

BEHIND THE STRIPES

ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE MAGAZINE



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NUD GEE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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the land and waterways we now know as Nudgee.**

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear St Joseph's Nudgee College community,

The 15th edition of *Behind the Stripes* delves into stories about Year 7 and their first year at the College, our Boarding House Mothers, a recap of the Japanese Study Tour and more! As always, it's been a busy yet rewarding Semester for our students.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Ms Mishka Boath

Editor



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR SCOTT THOMSON

“There is nothing like looking, if you want to find something. You certainly usually find something, if you look, but it is not always quite the something you were after.”

J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*

After being named the 26th Principal of St Joseph's Nudgee College, I always knew that 2024 would be a year of learning and discovery. People who have been heavily involved in the operations of Nudgee College will often affectionately refer to it as a 'beast'. Any organisation with such a vast footprint, history, budget, reputation and number of staff, families and students will only exist successfully due to the evolution and development of intricate procedures, practices and habits. Nudgee College is a 'beast' that 'never sleeps' and has the ability to get the best out of people and warrant a great deal of love and affection.

During my first year as Principal, I knew there would be a lot to learn and 'find'. Whilst my much-loved and esteemed predecessor, Mr Peter Fullagar provided and carried out an extensive handover, there are so many unspoken elements that need to be lived to be understood. Hence, the relevance of Tolkien's quote to commence. A year of learning, but a wonderful year nonetheless.

Students, staff and Nudgee families had to spend 2024 learning to trust and understand a new way that the College existed. Having a new Principal after nine years, a new Acting Deputy Principal (Stephen Meara), a new Acting Dean of Mission and

Identity (Simon Lilley), a new Dean of Learning and Teaching (Suzie Tjin) and a new Dean of Operations (Jenny-Anne Price) meant that there were three new people on the College Leadership Team and five people in different roles. This was a major change following years of stability and it was identified by the team that building trust and confidence in our community was key. My hope is that this has occurred.

I have tried hard to ensure that I know, and am known to the Nudgee College community. There is so much that occurs at the school with a calendar that would struggle to be matched by any organisation. The demands on



staff are very high but ultimately very rewarding and I would like to thank the many hundreds of dedicated and skilled staff who ensure that Nudgee continues to be the place we know and love and deliver the opportunities and environment that see our boys thrive.

Within this edition of Behind the Stripes, you will read of the many highlights, achievements and recollections that have occurred in the previous semester. For me, the absolute highlight was witnessing a packed grandstand on Old Boys' Day against TSS singing the worship hymn 'O' Come to the Altar'. We are a Catholic school founded in the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice and to see over 1,000 students singing such a power hymn on a Saturday afternoon in such a public venue was quite inspiring.

As we move into 2025, one of the main focus areas will relate to ensuring the school has an aligned and collaboratively designed School Improvement Plan. This will be informed by our College Strategic Plan, community feedback and data that has been attained through the many different areas in the school. For a school like Nudgee College that does so well in so many areas, it is crucial that we are always looking for ways to refine practice so that our work is not harder, but smarter. The

improvement plan will include some key intended outcomes that relate to learning and teaching at Nudgee to ensure that our boys are provided the best opportunities and are reaching their potentials. In accordance with our Strategic Plan, financial stewardship and sustainability will be another key area of focus.

In parting, I would like to acknowledge and thank the many volunteers and benefactors who provide so much in the way of time or financial support to St Joseph's Nudgee College. Many of these generous people are acknowledged

in the back of this magazine. Such a big organisation cannot rely solely on the work of those employed to complete all tasks required, or the revenue generated through fees and government recurrent funding. Without this support, Nudgee College as we know it would not be operational in its current capacity.

I wish you all a fantastic end to 2024, a Christmas filled with joy, family and blessed times and I look forward to seeing many of our supporters around the College in 2025.



A group of approximately ten Year 7 students are posing in a hallway with vibrant red walls. They are dressed in casual attire, including plaid shirts, jeans, and various styles of sneakers. Some students are wearing baseball caps. The students are arranged in a loose line, looking towards the camera with expressions of confidence and excitement. The lighting is bright, highlighting the students and the rich color of the walls.

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YEAR 7

THEIR FIRST YEAR

.....

Starting Year 7 is a monumental milestone for students as they embark on their high school journey. The excitement and nervous anticipation of transitioning from Year 6 to Year 7 is a mix of new opportunities, challenges, and friendships waiting to be formed. For many, Year 7 represents a fresh start, with new subjects, new teachers and a bigger environment to navigate.

For our Nudgee College Year 7s, this is a year of growth, where our students begin to develop a greater sense of independence, learn to manage responsibilities, workloads and time, and start building the foundations for their future academic and social lives. At the College, our students thrive under the nurturing care of both House and pastoral support systems.

Dean of Students (Acting) Mr Sean Toovey said "each House functions like a family, fostering a sense of belonging, camaraderie, and of course, a healthy competition among its members. The pastoral support, on the other hand, ensures

that every student's emotional and spiritual wellbeing is attended to, creating a meaningful and purposeful environment for growth."

He continues on to say "there is an obvious transition from Year 6 to Year 7. The House system and core classes are a deliberate system aimed at building relationships and making that transition as smooth as possible. Additional programs such as camps and retreats serve as integral formation opportunities within this supportive structure. These experiences allow students to step away from the daily routine and immerse themselves in reflection,

team-building, and personal development. In these moments, they are not only encouraged to deepen their self-understanding but also to strengthen their relationships with peers, mentors, and the community at large. These experiences often ignite personal transformation, leaving students with lifelong memories and a clearer sense of purpose in line with our calling to be Signum Fidei - a 'Sign of Faith'."

We checked in with a few of our Year 7s, as they approach the end of their Year 7 journey.

How is Senior School different to Junior School?

Stephen: The Senior School is actually quite similar to the Junior School. There still are differences between them though. Most notably, students will find that they have to move to different classrooms in a short period of time and won't be able to come in their sports uniform for PE classes. Other than that, at least for Magee House, there aren't many discrepancies between the two; the homework doesn't actually change too much. A common misconception is that Year 7 and above homework is really tough compared to Junior School homework, Year 6 for example – it's really not.

Nate: Senior School isn't that different or difficult compared to Junior School. You still have your mates, your subjects, and your uniform.

All you have are different classrooms and different teachers.

Xavier: In Senior School there is a lot more moving around, and you have a lot more teachers. You are relied on more to organise your own timetables and know what classes you have, where you're going and when your exams are. In Junior School, your teacher will let you know most of those things, let you know what you have next and when your exams are.

What does a day look like for you?

Stephen: In the morning, I'd catch the bus to school around 7.30am and arrive at school around 8.15am. I make my way up to the Learning Centre for PC before heading over to Period 1. Most classes in Year 7 are on the top floor of the Learning Centre; that's your maths, english, HASS, and religion. Science is down in Purton and the other classes are in their respective buildings. After Period 1

ends, I'd make my way down to wherever Period 2 is. Then there's morning tea, which mostly consists of sitting and chatting with your friends, a nice change from the energetic and handball-filled breaks in the Junior School. In Magee House this year, we have Maths in Period 5 for two consecutive days. After school, I'll either be catching the bus home or doing some co-curricular activity, whether that be Track and Field or just going to the gym for Young Guns on Thursdays.

What's been your favourite moment in Year 7?

Mitchell: My favourite moment in Year 7 was winning Inter-house Showcase and being a part of it.

Stephen: The entire year has gone so quick that there hasn't been enough time for there to be a standout moment, but if I had to choose I'd probably say Year 7 camp was the best.





Nate: The feeling I got when I knew that I was in high school with my mates was awesome and it was one of the best feelings I have had at Nudgee College.

Xavier: The Inter-house Track and Field carnival was also one of my favourite days. Of course, the 1st XV winning their 45th Premiership on Ross Oval was also a major highlight.

What advice would you give to next year's Year 7 students?

Mitchell: Year 7 is no different to Year 6 in terms of the work, just be good and don't forget the timetable you have.

Stephen: Get on top of your work quickly. It might seem like you're being a teacher's pet at first, but being on top of your homework and

assignments will always lead to better outcomes than leaving it until the last possible time. You'll end up forgetting it. Get it done, then you can forget about it.

Xavier: This might sound a bit cliché but just get involved in things like sports and social justice or other activities. Ask questions, talk to your teachers if you're unsure, and develop strong study habits. This will help you a lot with your exams not only in Year 7 but through your whole high school journey.

What do you think has helped you move from Year 6 and 7? Your teachers, your House Dean?

Mitchell: My parents helped me adapt from Year 6 to Year 7 because they were there to help and support me and I trusted them.

Stephen: Of course, having nice teachers and a positive surrounding environment helps, but I think that the number one thing that has helped me move from Year 6 to Year 7, is a positive mindset. Just looking at things with a positive attitude instead of just thinking that you're being forced to do it or you have to do it – it really does help quite a bit!





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Xavier: A big part of my transition from Junior School, is my friends. Without them, I would have struggled a lot in the first Term where I was still settling in. To have developed strong friendships helped me a lot. But also, some of my best friends currently are students who started this year. If you're struggling to find your group in Junior School, then just know that you will when you get to Year 7. In addition, my Year 6 teacher, Ms Kewley was extremely helpful in the process, by doing things in the last Term of Year 6 like setting nightly homework and holding us more accountable. I am also very grateful for my Year 7 core teachers, Mr Hughes and Mr Raciti who have assisted me through the transition.

As their year comes to a close, our Year 7s can reflect on how far they've come since their first day. They've formed new friendships, overcome challenges, learned hard lessons, gained confidence in their abilities and maybe even discovered new passions. Whilst the transition might've been daunting at first, our Year 7s have faced it with resilience and enthusiasm and are now well prepared for their journey to Year 8 and beyond.





LIBERATING EDUCATION



GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY



INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY



JUSTICE AND SOLIDARITY

Living Out the Touchstones

MR SIMON LILLEY

In 2024 there has been a conscious effort to live the Touchstones of Blessed Edmund Rice and have our College resonate the vision of his in all that we do.

Nudgee's mission is to liberate hearts and minds of our young men and the hope is that all will leave us able to contribute to making a better world, have been witness to and encountered the experience of God. Our identity is that of a school which is authentically Catholic, where the life of Jesus is central to the way we live and educate our boys.

Subsequent to this the Mission and Identity team strive to uphold three key points of focus:

- We share in the Church's mission: To proclaim the good news of Christ risen.

- We share in Edmund Rice Education Australia's mission: To offer Liberating Education, based on a Gospel Spirituality, within an Inclusive Community committed to Justice and Solidarity.
- We share in Nudgee College's mission: To provide an education that will liberate hearts and minds following in the footsteps of Blessed Edmund Rice.

At the heart of who we are as a Catholic College is the Edmund Rice Touchstones: where we strive to offer a liberating education, in an inclusive community, focused on solidarity and justice and inspired by a Gospel

spirituality. These, therefore, are at the heart of every single activity and opportunity we provide for our young men in Service Learning, Ministry and Social Justice.

Gospel Spirituality

We invite people into the story of Jesus and strive to make his message of compassion, justice and peace a living reality within our community.

Central to this is our faith education, where Jesus is encountered through our Religious Education program, where every boy is able to experience a Catholic Education and enable for



some deep thought processing on their faith journey and the place that Jesus has in that.

Mass is naturally the central expression of our Gospel Spirituality. For boarders, this is celebrated as a community each week with duties shared across the houses. Sunday night sees all boarders back in residence and able to join in the greatest celebration of our communal faith. As a whole College, we have been blessed to celebrate special events on the Church and College calendar with Mass in the Christian Brothers Conference Centre, such as commencement of the College year and commissioning our new Principal, Mr Scott Thomson, the feast days of St Joseph and St Mary of the Cross. We have also celebrated the Assumption and also special community Masses such as the Old Boys Memorial Mass and the Ladies Auxiliary and Past Mothers' Association Mass in our College Chapel.

The College's retreat program develops this encounter through an active approach to evangelising the mission of God and enable a positive experience of faith, of relational development and of an understanding of what we are called to be as signs of faith. This year all year levels have experienced the opportunity to engage in their faith development through participating in single day retreats or the extended Kairos program for our Year 12s. The Kairos retreat is the culmination of the retreat program for our boys, with it always providing unexpected outcomes way beyond the expectations of our boys. Of course, what happens on Kairos remains a closely guarded secret, only truly experienced by those who participate. Each year level retreat day is purposefully designed to lead our

boys on a journey of introspection, developing their faith through a focus on key events and stories from the life of Jesus as well as a focus on our place in this world today.

Inclusive Community

Our community is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationships and committed to the common good.

As a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition we have ensured that we continue to provide a pastoral care system that nurtures the dignity of each person as uniquely reflecting the image of God. We continue in our efforts to demonstrate a preferential option for the marginalised by advocating for them through the various programs we offer in the social justice space. We continue to provide an inclusive school which welcomes and values all members of the school community regardless of religion, race, disability, gender, or sexual orientation. The College proudly promotes social inclusion and views diversity as beneficial to a liberating education acknowledging

the traditional ownership and cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia, and we welcome and support them in our community. Finally, as an inclusive community, we look to learn from the experience of the other in our world and look to support those in need, those on the fringes and those who live very different experiences in our Edmund Rice family around the world. So this touchstone is best exemplified in our celebrations of NAIDOC week, in our social justice program and outreach to those in need, our immersions and of course in our experience of diversity in each and every classroom and area of the school.

Justice and Solidarity

We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the earth itself.

A very visible element of our living out this touchstone is our participation in Social Justice activities and our efforts





in supporting those living in the margins of our local, Australian and global community. In their time at Nudgee, it would be rare to find a boy that won't cook a sausage in the name of social justice, or see a boy that hasn't brought food in for a pantry drive or worn a bow-tie on Stella Fella Day as a sign of their making a stance against mistreatment of women around the world. To go out into the community and chat with those living on the street and in need of Jesus' love and compassion is a smaller step which can make a huge impact.

Our curriculum integrates themes of justice and peace, underpinned by Catholic Social Teaching. A common theme of reflecting on the Gospel informs advocacy for just causes and as a result there is a strong call and response to participate in service and solidarity learning programs in partnership with those on the margins. This extends into our immersion programs and the

need to experience the 'other' and be inspired to react compassionately and in a loving way. Our dedication to supporting EREA initiatives such as Beyond Borders and ERFA sees boys actively involved in developing global partnerships. We also endeavour to work towards a sustainable and regenerative future for all creation in keeping with Pope Francis' call for us all to be stewards of God's creation for future generations.

Liberating Education

We open hearts and minds, through quality teaching and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.

This aligns directly to our mission statement which states that we strive to liberate hearts and minds in producing men who can break the shackles of temptation and poor

choices and be men who are signs of faith for all to see. We strive for all members of the school community to work to the best of their ability, to become the person that each is created to be and to strive for equity and excellence. We aim to provide an opportunity for students to be provided with teaching and learning experiences that are authentic, relevant, rigorous and creative where a holistic education integrates faith with culture and learning, while instilling an appreciation of the need to strive for the greater good of all society. Ultimately we're striving for each boy to be the best version of themselves.

This is best exemplified in the way our boys carry themselves with pride in their College, where Nudgee Spirit is a power which pervades over our grounds, making all boys feel welcomed and accepted for their individual qualities. Our Liberating Education program specifically uses this label as a reminder that at Nudgee, our Indigenous and first nations boys can have the opportunity to be the best version of themselves, lovingly and wonderfully supported by the team.

