

# in Aeternum

The Queen's College and Wyvern Society magazine November 2021



## Wyvern of the Year 2021 **Renee Carr** Fighting for a Fair Agenda

Partnering with PIMS  
Building our future engineers

Profiles of MCR  
and Wyverns

Engaging with  
Wyvern leaders



Queen's College  
*The University of Melbourne*

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Cover image of Renee Carr  
photograph by Ben Fon

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*Queen's College acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land where we live and work, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nations, and pays our respects to their Elders past, present and future.*





## Connection and Community at Queen's

Over the past 20 months I have had many conversations online at Higher Education Conferences and face-to-face with students and parents regarding the perils of pandemic learning.

One student told us she had taken last year off because she knew that learning online wouldn't work for her. Another shared that she had made the same decision after a disrupted school year. The more students I talked with, the more the theme stayed the same: "Not being connected to other people last year had a huge negative impact on me." At a recent Higher Education Conference, Professor John Hattie, who is a world expert on educational outcomes, noted that for students to thrive, they require a sense of belonging that comes from developing relationships generated through on-campus experiences.

Last year, as COVID outbreaks forced schools particularly in Victoria to shut down, students often sank beneath the weight of the isolation imposed by health protocols. The enthusiastic, engaged and outgoing student was sometimes replaced by an empty husk. The swagger and bounce were missing. The light had gone out. For much of this year their experience has been the same as Melbourne university campuses which have been devoid of life: academic, social, cultural and sporting. Queen's College throughout has been able to fill this void and while College life has not been without major challenges students have flourished with a sense of belonging.

We have spent much time this year rethinking the College experience. The conclusion we have come to is that the emphasis on the academy and community, which is at the heart

of the college experience, is what students need to grow and develop at the university. The pandemic has underlined a basic fact about human nature: we thrive and excel when we feel a strong sense of belonging and connection to a community. What's more, high performance requires a culture where inclusion, belonging and believing we matter are baked in.

While university leaders tend to think of their three main functions – academics, research and student affairs – as separate. In

*We thrive and excel when we feel a strong sense of belonging and connection to a community.*

the College it has always been the case that knowledge creation and dissemination are intrinsically connected to foster students' sense that they matter and belong.

Now, informed by the events of the past year, we have an opportunity to be even more intentional in moving toward a holistic and integrated view of what drives success, in our programs and for our students. We have a chance to further explore how they are entwined. Community building isn't something that happens by chance but through all that we do within the College, whether it be in Eakins over a meal, in the classroom, on the sports field, on stage or in the corridor.

And when we choose to focus on building relationships – inside and outside the castle – our academic, pastoral, cultural, sporting and

social programs are amplified. Why? Because students feel safe. They know it is okay to take a risk, to be vulnerable, to put themselves out there and try something new.

I keep telling the current generation of students that they are not just a community of 300 but of 6500 Wyverns around the world. As always, this edition of *In Aeternum* reflects that as we acknowledge not only academic and sporting success (at least first semester) but also members of our wider Wyvern community.

The link between connection and success, which the pandemic has brought to light so dramatically, is not abstract. It is visceral and highly personal. And it is evident in the lived experience of many of our Queen's students. What I have heard from so many students this year is "I feel at home here." It is encouraging that in this age of disruption, that has impacted particularly on the education sector, students can still affirm, as countless generations have, that they have found a place to belong and that place is Queen's – an intentional academic community of inclusion, support, and empowerment.

I would like to end by acknowledging the enormous contribution that so many have made to the College in creating community, students, staff and Wyverns. Thank you for your support that makes Queen's a special place to live and work and I look forward to welcoming many of our community back in 2022.

**Dr Stewart Gill OAM**

## New Dean for Queen's

Dr Lesa Scholl has been appointed as the new Dean of the College.

Lesa comes to Queen's from Kathleen Lumley College, the postgraduate college of the University of Adelaide where she was Head of College. Prior to this Lesa was Dean of Academic Studies, Dean and Vice-Principal of Emmanuel College, the University of Queensland. She has a BA, M.Phil and Grad Cert in Education from the University of Queensland and a PhD from Birbeck College, University of London. Wherever Lesa has served she has been widely respected for her pastoral care of students, her mentoring, career advice and visionary leadership.

She holds titles as a Visiting Research Fellow in History at the University of Adelaide, an Honorary Professor of the College of Humanities at Exeter University, UK and a Fellow of the Texas Hunger Initiative, Baylor University, USA. Her research interests are interdisciplinary, engaging with representations of hunger and poverty from the early modern period to the present, with a focus on nineteenth-century Britain.

Her publications include *Translation, Authorship and the Victorian Professional Woman: Charlotte Brontë, Harriet Martineau and George Eliot* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2011), *Hunger Movements in Early Victorian Literature: Want, Riots, Migration* (London: Routledge, 2016), and *Hunger, Poetry and the Doctrine of Reserve: Tractarian Influences on*



*the Nineteenth-Century Social Vision* (Anthem, 2018), and she has edited collections on Elizabeth Gaskell and the medical humanities. Her current research engages with religious and economic history, poetry and medical humanities. Her new book entitled *Food Restraint and Fasting in Victorian Religion and Literature* is due to be published in early 2022.

Lesa was a member of the Uniting Church in Adelaide and sang in her Church choir, plays trumpet and runs half marathons. We welcome Lesa and her dog, Baylor, to Queen's.

Lesa replaces Dr Sally Dalton-Brown who left us early in 2021 to join the staff of Little Hall. We are grateful to Mr Campbell Bairstow for taking on the role of Dean for most of 2021.

# Rev Sharon Hollis

Wyvern (1994, 2007–2016), Current Fellow of Queen's College,  
Current Council Member of Queen's College

by Reuben Edmonds, 2nd Year Theology, Hague Scholarship recipient

At the 2018 National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia, Sharon was elected to be the 16th President of the Uniting Church (2021–2024) and the first ordained woman to hold the role.

## What led you to be nominated for the position and how did it feel to be chosen by your peers and church?

I was nominated by two colleagues who thought I had the gifts and skills to offer leadership at a national level in the Uniting Church. I accepted the nomination first because I love the Uniting Church and I want to contribute as best I can to help the Uniting Church exercise its particular expression of Christian faith as faithfully as it can. I have also been interested in leadership for some years now, studying leadership at a postgraduate level. I've worked in leadership roles in the Uniting Church, in Continuing Education for our clergy and in a state leadership role as Moderator. My experience has also been shaped by rebuilding my life after my partner died 8 years ago. I've learnt to lead from vulnerability, to accept limitations, to stare into deep darkness, prioritise my family and know it takes a community of support to do anything meaningful.

It's incredibly humbling to be chosen by the Church to lead the Assembly. I'm always overwhelmed and grateful when people say to me, I pray for you regularly. It feels like enormous trust has been placed in you and with that comes a sense of commitment to fulfill this role to the best of my ability.

## You were installed as President through an online meeting of the Assembly due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions. How has the pandemic impacted on the role of the President and what you hoped to achieve?

Like everyone the pandemic has changed how I do my work. The first and immediate impact was the need to hold the Assembly meeting online. This meant over 200 people meeting online for the first time for the Assembly of the Uniting Church. Like most people I spend a lot of time attending and hosting meetings online.

Before COVID-19 the President would be expected to travel around Australia visiting with the different parts of the Uniting Church which obviously I'm not doing. I miss the opportunity to meet with people and know what people are thinking when I'm making a speech or leading a bible study.

Still, I'm so grateful for technology that means we can still meet, gather for community and make decisions. Online meetings also mean I can often attend more things than I would often be able to because I can be 'in' Brisbane in the morning and Canberra in the afternoon and at my book group in the evening. It's also meant that I've been able to attend international conferences and meet with partner churches in Asia and the Pacific much more regularly than we did before COVID-19.



Photo provided by the UCA

*"It's incredibly humbling to be chosen by the Church to lead the Assembly."*

## You chose 'Dwelling in love' as your theme for the 16th Assembly. What does this theme mean to you and how will it shape your presidency?

The theme reflects both what I believe about God and how I hope we will be with each other. It is my conviction that at the heart of the Christian faith is the belief that God is not remote from the world. Rather God not only cares about creation but actually enters into human life and dwells with us in Jesus Christ. God continues to be present in the world, suffering with those who suffer, calling us to act with mercy, justice, and compassion. Because God dwells with us, we live with God. This calls us to create communities that reflect God's love. These communities will face hard issues by acting with kindness with each other, act for justice, and seek to live with our neighbours in peace.



# David Runia presents *opus magnum* to the College

When David Runia returned to Melbourne to take up the position of seventh Master of Queen's College, there was much that he left behind in Europe. For 25 years he had been heavily involved in academic life as a researcher and teacher overseas. He was determined, if at all possible, to continue doing research in his chosen field of ancient philosophy. It would be a waste of all that training and expertise if he were to set it aside.



Gonni Runia and Fellow of the College, Lady Potter AC

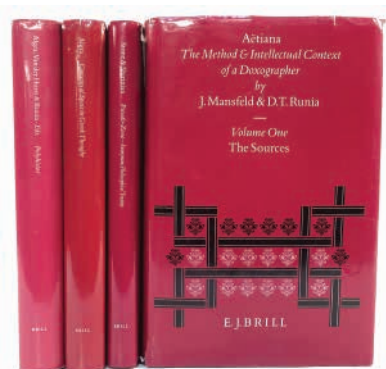
For many years he had been working together with his colleague and friend, Prof. Jaap Mansfeld of Utrecht University, on a large-scale project. It began as a post-doc project as long ago as 1985. Their aim was to produce a new edition of a manual on natural philosophy ascribed to a Greek philosopher called Aëtius. The original work was lost, but it had been reconstructed in the nineteenth century from the extensive use made of it by three later authors. David and Jaap recognized that this short work of under 200 pages was in fact much more interesting and important than was generally thought.

But a huge amount of work was needed to edit it and explain its contents against the background of more than a thousand years of the ancient philosophical tradition.

