Dear St Joseph’s Nudgee College community,

The end of the year at Nudgee College is marked by many significant events, including the Senior Farewell, Valedictory and the Awards Ceremony. The Senior Farewell is featured in this edition of Behind the Stripes; however this year’s story is told from the perspective of the parents. Our parents are also featured in an article about Year 7 Boarding. I hope you enjoy perusing this edition of Behind the Stripes.

MS TIFFANY KELLER
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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR PETER FULLAGAR

Broadly speaking, 2019 has been a challenging year academically at the Senior year levels in Queensland schools. One era in Queensland education is coming to a close and another is emerging.

Our Year 12s are a part of the final cohort of students whose Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) result will be calculated as an OP. Our Year 11s are in the first cohort whose QCE result will be calculated as an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Throughout this year, our Year 12s and their teachers have continued to be focussed in classrooms and in their QCS preparation. Concurrently, there has been a noticeable increase in intensity in Year 11 under the new regime that is now driven more by the syllabus. In 2020, what schools have been referring to as the ‘new’ system will become ‘the’ system as we know it. This is a new educational landscape to be negotiated by our students, their parents and our teachers. This will bring change. Significant in this change is the removal of the state-wide QCS test in September and the advent of Term 4 external exams.

Our teachers, like colleagues around the state, have been preparing for the change in syllabus and assessment procedures for some years. As effectively as possible the College has been communicating with parents over an extended period of time. We know that these changes in learning and teaching will also have an impact on almost every other dimension of school life during the Year 12s final year. There will also be an exciting opportunity to rethink many processes that we have taken somewhat for granted over the years.

Similarly, change is coming to the built environment of the campus. As we enter the final weeks of 2019, the next phase of building and redevelopment is about to commence. This past year has been a time of planning and preparation in this regard. Early in Term 4, our Infrastructure Designation application to the State Government was approved. This means that in 2020 three capital projects will be undertaken. The initial phase of the Early Learning Centre will commence prior to Christmas while the refurbishment of the historic Treacy Building precinct will begin in 2020. It is currently anticipated that the Flats project will commence in April next year. These are exciting changes that will continue to improve the campus for our current boys as well as for those who will follow in the years to come.

At the end of the 2019 school year, we farewelled a long term member of staff and a female trailblazer at Nudgee College. Ms Monica See
has been on staff for 33 and a half years. She was the first female staff member involved in Boarding supervision and staffing. Monica and her husband, Andrew, were the first married couple in Boarding when staffing was transitioning from the Christian Brothers to lay staff. She was also the first teacher to job share at the College. Since 2008, Monica has served as a highly capable Head of English. We wish her well as she leaves to take on a new position at the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA). We also acknowledge the significant departures at the end of 2019 of three long serving College Board members: Dr Sue Vollert (Chair), Mr Gary Mark and Mr Danny O’Reilly. We honoured both Gary and Danny with the presentation of the Edmund Rice Award at the College Awards ceremony, as we did Sue in 2018. We sincerely thank these good people for their generous service, dedication and outstanding contribution over the years. Nudgee College is a stronger school community for their commitment.

This edition features the second instalment of our focus on former staff members who have been appointed Principals in other schools. The College is proud to have contributed in some way in the journey of all these successful educational leaders. Given our historical connection to Nudgee Junior (now known as Ambrose Treacy College [ATC]) it is interesting that there is also a strong link to both their current (at the time of writing) Principal Mr Michael Senior, and the Principal designate Mr Chris Ryan. Between them they were a part of our school for more than 40 years and both held senior leadership positions at Nudgee College. Both are fondly remembered by many Old Boys as well as past and present members of staff. We wish Michael well as he enters retirement after an outstanding career as a teacher and school leader. We also extend best wishes to Chris as he leads ATC over the coming years.

Finally, as 2019 draws to a close, we give thanks for God’s continued blessings on the community after what has been another successful year in many dimensions of College life. Some of this success, excitement and accomplishment is captured in the pages that follow. We also look forward to 2020 and to commencing the year with 1,688 students, our biggest ever enrolment figure, and a number that is now fixed for at least the immediate future.
There are very few Nudgee College staff members who do not know the name Michael Senior. He began his teaching career at the College in January 1980 as a part time Physical Education (PE) teacher. Within a few months he was given the opportunity to take on a full time teaching role in the areas of PE and Mathematics. What followed was a 24 year tenure at the College, during which he held a multitude of roles: Teacher, Assistant Sports Master/Rugby Master, 1st XV Coach, Head of Year 10, Assistant Deputy Principal – Junior Studies, Residential Administrator (Boarding Master) and Deputy Principal. He was also the College’s Acting Principal in 1998 and from 2000 to 2001.

“My formative years at Nudgee College were definitely instrumental in shaping my career,” he said.

“I was fortunate to work with a number of inspirational Principals who have helped me understand the importance of relational and ethical leadership.”

Michael particularly credited Br Vince Connors, Br Steve McLaughlin and Br Peter Harney with influencing his perspective on leadership.

“Br Vince’s integrity, Br Steve’s passion for those in need and Br Peter’s incredible vision left an indelible mark on me,” he said.

After more than two decades at Nudgee College, Michael recalls a few times he said would stay with him forever.

“Being Coach of the 1st XV that won the Premiership in 1986, and breaking the longest period of not winning any Rugby Premierships, was special because of what we achieved as a team in a pressure-filled time of expectation,” he said.

“The other time I will always recall is my time as Acting Principal and working with the Nudgee College community following the sudden deaths in a matter of weeks of students Daniel Laherty and Chris Darcy due to meningococcal disease.

“It was the saddest time of my life and one that provided the whole Nudgee College community with the time to feel the power of love and support that a community can give.”

Michael also said his time in Boarding marked a significant period of his working life.

“My time in Boarding was a unique experience that we will not forget,” he said.

“Working and living with other families on campus was a special time and we all have bonds of friendship that remain today as very close relationships.”

In 2004 Michael left Nudgee College to take on the Principalship at Nudgee Junior College, before becoming the Foundation Principal of Ambrose Treacy College (ATC) in 2015.

“I have been given a unique opportunity that few teachers and principals are blessed with, and that is to form and open a new school,” he said.

“The opportunity to dream and then to build that dream is something that I feel privileged to be a part of.”

ATC was opened in 2015 following the closure, after 76 years, of Nudgee Junior College. Initially the school catered for boys from Years 4 to 8 but, over the last five years, it has grown to reach its first cohort of graduating Year 12 students in 2019.

“The highlight for me in starting a new school has been the creation of a strong inclusive culture where all students are celebrated for the strengths and talents that they bring,” he said.

After 40 years in teaching, Michael has made the decision to retire at the end of 2019.

“I am so lucky to have been afforded the opportunity to be a teacher,” he said.

“In teaching, the most powerful thing is the community that you get the chance to grow in and work in.”

“I have been gifted with my time at Nudgee College, Nudgee Junior College and Ambrose Treacy College.”

Opposite: Mr Michael Senior.
MR CHRIS RYAN
As one era ends, another begins. With Michael Senior retiring at the end of the year, his successor is none other than fellow former Nudgee College staff member Chris Ryan.

Beginning at the College in 1992, Chris’ tenure spanned 20 years, during which he held many different roles: Subject Coordinator, Head of Year 11 Murphy Boarding Residence, Head of Year 12 Hodda Boarding Residence, Magee House Dean, Assistant Dean of Students, Director of Students Years 5 to 9, Director of Cricket, Dean of Students, Dean of Identity and Acting Deputy Principal.

“My years at Nudgee College taught me to keep things in perspective, make people your priority, resilience, adaptability and to play the long game rather than the short-sighted immediate game,” he said.

“As one era ends, another begins. With Michael Senior retiring at the end of the year, his successor is none other than fellow former Nudgee College staff member Chris Ryan.

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“My years at Nudgee College taught me to keep things in perspective, make people your priority, resilience, adaptability and to play the long game rather than the short-sighted immediate game,” he said.

“Above all, Nudgee College allowed me to explore my own spirituality, grow my commitment to the mission of Catholic schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition and supported me in my personal and professional growth.”

Chris finished up at the College in 2011 after he was appointed to the Dean of Identity role at St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace. Chris has also taken on the Deputy Principal and Acting Principal roles at Terrace.

“I have had the opportunity to be challenged by a traditional and high-performing culture and I have been blessed to work closely with some very talented staff and wider community members on boards, sub-committees and project teams,” he said.

“I have played a key role in the planning and implementation of several change projects, including ones that have focussed on staffing models, technology platforms, master planning and building projects.

“The thing of which I am most proud of as Deputy Principal has been the trust, collaboration and support I have shared with the staff, parents and wider community of the Terrace family.”

As Chris prepares to take on his new role as Principal of ATC in 2020, he said he was delighted to be following in the footsteps of Michael Senior.

“Michael was a key formative influence in my early years as a teacher at Nudgee College and has remained a mentor and role model,” he said.

“I am looking forward to standing on the shoulders of 81 years of tradition and achievement of the Christian Brothers and the lay teachers, students and parents who have formed the community of Nudgee Junior College and now ATC.”

Michael said it was a privilege to be a part of the ATC story, and that his Nudgee College story would very much be a part of this journey.

“In particular, I take my dear friend and mentor Br Vic Larkin with me from Nudgee College, and his picture will hang in my office as my supervisor and guide.”

“I am forever grateful to Nudgee College; the boys, the parents and my colleagues.”

MR BRIAN EASTAUGHFFE
As well as being a former staff member of the College, Brian Eastaughffe is a Nudgee College Old Boy, beginning in 1967 and graduating in 1971. Since then Brian has forged an illustrious 34 year career in Catholic education, which has seen him work for the Archdiocese of Rockhampton, the Archdiocese of Brisbane and several other schools.

Brian was Nudgee College’s Sports Master in 1989 and 1990, and said his leadership capacity was developed during this time because of the responsibilities of the role, with then Principal Br Steve McLaughlin being instrumental in shaping his leadership development.

During his two years at the College, Brian said he valued the opportunity
to promote sport and learning as complementary contributors to the growth of boys in education, as well as working with staff members to ensure the implementation of fairness and respect for opposition in sport.

“The community of Nudgee College is tangible, and the spirit of community is long-lasting,” he said.

Currently, Brian is the Principal of Clairvaux MacKillop College, but he has also taken on the Principal role at Carmel College.

“Depending on the school and its needs, the improvement focus can vary,” he said.

“These needs usually include the Master Plan, strategising change to meet bureaucratic requirements, maintaining the vision and culture of the college while being respectful to the current climate of the college.”

Throughout his career in education, Brian said he greatly enjoyed the challenges, camaraderie, community spirit, and most of all, the opportunity to work with the students.

**MR MICHAEL CONNOLLY**

For the seven years that Michael Connolly worked at Nudgee College, he held several roles, including Year 9 Dormitory Leader, Head of Basketball, Mathematics Teacher, and Health and Physical Education Teacher. He was also the 1st V Coach during the early 1990s when the team fought their way to multiple back to back GPS Premierships.

As a staff member, Michael said he had been influenced by some very good leaders, including Br Steve McLaughlin, Br Peter Harney and Michael Senior.

Br Dan McMahon also was Director of Boarding at this stage,” he said. “The leaders of the time when I was at Nudgee College encouraged young staff to progress in their learnings.”

At the start of this year Michael was appointed to the Principal role at St Columban’s College, and prior had held the Principal role at Mt Maria College.

In his short time as Principal at St Columban’s, Michael said his highlights included the implementation of a teacher-mentoring program, which aims to develop young teachers in their first four years in the profession, as well as the introduction of an aviation program at the school.

From Charters Towers to Yeppoon, Michael’s teaching career has taken him all over Queensland, and he has been involved in Edmund Rice education for 39 years.
Throughout the years, the grandstand has seen thousands converge on Nudgee College’s main oval for Corpus Christi, been the 16th man for battles that would ultimately go down in the history books, and in more recent times, a place of community and support in times of need.

Originally built in 1917, the grandstand was a four bay structure. In 1988 two additional bays were built, one to the west and another to the east and new seating was built over the original seating. Then, in 2000, a seventh bay was extended to the west.

In February this year, the College commenced a 20 week restoration program to bring the grandstand back to its former glory.

“IT’S A VERY IMPORTANT PIECE OF ARCHITECTURE NOT ONLY FOR THE COLLEGE, BUT FOR THE WIDER BRISBANE COMMUNITY, THAT HAS ALLOWED THE BOYS ACROSS GENERATIONS TO CONGREGATE IN THIS ALMOST SPIRITUAL PLACE,” SAID DEAN OF OPERATIONS MR NEIL O’HARE.

“To the boys it represents far more than a sheltered place to watch sport; it is more than timber and nails.”

Throughout the project, the College worked closely with Queensland Heritage Council. All clay bricks from the foundation were recovered, washed and marked before placed back in its original place. A similar process was applied to the early weatherboarding, which had been cladded throughout the years.

“So part of this refurbishment was to bring all those things back to life, rebuild the beautiful clay brick walls at the back and uncover all weatherboards,” Neil said.

“It was a bit like an archaeological site.”

The restoration work also uncovered, and restored, windows at the back of the grandstand, which had been cladded throughout the years.

The College officially reopened the Ross Oval Grandstand on Friday 19 July and handed it back to the students following a six month refurbishment, in time for the 2019 GPS Rugby season.

Old Boy Fr Marty Larsen (NC 1989-92) presided over the ceremony to bless the grandstand, before College...
Captain Hayden Bygott, 1st XV Rugby Captain Harrison Vella, 1st XI Football Captain Brodie Boyce and 1st XI Cricket Captain Mitchell Pascoe officially marked the students’ return by ‘untying the ribbon’.

In a liturgy led by Dean of Identity Mr Stephen Meara, this Nudgee College icon stood strong once more:

“We gather with a sense of excitement and anticipation, as that which was once old has been remade and is renewed. That, which has often been described as our home, is returned to us, restored to its previous glory: a stronghold, a rampant, a haven,” Stephen said.

“Ninety years ago, the Christian Brothers built a simple structure for utilitarian purposes: a vantage point from which to watch and be protected from the sun, the wind and the rain.

“No one at that time would have planned, or desired, that it would become anything more than a simple structure. It was not the extensions over the years that changed it and made it something else.

