



Ad Astra

Issue No 143 | **December 2022**



Learning outside the classroom

Community connections - at home & abroad

From the Editor

It is so refreshing, indeed exhilarating to look back on an almost normal year in the life of The Geelong College in which our students have participated in such a diverse range of programs, activities, and experiences. This was particularly important for our Year 12 students and we wish them well for the future. The inspiring valedictory speech from Richard Page, Chair of Council can be found on page 4.

The last few years have provided a number of challenges including planning for the future. On page 6 Dr Peter Miller talks about undertaking a number of collaborative workshops with parents, staff, students, and alumni to help identify opportunities in the development of the next strategic plan. These conversations will help shape future student experiences and provide a shared understanding of the direction of the College.

We say goodbye to a number of long-serving staff with wonderful reflections on their time at College from Joan Gill, Director of Student Wellbeing Programs, Mark Cheatley, Director of Sport, Emily Fitzsimons, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Ros Molyneux, Director of Early Learning.

This year has been about reconnection and growth through learning outside of the classroom which you can read about in articles on the return of service learning through the Fulfilling Lives program, the Year 8 camp, and the creativity expressed by our talented musicians, and actors, to the multi-faceted arts and design program.

With the Cats winning the Premiership we had the opportunity to chat with Tom Atkins about his football career and the part he played in the team's success this season. We also delve into the archives to trace back the strong link between College and the Cats in the mid-1800's.

It was exciting to have had over 1000 Old Collegians reconnect with College through our reunion program this year, after running a backlog of cancelled events. We feature some of their stories in 'Life after College'. We also asked two of our youngest Old Collegians to describe their experiences as Gap students in the United Kingdom. It is always fascinating to learn about the twists and turns of a career path. Read about the talents of two Old Collegians with a passion for art and creativity who form GelBell and how an Old Collegian got into the booming industry of designing tiny houses.

Wishing everyone in our community a restful time with family and friends over Christmas - dare I say: take the opportunity to disconnect!

Mike Howell

Director of Community Relations

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COVER IMAGE: Lilli Biscan does a Cossack in the Division 3 Girls' Slopestyle Ski to win team gold at the Victorian Interschool Snowsports Championship.



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Farewell to the Class of 2022



PROF RICHARD PAGE,
CHAIR OF COUNCIL

It was a pleasure to be able to mix with, and speak to, Dr Miller, Members of Council and the Executive, staff, parents, and students at the Valedictory Ceremony in October.

It was so good to finally be back in person amongst the school community. For this edition of Ad Astra, I have chosen to reproduce the essence of my speech to the 2022 Year 12 group, as something for our wider community to ponder as the year draws to a close.

For the Class of 2022, it has been an action-packed year, and it is natural to reflect on all that has happened along the way.

Life is a journey with the destination a mystery and therein lies the paradox of both the uncertainty and the fun.

Along life's journey, you will find yourself the recipient of a good deal of well-meaning advice. Much of it will come from home. Some of this advice you will seek out, but other advice will be given to you freely - whether you want it or not!

When preparing my address this year, I was informed (in no uncertain terms) that I was *not* to speak about sunscreen (despite it being a fabulous reference from American author Kurt Vonnegut).

Nor was I to mention 'new puppies', as the one that joined our household in 2021 is now over a year old, and more of an uncontrolled garden excavator.

Therefore, this year I chose to focus on lawnmowers.

We have a new one and it is brilliant, although I have been hanging onto the old favourite as well. The new one is red and cuts very efficiently. I have offered it to family members to have a go, but they seem less enthusiastic to test its power – I can't understand why.

So, what is it about lawns and the simple pleasure of freshly cut and neatly trimmed grass?

Well, it is a great allegory for slowing down and appreciating the moment, taking in the simple things. Such as finding the time to sit outside and take in a podcast (under the careful supervision of attentive family dogs).

Your listening experience, accompanied by the sounds and smells of spring, and experiencing the sense of satisfaction and 'a job well done' as the podcast draws to a close.

Life gets busy and sometimes we just need to slow down and appreciate the 'now', rather than rushing to whatever is coming next.

Be present with the people around you, and with yourself. Give your time to those you are close to – especially your older relatives. At the end of the day we are all on borrowed time.



For a number of families, the end of 2022 marks their final transition through College. Their youngest child has now graduated and is moving to the next phase of life.

This is a significant moment for families - parents as well as graduating students.

It is also one we experienced in our household this year, as the last of our children moved rapidly from school student into a young adult, ready to commence the next phase of study, work, and adult life.

It is a time of celebration and pride for all involved, but is also a time for reflection at the end of a prolonged period of personal family attachment to the wonderful school that is The Geelong College.

For students, the rush to get to the next stage may not leave time to consider the final echoes of running from the Cloisters for the last time. The final dive into House Room lockers, or the expressions on the faces of their friends as they race to the next event that marks the end of year, and flags the end of school days.

Of course, there was the wee hurdle of final exams along the way, but the

culmination of school years and exam preparation has finished in a blink, and now another year group has scattered into the summer haze.

They take with them the many memories they have gathered along the way - of faces, teachers, sport days, camps and events.

Despite the enormity of this transition, our finishing students and families will always remain part of the school community. Our students become 'Old Collegians' and our finishing families - 'Friends of The Geelong College'.

My final remarks to our Class of 2022 were borrowed from a popular Billie Eilish song, often heard in our house, 'Your Power'.

*Try not to abuse your power
I know we didn't choose to change
You might not wanna lose your power
But having it's so strange*

All leaving students have 'power' - one facet of this being the ability to adapt to change. Just as they have done across the years of schooling at The Geelong College, especially when faced with the tumultuous COVID-19 years.

This power is given strength by knowing they are prepared and ready for the future.

Prepared with the strength and the love of family.

Prepared by the strength of a broad and liberal education, with all the knowledge and experiences it brings.

So, in closing, I again offer my congratulations to our finishing Year 12 students. Well done on making it this far, good luck as you go forward on your personal journey, and know we are right behind you. We wish you well as you navigate this change and find your power. We also hope you find your passion and place as contributors to society in the years to come.

Remember to take time to stop and soak up the sun along the way, and be confident knowing you are prepared by your experiences - not just those that occurred inside the school halls, classrooms and out on the playing fields, but by the love of family and friends.

Mostly remember to work hard, be kind and to laugh – and use your power to shape your future!

Looking ahead

This semester we have commenced a process of review of the College's strategic objectives ahead of the development of a revised strategic plan that will take College towards 2030.

This process of revising our strategic plan has involved a number of workshops for staff, students, parents and alumni. The challenge for workshop participants has been to prioritise objectives and in so doing, demonstrate an understanding of the essence of the College from the past that will be taken into the future. The evolution of the College is a natural process that we are looking to direct with intention through this process of reflection, evaluation and planning.

The decision by our College Council to engage in a consultative process to review the College's strategic objectives is both timely and bold.

It is timely because we are looking to act with intent rather than react in the moment to external pressures. The gradual removal of restrictions associated with COVID-19 has enabled a return to normal activities in our calendar. Given experiences over the last three years it is appropriate for us to reflect upon the way we have conducted ourselves pre-COVID and to review how we adapt into the future.

The decision is bold because the College Council is seeking community feedback to shape the future rather than taking on this task alone. The approach has been very democratic with open invitations to participants across our College community.

Some clear themes are emerging and will be shared in the New Year

following the development of a Strategic Framework as a next step towards a plan.

In recent years I have been describing College to newcomers in this way:

The Geelong College is a place where young people thrive as they live, learn and grow together.

This takes place in the context of a liberal education which values a wide view of success which expects individual endeavour in academic pursuits, in the creative and performing arts, participation in service activities and engagement in a range of sports.

This is a place where we are looking for our young people to do things they find hard, to have the courage to have a go, even though the outcome may be uncertain.

Ours is a school with a Christian foundation. In our contemporary context this means the Christian message is gentle but evident. It is like a light breeze that reassures those who are committed in their Christian faith and refreshes those who are less committed. It is not a hot wind that overpowers a situation.

The review of our approach to 'Christian Studies' arose from our last review in 2017, and informed by the annual community feedback survey, has resulted in the development of Philosophy and Religious Education (PRE) in our Senior School, some

changes to Religion and Values Education (RAVE) in the Middle School and aspects of our chaplaincy in the Middle School.

This evolution has been well received by our students because it has brought about a better understanding of our underpinning values and how they translate to day-to-day life.

I have been told on numerous occasions that these changes have stimulated meaningful conversations among families outside of the school day. The return of service activities through community engagement in the last two school terms have been the most practical demonstration of this in our school life.

Experiences shape the development of our young people. This edition of Ad Astra documents the richness of the life of The Geelong College through the middle of this year, and a range of experiences of our students. This is an intentional approach and does not happen by accident. Each event captured here plays a part in creating the tapestry of life for our students and community. I am sure you will enjoy learning more about this as you read through Ad Astra.

to 2030



DR PETER MILLER,
PRINCIPAL



College memories from our Captains

Oscar Dowling

The Geelong College student experience is enriched by a multitude of diverse factors that cumulatively provide an unforgettable journey.

Both inside the classroom and out, and indeed inside the school grounds and out, we are encouraged to travel new roads and expand our horizons. It is these opportunities that I now look back upon with immense gratitude for the role they played in shaping both the person and leader I am today.

Perhaps the greatest of these experiences came early in my Geelong College journey through my selection as part of the First XI Cricket squad, touring Christchurch to compete in the annual Trans-Tasman Quadrangular series at the end of 2018.

As a Year 8 student, I was elated to merely be a part of the senior training squad, but to subsequently be selected in the final team was

both a great shock and thrill. Still to this day, I'm amazed they picked me!

However, as the youngest member in the team, touring overseas with boys whom I knew little of, I harboured slight trepidation as to how I would both fit in and perform.

The reason that I now recall this tour with such fondness speaks to how these concerns were quickly expelled.

Above all else, the week exemplified the quintessential values that members of The Geelong College community seek to demonstrate. The compassion, care and inclusivity that every senior player offered me was unanimous, genuine and incredibly reassuring. They treated me as an equal, and ensured I instantly felt a valued part of the squad. It was this comradery that no doubt helped us claim an undefeated title.

Supplementary to the cricketing development the week provided me, in seven short days, with a

number of incredible lessons. They weren't intentionally taught to me but they will forever remain with me.

I have since sought to emulate the manner in which my teammates acted, both during my time as a school leader this year, but also outside of school.

Even now, there are individuals within that group who I base my own leadership style on. I admired them in 2018, and they now inspire me in 2022.

I have been blessed to reap the benefits of many extra-curricular experiences during my time at College that I remain truly grateful for. But few have left an impact on me like this one. It taught me that it is never too difficult to include someone else. It taught me the importance of leaders using their individual power to benefit others.

Above all, it showed me how to be a Geelong College member and what it truly means to be green and blue.



Emmy Bowyer

Over my ten years at College, I have had the privilege to participate in many trips and opportunities which have furthered the depth of my education.

Among them - the famed Year 8 Camp, a trip to Lizard Island, venturing to Mt Gambier for the Generations in Jazz competition, City Week and journeying to the Otways in Year 11. However, my most valued experience was visiting Lilla in April of this year.

Our 8-day trip through Central Australia, led by Mr Young, was one of the most fulfilling, memorable times I can recall.

Flying into Alice Springs, we slept under the stars at the Earth sanctuary and learnt about renewable energy and astronomy.

We spent a day discovering beautiful waterholes in the West MacDonnell Ranges, as well as visiting the Ochre Pits.

We were also lucky enough to visit the Parrtjima light festival, which was a stunning display portraying stories of the oldest continuous culture on Earth. It was fascinating to hear stories that happened so long ago, and right in our own backyard.

Our next stop was Lilla, where we were welcomed to country with a traditional smoking ceremony by the local Aboriginal community.

There, we learnt so much about Aboriginal culture, and even got to try our hand at sand drawing, dot painting and spear throwing.

In an effort to 'give back' to the community, we weeded, raked and mulched the veggie patches and orchards, tidied up their school and cleaned the church.

It was so rewarding to see the difference we made, especially in the gardens, and to see the community's delight at our work.

Another highlight was our Kings Canyon rim walk, which showcased the amazing and diverse landscape of our country. We concluded our trip in Yulara, where we explored both Uluru and Kata Tjuta.

On the Valley of the Winds walk at Kata Tjuta, we were immersed in the history of the site, learning about sacred rituals, geology and the significance of the land we stood on.

At Uluru, we heard dream time stories, such as the tale of the Rainbow Serpent, and early on our final morning, we completed the 10km walk around the rock's base.

Sleeping outdoors every night, taking in incredible views, enjoying great hikes and learning so much about Indigenous culture made this a truly special trip. I feel so lucky to have learnt so much, made new friends and experienced some of the best sites Australia has to offer.

Without a doubt, I will fondly remember this as one of the multitude of highlights from my College journey for years to come.





The recipe for stu

JOAN GILL, OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING PROGRAMS

“Children need to feel safe and happy to be able to learn effectively.”

This was my mantra even before I took on the role of Director of Student Wellbeing – Programs. But does this rather glib aphorism still have currency today?

Yes, it probably does.

Students will always need to feel safe and happy in order to learn. But what has changed dramatically over the last decade, is how our understanding has evolved around the concepts of being ‘safe’ and being ‘happy’.

The more we try to define these simple terms the more we uncover their complexities.

The word ‘safe’ takes us to some important concepts which were rarely used in society’s lexicon a decade ago.

Coined in 1999, the term psychological safety refers to our right to express our thoughts and attitudes without being humiliated or feeling frightened to do so.

If students are psychologically safe, then they can take the risks required for meaningful learning.

Similarly, in relation to our First Nations’ students, a learning environment which is culturally safe means that there is no challenge or denial of their identity and experience.

These terms relate to everybody but especially to minority groups within our community including our LGBTQI+ students.

They direct us to reflect on the importance of the social contexts for learning and whether all those contexts into which we place our students operate on trust and respect.

In belonging to a class, a House or Mentor group, a sporting team, a music ensemble, etc we need to collectively share the responsibility for the wellbeing of the group.

As I have stated in an earlier Ad Astra article, collective wellbeing and personal wellbeing are mutually dependent. That is the social contract of schools.

Arguably more complex is the concept of happiness.

The development of the Positive Psychology movement and the Science of Wellbeing has been transformational in how we understand mental health.

The word flourish resonates more strongly than the word happiness, especially in the school context. The relationship between positive emotions and success in later life has been well documented and mindfulness, resilience, gratitude and character strengths are just a few of the threads from Pos Ed which are beginning to shape our approach to teaching the science of wellbeing in the classroom.

In a recent address to our staff, Dr Helen Street reminded us that wellbeing is an experience and should not be reduced to just a classroom program. For me this has been a defining take away message calling for all of us to be mindful of the contexts that we create, shape and manufacture in every facet of our students’ lives.

Most social contexts are designed intentionally by teachers and school leaders in the course of a school day....as mentioned earlier, in classes,



dent wellbeing

on camps, on the sporting field, in a musical ensemble, etc but we should also be mindful of those contexts which happen by accident but which also can contribute to or diminish one's sense of wellbeing.

At a recent schools' conference on wellbeing Dr Michael Carr-Gregg quoted research, which found: For prospective parents, a school's focus on wellbeing is just as important as academic outcomes

when it comes to which school they choose for their children.

To be safe and happy matters more than it ever did before, and as we continue to evolve our thinking of these simple words in our contemporary contexts, the wellbeing story for our students as well as our community will likewise evolve.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the privilege

it has been to hold the role of Director of Student Wellbeing Programs.

I am very excited to hand over our wellbeing story thus far to Ms Jessica Taylor. Jessica's depth of knowledge and experience should give the College community great confidence in how our wellbeing story will develop under her leadership.

Jessica Taylor, incoming Director of Student Wellbeing Programs

Jessica has worked with schools, governments, and organisations locally, nationally and internationally to support the implementation of wellbeing approaches that best benefit their respective communities. She has previously held the role of Acting Head of the Positive Education Institute working with schools across the world to put wellbeing at the heart of what they do.

Jessica currently teaches at the University of Melbourne Graduate School of Education – Centre for Wellbeing Science and is completing her Doctor of Education focusing on psycho-social responsibility and how this relates to wellbeing. She also works with the Geelong Football Club as part of their Community Education program including developing and co-designing with the AFLW team their vision and mission.

Jessica is excited to join the College community and to bring her extensive knowledge and expertise to our context. She is very keen to build on College's story around wellbeing and to shape, lead and grow our organisation's wellbeing culture.





Learning how to learn

We believe that the aim of education is to develop the most important skill of all: learning how to learn.

Education is certainly a fast-moving industry and, in reflecting on the past few years, I have been struck by the sheer scale of what we, and indeed many schools, have achieved. The Geelong College's teaching and learning program has seen significant change over the past four years, some of it strategic and some driven by external forces. Throughout, we have remained focused on our vision of developing learners who are curious, self-regulated, and ready to serve the world. I believe it is not so much in spite of the challenges of the global pandemic, but because of it, that we have been able to transform, with agility, so much of what we do.

In early 2019 we embarked upon a learning culture project, with the key aim of enhancing our learning practices, as well as the agency and capacity of our students in driving their own learning. Several key programs have been instrumental in evolving our approaches to teaching and learning. Here are a couple of them:

- Our Year 9 cohort, for the past four years, have worked with a world-renowned Neuroscientist, Dr Jared Cooney Horvath in a program called the Cognizance Research Project. A joint venture with Independent Schools Victoria (ISV), the program consisted of a series of up to five workshops for our students, led by Dr Jared, teaching them about the science of their brain and metacognition. The student response to the program was extraordinary.
- Our teaching staff have also undertaken significant work with Dr Jared, including the teacher workshops attached to the Cognizance Research Project, whole-staff professional learning days on The Foundations of Learning and The Learning Trajectory. Both days explored the neuroscientific basis for human learning and development.
- Our Junior School has transformed the approach taken to teaching



EMILY FITZSIMONS,
OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF
TEACHING AND LEARNING

reading, adopting a new framework called the Science of Reading. Our teachers have been trained in this new approach, have re-worked their programs, assessments, documentation and pedagogical approaches to teaching reading to our youngest students. The outcomes of this change are already evident in our children and their progress with their reading.

- Teachers have begun working on our understanding of feedback and its importance in learner agency and development. Learning from Emeritus Professor Dylan William earlier this year, 26 of our teachers from across F-12 are developing implementation plans for evolving formative assessment and feedback practices in their schools.
- Our teachers, students and parents have been embracing our new learning management system, SEQTA. Introduced across the College in 2019, SEQTA provides a single site for learners and families on curriculum, assessment and feedback, as well as obtaining semester reports. It has allowed more timely feedback on student learning throughout the semester, as teachers place results directly onto the portal. It has also been delivering more task-specific feedback for students than previous end-of-term or semester reports could offer.

Perhaps the most significant challenge of the past few years

has also been one of our greatest success stories – remote learning. Manoeuvring an entire school from face-to-face into remote learning was certainly something of which we could not have even conceived a few years ago. Students have acquired a raft of contemporary skills in the use of technology, communicating in different forms, working independently, time management and responding to feedback on their learning when physically separated from their teachers. But, perhaps less well-known, is the extraordinary work undertaken in the background of school operations to enable our well-regarded learning program to take place. Rolling out new platforms, supporting teachers and students to learn how to use Microsoft Teams, establishing policies and procedures to keep learners safe online, reconceiving staff meetings and team planning opportunities, rewriting entire programs of work to suit online learning, establishing systems for completing assessments

at home, finding ways to deliver physical resources to students, keeping learners feeling connected to the College, their teachers and each other. So many facets to a remote learning program, all of which had to be implemented in real-time. We are incredibly proud of the quality program we offered over the two years, and are heartened to hear words of appreciation from students and families.

As I conclude my time at The Geelong College this year, I want to express my gratitude to the community for a wonderful few years. My colleagues in all corners of the College have made this chapter wholly satisfying and special.



Nathan Morton, incoming Director of Teaching and Learning

Nathan is currently Deputy Head of Senior School – Teaching and Learning at Kardinia International College, Geelong. He has held this position for seven years and during that time has led a number of curriculum initiatives including the development of a teaching and learning framework and a contextual definition of High-Quality Teaching and Learning.

Nathan's current focus has been around enabling teaching practice which empowers students to identify their own learning growth and to assist them to take the steps they need to experience further growth.

In joining College, Nathan is looking forward to celebrating and embracing the past work and achievements in the area of teaching and learning. Some of

his priorities include building the leadership capacity of staff; developing a framework for Professional Learning; and, ensuring that strategic decisions around our teaching and learning programs are based on timely data analysis and interpretation.





An Early Learning legacy

ROS MOLYNEUX, OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF EARLY LEARNING

It is with mixed feelings I write my final Ad Astra piece, reflecting on 21 years at Early Learning, including 16 years as Director of Early Learning.

Exploration of the Reggio Emilia philosophy has been interwoven through my entire time at The Geelong College. Such is the nature of Reggio Emilia, it has evolved to reflect the different contexts of our school community, including educators, children and facilities.

Reggio speaks to the heart as well as the mind, referring to creativity, intuition, curiosity, aesthetics and the pleasure of learning, and so has been a guiding principle in my teaching journey. Two study tours to Reggio Emilia in Italy, and many interstate Reggio conferences with colleagues have been highlights of my time here.

Early Learning was originally located in charming old buildings, and we gradually went through an expansion in both size and programs.

We created a new nature-based playground and extended and converted classrooms as our numbers expanded. We grew from 7 to 14 staff,

and from 70 to 100 children. The learning program broadened to include additional specialist classes of Languages, PE and Yoga.

Recognising the importance of Nature Pedagogy, we established a Bush Kinder program at Mokborree. This evolved over the years to Bush Connections at Dog Rocks and more recently our On Country and Nature Play programs.

Another important initiative was embedding understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture, beginning with our youngest children. We have deepened children's understanding of Connection to Country, and I am thankful to the Wadawurrung community for the generous mentoring we have received. With their guidance we developed a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for Early Learning, and then worked with the wider school community to develop a whole school RAP.

In recent years it was a privilege to be on the planning committee for the redevelopment of the Junior School, collaborating with the architects and landscape designers. During the last three years it has been a pleasure to see the joy it brings children, educators and families as we inhabit this inspiring space.

I was proud of our team as we went through two rounds of Assessment and Rating by the Department of Education resulting in a rating of exceeding National Quality Standard both times. Another major

highlight was the Junior School receiving the Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership in the Victorian Early Years awards in 2019, after being finalists in 2018.

Early Childhood Education has seen many reforms during my time teaching. These include the National Quality Framework, Assessment and Rating process, the Victorian and National Early Learning Frameworks, Transition to School Reporting, funded 3-year-old Kindergarten and the School Readiness Program. We are now entering another 10-year Early Childhood reform in Victoria, with many exciting and challenging times ahead.

Our Geelong College children and families are our constant through all these changes, and I will remember the many wonderful friendships over the years.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Junior School Leadership team in recent years. We have seen many exciting changes at Junior School, and I thank them for their vision, support and friendship.

