



**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE**

A wonderful sense of community

- Founding Council members retire
- Induction of our third Principal
- Celebrating women in our community
- Exploring new ways of learning

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Front cover image:

Anushka Joseph, Year 1, pictured with her grandparents SV Kasynathan, Mariamma Joseph, Nalini Kasynathan and Alex Joseph at the Grandparents and Special Friends Morning on 12 March.

Editorial

As I was considering what to write about for this editorial, I reflected on the words I had written for the previous edition of *The Difference* and, in particular, the reference to 'change'. How those words have taken on a whole new meaning in just a few short months. I wrote "Change is invigorating and helps us remain positive, energised and looking forward to the future with optimism and enthusiasm."

When we consider 'change' through the lens of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, I wonder if we're still able to view it as ultimately a positive thing? We've all had to make significant changes to the way we lead our lives and there has been a huge social impact, right across the world, and some things will inevitably change, as a result of the pandemic. Many in our community have not been able to work, some have lost jobs and, as a school, we have had to radically reshape the way in which we offer our programs to an online model, for a period of time. These are all huge changes with far-reaching and long-term implications for us all.

I'm not sure that we'll really know the answer to my question about the positivity of 'change' for some time, but one thing is clear: the spirit of the Cornish College community is strong and we have met all the challenges that we're currently experiencing with courage and in the spirit of our College's vision – *compassion, respect, integrity and creativity*.

In this winter edition of *The Difference*, there's a lovely reflection on the induction of our new principal, Nicola Forrest, at our Foundation Day assembly earlier this year. We also introduce our new deputy principals and director of student learning and find out more about their professional backgrounds.

There's a story about our new online student learning program, Cornish@Home, and its companion for families, CornishCommunity@Home.

Lastly, we're delighted to report on the very successful Alumni Cocktail Party held in February and the subsequent election of our first Cornish Collegians Management Committee.

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

Community Relations Manager

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Boon wurrung people, a clan of the Central 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



The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB Learner Profile

Educating for a sustainable future to ensure young people can make a positive difference in their local and global communities.

Cornish College Vision

As an International Baccalaureate (IB) school that embeds the Primary Years Programme from the Early Learning Centre right through to Year 6, the Learner Profile is central to our educational planning. When we combine the aim of the IB with the Cornish College Rings of Sustainability and our vision of education for a sustainable future, we have a compelling call to action. Herein lies both the hope and the challenge in leading the Cornish College community.

Whilst managing the unusual situation we have found ourselves in this year, we have not lost sight of the big ideas that will shape the future of Cornish College in helping us to achieve our vision. Our staff and community have demonstrated what an agile and adaptive culture looks, sounds and feels like. And it is this culture, exhibited through our actions and our successes, that will lead us into

the next bold phase of education and schooling at Cornish College.

In recent conversations with new members of the Executive Leadership Team, I was reminded of what is unique about our school and why it is so important that we do stay focused on big ideas for our future. You see, our big ideas are not about new directions, nor are they about adopting the latest trends in education or buying into decontextualised programs for learning. Our big ideas are deeply focused on the principles of education of a different kind – education for a sustainable future. This reminds us that more of the same will not better prepare our students for the economic, political, social and environmental challenges they face now and into the future. The change we need to see in education is the change that Richard Cornish set out to create when he founded the campus in 1987. And now, generations later and as Cornish College, we continue to lead that change with renewed hope and conviction that through education of a different kind, we truly can ensure a sustainable

future. That is our obligation to the families who continue to bring their children to Cornish College and to the staff who are attracted to working in a place that will, with its students, make a difference.

The photo below was taken on 12 February this year, the day of my induction as Principal of Cornish College. A day that reminded me how unique and wonderful this school and community are. The photo features Richard Cornish, Hayley Cornish (Richard's granddaughter and current staff member), Benjamin Twining (Hayley's son and Richard's great-grandson), Abigail King (Christine Marks's granddaughter and Richard's great-granddaughter) and Christine Marks (Richard's daughter and Board member). I chose to include it in this edition of *The Difference* as a wonderful reminder that, even though we are a young school, we are a school with a rich history serving generations for a more peaceful world where there is enough for all, forever. I know that our difference will shine strongly in the coming years.

Nicola Forrest



Hayley Cornish, Benjamin Twining, Abigail King and Christine Marks in front of Richard Cornish's portrait

FEATURES

Founding Council members retire

The opening of Cornish College in February 2012 marked the culmination of an amazing achievement by an incredibly committed team of people. Within that team were a number of people without whose efforts the new College would not have been founded. After 10 years of dedicated service to our community, two of those people, both current members of the Cornish College Board, are stepping down from the Board.

Our Board Chair, Rev Dr Robert Johnson, and Board member, Christine Marks, have announced their retirements. It is fair to say that, without their contributions, it is highly likely that Cornish College would not exist today.



Christine Marks and Rev Dr Robert Johnson have made wonderful contributions to the College

When an email notifying the Cornish community of St Leonard's intention to close the Cornish Campus, just five weeks into Term 1 in 2011, was received, several parents reached out to Robert Johnson to leverage his knowledge of how the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) operated and to assist with providing introductions to relevant Uniting Church personnel. With 40 years' experience as a Uniting Church minister, including 11 years as the General Secretary of the Victorian/Tasmania branch of the Uniting Church, Robert's knowledge and experience were invaluable. Robert guided the initial discussions with the UCA by providing introductions to relevant personnel and initiating relevant dialogue with the people who eventually agreed to support the purchase of the Riverend Road property from St Leonard's College.