“What has transformed it has been the men who have gone before you; those boys who have stood in this stand and witnessed triumph and heartbreak, been welcomed to the Nudgee College community here and have taken their leave and been farewelled from here.

“Today we bless and recommission the Ross Oval Grandstand and invite you, the present generation of Nudgee College men, to take possession of it once again.

“Remember that your time here will pass and you hold this privilege only as a trust to be handed to the next generation and the generations which follow.

“Respect its traditions, enjoy the privilege of standing on its boards, make it again feared among the other schools who come to play on this oval and when your time comes, pass that trust to your 10,000 brothers.”

Throughout 2019, the Nudgee College Foundation has been promoting the Grandstand Plaque Initiative, raising funds for the Nudgee College Building Fund to support the project. Personalised plaques were purchased by members of the community with personalised messages to adorn the new boards of the grandstand. The opportunity to purchase a plaque will reopen in Term 3, 2020.
SENIOR FAREWELL

THE PARENTS’ PERSPECTIVE

MS TIFFANY KELLER

The Seniors’ final day of school is a significant occasion for more than the Year 12 cohort. It is special for the rest of the students as say farewell to their eldest ‘brothers’. It is special for the staff who have educated them, cared for them, and are now sending them off into the world.

It is also special for the parents, who journeyed through the College with their sons, and for some, are also saying goodbye to their beloved College when their youngest or only son graduates.

On Wednesday 6 November 2019, one of these parents was Ms Alysia Bridger, who joined the community back in 2013 when her son Jim started as a Year 6 student.

“What an incredibly moving day it was for our year as a whole, and what an exciting new adventure awaits our young gentlemen,” she said, “they are ready to take on the world”.

Alysia and her husband Mr Stephen Bridger have also experienced the end of Year 12 for their two daughters.

“I can honestly say that no one does finishing school better than St Joseph’s Nudgee College,” she said.

The Nudgee College community is something that Alysia said makes you feel proud to be part of.

“There are so many incredible memories and sporting moments in the last six years that not only Jim, but we as a family will cherish forever,” she said.

“We have met so many amazing, kind and generous families and young men across all year levels and we will all take those friendships with us forever.”

Fellow 2019 Senior parent Ms Suzanne Stark has had the privilege of experiencing this day twice. While her son Joe Stark finished Year 12 this year, older brother William Stark graduated in 2018.

“The day was similar in lots of ways but more emotional as this was our last son to go to Nudgee College,” Suzanne said.

“It is on some level a great relief that we have made it through but also it’s mixed with pride and joy of the men the boys have become.”

Her highlight of the Senior Farewell Day was the enthusiasm displayed by the boys during their final Assembly.

“You could feel the goodwill and the connection between the Year 12s and there was really a special energy in the room,” she said.

As a Nudgee College parent, Suzanne said you are part of a large, diverse community with a great sense of connection and feeling of support.

“Being part of the Blue of Alex organising committee was so eye opening,” she said.

“To see firsthand the enormous generosity of people’s time and money, and their willingness to help really put a spotlight on the power of 10,000 brothers helping another brother in need.”

While it is a day that marks the end of an era, once you’re part of the Nudgee College community it is never goodbye forever. From attending reunions and events, to coaching sporting teams, volunteering and even weddings or baptisms in the College Chapel, Old Boys and past parents have many ways to stay connected to the blue and white.
Above: The Bridger family.
Right: Suzanne and Joe Stark.
Below: Guard of Honour on Senior Farewell Day.
Senior Farewell Day: rose garden ceremony.
INTRODUCING THE HEADS OF FACULTY

MR JASON SEPETAUC

This year the College redefined its academic leadership structure, elevating the responsibility and profile of our Heads of Faculty. Dean of Learning and Teaching Mr Jason Sepetauc shares a little bit about each of these academic leaders.

ARTS: MS ALISON KILGOUR

Alison has been at Nudgee College since 2003 and started in the role of Head of Drama. During her time at the College she has coached Swimming, been a Rugby Coordinator, participated in social justice activities and led many initiatives within the Drama department. The growth of Drama within the College has seen an increase in student numbers and participation in College Musicals, Theatresports, The Scene Project (through Queensland Theatre) and other student-centred programs run by Brisbane theatre companies. Alison said the Arts faculty’s vision is to continue the growth of Art, Music and Drama by providing enriching programs that teach 21st century skills in an arts context. Through shared practice, reflection on pedagogy, professional development opportunities and working collaboratively, the Arts faculty will continue to grow and expand.

BUSINESS: MR DAVID FRASER

David began teaching at Nudgee College in the mid-1990s. His primary teaching areas are Economics and Legal Studies, but he has taught across the breadth of the curriculum in Humanities and Business. He has held a variety of leadership roles since the early 2000s. He has tertiary qualifications at bachelor, graduate and masters levels from the University of Queensland and Australian National University. David has significant experience in the Queensland senior education system,
having been a member of both Legal Studies and Economics district review panels, a member of the executive of the Queensland Economics Teachers Association, a member of various syllabus review committees, and part of the writing team for a previous senior syllabus in Economics. His other interests include sport and he has coached Rugby and Volleyball at Nudgee College.

TECHNOLOGIES: MR PAUL DONELEY

Paul started teaching 16 years ago in the public school sector. He has also taught in Anglican, independent and Catholic schooling networks. He has been a subject coordinator, House Dean, Head of Volleyball and Head Coach for Volleyball Queensland, including being awarded the Coach of the Year in 2016.

He holds a Bachelor of Technology Education, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, Certificate II in Engineering and is currently studying his Masters in Educational Leadership and Management.

His vision for the Technologies department at Nudgee College is that our young men will learn by doing, lead through innovation and be global citizens. He is hoping to achieve this through the use of contemporary pedagogical practices, innovative and relevant emerging technologies and the integration of real world contexts for all tasks.

HUMANITIES: MS LESLEY GARDNER

Lesley joined Nudgee College in June 2017. She brings a wealth of experience, having worked in both the public and private sectors, in Queensland and New South Wales, since 1990. Lesley considers reading as one of the most important skills students need. An equally important skill is the need for students to be independent learners who are motivated and persistent in their approach to their studies.

Her vision for the Humanities faculty is to equip students with 21st century skills to allow them to make worthwhile contributions to society in the future. She sees Humanities as offering boys some very important life skills. She said at the heart of the subject are skills such as communication, critical thinking, observation, developing empathy and logical thinking, all of which are skills that are considered to be needed by leaders and are increasingly sought by employers.

Lesley finds teaching a rewarding and dynamic profession, she embraces the knowledge that no two days are the same and that in some small way she is making a contribution.

MATHEMATICS: MS LOUISE NARDI

Louise began her teaching career in 1993. She has taught in six schools in both the state and independent sectors, in Queensland and England. Louise’s Nudgee College journey began in mid-2008. She has a passion for teaching, loves the beauty of maths and absolutely loves the energetic, supportive and positive environment at Nudgee College.

Louise’s vision for the Mathematics faculty is to encourage students to become creative, critical thinkers and to equip students with numeracy and literacy skills that are essential for everyday life.

Louise believes teaching is more than just a job, and that it is so much more than imparting subject matter. She said it’s a challenging and incredibly rewarding profession, and that it’s the interaction with the boys on a daily basis that makes the job so enjoyable, dynamic and invigorating. Louise feels blessed to spend a short time with the boys during their life journey and truly feels that “the students you are trying to inspire are the ones that end up inspiring you”.

Paul Raven in the Trade Training Centre with a student.

Paul Raven in the Trade Training Centre with a student.
HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION: MR MATT WATERS

Matt has been teaching at the College since 1995, and over the years he has fulfilled a number of roles, but it is his current position that he envisages as having the greatest impact on graduates. Matt said it is crucial for young men to understand the layers to their own health – physical, social, emotional and spiritual – and how best to educate themselves to attain health and wellbeing across the different stages of their lives.

Matt is a dual graduate of both a Bachelor in Applied Science (Human Movement Studies) and Education. Matt has gained expertise in the senior system, working with the QCAA on district and state panels, as well as being involved in syllabus development. With three young boys of his own, he is passionate about boys’ education and the role that physical education has in this unique area of pedagogy.

His vision for the faculty is developmental. He said Years 5 and 6 are about foundational movement skills and having ‘fun through movement’, with a shift towards instilling lifestyle skills into the lower secondary program (Years 7, 8 and 9). From Year 10 he said the focus will lead into the new ATAR General Syllabus for Physical Education or the “job ready” pathways via Certificate III in Fitness and the Applied Syllabus in Sport and Recreation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: MR SIMON LILLEY

Simon’s vision for the Religious Education faculty is to see all students work hard, to seek truth and not to be ashamed to stand up for what is true and just. He said this action is evident with so many of our boys passionately exploring their spirituality and bringing it to life through their actions in the classroom and outside in the community.

Simon said Religious Education at Nudgee College has traditionally been characterised by growth as students have been challenged to reflect on the Gospel message and its influence on many significant characters in the Church and in political history. He hopes students are challenged to explore and place key values, ethics and responsibilities in their daily lives.

As a student Simon’s favourite subject was Geography and favourite novel was surprisingly (or not) Return of the Jedi. He was a terrifying fast bowler in his day playing grade cricket in Sydney as part of a 34 year career in the game. He now enjoys being part of the Nudgee College Cricket Program.

SCIENCE: MR PAT CONWAY

Pat started teaching in 2006 at St Patrick’s College, Shorncliffe, before moving to Nudgee Junior College (now Ambrose Treacy College) and in 2010 joined Nudgee College. He has previously been the College’s Enrichment Program Leader. Besides his teaching degree he also holds a Bachelor of Applied Science, majoring in Exercise Science, and a Diploma of Remedial Therapy.

Pat’s goal for the faculty is to engage every student in the process of scientific inquiry. He believes an understanding of science will ensure that students develop a means of expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live.

Pat has been heavily involved in Nudgee College’s co-curricular programs over the years, having previously coordinated Swimming and coached Basketball, Cross Country, and Track and Field. He has also helped tutor boarders in the Reach for the Stars Program.

TRADE TRAINING CENTRE: MR PAUL RAVEN

After leaving school Paul worked on a few construction sites until he commenced his apprenticeship as a Boat Builder/Shipwright. In 2000 Paul started work at St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace repairing and maintaining the rowing fleet. In 2008 to 2011 he completed a Bachelor of Technology Education. Paul worked with Education Queensland until 2015 before arriving at Nudgee College. He has taught Construction, Engineering and Design.

Having gone through the Vocational Education and Training (VET) pathway Paul believes this pathway can be a strong career choice and a possible stepping stone into a university degree. His vision is to engage students in the curriculum and work with them to get the best outcome possible, whilst also teaching lifelong skills. Paul also engages the boys through his involvement in the College’s Rowing and Cattle Club programs.

ENGLISH: MS MONICA SEE

At the time of writing this article a process to employ a new Head of English is underway. It is an opportunity to commend Monica for her more than 33 years of distinguished service to Nudgee College. Monica has been appointed to a senior role at the QCAA, which is a testament to the expertise and diligence she has demonstrated in leading what is a complex and important learning area at the College. Her wisdom and insight will be missed. The Learning and Teaching team and Heads of Faculty wish her every success and happiness. We also look forward to welcoming a new Head of English in 2020.
STEAM encompasses the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics.

The exhibition, held for the first time this year, featured more than 150 students presenting projects they had been working on during Term 3.

STEAM Coordinator Mr Jack Dahms said the focus of the term was to allow students to pursue a project related to an area of interest without the restraints of a prescribed curriculum.

“Rather than teachers focussing on developing specific knowledge of a particular subject, the focus shifts to developing 21st century skills,” he said. “These include critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and teamwork, personal and social skills, and information, communication and technology (ICT) skills.

“This approach really empowered students to take control of their learning and saw many students go above and beyond to produce some really innovative ventures.”

The projects kicked off at the start of the term, when students met one on one with their teachers to decide what they would work on throughout the term. Students were then responsible for managing their time and their approach to completing their project, as well as how they would present their work at the Exhibition Night.

“Research suggests that when students are given the opportunity to showcase their work, they are far more interested and invested in their learning,” Jack said.

In addition to completing their feature project, STEAM students study topics such as cryptocurrency and blockchain, artificial intelligence, robotics engineering, clean energy and nanotechnology.

The STEAM Exhibition Night is expected to grow in 2020, with more than 200 students electing to study this STEAM subject.

From plastic-pollution solutions to bullet train feasibility reports, the projects presented at the College’s STEAM Exhibition Night on Wednesday 11 September were as exciting as they were varied.

MS TIFFANY KELLER
Above: Oliver Kele.
Below: Jayden Spiteri.
Below right: Harrison Palethorpe.
In 2019, the concept of masculinity can invoke negative connotations, with it increasingly linked to the term ‘toxic’. Dean of Students shares how Nudgee College encourages students to embrace positive masculinity.

Picture the scene: a 14 year old boy from St Joseph’s Nudgee College starts to shed a tear while sharing a story. For some years now he has been teased about his size and he has had enough. Between tears, he shares his thoughts with his class mates, some of whom apologise for belittling him in the past. The workshop facilitator, an experienced and valued staff member, consoles the boy and congratulates him for having the courage to speak up.

Other boys in the room have their own stories to share on the subjects of self-esteem or trouble at home. One boy says his father had a heart attack three weeks ago. He hasn’t told any of his friends and they haven’t known what’s been going on. The facilitator raises the importance of communication and peer respect. ‘Man hugs’ are shared at the end of the session.

Similar scenarios play out among other College activities, such as our ‘boys to men’-themed Year 9 father and son Powerhouse Day, and our significant off-campus retreat experiences, particularly relating to boys in Years 9 to 12. Such activities, which culminate in our Year 12 Kairos retreat, are often regarded as a highlight of the boys’ Nudgee College journey. These events are part of a deliberate program to allow boys to ‘remove their masks’, to challenge traditional stereotypes of masculinity and say it is okay, and healthy, for men to show their vulnerabilities.

As we often say at Nudgee College, our goal is to produce young men who will be community change agents, valued employees, fine sons, loving partners, and inspirational fathers and grandfathers; young men who live by our College motto of being Signum Fidei – a ‘Sign of Faith’ – or, to put it more simply, young men who are good men.

