

labora

for the Caulfield Grammar School community | December 2023



Caulfield
grammar school



Our Purpose: To enable quality learning every day in every experience for every learner for life

Our Vision: To be a leading, internationally recognised, co-educational School fostering responsible global citizenship

Our Values: We are one School inspired by our Anglican tradition and committed to modelling our Values:

PURSUIING *Excellence* INSPIRING *Creativity* THRIVING *Together* EMBRACING *Diversity* LIVING *Wholeheartedly*.

Acknowledgement of Country

Caulfield Grammar School acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, teach and learn, the Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation, and the Mirarr peoples in the Northern Territory. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

During our time, we experienced different cultural practises that we learned there, which hugely inspired us to include them in the storyline, including wearing bracelets, rock paintings, and making spares.

That's when we realized the importance for us and each younger generation of Australians to promote and raise awareness of the rich history of indigenous culture that is on our lands and pass it on to the next generations with our maximum capacity.

Last, but not least, we hope you have learned something from our picture storybook and are starting to raise awareness of indigenous cultures now!



Contents

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Year 10 students from Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses taking part in the Odyssey Program, which focuses on embracing challenge, thriving together and environmental appreciation.

Inside front cover

As part of their Year 9 Community Project, Ella and Rebecca (Wheelers Hill Campus) created a beautifully illustrated depiction of their time in Kakadu, NT.



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Features

- [02 From the Principal](#)
- [04 From the CGA](#)
- [06 Strategic Priorities snapshot](#)
- [08 The strong sustainability factor](#)
- [10 Two Talk: Meredith & The Bradford Trio](#)

Around the school

- [12 Caulfield Grammar arts](#)
- [20 Caulfield Grammar creative writing](#)
- [21 Caulfield Grammar sports](#)
- [25 Snapshots](#)

Caulfield lives

- [34 June Evans-Caulfield](#)
- [35 John Heenan](#)
- [36 Strati Xynas](#)
- [37 Meg Hudson](#)

Archives

- [38 A new discovery: YJ 1979-1983](#)
- [40 Farewell Year 12](#)
- [41 The world's most important job](#)

The Foundation

- [42 Business Breakfast 2024](#)
- [43 Innovative learning spaces](#)
- [44 Foundation scholarship: Tara Bennett](#)
- [46 Your gift. Their future](#)
- [47 The Mission to Seafarers event](#)
- [48 Impact of giving](#)
- [49 From Shanghai to Caulfield Grammar](#)

Caulfield Grammarians' Association

- [50 Profile: John Long](#)
- [54 In focus: Community Support](#)
- [55 In focus: Scholarships](#)
- [56 Profile: Anna Skarbek](#)
- [58 Careers: Be your own boss](#)
- [60 Profile: Ella Stonier-Watson](#)
- [61 Profile: Aron Williams](#)
- [62 Affiliate Clubs](#)
- [66 Community news](#)
- [68 Reunion and event news](#)
- [72 Calendar of events](#)



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From the Principal

by Ashleigh Martin

It's your life to live. Just be you.

A lens that drives my leadership is to never assume. There is a story behind every face, and I like to remind myself that interactions are not transactions, not to judge too quickly and to always assume best intentions. I don't always live up to this, but when reflecting on my leadership or decision making about people, I always ask myself – do I have the complete picture?

The importance of never assuming was ingrained in me as a Year 8 boy. I was going through a difficult period in my life and one particular evening was challenging. I was proud I got myself up and ready for school and, as I approached the gates of my school that morning, I was met by a teaching staff member who didn't really know me.

I realised then, that amongst all the turmoil of the night before, I'd forgotten my tie. I had my books, my bag, my blazer, I was slightly dishevelled, but I was proud of fronting up. But no tie. Without any niceties and not even a good morning, this staff member berated me for not having a tie and sent me home to retrieve it. No chance for a right of reply, no chance to tell him home isn't a great place for me right now. Just "go home and sort yourself out".

It broke me in that moment. I didn't go home that day and I didn't go to school. I don't know if that teacher ever realised the impact this one-off interaction had on me, however it resonated enough with me that I am sharing it decades later. If I saw him now, all I would say is "Never assume".

"Every interaction at school matters. Teaching matters. Relationships matter. You can't pretend if you want to be a great teacher. You have to be up for the challenge to provide discomfort for students in a safe place, stretch them, challenge them and most importantly, know them."

You must give of yourself every day. It's not easy and we all have to value and

advocate for the work of educators. We should never take for granted at Caulfield Grammar School that we are fortunate to have teachers who understand their impact and give of themselves every day. Staff who care and go over and beyond. We all should be proud of this. You can have the facilities, the resources and the reputation but if you haven't got the people and the connection, a school is soulless. I am privileged to lead a school where our staff are engaged and passionate and as Principal, I understand everything stems from this.

I'd like to acknowledge our long-serving staff members who leave us this year after collectively contributing 74 years of dedication and commitment. Thank you to Sharon Holman, Linda Whiting, Dorothea Scanlon and Kaye Bowen for their devotion to student learning and care.

I also thank our outgoing Council President, Jim Hayman, who has committed his life to our School in many capacities. I've been a grateful beneficiary of his mentorship, support and guidance. Jim won't be going too far away and will always be a selfless contributor to our School.

I recently caught up with a student who graduated in 2018. A privilege of my role is staying connected with past students and listening to their reflections on their time at our School. Consistently in these conversations is the theme that school was a time of many peaks and troughs; highs and lows. What struck me with this conversation was her reflection that most of her school life she was constantly torn between what others wanted for her and what she really wanted for herself. There were times of resentment and times of pressure, feeling she wasn't meeting the expectations of her family. She spent a great deal of her school life questioning "Whose life is it really?".

Six years on this Grammarian now has the benefit of hindsight and perspective. She appreciates the insights of her family, their lived experience and the wisdom of

her teachers at the time. She recalled that 'embracing her people' was fundamental to her time as a student. However, after six years she has now pursued her passion. This is great. It's her life to live. Ruby Waddingham, our School Co-Captain at Wheelers Hill Campus, captured the moment perfectly with her words at Speech Night, "Do things you love and that make you happy".

"I commend our Class of 2023. There is a great affinity for our Year 12 students, and we are exceptionally proud how they ended with gratitude and respect"

Amid the celebrations and emotions of concluding their time with us, I encouraged our Year 12s to genuinely take the time to reflect. To soak it all up and not wish it away, and to leave with no regrets. I reminded them that "problems don't age well" and if there's something we need to resolve, it is best dealt with rather than leaving with anything unsaid.

2023 has been another year of progress and purpose for our great School. Most importantly, it has been another year where our Caulfield Grammar School community continued to strengthen and relationships thrived. My sincere thanks.

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"Work hard that you may rest content."



Watch student Co-Captain speeches.



(from top) Wheelers Hill ELC children asked Mr Martin to visit again in Semester 2 to read 'The Wonky Donkey'. Mr Martin lived up to his promise, with lots of enthusiastic interaction with his reading.

2023 School Co-Captains Cuba and Natasha (Caulfield Campus), Ruby and Luke (Wheelers Hill Campus).

A special event held in the Valentines Mansion Ballroom at Malvern Campus to celebrate families of Year 12 students who started at Malvern or Wheelers Hill Junior. One family leaves us after 25 years - their first child started in 1998!

With Director of Student Experience Mike Gregory accepting the Australian Education Award 2023 - Innovation in Curriculum Design for our Year 9 Kakadu Program.

From the CGA

by Linda Sprott, Executive Director

Celebrating community

The Caulfield Grammarians' Association (CGA) had an eventful year, filled with activities and milestones that fostered friendships, connections and growth within our alumni community.

Some highlights included numerous class reunions, the Winter Masterpieces event at the NGV and two Golden Alumni Society luncheons. We also hosted a successful Annual General Meeting, which provided an important platform to reflect on our accomplishments and future direction.

A significant achievement in 2023 was receiving a CASE Circle of Excellence Award – Best of Asia-Pacific (Alumni Relations) for our Young Alumni Ambassador Program (YAAP). YAAP provides mentoring and networking opportunities to 18- to 35-year-olds. It encourages our young people to share their perspectives and bridge the gap after graduation.

As part of YAAP we held our Reverse Mentoring Program, which included a breakfast and a drinks and canapés event. The 40-plus mentors and mentees who participated, built connections and shared expertise on embracing authenticity, adaptability and innovation, personal brand and digital networking, using new technology, resilience and risk taking.

One of our most remarkable achievements in 2023 was the successful recruitment of 82 ambassadors/volunteers. These individuals play a pivotal role in strengthening our community, ensuring the development of important content and the smooth execution of various programs. The CGA's commitment to keeping alumni engaged and informed was reflected in our impressive digital presence. The Association's Media Hub now features more

than 233 alumni stories, providing a platform for alumni to share their experiences and insights. In addition, the CGA has actively utilised social media platforms, with more than 2,500 social media posts and stories, and the creation of 45 videos and podcasts. These efforts have been well received by our community, with 82 per cent of contactable alumni engaging with the content. Notably, we witnessed a remarkable 41 per cent increase in website engagement and an impressive 45 per cent email-open rate, indicating the growing interest and involvement of the alumni community.

In a continued commitment to supporting the School and contributing to the educational advancement of deserving individuals, the CGA supported three scholarships and played a vital role in Foundation Giving Day as a Matching Donor.

Our Affiliate Clubs have had another busy year and expanded their numbers. The CGA Theatre Project, has been a wonderful addition to our thriving community, allowing alumni with an interest in the arts to interact and engage with each other. The CGA is committed and determined to grow our Affiliate Clubs and we sincerely thank those who gave up their time during 2023 to help run our football, cricket, rowing, athletics and lawn bowls clubs, the Grammarian Singers, The Fields Big Band and The CGA Theatre Project.

We extend a warm welcome to the Class of 2023, who join our strong and proud community of 27,000 past students. We encourage all Grammarians to become active members of our Association by providing your contact details at www.caulfieldgrammarians.com.au. We wish the Class of 2023 every success as they enter a new stage of life, and look forward to being there to support them in the future.

Finally, we thank all Committee members, for their wonderful contribution in 2023. We want to take this opportunity to share our sincere appreciation for the service given by John Sanderson, Ella Stonier-Watson and Fleur Katsmartin, who are retiring from the CGA Committee. We also acknowledge the service of retiring Immediate Past President, Andrew Aitken. With a combined service of 36 years to the CGA community, they will be greatly missed.

We would also like to thank the CGA office staff, led by myself, who worked tirelessly during another very busy year. The CGA office had many fantastic contributors over the year, including Nadia Shaikh, Gabby Coffey and Bridget Gallop.

After almost six years with the CGA, Associate Director Rachel Muir has decided to move to another role. We thank Rachel for her significant contribution to the CGA over this period. We also thank Projects Officer Ian Wilkinson who, after 22 years in the role, has decided to retire at the end of this year. We are sad to see Ian go but know that he will still remain connected as a committed Caulfield Grammarian.

In October, we welcomed Projects and Marketing Specialist Ali Muhammed as Ian's replacement.

As always, the CGA values the support we receive from the School. We thank, in particular, President of School Council Jim Hayman, Principal Ashleigh Martin, Vice-Principal Andrew Strooper, Director of Community Engagement Sue Sonego, Principal's Executive Assistant Jude Gray and School Archivist Judith Gibson.

In conclusion, 2023 was a year of significant growth for the CGA, characterised by successful events, awards, networking, and an enhanced digital presence. The Association's dedication to fostering lifelong connections among its alumni and supporting their personal and professional growth remains unwavering, ensuring that Caulfield Grammar School's legacy continues to thrive.



Linda Sprott, Executive Director,
with Lindsay Cuming AM.

Strategic Priorities 2019–2023

Achievements snapshot

Our Strategic Goals: Inspiring Culture. Innovative Learning Opportunities. Broad and Balanced Learner Experiences. Contemporary Learning Environments. Innovation and Growth. Inclusive and Connected Communities.



Values & Behaviours launched and embedded – including staff and student workshops (2019) to create agreed behaviours defining what it means to be part of our School community.



CaulfieldCARES framework launched (2023) – our School-wide guiding framework for wellbeing, which moves beyond individual program offerings and practices and embraces the School environment as a vibrant ecosystem.



New Academic Uniform – The 1881 Collection (2021) – providing more choice and comfort with coordinated and trans-seasonal wardrobes for ELC–Prep, Years 1–9 and Years 10–12 students.



Secondary Life Learning Program launched (2023) – a renewed structure to each day to further enhance 'voice and choice' for each student experience across academic, co-curricular and residential experiences, community, pastoral, sport and performing arts. Refreshed Junior learning initiatives also bring alignment and expanded opportunities.



New Skarbek (WH) and Syme (CC) Houses introduced in 2023 – facilitating deeper pastoral care through smaller House groups.



35 Caulfield Grammar School Foundation Scholarships awarded to Indigenous, Humanitarian and Boarding Students, along with \$11M raised and the 1881 Bequest Society launched to support capital works and offer a Caulfield Grammar education to those who otherwise wouldn't have the means.