Finally I must recognise my Early Learning team. I have worked with some of these amazing educators for 21 years, and many for more than 10 years. Without exception they have fronted up every day with a passion and love for their work that is inspiring. I know the future of Early Learning at The Geelong College is in wonderful hands.



Julie Bickett, incoming Director of Early Learning

After completing a Bachelor of Early Childhood at Melbourne University Julie worked in Early Years settings as a teacher across Melbourne before settling in Geelong.

For the last 17 years Julie has worked at The Geelong College. In that time she has been fortunate to hold a range of roles including classroom teacher, deputy director, teacher in charge of Soccer and is now embarking on the role of Director of Early Learning.

Julie is a passionate educator who believes in the capabilities of our youngest learners. She has attended an International study tour in Reggio Emilia as well as many other Reggio conferences across Australia. Julie was also part of the leadership team that won that Colette Taylor award for Excellence in Leadership in 2019.

Julie thoroughly enjoys working with the children, families and colleagues at The Geelong College.

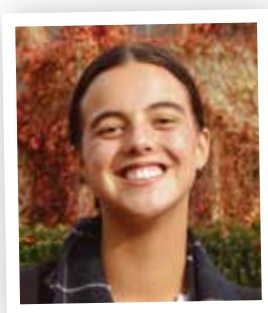
The Rainbow Alliance

We chatted to some members of the Geelong College Rainbow Alliance (GCRA) about what the group means to them, and the impact it has.



Lachy Joyce,

Staff/ Teacher Support for Geelong
College Rainbow Alliance



Molly Pring

Year 10



Sabrina Horne

Year 11

What does having the GCRA mean to you?

Lachy: The GCRA is very special to me. I've been with the group since its initial inception and it has become such a strong motivator for why I work in schools with young people. It's something I didn't have as young queer teenager and it feels so important for me to be able to provide this space for young people within The Geelong College.

Molly: Having the GCRA has meant so much to me, especially coming out of lock down into Senior School with the realisation that I was bisexual. Figuring out this part of myself was scary, exciting, and an immense relief, but I was confused who to turn to for support. The GCRA gave me an opportunity to connect with some amazing people. I got to know legends from different year levels and some supportive teachers. I found comfort in knowing I wasn't alone in going against the social assumptions surrounding heterosexuality and gender, and that I had an extremely safe space to explore the discussion of identity.

Sabrina: Having such a sacred, unapologetically open and expressive place where you can meet friends throughout all year levels and with any kind of gender or sexuality has been something that's led me to a lot of my happiest moments this year. I have made incredible friendships through GCRA, and the fact that I know that GCRA means just as much to everyone in the group, too, makes it even more important and special.

What's the best thing you've done with the group?

Lachy: The GCRA ran Senior School Assembly in Term 2, promoting IDAHOBIT Day and the 'Gayest Bake Sale Ever' raising funds for the same cause. These were incredibly special moments in the life of the GCRA. Hearing the GCRA students speak so openly and honestly to their peers was both moving and inspiring. And watching the Senior School rally around our bake sale, with queer anthems echoing through Helicon Place was a lunchtime I'll never forget.

Molly: A special moment for me was one of the assemblies we did at Senior

School. My role was interviewing a friend of mine who was a guest speaker, a young transgender boy called Fred. It allowed Fred to talk to an audience about his journey and identity, and took a lot of bravery from him. Having known Fred for a while, and having seen the progression of his identity throughout our primary school years, it was quite emotional to see him reflect on how far he's come.

Sabrina: I see the GCRA's role as being split into two different layers; one being about personal/individual support and the other about community and social support. Throughout this year, in particular, we have made a huge amount of social change within the school community itself; so much so that the college community of earlier this year feels crazily different! GCRA has been the loudest, proudest and bravest it has ever been with the wider college community throughout this year and has further evolved the inclusive atmosphere in everyday school life as a powerful consequence. But for me, my highlight has always been the casual and little golden moments from our fortnightly meetings. Every single time



you walk through the door; whether it's your first experience with the group or usual catch up with your fellow queer friends, the atmosphere of respect, authenticity and pride electrifies the room, making it feel like home.

What goals do you have for the group?

Lachy: Alongside the group continuing to grow and develop its presence within the College community, my main goal is for the group to thrive, continue to exist and most importantly, for it to be student led.

Molly: Something that I hope we could do to expand the group is to go down to the Middle School and host meetings there more often. We did this once earlier this year, and it was phenomenal meeting all of these people and providing this space for them to share their experiences and to get to know each other. It would be amazing to do this more often!

Sabrina: To keep this incredible and proud momentum going throughout the school! By opening the students' eyes to more public and enjoyable events by the GCRA (as a queer alliance), more opportunities for learning will be found. Specifically, I am really excited to see a further enhanced LGBTQI+ Health curriculum in Triple R for the Year 9s and 10s at Senior School, as well as for the Year 7s and 8s down at Middle School. All in all, the

aim of the GCRA is to give everyone the openly and unapologetically queer space that we all need and deserve, therefore it's always the greatest achievement when we see new faces.

Share a story/anecdote about how the GCRA has helped someone.

Lachy: The group's first excursion was held in early Term 3 2022 and saw us catch the train to Melbourne to visit both the NGV 'Queer' exhibition and also explore the Victorian Pride Centre (VPC) in St Kilda. This was a really fun day and allowed the students to express themselves most authentically in very queer-friendly environments. Seeing the students interacting with one another, feeling confident and comfortable and increasing their understanding of both the LGBTQIA+ support services available to them (housed in the VPC) was a real buzz.

Sabrina: To tell one story would be an injustice to the bucket loads of victorious and happy memories that have been made in the GCRA. The GCRA is a symbolic reminder to everyone; especially to the outside College community and ourselves alike that LGBTQI+ people exist. We matter, we are bold and beautiful and we deserve to have a place to celebrate ourselves for just that!

What challenges do you/young people face as LGBTQI+/allies.

Molly: Personally, I haven't experienced many challenges with being part of the community. I do, however, know of many friends who have dealt with discriminating and degrading comments and behaviours from others purely based on stereotypes and lack of education. Providing further education on the LGBTQI+ community and how to support us is a very important thing that should be encouraged. It would mean that people wouldn't have to suffer from the impact of ignorance and bullying. LGBTQI+ people are just like you, the person reading this. We are humans with emotions, and a need to be accepted and loved for who we are.

Sabrina: In my opinion, the most underrated crime is the lack of proud, celebratory representation around the greatness of being queer! As an exceedingly open and proud bisexual individual, I am constantly reminded of the dangers and hardships of being LGBTQI+, but being queer is so much more than the tragic coming out stories we see on T.V. Being queer is about owning yourself and loving yourself for who you are and what you have been through, and most importantly about building your own beautiful chosen family. This message of pride and gratitude is never lost in the GCRA.



VCE ART EXHIBITION

Transit Lounge 2022

KEVIN JESS, HEAD OF DESIGN & CREATIVE ARTS

The transit lounge, a conceptual name given to our event that signifies a place we stop between journeys. A place we may gather with family, friends or travelling companions and share stories of where we have been and where we plan on going next. It is a time to come together and celebrate the journey and the achievements, and the 2022 Transit Lounge certainly had a lot to celebrate.

Being back in an exhibition space after a two-year break was one such significant aspect. It was the first time many of these students and their families had seen student work showcased in such a professional manner. For this group the exhibition signified and celebrated their survival, and them thriving post the disruption of the previous two years. This exhibition was indeed a testament to the resilience and adaptability of our youth.

The opening of the exhibition on the evening of Tuesday 18 October, was a spectacular celebration of student talent. The graphic design material promoting the event was designed by Sam McLean (Year 10) as part of a

class project where the Year 12 Design & Creative Art students were the clients. The music, played by Takoda Ritchie (Year 11) and Eilish Murphy (Year 10), as guests arrived was excellent. Then the real celebration kicked in with a surprise fashion catwalk put on by the Year 12 Studio Arts students to bring their amazing range of wearable art to life.

The exhibition was formally opened by two returning Old Collegians, Angelica Wooton (OGC 2015) and Isabella Greene (OGC 2015). Together they have formed the art collaboration known as GelBell (see their story on page 72).

Passionate Design and Creative Arts students when they were at College, this collaboration was something that many of their teachers saw developing, however, they have taken collaborative art making to a new and innovative level. They are now full-time committed artists who paint on the same canvas in a very contemporary vibrant style that is receiving huge accolades for such an innovative dynamic approach to art making.

It was a wonderful evening, celebrating all things Art and Design. On the following pages you can read about some of the impressive student work.



Ellie Campbell - Winner of The Principal's Art Prize

Dr Peter Miller addressed the gathering to present Ellie Campbell as this year's recipient of the Principal's Art Prize for her exquisite dress and veil titled 'Grief' as part of her exploration of the '5 Stages of Grieving'.

The Principal's Art Prize is awarded to a student whose work demonstrates care, creativity, and craftsmanship. Their response to a chosen topic or client need is both thoughtful and innovative with their processes clearly reflected in a folio of exploration and development. Overall, the student's work embodies the passion, drive and commitment of a dedicated and talented Design & Creative Art student.

Ellie's piece was a dress and veil and featured laser cut resin and hand beading, adorned with handmade silk flowers.



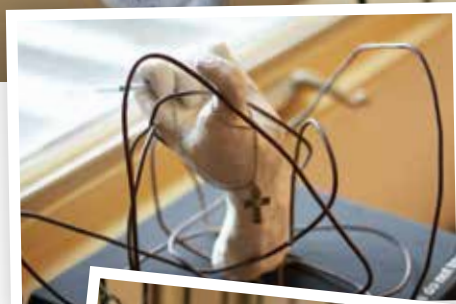
Will Swan - Photography

Will's folio is about his own personal journey with Colour Blindness, and how his diagnosis was an influential moment for him. As a primary school student, Will suddenly realised that he saw the world differently to his peers. This was a pivotal moment for Will, as for the first time he saw himself as being very 'different' to the rest of his friends.

His work is a reflection on the effect this has had on him.

Will has used Bitumen paint to paint his face, experimenting widely to create many nuanced versions of himself. His folio is largely about 'self', and explores the way he sees himself in the world in which he lives.





Emma Carroll, Sculpture

Emma's sculptures centre around her topic of addiction, and the impact addiction can have on an individual.

Addictions come in many forms, but Emma was interested in exploring a wide variety of addictions, including drugs, social media, phones and sports betting.

She was interested in visualising and communicating the entrapment, and the powerful way these addictions can control an individual and stop them from achieving their full potential.

Emma was able to experiment in a wide variety of materials, including sculpture, drawing and charcoal. There was considerable experimentation and exploration of her theme with a wide variety of materials.

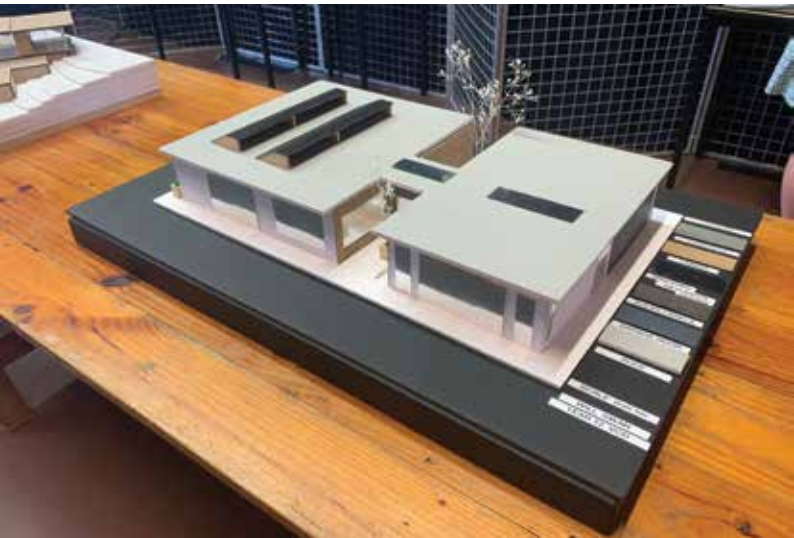
Lulu Morgan, Sculpture

Lulu's work explored the theme of 'winning'.

Specifically - What people perceive as the winning hand versus what it can actually be like in reality.

Her work features hand painted cards and machine embroidered trim, along with a resin cast of her and her mother's hands. The mediums used include ceramic, air-dry clay and timber.





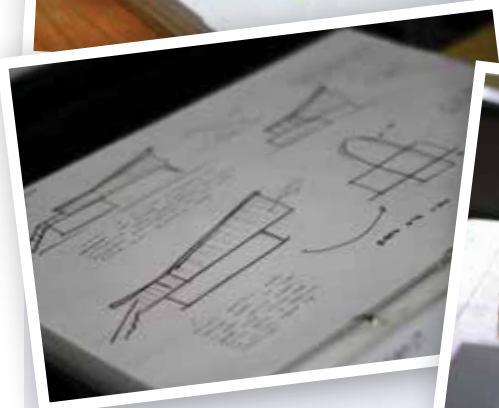
Ollie Sleiman - Woodwork

The aim of Ollie's project was to give new life to a beloved family heirloom, whilst honouring its history.

When Ollie's grandfather was young, he made a wooden miner's chair. The chair has an important place in the daily lives on the generations that followed, occupying its position on the front verandah of the family home for longer than Ollie has been alive.

However, this beloved piece is now worn out - affected by both time and weather. So, Ollie seized the opportunity to handcraft his own version of the much-loved chair.

In creating his design, Ollie utilised modern making techniques, tools and styling, whilst ensuring he paid homage to his grandfather's original design.



Tom Beaufoy, Architecture

As well as traditional mediums of visual arts, a number of students in this year's cohort explored architecture design.

Tom's project was to create a design and model for the fictitious 'Bruk Restaurant', located in Stoney Creek within the Otway Ranges near Apollo Bay.

The name of the restaurant is a play on the word 'brook' (creek), and as such, the themes of fluidity and water were central to the design.

Working with the hilly terrain and taking advantage of the Great Ocean Road ocean vista, Tom's raised design utilises glass to maximise exposure to natural light.

The Chaplain's Corner

STEVE WRIGHT, COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

In our Philosophy & Religious Education class, occasionally I will have students complete a brief 'gratitude journaling' task. It is an exercise that requires spending a few moments reflecting on the things in their life that they are thankful for. We started doing this in between lockdowns and periods of remote learning and have continued with it as a regular exercise this year.

There is a clear connection between gratitude and wellbeing and with disruption, uncertainty, frustration and disappointment all very familiar to us over the last few years, the need to remind ourselves of life's many blessings has become increasingly important.

This year, as restrictions have eased and much-loved aspects of life have returned, I hope that the lessons learned about gratitude and perspective are not lost on us. Instead, I hope that they provide a lens to re-engage with some aspects of life at College that we greatly value.

Looking beyond our own needs to where we might help or serve others are values we hope are interwoven into the daily life of our students. Across our school this year, it has been greatly encouraging to see the willingness of our students to 'serve' - through the initiating and

implementing of a wide variety of service activities.

Whether that is a fundraiser for a community group, or charity they are passionate about, raising awareness for a worthy cause, making sandwiches for those who are disadvantaged or hands-on practical work at a local Food Bank.

As these opportunities have reopened, our students are re-engaging and serving with such positivity. It is easy to see from their feedback that they are finding great joy and a sense of purpose in doing so.

One activity that has been richly rewarding for all involved has been taking small groups of students fortnightly to BUPA Aged Care in Belmont.

Our students provide some entertainment with musical items, but most of their time is spent simply

chatting with the residents; sharing stories and hearing about each other's lives.

The BUPA staff tell us that our visits brighten up the afternoon for their residents, and our students leave with smiles on their faces. Both groups looking forward to the next visit.

At a wider College level, our students have recently finished preparing our Uniting Care Christmas hampers. The goods are donated by College families, and the completed hampers are collected and distributed directly to local families in need. It's a simple, but practical way we can serve those who are disadvantaged in our community.

As we approach this special season where we celebrate the birth of the one who came 'not to be served, but to serve' (Matthew 20:28) we have much to be thankful for.





Fulfilling Lives 2022

The Year 10 Fulfilling Lives program offers students the opportunity to travel interstate, overseas and here in Victoria with their peers. There, they are able to experience different cultures, visit new places and meet new people. They witness, learn and grow as individuals, participating in either a community service or conservation project.

This year students travelled to Fiji, the Central Districts of New Zealand, the North Island of New Zealand, Central Australia, the Top End, the Whitsundays and a local program in Melbourne and Geelong. All of these were incredible learning experiences for everyone involved.

Learning through experience is one of the most powerful ways for young people to learn. While these journeys might challenge students at times, due to the weather, the accommodation, long bus journeys or by simply being away from home, students gain a valuable insight into how other people live. They experience different cultures,

customs, beliefs and traditions, and learn more about difference and diversity. Most importantly they learn to embrace and celebrate difference and diversity, not to fear it. Students also contribute to, and make a positive impact within, their host communities; this helps them to learn that they really can make a difference.



Lilla

Sophie McLellan

In Lilla, we got to experience the true Aussie outback where we learnt all about the indigenous culture and their way of life. As a small group of 14 girls and 6 boys along with Mr Young, Ms Harding, Ms Dobie, and Bryan, we had a blast.

The first few days were spent at the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, where we were quickly immersed into the culture of the land, soaking up the amazing views and the incredible Tjukurpa knowledge from the elders, and visiting many sacred sites, a once in a lifetime opportunity. From here we made our journey to Lilla, a small Indigenous community near Kings Canyon.

During our time at Lilla, we learnt many things about ourselves, others, and the land that we stood on. We participated in community service under the hot, red sun building campsites, spending time in the garden and much more. After each day of long, hard work, we got to cool off in a different, beautiful water hole where we all came together to have some fun and make some unforgettable memories. Our last few days were spent at Alice Springs under the stars learning all about astronomy, as well as more Tjukurpa knowledge about the land there.

Lilla was such an amazing trip which we are all so grateful to have had the opportunity to go on. We will never forget all the fun times we had together as a group, sleeping under the stars, experiencing life in a very different way.



Top End

Izzy Nagle and Archie Peat

The once in a lifetime trip to the NT was an opportunity to form new friendships and explore the Top End, where most of us had never visited before. We started with a late-night flight to Darwin. The first two days were spent exploring glistening water holes in Litchfield National Park and spending a morning exploring the wildlife park where our campsite was. From here the two groups split up with one group going to camp Jim Jim Falls and the other group going to a hostel near the Border Store (in Kakadu National Park) to complete our community work.

The community service was very satisfying, with the group spending time building and gardening in small Aboriginal communities who are isolated from their nearest towns during the wet season due to flooding. We learnt so much from our tour guides about the Indigenous culture during our time in the Northern Territory and visited many Indigenous art sites and sacred spots, an amazing opportunity considering some of these spots are not open to the general public.



NZ Central Districts

Nathaniel Fotinas and Maddy Shirlow

The seven-day adventure that was the Year 10 trip to central New Zealand was one that we will never forget. In a single week, a group of 19 students, four teachers and two guides travelled along the North Island. On Friday 9 September, we boarded our 5am bus from Ayraslea Street. We slowly made our way through Tullamarine's International Airport, and by 9am we boarded our Air New Zealand flight. Arriving with a body clock two hours ahead of New Zealand, we were collectively met by Billy and Scotty – the latter of whom we would always find with his ukulele.

The week began in Wellington, as we ventured around the city's sights. We learnt of the Parliament building's history through a tour and explored the Peter Jackson War exhibitions.

By day three, we made our way to the small town of Picton by ferry, staying in cabins for two nights and driving to neighbouring small towns. We met with ex-whalers and learnt about the town's history.

By day five we were introduced to the local Maori community of Picton. They welcomed us with the traditional ceremonies, accepting us 'strangers' onto their sacred land. For three nights, 23 Australians lived in a Marae, meeting the local Charlotte's College students, and becoming acquainted with the land. For two days, we set off for our community project. A five-minute drive from the Marae brought us to our working ground; grassy hills with fresh-water creeks flowing below. Under the New Zealand sun, we began working on a deck at the top of a trek, constructing a gravel staircase towards it. Though day one of work was ridden with mud and the constant threat of slipping, day two brought with it sun and warmth, completing the deck and adding a final send-off, planting native botany around our work and witnessing the blessing of the area.

This experience is one that nobody on the trip will forget. It brought us such precious and eye-opening moments, granting us the pleasure of experiencing different aspects of New Zealand life and culture, a truly incredible week.





Fiji

Archie Frost and Chloe Bryant, Year 10

During our time on the Fiji Fulfilling Lives trip, we got to help some of the nicest people on earth. Throughout the community service experiences we felt very grateful for the opportunities and resources we have here in Australia and after seeing how some of the people live in Fiji, it only made us want to help more.

We spent our days under the sun doing community service for hours. At times it was hard work! But, small

things made up for it all - like building a cement path, finishing a community centre building, or even cooking a fresh meal for single mothers and their children and seeing the smiles on their faces. We also participated in a beach clean up after hiking the sand dunes and building beach tepees to prevent tsunamis from getting to the nearby community.

After spending a few days in the Nausori Highlands, we got a taste for the Fijian culture, learning about cava ceremonies and the 'real' way to live in Fiji. Living with a Fijian family was something we will never forget. Filled with love and happiness it really did feel like home. The constant gratitude and hope that these extremely poor people showed was inspiring to say the least. We rounded off the trip out in the Fijian waters, snorkelling and paddleboarding to soak up the sun before coming back to Geelong. As a collective, we loved every minute we spent in Fiji and will cherish the memories we shared between our groups.



Whitsundays

Phoebe Steel and Max Morgan

We travelled to the Whitsunday Islands. There, our school group was welcomed by a local Indigenous man of the Ngabo people. He also provided some history about the land. After this, we met our ukulele-strumming camp leader. He held personal growth and understanding to be of the utmost importance, and much of the group's time was devoted to understanding Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and our personal goals.

Aside from this, Mick, our leader explained the importance of showing our care and appreciation for this experience, by leaving every place we visited cleaner than we found it. You would be surprised how much microplastic washes up on the shore!

As we discovered our goals and intentions, we kayaked, swam and hiked our way around the Whitsundays. From kayaking to an abandoned holiday resort, to swimming and camping at the beautiful Whitehaven Beach (where goannas confidently strode through our campsite!), we also hiked to the Whitsunday Peak to a look-out over all of the Islands.

One of my favourite things that we did was going to the abandoned resort on South Molle Island. It was truly extraordinary to see how much damage was done to the resort. The Whitsundays is a beautiful place, and we have lots of great memories.

NZ North Island

Jessamy Bennett and Hugh Mason

For a week in September, 16 students and four teachers, spent one amazing week exploring the north island of New Zealand. We arrived late into Auckland on the first day, where we spent the night before setting off early the next day, arriving in Rotorua. Here we were lucky enough to explore this incredible town, where rare geothermal activity causes the puddles on the side of the road to steam, and the ground to reach burning temperatures. Here we had the remarkable opportunity to stay in a traditional Maori Marae in Whakarewarewa Village. We watched, then were invited to join in, a traditional Maori group as they welcomed us to their home.

