

# BEHIND THE STRIPES

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE MAGAZINE





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NUD GEE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

**Dear St Joseph's Nudgee  
College community,**

This edition of *Behind the Stripes* features the many exciting events and moments that shaped Semester 1, including the production of *The Addams Family* musical; the launch of the College's partnership with Tottenham Hotspur; GPS wins by the Junior and Senior Swimming teams, as well as the 1st VIII rowers; the da Vinci Decathlon; and so many more that are featured in this magazine. I hope you find it an enjoyable read.

**MS TIFFANY LLOYD**  
*Editor*



Artwork by Cooper Gault (Year 5).

# BEHIND THE STRIPES

NUDGEE COLLEGE MAGAZINE



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# ONE SMALL MAN, 10,000 BROTHERS

MR PETER FULLAGAR

Ten thousand brothers is a powerful metaphor that we use in a variety of contexts. Invariably, the boys boldly raise their voices in unison as they sing “10,000 brothers” in the final words of our College song. The metaphor highlights the collective power and support our boys provide to each other. Equally, 10,000 brothers can remind the Nudgee College men of 2019 of all those who have gone before them in the blue and white.

In highlighting the collective impact of Nudgee College men we can sometimes forget about the importance of the one small Nudgee College man. I was reminded of this recently through the story and actions of Willie Gard. His name is long since forgotten in the history of Nudgee College; however it is one that not only reaches back to our earliest days, but now stretches into our future. I share with you Willie's story in brief because it also gives meaning to our understanding of what it means to be *Signum Fidei* – a ‘Sign of Faith’.

Willie was a student from Herbert River in North Queensland (an hour's drive north of Townsville). He boarded

at the College from 1911 to 1913. Willie was a good student and won academic prizes for Christian Doctrine, Arithmetic and Writing. He was a sportsman who played in the 2nd XV Rugby team and won events in the Hospital's Cup athletics competition. These were the days before GPS competition officially started in 1918. Willie was also a musician and played violin in the College orchestra. Our early Annuals include photos of Willie, his violin and the orchestra.

Our College records do not inform us of what Willie did after school. What we do know is that Nudgee College and that violin meant a great deal to him. So much so that Willie

bequeathed the violin to his daughter Ms Elizabeth Fraser. It was Willie's instruction to her that upon her own passing Elizabeth would subsequently bequeath the violin back to Nudgee College. So it was that Elizabeth passed away as an elderly woman in 2018 and the executors of her estate were instructed to return the violin to Nudgee College.

None of this was known to the College until May this year when two prominent Brisbane solicitors (the estate executors) visited me and returned the beautifully restored violin, the same violin that Willie held in his lap in the photo taken 105 years earlier. The violin has been assessed



as a German made instrument of the late 1800s, made largely of medium grain maple and spruce and is valued at several thousand dollars. Beyond returning the violin to the College Willie gave no further instructions. It is our intention to honour Willie's actions by ensuring that the violin will become a signature instrument within our strings ensemble, to be played for years to come by our most senior and accomplished strings players.

There are any number of lessons to be taken from the story of Willie Gard. His story reminds us that music and performing arts have always been a part of the Nudgee College story. His actions tell us of his profound

connection to and pride in his school. These are feelings that are shared by the figurative '10,000' others. Willie also reminds us that pride and connection can translate into generous actions that seek to help the College develop. Importantly, Willie's story not only highlights the impact that 'one small man' can have, but also that being generous, giving back and seeking to help others is being *Signum Fidei* - a 'Sign of Faith'.

In conclusion, this edition of *Behind the Stripes* includes many other inspiring and interesting stories of the dynamic school life of Nudgee College in 2019. I commend them to you. In doing so, I must highlight

the story of the special occasion that was Blue for Alex. In contrast to Willie Gard's story, this truly is a story of the collective impact of 10,000 brothers, mothers and others from a deeply generous community, who came together in support of a special cause to create an extraordinary event.



Top left: 1913 Nudgee College Orchestra, featuring Willie Gard (first row, third from the left).

Above: Morgan Chippendale and Peter Fullagar.



# THE DA VINCI DECATHLON

MS TIFFANY LLOYD



St Joseph's Nudgee College was host this year to the Queensland da Vinci Decathlon for students from Years 5 to 8. The Decathlon is an academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of these young students. They competed in teams of eight across 10 disciplines: Engineering, Mathematics and Chess, Code Breaking, Art and Poetry, Science, English, Ideation, Creative Producers, Cartography, and General Knowledge.

About a thousand students from school sectors across South East Queensland gathered in the Christian Brothers' Conference Centre on Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 May, to participate in the competition. Dean of Learning and Teaching Mr Jason Sepetauc said hosting the event was a perfect opportunity to showcase Nudgee College as a place of academic opportunity and excellence.

"The Decathlon is a shining example of how collaborative, student-centred

learning can build skills the thinkers of tomorrow will need to succeed," Jason said.

The competition for Years 9 to 11 students was held on Tuesday 28 May at A.B. Paterson College on the Gold Coast.

More than 60 Nudgee College students competed across the three days of competition, producing some outstanding results:

- Year 11: Second place (General Knowledge)
- Year 10: Second place (Engineering) and third place (Art and Poetry)
- Year 7: Second place (Code Breaking)
- Year 6: First place (Engineering) and second place (Mathematics)

The first place winners of each year level are invited to a national competition at Knox Grammar School in Sydney.



# NUDGEE COLLEGE TO PRINCIPAL: PART 1

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

St Joseph's Nudgee College is a school that fosters leadership capabilities, not just in its students, but in its staff as well. Several former staff members, after working at Nudgee College, have gone on to be principals at other schools. Part 2 with more stories to follow in the next edition of *Behind the Stripes*.

## TONI RIORDAN

For 10 years Toni was a passionate and creative Nudgee College teacher who immersed herself in the life of the school. Beginning in 1999, Toni held many roles in her time at the College, including McKenna 3 PC Tutor, Head of Enrichment, Head of Year 9 Core Studies, Head of Philosophy and Reason, and Curriculum Support Team Leader.

Departing the College at the end of 2009, Toni went on to be Dean of Studies at St Laurence's College, South Brisbane, for five years before being appointed Deputy Principal of St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Corinda, in 2015. Three years later, she became Principal of that school.

Toni embodies the notion of lifelong learning. She holds a Master's degree in Educational Leadership, and her scholarly writing has been published in a variety of educational journals. She has also presented at educational conferences, both in Australia and internationally, the most recent in Washington DC on the topic 'Stepping Up to Leadership'.

Toni was invited to be the guest speaker at Nudgee College's Commencement Mass and Senior Investiture on Friday 8 February 2019. During her presentation, she spoke about leadership, the staff by whom she was mentored and those she mentored, her experience as both an educator and a parent of Nudgee College Old Boys Liam Riordan (NC 2008–15) and Riley Riordan (NC 2011–18), and the impact the College had on her sons.

"I find myself talking more and more about what I believe makes good leaders in more and more diverse forums and I keep coming back to personal leadership," she said. "You can't lead anyone well, unless you can lead yourself, and to do that you need to know yourself."

"When speaking to developing leaders, I encourage them to make sure they know their three Ps: Purpose – why you do what you do; Principles – what you believe in and value; and People – everything is about relationship with others."

## PAUL BEGG

Paul began at Nudgee College as Dean of Students in 2008, a role he held until he moved on in 2015. During his eight years at the College, Paul contributed much to the community, including initiating the now Senior ritual of gathering arm-in-arm with their peers around the Treacy Building rose garden on their final day of school.

Paul said the Nudgee College leadership experience was certainly one of significant formation and growth, both personally and professionally.

"St Joseph's Nudgee College and its community of students, parents and teachers is highly complex and wonderfully different, and thus inherently an irresistible challenge," he said.

"While I had significant past leadership experience across a number of schools, the diversity of the College,

its energy and layers of identity and purpose, proved thought-provoking, inspiring and transformational in regard to the essence of quality school leadership."

After Nudgee College, Paul became Head of Campus at Southern Cross Catholic College, Scarborough, before being appointed as the Foundation Principal of St Joseph's College, Coomera. With St Joseph's opening only in January this year, Paul was in the unique position of being the Principal of a brand-new school.

At the start of April 2018, St Joseph's College, Coomera, was just an office with a single employee. The school site was a horse paddock on the fringes of Gainsborough Greens Golf Course.

"To say that on the first day in the office I was a little apprehensive is definitely an understatement!" Paul said. "And yet, almost inconceivably, we now sit here 12 months on as a Prep to Year 12 school."

"It has been a big task, but I have recruited a phenomenal team around me and there is a real clarity around our learning and teaching agenda, the model of pedagogy implemented and our strategy and philosophy on how we support and manage student behaviour."

While Paul conceded that choosing a highlight of his experience as Foundation Principal proved challenging, a standout occasion was the opening day with students.

"To stand in a crowd of some 700 excited people, including 250 foundation students, and welcome





*Above: Toni Riordan speaking at the College's Commencement Mass and Senior Investiture earlier this year.*

*Left: Paul Begg with a St Joseph's College, Coomera student.*

*Below: Dan McMahon.*





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them was surreal," he said. "That moment of reflection where every face was new, but each one I had interviewed, enrolled or employed; each building I had shared the joys and pitfalls of construction; the uniform I designed and the procedures, processes and policies I had written, meant it was almost overwhelming."

On this day Paul recalls a moment with a 'little preppie' who was crying and didn't want to leave his mum.

"I sat down and told him I was scared too, and after a few more words he stopped crying, held my hand and walked with me," he said. "That was when I knew, as hard as it was, the risk in leaving the blue and white, where I was comfortable and happy, was worth it."

"Our new school would deliver that little boy his dreams and, vicariously through his success, would deliver me with mine."

"Every day he gives me a high five in the playground and it's the best feeling in the world."

### DAN McMAHON

In January 1989, Dan joined the Nudgee College community as the new Boarding Master. Prior to

this, Dan had worked at St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, and early on in his time at the College made a bold decision to wear a red and black shirt to the Dining Room for breakfast duty.

"It always amazed me that the Terrace and Nudgee boys got along very well socially but were transformed by the keen competitive spirit that existed between two Christian Brothers' schools," he said.

As Boarding Master, Dan was responsible for the lives and welfare of 600 boarders from Years 8 to 12, and it was a responsibility he loved.

"I have great memories of the boys and staff at Nudgee College," he said. "It did not take long to get involved in 'mud ball' on the Flats after rain, as well as coaching Cricket and Rugby."

"There was an amazing sense of brotherhood among the boys and a palpable sense of spirit and pride that the boys had, which I will never forget."

Dan said managing and leading a large residential community helped him develop his leadership skills.

"I was very lucky to work alongside some outstanding educational leaders in Br Steve McLaughlin and his Deputy Principal Mr John Kennedy," he said.