But, what is being a good man in our contemporary world? In recent years, some of society’s gender norms have begun to stretch and soften, while others cling fast. Some have a narrow, more traditional view of what it means to be a man, while, increasingly, most see many different expressions of contemporary ‘manliness’. We are in changing times. This is a serious wellbeing focus, as the narrower the expressions of masculinity, the less healthy young men are likely to be. Through our formal Student Formation curriculum, the school culture and the experiences we provide, we are very much trying to be ‘on purpose’ in educating Nudgee College men in positive masculinity.

In educating about gender and gender roles, we are mindful of current research. Positive masculinity highlights diverse expressions and can be defined as: “Beliefs and behaviours of boys and men that produce positive consequences for self and others...” (Positive Psychology Positive Masculinity Project).
In contrast, researchers have defined several negative traits around what we might understand to be part of traditional masculinity. This has been referred to as ‘toxic masculinity.’ Toxic masculinity is a narrow and repressive description of manhood, designating it as defined by violence, status and aggression. It is the cultural ideal of manliness, where strength is everything while emotions are a weakness; where sex and brutality are yardsticks by which men are measured. At the same time, supposedly ‘feminine’ traits, which can range from emotional vulnerability to simply not being hypersexual, are the means by which your status as a ‘man’ can be taken away.

Positive and diverse masculinity, and traditional masculinity, however, are not mutually exclusive. More importantly, the proponents of positive masculinity norms are not trying to get rid of traditional ones entirely. No one is trying to take away anyone’s manhood or rob them of their identities. They are just trying to make sure masculinity can be expressed in a way that is better for everyone. While we are attempting to raise boys’ awareness of the less-attractive parts of outdated masculinity, we choose to focus on versions that bring more ‘light’.

We attempt to follow the directions of fellow researchers, who have identified different domains of positive masculinity, and integrate them into College programs:

- Male independent thinking and self-reliance:
  - Positive Body unit (body image and self-esteem)
  - Start of semester interviews
  - Curriculum and pedagogical styles and the Habits of Mind
  - Overt leadership focus
  - Camp experiences
- Career direction (a contemporary version of the worker/provider tradition of men):
  - Year 9 SET Plan mentoring and subject selection/career advice
  - Director of Pathways interviews and support
  - Work and further study programs
  - Certificate and Diploma courses

- Men’s respect for women:
  - Guest speakers (Real Talk ‘stronger’ session, One Woman Project, etc.)
  - Strong female role-modelling on campus and in leadership
  - International Women’s Day celebrations and connected activities
  - Stella Fella Day
  - Dances, Formal and Semi Formal, and etiquette courses
  - Consistent female presence at College events
  - Partnership with local girls schools in co-curricular activities
- Appropriate forms of male courage, daring and risk-taking:
  - Developing assertive skills via Student Formation, Powerhouse Day, outdoor camp programs, etc.
  - Social Justice Program
  - Inter-house Showcase
  - Immersion Program
  - Arts and performance programs
  - College Activities programs

- Male forms of service:
  - Service learning programs (Big Brekky, Big BBQ, Duke of Edinburgh Program, Immersion programs, etc.)

- Men’s use of humour:
  - Developing Positive Relationships unit
  - College ‘spirit’ posters and Spirit Committee skits
  - Theatresports and improvised drama
  - Inter-house Showcase

- Male heroism/role modelling:
  - Guest speakers unpacking modern day ‘resilience’
  - Student Formation curriculum focus
  - Behaviour modelling by staff, fathers, Old Boys, etc.
- Opportunities to take off the ‘mask’ and appropriately expose our vulnerability:
  - Retreat programs, ‘rites of passage’
  - Encouragement of genuine mateship

Most importantly, what research also tells us is that if you want great results in forming young people, then connect them with great teachers as role models. We are blessed at Nudgee College to have such committed staff. In the formation process, our House Deans and Heads of Boarding House walk side by side on the Nudgee College journey – guiding, mentoring, counselling and challenging Nudgee College men to be their best.

We want boys to connect with their heart and to celebrate the great stuff about being men. We continue to work hard in this area to help form, in partnership with parents and families, the best Nudgee College men we can.
In the St Joseph’s Nudgee College Boarding community, there is much discussion about what it is like to start boarding from Year 7. This story is often told from the boys’ point of view, but what is it like for the parents?

Mr and Mrs Brett and Stacey Ramsay are the parents of Year 7 student Brodie Ramsay, who began boarding at the start of this year. Coming from an isolated part of the Western Downs region, boarding was as much a necessity as it was a choice. Stacey said one of the best things about Boarding was that the boys have every opportunity at their fingertips. “Boarders become part of another family that supports and grows them through their high school years,” she said.

“They learn to become independent and it really starts to prepare them for life after school.”

As parents, however, Stacey said they sometimes struggle with not being able to see what they are learning or being able to drive up to the school gate and have a chat with teachers. “However, we now know that we can fire off an email to a teacher to have our concerns heard,” she said.

Stacey’s advice for prospective Nudgee College Boarding parents is very similar to what is commonly said to the boys – get involved! “Make friends with other parents and come down for events and sports,” she said. “We have the best time.”

Mr and Mrs Clay and Carina Kenny also have a son in Year 7. With three other sons currently or having been boarders, as well as being a fourth-generation Nudgee College family, they had a wealth of information when making the decision on whether or not to send their youngest son Joe in Year 7.

“Christian Oneto [Dean of Boarding] was very specific in his outline of the holistic approach to children entering the earlier years of Boarding, which as parents put Clay and I at ease,” Carina said.

One of the challenges as parents can be homesickness, which Carina said can be deeply felt by the parents, as well as the child. “Staff would ring me to give me updates on how the boys were doing, which reassured me that they were okay,” she said.
“This contact with Boarding staff is a vital tool in helping everyone overcome homesickness, and it also reassures the child that the people looking after them are invested in their comfort and wellbeing.”

From getting the opportunity to play team sports from a young age, to learning to be responsible for yourself, Carina said the benefits of boarding from Year 7 are plentiful.

“Joe has already made several strong friendships, which will take him through to Year 12, and along this journey he will meet many more boys at different times during the years,” she said.

“As he is already comfortable with his Boarding and academic environment, he then has the ability to show leadership qualities to help those who have just arrived to nurture them to the stage where they feel equally comfortable.”

Year 11 student Tristan Gill is another boy who began boarding in Year 7, and, after five years in the Nudgee College Boarding Village, his parents Mr and Mrs Brett and Suzanne Gill are seeing the impact of this decision.

“We wanted to see Tristan start his middle school years at Nudgee College in a strong position with experienced and supportive teachers, for him to form good study habits, and to explore all sporting opportunities available to him,” Suzanne said.

“Over the years we have seen the above goals and opportunities explored and achieved and we know we made the right decision.”

For new parents looking to enrol their son into Nudgee College Boarding, Suzanne’s advice is to attend a regional tour visit or an Open Day and speak with Boarding staff and students.

“It will be the best decision you will make for your son, opening his world and giving him all the opportunities, academic and sporting wise, as well as being part of a brotherhood that cares and supports each other,” she said.

“Trust us, your son will be in good hands.”
2019 Senior Farewell Liturgy.
THE EXPERIENCE OF FAITH

MR STEPHEN MEARA

“Taste and see that God is good”  PSALM 34:8

Who, upon encountering something wonderful, isn’t keen to repeat the experience, find out more about it, plan to explore its potential and make the experience part of their life? A taste of something good will lead us to this, and not just in the literal sense of a wonderful meal or a good wine, but also in travel, friendship and ideas. The ancients knew this. In both Latin and Hebrew, the word for wisdom is related to the word for taste. A taste, an experience, no matter how brief, properly considered and analysed, leads to wisdom. Aristotle saw learning as an interdependent combination of the theoretical, the creative and the practical. The Catholic tradition has, since the earliest times, been both an intellectual, as well as a spiritual practice of faith. The catechetical process in early church communities was a lengthy process of coming to know the habits and rituals of the community and learning much of its intellectual basis, which the modern Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults tries to mirror; an education in and of the faith.

As a school in the Archdiocese of Brisbane we at St Joseph’s Nudgee College design and implement our Religious Education curriculum in accordance with the guidelines set down by the Archbishop and regulated by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission. A Nudgee College student’s education of faith is well designed and delivered. Lamenting the over emphasis on the theoretical aspect of faith education in the past, T.S. Eliot once said: “We had the experience but missed the meaning.” It often seems to me that after 13 years of education in a Catholic school, but not the same education in the practice of faith in their families, our young men often have the meaning, but have missed the experience.

We recognise the need for faith to be a continuing praxis of belief, knowledge and experience, deepening all three as the journey of life unfolds. Wisdom is experience, tempered by reflection, leading to action, so we provide ‘a taste’ of all three so that our Nudgee College men may be Signum Fidei = ‘Signs of Faith’.

EXPERIENCE: PRAYER AND LITURGY

“I held the Host and thought: How small Jesus made Himself, in order to show us that He doesn’t expect great things of us, but rather little things with great love” - ST Teresa of Calcutta

The Eucharist is the defining experience of the Catholic faith and the tie that binds any Christian community, making us one. Our students regularly participate in Mass together as a whole College community, as a House group and as a Boarding community. It is a privilege to provide liturgies of substance and quality in our community and to witness young men respond with genuine prayer and the consolation that only communion with each other and with Christ can provide. Many of our community celebrations, such as the Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice or the anniversary of Br Vic Larkin, are marked with a Liturgy of the Word. We also pray together daily. We share a common morning prayer together in our PC groups where we join with the Church in marking the seasons of the year and responding to the needs of the world, the community and our school. Each afternoon, we stand in solidarity and say our College Prayer together as a sign of our unity and our call to be Signum Fidei – ‘Signs of Faith’, asking God’s strength to assist us. Many classes during the day also begin with prayer.

REFLECTION: THE RETREAT PROGRAM

“It is perhaps the best legacy we can pass on: the faith! To educate in the faith, to make it grow. To help children, young people and adults to know and love the Lord more and more is one of the most exciting aspects of education. It builds up the Church!” - Pope Francis

Nudgee College provides a suite of retreat experiences across all year levels as an opportunity to withdraw from the day to day of school life, experience the deeper reality of faith that reflection provides, and allow them to make heart to heart connections with each other. Our hope is that each young man comes to know the love God, and his brothers, has for him, giving him the confidence that support offers. May he then see that true strength comes in our quietness, our vulnerability and our openness to one another.

Story and metaphor appeal to the minds of all humans, and none more than the adolescent male. In Years 5 to 8, students have a series of one day experiences focussing on the Nudgee College journey of faith and its different contexts in different years. The Year 9 group of students have an extended retreat experience, moving the metaphor to the Emmaus journey, recognising the blessings life holds if we are open to the presence of Christ as companion and guide, seeing Him in the face of the other companions on this journey, our family and mates.

That ability to see Christ in the face of others is the focus of our Year 10 Immersion Program. Students may witness the work of the Church in other cultures by living with Christian Brothers’ communities in Wewak and Vuvu, both in Papua New Guinea, or undertake a Brisbane-based
activity looking at aspects of life in our community that are not often on display or obvious if one is not looking. These experiences can take place across one or two weeks. The Year 11 students’ preparation for leadership in our community is concluded with a two day leadership retreat early in Term 4, where the newly announced College Captain, Vice Captains and Prefects work with their cohort to plan for the coming year, looking at opportunities to be servant leaders, modelling themselves on Christ and Blessed Edmund Rice.

The culmination of the Retreat Program is the Year 12 Kairos Retreat. Over these three days, in which students are broken into groups of between 40 and 45, the Year 12 men return to the idea of journey. Their Nudgee College journey is nearing its completion. It will never end, as they will always be Nudgee College men, but it is complete. How can they continue, then, to be Signum Fidei – ‘Signs of Faith’ on the long journey to come, remaining faithful to their God, to Nudgee College and to themselves? They examine the risks they had to take to be genuine men of faith and decide how they can take the courage they have made a part of this experience into their relationships and challenges to come. It is a wonderful experience and a privilege to accompany them on this journey.

**ACTION: JUSTICE AND SOLIDARITY**

“But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds.”

- James 3:17

A person of wisdom is called to be a person of action. If all that a Nudgee College student is given in his time at the College does not have a profound influence, not only on his thinking, but on his actions, we may have educated his mind, but failed to touch his heart. Our community reaches out to others. We have been blessed with each other, with magnificent resources and with the gift of faith. The only human response to such generosity is to share it with others.

Students in all years, according to their ability, are invited to participate in our Social Justice Program. As a College community we work as partners with several organisations carrying out valuable work at home and overseas. We provide substantial support to Edmund Rice Foundation Australia through several programs, including our biggest community fundraising activity each year, the Walk for Edmund. Each House and Boarding House has a nominated charity they work to support. A number of older students participate in activities through ERA for Change, which is a network of Edmund Rice schools in Australia. Younger members are part of the Junior Justice League. Many of our students make a weekly commitment to programs Nudgee College undertakes.
• Scrabble and Chat: Year 7 students have fun and conversation with residents of the aged-care facilities in our area.

• Zillmere State School Homework Club: Years 5 to 10 students help with the homework and social skills of selected students.

• Big Brekky: Years 10 to 12 students provide a barbecue breakfast and have conversations with clients who are homeless or doing it tough in Fortitude Valley.

• Big BBQ: Years 10 to 12 students cook dinner and chat to residents of the Alpha Caravan Park at Aspley.

• Vic’s Fairtrade Cafe: Students run a cafe every morning selling Fair Trade Kolega Coffee from the Terrace Timor Network.

• Ecumenical Coffee Brigade: Students make sandwiches delivered by the Ecumenical Coffee Brigade to clients who are homeless or having a hard time in the Fortitude Valley area.

All of us who belong to this community of faith that is Nudgee College are called to be Signum Fidei – ‘Signs of Faith’. To be a sign to the world, like the stars of heaven, that life and all it holds, is good, because we have tasted it and found it so. We pray we may be clear and resolute signs of that goodness: in our prayer, in our gentle reflective natures and in our actions to build a better world. This is not only the path to wisdom, but to the joy that wisdom and faith provide when one is open to the presence and love of God, experienced in the world and our community.