After the first few days of the trip spent in Auckland and Rotorua, we went to Raglan, a very picturesque surf town. We stayed at an ecolodge in the hills of Raglan and spent time at the black sand beaches playing rugby as well as learning about sustainability at the recycling plant. After two nights in Raglan, we went to the last stop of the trip, Mt Maunganui. Mt Maunganui had a very beautiful coastline that we experienced through an early morning sunrise walk up the mountain. We also spent time at the hot springs as well as exploring the town. In the end, the trip was a great experience that was enjoyed by all.



Local Connections

Harry Slaney

The local connection trip might not have sounded as nice as going to Fiji or a remote island in the Whitsundays but after my experience in that one week, I would still happily choose it over any other trip. It was great fun even though we might not have been able to go overseas and meet foreign people that we don't usually see.

People think that the only people in the world that suffer hardship are those that don't live in Australia, but that is far from the truth, as we got to see that people we consider our neighbours can suffer as well.

We helped the Geelong community by working with Geelong Mums and the Salvation Army. The people we met told us stories that no one should ever go through, and it really changed everyone's perspective.

We were more than happy to help however we could, even if it was the slightest bit of help like clearing some weeds in a parking lot or simply folding and packing some clothes. Even though we only had two days of community service, it was enough for everyone to have a better perspective on those in our own community.

It was enough for everyone to feel grateful about what we have and what we were able to do.



Community Connection: Colours of Togetherness

ROS MOLYNEUX, OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF EARLY LEARNING

After two years of COVID restrictions, Early Learning have had a renewed focus on taking learning outdoors and welcoming our community back.

A key goal in our annual Quality Improvement Plan was to reconnect with families and the community in safe and meaningful ways. This has been a gradual process as we have returned to more usual operations.

Our interest in the philosophy from Reggio Emilia positions children as active citizens in the community. In our context community includes families, classes, our school and the broader community. As citizens they have the right to be seen and heard, and as

educators we can ensure that this happens by listening to children and making their thinking and learning visible to others.

Young children learn more naturally in real contexts. Whilst we set up many opportunities for pretend play for children to practise skills, it is also valuable to provide children with first-hand experiences wherever possible. These can occur either within school, shared by teachers or parents, or in the wider community.

The wider the range of possibilities we offer children, the more intense will be their motivations and the richer their experiences. (Loris Malaguzzi)

As each 2022 class grew together, they explored ways of reconnecting with community through the Junior School project 'Colours of Togetherness'. As each class of children and educators are different, so were their projects. It was a wonderful example of diverse ways of learning towards a common goal.

Celebration of Learning

All the learning within the 'Colours of Togetherness' project came together at our Celebration of Learning in Term 4. This was a wonderful community event that showcased children's learning to their parents, and families from other year levels. Our school was alive with excited children proudly guiding their parents through the many displays. Here are some reactions from our parents.

Thank you so much for such a fantastic afternoon. It was wonderful to see all of the learning spaces and the amazing work that all of the children have been working on.

The effort the teachers had gone to, to make the classrooms beautiful and to set up interesting and engaging activities for all of us to take part in was really above and beyond.

My child was so proud to show us his learning space and all of his work and was absolutely thrilled to spend time in the Foundation classroom.



EL3A: Community Service Roles

EL3A followed their interest in community service roles by inviting in representatives from Ambulance Victoria and a Jetstar pilot. These professionals were able to bring their expertise in from the outside world to share with children in their familiar environment. Hands on exploration of their tools of the trade enriched children's understanding.



EL3B: 'The Joy of Us'

EL3B welcomed a range of parent experts as they explored 'The Joy of Us'. Parents shared experiences such as cooking, woodwork, art, gardening, sport, other cultures and travel stories. This fostered a connection between home and school, and allowed children to transfer knowledge and ideas between the two. It was indeed a joy to have parents back in the classroom and very special for the children to share their family joy.



EL4A: Fundraising to help others

EL4A reached out a little further to another school in Melbourne, upon hearing about a fire at their Early Learning Centre. Children felt this deeply and expressed a desire to help. With the encouragement of their teachers, they designed a fundraiser to purchase new resources for the school. Real life learning saw them plan and deliver puppet shows to the other EL classes, including writing, rehearsing, making tickets and cooking popcorn. We were able to hand deliver their donated gifts to the ELC in Melbourne and they were very gratefully received.



EL4B: 'The Colours of Fun'

EL4B explored 'The Colours of Fun', with children taking home jars to collect fun things to share, including an interview with their parents about fun family activities. Families shared many things they do together and children enjoyed adding them to the 'fun scroll', a communal collection of fun. It demonstrated the connections between children, family and community, and recognised children's agency as they took on responsibility for sharing with the class.



Year 8 Camp: Memories that last a lifetime

LEANNE RUSSELL, HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Camps are an integral part of the learning experience at the Middle School. Students from Year 4 to Year 8 all experience time away from home, learning outdoors and living and learning with their peers. The Year 8 Camp experience is a unique program that has been a part of the Preparatory School experience for decades. The sheer length of its existence, in a very similar format, is testament to the impact and importance of this experience.



The structure of the Year 8 Camp is relatively simple. This year there are eight groups who complete eight activities over eight days. The camp is designed to be a circuit, with each group starting at one point of the eight activities and following the group in front of them. It is designed so there is no contact between the groups, so that the experience is unique to the 20 people the students spend these eight days with.

Each group is ably lead by external Auscamp guides, who bring with them the experience and qualifications to enhance this journey with our students, and provide key expertise to ensure the safety of all participants.

Day 1: The circuit could begin with a walk on an easy to medium gradient track to 'South Camp', a site that is located on the College Otways property. During the day, as part of this walk, there is a historical lesson and shipwreck tour.

Day 2: The second day begins with another short walk in the morning from 'South Camp' to 'North Camp', also located on The Geelong College property. Once camp is set up at this site, the students make their way to the Cape Otway Lighthouse for a lighthouse

tour. This day is considered the least demanding of all.

Day 3: The next day is a third walk to 'Scout Camp', going via the Rainbow Falls. This day provides a great opportunity for group games and team building.

Day 4: A day that many of the students look forward to comes next, mountain biking. Students and staff practise basic bike riding skills for the first hour around Bimbi Park. Once the group demonstrates the desired skill level, they ride a combination of public roads and private properties for around 2-3 hours. Once bikes are dropped at the final destination, the group walks back along the Great Ocean Walk to their campsite at Aire River.

Day 5: The fifth day provides yet another outdoor escapade, with canoeing scheduled. Our young adventurers, paddling in pairs, make their way up Aire River and arrive mid-afternoon at the Cascade Campsite.

Day 6: A second day of water activities follows, as on Day 6 the students don wetsuits and spend the day cascading, leisurely floating the river rapids on inflatable rafts.

Days 7 and 8: The final two days consist of two significant walks, beginning

with a 16km walk from Shelly Beach to Blanket Bay, followed by a 15 km walk to Parker Gate. Although the thought of this can be daunting for the students, the sense of achievement they feel once complete brings great satisfaction.

Camps such as this provide important social and emotional development opportunities for students that are not always available in classrooms. Teamwork, resilience, and confidence-building through challenge, problem-solving, connecting with nature, creative and imaginative play and coordination and strength are all elements of the Year 8 Camp.

With no showers, limited access to toilets, no technology, eating camp cooking, and eight days away from the comforts of home, the Year 8 Otways journey takes our students way out of their comfort zone. It is a timely quest, and a significant moment in their time here at the College. It is considered a rite of passage, and a significant transition in their school and young adult lives.

It is a memory that stays with many of our Old Collegians for decades to come.



Learning outside the classroom in Visual Arts

REBECCA BURMAN, JUNIOR SCHOOL ATELIERISTA

“The whole school can become an atelier and enable the creative process to take place everywhere.” Carla Rinaldi, *In the Spirit of the Studio, Learning from the Atelier of Reggio Emilia*.

With a return to the post-lockdown and post-remote learning ‘new normal’ this year, we have been lucky enough to have many of our Art lessons outside, at school and even at local galleries.

As El Greco once said, “Art is everywhere you look for it.” We are extremely fortunate to be surrounded by opportunities for Art at Junior School.

Our thoughtful outdoor areas such as the courtyard and creek, filled with native plants and birds, have provided us with many an occasion to be creative outside. The children at Junior School have enjoyed ‘on location’ sketching, nature photography, collecting natural resources for collages, drawing landscapes and an art hunt.

We are also fortunate in our location, being so close to many wonderful galleries and museums. This year, the Foundation students were inspired by Van Gogh’s *Starry Night* and other paintings at Lume Melbourne. They explored Surrealist games and collages at an interactive exhibition called *Making Art. Imagine Everything is Real* at the National Gallery Victoria.

Some of our children from across Junior School were even lucky enough to experience seeing their own artwork hung at the Geelong Gallery where their self-portraits were displayed as part of the Who's Who Portrait Prize.

We have also enjoyed connecting with our own artistic community, welcoming iconic local First Nation artist and parent BJ O'Toole, who worked with our children to create landscapes for a picture book project. We are very grateful to our parent helpers and colleagues who have helped us with our creative endeavours this year.

At Junior School our project "The Colours of Togetherness" has offered the children opportunities to be creative in all areas of learning, not just Visual Arts. In Term 1, as the children began to consider their cultural identity in their Inquiry work, we thought about ourselves in Art.

At the start of Term 2, the children were each given a small hand-held mirror and then asked, "What are the colours that make you who you are?"

Their responses reflected their ability to articulate different definitions of colour and their desire to learn more about themselves:

"Pink is love because I have lots of love in my body"

"Whatever skin you have it won't be the same as someone else's because we're not the same person. Everyone's skin is different because we're born different"

"Orange and yellow because I feel like they suit me and they calm me down if I'm in a big situation"



Throughout the term students across the school studied their faces carefully, discovered how to draw their features accurately, learnt about their personal proportions and how to mix colours, culminating in the creation of realistic self-portraits.

Term 2 began outdoors for our Year 2 and 3 students as we conducted an art hunt around the Junior and Middle School campuses.

We were surprised to find so many varied artworks; statues, mosaics, sculptures, and murals, many of which were created in collaboration with an artist. When discussing why and how we thought each one had been created, the children decided that they too would like to contribute their own piece of art to the school:

"When people make things more colourful it brings togetherness"

"One day we might also make something for the school"

"What about making a big giant mat and stitching it. You could give us all some felt, and we could sew it".

The children wanted to work collaboratively to create an artwork that would reflect our community. So began our textile journey. Each year level worked together to conceive and create a representation of our learning space names Garra, Mon.garrk, Bunjil and Mirri.

The children took part in many creative activities, learning to sew and embroider. Junior School teacher, Mrs Carr, even invited her mum to come

along so the students could try their hand at spinning wool.

As our "Colours of Togetherness" project advanced into the second semester, more opportunities to learn visual arts in the open air presented themselves. Although we couldn't physically travel to the four corners of the globe, the Year 3 children were keen to explore artwork and artforms from the countries they had begun to research in Inquiry.

These ideas transported us to Africa where we encountered clay coil pots, Japan, where we created Origami, China, where we sculpted and painted Chinese clay dolls and to the UK where we explored the digital artwork of David Hockney.

Our gap year student, Martha has been keen to share her passion, photography, with some of the children. She shared the work of Cody William Smith's 'Reflections in Nature' with our Foundation and Year 1 students who then created their own masterpieces using an ipad, a small mirror and our own backyard.





Little Shop of Horrors

DEB HYNES, LACHY JOYCE & KAREN SUNDERLAND

After two years of disappointing cancellations to our Senior School Productions, it was quite incredible to be able to bring Little Shop of Horrors to the stage.

Our hard-working cast, capably led by a record number of our Senior Performing Arts students, rehearsed tirelessly for many weeks to bring Little Shop of Horrors to life. It was quite an incredible experience to see each of our students develop new skills, make new friends, and find a confidence in their role.

Though adapted in 1982 from a 1960 B-movie, Little Shop's offbeat, toe-tapping cautionary tale still has plenty to offer audiences in 2022. The

comic delights of Seymour's unlikely partnership with a carnivorous plant and the motley ensemble of lovable (and love-to-hate) characters - still ask bigger questions that are relevant today.

- What happens when the voice of 'winning at all costs' presents itself as the only hope for a better life and leads to moral corruption?
- How do we come to believe that some people in our society are more disposable than others?

The Little Shop of Horrors story gives us a half dose of satisfying escapism and half sobering fear for the future of the planet – not too different to some of the headlines we read in the news today.

We want to thank our wonderful team working behind the scenes and all those who were such a great support to getting the show up and on stage.

Musical Theatre is most definitely a team sport!





Cre8-ive masterpieces

LEANNE RUSSELL, HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Cre8 Independent Project is an exciting and innovative learning experience that has been a part of the Year 8 students' Middle School journey for the past nine years.

The Cre8 Independent Project encourages self-directed learning with the support of an adult mentor. It is through this mentorship that special bonds and relationships are often formed or enhanced.

Students need to practice persistence, resilience, problem solving, time management and creativity, all qualities that will serve them well as they make their way into their senior years of schooling, and beyond the College gates. Project work of this nature is a key driver in supporting students in acquiring the skills needed as they explore educational learning pathways in the early stages of the 21st Century.

The work towards the Cre8 Project is all done out of school hours, in the students' own time. It is suggested to students that the project take approximately 20 hours, although many chose to go above and beyond this expectation. Early in Term 4, the 2022 Cre8 Expo took place in the Year 8 learning spaces. 170 students displayed their work and shared their learning with all Middle School students during the day, and with family and friends in the evening.

Each year there are some extraordinary efforts gone to by our students, and this year was no exception. As these photographs depict, there are some talented young people amongst us.





Creating our best tomorrow

JOHN HENDERSON, YEAR 4 TEACHER

The Year 4 garden is the heartbeat of the Enviro program. It is rich with learning opportunities, and it is full of life! It demands our attention, so we take action every day. Our students nurture their garden, and in return, their garden nurtures them.

The Enviro space, which stretches from the Middle School Art building to the carpark, is part Indigenous garden, and part vegetable garden. A gentle stroll through the grounds will reward you with the calls of the superb fairy-wren, eastern spinebill, rainbow lorikeets, and sometimes even yellow-tailed black cockatoos.

You will see trees, shrubs and grasses that were prolific throughout this region just two centuries ago; casuarinas, goodenia ovata, austral indigo, lomandra, clematis, wallaby grass, kangaroo apples and a variety of saltbushes. These birds and plants

exist in this space because of our students and the curiosity and care they demonstrate on a daily basis.

In the past few years, every Year 4 cohort has actioned a major revegetation or landscaping project. Last year's students, upon returning from their final period of remote learning, started construction on the 'Great River Road' which stretches along the western escarpment of the garden. The road has become a feature for our students and helped transform a once barren hillside into a tranquil trail through the many Indigenous plants that are now



home to superb fairy-wrens and other important critters.

This year, after enjoying the common brown butterflies in our garden in late summer and autumn, we decided to develop more butterfly and moth habitat. So, the Planning and Planting for More Moths and Butterflies Project was born!

Moths and butterflies bring colour, joy and proper pollinating action to any garden. Focusing on these creatures has provided the students with a window into the complexities of our living world. For example, common brown butterflies prefer to source their nectar from open flowers such as daisies, while their caterpillars nibble exclusively on grasses. So, earlier in the year, one thousand moth and butterfly attracting Indigenous plants were ordered from a local nursery, and in August and September the students became efficient planting machines!

Local gardening expert, John King, joined us for the annual 'Planting Day' last term to kick start the process with our students. He refined our students'

horticultural techniques and unleashed them back into the garden. The first stop was the wallaby lawn, which our students began on Orientation Day last year when they harvested the seeds from established wallaby grasses and sprinkled them across a freshly cleared patch of soil. On Planting Day, students extended this lawn by planting dozens of seedlings, which have exploded with life amid the endless rain we've been receiving lately.

Other corners of the garden were targeted and planted out by our excited, and excitable, horde of gardeners. Bare patches of soil next to vegetable gardens, under citrus trees, opposite seated areas, and lining the many walking trails... no space was untouchable for the hundreds of plants and grasses that required new homes.

By the end of Planting Day, our students had made such a positive and powerful impact on their space. They had dramatically improved their natural environment, but there were still a few hundred plants left to put in the ground!

Over the next few weeks, our focus returned to the Great River Road. Our students continued to 'get their hands dirty' as they lined the path with grasses and shrubs, as they extended the existing Indigenous islands of local plants that now scatter the landscape.

The Year 4 question that guides our program is: "How can we create our best tomorrow?" Projects like these offer real and authentic learning experiences for our students. The connections they form with their natural surroundings, and with their peers, throughout place-based education like this is integral in developing kind, gentle and caring young souls.

While our current cohort of students are almost at the end of their Year 4 adventure, we hope that their love of, and journey through, nature has only just begun.

Next year, when they return to take a stroll through the same garden as Year 5 students, we hope they will enjoy seeing clouds of moths and butterflies taking delight in their hard work.



When students tune in to a tune

GREG CAREY, ACTING DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

One of the most important things we can do in life is listen, listen to the sounds around us. Sound is music, and music is one of the first things we sense when we are in the womb.

When a child begins school, their music education is fully ignited. At The Geelong College we consider music as an aural art form in the early levels, demonstrated most simply through singing. This is the start of a child's own journey through creativity.

In Year 3, we introduce students to the strings program where every student learns a string instrument for a year and later come together to experience the empowerment of playing together.

We extend this at Year 7 when all students learn a brass, woodwind or string instrument and form a band or orchestra. At this point in a student's education, they realise that music is closely linked to all areas of the curriculum.

Current research supports this, showing us the impact of learning

music in allowing children to develop in positive ways. Specifically, there are evidenced advantages within the domains of mathematics, science, language, physical education, and the visual and performing arts.

Music is mathematical. It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously. Through music, students can develop their math, problem-solving, and pattern-recognition skills.

We find music in science. It is precise, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. We view the printed music as a chart or graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume contrast, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

Music is a universal language made up of a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas.

We see music through history, with music signifying the evolution of cultures and political climates as a catalyst for historical progression.

Music is art, allowing students to take the techniques of playing an instrument and apply them to create emotion and self-expression. Music allows students to express themselves in a unique way, fuelling their learning and exploration of self, while developing fundamental social skills.

Ensemble music provides skills with parallels to physical education and team sport. Learning an instrument requires fine motor skills and exacting coordination of fingers, hands, arms, feet, lips, cheeks and facial muscles in



addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

Many of our students have elected to take individual instrumental tuition, spanning from strings, through to woodwind, brass, percussion, guitar, voice and piano.

We are fortunate to have a rich history and culture of excellence in music education supported by 46 specialist music teachers who teach instrumental music to just over 600 students each week. Most of these students go on to participate in one of the 37 music ensembles on offer including the likes of our symphony orchestra, string orchestras, concert bands, rock groups, jazz ensembles, choirs and

chamber ensembles as well as a very active VET Music Industry course which enables students to be industry-ready for the contemporary performance scene.

Students who commit to additional music studies are obviously busy. They enjoy the emotional and social bonds they form through participating in a group and often unknowingly experience a rich academic life. This is why it is not unusual to see musicians represented as the top academic achievers at any awards ceremony.

But this is only a taste of the vast benefits of music, with so many rich experiences to be had within an academically musical life.

Each year, we hold the Foundation Concert.

Made possible by The Geelong College Foundation, the concert is the pinnacle of The Geelong College's music program and celebrates the musicianship, talent and dedication our students embody.

Musical ensembles and choirs from across the College are brought together in a single evening of performance, spanning a wide variety of musical styles.

After a whirlwind year, Greg will be handing over the baton to his successor, Scott Templeton. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Greg for his leadership and dedication to the role, and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Scott Templeton, incoming Director of Music



Scott comes to The Geelong College from Yarra Valley Grammar where he was Director of Performing Arts and previously the Director of Music.

Scott is an accomplished jazz musician, playing tenor saxophone in a professional jazz ensemble, and teaching Saxophone, Clarinet and Drums to A.Mus.A and VCE level.

At TGC he aims to share his love of music with students and to instil in them the enjoyment, enthusiasm and discipline that he has learned through his own

musical journey. He wants to lead a Music Department that can provide opportunities for all, and be a vibrant and happy place for both students and staff to work in.

Scott has considerable experience in all areas of music including jazz, musical theatre and loves the traditional music programs of mass participation, as well as an enthusiasm and understanding for contemporary music education. He, his wife Jane and daughter Ella are looking forward to joining The Geelong College community in 2023.



In, boots and all

NICOLE ROACHE, MARKETING MANAGER

For more than 30 years the affable 'Cheats' has been guiding many an aspiring sports man or woman to better versions of themselves and cajoling those less keen with his big smile and gentle manner at The Geelong College. When he hangs up the boots as Director of Sport this year, he will be sorely missed.

An Old Collegian, Mark Cheatley (OGC 1983) returned to College as a teacher at the Middle School in 1988, as the Head of Boys Sport, teaching PE, Health and English, and yes, it is hard to believe he was teaching in 1988, but he assures me it's true!

On top of teaching and coordinating sporting competitions he found time to coach APS Cricket, Soccer and Athletics, and to supervise both the Year 7 Camp in the Grampians and Year 8 Camp in the Otways each year.

From 1996 to 1999 he took a short sabbatical from College to take on the role of Director of Sport at Christian College Geelong where he founded GISSA (Geelong Independent Schools' Sports Association) to encourage competition between local schools. Today this association provides a strong standard of competition across

Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country, Football, Netball, Surf Lifesaving, Surfing and a host of other sports for more than 12 schools in Geelong.

Returning to College at the turn of the Century as the Director of Sport and APS Delegate, continuing to teach PE, Health and English, tutoring in Mackie Boarding House, leading Fulfilling Lives trips to Central Australia and Fiji, and a Kokoda Expedition in 2012, Cheats has impacted generations of College students.

Now you may think that a busy man like this would have no time for his own leisure activities, but Cheats has modelled an active lifestyle over the years playing soccer, cricket and football at school and now a keen swimmer and surfer, he completed the Rottnest Island Swim – 20kms in shark infested waters in 2020 and is

regularly seen churning his way around the buoys at Cosy Corner in Torquay. His daughters Grace (OGC 2012), Louisa (OGC 2014) and Claudia (OGC 2016) followed Mark and his sister Jenny through College and are all keen swimmers – rumour has it there is a fiery family competition on Pier to Pub Day in Lorne.

When asked about some of his memories he smiles as he recalls APS Saturdays with students on every available surface playing a range of sports with their peers working towards a common goal. He also recalls APS Carnival Days – the Heads of the River, Athletics Finals and Swimming and Diving Nights, and House Carnivals at our Recreation Centre or on Main Oval where the House spirit is really on show. "I really like seeing students jump into a team to support their peers and get it done for their House. If you asked them

to tackle a new sport in another setting, they may not be keen to do it but there is something special about House Sport that can push them out of their comfort zones. You never know if that might be the moment that that student falls in love with that sport.”