In essence, our adherence to the ideals of an authentic Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition, sees that we align to the foundational values of the Touchstones. This means that we are a College, providing a liberating education, founded on Gospel values resulting in a community of solidarity based on social justice. There are some very special people making sure this alignment continues to see successes including Ms Tahnee Leegod as the Head of Social Justice and Advocacy, Mr Phil O'Connor as Head of Service Learning and Mr Brent Mitchell as the Head of Ministry along with Ms Annie Banks who is Head of Liberating Education. These four play a critical role in ensuring that the College is a living and breathing example of the vision for young people which Edmund Rice sought to provide.

#nudgeespirit





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MARK CHAMBERLAIN

Mark Chamberlain, our print room operator and member of the Property and Services team, has decided to hang up his hat and leave the College after an impressive 35 years. We sat down with him in his final week at the College to learn more about his time here.

How did you get your role at Nudgee College? What's your main role at the College?

I applied to an ad in the newspaper and was called up for an interview. Still the only job interview I've ever done. Got the job and started in January 1989. Back then it was all printing, nowadays it's deliveries as well, which I enjoy as I get to interact with other staff who are always very grateful.

How has the print room/your role changed over the past 35 years?

The job has changed in that all my jobs back then come to me as hard

copies. Teachers would fill out a form and attach it to what they wanted copied and put it in my intray and then they would come back to collect it. Nowadays it's all digital. Also things like newsletters and letters to parents had to be stuffed in envelopes and mailed out.

What motivated you to stay in the same role at the school for 35 years?

The fact that I was comfortable here and enjoyed what I did. I drove the Bingo bus every Friday and Saturday night for 20 years and I did a bit of coaching as well. So there was variety to my role.

What's been your most memorable moment from your time at the College?

My most memorable moment was winning the Edmund Rice award and getting a special mention in Peter's [Fullagar] speech.

As you leave, what will you miss most about your daily routine and interactions at the school?

I'll miss the people. Delivering printing and parcels to many different people and having a chat.

What are your plans for the future post Nudgee?

That's a mystery! Try and find work in Maryborough and swim in my pool.





THE URGENT NEED TO RETHINK: MEETING THE NEEDS OF TODAY'S LEARNERS

MS SUZIE TJIN

*The way adolescence is experienced is changing at a rapid rate.
The way we reach our young learners needs to change, too.*

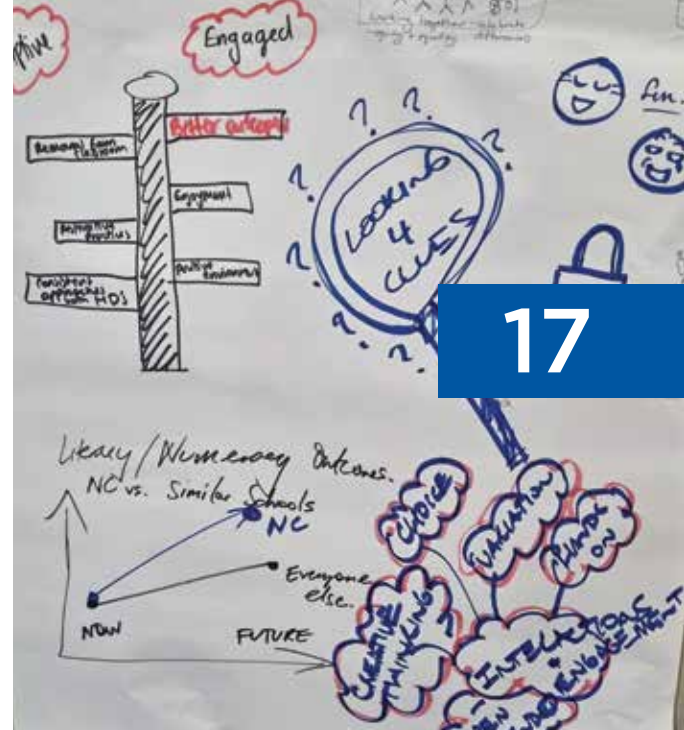
Adolescence is far more complex now than ever before. Mobile phones, streaming services, artificial intelligence, social media and a global pandemic have resulted in increased reports of depression and anxiety, and a decline in attention spans, communication development and sleep behaviours among our young people. And our old ways - the way we've always done things - will no longer serve our future leaders.

Gone are the days of simplicity; the days when you needed to plan your screen time around the TV guide, the days when you could only contact

people via the home telephone or by writing a letter, the days when you were present in the moment because capturing memories using a disposable camera was just too arduous. Some of us remember the first record, cassette or CD we bought, the annoyance of attempting to tape your favourite song from the radio (only to have the announcer speak over the end of it), and the rush on a Friday afternoon to see if the latest new release video was still going to be on the shelf at your local video store. Our young people know none of this. They wait, and want, for nothing. And boredom is not an option. Want to

listen to a particular song? No worries - Spotify has you covered. The latest movie? Enter Netflix and its close cousins. Wondering what to buy Mum for Mother's Day - thanks, Google. Need to spill the tea with my friends? Too easy - they're just a snap away (and no, I'm not talking about a card game).

A survey conducted in 2019 found that teenagers today spend an average of nine hours per day using screens. Compounding this, recent studies out of Cincinnati suggest that the access our young people have to streaming services, mobile



phones, social media and gaming is actually changing the structure of their brain. Further studies emerging from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) study indicates that increased screen time often replaces reading time. When this compromise occurs, MRI evidence shows that brain volume decreases through a reduction of thickness of grey matter in areas of the brain responsible for empathy, attention, complex memory and reading skills. To make matters more complex, adolescence in and of itself brings with it the most significant cognitive and physiological change in one's life (outside of the first 5 years of development). *The way adolescence is experienced is changing at a rapid rate. The way we reach our young learners needs to change, too.*

At Nudgee, we are heeding the call to rethink. We owe it to our boys, plain and simple.

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are rethinking the way our young people experience the Middle Years

of schooling (Years 5-9). In Term 2, our teachers interrogated our data. From behavioural to attendance to achievement to student voice to standardised data, nothing remained untouched. Emerging from the data analysis, a process of visioning and planning commenced. In Term 4, our Middle Years Steering Committee will work closely with Adolescent Success to evaluate our College's processes, practices, environments, frameworks and structures to identify the next steps required to ensure we are best meeting the needs of our current and future learners. We'll lean on the work of educational experts such as Dylan William, John Hattie, Bill Rogers, John Sweller, Michael Fullan & Barak Rosenshine to ensure our actions are grounded in evidence and we'll engage in impact cycles to check our progress. We are unapologetic in our improvement journey, and deeply understand the urgent need to rethink for the sake of our young learners. *The way adolescence is experienced is changing at a rapid rate, and Nudgee will rise to the challenge.*

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OUR House Mothers

Nudgee College Boarding is a thriving, diverse, spirited community. With a comprehensive network of care of Heads of Houses, tutors, supervisors, chefs, nurses, the laundry team, groundsman and more, our boarders are in good hands but one such link in the network of care, who provide a vital maternal presence in our boarders lives, are our House Mothers.

Each Boarding House has a dedicated House Mother who provides a guiding influence for all boarders under their care. The Dean of Boarding, Mr Casey Brealy said "they are nurturing, attentive, and consistently student-focused. It's the small actions, moments, and gestures that make our House Mothers so special – a birthday treat or celebration, finding a spare shirt

for a boy who missed his laundry, a breakfast cook-up on a public holiday, or offering a hug after a tough day. These are just a few of the small yet meaningful things our House Mums do for our boys."

We sat down with some of our House Mothers, Ms Hannah Jacobson, Ms Tracey Hoffmann and Ms Jane Sutherland-Bak to find out more about their roles.

What are your main responsibilities?

Hannah: Before school I am responsible for waking the boys up and making sure they are getting ready. I remind them about events and notices for the day ahead, this might be something happening in the day school or a boarding event after school. I then do room checks and wish them well for their school day. After school, it's all about making



sure the boys are fed and accounted for. It is a full on five minutes when they come running back in the door, it is a very quick "hello, how was your day and where are you going?" but, those who are around, are always up for a chat and keen to tell me about their days.

Tracey: My role is all about supporting and guiding the boarders, fostering connections with both the students and the staff, and helping to create a positive and happy atmosphere in O'Brien House. I need to ensure the boys get where they need to be – whether that's tutoring, collecting laundry, training, or a visit to the Health Centre. It's all about keeping things organised and ensuring they have what they need to get through the day and term. Honestly, my job feels a lot like being a mum at home – just with a lot more boys!

Jane: From wake ups in the morning, after school, dinner time, study time and bedtime, my role is to be present and consistent. I also encourage

healthy hygiene habits, have a motherly guidance for my boys and support them in their daily life, with a non-judgmental approach. I ensure each and every one of my boys know they are accepted and appreciated every day.

How do you build relationships with the boys?

Hannah: Being a young female who isn't a mum yet, I knew being in this role I would have to approach building relationships with the boys differently. I find staying open, relatable and approachable while not putting pressure on the boys to talk has allowed me to have the best relationships with them. They are all comfortable telling me when they are having a tough time or excited to share big news with me. I remain open and honest with them and create a safe place for them to come and talk to me.

Tracey: It all starts with patience and being there for them when they need support and guidance or just a hug or

an ear to listen. I try to include them in all of our activities so that it creates a sense of community and everyone feels more connected. Engaging with the boys is something that does not happen overnight, so discussing their interests, backgrounds, and personal lives, as well as sharing my interests can sometimes help. This includes talking about where they come from, their home activities, favourite school subjects, family members, and cherished holidays. By showing genuine interest in these aspects, I hope to create a strong connection and understanding with each of them.

Jane: My boys in Waterford House know that if they need to talk about anything I am always available. I have honest and open communication with each of my boys and I spend time maintaining positive connections so they never feel ashamed or judged by how they are feeling. I have laughed and cried with my boys and they all know we are on this journey together, the good, the bad and the boarding.





What's been your favourite moment in boarding so far?

Hannah: My favourite memory in Cotter House would have to be this year when the Olympics were on. It was the morning of the Men's 100m Freestyle Final and it was playing live at 6.40am Australian time. I went and woke up the keen swimmers in my dorm to come and watch, along with other boys who were already up. It was really special to share such a history-making moment for Australia with boys who look up to the athletes and are inspired by them.

Tracey: Too many to list. Seeing the happiness on the boys faces when they succeed, whether it is academically, on the sporting field, achieving their personal goals, being able to put the doona cover on their doona, making the bed, or learning that laying cups on their side in the dishwasher does not achieve them being washed. Most of all though, just a simple, genuine "thank you miss" makes me smile on the inside.

Jane: My Year 9s were the toughest grade to break into. I worked very hard in Term 1 and 2 and some days I felt a bit defeated. However in Term 3, I had a really positive afternoon with the boys and that evening as I was going home, I yelled, "goodnight boys!" and all together they yelled back "goodnight miss!"

What do you find most rewarding about being in this role?

Hannah: Being able to be a part of all different moments in their lives. Over the last three years I have been a part of big milestones, have supported them when they are hurt, had a bad day or just needed someone to talk to. It is truly amazing to come to work each day and know that you're playing a small part in the development of a boy.

Tracey: I learn from the boys, as they do from me. The most rewarding aspect is the friendships formed between staff and the families and the smiles and pure joy on the faces

of our boys when they have done well. We accept that like any family, we take the good with the bad and we move on together. As a House Mum, I embrace each day as a fresh opportunity to grow and learn, both from the boys and through our shared experiences.

Jane: I have 80 sons, what could be more rewarding than that?

What would you say to parents considering sending their son/s to Nudgee Boarding?

Hannah: Do it! I have never seen such a well managed, enthusiastic and nurturing environment for young boys. Having gone to a private school myself, I understand that it is an investment and a sacrifice for most

families, but the work the staff put into the care of the students here is next level.

Tracey: I'd say go for it! It's a great place for all-around education and life experiences. Your son will form lifelong friendships and learn important lessons about community living that will help him in the real world. It's amazing to see the boys grow from childhood into young adults ready to tackle today's challenges. Plus, the staff are incredibly supportive – they're there to guide your son every step of the way.

 **our House Mothers**

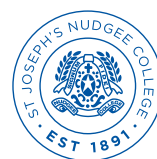


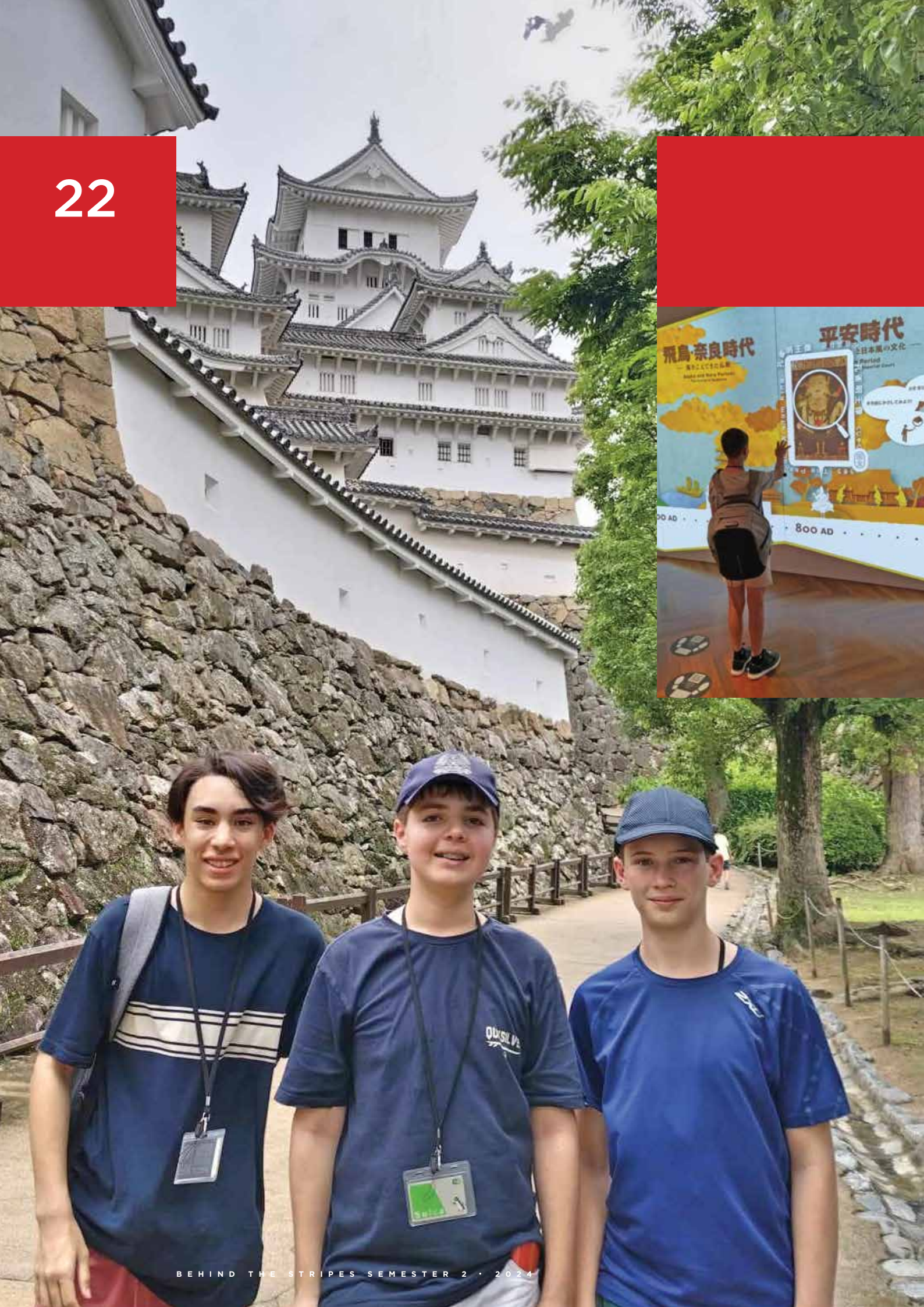
We are proud to announce that we won the 2024 Australian Education Awards for the Australian Boarding School of the Year. This award sponsored by the Australian Boarding Schools Association recognises the most outstanding boarding school in Australia in the 2024 academic year.