In 2004 a great stroke of fortune occurred. David obtained a substantial Australian Research Council research grant. This allowed him to travel to Europe, meet up with Jaap, and consult libraries and other colleagues at regular intervals. It was even more fortunate that David's boss, President of Council John Castles AM, fully supported David's ambitions and actually allowed him to spend one day a week on his research.



Master, Dr Stewart Gill and Prof David Runia. Photos by Nicole Crook



*It took until 2020 before the project was completed and the edition saw the light of day, representing 35 years of work.*

A memorable event took place in December 2015, when an international conference on the subject of David and Jaap's research project took place at Queen's. A dozen scholars from abroad teamed up with half a dozen local researchers for three days of learned discussion. Fellows and other friends of the College will remember that wonderful summer evening when the conference dinner was held in the Woodward Centre at the University, with the western sun streaming through the windows and bathing the participants in its golden light.

It took until 2020 before the project was completed and the edition saw the light of day, representing 35 years of work. It was published in four beautifully bound volumes containing some 2400 pages of edition and commentary. On 14 July 2021, the day before Melbourne entered its fifth COVID lockdown, a Fellows' dinner was held in the JCR. David was able to present the current Master, Dr Stewart Gill OAM, with a copy of his *opus magnum* as a token of gratitude to the College for supporting his scholarship so generously during the years of his Mastership.



## Fellow, Professor Trevor Bird

(Wyvern 1968)

Queen's College Fellow, Professor Trevor Bird, has had a new book published recently by Wiley entitled *Mutual Coupling Between Antennas*.

He was author or co-author of ten of the fourteen chapters. Of these he was fortunate to have the support of four contributions from leading experts on special topics and two chapters were written with his postdoctoral students. It is a culmination of his work in the area over a period of about 30 years.

The topic concerns the interaction that occurs between radiating bodies such as antennas (or aerials). This can be intentional, as in an array, such as commonly seen for TV reception or inadvertent as when different antennas are mounted on a tower such as used for broadcasting or mobile phones. There are many types of antennas, and some are more complicated than others to include mutual coupling in design.

The detailed study of mutual coupling commenced almost a hundred years ago but with improvements in computer modelling this interplay has become easier to include in antenna design. It is these improvements and better understanding of the topic that has led to this book, which is the first of its type on this topic alone.

In September 2021 **Ed Smelt** (Wyvern 2004) was elected as an Alderman in Chan Ward on the City of Darwin Council.

He ran on a platform of making Darwin the 'Outdoor Capital of Australia' with a focus on infrastructure, clean and safe public spaces and cooling and greening local neighbourhoods.

The campaign was very well supported by family, friends and locals – including many Wyverns. Ed lives in Nightcliff with his wife Susannah Ritchie (Ormond 2003) and their two young boys. Outside of council, Ed is a Senior Director and engineer with the Northern Territory Government, plays club cricket and is a volunteer firefighter.



*Photo provided by Ed Smelt*

## Celebrating 90 years

**Geoffrey Harcourt AC** (Wyvern 1951), a most distinguished alumnus of Queen's, celebrated his 90th birthday on 27 June this year. He is one of the very few Australian economists whose writings have been absorbed by the world's leading economists of his generation. He has also greatly assisted the profession in understanding the writings of others.



*Portrait of Geoff Harcourt by Lewis Miller*

After education at Wesley College, Geoff entered as a resident of Queen's in 1951, in the second year of his Bachelor of Commerce degree. He was an outstanding student, graduating with first-class honours. He was mentored by another Queen's economist, Joe Isaac, who was his tutor at Queen's and the university. It was at this time that Geoff was exposed to the thinking of John Maynard Keynes and identified with both Keynes's economics and its social purpose. This interest has continued throughout his career.

In 1954 Geoff was a resident tutor at Queen's and a research officer in economics at the University of Melbourne. He undertook a pilot survey of savings in Melbourne, for which he was awarded a Master of Commerce degree. He left for graduate study at Cambridge University in 1955, beginning a lifelong emotional and intellectual attachment to that seat of learning.

After completing his PhD in 1958 he returned to Australia and took up an appointment at the University of Adelaide. For the next four decades he moved between Adelaide and

Cambridge. He held a personal chair at Adelaide (1967-85) and at Cambridge his final position was Reader in economics (1990-98). He was a Fellow of Jesus College (1982-98) and its president (1988-92). By his own admission he is an 'Australian patriot and a Cambridge economist'.

Geoff Harcourt retains a great affection for Queen's College and more generally college life, as at Cambridge. Owen Parnaby, in his history of Queen's, relates that he and Geoff Harcourt formed the short list for the position of Master of Queen's following the retirement of Raynor Johnson. Geoff pulled out of consideration following developments in his academic career.

In 2002 Geoff was appointed as the Sugden visiting fellow at Queen's. In 2003 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Commerce by the University of Melbourne. He was made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2018. The citation for his AC concisely summarises the areas for which he is best known: "for contributions to higher education as an academic economist and author,

particularly in the fields of Post-Keynesian economics, capital theory and economic thought."

But formal citations do not convey the full person. Geoff Harcourt is a kind and considerate person, fun loving, and with an enormous ability for friendship. His personality enables him to transcend doctrinal differences in economics. Although never performing at an elite level, Geoff has maintained a lifelong enthusiasm for sport, especially football, cricket and running. At Queen's he was a devotee of seconds football. When presenting at international conferences his cricket analogies and AFL references can baffle the audience.

Geoff currently resides in Sydney with Joan, his wife of 66 years, and has an honorary position in the economics department at the University of New South Wales.

*By Professor Ross Williams AM, Fellow of the College and Wyvern (1960)*



## Celebrating 100 years

**Lady Meriel Wright** is a generous supporter of the Sugden Endowment. Queen's established the Sugden Endowment fund in 1995 in honour of its first Master, Dr Edward Holdsworth Sugden (1854-1935), to support senior academic visitors in residence at the College who present the Sugden Oration.

Lady Wright is now based in Chichester in the UK and has recently celebrated her 100th Birthday.

With an expansive career as a Philanthropic administrator and University administrator, Lady Wright transformed the nature and administration of philanthropy in Australia. Her career flourished over many years with the Myer Foundation, and advocacy for Ross House, which offered affordable and accessible office space to more than 50 small non-profit groups working towards environmental and social justice.

In light of recent events in Australia's relationship with China Lady Wright was a pioneer in developing student exchanges between the two countries. This occurred in 1971 when she visited the Chinese Academy with her husband the now late Emeritus Professor Sir Roy Douglas 'Pansy' Wright (Wyvern 1925), whom she had married in 1964.





## Eakins Hall feeds the soil

Food waste is one of the biggest waste issues facing the world, with the cost of landfill and environmental impact being a key concern. Each year billions of kilograms of food waste are sent to landfill around the planet, robbing the soil of precious nutrients which are then replaced with chemical fertilisers that reduce the taste and nutritional value of the food we eat.

Feeding 300 students three meals a day, seven days a week in Eakins Hall, the catering team have looked at many options on how to reduce overall waste in the food cycle at Eakins – such as the recipes used, portion control and sign out forms for when students aren't going to be eating at College. Nevertheless, there will always be unused food and food scraps.

Faced with the organic food waste of up to 70kg per day, Catering Manager, Pascal Berthelemy saw partnering with the enrich360 program as a win-win opportunity. The enrich360 innovative solution seeks to recycle unavoidable food waste into a

resource, diverting it from landfill back to the soil.

***“We’ve made a concerted effort to look at how we can be more sustainable while also driving cost savings and being more efficient,” says Pascal.***

After introducing the enrich360 solution in 2019, the College is now converting that organic food waste into nutrient-rich fertilizer every 24 hours. Using a food dehydrator, the organic food waste, made of items such as eggshells, fruit and vegetable peels, chicken bones and coffee grinds, is diverted from landfill and converted into a 7kg biomass of



nutrient rich organic fertilizer each day, helping the environment and reducing costs on waste disposal.

Solar panels located on Eakins roof, help supply electricity for many parts of the College including the power required for the dehydrator. The compost generated from the process is used in the College gardens and also goes back to farmers where vegetables are grown. A 360 degree cycle.

# Professional mentoring partnership at work

Queen's College and Palisade Integrated Management Services (PIMS) are working together to connect outstanding engineering students with practical experience and professional mentoring through the PIMS–Queen's Launchpad Program.

PIMS CEO, Lindsay Ward and Wyvern, Darren Giri (1988) were instrumental in bringing the program to Queen's in 2019. The Launchpad program complements academic study and prepares outstanding students for future leadership roles in the Australian energy industry. The program provides Masters Engineering students, or undergraduate Science students in their penultimate year intending to pursue an Engineering Masters with unrivalled exposure to industry leaders and an opportunity to gain industry experience that will place them a step ahead of their cohort.

**Millie Perkins (3rd year Science) is currently taking part in the programme and shares her experience.**

My role with PIMS is officially titled 'Engineering Undergraduate Intern'. Despite interruptions due to COVID, PIMS have provided me with every opportunity to gain real world experience. I am so grateful to have been consistently supported by the PIMS team during this difficult time.

Due to my lack of internship experience, initially I found it very challenging. I now know how to navigate workplace interactions and I am more confident around my work colleagues, and so the challenges are performance and work oriented.

I have completed a large variety of projects and tasks, ranging from audits to administration to engineering and more. Although I am an intern, my tasks and projects are used by the company. Working at PIMS has enabled me to attain many 'real-world' work and engineering

experiences and I have learned much more about different engineering careers and the day-to-day activities of an Asset Engineer.

My ongoing key roles involve managing the document control system and the compliance tool. As well as these tasks, I am currently working on an engineering project which involves investigating the feasibility of uprating a wind turbine and whether this will be a successful investment. This project is multi-dimensional. It encompasses engineering work, such as determining whether the

equipment can support an increase of electrical load, as well as focusing on barriers from a regulatory and financial perspective. At the conclusion of all this research and investigation, my role is to write a report for the Board of the asset. This is my first large engineering project, and I am excited to combine the knowledge I have learnt at university and to utilise the skills I have honed this year at PIMS.

