

veritas



Learn, Live and Lead
ISSUE ONE, 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Principal	2
Principal's Commissioning	3
One School; three lush campuses	4
Student Leaders	5
Term 1 in photos	6-7
Art & Design opening	8-9
Getting Social	10-11
2022 VCE results	12
Community Connections	13-15
Sport	16

Cover Image:

Bairnsdale students care for the campus chooks.

Buy school photos:

To purchase photos from many Gippsland Grammar events, please email school photographer Lisa Baker at lisa.baker@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au or visit lbphotos.com.au to view the online albums.

Editorial inquiries:

Marketing and Development manager Zoe Curtis at zoe.curtis@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au

Connect with us:

f www.facebook.com/gippslandgrammar

@ www.instagram.com/gippsland_grammar

in www.linkedin.com/school/gippsland-grammar

▶ www.youtube.com/c/GippslandGrammarLive

From the Principal

'I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create ripples.' – Mother Teresa

WELCOME to 2023 and our first edition of *Veritas* for the year. In entering my first year as Principal, I have been reflecting on the ideas of leadership and beginnings. With the year well underway, the Commissioning and planning for a new strategic plan, I find myself excited about taking these steps forward in a place that I feel in-sync with.

A leader I find truly inspiring is Mother Teresa. This is because she became a leader by simply adhering to her core mission of serving others with compassion. As Mother Teresa cast her stone across the waters, she encouraged others to do the same. My hope is that as individuals – students, staff, community members – we will each see a way that we can make a positive impact on our School and the lives around us.

During Term 1 we hosted weekend Open Days at all campuses and these have been bigger than ever, both in scale and attendance. The pride in the School by the staff on department displays and the students leading tours was palpable and comments from current and prospective families confirmed this. I thank everyone for their efforts in making these days so successful.

We have recently completed two weeks of NAPLAN testing. Our students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, took this challenge on with a positive purpose to try their best. They handled themselves with responsibility and respect, two of our important CLERR values.

Some of our Music and French students will soon set off on their ANZAC Tour of France and Belgium. They have been enthusiastically rehearsing and the students are very excited about their contribution both to their respective studies and their impact on the tour. Director of Performing Arts Dr Cameron, Head of

Languages Sonia Duggan and their teams are showing a strong commitment to the core mission of developing these programs for our students.

As I type this many of our rowers are finishing their season by competing at the Nationals in Perth. I was fortunate to attend the Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta in Geelong in March and I am inspired by the growth and success of the program. This is made possible by our Director of Rowing Nick Bartlett as well as his team, the ever-serving McColl Club parents and the enthusiasm of the students. Further examples of positive dedication to Gippsland Grammar and its people.

Each day across our three campuses I hear conversations among our teachers as they share teaching ideas and focus on their own professional development. I sit in classrooms, awe-inspired by the activities our students are involved in and the dedicated delivery of lessons by staff. I walk around the yards and playgrounds and see our students playing. I walk through offices and witness the business and banter of those working to keep our School humming. I see Prefects looking out for younger students. I am convinced that our people are living our CLERR (Compassion, Leadership, Excellence, Responsibility and Respect) values and grateful that these values align with my own. I am convinced that we can all make our ripples, positive ones.

'We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.' – Mother Teresa

I am truly optimistic about the future of Gippsland Grammar.

Michele Wakeham
PRINCIPAL



Bishop of Gippsland The Right Rev Dr Richard Treloar blesses Gippsland Grammar's eighth Principal, Michele Wakeham.

Principal's Commissioning

IT was significant day in Gippsland Grammar's history on March 31 as the eighth principal in the School's 99-year history was formally welcomed.

A Commissioning Service for Michele Wakeham was held in the School's Laurie Payne Sports Centre and attended by students from each of its three campuses, as well as staff and representatives of the Gippsland Grammar Board, Gippsland Grammar Foundation and the Old Scholars Association. Former colleagues and mentors from Mrs Wakeham's previous schools were also in attendance. In her Commissioning speech Mrs Wakeham said she felt strongly that Gippsland Grammar's values were aligned with her own.

"What attracted me to this School and what I have loved about being here, is that the school's culture and values fit with my own," Mrs Wakeham said. "I feel like everything is aligned and it's the perfect fit."

When asked about some of her favourite memories from her time at Gippsland Grammar so far, Mrs Wakeham said there had been plenty to choose from.

