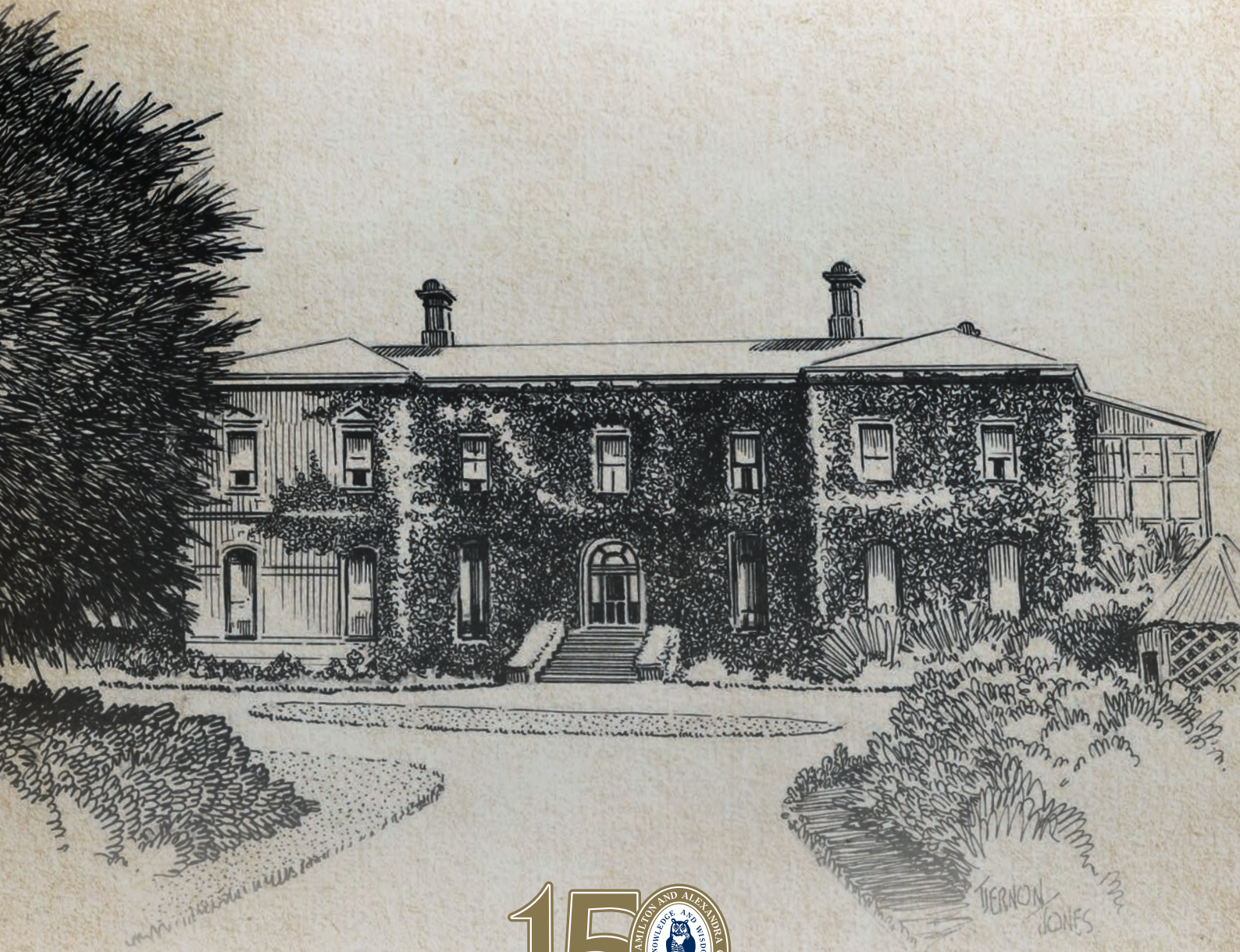


THE IVY & THE TOWER

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAMILTON AND ALEXANDRA COLLEGE NO 79 DECEMBER 2022



*The Hamilton and Alexandra College
Then and Now*



ORIGINAL ETCHING OF ALEXANDRA
COLLEGE DONE BY VERNON JONES,
THE ARTIST WAS THEN A MEMBER OF THE
AIR FORCE STATIONED IN THE ROCKLANS
AREA IN THE ~~EARLY~~ 1940'S. WE HAD ENTERTAIN-
TAINED SOME SERVICEMEN WHO ENJOYED
MUSIC AND THE ETCHING WAS DONE AS A
GIFT TO MISS F.W. BERRY. I WATCHED
THE ARTIST AT WORK DURING ONE
BOARDERS WEEKEND.