There were a number of factors at this time that made this a very complex situation. When the interim body (Cornish Project Committee) was established by the UCA in June 2011, to formally engage with St Leonard's with a view to reaching an agreement over the future of the Riverend Road site, Robert was appointed co-chair with Trevor Gurr. After many hours of planning, discussion and negotiation, Robert, Trevor and Christine negotiated an in-principle agreement with St Leonard's which led to the sale of the property and the establishment of Cornish College. With the commencement of the College in 2012 came the formation of the College Council under Robert's leadership as the Chair. Over the last nine years he and the College Council, renamed the College Board in 2017, have provided the strategic direction of the College that has seen us grow from a small school of 200 students up to Year 9, to a thriving College of nearly 700 students from the Early Learning Centre to Year 12. Robert's commitment to our College as a 'servant leader' has been exemplary and we give thanks to God for his amazing contribution to the establishment and development of our College. We are

blessed that Robert will continue his association with the College as a grandparent.

Like Robert, Chris Marks played a critical role in the establishment of the College as it was she and her two brothers, Keir and Richard, who agreed to our proposal to name the new College after her father, Richard Cornish. As the Principal of St Leonard's College, Richard originally purchased the land in 1985 with a vision for an environmentally-focused campus. With much of what Cornish College is today having been inspired by Richard's thinking, Chris's appointment to the Council provided an important connection with the Cornish family and her father's legacy. Her experience as a lawyer provided invaluable input to the initial founding team from mid-2011 as she worked closely with Robert and the UCA to get the relevant documentation in place to enact the transaction to transfer the contents and the premises to Cornish College. As an inaugural member of the Cornish College Council, Chris continued, over the last nine years, to provide wise counsel regarding the development of the College's strategic direction and was a key contributor to matters around the incorporation of the College as a stand-alone entity and transfer of the property from the Uniting Church to the new entity in 2017.

As a member of the Governance and Risk Management Committee, Chris has contributed significantly to matters relating to the governance of the College, and as the Chair of the Nominations Committee, she has played a vital role in succession planning. As with Robert we are deeply indebted to Chris for her outstanding contribution to the establishment and development of the College. We are delighted that Chris will continue her association with the College by remaining on the Governance Committee and as a grandparent.

Induction of our third Principal

On Wednesday 12 February, Nicola Forrest was inducted as the third Principal of the College with a special assembly combining Foundation Day and the Induction ceremony.

We were delighted to welcome Rev Denise Liersch, Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, to lead the Induction. There was a wonderful sense of community as students, staff, parents, special guests, friends and family welcomed Nicola, with student, staff and parent representatives presenting symbolic items to her, including a Bible, a book, a plant and a cross.

Nicola spoke of her path to become Principal, including the importance of teamwork and learning under Cornish's former principals, Kerry Bolger and Vicki Steer. She reflected on how belonging to the Cornish community has "energised and enriched" her life and inspired her to "lead with courage". She encouraged others to do the same, noting that responsibility – and being part of the Cornish community – is often part of a bigger plan.

"Somehow, some way, we are all meant to be here. If you really let this school choose you, if you open up to all it has to offer and take it all in, embrace every opportunity and be part of the values – you can actually make a difference.

"Cornish College chooses all of us to make a difference, and it sets us up to be leaders in our school, in our community and for our world. When Cornish chooses you, it's choosing you to lead. Thank you for choosing me to be part of it," Nicola said.

Following the Induction, it was fantastic to welcome back Rick Mleczko (CC2015) to give the Foundation Day address. Rick reflected that his Cornish education provided opportunities to explore his passions, and that the growth of the College has only strengthened its sense of community.

We also heard from Polly Draper (CC2019), 2019 Dux of Cornish College, and Sophie Mackey (CC2019), 2019 Cornish Award recipient, who



Tim Richardson MP and Nicola after the Induction ceremony

both gave warm, inspiring speeches about the important role the Cornish community had played in their journeys.

As the ceremony drew to a close, it was heart-warming to hear a sustained round of applause for Nicola as she departed with the official party. It was a wonderful way to welcome our third Principal, and showed the solidarity, excitement and hope held by the Cornish community.

Helping lead the way

In 2020, we welcomed some new (and not so new) members to the College's Executive Leadership Team.

Scott Mullen

Deputy Principal – Head of Primary

Prior to commencing at Cornish, Scott was the Principal of Essendon North Primary School, a school offering the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. He was previously the Assistant Principal at Sunshine East Primary School and at a secondary school, Staughton College. Scott is passionate about innovation in education and is enjoying leading the Cornish College primary years to ensure our students experience the very best that an IB school has to offer.

Sarah Dodd

Deputy Principal – Head of Secondary

Sarah is well-known to the Cornish College community as the former Acting Deputy Principal and Head of Middle School. Before joining Cornish College, Sarah was a Sub School Leader at Kew High School. We are delighted to have the continuity of Sarah's passion for teaching and commitment to young people at our school.

Nicole Timbrell

Deputy Principal – Innovation and Design

Nicole was formerly the Assistant Head of Secondary – Teaching and Learning (Innovation) at the Australian International School in Singapore. Amongst other roles, she was previously the Head of Digital Learning at the school and, prior to that, was a Learning Leader at Loreto Kirribilli in Sydney and a research assistant in the New Literacies Research Laboratory at the University of Connecticut. Nicole moved to Melbourne at the end of last year to join the Cornish College community. Nicole is energised by our school's commitment to innovation and education of a different kind.

Laurent Julicher

Director of Student Learning

Before commencing at Cornish, Laurent was the Director of Years 11 and 12 at Woodleigh School, a role centred around student management, wellbeing and learning of senior students, and the VCE. He was also

a member of the school Leadership and Executive, Child Safety Officer and teacher of VCE Indonesian. Prior to that, Laurent was the Head of the Language Department at Rosebud Secondary College and worked at Monash University. Laurent has been embraced by the Cornish community and is committed to building resilient and capable young adults.



(Clockwise from top left) Nicole Timbrell, Laurent Julicher, Sarah Dodd, Scott Mullen

Exploring new ways of learning

While the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us, our students, staff and parents have shown wonderful resilience, adaptability and creativity. Students continued their learning in Term 2 through Cornish@Home – our remote learning platform – from the beginning of term until they began to resume onsite programs back at Cornish from 26 May. We certainly missed their smiling faces and laughter!

