

THE DIFFERENCE



CORNISH
COLLEGE

Winter 2021 Edition

National Excellence in Teaching Award / A culture of giving / Cornish commemorates Anzac Day / Design Futures / Tara's tiny house

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Front cover image:

Evie Nuttall, Year 10

Editorial

Welcome to the winter edition of *The Difference*.

You will see that the presentation of the magazine has changed slightly, in line with the recent refresh of our Cornish College brand. As part of that process we determined that we are an *explorer* archetype and so, what we want to present to our readership is a magazine that *explores* all the wonderful things that happen within the Cornish College community.

Cornish College, now in its tenth year, is in a very exciting phase of its development. As the College considers and plans how best to celebrate the tenth anniversary of this wonderful school, we can reflect on the proud achievements of all those who made such an outstanding contribution in the early days of the College.

Two of those people feature in this edition – retiring Board members Blair Gardner and Trevor Gurr. However, there are numerous others who contributed to the establishment and consolidation of the College.

Annemarie Denton is arguably a 'quiet achiever' – a teacher who is much-loved by all those who have had the pleasure of being in one of her classes. Her outstanding achievements were honoured with a National Excellence in Teaching Award late last year.

Another quiet achiever is a student at one of our sister schools in Japan, Soichiro Kishimoto, a Year 6 student at Chiben in Wakayama – his story of empowering other Japanese students to support the rehabilitation of koalas, and now reforestation, in Australia is amazing.

We also celebrate the stories of success of many students, alumni and parents, as well as other fascinating 'snippets' from the first semester of 2021.

We are delighted that Cornish Collegians, our alumni organisation, were able to present two reunions earlier this year, with two other reunions planned for later this year, and also a number of alumni participated in the inaugural Alumni Connect session for Years 11 and 12 students. You can read about both of these later in the magazine – strong connections with our alumni are an important priority for the College.

We are commissioning a brief history of the College, as part of our 10 year celebrations, and if you would like to share your own knowledge of the history of Cornish College, or the educational site that has been here since 1987, our archivists would love to hear from you – they can be contacted at archives@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au

As always, if you have feedback about the magazine, we're keen to hear from you via email communications@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au

Dennis Freeman

Director of Community Relations

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, as the original custodians of this land who have lived here for thousands of years. We respect their relationship with the land and are committed to caring for this place and those who come here now and in the future.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What it really means to commit to ‘caring for this place and those who come here’



The Cornish College *Acknowledgement of Country* is a thoughtfully curated statement about the role of current and future generations in caring for the land that we work, learn and play on. It reflects on our responsibility to the original custodians of this land, the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, and to the land itself. “We are committed to caring for this place and those who come here now and in the future”. So, how do we ensure we are good custodians of this land that we have taken responsibility for and that we are caring for those who come here?

When Richard Cornish chose to build and grow a school on this 100 acres of Kulin Nation land, we began a long-term commitment to providing the best possible education for our community of learners. If we are to work, learn and play on this land, then we owe it to the original custodians to make sure we do so with great care, respect and integrity. What our students learn, how and where they learn it, should be as thoughtfully curated as the statement of commitment that we created for our *Acknowledgement of Country*.

It is this commitment – this respect for the 100 acres that we steward – that drives us toward change in education and continues Cornish College’s journey in exploring education of a different kind. At a recent College event, Cornish Conversations, the guest speaker and futures research leader, Noriko Wynn, spoke with us about the power of adaptability and the importance of ‘unlearning’. She defined unlearning as ‘making an effort to forget your usual way of doing something so that you can learn a new and sometimes better way.’

When it comes to schools and education we must unlearn many of the ways of our past in order to shape better futures. We must challenge the status quo in education and strive for the type of change that will make schools places where learners can be truly agentic – taking ownership of their learning, their curriculum and ultimately their futures. Young people shouldn’t need to wait until they finish school to pursue what interests them, their time here with us is too precious for that. As Cornish College creates a new *strategic story*, we will invite our community to unlearn with us and to reimagine what a school like ours is capable of achieving – for those who come here now and in the future. Anything less would not be worthy of the land we are blessed to care for.

Once again, I thank our wonderful community for having the commitment and courage to be explorers with us at Cornish College. We continue to pursue our vision and live our values without compromise, taking informed risks to make a positive difference in our world. Ours will continue to be a wonderful story and I look forward to sharing it with you for years to come.

Nicola Forrest



Welcome to the new staff who joined the College at the beginning of 2021

FEATURES

Retiring Board members

Without people like Trevor Gurr and Blair Gardner, and others like them, Cornish College would not have been established and subsequently grown into the amazing school which it has become.

When St Leonard's announced the closure of the Cornish Campus in February 2011, the first meeting to discuss how the school might be saved was called by Trevor Gurr at his home. Out of that meeting grew the Our New College Association, which drew parents, teachers, families and friends together to create a new Cornish College. Trevor was a key leader of that association and of the team which negotiated the purchase of the Cornish College property from St Leonard's. Trevor was Co-Chair of the Cornish Project Committee and subsequently a long serving Deputy Chair of the Board of Cornish College.



Trevor Gurr



Blair Gardner

He has played a key role in planning and implementing strategy, as a member of the Finance Committee and as Chair of the Nominations Committee. Above all, he has been a great encourager and advocate for Cornish, not only among fellow directors, but with the wider Cornish community.

Blair Gardner was likewise deeply involved in the struggle to rebuild and renew Cornish, first as a member of the Our New College Association, and then as a director and member of the Board of Cornish College. Apart from providing four enrolments from his own family for our growing school, the great contribution Blair has made has been as Chair of the Property Committee. While we inherited buildings and infrastructure we loved, they were ageing and in need of much refurbishment and sometimes replacement.