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“Behind each achievement is many tireless weeks, months, and in some cases years, of consultation, engagement, design and development to innovate and deliver on our enduring School Purpose: To enable quality learning every day in every experience for every learner for life. Thank you to all who have contributed.”
Ashleigh Martin, Principal

Key milestones celebrated:

140 years
of Caulfield
Grammar School
(2021)

75 years
of Yarra Junction
Education
Outdoors (2022)

40 years
of co-education
(2021)

40 years
of Wheelers Hill
Campus (2021)

Caulfield

aquatics

Caulfield Aquatics launched in partnership with Aligned Leisure (2021) – at Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses, supporting our students and local communities to ‘Learn to Swim’ and compete in Swimming.



Infrastructure masterplan – priority projects developed and delivered to enhance learning spaces. A range of priority renovations/uplift in learning spaces across each campus, eg:

- **Caulfield Aquatic Centre (2020)** – housing a world class 50-metre indoor Olympic-sized adjustable pool and diving bowl.
- **Wheelers Hill Junior School A Cluster (2022)** – Australian Education Awards 2023 Excellence Awardee for Innovation in Learning Environment Design.
- **Malvern Campus Mansion restoration works (2022)** – renewing the stunning ballroom floor in the heart of the campus for learning, performances and gatherings.



Award-winning Year 9 Kakadu Program introduced in 2021 – delivering a meaningful cultural immersion experience for all Year 9 students and ‘make-up’ opportunities for Year 11 students.



Net Zero emissions by 2050 School Sustainability plan – outlines initiatives around water and energy efficiency, environmentally sustainable design for new and refurbished buildings, and waste reduction.



Remote Learning & Wellbeing Plans (2020, 2021) – ensured continuous and meaningful learning from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, grounded in the principles of Dynamic, Balanced, Caring, Routine, Safe and Connected learning.



First School Reconciliation Action Plan launched (2022) – led by our CGSMob.

The strong sustainability factor

by Sophie Drummond-Hall, Year 12 Caulfield Campus student guest feature writer

A commitment to our future

Education in the school setting takes many forms, both in and outside the classroom, and one that Caulfield Grammar is turning their focus towards is sustainability education. As calls to implement more sustainable practices across businesses, governments and events continue to grow, new sustainability initiatives at our School capitalise on the unique opportunity we have as a community to educate and inspire the future generations.

Building and Infrastructure Manager Annabel Jarvis shares the pivotal and valuable chance educational institutions have to connect the younger generation with sustainability.

“All schools have a role to play in educating students about the principles of sustainability. By demonstrating to students and the community that sustainability is important at an education facility, we’re modelling our commitment to this issue and hopefully others will follow.”

In her position, Annabel facilitates the implementation of sustainability initiatives at our School, especially with the construction of new buildings, which contain many aspects of sustainable design. A key part of this is future-proofing the building so that it can be adaptable for new sustainable developments down the track, ensuring it continues to meet environmental standards for decades to come. There is also a focus on connecting students and staff with nature. More than 100 university studies show that increasing connection with nature has positive impacts on our social, emotional and psychological life. Other significant aspects of the new build include infrastructure for

water harvesting, sustainably sourced and recycled materials, high natural air change rate, bike facilities and solar panels.

As we emerge out of winter and into more sunny spring days, more of the School’s power will be coming from our onsite solar panels, with 99kw of solar panels on the Roy Hoults Centre and 426kw of solar panels at Wheelers Hill Campus. The solar panels on the Roy Hoults Centre have reduced emissions from that energy grid by 30 percent.

A fundamental aspect of this community engagement and education is through the work of the Student Sustainability Committee which meets on a fortnightly basis to discuss new initiatives. Over the year it has been amazing to see students willing to stand up in front of their peers and present so many great ideas around sustainability at our Earth Week Assemblies. It was also really exciting to launch the inaugural Sustainability Committee Clothing Swap, where students were able to bring in clothes they no longer wear and exchange them for other items, working to tackle the consequences of fast fashion, with 92 million tonnes of clothes-related waste discarded every year. The impact of fast fashion was also a focus at our Earth Week Assembly this year, sharing information about the process that occurs to create our clothes. Through the Sustainability Committee, like-minded students are able to get together and provide a voice for sustainability at the School and have the chance to act on ideas they are passionate about.

For many Caulfield Grammar students, their first and most memorable interaction with sustainability is at YJ Campus, whether that is searching for micro-organisms in the creek, an early morning helping Julian milk the cows, tending to the veggie garden,

or pumping water for the cabins. Not only do the students gain a greater appreciation for being able to shower at home without having to think about whether you have pumped enough water to last your shower, they also have a unique opportunity to connect with nature and get involved with sustainable practices. These lessons will last a lifetime. This is a key part of the hands-on sustainability framework.

“If we can model the behaviours in a school and get the students at an early age to get a deep understanding of the issues, they can then continue the behaviours in their own lives.”

Caulfield Grammar is also moving towards implementing a biodiversity program to offset carbon emissions and improve the protection of grazing areas for the dairy, while also providing an educational experience for the students involved.

As part of a full emissions audit undertaken in 2022, a new waste management program was introduced across all campuses, including new strains of co-mingled recycling and composting. This has seen great success at Caulfield Campus, with the recycling rate increasing from 4 to 23 percent in just the first few months of implementation. Making the most of these new bins and using them correctly is an easy sustainability win for staff and students all round!

Annabel emphasises the community focus as a part of this new program, explaining “this is a School-wide responsibility, and everyone needs to play a part”. We encourage the entire School community to consider their own environmental footprint and get involved with these exciting programs!

Annabel Jarvis and Anna Palaskas from Building and Infrastructure view the new solar panels on the roof of the Roy Hoult Building at Caulfield Campus.



Two Talk

Community members bring to life an aspect of our School through conversation

Meredith Woinarski (Head of Keyboard) chats with Crystal, Oscar & Victoria (The Bradford Trio)

Meredith: I teach piano, oboe and theory across all campuses. Today we've got a fantastic interview with a group that I've been with for six years – the Bradford Trio.

Crystal: I'm Crystal and I play the violin.

Victoria: I'm Victoria. I play piano in the Trio. I also play cello and I sing.

Oscar: I'm Oscar and I play cello in the Trio and saxophone in the jazz band.

M: How did the Bradford Trio actually start?

O: We started in Year 7. Mrs Meehan, Head of Music, sent an email advising which ensembles we were in. We just happened to be in The Bradford Trio.

C: Mrs Woinarski, you've been with us since the beginning. How do you feel we've changed or grown during that time?

M: Oh, dramatic change from the three little Year 7s that came through the door! I knew Oscar from the Junior School but had never met Victoria or Crystal. You've changed amazingly. It's wonderful watching the three of you growing together over six years. It's quite an emotional journey, I'm finding, to say goodbye this year after six years of working very closely with you. Out of all the groups I've had, the three of you have just really bonded and made such a great friendship, not only at School but outside. You're committed to your music and have spent a lot of afternoons, holidays and weekends rehearsing for competitions, but you get along socially as well. Do you remember the first time you played together?

V: I remember we played a concert in the Senior Music room in Term 1 of Year 7. Our parents came and I'm pretty sure we played Ständchen [Schubert]. We were going to play the Allegro, but I felt unprepared, so I asked you both if we could play Ständchen. And you were really cooperative. We had a fun first concert.

V: Mrs Woinarski, what is your musical background? When did you first start playing your instruments and what led you to choose piano and oboe?

M: My musical background started when I was three years old. My mother is a concert

pianist, so my sisters and I learnt piano. I was the only one who went on with music. I didn't take up oboe until late in high school and went on to study it at the Victorian College of the Arts. I still kept up my piano by accompanying the Australian Children's Choir and teaching students. When I graduated, I was fortunate to have a successful casual musician career, playing with Orchestra Victoria, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the big shows that come into Melbourne (*Phantom*, *Cats* and *Wicked*). I was also a member of a woodwind quintet – flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn and bassoon. And we had about two or three years together with a successful subscription concert at Melbourne Town Hall. That's where my love for chamber music started. You've all just come back from the European Strings Tour. Can you tell us a bit about that?

V: The Tour was a combined tour with Kaiser Strings and Chamber Strings, with competitions in Europe.

C: We went to Salzburg, Vienna, Prague and Bratislava. Our competitions were in Bratislava and Vienna and we were quite successful. In Vienna, we came third, but it was a very prestigious competition, so we still did really well. And in Bratislava, we came first for both Chamber Strings and Bradford Trio. So that was pretty exciting.

M: Do you have any memories, Oscar, of how you felt when you were performing?

O: It was nerve wracking. The hall was so nice. I'm not saying Mem Hall is bad, but I don't think the Trio has played in anything that nice. I remember being in the hotel and we just basically practised every night because we were so nervous.

C: What have been your own experiences of playing in ensembles and what were some challenges?

M: I've played in a lot of orchestras. As an itinerant musician, you turn up, having never seen the music. You often have one, maybe two, rehearsals and then you're off. I know with 'Wicked' we had two orchestral rehearsals and then sitzprobe (when the singers come in). Then we do sound check

in the pit, a couple of runs on the stage, dress rehearsal and then preview. You've got to be on your toes and know what you're playing. I'm a multi-instrumentalist. I have an oboe and a cor anglais – and I've got to be able to quickly change. It's a lot of fun, but also hard work doing eight shows in a week as well as schoolwork.

O: How is directing an ensemble different to playing in or being a member of an ensemble? How do you look at the big picture in terms of arrangement?

M: When you're playing, you're obviously involved in what you're doing. Directing, I've become more aware of listening to the different parts. I can hear the balance of the instruments, any wrong notes, if people have practised their part. But directing an ensemble, you have a great responsibility to help and guide in ways of style. What are your plans after school?

V: We're hoping to continue playing gigs as a trio, like weddings. Personally, I will keep up my piano, maybe do a Diploma in Music at university, or help my sister out with accompaniments here and there.

O: Hopefully, university doesn't overwhelm my music. I hope to keep playing saxophone and cello. I want to hire a baritone saxophone so I can play in an outside jazz band. I really hope to continue my music after my journey here at Caulfield Grammar.

C: I'd like to join the university orchestras next year and also try teaching and helping my violin teacher out.

M: Music has been a huge part of your lives. So I'd actually encourage you to somehow keep it going. You put so much into music, not only at school with the trio, but it's part of you. So good luck with everything and thank you very much for the wonderful time that we've had together.



Watch the full chat between Meredith and The Bradford Trio.



Meredith Woinarski with The Bradford Trio, Year 12 Wheelers Hill Campus, as they play 'The Luckiest' by Ben Folds, arranged by Australian composer Nicholas Buc.

Caulfield Grammar arts



Dusty – The Original Pop Diva

Featuring recognisable hits and fabulous costumes, performances of *Dusty* transformed Mem Hall (Wheelers Hill Campus) back to the '60s, taking on the glitzy, glamorous public life of Dusty Springfield.



The Wind in the Willows

The epic adventures of Toad, Mole, Rat and Badger and the entire riverside gang musically performed by Years 5 and 6 Malvern Campus students, as they find their way out of the Wild Wood to save Toad Hall from the evil Weasels, Stoats and Ferrets.

Shrek

Caulfield Campus Middle School students took to the stage with this ogre-sized production of friendship, bravery and self-acceptance.



And Then There Were None

This bilingual production at Wheelers Hill Campus was adapted and translated from an Agatha Christie novel, a classic 'Whodunnit'.



Time Machine

In a spectacular display of lights, colour and costumes, students from Caulfield Campus lit up the Lindsay Cuming Auditorium stage with energy and talent in this year's UPSTAGE Dance production of 'Time Machine'.



Hating Alison Ashley

Wheelers Hill Campus students (Years 6-9) took on Robin Klein's coming-of-age story of very different students Erica Yurken and Alison Ashley struggling through the agonies of rivalry and jealousy just to get by at their dilapidated and underprivileged Primary School.

Caulfield Grammar arts

Printmaking

La Storia: Year 10 Caulfield Campus students researched cultural stories that had an impact on their lives, then communicated these stories through imagery using taught compositional techniques, working with contrast and shapes. 'Melissa's Garden', Alexi; 'Rapunzel's History', Kate; 'The Dog Print', Rebecca; 'Metal Ocean', Cooper.



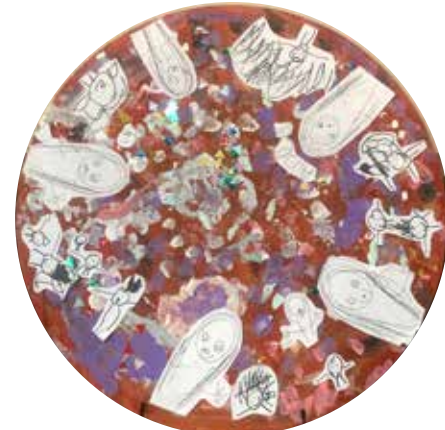
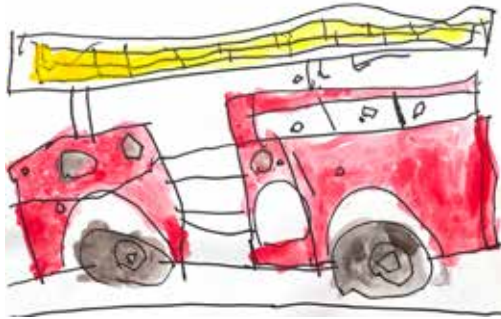
Year 11 Art Creative Practice

'Us and Them' - A collaborative piece related to students and teachers, Laura, Amiel and Georgia.
(below) Two kitchens - fantasy versus reality of homelife, Anna and Cassie.