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St Joseph's Nudgee College
Boarding





JAPANESE TOUR

23

MR TOM EICHINSKI

This year saw Nudgee College reinstate our Japan Cultural Tour after a four year hiatus. During the June-July holidays, seventeen students, accompanied by three Nudgee staff embarked on a twelve day tour of Japan, designed to immerse them in Japanese culture and enhance their language skills. Over the course of the tour, they experienced a rich blend of historical, cultural, and recreational activities, travelling across various regions of Japan.

After a long travel day, the trip got underway with a visit to Kamakura, a city known for its significant historical and spiritual landmarks. Despite a rainy start to the day, the students were able to visit the Great Buddha (Daibutsu) at Kotoku-in, an iconic bronze statue that stands over 13 metres tall. They also visited Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine, where they observed traditional Shinto practices. The third and fourth days were dedicated to exploring Tokyo, the bustling metropolis that blends cutting-edge modernity with traditional charm. Among the areas visited were Ueno, where the students wandered through Ueno Zoo and visited the Tokyo National Museum, learning about Japan's rich history through art and artefacts. A walk through Asakusa brought them to Senso-ji, Tokyo's oldest temple. Another stop in Tokyo was the famous Shibuya Scramble Crossing. Here, the students got a feel for the fast-paced lifestyle of Tokyo.

On the fifth day, the group visited the Australian Embassy in the morning to learn about the role of the Embassy, as well as find out about opportunities for living in Japan, and how they can use their Japanese language skills after graduation. After that, we headed to Shimokitazawa Seitoku High School, where we joined the students for a range of curricular and extracurricular activities. This visit was one of the most valuable aspects of the trip, as it allowed the students to directly



interact with their Japanese peers. They participated in several cultural exchange activities. These sessions not only gave them a deeper appreciation of Japanese customs but also served as excellent opportunities to practise their spoken Japanese. Students also attended a few lessons, which gave them insights into the differences between Japanese and their own schooling systems.

Day six brought the group to Kawaguchiko, a serene area located at the base of Mount Fuji, where they were able to enjoy onsen (hot springs). The day included a walk around Lake Kawaguchi, offering stunning views of Mount Fuji, which left a lasting impression on the group. It was also a great opportunity for students to reflect on their journey so far. The peaceful environment of Kawaguchiko provided a break from the urban hustle, allowing the boys to gain a deeper connection with Japan's natural beauty.

The group then travelled to Kyoto, the cultural heart of Japan. Known for its well-preserved temples, gardens, and

traditional tea houses, Kyoto offered a completely different atmosphere compared to Tokyo. The students visited Nijo Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its beautiful gardens and ornate interiors. Walking through the historic halls and listening to the "nightingale floors" creak beneath their feet, they learned about the life of the shoguns. They also explored the scenic bamboo groves of Arashiyama, where they marvelled at the towering bamboo stalks and enjoyed a peaceful stroll through the lush landscape. They also had the chance to interact with a troupe of wild Japanese macaques at the Arashiyama Monkey Park. The next two days were spent exploring the poignant history of Hiroshima and the spiritual beauty of Miyajima. On Miyajima Island, the students were awed by the famous floating torii gate of Itsukushima Shrine, one of Japan's most scenic views.

In Hiroshima, the group visited the Peace Memorial Park, a deeply moving experience. Local university students acted as guides, providing insights into the tragic events of the atomic





bombing and the city's message of peace and hope. The students visited the A-Bomb Dome and the Peace Memorial Museum, where they reflected on the significance of the site in fostering global understanding and reconciliation. Engaging with their guides in Japanese, they gained not only language skills but also a deeper awareness of the importance of peace.

On the tenth day, the group travelled to Himeji to visit Japan's most famous and best-preserved castle, Himeji-jo. The students were impressed by the grandeur of the white castle, often referred to as the "White Heron" due to its elegant appearance. They explored the castle grounds, learning about its strategic importance during the feudal era.

The final day of the trip was dedicated to Universal Studios Japan (USJ) in Osaka, where the students were able to relax and have fun after the many educational and cultural experiences of the previous days. Whether riding the famous attractions or exploring the themed zones, students enjoyed a day of excitement and entertainment. At USJ, they continued to practise their Japanese by navigating the park, ordering food, and interacting with staff. This fun-filled day was a perfect way to wrap up the trip, giving the group a chance to bond and create lasting memories.



Student Highlights

"Having never been overseas before, the Japan trip was an awesome experience for us to socialise and immerse ourselves in an unfamiliar culture. One of my favourite parts of the trip was going up to locals and trying to have conversations with them. It helped me learn a lot about how Japanese people actually speak and doing so helped us pick up phrases, have simple conversations and overall become more confident in speaking Japanese. Also, visiting Mt Fuji was one of the most amazing experiences that I've been privileged to have." - **Lochlann Kissane, Year 9**

"It's hard to pick a favourite moment from the trip, but a highlight for me would have to have been the trip to Miyajima and our interactions with the deer and locals, and the delicious red-bean sweets and soft-serves. Another highlight would have to be the visit to the National Museum in Tokyo, which contained many interesting exhibits and readings. It was interesting to see the similarities and overlap between the culture of Japan and other Asian countries, and how society was altered after the end of the Empire. The scenery and views around the countryside was especially beautiful. The trip was amazing, and I am very

grateful for the opportunity to visit." - **Sam Tulley, Year 11**

"The Japanese trip was an eye-opening experience for me. One of the highlights of the trip for me was going to Hiroshima and seeing the Hiroshima Peace Museum. It really put into perspective the effects of the atomic bomb, and the damage it caused to people and families. Another highlight was seeing Mt Fuji whilst relaxing in a massage chair in the early morning at Kawaguchiko. The view was beautiful, and we walked away more relaxed than ever. This trip was incredible, and I am very grateful for the opportunity to visit Japan." - **Ash Tayler, Year 11**



Thank you to our current and past parents, Old Boys, grandparents, staff and friends who donated so generously to the Nudgee College Building Fund and the Jack Ross Bursary in 2024. Your philanthropic support of Nudgee College enriches the lives of the young men that walk the campus today and creates a legacy for those that are to follow in generations to come.

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 Mr D and Mrs G Watt
 Mr J and Mrs K Watt
 Mr J and Mrs M Weaver
 Mr B Mills and Ms V Webb
 Mr R Wedgwood
 Mr Robert Wedgwood
 Mr H and Mrs F Wehl
 Mr J and Mrs T Wendt
 Dr M Cockburn and Dr C Wewengkang
 Mr A Elzinga and Ms S White
 Mr T White AO and Mrs R White AO
 Ms S White
 Mr D and Mrs C Wild
 Mr B and Mrs F Williams
 Mr C and Mrs L Williams
 Mr D and Mrs S Williams
 Mr J Salmon and Ms J Williams
 Mr T Willis
 Mr J and Mrs D Wilson
 Mr L Wilson
 Mr and Mrs M Winks
 Ms A Winton
 Mr J Dee and Mrs N Witham
 Mr J and Mrs F Wolff
 Mr A Wood and Ms K Rae
 Mr C and Mrs L Wood
 Mr A and Mrs C Woodford
 Mr J and Mrs N Woodward
 Mr P and Mrs J Woodward
 Mr P Wosnitza
 Mr T Woudwyk
 Mr M and Mrs K Wright
 Mr H Wyatt

Y

Mrs R Yates
 Mr P Young and Ms A Moore

Z

Mr and Mrs A Zahra
 Mr L Burns and Mrs S Zhang
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** We thank the donors who have generously donated in 2024, but have opted to remain anonymous.*



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TEACHERS IN PROFILE

The academic life of Nudgee College is shaped by enthusiastic and highly-skilled teachers who are committed to bringing out the best in all students.

Two such teachers who are helping to shape the next generation are Ms Amy Roberts and Mr Michael Bishop. We sat down with them both for a Q+A to learn more about their careers as teachers and their journey at the College so far.

Amy Roberts

What inspired you to pursue a career in education?

I knew I wanted to be a teacher when I was in Year 2. Every response to the question "what do I want to be when I grow up?" was always to be a teacher. I was extremely fortunate to be taught by some wonderful primary school teachers that showed tremendous enthusiasm and passion for teaching. I fondly remember my Year 4 teacher transforming our classroom into outer space. He spent his entire holidays

blackening out all the windows, hanging fairy lights, painting glow in the dark planets and creating an entryway into that classroom that students had to crawl through. It was safe to say the entire class was engaged and ready for an entire Term learning about space. The enthusiasm from my teachers made teaching an exciting career opportunity. Secondly, I wanted to be in a career where I was giving back to the community and making a difference in people's lives. There was never really any other option, I always wanted to be a teacher.

What aspects of teaching do you find most rewarding and fulfilling?

I believe building relationships with the children is the most essential part of being a teacher. From this trust is earned and children are more likely to open up about their interests and things that excite them and make them who they are. By taking an interest in who they are and what they love to do, I have boys race in on a Monday morning excited to tell me about their weekend away, the big win at rugby or the funny prank they played on their Dad. Being able to share in these experiences is very rewarding. The other rewarding aspect I find as a teacher is the "aha" moment. This moment is when suddenly something clicks for a student and what once was difficult, they master. The excitement on their face when they are able to understand and get things right after days or weeks of struggle is so rewarding.

Can you share a memorable lesson that you were particularly proud of?

A memorable part of a lesson this year with my class was during our narrative writing unit. The boys were learning about dialogue and how to punctuate it properly. To engage the boys from the very beginning of the lesson I had them have a paper argument with a partner. This is not the 'traditional' paper fight we know as throwing paper around the room but rather having an argument on paper. The topic was written on the board, "you really want a mobile phone but your parents won't allow it even though all your friends have one". I always pick topics that are relatable to the boys and they may have already experienced. A timer starts and in pairs the boys take it in turns to 'fight' about the topic. One writes a line of 'speech' and then the other responds, continuing the 'fight'. There is no speaking involved; they are only allowed to write words on the paper. No discussions can even be made about who assumes which role in the fight. The giggles and gasps during the paper fight is hilarious and boys are genuinely interested in writing. The amount of writing that is produced is huge as the boys are engaged in what they are writing and have the opportunity to perform it in front of the class which always gets some laughs. It has been the most highly requested activity by my class this year.



What has been a stand out moment of your time at the College?

A stand out moment for me would be my first teaching day at the College. Teaching Year 5 is a rewarding experience being the first year level available at the College. The boys are filled with excitement and nerves ready to start their Nudgee journey. Being a part of their first year is very special. The pure joy and eagerness to give everything a go and the fact they are so grateful and appreciative to be a Nudgee boy is something I am very lucky to be a part of.

What do you aim for students to take away from your class?

I am really lucky that I get to spend all day every day with the same group of students for an entire year. I always find time to do circle time once a fortnight. During this time we discuss a range of different issues or topics that relate to emotional intelligence and moral dilemmas. Trust is built up over the year for boys to feel comfortable expressing their true thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment. I have found by encouraging boys to participate in circle time and be vulnerable it has allowed them to take risks in their learning and are not afraid to give something a go. Boys in my class know that making mistakes is okay and is a good thing so long as they are learning from them.

What advice would you give to new teachers who are just starting their careers in education?

Be a sponge and ask questions. Learn from experienced teachers, don't be afraid to ask for help and ask to observe as many teachers as you can. I loved visiting different colleagues in my first few years of teaching as I added many new skills and strategies to my own skill set. Don't be afraid to share your thoughts and ideas. Teaching is a profession that is constantly evolving and as teachers we are constantly learning too. Focus on building relationships with your students but also with staff that you work closely with. Finally, incorporate reflection into your teaching routine. Not every lesson is going to be perfect and go according to plan. Know that this is okay and is a part of teaching but ensure to reflect on the lesson and identify aspects that can be improved upon for next time. We are life-long learners.

Michael Bishop

What inspired you to pursue a career in education?

The example of those effective folks who were the warm human beings in classrooms in front of me as a young person. I had some superb models who more than 'taught a subject'. They challenged us to think, to argue well, and always from a perspective of being prepared to keep learning. Right and wrong were rarely issues, but rather explaining 'why' that was the response, and to test whether that response was the best one in the given situation.

What aspects of teaching do you find most rewarding and fulfilling?

The fact that what is done is such a human activity, and it allows us to see all the humans we deal with, students, parents, caregivers and colleagues in all the aspects that human behaviour can exhibit. It keeps one very grounded. Also, the conversations I have with former students and the things that they indicate that they have learned in our exchanges. I view education as a process, not a product. It is a dialogue between the generations, not a one-way conduit. I have learned much from the folks in front of me in classes.

Can you share a memorable lesson that you were particularly proud of?

The memorable lessons are the ones that in many respects I would rather forget, where things have not quite 'gone to plan' or 'something' has happened that was totally unanticipated. The take away from here ties back to the nature of the humanity of what we do. These are the moments when one has to be flexible, and manage to think on one's feet, whilst remaining composed. My ability to remain calm and regulated is one attribute that I have in which I take pride in.

What has been a stand out moment of your time at the College?

Being invited to move from a contracted position to a permanent ongoing role. This is very affirming, and something for which I am very grateful.

What is your favourite book and why?

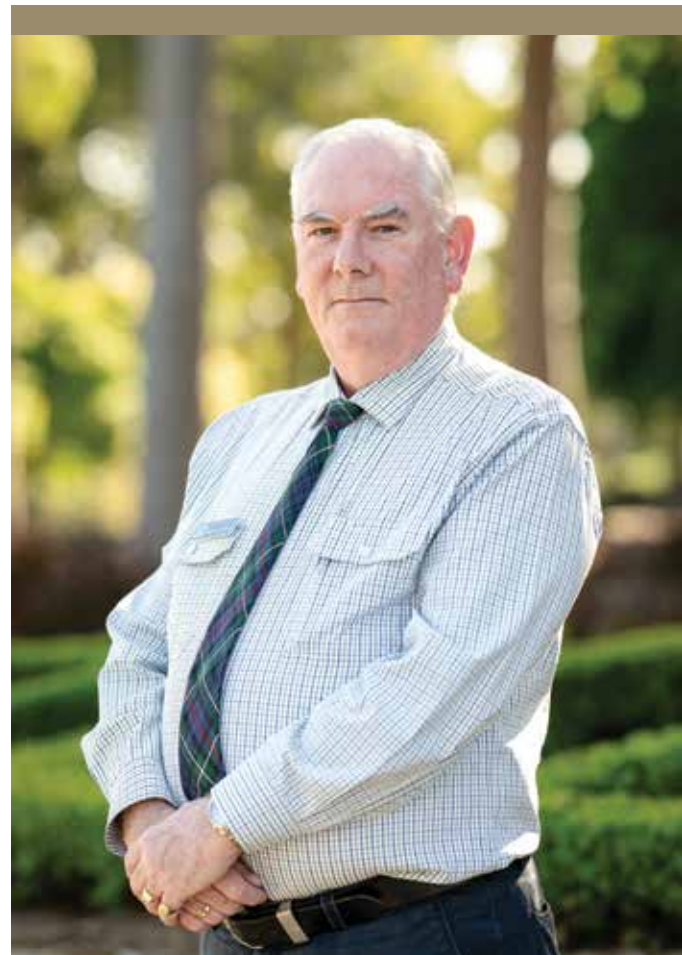
Brideshead Revisited by Evelyn Waugh. It is an examination of a loosely collected group of people who experience the situation where life happens to them, in spite of their being busy making other plans, to paraphrase John Lennon.