The huge contribution Blair has made through the Property Committee was overseeing the planning and construction of the Kerry Bolger Centre and the Senior Studies Centre, along with the development of the Master Plan for the College. These have demanded a great deal of time as well as very careful attention to the planning and detail of the construction of these great buildings. They form the foundation for future growth and development of our College.

We thank Trevor and Blair for all they have done over the last eleven years for Cornish; without them and their contributions, we would not exist as a growing and thriving educational community. We look forward to their continuing involvement in whatever ways they might choose in the future.

Trevor and Blair – you really have made a difference!

New faces on the Board

Following the retirement of Blair Gardner and Trevor Gurr, two new Board members were elected in May.

Dr Silvia Seibold is a member of the Marketing, Community and Culture Committee. She has 25 years of international business and 10 years academic experience in both Germany and Australia and is currently Professor of Business Administration at Rosenheim Technical University of Applied Sciences. Her three children attended the College.



Silvia Seibold



David Johnson

David Johnson is also a member of the Marketing, Communications and Culture Committee and he has worked in strategy and transformation roles at IFM Investors, Deloitte and ASIC. David is also an advisor and director for various fintechs and startups. His two children currently attend the College. David has had an association with the College from the early days of the 'Save the College' group.

Design Futures

Darren Smyth reflects on his role as a learning steward

Having accepted a teaching position at Cornish College towards the end of 2020, I was excited by the challenge of a new school. Cornish represented a new culture and a new way of doing things and its reputation certainly preceded it. Whoever I spoke with gushed – it is a school which is going places – a school determined to challenge the norms – a school setting itself apart, seeking to do things differently.

I had decided, after 27 years in leadership and management I wanted to focus again on being in the classroom, to be a better teacher and I wanted to be the best educator I can be.

Mathematics is a constant, so there is nothing in my teaching which would take me outside my comfort zone. I'd resolved that being a better teacher would see me simply find the 'best' way to teach each concept. I would then turn this into better resources which, in turn, would translate into better videos for my YouTube channel.

Life changed with the ping of a text message from Nicola Forrest, who asked if I would like to be part of a new idea called Design Futures. I rushed to the VCAA website (that font of all knowledge and guidance) to see what I could find about this new subject – there was nothing. So I did what any new teacher would do and said, 'Sure – not a problem', then quietly panicked until January!

Design Futures would see my beliefs and the understandings about myself as a teacher, and an educator, shaken to the very core and, for the record, they still are as I write this six months into my first year.

I have been privileged to be a part of this ground-breaking idea which has taught me that you need think about the skills and ideals the world is going to need. You look at what isn't working now and find ways to sustainably change it. You trust yourself to design something which will actually prepare students for the fast-changing world they are going to join. You provide opportunities and support to allow them to find their own strengths, their own unique attributes and to follow their own passions. You occasionally fly by the seat of your pants knowing you're going to need to adapt, change, listen, empathise and challenge the thinking which has gone before.

You help students grow as real learners and provide them the forum to research and learn without limits. You take away a curriculum and let them flourish. You provide support and guidance and give them a purpose and a voice. You give them the time away from traditional (broken?) pedagogies and provide chances for them to learn interesting and relevant content, whilst removing the ceiling to learning.

And what impact is this having?

Each time I walk into the room (not classroom and certainly not lesson), I have to shed all my ideas about education and everything I have previously believed and held true. I enter as an equal and a student. I am there to guide and to learn. I am there to listen more than I talk. I am there to find ways to support a range of projects I may not have any real understanding of myself. I am there to provide the time to make a difference.

I leave each session in awe. Each session has led to the falling of another pillar of my educational beliefs. My training dictates that I am the 'sage with the page' – in Design Futures I am learning much more from the students than they are possibly learning from me. My training dictates that students should be assessed against a rubric of defined criteria to demonstrate understanding at a time I dictate – here, the students choose what and when they want to be assessed and what their own success criteria is.

I learn something new each day and am ready to be challenged and to find a better way. I am growing with the students and learning from them – I am humbled.

What does this mean to my own classroom teaching? I now have a new personal challenge – but how do I provide the same experience and opportunity to the students in my classroom? Is that even possible? Am I too indoctrinated by all my years of experience?

What I do know is that I'll never have the opportunity if I don't give it a shot now. And, of all the schools where real change is possible, Cornish is going to be the one to make it happen.



Darren Smyth with Year 11 Design Futures students Reid Myrtle and Jessica Tetley

10 years of a wonderful school!

In 2022, Cornish College will celebrate its tenth anniversary and what a story we have to tell. From the 'ashes' of one school has grown this wonderful College that offers a remarkable program and is leading the way as it explores new educational horizons.

Our celebrations will be joyful, embrace the whole community and all details of the events that we have planned will be shared in the summer edition of *The Difference*.

National Excellence in Teaching Award

We were delighted, late last year, to be advised that Annemarie Denton had received a National Excellence in Teaching Award (NEiTA).

The NEiTA is a community-centred awards program that recognises teachers who demonstrate excellence within their profession, inspire students, and display exemplary and innovative teaching practices. Whilst recognised for her *Innovation in Online Teaching* in 2020, many Cornish students, parents and staff – both past and present – will agree that Annemarie has long been an innovative and exceptional teacher.



Annemarie was selected from thousands of nominees submitted by parents, community members and colleagues and is one of only 25 recipients across Australia and New Zealand.

“Cornish College [inspires me] with its inquiry, concept-driven approach to teaching and learning with sustainability as the overarching concept,” said Annemarie.

“Being friendly and approachable with a sense of humour is crucial in teaching. This means getting to know my students and valuing their ideas and opinions in order to build trust... students need to know that they matter and that I genuinely care about them all. Teaching continues to be challenging, exciting and fun, thanks to the staff and students I work with.”