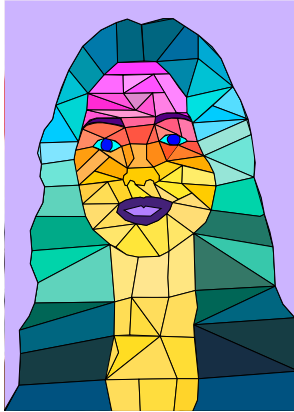


ELC Gallery Walk

Wheeler's Hill Campus: Norah, Darren, Naomi, Lily, Kinder Blue, Tyler.
Malvern Campus: Poppy, Eve, Alex - 'The Mati' - the eye,
Lucien, Alice and Maggie - Kalgoorlie trip, Lucas - Orangutan habitat.



Caulfield Grammar arts



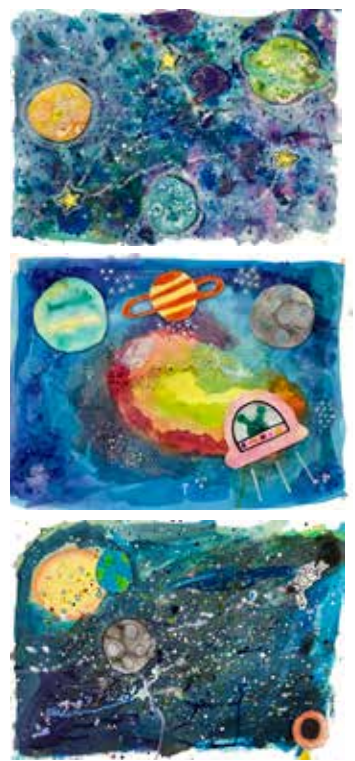
The Pop Art movement

Year 8 students from Wheelers Hill Campus created bright celebrity portraits using Inkscape to replicate the 1950s Pop Art style. (from left) James, Anastasia, Changqui and Alicia.



Visual Arts Exhibition

Caulfield Campus Year 10 sculptures: response to the human figure based on the work of Henry Moore. (top) Evie, Lucas. (bottom) Christina & Chloe, Lucinda.



Malvern Campus Artist in Residence

Working with Artist in Residence Elizabeth Armstrong, Year 5 students created a galaxy scene using a variety of watercolour techniques to create a textured background. Students then added collage elements and details with fine liner, paint, pens and gel pens: Callum, Chloe A, Chloe W, Henry.



Image manipulation

Year 9 Wheelers Hill Photography students explore manipulation techniques: Annabel, Ella, Hannah, Lara, Hue. Surreal cloning: Darcy, Hue.

Caulfield Grammar arts



Battle of the Bands

The annual Battle of the Bands was on again at both Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses, this year incorporating students from Year 6 for the first time, with 'Y6MC' from Malvern Campus, who nailed 'Sweet Child O' Mine' by Guns N' Roses. Winners of the two events were 'Indecisive' for Caulfield Campus and 'Soundhouse' for Wheelers Hill Campus.



Junior School Combined Concert

Held at the Melbourne Recital Centre, this unique combined Junior School event showcased the magnificent display of musical talent, dedication and hard work of nearly 300 students from Wheelers Hill Junior and Malvern campuses.



European Strings Tour

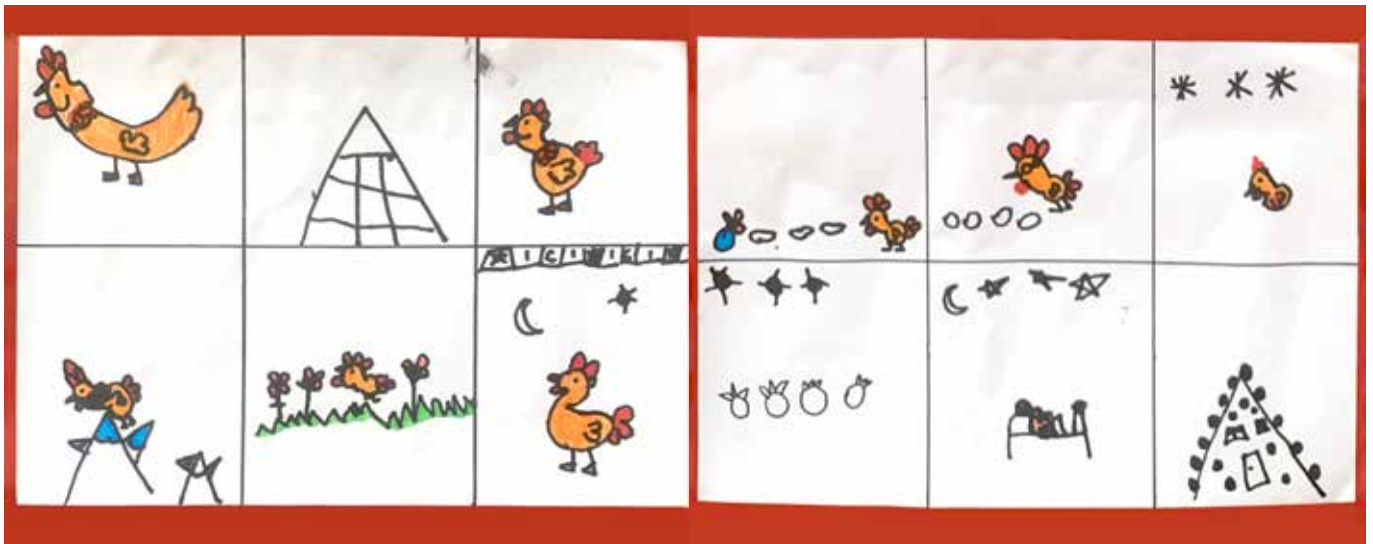
Our Chamber and Kreisler String ensembles embarked on an amazing European tour, performing in Salzburg, Vienna, Bratislava and Prague, with an accompanying parent group (consisting of 76 parents) enthusiastically following their journey throughout Europe.

Caulfield Grammar creative writing

by Eva, ELC Malvern Campus

The Chicken Hen

One day, a chicken called Finapar broke her house because she was too big. So she stopped eating food and she shrunk. Next she went to the mountains to collect things to build a bigger house with and carried them back with her wings. Finapar picked some flowers on the way to decorate her house. That night she counted numbers to get to sleep. During the night another chicken stole her flowers when she was asleep. Finapar woke up and saw that the flowers were gone and there were footprints in her room. Finapar was so sad but then she saw out her door big pink flowers in the garden. Quickly she cut them and put them next to her bed and she was happy again. In the end Finapar built a new big house to live in happily ever after.



Caulfield Grammar sports



APS Winter Premierships

Congratulations to our First XI Girls Soccer APS premiership team – a remarkable achievement, being the first in 11 years. Congratulations also to our First Girls AFL team, who secured the premiership for 2023. Led by an outstanding coaching team, the girls are proud and thrilled to be holding the APS premiership cup for the third year running. Both teams displayed elite skills, continuous striving for excellence, and undaunting teamwork.



Girls Water Polo Premiership

The Girls Water Polo team had another brilliant season this year, winning their fifth consecutive premiership! Congratulations!

Caulfield Grammar sports



Sophia makes a splash

In addition to APS Water Polo and playing year round for the Richmond Water Polo team, Caulfield Campus student Sophia Davis was the only Year 9 student to represent the School in the Girls Firsts Water Polo (who won their premiership). Sophia was also recently selected in the Victorian State Water Polo squad for Under 15s, a feat requiring huge dedication and additional training.

Junior AFLW

In a first for Junior APS Sport, an AFLW team was introduced this year, allowing our two Junior campuses to combine to form a Year 5/6 AFLW team.



Tennis tour

Eleni (Year 7, Wheelers Hill Campus) qualified to represent Australia in the European Tour, travelling with Tennis Australia. Eleni is ranked top 5 in Australia for her age.

Human Powered Racing

Our teams competed throughout the year in the Victorian HPV Grand Prix series.



APS Sport in action

Basketball, Cross Country, Boys AFL.



Caulfield Grammar sports

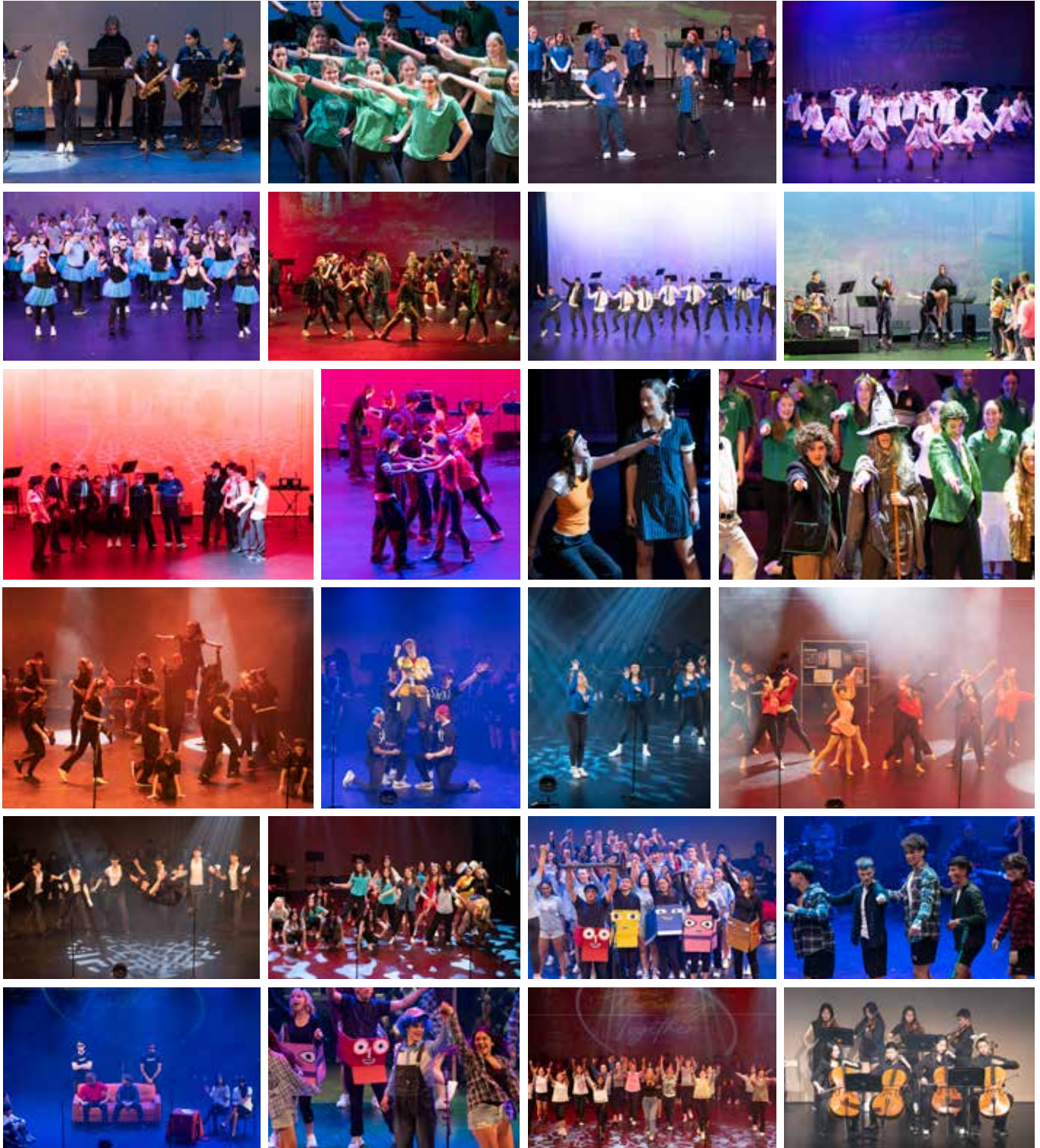


APS Sport in action

Hockey, Boys Soccer, Gymnastics.

House Competition: Festival of The Arts

Our Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses gave their best in House dance, drama and music for the Senior School Festival of The Arts. Congratulations to Shaw House (Wheelers Hill Campus) and Buntine House (Caulfield Campus), who emerged victorious after a day of competitive fun and chaos!



Snapshots



National Science Week

Activities were held across Junior campuses for National Science Week, capped off by the inaugural STEM Fair showcasing creations and innovations by students from ELC to Year 6.



Year 6 Podcast

Year 6 students at Wheelers Hill Junior created a series of podcasts in the library studio. The theme for episode 2 was Food and students organised an interview with Kishwar, who appeared on *MasterChef* and is also a Caulfield Grammar parent. Mark Agius, Head of the Wheelers Hill Campus Café, was also interviewed.

Inspiring Year 6s to take action

As part of the PYP Exhibition, Wheelers Hill Junior students hosted inspiring guest speakers, including Tate Kemp from All Abilities Public Speaking. Tate's message to positively embrace each day, along with his zest for life while living with cerebral palsy, left a lasting impression. Tate gave a simple demonstration, getting students to attempt to tie their shoelaces while their ability to use their hands was affected. The visit sparked a greater understanding of the importance of inclusion and diversity, inspiring our Year 6s to take action.