What do you aim for students to take away from your class? Aside from the subject matter itself.

Improved outcomes that are theirs, and the ability to reflect upon these. Improved outcomes are not simply limited to higher grades. Improvement is about working towards being not better than anyone else, but better today than you were yesterday.

What advice would you give to new teachers who are just starting their careers in education?

Be kind to yourself, in the same way that you are prepared to be kind to your students. We are all human, and as such that makes us all very vulnerable in so many ways.





From the Writers' Circle Desk

INCLUSIVITY & CULTURE

GAGE DITTMANN (2025 WRITERS' CIRCLE LEAD MENTOR)

I commenced my enrolment in Year 9, 2022, as a boarder. Being a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, we are constantly reminded about the importance of inclusive community and how it is vital in forming our holistic development. In my experiences at the school, I have witnessed inclusivity in various forms. Regardless of the different ways it manifests itself, there is always a common theme; something that rings true no matter its form: the unwavering sense of belonging. Whether it's laughing with your mates in the Boarding House after a long day, or celebrating a triumph on Flat 4, people always have your back. My involvement in the Writers' Circle program has provided me with a profound sense of identity and belonging. I have a group of talented writers I can share my works with, free from judgement,

in a supportive environment that embodies inclusivity. Similarly, in my active participation in the Debating program, the same themes are pertinent: an inclusive, dedicated team of staff and students who allow me to develop my public speaking skills in a space where I feel connected and supported. The bonds formed within these programs mirror those across other areas of school life. In sport, joining the 11Ds Football team allowed me to form strong connections which made every training session so special – a place to connect with my peers in a supportive environment. But inclusivity isn't just about what I've experienced – it's embedded in the culture of our school. So, in this piece, I wanted to investigate other perspectives surrounding Nudgee's inclusivity. To do so I interviewed key staff and students for their opinions.

Can you share an experience where you felt truly included at the College?

Ms Melissa Miller, Head of Learning Centre: The first time that I felt really included was in the Learning Centre. I work with colleagues who welcomed me and who were very accepting and very kind towards me.

Mr Sean Toovey, Dean of Students (Acting): I've felt really included as a staff member because I've always had people to lean on. Whether that's within the leadership team, whether that's peers, whether that's just good boys who have noticed me being a bit off my normal self.

Mr Will Duffield, NCOB 2023 and Writers' Circle Coordinator: Returning as staff this year, the warmth and support I've received from both staff and students have been overwhelming, reminding me every day that I have a community

to lean on. Nudgee isn't just a place – it's truly become my second home.

Oscar Roati, 2024 College Captain: After I broke my leg this year, the support in that moment made me reflect on how lucky I am to be a part of this community. For me, it was the most powerful image of brotherhood – the fact that I've got 10,000 brothers.

What role do you think inclusivity plays in developing a sense of belonging within the school community?

MM: I think it's huge, it's monumental. Inclusivity is really the acceptance of everybody's individuality, it's accepting that we are all individual people and if we can really embrace that it's a monumental part of who we are as an Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) school but who we are as Nudgee College.

Frank Gilbert, 2025 Vice Captain: Inclusivity plays a massive role and is significant in shaping our community. We speak highly about the 10,000 brothers and Nudgee Spirit and how we support each other but if not everyone feels included then that ultimately destroys our spirit.

Ben DiDonna, First XV, Year 11: I think it plays a pretty big role within the school because of the brotherhood culture that Nudgee has.

Dr Jane Brown, Head of Inclusive Learning: Inclusivity is key. When students feel supported and can advocate for their needs, they naturally develop a sense of belonging within the school.



Can you recall a time when inclusivity was challenged at Nudgee, and how the community responded?

MM: Over the years, I've dealt with individual instances where maybe students were not holding very inclusive views, instances of homophobia or racism, instances of bullying and they were all dealt with as a College.

ST: There wouldn't be many days go by that I'm not having to work

closely with a young man who's not feeling included. I feel as though our community has changed in recent times and I find our community to be supportive of change.

JB: It's thinking about the challenges young people face, and it's been our approach in Inclusive Learning to equip teachers with the tools and knowledge they need to understand each student's unique profile and story.

How do you think programs like Writers' Circle or Debating contribute to the inclusive atmosphere at the College?

ST: Pivotal. I know firsthand that it's been such a key strategic priority for the school in the last five to ten years, because we knew of our stereotypical reputation in the wider community, and we needed to work really hard to try and change it. We needed to retell the story and share our narrative on that balanced education, that wide variety of young men that we have that walk through the gates.

WD: These programs definitely provide an avenue for students who may not participate in sports, may not





be the best academically, and it gives them an avenue of participation and it really fosters a sense of community within the school.

Oliver Clancy, Year 6: It has an important impact because it shows that you can always be in a group with other people and do stuff with others which can really be helpful.

BD: It's a great way to include more of the boys in the College because not all of them are big rugby players who just want to run out on a field every weekend.

What advice would you give to new students at Nudgee about how to get involved and feel included?

ST: Involving yourself and including yourself in the community is really important. Be okay to try new things. Incoming boys don't know who they are at that young age, they don't know what their gifts and talents necessarily are, but they know what they enjoy doing. Over time, you can work out what your gifts and talents are, and oftentimes, those gifts and talents that you find compliment your joys and passions anyway.

WD: Be yourself. Joining clubs and initiatives - whether sport, cultural,

performing arts - and attending Saturday games all develops a sense of character and allows you to build new friendships which last a lifetime.

OC: Try everything. Don't miss out on anything, make sure you try all the activities. Even if you don't think you'll do well or achieve at a high level, still try because it's really fun.

OR: Ride your own wave and do the things that you want to do. Don't worry about what other people think otherwise your Nudgee journey is not going to be your own.

FG: We're not perfect and we must continue to emphasise the importance of belonging especially for such a big environment as Nudgee.

From the wide range of answers, it is clear Nudgee College fosters a strong sense of inclusivity. Whilst I am very fortunate to have these experiences during my time at the College, I also want to acknowledge that there are always areas for improvement, and times where we can continue to strengthen our connection to the EREA Touchstone of 'Inclusive Community'.



PLATINUM AWARDEES 2024

Each year, the College celebrates Year 12 students who have achieved consistent academic excellence with the Platinum Award. It is difficult to achieve, requiring students to have attained consecutive semester-based Gold Academic Awards from Year 9 through to Year 12.

This year's recipients are George Gillam, Michael Malone, Alex Patti and Oscar Roati. Dean of Learning and Teaching, Ms Suzie Tjin, said their achievements showcase how their consistent hard work can lead to academic success.

"Our Platinum Award winners have modelled the way as learners.

Their achievement is an example of how aligning consistent habits with stretch goals, owning their learning, tracking their progress and drawing on the resources available to them can lead to success."

Whilst the award is calculated from data spanning from Year 9 to Year 12, incredibly, Oscar Roati and George

Gillam received Gold Academic Awards each Semester from Year 5. This is a remarkable achievement.

The students were presented with their awards during an Assembly in Term 3 so that the younger students could be inspired by their achievement. They will be acknowledged again at the College Awards Ceremony in November.







NUD GEE COLLEGE MUSIC

WHERE COMPETITION DRIVES IMPROVEMENT

MR SAM SMITH

Research indicates that engaging in music education can enhance self-esteem, confidence, and self-efficacy – crucial elements for adolescent development. Studies show that learning an instrument improves cognitive functions, such as memory and attention, and is linked to better academic performance, particularly in subjects like mathematics and english. Moreover, music serves as a positive outlet for self-expression, helping boys navigate the complexities of adolescence while fostering emotional resilience and improving mental health.

At the College, we believe that participating in music competitions and eisteddfods is incredibly valuable for our boys. These events provide a unique platform for them to showcase their skills, gain confidence, and receive constructive feedback from professionals. The experience encourages them to refine their craft,

Learning music offers teenage boys a wide range of benefits, both cognitively and emotionally.

set personal goals, and maturely handle both success and constructive criticism. Healthy competition can be a powerful motivator, inspiring boys to practise diligently and improve their performance. It encourages them to strive for excellence while learning to support and celebrate their peers' achievements. This blend of challenge and encouragement fosters resilience and growth, both musically and personally.

This year, the boys have been busy entering four major competitions.

The Queensland Youth Music Awards, a prominent annual event in Southeast Queensland that brings together over 200 school ensembles and choirs to foster musical excellence, teamwork, and personal growth through performance and adjudication. The Beenleigh Quota Music Eisteddfod offers young musicians a welcoming environment to perform, receive professional feedback, and develop their skills through friendly competition. Similarly, the Redlands Music Eisteddfod provides a supportive platform for young musicians to showcase their talents, engage in healthy competition, and grow both musically and personally. Finally, the Queensland Catholic Schools and Colleges Music Festival (QCMF) unites students from Catholic schools across the state, offering them a Catholic faith-based setting to perform, receive feedback, and celebrate their musical achievements.



2024 Competition Results

Queensland Youth Music Awards

- Brotherhood: **Gold Award**
- Grade 5 and 6 Competition Choir: **Gold Award**
- Symphonic Winds: **Silver Award**
- Junior Concert Band: **Silver Award**
- Chamber Strings: **Bronze Award**

Beenleigh QUOTA Music Eisteddfod

- Drumline: **1st Place**
- Junior Drumline: **1st Place**
- Rock Band 1: **2nd Place**
- Rock Band 4: **3rd Place**

Redlands Music Eisteddfod

- Symphonic Winds: **1st Place**
- Junior Guitar Ensemble: **1st Place**
- Jazz Ensemble: **1st Place**
- Guitar Ensemble: **2nd Place**
- Chamber Strings: **3rd Place**
- Allegro Strings: **3rd Place**
- Jr Concert Band: **3rd Place**



Queensland Catholic Schools & Colleges Music Festival

- Rock Band 1: **Gold Award**
- Symphonic Winds: **Gold Award**
- Guitar Ensemble: **Gold Award**
- Jr Guitar Ensemble: **Gold Award**
- Rock Band 2: **Gold Award**
- Jazz Ensemble: **Gold Award**
- Brotherhood: **Silver Award**
- Stage Band: **Silver Award**
- Allegro Strings: **Silver Award**
- Chamber Strings: **Silver Award**
- Rock Band 4: **Silver Award**
- Drumline: **Silver Award**
- Grade 5 Immersion Strings: **Silver Award**
- Grade 5 Immersion Concert Band: **Silver Award**
- Jr Concert Band: **Silver Award**

Individual Awards of Excellence From QCMF

- Hunter Ireland (Vocals)
- Ethan Dahl (Vocals)
- Hugh Thomson (Vocals)
- Nate Mawer (Guitar)
- Daniel Rostron (Bass Guitar)
- James Grehen (Drums)



As the year progresses, students receive valuable feedback that drives their improvement, with our primary goal being QCMF. Every ensemble has the chance to compete in at least one competition or eisteddfod before taking to the stage at QCMF. Students and ensemble directors take on board feedback and apply changes to improve the ensemble sound after each event.

Tracking our progress reveals improvements such as Chamber Strings advancing from Bronze to Silver awards and Symphonic Winds moving from Silver to Gold. Most notably, we are proud to report the absence of any Bronze awards at the QCMF, indicating that every Nudgee ensemble performs at a high or very high standard. This reflects the growth and success of our music program, as we have no developing standard ensembles at the College.

One added bonus of attending these events is the opportunity for our boys to see similar ensembles from other schools perform. Observing their peers allows the boys to critically reflect on their own performances and improve for the future. Additionally, the boys gain confidence in knowing they are proficient musicians and that our music program is comparable to other colleges in Queensland.

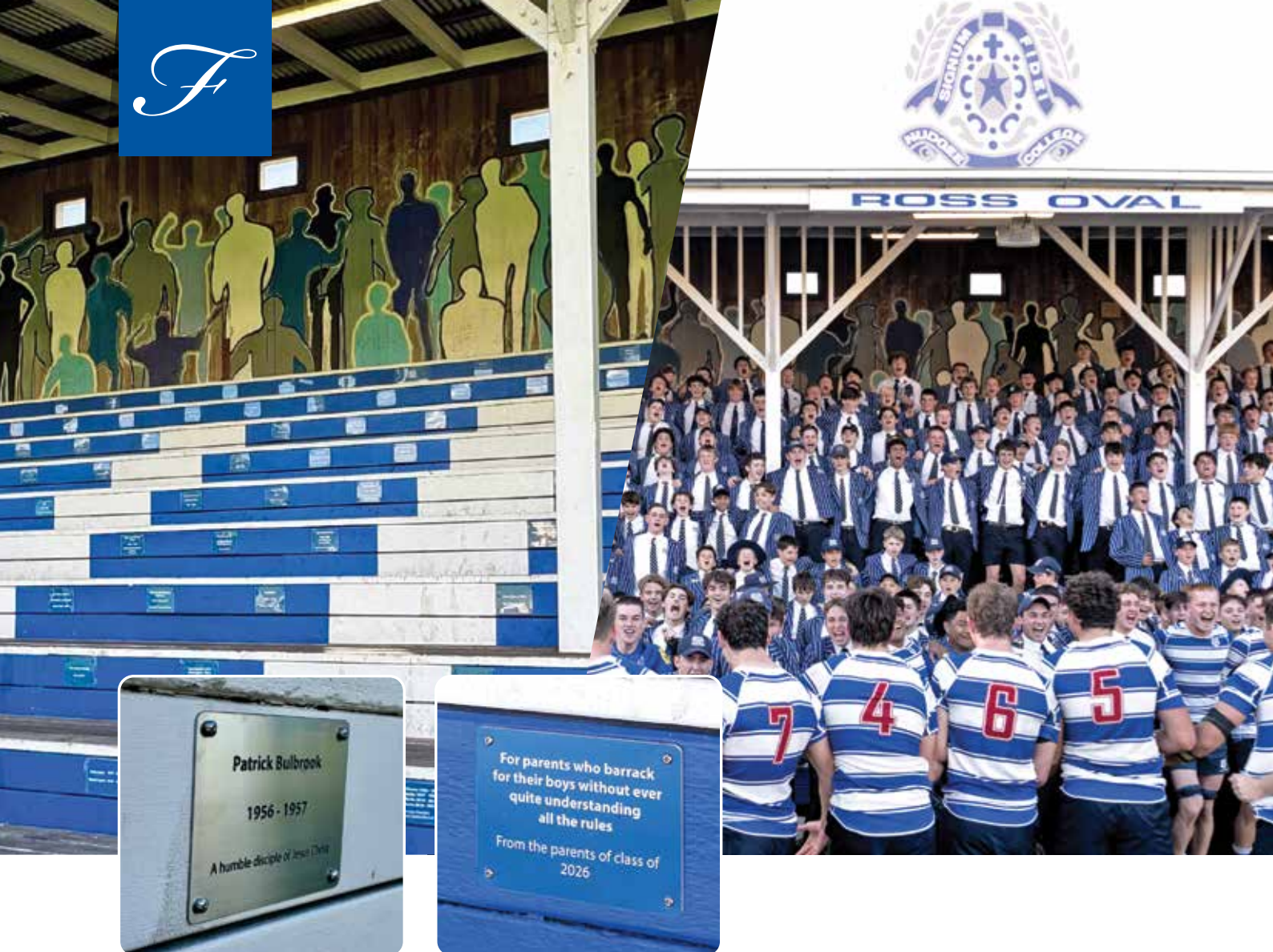
As a Music Director, it saddens me to see how female students often dominate the ensembles in co-educational schools at these events. I frequently count the number of boys in each ensemble and find some groups with five girls for every boy! Research indicates that in single-gender schools, boys feel more comfortable engaging in arts activities without the pressure of competition and judgement from female peers. We take great pride in watching these boys perform on stage, representing our College with enthusiasm. A memorable example was the Grade 5 and 6 Competition Choir at the Queensland Youth Music Awards in Term 2. Nudgee was the only all-boys school in the section, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed watching the boys sing. While waiting for the results, two choir representatives were interviewed on stage. When asked why they enjoyed singing at a school renowned for its sporting excellence, Year 6 student Henry Robertson replied, "Because boys can sing too!" This statement earned him a warm round of applause from the audience.