Although they were unable to learn onsite, our students explored different ways of learning in new environments, including their own outdoor classrooms at home. Here are some highlights of the rich, diverse learning that happened in and around their, and their teachers', homes.



Primary highlights

Along with school work at home, our students maintained positive mental health and physical fitness through meditation, yoga, arts and crafts, dancing, cooking and sports through Mindfulness@Home and StayingFit@Home.

Students also accessed virtual excursions through Museums Victoria and ScienceWorks, and virtual 'visits' of animal enclosures at Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary and Werribee Open Range Zoo, enjoying live stream videos of koalas, giraffes, penguins, zebras and more! They also discovered global arts, crafts and culture through interactive apps and websites.

Secondary highlights

So many of our secondary students worked together to support each other at home. Whether it was messaging, video calling during class tasks or lunch breaks, watching and contributing to activities provided by the Captain Connect program, or jamming together for Music, students ensured they remained connected with their peers.

Our Captain Connect program, in particular, kept students connected and supported their wellbeing. Our leaders provided something for secondary students on a weekly basis and shared assemblies across the secondary years and primary school. This was the Captains' wish: *We hope that through 'Captain Connect' we can keep our Cornish community spirit alive by spreading positive messages to get you motivated!*

Keeping students connected

Connecting with our local community

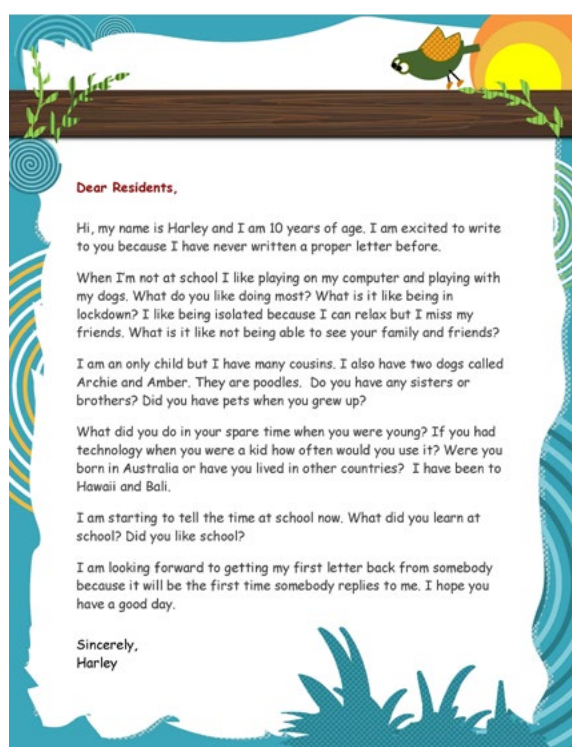
Year 4 students wrote heartfelt letters to residents in local nursing homes. This was a wonderful way to connect with those in our local community who may have been isolated from their family and friends during a difficult time. Our students hope to visit the residents in the future.

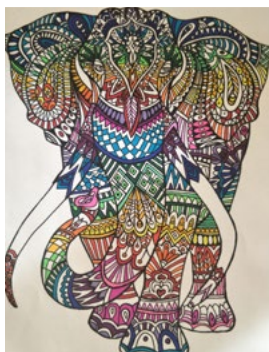
House Fun Day

Primary students enjoyed a wonderful range of interactive challenges on their Cornish@Home House Fun Day. They were challenged physically, academically and creatively in House group activities, and enjoyed video messages from their Year 6 House Captains, who encouraged them to represent their House with pride and to do their best. Students also shared lovely messages of hope to inspire and support each other.

House Championships

Years 7 – 9 students took part in the Cornish@Home House Championships, which saw students teaming up with siblings at home to demonstrate their strengths in dancing, singing, jigsaws, quizzes, art, sports and more.





Keeping the community connected

CornishCommunity@Home

To help keep our Cornish community connected, we launched *CornishCommunity@Home* – a webpage filled with activities for families to do together over the weekend.

Popular challenges included:

- *Strike a Pose* to recreate famous artworks using costumes and household items
- *Photo Caption* encouraged families to caption photos from around the College
- *Favourite Pet Photos* shared their favourite photos of their pets
- *Maths Challenge* where Nicola Forrest challenged families to determine how many eggs she was likely to get from her chickens, based on when each chicken lays eggs
- *Trudie's Foodie Challenge* to create delicious dishes at home using items taken from a mystery box and a few staple ingredients!

Families also learnt more about biodiversity and making sustainable choices at home with sustainability audits, Earth School and the upcycling challenge.

Other highlights included:

- *Waggle Dance Challenge*, which raised awareness about the importance of bees
- *Akash's Engineering Challenges*
- *Arts and crafts* - origami, finding faces in everyday objects
- Terrific videos by our Music students, who participated in Riff Challenges and sang *Advance Australia Fair*, and our Performing Arts team, who created a rap using Dr Seuss's *Hop on Pop* as lyrical inspiration!

All in all, it was fantastic to see our Cornish community remaining connected, positive and resilient during a challenging time.

Anzac Day with a difference

The Cornish community acknowledged Anzac Day this year with an online Anzac Day Assembly and the Driveway at Dawn Parade. Families created wreaths using bark, leaves and flowers, and held private dawn services in their driveways and backyards on 25 April, pausing to honour veterans from Australia and New Zealand, active service people and all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in wars and conflicts.

Some Cornish families, including the Kollias family, shared their own ANZAC histories. The Kollias family's great-grandfather, Tom Marsland, pictured at right, fought in the Battle of the Somme during World War I, while grandfather Brian Kollias served in many countries, including Vietnam.

Lest we forget.



