee



To Lindi Nankin (OW2013) and Zak Fleisher-Sharbanee on 18 September 2022, a son, Archie Sydney, a nephew for Jarrod (OW2012), Cameron (OW2014) and Hayden (OW2018), a grandson for Trevor Sydney Cohen AM (OW1955)

Foster



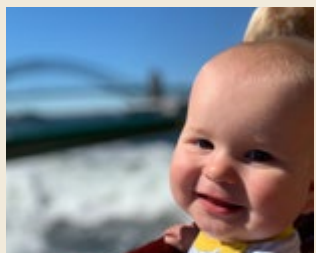
To Luke (OW2004) and Katie on 12 July 2022, a daughter, Naomi Avril, a niece for Adam (OW2000) and Natalie (OW2001)

Fraser



To Troy (OW1995) and Kate on 5 October 2022, a daughter, Harriette Mcleod

Gieroba



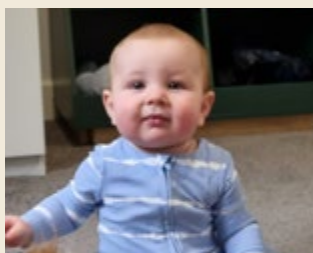
To Tess (Malseed-Harris) (OW2005) and Tom on 31 May 2021, a son, Ziggy Tim, a brother for Ella, Flora and Toby, a nephew for Jules Malseed-Harris (OW1999) and Joanna Parkinson (Malseed-Harris) (OW2002), a grandson for Tim Malseed (OW1963)

Habersberger



To Andrew (OW1998) and Sally on 12 September 2021, a son, Samuel John, a nephew for Jonathon (OW1993) and Kate (OW1995), a grandson for Peter (OW1958)

Lindsay



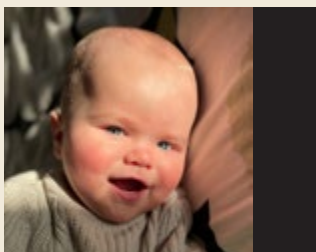
To Amanda Allisey (OW2002) and Jackson on 8 December 2021, a son, Elliot Harvey, a nephew for Alicia Allisey (OW2000)

Mancuso



To Michael and Bridie on 3 October 2022, a son, Sam, a nephew for Claudia (OW2010) and Gina (OW2016)

Parkinson



To Joanna (Malseed-Harris) (OW2002) and Christopher (OW1999) on 28 February 2022, a son, Christopher (Kit) Henry, a brother for Eddie and Billy, a nephew for Jules Malseed-Harris (OW1999), Tess Gieroba (Malseed-Harris) (OW2005) and Timothy Parkinson (OW2001), a grandson for Tim Malseed (OW1963)

Tiktikakis



To Caroline Diamond (OW2009) and Andrew on 25 August 2022, a son, Jack James, a nephew for James (OW2001), Amanda (OW2003) and Paul (OW2006), a great grandson for Gordon Newton (OW1950)

Wagstaff



To Sally (OW2007) (Naylor) and Jamie (OW2006) on 6 August 2021, a daughter, Olivia Eve, a sister for Harper, a niece for Emma (OW2009), Rebecca Naylor (OW2011), Jennifer Blumfield (Naylor) (OW2005) and Chris Blumfield (OW2002), a granddaughter for Scott (OW1962), a great granddaughter for Geoff (OW1949)

Watts



To Fergus (OW2003) and Jenna on 3 May 2022, a daughter, Cosette Mille Anne, a sister for Navy and Tennyson, a niece for Jack (OW2005) and Ellie (OW2009)

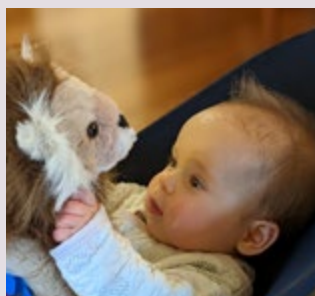
Lion Cubs

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



DAGLEY

Leo William Dagley, son of Michael (OW2000) and Laura, grandson of Nerolee (Cato MLC 1973) and Ian (OW1971)



HAZELMAN

Tessa Jane Hazelman, daughter of Emma Lockwood Sutton (current staff) and Mick Hazelman.