**COLLEGE AFTERNOON PRAYER**

_O God of justice and compassion._

_We place before you our needs as members of St Joseph’s Nudgee College._

_Nourish and inspire us to live justly, to be Signs of Faith to all._

_Live Jesus in our hearts! Forever._
Student formation is an integral part of the whole development of each student at St Joseph’s Nudgee College. Director of Junior School Mr Chris Cawley shares how this unfolds.

In the Junior School, student formation takes many forms, from formal programs involving outside providers, to the everyday occurrences in the playground at lunchtime. The events that occur in a primary classroom and playground can form the basis for important discussion among students. Whether it is a hypothetical scenario or a real incident, the focus is always on how we could react in this situation in order to have a positive outcome.

As a BYOD school the responsibility as a digital citizen is front and centre. When reviewing another student’s Flipgrid for example, the discussion leads to how one’s comments can boost another student’s confidence. The use of positive feedback is encouraged and shows that how we interact on digital media does have a relevant impact.

As noted, there are a number of outside providers who enhance our Student Formation programs. The two most significant are Camp Apex, Mudjimba, and Let’s Chat Education. Both of these spiral programs are delivered over the two years a student spends in the Junior School.

CAMPS
One of the most important aspects of our Student Formation programs is our annual camps for students in Years 5 and 6. These camps provide experiences for our students that take them outside their comfort zone, and for them to mix with their peers in a supportive environment. By attending the same campground in Mudjimba, we are able to develop a sequential program over a two year cycle. Each year level engages with activities and learning experiences that are suited for the age of the individual and ability of students.

The focus of the Year 5 program is for boys to feel comfortable and confident away from home. The program aims to:
• develop confidence through enjoyable experiences
• expand friendships and social skills.

The focus of the Year 6 program is to assist boys in learning how to ‘manage self’ by:
• growing independence
• working collaboratively in small groups
• building self-confidence.

Our Year 5 students embarked on their first Nudgee College camp experience in the latter part of Semester 1. It was a wonderful event on the Sunshine Coast at Camp Apex, Mudjimba. I was impressed on the day I visited with how engaged the boys were, and how admirably the first group had represented our College. By visiting the next day I was able to see all six classes participate in this important part of our Student Formation Program.

Below are Year 5 and Year 6 students’ reflections from camp:

The camp was a great experience for me in my first year in Nudgee College. I really enjoyed the camp because of the activities, such as rock climbing, canoeing, archery, mountain biking, orienteering, raft building and fishing. I am an outdoors person who loves the sunshine and being occupied, but these were things that I had not done before. The rock climbing wall – the tallest in Queensland – was extremely challenging, but I was determined to make it to the top, and I did. The food was great, maybe as good as my mum’s!
LET'S CHAT EDUCATION

This program for students in Years 5 and 6 explores the topic of 'sexual self', with an information evening held for parents setting out the content. The session is presented by representatives of Let’s Chat Education. They deliver most of the content, supported by our core teachers. It is important that children are given accurate, reliable and age-appropriate information and skills in a supportive environment, and the home is one of the best places for this education to occur. However, support from the school environment is also important.

Our Student Formation programs in Years 5 and 6 cover a wide range of educational material. We take seriously our responsibility to work with families to ensure we educate the whole student. Our programs evolve every year and are based on the needs of the students who sit in front of us. In future years I’m sure our focus will be on issues that, today, we are not even aware of. For example, 10 years ago, the idea of a smart phone was only for the rich; today most students have one. That creates new challenges for educators and parents. However, that is the beauty of a program that evolves with the needs of our students.

The games night was really hyped up with the music and cheering with my mates. Being with my mates was the best part because everything was in a group. Overall, I loved camp, and I can’t wait to go back next year and do it all again. By Billy Grace (Year 5)

Our Year 6 program builds on the skills developed in Year 5, and the students appreciated the elevation of skills required to complete each activity:

Whether it was abseiling down the climbing wall or crawling through the mud run, at some part of the camp we were all pushed to our limits and faced our fears. In between activities we were given delicious meals served by the kind staff at the camp. The camp was by far my highlight of Term 2. We got to hang out with our friends while doing these amazing activities. We had the best time at camp. By Alex Smith (Year 6)
Rhodes Scholarships were created under the Will of Cecil Rhodes in order to provide the future leaders of the English speaking world with the opportunity to study at the University of Oxford.

He hoped that they would then be better able to contribute to the betterment of humanity and the maintenance of world peace. The Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest (first awarded in 1902) and perhaps most prestigious international scholarship program, enabling outstanding young people from around the world postgraduate study at Oxford.

The scholars are expected to exhibit the following characteristics: literacy and scholastic attainment, fondness of and success in outdoor sports, qualities of truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship, exhibition of moral force of character and instincts to lead and take an interest in one’s contemporaries.

Nudgee College has had seven Old Boys awarded Rhodes Scholarships, with the most recent being Dr Stephen Daley (NC 1990-94). Stephen was invited back to the College this Semester to address an Assembly and to witness the re-dedication of the Rhodes Scholar Walk, now poignantly placed on the eastern wall of the DJ Hanly Learning Centre.

Stephen was a successful student at Nudgee College, achieving recognition both academically and in co-curricular activities. Notably, in Year 12 he was College Captain, College Dux, Captain of the 1st XI and played in the 1st XV (also representing Queensland Schools in rugby). A new display about Stephen has been created in the College Museum by our archivist Mr John Sayer.

After completing school at Nudgee College, Stephen studied Veterinary Medicine and Surgery at the University of Queensland, graduating in 2000. In 2002, he was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to undertake a DPhil at Magdalen College at the University of Oxford.

Today Stephen is a Biomedicine Discovery Fellow in the Infection and Immunity Program, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute, at Monash University, Melbourne.

Stephen addressed the boys humbly, despite his many achievements. He connected by recalling his time at Nudgee College, outlining his personal journey and relating all the big and small happenings – initially as a day boy, and then as a boarder – which shaped his character and provided him the opportunity and motivation to succeed.

He described arriving at Nudgee College as a pivotal point in his life, detailing a story about how journaling his thoughts helped turn events into lasting experiences. Stephen also shared some wisdom for the boys to take back to their endeavours inside and outside of the classroom:

- Keep on top of what you can control
- An organised mind is a useful mind
- The measure of a man is not by his marks alone

Stephen continued to define the character traits of empathy, relationships and courage as important. He stressed the need to share empathy with others and to be present to their needs, and also to have the courage to communicate with others.

It was a privilege to host one of our most celebrated Old Boys and we hope to welcome Stephen back in the near future.
At Nudgee College, the spirit of giving permeates the halls of this great school. Thank you to all who contributed throughout the year to the many worthy causes we raise funds for.

$533,700 Raised for the Building Fund

$8,000 Raised by the BBQ Committee to support various charities

$24,000 Raised for House Charities

86 Plaques secured as part of the Grandstand Seat Plaque initiative (including 9 current parent cohorts)

$12,000 Donated to various rural charities, including the Townsville flood appeal, drought relief, Buy a Bale and BushKids

$1,000 worth of bow ties purchased for Stella Fella Day

$3,000 Raised for the Terrace Timor Network via Vic’s Cafe

Caritas Australia
$5,500 Raised for Caritas Australia via Project Compassion

$165,000 Raised by the College community for the Edmund Rice Foundation

$48,700 Raised for the Jack Ross Bursary Fund
2019 DONORS

Thank you to our parents, grandparents, Old Boys, staff and friends who donated so generously to the Nudgee College Building Fund and Jack Ross Bursary in 2019. Your support of the Nudgee College Foundation ensures a vibrant and vital future for more young men and creates a legacy that transcends generations.

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Mr S and Mrs D Aggs
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Mr J and Mrs K Aleman
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Mr P and Mrs S Curley
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Ms S Currie
Mr S and Mrs A Currin
Dr K Curtin
Mr C and Mrs G Cutuli

D
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Mr and Mrs M Dallstedt
Mr I and Mrs L Dalle Cort
Mr S and Mrs K Dallimore
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Mr Daws
Mr D and Mrs K De Laist
Mr C De Villiers
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Mr A Dean and Ms S Sievers
Mr S and Mrs R Dean
Mr P Buglass and Mr Decker
Mr R and Mrs K Deery
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Mr T and Mrs P Delapine
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Mr D and Mrs N Dimmock
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Dr J and Mrs J Dohnalek
Mr and Mrs S Donald
Mr D and Mrs R Donato
Mr M and Mrs S Donnelly
Mr A and Mrs K Douglas
Mr and Mrs C Drouet
Mrs N Dowling
Mr C and Mrs S Downing
Mr P Doyle
Mr S and Mrs K Doyle
Mr S and Mrs C Drahm
Mr M and Mrs J Dukurovic
Mr J and Mrs K Duffield
Mr J and Mrs L Mundt
Mr T and Mrs S Duffy
Mr G and Mrs L Dunlop
Mr A and Mrs T Dunn
Mr S and Mrs M Dunn
Mr A Dunstan and Mrs K Dingli
Mr C and Mrs M Dugan
Mr B and Mrs E Durkin
Mr M Durkin and Ms N Gordon

G
Mr J and Mrs K Gannon
Mr J Gannon
Mr A and Mrs L Gavin
Mr B Gegg
Mrs K Gegg
Ms C Georges
Mr T and Mrs M Georges
Mr C Gernandt and Ms S Stace
Mr A and Mrs K Gibbons
Mr W and Mrs M Gibson
Ms G Gibson
Mr R Giddens
Mr J Gilbert
Mr B and Mrs S Gill
Mr C and Mrs S Gillian
Mr A and Mrs J Gilles
Mr G and Mrs K Giorgias
Mr P Gleston
Mr M and Mrs R Goggin
Mr G and Mrs N Gordon
Mr R and Mrs A Gosney
Mr B and Mrs G Graham
Ms M Grant
Mr B and Mrs C Gray
Mr J and Mrs A Gray
Mr R and Mrs K Gray
Mr S Green
Mr J and Mrs T Griffin
Mr and Mrs J Griffiths
Mr W and Mrs D Griffiths
Mr G and Mrs R Grobbelaar
Mr C and Mrs L Groves
Mr K Gugenerberger
Mr B and Mrs S Gunn
Mr and Mrs P Gunter
Mr J Guppy and Mrs S Smallhorn

H
Mr J Haber
Mr S and Mrs D Halland
Mr and Mrs S Halliday
Mr R and Mrs H Hamilton
Mr J and Mrs L Hannan and Ms S Scott
Mr G and Mrs D Hansen
Mr D and Mrs K Hansson
Mr S and Mrs M Hardingham
Mr J and Mrs S Hardingham
Mr B and Mrs S Bloomfield
Mr D Harland
Mr B and Mrs K Harries
Mr C and Mrs L Hart
Mr S Harte
Mr D Hastings and Ms M Bell
Mr M and Mrs L Hawkins
Ms K Hawkins
Mr B and Mrs A Hawtin
Ms C Hayes
Mr Q and Mrs J Chen
Mr D and Mrs J Alder
Mr S and Mrs R Helmstedt
Mr T and Mrs J Henderson
Mr M and Mrs J Henry
Mr M Henry
Mr W and Mrs K Henry
Dr P Herbert
Mr R Hetherington
Mr N and Mrs C Heywood
Mr C Higgins
Mr B and Mrs T Highfield
Mr D and Mrs A Hilli
Ms M Hill
Mr A and Mrs R Hines
Mr S Hinneberg
Mr T Ho and Mrs L Luu
Mrs S Hobson
Ms M Hodges
Ms C Hodgson
Mr R Hoedel
Mr M Hogan and Ms T Williams
Mr B Hollett
Mr P and Mrs D Holloway
Mr P and Mrs A Holmes
Mr P Hong and Ms J Cheng
Mr and Mrs D Hood
Ms L Hooper
Mr J and Mrs K Horwood
Mr B Howard
Mr L Howard
Mr S and Mrs A Howard
Mr B and Mrs K Howlett
Mrs A Hueppauff
Mr A and Mrs G Hughes
Mr A and Mrs C Hunt
Mr A and Mrs N Hunter
Mr S and Mrs L Hunter
Mr D and Mrs B Hynes

Mr B Jones and Mrs A Jones
Mr D and Mrs J Jones
Mr P and Mrs F Jones
Mr P and Mrs N Jones
Mr J Jordan
Ms N Jory
Mr M Joy and Mrs H Sinclair-Joy
Mr and Mrs S Juniper

Mr M and Mrs L Kasprzycz
Mr M and Mrs B Kearney
Mr A and Mrs S Keen
Mr P and Mrs N Keir
Mr D and Mrs T Kele
Ms M Kendal
Ms D Kenman
Mr P Kent and Mrs C Conroy
Mr W and Mrs K Kettle
Mr K Keyes
Ms K Keyes
Mr T and Mrs J Kidd
Mr D King
Mr M and Mrs L Kingston
Mr S and Mrs L Kirby
Mr B and Mrs D Kissane
Mr J and Mrs F Klein
Mr B and Mrs T Knudsen
Mr R and Mrs V Krayem
Dr D and Mrs R Kritzinger
Mr P and Mrs R Kuskie
Mr M and Mrs L Kuzevich

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Ms N La Rosa
Mr A and Mrs P La Spina
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Mr B and Mrs P Lamprecht
Mr C and Mrs M Langton
Mr C and Mrs M Latham
Dr M Lau
Mr C and Mrs N Law
Dr B Lawrence and Dr J Gaihbor
Mr M and Mrs R Lawrence
Mr G Le-Gall and Mrs R Bosnic
Mr G Leddie and Ms V Ayliffe
Mr G and Mrs A Ledwidge
Mr B and Mrs N Lee
Ms M Legaspi
Mr A and Mrs S Leon
Mr K and Mrs C Lightbody
Mr D Lillcrap and Ms F Simes
Mr A Lister
Mr S and Mrs M Lofaro
Ms T Lollback
Mr B and Mrs D Long
Mr D and Mrs M Lowrie
Mr J and Mrs K Lowrie
Mr A and Mrs M Luke