Since departing the College in its centenary year in 1991, Dan has been the Principal of St Brendan's College, Yeppoon; St Patrick's College, Shorncliffe; and St Joseph's College, Toowoomba. He is currently the Principal of Catholic school Shalom College in Bundaberg, a role he has held since 2009. Dan was also a Christian Brother for 25 years before leaving the congregation in 2002.

"One of the best parts of my career is that I have loved being a part of every school I have been lucky enough to work in," he said. "Schools are about young people – nothing has changed over the years in that."

To this day Dan still connects with several Nudgee College Old Boys.

"Education is an awesome vocation," he said. "I count myself lucky, every day, to be able to interact with young people and to hopefully make a small positive influence in their lives."

### GRAHAM LEDDIE

During Graham's almost 19 years at Nudgee College, he held the positions of Head of Geography, Dean of Learning and Teaching, College Dean and Deputy Principal. At the end of 2015, Graham departed the College to take on the Deputy Head role at



Left: Graham Leddie with Waverley College students.

Right: Michael Newman with St Mary's College, Toowoomba students.



Waverley College in Sydney. He then went on to be Acting Head at the start of 2017 and was officially appointed as the Head of Waverley College in April 2017.

Graham said Nudgee College had a strong track record of providing staff with a variety of leadership opportunities, including an extensive professional development program, the opportunity to work on special projects outside one's normal scope and cross-team collaboration to gain exposure to leaders across different areas of the College.

"I had the pleasure of working with some amazing staff, including five Principals (Mr Peter Fullagar, Mr Daryl Hanly, Mr Michael Senior, Br Vince Skelly and Br Peter Harney), all of whom had a profound influence on my leadership," he said.

"These experiences and interactions helped develop my decision-making capabilities, communication skills, creativity, commitment and passion for working in an Edmund Rice school."

In his time at Waverley College, Graham has introduced a vertical house pastoral care system and wellbeing program.

"These structures and programs are

driving positive cultural change from Years 5 to 12 and facilitate strong connections between boys and their school," he said. "When boys feel connected and supported, they have a much greater chance of having success academically, socially and spiritually."

Graham cited a few highlights during his time at Waverley, including having two students invited to Government House for their positive contribution to their communities: a Year 10 student becoming the youngest Australian male to swim across the English Channel (raising more than \$46,000 for the charity RUOK); and a Year 11 student raising more than \$40,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation following the tragic loss of his sister.

"My highlight thus far, therefore, has been working with talented boys, parents and staff to create a dynamic and diverse learning community," he said. "A community that seeks to support each other across their intellectual, spiritual, social, cultural and physical dimensions while embracing difference and diversity."

## MICHAEL NEWMAN

Since working at Nudgee College as the Dean of Community and Mission (now known as the Dean of Identity)

from 2002 to 2005, Michael has been appointed to two Principal positions. Currently he is the Principal of St Mary's College, Toowoomba, and prior to that was the Principal of St John's School, Roma.

While at Nudgee College, Michael said he worked with some outstanding leaders he also regards as mentors, including former College Principal Mr Daryl Hanly.

"They were role models and coaches in my leadership development," he said.

As a principal for more than 13 years, combined across two schools, Michael has many highlights.

"The things I am most proud of," he said, "would be academic improvement of students over time, the growth in student numbers at both schools, the breadth of opportunities provided in all areas – cultural, sport and social – the career paths taken by successful ex-students, and the emphasis on prayer, spirituality and social justice undertakings – trying to develop better people."

As he did at Nudgee College, Michael continues to bring the charism of Blessed Edmund Rice to students, with St Mary's College recently becoming an Edmund Rice Associate School.





# The Addams Family

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

MS CATHY STACEY

Giant spiders and creepy characters took to the Tierney Auditorium stage, from Thursday 30 May to Saturday 1 June, for the College's production of the macabre musical *The Addams Family*.

Students from the College starred alongside girls from St Rita's College and Mary MacKillop College for three evening shows and a matinee.

Year 5 student Athen McLeod played the devious young genius Pugsley, alongside sister Wednesday (played by Mia Hunt) and their parents, the darkly beautiful and enigmatic Morticia Addams (Josephine Barrett) and her adoring husband Gomez (Mitchell Doyle).

Uncle Fester (Jamie Dickman) and Grandma (Georgia Gaddes) made up the family, with spooky manservant Lurch (Fletcher Dunn) in devoted attendance.

All is well in the Addams house until Wednesday falls for sweet, smart and utterly normal Lucas Beineke (Morgan Chippendale) and invites his family to dinner.

Parents Mal Beinecke (Christian Setafano) and Alice (Dublin Rose) don't know what they're in for when they knock at the door of the brooding Addams family mansion.

Artistic Director Ms Alison Kilgour said the production had been put together over four intensive months of rehearsals.

"With 65 students participating as actors, musicians and production crew from all three schools, their 100 per cent commitment to the production has been inspiring," she said.

"The actors largely designed their own costumes, and we worked with Brisbane Academy of Make-Up to create the distinctive gothic styling for the Addams family and stage make-up for the cast."

Principal Mr Peter Fullagar said the College prided itself on its diversity of opportunities for the boys, adding that the biennial musical gives a wide range of boys the chance to experience the wonderful collaborative process that goes into making a stage performance come to life for the audience.

"The actors were just the visible tip of the iceberg, with many more boys involved in the orchestra and in the vast production crew behind the scenes," he said.

With many bellows of laughter during the shows and the thunderous rounds of applause greeting the cast and crew afterwards, it was clear the audience greatly enjoyed the production.





Connor Chistiakoff at QUT.

Above: Connor Chistiakoff in Chemistry class at the College.

Opposite: QUT High School STEM interns.



# THE STEM INTERNSHIP

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

During the April school holidays, St Joseph's Nudgee College Year 12 student Connor Chistiakoff completed the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) High School Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Internships Program.

The College's Head of Science Faculty Mr Pat Conway said the program had generated significant interest, with hundreds of applications received from students around the state.

"Connor was recognised for his outstanding STEM leadership potential," he said, "and selected to join the Virtual Reef Diver placement."

The one week internship allowed Connor to meet undergraduates, postgraduates and professors at QUT, collaborate with fellow interns and experience university life.

"I decided to apply for the program because it seemed like a great opportunity for experience in scientific research, which is an area I am interested in as a career," he said.

After completing readings to prepare for the internship, Connor arrived at

the QUT Gardens Point campus and spent the week working in a group with nine other students from around Queensland and a university research professor.

"Our specific placement involved analysing, classifying and graphing data in order to demonstrate the usefulness of citizen data," he said.

"The Great Barrier Reef has suffered various catastrophes, such as bleaching, over the years and, due to its incredible size, it is difficult to monitor and manage.

"Citizen science data is one solution to this, where untrained individuals of the public are able to contribute data on the reef."

Connor said the objective of the placement was to determine the accuracy and usefulness of this data.

"At the end of the week, my group delivered a short presentation to the other seven groups to summarise our findings," he said.

"My personal highlight was working with the other interns and my group's lead researcher to solve challenging problems.

"It was incredible to work with people I'd never met before yet who I shared interests and opinions with.

"Everything that we worked on was at the forefront of scientific research, and every individual had something to contribute.

"Overall, it was a fantastic experience and I cannot stress enough how much I encourage everyone who can to apply for this program – it really is a once in a lifetime opportunity."





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# JUNIORS AND SENIORS WIN GPS SWIMMING

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MS TIFFANY LLOYD

The St Joseph's Nudgee College's Junior and Senior Swimming teams competed in the GPS Swimming Championships at the Brisbane Aquatic Centre on Friday 8 March 2019.

The Juniors were first up, with Year 5 student Benji Brandt setting the standard for the day with a win in the first event – the Under 10 100m freestyle. With a series of impressive swims, including a GPS record-breaking race by Year 5 student Harrison Beirne in the Under 10 50m freestyle, the Junior team finished in first place ahead of Anglican Church Grammar School, second, and Brisbane Boys' College, third.

The Senior competition followed with many courageous swims by the boys in the blue and white. The relay events were particular highlights, with every team finishing outside the bottom three. By the end of the meet, Nudgee

College emerged victorious for the second time that day, winning the Senior competition.

Swimming Director Mr David Proud said the one really pleasing statistic from the event was that Nudgee College won only one more individual event than Ipswich Grammar School, who finished in ninth place.

"This demonstrates that we won the meet with our depth," he said. "We placed inside the top three 16 times out of 32 individual events."

This was the first time the Junior team had taken out the Championship, and the first time since 2012 that the Senior team had a win.



Above: Junior Captains.

Left: Senior Captains.



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# 1ST VIII WINS HEAD OF THE RIVER

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

The St Joseph's Nudgee College Rowing community braved a wet and dreary day on Saturday 16 March as they headed to Wyaralong for the culminating event of the season; the annual GPS Rowing Head of the River.

The various crews, while competing admirably, came away with mixed results. At the end of the regatta, the Nudgee College Rowing Shed finished the day in fourth place overall.

The Open 1st VIII race for the O'Connor Cup was highly anticipated by the Nudgee College community, with the crew heading into the race with an undefeated season at stake. The boys rowed brilliantly, emerging victorious and finishing the course in just over six minutes. This was the sixth time in seven years that the Open 1st VIII secured the prestigious O'Connor Cup.

However, it was the Open 2nd VIII that Rowing Director Mr James Burton credited with the race of the day. The crew had battled all season against a strong Anglican Church Grammar School crew, switching back and forth between first and second place at all the lead-up regattas, but they managed to secure the win on this celebrated day.





*Below: Open 1st VIII Rowing*







Above (from left to right): Ian Healy, Laura Geitz, Emily Seebohm, Susie O'Neill, Sam Thaiday and Luttsy.

Above right: JC and Pete Murray.



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# BLUE FOR ALEX

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

More than 1,500 St Joseph Nudgee College community members gathered on Wilkes Oval on Saturday 9 March to show their support for Alex Clark in a spectacular event.

Blue for Alex was an opportunity to dine under the stars and enjoy fantastic entertainment to raise funds for this worthy cause.

The crowd were treated to outstanding performances from Old Boy Pete Murray (NC 1986–87) and Midnight Groove. Powderfinger bass guitarist John 'JC' Collins even joined Pete on stage for a song.

Nova radio presenter and Old Boy David 'Luttsy' Lutteral (NC 1989–93) emceed the event, and sporting greats Wally Lewis, Emily Seebohm, Ian Healy,

Susie O'Neill, Sam Thaiday and Laura Geitz came along in a show of support.

The crowd fell silent when a video about Alex's journey since suffering a spinal injury was played, and Rupert McCall held everyone's attention as he recited a poem he had written about Alex.

A spectacular fireworks display capped off this memorable evening, which, in an incredible display of the Nudgee College community's generosity, raised almost \$300,000.



# TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR PARTNERSHIP

MS CATHY STACEY

Football at St Joseph's Nudgee College has scored an amazing partnership with English Premier League Football Club Tottenham Hotspur, which will enhance the skills of both players and coaches at the College.