Another project that I have found extremely engaging has been working on the PIMS Scholarship students' program that supports regional

*"Working at PIMS has enabled me to attain many 'real-world' work and engineering experiences and I have learned much more about different engineering careers."*



Millie Perkins (3rd year Science). Photo supplied by Millie Perkins



female engineers. PIMS have given me a lot of autonomy to come up with ideas to enhance the support for scholarship recipients. So far, I have focused on ways to create community, whilst also formalising a structure for the program. Due to the nature of the work, I have been fortunate enough to work directly with Lindsay Ward, PIMS CEO, on this project to maximise his vision of support. This project also provides me with the opportunity to pass on my own knowledge as an intern.

Aside from the problem-solving aspects of the PIMS role, I have also been able to develop 'soft' skills. Currently, I am learning to improve my ability to give an 'elevator pitch' which involves speaking, 'off the cuff', concisely, accurately and confidently. I am practicing at PIMS monthly meetings or when I need to summarise my work. This platform to practice is very generous by PIMS, and I will benefit greatly from more precise communication in my future career.

I have been fortunate (in-between lockdowns) to travel to Ross River Solar Farm in Townsville, Queensland. Not only was this my first time seeing a solar farm, but it was also the first time I have travelled for work. Communicating on site with the operations and maintenance team and talking to my work colleagues, I became more aware of the different components of asset management. I learnt so much by listening and asking questions and I found it extremely interesting to watch team dynamics. This experience was invaluable. I will also never forget my first opportunity to witness first-hand the presence of an engineering firm in the real world

and to see the practical side of the field that I have studied in theory so much at university.

At the end of 2020 my enjoyment for university was diminishing because I was uncertain of the application of engineering theory. However, my internship has reignited my passion to study hard and learn. Asset management is a career path I can see myself following because it involves people, problem-solving, and the work is always changing. PIMS has exposed me to fantastic work culture and true leaders and mentors who take these roles very seriously. This experience has proven to me that engineering is the pathway for me.

***"I will never forget my first opportunity to witness first-hand the presence of an engineering firm in the real world and to see the practical side of the field that I have studied in theory so much at university."***

I have always wanted to be someone whose work is altruistic and through the insights from PIMS, I believe I can do this through renewable energy. This space is extremely exciting, technology is rapidly developing, and I think this space has not only lots of opportunity and growth but also a need for good leadership.

This experience has left me more excited than ever to throw myself into engineering projects. I have really enjoyed the intern opportunity at PIMS and cannot thank them enough for such a fantastic foundation of work experience.



### **Olivia Egerton-Warburton (3rd year Arts)**

Olivia received an Events and Partnership Assistant internship with the French-Australian Chamber of Commerce or *Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie Franco-Australienne (FACCI)*.

FACCI is an independent not-for-profit organisation whose main goal is to promote French and Australian companies to succeed through networking events, business support services and information.

Olivia has been assisting the VIC Chapter Coordinator & Head of Memberships to coordinate the running of various networking events, and other management duties. The organisation is governed by a Board of Directors comprising of 14 councillors including the Honorary Consul General of France in Melbourne.

Throughout the lockdown Olivia worked remotely and despite these challenges she says,

***'It has been a really great learning opportunity, FACCI is a great organisation which brings people together through tailored services and events in order to help its members succeed in the Australian market.'***



## Cat Ng

### Master of Management (Human Resources)

Courage meant leaving home to pursue my Master's in Melbourne, but I soon realised courage could only take me so far. Though I have always been driven by personal and professional development, it took resilience and continuous self-discovery to persevere through all the roadblocks that come with studying and advancing a career abroad.

After working in human resources (HR) and organisational development for leading Filipino companies, I decided that a Master of Management (HR) would help me more effectively and innovatively provide people, leadership and culture solutions for organisations. I take pride in saying that my time at Melbourne has been enriching and enlightening beyond my expectations.

Despite experiencing only three weeks of in-person classes, I have witnessed how students pivoted to online learning by maximising and creatively pursuing opportunities to make meaningful connections. These friendships that were initiated through a screen broadened my understanding of HR practices as it lent insight on how this function varies depending on the industry, company size, country and management. There had been many instances where it was more convenient to stick to my own group of friends, yet I always remembered that much of the education I will get from my Master's is from peers and classmates.

I was fortunate to be granted an internship with the HR team of the University's Faculty of Architecture,

Building and Planning. I gained technical competence, experienced psychological safety that enabled dialogue and contribution, and appreciated the value of diversity in the workplace. My teammates were generous in sharing their own expertise of working in academia to provide holistic knowledge on university operations.

Throughout these experiences and in the daily rigours of dealing with the toll COVID-19 has taken on all, Queen's College supported me. Management generously connected me to staff and Wyverns who have lent practical advice for my career and personal wellbeing. They provided pastoral support, which was especially critical during the whirlwind of lockdowns and its consequent impact on studies and activities within College. Moreover, I have improved my communication skills during consultations and tutorials at the College. Meeting and working alongside brilliant students who have helped me as much as I assisted them with specific subjects,

*Meeting and working alongside brilliant students who have helped me as much as I assisted them with specific subjects, has been a highlight of this journey.*

has been a highlight of this journey. Lastly, Queen's gave me irreplaceable true friends in my first year who have widened my perspectives, motivated me to keep aspiring and working hard, and helped me through all difficulties encountered.

The Philippines will always be home, yet with courage and resilience, I have found and built a home within Melbourne. The unforeseen roadblocks have strengthened my grit and paved the way for further opportunities to grow, and having a supportive community and generous mentors supporting me only makes me more excited for what is yet to come.





## Daniel Whitehurst

### 2nd year Master of International Relations

Daniel is currently an intern at Asialink, known for their first-class reputation as drivers of dialogue between Asia and Australia. For the past six months, Daniel has been working alongside former Ambassadors and leading professionals in the Asialink diplomacy department.

The past two years have certainly been unique and challenging, but fortunately, I have still benefited from the remarkable opportunities that Queen's affords. Bizarrely, a combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, Australia's fallout with China, and the U.S. election also made 2020-2021 an extremely engaging time to be studying International Relations. My course has allowed me to be diverse in my research interests, and look into issues ranging from nuclear weapons to Australia's implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

My time at Melbourne has been boosted greatly by a chance encounter with Queen's visiting scholar, John McCarthy AO – informally known as the 'Ambassador to Everywhere'. I am eternally grateful for John's consistent efforts to mentor me and he is a splendid source of advice and knowledge.

Thanks to John and the Queen's CareerReady program, and the networks of the Master, Dr. Stewart

Gill, I am currently undertaking an internship at Asialink. During my time at the organisation, I have been able to converse with a wide array of leading foreign policy writers, academics, and diplomats while gaining vital workplace skills. I've been part of two international roundtables with officials from South Korea and Cambodia, helped write a literature review and served as a research analyst on Korean foreign policy.

Specifically, my research at Asialink has centred on the opportunities for Australia and the Republic of Korea to evolve and support the rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region. I've also been fortunate to attend language and business workshops while interacting with a diverse group of colleagues, providing me with foundational professional skills which my future (dream) job would require.

As for that dream job, I would love to join the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and represent Australia overseas. With the locus of global power now residing in our

region, Australia will likely evolve into a key regional player, and I would love to be part of that process.

I can never be sure that goal will eventuate, but I will certainly keep pursuing my passions and interests

*"During my time at Asialink I have been able to converse with a wide array of leading foreign policy writers, academics, and diplomats while gaining vital workplace skills."*

and one day find a career that combines my interest in foreign affairs, business, and meaningful, sustainable environmental change.

I hope that in the years ahead I can come back to Queen's to help future generations of students achieve their goals, as without Queen's, the Master, or visiting scholar John McCarthy, it would not have been possible to be where I am today.



## Scott Musgrave-Takeda

(PhD Anthropology/Sociology), recipient of the Lionel Phillips and Takahiro Chikashima Graduate Scholarship for Asian Studies



My PhD thesis aims to add an understanding of the complex and intertwined nature of the US Military, its installations on Okinawa and the responses of local environmental civil society groups. Using German sociologist Ullrich Beck's theories on the 'risk society' and reflexive modernity, I hope to uncover how civil society actors attempt to mitigate the unavoidable risks associated with living in proximity to an active foreign military that encompasses 10% of the landmass of Okinawan prefecture. I am located at the Asia Institute within the Faculty of Arts where I am supervised by Professor Akihiro Ogawa and Dr Jay Song.

Since completing my Master's in International Relations at Griffith University in Brisbane, Queensland, in 2013, I have had a career in international and ESL education

alongside Japanese student agencies and language schools. I also have a passion for research and making positive change in the world, which has led me back to academia in 2021 to the University of Melbourne and residence at Queen's College through the Lionel Phillips and Takahiro Chikashima Graduate Scholarship for Asian Studies.

I arrived at Queen's with my wife and two daughters, moving from Brisbane, early in 2021 and it has taken time to adjust to a very different style of living. However, we have found the College to be a welcoming environment even though our stage of life is very different to most of the residents at the College. Unfortunately, three lockdowns since our arrival in Melbourne has made it difficult to make the most out of our experience at Queen's with many events being

cancelled and our exploration of the city being curtailed somewhat. We are however thankful for living in a community like this during such a time as we still have the wide grounds to enjoy and meals at Eakins Hall with fellow Queeners to look forward to.

Next year, my studies will hopefully take me to Okinawa to conduct fieldwork with civil society actors using action research where I am hoping to create real change during my PhD research and data collection. If not in person, my research will continue in the virtual realm.

The 'new normal' that we are all affected by has a large impact on researchers such as myself, but I am supported by a loving family and a special community here at Queen's which make things just a little bit easier.





## Brooke Conley

(PhD Candidate in the MCR)

Brooke Conley is a proud Ngiyampaa woman from Cobar, New South Wales. Brooke has completed a Bachelor in Exercise Science and a Master in Physiotherapy Practice. She is a current PhD candidate at Melbourne University, with her research investigating what would culturally appropriate Arthritis

information resources look like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Following completion of her PhD, Brooke intends to continue exploring ways to improve Aboriginal health outcomes, in an academic role and as a Physiotherapist.