Annemarie brings dedication and passion to her teaching and is adored by those within the Cornish community for her outstanding commitment to her students and their learning. She strives to challenge traditional schooling models, incorporating innovative ideas to provide students with a challenging and relevant program and is a well-deserving recipient of this prestigious award.

Rehabilitating koalas and forests

Cornish College was pleased to present a cheque to the Healesville Sanctuary on behalf of Chiben, the College’s sister school in Wakayama, Japan just before the end of Term 4, 2020. The incredible \$4,743.08 donation was the result of a fundraising effort led by Year 6 Chiben student, Soichiro Kishimoto. Soichiro established this fundraiser to help rehabilitate the koala population that was deeply affected by the devastating 2019-2020 bushfire season.

“Their generosity is an incredible contribution and shows how much they value our relationship and their experiences in Australia. We’re incredibly grateful for their support and hope the students can come to Australia soon and see the positive difference they have made for these koalas.”

Breaking news

We were thrilled to be advised that Soichiro had been busy fundraising again in 2021 and has coordinated the raising of \$3,444 to support reforestation.



French virtual exchange

French Language Leaders Miranda Fielder and Sara Scully from Year 12 reflected on their experience participating in a virtual exchange with the College’s partner schools in France.

“The COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from participating in an exchange with our sister schools in France, but such constraints compelled us to develop innovative ways to strengthen relationships with our French peers. This year, students from Years 9 – 12 at Cornish participated in a Virtual Exchange program with Lycée Arbez-Carme, Oyonnax and Institution Mongazon, Angers.

Across two sessions, we participated in a variety of activities that aimed to support the development of new friendships and French language skills. With our French correspondents, we played Kahoots, shared videos that we had created, and compared our daily routines. It was very interesting to discover the similarities and differences between our lives and it gave us a lot to think about.

The virtual exchange was a fantastic opportunity to make new friends across the globe and develop our language skills. We are pleased to have been able to learn and expand our knowledge of French language and life.’



Mark Dreyfus visit to Year 6

Cornish College Year 6 students were excited to be joined by the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Federal Member for Isaacs, for a fantastic discussion about the government of Australia, as part of their inquiry into civics and citizenship. Mr Dreyfus reflected on his career as a politician, explaining his responsibilities and sharing what inspired him to become involved in politics and serving his community.

Mr Dreyfus spoke about the history of the Federal electorates, in particular, his own seat of Isaacs, which was named after Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, the first Australian-born Governor-General in Australia. Sir Isaacs was also a barrister, a politician, and a High Court judge who contributed greatly to the Australian government throughout his 92 years. Apparently, Sir Isaacs attributed his long life to the eight cups of tea he drank each day!

The students were delighted to meet with Mr Dreyfus again during their visit to Canberra, where they further explored the Australian Federal Government.



(L-R) Phoebe Popp, Lenny Bean, Mark Dreyfus, Ruby Campbell

Beneath the Surface



As a part of their integrated unit 'Beneath the Surface', Year 7 students travelled to Portsea to explore Pope's Eye, swim with the Australasian Fur Seals at Chinaman's Hat, and search for the Weedy Sea Dragon underneath Portsea Pier.

The students and staff were able to snorkel and learn about the unique marine environment and the behaviour and symbiotic relationships of the sea life in Port Phillip Bay.

Amidst the fun was, of course, a significant learning component around caring for the environment, scoping out the Australian landscape, and enquiring about local marine life. Offsite discovery such as this allows our students to engage with concepts in a real-world context – a classroom that stretches well beyond the four walls.

They also had the opportunity to visit Point Nepean National Park to discover historical, geographical features and make connections to the novel *Falling From Grace* by Jane Godwin.

Once back at school, they investigated the concepts of sustainability, systems and interdependence across a range of subjects in preparation for their 'inquiry showcase' to be held in Term 3.

As explorers, Cornish students are interpreting the world around them and preparing for the challenges that will face future generations.



Tara's tiny house

During last year's lockdown, many of us picked up new hobbies to while away the time. Tara Padinis, Year 10, used the extra time available to renovate a small studio in her backyard, transforming the space into a cozy tiny house. Tara challenged herself to tackle this project and extended the skills she has developed in Design Technology. The tiny house, complete with a kitchenette, bed, study nook and skylight, is now ready to be enjoyed all-year-round.



Focus on Sustainability

It's no secret that Cornish College values sustainability and making a difference. Across our expansive campus grounds, water tanks, solar panels, windmill, and vegetable gardens are testament to the College's vision for a sustainable future. Cornish participates in several programs which, in their own small and unassuming ways, are helping to make a *noticeable* difference.

Aussie bread tags for wheelchairs

It is quite incredible to think that seemingly insignificant bread tags can be harnessed to support community access to wheelchairs! The organisation *Aussie Bread Tags for Wheelchairs* facilitates the recycling of bread tags into a variety of household items, the revenue for which directly fundraises for the distribution of wheelchairs to disadvantaged communities in South Africa. In early 2020 the organisation successfully fundraised for their 800th wheelchair! The project, supported by the College, is a wonderful way to keep bread tags out of landfill and our natural environment.

MobileMuster

In partnership with Zoos Victoria, the MobileMuster' program gives a second life to the components of your outdated mobile phone through an advanced recycling program. Whilst a culture of consumerism has, no doubt, given rise to a rapid turnover of smartphone purchases, there is at least some comfort in knowing that inroads are being made to combat the modern-day scourge of electronic waste. The College contributes to this initiative on an annual basis.



Plastic free July

Over the decades, the community has observed a marked shift in the use of plastic – from a convenience of the people to a poison of the environment. Now, the 'Plastic Free July' initiative is helping to curb the extensive use of plastic in our day-to-day lives. As the name suggests, individuals are asked to relinquish one single use piece of plastic for the month of July. In conjunction with the other initiatives, if we all 'do our bit', the collective impact can be significant.