Formally announced on 31 March this year, this exciting program includes accredited UEFA Spurs coach Matheus Scapin working with Nudgee College footballers and coaches over the next two seasons.

Football Director Mr Jamie Pybus said Matheus started working with our football players from day one.

"It is exciting to see Matheus building rapport with the boys right from the beginning and introducing player development programs directly from one of the most successful Academies in the world."

Tottenham Hotspur is legendary for its particular brand of attacking football and has an outstanding reputation for player development. Many players come up through the ranks via their football academy, which attracts talented players from as young as eight years old.

The first partnership with an Australian school was launched during a visit from Tottenham Hotspur

Football Club (THFC) staff, which included Tottenham and England star defender Ledley King.

Jamie said Ledley was the perfect choice to represent the high-ranking team as he had personally benefitted from THFC's renowned training and development scheme.

"Ledley, who has made more than 300 Premier League appearances for the club and 21 international appearances for England, joined the club as a teenager and captained them at age 23," he said.

"He is now an ambassador, so he continues to be engaged in the life of the club he's been loyal to throughout his career."

Accompanying Ledley and Matheus were International Development Officer Chris Acaster and Head of Global Football Development Andy Rogers.

Andy said the partnership with Nudgee College was a great fit for THFC.

"As we continue to expand our presence in Australia, we are thrilled to be partnering with one of the best schools in the country," he said.

The agreement, driven by Jamie over nearly 18 months of complex negotiations, is initially for a period of two years but he said he is looking forward to a longer relationship.

Jamie believes football in the region can only benefit from initiatives like this and is working to ensure Matheus's expertise is shared with local clubs as well as benefitting Nudgee College's own footballers.

"We have existing relationships with selected local football clubs and we're inviting them to participate in some of our coaching programs," he said.

"Hopefully we can make a big difference to football in this part of the world for the benefit of our students and the local community.

"We will aim to give our players the best opportunities possible to develop as people and as footballers.

"Our main aim is to develop good people, but we certainly aspire to helping them achieve their dreams on the pitch as well."



Main: Matheus Scapin coaching Nudgee College footballers.

Left: Nudgee College 1st XI squad with Ledley King, Andy Rogers and Jamie Pybus at the Partnership Launch event in April.



# THE HOUSE SYSTEM



BARRETT



DUGGAN



FOGARTY



MAGEE



McKENNA



RILEY



ROSS



SHAW



TIERNEY

MR PETER TODD

Picture the entire school population in the Conference Centre for the final College Assembly of the Year 12s' journey at St Joseph's Nudgee College. All 27 House Prefects are on stage, and the Dean of Students makes an announcement: "The winner of the Br Vic Larkin House Shield for 2019 is X House. "The crowd goes berserk with excitement – particularly those in the winning House.

This is now an annual occurrence and is a tangible sign of the passion the boys have for their Houses at the College.

The Br Vic Larkin House Shield is awarded to the 'best' House each year across a number of Inter-house events:

- Swimming
- Cross Country
- Debating
- Chess
- Track and Field
- Showcase

The number of boys achieving a 'Good' grade on their report card also factors into the Shield result.

Of course, it is fitting this highly sought-after prize is named after Christian Brother legend, the late Br Vic Larkin, who modelled what it is to be *Signum Fidei* – a 'Sign of Faith' – every day by his presence.

In 1995 the College made a then-courageous decision to 'go vertical' with a House structure, as opposed to the traditional year level-based model of pastoral care. It was a radical change back then, but the House system has evolved considerably as a means of providing individualised personal care and extensive leadership opportunities for all boys at Nudgee College. The vertical House system has helped create a better and more well-rounded school.

The nine College Houses are a key element of the College's Student Formation Program. Here, Dean of Students Mr Peter Todd explains the significance of the House system.

There are few other educational institutions where students are so deeply connected to their school. While everyone here is a 'Nudgee College man', boys and families now also feel strongly connected to their House. Senior boys will introduce themselves at College Assembly as "I am X, and I am a proud X House man". A boy's House is part of his Nudgee College identity.

This feeling is shaped by our deliberate approach to pastoral care and striving to create a sense of wellbeing. Students' growth and development is carefully managed all the way through to graduation, and a feeling of connection to one's school and House is part of that.

When a boy starts at Nudgee College, he is welcomed to his House through a ritual. A sense of belonging follows, creating a sense of security and acceptance. Boys are known by name, and they are acknowledged and respected simply because they are members of the community. All students and academic staff are welcomed into one of the nine Houses under the administration of a House Dean. There are approximately

175 boys in each House, from Year 5 through to Year 12. Together, they not only compete at Inter-house competitions, but also participate in fundraising and other social activities as a unique group.

The House system ensures boys from all year levels mix regularly, within a small group of approximately 20, helping to establish a relationship of trust, support and friendship. Years 5 and 6 students are in a vertical group with Senior students acting as Big Brothers. Secondary students stay with the same Pastoral Care (PC) group, PC tutor and House Dean for the duration of their time at Nudgee College, to ensure a sense of belonging. A boy's PC tutor is the first and central link to many College activities, events and communications. Seeing older boys mix with the younger students is always a happy moment.

A highlight of our Inter-house competition is the Showcase night (or Choir as it is sometimes called). It's a fantastic night each year with the crowd literally crammed into the Conference Centre – there must be more than 3,000 there every year. There is colour, fun, laughs and, of course, great singing. Over the course of the night, more than 1,000 students from Years 5 to 12 are together on stage singing and performing – often out of their comfort zone – but having a massive amount of fun and doing it for their House. This is what the House system is all about.

I look forward to announcing the Br Vic Larkin Shield places for 2019, hearing the crowd roar and watching the winning House Prefects hold the trophy high.





*Above: Inter-house Chess.*

*Left: 2018 Tierney Prefects receiving the Br Vic Larkin Shield.*

*Below: Ross House at Inter-house Showcase.*





# NEW LEARNING AND TEACHING TEAM

MR JASON SEPETAUC

From left to right: Belinda Morley, Joanna Maltam, Peta Scott, Jason Sepetauc, Jodie Moore, Dee Tyrrell and Natalie Webber.

This year St Joseph's Nudgee College welcomed Mr Jason Sepetauc as the new Dean of Learning and Teaching. With a few new faces in the Learning and Teaching Office, there seemed to be no better time to feature the team. Jason also explains the changes happening with the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE).

Thank you for the warm welcome I've received from the Nudgee College community. I look forward to serving the next generation of Nudgee College men. Having taught in EREA schools in NSW, ACT and WA – all of which were rich and vibrant communities – I can sincerely say there is a feeling Nudgee College offers that is something extra and truly special.

At the centre of all we do is the classroom, even though we can take it for granted amid the array of wonderful opportunities provided for the boys. Learning and Teaching is the engine; without it, we couldn't drive much else. In recognition of this, our Learning and Teaching Office team has been restructured and reinforced to promote academic outcomes:

- **Mr Jason Sepetauc**  
*Dean of Learning and Teaching*
- **Ms Natalie Webber**  
*Director of Learning and Teaching*
- **Ms Dee Tyrrell**  
*Director of Pathways and VET*
- **Ms Jodie Moore**  
*Director of Teacher Growth and Development*
- **Ms Peta Scott**  
*QCS/ATAR Coordinator and Senior Supervisor*

- **Ms Belinda Morley**  
*Administration Assistant – Pathways (VET)*
- **Ms Joanna Maltam**  
*Personal Assistant to the Dean*

We've also redefined our Heads of Faculty structure, elevating the responsibility and profile of their roles. They will be featured in the next edition of *Behind the Stripes*.

## QCE, OP AND ATAR: A BEGINNING AND AN END

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) in Years 11 and 12 remains a benchmark for secondary school students in Queensland. This year marks a transition in how the QCE is structured and what students need to do to acquire a QCE. Students seeking university placement will also change from the Overall Position (OP) to the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Vocational Education Opportunities (VET) continue to be offered at Nudgee College (RTO code: 30498).

The changes promote greater academic fairness, transparency and consistency, increasing the value of the QCE in the eyes of employers and tertiary education institutions.

The new system, in particular the ATAR, will be more easily compared with other Australian states.

This year our Year 12 cohort will be the last to complete the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) test and obtain an OP (which started in 1992). Our Year 11 boys are currently completing formative learning and assessment across their subject units in preparation for the completion of school-based subject examinations and a set of subject-based external examinations at the end of Year 12.

The changes in Senior schooling signal a shift in academic culture across Nudgee College. Formative learning and assessment opportunities that develop boys' skills to be independent, creative and collaborative lifelong learners is a key goal. We want learning to be a habit. Literacy and numeracy will continue to be a foundation boys can use to communicate their thinking.

The evolution of our academic programs will keep our boys' thinking fresh, and prepare them to take their place in a digital world with the authenticity and personal attributes our charism has imbued in Nudgee College men since 1891.



# THE BROTHERHOOD OF NUDGEES COLLEGE BOARDING

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

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St Joseph's Nudgee College Boarding is often described as a home away from home. The bonds that form between boarders can resemble the bonds of brothers. Dean, Todd and Joe Kenny are boarders from Charters Towers who are fortunate to share the Boarding Village with their true brothers, in addition to the ones they gain being part of the blue and white.

Year 12 boarder Dean joined the Nudgee College Boarding community in 2018.

"My brother Benn graduated in 2017 so, when I started, all the Seniors knew me through my brother and called me by his nickname," he said.

"Everybody in my Boarding House was so easy-going and inviting."

While Benn spoke about the famous Nudgee Spirit to his brothers, Dean said it was something that you couldn't comprehend until you were a student.

"Being in the grandstand cheering is so intense," he said. "It's so loud and gives you chills."

Todd started in Year 9 at Nudgee College and moved into the Boarding Village at the same time as his Year 7 brother Joe. A common challenge for boarders is homesickness and, despite having their brothers close by, Joe and Todd were not immune.



From left to right: Todd, Dean and Joe Kenny

Todd said he found the best way to overcome feelings of missing home was to become involved in the College's extensive co-curricular program.

"I started rowing this year and I really love it," he said.

Joe said he was challenged by the extra homework, but that the teachers who work with students in the evenings through the Reach for the Stars Program had been helpful. He said he also reaps the benefit of seeking out his brothers whenever he needed advice.

"It's been pretty cool being able to go to them to ask questions," he said.

The mateship and brotherhood that is embedded in Nudgee College Boarding produces lifelong friendships. The Kenny boys might have started at the College with three brothers, but they will one day graduate with many more.



*The Kenny family has recently featured in a short documentary series about Nudgee College Boarding titled 'Home Away From Home'. The series, which was created by Onion TV, is available to stream on the Nudgee College Facebook page and YouTube channel.*



# STEAM IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

MR CHRIS CAWLEY

Director of Junior School Mr Chris Cawley reflects on the importance of the College's annual Year 5 STEAM Program.

STEAM is an educational approach to learning that incorporates the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics. It employs these subjects as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue and critical thinking. Students are enabled to take responsible risks, engage in experiential learning and be active problem-solvers while embracing the skills of collaboration.