LINDSAY

Elliot Harvey Lindsay, son of Amanda Allisey (OW2002) and Jackson



NANKERVIS

Tom and William Nankervis, sons of Natalie (Rowell) (OW2001) and David.



NGUYEN

Anthony Gao Nguyen, son of Fei Gao (OW2008)



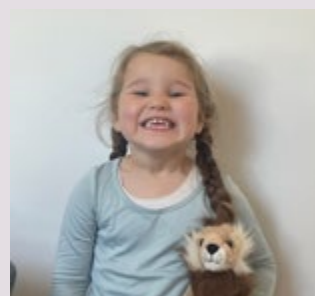
RUNDLE

Freddy and Gillian Rundle, children of James (OW2008) and Lucienne Guyot, nephew and niece of Andrew (OW2007) and Jonathon Rundle (OW2010) and great-grandchildren of Keith Guyot (OW1949)



SILAGY

Alexandra Barbara Jane Silagy, daughter of Louise Hockridge and Andrew Silagy, grandchild of Christopher (OW1977) (dec.) and niece of Nick (OW2011)



WITORZ - COLLINS

Ivy Poppy Collins daughter of Amy Witorz (OW2000), niece of Dewi (Witorz) (1991) and Blake Duggin (OW1992) and Mia Crespín (Witorz) (OW1998)

ENROLLING

YOUR CHILD

AT WESLEY



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

Don't leave it too late.
Apply today

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

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

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



Weddings & Engagements



WRIGHT - BELL

Georgia (OW2014) married Kyle on 9 April 2022



CHEN - REN

Oscar (OW2006) married Katrina on 21 November 2021



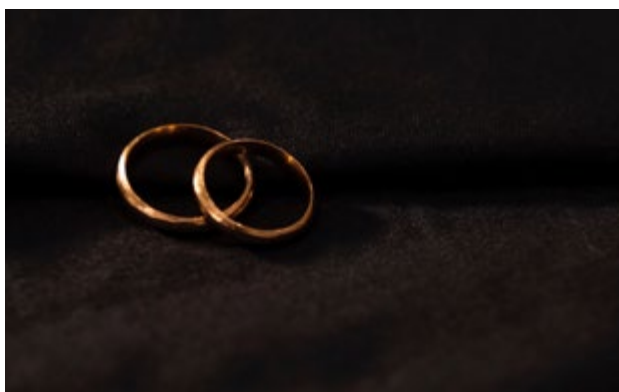
HORVARTH - TEAGUE

Simon (OW1997) married Alyssa on 11 June 2022



QIN - DING

Yifan (Bruce) (OW2011) married Jiani (Mia) on 6 June 2022



PAGE - GERECKE

Joshua (OW1997) married Neil on 22 February 2022 at 2:22 pm



VARIGOS - PENTARIS

Tim (OW2010) and Nicole

Deaths

BALL

David James (OW1977) on 17 July 2022

BERKOWITZ

Lionel Maurice (OW1952) on 17 August 2022, father of Peter (OW1980)

BROADBRIDGE

Graham (OW1953) on 21 June 2022

CAMERON (BUTT)

Pamela Mary (Elsternwick MLC 1962) on 2 September 2022

CHEESEMAN

Colin Ralph (Ralph) Cheeseman (OW1962) on 26 July 2022, father of Lilaia Nymphaea (Cheeseman) (OW1995) and Anna (OW1996), son of Ronald (OW1932)(dec.), nephew of Colin (OW1932) (dec.)

DAVIES

Catherine Ellen (Cato 1982) on 26 April 2022, sister of Louise (Cato 1984)

FARAGHER

John Trevor (Trevor) (OW1948) on 16 August 2022, father of Ian (OW1978), John (OW1982) and Mark (OW1980), brother of William (OW1943) (dec.)

GLEDHILL

John Dunstan (OW1949) on 15 July 2022, brother of Val Brooke (Gledhill) (MLC Elsternwick 1946)

GRAEVE

Norman (OW1958) on 11 September 2022, brother of Raymond (OW1960)

GRAHAM

David Wilson (Former staff) on 1 September 2022, father of Maja (OW1998) and Andy (OW2000)

HARTLEY

David Gordon (OW1947) on 21 May 2020

MERRY

Kenneth Victor (Ken) (Former staff) on 1 July 2022, father of Andrew (OW1972), great uncle of Sam Jeffrey (OW2021)

NICHOLS (MCLENNAN)

Bette (MLC Elsternwick 1943) on 6 June 2022

OAKLEY

Denis McKeeman OAM (OW1955) on 8 August 2022, father of Kirsten (OW1985) and Benjamin (OW1991), grandfather of Meg Oakley-Kerr (OW2018), brother of Ross (OW1961), uncle of Gregory (OW1988) and Melanie McDonough (Oakley) (OW1990), son of Hector (OW1926) (dec.)