Celebrating women in our community

Women from throughout the Cornish community enjoyed a delicious breakfast together on Friday 6 March to celebrate International Women's Day. The morning was an important way for members of our community to share stories and empower each other.

Our Women's Day Ambassadors Tierney Khan and Emily Smith, Year 12, emphasised the importance of equality for all, while Jessica Pratt, Primary Music Teacher, gave a delightful speech reflecting on her time spent travelling the world to perform improvised comedy shows, encouraging women to get out of their comfort zones and try something new.



Cornish women empowered and celebrated each other for International Women's Day

A special day with loved ones

It was lovely to see so many grandparents and special friends enjoying a morning with our Prep to Year 2 students on Thursday 12 March.

Our annual Grandparents and Special Friends Morning gives students a wonderful opportunity to celebrate important relationships in their lives. Students and their guests took part in classroom activities, explored favourite places around the College and shared morning tea together. Thank you to all of our special visitors for joining us.



Students with their grandparents and special friends

Another step towards a sustainable future

We are delighted to announce that Cornish College was recently awarded its first star in the ResourceSmart Schools Program.

The College was also shortlisted as a finalist in the 2020 ResourceSmart School Awards for *Curriculum Leadership School of the Year* in both the Primary and Secondary School categories – a fantastic recognition of our wonderful curriculum.

The ResourceSmart Schools Program is a Victorian Government initiative that supports schools as they integrate sustainability into their strategic planning and processes, helping them to improve their resource management while embedding sustainability practices into school operations, teaching, learning and community engagement.

The star is another important step in our goal to become a certified Five Star ResourceSmart School and a community hub for sustainability. It acknowledges our existing achievements in sustainability, including our recent commitment to the TAKE2 Pledge to take meaningful action against climate change, and the development of a school environment management plan.

We are now working towards our next star, which focuses on biodiversity. The ResourceSmart Committee is also continuing to identify areas around the College, and our community, in which we can make a difference in contributing to a sustainable future, such as the clean canteen initiative proposed by our students in 2018, which featured in the Summer 2019/2020 edition of *The Difference*.

We look forward to continuing our work as leaders in making a difference today for a sustainable, thriving tomorrow.

Year 3 students explored ways to support healthy environments in their unit of inquiry, 'Sharing the Planet'. The unit focused on how people can establish practices to sustain and maintain healthy environments, so the children met with a number of different people to talk more about how to make a difference through everyday actions.

They met with a Parks Victoria ranger to discuss their role in contributing to a healthy environment and picked up litter for Clean Up Australia Day.

They researched ideas such as reducing litter, recycling paper and installing solar panels, and interviewed experts within our school community, including Principal Nicola Forrest, who they met with to talk about reducing the single-use plastic straws used in the school canteen for slushies, and Business Manager, Martin Massey, who talked about the College's solar panels.

They tested edible substitutes, using scientific principles, to find out whether ice cream cones could be a suitable alternative for the slushies. While the waffle cones were reasonable substitutes, the students discovered they would need to eat the slushies much faster, so they have not been added to the canteen. Plastic straws have been removed, however, showing how everyday actions can contribute to sustainable environments.



Meet our 2020 College Captains

We asked each of our College Captains how they hope to make a difference this year in their leadership role.

Niall Culleton

The role of College Captain involves voicing student opinions and concerns whilst also helping to lead events within the Cornish community. I believe I can help with this through my knowledge of the school and my experience with previous leadership roles such as my membership of the student council and being a Make A Difference Leader.

At the end of the year, I hope to have truly made a difference by helping to make the experience for current students at Cornish even better and also helped improve the experience for future students, including encouraging more cross-school connections.

Naomi Kah

When I finish school, I want to pursue a career where I am making real, positive changes for people and the world around us. I've really enjoyed influencing changes in the school community and as a College Captain, I hope to continue this.

I would love to see more student representation in executive meetings so that the student voice is heard in places other than student council. I also think it's essential that Cornish maintains its focus on sustainability



(L-R) Naomi, Oliver, Niall and Zoe

and that we always consider how to limit our impact on the environment and the world around us.

Oliver Stevens

My trip to East Timor last year reinforced why we all need to make the most of the opportunities given to us at Cornish. I feel I have a responsibility to push myself and to help encourage others so that, together, we can appreciate how lucky we are.

I have learnt that, to gain what you truly desire in life, you need to take risks. I want to encourage others to get out of their comfort zone and try things that scare them because it will help us grow as a community. I want to give back to this community that

has offered me many opportunities throughout my time here.

Zoe Wild

In my role, I hope to contribute to the College's growth and leave with the legacy that anything is worth a try. I hope my fellow students view me as a good leader who is kind, funny and hard-working but someone who is also a friend – that is extremely important to me because, in the end, I am speaking on behalf of the Cornish student cohort.

As a College Captain, I want to make a positive difference in a community that has given so much to me, and to feel as though I've made an impact. I hope to help build and grow this school in the best way possible, no matter how big or small that change is.

Cornish grounds flourishing

The Maintenance team took advantage of the unique circumstances at the beginning of Term 2 and made some wonderful improvements around the College grounds, including:

- Landscaping at the front of the College near Reception (pictured)
- Building a new bike shed, with funding from the Parents Association
- Developments to the sustainable playground, including tyre platforms, the platform for the slide and a balance beam
- New turf surrounding the Music and Drama classrooms, which will form part of a new performance space for the Performing Arts
- Planting hybrid grevillias and indigenous plants in the garden beds behind the Senior Studies Centre



We are delighted with the results, which will be enjoyed by many Cornish students in the years to come.

Learning languages differently

While things at Cornish have looked a little different this year, our language students have used this opportunity to engage in their studies in some creative ways.

A very special Chiben Day

Years 5 and 6 Japanese language students celebrated a unique Chiben Day on 25 February this year, with a variety of interactive social, cultural and language activities.