Margaret Boyce
(NEE BERRY
OLD SCHOLAR 1937-45)

Front cover: "Original etching of Alexandra College done by Vernon Jones, the artist was then a member of the Air Force stationed in the Rocklans area in the early 1940's. We had entertained some servicemen who enjoyed music and the etching was done as a gift to Miss F.W. Berry. I watched the artist at work during one boarders weekend."

- Margaret Boyce (nee Berry, Old Scholar 1937-45)

Above: Class of 2022, final day of Year 12 dress up morning



THE
HAMILTON
AND ALEXANDRA COLLEGE
CONFIDENT FUTURES

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The Hamilton and Alexandra College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land where our College proudly stands, the Gunditjmarra People. We honour Elders past, present and future in recognition of their strength and resilience we commit to building a brighter future together.



KANTOR MPAC

A stunning facility... a memorable experience

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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'Like' us and follow daily life at the College as well as stories about Collegians past and present.

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@hamilton.college.boarding

@hamilton.college.pf

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Photography: Alana Brown, Liz Crothers, Ashlyn Hiscock and past and current community members



DR ANDREW HIRST, PRINCIPAL 2016-2022

*Farewell and
Thank you
Dr Hirst*

Dr Hirst finished as Principal this year after leading this wonderful school with energy and optimism for seven years.

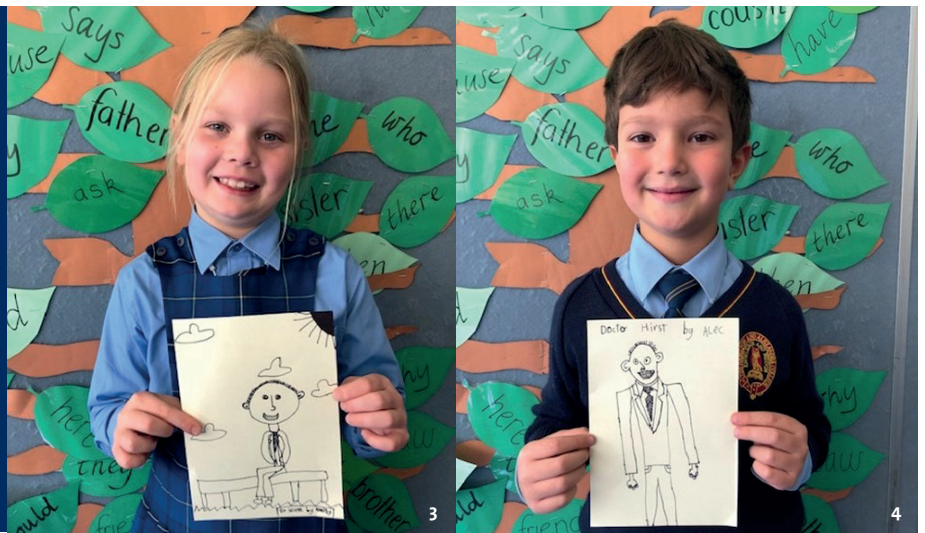
Dr Hirst was farewelled by the Board, staff, students, parents and friends in his final week, with many sharing lovely memories and anecdotes of his time at College. There were some clear themes that stood out in the tributes – a firm handshake, strong eye contact, an incredible capacity to remember names, a passion for history and a wonderful ability to connect with students on their individual interests.

Left: Dr Andrew Hirst 1. School Captain Finlay Cameron 2. Grace Macpherson, Year 11

JUNIOR SCHOOL FAREWELL

In the Junior School, students said farewell at their weekly assembly and Dr Hirst was asked to lead the students in one final 'three cheers' which almost lifted the roof of the Simons Auditorium! Dr Hirst also visited each classroom to say goodbye. Year 1 students drew portraits of Dr Hirst as a farewell gift.

3. Portrait by Daisy Tigges, Year 1
4. Portrait by Alec Palmer, Year 1



STUDENT-LED FAREWELL ASSEMBLY

In the Middle and Senior Schools, students asked if they could lead an assembly honouring Dr Hirst. It was a moving farewell tribute featuring students from every year level. Below are a small number of extracts.

"When Year 7 students first stepped onto the grounds of this school, slightly terrified by the idea of high school, we were warmly welcomed into the care of Dr Hirst. Our fears of settling into a new environment were calmed and he made us feel comfortable and safe. I saw Dr Hirst as an enthusiastic and optimistic leader from the first day I meet him when he looked me in the eye and firmly shook my hand. It has been a privilege to meet him."