“I’m also incredibly grateful that every day for all those years I worked as a team with colleagues who have become lifelong friends. It’s been a joy, and when I think about it now, something I will really miss. It’s also nice to think that we modelled the teamwork and social cohesion we talk about developing through College sport. You don’t set out to do that, but in hindsight, I can see that’s what we were able to do.”

Participation and involvement in the process, not the outcome have been Cheats’ mantra across his years at the sporting helm, and it has seen the College program recognised by all schools in the APS for our tenacity at all levels of competition. “They always say we punch above our weight, which is all you can ask for from a bunch of kids competing in some of the most elite company in the state. That’s not to say the wins don’t make you proud, of course they do, winning the 1st team premierships in rowing, cricket, tennis, girls athletics and football have been highlights, but so is seeing a student develop a lifelong passion for healthy levels of sport and exercise.”

Over his time at the College, Cheats has seen the sports program evolve, moving from generally teacher-coached teams to the employment of many highly qualified external coaches helping to impart sport-specific

knowledge. He has also seen the APS competition evolve to a semi-professional level in some schools. “We really want our students to give training their all and compete as hard as they can, as a team. There are so many social and emotional benefits to this type of activity, and they are learning every time they walk over that white line, to be a good sport, to be resilient, how to be an effective member of a team and to have fun together. Wins are a bonus. Participation in sport builds self-confidence, teaches skills and coordination. Now, more than ever post-COVID, students need this type of physical and social outlet.”

As we look over the building site, that in just over a year will be our wonderful new gym and wellbeing facility, Cheats holds great hopes for the future of the program he has been so integral in building. “No doubt the greatest part

of our sports program is the variety of opportunities students can engage with at all levels of the school. The team culture, even in the ‘individual’ sports like athletics and swimming, is important in that students learn to pull together and do it for the team. I can’t wait to see what they are able to do in traditional programs and fixtures, as well as in new opportunities in the coming years. I also see room for even more qualified coaches and mentors to help to bring out the best in every student and to set examples for a healthy and balanced life that always includes some kind of sport.”

“Let’s hope for lots of learning and a few wins along the way.”

Thanks Cheats and we’re glad we will still see you around here some of the time, and best wishes for the golf handicap.



Paul Carson, Incoming Director of Sport

Paul joins the College as Director of Sport with a wealth of knowledge of local sport and community organisations. Former Head Coach of the St Joseph’s Football Club and Account Manager for Programmed Skilled Workforce, Paul is an outstanding leader and builder of teams, and through his extensive experience in high performance

coaching and mentoring Paul will continue to build the College sporting program, striving for excellence and inclusion. He is looking forward to creating a sporting environment that attracts people of great character and creates wonderful opportunities for students, coaches and teaching staff alike.

Feels like home

MOLLY HARRIS, YEAR 11 STUDENT, BOARDER AND 2023 COLLEGE PREFECT



When I tagged along with my parents and older brother to a College open day, I had only recently found out that The Geelong College existed, and Geelong had only ever been one of those towns we would drive past on the way to Melbourne from Warrnambool or vice versa.



I had no concept of what boarding school was or could look like outside of 20th century children's literature that invariably seemed to paint it as somewhere for the troubled or orphaned.

This is, of course, far from the truth.

But back in 2017 when my parents mentioned over the dinner table that something my brother could consider was boarding school, I was taken aback. We only intended to see the boys' boarding house on that first open day, but once we saw the girls' house, I knew then and there that I wanted to go here too.

Then in Year 6, I figured that I would wait until I was in Year 9, but I ended up starting in Year 8. I can remember many conversations with my parents

throughout Year 7 regarding the next year and what I would bring with me, who I would meet, and what living in Geelong would be like.

It was hard at first. I found it hard to navigate, to distinguish between who was also new and who wasn't, and I was anxious to figure out the accepted way of doing things, to blend in.

Moving away from home and adjusting to a new community was always going to be hard but looking back I'm incredibly grateful and satisfied that my experience has lived up to be what I hoped for and more. The enjoyment and support I found at school and in Mossgiel meant I have never regretted it for a second. I think a lot these days about the unique nature of my high



school experience because of living in a boarding house.

The proximity has allowed me to be widely involved with the school and its people, occupying myself with and loving everything from bands to debating.

Easily distracted and prone to procrastination when at home, the phoneless study time and access to academic tutors has helped me get the most out of the learning opportunities I am afforded here. I've also forged friendships with people regardless of age and met and lived alongside my best friend.

Living in Mossgiel has been defined by 'Woolies' runs, brushing teeth together, trying to sort out leave arrangements, looking forward to decorating my new room, my dad complaining about how many books I insist on bringing, conversations over dinner, Tuesday and Thursday morning eggs, staying up until we

get ordered back to our own rooms, and much, much more.

Now that I'm entering into my last year, I'm noticing and reflecting on these aspects of my life more often and am determined not to wish them away despite my excitement for the next phase of my life. I'm also excited about the opportunity to lead my school, to give back as much as possible.

To me a position as school prefect, means a chance to connect more with the student body and College community and positively impact the culture of the school. I think that some of the experiences I've had and skills I've learnt in my time at Mossgiel have prepared me well to assume such a position and I can't wait for it to become part of my boarding and high school experience.



All aboard the Q-Train

DENISE MCLELLAN, BOARDING PARENT AND PRESIDENT OF THE BOARDING PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP

The boarding parents had a fantastic night in October wining and dining on the Q-Train. This fun evening was the last event over a number of days of celebrations for Year 12s. The Q train is a dinner train that runs from Drysdale to Queenscliff and back again. If you haven't done it, get a bunch of friends together and do it, you won't regret it!



The experience on board the Q-Train was wonderful. The wine and food on our menu was sourced locally and was absolutely delicious.

The night was a huge success: we didn't lose anyone at any of the stops in the dark, the atmosphere was amazing, and - if there was a dance floor - everyone would've been on it!

Yes, we're doing it again next year!

The boarding family network is a small but strong group with the aim of fostering connection and engagement between boarding families, as well as within the greater College community. Having a shared experience, in terms of having your children away for most of the year and missing out on much of your child's day-to-day life, is the glue that makes our network so strong. The network is about embracing all the family members: the boarder, the parents and the little brothers and sisters left back at home!

Boarding families have a number of events over the year including rural versus regional netball and football matches, a trivia event, and lunches and activities including all the family. Boarding parents also get together for lunch on the last day of term; a great opportunity to catch up and touch base.

Relationships are so important throughout all stages of life, but particularly when your child is living away from home and in the care of others.

Every boarding family will tell you they have a local family (or two) who are their 'go-to' for helping out with their child.

Pickups, drop-offs, and running around after kids, is just something that we (as parents) do without thinking much about - when we're the ones doing it.

But when your child is living hours from home, and you can't be the one to help day-to-day, you appreciate so much when another family does. We notice every time our child tells us someone 'ran them around', helped them out.

It may be a little thing to the family who helped, but it means so much to us. So - thank you, we couldn't do it without you!



Net Gains



SARAH LANGLEY, TEACHER IN CHARGE, NETBALL

2022 saw the first full season of APS Netball in three years with all players showing plenty of determination and energy throughout the season. Player numbers within our program remained strong with over 210 netballers and 19 teams participating each week. It was fantastic to see all teams and players take the court once more and for the opportunity of both skill and social development take place across the season.



Success, participation, and development are the key goals which we wish to achieve within the program and 2022 saw the continuation of these key aspects as well as new ventures and opportunities arise. Katrina Daws continued as the 1st's coach and her leadership, expertise, and long-term vision for both the team and the program continued to gain momentum each week. Team and player development was a weekly focus, and our enthusiastic coaches ensured all players had the opportunity to improve their skill and game awareness. Professional development opportunities for our coaches increased with mid season review and player feedback sessions introduced. Access to premium coaching resources were also provided.

A highlight for the year was the involvement of Melbourne Vixen defender Emily Mannix within our program in Terms 1 and 3. Term 1 saw us introduce the TGC Netball Academy with 62 students from Years 7-12 participating in an 8-week academy run by Emily. In these sessions, Emily coached the players on the ball and footwork skills required to play at the elite level as well as game play strategies, nutritional planning and an insight to the highs and lows of her netball pathway, including management of injury and missing out on representative teams. As Emily was balancing her involvement with the College as well as her own playing career, there was an opportunity for retired Australian Diamond goalie Tegan Phillip to take the academy one week,



complementing Emily's defensive work with a specialist attacking session. With Emily and Tegan having both grown up locally, the academy provided a brilliant opportunity for our netballers to gain insight into the pathways and opportunities available to our regional based netballers.

Emily returned in Term 3 after the conclusion of the Suncorp Super Netball season to take trainings across all year levels and divisions, providing in-season coaching to both players and coaches. Emily's enthusiasm was contagious and there were plenty of smiles across the courts each session. During this time, Emily also worked with the 1sts to complete a specialist defensive training, linking strategies and skills already implemented into their game along with new suggestions and ideas. I know all players involved loved their time with Emily during the year, with many taking the tips and personalised feedback given by Emily into their netball seasons.

All the continual improvements undertaken this year saw us have one of our most successful seasons to date. High participation rates

saw us cancel only one out of 172 games due to COVID unavailability and along with good planning and communication, those who wished to play community netball were able to balance commitments to both club and school. Players and coaches undertook umpiring duties on a weekly basis, with umpire education and training an aspect of our program we wish to expand next year. The strength and conditioning program increased in its second year with more players gaining access to expert coaches and specialised individual programs.

Success is always enjoyable and through the hard work of our players and coaches, we shared some incredible results this season. A summary of games won by each division include Seniors 71%, Intermediates 85% and Juniors 75%. This includes four teams progressing through the season undefeated – a tremendous effort which must be commended. A particular highlight for our program was the brilliant season had by our 1sts, who recorded 10 wins with only 1 loss to finish second on the APS ladder. This included strong

wins against Caulfield, Haileybury and Wesley as well as a 27-goal victory against Grammar on Derby Day. Highlighting our dominance within the competition, four College players were selected in the APS representative team. The girls then proceeded to finish in the top four of the state at the Victorian Schools Championships, losing to eventual winner Ivanhoe Grammar in the semi-final by four goals.

As we move forward to 2023 and beyond, the focus of our program must be to capture the success of the year we have had, using it to further enhance our player and coach development so that we continue to be high performing within the APS and state programs. Maintaining connections with VNL teams and pathway opportunities will be important and this, alongside the exciting Bellerin project where our netballers will have access to state-of-the-art courts and training facilities, can only bolster our program even further.

Snowing them how it's done

NICOLE ROACHE, MARKETING MANAGER

What a fantastic snow season. We were blessed with plenty of snow, but we were all wondering if COVID might have scared people off, or after two years of not much skiing and boarding, the kids might not feel up to competing, but happily we were wrong!

It was wonderful to see 55 students of all ages and their families enjoying the Victorian Interschool Snowsports Championships, despite some crazy weather. It was also exciting to see 34 new skiers and boarders join the team, have a great deal of fun, and post some good results.

Results-wise once again we punched above our weight, finishing 8th in the Co-ed Primary Schools and 6th in the Co-ed Secondary Schools competitions which is quite a feat given that these competitions are open to every co-ed school in the state.

Congratulations to our Division 1 Boys Mogul Champion Jasper Atkinson, and the gold medal winning team of Jasper, Tyson Martin and Rory Kearns. Jasper, Tyson and Rory also took the team bronze medal in the Division 1 Boys Slopestyle Ski. Our Division 3 Girls were also outstanding, with Holly Kearns, Lilli Biscan and Abbie Chandler winning the team gold in the Slopestyle Ski and Holly, Lilli and Lucy Borrack winning the team silver in the Moguls. Holly also added an individual bronze medal to her growing trophy cabinet in the Moguls.

With scoring teams across all Divisions except Division 2, the College team is developing great depth, and we are seeing huge improvements from many of our athletes who are spending more time on the snow developing their skills. 15 of the 21 students who had competed for College in 2019 recorded improved performances, this means we are going in the right direction!

Australian Interschool Snowsports Championships

The College team of Rory Kearns, Tyson Martin, Holly Kearns, Lilli Biscan, Millie Paton, Harry Garland, Daisy Biscan and Brigid Kearns travelled to Perisher in NSW to compete in the Australian Interschool Snowsports Championships, along with their parents and team coach Andy Deans.

The College finished 10th in the Co-ed Secondary competition and was the third best performing Victorian team, but in the skiing events we were equal best Victorian team with Wesley College. This is a huge result for the College!

Congratulations to our medallists Rory Kearns and Tyson Martin who took the bronze in the Division 1 Boys Moguls

and Holly Kearns and Lilli Biscan who won silver in the Division 3 Girls Slopestyle Ski.

The Division 1 Boys scored points in both of their events and the Division 3 girls who qualified for all four of their events scored points in three events after some misfortunes in the Alpine.

Harry Garland finished 22nd in the Division 3 Boys Ski X and Brigid Kearns 40th in the Division 6 Girls Ski X. Daisy Biscan, who qualified for each of her individual events finished 22nd in the Alpine, 27th in the Moguls and 44th in the Ski X.

Across both competitions we can be most proud of the great sportsmanship and resilience from all our team members, no matter what the conditions or results they were happy to be out there and supporting their teammates. It was great to see students giving new events a go, jumping into teams in events that might not have been their specialty and just doing their best. That's what this is all about, having fun, getting out of your comfort zone, learning and improving while doing something you love.

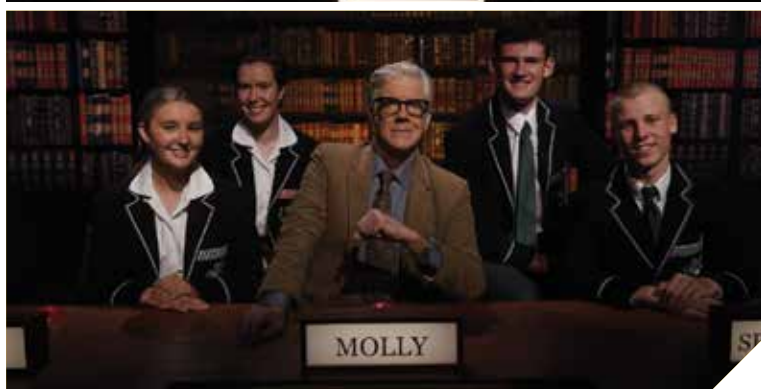
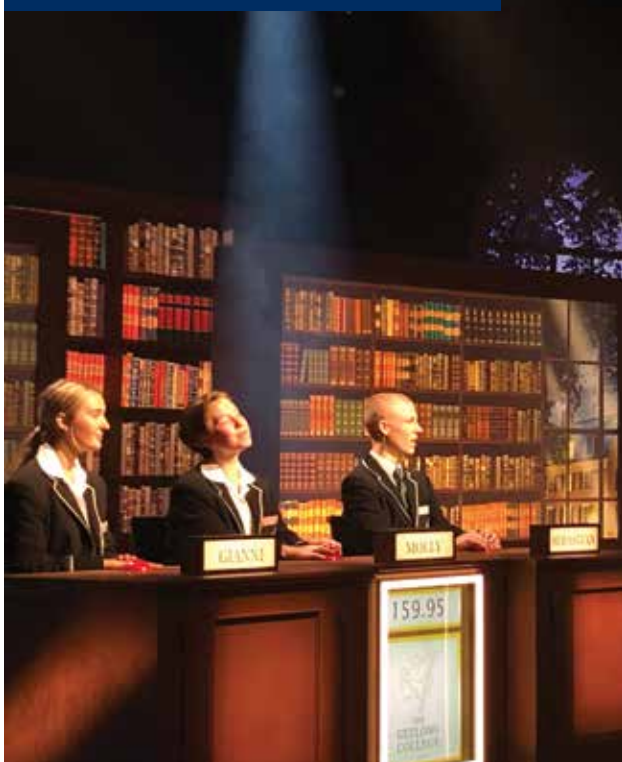


School Activities

Arts Masterclass



Filming of Brain Eisteddfod



Excursion to MONA



Staff Strategic Planning Session



College v Grammar Swimathon





Year 11 Geography Trip



Music Jam for Refugees



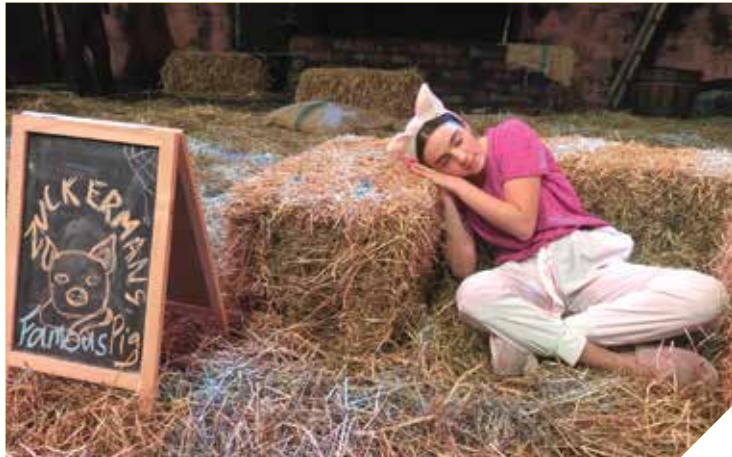
Victorian All Schools' Athletics



Year 12's last day of school



Year 9 Drama - Charlotte's Web



Remembrance Day





Hard as a Cat's head

NICOLE ROACHE, MARKETING MANAGER

There is no doubt that Tom Atkins (OGC 2013) epitomises the College motto Be of Courage, for this is the way to the Stars. Regularly described as tough, a hard nut and a tackle machine, Atkins has worked hard for every opportunity, and grabbed his chances and shaken the life out of them, just as he would an opposition player.

Tom Atkins is the kind of bloke you want on your team in a battle, who does the hard stuff for few accolades. He is a team man through and through.

But the 2022 Premiership player never expected to be drafted. At school, after coming to College, at the behest of his parents, in Year 10, footy was fun but it wasn't looking like a career. He enjoyed the bus trips, playing with his mates but would have liked a few more wins along the way.

"Footy was great. I just loved that the blokes that I was hanging out with at lunch I was hanging out with on Saturdays as well. We weren't the best team, we were at a disadvantage compared to some of the big

Melbourne schools who can hand out scholarships, but I really enjoyed it. We won three games in my Year 12 year. Troy Mitchell was our coach for the majority of the time I was there. He was a great coach, and had a top team around him, people like Nudge and Brad Ottens. I look back on it now and think: It's a pretty important time in your life when you are 17 and 18, and they were really good at managing Year 12 boys."

At the end of Year 12 Tom was asked to train with the Geelong VFL side and chose playing footy at the highest level he could over fun and friends at schoolies, a decision that no doubt had a significant impact on his career.

"I hadn't booked schoolies but it turned out that if I was going to train with the VFL then our first week of training was that week, so I thought I'd hang around and do that. I had always wanted to play at the highest level I could so while schoolies would have been fun it wasn't worth it for me. I wasn't really up to being a VFL player at that stage. I only scraped in five games that year so I don't think I would have been any good on an AFL list."

Like lots of young people finishing VCE Tom wasn't sure about what the future might hold so deferred his university studies and alongside his VFL duties went to work as a cellar hand at a winery to save money for travelling.

"The travel never happened. Like a few of the VFL players do, I went up to Darwin and played footy up there for a couple of months. It's another opportunity to play in a pretty good competition, have an experience and stay fit. Once I got back from there I had to go to uni and try to do something with my life, so I started Commerce Law at Deakin but dropped the Law after a year and a half. It wasn't really my thing. I'm not too good with words so I just did straight commerce and finished an accounting degree."

After a slow start, with just five VFL games in 2015 there were some changes to the Cats VFL side at the end of the season, with some older and more established players moving on, freeing up space for a fit and ready young midfielder.

"I was lucky, it was timing. We had a really good bunch of older guys who all finished up at the start of the 2016 season and I was just a midfielder. Suddenly over the preseason there were positions available and Shane O'Bree gave me a go."

After a breakout season in 2016 Tom cemented himself as an important inside midfielder in the VFL side, won the Best and Fairest and was named in the VFL Team of the Year. In 2017 he was named as the co-captain and despite some troubles with injury had a strong year, and talk began of him being a mature aged draftee. This was not to be and in 2018 he was again named captain, this time the sole leader. He played every game and was among the VFL's top ten players

in score assists, handballs, contested possessions, clearances and hard ball gets.

Some might have been disappointed at not getting a shot in the AFL after performances like this but Tom's response to an encouraging text from Geelong's Football Manager Simon Lloyd has become legendary.

"Hey Lloyd, thanks mate, really appreciate the message. It's all good though I understand what a tough



job putting a list together is and not everyone can be a winner. Bigger things going on in the world mate. I still get to run around in the 2s! Will catch you round the club."

"It's pretty easy to stay positive when you don't really have any expectations. There's certainly no secret sauce. I just wasn't expecting to get picked up so when it didn't happen, I wasn't too flat. It would have been different if the club had told me they were going to take me and then it didn't happen, but it was always a shot in the dark. I try not to listen to what people are saying too much and keep my expectations low!"

He could have gone to South Australia at the end of 2017 but again a sound decision and backing the club who had given him an opportunity saw Tom join the Geelong AFL side in 2019, drafted at pick 11 in the Rookie Draft. Renowned for their ability to pluck stars such as Tom Stewart out of their VFL side, it was expected that Geelong would utilise the hard bodied player to add pressure to their forward line given the abundance of high-quality midfielders they had to choose from. Tom debuted in the opening round against Collingwood playing primarily as a forward in his first two years before adding some toughness to their defence in 2021.

In 2022 Geelong's new structure saw him become a key player, returning to the middle, where he played throughout his junior and VFL football, and was one of just four players to play every game.

"I always played in the midfield, up until I started my AFL career I hadn't really played anywhere else. What I've learned is that you do anything you can to stay in the main team, so I'll play wherever they put me and just play my role."

Although the Cats have featured in the finals across most of the decade, and came very close in 2020, I think most Cats fans would agree, that this



one felt a bit different. The Cats built through the early part of the year and finished with a 13-game winning streak to finish the year on top of the home and away ladder and headed into the finals with a healthy list. A tight preliminary final at the MCG against Collingwood, saw the Cats sneak over the line by a point. They then had a week off before facing a tired looking Brisbane Lions, and storming into the Grand Final to play Sydney, who after a tough campaign were not good enough against the classy Cats who put them to the sword early to run away winners by 81 points.

After a whirlwind off season trip to Ireland and Europe, planning a wedding and moving house, Tom hasn't fully processed the whys and what fors, but no doubt the club will be

contemplating this over the next few weeks, and planning for another dip at the big dance in 2023.

"I haven't really had time to sit back and reflect myself. I think the main thing was improvement as a group. Our bottom five in the 2020 Grand Final were definitely weaker than this year. There were four or five guys who missed out on the Grand Final who would have easily been playing in that 2020 side so I think as a whole group, not just the team that played, we all improved as players and were able to contribute more evenly.