Each year St Joseph's Nudgee College runs a two day program with our Year 5 students in the final week of Term 1. This year, the central theme

of 'Exploration' was investigated in a series of hands-on activities that were designed to encourage students to think outside the box. The skills they employed – such as working as part of a team, thinking critically, posing questions and solving problems, and innovating – are critical to developing 21st century learners and citizens.

While the Junior School boys get to experience a variety of STEAM-related activities regularly in their core classroom lessons, this unique program allows students to participate in a special Nudgee College STEAM experience,

comprising five exciting activities that are run by curriculum leaders and experts from higher year levels. The students confronted the unknown and explored the different elements of STEAM through hands-on investigations and activities. They formulated questions, made predictions, developed and performed experiments, collected and analysed data, and formed conclusions. This resulted in new findings and the confirmation of old findings. The Year 5 boys embarked on a voyage of discovery, which yielded the qualities of a lifelong learner.



*Above: Technology.  
Left: Engineering.*

## SCIENCE

The students went on an adventure in the Senior laboratories, where they completed a mission assigned by NASA. Their mission included finding life on Mars and developing an alien food source for our newly found alien friends. They certainly came up with some interesting products. Billy, from 5E, reflected that "going to the labs and making slime for the first time was certainly an enjoyable experience. The best part, though, was seeing my sister's face when I took home my slime for her – she loved it."

## TECHNOLOGY

In this session, boys were challenged to become a NASA Space Base Engineer. Their job was simple: to design a base for humans to live in

on Mars. Using a computer program called TinkerCAD, they combined engineering and technology to create a replica base that could be 3D printed. The 3D printer was a hit, and printed a special surprise for the most creative design in each class. Billy, from 5N, said "it was a lot of fun as you got to use all different shapes and machines to create your base. To be able to use the virtual reality headsets to explore Mars was really cool; I couldn't believe that it was just all rock and red dirt."

## ENGINEERING

This is a classic engineering challenge loved by all students. The boys needed to work together to research, design and produce an engineered product. What was the product, you

ask? A bridge made of spaghetti to hold the heaviest weight before breaking. Each class held their breath to see if their construction would take out the title of the strongest bridge. Archer, from 5B, said, "I really liked the way it brought out the teamwork aspect, but also the fact that we could contribute individually."



Left: Maths.  
Right: Science.  
Far right: Art.





## ART

In order to practice their skills of creative planning and thinking flexibly, students used DSLR cameras to create short stop-motion animation using malleable props and small, simple sets. Students engaged in the design-thinking process and developed a brief storyboard narrative. Their job was then to use the resources available to bring this narrative to life in their short, animated film. The final products were amazing. James, from 5R, said “the most challenging part of the activity was knowing exactly how many photos to take – not enough and our animation would have been a failure. I’m pleased to say, in the end, our stop-motion ended up superb.”

## MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is the science that deals with the logic of shape, quantity and

arrangement. It is all around us, in everything we do. It is the building block for everything in our daily lives, including mobile devices, architecture (ancient and modern), art, money, engineering, and even sports. In this highly engaging activity, students used a water rocket to explore the relationship between distance travelled and the volume of water in the rocket. For boys, does it get any better than launching a rocket high into the sky? Eddie, from 5D, remarked “being accurate with the exact measures of water was indeed a challenge; however, striving for accuracy is now something I pursue in other classroom activities.”

The table below lists the many staff and Year 9 students who assisted in delivering this dynamic two day program.

Harrison, from Year 9, wrote: “I thoroughly enjoyed the two days

we spent with the Year 5s. It was fun to watch them create substances and learn about the technicalities of the Senior labs. Overall, this was a great opportunity to be a part of and, based on this experience, I would like to do this kind of thing again soon.”

All our Year 9 students who acted in the role of activity mentors, many of whom were once Year 5 students in our Junior School, were outstanding role models for our young men, and provided invaluable assistance to the staff facilitating the activities.

The feedback from the boys was extremely positive and the high levels of engagement and interaction among Year 5 classes, in the final week of a long term, was great to see. Thank you to Director of Learning and Teaching Ms Natalie Webber for coordinating these extraordinary two days.

|                       | SCIENCE                                                                                                                                    | TECHNOLOGY                                                                                                                      | ENGINEERING                                                                                                                 | ARTS                                                                                                                                      | MATHEMATICS                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>STAFF</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Brendan McGuinness</li> <li>Mr Brent Mitchell</li> <li>Mr Pat Conway</li> </ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Jack Dahms</li> </ul>                                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Trent Palmer</li> </ul>                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms Sam Martinuzzi</li> <li>Ms Poppie Kenneally</li> </ul>                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms Lauren Nolan</li> </ul>                                                                    |
| <b>YEAR 9 LEADERS</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harrison Board</li> <li>Ethan Schneider-Loos</li> <li>Nick Taylor</li> <li>Archie Wallis</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lachlan Caldwell</li> <li>Ryan Newlan</li> <li>Kieran Pye</li> <li>Nate Scott</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom Malone</li> <li>Luke Blackwell</li> <li>Al McEwan</li> <li>Ben Gunter</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inigo Lawrence</li> <li>Lachlan Barrett</li> <li>Lachlan Callum</li> <li>Hamish Needham</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oliver Bryans</li> <li>Oliver Thornton</li> <li>Gus Rossi</li> <li>Harry Blackmore</li> </ul> |

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE

# BOARDERS' BASH

## SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

2.15PM | 1ST XV VS GREGORY TERRACE ON ROSS OVAL  
3.30PM TO 7.30PM | BOARDERS' BASH IN EDMUND RICE MALL

ALL  
WELCOME!

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE

### BOARDERS' BASH



HOSTED BY THE BOARDING PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Join the Nudgees College Boarding community for post-game food and refreshments. All players, families and staff of both schools are welcome to attend.

[www.nudgees.com](http://www.nudgees.com)

[schoolspiritacademicspiritssportingspiritcommunityspirit](#)



# BOARDING BROTHERS' BOND OVER BAT AND BALL

MR DUANE RANGER

Year 12 student Jye began boarding at St Joseph's Nudgee College in 2018, while Year 10 student Max began at the beginning of this year.

"We knew about the reputation that Nudgee College had both academically and on the sports field," Jye said.

"I visited here for cricket a few years ago and was impressed."

Jye and Max have excelled at cricket since their early primary school days, largely thanks to their 'cricket mad' and supportive mum Lauren.

"Mum has always loved cricket," Jye said.

Jye has been in the College's 1st XI Cricket squad for the past two years, while Max played in either the 10A or 10B sides this past season.

The Davies brothers said they are rapt to be part of the St Joseph's Nudgee

College Boarding family.

"It's everything we thought it would be," Jye said.

"The Cricket Academy is brilliant; the training is thorough and has very good communication."

Jye and Max Davies's love of cricket was put into perspective one dark night in February when their hometown of Townsville was hit by flooding.

"Mum was texting us and we felt helpless," Jye said.

"I remember it was a Sunday night and she was telling us that they had to evacuate our home because of the rising floods.

"I just wanted to go home and try and

be of some assistance, but we stayed in the Boarding House due to our parents' advice.

"Luckily we managed to salvage some of our belongings later on but the house was lost."

As a result of that tragedy Jye and Max's parents ended up relocating to Brisbane, but they will remain as boarders. The resilient brothers remain optimistic about their school experience.

"It's not hard to see why sportsmen and academics excel here at the College," Jye said.

"My younger brother and I want to make the most of it while we can."



# NEW FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR

MS TIFFANY LLOYD

Earlier this year, the St Joseph's Nudgee College's Foundation Board Chair Mr Danny O'Reilly decided to step down from the role.



Past parent Ms Carmel Nugent, who has a background in cultural policy, media and communications, was appointed as the new Nudgee College Foundation Board Chair at the AGM in March.

Carmel said the core mission for the Foundation was to build strong connections with existing and new relationships, as well as to reconnect with those who have lost touch.

"I'm enjoying working with a passionate Board, Foundation Manager and Old Boy community to continue nurturing the Nudgee College values of faith, courage, authenticity, community, excellence and justice," she said.

"More than anything I am enjoying working to find innovative ways to support Nudgee College's legacy of generosity and creating a stronger community that continues to build a happy and inclusive environment for everyone."

Throughout her career in strategic marketing and communications and digital transformation in both private

and public sectors, Carmel said her passion has been brand management.

"My favourite brands are RM Williams, Vegemite and last, but not least, St Joseph's Nudgee College," she said.

"All have stood the test of time, they all have a unique personality, they have a real, strong understanding and connection to their community and they exist to make a difference in people's lives."

As the mother of Old Boys Oliver Nugent (NC 2007–11) and Clancy Nugent (NC 2009–16), Carmel cherishes her time as a Nudgee College parent.

"Like many who have passed through the spirited Nudgee College community, now when I see the blue and white Nudgee College crest pop up in my news feed," she said, "I can't help but stop and recall so many happy days spent with my family and friends simply being part of something special."

"For me, individually, being part of the Foundation Board offers the chance to be part of something bigger and brighter, to give

something back and stay connected with the kind of community and world I want to live in; an inclusive giving community that makes a real difference to the people around them, past, present and future."

Highlighting the Foundation's recent investments, including the restoration of the Treacy Building, the Ross Oval Grandstand refurbishment, Tierney Auditorium, Purton Science Centre and Ed's Shed, Carmel said the Foundation was simply the vehicle to giving, and is built on the generosity of the far-reaching school community.

"These projects are only made possible because of the annual generosity of parents, and through the ongoing support of Nudgee College Old Boys," she said. "On behalf of the Foundation, I'd like to acknowledge the support it receives from so many and thank you for your very generous contributions."

"We have been, and always will be, a community that pays it forward; whether you wish to donate to the Jack Ross Bursary or invest in future-proofing educational facilities, every contribution makes a genuine difference in the life of our College, for this generation and the next and the next."

The College would like to thank Mr Danny O'Reilly for his years of service to the Foundation Board as a Director and as Chair.



*Carmel Nugent (centre) with Foundation Board members Chris Langton, Neil O'Hare, Saxon Mew and Peter Fullagar*

# FROM THE NUDGEES COLLEGE FOUNDATION

MR MARC ESICK

It has been a season of excitement for the Nudgee College Foundation as we entered 2019 with the launch of two new initiatives supporting the Jack Ross Bursary and the refurbishment of the Nudgee College Grandstand. While one focuses on changing the lives of young men, the other is the platform where nearly a century of memories have been made.

The Jack Ross Bursary is now supported by the 'Give Your Year Away' initiative, which provides the opportunity for our Nudgee College community to generously contribute varying amounts on a regular and ongoing basis. This annuity income is fundamental to the long term sustainability of an amazing gift: a Nudgee College education for a young man without the means to otherwise attend. Nudgee College Old Boys and parents of Nudgee College men know the value of their journey, and the Jack Ross Bursary seeks to provide this also for deserving applicants. You can contribute online via foundation.nudgee.com/gyya.