"Most recently, I have really loved cheering on our girls at the Head of the Schoolgirls Rowing Regatta at Geelong as well as meeting many prospective families at our Open Days," she said. "The Grandparents' Days at our junior campuses were just so lovely to be a part of and I've also really enjoyed dancing at our St Anne's ELC on Friday afternoons as part of their 'funky, fun Friday' pick-up routine.

"Hearing the stories from some of our Old Scholars at the Green Grubs luncheons has also become something I always look forward to, particularly in the lead up to our Centenary celebrations next year."



Principal Wakeham surrounded by her family, including her brother Bradley Burns, husband Laurie Wakeham, sons Trystan, Bryn and Rhys and father Don Burns.



Mrs Wakeham with former Gippsland Grammar Principal David Baker.



Bairnsdale students sell eggs from the campus chooks to help pay for the chooks' upkeep.



The Garnsey Campus is dominated by an expanse of lush sporting ovals.



Students play under the St Anne's oak tree.

Going Green: we explore our three lush campuses

WHEN asked to nominate a colour that is most associated with our School, the unanimous answer would of course be 'green'.

Our uniforms are green, our School crest is predominantly green and 'Green Grubs' is the affectionate name for the girls who attended St Anne's prior to its amalgamation with the boys' school in 1971. Another important 'green' aspect of our School is the verdant sports ovals, gardens and play spaces at each of our three campuses.

Our Bairnsdale Campus is located on the banks of Clifton Creek and almost has a rural feel about it with a vegie garden, orchard, a compost area, cubby houses that are often used for 'mud pie' play and a popular chook pen that is home to three much-loved chickens.

And while the historic red brick buildings at our St Anne's Campus are prominent they are quite literally overshadowed by an established oak tree at the main entrance. Like Bairnsdale, St Anne's Campus also has chooks, a vegie patch and a compost system.

Which brings us to the senior Garnsey Campus, the entrance to which is via a long tree-lined driveway bordered on both sides by an expanse of manicured ovals. Another lush feature of Garnsey is Neil Forest, named after Bert Neil who was a former headmaster of Gippsland Grammar School in the 1960s.

Head of Garnsey Campus Rohan Jayatilake said it was the campus's wide open spaces that first struck him when he arrived at the School last year.

"I was amazed by the open space and natural feel of the school," Mr Jayatilake said. "And, as I've gone on to discover, these spaces provide students with a space to explore, discover and connect."

Head of Bairnsdale Campus Virginia Evans said students loved being involved in caring for the campus chooks and harvesting the produce.

"It's a big deal for the students who collect the eggs and the produce from the garden is sold to the parents and also to our canteen," Mrs Evans said. "And all of our campus food scraps end up in the compost bin and the students learn about the science behind composting."

2023 Student Leaders



Garnsey School Captains and Prefects: (front row) Samithri Kaluarachchi, Lailah Moore, Ella O'Doherty, School Captain Emily Thai, Sophie Alexander; (middle) Nathaniel Shelton, Georgia Shell, Isabel Rush-Lestrangle, Leah Brutovic, Jonathan De Kock; and (back) Austin Bauer, Chris Kelsey, School Captain Edward Courtier and Monty Richardson.



St Anne's Campus Captains Matthew Canfield and Erin Smith. Matthew and Erin both say during their first term as Campus Captains they have enjoyed setting up Lorna Sparrow Hall for each Monday assembly and attending a Leadership Day in Melbourne.



Bairnsdale Campus Captains Piper Jankowiak and Rustan Bazley. Piper and Rustan say they love being student leaders and "creating positive and caring environments for all students".



Year 10 student Enzo Blackmore speed dating a book on 'Library Lovers Day'.

Love Day at the ISC

THE library isn't the first place people may think to visit on Valentine's Day but this year Garnsey students did just that when Valentine's Day coincided with 'Library Lovers' Day' and senior students celebrated both occasions by 'dating a book' during their English classes.

Each student was allocated a number which corresponded with a particular pile of books

that included a range of different genres and abilities, fiction, non-fiction and biographies. The students chose a book to 'speed-date' and then had five minutes in which they could flick through the pages, read the blurb and start reading. If they felt a connection, they were given the opportunity to find a cosy spot in the library and keep reading. But for those who were still undecided, every five minutes the process was repeated and by the end of the class most students had found their perfect book match. Some even found true (book) love in the library!

Head of Information Services Centre (ISC) Jacinta Fleming said it was a fun activity which the students embraced.