A milestone worth marking

Wheelers Hill Junior teacher Ross Nankervis this year celebrates 40 years of teaching at Caulfield Grammar School. Starting as a graduate, Ross has worked at Caulfield Grammar his entire career and started the CGSMob – a group of staff members who meet regularly to plan and assist in activities and events contributing to Indigenous education. Ross was even married in the ballroom at Malvern Campus' Valentines Mansion.

A rite of passage

Year 9 students explore the stories, culture, histories and peoples within Kakadu and Jabiru in the NT.



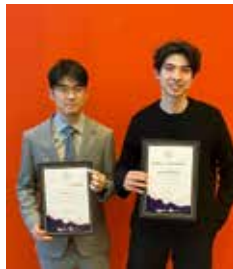
Snapshots



Premier's VCE Awards

Nine of our Class of 2022 students made the Premier's VCE awards Honour Roll at the prestigious award presentation ceremony in July. We congratulate these students for their dedication, hard work and achievements:

- Austen Humphreys for English (EAL)
- Rankee (Yuanqi) Jin for Mathematical Methods
- Jeremy Phung for Mathematical Methods
- Jeremy Chan for Music Sound Production (VCE VET)
- Kate Delaney for Dance
- Thomas Read for Environmental Science
- Amber Barta for Geography
- Natasha Ekelmans for Psychology
- Grace Kennedy for Studio Arts



Caulfield Grammar's night of nights

Held at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Speech Night 2023 was an exceptional night with more than 700 students, their families and staff transfixed by inspiring Co-Captain speeches, awards and performances. All the best to our Class of 2023!



YJ Open Day

A special day for our School community with more than 650 students, families, Alumni, staff and friends exploring YJ Campus for the first time in 4 years. A day of relaxing and grazing in the beautiful natural surrounds, along with jam-packed fun included cultural walks and talks, face painting, water watching, seed planting, meeting the dairy herd and chickens, Leap of Faith, a P&F sausage sizzle, live student music, clap stick making and more.



YJ Education Outdoors Program

Year 8 Wheelers Hill Campus and Year 7 Caulfield Campus students immersed in curiosity, discovery and our natural learning environment at YJ. An invaluable part of the transition into Secondary School, students develop connection and a positive sense of self and belonging.

Snapshots - Community



Clean Up Australia

As part of their PYP, Year 6 students from Wheelers Hill Campus participated in their own Clean Up Australia event. Targeting the Campus, neighbouring Jells Park and surrounding streets, students donned gloves in a mission to clean up locally and inspire fellow students and the community to take action.



Valedictory Day

In an emotional final week, our Year 12s celebrated the highlights and achievements of their time at the School with a Chapel service and Valedictory Assembly at both Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses. Best wishes for the future to our Class of 2023.



From garden to plate

Year 3 green thumbs from both Wheeler's Hill and Malvern campuses have been combining their STEM and Health lessons and creating delicious menus with home-grown garden veggies. The Wheeler's Hill Junior gardening club, 'The Chill Chillies', enjoyed the herb dip they grew, prepared and served with freshly harvested celery, while mini 'Malvern Masterchefs' used produce from their veggie patch to cook up delicious pizza and vegetable soup.



Book Week

Book Week was once again a fun and exciting week on the Junior calendar. Culminating in the much-anticipated costume parade, highlights included author visits and lunchtime library activities – book sculpture, manga workshops, the Book Café and Reading Garden.

Our unique Year 9 Kakadu Program has been awarded winner of the Australian Education Awards 2023 – Innovation in Curriculum Design! Recognising our strong partnership with local Kakadu organisations (Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation, Jabiru Area School, Djurrubu Rangers and the Northern Territory Government), this collaboration allows our Year 9 students to experience residential living and learning at Jabiru on the edge of Kakadu National Park. This world-class learning experience in the remote wilderness sees students living on-country, with guidance from Traditional Owners as they expand their views of themselves and their country in a profound, self-reflective way.



GROK ACADEMY INNOVATION IN CURRICULUM DESIGN





International recognition and expertise

June Evans-Caulfield, Head of Teaching & Learning – MYP, Caulfield Campus



June Evans-Caulfield's journey as an educator and her passion for teaching and learning has taken her to many parts of the world. At both a national and international level, she has carved her way through the British, Canadian, American and Australian curriculums. She is now working closely with the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme in her role as Head of Teaching & Learning – Middle Years Programme (Caulfield Campus).

"Education today is being used as a powerful transformative tool in shaping our future leaders and thinkers in ways that allow them to action meaningful change. What is so unique and educationally valued about these IB programmes is the emphasis on interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to education."

June strongly believes that school communities and students can be powerful influencers in creating change, and that we, as a school, can encourage our community to build understanding of how positive actions can promote a better world. One such example is our Year 9 Community Project (CP), which encourages students to find a cause they are passionate about and lead a service initiative that addresses a need within a community.

"The process develops international mindedness and aims to instil a sense of cultural awareness, connection and compassion; a desire to make a difference to the world around us," says June.

This year the CP has seen students organise an arts supplies fundraiser to expand the Jabiru Area School arts program, run footy clinics and after-school tutoring for disadvantaged kids, deliver care packages for health care workers, and organise bake sales with proceeds going to Cancer Council Victoria.

"The IB incorporates 'Creativity, Activity and Service' as part of learning, and I have seen a great shift in our young people driving and actioning change. They are empowered in the learning process because they are given more responsibility for their own learning, with direct and indirect positive impacts on others."

June has been involved in successful local and global service initiatives at many schools. In the Philippines, students created a kitchen garden, cooking produce in the kitchen to entice hungry kids to school so they could be educated. She is also an IB Educator Network Member, IB workshop leader and presenter.

Her passion for fostering change and leadership in youth saw her selected this year as one of only 40 educators across the world, and within the IB worldwide regions, to participate in an inaugural UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Youth initiative.

This six-month train-the-trainer program involved educators working with 300 selected youth from 48 countries to drive change through projects and initiatives that address needs in their local and global

communities with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The program has been an incredible experience for June, both as a teacher and a learner.

"It's exciting to be part of something real and actionable. Seeing what our young people can develop when given the tools and strategies, while also being empowered in the process, is quite amazing. The Australian group I'm working with is focusing on the SDG that targets responsible consumption and production. Their fashion sustainability initiative is using a circular business model to redesign the way clothes are made and used. Other group initiatives I'm working with – based in Singapore, South Korea and Nigeria – focus on quality and equitable education for all, upcycling food products and reducing waste."

For June, the key to this initiative is that although the educator is the facilitator who guides and supports, it is our young people who are actioning and leading real change.

"Education is the key to unlocking the full potential of our young people to positively action change. I hope it continues to be used as a positive change catalyst and we continue to guide and support future generations through such flagship initiatives. There are so many amazing young people who want to change the world, and working with them across the planet to make a difference, assisting them and mentoring them so they can take that learning and action it without us, is an incredible experience."

Teaching life skills and a sense of self

John Heenan, Teaching & Learning – PYP, Malvern Campus



“I like to know the story behind the face of each child,” says John Heenan, Year 2 teacher at Malvern Campus. “It’s about understanding every part of the child – academically, physically, spiritually and emotionally – and setting them up with skills that will enable that mind for life.”

Prior to Caulfield Grammar, John taught Year 2 at a Catholic School in the western suburbs of Melbourne.

“As well as teaching, I was a wellbeing leader at the school and responsible for implementing programs to support student wellbeing. I also created initiatives and developed activities for teacher wellbeing, which is equally important.”

While he enjoyed the role, John decided after four years that it was time for change. His experience and background, however, have been invaluable to his current role, and his naturally friendly personality and ability to celebrate people being their true selves also reveal him as a bit of a confidante among his peers.

“I was able to transfer my passion for promoting wellbeing to Caulfield Grammar,” he says. “I like to celebrate diversity in people and I’m excited to see what I can do with that going forward.”

Perhaps John’s favourite thing about teaching is the relationships he gets to build with students, families and his peers and he cites the “wonderful sense

of community” as one of the best things about Caulfield Grammar.

“When I bring the kids to the gate, I always end up having a chat. Those micro-moments of joy with families and students really stand out as unique. I really feel at home and it’s easy to get up in the morning and come into a workplace you love.”

John’s love of teaching is evident in the way he speaks about it.

“One of my aims is to create a lot of fun in the learning environment. Once you have that fun, warm atmosphere, children thrive.” Of course, it’s not without its challenges.

“Sometimes I feel like I need to make 10 of myself,” he laughs. “It’s such a busy, fast-paced working environment and sometimes I feel that one me is not enough.”

Whenever he gets the chance, John loves to travel, which is how he initially came here from Tipperary, Ireland after training to be a teacher with his identical twin brother, Patrick (who teaches in Dubai).

“Once that bell rings on the last day of school, I’m always headed straight to the airport,” he says, listing Asia and Europe as favourite destinations. He spent the recent Term break driving from Darwin to Broome in the Northern Territory.

While he now calls Melbourne home, John still feels the travel pull. It’s been a lifelong dream to pack his bags and see the world.

“I told my family: ‘Ah, you know you’ll see me back in a year’, but one year has turned into six. I keep telling them, ‘one more year’, but I don’t think they believe it anymore,” he laughs. “They know I’m happy here and that I’ve found an incredible opportunity at Caulfield Grammar. My sister’s getting married in a couple of weeks, though, so I’m going home for that.”

John also thrives on fitness and he’s up at 4.50am most days to head to the gym.

“I get to just breathe and do something for myself and it sets me up for the day. I enjoy being in my own world, away from reality for an hour. And when I come into work, I’m ready for the day.”

John says he’s an open book and his students all know his life story.

“The best thing about Caulfield Grammar is that it’s such a positive environment. I can be myself and the students know they can be themselves, too, and be unapologetic about it.”

He fears his students, however, will all be leaving class this year with Irish accents.

“They’re already picking up the phrases and they love it,” he laughs. “I think my role in teaching Year 2 is about setting students up with life skills that they can take and use throughout life. Knowing where they’re coming from and enlisting all those hidden talents and strengths that they have is what really helps me succeed in my role.”

A fine year for Football

Strati Xynas, Head Coach Soccer & Futsal, Caulfield Campus



“I get a lot of enjoyment working in an environment like Caulfield Grammar School,” says Strati Xynas, Head Coach of Soccer and Futsal. “The professional environment in the Sports department has allowed me to grasp the logistics and synergies between sports. And the team are very open to new ideas.”

Strati is nonchalant about his efforts, but it is his influence and experience that has led to Caulfield Grammar being able to implement his ideas and take on some amazing projects. For example, he engaged Real Madrid to come to the School and conduct training sessions for both the boys and girls First teams.

“This had a flow-on effect, with kids gaining a deeper love and understanding of the game,” he says. “I spent many years working in Spain, so it was music to my ears when Real Madrid agreed to this partnership. It also started the conversation about our Firsts one day having an external experience in Spain, working with Real Madrid.”

This trip is now pencilled in for the 2025 pre-season, with other possible partnerships currently in the pipeline.

Strati grew up in Albert Park, but has played and coached professionally in five different countries. He holds a Pro Diploma – the pinnacle of coaching qualifications in Australian Football – and loves nothing more than passing on the skills to new players.

“Football’s always been part of my life and part of my family,” he says, adding

that his love for the game was inevitable as both his older brothers play professionally. “I had no choice. I was 10 years old and playing in the under 16s with my brothers. Whatever they did, I did.”

When his brothers played overseas, the family moved to Greece, where Strati went to school for a few years. He’s the first to admit that soccer consumes his waking (and even his unconscious) life.

“When it comes time to relax, I always think about football; about how we can do things better,” he laughs. “That sounds like I’m on a crusade, but I just love challenging myself to be able to reach my goals.”

In his quest to inspire love for the game, Strati adopts what he calls ‘football soldiers’ – describing them as “people who fall in love with the game whatever their ability; those who enjoy themselves and want to keep playing as they get older”.

One of Strati’s priorities when he started in October 2022 was achieving a gender balance for the game, and he quickly set about encouraging girls to play, as well as engaging more boys. The girls this year had an amazing season and Strati says it was great to experience those highs, springboarding off the excitement over Australia’s performance at the Women’s World Cup.

“The enthusiasm girls have shown to not only get involved but also to push themselves was evident when the Firsts won the APS and just lost out in the all-

Victorian final by one goal,” Strati says, then laughs. “On penalties, mind you, so it was reminiscent of the World Cup itself.”

With it being such an amazing time for women’s football, Strati says the School has really taken a big step forward in making the game bigger with more participants. “I’m not saying we’ll have a 50/50 gender balance next year, but if the momentum keeps going, it’ll come close in 2025.”

As for life outside his job, Strati loves spending time with his wife, Vicki, and their 23-year-old son, Luka – both of whom light up his face when he speaks of them.

“Vicki and I met when we were young and have been together 40-something years,” he says. “And Luka is a real outdoorsy sort, who loves scuba diving.”

Luka is the type of person Strati means when he uses the term ‘football soldier’.