In addition to the competitions mentioned above, students also excelled in the music category at

the Queensland Youth Shakefest Competition this semester. Shakefest is an annual creative festival in Queensland that provides students with a unique platform to explore and showcase their artistic talents through various interpretations of William Shakespeare's works. Hunter Ireland, Ethan Dahl, Matthew Rostron, Daniel Rostron, and Daniel Cross performed an original piece as a rock band, outperforming schools from across Queensland.

Results like these are only possible through the hard work and dedication of our staff. They collaborate with our students throughout the year, lead ensembles, and tirelessly work to ensure success and growth. A special mention goes to our Coordinator of Performance Music, Ms Janelle Harding, and our Coordinator of Curriculum Music, Ms Belinda Dolan, for their passion and commitment to our students. Finally, it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge our wonderful Performing Arts Administrator, Ms Robyn Bowley. Scheduling and organising these competitions and eisteddfods is no small task and would not be possible without her efforts.





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Foundation
ST JOSEPH'S NUDGEES COLLEGE

444

BOARDERS

Number of Students

567

Principal

Br Brain Denton

College Captain

Peter Burke

College Dux

John Mackie

*Top: Campus circa 1974.**Middle: Construction of Gallagher 1973.**Below: 1st XI 1974.**Below middle: 1st XV 1974.**Below right: 11 Gold 1974.*

1974

THE YEAR THAT WAS

Take a glimpse into what life at Nudgee
College looked like 50 years ago.



123

DAY BOYS

- 23 full time teachers
- Gallagher Building and verandahs constructed (demolished in recent restorations).
- Sportsmaster - Br Bede McKennarney. He was the son of the first day student at Nudgee, Mr Michael McKennarney.
- Ross House's first year with Michael McEniery as the House Captain.
- Friday night fun included art, band, chess, debating, drama, karate, scuba diving, singing and welding.





NORMAN J GREHAN

Nudgee College boasts an impressive roster of Old Boys who have made significant contributions both during their time at the College and beyond.

One such standout is Mr Norman J Grehan (NCOB 1918), who left a lasting legacy in the world of athletics, rising to prominence in the early 1920s.

This year, Mr Grehan's niece, Dr Madonna Grehan (John Oxley Library Fellow), wrote a blog for the State Library of Queensland about his athletic career which you can read in full below.

“Almost an Olympian in 1924, the flying Queenslander, Norman J Grehan”

A century on, guest blogger Madonna Grehan revisits a lost Olympic opportunity for an aspiring Queensland athlete.

Born in Blenheim near Laidley in 1902, Norman John (Norm) Grehan came to prominence in athletics in the early 1920s. Late in his teens, Grehan

competed in professional races with the Brisbane Athletic Club at Glideway Sports Ground, a former skating rink in South Brisbane. At Glideway, Grehan raced off a large handicap, taking the “backmark”.

Professionals earned prize money thanks to lively betting on events,

Left: 1923 Norman Grehan Brothers Athletics Rep at Aust Champs 21.6 secs for 220 yards, Exhibition Grounds Brisbane.

Right: 1930 Melbourne Cricket Ground for National Athletics Champs.

Below: Norm Grehan running in the Athletic Championships, 1927. Photo from The Telegraph. 28 November 1927, p.4



but these athletes were barred from participation in state and national championships, and from Olympic Games selection. Around 1922, Norm Grehan relinquished the professional circuit and rejoined the Queensland Amateur Athletics Association (QAAA) to run with Christian Brothers Athletics Club. Coached by Joe Moylan, Grehan concentrated on sprints - the 100

yards (91.44 metres) and the furlong of 220 yards (201.168 metres), wearing spikes.

At that time in Australia, running was just one element in big sports carnivals. Athletes needed stamina because heats, semi-finals, and finals for an event, such as 220 yards, were held on the same day. Only officially-recognised tracks were used. Most

were turf and all varied. In 1922, Brisbane's Exhibition Ground's track was heavy. At the 1923 national championships in Hobart, the track was 'slightly up hill' with a very short straight. What's more, sprinters dug small holes in the turf with a trowel to position their spiked shoes; officials put the soil back before the next race. Track condition could affect race times which were clocked manually by three timekeepers to fifths or tenths of a second.

Norm Grehan made his athletic mark in July 1922, winning the 24th Dave Scott Memorial Handicap, a 100 yards event named for a QAAA founder. From six yards, Grehan won in a time of 10.1/10ths seconds, earning a gold medal worth £4.4.0. A month later in August 1922, he won Queensland's State Championship of 100 yards in 10.2/5ths seconds. George Kirk, QAAA Vice-President and a former 100 yards champion, supplied a gold medallion valued at £3.3.0.

The 1923 amateur athletics season opened in March with the St Patrick's Day Championships at the Brisbane Exhibition Grounds. A crowd of 15,000 witnessed Queensland's inaugural 100 metres race, programmed to reflect a new event in the forthcoming Olympics. With two false starts, the atmosphere was electric. Eleven seconds later, Grehan triumphed. The Daily Standard's commentator noted Grehan's 'really good time', remarking that the distance beyond 100 yards had been 'measured by guesswork'.

Brisbane Exhibition Grounds also hosted the state championships in August 1923. Norm Grehan won

ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



N. J. GREHAN, 220 YARDS CHAMPION.



Three Champion Runners.



Above left: 1924-25 Australian 220 yards medals.

Left: Telegraph 7 May 1925, p12 Labour Day Sports at Exhibition.

Right: 1924 Qld Rep Aths Team, Hobart.

Below right: 1930 Melbourne Cricket Ground for National Athletics Champs and Record.

A NEW RECORD FOR QUEENSLAND.



N. J. Grehan winning the 220 yds Championship, at the Exhibition.

the 220 yards in 21.3/5ths seconds, achieving a personal best and beating the Queensland record, later accepted as the Australasian record. The town of Cloncurry, where Grehan had lived as a child, proudly claimed him as one of their own.

By late 1923, speculation was mounting about Australian selections for the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris. The team was to have two sprinters, one a reserve. Queensland had three contenders: Norm Grehan, Les Parker of Mayne Harriers Club and Harold "Pat" Scouller of Thompson Estate Club. QAAA ran test events to place them. In January 1924, racing on an

oppressively hot day in Toowoomba, Grehan came third in the 100 metres, behind Parker. The same day, Grehan won the furlong in 22.2/5ths seconds, ahead of Parker.

Queenslanders scored all three places in the 100 yards championship race at the Australasian championships now being held at Hobart.

After his performance in Hobart, Norm Grehan felt that he had 'a chance of selection for the Olympic Games'. The Daily Mail agreed, reporting that Grehan 'will do honour to his country and to this State. He is a really great young sprinter, and his best time is as good as [Loren] Murchison's (America)

best. Grehan is young, keen, and capable. What better qualities could an aspirant for Olympic honours have?'

Australia's team for Paris was announced in late February 1924. Norm Grehan was a reserve in case NSW sprinter Edwin "Slip" Carr was unavailable. But Grehan's Olympic aspirations were contingent on funding. Per athlete, the return journey to Europe by sea, accommodation and meals for several weeks was estimated in 1924 to cost £200, in today's money around \$20,000. If Queensland's athletes were to go, £1000 was needed by mid-March.

In the end, Norm Grehan's Olympic ambition was stymied. A telegram from the Olympic Council in April confirmed that Queensland had not raised enough money and Grehan would not run in Paris. The Daily Mail bemoaned the public's lack of support for the Games, writing, 'the contest is a traditional one, emblematic of the progress of nations; the honours are great and to secure them is sufficient to give the conquering nations an advertisement that is worldwide'.

Running at the Olympic Games in July 1924, Slip Carr reached the semi-finals of the 100 and 200 metres but did not progress. Harold Abrahams of Britain won the 100 metres in a time of 10.6 seconds. His win was immortalised in the movie 'Chariots of Fire'. In retrospect, Norm Grehan's form in 1924 placed him in rarefied athletic





company. He was known to thrive on competition and it's tantalising to think that, had he had the opportunity, he may have reached his potential in Paris and made Queensland history.

Between 1920 and 1929, Norm Grehan set records in the 100-, 220- and 440-yards races. In novelty events, he raced champion cyclists. The furlong was his best event, hence the nicknames, 'Furlong Flash' and 'flying Queenslander'. He retired from athletics in 1930. At one point, Virginia State School had a Norman Grehan Trophy for Athletics.

Article republished, courtesy of State Library of Queensland.

**The College has added the coloured images to this blog from our own archive.*



From the College Archives

Nudgee College Archivist, Mr John Sayer, found the following references from Dr Tom Boland's Nudgee History and Jack Ross's personal records and the College's Golden Jubilee publication (1941):

Norm Grehan came to Nudgee College in 1916 from Kilcoy where his father was the local state school Headmaster. Unfortunately, this was in the pre-GPS years when there was not very much inter-school competition. Strangely enough, even though he

developed into one of Queensland's greatest athletes, Norm's name does not feature in the College's Athletics Records. The inimitable Jack Ross, did happen to record that Norman Grehan ran in the Under 16 220 yards handicap off eight yards. He came second in the final. The same record reports that he did not compete in the Mounted Pillow Fight (the College is yet to figure out what this means).

In the College's 1941 Nudgee College Old Boys' Association (NCOBA)

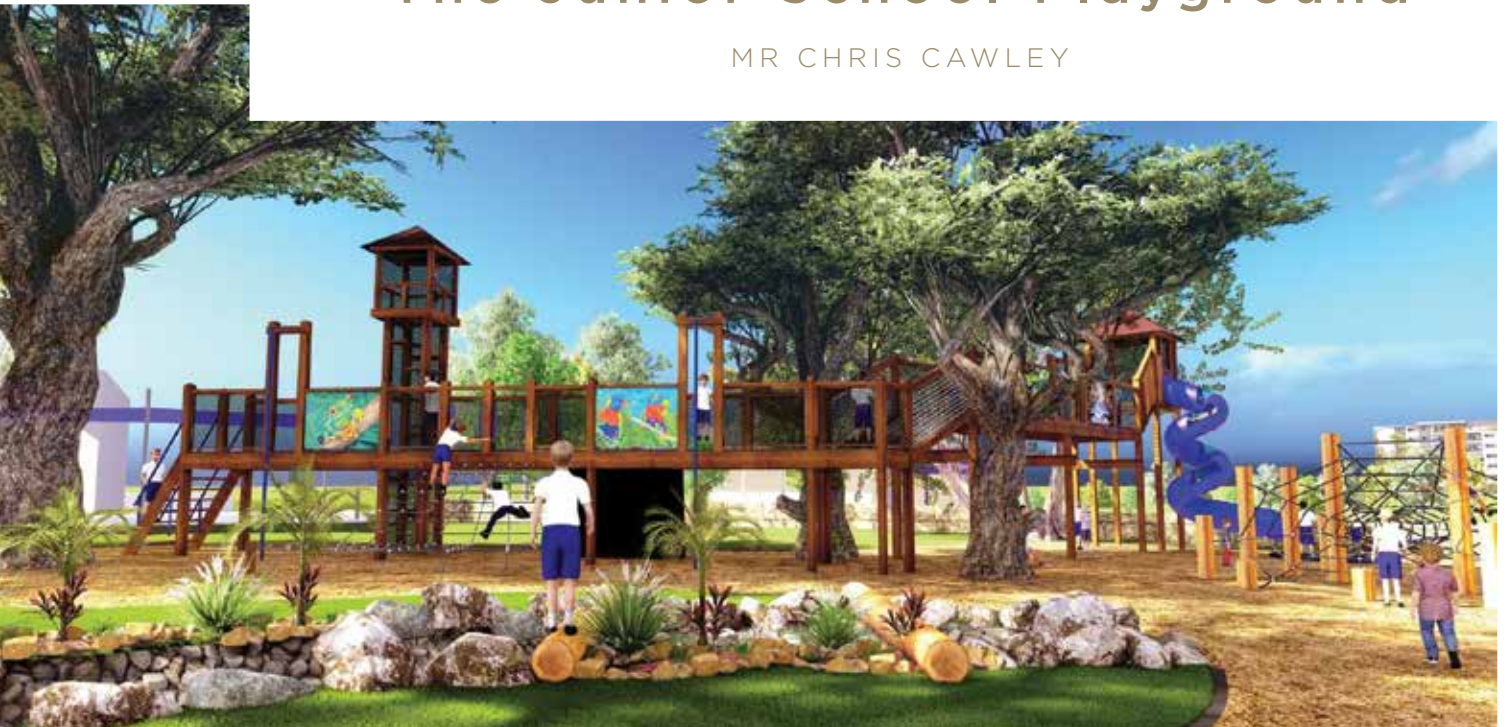
publication celebrating the College's Golden Jubilee, the following biography appears:

"Grehan, Norman J (1916-18) - Junior and Public Service; football; won 100 yards championship of Queensland, 1922 and 1926; 220 yards championship, 1922-23, 28, 29; 440 yards championship 1926, 27, 28; won Australasian 220 yards title in 1924 and 1926, in which he created a record, 21. 3/5 seconds; public servant; married; address, Income Tax Office, Brisbane."

Let the Fun Begin

The Junior School Playground

MR CHRIS CAWLEY



Our Junior School Playground has finally reached completion. This project has been in the making since our Junior School commenced in 2008. During 2024, our Giving Day made this dream a reality.

Why a Junior School playground?
Play is important for boys for several reasons:

1. Physical Development

Play allows them to engage in physical activities that help them develop coordination, strength, and endurance. It contributes to the healthy development of muscles, bones, and motor skills.

2. Social Development

Through play, boys learn important social skills such as cooperation, negotiation, and conflict resolution. They develop empathy, learn to take turns, and understand social cues, which are crucial for building friendships and navigating social situations.

3. Cognitive Development

Play stimulates creativity, imagination, and problem-solving skills. Boys engage in imaginative play, role-playing, and games that help them explore different scenarios, experiment with ideas, and develop critical thinking skills.

4. Emotional Development

Play provides boys with opportunities to express and regulate their emotions in a safe and supportive environment. It allows them to explore and understand their feelings, build self-confidence, and learn how to manage stress and anxiety.

5. Bonding and Communication

Play allows boys to bond with their peers. It provides a common ground

for communication and collaboration, helping them build meaningful relationships and develop a sense of belonging and connection.

6. Stress Relief

Play is a natural stress reliever for boys. It offers them a break from academic pressures and other stressors, allowing them to relax, recharge, and rejuvenate their minds and bodies.

Overall, it is essential for the holistic development and healthy growth of our young men.

An important part of our playground was the painting of murals that formed part of our fort. We were blessed to have Ms Ashley Hudson who is a Barkindji woman from North Queensland contribute to this





project. Significantly, Ashley painted her designs within the garden during construction. The design of her murals reflects our EREA Touchstones and incorporates the handprints of both staff and students.