# Women's Sport

By Emma Cox, Women's Sports Representative

Excitement and enthusiasm surrounding women's sport this year has been so impressive. The culture we tried to create this year is for everyone to have a go, no matter what level of experience. Although COVID lockdowns once again impacted the sporting calendar, the following is a rundown of some of the sport we did witness this year.

We started off the year with the first ever completed women's cricket season. The team scored some impressive totals, and led strongly from captain Lizzie Prins, was able to claim 3rd place. Alongside the first's competition, there was also a Magoos charity match against Trinity. Around 60 extremely keen women of the College got decked out in their Hawaiian shirts, ready to have a hit and a good time. The day was a huge success, and a really great way for freshers and seniors to bond early in the semester.

**Tennis** was up next, and we played alongside the men in what was one of the tensest Grand Finals we've seen. Despite an impressive victory in the women's doubles from Zara Gatland and Rose Hosking, it was not enough to get us over the line against Ormond, and we finished 2nd place.

Our **athletes and cross-country** runners battled hard, with both teams finishing in 4th place. Notable results

include Eliza Walsh winning the long jump final, and Erin Grace coming 3rd place in the 5km cross-country run.

**Table tennis** is where we first saw victory, defeating Trinity in the final. The players had a blast over the course of the two-day tournament, and a premiership made it all the sweeter.

**Hockey** was up next, and the pressure was on to defend our 2019 Championship. The team fought their way into a grand final showdown against Trinity. Unfortunately, we lost in an extremely tight and competitive final.

While these other sports were going ahead, our two **rowing** squads were up early training for the regatta to be held on the 1st of May. Both women's boats rowed extremely well, with the Women's first XI coming in 2nd place.

The women's **soccer** team fought their way into a minor final against a surprising Kendall. The match left

everyone speechless, with Queen's winning 3rd place in a penalty shoot-out.

Leading into Semester 2, we had (what I'm predicting) some of the strongest **football** and **netball** squads Queen's has ever seen. We were only a couple of days away from the netball season when the lockdown (that we are currently still in) cancelled both seasons. Sport is still a huge part of our culture, and despite two COVID-affected years, the Queen's colours will always be out in force on the earliest of mornings to support our teams. First Semester was a nice reminder of how much we love to witness and admire our talented friends playing the sports they excel at. It has been an absolute privilege representing and leading this group of sport-loving Queeners, and I wish all the best for next year's sport representatives.





Cricket photos by Fergus Scott. Tennis photos by Olivia Luxon. Hockey/Rowing photos by Ben Fon





# Men's Sport

By Harry Inwood, Men's Sports Representative

Despite only having a single semester of intercollegiate sport this semester, the male sports teams wasted absolutely no time getting stuck into the competition. A series of stellar performances led to Queen's ending the year leading the male sport point score as well as taking home the Tickner Cup.

The year kicked off with the men's **cricket** team taking to the field. A hard fought semi-final against St. Hilda's set up a finals match up against St Mary's. A heavily rain-affected morning did little to stop Queen's hitting the winning runs with less than an over to go to bring home the silverware for Queen's.

**Tennis** saw another strong performance by Queen's, once again reaching the final, this time against Ormond. Queen's unfortunately fell short in the deciding mixed-doubles match.

**Athletics** saw a series of well supported arrays of impressive athletic feats throughout the day leading to Queen's ending up in 4th place.

The male **hockey** team began with a series of convincing wins, and a tense 1-0 win against Ormond set up

a grand final against Trinity. A calm performance in the final saw the boys to a 5-0 victory, getting their hands on the hockey trophy.

The **table tennis** team saw Queen's make another final against Trinity on the round robin Saturday. A strong performance from all competitors, saw another piece of silverware come Queen's way.

Out on the Yarra the first eight **rowing** team took out an easy victory against Newman to set a final against Ormond. Ormond rowed extremely well in the final to leave Queen's with a strong second place. The second's crew rowed hard but were unfortunately unable to make it into the finals.

The men's **soccer** side came through with a hard fought semi-final win against Ormond, setting up a final against St. Hilda's. After regular time's

inability to separate the two sides, it came down to a penalty shootout. Unfortunately Hilda's was ultimately victorious, leaving Queen's with a respectable second.

All in all, despite the disappointment of a shortened sporting calendar, it was a highly successful year for Queen's College. Three trophies, six grand finals, top in the men's point score and a strong contribution to the Tickner Cup win for Queen's.

More than that, 2021 was another outstanding year of Queen's spirit, continuing the tradition of attendance and sportsmanship. I'd like to extend a thank you to all those who came along to support the sides, and to the Wyverns who volunteered their time to make the season possible. I'd also like to wish all the best to the sportsmen of 2022, I'm sure it will be a successful and enjoyable season.





Tennis photo by Olivia Luxon. Rowing photo by Brayden Crutchfield. Cricket/Hockey/Soccer photos by Ben Fon



# Academic ambition

## and intellectual curiosity

ACADEMIC LIFE 2021

by Christine Ellem, Academic & Equity Director

The 2021 Academic year began amidst COVID restrictions, but with cautious optimism that change was around the corner.

We were fortunate to hold a COVID-safe Commencement Dinner in which we presented over 100 Wyvern medals to returning students for their results across 2020 (an additional 50 were awarded to departing residents who could not attend under COVID rules).

First semester did see some periods of eased restrictions, and we were fortunate to host a black tie dinner in May with Ellen Sandell, Wyvern and the Greens State MP for Melbourne, who spoke about the major issues confronting us as we emerge from COVID.

We had keen engagement with our Dine with a Scholar events, held across Semester 1 as 'Scholars Online'. Our speakers included Dr April Kelly, Head of Scottish Development International, who spoke about career turning points as well as the importance of critical and creative thinking; Madame Myriam Boisbouvier-Wylie, Honorary Consul-General for France in Melbourne, who spoke about the importance of authentic and empathetic leadership skills for community leadership; and Julian Savulescu, Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford, who spoke about the ethical issues of COVID.

Queen's tutorials for First Semester were held online with a hope for a return to face-to-face classes first thing after Easter – a hope which was later deferred to second semester. The arrival of the Kappa and then Delta strains of COVID-19 re-shaped these expectations for the remainder of the 2021 academic year, which would remain online. Unfortunately, our planned Indigenous, Sugden and Mental Health Orations were not able to proceed.

As we now mark two academic years of online learning, it's clear this has been a mixed experience. There has certainly been a hefty dose of fatigue with online learning; students report struggling to engage with





*Professor Julian Savulescu with students*

classes after hours of Zoom sessions, and tutors strategise engaging with students around this fatigue. The opportunities for students to engage with University services and teaching staff and build relationships that foster their interests have been truncated. Separated from

*As we now mark two academic years of online learning, it's clear this has been a mixed experience.*

campus, students have struggled to understand the structure of the University and how to advocate for their needs. Increasingly, we have found that the experiences expected from University life have happened within the College. In this context, our Foreign Language tables at dinner times have offered colourful counterpoint to screen based learning and have enjoyed significant engagement.

Queen's has weathered the challenges of the year with remarkably robust academic results, even as fatigue bites. Results still remain strong with our University of Melbourne undergraduates recording an average Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of 75.15. We've seen 82% of this cohort achieve a semester WAM of H2 (70) or above, indicating that the majority of Queen's students have



*Myriam Boisbouvier-Wylie with students*



*April Kelly with students*

**82%**  
of UoM undergrad  
Queeners achieved a  
semester WAM of  
**H2 (70)**  
or above

managed to maintain strong academic standings.

As we approach the end of the Academic Year we are also able to warmly welcome our new Dean, Dr Lesa Scholl. Another farewell was bid to one of our longstanding Senior Resident Tutors, Simone Maurer, and we later welcomed in two new Resident Tutors, Amelia Fryer and Adam Black.

As our Third Years depart in November, we are preparing ourselves for the challenge of a student body that has no experience of face-to-face learning. We know that across the next years these challenges will extend and deepen as the terrain we work in is re-shaped. In this context, Queen's provides a place in which academic ambition and intellectual curiosity will always have a warm (vibrant) home.



# Mental health and wellbeing

by Dr Xavier Fowler, Director of Student Life

“[The lockdown] impacts our own sense of wellbeing, and anxiety, stress level, we all feel, to some extent, confused and very uncertain about the future. I want to emphasise that this is a normal reaction to an abnormal situation that we are currently experiencing. The good news I want to share is that, fortunately, most of us will be able to cope with this challenge. We will use our normal resources, our strengths, our sense of resilience in the support that we have around us from our family, loved ones and friends.”

– Victorian Chief Psychiatrist Neil Coventry, 2 September 2021

The first half of 2021 at Queen's College was underpinned by a sense of optimism and hope. Victoria had emerged from the previous year's lockdown, battered and bruised, yet unbroken. Case numbers stabilised throughout the summer. Lockdown restrictions gradually lifted. Queen's, just like the rest of the state, enthusiastically embraced the hard-won freedoms. O-Week proved a stunning success, as the O-Week Leaders 'OWLS' and General Committee 'GC' welcomed over 110 new students to the College in

fine style. For the first time in over a year Turns, sporting competitions, and other traditions in the life of the College returned. Some of the highlights included Rowing Day, the Intercollegiate Musical (in which Queen's students featured prominently), and a COVID-safe black tie dinner attended by Greens State MP for Melbourne and Wyvern, Ellen Sandell.

There is no doubt, however, that the emotional baggage of last year, combined with the continuing threat of outbreaks and lockdowns,

weighed heavily on the minds of the College and wider community. The sharp increase in cases during August thrust most of Victoria back into lockdown with little prospect of relief in the short-term. Queen's responded quickly, instituting a number of its own internal regulations to supplement government restrictions. The student body accepted these measures admirably, and has done all it can to keep themselves, each other, and the wider community safe. But the price of such measures can never be overlooked.



The challenge to the mental health and wellbeing of the community has indeed been great. To meet it, the College has gone above and beyond to support one another, in both weird and wonderful ways. The first thing to acknowledge is the successful introduction of Headspace to Queen's College in 2020.

Headspace is an Australian not-for-profit organisation for youth mental health established by the Australian Government in 2006. It delivers support to young people aged from 12 to 25 years to reduce the impact of depression, anxiety, stress, and alcohol and drug use, and to improve relationship issues associated with sexuality, sexual health, families, and bullying.