Cairo Cullinane, Year 7

"How lucky are we to have a Principal who knows every student by name? I could stand up here and tell you that you have taught me the five values of the school, which you have, but the most significant thing you have taught me is the importance of a firm handshake and looking someone in the eye because it's by doing this that we will always be our true self and that's more important than any maths equation. Wherever the future takes us, we will always have your kindness and compassion as an example to follow."

Archie Prosser, Year 8

"Full of compliments throughout the day, striking up a conversation with almost every student that walks past him and always remembering their previous conversations by paying attention to the detail – that's how I will recall Dr Hirst."

The learning environment we were provided in Dr Hirst's History classes gave us freedom and a space where all questions were welcomed and greeted with a hearty reply pointing out what we had done well and correcting us if we were heading off track. Thank you for being our History teacher, our Principal and an all-round jolly person."

Abby Lazzari, Year 9

"When I was a new Year 6 student it was scary coming up to the big school but then I met our incredibly kind, compassionate and enthusiastic Principal who makes everyone feel at home and welcome."

Arbella Little, Year 10

"My first encounter with Dr Hirst was as Coach of the College U12 Cricket Team in 2017. From the outset it was clear that he was passionate about sport. Poolside, trackside or standing on the side of the footy field you always knew when Dr Hirst was present with his big booming voice cheering us on! Dr Hirst also had an incredible skill and ability in recalling not only students' names but also those of our siblings, parents and grandparents – making everyone he met feel important, valued and connected. I wish you and your family all the very best in your new endeavours."

George Austin, Year 10

"Dr Hirst is the kind of person whose larger than life personality and booming voice can fill the room, however I have always been amazed at how down to earth and welcoming he is. From my first day at College until now, I have marvelled at how Dr Hirst always goes above and beyond to make students and the wider College community feel welcome and valued."

Katie Richardson, Year 11

"Dr Hirst has taught me that passion is the key ingredient in the recipe to success. I was fortunate enough to have Dr Hirst as my Year 9 History teacher and was able to experience his true love for Australian History. Whilst many of our lessons would include energetic singing performances, my favourite being Dr Hirst's rendition of Amazing Grace, his passion for teaching the history of Australia made him both an inspirational and extraordinary teacher."

Grace MacPherson, Year 11

"I was lucky enough to be in your Year 9 History class and was privileged to share in the last ever China Experience that you lead. Dr Hirst, I cannot thank you enough for the impact that you have had on me as an individual since moving to College. I feel like I have grown to become a much more confident person and you taught me the impact you can have on someone's day just from saying a simple hello and holding a short conversation."

Oliver Wortley, Year 12, School Captain 2022

"I had the privilege of being led by Dr Hirst for six years and have been lucky to work alongside him this year. The most important lesson you taught me was what it meant to be proud. Proud of small achievements, of milestones, of a collective, of the school community. Your enthusiasm and constant drive for the best in people was never questioned. You placed the needs of the school and the individual people within it above your own, something that doesn't go unrecognised. You will be dearly missed but will forever be a part of the school's history. Thank you sincerely Dr Hirst and best of wishes with your future endeavours."

Madeleine Green, Year 12, School Vice Captain 2022

DR ANDREW HIRST, PRINCIPAL 2016-2022



Rosie Merrin (Agar 1994), Board Chair

In September it was announced that Dr Andrew Hirst had decided to move back to NSW to be closer to family and to explore new opportunities after seven fulfilling years as Principal of The Hamilton and Alexandra College.

The Board is deeply appreciative of Dr Hirst's dedication, particularly his successful leadership of the College through the very difficult circumstances of a global pandemic. We are heartened by his comment, *"Leading College was one of the great honours of my life. Our student body's authentic nature and enormous potential is our greatest strength. I have been blessed and humbled to play a small part in shaping their future"*.

We pay tribute to Dr Hirst's commitment to student wellbeing with his appointment of the College's first School Counsellor and the restructuring of the pastoral executive. He initiated the Year 10 Central Australia trip and this year launched the Year 9 Micah Experience. A passionate Year 9 History teacher, Dr Hirst encouraged the introduction of more academic rigour into the Year 10 curriculum, extended the Agricultural Science offering and laid

the foundations for Digital Learning Profiles to measure students' personal growth more effectively.