"It was good to see. For the first three years we were reliant on a couple of players to get us through tough games. I think we saw this year that everyone across the ground was having an impact. It wasn't just

dependent on the guys in the middle or Stewart down back or Hawk up forward. It was contributions from everyone across the ground. Getting someone like Tyson Stengle into the team, who can chip in with a couple of goals here and there, and Jeremy Cameron having a career best year, that all helps. Everyone who played this year was in really good form. You've got to be fortunate too and we were with injuries, but that's also good management."

"It was definitely leadership too... Joel has been amazing but there are five or six guys within the squad who have really good values and training standards and are genuinely good people, that rubs off on the group. Tom Hawkins is one of the most selfless players I've seen, and I've learned a lot from the way he goes about his footy and the type of person he is as well. Everyone on our list is a good person. This is a reflection on how Wellsy (Stephen Wells) has drafted in previous years and how the Cats have gone about their recruiting process. They are really a great bunch of blokes who are all selfless."

"The footy program supports you having a lifestyle. It's all self-run, a player led program. There are guidelines, but once you've ticked off what the club want you to do it's at your discretion to hang around or not. We've had sustained success, so there must be something to it. You hear of clubs in Melbourne that are 7am – 5pm four days a week, and compared to the way we do it, I think that would take a toll especially if you're losing, it would

be a tough place to be. I'm super lucky to be at a club like Geelong."

A huge on-field lead up to the Grand Final was only perhaps outdone by the off-field elements, 250,000 people watching the parade on the Yarra and a combination of nerves and excitement throughout the week. But the moments after, celebrating with teammates and family are something that Tom couldn't imagine.

"Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think I'd have a premiership medal. I didn't even think I'd play one game or be on a list. But here I am, it happened, and I am very fortunate to have been part of this team. Blokes can be a lot better players than me and never end up with a premiership. Sometimes you just don't land in the right team at the right time. I was able to fill a role this year and I'm keen to do it again!"

Tom also took home a special award on Carji Greeves night, the Tom Harley award for the Best Clubman, a huge honour, but in a premiership year an even greater one. Once again, he was surprised to hear his name called while discussing who it might be with teammate Gryan Miers.

"It was such a huge honour. I didn't expect it at all. I remember sitting next to Gryan talking about who it could be as Mitch Duncan was making the speech and looking back through people who had won it previously - some of my favourite teammates. It was a massive honour to be held in the same stead as some of those guys."

Most would say it was a fitting finish to a stellar year for Tom who might just be the cat they speak of in the saying hard as a cat's head.

AFL images courtesy of The Geelong Cats.

The two burning questions about 2023 most of Geelong want answers to...

Can the Cats go back-to-back?

Back-to-back is tough for a reason, but I can't see why we can't challenge again. We haven't lost too many from last year. Obviously, we've lost Joel and he's a massive out, but of the team that played most of us will still be here and have another year under the belt playing together. We've also made some great additions in the draft, so I don't see why we can't improve on what we did last year.

Who will be captain?

There are a number of guys who would be really great captains of the club. I can tell you that I am a fair way off being captain, but I'll be excited for whoever it is because there are four or five guys who are well able to lead the club. Who knows, it might be a co-captain set up which could be a great option as well.

For the students playing footy, what can they take away from their footy at College?

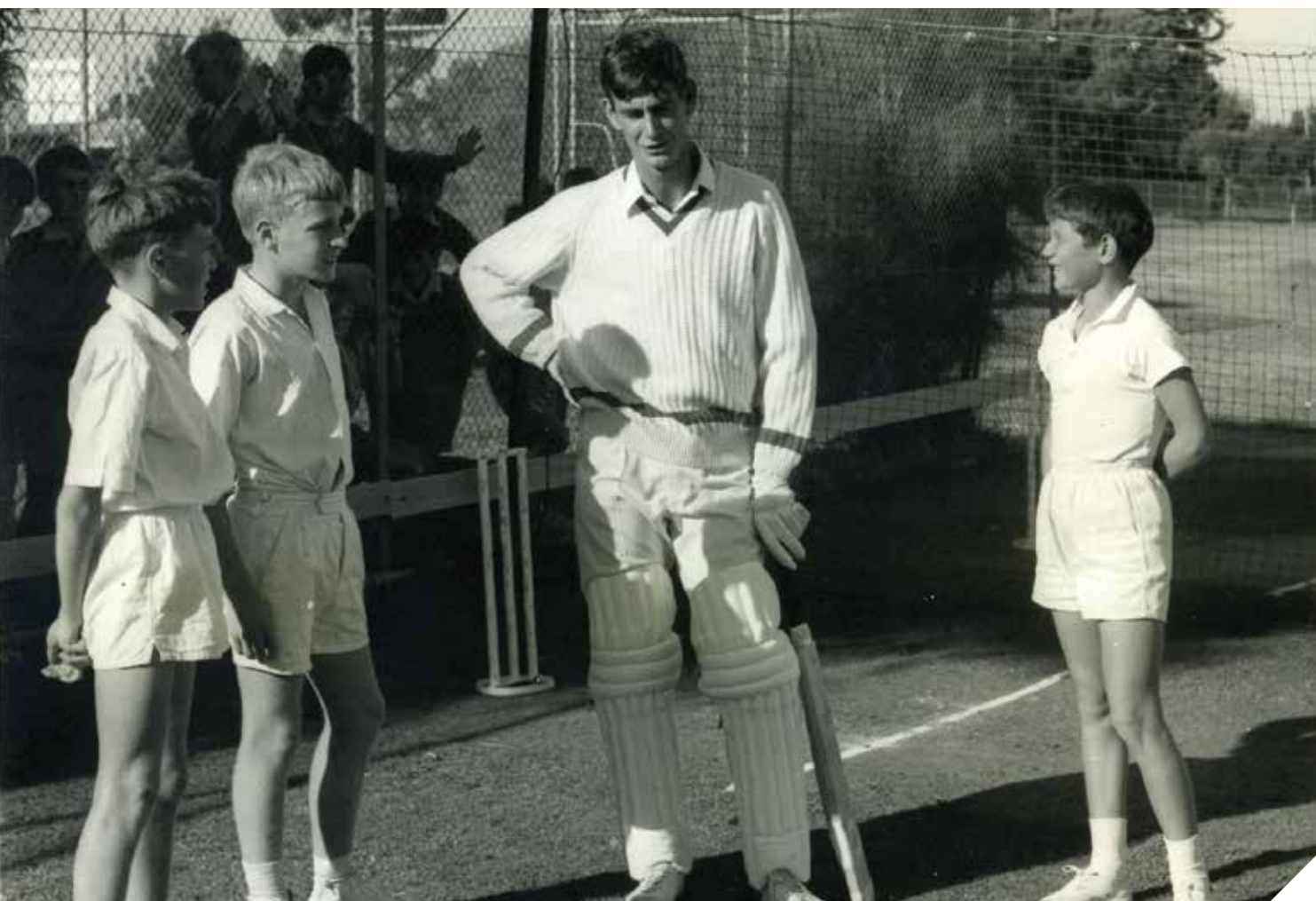
While you're at College it's important not to take footy too seriously I reckon.

The way I approached it was to just have fun on the weekends.

I'm always competitive and I want to win but I think the most important thing is you are only in Year 12 once and you don't want to spend your weeks stewing over a loss or upset at yourself because you haven't played well.

You want to stay in the moment and make the most of Year 12.





The Conquerors - a Champions Gallery

MIKE HOWELL, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

In October I attended a book launch at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club - the room was packed with over 240 people. It was like being at a Geelong College event as there were so many past parents, current parents, and Old Collegians in the room. The proceedings were emceed by none other than Coodabeen champion and past parent, Ian Cover.

Paul Sheahan, past College Principal and test cricketer officially launched a book about Geelong's greatest-ever international sports champions called 'The Conquerors' written by former journalist and sports promoter, John Craven. Paul started by saying "I am truly humbled by the people in the room, even as a former headmaster. Geelong is an outstanding city with extraordinary people."

The book, 44 years in the making, digs deep into the personal stories of the highs and lows, dedication, and family support which makes it a fascinating read. It also reveals the deep connection of Geelong College in the community. A number of little-known facts were revealed from the book about some of our Old Collegian sporting icons. Most of whom appear in our Old Geelong Collegians' Association Notables Gallery.



**Own a copy of
The Conquerors**

Books can be
bought online:
caribou.net.au



Ian Redpath ("Redders") (OGC 1954)

An outstanding sportsman at school, Ian excelled at tennis, football and cricket. After school, he played for Ammos and won the best and fairest award for four straight years. Scouts were looking to recruit him to play for Geelong and he played in several Cats practice matches but injured a knee cartilage that required surgery. He returned to cricket and was soon playing Sheffield Shield matches. At 22 years of age, he had an

outstanding 1962/63 Sheffield Shield season with a batting average of 63 and a double century. Two months later he was selected as the opening batsman for Australia. 'Redders' compiled a remarkable record of achievements. He played in 67 tests from 1964 to 1967 and amassed 4737 runs at a distinguished average of 43.4. He made eight test centuries and 31 half centuries with his highest score at 171. He was awarded an MBE in 1975 for his services to cricket.



Russell Mockridge (OGC 1942)

A former cadet journalist at the Geelong Advertiser, Russell was a shy loner and sometimes tortured soul whose modesty and gentle nature belied his amazing cycling feats on the international sporting stage. At the age of 17, he entered his first competitive bike race and never looked back, blowing all competitors away. By the end of 1947 he was riding over 640km a week. After just 18 races he became the Australian Road Champion and the first cyclist selected to represent his country at the 1948 London Olympics. Luck was not with him as two punctures and technical difficulties saw him finish in 28th place. He switched from road cycling to track cycling where he dominated the sport. He later returned to road cycling and in the mid-1950's held the unique distinction of being the Australian Road and Sprint Champion at the same time. He was ranked amongst the world's top professional cyclists and was immensely popular and idolised by thousands.



Jack Hawkes (OGC 1914)

Representing Australia in the 1923 Davis Cup tennis final in New York, Jack featured in an incredible 81-game marathon doubles match against America. While the contest raged, his father and first coach were killed in the Great Tokyo - Yokohama Earthquake in Japan. Jack was enrolled at College in 1909 and was talented across all sports including football, cricket and athletics. He was touted as a future test representative. In one match against Wesley College – he took all ten wickets. He was ranked in the top ten world's best tennis players competing at the US Open, French Open and Wimbledon. In 1926 he won all three titles, singles, doubles and mixed doubles at the Australasian Championships.



Lindsay Hassett (OGC 1925)

From a family of nine brothers and sisters – his father's cricketing dexterity was passed onto Lindsay – playing make-believe test matches at their home with a brick wall as a backstop, which featured three painted-on wickets. In 1927 at the age of 14, he was selected in the College's 1st XI. He scored 2335 runs in 44 innings at College. He once made 245 against Scotch College. He had a talent for seemingly all sports winning the College open tennis championship for four straight years from 1929 onwards. He was also captain of the 1st XVIII for three years. It didn't stop there as he won Geelong titles in table tennis and squash and was an outstanding golfer on a handicap of 1. Don Bradman described Hassett as a 'Masterful player in a crisis'. His overall contribution to the game was immeasurable. Richie Benaud wrote on his record: "There are others who have made more runs and taken more wickets, but very few have ever got more out of a lifetime."

Carji Greeves (OGC 1920)

Carji excelled in football, cricket, rowing and tennis, and almost any sport he tackled. He is best known as the first winner of the Brownlow Medal which he won in only his second season for the Cats. His daughter, June Ford, recounts that he did not receive the medal until months later. He was training when an official walked onto the ground and gave it to him. He put it in his pocket and continued training. Carji was the runner-up in the Brownlow three times over the next four seasons. The Cats won their first VFL premiership in 1925 after a 29-year vacuum (defeating Collingwood by 10 points). The

University of Southern California were looking for an Aussie rules football player to instruct American grid iron players in the art of kicking the ball. Their team, the Trojans, only kicked one field goal in the entire season. After a prolonged search, Carji was selected and headed to America in 1928. He addressed what was wrong with their kicking style that saw the ball kicked just 20 to 30 yards. Soon they were kicking the ball 50 to 60 yards. The Trojans won the 1928-29 Championships of America, scoring 21 field goals for the season. Carji was invited to give an exhibition of his kicking at a stadium holding 90,000 spectators. He returned to Australia in 1929 after being offered a franchise



for a stunning US invention – neon-lit signage (which he did not take up). Carji continued to play for the Cats and retired in 1933 having played 124 games.

Peter Doak (OGC 1957)

Peter did all his swim training at Eastern Beach as it was the only venue available for competitive swimmers. Peter grew to loathe his 5.45am 4000m training sessions – the loneliness, darkness, icy-cold water, fogs, oil slicks and stinging jellyfish. By 1960 Peter held Victorian titles for the 110, 220 and 440 yards in the U16 division. He continued to train at Eastern Beach but also went to Melbourne to train and sometimes hitch-hiked to get there. He was selected for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Perth in 1962. His swim coach had increased his training to 51km a week which

Peter describes as brutal. He won gold in the 4 x 110 yard relay with a world record. He later represented Australia at the Tokyo Olympic games and won a bronze medal in the 4 x 100 metres relay with a personal best time. He gave up pool swimming after this event to take up Surf Life Saving. He represented Victoria at five Australian championships and won the coveted Surf and Belt double three times. In 1969 he was selected in the national team in South Africa where they were unbeaten across a five contest series. In 1967 he won the Australian 100m freestyle championship and just two weeks later claimed the National Surf Belt title. He retired from competitive

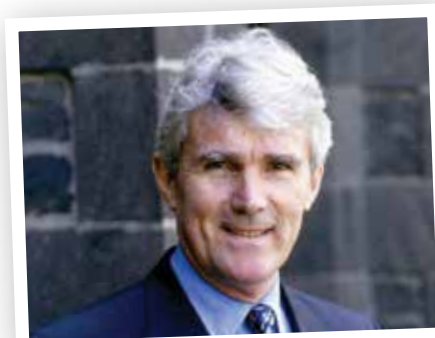


swimming in 1971 and then started coaching youngsters at Kardinia pool for the next 26 years. He still swims up to 1.8km every day.

Paul Sheahan (OGC 1959)

Described as too good too early. Paul was only 13 years old when he was selected to play for The Geelong College 1st XI. Pauls' great grandfather, William Cooper, also had played two tests for Australia against England in the early 1880's. Describing his first test match against India in 1967, Paul said: "I felt like a wide-eyed kid following around all these heroes, and I was nervous." He went on to say: "While I was at the crease in the first innings in Adelaide, Australia made 128, and I made 81 of them!" Paul played 32 test

matches over a seven-year period for his country. He made 1594 runs at an average of 33.91 and hammered two centuries and seven half centuries. Paul was just 27 when he retired at the top of his game. He scored 783 runs at an average of 52.20 throughout the 1973-74 season to guide Victoria to Sheffield Shield glory. His approach to cricket was full-steam attack, elegantly. Crickets' loss was Australia's education gain as Paul took up teaching posts at Geelong Grammar, Winchester College, Deputy Principal at St Peter's College, Adelaide, and then Principal



at The Geelong College followed by Headmaster at Melbourne Grammar.



Steve Horvat (OGC 1988)

When Steve attended College from 1983-86 there was no dedicated round ball program or soccer facilities. And yet soccer was in his blood and he is arguably Geelong's greatest-ever soccer exponent. Steve represented Australia at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, made 32 appearances for the Socceroos' national team, seven of them as captain, was a member of two of Australia's World Cup campaigns, played at the highest level in Europe in the Champions League and played for the Melbourne Knights (winning the Premiership in 1995). More recently, he pulled off one of his finest conquests – part owner of the newly formed Western United Football Club which won the 2022 A-League Premiership in its third season in the competition; an extraordinary achievement.

Don MacMillan (OGC 1941)

Don won the national mile championship four times and the 880 yards three times. He ran at two Olympics and also two Commonwealth Games. Don was enrolled in 1940 at The Geelong College as a boarder when he was 12 years old. He attended College for seven years where he was good academically but excelled in sport and the arts. In 1946 he ran the mile in the then British Empire Schoolboy in the record time of 4 mins 27 secs. As well as track and field, Don was in the first football team and was captain of rowing, winning the Head of the River in 1944. When at Melbourne University his track career continued to blossom under coach Percy Cerutti who had a brutally demanding training regime which Don thrived on. He was competing at the time in the mile against Roger Bannister of the UK and John Landy as to who would be first to break the 4-minute mile barrier. It became a heavily publicised battle across the world. Bannister claimed the honour on May 6 1954 in a time of 3 mins 59.4 secs.



Don qualified to represent Australia at the Helsinki Olympics where he raced five times in seven days and became the first Australian in 56 years of Olympic history to qualify for the 1500 metre final where he finished in 9th position. He did a 2-year teacher training course in London and then started teaching at a secondary modern school in Essex. He later qualified for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics but tripped in his heat missing out on the final. Don retired from athletics in 1957 and took up an appointment at Scotch College as a teacher and sports coach where he remained for 29 years.

Addy Bucek (Current Staff)

"When I was very young (11 years old) and first started sailing, I would walk to the end of our street and smell the sea. That would make me think: 'I've got to go sailing.' Her parents came to Australia after the second world war and had five children who all shone academically and excelled on the sports stage. Addy started racing with her brother, Frank. Together they won the 1973 and 1974 state championships. From there, they competed in the world titles in Portugal and were crowned the world titleholders – in a boat named 'Anaconda' built in the family's dining room!

Addy was at the top of the sailing world for 24 years, racing in many classes from Cadet, Fireball, International 420 dinghies to the 470 class series. She narrowly missed out on a place with Jeni Lidgett at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea, and then competed 4 years later at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and again at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. She tried again for the 2000 Sydney Olympics and like Seoul was narrowly pipped despite being level on points in the selection trials. The crew that beat them went on to win the gold medal. Her children have also been sporting prodigies - her son, Josh, won silver medals in the rowing coxless fours at both the London and



Rio De Janeiro Olympic Games four years later. While her daughter Addy won a bronze medal in the World U23 Rowing Championships.



Tony Strahan (OGC 1956)

Tony was elated as he stood on the podium and received a gold medal from the Duke of Edinburgh at the 1962 Perth Commonwealth Games and had just demolished the world 4 x 220 yards freestyle record.

Tony's single minded progress to a Commonwealth Gold and world record came near the end of an eight-year journey in the pool at the elite level. Tony retired from competitive swimming at aged just 22 but then continued to excel in the water for another 29 years. He swam in masters competitions and from 1978-2006 established 50 Victorian records in various age categories, held 30 Australian records and won six World titles. His involvement in surf life saving was even more expansive being an accredited lifesaver for 41 years.

Like Tony was awestruck by his childhood heroes such as Dawn Fraser and Murray Rose, he too has inspired so many young swimmers through his involvement with swimming and surf lifesaving.



Richard Coleman (OGC 2003)

Richard has established himself as one of Australia's most distinguished wheelchair athletes. He won gold and silver medals at the 2004 Athens Paralympics (800m and 4 x 100m relay) and bronze at the 2002 World Championships. He went on to win silver and bronze at the 2008 Beijing Paralympics (200m and 400m), gold and two bronzes in London four years later (800m, 400m and 4 x 100 relay), and competed at his fourth Paralympics in Rio De Janeiro in 2014. His medal haul continued at World titles in New Zealand (2011) and France (2013). He also competed at two Commonwealth Games with silver in the 1500m in New Delhi (2010) and he narrowly missed out on a medal at Glasgow in 2014.

That's just on the track. He has contested 32 international marathons, winning five with a personal best time of 1 hour 24 minutes.

When a student at The Geelong College, Richard participated in as many sports as possible including football, athletics, and swimming. The seed was sown for representing Australia in competitive sport when he was selected in a Victorian team to travel to Perth for the Pacific School Games and later at the National Disabled Athletics Titles in Canberra. He had the opportunity to perform on the big stage in 2002 when chosen in the Australian team for the World Paralympic Championships in France. He was just 17. He was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) after his Athens Olympic success. This was upgraded to a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) following his London gold. The honour that pleased him most came in 2012 when Deakin University gave him its Young Alumni-of-the-Year award in recognition of his outstanding achievements.

Alistair Lord (OGC 1955)

In 1959 an amazing 11 of the 12 VFL Clubs had approached the twins Alistair and Stewart Lord to play for them. Geelong's revered coach at the time, Reg Hickey invited them to come and train at Kardinia Park. The rest, as they say, is history and the Lords became Cats. In 1962 Alistair averaged a remarkable 30 kicks per match that season and played as centreman in all of Geelong's 21 games. He won

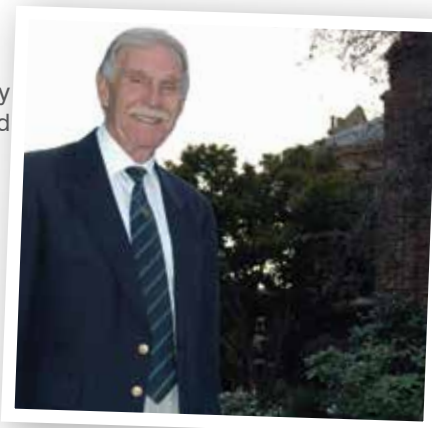
the VFL's most coveted award, the Brownlow Medal with 28 votes. The following year they won the Premiership beating the Hawks in the Grand Final. At the age of 26 Alistair retired from VFL after playing 122 games, kicking 79 goals, representing Victoria eight times, earning 42 Brownlow medal points, winning a Brownlow and club best and fairest, and starring in a Premiership victory. What a phenomenal record!



David Ramage (OGC 1953)

David was part of College's golden age of rowing under coach Albert Bell having won the Head of the River in 1956 and again in 1957. He also had a promising career on the running track but his passion was always rowing. Of Albert Bell, David said 'he was the greatest orator I have ever heard. He was also a brilliant coach and wisely recruited rowers from his Geelong College crews to the Corio Bay Club.' David was among those recruits. He was in a coxed Four which had its sights on qualifying for the 1962 Commonwealth Games in Perth – they unleashed 22 straight wins and won at the Australian championships in Ballarat. They made the games and in the final at the 1800m mark caught a crab whilst three-quarters of a length ahead of New Zealand. The crew recovered quickly but lost by 8/10's

of a second – winning silver. David went on to compete in the Australian eight at the Tokyo Olympics where they came eighth overall. Next, he partnered with Paul Guest in a coxless pair to have a crack at the Mexico Olympics in 1968 (2240m above sea level). They never lost a race in the lead-up to the games. In the semi-final they had made a mockery of their 5 rivals being 3 lengths ahead with only 100m remaining. Then disaster struck as oxygen debt descended. "I stopped as if I had been shot. I couldn't drag myself forward to do each stroke." They were beaten into 4th place by 1 second, just missing the final. David was carried from the boat into an oxygen tent. They reluctantly took part in the B grade final and won in an astonishing time of 7 mins 19 secs – nearly 7 seconds faster



than East Germany who won the gold medal.

David retired from serious rowing in 1969 and then took up yacht cruising across the Pacific and ran a charter boat business in the Caribbean for 15 years.