"The overall response was that they all really enjoyed it," Mrs Fleming said. "Some students said they read books they would never normally have chosen but once they started reading, they got hooked!"

As a bonus, students were offered Valentine's heart lollies and students across all year levels took part in a Library Lovers Competition.



School's back! Principal Michele Wakeham and Head of St Anne's Jie Van Berkel get caught up in the first day of school excitement at St Anne's on January 31.



Bairnsdale Campus Foundation student Archie Whelan is all smiles on his first day of School. Archie is a third generation Gippsland Grammar student and will be part of the graduating class of 2035!



St Anne's ELC students Matilda Williams, Will Gibson and Milla Van Heurck show off their millinery creations in Easter Bonnet Parade on March 31.



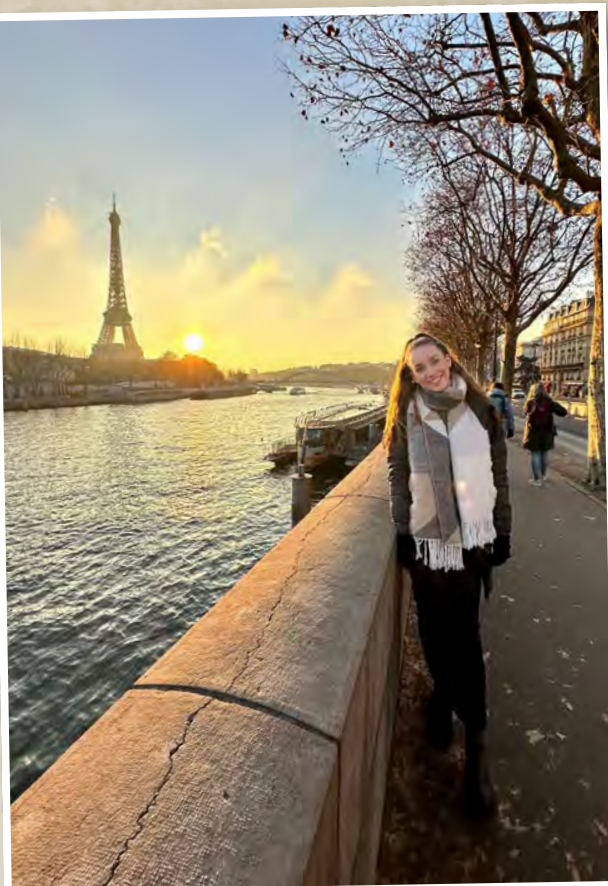
Garnsey students Sophie Alexander, Monty Richardson, Jessica Norman and Georgia Shell wear their Tisdall Hotham yellow with pride at the Garnsey Swimming Carnival.



Gippsland author and international explorer Tim Cope visited the Bairnsdale Campus for the Leadership induction ceremony on February 19 to share his own thoughts on leadership, which he developed through his 10,000km horseback journey from Mongolia to Hungary. Tim then spent the remainder of the day with the campus's Year 5/6 students running writing workshops.



Year 1 Bairnsdale student Ryan Aly is thrilled to bits to be cooking – and eating! – pancakes for Shrove Tuesday on February 21.



Over the summer break 12 senior students embarked on international exchanges to France and Japan. Pictured is Year 11 student Georgia Steel in Paris taking in the sight of the Eiffel Tower.



Bairnsdale Campus students have welcomed campus dog Trina to the School Community. Trina belongs to the Marran family, whose daughter Cynthia (pictured far right) is in Foundation this year. Trina is a retired guide dog who loves being around children.



Opening of the Art & Design Centre

IT'S said the best things in life are worth the wait and that has certainly been the case with the opening of the new Art & Design Centre at Garnsey Campus. While classes have been held in the

Centre since Term 2 last year, various circumstances meant the official opening wasn't able to take place until this year. So the anticipation was palpable on March 16 when Federal Senator Raff Ciccone was joined by the Bishop of Gippsland The Right Reverend Dr Richard Treloar and more than 50 VIPs for the official for the opening of the \$6.5 million Centre.

Senator Ciccone said he was sure the Centre would provide a rich learning experience for students.

"Facilities like this are so important so that teachers have all the tools they need to give students the best education possible," Senator Ciccone said. "Looking back at my own time at school, the facilities we had made a real difference to the staff's ability to teach and to our ability to learn." The Senator was clearly impressed by the building as he stayed for a considerable amount of time following the opening to tour the building and talk to students about our School.