Dr Hirst led a major development of our boarding facilities, the Winifred Berry Library, the uniform shop, Myrniong classrooms and the Year 12 Common Room. He planned and oversaw our very successful Sesquicentenary celebrations this year and launched our philanthropic 'Confident Futures' campaign. Dr Hirst worked tirelessly to re-energise connections with all stakeholders including Old Collegians, the College Foundation and the Parents and Friends Association. All will miss his trademark warmth and good humour.

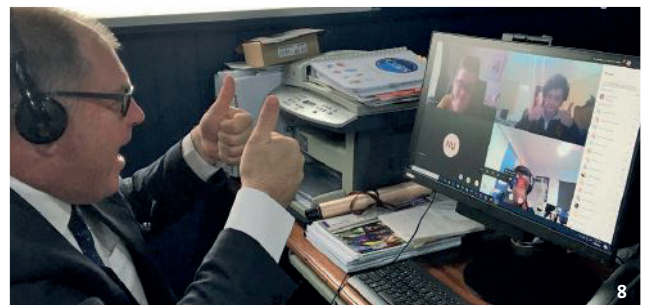
At Speech Day this year we were pleased to inaugurate the Dr Andrew Hirst Prize for Australian History, to be awarded annually in honour of Dr Hirst's significant contribution to our school. In 2022 this award went to Alexa Balog.

WE SALUTE DR HIRST AND WISH HIM, KRISTINA AND THE HIRST FAMILY THE VERY BEST FOR THE FUTURE.

1. Reading to Junior School students with Arthur Adamson (left) and Harriet Small (right) 2. With Magnus Howells, Harrison Hocking and Alyssa Hocking, all from the Class of 2021 3. At the whole school Sesquicentenary Assembly in February 2022 with (back) Old Collegians' Association President Hugh Koch, former Foundation President Jock Serong, former P&F President Keri Ross, Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning Susan Bradbeer, Deputy Principal Wellbeing Kristen Waldron, (front) former Board Chair Alasdair Sutherland and respected Gunditjmara/Boandik Elder Uncle Johnny Lovett 4. On the Year 10 Central Australia trip in 2018 5. Leading Junior School students in 'three cheers' and an epic hat throw to conclude the Mad Hatter's Tea Party as part of the College's Sesquicentenary celebrations 6. On the microphone at the Senior School House Swimming Sports 7. Getting into the spirit with Harley Kearns (now in Year 6) at the Junior School House Athletics Sports 8. Teaching Year 9 History via remote learning during COVID lockdown 9. At the opening of the Boarding House Year 12 wings in 2019 with The Hon Dan Tehan MP and 2019 School Captains Bella Bradbeer and James Sutherland



"LEADING COLLEGE WAS ONE OF THE GREAT HONOURS OF MY LIFE. OUR STUDENT BODY'S AUTHENTIC NATURE AND ENORMOUS POTENTIAL IS OUR GREATEST STRENGTH. I HAVE BEEN BLESSED AND HUMBLLED TO PLAY A SMALL PART IN SHAPING THEIR FUTURE". Dr Andrew Hirst



OUR MILESTONE YEARS, THEN AND NOW

150 YEARS OF TRADITION AND ASPIRATION

The following information is taken from *Defying the Odds*, the new College history book by School Historian and Past Deputy Principal Neil MacLean, the archives and past editions of *The Ivy and The Tower*.



1954 Farewell Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

On 26 February 1954, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip visited Hamilton. What an auspicious occasion it was for the town. Boys from Hamilton and Western District College and girls from Alexandra College joined thousands of other students marching to Melville Oval. The Queen and Prince Philip were then driven along the rows of cheering schoolchildren. Many Alexandra College students were involved in making sandwiches for people who had travelled long distances.

Above: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip at Melville Oval with Alexandra College in the background

1971 Centenary celebrations

The JLC Young Oval at Myrniong was formally opened as part of the Centenary celebrations, although the collapse of scaffolding where students were seated attracted more publicity! Fortunately, there were no serious injuries and the celebratory weekend attracted many former students to admire the school's developments and remember past days. Tours, displays, a formal dinner and other events took place over three days.

Left: Centenary Formal Dinner, 1971, Centenary Garden Party, 1971



1980 Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Head of the Junior School Ann Scott was creative at organising events and including school families and the broader community. Ann organised several special events in the 1980s which featured the Myrning Homestead and garden: the Mad Hatter's Tea Party which was part of an Alice in Wonderland Happening (1980), the World of Beatrix Potter (1981), Peter Pan (1983) and the World of Christopher Robin (1984). It was wonderful to recreate the Mad Hatter's Tea Party as part of our Sesquicentenary celebrations this year.