Georgie Clark (OGC 2002)

Georgie was a child prodigy as one of the youngest track and field athletes to run for Australia at the Olympic Games. She was 16 years old when she represented Australia at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. When she was 15 years old her best 1500 metres time was faster than Britain's celebrated world record holders and Olympic medallists, Sebastian Coe, Steve Ovett, and Steve Cram's records clocked at the same age. Georgie also displayed outstanding potential as a netballer. As a 12 year old she held World Age group records for 800m and 1500m. Her family were all incredibly talented. Her father played for the Cats while her older brother, David, was a Victorian athlete, a world-class downhill skier and played 89 games for the Cats. Her brother Tim played 96 games for Hawthorn. Georgie was a fearless competitor – she represented Victoria at the 1997-98 Australian Junior Track and Field Championships when she was 13 years old and then went on to represent Australia at the Worlds. She described her Olympic experience as "absolutely awesome." Post Olympics Georgie competed in major international athletics events winning gold at the World Youth Championships (WYC) in



Hungary as well as clocking a WYC record in the 1500m with a time of 4.14.08. When she turned 18 she won her first national open title at the Australian Championships. This put her into selection for the Manchester Commonwealth Games when injury struck and took her out of contention with a knee injury. She then contested selection for the 2004 Athens Olympics. She ran well but just missed out. In 2005 she was back racing in Europe running a personal best 1500m of 4.06.4 at the Rome Golden League Meeting. She set her sights on the 2008 Beijing Olympics but again battled injury. She officially retired from athletics in 2012.

Foundation President's Report



SCOTT CHIRNSIDE (OGC 1970),
FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



The words 'Thank You' never seem to convey just how much we appreciate those within our Geelong College community that give so generously every year to our Annual Giving. We could not offer the scholarships or maintain and develop the buildings we have without your ongoing support - Thank You.

We have been fortunate to receive a substantial bequest from Old Collegian Alastair Brebner (OGC 1952) this year and it is my pleasure to announce that the Foundation Board has decided to use these funds to create the Brebner Boarding Bursary. This bursary will assist with boarding fees to enable those in rural areas of Victoria and surrounding states to have the same opportunity to attend The Geelong College as those closer to Geelong. The details of this new bursary will be finalised in the coming months,

however we are thrilled to be able to offer this assistance in the name of Alastair Brebner who was a boarder at the College from 1949 to 1956.

The Foundation Concert - 12 August at Costa Hall

What a wonderful musical spectacular the Foundation Concert was this year. After not being able to hold a concert in 2020 or 2021, we were thrilled to be able to support the College's music program through a night of performance featuring ensembles and

choirs from across the College. My favourite items were those that enabled a mix of age groups from across all campuses of the school to perform together. The mentoring and example set by our senior students enriched the night beyond just the musical performance. Thank you to Greg Carey, our Acting Director of Music, and all the music staff at The Geelong College for a wonderful night of entertainment. We look forward to working with Scott Templeton, the new Director of Music, next year.



Bradley Fenner joins the Board

We welcomed Bradley Fenner (OGC 1972) as a member of the Foundation Board recently. Bradley has kindly agreed to fill a casual vacancy on the Board, and he experienced his first Board meeting in August. Bradley was most recently the Principal at Prince Alfred College in Adelaide and we welcome both he and Barbara back to Victoria and know he brings a wealth of experience in attracting and distributing very important gifts to our school.

Foundation Events

What a pleasure to be able to host so many events over the last few months. Over 50 golfers braved the weather conditions on Friday 14 October to play in the Foundation's Community Golf Day at Barwon Heads Golf Club and

there was a great turnout for the lunch afterwards. Thanks to all those who participated. The date for next years' Foundation Community Golf Day is Friday 2 June so please Save The Date – we welcome Old Collegians, Past Parents, Current Parents and Friends of the College to come along and enjoy a round of golf and lunch at the Barwon Heads Golf Club.

Members of our Morrison Society and Patrons of the Foundation enjoyed morning tea and a tour of the VCE Design & Creative Art Exhibition on Thursday 20 October which was very well received. Thank you to Kevin Jess, Head of Design & Creative Arts, for taking us on a journey through the exhibition - our members were very impressed at the level of talent

on display and the variety of different media that was chosen by students.

We hosted over 90 Morongo Old Collegians in the Dining Hall on Saturday 22 October for a very successful luncheon. Our guest speaker, renowned Artist Susan Sutton (MOC 1961), had us all captivated with the stories behind some of her paintings which we were privileged enough to see up close on the day. We also heard from our 2022 Morongo Award recipient Georgia McLellan on what it meant to receive the Award and her ambitions for her future. The Morongo Award is an important connection between The Geelong College and Morongo and we thank those Morongo Old Collegians who support this very worthwhile scholarship.

Foundation Fellowship

Congratulations to Karen Sunderland and Dana Dear who are our newest recipients of the Foundation Fellowship for Further Education or Training of a staff member. Karen will be attending the Stronger Smarter Institute's Leadership Program from October this year and Dana will be completing a Certificate in Art Therapy at the College for Education and Clinical Art Therapy. Good luck with completing your respective educational programs and we look forward to hearing about your experiences in the near future.

Fyansford Land

I would like to finish off the year with an update on the Foundation's landholding in Fyansford. The property on the corner of Merrawarp Rd and Hamilton Highway is currently being leased

out for farming activities. We have, however, conducted a flood survey for the land nearest to the Barwon River which is earmarked for school recreation activities including ovals and a campus extension. Long term planning is underway in conjunction with the City of Greater Geelong for some of the land to be used for housing for our rapidly growing city. The Board would like to thank Brad Carr, School Project Manager, for working on this project with us.

Thank you to all our donors who have given so generously this year, and to the sitting Foundation Board Members who have volunteered their time throughout the year. Thanks also to all of the staff in the Community Relations office for your support of the Foundation, and particularly to Sally Sadler, Advancement Coordinator, who keeps us all organised.



Foundation Community Golf Day
14 October 2022



Morongo Old Collegians Lunch
22 October 2022



Morrison Society and Patrons
Morning Tea 20 October 2022



Calling all golfers!

We would love to see you play in The Geelong College Foundation's annual Community Golf Day

Friday 2 June 2023

To register your interest in playing or for further information, please email Sally Sadler at foundation@tgc.vic.edu.au



Thank you for your gift

We wish to sincerely thank everyone who donated to the College in 2022. Your generosity has helped many families who wouldn't otherwise been able to study at College through the Pegasus Scholarships Program; the completion of the refurbishment works to the Cloisters Precinct; and, helping to build upon the corpus of funds to the Dr Bill Williams Tjungurrayi Scholarship Fund. These projects, and many more, rely on the generosity of our community and their impact on the life at The Geelong College will be felt for many years to come.

We apologise that the donor list printed in the June Ad Astra missed several names which now appear in the following list. We sincerely apologise for this error.

If you would like to have a confidential discussion about leaving a bequest or making a gift of significance to the College, please contact Associate Director of Advancement, Peter Moran on 03 5226 3194 or email peter.moran@tgc.vic.edu.au.

Ms W Abikhair PP	Mrs L Falconer	Dr P D Miller - CS	Mrs E Syle - MOC
Amezdroz Investments Pty Ltd	Mr T Ficca	Mr A J Montgomery - CP, PP	Mrs D C Taylor - MOC
Mr J G & Mrs H Anderson - PP	Mr R J & Mrs P L Gartland - PP	Ms B Morrison - MOC	Mrs E Taylor - MOC
Mr R G Ashby - PP	Miss C M Gray	Mrs N Neagle - PP	Mrs J B Taylor - PP, PS
Mrs K A Betts - PP	Ms N Hecht - CP	Mrs W S Norris - CP	Dr P C Turner - PS
Mr A J Blades - CS	Ms E S Holt - CP	Nyorah Pty Ltd	The D & X Williamson Family Charitable Fund
Mrs L Bramall	Mr A J & Mrs L M Ives - PP	Mrs C O'Keefe - MOC	The Dimmick Charitable Trust
Mrs M Brumley	Johnson Family Foundation	Mrs M Rawlings - MOC	Dr J D Tiernan - CP
Burpan Investments Pty Ltd	Mr B N Kloester - PP	Ms N L Roache - CS	Mr A H Williamson - PP
Mrs J V Cameron - PP	Mrs A M Lawson - PP	Miss G Rooney - MOC	Mrs J M Williamson - PP
Mrs P M Craig	Mr B A Mawson - PP	Mrs S A Sadler - CP, CS	Mrs J M Wilmot - PP
Dr C Darby - PP	Mrs C A McGlade - PP, CS	Ms M Smith	
Mrs S De Kretser - MOC	Ms D M McIntosh - MOC	Dr J Swan - CP	
Mrs K S Drew - PP		Mrs S & Dr J Swan - CP	

OGC – 1930s

Mr B A Johnson - OGC 1938	Mr I C Howden OAM - OGC 1946	Mr I G I Sides - OGC 1948
Mr J M Fleming OAM - OGC 1944	Mr W H Huffam - OGC 1944, PP	

OGC – 1950s

Mr A G Brebner - OGC 1952	Mr A G S Gray - OGC 1959, PP	Mr R K Robson - OGC 1959, PP	Mr A C H Whitehead - OGC 1956
Mr H T Bromell - OGC 1955	Dr I W McCay - OGC 1955	Mr F W Russell - OGC 1950	Professor D G Williamson - OGC 1959
Mr H A Campbell - OGC 1955, PP	Mr E J B Payne - OGC 1951	Mr A P Sheahan AM - OGC 1959, PS	
Mr M D Colvin - OGC 1950	Mr A S Philip - OGC 1952	Dr A J Vigano AM - OGC 1958	
Mr P F Fenwick - OGC 1956	Mr R C W Pyper - OGC 1952		

OGC – 1960s

Mr M J Betts - OGC 1965, PP	Mr K A Fagg OAM - OGC 1969, PP	Mr N A Kearney - OGC 1969	Professor D T Runia - OGC 1965
Professor T R Carney AO - OGC 1960	Mr P F Fraser - OGC 1965	Mr D F Koch - OGC 1964, PP	Mr I F Sayers - OGC 1965
Mr D J Dickson - OGC 1961	ANON - OGC 1966	ANON - OGC 1960, PP	Dr H G & Mrs C M Seward AM - OGC 1966, PP
Mr B G Fagg - OGC 1966	Mr T W Habel - OGC 1965	Dr C B Olsen - OGC 1968	
	Mr F O Herd OAM - OGC 1969, PP	Mr D J Poynton - OGC 1961	

OGC – 1970s

Mr I H Begley - OGC 1970, PP	Mr G D & Mrs M Deppeler - OGC 1971	Mr A J Le Deux - OGC 1979	Ms M L Quigley - OGC 1973
Mr J C Braithwaite - OGC 1979	Mr B T Fenner - OGC 1972	Mr A J Light - OGC 1979	Dr C W Rockefeller - OGC 1977, PP
Dr A M Brown - OGC 1978	Ms B R Henderson - OGC 1979, PP	Dr A V Maclean - OGC 1978	Mr D A Williamson - OGC 1972
Mr R V Brown - OGC 1972		Mr B J Mellor - OGC 1970	
Mr R G Carr - OGC 1973, PP		Mr T D G Neilson - OGC 1978	

OGC – 1980s

Mr I J Abbott - OGC 1988	Mr T R D Barton - OGC 1980	Mr J R Ganly - OGC 1985	Mr D J Vaughan - OGC 1984
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OGC – 1990s

Mr S M Cosgriff - OGC 1992	Dr P E Johnstone - OGC 1994, CP	Mr P A Mishura - OGC 1992
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OGC – 2000s

Mr B P Doak - OGC 2002, FP	Mr N L Gilchrist - OGC 2001, CP	Dr T L Gilchrist - OGC 2001, CP
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PP - Past parent

CP - Current parent

PS - Past Staff

CS- Current Staff



From classroom

ANGELICA (GEL) WOOTTON (OGC 2015) AND ISABELLA (BELLA) GREENE (OGC 2015), FOUNDERS OF GELBELL

Our time at The Geelong College provided us with an amazing opportunity to harness our love for creativity. During school, we constantly collaborated and bounced ideas off each other for projects and potential creative endeavours.

After graduating in 2015, we both knew that we loved design and art and really wanted to advance this into university and our careers. We wanted to be hands-on designers, knowing there wasn't necessarily one job title that fitted where we wanted to be and what we wanted to do.

We both completed degrees at RMIT University. Gel graduated with a Bachelor of Interior Design (Honours), which offered a wide lens to explore different design opportunities. Bella began a degree in Communication Design, but found she enjoyed working more hands-on with materials, so went on to complete an Associate Degree in Furniture Design. RMIT allowed us to expand our practical expertise and industry experience. It

was an incredible resource to push our creative thinking and problem-solving, as well as being exciting and inspiring collaboration within the industry.

After cutting our post-uni travels short due to COVID, we returned to Australia and used our time in lockdowns to set up Gelbell and pursue our business full-time.

As soon as the world reopened in 2022, we moved into our current Melbourne studio and began to cement our name in the industry.

Although we had a good grounding from our university courses, we learnt as we went, creating our product, sourcing suppliers, marketing, and expanding our skills to develop our business.

Embracing an unconventional attitude, Gelbell is the name we jointly work under as full-time artists. We find inspiration from collaborating with one another, constantly and continually creating. Working on the same pieces simultaneously, we overlap and use this collaboration to create spontaneous and exciting outcomes.

We are inspired to generate works that embody a sense of playfulness, whilst evoking a reflection of the self in a moment in time, sparking a sense of connection and satirical recognition between the viewer and the artwork.

We love that Gelbell can offer us a platform where we can experiment, have fun and develop our creative paths.



to gallery

Creating our own brand has provided us with a space to do what we love. We are forever growing and developing as artists and as a partnership, keen to expand our connections within the industry whilst moulding our business to suit our needs and passions. We're really looking forward to further growth, eager to see where it leads us as we keep learning and pushing ourselves.

We're very grateful to have found our space within the creative industry where we can have fun with work and do something we love.

Throughout our journey, we've found the best advice we've been given is to 'do what you are passionate about'. Our creative passion drives us to continue to grow and make Gelbell a success, simply because we love what we do.





OGCA President's Report



KYLIE MACKEY (OGC 1993), OGCA PRESIDENT

Connection – it's a word we hear often from a variety of sources. A simple word, and one that embodies what we as the Old Geelong Collegians' Association strive to achieve.

To connect Old Collegians with each other and the school is our primary objective. To connect with peers, classmates or team members, fostering new connections with the staff, with our heritage and also with places is at the essence of our purpose.

2022 has been a year of reimagining ways to connect, harnessing new technologies alongside our traditional methods to support our alumni and the College in an array of pursuits as we look to the future.

As President, I am proud of the Committee's achievements this year and thank our passionate community for their ongoing involvement in College life.

As we connect and celebrate our past, 2023 will see us try to connect with

our future milestones as well as major infrastructure projects on the horizon.

In brief

- Our actions are guided by our strategic framework – with the vision 'That all alumni of The Geelong College should have the opportunity to be engaged with the school community';
- We farewelled longstanding Committee member and Past President, Bill Phillips (OGC 1968). Bill has been an active member for over four decades and has represented the College globally. We thank Bill for his commitment and involvement in OGCA activities;
- We welcomed three new members to our ranks: Bridgette Engeler (OGC 1985), Nicola Cousen (OGC 1989) and Donald McAllister (OGC 1990);
- In an OGCA first, we created a hybrid Committee with one of our new members being located in New South Wales;
- We are actively seeking additional Committee members – especially one who is keen to take on our newly formed Youth Portfolio to represent our youngest alumni;
- We continue to provide financial support for alumni sports – to OGs in Melbourne, Ammos in Geelong as well as rowing via the Albert Bell Club and enjoy hearing about member achievements;
- We have been thrilled to host 17 reunions this year. Over 1000

alumni have attended our events in 2022;

- We also celebrated the return of sport with events including the popular College v Grammar football match and Golf Day.
- We formally expressed our thanks to former Council Chair, Dr Hugh Seward and presented him with a framed panorama photograph of the College;
- We attended a dinner in Melbourne hosted by Haileybury for the Presidents and Alumni Executives of all APS schools;
- In October, I was given the honour of speaking to the Year 12 cohort on their final day of school in the Chapel where each student was presented a gift from the OGCA to welcome them as our newest members;
- In November, we recognised and celebrated the achievements of long-serving staff with 26 staff achieving 5 years of service and 5 staff achieving 25 years of service.

Share your achievements

We are continually impressed by the achievements of our alumni in their professional capacities, on the sports field and in charitable endeavours as you can read in this issue of Ad Astra. We also encourage all our alumni and their families to celebrate their achievements with us to share via our communications channels.

Have you joined TGC Connect?

Our virtual platform has now over 3100 alumni registered and has become an incredible network across geographies and generations. Over 4000 people have used it this year with over 10,000 page views. Our Alumni office has enjoyed facilitating the many networking and mentoring opportunities over the course of the year. We also can provide help with career planning and job hunting. If you want to find out more, we would be excited to have a chat with you. Please contact us at: communityrelations@tgc.vic.edu.au

With an alumni exceeding 12,900 members, find and reminisce with fellow Collegians, see what they have been up to and stay in touch. Leverage your professional network to get introduced

to people who could help you. See the business directory, get careers advice, network among peers or join the mentor program – as either a mentor or a mentee.

Need support?

As a Committee, we remain committed to supporting Old Collegians who were victims of past sexual and physical abuse. Our position on historical harm remains clear. The OGCA was, and remains, deeply saddened that these events happened and we have a firm conviction to try and provide support to victims where possible.

Our 2023 OGCA Committee:

President: Kylie Mackey (OGC 1993)

Vice President:
Caitlin Lamont (OGC 2009)

Honorary Secretary:
Jim Brown (OGC 1978)

Honorary Treasurer:
Ashley McHarry (OGC 1991)

Executive Officer: Mike Howell

Members: Sam West (OGC 2000), Bridgette Engeler (OGC 1985), Nicola Cousen (OGC 1989), Donald McAllister (OGC 1990)

Morongo Representative:
Georgie Fidge (MOC)

Community Relations team:
Chelsea Matheson and Niki Nurnaitis

Conclusion

As President, I'd like to recognise each Committee member for their ongoing contribution to College life. The Committee of the Old Geelong Collegians' Association has remained diligent, purposeful and successful.

In addition to our Committee, the success of the OGCA would not be possible without the tireless and wonderful assistance from the Community Relations team who have the best interests of our alum at heart in all that they do.

To current students: be resilient and show courage. Reach out to us as your support network!

To our alumni, we are here to help! Reach out to us as your support network! Join TGC Connect, follow us on socials (OGCA Facebook) and look

out for our newsletters. You can also email us: ogca@tgc.vic.edu.au

To all – show courage and let's live our motto and reach for the stars!

Join the OGCA's Blood donor team!

We have created a team with Australian Red Cross Lifeblood to help encourage our alumni to give life and donate blood.

This team is open to anyone connected with the College including past students, their families, staff and current parents. The minimum age is 18 and the maximum age is 75 for first-time donors.

One in three people will need blood, equating to a donation being needed every 18 seconds.

Collectively – we can become a special team that can literally help save lives.

Need more motivation? There are members of our alumni that are reliant on blood donations. Take Jason Nelson (OGC 1988) who is currently battling an aggressive and rare form of Leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia (AML).

Until recently, Jason Nelson (OGC 1988) was a fit & healthy 52 year old father of two and ran his own plumbing business.

On May 13 Jason was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia.

Since diagnosis, Jason has been hospitalised for four months receiving intense chemotherapy.

During this time Jason has received 28 transfusions for blood & platelets, which has effectively kept him alive.

As well as the OGCA Lifeblood group, Jason has his own group (Team Long Live Jase Nelson) either way your blood donations would be gratefully accepted by those with similar circumstances to Jason.

Imagine the impact we might have to help Jason and those in situations like him.

To book – call 13 14 95 or visit www.lifeblood.com.au

Life after College

We chat to Old Collegians about what life has been like after College.

Katrina Bigelow (OGC 2012)

I'm currently working as a Management Consultant at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) in Melbourne.

In high school, I really enjoyed maths and physics, which led me to study a Bachelor of Science and Master of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Melbourne, majoring in fluid dynamics. During these six years, I was able to get a taste of what engineering would be like in industry, doing internships with Boeing Aerostructures and the Bureau of Meteorology.

Despite enjoying these internships, I decided that engineering wasn't for me and landed a role in consulting. This offered me the opportunity to use

a lot of the 'soft skills' I'd learned in engineering - breaking down complex problems, working in a team, and being comfortable with numbers and applying them in a business context. At BCG, I've worked with businesses in a range of industries, helping them with their most important challenges. Every project is different - I am constantly learning and no two days are the same. I'm also enjoying the travel aspect of the job - I'm writing this from New Zealand and am off to Bangkok next week!

I never imagined I'd be in consulting 10 years on from high school (I hadn't even heard of consulting until my final semester at uni!), and I'm excited to see where the next 10 years take me.



Matthew Lamont (OGC 2012)

Following my time at College I began a Bachelor of Architecture and Construction Management at Deakin University with the intention of working as an Architect. By the time I completed the degree I wanted a role where I'd be on site to manage the construction and consultant aspects and landed a job with Icon Construction. My first project was the CSL Behring plasma fractionation facility, a very technical project with a high level of coordination. I'm currently working on a commercial project in Collingwood as a senior project coordinator which

when complete will be the tallest timber building in Australia.

When I left school, I wasn't too sure what I'd end up doing, I had many interests and an inability to make up my mind. Fortunately, I found a passion for the built environment in my early years of study and have still been able to fulfil my other passions and develop new ones. Looking into the future I'm sure I'll be working within the built environment in some capacity, perhaps even outside of Australia as there are always exciting projects to be a part of.



David Epstein (OGC 1980)

My adult life has formed what some call a 'portfolio career', arguably, a jack of all trades but a master at none. I split my time as a company director, leading a think-tank, managing investments and trying to restore an 1870s hill-station garden on the slopes of Mount Macedon.

My path reflects interests and studies pursued in the last few years at school. Former peers might laugh - the evolution of the proclaimed schoolboy rebel who wasn't going to follow predictable paths. I have been sentimental enough to search out the diaries of G.E. (Chinese) Morrison - son of the College's Founder - in Sydney's Mitchell Library so I could use them to retrace and repeat his 1880 "Diary of a Tramp" walk from Queenscliff to Adelaide.

After school, I studied politics, international relations and economic history at the ANU, with some breaks mid way. During those breaks I dallied with journalism, winning then deferring a

cadetship at The Age, dropped studying law and worked my way to Europe on a cargo ship.

Graduating on return, I transformed myself into a political adviser. This provided tremendous opportunities. I worked for four Leaders of the ALP, Chief of Staff to two of them, over several stints in federal politics. In between I led a lobby group, morphed into a corporate executive, then blended my all experiences to help build what became a successful consultancy business.