REID

Graham Stanley (OW1950) on 26 August 2022

SNOWBALL

Mary Isobel (MLC Elsternwick 1945) on 31 August 2021, sister of Kathleen Reading (Snowball) (MLC Elsternwick 1949)

TADGELL

Robert Clive (Clive) AO (OW1950) on 14 July 2022

THOMSON

Robin Donald Fraser on 4 April 2022, brother of Garry (OW1950) (dec.) and Ralph (OW1951) (dec.)

THORNTON

Ian Ross (Former staff) on 24 June 2022

WALKER

Howard Macdonald (OW1940) on 31 July 2022, son of Alexander (OW1903) (dec.)

WARRELL

Zoe (OW2002) on 5 September 2022, sister of Elizabeth (OW1992) and Jane (OW1992), brother of Sam (OW1996)

WIGNEY

Darryl John (Former staff) on 11 July 2022

YOUR OWCA

OWCA Executive

President

Kate Evans (OW1998)

Vice President

Tom Pewtress (OW2018)

Treasurer

Rob Lancaster (OW1982)

Secretary

Amy McAlister (OW2003)

Executive members

Jack Ayerbe (OW1963)

David Kennedy (OW1966)

Ian Thomas (OW1982)

Anastasia Malishev (OW1995)

Vibeke Pedersen (OW1996)

Kunal Rastogi (OW2002)

Alessia Francese (OW2016)

Key contacts

Address and email updates | Lion stories | Social media, OW updates and connections | Birth, Marriage and Death notices | Grant enquiries from Affiliates | Administrative enquiries | Academic transcripts
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

Event enquiries | Calendar enquiries
OWCA
owca@wesleycollege.edu.au

Interested in becoming involved in the Executive? Contact:
Kate Evans (OW1998), President, OWCA
kate.evans@wesleycollege.edu.au



Remembrances



David Wilson Graham

Former staff

31/08/1941 – 01/09/2022

David Graham was a highly significant teaching presence at the St Kilda Road Campus from 1975 to 2009, and the thousands of individual people he touched during this time would doubtless be thankful for their encounters with him, both inside and, for many athletes and soccer players, outside the classroom. He was 'blooded' at the then Glen Waverley Junior School in 1973, dabbled for a year with law at Monash, then promptly returned to his principal passion - teaching, at Prahran campus in 1975, never to have such wayward thoughts again. This spirited and highly energised man of Scottish descent was a gift to education, as so many are who recognise there can be no greater calling than preparing young people for the rigorous challenges of life. And he accomplished this objective in the most engaging and dedicated fashion.

David literally whistled his way around the campus from classroom to classroom, forever buoyed by what awaited him inside of each, whether Year 7 or Year 12 English (and early on, a touch of geography thrown in). Present beneath a more orthodox and scholarly exterior was an accomplished performer (witnessed by his many friends late at night at his Prahran home), and you can only imagine that his students were frequently entertained in a like manner, without ever losing sight of what would have been his principal objective: to help young people grasp the wonder of life through the civilising gifts of language and literature. There is a line by the sixteenth century metaphysical poet Andrew Marvell that he loved to quote: "What wondrous life is this I lead..."

The private individual and the committed teacher were seamless aspects of the same persona, and his exuberant responses to life's ebbs and flows were present in both his teaching behaviours, as well as in his creative and constructive connections with his English teaching colleagues. His teaching practices were simple but not simplistic – he understood intuitively the strategies needed to engage kids from Middle School to the final year of Senior School, and he gave all his students, wherever they sat in the line of progression through school, the full weight of his personality. He always showed them nothing less than his authentic conviction that what he taught them mattered.