Mr B and Mrs A Lyons
Ms S Lyons

Mr D and Mrs K MacGinley
Mr C Mackey and Ms P Sheehan
Mr L and Mrs A Maiava
Mr S and Mrs B Mair
Dr S Malone
Mr P and Mrs S Malone
Mr P and Mrs L Manitta
Mr A Mano
Ms C Mappas
Mr E Marchant
Mr B Mark and Mrs L Osborne-Mark
Mr WJ Markwell
Mr S and Mrs K Marshall
Mr and Mrs M Marsigilia
Mr and Mrs J Martin
Mr B and Mrs J Martin
Mr J Martin and Ms L Morosi
Mr D and Mrs E Mason
Mr S Mason
Mr F and Mrs G Mastroianni
Mr A and Mrs C Mathewson
Mr R Matthews and Ms J Ryan
Mr K and Mrs F Maxa
Mr J and Mrs J McBeath
Mr P McBride
Mr B and Mrs M McBride
Mr A and Mrs R McCarthy
Mr A and Dr S McClean
Mr P McCoy
Mr and Mrs A McDonald
Mr C and Mrs R McDonald
Mr W McDonald
Ms C McDonald
Ms S McDonald
Mr A McDonald
Mr S and Mrs J McEwan
Mr B and Mrs L McGillion
Mr L and Mrs S McGraa
Mr T and Mrs M McGregor
Ms L McGrorey
Mr R McGuire
Mrs S McGuire
Mr E McKenzie
Mr S and Mrs M McKenzie
Mr A and Mrs S McKitrick
Ms S McLennan
Ms E McLeod
Mr J McNamara
Mr A McMamara
Mr J and Mrs N McPherson
Mr T and Mrs K Meagher
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Mr M and Mrs D Mennes
Mr E Menasheka and Ms L Ryan
Mr M and Mrs A Meredith
Mr S Mex
Mr D and Mrs E Meyer
Ms J Meyer

Ms M Hill
Mr K Michael and Ms J Carillo
Mr S and Mrs K Miles
Mr M Miller and Mrs T Bauer
Mr P and Mrs K Miller
Mr P and Mrs C Milios
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Dr S and Mrs C Mitchell
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Mr E Moore and Ms B Pradella
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Mr T Moore
Mr R Morton
Mr S Moss and Ms T Troughton
Mr M and Mrs N Muellegger
Ms E Muller
Mr P and Mrs M Mulligan
Mr and Mrs S Munns
Mr A and Mrs J Munt
Mr A and Mrs J Murphy
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Dr R and Mrs S Naidoo
Mr M Nali
Mr P and Mrs J Neisler
Mr G Nelson
Mr N and Mrs M Nethery
Mr R and Mrs J Newlan
Mr S and Mrs A Ngauamo
Mr T and Mrs K Nichols
Mr H and Mrs K Nicolaides
Mr J Nimmo and Mrs S Stark
Mr R and Mrs E Niaa
Mr C and Mrs A Nixon
Mr C and Mrs D Noble
Mr R and Mrs S Nolan
Mrs N Nolan
Ms C Noy
Mr M and Mrs A Nuicifora
Nudgee Old Boys Class of 1968
Mr T and Mrs C Nugent
Mr D and Mrs R Nutley
O
Mr N and Mrs K O’Brien
Mr R O’Brien
Mr P and Mrs E O’Brien
Mrs E O’Brien
Mr K O’Connor
Mr S O’Donnell
Mr M and Mrs C O’Hara
Mr G and Mrs S O’Keeffe
Mr G O’Keeffe and Mrs S Simaing
Mr J O’Neill and Mrs C Bruce
Ms R O’Reilly-Martinez
Mr J and Mrs S O’Reilly
Mr B and Mrs L O’Sullivan
Mr D Oehlman
Mr I Ortega-Portela and Ms R Q
Mr J and Mrs T Osborne
Mr S and Mrs J Ostwald
P
Mr K and Mrs K Padfield
Mr J Pantaleon
Mr V and Mrs L Pappin
Parents of Class of 2018
Parents of Class of 2019
Parents of Class of 2020
Parents of Class of 2021
Parents of Class of 2022
Parents of Class of 2023
Parents of Class of 2024
Parents of Class of 2025
Parents of Class of 2026
Mr M and Mrs K Parer
Mr R Parer
Mr J and Mrs F Parker
Mr J and Mrs N Parker
Mr S and Mrs R Pascoe
Mr N Patterson
Mr M and Mrs L Patti
Mr C and Mrs E Patterson
Mr O Pazy
Mr R Peardon and Mrs C Saddler
Mr D Pearson
Mr P and Mrs R Pedrina
Mr L and Mrs S Penrose
Mr RL Persoon
Mr A and Mrs T Percival
Mr A and Mrs L Percy
Mr C and Mrs K Perkin
Mr K and Mrs C Perrett
Mr D and Mrs V Petridis
Ms J Peut
Mr R and Mrs E Pfitzner
Mr M and Mrs K Phillips
Mr A and Mrs P Picon
Mr G and Mrs N Ping
Mr N and Mrs K Piper
Mr L and Mrs J Pitt
Mr S and Mrs E Pola
Mr J and Mrs K Potter
Mr A and Mrs V Power
Mr B Power and Ms K Hausmann
Mr J Power
Mr J and Mrs B Power
Mr T and Mrs P Power
Mr R and Mrs M Pugh
Mr G and Mrs S Pye
Q
Mr D and Mrs J Quan
Mr C and Mrs M Quinn
Mr M and Mrs C Quay-Verlander
R
Mr T Radunz and Ms C Barrett
Mr C and Mrs N Raven
Mr J and Mrs L Read
Mr B Reading
Ms S Renardson
Mr T and Mrs K Reppel
Mr M and Mrs A Reppel
Dr M Reverente
Mr T and Mrs Rhodes
Mr J Ribot-De-Bresac
Mr B Richardson and Ms N Milne
Mrs T Richardson
Mr S and Mrs T Rigby
Mr A and Mrs C Rigney
Mr P Rizzo and Ms M Hutchinson
Dr S and Mrs S Roat
Mr A and Mrs L Roberts
Mr C Roberts
Mr M Roberts
Mr R and Mrs C Roberts
Dr J Robertson
Mr D Robertson and Mrs C Allken
Mr N Robertson
Mr G and Mrs D Roche
Mr A and Mrs M Rohan
Ms J Rose
Mr D and Mrs J Rosolen
Ms M Ross-Walis
Mr G and Mrs T Rostron
Mr and Mrs K Rowan
Mr M Rowland and Ms M McTavish
Mr P and Mrs Z Rowlings
Dr G and Mrs B Ryan
Mr G and Mrs J Ryan
Mr J Ryan
Mr S Ryan
Mrs K Ryan
Ms M Ryan
Mr A and Mrs K Rye
S
Mr P and Mrs D Salinovic
Mr J Salmon and Ms J Williams
Mr C Santori
Ms J Scherf
Mr B and Mrs S Schimming
Mr and Mrs T Scholes
Mr M and Mrs R Schuster
Mr J and Mrs A Sciacca
Mr J Sciacca
Mr M and Mrs P Scott
Mr R and Mrs P Sedgman
Mr N and Mrs K Seery
Mr A and Mrs M Sehgal
Mr T and Mrs D Seymour
Shadforth’s Civil
Mr K and Mrs H Shah
Mr L Shaw and Ms R Townley
Mr S Shaw
Mr G Sheahan
Mr M and Mrs R Shepherd
Mr D and Mrs M Shibble
Mr R Shun Wah and Ms S Bryan
Mr A Saosi and Ms A Brown
Mr S and Mrs T Sidhu
Mr J and Mrs V Siemon
Mr and Mrs M Simpson
Mr P and Mrs K Simpson
Mr P Simhauser
Mr R Singh and Mrs S Kamboj
Mr G Singh and Mrs K Kaur
Mr S Singh and Ms K Sandhu
The Sleba Family
Mr J and Mrs C Small
Mr M and Mrs H Smeaton
Mr A and Mrs H Smith
Mr B and Mrs L Smith
Mr C Smith
Mr C Smith and Ms M Dumaguing
Mr D Smith and Ms B Porter-Smith
Mr G and Mrs A Smith
Mr G and Mrs S Smith
Mr J and Mrs Z Smith
Mr L and Mrs T Smith
Mr R and Mrs J Smith
Mr S and Mrs L Smith
Mr S and Mrs P Smith
Ms J Smith
Dr R and Mrs J Smullen
Mr M and Mrs R Smythe
Mr S and Mrs J Soberon
Ms T Southam
Mr N Spencer
Mrs W Stack
Mr B and Mrs T Stanton
Mr D and Mrs S Stark
Mr G and Mrs R Steele
Mr D and Mrs C Stein
Mr G Stephens
Mr C and Mrs K Stevens
Mr S and Dr M Stevens
Mr C and Mrs D Stewart
Ms Stewart
Mr and Mrs M Stitt
Mr C and Mrs A Stoneman
Mr J and Mrs T Storey
Mr C Stuart
Mr and Mrs M Sully
Mr J and Mrs R Sutherland
Mr R and Mrs J Swinton

T
Mr J and Mrs T Tainui
Mr B and Mrs W Tamer
Mr M and Mrs B Tancred
Mr M and Mrs Q Tatkovic
Mr D and Mrs B Tayler
Mr B and Mrs S Taylor
Mr C and Mrs J Thomas
Mr W and Mrs A Thomas
Mr A and Mrs J Thompson
Mr S Thompson
Mr A Thomson and Ms B Raynes-G
Mr G and Mrs F Thorne
Mr J Thomley
Mr N and Mrs J Thornton
Mr P and Mrs J Tiffen
Mr G and Mrs J Timbs
Mr R and Mrs B Tkaczyk
Mr F and Mrs C Toaldo
Mr B Tobin
Mr P Todd
Mr S Townsend
Mr J Tran
Mr S Trappey
Mr R and Mrs J Trout
Mr C Tsiianakas
Mrs M Tucker
Mr T and Mrs M Tulley
Mr D Turner
Ms H Turvey

U
Mr D Unterburger
Mrs S Unterburger

V
Ms B Vacca
Mr P and Mrs J Van Der Meer
Mr P and Mrs A Van Weerdenburg
Mr M and Mrs K Vanderburg
Mr T and Mrs S Vella
Mr D and Mrs P Vincent
Mr B Vivers
Mr P and Mrs S Vollert
Mr G and Mrs L Voysey

W
Mr N Waddington and Ms N Coutt
Mr B and Mrs T Walker
Mr D and Mrs S Walker
Ms C Walker
Mr A and Mrs B Wall
Mr D and Mrs A Wallace
Mr M and Mrs E Wallis
Mr B and Mrs C Walsh
Mr D and Mrs A Walsh
Mr S and Mrs G Walton
Mr C Ward
Mr P Ward
Mr PR and Mrs M Ward
Mrs A Ware
Mr T and Mrs R Warren
Mr W Washington
Mr B and Mrs P Watkins
Ms Y Watson
Mr B Watt and Mrs S Milasas
Mr S and Mrs A Watters
Mr and Mrs M Weaver
Mr J and Mrs M Weaver
Mr M Webb and Ms S Parer

Plus our one anonymous donor
PORTAL TO THE PAST: 1891 TO 1917

MR JOHN SAYER

With the refurbishment of the Treacy Building about to commence, Archivist Mr John Sayer reflects on a time when this 128 year old College was brand new.

The end of Term 3, 2019, saw the College take part in an Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) schools’ initiative, which entailed the respective student leaders of St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace; St Laurence’s College; Ambrose Treacy College; St Patrick’s College, Shorncliffe; and St Joseph’s Nudgee College coming together to embrace the Br Patrick Ambrose Treacy story. The man was certainly inspiring and amazing. The students had the privilege of meeting with Br Regis Hickey – a former Br Provincial of St Francis Xavier Province and author of Br Treacy’s biography. Br Regis regaled them with many yarns arising from his research.

The contents of this article are sourced from the personal notes of Br Vit Wallis, who is another legend of the College. His work in the Nudgee College Archives, back in the 1980s and 1990s, is one of the many gifts he bequeathed to the future generations of Nudgee College men. The timeline below sheds some light on the early years of the College, which will soon embark on a major refurbishment of some of the verandas and spaces in the buildings mentioned below.

1. 1802: Br Edmund Ignatius Rice opened his first school in Waterford, Ireland.
2. 1875: Br Patrick Ambrose Treacy opened his first school in the old sandstone church and a wooden shed, next to Brisbane’s St Stephen’s Cathedral (26 boys on the books).
3. 1875: By the end of the year, Christian Brothers, Brisbane, was opened, and St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace, began its extraordinary journey.
4. 1881: First boarders arrived at Terrace. Although extensions were made, over-crowding continued.
5. 1891: Christian Brothers, Nudgee, was opened for ‘the boys from the bush’ and St Joseph’s College, Nudgee – as it was then known – entered the picture. There were 40 Terrace junior boys who formed the nucleus of Nudgee College. The first Director was Br D.F. Bodkin.
6. 1892: The Senior pupils came across from Terrace to Nudgee College, which now had 85 boarders, with Br Duggan teaching both the Junior University Class and the Senior University Class.
7. 1893: Br Treacy purchased 50 acres from the Holmes family’s portion, 40 acres, was acquired for a mere £5 per acre. The rest of the Holmes family’s portion, 40 acres, was acquired for a mere £5 per acre. This led down to the Zillman Waterholes.
8. 1894: The College was built on a footprint that was owned by separate entities within the greater Christian Brothers congregation. This was to be in our favour and is testament to the business acumen inherited from the Irish Brothers from their astute founder – himself a very successful businessman.
9. 1895: A road to the railway was built with a bridge over Nundah Creek.
10. 1896: The debt in 1891 was £12,376/17/1.
11. 1897: ‘Big Ben’ was acquired.
12. 1898: From the start, Nudgee College had its own electricity and septic system. In today’s perspective, these were significant points of difference for the rural boarding school. The engine room site for the electricity generator is across from the present-day laundry.
13. 1899: The Chapel was completed (architect was Thomas Hall). Statues of St Patrick and St Francis Xavier were presented by students.
14. 1900: The dormitory block was built.
15. 1901: The northern wing of the Treacy Building was completed under the direction of architect James Percy Cowlishaw. Arcades were added to the front facade, and a cupola built on top of the tower. The first science lab was built.
16. 1904: The dormitory block was built.
17. 1907: The Senior pupils came to the South Wing.
18. 1914: Our Chapel of Our Lady Help of Christians was being built. Nudgee College switched from rugby union to rugby league. World War I plunged the world into turmoil. Many Nudgee College Old Boys joined the armed forces and gave their lives for the cause.
19. 1916: The Chapel was completed (architect was Thomas Hall). Statues of St Patrick and St Francis Xavier were presented by students.
20. 1917: ‘Big Ben’ was acquired.