Being invited back to Canberra in 2007 to become Principal Adviser and Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister was a culmination and a cure for the political junkie. After that, I renewed my corporate career, working in turn as an executive at Qantas, BHP and SingTel Optus, returned to study at Wharton Business School, then branched out on my own again. It's a varied life these days, but one I see myself enjoying for more than a few years.

Matthew Varley (OGC 2002)

I am a Senior Lecturer in Sport Science at La Trobe University in Melbourne. My research is focused on athlete tracking, sport technology and data science in team sports. I work with Australian football, A-league, and Rugby league and union teams. For example, I analyse physical and technical data during training and competition and develop new ways to quantify and understand athlete performance. I supervise a number of PhD students embedded with teams such as Melbourne City and Melbourne Rebels as well as several Masters students doing projects with Essendon and North Melbourne Football Clubs.

I completed an undergraduate degree in Human Movement at RMIT. After working and travelling for a few years I completed a PhD in Sport Science at Victoria University where I then worked

as a lecturer. In 2015, I moved to Qatar to work as the Research Coordinator and Senior Sport Scientist for the Aspire Football Department. This involved supporting the academy, domestic league, and international teams and coordinating research projects. Highlights included getting to work with teams from all over the world including Liverpool, Barcelona, Bayern Munich. In 2018, I moved back to Melbourne to work at La Trobe University in my current role.

When I left school, I had no idea where I would end up. As for the future, I see my research moving further into the Sports Analytics space and continuing to work with team sports at the highest level. Given the heavy investment and focus from La Trobe University into Sport I feel I'm in the right place to achieve this.





Fioran Bourke (OGC 1992)

Given the number of different jobs people are said to do in their lifetime, I think I am most likely in the minority by saying that I started studying Physiotherapy in 1994 at La Trobe Uni following a gap year and have worked as a physiotherapist ever since. But that's me - a self-employed general practice physio. At school I didn't really have a burning desire to work in a particular field and when I started studying Physiotherapy I had never even been to a physio before, and certainly wasn't aware of the variety of work physiotherapists are involved with throughout the community. Lucky for me the school careers advisor had directed me towards Health Sciences and Physiotherapy is where I ended up.

The only thing I have ever been truly certain about was wanting to work overseas, which I did in London after graduating from university.

From then my physiotherapy career has been an evolving journey. The beauty of physio as a profession is that it provides you with a multitude of opportunities to work in different areas. I have worked acutely in hospitals, in community rehabilitation and with local sporting teams, but predominantly I work in private practice. For me I have relished being able to run my own business. I enjoy the administration side of having a small business and the variety of patients you see. I also really value the ability to work the hours to suit my lifestyle, which has certainly changed since finishing school 30 years ago. As for the future, who really knows but working as a physiotherapist will always be an important part of my life, and I know it will continue to change and evolve as it is a profession that can change with you.

Nick Betts (OGC 2002)

I am currently working as a solicitor and co-owner of Betts Legal, a Geelong-based property and corporate law firm. My wife Lauren (OGC 2005) and I started the firm in 2017 and it has been growing since then, along with our family - we have three daughters under the age of six!

After leaving school, I studied Arts/Law at Deakin, Burwood while living with friends in share houses in Richmond and playing footy at the Old Geelong Football Club.

I spent the summer after finishing university working in a surf shop in Anglesea. I then started a graduate position at a corporate law firm, Baker & McKenzie, in Melbourne. It was a fair adjustment transitioning from wearing thongs and boardshorts and selling

surfboards to going to work in a suit and tie every day on the 17th floor of an office tower in the CBD!

From Baker & McKenzie, I completed a Masters of Law while living in Madrid, Spain for twelve months before I moved into an in-house legal role with the Movember Foundation, followed by a legal counsel role at Bupa. When Lauren and I decided to move to Geelong, we took the risk of starting our own firm. I never would have pictured running my own law practice when leaving school, but it has been the best career decision I've made.

I can see the next few years flying by while the business continues to grow, and I spend as much time as possible with friends and family.





Amanda Eagles (nee McDonald) (OGC 2000)

After graduating from The Geelong College in 2000 I completed a Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in Environmental Science and a minor in Biotechnology in Albury, NSW.

Surprisingly I was dragged back to Geelong by a local who is also an OGC (Christopher Eagles) where we bought a house and moved in together.

After graduating I was fortunate to secure a job at Landmark Bannockburn as an Agronomist. I remember driving through the first farm gate of a client, I was nervous as I was new, straight out of uni, female (there were a lot less women in Agriculture than there is now) and from interstate. But as I got out of the ute my feeling quickly shifted and I was warmly welcomed! Building strong relationships with growers/farmers is still one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

I did want to explore the biological skills I had gained from university so

I became a laboratory technician at Incitec Pivot fertilisers.

Christopher and I married and moved to a farm in Barrabool Hills. We now have three children... Lachlan, Annabelle & Edward - they all attend TGC.

Time at home with the children inspired me to explore my creative side and I completed a Certificate 2 in Visual Arts.

The juggle was tricky but I continued to work part time in agriculture while the children were at day care. This allowed me to keep my connections and I established my own business as a private Agronomist, which I continued until joining Western AG Supplies more recently.

I never thought after Boarding in Geelong that I would ever return here to live but I must say I am very settled, it also helps having the family farm in NSW to return to and chase the sun so we are lucky to have the best of both worlds.

Claire Fenton-Glynn (OGC 2002)

After graduating from College in 2002, I went to the University of Adelaide to study law and international studies.

My ambition was always to work in the field of human rights, and I wanted to work with the United Nations.

After completing six years of study in Adelaide, I was fortunate enough to get a place at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, studying for a masters in law, and following that, on the PhD programme at the University of Cambridge.

My thesis focused on the rights of children in intercountry adoption, and the published book was awarded the Inner Temple Book Prize for academic writing by a new author.

I am now a Professor of Child and Family Law at the University of Cambridge, where I lecture and research focusing on human rights, children's rights, and gender.

Alongside my work as an academic, I have also been lucky to have worked with the United Nations in Geneva as I always dreamed, as well as organisations such as Save the Children and Avocats sans Frontieres, and in many countries across the globe, including Argentina, Samoa, France, and Myanmar.

I am not sure what the future will bring, but in three words, I would describe where I am as: fortunate, challenged, yet fulfilled.



OGC NEWS



Rob Tripolino (OGC 2008)

What a fabulous role for Rob! Rob has recently started a 12-month run on London's West End in Les Miserables playing the part of Marius.

In a recent GT article, Rob tells of how surreal it is to be performing on stage of the iconic Sondheim Theatre.

"I pinch myself constantly. It's surreal. Of course, living the dream, comes with all its blemishes of hard work and fatigue and life around it. But I absolutely love hearing the audience interact with the show at an emotional level, and connecting with the songs and the story. It's such a beautiful, tragic story and to be a part of something so special."



Gus Boyd (OGC 2016)

Congrats to Gus Boyd on his recent appointment as Manager of the Sydney operation for OTI Racing. He will be sorely missed as a first-class cricketer for Geelong Cricket Club where his impressive stats speak for themselves.



Ethan McGucken (OGC 2019)

Great to see Ethan McGucken on ABC News discussing his involvement in a program that provides the opportunity for third-year medical students to work part-time in aged care facilities.



Trent Sullivan (OGC 2010)

Congratulations to Trent Sullivan who was elected as Geelong Mayor by the Council last month. The OGCA enjoyed seeing Trent at his postponed 10 Year Reunion earlier this year! Best wishes to him as he leads the City of Greater Geelong over the next two years.



Keeping it in the Family

Jock (OGC 1959) and Robin Forbes wore the school blazers of their son, Tom (OGC 1999), and daughter, Lucy (OGC 2001) at the Sic Itur lunch on 30 July. In the photo, Jock is also holding the blazer pocket belonging to his father John (OGC 1933) who rowed in the 1st VIII that won the Head of the River in 1936.

Jock followed in his father's footsteps but this time on dry land with a football Premiership in 1963.



Cassidy Bradshaw (OGC 2021)

Congratulations to Cassidy who has qualified for the Pole Vault final of the World Athletics U20 Championships in Cali, Colombia. Cassidy managed an impressive 8th place. Well done Cassidy!



Once a Collegian, always a Collegian!

It may have been a few decades since their days as students, but it was lovely to see some 'old boys' don the navy and green at the Sic Itur Luncheon in July.

Donald Douglas (OGC 1945), Bob Robbin (OGC 1949) and Ted Stephens (OGC1949) are pictured with current Co-Captain, Oscar Dowling.

Callum Wood (OGC 2008)

Callum appeared recently on the ABC Hard Quiz program and impressed everyone with his specialist knowledge of snacks and love of spreadsheets!

Brilliant - check out the video.

fb.watch/h80gFC7jsY



Roll up your sleeve and donate

The Old Geelong Collegians' Association has created a team with Australian Red Cross Lifeblood to help encourage our alumni to give life and donate blood.

Emma, Mike and Chelsea from the College's Alumni office recently donated as part of the OGCA team. It was a thrill to hear a few days later that one of our blood donations was on its way to hopefully save a life at Box Hill Hospital.

The team is open to anyone connected with the College including past students, their families, staff and current parents. The minimum age is 18 and the maximum age is 75 for first-time donors. You can book your donation anytime, anywhere in Australia. And for our alumni overseas, please consider donating at the authority in your country.

When donating – whether you are a first-time or regular donor, please make sure you are added to the Old Geelong Collegians' Association team.

To book – call 13 14 95 or visit www.lifeblood.com.au/



Charlie Curnow (OGC 2014)

Congratulations to Charlie, who was named the AFL's leading goal kicker for the 2022 season.

A fantastic achievement.

Tom Atkins (OGC 2013)

Congratulations to Tom and the Cats taking out the AFL Premiership this year.

Tom knows what Be of Courage looks like.

Read his story on page 58



Brad Fenner (OGC 1972)

Thanks to his time in the Cadets Pipe Band, Brad was set up for life and is now playing his bagpipes until the cows come home (literally calling them in for milking each day).

Albert Bell Club News

PETER LAWSON (OGC 1990), ABC PRESIDENT

It was wonderful to see the new rowing season kick off with the back to normal routine of both on and off-water training sessions.



However, despite the strong start to the season, we unfortunately faced a new challenge with substantial rainfall events seeing the Barwon River flood significantly for the first time in over a decade. We recorded the highest levels in nearly 30 years, peaking at 3.86 metres!

This saw the College Boat Shed (and others) inundated on two separate occasions and the need to move a number of boats and other equipment to minimise damage.

A very special thanks to our trusty Boatman, Fletch, for his efforts with the big clean-ups!

Sustained flood levels and associated poor water quality resulted in on-water training suspended for the rest of Term 4 - over three weeks. Students were forced to stay on land, doing ergos, strength and conditioning and cardio sessions.

A few on-water sessions were coordinated for senior crews at locations like Carrum and the Grammar School lagoon!

In 'Still on the Staging News', a big congratulations to Charlie Batrouney (OGC 2018) and Xavier Hall-Sullivan (OGC 2019) for their representation in the Under 23 Australian team which competed at the World Championships in Varese, Italy in July.

Charlie was selected in the Men's Coxless Four, which finished sixth in the A final. Competition was fierce in the Men's Quad Scull, with Xavier's crew finishing fourth in their repechage, with only 0.49 seconds separating the four boats!



Both rowers were recipients of Colin Carstairs Bell Pathway Rowing Bursaries, awarded by the Albert Bell Club (ABC).

During the Valedictory Ceremony in October at Costa Hall, four 2022 Colin Carstairs Bell Pathway Bursaries for school leavers were awarded. Congratulations to the successful applicants: Edie Benson, Charlie Rahdon, Issy Batrouney and Oscar Tyrrell. We wish them well and look forward to hearing about their future rowing endeavours!

The Rowing Parent Support Group and Albert Bell Club have been fundraising through the annual wine drive. In addition, this year a Concept2 RowErg, generously donated by Sykes Rowing, was raffled. Congratulations to Sue Mulligan from Deniliquin, who purchased the winning ticket! Sue is an ABC member and Old Collegian, who rowed in The Geelong College crew that won the Head of the River in 1982.

Once again, it is a great pleasure to convey that in discussions with Aron Tremul, Director of Rowing, in preparation for this season, the ABC

has co-funded with the school another second-hand racing eight. This is greatly needed this year with a format change seeing more Year 10 girls' crews rowing in eights.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the ABC and rowing at The Geelong College this year - it is much appreciated and welcomed!

As ever, we welcome your feedback. Follow us on Facebook at Albert Bell Club or email albertbellclub@tgc.vic.edu.au

OGCA Events



OGCA 10 Year Reunion (12 August)

1. Belle Chrimes, Adam Senan, Emily Fuller, Maddie Smith, 2. Chris Nixon, Ian Lee, & Tom Andrew, 3. Georgie Wilson & Paris Kontelj
4. Jack Steel & Tom Rogan, 5. The 10 Year Reunion group



OGCA 20 Year Reunion (11 November)

1. Nick Betts, Chris Wilson, Phoebe Cole & Matt Torney, 2. David Winship, Wade Byrnes & Tamie Ryan 3. Tom Waters, Alice Urquhart, Jack Perry, Prue Oliveri



OGCA 30 Year Reunion (19 August)

1. Tim Parkes & Andrew Lambart 2. Shannon Barnes, Naomi Mitchell, Sarah Gill & Natalie Yeo 3. David Jones, Rachael Taylor, Anna Spurling, Sarah Andrews & Sophie Collins



Hamilton Community Event (1 August)

1. Sam Doery, Sally Allen & Georgie Sweeney 2. Leigh Heard & Tim King



OGCA Staff & Council Cocktail Party (3 November)

1. 5 Year recipients, 2. Leanne Russell, Deb Hynes and Jenny Kittelty - 25 Year recipients, 3. Lester Gillett - 25 Year recipient



Albury Community Event (22 September)

1. John Hill, Graham & Ann Jarrold & George Bistrup, 2. Bob Kendell, George Bistrup, Di Flashman & Malcolm McPherson

More photos online!

There are more photos of each event available online. Scan the QR code to view and download.



cutt.ly/OGCA_events

OGCA Events

More photos online!
cutt.ly/OGCA_events



Sic Itur Luncheon (30 July)

1. Hugh, Cam & Alan Seward, 2. The Sic Itur group, 3. Tony Storey, Jim Marendaz, Michael Kelly, Randall Forsayth & Lee Harding



OGCA Warrin Reunion (10 September)

Back row (up to 2 deep, L-R) Sandy Cameron, Andrew Morrison, Milton Collins, Peter Amezdroz, Michael Laidlaw, Greg King
Eoin Barnett, Andrew Steele, Stewart Bell, Tony Carter, Gavan Deppeler, Andrew Hermiston, James Daniel
Middle row: Stephen Berryman, Tony Storey, Peter Dahlenberg, Don Cooper, Malcolm Robertson
Front row: Scott Sloane, Stuart Sinclair, Andrew Brown, Steve Laidlaw, Stephen Silcock, Peter Cronk, John Durnan, Ian Bidstrup
Ron Walpole. Not in Photo: Lee Harding, Gary Wood, Michael Kelso, Andrew Humphrys

Parent Events

More photos online!
cutt.ly/TGC_parents



Year 12 Valedictory Event (19 November)



Year 8 Parent Cocktail Party (26 August)

1. Rachel Feldman & Natalie Dorron, 2. John Sprunt, Andrew Augustine & Daniel O'Brien, 3. Belinda Lyons-Lee, Jade Augustine & Silvana Kerin



Home, sweet home

RYAN MCCORMACK (OGC 2002), CO-OWNER OF BASE CABIN

Whilst not knowing exactly what I wanted to do as a career during school, my initial interest in the property industry was sparked during my Year 10 work experience placement, when I was lucky enough to work with a property advisory and valuation company.

Post College I started university life at RMIT undertaking a Bachelor of Business, before jumping across to their property course after the first year. After a couple of years of travelling during university I secured a graduate role on the cusp of the GFC with commercial property group, Savills.

My first day on the job, I went along to an office inspection, the client walked in, looked at the space and said 'I'll take it'...whilst I was thinking to myself this is going to be a walk in the park, I was quickly told that never happens!

Whilst the GFC wasn't great for a lot of people, it definitely taught me that if you work hard, there are still opportunities and deals to be done in any market.

Upon graduating, I spent a couple of years focusing on the retail leasing market with Savills, before jumping across to their newly formed commercial sales team. My time at Savills also instilled in me that having a great culture within an organisation makes no matter what you're doing enjoyable (cold calling several hundred retailers). We certainly lived by the mantra of do deals, have fun.

As part of the commercial sales role, we also dealt with a lot of large land holders, and this is where my next opportunity opened. Moving across to the client-side role allowed the opportunity to also work in investment attraction with the State Government in real estate investment. This in turn

opened an entry level development role as an assistant development manager (or ADM) on a government project and where I finally found an area of property that combined a passion of design, building and doing deals.

Being a development manager really gives you the opportunity to shape and oversee a project from 'cradle to grave'; analysing if a site or project is viable, through the design and planning stage, onto overseeing the sales of the end product and then the project being brought to life during the construction phase. It requires a whole host of skills, a lot of resilience and an ability to constantly foresee and then problem solve issues that will always inevitably come up in every project.



Over the last nine years I've moved from an ADM to more senior roles working on large scale precinct projects as part of the train station renewals and large infrastructure projects. All the while gaining experience in how to successfully integrate mixed use developments within existing precincts. Additionally - how these projects can completely change, for the better, people's day to day interaction with a place.

As our cities continue to grow, well considered and quality in-fill developments that are close to transport hubs are key to improving both our cities liveability whilst offering people a range of affordable housing options.

Building on this love of design and bringing projects to life, I have been involved in founding a side project since 2020, building architecturally designed tiny houses through a start-up, Base Cabin.

I started Base Cabin with a friend, following his travels of North America, and experience of tiny houses there. We saw the potential of tiny houses in Australia, but also noticed that everyone in the Australian market

was only replicating the same generic Americanised styles that already existed. They were not utilising the extraordinary design community we have in Australia (and especially Melbourne).

At Base Cabin, we work closely with each architect on a new design to really push what is achievable within small spaces. This has resulted in unique and amazing spaces and has led to several awards in the first few years we've been operating. And whilst tiny houses are not a panacea to the housing crisis, they can contribute towards easing it, especially in the areas of short stay accommodation and regional tourism (both areas facing chronic shortages in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games in 2026).

Base Cabin continues to grow and has really cemented itself as one of the premium tiny house builders in the country, especially focusing on the short stay accommodation market. It's also great to mix up working between large scale precinct projects that generally take many years to come to fruition, through to a tiny house that can be built within a couple of months!





Small town connections

CAROLINE STOK, ARCHIVIST

Around the MCG at this year's AFL Grand Final, seas of blue and white, and red and white swelled in the grandstands as the Geelong Cats took on the Sydney Swans.



A football team's colours are a badge of pride worn by each team member and supporter. There have been many years of speculation about the origins of Geelong's blue and white hoops, some of which are connected to the College's original school colours.

The Geelong Football Club and The Geelong College have a history of shared ties. Both were founded within years of each other in the mid-1800s in what was then, the small town of Geelong.

While the Football Club was formed two years prior to the College, the College declared its colours from its creation. The original College colours, blue and white, (before green was added in 1909 when the College joined the APS), came from strong Scottish roots, like the school itself and its founding families. The cross of St Andrew, the flag of Scotland, features a white saltire cross on the blue background.

With school colours decided, as the College's football program developed, presumably, the uniforms soon featured blue and white stripes. The earliest photo of the College football team appears in about 1878 to confirm this uniform, although it is not known when it was first worn. At about the same time, there is a photo of the Geelong Football Club team featuring notably similar uniforms.

The Geelong Football Club team featured many students from the College at this time, yet there is another connection between the Club and College. In the early 1870s a gymnastics master joined the staff

at the College, Mr Hermann Andreas Reichmann. It was discovered that Reichmann also trained students at the Geelong Grammar School, at his own gym in Skene St, and, importantly, the Geelong Football Club.

With the help of researchers such as the College's former Archivist Con Lannan and AFL/Geelong Cats Historian Col Hutchinson, the connection between staff at the College and Club was discovered. It is thought that Mr Reichmann may have had a hand in the adoption of the colours with the teams he trained.

Unfortunately, the exact origin story of the Geelong Cats hoops has been lost to time and can only be speculated on. Yet, the College has had strong ties to the Club since its early years.

Nowadays, the College's uniform has evolved around the green, blue and white with the Pegasus symbol. In 2022 an inaugural Indigenous guernsey was worn for the APS Indigenous Round. The Football Club's uniform has settled to the iconic blue and white hoops since the 1870s.

The College congratulates the Geelong Cats on their premiership win, and on an outstanding 2022 season in both the men's and women's competitions.

With Old Collegians Hugh Seward, Barry Fagg, Lyndsay Sharp, and Morongo Old Collegian Diana Taylor on the Board of Directors, as well as a number of Old Collegians, past and current parents among the senior staff and playing group, the links are just as strong today as they were in the early days of both organisations.

The College/ Cats Connection

- Four of the Morrison brothers, sons of the first Principal George Morrison, played for the Geelong Football Club: Reggie Morrison, Charles Norman, Arthur Robinson and Donald Clive.
- Carji Greeves (OGC 1916-1923) won the inaugural Brownlow Medal in 1924.
- About 66 OGCs have played for Geelong in the VFL-AFL senior league.
- Most of the 131 OGCs who played in the VFA played for Geelong.
- Numerous OGCs have also held administration, support, board and committee positions at the GFC.
- In 2007, while the Kardinia Park Stadium turf was being re-laid, the Geelong Cats trained on the Senior School's main oval.



Take a year...

We spoke with two of our younger Old Collegians, Archer Drummond (OGC 2021) and Imogen Edwards (OGC 2021), about their recent gap year experience.

Archer Drummond

As I'm writing this, I'm looking around my room marvelling at the postcards, posters, tiles, photos, beer glasses, coasters and trinkets from countries all over Europe that stuff my room.

My experience has been the best year of my life. I often tell people gap years will rip you apart and build you back up. Something you will be better for as a result.

I have had some incredibly low moments, like waking up in a mates Airbnb in Barcelona with no money, or lost in dozens of European cities alone. These character defining moments all seem insignificant when I recall all the places I never thought I would go. I have seen things and done things I could only imagine. Coming from a small country town and looking up at the Sistine Chapel, Eiffel tower, Berlin Wall, you name it! It's simply breathtaking.

I strongly believe everyone should take a gap year. Your first year out is such a pivotal time and being thrust into a new world forced to forge independence,

confidence and resilience is soul defining. Just try not to lose your Passport!

You meet people, cry, party, and explore. And especially post-COVID, more and more people are realising that university can be difficult in the first year. I plan on returning to Australia and going to university with more perspective and clearer thinking.

I'm going to study engineering and design and live with my brother in a share house. However, I assure you that every cent I make will be funding my next trip to South Africa to reconnect with the friends I have met whilst in Europe.

Whilst I'm of the opinion that there is such an obligated drive to go to university straight after high school, I suggest that all students consider all options available to them post school, from gap years to studying abroad. Now I'm off to begin packing, as I'm going to Belgium and Croatia!