Queen's became the first residential College in Australia to work in an official partnership with Headspace. Two Counsellors, Sarah Petrou and Clare Burton, provided online sessions with our students last year. With restrictions easing in early 2021 we welcomed Headspace onto campus each Monday and Wednesday. The student body has since embraced Headspace as a source of professional mental support and guidance.

The small acts of kindness and compassion that truly bind this community together are also remarkably important. Led by our student Wellbeing representative, Carlen Sikora (3rd year Science), Queeners have still managed to keep the Queen's spirit going strong through a variety of COVID safe initiatives. They have run table tennis competitions, pool tournaments, and the Social Awareness Forums on zoom.

*It is the combination of both professional support and small acts of compassion amongst friends that has helped sustain Queen's through this time of adversity.*

Two of the most noticeable events focused on preserving mental health and wellbeing included:

#### **Angels and Mortals Week**

The premise for this week is simple: students are assigned to be someone's anonymous angel and throughout the week their job is to drop off thoughtful gifts to their mortal to brighten their day. What ensued was a fun week spent trying to discreetly drop off gifts while not revealing themselves to their mortal. We saw plenty of cheese boards, nice drinks and face masks (the day spa kind not the COVID kind)!

#### **Mullets for Mental Health**

Another student-led initiative that has left hair clippings around the castle was the Black Dog Institute's Mullets for Mental Health initiative. From 1 September Queen's went back to the 80s with many of the men and women around College sporting the

iconic trims, all whilst raising funds to support diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mood disorders.

It is the combination of both professional support and small acts of compassion amongst friends that has helped sustain Queen's through this time of adversity. In moments of fatigue, I often turned to the words of the poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling. To the members of the Queen's community, past and present, I hope they give you as much comfort as they have given me:

*If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew*

*To serve your turn long after they are gone,*

*And so hold on when there is nothing in you*

*Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'*





Nikki Henry, Neel Singh, Hamish Donaldson and Issy Bonnin. Photo by Bella Redhill

## Sir Douglas Menzies Oratory Competitions 2021

By Sam Miles, Senior Residential Tutor & PhD Candidate

The evening of Monday, 23 August saw the annual Willie Quick Sir Frederic Eggleston International Relations Competition held in a now somewhat all-too-familiar COVID compliant virtual format from the upstairs Stafford Room and beamed out to the Queen's College community via Zoom.

Whilst it had to be conducted online, it didn't subtract from the substance and eloquence of the four speeches from JCR residents who were well MC'ed on the night by Fionn Wilson. The speakers and topics were:

**Hamish Donaldson:** "Why the European Super League remains the greatest threat to the people's game"

**Nikki Henry:** "The impact of Space Law on the privatisation of Space travel"

**Neel Singh:** "China's imperialistic approach to anti-imperialism"

**Issy Bonnin:** "The key to a solution for the disaster of the Amazon rainforest lies within Indigenous knowledge"

The virtual format was well attended and off to a lively start with Hamish providing a novel critique on the somewhat short-lived, but likely to be rejuvenated ideas around a

football (or soccer) European Super League for a few of Europe's most popular and big clubs. Rumour has it that this speech alone has helped propel Chelsea FC to top of the EPL Table at the time of writing. Nikki provided an excellent piece around the potential impacts of Space Law and the privatisation of Space Travel, something very topical at the moment with Amazon founder Jeff Bezos launching into space on his New Shepard and Telsa's Elon Musk making massive in-roads with SpaceX. Nikki showed tremendous depth and breadth of her knowledge on this issue, a confident public speaker and communicator which is likely to be a key skill for her recently elected position as Treasurer of the QCS&SC General Committee for 2022.

Issy Bonnin was back on centre stage after claiming the Willie Quick Oratory Competition earlier this year in March after taking a unique approach in addressing the question of 'Should employers have the right

to discriminate against current or potential employees on the basis of tattoos?'. She again gave an excellent take on a very different question this time around on Indigenous knowledge being key to solving the disaster of the Amazon rainforest. However it was new undergraduate student Neel Singh who took out this year's award amongst a very strong field of presentations with a strong historical approach to looking at the topical question selected of "China's imperialistic approach to anti-imperialism". Big congrats to all and especially to Neel who had only been in residence at Queen's for a few weeks before this event!

Thanks to judges Nikita Shewandas (immediate past-president of the Middle Common Room MCR 2020-21), Master of Queen's College, Dr Stewart Gill OAM for also taking the time to judge such high-quality speeches as well as President of the Willie Quick Club, Will Griffin (3rd year Commerce) for organising the event.



## Engaging with Wyvern leaders

To encourage Queen's students to see the world from different perspectives, we are always delighted when Wyverns are able to share their experiences with us. This year we were fortunate to have some time with Ellen Sandell, Wyvern and local Greens State MP, first at a College dinner in first semester (pictured), and then given the number of questions that she received, at a second occasion as part of our (virtual) Dine with a Scholar program.

Ellen addressed the broad theme: What are the major issues confronting us as we emerge from COVID? She started with the macro, looking at the importance of good governance at all levels and what good leadership looks like from global to local. Not surprising given her background as a former CEO of a national climate change not-for-profit organisation and as a Green MP she identified mitigating climate change as the major global challenge.

At the local level Ellen focused on the recovery of the Melbourne CBD. She identified the areas of business

and life that have been impacted: financial and government hubs; tourism; and international students.

Ellen expects that work-life balance will be irreversibly changed by COVID and Melbourne will have a much

*Ellen expects that work-life balance will be irreversibly changed by COVID*

smaller footprint as far as business and financial services are concerned with more people continuing to work from home. This would inevitably have an impact on retail.

Tourism is also likely to be impacted for some time and international students will not return until borders are re-opened. The promotion of creative industries and arts festivals were seen as ways in which people could be brought back into the city.

The students asked some excellent questions and as always Ellen was forthright in her answers. In conclusion, she encouraged students to be active in areas that they are passionate about and to become publicly and politically active to bring about change for good.



# Dr Garry Warne AM

(Wyvern 1963)

## Supporting the international medical community

Garry Warne was born in Bendigo and entered Queen's in 1963 to study medicine at the University of Melbourne. He spent five years at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, two of which were as Assistant Endocrinologist. A late decision prompted by becoming a father made him think of switching to paediatric endocrinology, which was fortuitous because Dr Norman Wettenhall, who had established endocrinology at RCH, was close to retirement but he had not found a successor. Garry found that paediatric endocrinology was a fascinating field, still in its early stage of development, and saw in it an opportunity for him to contribute. He decided to take the risk of giving up adult endocrinology and applied for a job at RCH.

### Consultant endocrinologist and the creation of the Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes

In 1974, six years after graduation, he was once again a junior resident medical officer, but at RCH. After a year he was accepted as a fellow in paediatric endocrinology at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, and spent over 2 years there carrying out laboratory research in the very new field of foetal steroids. He returned to Melbourne in 1977 and was given a full-time appointment as Assistant Endocrinologist. In 1980, Dr Wettenhall retired, and Garry was appointed Endocrinologist. In 1983 it became the Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes and Garry was appointed as the foundation director, a role he retained until 1999.

### Clinical and laboratory research

Garry established the endocrinology laboratory, focusing on steroid hormones and cell culture. The referral of a key patient with a familial intersex condition led to the development of techniques for studying the androgen receptor, which in turn attracted referrals of intersex patients, children with adrenal disorders and children with variations of pubertal development. The group won a series of NH&MRC grants and a number of their students obtained their PhDs.

### RCH International

In 1993, the signing of the Cambodian Peace accord, negotiated by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, evoked a powerful emotional response in Garry and he found himself reading everything he could about Cambodia and South East Asia. He started visiting SE Asia and was made to feel very welcome by his new-found colleagues. He persuaded the Novo Nordisk company to sponsor a scholarship to bring budding paediatric endocrinologists from ASEAN countries to RCH Melbourne

*In 1993, the signing of the Cambodian Peace accord evoked a powerful emotional response in Garry and he found himself reading everything he could about Cambodia and South East Asia.*

for a year at a time. In 1995 he travelled to Hanoi, Vietnam to meet a candidate and was the first Australian paediatrician to visit the National Hospital of Paediatrics there. He was invited to come back every year, and did so for the next 16 years, making more than 50 visits to Hanoi in all and taking many RCH colleagues with him to give lectures. He also visited India and Indonesia many times, as well as a number of other Asian countries.

In 1998, John de Campo, then CEO, and Glenn Bowes, then Director of

Medical Services, proposed to Garry that a new department should be created around his Asian interests and Royal Children's International was established, with Garry as foundation director. In 1999 he stepped aside from his leadership role in endocrinology.

### RCHI projects in Vietnam and philanthropy

In 2003, RCH received a visit from Irish-American philanthropist, Charles (Chuck) Feeney, the founder of The Atlantic Philanthropies (AP). Garry was one of four people invited to make a presentation to him. Mr Feeney had long been interested in Vietnam and he chose RCH International as the entity he wanted to support. A number of very large grants followed. AP asked RCHI to prepare the health services plan and functional design brief for a complete rebuilding of the National Hospital of Paediatrics in Hanoi and also to prepare a comprehensive 5-year staff training plan. Subsequently, RCHI was commissioned by AP to implement this education and cross-disciplinary training program.

AP also asked RCHI to develop a 5-year staff training program which ultimately involved 117 staff belonging to the cardiovascular unit at the Hue Central Hospital. These doctors, nurses, technicians and managers received their training at five different centres, two in Vietnam, two in Australia and one in France.



*Garry found that paediatric endocrinology was a fascinating field, still in its early stage of development, and saw in it an opportunity for him to contribute.*

*Photo supplied by Dr Warne*

These enormous projects involved large numbers of RCH staff from many disciplines, as well as experts who were engaged as consultants and a very fruitful collaboration with the Nossal Institute of Global Health at the University of Melbourne. In addition, some 100 Vietnamese health professionals came to Melbourne for training. Both projects were completed successfully and deep friendships between RCHM and the hospitals in Vietnam were formed.