Following are a few interested facts I came across in my research:

1. Br Treacy purchased 50 acres from Presbyterian Minister Rev T. Holmes of Leichhardt, Sydney, for £5 per acre. The Brothers owned 257 acres of flat land at Nudgee beside Moreton Bay, about 15km from the city centre. The additional 50 acres became known as the ‘Nudgee Mound’ and was the higher ground of our campus. It set up a circumstance that was to be quietly challenging down through the years because Nudgee College was built on a footprint that was owned by separate entities within the greater Christian Brothers congregation. This was to be in our favour and is testament to the business acumen inherited from the Irish Brothers from their astute founder – himself a very successful businessman.
2. A road to the railway was built with a bridge over Nundah Creek.
3. The debt in 1891 was £12,376/17/1.
4. From the start, Nudgee College had its own electricity and septic system. In today’s perspective, these were significant points of difference for the rural boarding school. The engine room site for the electricity generator is across from the present-day laundry.
5. In 1893, Br Treacy visited Townsville, Charters Towers, Cairns, Cooktown and the Palmer gold fields seeking financial support for the College. His success increased the enrolment by 22 new boys.
6. The new dormitory, built in 1900, extended the boarding capacity to 130 students – Nudgee College was on the move!
7. The Chapel was on the top floor of the South Wing.
8. Enrolment numbers continued to increase: 160 in 1905, 175 in 1906, and 220 in 1907.
9. In 1908, a playing field was cleared on six acres of the mound at a cost £8 per acre to clear. A fairly decent paddock evolved.
10. In 1909, the rest of the Holmes family’s portion, 40 acres, was acquired for a mere £5 per acre. This led down to the Zillman Waterholes.

Throughout this exciting period, Nudgee College was led by eight Directors: Brothers Bodkin, O’Brien, O’Hagen, Hughes, Cotter, Duggan, Moroney and Magee. Only two of these are not part of today’s Nudgee College lexicon.
As 2019 marks 100 years since classes began in the Duhig Building, former staff member Dr Maree Ganly explores the building’s history.

This year marks the centenary year of the opening of what is now known as the Duhig Building. The classrooms in the building were ready for occupation in early 1919 after the foundation stone was laid in 1917. The Latin statement on the foundation, which was translated by Nudgee College archivist the late Br Wallis, reads “this northern wing of St Joseph’s College is destined for the instruction of its students in the sciences and the arts.” From Dr Tom Boland’s book *Nudgee: 1891–1991* we learn that the building was originally named the Dunne Building after the first Archbishop of Brisbane, Robert Dunne.

When the name changed to the Duhig Building is not recorded but, in 1917, Archbishop Dunne had left £30,000 to the Christian Brothers in his Will, which the Brothers did not claim at the time. Archbishop James Duhig succeeded Robert Dunne and gave to Christian Brothers, Nudgee £15,000 from the original Dunne Will, which was the initial cost of the building. The names of two Archbishops Dunne and Duhig associated with the building gives some idea of the significant value placed on education by the Christian Brothers in Queensland.

Classes in the Duhig Building began early in 1919 but, according to the archival records from 1919, there was never an official opening because public gatherings were forbidden that year as a result of the Spanish flu epidemic. Eighty-one years later, in 2001, an official opening gesture was conducted during the re-dedication ceremony of the restored stained-glass windows in the stairwell of the Duhig Building. By the late 1990s, one of the 13 stained-glass windows had already been removed and lost through damage and age. Br Peter Harney and Br Vince Skelly, who were Principals during that time, supported a recommendation for a complete restoration of nine of the windows and a replacement of the one already missing. The Arts and Crafts Festival Committee, led by Ms Vicky Bikerstaff, raised funds to complete the task. The windows were removed for restoration and the work was completed at a cost of $14,200 by the company Jeremy Clifford Lighting. The work included the installation of mesh security grills on the exterior and acrylic covers on the inside to protect them from future damage.

In keeping with the brief that the Duhig Building is an educational facility for the arts and sciences, the windows were included in the design, which is a rarity in school buildings. The lead-light artist is not named, perhaps because the windows of the Nudgee College Chapel, and presumably for this Duhig Building, were made in Birmingham, England. In keeping with the modern artistic style of the early 20th century, they are created in the elegant art deco design.

They are a radical departure from the religious themes of saints and biblical figures, which usually characterise stained-glass windows in churches and religious institutes. The windows provide light and inspiration in what would be a dark shadowy stairwell with blank walls. The windows are a link with the past as they inspire us to take time to look through into another dimension from Nudgee College’s history. The one strong symbol on these windows in the Duhig Building is the College crest on the central window with the words ‘Signum Fidei’ etched into the glass.

It is with great pride that we celebrate the Duhig Building centenary in 2019. We are grateful to Archbishops Duhig and Dunne, our Nudgee College leaders of Christian Brothers and Catholic businessmen donors, such as Mr T C Beirne, and later Nudgee College committees, such as the Arts and Crafts, for this historical building. Along with its classroom renovations in 1988 and 2008 and the restored windows, the Duhig Building is a gift to our students and staff now and into the next century.
NC SNAPSHOT
Top left: On Tuesday 27 August, 10 students participated in the Write a Book in a Day competition, during which they wrote, edited and illustrated a book in 12 hours to raise awareness and funds for The Kids’ Cancer Project.

Above: Congratulations to Old Boy Terry Sparkes (NC 1997-2000) who was invited to compete in the 2019 Hororata Highland Games as part of the Oceania Championships and won gold in the Heavyweight Championships.

Right: Year 12 student Benjamin Rohan won the Music category at the QLD Youth Shakespeare Festival Final in October.

Below: At the 2019 Australian Track and Field Championships held in Sydney in April, Year 10 student Ethan Petcos (right) won gold in the Under 17 high jump with a leap of 2.02m. Year 9 student Ashley Wong (left) won the Under 16 100m with a time of 11.27secs. Ashley was also part of the gold medal winning Queensland 4 x 100m and 4 x 200m relay teams.

Bottom left: On Tuesday 12 November the College’s 1st XI Cricket team won the Grand Final of the StreetSmarts Secondary Schools T20 Challenge.
Left: Year 11 student Cooper Sherry has relocated to England after being signed as a scholar to the Under 18 Leeds United Football Club Academy side.

Above: In October the 2020 College Captain and Vice-Captains were announced. The 2020 Captain is Injarra Harbour (centre), along with Vice-Captains (from left to right) Michael Jones, Patrick Kelly, Lastus Asauai and Oliver Horwood.

Right: Nudgee College Old Boy Frank Li (NC 2004) was named as one of Queensland’s 2019 Top 20 Under 40 young entrepreneurs and business leaders by Queensland Business Monthly. Frank has a long list of successful dining and drinking venues, which includes Brisbane’s The Flying Cock, Langtime, Honto, Little Valley and the Gold Coast’s Rick Shores.
EVENTS

2019 College Dux Vedur Sehgal
Awards Ceremony

On Monday 4 November the College celebrated the achievements of many in the community at the annual Awards Ceremony in the Christian Brothers’ Conference Centre. In addition to the presentation of award recipients, the night also featured 2019 highlight videos, music performances, art presentations and a scene from this year’s College Musical, The Addams Family.

Well done to all of the award winners and particular congratulations to the recipients of our Awards of Distinction:

- Year 10 Ladies’ Auxiliary Award for Conduct, Study and Sport: Ethan Petcos
- Year 10 Richard James Hutton Elliott Bursary for Social Justice and Community Service: Leo De Clara
- Year 11 Past Mothers’ Association Sign of Faith Award: Isaac Babao
- Junior Sportsman of the Year: Angus Durkin
- Excellence in Sport Award: Noah McFadyen, Reesjan Pasitoa, Harrison Vella
- James J Delahunty Award for Sportsman of the Year: Jacob Krayem, Patrick Long
- The Arts Committee Creative Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts: Benjamin Rohan
- Shirley Agnew Memorial Award for Outstanding Participation: Benjamin Rohan
- W A Collins Memorial Award for Conduct, Study and Sport: Vidur Sehgal
- W Carlton-Smith Memorial Award for Leadership, Study and Sport: Xavier Bundock
- Sam Sciacca Memorial Award for Character and Citizenship: Oliver Meyer
- College Award for Outstanding Contribution to Sustainability: Oliver Meyer, Kobie Smith
- Old Boys’ Award for Outstanding Service to the College: Harrison Vella
- Kelleher Family Award for Consistent, Unrecognised Achievement: Connor Christiakoff
- Caltex All Rounder Award for Study, Activities and Service: Vidur Sehgal
- University of Queensland Application to Lifelong Learning: Ethan Ferraro
- John Francis Treacy Award for Service to the Boarding Community: Hamish Smith
- Br J G Hadda Memorial Award for Leadership and Diligence: Xavier Bundock, Patrick Long, Kobie Smith, Isaac Roati, Hayden Bygott
- Lawrie Cusack Signum Fidei Award: Hamish Smith
- Dux of the College: Vidur Sehgal
Barralong Corporate Regatta

The Barralong Corporate Regatta is the Rowing Program’s biggest annual fundraiser. This event also raises funds for the College’s Social Justice programs. Several crews took part in the six-week learn to row program, which culminated in the regatta on Sunday 15 September. Many spectators lined the banks of the Brisbane River at West End to watch and cheer on the crews.

Boarders’ Bash

After the 1st XV’s home game victory over St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace on Saturday 3 August, thousands ventured across to Edmund Rice Mall for the annual Boarders’ Bash. This event is one of the community’s biggest social events, with both Old Boys and Boarding families travelling from far and wide to be in attendance.
Grandparent’s Day

On Saturday 7 September, grandparents and caregivers of students were invited to the College to enjoy a morning tea with their families in the Boarders’ Dining Room. Hundreds of people turned up to enjoy the delectable spread of sweets, sliders and beverages on offer. The event also coincided with day two of the Dimensions Arts Festival, with many families also venturing across to Tierney Auditorium to enjoy the artworks. Every year this event provides a wonderful opportunity for community members to gather as a family, and for students to share their school with their grandparents.

Mothers’ Christmas Mass & Dinner

This year hundreds of Nudgee College mothers, both past and present, gathered on campus for the annual Mothers’ Christmas Mass and Dinner. The evening began with a Mass in the College Chapel, before the group ventured down to the Christian Brothers’ Conference Centre to enjoy a buffet dinner. It was a wonderful evening of dinner, drinks and dancing. Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary and the Past Mothers’ Association for their organisation of this event.
Open Morning

Due to an increase in registration numbers, this year’s Open Morning was held in the Christian Brothers’ Conference Centre on Tuesday 13 August. Upon registration prospective families were invited to tour the campus with students or staff as their guide, before returning to the Conference Centre for a Q&A panel. This event provided the perfect opportunity to explore the College campus during a regular school day. If you would like to tour the campus in 2020, Open Day will be held on Saturday 16 May and Open Morning will be on 11 August.

Inter-house Showcase

Thousands packed into the Christian Brothers’ Conference Centre on Monday 28 October to witness the culmination of the 2019 Inter-house competition: Showcase. After nine fun-filled performances the judging panel of House parents decided to crown Ross House the winners, for the second year in a row. The crowd also enjoyed the inclusion of a few of the College’s Rock Bands in the program of performances.
Nudgee Long Lunch

On Sunday 11 August, 750 members of the Nudgee College community came together for the fourth annual Nudgee Long Lunch.

Under clear blue skies, the afternoon on Ross Oval featured wonderful local musicians, great food and even better company. Funds raised from the event supported the Ladies’ Auxiliary, who were raising money for the Boarders’ Dining Room refurbishment. A special thank you to our wonderful event lead Ms Alysia Bridger, the Ladies’ Auxiliary and Past Mothers’ Association for helping set the event and selling raffle tickets on the day, Ms Annette Armstrong and Mr Steve Latter from Property and Services, Mr Alfonso Navarro and Mr Steve Lutter from Catering, Mr Raoul Carmody and the AV crew, and the Development and Communications team.

Save the date for next year’s Nudgee Long Lunch - Sunday 9 August! Tickets will go on sale on Friday 3 April 2020.

Ekka Cocktail Party

The second annual Ekka Cocktail Party was held on Wednesday 7 August at the Alliance Hotel. This event celebrates the College’s rich tradition of connecting with rural families, as well as the achievements of the Cattle Club and Show Team as they head into one of their most important shows of the year - the Ekka.

More than 70 people attended, comprising Nudgee College staff, Board members, and parents, supporters and sponsors of the Cattle Club and Show Team.

Chairman of BUSHKIDS Dr Neil Bartels OAM was also in attendance to speak about this organisation, which supports the health and wellbeing of children and families in Queensland’s regional, rural and remote communities. The Cattle Club and Show Team have formed a partnership with BUSHKIDS and raised funds for the charity throughout the year.
Valedictory

The Seniors of 2019 officially marked the end of their Nudgee College journey as students at the annual Valedictory Mass and Dinner on Thursday 14 November.

The evening began with Mass in the McKennariey Centre, which was celebrated by Very Rev Anthony Mellor VF (Dean of St Stephen’s Cathedral).

Following Mass students, staff and families headed to the Christian Brothers’ Conference Centre to enjoy a three course dinner, during which the Year 12s were presented on stage with their graduation certificates. As a symbol of the boys’ transition from students to Old Boys, the Seniors were gifted with NCOba ties. Overall it was a poignant occasion and the perfect way to say goodbye and good luck to the 2019 Year 12 cohort.
Above: Valedictory.
Far left: Christian Thomson, Maggie Shaw and Justin Bunker at Valedictory.
Below: College Captain Hayden Bygott speaking at Valedictory.
‘The Crew’
Premiere

Almost 12 months in the making, The Crew is a groundbreaking full-length documentary that follows one of Australia’s leading rowing crews, Nudgee College. The Crew provides an exclusive look inside the 2019 GPS 1st VIII Rowing season and their journey towards Head of the River, as well as the NSW State Finals and Sydney International Rowing Regatta national schoolboy title race. Before the documentary’s release online, The Crew was premiered to the Nudgee College Rowing community on Wednesday 16 October 2019 at Event Cinemas, Chermside.