The best lesson I heard was, 'turn your whole life into a gap year'.



Imogen Edwards

Most Year 12 students dream of getting out of the house and away from home for the first time maybe to Melbourne to live in a college and go to uni or maybe to Canberra for all the future politicians.

However like everything I do I decided to take it to the extreme. On the 12th of February just a mere 24 hours after my 18th birthday I hugged goodbye to my dogs and my mum, dad, sister, two best friends and I piled into the car along with my excessive amount of luggage and headed for the airport. And 16,757km later I had travelled from the bustling city of Geelong to the sleepy hollow town of Holt, Norfolk with its population of 3,810 to start this new chapter in my life.

This year has been a year of firsts to say the least.

First time being the only Australian in a town. First time working in a professional working environment. First time solo travelling. First time visiting many different countries. And every single one of them have shaped me in ways I can't describe, into the person I am today. And I wouldn't change it for the world. I have had my eyes opened to a world that is so much bigger than our city in the south-east of Australia. I have met people from all types of backgrounds and nationalities and made some life long friends along the way.

A typical day at Gresham's Prep School is always busy and full of different challenges that have called for me to think on my feet constantly. It starts with breakfast at 7:30am with all the Boarders in the dining hall and ends with dinner at 6:30pm, and twice a week at 9am after helping in the Boarding House.

Those 11 hours in between are filled with classroom duties helping kids who just need an extra little bit of

guidance, games duties doing training in sports such as cricket, tennis, netball, hockey and swimming and the occasional office duty helping out the receptionists with errands around the school. All done alongside my fellow gap assistants. Repeat that six days a week, and you've got my typical week at Gresham's.

But like any school we always have days filled with different and exciting things for both kids and teachers, like sports day which is their version of athletics day filled with many events including a 100m dash for the parents with bottles of wine and cans of Stella beer at the finish line as a reward. House music which is a whole day event filled with acting, dancing and singing talent.

With every day being so busy and jam packed full of different things it means term time seems to fly by. However, the real fun begins in the holidays.



Throughout the year we get three long holiday breaks with week long half terms in the middle of each term and home weekends throughout. This has been amazing to fuel my travel bug with the total countries visited throughout the year reaching 10. And for a girl that had only left the country once on a family holiday to Bali when she was 10, it's been a crazy experience.

Some of the highlights have been zip-lining over canyons in Croatia on 140m long wires 750m above the ground. Attending Sziget festival which is a 6-day music festival with performers such as Dua Lipa, Justin Bieber, Kings of Leon and Calvin Harris just to name a few. Having picnic dinners outside





the Eiffel Tower with fellow Australian gappies waiting for the lights to turn on and watching the show until late into the night. Heading into Amsterdam and walking along the serene canals and visiting historic areas such as the red light district and experiencing famous artworks in the Van Gogh museum. Fuelling my theatre nerd heart and going to many shows on the west end such as “Back to The Future: The Musical”, “Frozen the Musical” and “Wicked”.

Throughout these travels I have met so many amazing people who have helped broaden my outlook on life and way of living. Every new city and new hostel was filled with new people to meet and new things to experience. I made some friends that lasted just the day and some I will be in contact with for the rest of my life.

I wouldn't be the person I am today without the people I was surrounded with during my time overseas. Mr Thomas. My adoptive father at the school. Our gap dad. One of the most amazing people I've met who has been there for me and my fellow gappies since we arrived and is always in our corner to fight for us and support us. The Goodes. Some of the best house parents a school could wish for. And my fellow gappies. Liam from South Africa and Fliss, Archie, Ben, Eva, Bella and Dougie from England. Some of the best people I have ever met who made my transition into this place so far from home so easy. They are people I know will be lifelong friends and they fill each day with laughter and fun while working.

This year has been the experience of a lifetime and more than I could have

ever wished for. This year has changed me for the better and made me into a person I know me, a year ago, would be proud to be.

So I implore anyone who isn't quite ready for university or just wants to figure out who they are first, think about a gap year abroad. It will open your eyes to a world that is full of culture and different customs and people who can change the way you look at things. My time away has been amazing but I'm also excited to come home to all the amazing people I left behind.



News from the (W)Ammos

BRUCE HARWOOD (OGC 1978), AMMOS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Season 2022 was huge for at all Queens Park with over 850 playing members all taking part in all the on and off field activities.

The Ammos enjoyed considerable success this year with Premierships won by the A Grade, E Grade, Under 17's and Under 15's netball teams, and the Under 14 and Under 16 boys footballers. The A Grade premiership team had current College student Zoe Shaw playing among other College girls in the netball section of the club.

The Wammos (as they are affectionately known) won their inaugural Division 1 Senior Women's football premiership. It was a great result for the Wammos having been runner up twice already in the short history of the womens football competition. The Wammos enjoy a very healthy relationship with the school using the southern field at the Junior School for part of their preseason training, as well as receiving further support from the OGCA. A

number of girls from the College also play in the junior Wammo teams.

The Senior Men's football teams enjoyed a great year with vast improvement coming out of the COVID 'fog'. We have a number of current students and Old Collegians playing for us - Jackson Williams, Will Kelly, Sam Hosking, Sam Bain, Hamish Scott, Matt Thacker, Jack Kershaw, Harry Kershaw (Senior Captain), Matt Synoradzki, Jack Kennett, Riley Clifford, Archie Bain, Lachie Martin, Matt Deahl, among many more in the junior sections.

The Ammos commenced a new fundraising component of the Club in 2016 called the Queen's Park Pegasus Fund. This has been specifically set up to raise funds via donations and bequests to help financially secure the

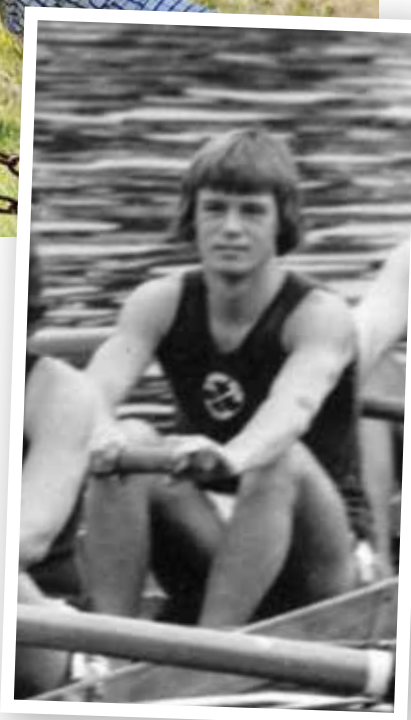
Club long term. All funds raised stay within the Club and future dividends will assist with infrastructure builds required around the Club.

Season 2023 is already packed with excitement off field as the Club continues infrastructure re-builds of new lights, women's change rooms and a huge natural viewing platform. And on-field it looks like another big year of potential finals appearances ahead right throughout the club.

The club also has a number of Old Collegians performing volunteer administration roles

Simon Farrell (OGC 1987) - President
Bruce Harwood (OGC 1978)- Committee
Geoff Williams (OGC 1987) - Committee
Andy Richardson (OGC 1983) - Committee
Justin Andrews (OGC 1990) - Junior coaching

Farewells



WATERHOUSE, Johnathon Daly

(1962-2022) OGC 1979

John Waterhouse lived a quietly influential life, spending many years with his small family near Molesworth. He worked in various rural projects and became a stalwart of the community. Son of Bob (OGC 1940) and Barb Waterhouse, John was enrolled at The Geelong College in 1967, beginning in Year 1. His younger brother David joined him at the school a year later. At the Preparatory School, John enjoyed running and placed well in the school sports. He was a member of Bellerophon House.

In Senior School, John was involved in rowing. He became Vice Captain of Boats and a member of the 2nd VIII crew in 1979. In that same year he was House Prefect.

Following school, John jackarooed for a couple of years before studying farm management at Marcus Oldham College. John then practised his new skills, travelling around Australia and working on cattle, sheep and

wheat stations. He then took on the management of Nar-Darak, Molesworth, a mixed-use property owned by a Japanese firm. From beef cattle, goats, pastoral repair and a vineyard, John developed the property from the ground up.

Married to Kaye in 1989, the couple welcomed a son in 1993. The family would stay on the property for over 20 years. Here John immersed himself into the local community. During his long commitment to the area, John was a member of the local Apex, Victorian Farmers Federation, Molesworth Landcare, CFA and Grasslands Society. In the early 1990s, John also studied part-time Applied Science in Viticulture. John's wife Kaye sadly passed away in 2010.

In more recent years John enjoyed some travel, including a memorable trip to France with his brother, David (OGC 1980). John also shared a passion for agriculture with his son. Over recent

years John managed a commercial Hereford herd, along with his own herd of Angus at Caveat, Victoria.

John passed away 5 April 2022, aged 60 years. A month before he passed, John and his partner Lynda Brayton were thrilled to see his son Johnathon (OGC 2010) marry Prue Phillips at Rutherglen. His reach was both near and far, he will be missed by many, however, never forgotten.

ACKLAND, Roger Keith

(1938-2022) OGC 1951

Roger attended The Geelong College 1943-1956. He was the U14 swimming champion in 1952 and a member of the athletics, relay and football teams for most of his senior school years. Roger received the Norman Morrison Cup in 1956. Following school Roger pursued a career in finance.

ADAMS, John Findlay (Jock)

(1933-2022) OGC 1946

Jock boarded at The Geelong College from 1948-1949. Jock returned to Numurkah to run the family farm, 'Ellimatta'. He married Elizabeth Prentice in 1966 and they have two daughters. Jock was made Life Member of the Numurkah Agricultural and Pastoral Society, and received the Numurkah Rotary's Col McPherson Community Service Award in 2005.

BELL, Robert Alan (Bob)

(1928-2022) OGC 1943

Bob attended The Geelong College 1941-1947. He boarded in Warrinn House, becoming House Captain in 1947. He served in the 1st XI cricket team for three years, including the premiership teams of 1946 and 1947 as Vice-Captain then Captain. Bob also served as School Prefect in 1947. Bob would go on to work in the pastoral industry and was married to Alison.

BRAITHWAITE, John Curwen

(1962-2022) OGC 1979

John was enrolled at The Geelong College from 1977-1978 and was a member of McArthur House. Following school, John completed courses at Geelong Adult Training and Education and enjoyed regular sports. In more recent years he was part of the City of Geelong Bowls Club, and played table tennis at the Geelong Table Tennis Association.

BURGESS, Anthony Bird

(1934-2022) OGC 1948

Anthony was enrolled at The Geelong College from 1943-1952. In 1949 Anthony began boarding at the school. He was part of several rowing crews, reaching the 2nd VIII in 1952. He was also on the 2nd XVIII football team that year. He went on to be an active member of the Warrandyte community.

BURLEIGH, Robert Maxwell (Max)

(1927-2021) OGC 1940

Max boarded at The Geelong College from 1943-1945. He served on the 1st XVIII football team for three years, becoming Captain in 1945. He was also on the 1st cricket team, serving as their Vice-Captain in 1945. Max went on to become a dentist and owned a grazing property near Pooncarie. Max married Felicity and they have two daughters.

CALVERT, Donald Keith

(1946-2022) OGC 1959

Don boarded at The Geelong College from 1957-1963. He was a member of the APS premiership teams: cricket 1963 (co-premiers) and football 1963. Don was elected House Prefect for Warrinn in 1962 and Mackie House in 1963. After school Donald went on to work as a grazier on the family property at Hopkins Hill, Caramut. He was married to Jane and they have four children.

CAMERON, Andrew Wilson

(1936-2021) OGC 1949

Andrew boarded at The Geelong College 1947-1952, completing Form UIVA to Form V. He reached the rank of corporal in the cadets and was a member of the 2nd XVIII football team. He was mentioned among the most consistent players of the team by their coach in 1952. Andrew returned to farm near Euroa and married Eleanor. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

CAMERON, Maxwell Alan James AM

(1935-2022) OGC 1949

Max boarded at The Geelong College from 1951-1952. He was a member of the 1st and 2nd XVIII football teams as well as the relay team. Max would eventually move to Western Australia and become an influential figure in agriculture. In 1991 he received an AM for service to the meat and livestock industry.

CASBOULT, John Raymond

(1950-2021) OGC 1964

John was enrolled at The Geelong College from 1959 to 1967. He was a member of the 1st XVIII football team and received School Football Colours in 1967. Following school, he played football at the Geelong Amateur Football and Netball Club. He was a member of the 1972 premiership team. His business, Westcoast Bakeries, founded in 1985, later sponsored the Club.

CASEY, James Vincent

(1995-2022) OGC 2013

James was enrolled at The Geelong College, starting in Year 6 at the Middle School in 2007. He received multiple Shannon House Colours including Junior Honours, Community Service and Cross Country. Following school James travelled extensively. He went on to work for his father, Mark's company, Casey Capital private investment firm and lived in New York.

FLEMING, John McKenzie

(1930-2022) OGC 1944

John boarded at The Geelong College from 1942-1947. After his marriage the family moved to Wonthaggi in 1961. He joined the Borough of Wonthaggi as Councillor 1968-1979, serving as Mayor in 1977. Over the years, John was involved in many community organisations. In 2019 he received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to the Wonthaggi community.

WITCOMBE, Riley Angelo (Rizza)

(1995-2022) OGC 2012

Riley attended The Geelong College from Year 7. He was in McArthur House and received Junior House Colours and Athletics Colours. In Year 8 he was part of the tennis and football teams. Riley completed Year 12 at The Gordon.

After school Riley completed a Diploma in Digital Photography and Photoimaging at the Northern College of the Arts in Melbourne.

He then returned home and commenced a Degree in Fine Arts (Photography) at Deakin University, Waurin Ponds.

Only six weeks into the course (2019) an insidious disease took hold. An extremely rare neurodegenerative disease. According to the geneticist who made the diagnosis, the chances of getting this is one in 40 billion. Riley was only the 68th recorded case in the world. There was no treatment and no cure.

Phil Taylor, McArthur House Master, wrote these words for Riley's eulogy,

"I can still remember Riley walking up the circular path from the Aphrasia Street bus stop to the main buildings, each year his gait getting more noticeable and the challenge more difficult.

But he never complained or showed signs that his physical challenges were becoming too much.

I firmly believe, in retrospect, that what carried Riley each day of his educational journey, was the pride that he felt at walking through the gate with his blazer on and McArthur colours on his breast pocket.

I was privileged to teach Riley for a couple of years. In every class Riley came prepared with an attitude of always giving it his best shot. Riley Witcombe was a champion."

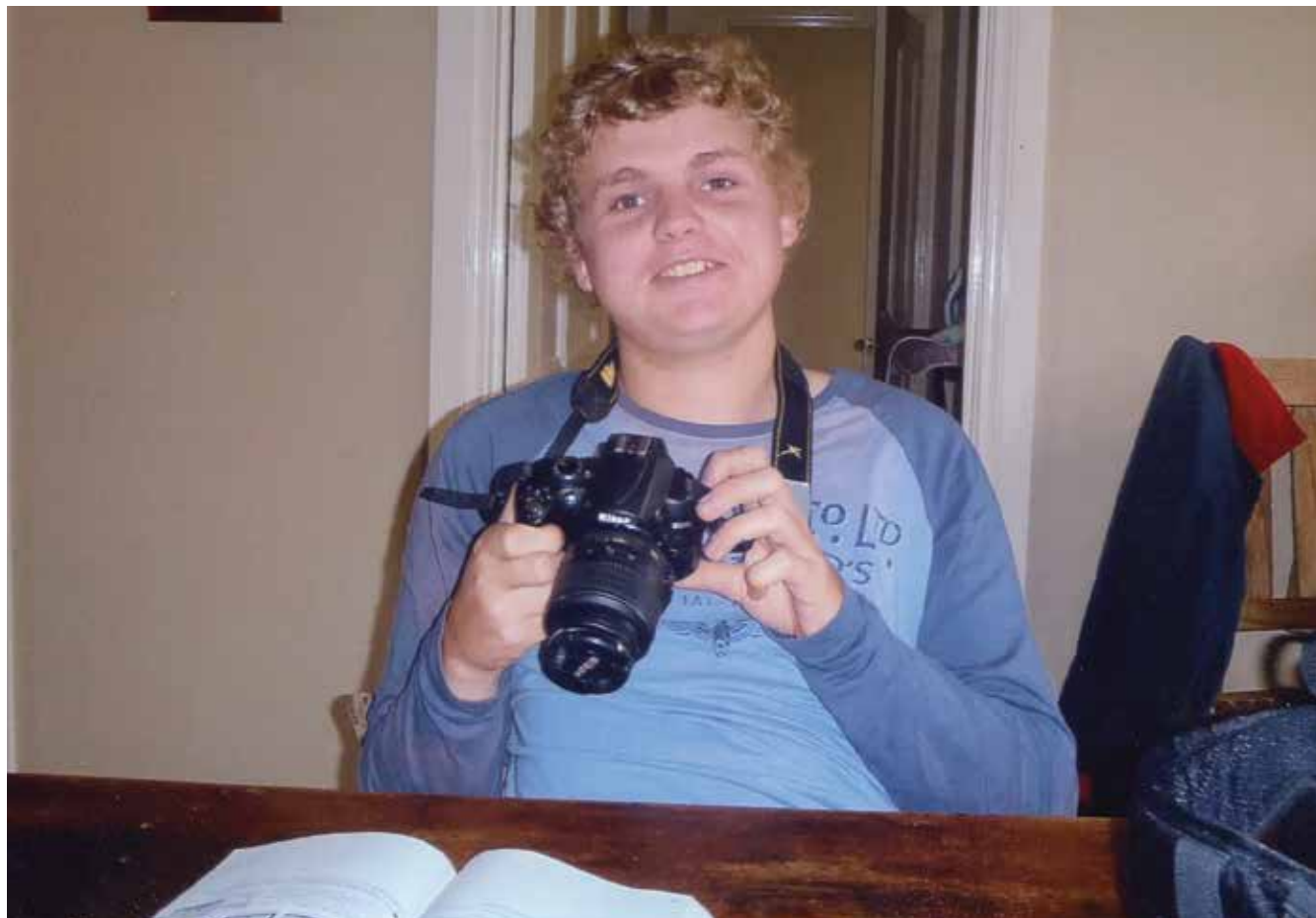
In 2019 the family started fundraising for The Bruce Lefroy Centre at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Research into genetic neurological disorders is ongoing.

Anyone in The Geelong College community is invited to donate to this worthy cause. Tribute donations can be made online at www.mcric.edu.au/donate by selecting the option to make a tribute gift in loving memory of Riley Witcombe.

Riley passed away at home on 12 August 2022 surrounded by family.

RIP Rizza.

- *Courtesy Graeme (OGC 1973), Frances and Darcy (OGC 2015) Witcombe.*



GALBRAITH, David Fairley

(1951-2022) OGC 1965

David was enrolled at The Geelong College in 1963-1968. In 1968 David completed his final year with a humanities prize and matriculated with honours. David went on to study a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne. In the late 1970s, whilst studying an LLB, David commenced working in the Australian Public Service in Research/Analysis where he remained until the early 1990s.

HUME, Andrew Rae (Rae)

(1928-2022) OGC 1942

Rae was enrolled at The Geelong College 1940-1942, attending the Preparatory School. After school Rae became a painter in Geelong and married Judith. In the 1960s the family moved to Landsborough and Alexandra Headland, Queensland where Rae worked as a Real Estate Agent and sign writer. In his later years, Rae and Judith lived in Buderim.

LAMONT, Robert Randall

(1945-2022) OGC 1961

Son of Murdoch and Margaret Lamont, Robert boarded at The Geelong College from 1957-1961, starting in Form UIVA and completing Form IV. He was a member of Morrison House. Following school Robert returned to Kooringal, Harefield NSW and later lived in Garoo and Hawks Nest. He was father of four, three daughters and a son.

LYALL, Douglas Grant

(1927-2022) OGC 1940

Douglas boarded at The Geelong College in 1943. Douglas undertook Form V and was involved in the Air Training Corps completing the proficiency certificate. Following school, he studied civil engineering through RMIT, completing the qualification in 1950. Douglas was married to Faye and they have four children.

MCDONALD, John

(1937-2021) OGC 1951

John boarded at The Geelong College in 1951-1956. He enjoyed a number of sports during his time at the college, working his way up to the 1st VIII rowing crew in 1956 which won the Head of the River that year. Following school John returned to Shepparton where he married Diana and worked as an orchardist.

MCGEE, Beldon Craig (Ben)

(1931-2022) OGC 1944

Ben boarded at The Geelong College from 1945-1947. After school, Ben lived in Melbourne, working initially as a clerk and becoming personnel manager at Heinz & Co Aust Ltd. In 1975 he was elected to the board of directors at the company. Ben married Helen and they have four children.

MCMASTER, Harrison Alexander

(1997-2022) OGC 2014

Harrison was enrolled at The Geelong College from 2009-2014. Harrison was a keen participant in many sports. During his schooling Harrison played cricket, football, basketball, soccer, and Little Athletics. He rowed in the 4th VIII in 2013 and 2014. Easy going, gentle and caring, Harrison made lasting friends at the College.

MITTON, David Wallis

(1971-2022) OGC 1988

David was enrolled at The Geelong College from 1983-1988. He was a member of several teams, including the 1st XVIII football team and 1st VIII rowing crew. In Year 12 he won the Graphic Communication Prize and the School Art Prize. In 1997 David and wife Peta moved to Western Australia and in 2001 formed a print company, eCPRINT. The family returned to Geelong and David became Senior Graphic Designer at Butter Design and Branding.

PEEL, Clifford Scott (Cliff)

(1936-2022) OGC 1949

Cliff was enrolled as a boarder at The Geelong College in 1946-1953. In his senior years, he was a member of the 6th and 4th VIII rowing crews as well as serving on the Library Committee. Cliff would go on to have an extensive career in radio and television, including with the ABC. Cliff met Rob Young in 1971 and they married in 2018.

PRINCE, Caroline Anne

(1973-2022) OGC 1990

Caroline Prince nee Gillespie boarded at The Geelong College from 1987-1990. She received multiple McArthur House Colours and received a Merit Award for English in 1989. She won the 3rd VIII Netball Best and Fairest in 1989. Caroline went on to become a counsellor and had her own practice. She married Trent and they have two children.

RUTHERFORD, Andrew James

(1968-2022) OGC 1985

Andrew attended The Geelong College from 1980-1985. An academic student, he scored a perfect 100 in Ancient Greek and Latin. Andrew was Dux in 1985. After school Andrew studied at the University of Melbourne, achieving a BA (Hons) in English and Philosophy in 1989. He went on to be a writer and editor.

SPROAT, Timothy William

(1941-2022) OGC 1955

Tim boarded at The Geelong College from 1952-1959. He was a talented athlete, winning the Dr Gus Kearney Memorial Prize 1958 and Nigel Boyes Trophy 1958 and 1959. Tim was the stroke of the 1st VIII rowing crew which won the Head of the River in 1959. Later Tim became involved in the OGCA (President from 1987-1990).



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