The welcome assembly, including speeches, songs and quizzes, was live-streamed between Cornish and Chiben, our sister school in Wakayama. Cornish students exchanged letters with their sister school buddies online and then virtually introduced them to our special learning environment, the 100-acre classroom. The Japanese treats were also a highlight – particularly the *Ramune* (lemonade in a bottle with a marble), which was a great hit!

Our sister school relationship extended even further this year than the traditional “Day of Friendship”. Initiated by Year 4 Chiben student, Soichiro, Chiben and Cornish students raised over \$4,000 to protect and rehabilitate koalas after Australia’s devastating bushfires – a fantastic way to make a difference.



Lily Turner, Year 6, presenting on Chiben Day

Exploring virtual reality in French

Our Years 9 and 10 French language students participated in the first ImmerseMe Games – a competition using virtual reality to improve students’ fluency and accuracy in practical contexts.

During the week-long interactive competition in May, students competed against 138 schools in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom, earning points by responding to native speakers in real-life contexts, such as ordering a baguette in Paris.

Cornish College was placed 33rd overall, with a special mention to Jackson Lanaway, who was placed 108th out of 47,594 students across the entire competition.

Félicitations to all students for participating!



Ned Critchlow, Year 10, with his Bronze Award from the ImmerseMe Games



Clockwise from left: Madison Brand, Year 6, Grace Pearce, Prep, and Saskia Anderson, Year 4.

Picture-perfect portraits

Our primary students have been learning about how portraits can reflect an artist’s ideas and observations, and how different materials and techniques can be used to express these through portraits. Inspired by Amedeo Modigliani, Pablo Picasso, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Ciara Bird and the Pop artists, Visual Arts students have explored a variety of media including painting, collage, printmaking and sculpture to express their own observations and ideas.

They also spoke with other portrait artists, including Year 12 student Molly Dinan, who shared her painting techniques and her expressive use of colour in portraits with some young artists in Year 5.

We can’t wait to see their wonderful works at the Cornish Art Walk in November.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Swimming

Congratulations to all of our superstar swimmers who competed in the primary District and Division Swimming Carnivals in Term 1. Here are some of the fantastic results from the competitions.

District Carnival

The following students were placed First in their events:

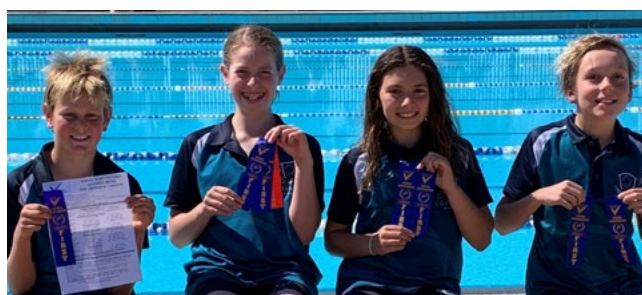
- Madison Brand – 11 year old girls' 50m freestyle and 50m butterfly
- Lily Turner – 12 and 13 year old girls' 50m freestyle
- Dion Gordon – 12 and 13 year old boys' 50m freestyle and 50m butterfly
- Emma Chantry – 12 and 13 year old girls' 50m backstroke and 50m butterfly
- Ayla Hirst – 9 and 10 year old girls' 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly
- Christopher Lowe – 11 year old boys' 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly
- George Sutton – 12 and 13 year old boys' 50m breaststroke

Five of our relay teams were also placed First:

- 9 and 10 year old girls' 200m freestyle
Casey Brand, Madelyn Rudd, Zanna Breed, Isla Gill
- 11 year old boys' 200m freestyle
Tyler Bourke, Lenny Bean, Liam Giblin, Alexander Stevens
- 12 and 13 year old girls' 200m freestyle
Emma Chantry, Madison Brand, Lily Turner, Belle Hargreaves
- 12 and 13 year old boys' 200m freestyle
Dion Gordon, Mitchell Papas, George Sutton, Sebastian Claven
- Open medley
Tyler Bourke, Madison Brand, Dion Gordon, Emma Chantry



(L-R) Madelyn Rudd, Ayla Hirst, Casey Brand and Zanna Breed



(L-R) Tyler Bourke, Emma Chantry, Madison Brand and Dion Gordon

Division Carnival

The following students were placed First in their events and progressed to the Regional Carnival:

- Madison Brand – 11 year old girls' 50m freestyle
- Emma Chantry – 12 and 13 year old girls' 50m butterfly
- Dion Gordon – 12 and 13 year old boys' 50m butterfly

The Cornish Open Medley Relay Team also placed First with the following swimmers. This team was the first Cornish primary relay team to make it to the Regional level:

- Madison Brand, Emma Chantry, Dion Gordon, Tyler Bourke



Sara Scully, Year 11, and **Tierney Khan**, Year 12, pictured at left, competed in the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority's Plain English Speaking Award Regional Finals. Both students delivered a prepared speech followed by an impromptu speech on the topic 'Should rules be broken?' – a topic they received on the day of the competition.

Sara delivered a clever, witty speech on 'ethnic imposter syndrome', while Tierney won with her powerful, moving and courageous speech titled 'Not another speech about feminism', and progressed through to the semi-finals.

Tierney also progressed to the State Finals after winning her semi-final with her prepared speech and another excellent impromptu speech on the topic 'It's no secret'. We look forward to hearing how Tierney goes!



Naomi Kah, Year 12 and a 2020 College Captain, achieved a perfect score of 50 in German and received a Study Award as part of the Premier's VCE Awards for outstanding academic achievement in 2019.

Naomi believes studying a Units 3 & 4 subject in Year 11 helped her prepare for Year 12.

Organisation and exam preparation are vital, Naomi says, so that students understand the content and format of their exams and can provide their best responses. She also believes it is important to balance studying with other activities.

"I want to do well, but I don't want to sacrifice my life, my happiness and mental

health just to get a really good score. I think you can't do that well if you're only studying all the time – you're not going to be very happy. So, for me, trying to find a balance is really important."