As the Director of Junior School, I am immensely proud to see this project come to a completion. On behalf of the students both present and in the future, our sincere gratitude to all that contributed to our Giving Day 2024 and the Nudgee College Foundation.

I share with you a number of Year 5 students' comments regarding their excitement about using the playground next year.

"I can't wait to have this amazing space to explore the many areas of our new playground with my mates. Basketball

and handball are fine, but this is going to be a great space. I'm sure it is going to create lasting memories of my time in the Junior School" - Oliver.

"Our new playground is an opportunity for all the boys to have such a fun space. It is so much higher than I anticipated and I can't wait to use the ninja wall. Bring on 2025!" - Sammy.

From the Foundation

The new Junior School playground is a true testament to the spirit of philanthropy at Nudgee College. This project has come to fruition through the united efforts of our community, all dedicated to enhancing the lives of our youngest boys.

On Giving Day this year, we witnessed an inspiring gathering of Junior School



parents, alongside parents from the Senior School, Old Boys, and family members - all contributing generously to bring this vision to life.

It is this spirit of collective generosity that shines brightly at Nudgee. Every contribution, from the smallest to the largest, plays a crucial role in helping us achieve our shared goals.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Nudgee College Foundation and everyone who has generously supported the Building Fund, both in the past and on Giving Day. Your support means the world to us, and we could not have accomplished this without you.

Ms Lindsay Khushal

Head of Philanthropy



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NUDGEE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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INTER-HOUSE SNAPSHOT





The second half of the year saw our students compete in Inter-house Track and Field, Debating and Esport. Split into two days, Inter-house Track and Field in August was a fun filled yet competitive day out on Hendry Oval for both Juniors and Seniors. Long jump, Vortex, relays, sprints and javelin were just some of the events the boys participated in to try and accumulate as many points for their House. The end of the day saw Fogarty emerge victorious but the race was still on for the Shield.

The Inter-house Debating competition that followed was a battle of intellect where each House was assigned affirmative or negative

on a topic each week. Down to the final two, Duggan and Riley, the Houses argued on the topic 'whether students should have input into the Queensland curriculum'. After a tense debate, Riley were declared winners.

A highlight in the Term 4 calendar is the Inter-house Esport Competition. Tierney Auditorium was filled to the brim to see Barrett House and Riley House battle it out in the final in a game of Rocket League. Ultimately, Barrett House outplayed their opponent and came away with the win.

However, congratulations to the overarching winner of the Br Vic Larkin Shield, Fogarty House.





N C EVENTS



Senior Farewell Day

On Tuesday 15 October, the Year 12 students had a bittersweet day as they said goodbye to Nudgee College before they embarked on their exams. They gathered with their Houses at the beginning of the day, to enjoy breakfast with their fellow housemates and shirts were signed as a memento of their time at the College. Year 12s then had a private liturgy in the Chapel, sang the school

song in full voice and gathered with their families in the rose garden for final hugs, congratulations and a group prayer.

To wrap up the day, they headed to the Christian Brothers' Conference Centre (CBCC) for their final College Assembly through a guard of honour that was lined with the rest of the student body.





Valedictory

Just like that, the Year 12s gathered in the Ross Oval grandstand one last time for their Valedictory. The day began with a Mass which was celebrated by the College's Chaplain in Residence, Reverend Fr John Gillen SM.

Mr Scott Thomson left the departing Year 12s with the following words: "You have done the school proud by honouring the story and creating your legacy. I leave you with the words of writer, Richard Bach; "A farewell is necessary before we can meet again, and meeting again, after moments or a lifetime, is certain for those who are friends.""

It was finally time for our Year 12s to don their Old Boys ties, tied by their fathers. This is a symbolic moment during Valedictory, as their time as current students officially comes to an end.

Congratulations to our graduating class. They've created a legacy that will stay in the memories of the Years 5 to 11s and we wish them all the best as they embark on their next chapter.





Boarders' Bash/Reunion Weekend

One of the biggest events in our calendar is the Boarders' Bash/Reunion Weekend. This year, students, parents, boarding families, Old Boys and our friendly rivals for the afternoon, The Southport School (TSS), flooded McKennariey Centre, Ross Oval and Edmund Rice Mall for a few hours of sport, music, food and festivities.

In Cleary, the Jazz Ensemble played some smooth tunes for our 60 Year reunion group. It was great to welcome back so many of our reunion groups to the College.

After a nail-biting 1st V basketball game, the crowd moved to Ross Oval for a scintillating 1st XV rugby game with Nudgee College winning by a

big margin, 50-5. Post-match, Edmund Rice Mall began to fill as the crowd enjoyed food trucks, drinks and live music. 1st XV debutants were also presented with their caps.

It was a wonderful afternoon seeing our families, Old Boys and rivals from the south gathering, reconnecting, reminiscing and mingling.



Lads and Dads

On 24 August, 150 Year 12s and their fathers and father figures joined together for the Lads and Dads evening in the Edmund Rice Mall.

In celebration of Father's Day, dads and their son's enjoyed dinner together as well as live music and guest speaker, rugby union great, Mr Paul McLean (NCOB 1971). It was great to see so many of our students and their fathers spend some quality time together!



Formal and Semi Formal

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Our Year 12s looked dapper in their bow ties and suits as they descended on the Royal International Convention Centre on Sunday 7 July. The Seniors and their partners enjoyed an evening of dinner, dancing and fun before commencing their final full Term at the College.

The Year 11s also had the opportunity to dress up and celebrate their Semi Formal on 15 August at Victoria Park.



Arts Gala

On Friday 11 October, the Arts Gala opened with an evening in Tierney Auditorium. Parents, staff, students and the wider community spent the evening viewing artwork by our talented Junior and Senior Visual Art students. Guests were also treated to an inspiring collection of artwork by renowned professional artists including Ms Susan Cook, Ms Wendy McNeil, Mr Paul Smith, Leaf and Co., Ms Ingrid Bartkowiak, Ms Sinead Oppenheimer, Ms Samantha Martinuzzi and Mr Franco Lim Santos Faria (NCOB 2021).

Whilst guests marvelled at the incredible art on display, they enjoyed music from our Senior musicians as well as watching the artists paint live.



YEAR 6 AWARDS



Awards Ceremony

Every year, the College celebrates the achievements of students at the annual Awards Ceremony in the CBCC.

Congratulations to the following award winners:

- **Junior Sportsman of the Year:** Thomas Kennedy
- **Year 10 Ladies' Auxiliary Award for Conduct, Study and Co-curricular:** Samuel Coleman, Ethan Andrews, Andrew Emery, Harrison McIver, George Pentecost, Cooper Ramsay and Digger Rowthorne.
- **Year 10 RJH Elliott Bursary for Social Justice and Community Service:** Tom Kewley
- **Year 11 Past Mothers' Association Sign of Faith Award:** Cooper Barnard-Stower, Jem Harper, Daniel Kaputin, Harrison Patrick, Joshua Sherwood, Michael Williams and Paddy Williams.
- **Sam Sciacca Memorial Award for Character and Citizenship:** Will McGrath
- **Shirley Agnew Memorial Award for Outstanding Participation:** Jordan Wendt
- **Liberating Education Award for Leadership and Service to the Liberating Education Program:** John Grenfell
- **Ampol All Rounder Award for Study, Activities and Service:** Dominic Weber
- **W A Collins Memorial Award for Conduct, Study and Co-curricular:** Jamie Waddington
- **Lawrie Cusack Signum Fidei Award:** Hugo Wendt
- **Award for Outstanding Contribution to Nudgee College Sustainability:** Hamish McCourt
- **The Kelleher Family Award for Consistent, Unrecognised Achievement:** Lachlan James
- **James J Delahunty Sportsman of the Year Award:** Nicholas Conway
- **Excellence in Sport Award for Outstanding Achievement in a GPS Sport:** Timothee Philippe
- **W Carlton-Smith Memorial Award for Leadership, Study and Co-curricular:** Hugo Hart
- **Br J G Hodda Memorial Award for Leadership and Diligence as a College Captain:** Oscar Roati
- **Br J G Hodda Memorial Award for Leadership and Diligence as a College Vice Captain:** Charlie Bell and Grady Turner
- **The Arts Committee Creative Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts:** Tyler Goodall
- **The Old Boys' Award for Outstanding Service to the College:** Samuel Browne
- **John Francis Treacy Memorial Award for Service to the Boarding Community:** Cooper McInerney

The Dux of the College will be announced at the first Academic Assembly in 2025.



Grandparents' Day

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On Saturday 3 August, our Nudgee College grandparents were welcomed onto campus for a morning tea with their grandsons! Coinciding with a home round against Brisbane Grammar School (BGS), many boys proudly showed off their school and had the opportunity to play basketball or rugby with their grandparents watching on from the sidelines.

Long Lunch

The highly anticipated Long Lunch on 11 August, saw 1500 guests gather on Wilkes Oval for an afternoon of sunshine, grazing platters, live music and dancing. This is always a cherished event on the College calendar and it was fantastic to see many current families, former families, students and staff enjoy the afternoon together.



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NC
SPORT





Rugby

The campaign for the 45th Premiership trophy began with an away game at Ipswich Grammar School (IGS). With the biggest away crowd at IGS in years, the 1st XV squad had the backing of their brothers and played hard to secure a 31-12 victory. Round 1 also saw the Under 11s enjoy their first taste of GPS Rugby at the U11 Gala Day hosted by Gregory Terrace (GT) at Tennyson.

The first home game of the season against The Southport School (TSS) combined with Boarders Bash and Reunion Weekend made for an exciting weekend at the College. All 39 teams played at home, including seven of our open teams on Ross

starting at 8am- winning all of them and conceding just 25 points in total across the seven games. 1st XV debutants Max Rohan and Ben Di Donna moved seamlessly into the starting side. After a narrow half-time lead of 10-5, the side put the foot down in the second half scoring a further 40 points without conceding, finishing 50-5 victors in front of a full grandstand and a huge Old Boys crowd.

Anglican Church Grammar School (Churchie) proved to be a gritty opponent across their program. Despite the relentless pressure, the program won 25 out of 31 fixtures against Churchie, including a narrow 19-15 win from the 1st XV match.

In our Round 4 fixtures against Brisbane Grammar School (BGS), our teams enjoyed perfect playing conditions, with beautiful weather and immaculate fields setting the stage for an exciting day. Highlights of the day included a very competitive internal 3rds versus 4ths fixture played in great spirits that went down to the wire with a match winning try in the final few minutes to the 3rds.

The St Joseph's Cup will stay with Nudgee College for another year after an impressive victory over Gregory Terrace (GT), achieving 28 wins, 5 losses, and one draw. GT proved to be gracious hosts and formidable opponents, with most matches being closely contested and played in good spirits. At Brisbane Boys College (BBC) the program saw all teams achieve a clean sweep of victories across a strong program. A win from the 1st XV against BBC meant the last round of season would be a Premiership match with two unbeaten teams: Nudgee College and Brisbane State High School (BSHS)

The season culminated in a big home round against BSHS. Over 8,000 people descended on Ross Oval to see two unbeaten 1st XV teams battle it out on the field. With scores locked at 21 all at half-time, the 1st XV dug deep and put in a comprehensive 35 minutes in the second half to run away with a big win, 45 - 28.

Congratulations to the 1st XV on their 45th GPS Premiership!





Cattle Club

In August, the majority of the Show Team had their time filled by the Ekka. Multiple boys were on hand to assist with showing select cattle to Ekka guests in the 'Large Animal Pavilion'. They spent their afternoons giving guests the opportunity to brush the cattle, take photos and spoke to them about the Cattle Club. The students were also a part of the Sunrise live cross during Ekka week!

It was a fantastic week for the students, with Lachlan Pattison taking out the Junior Young Judges

Under 15s in the Stud Cattle section. Our Braford Bull also took out the Champion Breed Exhibit. Overall, the students did well and our cattle stood up to the competition.

Despite Term 4 being a slower Term for Cattle Club, the boys took a trip to Lismore for the Lismore Show. The Droughtmasters stole the show with three Champions in their age groups followed by our Shorthorns and Angus as Reserve Champions.

The team caught up with many of our southern sponsors and friends to tie up what has been a full and successful year for the program.

Basketball

Nudgee College Basketball kicked off their season against a tough IGS side. Despite a loss in Round 1 from the 1st V, there were several close games resulting in single-digit losses. The newest members to the program, Year 5, had a clean sweep with some convincing wins across the board.

Round 2 against TSS saw a split in the win/loss ratio. The Juniors continued to be very competitive, winning most of their A and B games. Unfortunately, the Senior games were closely contested until late in the matches when TSS proved to be the stronger team. The 2nd V played extremely well in a nail-biting finish, narrowly losing by single digits. The 1st V fought hard for three quarters until three of our five starters fouled out in the final quarter, allowing TSS to take full advantage.

There were a few notable wins against BGS, including the 5A and 10A teams keeping their undefeated streak alive for the season.

The Battle of the Colours (Gregory Terrace) kicked off with good wins by the 5A, 6A and a narrow win for the 10As (by one point!). The 1st V got their first win of the season against a tough GT outfit. They were never separated by more than seven points, but Nudgee College eventually edged the game 87-81 in the final quarter. Isaiah Jorgenson led the way in the opening term until Seniors Tyson Warren and Rylan Carlisle got going to bring it home for the much needed win.







Round 7 was a round dominated by our Juniors who secured wins across the board. The 1st V put up a strong fight against a formidable Toowoomba Grammar School (TGS) team. BBC round again saw our Junior teams take majority of the wins, with the 5As completing their undefeated season with a significant victory. Our 1st V faced a challenging match, starting off against a strong push from BBC. Unfortunately BBC maintained their robust play throughout most of the game, making it tough for our boys to close the gap to a respectable margin.

1st V finished the season with a hotly contested game against BSHS. The game was tied up with seven minutes to go after Isaiah Jorgenson connected on a corner three point shot from an assist from Rylan Carlisle. However, unfortunately, BSHS executed a game winning shot on the buzzer to pull ahead by two points.

Track and Field

It's been a big year for the Track and Field athletes. With regular training every week and meets at the Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre (QSAC), the team worked hard in the lead up to the GPS Championships. The team had a fantastic time at their camp over their holidays and enjoyed laser tag, training at the Sunshine Coast University, pool recovery sessions, team bonding and relaxing at the beach. The camp certainly has set the scene for a big few weeks leading up the GPS Championships.

It was a beautiful day at QSAC for the GPS Championships. Our team secured third place in the Junior competition and second place in the Senior competition - narrowly losing to Ipswich Grammar School (IGS) in both.

Highlights included:

- Sean Putra-Susilo setting a new GPS record in the 16 Years 110m Hurdles with a time of 13.80.
- Matthew Turner setting a new GPS and school record in the 14 Years 1500m with a time of 4:07.10.
- Joshua Lenz winning the 11 Years 200m.
- Kingston Massingale winning the 11 Years Div 1 100m dash.
- Jacob Turner dominating in the javelin with a massive throw of 59.74m.
- Wins in high jump from Liam Walker (14 Years) and Nicholas Conway (Opens)
- Max Molley winning the 16 Years discus.



To keep up to date on all our sport and activities news, follow

@ncactivities





NC PERFORMING ARTS



Chess

The Chess season kicked off with a first round against Ipswich Grammar School (IGS). Despite starting the afternoon with the unfortunate news that our Chess Captain was unable to play, the entire team rose to the occasion, with everyone moving up a spot in the lineup. Liam McBride, our first reserve, immediately earned his place in the 1st IV, battling the longest of all of our players. However, unfortunately, the 1st IV lost 0-4.