At the time of publication, we are mere moments from 'getting the keys back' to the Ross Oval Grandstand. It has been somewhat mesmerising watching the structure being pulled apart and put back together again over the past few months. The 1924 timber framework was stripped back, exposing the somewhat forgotten change rooms, once but no longer secretive handwritten personal messages, and a very large old tree stump.

This journey has been made more special through the opportunity for our Nudgee College community to not only assist in funding the refurbishment, but to also have personalised messages in the

Grandstand. Holding so many wonderful memories, the 'Grandstand Seat Plaque' initiative is moving the community back into the seating area of the grandstand, bringing those memories back to life and sharing them with our community. If you would like to ensure your memories are secured in the grandstand, you can donate at [trybooking.com/YUJX](http://trybooking.com/YUJX).

It has been an exciting period of time for our community and the Foundation, and I wish to extend gratitude to the community for contributing so generously and being part of what I believe is a truly special family.

**GIVE YOUR YEAR AWAY** | IN SUPPORT OF  
**THE JACK ROSS BURSARY**

Foundation enquiries can be directed to Foundation Manager  
Mr Marc Eslick at [foundation@nudgee.qld.edu.au](mailto:foundation@nudgee.qld.edu.au)



*Foundation*  
ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE

## PORTAL TO THE PAST: NUDGEE COLLEGE'S FIRST DAY BOY

MR JOHN SAYER

### GILBERT WILLIAM JOSEPH JOHN BENNETT (NC 1925-26)

**BORN:** 7 MAY 1909  
**DIED:** 2 MAY 1981  
**FATHER:** GILBERT ARTHUR GEORGE BENNETT (1882-1959)  
**MOTHER:** MARGARET MARY CAREW  
**GRANDFATHER:** WILLIAM BENNETT (1840-1928)

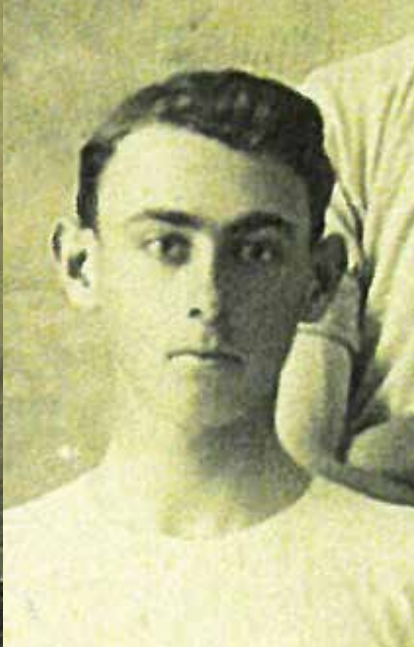


On 2 February 1925, Gil Bennett walked to school at St Joseph's Nudgee College across the back paddocks from his home in Pamir Street, Nudgee. He would have crossed the creek at the old bridge (new back then) and strolled up the avenue past where the cattle yards are located now. There may well have been crops growing in the paddocks. The old family home is still there.

The quiet history he was making was that he was the first, or very close to the first, day boy at Nudgee College.

The school register records that on that particular day, his parents were charged £3/3/- for tuition fees for that term, and then on 13 April the same fee again was charged but this time there was an additional charge for books of 24/6 and a fee for his hatband of 5/6 – the grand total being £1/10/-.

John Cameron, from North Arm via Coraki in New South Wales, was admitted on the same day as a boarder. His charges were £17/17/- for his entrance fee and tuition fees.



Above: Original Gil Bennett image (second row, first on the left).

Above right: Gil Bennett.

Right: 1926 1st XI (second row, first on the left).

Top right: Gil Bennett 75 Yards Centenary Handicap certificate.

Below left: Gil Bennett Running Broad Jump third place certificate 1924.

He was also charged £2/3/9 for his laundry fee, books and toiletries.

The records show that Gil started his secondary schooling at St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, and in 1924 he received a certificate from the Archdiocese of Brisbane acknowledging that he received a C grade with a result 68.6 per cent in Christian Doctrine. I find that 0.6 of a per cent to be very intriguing as it probably would cause a conniption somewhere today.

The year of 1924 was an historic year for the City of Brisbane as it was the 100th anniversary of the 'discovery' of the Brisbane River by Lieutenant John Oxley. Gil participated in a 75 yards Centenary

Handicap in the Under 18 category.

Gil was developing a love of Athletics and, in that same year – 1924, he placed third in the Broad Jump.

Gil embraced life at Nudgee College with gusto and became a key member of the College's 1st XI Cricket side in 1925 and 1926.

He was backing up for a third year in 1927 when the records show that Br J C Ryan (of Ryan Hall subsequent fame) wrote a reference for Gil that confirmed he had attended Nudgee College for the past two and a half years; that his conduct had been excellent; that he had passed the Junior examinations of 1926; that

he had commenced studies for the Senior University examinations; that he had taken a keen interest in the sporting activities of his school; and that he represented his school in the usual competitions among the Secondary Schools. Br Ryan concluded by vouching for Gil as an exceptionally conscientious and painstaking youth who would give complete satisfaction to those placed over him.

Gil became an Old Boy of Nudgee College in April of 1927. The College 1st XI lost a very handy all-rounder and a wonderful young man, and Nudgee College's reputation as a nursery for exceptional young men was enhanced.





# NC SNAPSHOT





*Top left: On Saturday 27 July, the Nudgee College 1st XV will take on Brisbane State High School at Suncorp Stadium as the curtain-raiser for the Australia versus Argentina Test.*

*Below left: Several Year 10 Agricultural Science students have entered a sunflower growing competition through the University of Queensland. The boys conducted research into the best growing conditions and, with some help from the compost made by the Nudgee College Veggie Garden, produced some beautiful flowers. The results will be released in November.*

*Above: In May, 10 students competed in the Great Wheelbarrow Race, which saw them push an empty wheelbarrow 140km along 'Wheelbarrow Way' between Mareeba and Chillagoe. The team crossed the line victorious in first place with a time of just over six hours and 51 minutes. Their efforts raised \$10,000 for the Townsville Flood Appeal.*

*Below: In June a group of students and staff completed the Ration Challenge, where what they ate and drank mirrored what a Syrian refugee living in a camp in Jordan would consume. This fundraiser coincided with World Refugee Week, and helped provide food rations, medicine and education to refugees living in camps.*





How can we use AI/ML to create more sustainable community?

Above: On Friday 7 June, the Year 9 STEAM class visited The Precinct (known as an innovation hub for Queensland), as part of their unit on Artificial Intelligence. The excursion saw the students work with experts in the field to experience real world scenarios dealing with data, machine learning, design thinking and problem solving.

Below left: Year 11 student Sam Schimming has successfully auditioned for a place in the National Youth Wind Ensemble of Scotland (NYWES). This is as a result of his selection for the Australian Honours Ensemble Program last year and his involvement with the Young Conservatorium in Brisbane.

Below: Year 11 student Joshua Price has successfully auditioned for two theatre opportunities – the Young Artist Company for 2019 with La Boite Theatre Company, as well as the 2019 Harvest Rain Emerging Young Artists Program.



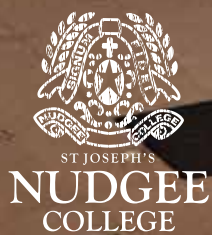


*Above: On Tuesday 19 March, several students shaved or coloured their hair to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave. Together they raised more than \$11,000.*

*Below: To manage our waste in a more sustainable way, on Thursday 14 February the College's Sustainability Committee held a waste audit. For this, students sorted through rubbish and collected data on four items: recyclables, compostable food, general waste, as well as containers that can be refunded through the Containers for Change Program.*



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# NC EVENTS

*College Anzac Ceremony.*



## ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony

This year's College ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony, held the day before on Wednesday 24 April, underwent a change of venue, moving from its traditional Ross Oval location to the Christian Brothers' Conference Centre due to wet weather.

Staff, students, Old Boys, parents and the wider community gathered for the service, which featured Old Boy Mr Kieran McCarthy (NC 1979-83) as the guest speaker. As well as being a highly regarded lawyer, Kieran has expertise as a European battlefield guide. He shared very insightful reflections on three Nudgee College Old Boys, their military service and the notion of the common good.

Principal Mr Peter Fullagar said, as always, the ceremony was given complete respect, with the boys engaged in dignified silence.

The ceremony featured laying of wreaths, poppies and crosses, and concluded with special guests exiting the venue through a guard of honour formed by the Year 12 students.

Lest we forget.

*Left: Kieran McCarthy at the College Anzac Ceremony.*

*Below: Owen Mitchell at the College Anzac Ceremony.*





## Edmund Rice Liturgy

Sunday 5 May was the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice, and to commemorate this occasion, a liturgy was held on Tuesday 7 May on Wilkes Oval.

Fr John Gillen presided over the afternoon liturgy, which featured an address by Principal Mr Peter Fullagar about how we can answer the call of Edmund Rice by placing the needs of others above those of our own.

The sunny Wilkes Oval setting provided the perfect atmosphere for the community to reflect on the story of Blessed Edmund Rice.



## Br Vic Larkin Anniversary Liturgy

On Friday 7 June, the College community gathered on Wilkes Oval to remember and celebrate the life of Br Vic Larkin one year on from his passing.

Principal Mr Peter Fullagar delivered a poignant speech reflecting on Br Vic's character and his care for all people, particularly those less fortunate.

"By the measures of what is truly important, what has meaning, what gives our lives purpose in this world; Br Vic died an amazingly successful person," he said.

"Vic was universally loved; a priceless and rare quality.

"He never said a bad word about others and in truth I have never heard a bad word said about him."

*Main: Br Vic Larkin Anniversary Liturgy.*

*Below: Edmund Rice Liturgy.*

*Below right: Slone Mohenoa and liturgical singers at Br Vic Larkin Anniversary Liturgy.*

The College's liturgical singers performed a moving acapella version of 'Amazing Grace' to a silent and reflective audience.

Several Christian Brothers as well as recent Old Boys also attended to remember Br Vic.

"I know that Br Vic was honoured magnificently here last year and this liturgy is one that I hope will continue for many years to come," Peter said.

"But we should not just honour Br Vic on one day of the year.

"For those of you who knew him personally I hope that you will always remember him and that in the years to come you will tell others of your memories of Br Vic."





## Evening on the Green

More than 170 people joined the Boarding community for the second annual Evening on the Green.

Guests gathered under the Learning Centre undercroft for the function, allowing easy viewing of the Inter-dorm Touch Competition taking place on Wilkes Oval. Murphy House took home the Division 1 trophy, while Hodda House emerged victorious as the Division 2 champion.

There was also an Inter-dorm Basketball Competition on the Mt Sion Courts, with Murphy House again taking the title.

Thank you to the Boarding Parent Support Group for their organisation of this event.