### **International assistance to Aceh following the Asian tsunami**

The Asian tsunami on Boxing Day, 2004, created a humanitarian crisis in the Indonesian province of Aceh. Help was offered by RCH and negotiations with World Vision led to major grants being made to RCH. RCH and Trevor Duke from the Department of Paediatrics became involved and the project to assist the rebuilding of medical services and infrastructure in Aceh, implemented by health professionals from Yogyakarta under the guidance of advisers from Australia, was developed. It

continued for three years, with Garry as project director and with essential project management expertise being provided by the Nossal Institute for Global Health.

### **Intersex and gender dysphoria**

Meanwhile, Garry's continuing clinical activities led to the establishment of parent and patient support groups, the publication of literature about complex conditions for lay readers, the making of a teaching video on communication in relation to intersex conditions, the co-founding with Campbell Paul of the Gender Dysphoria Clinic (2003) and the development with A/Prof Lynn Gillam and Dr Jacky Hewitt of ethical guidelines for decision making on children with intersex conditions.

### **Honours and awards**

Garry was awarded the People's Health Medal by the Vietnamese Ministry of Health in 2005, the Minister's Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement (Victorian Public Healthcare Awards) in 2007, the Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group's Norman Wettenhall Medal for

excellence in research and innovation (2008), the Royal Children's Hospital Gold Medal (2008) and in 2010 he was made a Member in the Order of Australia.

### **Since retirement**

Since retiring in 2012, Garry has held appointments as Honorary Emeritus Visiting Medical Officer at RCH, Professorial Fellow, Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne (until May 2020), Esteemed Honorary Research Fellow, Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Honorary Secretary, RCH Alumni. He sits on the board of Children's Rights International and was until November 2019, Organist, Director of Music and Parish Secretary at St Stephen's Anglican Church in Richmond. He and his now deceased wife Elaine have three children and five grandchildren. He enjoys photography, walking, music, travelling, seeing friends and writing helpful letters to politicians. He considers that he was just lucky to have been in the right place at the right time on a number of occasions.



# Sophie Jennings

(Wyvern 2008)



Photo supplied by Sophie Jennings

Sophie is the head of media and social media at Victoria's Country Fire Authority (CFA). The CFA has more than 54,000 volunteers at 1,200+ stations across regional and suburban Victoria. Sophie studied Social Science and Psychology and completed a Masters in Communications, both at RMIT. Sophie was previously a media manager at Victoria Police and started her career at a public relations agency. She is currently on secondment to the Victorian Department of Health's COVID-19 communications team where she is managing the daily press conferences.

## Why this career?

I have always loved language and the art of persuasion, and I'm a current affairs addict! I never planned to work in emergency services, but I have developed a passion for behavioural change and crisis communication.

## Best career advice?

Study or train in a discipline that interests you, then apply it to a role or organisation that achieves positive outcomes or makes a real difference in people's lives. That's a winning recipe for a rewarding career in my books!

## Your biggest career influence?

Working at Victoria Police had a huge influence on me. It opened my eyes to the complexities of many social issues and confirmed that I wanted to work in roles with a social impact. It was also completely thrilling. I sat across the table from gangland murderers, attended crime scenes in the middle of the night, worked on the 'Lawyer X' Royal Commission, played with police dog puppies and learnt some intriguing detective tactics.

## Most exciting project?

Exciting is perhaps not the right word, but being behind-the-scenes of some of Victoria's most infamous crises has been fascinating and very rewarding. Working on the two Bourke Street attacks with Victoria Police was career-defining. At CFA the Black Summer bushfire disaster hit close to home as a born and bred Gippslander. I spent many long days with the CFA Chief Officer in affected areas, meeting everyday people who were doing heroic and selfless things for their communities.

## How has the pandemic impacted your work?

It has been challenging on so many fronts and many people have struggled through the long slog of lockdowns and working from home. To an extent you have to 'keep it together' in order to lead your team, but I've also tried to be open about when I'm struggling. I find those honest conversations create a much more connected and healthy workplace culture. It has also been difficult as a communications professional as events and content

production have frequently been on hold, and traditional media has had reduced airtime and page space for non-pandemic stories. But like so many, CFA has innovated and found new ways to work and reach our audiences, and we thankfully had a very mild bushfire season this year.

*Study or train in a discipline that interests you, then apply it to a role or organisation that achieves positive outcomes or makes a real difference in people's lives.*

The pandemic has also given me the opportunity to second into the Department of Health and work on the famous daily press conferences. Sometimes the inner workings of a crisis aren't pretty, but I have been genuinely reassured by the amazing work of Victoria's public health team.

## A memory of Queen's?

Dancing outdoors on the slab at our final Valedictory Day, knowing we'd had the time of our lives.

# Dr Linden Ashcroft

(Wyvern 2003)

Linden's career has centred around climate science and connecting people to science. Following an undergraduate degree in science with a diploma in English literature, she completed graduate training in science communication. This included being part of a science circus!

Linden's PhD continued the theme of science and stories, and explored the weather and climate experienced in Australia since European colonisation. Since then she has managed a citizen science project about the impact of climate change on our plants and animals, worked in Europe rescuing historical weather data, and been part of the Bureau of Meteorology's climate science team.

Linden is currently a lecturer in climate science and science communication at the University of Melbourne, where she can still do meaningful science while helping others find their stories.

## Why this career?

Scientific thinking and knowledge has never been more important. We've seen this during the pandemic, and it is equally true when it comes to climate change. But so many scientists are not trained in communication. I don't just mean talking on radio or TV – I mean all aspects of communicating that comes with being a scientist, from writing academic papers and working well in a research team, to using social media and creating powerful graphics. Without these skills, the impact of science can be easily lost, or worse, misconstrued. In my job I research Australia's climate and share it to the best of my ability, and



*The best advice I've received is to do what interests you. Don't worry about a path or trajectory; take the opportunities that seem the most exciting and your career will follow.*

Photo supplied by Dr Ashcroft

also train the next generation of researchers to use their voice so their science can change the world. It is an incredibly fun and diverse role, but I also think it's the best way to use my experience to make change.

## Best career advice?

The best advice I've received is to do what interests you. Don't worry about a path or trajectory; take the opportunities that seem the most exciting and your career will follow. If you are looking for an opportunity but it doesn't seem to exist, it can never hurt to ask!

## Your biggest career influence?

I'm lucky to have had many generous mentors throughout my career, particularly inspiring female scientists I can look up to and ask for advice. But the person who actually changed my career trajectory is another Wyvern. Dr Simon Torok (Wyvern 1986) (formerly of CSIRO) gave a talk on climate and science communication at Queen's when I was an undergraduate, and he opened my eyes to the opportunities of combining science with talking about science. He has since become a valued friend and colleague.

## Most exciting project?

Right now I am working in a team on an exciting discovery of historical weather observations from Adelaide and Perth. These beautiful handwritten documents have never been studied before, and will allow us to explore the weather across southern Australia every single day for almost 200 years! Having records this long not only enriches Australia's climate history and unearths many great stories to engage people with climate science, it also provides much needed information on the Southern Hemisphere. The southern latitudes are grossly underrepresented in global climate datasets and models, so the more weather data we have, the more accurate our future projections will be.

## A memory of Queen's?

There are too many options! Corridor conversations on third north, late night SWOTVAC in the tower, and play rehearsals in the JCR are some of the very fondest.



# Katie Skillington and Jim Stewart

(Wyverns 2006)

Jim is an Associate Director at Fender Katsalidis Australia, leading teams on large-scale developments valued up to \$1B in Australia and overseas. On the side, together with Katie, Jim also does some consulting for small-scale projects seeking high-environmental performance standards, particularly Passive House and designing single residential dwellings.

Katie is a registered architect who works primarily in residential alterations and additions. She is also a researcher and educator in the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning at the University of Melbourne. Everything in her career – teaching, practice, research – is centred around sustainability and housing.

## Why this career?

Jim: I've wanted to be an architect since I was 8 years old when my parents sold their house and the real estate agent asked me to draw a plan for it. Building, making, and creating things was always a part of my childhood and growing up – it also resulted in a large collection of Lego that I continue to build today.

When I finished school, I knew I wanted to study architecture, rather than engineering. I was drawn to the creative problem solving found in the practice of architecture. The discipline is a fascinating and rewarding one to be a part of, which bridges the gap between science and humanities. Architecture leverages my strengths but also challenges my weaknesses.

Katie: Architecture is an interesting blend of the creative arts, technical sciences, and social inquiry. It is often perceived as being largely about aesthetics, whereas we're fundamentally helping to deal with social issues on an individual, organisational, or societal scale. The number of possible career paths, opportunity for continual development, and the capacity for the sector to positively impact the lives of others were key factors in my decision to study architecture.

However, I didn't dream of being an architect growing up. I started in set design for theatre and film. It wasn't

until I was at Queen's and I met the architecture students – one of whom ended up being my husband – that I realised that architecture was probably better suited to my skills, worldview, interests, and desire to be a lifelong learner.

## Best career advice?

Jim: 90% of any career is communication – written, verbal, or graphic. Knowledge is meaningless if you don't know how to convey it.

Katie: When you're young, don't be afraid to say yes, take risks and be open to the possibilities that you had

*"90% of any career is communication – written, verbal, or graphic. Knowledge is meaningless if you don't know how to convey it." Jim*

not anticipated or planned for. When you're getting older, don't be afraid to say no, be selective about the opportunities that come your way and carve out a niche in your field that you can sustain a healthy passion for.

## Your biggest career influence?

Jim: I've been fortunate to have learnt from many great mentors, but one in particular has left perhaps the largest impression on me. The late Roland Catalani, a Principal at Fender

Katsalidis who was an amazing architect, detailer, and gentleman. Roly taught me that this profession can be a lifelong love and joy when approached with a bit of good humour and humility.

Katie: My biggest influence came from my biggest risk. In 2015, I quit my job, moved overseas, and went back to study after being awarded a Monbukagakusho scholarship to complete my Masters in Sustainability Science at The University of Tokyo, Japan. Sustainability is my passion in architecture and studying it from a more social science, interdisciplinary perspective has really helped form my understanding of global issues and how the built environment may/may not play a part.