The College welcomed our rivals from the south in Round 2, The Southport School (TSS). Our team showcased their resilience and skill and despite the 1st IV facing a tough 0-4 defeat, the Open B, C, D, E, and H teams celebrated impressive victories, with the Open G team securing a draw. Year 5 student Cary Clifford triumphed over a Year 12 opponent from TSS. The highlight of the evening came when Liam McBride clinched the final win, outmaneuvering a significantly

higher-rated opponent in a thrilling rook and pawn endgame.

The next round, players were up against 2023 GPS Chess Premiership winners, Anglican Church Grammar School (ACGS). Xavier Parer was the first win of the night with a quick 12 move checkmate. Year 6 player, James Brown finished his opponent with a steamroller checkmate after a marathon 74 move game. Brisbane Grammar School (BGS) were a difficult follow up to Round 3. Playing arguably the two strongest teams in Brisbane back to back was tough but congratulations to Griffin Thomas who was the only checkmate of the night.

Gregory Terrace (GT) round saw the team secure four wins, four draws and four losses. In the 1st IV, Tejas Ashok had one of the fastest wins ever finishing his board 4 match in under 25 minutes. Ethan Cockburn also won on board 3 to secure the 1st IV drawing 2-2. Our friends from



up on the range, Toowoomba Grammar School (TGS), joined us for Round 7. The Junior team won 2.5-1.5 after wins from Michael Cusack and Janav Patel. Hugo Elliot secured a massive upset, drawing with a player rated 1075.

Round 8 versus Brisbane Boys College yielded mixed results. In the 1st IV, Ethan Cockburn whittled away at his opponent, eventually getting him to agree to a draw to avoid insufficient material. The Open Bs also drew 2-2 thanks to a win from Mason Hunter and draws from Teddy Denver-Fedder and Nilay Shirolkar. The Open C and Fs, made up of some of our young up and comers, both won 3-1 with wins from Hemish Patel, Charlie Rienstra, Cormac Byrne, Andy Griffiths, Louis Thomas and Ethan Oertel.

For the final round of GPS Chess, the College joined with every GPS school at Brisbane Boys' College (BBC) to celebrate the end of the season. Brisbane State High School (BSHS) were a tough opponent, with most of their teams finishing in the top three this year. The Open B won 3-1 thanks to wins from Ned Fairley, Charlie Bell and William Griggs. All three defeated significantly higher rated players.

The Open D also managed a draw 2-2 thanks to a win from Alexander Shave while Charlie Rienstra and Cormac Byrne drew their games against players rated 200 points higher.

Congratulations to the Chess program on such a fantastic season.

Theatresports

Theatresports has had a very successful Semester. The Senior A Theatresports team - Scoobydid (Robbie Fitzgerald, Tyler Goodall, Samuel Browne, Hunter Ireland and Dan Cross performed in front of a packed Tierney Auditorium at the beginning of their campaign to the Grand Final. The boys performed with

passion, wit, and amazing spontaneity and ultimately made it through to the Grand Final.

On Saturday 24 August, the team performed at La Boite Theatre and took out the win to become the Senior Queensland Youth Theatresports Champions. Up against schools such as Gregory Terrace, Anglican Church Grammar School, Padua, All Hallows and Grace Lutheran, the team presented a highly successful '5 Way Dub' game in Round 3 and a hilarious 'Musical Hostpot' game in Round 4.

Congratulations to the team on their win - Nudgee College's first in Theatresports!



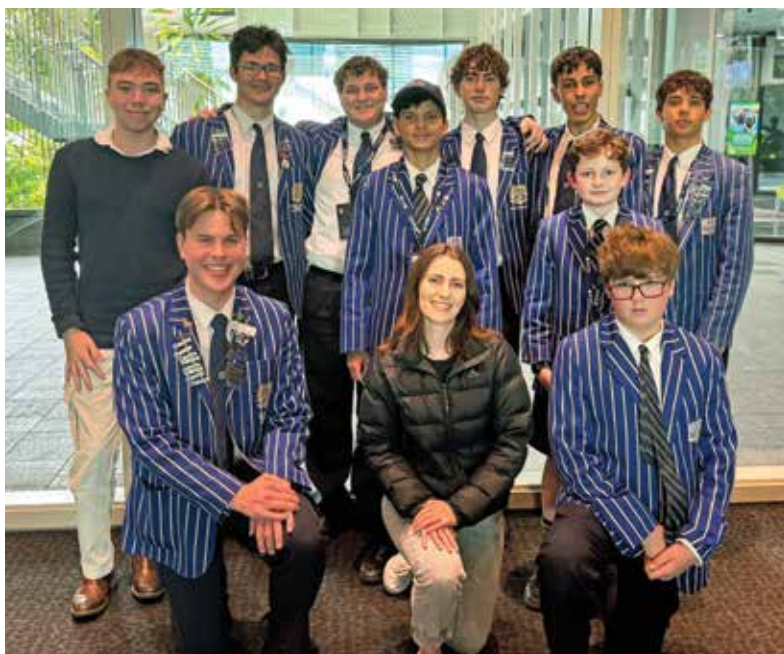


Writers' Circle

This semester, Writers' Circle members had the privilege of attending a presentation by Andy Griffiths and an incursion led by Mr Morris Gleitzman. Both authors offered invaluable insights into their writing processes, inspiring our young writers to explore new depths in their creative work. This semester also saw the Junior Writers' Circle participate in the Write a Book in a Day competition to support the Kids Cancer Project, raising over \$2,991, with their book, *The Bush Dance Journey*. We also participated

in the Junior Children's Writers Festival where students were involved in workshops, gained valuable feedback from authors, and explored creative writing, poetry, and screenwriting. Furthermore, we farewelled our Lead Mentors, Hunter Ireland and Lachie James, who have been exceptional contributors to the program. We also selected our 2025 Lead Mentors, Bill Deeran and Gage Dittmann.

Community engagement and well-being were at the heart of Writers' Circle this semester. During Mental Health Wellbeing Week, our students embraced the spirit of support



by writing affirmation cards and letters, which we proudly displayed in the Library to uplift the school community. We also celebrated Teacher Aide Appreciation Week and International Women's Day, where students expressed their gratitude for the dedicated teacher aides and female staff at the College. Additionally, our visits to Viridian each term have been an especially poignant part of our community engagement efforts. These visits provide a platform for students to share their stories and gain wisdom and feedback from the residents.

Overall, the program has grown tremendously, both in participation and in spirit, and it simply wouldn't have been possible without the support of the wider community.

Esports

This semester was an incredible period for the Esports program, with our students excelling across various competitions. The QUT Sport and Tech Challenge saw Nudgee College represented in Rocket League, Just Dance, Rowing, Cycling, and Motorsports. Standout achievements included Ethan Oertal, Harry Hicks, and Nate Mawer dominating Just Dance with a clean sweep of first, second, and third places, while Ari secured first in Rowing heats and third in the finals. Our Rocket League team advanced to the semi-finals, with us ultimately placing fourth overall in the competition.

In the QUT Overwatch Competition, our team finished fourth, with special



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recognition going to Arts Prefect Sam Browne for his exceptional coaching. The College was awarded with the QUT Fairness, Safety, and Conduct Award, a reflection of our commitment to integrity and sportsmanship.

This semester also introduced students to the world of live commentating and broadcasting, with Edward Farrands, Jett Andersen, and Eli Clancy gaining valuable production experience. We also participated in The FUSE Cup and the Australian Computer Society (ACS) Tournament which was an incredible opportunity for our students to engage with like-minded individuals. The Inter-house Esports Competition wrapped up the semester, contributing to the Vic Larkin Shield.

Special thanks go to Lachie James, Hunter Ireland, Curtis McGarry, and Dusty Piper for their leadership this year. Their dedication, guidance, and passion have been the cornerstone of our program's success. Congratulations to our 2025 Esports leaders, Xander Eyles (Captain), and Ryan Matthews and Bill Deeran (Vice Captains). Their guidance will continue to elevate the Esports program at Nudgee.



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Alma Mater

A dynamic semester of innovation and growth

Semester 2 has been a remarkable period of growth and engagement for the Nudgee College Alma Mater, with a series of standout events and exciting new initiatives that have brought our community closer together.

On 5 July, we hosted our second highly anticipated Business Series event at The Precinct, a state-of-the-art technology hub in the heart of the Valley. Moderated by the dynamic Ms Sarah-Jane Peterschlingman, Managing Director of ATECH, the morning featured a compelling panel discussion on "Resilience in Business and Driving Innovation." The panel included Nudgee College Old Boy Mr Anton Guinea (NCOB 1989), a TedX speaker and "Perspectivist," alongside Ms Belinda Brosnan, an accomplished Executive Coach, Author, and Leadership Development Specialist, and Ms Dilshani Weerasinghe, Executive Director of the Queensland Ballet. Their insights inspired thought-provoking discussions on how to thrive in the ever-evolving business landscape.

We were also proud to support the vibrant Past Mothers' Association with their successful Pimms Afternoon, and Mothers' Mass and Dinner, held in

collaboration with the Ladies Auxiliary. Additionally, we strengthened our partnership with the Nudgee College Old Boys' Association (NCOPA) through a range of exciting events on campus, including the Old Boys' Reunion Weekend, the Senior Reunion, the Mentoring Breakfast, the Young Old Boys' Welcome, and the Memorial Mass – all fostering a sense of unity within our community.

In an exciting first, we've been working hard to bring you the Nudgee College Podcast – an innovative new way to share stories, knowledge, and experiences from across the Nudgee family. We are launching with an Alma Mater series focusing on significant past parents, staff and students of our community. The podcast will be hosted by Mr Wes Dening (NCOB 2000), an internationally renowned television producer who you might remember from his days hosting *Totally Wild* or appearing on *Big Brother*. Wes is now Head of Global Formats at Eureka Productions and has produced iconic shows like *Australian Idol*. His passion for storytelling and deep connection to Nudgee make him the perfect host to bring out the highs and lows that make each guest's story unique. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

To cap off this incredible semester, we celebrated at our final Alma Mater meeting of the year, opening it up to the community for an evening of reflection, refreshment, and celebration. Together, we looked back on our achievements and began to chart our course for 2025 and beyond.

A heartfelt thanks goes to our 2024 Alma Mater Committee members, whose tireless work and dedication made all of this possible: Mr Scott Thomson, Mr Stephen Meara, Mr Mark Anthony, Mr David Kelly, Mr Brian O'Reilly, Mr Andrew McNamara, Ms Catherine Jones, Mr Freddie Carlton-Smith, Mr Ben Casado, and Mr Luke Sherwin. We're excited for what's to come as we continue to grow, innovate, and strengthen the College's spirit!

Please be sure to sign up via the QR code below to find out more in 2025.

If you have any questions or would like to know how you can be involved, please contact me at:

E: ehitchings@nudgee.qld.edu.au

P: (07) 3865 0316

Ms Erina Hitchings

Alumni and Community Manager



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP
TO THE **NUDGEE COLLEGE**
ALMA MATER



New Business Directory

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On Tuesday, 23 July, Nudgee College took a significant step in enhancing community support with the launch of its new and improved Business Directory. While the Nudgee Spirit of camaraderie and support thrives naturally, this innovative platform offers a streamlined and powerful way for community members to connect with and champion businesses owned by parents, Old Boys, sponsors, and staff.

With over 200 businesses already listed, the directory spans a diverse range of industries – retail, beauty, corporate services, home maintenance, tourism and beyond. Whether you're looking for professional services, local retailers, or unique offerings, the directory provides a one-stop hub for all your needs, along with exclusive discounts and offers for the Nudgee family.

This initiative is more than just a listing – it's about nurturing the strength of the Nudgee network and fostering a deeper sense of collaboration. By supporting these businesses, you're not only investing in local enterprises but also contributing to the growth and vitality of our shared community.

We encourage all community members to explore the directory, and for those who haven't yet registered their businesses, now is the perfect time to join this thriving network.

For further inquiries or to submit a business, please contact us at sponsorships@nudgee.com.au.



Nudgee College Past Mothers' Association Message

The Past Mothers' Committee had an exciting and meaningful Semester 2, filled with opportunities to reconnect and support our community. Our membership of past mothers is growing, and with an enhanced social media presence, we're reaching more of our past mothers than ever before.

In June, we gathered for our annual Winter Warmer event, a cozy afternoon where stories were shared, and support was offered to one another. September brought our Pimms Afternoon, another highlight of the semester, where past mothers bonded over laughter, memories, and shared experiences.

A special thank you goes to Mr Richard Deery (NCOB 1979) and the Story Bridge Hotel, whose generosity continues to help us create memorable events in a place that feels like home to so many.

In October, we were also thrilled to join the Old Boys' Blue and White Race Day, followed by the Annual Mothers' Mass and Dinner with the Ladies Auxiliary in November – moments that remind us how strong the community truly is.

This Semester, we've proudly extended a helping hand to several families in need, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to care and community. Through our events and fundraising efforts, we've continued to provide financial support to boys attending the Immersion programs, knowing that these experiences leave a lasting impact.

Our gratitude goes out to the College Leadership Team for their unwavering support, which makes everything we do possible. Although our sons may have graduated, our dedication to this wonderful community remains as strong as ever.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey. Together, we're building a network of strength, compassion, and connection.

Past Mothers' Committee



SCAN THE CODE TO FOLLOW THE
PAST MOTHERS' FACEBOOK PAGE



NC Old Boys' Association

NCOBA President's Message

On Saturday 12 October we held our hugely successful Blue and White Race Day supported by the Past Mothers' Association. The sellout event was held in near perfect spring conditions and it was wonderful to see such a wide variety of the community coming together. This included groups of recent graduates from 2022, 2023 and Old Boys of different eras. Current and past families, staff and friends of the College also enjoyed the wonderful track-side venue where beautiful food and drinks were served late into the afternoon.

With another year rapidly drawing to a close we look forward to hosting our final two events of the year.

Our annual End of Year Lunch which is growing in popularity to become one of our signature events will be held on Saturday 30 November at the Story Bridge Hotel.

We will close out our busy 2024 event schedule with our highly anticipated and hotly contested Old Boys Golf Day in late December.

Thank you to Principal Scott Thomson for the continued support of the NCOBA and especially our committee

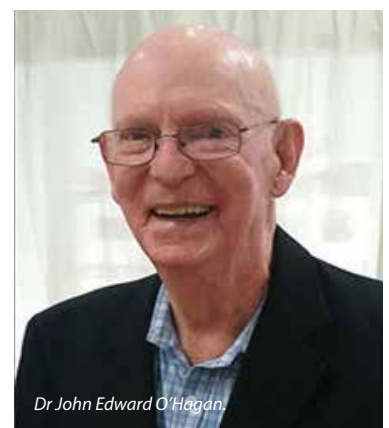
members: Vice President Mr Aldo Varrichio, Secretary Mr Tony Gleeson, Treasurer Mr Doug Carrigan and general committee members.

Mr Andrew McNamara

NCOBA President



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THE **NCOBA** ON **LINKEDIN**



Dr John Edward O'Hagan



Old Boy features in Australian best selling author, Trent Dalton's latest book

Dr John Edward O'Hagan's life stands as a testament to the enduring values of Nudgee College – resilience, service, and community. A Nudgee Old Boy from the class of 1934-35, Dr O'Hagan's remarkable 102 years were shaped by an unwavering commitment to helping others, a lesson he carried with him from the college grounds to the battlefields of World War II and into his distinguished career in science.

Even as he served in the Australian Army, he pursued his education, embodying the spirit of perseverance. Completing his PhD in biochemistry, Dr O'Hagan devoted his life to advancing science and education in Queensland, a passion that earned him a Member of the Order of Australia at the age of 99.