*Left: Ethan Irvine, Brad Irvine, Angie Irvine, Elliott Shepherd and Rina Shepherd at Evening on the Green.*



## Easter Morning Tea

Spring came early this year with a 'garden party' for the annual Ladies' Auxiliary Easter Morning Tea.

On Thursday 4 April current mothers, past mothers and friends enjoyed a grazing table morning tea in the Christian Brothers' Conference Centre to mark the end of Term 1 and celebrate the Easter Season.

The event also supported Friends

With Dignity, a charity that provides programs to assist survivors of domestic violence, in collaboration with refuge and crisis centres. Guests were invited to donate linen, books, toys and electrical goods to support this cause.

Thank you to the Ladies' Auxiliary for their organisation of this event.

*Left: Easter Morning Tea.*

# Commencement Mass and Senior Investiture

On Friday 8 February, the College community offered their blessings to the 2019 Seniors through the Commencement Mass and Senior Investiture in the Christian Brothers' Conference Centre.

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Bishop of Townsville Timothy Harris (NC 1976-80) was to celebrate the Mass; however he was unable to attend due to flooding in Townsville. Thank you to Fr John Gillen for stepping in for this important occasion.

Each year the College invites a special guest speaker to inspire the students and wider community. This year past parent and Principal of St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School Ms Toni Riordan (also featured on page eight of this edition) fulfilled that duty.

"I encourage you to work on knowing

who you really are," she said.

"Be open to what your school and the adults in it can teach you about yourself."

2019 College Captain Hayden Bygott delivered an inspiring speech of his own while unveiling the Senior motto.

"Collectively, we believe that those within our College community, and those beyond its gates, deserve opportunities too," he said.

"We believe that we all play a role in making the world a better place.

We believe that we must lead positive change, and not wait for others to do so.

In 2019, we endeavour to use the power of our collective voices to articulate these beliefs, which is why this year, the Seniors of 2019 have chosen the motto, 'be the voice, not the echo'."

At the end of the Mass the Year 12s were presented with Senior badges, officially marking the beginning of their final year of school.

*Left: Commencement Mass and Senior Investiture.*

## Open Day

The Federal Election didn't stop thousands of people visiting the College on Saturday 18 May for the College's biggest Open Day, as well as GPS Football and Tennis home games. From 10.00am to 2.00pm, guests enjoyed student-led tours, barbecues, music performances, science experiments, robotics demonstrations, giant chess games, and much more.

Various parent support groups at the College set up displays under a large marquee in Edmund Rice Mall, allowing prospective families the opportunity to chat to current parents.

There was a Q&A session in Tierney Auditorium, where guests could direct questions to key members of the College community. The auditorium also hosted a trade show-style exhibition of various academic subjects.

The College will also be holding an Open Morning on Tuesday 13 August to allow prospective families to experience a regular school day at the College. Register to attend at [www.nudgee.com](http://www.nudgee.com).

*Right: Year 10 student Shannen Gerard Solker greeting guests at Open Day.*



# DIMENSIONS ARTS FESTIVAL NUDGEE COLLEGE

## OPENING NIGHT GALA

The St Joseph's Nudgee College Arts Committee warmly invites you to join us for the 2019 Dimensions Art Festival Opening Night Gala.

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2019

7.00PM

THEATRE AUDITORIUM  
OF NUDGEE COLLEGE

Enjoy an evening of fine food and wine, lady-dinner plans and entertainment from the exceptionally talented performers from the talented future actors, artists and musicians.

TICKETS

**\$65.00** PER PERSON

INCLUDES A FINE DINNER AND  
ENTERTAINMENT

**BOOKING INFORMATION**

ARTS COMMITTEE  
**RAFFLE  
TICKETS**

**1ST PRIZE**

**10000**

PRIZE DRAW ON **2020-2021**

NUDGEE COLLEGE THEATRE FOR  
PERFORMERS AND SUPPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 2019

**2ND \$10000 CASH**



BY PHONE 08 9477 1111

BOOK 1 SEPTEMBER 2019-2020 | BOOKING 2 SEPTEMBER 2019-2020 | BOOKING 3 SEPTEMBER 2019-2020



## Walk For Edmund

Previously titled the Walk to the Philippines, this event, held on the last day of Term 2, raised significant funds for the Edmund Rice Foundation to support sustainable community-based education programs and projects for marginalised and disadvantaged communities around the world.

The walk saw students from Years 5 to 11 journey from Wilkes Oval to the Boondall Wetlands and back.

The event raised more than \$40,000.



## MUSIC

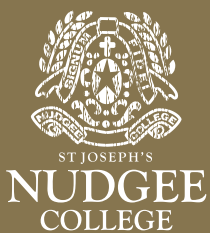
### GPS SHOWCASE

On Monday 18 February, nine Nudgee College musicians participated in the 2019 GPS Music Showcase. This involved a day of rehearsing with their fellow musicians from the eight other GPS schools and culminated in a concert that evening at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC).

Well done to the following students who were selected to be part of the showcase:

- Latham Angove (Year 8, Choir)
- Michael La Monaca (Year 8, Choir)
- Spencer Williams (Year 8, Choir)
- Janindu Edirisinghe (Year 9, Choir)
- Zachary Manitta (Year 10, Concert Band)
- William McLean (Year 10, Concert Band)
- Samuel Schimming (Year 11, Orchestra)
- Marcus Cutuli (Year 12, Orchestra)
- Benjamin Rohan (Year 12, Concert Band)

*Right: Zachary Manitta and William McLean.*



# NC ACTIVITIES



**CRICKET****SRI LANKA TOUR**

In early December, 30 Nudgee College cricketers and four staff headed to Sri Lanka for a two week tour. Cricket Director Mr Tim Lang said each boy learnt a substantial amount about themselves and the way cricket is played in Sri Lanka.

"The opportunity for the boys to play at test playing venues such as Pallekele Stadium, Kandy and Galle International Stadium was a highlight for me," he said.

In addition to their efforts on the field, the boys also had the opportunity to visit the Foundation of Goodness in Hikkaduwa. There, they provided a two hour coaching clinic to 37 children.

"The smiles on their faces will be a memory that will last with me forever," Tim said.

The tour group also managed to do some sightseeing of some of Sri Lanka's most famous places, including the Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage and the Temple of the Tooth.

**GPS SEASON**

Thirty-one teams competed for Nudgee College during the 2019 GPS Cricket season, which was officially launched with the famous 1st XI versus Bulls Masters T20 match on Friday 8 February.

The 1st XI got off to a great start, with two early wins on the hallowed turf of Ross Oval against The Southport School and Brisbane State High School. The following two matches also produced wins versus St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace and Ipswich Grammar School before the boys faced defeat at the hands of Toowoomba Grammar School on their home ground. In Round 7 following

the bye, the boys played a home game on Allan Border Field in Albion, as the early stages of the grandstand refurbishment deemed Ross Oval unavailable. The boys were defeated in this match; however they saw a resurgence at the end of the season with Round 8 and 9 victories against Brisbane Boys' College and Anglican Church Grammar School.

Cricket Director Mr Tim Lang said the season saw many highlights, including 1st XI batsman Connor Carroll hitting 30 sixes during the season.

"Eight rounds of highly competitive cricket were played with many individual and team highlights taking place each Saturday," he said.

"The pride our boys display when playing for Nudgee College is truly astonishing and proves just how special this school is to our boys and coaching staff."



*Sri Lanka Cricket Tour*



Left: Elfie Piper.

Above: Thomas Hansson.

Below: Charles Dallimore and Saw Kewley accepting the Junior Cross Country Shield with ACGS.



## CROSS COUNTRY

### GPS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The highly anticipated GPS Cross Country Championships were held on Wednesday 29 May at Limestone Park in Ipswich.

The day kicked off with the Junior competition. The 10 year olds got the blue and white off to a great start, with six point scorers earning the age group second place. The trend continued as the 11 year olds crossed the finish-line to score another second place. A determined Elfie Piper managed an outstanding third place after he overtook the runner in front of him within the last 100 metres. The final Junior race – the 12 year olds – proved crucial. Year 6

runner Angus Durkin ran a great race to take out third place. Several other runners also contributed to Nudgee College's 10 point gain in this race, which ultimately resulted in an overall victory. This championship win, which was shared with Anglican Church Grammar School, was the fifth in a row for the Junior GPS team.

The first race of the Senior competition – the 13 year olds – started just minutes after the Junior presentation ceremony. This strong group of runners scored the College eight points and finished second place in the age group. The 14 year old boys faced a particularly competitive field. They raced admirably, particularly the College's first runner in Byron Cason, who completed the 4km track in 15

minutes. The 15 year old boys' 4km event was another highly anticipated one for the team. The College's top six had all crossed the finish-line by 22nd place to secure the age group second place. The next race jumped up to 6km for the 16 year old boys. The College's first runner in Lachlan Hill-Lewis had a great race, as did Leo De Clara who ran with a smile on his face, even as he bolted up 'Heartbreak Hill'. Twenty-six boys contested the final race – the Open 6km. Ethan Irvine was the first runner in for the blue and white, with the following five Nudgee College competitors crossing the finish-line within the next 30 seconds.

After a great day of running, the Nudgee College Senior team finished the GPS Championships in fourth place.





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Top: Cooper Skerry.  
Far left: Sigi Beschel.  
Above: Jacob Krayem.

## FOOTBALL

### GPS SEASON

It has been another massive season of Football at Nudgee College. Football Director Mr Jamie Pybus said the announcement of the ground-breaking partnership with Champions League finalists Tottenham Hotspur signalled an exciting start to the term.

"We welcomed Tottenham and England legend Ledley King to the College in March along with three other representatives from the club," he said.

"Coach Matheus Scapin joined us directly from London and worked across the Football Program in Term 2, giving great value to players, coaches and parents."

With the new Tottenham Hotspur partnership, the 2019 GPS Football season was highly anticipated. However, pre-season and early season injuries seemed to plague the 1st XI squad, resulting in a tough few months.

The team suffered a Round 1 loss against The Southport School, followed by two draws against Brisbane State High School and St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace.

The subsequent rounds saw a few more losses before the team drew with Brisbane Grammar School in a home game match.

The team's first win of the season came in Round 8 with an exciting 1-2 win on Brisbane Boys' College's

home ground. This win appeared to energise the boys, as the highlight of the season came in the final round when they tied 1-1 with eventual Premiers Anglican Church Grammar School.

At season's end the 1st XI finished in seventh place on the ladder.

Despite a difficult season for the 1st XI, Jamie said overall Nudgee College is now the largest program in GPS Football.

"Results in the A teams were number one in the GPS," he said.

"With the Tottenham partnership reaching well into 2020 and most likely beyond, it is certainly an exciting time for Football at the College."





Lachlan Gilbert.



Thomas Connellan.



Thomas Raymond.

## SWIMMING

### AUSTRALIAN AGE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

After the success of the GPS Swimming Championships in March, the Nudgee College swimmers had high expectations heading into the Australian Age Swimming Championships. Held at the South Australian Aquatic Centre in Adelaide in April, the blue and white swimmers certainly did not disappoint.