**DEC
2020**



**FEB
2021**



**MAR
2021**

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE



**JUN
2021**



**AUG
2021**



**OCT
2021**



Construction of the Centre began in late 2020 and features seven purpose-built classrooms to accommodate Visual Arts and Design subjects including Art, Design, Media, Applied Computing, Wood Technology and Materials Technology.

Principal Michele Wakeham said both teachers and students were overwhelmed

by the state-of-the-art space when it was able to open for lessons last year.

"It's been amazing to see the teaching and learning that has flourished in the Centre," Mrs Wakeham said. "Particularly the real-world skills we see in the work that the students are producing."

The Art & Design Centre was made possible thanks to the Australian Government's Capital Grants Program, the Gippsland Grammar Foundation, the John Leslie Foundation, the Hugh and Selina Williams Foundation and generous contributions from more than 50 personal donors.

**MAR
2021**



**APR
2021**



**MAY
2021**



**APR
2022**



**FEB
2023**



Getting Social



Farewell Anne January 9



The Blackwood House boarding community has bid a very sad farewell to chef Anne, who retired last year after cooking home-style meals and birthday cakes for our boarders for the past seven years.

Over the past seven years Anne has become known for the amazing cakes she made each boarder on their birthday. Cooking these cakes wasn't part of Anne's job description but she took this task on as a way to make the boarders feel as much at home in the boarding house as they do in their own homes. Thank you for everything Anne, you and your smile and your cooking will be missed.



Reach 4237



Work experience January 19



Work experience takes our students to some incredible workplaces and gives them some amazing experiences. And so it was for year 10 students Nina and Ethan who completed work experience at the HMAS Cerberus late last year.



Reach 3445



Year 8 Outdoor Ed February 8



How cool is this? Our Year 8s working with Southern Ark to catch and release animals. This morning they found a long-nosed bandicoot in one of the traps. "We were able to microchip it for future monitoring, weigh and measure it and safely release it."



Reach 3256



Garnsey Prefect induction February 9



Leadership is one of our School Values and yesterday we inducted our 2023 Student Prefects and Garnsey House leaders at a special Garnsey Campus assembly. As is tradition, a junior student representing the entire student body, was called on by Principal Michele Wakeham and Board Chair Brendan Shepherd to witness the signing of the pledge. Please join us in congratulating everyone involved.



Reach 5446



B'dale AFL clinic February 23



This year's AFL season is still three weeks away but the Foundation and Years 1 and 2 students at our Bairnsdale Campus got into the spirit early thanks to an Auskick clinic during their PE classes.

The students learnt how to handball and kick and it was smiles all around as they took part in a variety of footy activities. As they say, what a big day it was in football!



Reach 2555



Archbishop's Forum March 10



Last week our School sent three student representatives with our Chaplain Rev Dr Tim Gaden to the Archbishop of Melbourne's Forum on Anglican Schooling hosted by Melbourne Grammar. The Forum brought together students from Anglican Schools across Victoria to participate in workshops and discussion circles around the place of faith and values in Anglican schools.



Reach 2500



Getting married March 11



Friday Fellowships at our two junior campuses are always special but yesterday's St Anne's Fellowship had a sprinkle of something extra special with the entire campus sharing its best wishes to Foundation teacher Miss Alexander who is taking some time off to get married next weekend.

Miss Alexander was treated to a guard of honour and was showered with rose petals and bubbles as she made her way to the staffroom. Congratulations Miss Alexander!



Reach 3808



Tractor Pull March 19



There is an incredible amount of diversity in the extra-curricular pursuits of our students and we love celebrating them all. So HOW GOOD is this achievement by Year 7 student Jack Taylor who was finally old enough to compete in the Longford Tractor Pull last the weekend. And Jack didn't just compete, he also came home with a first and two seconds! Well done Jack; what a great activity to be involved in and excel at.



Reach 5114



Buddies March 23



Here's a heart-warming story for you: featuring two of our students boasting a unique bond that began in our ELC. Meet Matty Canfield and his buddy Aussie Bauer who are in Year 6 and 12 respectively. They were introduced to each other seven years ago as part of our junior school buddy program. Today they remain good mates who regularly 'hang out' and their impact on each other has been quite profound. Without hesitation young Matty admits to being totally in awe of Aussie. Initially the pair bonded over Lego and Star Wars but later it was the mutual love of sport.