## Most exciting project?

Jim: Since 2017, I've been leading the Melbourne team on PNB118, a supertall skyscraper currently under construction in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It's an extremely complex and long-term project. The sheer number of people and personalities involved is thrilling. Working remotely with teams based in Australia, Asia, Europe, and North America towards one cohesive outcome has been one of the most rewarding challenges of my career so far. It's also hard to not get excited by what will be the second tallest tower in the world when completed.



*"Sustainability is my passion in architecture and studying it from a more social science, interdisciplinary perspective has really helped form my understanding of global issues and how the built environment may/may not play a part." Katie*

Katie Skillington and Jim Stewart. Photo: Ippei and Janine Photography

Katie: Our smallest project: a renovation of a micro-apartment in the CBD that we just bought. It's a tiny place of about 49m<sup>2</sup> in an art-deco building and we're trying to make it a multi-functional 'nest' that's sympathetic to its heritage. We're excited to get it going on-site once my PhD is done.

### **A memory of Queen's?**

Jim: There are so many. Plasticfish; Frodo and the cas; Ben Ralen's crabwalk to hospital; losing my hair to Magoo's rowing in 2006 (it never recovered); cops at the Intercollegiate ball; the Scurvy incident; Georgie's banana lounge; but most of all, the great friends I met and still love... oh, and my wife.

Katie: Where to start? Meeting Jim, meeting lifelong friends, MADS, Willie Quick, room phones, tower studio all-nighters, Ben Ralen's crabwalk, wife doors of Smezz, Birra Bella burgers, Alli/Mel/Smithie helping orchestrate the beginnings of Jimblington, Black Tie dinners actually being Black Tie, J-Lo's mirror ball suit, 1kg bags of sour worms from Empers, VD-Day and meeting The Chaser on rowing day.





Photo supplied by Dr Smith

## Dr Kate Smith

(Wyvern 2005)

Kate is currently working as an Environmental Engineer for Aurecon on water and wastewater projects in NSW, the ACT and the NT. She started at Aurecon in 2019 and prior to that was completing her PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Kate left for China straight after graduating from a BA/BSc at the University of Melbourne.

### Why this career?

I chose a career in water back in 2013 when I started my Masters because it tied in my interests and previous education and it is a sector of great importance for both Australia and China and an area of collaboration between these countries.

### Best career advice?

Some people know early on what profession or career they'd like to have and some don't. My advice to those in the latter group – which includes me – is to choose a direction

that might be useful to other people and could be enjoyable to you, and one that allows room for development. Give it a good go and, if find you don't like it, the second piece of advice is to quit or pivot.

### Your biggest career influence?

It was more an accumulation of circumstances and influences in my case.

### Most exciting project?

I am happy to have been encouraged into the area of reducing energy use

and greenhouse gas emissions in the water sector by my Masters and PhD supervisor in China, which has allowed me to work on some interesting projects, including assessing opportunities for reducing direct nitrous oxide emissions at Canberra's main wastewater treatment plant.

### A memory of Queen's?

Many of my strong friendships from university days started at Queen's and we continue to keep in touch.

# Lachlan Ince

(Wyvern 2014)

Lachlan is currently working as a Climate Change Mitigation consultant at Market Advisory Group. Mitigation covers everything we can do to stop and slow global heating. The other side of that coin is adaption, where you work to get ready for the effects of climate change.



*Photo supplied by Lachlan Ince*

Lachlan advises governments, businesses, and NGOs on how they can rapidly decarbonise their organisation or build carbon sinks, the latter of which is very exciting. The sinks that are developed can range from Indigenous Savanna Burning projects to ecosystem restoration programs. Lachlan focuses specifically on climate change policy and biodiversity programs.

## Why this career?

For almost as long as I could remember, I wanted to be a lawyer. But I had never unpacked the 'why' thoroughly enough until I was nearly halfway through my Juris Doctor. Predictably, I became disillusioned and took some time away from my studies.

At some stage during that year away, I settled on the nexus of what I love (the environment) and how I could make a meaningful contribution to it (harnessing my policy and communication skills). The stakes don't get much higher when it comes to climate change. No one can be a perfect environmentalist, no single solution exists. But there is a great sense of empowerment in simply doing what you can, with the time you have.

## Best career advice?

Life is long enough for more than one dream.

## Your biggest career influence?

It's unoriginal but, of course, memory moulds what we do. The Black Summer bushfires had a massive impact on me. At the time, I was working with the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning. The smoke through the city, the sense of fatigue on the faces of the firefighters coming in and out through our offices, and the loss of wildlife were all overwhelming.

But, it helped me to get cracking. I changed into the Climate Change stream through my Master's Program by the end of that summer and pushed my career even further towards the climate space.

## Most exciting project?

I have worked on projects ranging from bushfire responses to wetland restoration projects. I have also spent a fair whack of time working in my garden throughout our lockdowns. It's a cop out but I cannot pinpoint the best one.

## A memory of Queen's?

Being a referee for Inter-floor volleyball, production camps at Sullivan Farms in Mildura, trolley racing through the quad – it's hard to pick one out. Like many, it was such a formative stage of my life. Plenty of learning curves. Plenty of fun in a very picturesque setting. At the end of the day, it's the enduring friendships, from my sister to my partner, that form the best of my memories at Queen's.



## Wyvern of the Year 2021

# Renee Carr

(Wyvern 2015)

Renee Carr is a campaigner and strategist passionate about growing movements for change. Having completed Bachelors of Law and Arts at the University of Melbourne, she has dedicated her career and life to helping better the lives of others. In 2015 she was named as one of Australia's '100 Women of Influence'.

Renee was part of the team that led The End of Polio campaign to secure \$118 million in additional funding from countries for global polio eradication efforts. Renee served as Chair of the Board of The Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC), an organisation with a mission to build a movement of young people leading solutions to the climate crisis. However, her greatest achievement to date has been the creation and development of the organisation Fair Agenda, which campaigns for a fair and equal future for all Australians, with an emphasis on women's equality.

Renee was living in Brunswick when fellow resident Jill Meagher was assaulted and murdered. The incident and the community response had a profound impact on Renee, triggering her decision to leave a budding career at the Global Poverty Project to co-found Fair Agenda.

*Her greatest achievement to date has been the creation and development of the organisation Fair Agenda, which campaigns for a fair and equal future for all Australians, with an emphasis on women's equality.*

Fair Agenda campaigns for a future where gender doesn't determine people's safety, financial security or agency over lives and bodies. The organisation works to change the structures and systems that disadvantage women. Fair Agenda


recognises that the oppression experienced by women is compounded by discrimination on other bases, including race, sexuality, gender identity and disabilities. Fair Agenda members take strategic action on the issues that matter to them – whether it's tackling gendered violence, protecting reproductive rights, or championing women's economic equality. The movement exists to build community power, and use it to influence political, business and media leaders to make decisions that will lead to better outcomes for women.

Since the Fair Agenda community started campaigning together, they have amassed over 45,000 members, and have won major policy changes that have positively impacted the lives of more than a million women across the country. As Fair Agenda's Executive Director, Renee has led campaigns that have secured millions in additional funding for domestic violence services, stopped almost a billion dollars of cuts to parental leave, and helped decriminalise abortion in Queensland, NSW and South Australia.

Here's a snapshot of Fair Agenda's impact:

- Fair Agenda drove two years of campaign pressure to help secure an additional \$150 million of federal funding to address family violence, and improve access to services.

- Working with partner organisations, Fair Agenda helped stop \$34 million of scheduled cuts to Community Legal Centres – which would have left tens of thousands of women without access to the legal support needed to escape and recover from family violence.
- In collaboration with the South Australian Abortion Action Coalition and Human Rights Law Centre, they secured reforms to decriminalise abortion and create safe, legal and compassionate access to abortion care in South Australia, as well as safe zone protections to prevent picketers from harassing patients and staff at abortion clinics.
- In partnership with other members of the NSW Pro-Choice Alliance, they secured laws that decriminalised abortion and provided safe and legal access to abortion care in NSW.
- Fair Agenda worked alongside Women's Legal Service NSW to secure reforms to allow victim-survivors who have to flee their homes to escape domestic violence to end their tenancy without liability.
- Through campaigning and public accountability measures Fair Agenda helped push dozens of university residences to improve the quality and quantity of their training to prevent sexual violence.
- In 2015, Fair Agenda helped secure an additional \$4 million of funding for domestic and sexual violence counselling service 1800 RESPECT – to help address the fact that



*In 2015, Fair Agenda helped secure an additional \$4 million of funding for domestic and sexual violence counselling service 1800 RESPECT.*

18,631 calls a year were having to be left unanswered due to inadequate resourcing.

- Fair Agenda secured key votes and commitments from federal Senators that blocked cuts to parental leave that would have denied working parents' time to care for their newborns. These cuts would have hurt more than 79,000 working families each year.
- In collaboration with Pro-Choice Queensland, they worked towards securing safe and legal access to abortion care in Queensland. For more than two years Fair Agenda worked with partners to demonstrate the community support and mandate needed for a majority of Queensland MPs to vote in support of historic legislation to finally decriminalise abortion.
- Alongside partners, Fair Agenda helped campaign for the passage of Safe Access Zones to improve patient safety and privacy for at reproductive healthcare clinics in NSW.

Working alongside End Rape on Campus Australia, survivor advocate Nina Funnell and student groups, Fair Agenda helped secure a new specialist counselling hotline for university students affected by sexual violence. In 2016, Queen's College was an early supporter of Renee's efforts both to call attention to the issue on improving the quality and quantity of training around preventing sexual violence and take strong action to address it.

Queen's took an active role in working with fellow Colleges to audit their practices and enact best practice recommendations as detailed by Fair Agenda ([www.fairagenda.org/residences\\_survey](http://www.fairagenda.org/residences_survey)).

- They helped back a survivor led campaign, in partnership with Women's Legal Services, to stop victim-survivors of domestic violence being directly cross-examined by their perpetrators in Family Court.

*Queen's took an active role in working with fellow Colleges to audit their practices and enact best practice recommendations as detailed by Fair Agenda.*

- Fair Agenda were part of a campaign that secured a commitment from the then Victorian Premier Napthine that he wouldn't allow Geoff Shaw MP to introduce changes to roll back Victoria's abortion laws.