Reuse, repurpose and refurbish

The maintenance team source a variety of recycled items, including wooden pallets, old sleepers, metal laser cutting screens and tyres, which they use to build structures around the College campus. They have worked with Tim Lake and his students in the *Super Studies* class on many projects, including the creation of the Year 7 playground. Slides and stairs from previous playgrounds have been incorporated into the design, together with tyre platforms that create a variety of levels and bases.

Students in Design Technology use the wood from pallets to create a range of new structures such as chairs, shelves and bee hives. Students in Year 6 have been using recycled wood to develop nesting boxes for birds, as part of the 'Birds In Schools Project'. Year 9 students constructed a gate from recycled materials to keep the ducks in their enclosure. Engaging in exciting design projects enables students to develop an instinct for repurposing materials, as well as honing communication and collaborative skills.



Bee-hive yourself

Tim Lake and his students have been working this semester to create a sustainable home for native bees. The team constructed bee hives using recycled shipping pallets and fitted the structures with hive components purchased with the help of a generous donation from the Parents Association. A variety of hives have been developed to support native pollinating bees as well as honey producing bees.

In the community

Special mention also goes to Karen Khoury in Reception, who routinely collects batteries, print cartridges and other 'e-waste' for recycling and to the College Archivists who are taking practical steps to document the school's historical records in an environmentally-conscious manner.

As a school, and as part of the wider Australian community, we must take steps to improve the opportunities for future generations. Such contributions need not be 'off the scale' because it is the little things we do in day-to-day life that all 'add up.'

Remember, every decision makes a difference – and that makes it well worth the effort.



Cornish commemorates Anzac Day

On Friday 23 April, Cornish College commemorated Anzac Day in a special service hosted by the College Captains. Cornish Reconciliation Leader, Lily Turner, gave a powerful Acknowledgement of Country in which she recognised the important service by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Armed Forces. Olivia Buckley, a College Captain, commenced the service by explaining the significance of Anzac Day.

The College welcomed two special guests, Kenneth Park and Sarah Henderson. Kenneth is a lecturer, historian and presenter who has conducted guided tours throughout Australia and overseas, including Gallipoli. Sarah is a trumpet player and a former member of the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band who played the *Last Post* and *The Rouse* at the 2014 Dawn Service in Gallipoli.

Given that 2021 marks ten years of Cornish College, Kenneth shared ten facts about Anzac Day, including that the ANZACS were volunteers, and that, sadly, more than 11,000 lost their lives at Gallipoli. He also explained that everyone shares a connection to the ANZAC story, from those whose ancestors fought in World War I, to those who display the ANZAC spirit in everyday life.

The College Captains laid wreaths and then read *For the Fallen*, by Laurence Binyon and *The Ode of Remembrance*. Sarah performed the *Last Post*, played during war to signify the ending of each day, a sign to soldiers that they may rest, and *The Rouse*. This was followed by a benediction given by Rev Claire Dawe. The College paused for a minute's silence to reflect and remember all Australians and New Zealanders who have made the ultimate sacrifice in war.

Lest we forget.



Celebrating International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day, Cornish College Women's Ambassadors Annabelle Belluz and Madison Czigler, hosted a special breakfast to honour the women in the College community. The event was attended by female students, parents, teachers and community members who enjoyed the opportunity to highlight each other's achievements.

The community was delighted to be joined by guest speaker Jodie Dobson. Jodie represented Australia in rowing at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, and it was wonderful to hear about her journey to becoming an Olympian and all she has achieved professionally and personally. Jodie spoke passionately about making the most of opportunities that arise and the importance of seeking new opportunities. She also encouraged women to build strong support networks within their communities and to follow their dreams.

The breakfast provided a powerful opportunity to celebrate all of the wonderful women in our Cornish community.



(L-R) Sarah White, Margot Barnett, Darcy White



(L-R) Nicola Forrest, Annabelle Belluz, Madison Czigler, Jodie Dobson

Cornish parent publishes book (Howzat)!



Congratulations to current Cornish parent Louise Zedda-Sampson on the publication of her book *Bowl the Maidens Over*. Borne out of a research curiosity and volunteer work for the Youlden Parkville Cricket Club, this book provides a unique account of women's earliest participation in cricket which, until now, has remained largely undocumented in the literature. Whilst the 1991 publication *Wicket Women* (Cashman et al.) makes brief mention of the events in question, Louise draws upon a trove of anecdotes, media clippings, and iconography in order to expand upon this relatively unknown slice of Australian sporting history.

It is fair to say that the original concept of a cricket match for women would have seemed somewhat of a novelty; however, the community backing and growing momentum towards a formal arrangement for skilled female players underscores the interconnectivity of sport and Australia's sociocultural fabric. Perhaps such episodes can be viewed through a modern lens as being on the long road towards gender equality and are comparable to the modern AFL Women's League in terms of raising awareness of equal opportunity through sports participation. Indeed, Louise has found since the earliest stages of her research journey that cricket, far from being synonymous with so-called 'masculine' culture, is rather more complex and extensive in scope. Of particular interest is the fact that some descendants of the women discussed in this historical account have contacted the author, thus highlighting the importance of such study ventures for connecting stories of a distant past with present-day themes and practices.

It is clear that Louise possesses tremendous enthusiasm for her topic – even the look and feel of the book are executed with great care – and it is little wonder that her publication has, so far, gained interest from several sporting organisations and historical societies. A research endeavour of this sort instils a sense of personal achievement, adds to Australia's definitive historical record, supplies a foundation for future scholarship in the field, and, in this instance, honours the lives of those women who did something quite unique all those years ago.