David was likewise an influential and engaged member of an English staff which remained remarkably stable over several decades. He was respectful of, and respected by, his colleagues. He was always an enthusiastic contributor to the many impassioned verbal exchanges about life, literature and whatever else needed some

mental dissection. He understood intuitively that this is how all of us grow, and he wanted to add his voice to the process. Like all good teachers, he never stopped growing. And he also deeply believed how education extends beyond the formality of the classroom and his leadership, especially in our evolving soccer culture, as well as in our College athletics team for a number of years, demonstrates the scale of his impact on the school overall. David was so very often at the heart of things.

David was held in high esteem by all his colleagues, and not just those in the English Faculty. This was principally because he never took a step back on matters which he recognised as affecting the well-being and emotional good health of the wider staff, both academic and administrative. He articulated unambiguously his convictions about a fair go, that perennial Australian theme, and he was often outspoken, but never angrily, when he thought the College's administrators had mis-stepped. He was not fearful of pointing this out to them, and many of us from those times can recall how just a hint of trepidation overcame us as he rose formidably from his chair in staff meetings to address the crowd on perceived wrong doings. He was not always right, but his sense of justice, and of the need for debating issues properly, were lessons for us all. Not unexpectedly, he was an avid supporter and coach of various College debating teams.

He is now a precious and enduring memory for the many students and staff who were fortunate to spend time with him in any of the various activities he so selflessly engaged in for a school he loved unreservedly. But 'without reservation' never meant, for him, beyond reasonable criticism, or continual and rigorous self-inspection.



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Kenneth (Ken) Victor Merry

Former staff

16/12/1926 - 01/07/2022

Ken Merry had an extraordinary career at Wesley College.

He started at Wesley in 1953 and was appointed by Professor Frederick. He retired in 1985. In his time at the College, Wesley moved from a one campus school to two campuses, growing from around 800 boys to an enrolment well above 1500. It was a boys' school in 1953 but by 1985, the College was just a few years away from becoming entirely coeducational. There was no such thing as outdoor education in 1953. By 1985, every student was going on a variety of camps. In 1953, there were four sports in

which colours were awarded. In 1985, colours were awarded not just for a range of sports, but also for the Arts.

Ken Merry witnessed the birth of the modern Wesley College.

He was more than simply present. Ken was a Form Teacher, a Housemaster, and held any number of roles within the pastoral structure of the College. He was a passionate teacher of Physics and Mathematics. The former, in particular, was Ken's academic love.

Ken was a very successful coach of the First XI, indulging in another love of his, cricket. A very good cricketer in his own right, having played district cricket, he coached the First XI to a premiership in 1969, thus joining a very select group. Ken also coached football and athletics. He was teacher in charge of Athletics from 1963 to 1967. Indeed, the Chronicle, on his retirement, wondered if anyone had contributed more to cricket, football and athletics in the history of the College.

Yet sport was not the sum of him. Ken was a man of faith and was an active member of the Syndal Baptist Church. He was also a member of the Student Christian Movement from 1956 to 1970, a Head of House from 1968 to 1973 and, when the Arts Colours mentioned above were instituted in 1973, Ken was the first Chair of the Arts Awards Committee, thus ushering in a new age for arts at the College.

It was as a leader of the College that many of those privileged to know him will remember him. Ken was appointed Deputy Principal in 1975 and was the first Head of Campus for what was then the

Prahran campus, and is now the St Kilda Road Campus. On two occasions, in 1978 and 1985, Ken was Acting Principal of Wesley College. This was at a time of great growth for the College and he was the enduring leadership presence at the Prahran Campus while David Prest was engaged in the extraordinary growth of the school. He always maintained an impressive dignity, something that can be hard to do when dealing with young people. He was never one for an easy familiarity, but Ken clearly cared, and he communicated that care to all.

Such a career is generational. Some who read this will remember him as a young, dynamic Physics and Maths teacher, as a cricket, football and athletics coach, as one of the young Turks of a new Wesley. Others, from the late 1970s and 80s, will recall the dignified and sober leader, a presence that spoke to a different age but was, nonetheless, reassuring. He seemed to embody the school and was, somehow, ageless.

Ken did, of course, have a life outside of Wesley College. Many will remember his wife Dawn with great fondness. He retired to Ocean Grove and, until very recently, still attended Wesley events.

It seems appropriate to end with scripture:

"His Lord send unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler of many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord".

This could have been written for Ken Merry.