Year 12 swimmer Lachlan Gilbert swam a fantastic 100m breaststroke to earn a silver medal on day two, and backed up his efforts on day four to take home another silver in the 200m breaststroke.

Year 9 swimmer Thomas Connellan also performed well on day two with a bronze medal swim in the 400m freestyle. Thomas, however, saved his best swim for last, with an incredible 200m freestyle performance that resulted in a gold medal win on day six.

Year 11 swimmer Thomas Raymond excelled on day three with an outstanding 800m freestyle swim that earned him a silver medal. He also didn't disappoint on day six, swimming a strong 1500m freestyle to pick up a second silver.

Overall the Nudgee College Swimming Club finished in seventh position, earning the title of the top GPS school club at the competition, as well as the third ranked Queensland club.

## TENNIS

### TENNISGEAR PARTNERSHIP

There are some exciting changes happening in the world of Nudgee College Tennis in 2019, with the formation of a new partnership with tennis provider TennisGear. As part of the partnership, TennisGear will coach and manage our GPS Tennis Program through an extensive Term 1 pre-season and Term 2 competition season program each year.

TennisGear have also taken on board the management of the Nudgee Tennis Centre, with professional coaching available five days per week and a full suite of programs for all levels, including Hot Shots Tennis, squad lessons, private lessons, social tennis and competitions.

Find out more at [www.nudgegetenniscentre.com.au](http://www.nudgegetenniscentre.com.au).

### GPS SEASON

The 2019 GPS Tennis season began with pre-season training in Term 1 and two camps during the April school holidays. Round 1 saw mixed results, with 11 wins out of 21 games and a loss for the 1st IV. The following round suffered bad weather, resulting in several games being rained out and a draw for the 1st IV. After another loss in Round 3 to St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, the 1st IV managed to turn things around and produce two good wins in the following weeks against Ipswich Grammar School and Toowoomba Grammar School. The Nudgee College Tennis Age Championships were held

the following week, which is an elimination-style competition with an additional consolation draw. Congratulations to the following Age Champions:

- Year 5: Spencer Green
- Year 6: Finlay Hansen
- Year 7: Leo Fraser
- Year 8: Padraic Townsend
- Year 9: Desmond Cowley
- Year 10: Declan Townsend
- Year 11: James Hong
- Open: Declan Townsend

The final three rounds saw two losses and a win for the 1st IV, resulting in an equal fifth place finish on the ladder with Brisbane State High School.

Right: Alec Reverente.









*Oliver Meyer, Isaac Roati and Hayden Bygott.*



## DEBATING

### GPS SEASON

This year the profile of GPS Debating has certainly been raised, with a packed house in Tierney Auditorium for the Senior A debate against St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace. Although they didn't win this Round 2 debate, Captain of Debating Isaac Roati said it was one of the most memorable debates he had experienced.

The Senior A team of Hayden Bygott, Patrick Glass, Oliver Meyer and Isaac delivered arguments and rebuttals with enthusiasm and conviction this

season. The boys enjoyed an early win versus Brisbane Boys' College. They also caused an upset when they defeated Anglican Church Grammar School, who were at the top of the ladder at the time, by arguing against the notion that non-government members of parliament should be paid more than government MPs.

The team finished equal seventh with Brisbane Boys' College; however this will not be how this season will be remembered. It will be remembered for that debate against Gregory Terrace, or as it is now known, 'the night the grandstand came to Tierney'.



**VOLLEYBALL**

**GPS SEASON**

The Nudgee College 1st VI started strong in the 2019 GPS season, with a Round 1 victory against Ipswich Grammar School. Round 2 was a highlight of the season, with the 1st VI securing a thrilling win against a Brisbane Grammar School team that Nudgee College hadn't defeated in more than 15 years. The team was down 0-2 going into the third set, but the boys dug deep and came out on top, securing a 3-2 win.

The following two rounds saw 3-0 losses before the 1st VI turned the defeats around with a Round 5 victory versus Brisbane State High School. An away game in Round 6 against St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace ended in another loss. However, the boys didn't let that get them down and managed a tough victory over Toowoomba Grammar School in the final round, winning 3-2, and ultimately finished fourth on the GPS ladder.

**ROWING**

**AUSTRALIAN OPEN SCHOOLS ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Nudgee College 1st VIII barely had a chance to celebrate their GPS Head of the River victory before they were on a plane heading to Sydney for the Australian Open Schools Rowing Championships.

The boys competed in their heat on Thursday 28 March, finishing in second place. They progressed to the Semi Final on the Saturday, and again earnt another second placing and a spot in the A Final on the Sunday. The boys were up against some of the best schoolboy crews in the country; however they fought hard and crossed the line in third place.

Year 12 rower Daniel Webb also competed in the Schoolboy's Single Scull and finished fifth in the B Final.



Far left: Joe Williams.  
Below: 1st VIII at the Australian Open Schools Rowing Championships.



Main: Fr John Sherman at the St Joseph's Day Mass.

Left: Peter Fullagar, Fr John Sherman and Vince Rao.

# NC OLD BOYS



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## NCOPA President's Message

I am pleased to announce that our Executive has recently conducted some worthwhile planning, so that our program of events, activities and reunions are the best they can be going forward. Our thanks to Mr Peter Fullagar, Mr Peter Todd, Ms Clare Nugent, Ms Erina Hitchings and the whole team at the College for their ongoing assistance with this planning. In particular, we are pleased to be locking in some great concepts around regional visits so that the College, Old Boys and the overall St Joseph's Nudgee College family are working together to maximise such worthwhile engagement.

I want to thank all those who have worked so hard on the upcoming Old Boys' Reunion Weekend on

Saturday 3 August (featuring the legendary Nudgee College versus Gregory Terrace home game), and to remind Old Boys of the importance of the Senior Old Boys' Reunion and Mass to be held at the College on Saturday 17 August (thanks to Mr Vince Rao for his coordination of this event).

This year we are also holding our annual Friday Night CBD Drinks at the Port Office Hotel from 5.30pm on Friday 13 September, where we are broadening the concept to include a brief panel discussion with some Old Boy leaders of industry, trades and commerce. Through this event, we hope to continue facilitating useful connections for those at different stages of life, whether they're recent graduates or experts in their industry.

Thanks to Secretary Mr Tony Gleeson for coordinating.

Please also keep an eye out for the annual College-based Mentoring Breakfast in October, where Year 11 students meet and discuss career ideas with experienced Old Boys. Thanks to Vice President Mr Andrew McNamara for coordinating.

As always, I wish to remind all Old Boys to keep their contact details updated via [www.ncoba.com.au](http://www.ncoba.com.au), and to keep supporting our events and activities. It is an honour to serve as the NCOPA President, and I wish you all a very successful second half of the year.

**MR HUGH HAMILTON**

*NCOPA President*

## A True Sign of Faith

At the College's annual Feast Day of St Joseph Mass on Tuesday 19 March, Fr John Sherman OMI (NC 1951-54) was presented with a Signum Fidei Award, which recognised his outstanding service to Catholic education over many years.

Many of his family and Old Boy friends attended the Mass and joined the College for morning tea to mark the occasion.

Fr John was born in Ayr, North Queensland in 1936, but spent his childhood living in Brisbane. He received primary education mainly at St Joseph's Convent School, Nundah and secondary education at St Joseph's College, Nudgee as a boarder.

Fr John's passion for learning is evident through his extensive academic qualifications. He completed Philosophy and Theological studies at St Joseph's Oblate Scholasticate, Cedara in South Africa, a Bachelor of Arts at the University of South Africa, a Diploma of Education at the University of Queensland, and a Master of Educational Studies at Monash University.

In February 1958 Fr John joined the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and was ordained a Priest at Pietermaritzburg, South Africa in 1965 by Archbishop Denis Hurley OMI.

For 54 years Fr John has served the church in many roles, including

teacher, Rector, Principal and Chaplain. He was also the Provincial of the Australian/China Province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate for six years, a member of the Oblate International Investment Pool for 13 years, and Parish Priest of Fremantle in Western Australia for seven years.

Currently, Fr John lives in Melbourne at Mazenod College. He is the Vice Rector and Chaplain, Coordinator of Vocations and in the role of Director of Oblate Missions overseas. He also spends a week each month in either Iona College in Queensland or Mazenod College in Perth, where he is on the Board of Governance.

**MS TIFFANY LLOYD**



Left: Bob Gordon.

Right: Sandy Kidd.

## OLD BOY RECEIVES KEY TO THE COAST

For more than 50 years, Old Boy Bob Gordon (NC 1954–59) has been a formidable figure in the media industry, being at the forefront of ground-breaking stories that have marked significant moments in time.

Although Bob got his start in television, it was the world of print where he truly made his mark. For 17 years Bob worked at the Canberra Times, where he held the position of Chief of Staff, before returning to Brisbane in 1986 to take on the same role at Queensland's Courier Mail. It was during this time that Bob and a young reporter, Phil Dickie, worked on breaking stories of illegal casinos and brothels, which led to one of the most famous investigations into corruption in Queensland – the Fitzgerald Inquiry.

"It was one of the most exciting times in my career and what it led to was extraordinary," Bob said.

Following his stint at the Courier Mail, Bob became the Editor of the Sunday Mail. In 1997 he was then appointed Editor of the Gold Coast Bulletin, where he ended his career, retiring in 2009.

On 31 March this year, Bob was honoured for his significant contribution to the Gold Coast by being given the Key to The City.

As a St Joseph's Nudgee College student, Bob was a distance runner and, by his own admission, a bit mischievous.

"I spent a bit of time in detention," he said. "Looking back, they were great years, and I have a lot of admiration for the Christian Brothers who ran the school at the time."

Bob's family connections to Nudgee College are deeply entrenched. His great-uncle Angus Gordon attended the College in its early days in the late 1800s. Bob's father Henry Gordon was at the College in the 1930s and was a talented athlete, excelling particularly in Boxing, Swimming and Rugby. Bob also has an uncle, a brother, two sons and a nephew who have formed part of the longstanding Gordon generational connection to the College.

To this day, Bob is still passionate about the blue and white, attending last year's final round 1st XV home game versus The Southport School with his lifelong friend and fellow Old Boy Bernard Power (NC 1955–59).

**MS TIFFANY LLOYD**

## VALE SANDY KIDD

*Reproduced from Queensland Country Life (22 March 2019)*

He was the quintessential Channel Country cattleman – generous to a fault, taking no prisoners when a southern politician came to town, a raconteur and a creative cook – these are some of the ways that Sandy Kidd is being remembered following the news of his passing.

His love of flying and his dexterity in the cockpit are the stuff of legends.