“He learnt the game young and now plays for enjoyment,” says Strati. “Kids who play and enjoy the game grow up and instil that love in their own families. Not that I’m brainwashing him or anything.”

Strati reveals that some Year 9 students heading to Jabiru had asked about obtaining balls, bibs and cones to take along in order to run coaching sessions for the Jabiru students.

“It’s an amazing initiative for students to want to teach what they’ve learnt and give back to the game,” says Strati. “Which is a great attribute in ‘football soldiers’.”

Emerging Student Experiences

Meg Hudson, Remote Programs Teacher, Kakadu



If anyone truly embodies the Caulfield Grammar School song lyric, “You’re part of the School from the time you begin it, you’re part of the School for the rest of your life”, it would be Meg Hudson.

Meg started her Caulfield Grammar journey as a Year 7 student in 2008. Since graduating in 2013, she has been a trainee at YJ, an Odyssey Coordinator across Wheelers Hill and Caulfield campuses, classroom support at Malvern Campus, and is now a teaching staff member in Jabiru.

“I feel like each role has allowed me to meet so many amazing educators and leaders and it is thanks to their support, advice and encouragement that I have continued to find opportunities at the School.”

At the end of Year 12, Meg was approached by her Head of House, who said she should apply for the YJ Traineeship and had already written her a letter of recommendation.

“I hadn’t even thought about it,” admits Meg. “But that year at YJ proved to be instrumental in making me the person I am today. My trainee and YJ community continue to be some of my closest friends, and I’m grateful for their friendship and guidance during a year of growth.”

For Meg, the YJ trainee experience also sparked a lifelong passion for teaching. “School is such a significant part of a student’s life, far beyond their academic abilities. It is amazing to see them overcome challenges, develop new connections and appreciate beauty and laughter.”

In 2021, Meg received a text that would change the course of her life. It was from current Head of YJ Sarah Klein asking if she’d be interested in joining an inaugural staff team heading to NT to start a Year 9 Kakadu Program. “I have always seen the classroom as bigger than four walls, and I love the opportunity to teach and connect and expose students to the natural beauty and challenges of the world around them. So, of course, the answer was YES!”

Meg joined the team as a graduate teacher and, while the move from family and friends was momentous, she hasn’t looked back. During 2021, when programs stopped due to COVID restrictions, she took a position at Jabiru Area School (JAS) as a Years 2-3-4 teacher, giving her a unique insight into the community and forging a solid relationship between JAS and Caulfield Grammar.

Fast-forward to today and Meg is still a Remote Programs Teacher at Jabiru. As one of the founding staff, she says it has been such an incredible experience to learn and shape the program that stands today.

“I joined a team of highly motivated and adventurous spirits who became my family. The first program had trestle tables and staff who were doing everything for the first time. Now we have a highly experienced team, embedded in the Jabiru community. It’s a community that really comes together. Everyone’s voice is heard and I love being part of it.”

Meg’s endless list of highlights includes having a World Heritage Listed National

Park as her classroom and playground, watching JAS students lined up along the fence cheering our visiting students, seeing the sun set at Ubirr, road trips, camping, playing footy (Jabiru Bombers) and basketball for Kurrung Festival against West Arnhem Land teams, and seeing past trainees and staff return in short- and long-term capacities across town.

“No week, no day is the same. During the program, students explore Jabiru, Katherine, Kakadu Campout and Darwin. Staff are on 24/7. Sitting and eating a meal with students has become an important part – sharing stories, reflecting on the day and hearing about their lives back at home is so important to developing connections.”

Since being in Jabiru, Meg has come to realise how important a teacher’s role is in educating the future generation to make informed decisions, to see kindness and learn empathy, and the significant impact literacy and numeracy can have on the wellbeing of a child.

“There is so much for us to learn from the people here. I feel proud to work for a school that has put trust in this program and prioritised learning on country and teaching our future leaders to see the beauty in Indigenous culture. Caulfield Grammar students will be future leaders, researchers, health care professionals, and I hope their experiences here give them the tools to improve society for the next generation so they do even better.”

A new discovery

by Judith Gibson, School Archivist

Yarra Junction photo album: 1979–1983

In July 2023 an intriguing photo album was transferred to the Archives by Yarra Junction Head of Campus, Sarah Klein. The colour prints date from 1979 to 1983 and show student activities, pastures and livestock, farm improvements, and even smoky paddocks on Ash Wednesday.

The photo prints – now forty years old – required urgent removal from the old adhesive cardboard album. These ‘magic’ albums of the 1970s and 1980s are a particular problem because the adhesive deteriorates and glues the photos to the backing pages, covered by a peel back cover sleeve that shrinks and turns brown.

Excitingly, most of the prints were dated and titled on the pages. My personal favourites were the YJ calves and cows, such as ‘Admiral Brandy’ and ‘Genevieve (270)’, and rare photographs of ewes and lambs.

Reports in the School Magazine from 1979–1983 reinforce the many opportunities at Yarra Junction camps for adventure, experiential learning and having contact with animals and farm life.

“Milking, hay feeding, and fence fixing were part of the farming program. The highlight was, however, the tractor driving.”
Year 10 Davies report, School Magazine 1982.

YJ, as it is affectionally known, was officially opened on Saturday 22 March 1947, as the School’s outdoor campus and country centre. Named Cuming House from 1956, it was the first outdoor campus for any school in Australia and the inspiration of fourth Headmaster, Mr Frank HJ Archer (1923–1954). The original thirty-three acres were the gift of school parent, Mr David Cuming.

In January 1956, Mr RNJ ‘Bob’ Bickerdike MA (Oxon) became the resident Master in Charge of putting into practice the aims of Cuming House and overseeing the scientific development of the property and agricultural potential. He accepted donations of farming equipment and livestock – including bees for honey, hens to provide eggs and Wessex saddleback

pigs – as well as Jersey bulls and heifers to develop a small dairy herd.

This newly discovered photo album provides tangible evidence of the development and beauty of the Campus. Many of the photographs reflect changing seasons such as foggy ‘cobweb’ mornings and improvements in fencing and storage for hay and poultry.

“After a very cold and dry winter, the September rains have set the dairy a record season.”
School Magazine 1982

Now, 76 years later, I am certain that Mr Frank HJ Archer and Mr RNJ ‘Bob’ Bickerdike would be thrilled that the potential of Yarra Junction is realised and visually documented in this special photo album – students experiencing rural life and the working dairy farm, engaging with the environment and sustainability, and experiencing hands-on and memorable learning.



(top) Janus and Admiral Brandy (1981), (2nd row) beef calves, lambs and dairy calves (1981-82), (3rd row) YJ scenery (1979-83).
(4th row) Dry cows in May - Genevieve and Chula (1983), Hereford cow at Cuming House (1981).
(opposite page) Year 4 at the Dairy (1983), Year 7 Wheelers Hill Campus students (1982).



Forewell Year 12

by Judith Gibson, School Archivist

Memories for a Lifetime

The Class of 2023 is heading for the finish line after 13 years of education. Marked by cheers and tears and final milestones of Speech Night and Valedictory events; ready with ideas, hopes and expectations of what they want to become in their adult lives and memories and friendships made to last well into the future.

For Lucy Meehan (Year 12) her learning journey began 14 years ago at Wheelers Hill Campus in the 2010 Pre-Prep class. She remembers with thankfulness the kindness of her teachers, Mrs Melinda vander Reest and Mrs Natali Nishanian, who made her very welcome.

"I still remember my first day in pre-prep. I didn't know who anyone was, and I was just so excited to make new friends, play games and learn in this new and exciting environment," says Lucy.

A special honour was being chosen as a 2023 Lumsden House Senior Co-Captain and Lumsden winning the House Shield,

which she describes as "the best feeling in the world".

"My House, Lumsden, has been like a second family to me for fourteen years as a Caulfield Grammarian and Lumsdenite."

"It is the people in my year level and my teachers I am going to miss most, as I have seen some of them almost every day for 14 years," says Lucy.

A lasting memory for Thomas Trainor (Year 12) of entering the Malvern ELC - Kindergarten class in 2009 was "having siesta time in the afternoons!" he laughs, adding that Grandparents Day and playing in the Suzuki Strings Group in the Cottage Garden were also stand-out memories.

Friendships and connectedness for Tom were fostered through the House system, initially at Malvern Campus and then Caulfield Campus as part of Kurrle House.

"At Malvern I remember conducting the House Singing for McLean in Year 6," says Tom. "And at Caulfield I always

loved the passion of the Swanside Army (Kurrle House) at House Swimming and Athletics. It's been great to be a part of such great Houses."

Tom's interest in music was nurtured at Malvern Campus in Junior bands and in Senior School ensembles. He recalls with fondness "being Music Co-Captain at both Malvern and Caulfield campuses" and will miss "classmates and friendships nurtured since enrolment".

"Those of us who started back in the ELC have had the privilege of having a special connection with one another throughout our whole schooling journey, and it's been equally great to meet many more lifelong friends along the way," says Tom.

Those who have taught and supported the Class of 2023 thank each student for their special contribution and fine example. May they "Go into the future with confidence" as the Newton House motto extols.



Tom Trainor and his 2009 ELC class at Malvern Campus (front row, fourth from left).



Lucy Meehan and her 2010 Pre-Prep White class at Wheelers Hill Campus (front row, sixth from left).

Teaching: the world's most important job

by Judith Gibson, School Archivist

Saying thank you to long-serving staff

“Masters are selected from the ranks of university men and are teachers of special training and ability.” W M Buntine, Headmaster (1896–1931) 1912 Prospectus.

No account of the history and development of a school is complete without reference to the vital contribution of staff.

When Joseph Henry Davies founded Caulfield Grammar School on 25 April 1881, his staff comprised his sister Mary,

as School Matron, and brother Tabor, who was studying for an Arts Degree at Melbourne University.

Third Headmaster Mr Walter Murray Buntine (1896–1931) had a progressive outlook and shared in the 1912 *Prospectus* the importance of recruiting staff and undergraduates of good character and the latest knowledge of subject expertise. Caulfield Grammar School employees live

our School Values; living wholeheartedly and engaging with purpose, courage, humility and in service with others.

As the School year closes, we warmly thank long-serving staff who will retire or conclude their time at Wheelers Hill, Malvern, Caulfield and Yarra Junction campuses.

OUR LONG SERVING STAFF

			
KAYE BOWEN 15 YEARS	DOROTHEA SCANLON 17 YEARS	LINDA WHITELING 21 YEARS	SHARON HOLMAN 21 YEARS

We also acknowledge and thank all staff leaving Caulfield Grammar School at the end of the year, no matter how long they have been with us. Your care and commitment to enhancing the lives of all students in our School, and your contribution throughout your time with us, is appreciated.

Business Breakfast 2024

by Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation



Caulfield Grammar School Foundation is hosting a networking Business Breakfast on Thursday 7 March 2024 at Carousel, Albert Park, 7.30am to 9.00am, followed by 30 minutes of networking.

Guests will have the pleasure of listening to a panel of business leaders discussing anti-corruption, including Virginia Trioli, Australian journalist and writer, Robert Redlich, former Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption commissioner, and Suzana Ristevski, Chief Marketing Officer at NAB.

We will also hear from a past Scholarship student sharing the impact attending Caulfield Grammar has had on their life.

Companies who have previously attended include Merricks Capital, Dorman Capital, Hall & Wilcox, Koda Capital, Bamfa Properties, Henslow, Lloyd Foods, Monjon, Marshall White, ARA Indigenous Services, Aligned Leisure,

Adco, Invest Lease, Tooronga Advisory, Rotstein Commercial Lawyers, SCM Financial Group, Innov8tive Services, Banner Asset Management and Humanity Foundation.

Proceeds of this event will support the Foundation Scholarship program with a focus on our Indigenous and Humanitarian (refugee) scholarship students. Each year, through the generosity of our guests, we have been able to raise enough to fund two new scholarships.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event or have any enquiries, contact Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation andrewcole@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au

Sharon Stynes sharonstynes@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au



To book, please scan the QR code.

Innovative learning spaces

Caulfield Campus: Senior School Teaching and Learning Building

Construction of the first of Caulfield Grammar's new innovative Teaching and Learning Centres is on track at Caulfield Campus, and students are excited to start learning in the new Senior School Teaching and Learning Building from Term 2, 2024.

This incredible facility is rapidly taking shape, its five levels now towering over the campus from the northeast corner at Merriwoola St. This wonderful new Senior School Centre will deliver an exciting and striking aesthetic that will fast become the heart of the campus for more than 900 senior students and commensurate staff.

With flexible education spaces, integrated technology and smaller break-out learning hubs, this facility will provide all our students with places that enable and extend modern teaching styles and educational pathways. It will

also help prepare Senior students for the reality of changing university and workplace environments.

A key part of the Contemporary Learning Environments pillar of Strategy 2031, the facility will feature the following elements and opportunities for donor naming recognition:

- Grand foyer
- Atrium & learning living room
- Ground floor multipurpose event space
- 28 general and adaptable learning spaces
- Specialist Science labs
- Specialist Art / Design studios
- Model United Nations room
- Outdoor learning terrace

Not since the Twin Halls project (Wheeters Hill Memorial Hall and Caulfield

Campus Cripps Centre) of the early 2000s has a generational project of this scope been undertaken at Caulfield Campus. With philanthropic support, additional features will be made possible.