His love story, immortalised by best-selling author Trent Dalton in *Love Stories*, captures the heart of

someone who lives a life of purpose, anchored by the love of family, friends, and community. Dr O'Hagan often credited his long and fulfilling life to the care of two wonderful wives and the joy of helping others. His legacy is one of profound impact.

Class of 66 Reunion August 2024

On Friday 2 August a lively group of Nudgee Old Boys from the Class of 1966 came together at the Norman Hotel to celebrate 57 years since leaving the College. Thanks to the efforts of Mr Ray Pyzik and Mr Damien Barker, a full cricket team of talented and well-presented 66ers gathered for an evening of good food, great company, and fond memories.

The event was filled with laughter as old stories were brought back to life, many of which had been long forgotten. As is often the case, some of the most entertaining tales involved moments where the storytellers themselves were the main culprits, despite having no recollection of the events in question!

There was no shortage of light-hearted banter, especially at the expense of those 66ers who were unable to attend. The laughter was infectious, with tears flowing and bodies shaking as these Old Boys relived the memories and shared the unique camaraderie that has stood the test of time.

Harry Turner becomes 6th Nudgee Old Boy Dolphin

At the recent Australian Short Course Championships Old Boy and current Nudgee College Swim Team member Mr Harry Turner (NCOB 2021) won the 200m Butterfly. This was a selection event for an Australian Team to compete at the World Short Course Championships in Budapest. Harry was under the qualifying time but narrowly missed the team. With the late withdrawal of Ms Kaylee McKeown, Harry has now made his first Australian Open Team becoming a Dolphin Swimmer #868 to swim for Australia. Harry became the sixth Nudgee Old Boy to become a Dolphin





Harry Turner.

in the last 30 years. Harry still works closely with the Nudgee College GPS Team where he continues to inspire the future Dolphins now training at Nudgee.

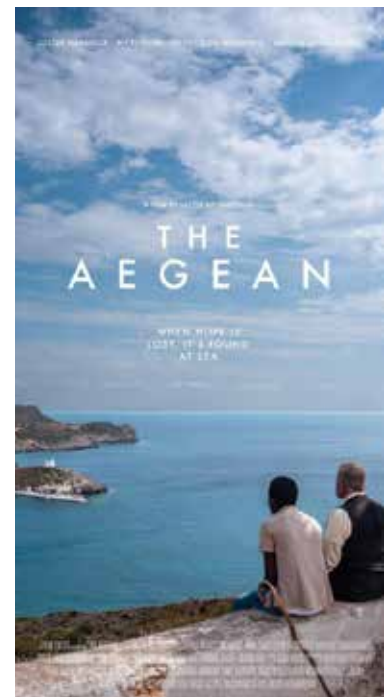
PNG Principal's Tour

Long time staff member and Head of Hodda Boarding House, Mr Ken Mitchell, joined Principal Scott Thomson and Dean of Boarding, Mr Casey Brealy on a trip to Papua New Guinea for a weekend in September to host our wonderful past, present and future community. Mr Mitchell was able to catch up with a few Old Boys he hadn't seen since they were in the boarding house. By all accounts it was a great event.

2010 College Dux Debuts First Feature Film at 2024 Brisbane International Film Festival

NCOB and 2010 College Dux, Jacob Richardson, had his first feature film selected to be released at the Brisbane International Film Festival in October this year.

The score for the film was written by his co-dux of that year Allister Harrison (NCOB 2010).



"While most parents of a College Dux might think their son would go on to become a doctor or a lawyer, we are delighted that Jacob has chosen this path of film making as his true passion. And we know he could not have done so without the incredible support he received from his days at Nudgee College." - Anthony and Wendy Richardson, Jacob's parents.

2024 QUT Outstanding Alumni Award

Mr Michael Pini (NCOB 1981), pictured below, has had an inspiring journey as a disability advocate and Assistant Commissioner at the Australian Taxation Office. Born with cerebral palsy, he first joined Nudgee College in Year 8, quickly becoming known for his spirited participation and unwavering Nudgee Spirit. Throughout his career, he has been a trailblazer for people with disabilities, dedicating himself to advocacy and education. Mr Pini shares his mission with younger generations, encouraging them to take away at least one lesson about disability awareness, hoping they'll continue to spread understanding and foster inclusion. For his contributions as a disability advocate he was awarded the QUT Outstanding Alumni Award.



Signum Fidei Award Winner

Mr Terry White AO (NCOB 1954), pictured above, was awarded the 2024 Signum Fidei Award in the presence of his wife, son, daughter, grandsons, family and friends on Friday 1 November. This award is the highest honour which can be awarded by the College to an Old Boy. To be awarded the Signum Fidei Award an Old Boy must exhibit success in his chosen field of endeavour, his support of Nudgee College and of the NCOBA, and, who by his example is a *'Sign of Faith'*. Mr White has accomplished so much in both his professional life with Terry White Chemists, and his political career as Queensland State Leader for the Liberal Party. He is a devoted and proud Nudgee Old Boy, with his sons and grandsons all educated at the College. Above else, he is a kind, generous and respected gentleman, and a true *'Sign of Faith'*.

NCOBA Website Relaunch

We are excited to announce the launch of the newly redesigned NCOBA website, now live at ncoba.com.au!

This comprehensive overhaul brings our site into the modern age with a sleek, mobile-friendly design that prioritises an enhanced user experience. We've focused on creating a visually striking and intuitive platform, making it easier than ever to stay connected with our vibrant Nudgee College Old Boy community.

Some standout features of the new website include:

- **Hall of Fame:** A tribute to our exceptional alumni, celebrating their remarkable achievements.
- **Digitised Annuals:** Access and download years of Nudgee history, now available at your fingertips.
- **Seamless Social Media Integration:** Connect with us and stay informed on the latest events and updates.

This redesign is more than just a facelift – it's a reimagined space that invites Old Boys of all ages to engage,

participate in events, and find the information they need effortlessly. We look forward to welcoming you to the new NCOBA online experience.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO
VISIT THE **NUDGEE COLLEGE**
OLD BOYS' WEBSITE

In Memorium



Surname	Name	Nudgee Years	Date of Death
Acanufa	Fovana Bogo	1993-97	1/7/2024
Arndt	Gordon Stanley	1935	9/9/2024
Bailey	David John	1977-81	28/12/2023
Booth	Kevin Harold	1970-72	27/7/2021
Bourke	Terence Michael	1958	10/8/2024
Bright	Simon Phillip John	1983-85	23/10/2023
Cahill	Kevin Leonard	1959-60	26/4/2024
Chilvers	Peter Sydney	1965-67	16/02/2024
Cummings	Desmond John	1947-50	24/11/2023
Delahunty	John James	1950-57	23/10/2024
Fallis	Brian Malcolm	1953	6/3/2024
Fallis	Robert Owen	1948-50	7/3/2023
Fardoulis	Dr Nicholas Sidney	1943-46	28/12/2024
Finnigan	John	1950-51	8/9/2024
Fleming	Garry Arthur	1951-53	18/4/2024
Forrester	Jay William Mark	1996-00	2/1/2024
Gollogly	Alan Frederick	1964-68	18/12/2023
Hale	Peter Francis	1953-56	23/10/2023
Hardy	Graham Gregory	1945-48	24/8/2024
Hartigan	Patrick Harold	1964-68	29/6/2024
Hose	Roy Terence	1954-57	28/5/2024
Hughes	Philip John	1947-48	26/9/2024
Larsen	Fr Martin "Marty" Phillip	1989-92	7/4/2024
Lewis	David	1938-41	30/10/2023
Loane	Michael	1969	3/1/2023
Lucas	John Rowland	1962	10/11/2023
Maher	Richmond "Lance"	1945-48	16/2/2024
Mahoney	Kevin John	1953-54	3/7/2024

Surname	Name	Nudgee Years	Date of Death
McEnery	Grahame	1962	28/11/2023
McKenna	Peter	1960-62	23/8/2024
McMonagle	James "Jim" Joseph	1956-57	20/4/2023
Miguel	John Francis	1960-65	10/5/2024
Mulcare	Phillip	1952-53	29/4/2024
Naughton	Edmund Brian	1958-60	1/2/2024
O'Brien	John Joseph	1958-63	29/12/2023
O'Hagan	Dr John Edward	1934-35	26/1/2023
O'Neill	Allan Roe	1977-78	27/2/2024
O'Rea	Ryan Francis	1991-95	4/1/2024
Ostwald	Michael Dudley	1961-64	21/7/2024
Parker	David	1952-53	31/7/2024
Parker	Dr Sam	2002-06	29/10/2023
Power	James Joseph	1954-58	22/5/2024
Ralston	Gavin Arthur David	1956-57	19/8/2024
Richardson	Ross Michael	1961-64	30/1/2024
Scarbosa	Paul Michael	1965-68	14/9/2024
Shanahan	Vincent	1949-51	20/6/2024
Stapleton	Brian	1955-56	15/10/2023
Stuhmcke	Ray Charles	1944-46	23/9/2023
Sullivan	Br Dennis	1956	5/7/2024
Tatham	Anthony "Tony" Joseph	1959-61	14/11/2023
Thomas	Dr Ian Bryce	1950-53	21/4/2023
Venturin	Thomas Leo	2020-21	8/6/2024
Voogt	Michael John	1975-79	31/5/2024
Warren	Maxwell Richard	1951-53	5/6/2023
Wilson	Jamie Patrick	1982-86	18/3/2024
Zuino	Basil	1952	29/11/2023



Tom Venturin

On 8 June 2024, the Nudgee College community tragically lost one of our young Old Boys in a vehicle accident, Thomas Leo Venturin (pictured above) NCOB 2021. Tom was a boarder and a much loved member of this community. A funeral service was held in Darwin on Wednesday 19 June, plus the boarding community organised a livestream viewing in the Nudgee College Chapel for those who could not make it to Darwin, where young Old Boys, parents and staff could come together and pay their respects.

Rest in Peace Tommy

"It's possible

We thought of you with love today but that is nothing new, we thought of you yesterday and every day before that too.

We have so many happy memories of you growing up, your quirky sense of humour and your love of all living creatures - especially fish! But most of all we remember your honesty, consideration, thoughtfulness and inherent goodness.

We have so loved watching you grow up into a fine young man of whom we were so proud.

You left us far too early Tom, but it's true, when all is said and done grief is the price we pay for unconditional love.

We make pathetic attempts not to cry because you have gone but try to smile because you were with us for 20 years.

The Babington, Pattiselanno, Watkins families say "It's possible"

Tom, rest in God's arms." - Written by Tom's grandparents, Mr Chris and Mrs Marg Babington

Fovana "Bogo" Acanufa

It is with deep sadness that we share the unexpected passing of Fovana Acanufa, affectionately known as "Bogo," at the age of 44. Fovana was a cherished member of the Nudgee College community and a beloved father of four, residing in Goroka, Papua New Guinea.

A towering figure both in presence and spirit, Fovana was known for his leadership and kindness. A proud member of the 1997 Nudgee 1st XV rugby team, his strength on the field was matched by his humility and service off it. Fovana earned a place in the prestigious Australian Schoolboys rugby team, yet his contributions extended far beyond the rugby pitch. He served as an altar boy at school masses, led the Red Shield Appeal, and was a respected role model to his peers and younger students.

Bogo's larger-than-life personality

made him well-known across the GPS sports community, and his legacy is fondly remembered by former teammates, coaches, and friends from multiple schools. He was part of a close-knit group of five Papua New Guinean boys in the 1997 Nudgee rugby side, and one of the last students to have boarded at both Nudgee Junior and Senior, spending a total of nine formative years in the blue and white.

Fovana's impact extended well beyond his school years. He remained in contact with many members of the Nudgee College community, where his mutual respect and friendship were deeply valued over the years. His absence will be felt by those who knew him, both in Papua New Guinea and Australia.

Fovana is survived by his four children, who now face the tragic loss of a loving father. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, including his brother Lawrence, as they navigate this difficult time.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Fovana's loved ones and offer our support to the Nudgee College community as we remember one of our own. He will always be remembered as a role model, a leader, and a friend who embodied the values of Nudgee College in every way.

May he rest in peace.





PARALYMPIAN DAVID BRYANT

Q & A

Nudgee College Old Boy David Bryant attended Nudgee College between 2002-06. His para-triathlon journey is a remarkable story of determination.

Born with a clubfoot in his right leg, he faced a significant muscle mass imbalance, with his right leg having approximately 17% less muscle than his left. Despite this challenge, David turned to running in his teens as part of rehabilitation after surgery to address the growing length disparity between his legs.

His athletic focus initially centred on Ironman and marathon running, but his path shifted when Triathlon Australia invited him to explore para-triathlon. David embraced the opportunity, getting classified and pursuing the sport with incredible results.

In 2019, he achieved major success, winning the Devonport ITU Paratriathlon World Cup and the Australian Paratriathlon National Championships in the PTS5 men's classification. He continued his

winning streak by claiming the Paratriathlon Oceania Championships title in 2020.

David's hard work and perseverance earned him a spot in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games and most recently the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

We asked David a few questions about his recent experience and how he got there.

What is your fondest memory of Nudgee College?

Saturday afternoon's in the grandstand cheering on the 1st XV in the Nudgee Blue and White blazer with mates.

What mates are you still in touch with?

Michael Trussler, Josh Amberger, Sam and Will Mackay.

What was a highlight for you being part of the Australian Paralympic team in Paris 2024?

Being a triathlon it is fair to say we were the showcase event of the games. The opportunity to swim in the Seine river, ride along the Champs Elysees and then run over the Pont Alexander bridge in front of thousands around Paris is a moment I will never forget.

Why do you think the Paralympics are an important part of our culture and society?

Over 1 billion people in the world live with a disability. Paralympic sport provides a pathway to inspire and create opportunities for those with a disability on and off the racing track. What is also exciting is how much more recognisable the Paralympic logo and movement is compared to four, eight and 20 years ago.

What do you hope to achieve in the next five years with your sport?

Taking it one year at a time post Paris, the luxury of triathlon is that you can really flourish as an endurance athlete late into your 30's. I am not slowing down in racing or training yet as a 35 year old so as long as I can maintain the work, life, and family balance I will keep maximising my opportunity to represent Australia on the world stage.

Do you have any hobbies or interests outside of sport?

Now living in Perth, I am so grateful to be living in a city that has the most beautiful beaches, parks and bushland right on the doorstep of the city itself. Spending time with my wife Leah and two kids Audrey and Beau in this environment is a simple yet special moment I will always cherish. Travelling the world for the past six years has reinforced how lucky we are to live in Australia.

What would you say is the key attribute someone must have to be an elite athlete?

Consistency is KING. Just keep showing up. The difference between success and failure is not dramatic. In fact, the difference between success and failure is so subtle, so mundane, that most people miss it. Things that are ridiculously easy to do – but just as easy not to do. Things that, when you



look at them as single occurrences, don't seem like they'd have any impact at all – yet when compounded over time they add up to outrageous success.

What is your proudest achievement in your current profession?

Qualifying for Paris two months post broken collarbone. 2024 has been a crazy year of travel to ten different countries around the world qualifying for Paris. Two months out from Paris I broke my collarbone racing in Wales. Amazingly, after flying home for emergency surgery and through my

team at Western Australian Institute of Sport and Aus Triathlon working amazingly to rehab my injury, I was able to get to the start line and represent my family and all those involved in my journey.

What else should we know about you?

I am also a sports dietitian running my own business. They go hand in hand together making me a better dietitian and athlete the experiences I have had since leaving school and am excited where my career will take me post my Paratriathlon career.





BEHIND THE STRIPES

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