Incidentally, Matty was awarded St Anne's Campus Captain earlier this year and is proving to have learnt many fine leadership skills from Aussie, who is, by the way, one of our 2023 Prefects.



Reach 4980



Year 9 resilience March 23



Our Year 9 students have put learning about resilience into first-hand practice at the Baw Baw National Park this week during their overnight hike. These pics show the students had their resilience tested thanks to an extremely wet night but were thankfully lucky both days with blue skies and weather perfect for their 10km hike. Co-head of Outdoor Education Cass Booth said the hike had tested the students but it had also given them a huge boost in confidence in their own abilities. "Even after the wet night, the students had a determined and positive attitude," Ms Booth said. "And though they found many aspects challenging, they all completed the walk and should feel extremely proud of their efforts."

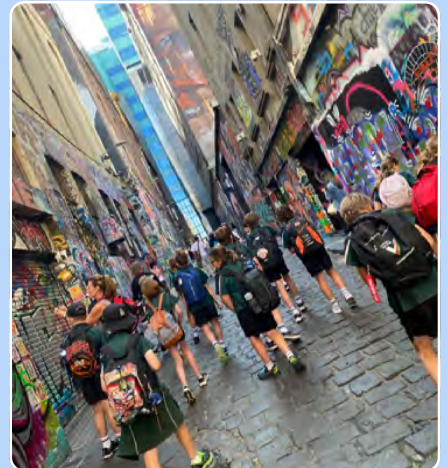
Resilient, indeed!



Reach 2562



Melbourne Camp March 23



This week the St Anne's Year 6 students have been immersed in city culture thanks to their three-day Melbourne Camp. The students have visited (deep breath) Scienceworks, the Immigration Museum, IMAX, the Queen Victoria Market *and* the Melbourne Museum. But a highlight was the street art tour, which included art in the iconic Hosier Lane. Phew! We think these lucky students might sleep well tonight!



Reach 1894



World Environment Day March 26



To celebrate the recent World Environment Day, St Anne's Year 4 students walked to 'Nakunbalook', the brand-new, purpose-built educational facility near Lake Guyatt where they took part in a number of hands-on activities including bat printing (which was organised by the Gippsland Art Gallery), Bug Blitz, planting, Junior rangers, yoga and meditation. Year 4 teachers Mrs Drew and Mrs English said the day was particularly suited to the Year 4 students who were in charge of the vegetable gardens and chook house at the campus.



Reach 1882





The 'Class of 2022' and (inset) DUX Sarah Husodo with Principal Michele Wakeham at the Year 12 Valedictory in November.

2022 VCE Success

Students from the Class of 2022 achieved great success with last year's VCE results with 20 per cent of the cohort achieving an ATAR above 90, placing them in the top 10 per cent of students in the state.

The School's median ATAR for 2022 was 76.55, which was significantly higher than Victoria's median ATAR of 70.33 and 65 per cent of the 89 Year 12 students achieved an ATAR above 70, placing them above the state's average.

Gippsland Grammar's DUX was Sarah Husodo with an ATAR of 98.55. Sarah is from Sale and is currently studying Medicine at Monash

University. She said was surprised but thrilled with her results.

"I found out my results just before 7am when I got a message from one of my best friends saying they were out," Sarah said. "I felt a lot of excitement and relief (as) I was quite nervous about getting the results. My parents were very excited for me and that made my day. They have always been supportive and I'm very grateful for their support. Then I spoke to (Acting Deputy Principal) Mr Henderson who told me I was DUX. I was very surprised at that, but it was quite special."

Sarah said studying VCE during the pandemic years had been challenging but there were some silver linings.

"It was hard to stay focussed and learning during the Zoom

environment," she said. "But it was also beneficial in a way as it made me ease back into a lot of the extra-curricular stuff and just concentrate on studying."

"I think we also formed stronger connections with our cohort after what we went through together. We missed out on a lot which made us do a lot of different things to build connections so by the time we got to Year 12 I think we were a much more connected cohort."

"I miss school already, as I really enjoyed being at school with my friends, and studying and the teachers and school environment. It's been a big part of my life."

Students joining DUX Sarah Husodo as the School's highest achievers with an ATAR above 95 include Camille

Japhary with an ATAR of 97.25; Charlotte Runciman with an ATAR of 96.9; Pearl O'Connor with an ATAR of 95.55; Jessica McLindin with an ATAR of 95.5; Katie Waller with an ATAR of 95.45; Jessica Ingle with an ATAR of 95.15 and Nikolas Valette with an ATAR of 95.05. An ATAR score determines a student's position relative to all the other students in the state and is one of the key factors used to grant students a tertiary place in the first round of offers.