Kate makes waves

Cornish College Prep teacher Kate Sunderland made waves in February at the KIIS 101.1 FM teachers' swimming carnival. Kate swam brilliantly and was placed in the top eight swimmers of the day and was the first female finisher in the final.

Thirty two teachers from across Melbourne were selected to compete in the carnival, which was hosted by KIIS breakfast radio hosts Jase and PJ. In a 'twist' from most school swimming carnivals, it was the students, not the teachers, who selected the competitors! Students nominated their favourite teachers to represent their school in the carnival.

A keen swimmer during her time as a student, Kate won gold medals while representing Victoria at national swimming competitions.



Uniform redesign

We are very pleased to advise that the College has appointed Jonathan Ward to design our new College uniform. Jonathan is one of Australia's most prominent designers and is recognised for his innovation, creativity and vision. He is also recognised for product excellence with a portfolio including women's couture, women's ready to wear, school uniforms, corporate uniforms, men's wear, children's wear and accessories.

Jonathan was Executive Designer at the iconic Australian Company RM Williams from 2001 – 2015, during which time he collaborated with many of Australia's most prominent businesses.

More recently, Jonathan Ward has worked with many independent schools in Australia to design their school uniforms. His extensive experience in the design, concept and manufacturing of school uniforms both nationally and internationally, reflects his ability to produce wearable uniforms within the Australian context that are functional, timeless and provide the school community with value for money, particularly with regard to the cost of initial purchase, longevity and ease of care.

From the Archives

123Read2Me

During their exploration of the College Archives our Archivists Leighton Triplow (CC2010) and Josette Mulcahy (CC2016) discovered a variety of children's books that were no longer in use by the College. The team contacted Jeff Shelley from 123Read2Me, a fantastic organisation dedicated to providing children in low socio-economic communities with quality recycled books to encourage reading and the development of vital literacy skills. The charity gives preloved books a second life, reducing the amount of books that end up in landfill. Jeff was delighted to receive the books and is looking forward to sharing them with children in need.



Josette Mulcahy and Jeff Shelley

Archive discoveries

"There are hundreds of fantastic artefacts just waiting to be discovered in the College Archives", says Josette Mulcahy. The Archives team have selected a few historical photographs to share with the community.



A Step in Time, created by Year 5 students, MAD Week 2007



Students constructing a Billy Cart



Junior students sitting on a rock

A culture of giving

Since the early days of the College, the Cornish community has always been incredibly generous in supporting our school. Those who believed in the importance of a school like Cornish worked tirelessly to ensure a smooth transition between the Cornish Campus of St Leonard's and the fledgling Cornish College in 2011.

Many also supported the school financially in the early days with support that was both generous and critical to the future of the College and we will always be most grateful for that support.

This 'culture of giving' has continued over the last ten years across our community. Parents give generously of their time to help run the Parents Association, serve on our College Board and committees, organise a multitude of activities and events and support our Building Fund and Annual Giving Appeals. Our students have raised funds for a multitude of events such as Backpack for Beds, Rug Up Day, Blue Day, Winter Sleepout, Ration Challenge Week and, via the Mother's Day Breakfast, providing sanitary products for girls.

They do this because of their deep and genuine connection to our wonderful school and we applaud that selfless contribution – one and all.

As a College, we are going to increase our focus in this area, over the next 12 months. The implementation of our new Robert Johnson Scholarship will be supported by a College-wide giving day and we also plan to introduce a bequest program, both of which will happen later this year.

We acknowledge and applaud all those who have supported the College over the last ten years and we look forward to building on their legacy over the next 12 months and beyond.



STUDENT SUCCESS

Year 11 student **Reagan Morel** demonstrated an outstanding performance at the State Life Saving Championship. Reagan was awarded gold medals in the Under 17 Beach Sprint and in the team Belt and Reel event. Reagan was also awarded a silver medal in the Men's Open Beach Sprint.



Caitlin Tetley, Year 9, was selected as a training partner for the Team Victoria 15 Years and Under State Netball team.



Seb Johnson, Year 4, was placed first in the Youth D Men's competition in the Sport Climbing Victoria State Bouldering Titles.



Chloe Stradling, **Hana Rewell** and **Christopher Lowe** set sail at the Open Skiff Victorian State Championships, representing Mordialloc Sailing Club. Competing against over 40 entrants in total, Hana, Christopher and Chloe successfully took home the top three places in the Silver fleet.



Woodley Hall, Year 12, is making waves in the kite surfing world. Woodley recently competed at the National Kite Surfing Competition in both the Under 18 and the Open events, finishing the day with several awards to his name. He was placed 2nd in the Under 18s, and 4th in the Open event – the highest placing for a competitor under the age of 18! Woodley's achievements make him the fourth-best kiter in Australia.



Congratulations to the students who represented Cornish College at the 2021 **SIS Public Speaking Championship**. The championship, awarded to the highest scoring school, was won by Cornish College. Each speaker was simply sensational and the synergy demonstrated within the team was wonderful to observe.

Marli Hunter, Year 7 and **Harrison Walsh**, Year 8 won the Junior Division, with Marli taking home the award for best speaker. Year 11 student **Jake Ormsby-Goad** and **Will Irving**, Year 12 were also successful, winning the Senior Division. Jake and Will were fantastic mentors to their younger peers, encouraging them throughout the competition.



(L-R) Madeline Fantas, Jake Ormsby-Goad, Marli Hunter, Will Irving and Declan Molloy

Congratulations to all of the fantastic swimmers who represented Cornish College with great success at the SIS Swimming Carnival.

The Under 16 Boys Freestyle Relay team, won a pennant in the Division A Carnival – a first for Cornish! A brilliant effort by Year 10 students **Finnegan Barnes, Marcus Cincotta, Xavier Kearney** and **Damien Gordon**.