The Crew can be viewed on the Nudgee College YouTube channel, and is airing nationally in 2020.

St Joseph’s Rugby Luncheon

It was that time of year again for the old rivalry of Nudgee College and St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace to be celebrated. This year’s sold out St Joseph’s Rugby Luncheon was held at Howard Smith Wharves on the eve of the Nudgee College versus Gregory Terrace round, Friday 2 August. More than 700 guests were treated to laughs by emcee and Triple M radio host Mr Greg Martin, and live art performed and painted by Brad Blaze. The afternoon was another huge success and a great community event, which raised more than $73,000 to be shared by each school’s rugby program. A big thank you to the Nudgee College representatives on the organising committee: Mr Jim Campbell, Mr Dave Clark and Mr Steve Flook.
Dimensions Arts Festival

The 2019 Dimensions Arts Festival was one of the biggest in recent years, with the addition of a brand new event: Dimensions on the Green.

The festival kicked off with the annual Opening Night Gala on Friday 6 September, providing attendees with the first opportunity to view and purchase artworks, as well as enjoy food, beverages and entertainment. The featured guest speaker for this event was Senior Constable Adam Frew. Adam is the founder of Yarrie Yarns, a social change project which shares stories about Indigenous Australians. At the gala he shared a 'yarn' about Year 11 student Trezman Banjo.

The inaugural Dimensions on the Green was held on Sunday 8 September and marked the conclusion of the festival. This family-friendly event featured art activities and music performances in the outdoor Tierney Amphitheatre, as well as drama performances inside Tierney Auditorium. Attendees enjoyed antipasto and beverages as they soaked in the atmosphere and explored the art exhibition.
BASKETBALL

Each year Nudgee College Basketball continues to grow, and 2019 was no exception. This year more than 350 boys competed across 36 teams.

The 1st V kicked off their season with a huge win versus The Southport School (TSS) in Round 1. Although there were plenty of standouts to be mentioned, Basketball Director Mr CJ Massingale said Jaisson Angalo set the tone from the tip-off with his disruptive and tenacious defence. He also commended Mason Davis for his all-round contributions.

In Round 2 the 1st V went down to a strong Brisbane State High School (BSHS) team. CJ said the boys showed some resilience by cutting into the lead during the fourth quarter, and while they were not able to close the gap, the effort was pleasing to see.

The first home game for the season wasn’t until Round 3, which produced an exciting and high-scoring 1st V game versus St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace (GT). A low shot percentage early in the match, however, proved hard to recover from, which resulted in an eventual loss.

CJ said Round 4 against Ipswich Grammar School (IGS) will be remembered as ‘the one that got away’.

“We came out firing, playing in true Nudgee College Basketball style; tough, disruptive defence and running the floor for easy transition buckets,” he said.

“However, after the first quarter IGS began to make shots allowing them to set up their full court press, which put us out of our rhythm.”

This, alongside injuries and multiple fouls eventually led to a close loss.

Round 5 versus Toowoomba Grammar School (TGS) followed a similar formula, with a promising start but an ultimate loss.

After the Round 6 bye, the 1st V rallied to produce a well-deserved win against Brisbane Grammar School (BGS) in Round 7. The team built an early lead playing full court pressure defence to generate turnovers that led to transition baskets. Jaisson Angalo, Thasindu Chandrasekara and Mason Davis led the defence, which CJ said was highlighted by intensity and communication.

In Round 8, the boys managed to secure a 14 point lead late in the second quarter against Brisbane Boys’ College (BBC). However, a flat third quarter and foul trouble proved to be the boys’ downfall, leading to a loss.

Their final game of the season was high-scoring, but in the end Anglican Church Grammar School (ACGS) came out on top.

With many young players coming through the ranks and numerous development opportunities, 2020 is shaping up to be an exciting season of GPS Basketball.
CATTLE CLUB
This year the Nudgee College Cattle Club and Show Team featured several highlights, including the introduction of commercial cattle and the birth of two Droughtmaster bull calves.

The year started with a training weekend at Highfield Park before the team’s first shows of the year at Bell and Warwick.

Term 2 saw the team travel to the Goondiwindi and Roma shows, which allowed the boys to witness authentic country shows, meet industry people and show support to these regions, which are battling through a very unforgiving drought.

In Term 3 the boys completed their annual stint at the Ekka. The first week involved the cattle judging, Junior Judging and Junior Paraders, and in the second week the boys set up a Nudgee College beef cattle exhibit, allowing the public to view the cattle and ask questions. Cattle Club Director Dr Rachel Wilson said this experience provided the boys with a great opportunity to meet and form strong connections with members of the Queensland cattle community. The Ekka also allowed the boys to witness the auction for the commercial cattle they had been preparing all year. The six Angus steers (kindly donated by the Brandenburg family and Austrex Pty Ltd) were sold for about $12,000, which was donated to the Nudgee College Bush Boarding Bursary.

The team finished the year with an excellent showing at the Murwillumbah Show in Term 4.

MUSIC
On Friday 28 June, 32 students, three parents and five teachers embarked on a trip that most will never forget. The students who attended were a part of the Music or Japanese programs.

We departed Brisbane to head to Narita, sharing a buffet dinner at the Sky Restaurant upon arrival. Across the next three days, we explored Hiroshima and spent time learning the language and improving our Japanese skills. Shortly after, we ventured to Osaka where we spent another three days trying new foods and attempting to communicate with traditional Japanese residents. The next day we ventured to Chikuma before spending the final five nights in Tokyo.

One of the highlights was a street side scavenger hunt in Tokyo. Compulsory rules were as follows: groups must wear identical outfits, must have a team mascot, and objectives that require photos must have the entire group in them. This really brought out the boys’ wittiness and competitiveness. Groups of four searched the streets of Tokyo, with 23 objectives in their mind, including:

- A photo with two school girls
- A photo with the most interesting thing in a vending machine
- Buying the cheapest thing in a convenience store with one Yen
- A photo with the most complex kanji you can find
- Finding a dog in a pram or clothes
- A photo using forced perspective
- A video of a dance performance or song

Once concluded, group photos and achievements were compiled and

Clancy Thomas.
shared between groups. Points were
tallied by teachers while students
anxiously waited for the final
standings, with bragging rights at
stake. The winners were Blake Keir,
Simon Vollert, Lachlan Barrett and
Oliver Bryans.

Each day of our trip included walking,
eating and spending. On average,
boys spent roughly 4,000 Yen daily
and received 1,000 Yen daily to
purchase a lunch of our choice.
One of the nights, in fact, the
group shared a 12 course meal
at a traditional Japanese inn in
Kamiyamada. The feast featured
sashimi, gupi, raw egg, steamed beef,
chicken dumplings, minced fish salad,
fish soup, smoked salmon, green tea
and rice. As Kamiyamada is formally
known as the Onsen (hot spring)
town, most of the boys engaged in
the culture and bathed in the onsens.
Another unusual aspect about this
stay was the environment we slept in,
being tatami mats. Most of the boys
enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere
of this stay, which was polar opposite
to the majority of other places
we stayed.

Other things that stood out included
visiting Peace Park in Hiroshima;
which opened our eyes to the
unfortunate effects of the Hiroshima
bombings. Additionally, exploring
Miyajima Island – also known as the
‘island of the deers’ – was another
highlight, where most of the boys
tried the famous maple cakes.
As well as this delicious treat, the
group tried takoyaki (octopus balls),
Pablo cheesecakes and many other
scrumptious, but different foods
across the trip. However, none of
these compared to the Okonomiyaki
cooking class. This experience
enhanced some boys’ cooking ability
(and started it for others).

The Japan trip was also an excellent
chance to immerse ourselves in the
culture by participating in traditional
Japanese activities. Throughout the
course of the trip, we visited many
shrines where boys would use a
water-filled basin called a chōzubachi
to clean their hands and mouth to
purify themselves before entering.
Once inside, we threw coins into a
saisen so that our wishes may come
true. The shrines commonly
featured a place to purchase charms and omikuji
– a paper fortune – to help people in
their future. These charms commonly
featured family, wealth, relationships,
health and luck. Some specific shrines
and temples we visited included the
Fushimi Inari Taisha Shrine, Kinkaku-ji
Temple, Kiyomizu-dera Temple and
Matsumoto castle.

However, we didn’t only immerse
ourselves in Japanese culture; we
shared their music and language
skills. We had the chance to visit and
be shown around two high schools,
where we exchanged gifts and
memories. We were also fortunate
enough to have the opportunity to
give four music performances over the course of the trip. We performed at two shopping centres in Hiroshima. We then took the shinkansen (bullet train) to Osaka, where Year 11 students from Osaka Meisei gave us a tour of their school and showed us traditional Japanese games and toys. In Tokyo, our final school visit and performance at Shimokitazawa Seioku girls’ high school took place and we got to experience some of their after school activities, such as choir and rock group. The locals loved every performance and we were often bombarded with support and questions after each one.

Another highlight of the trip for most of the boys was visiting the largest Pokémon centre in the world. Over the course of the trip, many boys focussed on the amount of money they were spending for just one reason; to buy Pokémon! The majority of the group in fact spent upwards of 10,000 Yen.

Nevertheless, the group thoroughly enjoyed the great opportunity to travel to Japan – it was a journey most will never forget.

OLIVER BRYANS, LACHLAN BARRETT & AL MCEWAN
Year 9

CHESS
The 1st IV finished the 2019 GPS season in fifth place, an improvement from last year’s sixth place. The team produced resounding victories over IGS, TGS and TSS, plus a draw against GT. Their losses for the season were all close, particularly the round versus against BSHS which was 1.5-2.5 and included two large rating upsets.

With a variety of chess camps and competitions for Nudgee College players to take part in during the off-season, the 2020 GPS season is shaping up to be a good one.

Above: William Keewley.
RUGBY

The 2019 GPS Rugby season was one for the history books, but not for the reasons you may think. While the 1st XV finished in third place, the season featured other memorable milestones that can't be recorded on the scoreboard. This season saw the first home game played in front of the refurbished Ross Oval Grandstand, the 1st XV play at Suncorp Stadium, as well as an exciting Rugby Tour to Japan, providing boys with the opportunity to experience the Rugby World Cup. The season officially commenced in Round 1 with an away game against TSS. This re-match of 2018’s Premiership decider ended up going the other way, with a close 21-20 loss.

The Round 2 match provided the 1st XV with the rare opportunity to play at Suncorp Stadium as the curtain-raiser for the Australia versus Argentina Test. The stands were filled with blue and white blazers as the 1st XV produced a strong 62-21 win over BSHS.

In Round 3 the 1st XV managed an exciting 38-31 victory in front of a home crowd at Ross Oval versus GT, before the boys toppled a previously undefeated IGS side in a comprehensive 39-19 win in Round 4. Two more wins against TGS (49-13) and BGS (55-14) led the 1st XV into their Round 8 match versus BBC. A few mistakes in the first half proved tough to come back from, resulting in the boys’ second loss of the season. However, the 1st XV recovered to produce an incredible 62-0 win on Ross Oval in the final round of the season.

THEATRESPORTS

The 2019 Theatresports season for Nudgee College proved to be one of spontaneity, creativity and energy. There was an influx of Year 7 and 8 students keen to compete, allowing the College to enter more teams than previous years in Sit Down Comedy Club’s Queensland Youth Theatresports Competition.

Theatresports Director Ms Alison Kilgour said all Year 7 teams competed with enthusiasm and determination. “These boys persisted and progressed through the heats to the Quarter Finals; a fantastic achievement for first time competitors,” she said, “they should be proud of their performance”.

The Year 9 and 10 teams ended up making it to the Semi Finals. “Each team exhibited wonderful ensemble skills, energy and confidence, which allowed them to perform to their best,” Alison said.

The Senior A and Senior B teams also competed well this season, with Alison commending them for embracing the competition with courage and passion. The Senior A team (pictured top left) of Jamie Dickman, Thomas Walsh, Joshua Price, Matthew Voysey, Owen Mitchell and Parker Prout made it all the way to the Grand Final, which was held at La Boite Theatre on Saturday 26 October.

“Their continual commitment, ability to work as a team and exceptional improvisation skills captured their audience and brought the stage to life,” Alison said. “Congratulations to the team for their performance at the Grand Final and providing a night of entertainment and fun.”

TRACK AND FIELD

This year Nudgee College had the privilege of hosting the Junior GPS Track and Field Championships. On Thursday 31 October, young athletes from all nine GPS schools arrived at Hendry Oval ready to compete.

Captain Nicholas Conway led the way with a win in the 12 Years long jump. Other standout performances included Harrison Beirne's win in both the 10 Years 100m and 200m events, Alex Smith's first placing in the 11 Years 800m, Roman Jones breaking a GPS record with a massive 11.19m throw in the 10 Years shot put, William Campbell's win in the 10 Years discus, and the 12 Years 4 x 100m relay team earning a first place victory in the final event.

After a full day of competition, the Junior team finished in the top spot to win their GPS Championships. Amongst a fierce field of competition, Nudgee College athletes performed admirably, resulting in many individual and team highlights. Ashley Wong had an incredible meet, taking out first place in the 15 Years 100m, 200m and 400m. He also managed to break two GPS records with a 10.90secs run in the 100m, and a 21.55secs one in the 200m. Fellow 15 Years athlete Callum Wallace also managed to break a GPS record with a massive 66.65m throw in the javelin.

Several other standout performances included Trezman Banjo's first place victories in the Open long jump and 200m, Izayha Kelly-West's win in the 16 Years javelin, Ethan Petcos's double win in the 16 Years high jump and long jump, Alex Romano's brilliant run to take out the 14 Years 400m, and Daniel Neal's victory in the 13 Years long jump.

The relay events were an exciting finish to the day, with many places on the ladder relying on those results. The Nudgee College teams put in a huge effort to earn two second places, two third places and a fifth to finish the Championships overall in fourth place.