Gippsland Grammar is also proud to acknowledge the students from last year who made a successful transition into the workforce through an apprenticeship or traineeship. Many students from the cohort were also either full-time or part-time boarders at Blackwood House.



Old Scholar Bruce Savage with the old blazer he wore when he was a student at the School.



Former Gippsland Grammar teachers Jenny and Don Gaskill returned to the School to celebrate Grandparents' Day with their granddaughter, Foundation student Isla.



Grandparents Bill and Jan Noble with Mackley (Year 2) and Arabella (Year 1).

Grandparents Day

With nearly 400 guests, Lorna Sparrow Hall was bursting at its seams for the 'Grandparents and Special Friends' Fellowship on March 17, which was connection at its finest according to Head of St Anne's Campus Jie Van Berkel.

"Connection has proven to be one of the key factors to improve life quality and longevity," Mr Van Berkel said. "This special day, a highlight on our calendar, is an amazing demonstration of connection – connection with family, friends and school community."

Mr Van Berkel suspected the number of guests to the historic campus on Friday was a record.

Grandparents and special friends and students enjoyed a fellowship service hearing from guest speaker Old Scholar Bruce Savage who is also a former Gippsland Grammar Board member, past parent (father of Simone and Harrison) and current grandfather of two students, Pippa and Darcey Langshaw.

Gardiner Foundation Scholarships

WHEN your school is located in a region dominated by dairy farms it's satisfying to see some students opt to embrace and support that industry and their own rural communities after finishing school. So we were incredibly proud to see some of our 2022 Old Scholars receive three of the seven available 2023 Gardiner Dairy Foundation Tertiary Scholarships at a presentation lunch in Melbourne in February.

Old Scholars Hamish McLeod, Eden McMillan and Will Coleman each received a scholarship which will provide them \$10,000 a year for the first three years of their tertiary degree to help cover accommodation, travel and study expenses throughout their degree. Hamish (currently studying a Bachelor of Commerce) received the Doug Weir Scholarship, Eden (currently studying a Bachelor of Paramedicine/Bachelor of Nursing) received the Niel Black Scholarship and, fittingly, Will (currently studying a Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine) received the scholarship named after well-known late Maffra vet Jacob Malmo.

The Gardiner Foundation believes that the next generation of dairy farmers, service providers, professionals, business owners and community volunteers are the future of the dairy industry and its communities, which is why it invests in emerging leaders to help develop a long-term future for the dairy industry.

Will and Hamish both attended the presentation ceremony in Melbourne however Eden McMillan (inset) was unable to attend as she was volunteering overseas.



Jacob Malmo Scholarship recipient Will Coleman (pictured centre) with Gardiner Foundation Chair Len Stephens and former Maffra vet Jakob Malmo, who sadly passed away in March.



Doug Weir Scholarship recipient Hamish McLeod (pictured centre) with Doug Weir's widow Rosita Weir and Gardiner Foundation Chair Len Stephens.

Community Connections

Reunions Recap

A RETURN to in-person reunions has been embraced by our Old Scholars with many reconnecting with their former classmates at last year's Decades Reunion at Garnsey and January's Summer Drinks at the Metung Hotel. The 2022 Decades Reunion celebrated the classes of 2012 (10 years), 2002 (20 years), 1992 (30 years), 1982 (40 years) and 1972 (50 years) and it was lovely to welcome so many familiar faces back to our School with drinks in the Chapel of St Anne, a luncheon in the foyer of Laurie Payne Sports Centre and finally – the most popular part of the day – a tour of our School's senior Garnsey Campus.

And in January, our 'inaugural' summer drinks reunion was held at the Metung Hotel and was a huge success with about 15 Old Scholars reminiscing by the water. Next year's Summer Drinks will be held on the afternoon Saturday January 13. More details to come.



More than 40 Old Scholars attended last year's 'Decades Reunion' in October.



Old Scholars Natalie Leys (Class of 1993), Malcolm Perry (Class of 1979), Margo Cuthbertson (Class of 1987) and Andrew McInnes (Class of 1995) at the Summer drinks at Metung in January.