The following students were placed first in their events:

Emma Chantry – Under 13 Girls 50m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and Under 14 Girls 50m Butterfly

Xavier Kearney – Under 16 Boys 50m Backstroke, 100m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly

Dion Gordon – Under 13 Boys 100m Freestyle

Kyra Stradling – Under 15 Girls 50m Backstroke

In addition to their wonderful achievements, the team has been commended for their excellent teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the competition.



Alumni Connect

This semester the College hosted the inaugural *Alumni Connect* session. Students from Years 11 and 12 were joined by College alumni, and given the unique opportunity to discuss what they might expect from life post-school. College alumni shared their experiences and answered the students' burning questions about university, the workforce and the transition to independence.

It was wonderful to hear from alumni as they shared their perspectives and advice about different stages of their careers. Vice President of Cornish Collegians, Josette Mulcahy (CC2016) gave a keynote address in which she encouraged students to explore their passions. *Alumni Connect* was a positive experience for all involved and the College was very appreciative to the alumni who volunteered their time to make this event a success!

We thank the following alumni for their generous support of this event - (L-R) Alannah Hayes (CC2016), Brett McGeorge (CC2006), Catharine Payton (CC2009), Dr Brett Drummond (CC2002), Dr Leighton Triplow (CC2010), Dr Ravi Kamisetty (CC2005), Emma Halliday (CC2012), Josette Mulcahy (CC2016), Kate Taylor (CC2012), Lara Williamson (CC2016) and Louise Berger (CC2010).



Class of 2015 – Five Year Reunion

It was delightful to see so many familiar faces at the Class of 2015 – Five Year Reunion, which was hosted at the stunning Melbourne Cable Park. Old friends enjoyed the chance to catch-up and reminisce about the good old days at Cornish. It was wonderful to welcome Cornish College Principal, Nicola Forrest, and former Principal Kerry Bolger to the festivities. This fantastic event was emblematic of the special connection alumni maintain with the College community, and the lifelong friendships that have been forged.



Class of 2019 – One Year Reunion

It was wonderful to catch up with College alumni, who enjoyed a fun-filled evening of bowling and delicious food at the Class of 2019 – One Year Reunion. Alumni were joined by Principal Nicola Forrest and a number of College staff with whom they were able to share their exciting life-updates. Cornish alumni share a special bond with each other and the College community, and they are encouraged to stay connected with the community as they embark on exciting new adventures.



Births



Cook

To Jess (current staff) and James Cook on 3 February 2021, a son, Sebastian James. A brother for Scarlett.



Donovan

To Jac Rees (current staff) and Sean Donovan on 2 May 2021, a son, Charlie Patrick.



Moylan

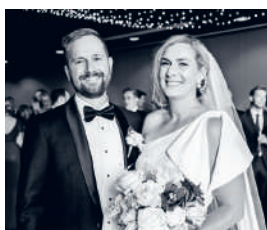
To Gemma Lloyd (current staff) and Matthew Moylan on 11 February 2021, a son, Alfie James.



Piotrowski

To Jodie (current staff) and Leigh Piotrowski on 28 January 2021, a daughter, Stevie Hazel. A sister for Andie.

Weddings



Robbins – Holland

Emma and Geoff (CC2008) (current staff) on 10 April 2021.



Williams – Wormell

Rebecca and Daniel (current staff) on 8 July 2021.

Developing efficient strategies for delivery



For Kate Taylor (CC2012), Cornish has never felt too far away. Reminiscing on her memorable experiences from her time at Cornish, Kate recalls the welcoming environment that provided her with a world of exciting opportunities. Whether it was cross country skiing, travelling to Vietnam for Big Experience, or dressing up for Night of Decades, Kate says that she wouldn't change a thing about her time at Cornish.

After graduating, Kate embarked on the first adventure of her post-school life, travelling to the United Kingdom to commence her role at Tockington Manor School. Living on the school campus, Kate teamed up with staff to teach swimming lessons, host breakfast club, run exciting sports classes and perform boarding house duties with children aged 3 to 14. The school shared remarkable similarities with Cornish, featuring small class sizes and hosting farm animals on 28 acres of land. Even *'halfway around the world'*, Kate felt at home.

Kate enjoyed the proximity to marvellous European destinations such as Italy, Austria, Germany, and Sweden, meeting up with friends from home, even some from Cornish, to travel during the summer break. When she returned home to Melbourne at the end of 2013, Kate was excited to commence her studies at Monash University.

Genetics and Molecular Biology became Kate's bread and butter. During her degree Kate was accepted into the Science Future Leaders Program, where she developed important leadership skills and was given the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals.

Kate was accepted to a graduate position at Australia Post in 2017 as a Business Generalist Graduate. Over the following two years, she would go on to work in Consumer Services, Network, Planning and Infrastructure, and with the International team, developing efficient postage channels for the Daigou market.

During the graduate program, Kate was paired with a mentor, a senior leader at Australia Post. As luck would have it, her mentor is a Cornish parent! *'I think this shows what a small world it is!'* The pair bonded over their love of Cornish, and Kate is grateful to have had the support of a caring and encouraging mentor as she begins her career.

Kate now works as a Business Analyst, and dedicates her time to investigating automation and infrastructure developments that can be implemented across the country. *'I have helped to deliver over five parcel processing machines across the country, equating to over \$100m of capital investment.'* Kate feels constantly rewarded by her career, overseeing the incorporation of new technologies that contribute to a more efficient and safe operation. *'Knowing that I help to enable that is a great feeling.'*

Kate often reflects on the pathway she has taken to her current role...*'it's weird thinking how I got to where I am now.'* Her experiences have taught her that sometimes you don't end up where you expected to be!