Trooper Victor Pomroy (OW1963)
killed in action Vietnam 17 Feb 1967

HELP US WRITE OUR HISTORY A RECORD OF OW SERVICE POST-WWII

Former students of Wesley College have contributed greatly in so many fields, including military service. OWs have been at the forefront of numerous engagements, from the Boer Wars through to more recent conflicts in Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan as well as peacekeeping duties.

We would like to hear from OWs or their families who have served post-WWII, or who are still serving, to record and preserve their service contributions. It is both their history and part of the Wesley history.

If you have information to share, please contact Leigh Treyvaud (OW1963) at treyvaud-lc@bigpond.com



Obituaries



**Denis McKeeman
Oakley OAM (OW1955)**

27/12/1937 – 08/08/2022

Policeman, social worker, minister, footballer, bowler, try-hard sailor, club man, traveller, action man, friend. Denis was the eldest child of Hector Herbert Oakley (OW1926) and Audrey Constance Catterrall. Hector was the son of the Customs-General of Victoria and Audrey the daughter of a Methodist minister. Denis was followed by a sister, Judith, and a brother, Ross (OW1961).

Growing up in Sandringham, attending State schools, he entered Wesley Prahran at 14 years of age, not academically engaged, and back then, he may have been labelled a 'trouble maker'. His

interest was sport. He played football, was a 'basher' as a cricketer, and spent time in the gym supervised by Bonnie Franks. He was Victorian Schoolboy Champion in table tennis in 1954.

The Sandringham train to Prahran was the subject of a number of calls to Wesley, with comments about the misbehaviour of some boys. There was 'Ocka', 'Mency', 'Hammy' - Ian Mence (OW1955), Bryant Ham (OW1956), and at school there was 'Cookie' (Jim Cook OW1955). The 'good' boys were John Moule (OW1955), Geoff Fuller (OW1955) and Andy Mason (OW1954) - all life-long friends. It was in the days of 'the cane' and Denis recalled a number of times in Headmaster 'The Boof' Fredericks' office.

Denis played bass drum in the school band, because he was strong enough to carry it and had a sense of rhythm. He was also in the Glee Club with 'Breath' Brown, singing song words altered with schoolboy humour. The traditions of Wesley and the friendships he made stayed with him always.

After a year in country football and church in Charlton, Denis became a policeman. Attending the local police station with his application to join the Force, the Sergeant slipped another document under his nose to sign. It was a contract with the Sandringham Football Club (SFC), the beginning of his colourful career in VFA football as a full-forward. The press called him 'sandy-haired, stocky spearhead' but the opposing players and supporters had other names. As leading goal kicker for the Club and the VFA multiple times, he was admitted

to the SFC Hall of Fame. Following his death, Sandy's football team wore black arm bands, as did the Wesley 1st XVIII, a team which included his grandson Will, in Year 12.

As a policeman, Denis dealt with all sorts of crime and misdemeanors, as well as violence, domestic violence, poverty and child abuse. He realised that the law was not the best approach to many issues and wanted to contribute in a more meaningful way to the lives of children and their families. In 1963, he entered training for Social Work and in those days, not many men trained in that field.

After five plus years in the Force, at Collingwood and St Kilda (tough and challenging areas), Denis surprised many when he decided to candidate for the Methodist ministry and begin at Melbourne University in Arts/Social Work and Theology. 'Theologs', as they were called, lived in Queen's College. Finally, engagement with – and enjoyment of – studies at age 25. Denis treasured those years as a privilege. Once again, lifelong friendships and tradition.

In 1965, he married Lesley Fielding, a youth worker with the YWCA. After completing his Arts/Social Work degrees, Denis was appointed to the Heathcote circuit as a student minister. It was a year of country parish and country football, with not a lot of focus on theological studies.

A daughter, Kirsten, was born that year. Next parish was Casterton, where once again, country parish and country football took over. A second daughter, Johanne, was born later that year. The

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move from Casterton to Tally Ho Boys' Village in 1970 sealed the direction of Denis's career in child welfare for the rest of his working life. It was the beginning of professionalisation of child welfare in Australia, with some theoretical and research-based underpinnings being applied to practice. Denis challenged the prevailing institutionalised culture of Tally Ho, grew his hair long as an alternative to the short back and sides imposed on the boys, and didn't always win favour with the residential staff who were quite comfortable with the status quo. He didn't always win favour with the financial manager at the Wesley Mission either!