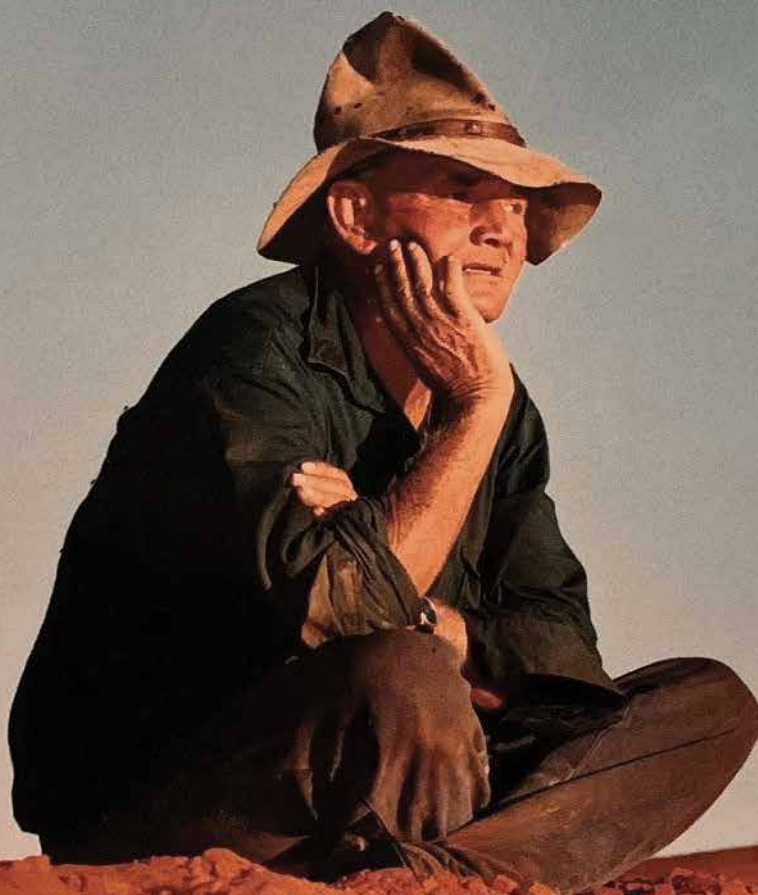
James Alexander 'Sandy' Kidd, the son of Jim and Mary Kidd, was born in Brisbane on 21 January 1940, but spent the vast majority of his life among the beloved channels he was to call home.

His early homes were at Currawilla and Hammond Downs, which his parents managed, before settling at the family property, Mayfield, now known as Ourdel.

Sandy was sent to Nudgee College for school in 1949 as a nine year old, possibly when governesses lost patience with him, returning west when he was 15.

It was at the age of 22 that he got his pilot's licence. His own aeroplane, the instantly recognisable Cessna 172





with the registration KJA, followed in 1962.

For the next 40 years, Sandy piloted his aircraft on countless town and property resupplies, mercy dashes and search and rescues in Queensland's south west, in between aerial mustering work.

One of those who owed his life to Sandy's skill and goodwill was Ken Ballinger Snr, who was critically ill with peritonitis during the 1963 floods.

Using his 172's manual flaps to their full extent, Sandy landed on the only sandhill exposed in the floodwaters on Jedburgh Station, south of Yaraka, to take Ken to urgent medical attention.

It was for this work and his endless bounty of goodwill that saw the Channel Country gentleman awarded the British Empire Medal.

"He resupplied Windorah since he had a plane," Barcoo Shire Council mayor Bruce Scott recalled. "He never faltered; you didn't even have to make a call."

And not once did he ask for payment for any of his community service.

It was during the 1963 flood that Sandy saw how cattle caught in the channels responded to an aeroplane

overhead, which started him down the aerial mustering path.

He added to his knowledge by mustering in the Northern Territory in the 1970s, recognised by the RAAF when they employed him to teach their pilots how to navigate in featureless country.

Dr Ian Marshall (NC 1949-56), a Nudgee College schoolmate and the physician who undertook his medical examinations for his pilot's licence, said he didn't know how many lives the meticulous pilot saved.

"He was an official agent for the Civil Aviation Authority. Any pilot lost out there would be in radio contact with air traffic control in Brisbane.

"They'd contact Jim who'd come in on his radio and ask their height, their compass setting, and where the sun was, and he'd tell them where to turn to find the town they needed.

"He just knew that country like the back of his hand."

That deep love was evident in his battle for the Cooper when a group planned to irrigate for cotton at Currareva.

His gravelly voice was the spokesman for the people opposed to the plan, and he felt so strongly about the issue

that he stood for state parliament as an independent, giving the sitting Member a run for his money.

"He was so passionate about maintaining the integrity of Channel Country rivers remaining natural, to support the cattle industry and the environment," Bruce Scott said.

"To his credit, he could see what had happened to other river systems that had been over-allocated.

"He didn't pull any punches. He was a bush character who was a natural magnet for people."

His appearance, sometimes going straight from work in the cattle yards to a meeting to advocate for one of his passions, could be deceptive, which urban negotiators discovered to their peril.

His sharp recall of words and events quickly taught them not to take him lightly.

Some have said while he had a rough exterior, he did a whole lot more for the bush than many people in a suit and tie.

The future of the region and its young people were his other strong concern and he was not afraid to tell it like it was for the benefit of kids in the bush.

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION INC.

# ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS



## SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2019

7.30AM MASS AT THE COLLEGE CHAPEL | FOLLOWED BY BREAKFAST IN THE BOARDERS' DINING ROOM

*The Nudgees College Old Boys' Association Inc. request the honour of your presence at their Annual Memorial Mass*

This event is to celebrate the lives of deceased Christian Brothers, Nudgees College Old Boys and members of the Nudgees College family. This is a Nudgees College community event hosted by the Nudgees College Old Boys' Association Inc.



[www.ncoba.com.au](http://www.ncoba.com.au)



**GOLD COIN DONATION TOWARDS THE JACK ROSS BURSARY**

**RSVP ONLINE AT [NCoba.com.au](http://NCoba.com.au)**

Confirmation of your attendance is requested  
by Friday 18 October 2019

**FOR FURTHER QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT**  
[oldboys@ncoba.com.au](mailto:oldboys@ncoba.com.au) or call 07 3865 0316

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Dean Morcom (above left and far right).

He invested much of his time in the Priority Country Area Program, fighting for needs such as the troop carriers, and the annual Windorah Sports Camp for his 'desert kids', and was a local ICPA member.

He also served on the Barcoo Shire Council, convincing various politicians of the need for bitumen to extend west towards Bedourie.

Mr Scott said Sandy was sorely missed when he reluctantly left the Channel Country eight years ago.

Diagnosed with dementia, he went to live with his son Tom (NC 1979-81) and wife Jane at Tabletop Station at Croydon, while his wife Anne needed medical attention in Brisbane.

Sandy moved to a nursing home in Brisbane in February and had just turned 79 when he passed away.

He is survived by his wife Anne, his sister Margaret Shaw, his children Tom, James Jnr 'Dude' (NC 1983-85), Catherine, Denise and Helen, and 20 grandchildren.

#### MS SALLY CRIPPS

#### OLD BOY ON TOUR

For more than a decade now, Old Boy Dean Morcom (NC 1996–2000) has been working with some of the biggest names in the Australian music industry. Dean is the Director of Dean Morcom Audio Pty Ltd, which was founded in 2015, and works as a Live Audio Engineer for events that have seen him tour with artists such as the Thundamentals, Allday, Mallrat, Steve Forde and Morgan Evans.

This year Dean was mixing sound for ARIA Award-winning hip-hop trio the Hilltop Hoods, who were touring with American rapper Eminem, and said it was an amazing experience.

"This was the biggest production, crowds and venues I'd ever seen in Australia and New Zealand," he said. "It was next level."

Dean's love of all things audio can be traced back to his days as a St Joseph's Nudgee College student.

"My teacher Mr Francis Douglas put me in front of a studio console [a sound mixer] and said there was music coming down one of the channels," he said.

"It took me 10 minutes to find the channel and fader, and then I was hooked for life."

In this highly competitive industry, Dean has the following advice for students interested in following his career path: set goals, work on your trade every day and keep learning on the job.

#### MS TIFFANY LLOYD

#### VALE 'ROCKY' DALLE CORT

Mr Victor Dalle Cort was born 20 March 1933 in Ayr, a son of an Italian migrant family, and was destined to become the first of nine Dalle Cort men to attend St Joseph's Nudgee College.

Victor's grandfather, Luigi Dalle Cort, migrated to Australia in 1921 with his only son, Alessandro 'Alex' Dalle Cort. The family were from Sorvira Provincia di Belluno, just north of Venice.

Alex's son, Victor, had a typical Australian childhood of the time, growing up on the family farm. He even rode his horse to the Airdmillan State School he attended. Later, he



Isi, Victor, Ross and John Dalle Cort.

was a student at Ayr State High School before he was sent to St Joseph's College, Nudgee (as it was known at the time). The first Dalle Cort to wear the blue and white had become one of the 10,000 brothers.

Mr Dalle Cort experienced many changes in his lifetime: from horse and cart to electronics and everything in between. He was a man of the land but also understood the value of a good education. Victor was fortunate that his father had a vision to send him to Nudgee College, despite the three days it took him to travel via steam train to Brisbane.

Legend has it that Victor was quite the sportsman at Nudgee College, as well as maintaining good grades. He was known for his boxing prowess, espousing the nickname 'Rocky'. With his good grades, he could have easily become a professional, but the land and his sugar cane farm beckoned.

After a short courtship, Victor married Narinda, the love of his life, in 1954 at the age of 21. They had eight children together, five boys and three girls.

Victor did not encourage his boys to

become farmers, instead he would remind them constantly how hard it was on the land and encourage them to keep studying. When they realised they would never be able to buy farms for their sons, Victor and Narinda committed to at least giving them a good education.

In the late 1970s and 1980s, sugar was booming and Victor and Narinda were able to send four of their boys to board at Nudgee College: Ross (NC 1973-76), Gildo (NC 1980-82), John (NC 1992-94) and Isidoro 'Isi' (NC 1979-81). Victor was proud that his boys were able to experience the same private Catholic education he had.

Ross's sons, Ryan (NC 1998-2000) and Jaron (NC 1999-2001), and Isi's sons, Jye (NC 2009-11) and Josh (NC 2013-16), also attended Nudgee College, with Isi's youngest son, Benn, currently in Year 11.

"Dad was always very proud of his Nudgee College heritage and wanted his sons and grandsons to experience that same pride," Isi said. "And, Dad, I think I can speak for all your sons and grandsons that we treasured every moment."

Victor celebrated his 86th birthday before passing away peacefully on 18 April 2019. He had lived in Townsville for six years with his beloved Narinda, but spent his last months at the city's Fairfield Grange Hospital. He is survived by his wife, his eight children, 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Victor is remembered for his generous contributions to the church in the township of Ayr, North Queensland. Vale Mr Victor 'Rocky' Dalle Cort. You will forever be remembered in the hearts of those blessed to know you.

### MS ERINA HITCHINGS





# BEHIND THE STRIPES

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE MAGAZINE



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