Lifelong Learners

TWO attendees at last year's Decades Reunion from the Class of 1972 are likely to be our eldest Old Scholars who are also current scholars.

Nora Sumberg and Maree Maxfield attended the October reunion to celebrate their 50-year school reunion where the two were able to share stories about what it's like to still be students. Both Nora and Maree are currently undertaking PhD's at Melbourne University; Nora is researching contemporary art in Melbourne during the 1980s while Maree is examining the subjective quality of life of adults born with a corpus callosum disorder (CCD).

Nora said it was bittersweet attending the reunion as it was her lifelong schoolfriend Heather Wigg (nee McKinnon) who had encouraged her to attend the event. In fact, Heather had taken a recent edition of *Veritas* with her on a holiday to Port Douglas, which she passed on to Nora only the day before she died (in September last year). Nora said the reunion was a somewhat healing experience for her at a particularly sad time in her life.

"I was grieving terribly yet the warmth of my fellow students from so long ago was palpable and comforting," Nora said. "It was beyond description seeing girls I'd shared a dormitory with nearly 60 years ago; many I had not seen for 55 years, yet we connected immediately. It was touching and I had fun. I actually met one girl (from the reunion) for coffee in South Yarra recently.

"If any other former students doubt whether they should attend their own school reunion, let me assure them that they are gold!"



This year we are thrilled to welcome some new staff who also happen to be Old Scholars, including Shauna Drew (née Zaal, Class of 2002), Kate Burgess (Class of 2015), Kristin Verstedden (Class of 2015), Peggy McDonald (Class of 2022), Ella Baker-Horan (Class of 2018) and Jacqui Schuback (née Ray, Class of 2007).



'80s Reunited

Old Scholars from the late 1970s and '80s reunited in October last year for the wedding of Andrew Lethlean (Class of 1978) to Anna Curnow at Metung. Pictured are John Cameron (Class of 1978), Craig Rossetti (Class of 1978), John Lethlean (Class of 1976), Scott Rossetti (Class of 1981), John McLachlan (Class of 1979), the groom Andrew Lethlean, Malcolm Perry (Class of 1979) Sarah Guinness (Class of 1989), Paul Churchman (Class of 1980) and Tom Cameron (Class of 1971).

REUNIONS

Thursday April 27: Green Grubs luncheon at Bairnsdale's Mitchell River Tavern from noon. Luncheons will also be held on May 25, June 29, July 27, August 31, September 28, October 26 and November 30. RSVP to Jocelyn Brand (nee Saxton) at pjbrand@bigpond.com or 0407289652; or June Jackson at junejack1@hotmail.com or 0417 380 820.

Saturday June 3: Winter Drinks at Bell's Hotel, South Melbourne from 4-6pm. \$20 includes welcome drink and canapes. Book here: <https://www.trybooking.com/CGIPH>

Friday July 28: St Anne's Day at St Anne's Campus at 10.30am for a Fellowship, followed by a luncheon in the Library.

Saturday October 7: Decades Reunion Old Scholars from the cohorts of 1963 (60 years), 1973 (50 years), 1983 (40 years), 1993 (30 years), 2003 (20 years) and 2013 (10 years) are invited to this year's 'Decades Reunion' at our Garnsey Campus for drinks and afternoon canapes from 3-6pm.

Saturday January 13, 2024: Summer Drinks at the Metung Hotel. More details to come.

Invites to all of the above events will be emailed to the relevant Old Scholars closer to each event so please email development@gippslandgrammar.au if your details need to be updated.

VALE



Bev Cook as one of Gippsland Grammar's eldest Old Scholars Bev Cook OAM (nee Hayward, Class of 1943) remained an active part of our School Community until she passed away on March 19, aged 97 years. As recently as 2019, Mrs Cook visited the Garnsey Campus for Commemoration Day and was interviewed on stage by then Principal David Baker when she shared her strong memories of being a student at the school in the 1940s, including her time as School Captain in 1943.

She also starred on a 2014 edition of *Veritas* after playing a key role in the School's 90th birthday celebrations. Mrs Cook was one of Victoria's longest-serving teachers after starting her teaching career at Tambo Crossing school as a 19-year-old and she continued to teach at Swift's Creek P-12 school until the late 1980s.

In 2008 Mrs Cook received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her service to the East Gippsland community and to the field of Music. Mrs Cook is survived by her daughter Meredith Horman (Class of 1976) and son Philip.