Naomi is also studying English, Chemistry, Physical Education, Maths Methods and Physics this year. She is yet to decide what the future holds but is exploring opportunities such as taking a gap year to work and travel to Germany; enrolling in a science or medicine degree or moving into the research sector.

"I definitely want to be doing something that's making a positive difference in the world and making a positive impact on other people's lives."

Ethan Gordon, Year 7, was selected to represent Australia in the Under 14 Trans-Tasman Cup for roller hockey. The competition, due to be held in New Zealand in July, has been postponed at this stage, but we can't wait to hear how Ethan goes!



Damian Sandy-Hayes, Year 8 was placed Second in the Actura FlipRobot Academy Smart City Autonomous Driving Robots Challenge, with outstanding performance in mechanical engineering, robotics programming and computational thinking, hands-on problem-solving, solution design and design-thinking, and skills in verbal and written presentation and communication.



Sarah Wilson, Year 9 (top), and **Coco Miller**, Year 7 (bottom), competed in the first round of the Horseland Interschool Combined Training Series. Coco was placed First in the 45cm Secondary CT with her horse, Riley, and Sarah was placed midfield in the 60cm Secondary CT event with her horse, Juliette.

Marli Hunter and **Stanley Gardner** pictured at right, from Year 6 shaved their heads to raise funds through the World's Greatest Shave. Between them, Marli and Stanley raised over \$1,500 for the Leukaemia Foundation, which supports Australians living with blood cancer or related disorders.



CORNISH COLLEGIANS



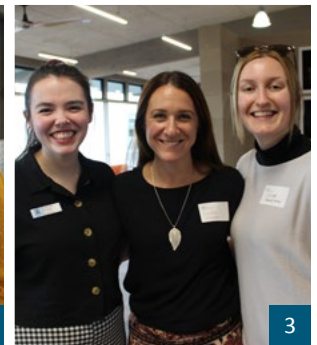
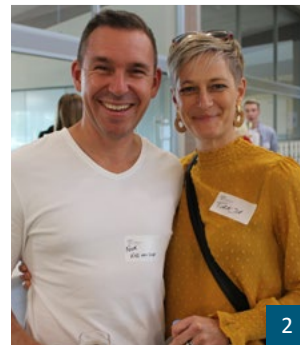
A night to remember

It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces at our Alumni Cocktail Party held in the Senior Studies Centre on Friday 21 February.

This special occasion saw over 70 alumni, former staff, parents of alumni and friends of Cornish College and the Cornish Campus of St Leonard's reunited, giving them a chance to catch up with each other and current staff, and to see all of the wonderful things that have been happening since they left Cornish.

We were also delighted to hear from Josie Mulcahy (CC2016) and Robbie Boag (CC2015), who spoke of the exciting plans that Cornish Collegians has for the rest of the year.

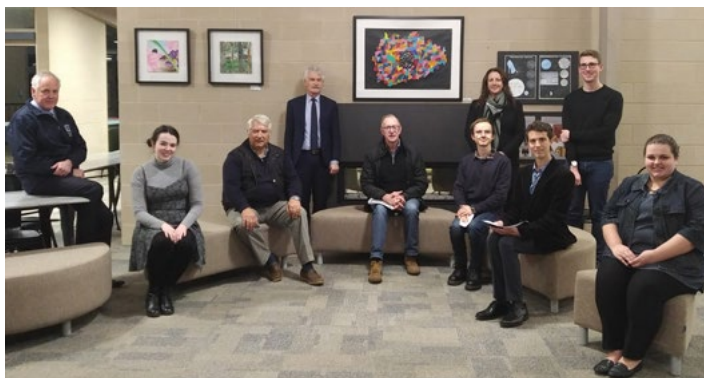
1. Alysha Genn (CC2008), Nicola Forrest
2. Nick Kiss Von Soly (CC1997), Tanja Brinkmann (CC1997)
3. Kath Kiddell (CC2015), Lauren Zeigler, Josie Mulcahy (CC2016)
4. Michael Davis, John Lyall
5. Trevor Gurr, Kerry Wellington
6. Liam Giezen (CC2015), Sofia Phoenix (CC2016), Thomas Rautenbach
7. Guests at the Alumni Cocktail Party with Kosi, the school dog



New Management Committee

Although we were unable to hold the Cornish Collegians Annual General Meeting, as planned, we were able to conduct an online election for the new Management Committee. We received nominations for each of the office bearer roles and are delighted to announce that the following were duly elected:

- **President:** Robbie Boag (CC2015)
- **Vice President:** Josie Mulcahy (CC2016)
- **Secretary:** Dennis Freeman (Community Relations Manager – 12 month transition period)
- **Treasurer:** Martin Massey (Business Manager – 12 month transition period)
- **Former staff member:** Kerry Bolger
- **Ordinary members:** Rick Mleczko (CC2015)
Leighton Triplow (CC2010), Gavin Byrt (former staff)
Alannah Hayes (CC2016), Kath Kiddell (CC2015)



(L-R): Martin Massey, Kath Kiddell, Kerry Bolger, Dennis Freeman, Gavin Byrt, Rick Mleczko, Nicola Forrest (ex officio member), Leighton Triplow, Robbie Boag, Alannah Hayes. Absent: Josie Mulcahy

Alumni events

We're looking forward to hosting two alumni events later this year – a Five-Year Reunion for the *Class of 2015* and a One-Year Reunion for the *Class of 2019*.

The *Class of 2015* reunion, originally planned for June, will now take place in September (see ad on page 17).

The *Class of 2019* reunion will take place in October (see ad on page 17).

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!

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

Applications for Enrolment

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/

Follow Us

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



@CornishCollegeAlumni

Births



Holland

To Geoff Holland (CC2008) (current staff) and Emma Robbins on 30 January 2020, a daughter, Mackenzie Evelyn.