Updates

We would love to hear your latest news so that we can share it with our Cornish community. If you're about to start an exciting new job, undertake further study, or have recently become engaged or married, please let us know!

We welcome children of alumni to the College and recommend that you register your application for enrolment as early as possible. Applications are prioritised based on the date of receipt and many families apply shortly after their child is born. As valued members of our community, the application fee for children of Cornish Collegians is waived. Applications can be completed online via www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-information/

Please contact Dennis Freeman or Laura Maasburg via alumni@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au to share your updates.

Follow Us

To find out more about Cornish College alumni, follow us on Facebook and Instagram



@CornishCollegeAlumni



@cornishcollegians

Innovating to help the medical community



'Having the opportunity to recently connect with students at Cornish College was an amazing experience and I'm excited to be able to share my journey since school again.'

Brett Drummond's (CC2002) trailblazing spirit can perhaps be traced back to his time at Cornish, where he was appointed a school captain, in one of the College's first Year 10 cohorts.

Finishing his International Baccalaureate in 2002, Brett went on to complete a Bachelor of Biomedical Science degree at the University of Melbourne. In his Honours year, Brett was fortunate enough to work in a research laboratory on a project related to multiple sclerosis (MS). *'It is fair to say that this moment, and everything that followed it, were not in my plans when I was at high school.'*

Having enjoyed a taste of medical research, Brett stayed on for a number of years, investigating a range of potential causes of MS. Although he found this work very rewarding, it lacked the personal connection that he craved. As he discussed with the students recently at Alumni Connect, *'it is so important to always take opportunities that arise, even if you aren't sure where they may lead.'* For Brett, this meant gaining experience in areas that were complementary to his research background. This included working part time as a science communicator, and teaching in the Biochemistry Department at the University of Melbourne, *'two areas that I also thought I would never be involved in!'*

This combination of skills and experience led Brett to a life-changing decision in 2012. In partnership with his brother, Eric (also a former Cornish College student), the pair founded their own company called MStranlate.

MStranlate is a social enterprise that aims to make a big difference to the lives of people living with MS. Brett and Eric do this by providing timely and easy to understand information on MS research through published literature, an international network, and conference participation. The pair are very passionate about this work and receive feedback from the community that tells them that their efforts are highly valued. Far too often, there are reports in mainstream media of the latest research being a 'cure' for multiple sclerosis. These distortions lead to many difficult conversations with a community of people that are desperate for valid information and support. Thankfully, many people in the MS community now use MStranlate as a valuable resource, not only for information, but also as a safe place where they can ask any questions that they may have about MS research.

Brett is thankful for his experiences at Cornish College, as he believes learning in such a unique environment helped to foster a desire to always explore new opportunities and take the road less travelled. *'I hope that this message came across to the students I talked to recently and they also continue to strive to create their own journeys.'*

More recently, Brett has been involved in running the science communication platforms for the Melbourne Brain Centre and is the co-author of the new VCE Biology and Chemistry textbooks that are about to be released by Cambridge University Press.

For anyone interested in MStranlate or science communication in general, Brett would love to hear from you. Please feel free to look at the online platforms (easily found through Google or social media platforms by searching for "MStranlate") or get in contact with Brett directly via email brett@mstranlate.com.au

Beginning a career in law



After her first student debate in Year 6, Emma Halliday (CC2012) decided that her career would have to involve arguing, and preferably her other favourite hobby, reading. Luckily for Emma, these are both key elements of a career in law!

Emma's journey began in Year 10 when she embarked

upon work experience at a top-tier law firm, where she gained valuable insight into the life of an Intellectual Property lawyer. Emma was fortunate to be offered this opportunity through her connection to another Cornish family. Her interest in the field is still largely driven by this unique experience.

When she started her Bachelor of Law at Deakin University, Emma threw herself at every opportunity. Emma was selected to represent Deakin at the International Willem C Vis Arbitration Moot, a mock arbitration competition against universities from all over the world. Emma credits her success to the skills she developed at Cornish, competing in the Theatresports challenge and acting in the school's production of Annie. *'It was here that all of those years in the school debate team came in handy.'*

At the conclusion of her second year, Emma realised that she was enjoying Deakin far too much to be finished in four years, so she enrolled in a second degree in commerce, majoring in economics. This decision allowed Emma the freedom to spread out her degree, studying two law and two non-law units each semester. She believes this was a positive move for her mental health.

Further to this, enrolling in a second degree gave Emma the elective space to participate in an exchange to Manchester Metropolitan University. She also took advantage of Deakin's international opportunities and participated in a Chinese commercial law study tour to Shanghai. *'Living entirely self-sufficiently while experiencing new countries formed truly worthwhile experiences in which I gained a new level of maturity and developed key marketable skills that become invaluable in my clerkship applications.'*

Emma performed her clerkship at Thomson Geer in the Workplace Insurance team, where she was involved in a variety of cases and tasks that included attending mediations and completing research used as evidence in a trial. Following this clerkship, Emma was lucky enough to be offered a graduate role at Thomson Geer. In her

current role, Emma will rotate throughout the firm. Her first of three rotations is with the Intellectual Property, Technology and Regulatory team, taking her back to her roots in intellectual property, into which she first dipped her toes during work experience nearly ten years ago. After all these years, Emma says that this is still her favourite area of law.

Emma hopes to settle in the Intellectual Property team and potentially study another degree (much to her parents' dismay!) in cell biology to become a patent attorney.

'My experiences at Cornish, whether it be the Library Club, musicals, or cello lessons, all provided me with the foundations for the essential skills of a lawyer, including communication, presentation, and discipline, and I honestly don't think I'd be where I am today without them.'