With many records broken, personal bests achieved and both individual and team victories, the 2019 GPS Track and Field season will go down in the history books as one of success.
Clockwise: Ashley Wong, Harrison Benne, Callum Wallace, Trezman Banja.
We at the Nudgee College Old Boys’ Association (NCOBA) have been very grateful for the wonderful support shown by our Old Boys and the broader Nudgee College family for our recent events and engagement. Whether it was the big reunion weekend, where Nudgee College played St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace on Ross Oval, our annual Friday Night Drinks and Networking Evening at the Port Office Hotel, the Melbourne Reunion lunch in St Kilda, or the annual Golf Championship at Virginia Golf Course, plenty of Old Boys have been crossing paths and re-engaging in big numbers during 2019.

The annual Memorial Mass is also a highlight for many Old Boys and their families, and I thank Mr Vince Rao for his organisation of this event, as well as our entire executive for their ongoing support with our busy annual program of reunions and events.

NCOBA PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It has been a big year for Nudgee College Old Boy Mr William Martin (NC 2013–17) who swam for Australia for the first time at the 2019 World Para Championships. The prestigious swimming event kicked off in London on 9 September, with Martin competing in the men’s 50m freestyle S10, men’s 100m freestyle S10 and men’s 100m butterfly S10.

William returned home with many treasured experiences and learnings from the event.

“I had an amazing time over there and made so many memories I will never forget,” he said.

“I had no idea how big an event it was until I actually raced at it and, now that I’ve had the opportunity to race at a meet that huge, I’ve picked up some new skills that I’ll be putting into practice.”

The opportunities given to William while at Nudgee College are not lost on him.

“My best memories were during Senior year,” he said. “There were so many opportunities available for Seniors to make the most of their last year at the College.”

Moreover, the 19 year old is very aware of the positive peer-to-peer support offered at the College. On his first day of school, his Big Brother Elliot Petracci (NC 2009–13) took him under his wing. Like most young men, William was nervous, but he met with Elliot who took him for a walk around the school to familiarise him with the large campus.

 Likewise, William recounts being a Big Brother himself. Each morning of his Senior year he would go down to the Junior School and catch up with the class of Duggan little brothers.

“This would always brighten up the day,” he said. “All the boys were full of energy and were always after a game of handball in the squares or just a chat about the 1st XV win on the weekend.”

While William appreciated the pastoral experience during school, swimming and sport were a significant part of his Nudgee College journey.

“Each year I was part of a relay in the GPS Swimming team and it felt amazing to get up in front of the entire school to be cheered on,” he said.

“The opportunities offered to me at Nudgee College really helped my career path.”

William’s swimming journey has taken him from the College swimming pool to the London Aquatics Centre. Not content with his results at the 2019 World Para Swimming Championships, William recognises the only way to go is up, so he is back in the pool, training hard before the trials for the 2020 Paralympics in Japan.

The Australian swimmer advises current Nudgee College students to always go that extra mile, and, if there’s ever an optional training session available make sure you always attend it because it is those one per cent things that help you get over the line.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager

OLD BOY SWIMS AT WORLD PARA CHAMPIONSHIPS

We will be making some changes in 2020, and adding some new events to the program, so stay tuned and continue supporting the NCOBA. I am very grateful to the entire Nudgee College community, and I congratulate everyone on what has been a brilliant 2019. I’m really looking forward to further success and camaraderie in 2020.

MR HUGH HAMILTON
NCOBA President
The Young Alumni Lunch was held on Tuesday 5 November for the newest Old Boys to be inducted into the NCOBA. Treasurer Mr Doug Carrigan hosted lunch and unofficially welcomed the 2019 cohort into the NCOBA, before they were formally inducted at the Valedictory Mass and Dinner on Thursday 14 November. It was a relaxed and festive event, celebrating the transition from student to Old Boy and everything the NCOBA life membership offers the boys.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager
When he was in Year 12 at St Joseph’s Nudgee College, Old Boy Matt Crowley (NC 2005–07) played Roger in the College’s musical production of Grease. Fast forward 12 years and Matt is now starring on stages all over the world in the School of Rock musical.

Considering his success, it would be safe to assume that Matt had always planned on a career in the arts; however, after school he ended up enrolling in a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Queensland.

“While I was at university, I started playing guitar and singing in bars with a friend in an acoustic duo,” he said.

“We didn’t have a name. We just covered songs we liked and enjoyed the free drinks.”

The pair started playing at the Indooroopilly and Toowong bowls clubs on Friday nights, and eventually got a gig playing to bigger crowds at Archive Bar in West End.

“The gigs were pretty rowdy and a lot of fun,” he said.

After performing an original song on a web channel, Balcony TV, Matt was contacted by a director and asked to audition for a production of musical Next to Normal. He was awarded the role of Gabe and performed at the Cremorne Theatre, Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) in 2013.

Following that success, Matt was approached by several agencies before signing with Better Management Entertainment Group (BMEG) and moving to Melbourne to pursue further opportunities.

“I snagged small roles on shows such as Molly: The Molly Meldrum Story and House Husbands, and a lead role in the sitcom Fix Her Up, which played on Foxtel and free to air channels,” he said.

In between these gigs Matt performed in bars and at community events, took roles in student and short films, booked other artists for venues and worked part time in a cafe. After about four years, he had the opportunity to audition for School of Rock.

“I think I went in for four or five call-backs,” he said, “and each time I left the room I thought ‘well you tried, mate. Bad luck’, then a little
while would pass, and they'd ask me to come back."

When Matt's agent called him to let him know he had been awarded the role, he reacted with a mix of excitement and disbelief.

"I don't remember what happened next besides a whole lot of incoherent yelling on my end, and some Jerry McGuire-esque jumping on furniture," he said.

From getting the opportunity to travel the world, to the joy of entertaining the masses, Matt said there are many highlights of being in School of Rock.

"My favourite thing about being in the show is getting to try to make people laugh on a daily basis and sing for a living."

"When we're not required at the theatre, we are free to explore and live as we will – the tour of China was a huge adventure."

For students looking at a career in the arts, Matt's advice is to get busy working.

"There are no shortcuts. The people who are really good are good because they trained, practised, played and played and played," he said.

"Make your own work when there's none going around. Write music or plays; put on your own gigs. It doesn't matter if it's not great; you get better by making it, doing it and then refining it."

Matt also advised prospective entertainers to be prepared for rejection, have other things in your life besides performing and, most of all, remember what you love about performing and enjoy it where you can.

Finally, Matt said your integrity, professionalism, personality and work ethic were as important, or more so, than your credits and your headshot.

"In an industry that exists largely without empirical measures of ability and qualification, the impression you leave with people you meet and work with cannot be undervalued," he said.

"If you go home knowing you did your best, you prepared and you conducted yourself well, you can sleep easy and try again tomorrow."

MS TIFFANY KELLER
Editor
Luke Muir hopes to use his incredible tale of survival to inspire others. He had been in a coma for five weeks, doctors had given him a three per cent chance of surviving. His family were preparing to switch off his life support. Then Luke Muir woke up.

Six years ago doctors told Luke ‘Lukey’ Muir’s family there was a three per cent chance he would wake up, and even less of a chance he would live a normal life.

Now the 27 year old proved them all wrong.

The Brighton resident wants to use his experience to inspire and motivate others.

Mr Muir fell off a skateboard while riding down a hill, without a helmet, in 2013. He was 20 and just four weeks away from finishing his carpentry apprenticeship.

"I was in a coma for five weeks," the former Nudgee College student said.

"My family thought I was going to die. They had all come and said goodbye.

"I woke up the day they were going to turn off the life support."

His incredible story of resilience and positive outlook on life was put in the spotlight after being given the opportunity to travel to the Great Barrier Reef with the Yes Theory and team from Spinning The Globe And Flying Wherever It Lands.

The hosts approached Mr Muir while he was working and asked him if he would like to travel to the Great Barrier Reef with them, that night.

Mr Muir said yes.

The video, during which Mr Muir opens up about his journey, has been viewed almost four million times.

Mr Muir said since then he had been inundated with messages from people all around the world saying how his story had changed their lives, given them a new outlook and inspired them.

However, the journey to this point was not easy for Mr Muir. After waking up, doctors told his family he would be brain damaged, never able to walk or talk again.

"I spent six months in hospital, in the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit at the PA Hospital," he said.

"I had to learn to walk, talk, eat, swim – everything."

He said learning how to speak was the hardest part of the recovery process.

"My brain knew I could do it, but I couldn’t physically make it happen. I just kept stuttering," Mr Muir said.

While he can now talk, walk, eat and live independently there are a few lasting side effects from the injury. He walks with a limp due to problems with his left leg, has limited use of his left arm, has no sense of smell and can struggle to retain short term memories.

After six months he was able to leave the hospital. Mr Muir said he can still remember that moment: "I had tears in my eyes."

And he has not looked back since.

"I just want to keep moving forward," Mr Muir said.

He tried to go back and finish his apprenticeship but said he could not remember anything and struggled with the work.

"I qualified for the disability pension but I didn’t want to just sit around at home," Mr Muir said.

He first got a job with HeartKids and now works as a traffic controller.

Mr Muir has also teamed up with Tribe – Social Belonging, in Redcliffe, using his story to inspire other job seekers.

"Being an inspirational story is my ultimate goal at the moment," he said.
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50 YEAR REUNION

The 50 year reunion for the class of 1969 was organised with the help of Mr Stephen Hartigan (NC 1965–69) and myself. The event began with drinks on Friday 13 September at the Port Office Hotel, which ran alongside the NCOBA’s Friday Night Drinks and Networking Evening. This allowed the group the chance to mingle with Old Boys from varying peer years. It also offered the opportunity to hear from Principal Mr Peter Fullagar and special Old Boy speakers Mr Paul McLean (NC 1971) and Mr John Hamilton (NC 1978–82).

The Saturday event was held at the College with a student-led tour of the Museum and College buildings before the last home Rugby game of the season versus Anglican Church Grammar School. Nudgee College won, which set the celebratory mood for the reunion dinner at the Brisbane International Virginia Hotel.

MR DOUG CARRIGAN
NCOBA Treasurer

FRIDAY NIGHT DRINKS AND NETWORKING EVENING

The 2019 annual Friday Night Drinks had a professional element injected into the event this year, with networking opportunities available for attendees.

It was held at the Port Office Hotel, owned by Mr Nick Gregorski (NC 1990–93), with a group of more than 40 Old Boys in attendance who graduated in various years, from 1956 to 2012. Next door was also the 50 year reunion, which created an added layer of atmosphere to the evening.

A special thank you to College representatives who attended the function, Principal Mr Peter Fullagar and Dean of Students Mr Peter Todd, as well as the NCOBA Executive and the special guest speakers Mr Paul McLean and Mr John Hamilton.

MR TONY GLEESON
NCOBA Secretary

SENIOR OLD BOYS’ REUNION

It was a wonderful August morning at the College for our 2019 Senior Old Boys’ Reunion, which started with Mass, followed by morning tea, a College tour and the home Rugby game against Toowoomba Grammar School. The event was shared with our senior Old Boys, family members, Principal Mr Peter Fullagar, current students and our most senior Old Boy Mr Colin Ward (NC 1936–38). It was a special event for Colin, with both his daughters, daughter-in-law and grandson in attendance. A grandstand plaque purchased by his family was also revealed to Colin, uniting him and his grandson Bailey Rye (current Year 7 student) forever in the Nudgee Spirit.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager

Right: Peter Fullagar, Colin Ward and Bailey Rye at the Senior Reunion.
The biggest reunion of the year got off to a perfect start, with Nudgee College bringing home a win over Gregory Terrace 38–31 for the first home GPS Rugby game of the season. Thousands of Old Boys attended the Boarders’ Bash, and then carried on the celebrations with individual reunion gatherings off-site at various restaurants and pubs in the city.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG) REUNION

The NCOBA PNG Reunion was held on Sunday 15 September at Port Moresby’s Airways Hotel, which is owned by Old Boy Sir Theophilus Constantinou CBE (NC 1973–77). The event was a great success, with about a dozen Old Boys attending, all pleased to have the chance to get together and keen for the event to grow. Principal Mr Peter Fullagar, NCOBA President Mr Hugh Hamilton and NCOBA Executive member Mr Aldo Varricchio (NC 1987–91) hosted the event.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager
On Thursday 17 October, the fifth annual Mentoring Breakfast was held in Ryan Hall for current Year 11 and 12 students. One-hundred and fifty students, mentors and staff attended the morning, with students seated with mentors from various fields. Twenty Old Boys attended from industries ranging from psychology to stockbroking. This year’s format was slightly different, with a new open mic concept introduced, where mentors offered career advice to the room. Despite these tweaks to the format, the event kept the same relaxed, informal style of previous years, with students seated on a table a mentor, discussing career paths and opportunities that might be available to them in their chosen field.

The morning was a great success and we hope that this introduction will assist the students moving forward in their careers.

Special thanks to NCOBA Vice President Mr Andrew McNamara, Dean of Students Mr Peter Todd, Director of Pathways Ms Deidre Tyrrell and Pathways Administrative Assistant Ms Belinda Morley for organising the event, as well as Dean of Learning and Teaching Mr Jason Septauc for his attendance and presentation to the Old Boy mentors.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager
MEMORIAL MASS

The NCOBA annual Memorial Mass is arguably the most important event in the Old Boys’ calendar. It is a morning where the community comes together in prayer on All Soul’s Day to show our respect for those we have lost. It is a chance to celebrate the lives of Nudgee College Old Boys, family members, staff and Christian Brothers who have passed away in the previous year. The Memorial Mass was followed by breakfast in the Boarders’ Dining Room and was a wonderful way to come together to support one another and share stories and memories of those who will live on in our hearts forever. Thank you to Mr Vince Rao (NC 1955-56) for representing the NCOBA at this event.

JOHN CURRO AM MBE

The Nudgee College and Australian music communities mourn the loss of the Founder and Director of Music of Queensland Youth Orchestras, Old Boy John Curro AM MBE (NC 1948-49). John passed away at the age of 86 on 6 November 2019 and has left behind a significant legacy within Australia’s orchestra and music education sectors. He is survived by his wife Carmel and their five children. A memorial service will be held at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) on Sunday 22 December for the wider community to honour his life and work.

MS ERINA HITCHINGS
Alumni and Community Manager