It was while at Tally Ho that the Grassmere Centre was established. Here boys (some as young as 10) and their families were supported to make changes so some of the boys could safely stay at home, instead of the custom of removal to residential care. During this time, two more children, Rachael and Benjamin, were born and Denis finished his five years at Tally Ho in 1975, with another on the way, Lachlan.

Denis worked in child welfare in Victoria for the next 30 years in an organisation that eventually became 'Oz Child', also making international connections as secretary of the International Forum at Child Welfare. Throughout his career, Denis pushed boundaries, politicians, bureaucrats, fundraising opportunities and helped raise the profile of child welfare issues. He advocated for children and often made a nuisance of himself to achieve his objective. Where he could see children's needs weren't being met, or there was another way, he was restless for change.

This restlessness was at odds with his love of tradition - The Wesley College and Queens College traditions, and that of the Methodist church; not the theological orthodoxy, but the history and the heroes. He came to an understanding of the value to people of their own cultural theology, and that 'truth' could be found in unlikely places. Not for Denis a set of beliefs, doctrines and dogmas, but what was important was how you lived your life in your relationships and community.

Over the years, he celebrated life's joys, sadness and grief with so many people. He became the alternative parson for people who didn't have a connection with the church. Maybe he made the church seem more accessible because he didn't fit the mould. He upset some in the 1960's when he played football on Sunday or raised money for children by making commercials on TV for Billy Guyatt while wearing a clerical collar.

For seven years from 2007, he worked in the Wesley College Foundation, in the Sapere Aude Bequest program, and finally as Chaplain in Newhaven College on Phillip Island.

Of course, there was also bowls... about 40 years of lawn bowls in the Black Rock and Phillip Island clubs. He loved it and it's no exaggeration to say that he was very competitive.

His musical repertoire was limited to traditional church hymns, Wesley school songs and West Brighton Club songs, which he dearly loved to sing. The West Brighton Club was very dear to him, where he had fun and enjoyed the company of old and new friends. He was very good at writing clever verses on the back of a serviette.

He recalled the story of his last day at school. At the last assembly, the Master Jerry Hattam stood at the door and farewelled each boy as they stepped into their life and their future. His parting words to Denis were, 'Oakley, I hope you can find something useful to do with your life'.

I think we can say that Denis did find something useful to do with his life. He was an agent of change, an entrepreneur with a vision and a warrior for a better life for children and their families. He left behind footprints for the good. He was a big personality who took up a lot of space and engendered much love and laughter. Above all he was a son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend. He often said that his greatest achievement was his family.

He is survived by sister Judith and brother Ross (OW1961), his wife Lesley, daughters Kirsten (OW1985), Johanne and Rachael, sons Benjamin (OW1991) and Lachlan and 17 grandchildren.

Vale Denis McKeeman Oakley, well done.

Lesley Oakley & family





Ewen Fraser Gellie (OW1986)

15/10/1968 – 09/03/2022

Ewen's life was inextricably linked with bicycles. His achievements in the bicycle world are legendary: Australian Mountain Bike Champion in downhill and trials 1988 – 1991; competing in the World Mountain Bike Championships in Italy in 1991; inducted into the Australian Mountain Bike Association Hall of Fame in 1993. His ingenuity and engineering skills made him a leader in handmade bicycle building.

He was the only son of Janet and John Gellie (OW 1951), with three older sisters - Kirsten, Catriona and Fiona (who taught at Glen Waverley from 1984-1994). In Year 7, Tom Fortuin introduced him to the Mechanics Club, where they pulled things apart to see how they worked. Bryan Kenneally introduced him to many outdoor

sports. He did high jump, jumping 1.85 metres, played in the First XVIII, and received General Sports Colours. Close friendships with many of his classmates continued through the following years – a testament to Ewen's warm, caring nature.

Teenage Ewen had a BMX: he rode it over almost anything. Then he graduated to mountain bikes, competing in and winning his first race at age 14. He developed his riding technique and learned how the bicycles he rode could be improved.

Ewen entered Queens College and began Mechanical Engineering at Melbourne University in 1987. Friends at Queens remember him as 'the athletic guy performing superb wheelies in the quad' and 'a gentle, intelligent soul.'

Before graduating, he applied his budding engineering knowledge to bicycle design: once he took a hacksaw and then a TIG welder to a poorly designed bicycle, reconfiguring its geometry to improve traction and ride comfort. He created his 'Yowie' brand of mountain bikes, riding them to victory in National Championships.