We know the difference a Caulfield Grammar education can make in the world. We cannot do this alone; this facility is an opportunity for the Caulfield Grammar School community to honour our Values and history and show our belief in and support for Caulfield students and staff.

For opportunities to tour the new facility or for information on supporting this transformational project, contact Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation 0499 076 074 andrewcole@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au



Foundation Scholarships

by Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation

Tara Bennett: Kakadu Program

When Tara Bennett returned to school at the beginning of Year 9, she had no inkling her life was about to change in a most unexpected way. By mid-year she had left her local school in Sandringham to join Caulfield Grammar on a Foundation Scholarship.

Tara spent more than three years at Caulfield Grammar School, successfully completing Year 12 in 2022. This year, she was one of our Trainees at Kakadu supporting almost 400 Year 9 students as they experienced the incredible program we offer in the NT.

Tara's experience in Kakadu has been transformational for her. When asked about the impact it has had for her personally, her response was a terrific example of the impact this program is having on our School leaders.

"Being immersed in an environment rich in culture has allowed me to learn a great deal of information about the world's oldest living civilisation. I have been able to deepen my knowledge of Indigenous living, learning about language, country and connection to one another. To be able to be taught about culture has been a great privilege that I will forever be grateful for, as it has broadened my perspective in relation to our First Nations people, especially the Mirarr, Jawoyn and Larrakia people. Being able to learn from Elders and other individuals who we have connected with in Kakadu has provided such an amazing opportunity to broaden my understanding and personal perspective. Coming from someone who has lived in a metropolitan area for their entire upbringing, to be engaged in such a generous and compassionate community has increased my love for small town living."

Likewise, Tara's thoughts on the impact it is having on our Year 9 students are a brilliant endorsement for the cultural immersion intent of the Kakadu NT program.

"This program allows students to reflect not only on their current identity, but also on who they can become. It provides students with the space to grow as individuals and the time to reflect on their attributes and values, which combine to form their character. Being able to visit a place of such beauty and cultural significance enables students to develop a better understanding of our nation's identity and heritage, through connection to people, places and culture."

Finally, Tara's considered views on the impact of our partnership with the local community highlights the care and respect we must maintain for people of Jabiru and surrounding communities:

"My hope is that the program has a positive and sustainable impact on the community of Jabiru and surrounds. We don't want to come into this area and have a large footprint from the get-go but rather build from the ground up, creating connections with local organisations and key stakeholders in the community to establish deeper relationships. By forming heartfelt and sincere relations with community members, we all benefit on a greater scale for the best outcomes in the long term."

Tara was the first recipient of the Marion Orme-Page Foundation Scholarship, created through the endowment of a major bequest to Caulfield Grammar in 2018. The opportunity was to be offered to a Middle School student with all-round ability in leadership, character and academics with a focus on STEM subjects. Tara undoubtedly made the most of this wonderful opportunity and was recognised as Co-Captain of Barnett House in Year 12.

For more information on supporting our partnership in Kakadu, contact Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation 0499 076 074 andrewcole@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au

Tara Bennett, Kakadu Program Trainee (left), and Sasha Byrnes, Remote Programs Teacher, at Ubirr, Kakadu NT.



1881 Bequest Society

Your gift. Their future.

A bequest (a gift in your Will) is a powerful way to express your affection for Caulfield Grammar School, whether you are a Grammarian, a current or past staff member, a parent or a friend of the School.

Every bequest makes an enduring and meaningful difference, supporting the School's vision of 'A Mind for Life'.

We are incredibly grateful for all gifts, large or small. Your generosity will have a lasting positive impact, regardless of the amount.

Your bequest can be directed to an area of your choice, including:

- Scholarships
- Indigenous Scholarships
- Humanitarian Scholarships
- WS Morcom Scholarship (Boarding)
- General unrestricted purposes.

Grammarian Denis Hyland (Class of 1965) reflects on why he is supporting the school with a bequest:

"I started in Prep at Shaw House in 1954 and finished at Caulfield Campus in 1965. It was the beginning of a 66-year connection with Caulfield Grammar School that has continued to this day."

Denis has left a bequest and strongly urges and encourages others to consider doing the same. He wants other young people to have the same opportunities he experienced, especially those who would otherwise not have access to a Caulfield Grammar School education. Denis, like many proud Grammarians, remains invested in seeing the School thrive into the future and hopes that others will join him in becoming a member of the 1881 Bequest Society.



Denis Hyland at YJ Campus.

If you would like to find out more about leaving a bequest to the School, contact Debra Stiebel, Bequest Manager debrastiebel@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au 0411 497 154 www.caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au/foundation

1881 Bequest Society

The Mission to Seafarers event

Caulfield Grammar School Foundation's 1881 Bequest Society is pleased to report on its most recent event at the Mission to Seafarers. This was the first in what will be an annual calendar of special events and activities for our wonderful supportive members and the wider Caulfield Grammar School community.

The Mission to Seafarers is an international mission of the Anglican Church that cares for the practical and spiritual welfare of seafarers of all nationalities and faiths. It dates back to 1857, when it was established in the Port of Melbourne, and now operates as one of more than 230 port agencies worldwide.

Our members and guests were treated to a tour of the beautiful building, ably led by current CEO Neil James and our very own Neil Edwards AM, a 1969 Grammarian, past parent and past Chairman of the Mission, who spoke about its fascinating history. The tour included the beautiful St Peter the Mariner Chapel, Flying Angel Club (as it is known to seafarers) and the spectacular Norla Dome where the 21st Maritime Art and Prize Exhibition was displayed.

Jane Scott, as the curator of this year's Exhibition, spoke passionately and enthusiastically about the art exhibits and the annual prize winners. We were most fortunate to have her expertise.

The tour was followed by a light lunch, and our members and guests were given the opportunity to ask questions, catch up and wander around the amazing Norla Dome to view the art.

We were delighted to host some current 1881 Society members and welcome some new faces.

We look forward to welcoming everyone again at our next event - a tour of Government House planned for 19 March 2024.



**For more information, contact
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Debra Stiebel, CGS Foundation Bequest Manager, flanked by Caulfield Grammarians Neil Edwards (former Chair of the Mission for Seafarers) and the inimitable Bill White.

Impact of Giving

by Andrew Cole, Executive Director, Caulfield Grammar School Foundation

Foundation Scholarships – a ripple effect

A phone call from a Foundation donor in June 2020, during one of Melbourne's first lockdowns, began a ripple effect that continues today and has had a major influence in the life of Foundation Scholarship student Shayde Szombathy.

The phone call to our Foundation office was from a past student and current parent of Caulfield Grammar School. Such was the generosity of the donor, it enabled the School to offer an additional Indigenous Foundation Scholarship for 2021. This wonderful act of kindness and generosity resulted in Shayde joining Caulfield Grammar as a boarder three years ago. She leaves now having successfully completed Year 12 and looking forward to her future, beginning with a gap year and then university in Brisbane in 2025.

Coming from a big family in Mildura and leaving your local school, aged 15, to join Caulfield Grammar as a boarder is an enormous challenge, and this must have been daunting for Shayde. For a quiet, considerate and very mindful person, there is no doubt the lockdowns of 2021 and settling into her new school were a stern test of Shayde's resilience and character.

Head of Boarding Tim Gallop commented on Shayde's progress, saying, "Her ready smile lifts those with whom she shares it". Over time she gained more confidence and enjoyment from her time at Caulfield Grammar.

A particular highlight for Shayde was playing with the Girls AFLW First XVIII team in Years 11 and 12, winning premierships and creating lifelong bonds with teammates at School and the South Melbourne Swans.

It was also terrific to see Shayde and Riely Collins, also an Indigenous Foundation Scholarship student, kick off our Speech Night with a heartfelt Acknowledgement of Country.



We wish Shayde, Riely and the entire Class of 2023 all the best for their future endeavours and assure them that, thanks to our CGA, wherever life takes you, you are never far away.

We once again thank all our Foundation donors for their kindness and generosity in making these scholarships possible for students who would otherwise not have the opportunity of a Caulfield Grammar School education.

Foundation Scholarship students Areaka and Shayde, Girls AFLW First XVIII premiers.

Reminiscing – from Shanghai to Caulfield Grammar

In the late 1990s, new student Byron Fei met the new Head of Boarding, Tim Gallop, when he commenced Year 11 at Morcom House as a boarder, after coming all the way from Shanghai to be part of our Caulfield Grammar School community.

For Byron, his two years here were an all-round success. He has cherished memories of his time at Morcom House, of not only achieving academically but also as a member of the School First Teams in both Table Tennis and Soccer.

Post school, Byron studied at university in Melbourne before marrying and returning to Shanghai. He now runs the family manufacturing and export business which has been successfully

operating for 50 years, celebrating its anniversary this year.

Earlier this year Byron returned to Caulfield Grammar with his family and reconnected with Tim Gallop, who remains the Head of Boarding to this day. Byron had a lovely time reminiscing with Tim about old times and touring Morcom House with his wife and two young sons. Their tour was not only to share their good memories of times gone by, but also with an eye to the future enrolment of the boys, who will hopefully join Caulfield Grammar as boarders.

Byron is still friends with several of his fellow Morcom House boarders from his time in the 1990s and often catches up with them in Hong Kong, Singapore and

Kuala Lumpur when on business. He is a supporter of Caulfield Grammar through the Foundation and is looking forward with great anticipation to being a School parent in years to come.

Byron Fei, First Soccer team (seated third from right), Byron and his family with Tim Gallop, Head of Boarding.





John Long, six decades of association



“Honour and respect the past, live in the present and look to the future. Live and work but do not forget to play, have fun in life and really enjoy it.”

“A significant part of my life – in excess of six decades – has been associated with Caulfield Grammar School,” remarks John Long who, in addition to his schooling, was President of the Caulfield Grammarians’ Association (CGA) from May 1998 to May 2000.

Commencing at Malvern Memorial Grammar School in 1954, John is the only CGA President to have attended Malvern Grammar when it was a separate school from Caulfield Grammar.

“I was a recipient of a bursary for being a member of the Choir at the All Saints’ Church in St Kilda East,” he reveals. “My involvement with the choir included two before-school rehearsals a week and singing at the 11am and 7pm church services each Sunday.”

John recalls that his Year 3 classroom had two entrances, one from the rear corridor and another from the Ballroom.

“Unlike today, no pedestrian traffic was allowed through the stairs in the Ballroom,” John remembers. “All movement was via the stairs at the back of the Ballroom or an outside staircase.”

John’s school days at Malvern Grammar

were influenced by three Headmasters – AJ Marsden, Dr Rupert Goodman and DB (Boyd) Coutts. But it was Mr Ralph Skitch, who taught Mathematics and Geography, who left a lasting impression on John.

“I admired Mr Skitch’s ability to sketch maps in freehand on the blackboard,” he says. “But I feared his famous ‘wolf whistle’ that could command an instant dead silence in the Ballroom.”

Following the affiliation of Malvern Grammar with Caulfield Grammar in 1961, John transferred to Glen Eira Road to complete his Senior Secondary years. Unfortunately, not all his Malvern classmates transferred to Caulfield Campus, and he recalls that Ralph Skitch and Dr Alf Di Battista were the only Malvern teachers to move across to the Caulfield Campus.

Among the highlights John recalls from his time at Caulfield Grammar, he includes:

- receiving House Colours for Cross Country
- being a senior member of the Australian Rules Football umpiring squad
- his appointment as Troop Leader of the 7th Caulfield Scout Troop that was based at the School

• his involvement in camps at Puckapunyal as a Cadet Unit Corporal. The Caulfield Grammar Economics classes at the time were conducted by John Day (known to everyone as ‘The General’).

“I thoroughly enjoyed the Economics classes,” says John, adding that he credits The General’s classes with him receiving second class honours in matriculation Economics and being appointed School Officer (Library) in his matriculation year (1965).

After school, John gained employment as a junior audit clerk with a city firm of chartered accountants. He studied Accountancy at RMIT, attending night lectures at Melbourne High School during the first four years of the course. His employer allowed him to complete the final section of the course as a part-time day student at RMIT’s city campus.

After graduation, John was awarded associate membership to the Australian Society of Accountants. He undertook further study in the 1980s at Chisholm Institute of Technology (now Monash University’s Caulfield Campus), completing a Graduate Diploma in



Accounting and Finance. He became a member of the Australian Institute of Management and, after changes within the accounting profession, a Certified Practising Accountant. In February 2022 he was awarded a certificate for 50 years membership.

It was not until the 1980s when John was appointed Finance & Administration Manager of Malvern Elderly Citizens Welfare Association (MECWA) that he found his real 'calling' - the aged care

sector. In 1993 John and his wife Cheryl, a registered nurse, were granted Approved Operator Status and subsequently received approval for a number of Commonwealth Government places.

"This was the first step in the establishment of The Elly-Kay Centre, a residential aged care facility in Mordialloc," says John. "Later that decade, we established another residential aged care facility in Inverloch - the Seahaven Community Centre - which became the largest employer in the district."

John's involvement with Caulfield Grammar School was reignited when his son David became a student from 1988 to 1993.