Twining

To Hayley Cornish (current staff) and Timothy Twining on 15 June 2020, a son, Cassidy William - a brother for Benjamin and Lewis.

Cornish has always had a large number of families. We thought it would be lovely to share the stories of two sets of siblings who attended the College

Turning full circle

Siblings Julie Cooper (CC2004) and Paul Cooper (CC2007) loved their time as Cornish students. Little did they know that they would end up back here!

When Julie and Paul finished Year 12, neither knew that they would return to Cornish.

Julie studied Medicine and completed placements in the Northern Territory and Ghana. She had planned to work in emergency medicine, but decided to pursue her passion for science on a new path – education. After some guidance from former Cornish Principal Mr Bolger, Julie completed her Master of Education and interned at Cornish, where she “fell in love with the place again”. She now teaches Science, Health and VCE Biology and is also the Year 10 Academic Care Leader – a role she loves.

Meanwhile, Paul qualified as a commercial cook and then studied multimedia design and systems administration. He worked in app development and lighting and design in theatre, before commencing his current role at Cornish as an Audio Visual Technician and a Woodwork Technician. He often assists in Design Technology classes and behind the scenes in Cornish productions, providing support with his diverse skills.

“I consider myself lucky to have experienced my youth and schooling here, so it’s nice to be able to give back and give my expertise, knowledge and experience to students. There’s learning from a book and then there’s vocational knowledge and experience. I try to give a good middle ground for them to see what it’s like in the industry.”

Although it was a little strange at first, Julie and Paul both enjoy working with their former Cornish teachers.

“Initially, it was a bit strange,” Julie says. “But it’s really nice to work with, learn from and be supported by the people who supported me as a student. I’m still learning from them, which is really cool.”

“It was a bit surreal coming back, but it’s always felt like home. The hardest part is calling teachers by their first name,” Paul adds.

They both note Cornish’s positive influence on them.

“Cornish reflected our family values and influenced the way I view life and interact with others,” Julie says. “It helped to reinforce how I see the world and helped me to understand that others don’t always view the world the way that I do, but that’s okay.”

“What I learnt here has been invaluable, not only in my work life but my personal life as well – it’s really shaped who I am,” Paul adds. “I wouldn’t be the person I am today without Cornish and the people who taught me.”

Both agree that the College has grown since they were students but its spirit remains unchanged.

“Cornish’s philosophies remain the same,” Paul says. “We’re able to enhance and build upon that foundation through buildings, grounds and materials, and new technologies. It’s incorporating sustainability, teaching ideals, ideologies and methodologies to give the best education possible.”

Julie agrees. “It’s changed so much, but at its essence, its soul is the same. The core of what we do and why we do it is still the same.”

Both are proud to call Cornish home again.

“Being proud to be an alumnus and a staff member is taking pride in the person I am and the people who have been created through Cornish,” Paul says.

“It’s a really common thread of Cornish alumni – they’re all well-rounded, caring, thoughtful human beings. It’s held everyone in such good stead. It’s a real testament to this place.”

“There’s just something about Cornish that is really special,” Julie adds.

“After I did my teaching internship here, I wanted to become the kind of teacher that I was seeing and working with, and to do what they do and have the passion and the care that they do.

“I love that I get to be part of Cornish again in a different capacity and give back to a place that I valued and appreciated. I am so grateful for having been able to come to this school.”



Sharing a passion for healthcare



Ravi Kamisetty (CC2005) took a gap year at the end of Year 12 before completing an undergraduate degree in dentistry and then a research honours degree in Adelaide. He worked as a dentist in Melbourne and then as a locum throughout Victoria and Tasmania, before completing

further postgraduate study in Adelaide to specialise in orthodontics - he has been working as an orthodontist ever since.

Ravi recently purchased a clinic in Dandenong, where he is enjoying the challenges of owning a business. Ravi believes Cornish has influenced his approach to these challenges and his career overall.

“The way I practise orthodontics is very personal, very involved and takes genuine care for individual patients, just like Cornish did. That’s influenced my personal values and how I run my business.”

Along with influencing his career, the Cornish campus shaped Ravi as a person.

“A lot of values and ethics that Cornish and my parents instilled in me are part of my personal life. I still abide by them now.

“I’ve also got some really good friends from Cornish that I see on a fortnightly basis. A couple of them came to India for my wedding to Sruthi, and that was really nice.

“[Former Principal] Kerry Bolger and Mike Davis were formative figures in my life and still are. Kerry wrote references for my university applications and came to our wedding reception in Melbourne.

“I’m still in touch with my Year 5 teacher, Mr Davis, 25 years on, which says something about the personal relationships we built.”

The College offered an ideal learning environment, Ravi says, and although he was unsure about moving to Cornish in Year 5, he has no regrets.

“Cornish was a nice place to grow up. It had a supportive environment, smaller class sizes and a personalised approach. The individual attention and care we received was unparalleled.

“We also learnt all sorts of things – different, unique things like beekeeping and veggie patches with Mr Goschnick. They were a different set of skills and a different approach to learning.

“Looking back, I wouldn’t change a thing.”



Manogna Kamisetty (CC2007) is a paediatric advanced trainee registrar, currently working in the newborn intensive care unit at the Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne. After Year 12, she volunteered and travelled before completing a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery and a Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours). In her final year of medical school, she gained international paediatrics

experience through internships with the World Health Organization and the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund. She completed her medical internship at Monash Health, and concurrently completed a Diploma of Child Health. Manogna has also worked as a children’s party entertainer, a volunteer tutor for children from refugee backgrounds, and with children with disabilities.

Manogna knew early on that she wanted to work in medicine and with children, and says the Cornish campus provided guidance.

“It was a very conducive environment to foster the best outcomes for every individual. They acknowledged students’ strengths and weaknesses, and encouraged us to pursue what we were good at and improve what we wanted to be good at.