In 1990, he graduated as a mechanical engineer and was selected for the Australian Mountain Bike Team - an impressive double for the year.

Following the World Mountain Bike Championships in Italy in 1991, he competed for another year before switching to riding for pleasure. Beyond his riding achievements, he mentored young riders and promoted the sport.

In 1993, Ewen worked for General Motors Holden Engine Division. He moved to Ford, then Toyota, travelling the world as a

problem-solver. He returned to full-time bicycle building in 2006 with his 'Gellie Custom' brand.

Ewen joined the 'Round the Bend Conservation Co-operative' at Bend of Islands in 2005, building a house and workshop in the bush. Wanting to 'walk the talk' of his convictions, he embraced sustainable green living and shared community input. He described it as 'living in his own national park.'

From 2006 to 2022, Ewen created superb handmade bicycles, perfecting his techniques and tools. On the wall at home was this Albert Einstein quote: 'Scientists investigate that which already is; engineers create that which has never been.'

Ewen loved adopting new technologies. He used 3D-printing to make unique bike parts and created what is possibly the first ever tandem bicycle that could be dismantled and packed into two airline suitcases. In the Co-op, he created a pole-mounted camera that enabled checking of animal nest-boxes in trees from the ground, part of their monitoring of local wildlife. A seeker of knowledge with an enquiring mind, especially in science and new technology, he shared his knowledge with people around the world.

Ewen was an engineer and an innovator, creative and inquisitive. In his workshop, he created his legacy of unique state-of-the-art steel-framed bicycles. His contribution to the bicycle community cannot be overstated. He achieved so much, but remained thoughtful, humble, caring, calm, kind and environmentally aware – a gentle man who walked softly and considerately on the earth.

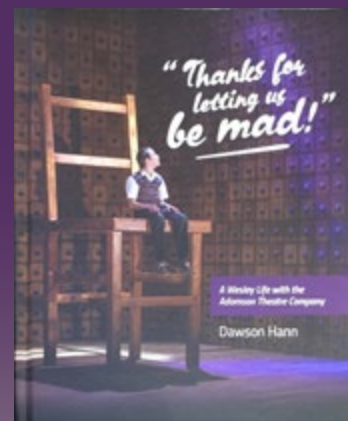
Contributed by John Gellie (OW1951)

Thanks for letting us be mad!

Limited edition history of the Adamson Theatre Company
by Co-Founder Dawson Hann

\$29.⁹⁵

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Calendar

February

GW 1998: 25 Year Reunion
Friday 17 | 7pm
Venue TBA

GW 2003: 20 Year Reunion
Friday 17 | 7pm
Venue TBA

SKR 1973: 50 Year Reunion
Friday 24 | 7pm
Cato Room, SKR

AFLW OW Superstars
Date TBA
Venue TBA

March

SKR 1998: 25 Year Reunion
Friday 17 | 7pm
Venue TBA

SKR 2003: 20 Year Reunion
Friday 17 | 7pm
Venue TBA

April

Boat Race Dinner
Monday 3 | 6.30pm
Leonda by the Yarra

SKR 1963: 60 Year Reunion
Friday 14 | 12pm
Cato Room, SKR

May

Founders' Day Dinner
Saturday 6 | 6pm
Cato Room, SKR

Founders' Day Lunch
Celebrating our Golden Lions
Friday 26 | 12pm
Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

June

SKR 2013: 10 Year Reunion
Friday 2 | 7pm
Union Hotel, Windsor

GW 2013: 10 Year Reunion
Friday 9 | 7pm
Union Hotel, Windsor

August

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

Business Networking
Stillwell Motor Group
Wednesday 9 | 6.30pm
Venue TBA

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

August (cont'd)

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

September

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

October

SKR 1993: 30 Year Reunion
Friday 13 | 7pm
Cato Room, SKR

GW 2022: 1 Year Reunion
Friday 20 | 7pm
Union Hotel, Windsor

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

Cato Golf
Date TBA
Venue TBA

December

OWCA / OSCA Golf Day
Friday 1
Kew Golf Club



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Founders Day Lunch

Celebrating our Golden Lions

Friday 26 May 2023

at 12 noon

Kooyong Lawn

Tennis Club

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Plaza Ballroom

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