"While David was a student, I attended the Caulfield Campus Parents & Friends (P&F) meetings, which eventually led to me being elected P&F Vice-President and, subsequently, President in 1992 and 1993," John recalls, adding that it was a position requiring membership to School Council.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the Economics classes.”

(below) School Officers 1965: John Long, back row, third from the left.

(opposite) John with Philip Crabtree (1947-1958) at the Golden Alumni event.



Joint activities with the Caulfield Grammarians' Association led to him joining the CGA Committee after David left school. He held a number of executive committee positions before being elected President in 1998. While occupying the positions of CGA Senior Vice-President and President, he again served on School Council. John continued on the Committee for a number of years after finishing his two-year term as President, including being Honorary Secretary for a few years.

“A highlight of my presidency was a change in membership requirements that allowed both teaching and non-teaching staff to be honorary members of the Association while employed by the school,” he reveals.

John was elected a Fellow of the CGA for long and distinguished service to the Caulfield Grammar School community in 2015.

John is very proud that his family now has a connection over three generations with Caulfield Grammar School.

“My grandson Angus was at Malvern Campus from 2013 to 2016,” he says. “David then spent some time working in Singapore, and when the family returned to Australia, Angus resumed at Caulfield Campus in Year 7 in 2021. David’s daughter Zara began at Malvern in Year 2 in 2021.”

John’s advice to his grandchildren and their friends is: “Honour and respect the past, live in the present and look to the future. Live and work but do not forget to play, have fun in life and really enjoy it.”

Community Support

We are proud to be a part of this rich and diverse School community as supporters and donors for the Foundation's Annual Giving, Jabiru Bombers Sponsorship and CGA Scholarship Program. We actively promote the Foundation's 1881 Bequest Society and encourage all our Grammarians to give back to their school.



Scholarships

The Caulfield Grammarians' Association acknowledges the importance of ongoing partnerships between past, current and future Grammarians, and proudly offers Scholarships awarded to children of past students. The CGA has a long and proud history as one of the oldest past student associations in Australia, having served our alumni community since 1885.

For more information, please visit www.caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au/scholarships/caulfield-grammarians-association-scholarships/

Jack Felsenthal



"I tend to think the main thing CGS taught me was how to be resilient and to keep pushing and trying harder to find opportunities that might be available. I didn't really have a specific career in mind when I left and ended up doing a Bachelor of Business (International Business) with an internship year in France and Greece.

Applying for Grad positions during COVID-19 was tough, as being interviewed online with dozens of other applicants onscreen was very impersonal. I applied for many internships and was lucky to get an offer from NAB, where I still enjoy working today.

I enjoy business and travel and operate 'Charter World Yachting Holidays' in my spare time. I continue to enjoy sailing competitively but no longer participate in competitions such as the Nationals and Worlds I won in my youth.

I know that I will be quick to enrol my kids when I have a family. We sadly lost Pa recently, but I know he would get a kick out of knowing his great-grandkids were walking around the same Caulfield Campus that he did 100 years earlier."

Luke Egan

"Caulfield Grammar was an amazing time for me and opened my eyes to career opportunities that I may have never considered previously. I loved the sense of community and the vast array of opportunities to immerse myself in helping others. My passion for sport and competition was amplified in the APS arena - I was lucky enough to play in our Firsts teams across multiple sports. I gained the most benefit from opportunities to lead and personally grow in public speaking away from the sports field.

Caulfield instilled a strong work ethic and an inner drive to achieve my personal goals, programs to develop consistent study techniques, and communication skills provided me the grounding for my life moving forward. Caulfield opened doors that were never part of my wildest dreams, such as a traineeship for the School's China program in 2019. This experience alone was life-changing - my most incredible life journey so far. The life lessons it taught were so important in helping me mature and recognise the importance of responsibility.

Currently, I am in my penultimate year of a Medical degree at Monash University, with the long-term plan to move towards Orthopaedic Surgery."





Anna Skarbek, cleaner energy tomorrow

“It doesn’t matter how you get there. If you know where you’re headed, that’s an important step.”



“I love solving problems that matter, and bringing good ideas to life and working on common goals with people who also care about making the world more sustainable,” says Anna Skarbek (Class of 1993), CEO of ClimateWorks Australia.

Anna has many fond memories of her time at Wheelers Hill Campus.

“I loved how much was on offer,” she recalls. “And how everyone had the chance to do things and just explore. I wasn’t necessarily the most talented in music or creative arts, but to be able to be part of it and to have it go. I really enjoyed that.”

In addition to being the first female Dux of Caulfield Grammar School, she was Co-Vice-Captain of Langley House in her final year and was awarded School Colours in Debating and Drama. At Speech Night Anna was awarded the Dr George B Bearham Prize for the Dux of the School.

After graduating from Caulfield, Anna studied at Monash University, receiving a Bachelor of Commerce/Law double degree with honours. Anna worked hard to ‘get her foot in the door’ by doing internships with law firms and banks during university. She also joined volunteer environment groups and made her interest in the environment known to work colleagues and friends

who worked in public policy roles.

“There’s very little downside to meeting new people and hearing their perspective. You’ve gained knowledge, experience, practice and conversation. And it all helps broaden your view of the world that we’re operating in.”

Early in her career Anna worked as an investment banker with Macquarie Bank’s energy and utilities team, and as a solicitor with Mallesons Stephen Jaques. In 2009 Anna accepted her current position as inaugural CEO of ClimateWorks in Melbourne. Co-founded by The Myer Foundation and Monash University, ClimateWorks adopts an independent and non-partisan approach to analysing emissions reduction opportunities, and partners with business and government to unblock barriers to their implementation. Now, Anna is working to develop the low carbon economy.

“There is always interesting content to learn more about! I love learning about new environmentally positive solutions emerging all the time,” says Anna. “In the future, I’ll be learning about circular economy solutions and how to scale up fast, and how to embed soft skills of solving shared challenges into the core skills of all leaders.”

One of the downsides of her job is that “it can be hard saying ‘no’ to too much work when there is so much to do and the challenge is big.”

In addition to advocating for an environmentally friendlier tomorrow, Anna has her hands full with her two daughters, aged 6 and 10. Anna and her family are often busy going for bike rides, orienteering, playing sport, being outdoors and playing board games.

Recently Caulfield Grammar named a new House at Wheelers Hill Campus in Anna’s honour, recognising her contribution to our School as a student and her subsequent contribution to the climate and clean energy sectors during her working career. The creation of Skarbek House provides a nice symmetry with Houses at Wheelers Hill Campus, the School’s first co-educational campus, now honouring both the first female and first male (Wilsmore) Dux.

The motto of Skarbek House is ‘Strive to nurture people, passions and the planet’. Anna reflects on the motto by saying: “This is about encouraging a focus beyond the self, striving to think of the bigger picture, and helping others make a difference to the future of the planet we live in”.

Be your own boss

by Leah Lambert, CGA Careers Expert

The sweet and sour of self-employment

Back in 2014, I faced a crucial decision point in my life. With three young children under the age of five, a husband with an inflexible job, and no family support in Melbourne, I had to decide whether to return to the corporate world or reinvent myself as a career coach. I chose the latter, and now, after nine years of running my coaching business, I can say that my journey has taught me some valuable lessons about the pros and cons of entrepreneurship.

The pros

1. Freedom in the way I work

Running my own business has proven to be extremely beneficial, especially when my children were younger and needed more attention. The freedom of being your own boss is unparalleled, and I couldn't imagine having to answer to anyone else anymore. Having the flexibility to work whenever and wherever I want has been a total game-changer, and I love the ability to take time off without ever having to ask for permission from anyone else. For me, this has been the best part of being self-employed.

2. Freedom regarding what I work on

As a self-employed person, one of the greatest benefits is the freedom to choose your clients and projects. Initially, I used to accept every opportunity that came my way, but with time I learnt to decline if the project raised red flags or if I didn't feel competent enough to assist someone. Over the years, I have come to understand that accepting work that is fulfilling, and rejecting projects that don't align with my strengths, is the key to success. In recent years, I have found it empowering to

confidently say 'no' to clients or projects without hesitation, which may not be possible in a corporate role.

3. New opportunities

Entrepreneurship opened doors I couldn't have accessed by staying in the corporate world. I've met amazing people, built relationships with fellow business owners, and had the chance to share my insights via various media platforms including radio, television, newspapers, magazines and speaking at events. None of these opportunities would have come my way if I hadn't made the leap to go out on my own. However, despite the upside of being self-employed, there are some negative aspects that need to be considered by anyone thinking about starting their own business.

The cons

1. Switching off

Starting your own business can provide you with the flexibility you need, but it can also be challenging to maintain a work-life balance. Personally, I struggle to separate work from my personal life and find it difficult to switch off completely. My business occupies my thoughts most evenings, weekends and even when I am going for a run. When I have some free time on the weekend, I feel guilty for not working on my business and I find it very hard to relax. Balancing work and personal life continues to be an ongoing challenge.

2. Lack of technical support

When I started my business, I encountered a major obstacle – the absence of technical assistance. Every time there were issues with my computer, website, or email, I had to either resolve them myself or find someone on a freelancer platform to

help me out. Despite many late and often stressful evenings, I acquired various skills unrelated to coaching such as social media marketing, web development, podcasting, and content creation. Fortunately, most of these skills can be learnt through self-practice, but it does take time, and in a new business, one is usually less inclined to outsource to keep costs to a minimum.

3. Isolation

In my previous roles, I enjoyed the social aspects of working in a team, such as team lunches and other fun events. During the early years of my business, I didn't feel the absence of this as much, but as time went on, I began to feel isolated. Joining a women's networking group provided me with a sense of belonging and support and helped me establish a network of 'go-to' people to ask for advice. In the past five years, I have built my own team of writers and coaches, which has been great for collaboration, sharing successes and, of course, venting at times with others.

Running my own business has been the right choice for me. It offers the flexibility and freedom I need to be there for my family, while also allowing me to pursue meaningful work. Although it comes with its challenges, the rewards make it all worth it. Throughout the journey, I've had to adapt, learn new skills, and make mistakes, but not once have I regretted my decision. My work is deeply rewarding and I feel proud to be making a positive impact on people's lives.



Join the CGA
LinkedIn group.

“Entrepreneurship opened doors I couldn’t have accessed by staying in the corporate world. I’ve met amazing people, built relationships with fellow business owners, and had the chance to share my insights via various media platforms including radio, television, newspapers, magazines and speaking at events. None of these opportunities would have come my way if I hadn’t made the leap to go out on my own.”



Ella Stonier-Watson, fast-paced in finance

“I was very lucky in that I had an amazing school experience, which speaks not only to Caulfield as a school, but also to my cohort,” recalls Ella Stonier-Watson, who began her Caulfield Grammar School experience at Malvern Campus as a four-year old “preppie”.

After graduating in 2018 as Co-Captain of Caulfield Campus, Ella jumped straight into university and work to pursue her passions.

“The lack of structure was quite a shift, so I find I can keep myself accountable to have productive periods and rest periods,” she says. “Whereas during school this was modelled for us.”

Ella's journey has reinforced to her just how critical it is to “put yourself out there”. At university Ella joined a society which enabled her to develop her network and gain an internship at a hedge fund, VP Capital, where she still works today. While Ella's initial intention was to become a lawyer, her internship experience in finance opened her world to new possibilities.

“This realisation probably took me three years; it did not happen after one conversation or one day of work!”

As a woman in finance, Ella has been tenacious in forging her way in the industry. Although there are many challenges in the finance field due to its fast-paced nature, Ella loves the evolving nature and challenge of her work.

In the future, Ella would love to see more women having amazing careers in the industry, while also allowing them the option of a family.

“I was lucky enough to see this modelled by some amazing women,” Ella reveals. “And I hope to see more of it.”

Ella is about to embark on an incredible journey to study overseas at the University of Cambridge. Her ability to seize and run with opportunities fits perfectly with the advice she imparts to future Caulfield Grammar graduates.

“Try anything and everything! The easiest way to make a decision is to start ruling out options.”





“Seeing people wear my garments in public, along with the adventures marketing has taken me on – whether it’s filming in public or scaling rocks for footage – has been hugely rewarding.”

Aron Williams, enterprising streetwear

Graduating from Caulfield Grammar School in 2019 and having been a part of the community since Year 7, Aron Williams’ time at the School can be defined as one big learning experience that he believes was integral to who he is today.

“The teachers at Caulfield Grammar really believed in me and gave me the best possible experience at school,” he says.

Post-graduation, Aron pursued a Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne. But it wasn’t long before Aron decided that university wasn’t the best fit for him and he made the decision to pursue his dream of setting up his own streetwear business.

And from there, METRAMERTRA was born. “Creating a brand and company from

scratch is nothing short of a challenge,” Aron admits, “and the 8-hour days are the bare minimum to succeed in the fashion industry.”

With money being tight, resources slim, and only having himself to create something unique, Aron had the next few years cut out for him! Fortunately, Aron was able to use his existing skills and background in graphic design to advance his goal. He is the main creator of designs and has the last say in all METRAMERTRA products.

“One of the most interesting parts of my job is studying and learning more about consumer behaviour and what makes customers tick,” he reveals.

Aron finds it incredibly fulfilling and motivating waking up every day to a job

that he loves. “I was raised to have a lot of confidence in myself. I believe that comes from my mum,” he says. “I have always wanted to own my own business and have always loved streetwear, so it just made sense.”