Former Business Manager **Colin Price** of Echuca passed away in February after a lengthy illness. Colin was a much-loved member of staff from 2000-11 and his funeral was livestreamed to Garnsey's Chapel of St Anne. The School sent its condolences to Colin's wife Felicity, who was also a staff member and daughters Sally (Class of 2010) and Kimberly (Class of 2014).

Old Scholar **Anne Cameron** (nee McLarty) died on September 8, 2022. Anne was born in Swifts Creek and went to primary school in Buchan before boarding at St Anne's for her secondary years. Anne said her love for travel began with a school trip to South Australia and she and her husband Jim spent their lives travelling and visited 28 countries throughout their lives.

Old Scholar **Beth Exton** (nee Burfoot, Class of 1947) of North Balwyn passed away in September 2022. Despite living in Melbourne and overseas for much of her life, Beth maintained attendance at St Anne's reunions.

Old Scholar **Delwyn (Del) Major** (nee Stephenson, Class of 1974) passed away on August 29, 2022. Del is survived by her husband Ross and son Patrick.

Old Scholar **Clare Pollard** (nee Langlands, Class of 1960) of Paynesville passed away late last year after a brief illness. She is survived by husband of 59 years Peter, three children and three grandchildren.

Old Scholar **Patricia Herrick** (nee Goyen, Class of 1948) of Point Lonsdale died aged 91 in March 2022. Mrs Goyen attended St Anne's for two years from 1944-45 and said this period was the happiest years of her life.

Old Scholar **Mary Ireland** (nee Rintoull) of Queensland passed away aged 93 in August 2022. Mary attended St Anne's from 1944.



Year 10 student Emma Best and Year 8 student Louis Lazzaro were Ballkids at this year's Australian Open.

Australian Open Stars

ONCE again Gippsland Grammar students have taken to centre court at the Australian Open as Ballkids for the prestigious tournament. Year 10 student Emma Best and Year 8 student Louis Lazzaro were two of the 360 ballkids selected from 2500 applications Australia wide.

Both Emma and Louis said they loved the once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"On day one I was nervous, but it didn't take long to get

into the rhythm," Emma said. "(As the tournament progressed) the crowds were bigger, the players were more famous and the whole of Melbourne Park was next level. I was lucky to get on to John Cain Arena on my third shift and (US player France) Tiafoe was a highlight because he always needed a ballkid to help him get his top back on after a break."

"(My final shift was) the final Saturday with the Girls Junior Open Final. Two Russians, Andreeva and Korneeva slogged it out for nearly three and a half hours on Rod Laver Arena, which was a great way to finish my time at the AO."

Louis said he loved being able to watch some "amazing tennis" over the two-week

tournament. "We had some very hot days on court (38 degrees feels like 45) yet there were other days when I was on my hands and knees with a towel mopping up the rain so play could resume," Louis said. "I also had some very late nights past midnight and I was also able to watch the 2023 AO winner, Novak Djokovic, play his first-round match."

"But it's not just about the tennis. The Ballkids experience taught me some great leadership skills, and some important navigation techniques having to find my way around Melbourne Park, and the city using buses and trains. I also made lots of new friends."



Rowing

As we draw to the close of the 2022-2023 Rowing Season I am left with a lot to reflect on. Our first full post-Covid season saw the return of our GAP coaching program and with it we were lucky enough to welcome Danny, Ellie and Kasey to our team. The impact these three coaches have had cannot be overstated; they have engaged fantastically with our students, School and Community and will be sorely missed. This season also saw the Rowing Program hit the highest number of participants ever, with a total of 81 students rowing at races throughout the year. Having a larger cohort of students certainly brings with it a number of challenges but they have been met throughout, with some fantastic performances at rowing camp, in training and away at regattas.

One such challenge was catering for such a significant number of students at our regattas but the McColl Club really stepped up this year in incredible fashion, pushing out an a huge number number of gourmet-standard meals consistently across every regatta. To our McColl Club committee and all our parent volunteers and supporters I would like to say thank you.

Another challenge was providing our rowers with enough equipment to enable them all to race at regattas. We managed to pull this off at the final twin regatta of the season – Geelong's Head of the Schoolgirls and Nagambie's Scotch Mercantile – in large part due to the efforts of our puzzle fundraising scheme. We look forward to welcoming our next GAP coaches at the start of Term 3 and hope that the connections we have made with our outgoing coaches carry on.

Director of Rowing
Nick Bartlett