New logo for Cornish Collegians

Cornish Collegians is delighted to unveil a new logo, developed as part of the College's branding refresh. The new Collegians logo is simple, yet effective and is designed to reflect the College rings, and emphasise the lifelong connection alumni maintain with the Cornish community.



Alumni updates



Since leaving Cornish, **James Giezen** (CC2018) has launched himself into an eSports career. He decided to take a gap year from his maths/science course at Monash University and see where the video game he plays, called PUBG, would take him in the world of eSports. Since then he's moved to the US and has been playing competitively in many high profile tournaments with his team the SONIQS. The picture is from the recent world championships which took place in Korea over three months and involved the world's top eSports teams. There was huge online interest in this with viewers peaking at 8 million during the finals. James' team won the event and are now the current PUBG world champions.

James' day-to-day life revolves around live streaming to an online

audience who enjoy watching him play the game and interacting with him through a chat box via the website Twitch.tv

It's difficult to grow a significant online following, but James has worked hard to promote his skills and, as one of the top players in the world, he gets to practise the game but also have fun and socialise with people.

Xavier Johnson (CC2020) successfully competed at the Australian Track Championships in Sydney. Xavier completed the 5000m race with an impressive time of 14:16, to finish 5th overall in a field of 26 competitors.



Tierney Khan (CC2020) has continued to develop her relationship with the Wheeler Centre, hosting *Forever Young*,

an edition of *The Next Big Thing* series, at which emerging writers read excerpts from their books and share insights about the writing process.

Tierney has also stepped into the role of guest programmer, developing ideas for a panel discussion *Mapping Culture: Something Old, Something New*.

For some time Director of School Operations Mike Davis has noted the striking resemblance between Sophie, a student in Year 3, and a student who attended the Cornish Campus many years ago. As it turns out, the former student is in fact Sophie's mum, **Catalina Valencia-Vega!** Mike found this fantastic photo of Catalina (left) from 1991, which he has recreated with Sophie (right).



COMMUNITY NEWS

New Parents Welcome Dinner

On Friday 5 February, the Parents Association hosted their annual New Parents Welcome Dinner in the Senior Studies Centre. It was a beautiful evening and the stunning location provided a great opportunity for new parents to meet other families, class representatives, Principal Nicola Forrest, members of the Executive Leadership Team and members of the College, in a relaxed and friendly way.



Community Picnic, Market & Fair

The Parents Association were delighted to host their first fundraising and friendraising event for 2021 on Saturday 27 March. The Community Picnic, Market & Fair was attended by more than 600 families and, despite a rather grey start to the day, the sun shone brightly for the afternoon's activities.

There were a variety of stall holders (including seven Cornish College students) food trucks, family games, a fashion show, silent auction, DJ and live bands. Senior students had a face painting stall with donations going towards the *Me for She* program and Years 9 and 10 students and families managed the car parking at the event with proceeds going towards their MADE experience later in the year.

The proceeds of the day, approximately \$5,000, will be used to make improvements to the primary playground.



Parents Association Ladies Luncheon

Friday 19 November, 11.00am to 2.30pm
Sandhurst Golf Club

Canapes and sparkling in arrival - two course lunch -
fashion parade - shopping stalls - entertainment - raffle
- giveaways - silent auction.

Come and enjoy our wonderful annual event – a very
special occasion for all Cornish women.



Like us
@cornishcollegeparentsassociationevents

Lifeblood Team



One in three Australians will need blood at some
point in their lives. This could be a parent, child,
friend or even you.

We want to make a difference and help support
other communities by 'rolling up our sleeves' and
giving blood, so we've established our own Cornish
College Lifeblood Team and we invite all members
of the Cornish community to get involved.

You may already be a donor or perhaps thinking about
it. Either way, by linking your donation to the Cornish
College Lifeblood Team when you make your next
booking, we are collectively 'making a difference'.

We are encouraging our community to donate to
support other communities across Australia – every
donation counts!

Alumni Reunions in 2021

Five-Year Reunion

Class of 2016

Friday 3 September, 6.00pm

One-Year Reunion

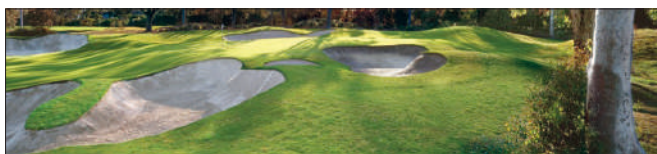
Class of 2020

Friday 12 November, 7.00pm

More information about each of these events will be emailed to alumni closer to the date.

For updates, please register your contact details via our website

www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/alumni or email us alumni@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au



2021 Golf Day - Save the Date

When: Friday 26 November

Lunch at 11.00am, shot-gun start at 12.30pm

Where: Southern Golf Club

Upcoming School Tours

Discover why Cornish College offers education of a
different kind. Join us at one of our upcoming school tours.

Saturday 28 August
9.30am – 11.00am

Wednesday 17 November
6.00pm – 7.30pm
(Twilight tour)

Saturday 16 October
9.30am – 11.00am

Book online via

<https://www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/school-tours/>

For more information, please contact Admissions on
(03) 9781 9000 or via admissions@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au

Hot off the (Virtual) Press: The Cornish College Business Directory

Over the past few months, the Parents Association
have reached out to numerous small businesses
owned or operated by parents, alumni, and friends
of the College. This has resulted in a fresh and user-
friendly online directory, showcasing a range of
businesses from electronics and business support to
wellbeing and leisure. Now that the online directory
is live, we anticipate that it will continue to grow
and offer an increasing
range of diverse services.

If you are interested in
having your business
listed, do not hesitate
to get in touch at
[communications@
cornishcollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:communications@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au)
or on +61 3 9781 9000.

Thank you to all involved
in the development of
this wonderful resource
[http://businessdirectory.
cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/](http://businessdirectory.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/)