“Cornish felt very inclusive – that was a wonderful feeling. Now with my medical knowledge, I know how important it is for a child and a young person’s development to feel like they belong.”

Manogna says that her family and upbringing were pivotal in shaping her as a person, but her experiences at Cornish added to her growth immensely.

“A lot of my social endeavours are based on values which flourished during my time at Cornish, such as selflessness, generosity and service to others,” she says.

“I have such fond memories of school – not just of my friends, but of my teachers and of the Principal, Kerry Bolger, who attended my engagement ceremony last August. I always had very high regards for all of my teachers. One of my oldest friends from Cornish also attended my wedding in India in November.”

Manogna loves her current role, which is “very humbling and rewarding”. In the future, she hopes to combine her interests across neonatal/perinatal medicine and paediatric cardiology, and to volunteer in India with her husband, Ram, who is also a doctor with similar aspirations. She hopes that other Cornish students will enjoy and benefit from the College as much as she did.

“Having positive influences, positive connections, a sense of belonging and to be encouraged to follow your dreams is just invaluable. It’s something I would love to encourage others to have.”

COMMUNITY NEWS

Marathon man

Current Cornish parent Jim Poussard attracted media attention when he ran a marathon around his family home on Good Friday to raise funds for the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Many official marathons have been cancelled this year due to social distancing regulations, so Jim got creative!

The marathon – which involved a massive 528 laps! – was the sixth in a series of 20 that Jim is running throughout 2020, with the aim of raising \$20,000 for the hospital in the 2020 Marathon Challenge. The challenge is personal for Jim, whose daughter, Georgia, had life-saving surgery at the Royal Children's Hospital when she was only nine days old. Georgia is now a healthy and active Cornish student, so Jim hopes to support the hospital as it continues to help children in need.

If you would like to donate to the fundraiser, visit:
rchf-fundraising.everydayhero.com/au/2020marathonchallenge



Jim's family cheered him on during his marathon around their home on Good Friday



New leadership of the Parents Association

The Parents Association held their Annual General Meeting recently and the following office bearers and committee members were elected:

- **President:** Amy Jayasuriya-Clifford
- **Vice President:** Virginia Dooley
- **Vice President:** Michelle Covey
- **Treasurer:** Glen Dymond
- **Secretary:** Rob Novotny
- **General Committee:** Toni Newman, Paula Yates, Jacqui Embleton, Jim Poussard, Carol Widmann, Kylie Wooderson, Lara Sinclair, Felicity Meisel, Tania Stacey, Brenda Beekman.



Outgoing president Lara Sinclair, pictured left, acknowledged the honour and privilege she felt leading the association and thanked her fellow committee members “not just for all of your hard work over this time, but also for the kindness, support, encouragement and friendship that came with it.” She also acknowledged “all those parents, grandparents and so many others who have helped out and cheered us along the way”.

New president Amy Jayasuriya-Clifford, pictured top left, is “excited, together with the new committee, to continue with the great work led by our outgoing president Lara Sinclair and her team. The key principle that will guide our activities is the Cornish motto Make A Difference and our scope is to identify opportunities to bring families together and build and strengthen our Cornish community and to assist with any school improvement projects”.

College Archivist

Are you fascinated by history, have an interest in records management and an ‘eye for detail’?

We’re looking for an archivist to collect, preserve, catalogue, oversee the digitisation process and to encourage the expansion of Cornish College’s archival collection.

The role is offered as a voluntary, one-day a week position and is available right now.

If you’d like to apply, please send an *Expression of Interest*, outlining your background, previous experience and reasons why you’re interested in this role.

Applications to Dennis Freeman, Community Relations Manager, via email dennis.freeman@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au no later than Monday 10 August.

Business Directory

We're seeking *Expressions of Interest* to advertise in our upcoming Cornish College Business Directory. Now, more than ever, we need to support our Cornish College community, so this is a great opportunity to advertise your business to our community.

There is no cost to advertise and we're able to accommodate any sized business, from a home tutoring service to a large company.

If you are interested in advertising in the directory, please email us alumni@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au a brief summary of your business, what you're offering and also your contact details and a logo or image.



CORNISH COLLEGE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Connecting the Cornish community through businesses



Upcoming School Tours

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

Thursday 30 July
9.30am—11.00am

Thursday 22 October
9.30am—11.00am

Friday 28 August
9.30am—11.00am

Thursday 19 November
6.00pm—7.30pm
(Twilight Tour)

Book online via
www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/discover-cornish

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

Alumni Reunions – Save the Date

Class of 2015

Five-Year Reunion
Friday 25 September

Class of 2019

One-Year Reunion
Friday 23 October

We look forward to sharing more details about these events soon.

For updates, please register your contact details via our website www.cornishcollege.vic.edu.au/alumni or email us alumni@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au



2020 Golf Day

When: Friday 4 September
Registration from 11.00am, shot-gun start at 12.30pm

Where: Southern Golf Club

This is a fantastic opportunity for community members to enjoy a round of golf while raising money to support the Cornish College Building Fund.

Golfers will enjoy an 18-hole Ambrose competition with a shot-gun start, with a range of prizes on offer.

Limited sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, please contact Martin Massey, Business Manager, on 9781 9000 or via martin.massey@cornishcollege.vic.edu.au

Book now via bit.ly/2020CornishCollegeGolfDay



Cornish Conversations

Build your child's resilience with practical strategies developed by The Resilience Project

Tuesday 25 August
6.30pm—8.00pm

This presentation will provide parents with helpful advice to support their children in developing positive mental health and resilience strategies.

As part of The Resilience Project's Immersion Program, this presentation will complement sessions for Cornish College students and staff that focus on gratitude, mindfulness, empathy and kindness.

Book your ticket online via:
bit.ly/CornishConversationsPositiveMentalHealthandResilience

For more information about The Resilience Project, please visit their website: theresilienceproject.com.au