His favourite thing about what he does has been meeting fans of the brand on the street and at pop-up stores.

Q.

“

What do you love about your club?

”

George Hronakis (2009)

“What I like most about my affiliate club is being able to catch up with friends and other school alumni, and make good music together. It often reminds me of the fantastic experiences I had at school when I was learning trumpet and participating in the school ensemble program.”

Club: The 'Fields' Big Band

Bio: After graduating from Caulfield, George completed a Bachelor of Music (trumpet) at the University of Melbourne and Monash University. He also completed a Masters of Teaching at Monash. He was a member of the Australian Youth Orchestra from 2013 to 2016. A highlight of his involvement in this ensemble was an international tour to the Netherlands, Germany and China, which was followed by performances back in Australia in Sydney and Melbourne. George is currently Head of Brass at Presbyterian Ladies' College in Melbourne and also tutors trumpet at Brighton Grammar School. Outside of work he enjoys watching films and spending time with his newborn daughter, Hope.

Campus: Malvern & Caulfield

House: Brown & Kurrle

School Achievements: Music Scholar; Music Co-Captain (2009); School Committee (2009); Triple Colours Music and Music (Service).





Emily Hawdon (2020)

“After being heavily involved in the theatre and dance program at school, I am very excited to involve myself in The CGA Theatre Project and extend this initiative into 2024. We are building on the foundations set by Youssef Sabet and extending the program’s potential to create a range of alumni opportunities in the performing arts. Working alongside my talented school friends is a bonus as we create an inclusive outlet for those with a passion for theatre and dance. Keep an eye out for upcoming performances in 2024; I hope to see you there.”

Club: The CGA Theatre Project

Bio: After graduating from secondary school, Emily spent 2021 in Jabiru, Kakadu National Park, as a Caulfield Grammar School Expedition Trainee. She thoroughly enjoyed her time in the Northern Territory and is now studying for a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne, majoring in psychology and sociology. Emily continues to work at Caulfield within the Boarding House and Theatre and Dance department. She utilises The CGA Theatre Project as a way of volunteering within the school community.

Campus: Caulfield

House: Newton

School Achievements: School Drama Prize (2018); School Committee (2020); Service to Theatre - Triple Colours (2020); School Prize for Service to Theatre (2020).



Andrew Louey (2003)

“I learnt about the Caulfield Grammarians’ Athletics Club (CGAA) in 2018 while speaking to an acquaintance. I was eager to represent my old school so signed up without a second thought. I’ve completed about 20 APSOC races over the past six seasons and have enjoyed every one! Race distances range from 3.83km up to half-marathons, and are conducted in typical cross-country fashion, with differing surfaces and elevations for each race. The team and competition is very welcoming and friendly, with all levels (from casual right up to Olympians) catered for. If you enjoy running and love socialising with other runners and catching up with other alumni, I’d encourage you to join the CGAA cross country team!”

Club: Caulfield Grammarians’ Athletics Club

Bio: Andrew graduated from Monash University with BSc (Hons) in geosciences, and then worked for six years as a mine geologist in South Australia. After going back to university to study a Masters in Business, he developed an interest in holistic risk management and hasn’t looked back. Working at multiple organisations to build his risk management skills, he has worked in operational asset management, transport infrastructure and financial technical services as a risk professional. Andrew is currently working in property fund management as a corporate risk manager. He is a member of the Risk Management Institute of Australasia and Governance Institute of Australia. Andrew is about to start a family with his first child expected in December 2023. He enjoys running, gym, spending time with his partner and dog, and playing board games with friends.

Campus: Caulfield

House: Kurrle

School Achievements: Duke of Edinburgh Award - Bronze.



Margie Purcell (2019)

“To me, what makes the Caulfield Grammarians’ Football Club (CGFC) so special is the people. Over my time at the club, many coaches, players and supporters have consistently gone above and beyond to support me through my football journey. CGFC has been a key pillar in bringing joy and growth to my football career.”

Club: Football (CGFC)

Bio: Margie is studying a Bachelor’s degree in education and science. She currently works in various educational settings such as outdoor education, sports coaching and residential boarding. Margie has played locally at CGFC since 2020, whilst also playing VFLW for the Western Bulldogs and more recently, North Melbourne. In 2021, Margie won the CGFC ‘most determined’ award and secured a VAFA rising star nomination after round 5. Following a very enjoyable season at CGFC this year, Margie was selected for the VAFA Big V Women’s Team.

Campus: Caulfield

House: Buntine

School Achievements: Girls Football – APS Premiership Teams (2018 and 2019); School Colours – Girls Football (2019); School Committee (2019); School Prize for Leadership (2019).

Ella Baxter

“The Caulfield Grammarians’ Football Club (CGFC) has been my home for the past six years. The club is a supportive and positive environment and the best sporting club I have been a part of. I love that I get to enjoy playing footy with my friends every week.”

Club: Football (CGFC)

Bio: Ella is a civil engineer. She has been playing football at CGFC since 2018. She was a member of the CGFC women’s maiden premiership in 2019. She played for Williamstown in VFLW for two years as well.

John Griffiths: VAFA Big V Champion



On 14 July at the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA) Big V Luncheon at the RACV Club, past champion of the Caulfield Grammarians' Football Club (CGFC) John Griffiths was inducted as a VAFA Big V Champion. This is effectively the Hall of Fame for amateur footballers who have represented Victoria, and John is the first Grammarian honoured in this way. After completing his secondary education at Caulfield in 1971 (he was school captain and was awarded school colours for football, cricket and athletics), John went on to play 117 senior games for the Grammarians from 1972 to 1980. He captained the club in 1977, won the Best and Fairest Award in 1980, and the Morley Trophy (best player as voted by CGFC supporters) in 1975, 1977 and 1980.

An athletic key defender, he could also play in the ruck and go forward, which he did with aplomb in the 1972 and 1973 A Grade finals series that saw the Grammarians narrowly defeated in preliminary finals. His ability to perform in big games was seen again in the 1975 B Grade finals series when he was named best on ground in both games. This made John a straightforward selection for CGFC's Team of the Century. His remarkable achievements on the field during the 1970s also included pulling on the Big V guernsey on eight occasions between 1973 and 1977, including a best on ground performance against the WAAFL in 1976. Outside of football John has had an incredibly successful career as an orthopaedic surgeon and was awarded the OAM in the 2022 Queen's Birthday Honours.

Births



1. **Sarah Plant** (née Connell, Class of 2006) and her husband David are excited to announce the arrival of their daughter Genevieve Mary Heather Plant on 2 May 2022.
2. **Anthony Alibrando** (Class of 2003) and his wife Marie are excited to welcome into the world their first child Raffael Alibrando, who was born on 19 May 2023 at Cabrini Malvern.
3. **Jonathan Horn** (Class of 1995) and his partner Leah welcomed their first daughter Emily Laurentia earlier this year.
4. **Phillip Deresa** (2006) and his wife, Tessa Forshaw, welcomed their second daughter on 2 July 2023. Isla was born very early in the morning at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her older sister, Zara, is over the moon with her new sibling.



Admissions Policy

Caulfield Grammar School's Admissions Policy has been updated to give priority to children and grandchildren of Caulfield Grammarians who are placed on the waitlist within two years from date of birth.

For more information please visit caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au/enrolment or contact the Admissions Office:

Wheelers Hill Campus 03 8562 5222
admissionswh@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au

Malvern & Caulfield campuses 03 9524 6333
admissions@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au

Engagements/Marriages



Three weddings in 6 months!

Former students **James Scully** (Class of 2007), **Daniel Scully** (Class of 2010) and **Olivia Scully** (Class of 2010) were all married within 6 months of each other. Daniel kicked things off in New York marrying Elizabeth Eddy. Olivia married Alex Brabin in a beautiful private property ceremony and James married Kayla Vanderant in Byron Bay. All weddings were attended by an array of former Caulfield Grammar students.

Vale

The CGA was saddened to learn of the passing of the Grammarians listed here. We extend our sincere condolences to their families and friends.

Craig Bacon (1980–85): 30 June 2023

Dr Jack Cherny (1942–49): 1 August 2023

Peter Chester (1934–41 MMGS): 29 December 2022

John Daffey (1955–59): 24 May 2023

Ray Dudgeon (1938–42): 26 April 2023

Max Elliott (1946–52 MMGS): 5 October 2023

Paul Goette (1941–1945): 12 September 2023

Alan Graham (staff 1995–2015): 15 September 2023

Keith Grieve (1937–45): 26 June 2023

Dr Ian Hanson OAM (1937–44): 13 June 2023

Narelle Hill (1994–1997): 21 October 2023

Brian Jamieson (1956–61): 7 August 2023

Nigel Kendall (1946–55): 3 June 2023

Ron Laity (staff 1967–69): 12 February 2023

G M (Murray) McAllister (1946–50): 15 September 2023

Graeme McMaster (1951–55): 23 September 2023

Eric Metcalf (1951–55 MMGS): 12 June 2023

Michael Oakley (1957–64): 24 September 2023

Robert Schultz (1956–61): 29 October 2023

Peter Sloane (1944–46 MMGS): 10 October 2023

Denis Tricks AM (1941–1944): 24 October 2023

Gary Wragg (staff 1981–83): 16 August 2013

We pass on our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mrs Joan Thompson, who passed away on 6 October 2023. Joan was the wife of the Hon. Lindsay Thompson AO CMG (deceased) – past student (1929–41) and long-term supporter of the School. We also extend condolences to family and friends of Mr Brendan Scott, a much-respected Junior and Secondary APS Coach since 2010, whose passion for young people playing sport was infectious. Brendan's funeral service was held at Wheelers Hill Campus.

Golden Alumni Society Luncheon



Caulfield Grammarians' Association • Reunion and event news

2023 Winter Masterpieces (NGV) – Pierre Bonnard: Designed by India Mahdavi



Reverse Mentoring Breakfast



Reverse Mentoring Drinks and Canapés



Calendar of events – Semester 1, 2024

Wednesday 28 February	Golden Alumni Society Luncheon (including 1964, 1969 & 1974 Reunions)	Lindsay Thompson Centre, Caulfield Campus	12.00pm (for 12.30pm) – 3.00pm
Thursday 14 March	Class of 2014 10-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 14 March	Class of 2009 15-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 21 March	Class of 1994 30-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 21 March	Class of 1989 35-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 18 April	Class of 2004 20-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 18 April	Class of 1999 25-Year Reunion	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm
Thursday 2 May	Community Event – Cocktails and Conversations	Malvern Ball Room, Malvern Campus	
Thursday 16 May	Reverse Mentoring Breakfast 1	Glorias	7.30am – 9.00am
Monday 20 May	CGA AGM	Online	6.30pm – 7.30pm
Thursday 23 May	Class of 1984 & 1979 40 & 45-Year Reunions	Glorias	6.30pm – 9.00pm

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information: caulfieldgrammarians.com.au/event

CGA Committee 2023

- President** • Henry Jones (1979–89)
- Senior Vice President** • Grant Poulter (1998–2001)
- Vice President/**
- Honorary Treasurer** • Louise Lambeth (née Li) (2001–06)
- Honorary Secretary** • Fleur Goulding (1981–89)
- Younger Alumni Representative** • Alex Kirchner (2015–20)
- Immediate Past President** • Emily Davis (2007–12)
- General Representative** • Nikki Davis (née Oppenheimer) (1996–2001)
 - Paul Edwards (1980–85)
 - Kate Hanly (2002–07)
 - Lachlan Van Styn (2003–15)
 - Sam Tuck (2011–14)

Affiliate Clubs

- Athletics** • Andrew Hall
ahall6543@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/groups/cgaathleticsclub
- Big Band** • Karen Bouyer
KarenBouyer@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au
- Cricket** • Cameron Scholten
cscholten88@gmail.com
- Football** • Richard Harris
camelot@vicbar.com.au
cgfc.com.au
Socials: cgfc1920
#yourfields
- Grammarian Singers** • Barbara Iakovidis
grammariansingers@gmail.com
- Lawn Bowls** • Philip Crabtree
crabtree03@gmail.com
- Netball** • Sophie Thomson
sophiethomson8@gmail.com
cgfc.com.au/club/netball
- Rowing** • Greg Pineo
gpineo@dx.com
- The CGA Theatre Project** • Emily Hawdon
EmilyHawdon@caulfieldgs.vic.edu.au
Socials: @thecgatheatreproject



**THE CGA'S
JOBS BOARD**

The CGA is proud to launch a Jobs Board to continue supporting Grammarians by posting new roles and finding suitable career options within our community.

ADVERTISE

- Internships
- Part and Full time roles
- Casual roles
- Temp roles

 **Post your vacancy using the link below**
caulfieldgrammarians.com.au/add-a-job-listing/

Wherever *life* takes you, you are *never* far away.

Stay connected with the Caulfield Grammarians' Association:



caulfieldgrammarians.com

@cgscga



"Mummy and Daddy always play with me. Freddy is six. He's my brother. Bonnie is one and has just started to walk. Sometimes she pulls my hair! I have a cat, Noonie. She is brown, black and white. I love them all as much as the whole entire world!" Olive, ELC Malvern Campus.