Fair Agenda has directly helped hundreds of thousands of Australians, but indirectly, the organisation helps all of Australia be and do better. Renee is a shining example of drive, persistence, collaboration, and the spirit of giving back. Congratulations to Renee on being selected as Wyvern of the Year 2021, and we look forward to seeing what other important issues Renee tackles next.



# Geelong reunion

Wyverns, parents and friends enjoyed one of the only face-to-face events possible for 2021 in Geelong on 13 May at the Sawyers Arms hotel.



Len Champness (1948) and Michael Betts (1970)



Jamie and Vicky Baensch (current parents) with Stewart Gill (Master)



Vanessa Calvert (1987), Janine McKenzie (1982) and Amanda Sutterby (nee Blake) (1987)



Stewart Gill (Master), Adelaide Smith (2005), Lauren Betts (2006) and Alicia Cain (2006)



Andrew Lazarus (1985 and current parent), Howard Cole (1985 and current parent), Kath Cameron (1985) and Rod Peel (1985)



Shona Reidy (1995), Julie Roycroft (1994) and Louise Ryan (1977)



Janet Dixon, Christopher Olsen (1972) and Linda Nunn (1986)

## Covid-19 Student Support Fund

### A message from the Arch Wyvern, Dr Katti Williams

2020 and 2021 have required extraordinary human endurance. Perhaps future historians will refer to this period as "the long 2020"?

Generations have their different challenges, but today's school and University students have endured physical, social and existential disruptions that those of us who came of age in in different eras can't begin to imagine.

As thankful as we may be that the internet and social media weren't around when we cavorted and caroused with undergraduate abandon, such technological advancements have nevertheless enabled today's students to continue their university studies and to

maintain connections. The College – none more so than its student members – have worked tirelessly and with spirit to ensure that a sense of community remains. Indeed, thanks to their efforts, Queen's students are among the lucky few that have still had some semblance of an on-campus learning experience, even with necessary covid-safe restrictions.

While today's students have shown tremendous resilience and dedication, their needs for financial (as well as psychosocial) support will continue. Last year the Wyvern Society

committee unanimously voted to generously contribute \$100,000 to help found the College's Covid support fund. This year, we again unanimously voted to contribute a further \$20,000 to provide current and prospective Queeners with much-needed financial support after "the long 2020".

These students are our future. Their challenges have been tremendous, but will also lead to remarkable resilience, adaptability, curiosity and empathy: qualities truly needed in our local and world communities in a post-Covid future.

# The remarkable impact of bequests

In spite of the limitations imposed by COVID restrictions the work of the Sugden Society has continued in engaging existing Society members who have remembered the College in their estate, and in seeking new members. Currently membership is at 150 comprising Wyverns, Council members, Fellows, parents and College staff members.

Contributions from realised estates continue to provide substantial scholarship and other support to the College and the Society is delighted to be able to facilitate this form of 'giving back' from Queen's supporters.

The only in-person gathering in 2021 was a very successful visit to the new Arid Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens in April where some 30 Society members were welcomed by the Director, Professor Tim Entwisle. Along with key members of his staff Prof Entwisle provided a fascinating description of the history and redevelopment of the Arid Garden project, based on the substantial collection of Ralph Fields who pioneered the importation and growing of thousands of cacti species in Victoria.

The presentation was followed by a picnic lunch in the gardens on a beautiful autumn day.

A number of additional events, under privileged circumstances, have been planned but these have necessarily been held over until COVID restrictions allow.

The guidance provided by the Sugden Society Advisory Committee has been bolstered by the addition of Past Master David Runia (Wyvern 1969) and his wife Gonni, together with



Richard Kendall (Wyvern 1963). They have made invaluable contributions by way of advice and support. The contributions of former members Jane Tovey (Wyvern 1980) and Tom Hutchison (Wyvern 2000) are acknowledged with thanks.

Members of the Advisory Committee, all bequestors themselves, have made a substantial contribution to the outreach processes of the Society and have assisted in gaining a number of additional bequests. We thank them for that.

Legal firm Hicks Oakley Chessell Williams, through Advisory Committee member and Partner Lachlan Vallance (Wyvern 2004), continue

to offer legal advice to prospective bequestors where Queen's is to be a beneficiary in their Will. The College is grateful for this long-standing support. In October Lachlan conducted a very engaging and informative on-line seminar on Estate Planning which many Wyverns and others found highly valuable.

From time to time the College receives a bequest about which it had no prior knowledge. This precludes the opportunity to say thank you in the lifetime of the bequestor. We therefore encourage notification of bequests – not necessarily the amount – so that thanking and acknowledgment can sensitively be done.



**SUGDEN SOCIETY**  
Queen's College

For further information about the activities of the Sugden Society, and the option of remembering Queen's in your estate, please contact:

Coordinator of the Sugden Society  
Frank Opray (Wyvern 1965) ph: 0407 316 865 e: [frank@opray.net](mailto:frank@opray.net)

Nicole Crook, Executive Director Advancement  
[nicole.crook@queens.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:nicole.crook@queens.unimelb.edu.au) ph: 0417 368 605



## Vale The College has been saddened to receive news of the passing of a number of Wyverns.

Mr Ray Allsopp OAM  
Commerce (1952)

Dr Vern Bailey OAM  
Medicine (1947)

Mr Frank Barnes  
Engineering (1944)

Mr John Billing  
Science (1968)

Mrs Barbara Blainey  
Science  
(Microbiology) (1949)

Mr Daniel Christie  
Commerce/Law (1985)

Mr Khoo Teng Chye  
Engineering (1951)

Mr Cameron Crofts  
Engineering (1969)

Dr Barry Elliott  
Medicine (1960)

Dr Derek Fairley  
Veterinary Science  
(1964)

Mr James Howie  
Arts (1950)

Mr Alan Humphris  
Science (1959)

Ms Claire Jones  
Arts/Education (1986)

Mr David Munro RFD  
Law (1964)

Mr Max Neagle  
Arts/Pharmacy (1963)

Rev Dr John Neal  
Arts (1949)

Ms Michelle Ogilvie  
Arts/Education (1986)

Dr Brian Smith  
Medicine (1951)

### David Munro

10 October 1943 – 8 June 2021

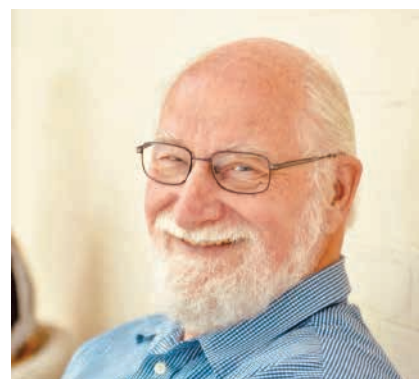
David was one of those people with a larger than life personality and certainly lived a unique and adventurous life. He came from an underprivileged background, and faced great adversities but was supported in his early years by the community at (what was then) Box Hill Grammar School (now Kingswood College). He left school the day he turned 14, but worked to support himself while living in the St Kilda area, including summer employment carting wheat in the Mallee. He completed his secondary education at night school, arriving at Queen's in 1964 on a Commonwealth scholarship to commence a law course, and leaving at the end of 1967.

Queen's was at that time a "dry" college, but attitudes were changing. Jack Clarke, who commenced as the new Vice-Master the same year that David arrived, was influential in David's life (as well as in the lives of many others), but of course if anything was happening, David was in the thick of it – especially in football. In one match Queen's were playing Newman. With not long to play Newman were only a couple of points in front. David took a mark well out from goal. Supporters were screaming for him to get it moving quickly down to the team's star full forward, Denis Oakley. David calmly lined up the goals, came in and slotted it straight through the middle. Queen's were in front! Without a doubt this was his longest and best kick ever. The siren went and Queen's had won! Newman were stunned.

The spoon banging in Hall that night was as loud and as long as anyone had ever heard.

David was a great story-teller and there were a few stories about his participation in the "Cavalry". He is also fondly remembered by his peers for the literal "spit-&-polish" applied to his military boots, to say nothing of mixing boot polish with methylated spirits and setting it alight on the boots to achieve an even higher gloss, as well as his threatened attempt to parachute from the tower (fortunately, never implemented as he had no parachute at the time, only an academic gown).

After graduating and undertaking articles, he went to the Bar where his larger than life personality stood him in good stead. David was a determined and passionate advocate for his clients and he built up a very successful practice in personal injuries and workers compensation. There were many stories about his time in London, Moscow and other places overseas. But not content with a professional career, he had numerous other interests. He was very involved in the Army Reserve. He joined 2 Commando Company in the Army Reserve at a very early age and undertook officer training at Melbourne University Regiment, after which he had a number of Army Reserve postings, including as commander of the Deakin University Company, until compulsory retirement from the Army, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was awarded the Reserve Forces Decoration for his long and efficient service to the Army.



He also had a number of pastoral pursuits over the years, at Toolern Vale, Hopetoun, Birregurra and Mathoura. Sometimes his enthusiastic approach and boundless energy overtook the need for financial prudence! In later years this interest morphed into a passion for gardening. Another interest, later in his life, was his painting. Many of his pictures were of Gallipoli, which he had visited and clearly left him very moved. The Bar mounted a memorable exhibition of his paintings of Gallipoli in April 2019.

In his unique and generous way, David contributed much to the lives of many people. However, his greatest pride was his family. He was devoted to Helen, for nearly 50 years of marriage, and to his three children and five grandchildren. In every conversation with him over the years, his pride in his family was evident, and he followed the achievements and successes of each member. He had not been in the best of health in recent years, but he died peacefully at home as he would have wished.

By Graeme Harris (Wyvern 1964)

*Photo provided by Jane Munro*

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Queen's College acknowledges with gratitude the following individuals, charitable trusts & foundations for their generous support towards the Master's Discretionary Fund, Scholarships, the Covid-19 Student Support Fund, Indigenous Education, the Cam Brown Community Innovation Fund (CBCIF), the Featonby Library, the Sugden Heritage Collections, the College Chapel, Art & Archives and Student Facilities.

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Photo by Olivia Luxon



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