Photos courtesy of the Evans family, left: Mad Hatter's Tea Party, 1980. Neil MacLean (Past Deputy Principal Operations and School Historian) in top hat



2006 135th celebrations

The College community celebrated 135 years on 8 April 2006. The day began with Memories at Myrning where children dressed in costume and played old fashioned games on the JLC Young Oval at Myrning. Lunch was then held for 180 guests including past Principals, Old Collegians and past and present parents and staff in the Murray Performing Arts Centre. Guests were treated to a fashion parade of students dressed in school uniforms from the archives.

Left: Guests enjoying the 135th Lunch, 2006; Tip Hutton (Cape 1927) and Billie Stewart (Fraser 1929) cutting the 135th birthday cake; Sam Balson (2011) and Lachie Holcombe (2018) wearing Hamilton and Western District College uniforms



2022 Sesquicentenary celebrations

This year the College celebrated 150 years of providing quality, independent education for boys and girls in the Western District. Celebrations were held over two action-packed weekends. In March, the Mad Hatter's Tea Party and the Long Lunch were held. In May, the College History Book 'Defying the Odds' Launch, the 'A Million Stories' Exhibition Launch, the Musical Showcase, the Exhibition Hockey Match, the Gala Ball and the Community Golf Day were held.

It has been a wonderful year of reflection and the College is excited to engage with more Old Collegians and members of the College community as we dive into the next 150 years.

Left: Year 2 table at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Margaret Brumley (1945) and Dion Love (1990) cutting the cake at the Sesquicentenary Gala Ball, Michael Woodward (1972) on saxophone with College students William Mackellar (Year 9), Harry Dorahy (Year 9) and Alexa Balog (Year 12), Rod MacGugan (1968) and Clive Whitehead enjoying the Long Lunch.

Defying the Odds

EXTRACT FROM CHAPTER ONE: BEGINNINGS

By the mid-to-late 1860s, Hamilton was an established town of some prominence. ...significant buildings had been erected for the post office, the Mechanics Institute and several of the churches and banks. There were several flour mills, tanneries, the Hamilton Coach Factory and the Western District operations of Cobb & Co. Defined roads were increasingly the norm.

From the middle of the 1860s, there were calls for the establishment of a boys' college so that locals would not have to travel to Melbourne or Geelong (or even overseas) for an education past elementary levels. ...October 1870, there had been discussions about the need for a girls' school.

In three years, three schools had been created...

- The Hamilton Academy for boys opened in late January 1870
- Hamilton and Western District College for boys opened for the new school year on 22 January 1872 (its foundation stone laid was laid on 6 February 1871)
- Alexandra College for girls opened on 12 February 1872 (it was named in honour of the Princess of Wales)



To purchase a copy of
Defying the Odds go to:
<https://tha.ac/150-historybook>

CELEBRATING OUR GENERATIONAL FAMILIES

TREASURED KEEPSAKES

To celebrate the wonderful families have graced this historic institution for generations, we offered College families the opportunity to have generational photos taken in the 150-year-old Tower Building as part of our Sesquicentenary celebrations.



FRASER FAMILY: Brothers John Fraser (1949) and Robert (Bobby) Fraser (1960) with family members: John's son Rob Fraser (1988), daughter-in-law Penny Fraser (Fyfe 1991) and granddaughter Lucy Fraser (Year 8); Robert's daughter Jo Frost (Fraser 1991), son Tim Fraser (1988) and grandchildren Chloe Frost (Year 10) and Angus Frost (Year 8)

Pictured as follows: *back* Chloe Frost, Penny and Rob Fraser, Jo Frost, Tim Fraser, Lucy Fraser; *front* John Fraser, Angus Frost and Robert (Bobby) Fraser



RENTSCH FAMILY: Oswald (Ossie) Rentsch (1947) with grandson Johann Rentsch (Year 11) and son Graham Rentsch (1980)



FUNK FAMILY: William Funk (1965) with granddaughter Holly Quinn (Year 8) and daughter Claire Quinn (Funk 1999)



STEWART FAMILY: Robert Stewart (1956) with daughters Phoebe Giles (Stewart 1998) (left) and Georgie Broeren (Stewart 2000) (right) and grandsons Robert (Bobby) Giles (Year 1), Charles Giles (Piccino, ELC4) and Harry Broeren (Prep)

OLD COLLEGIANS' ASSOCIATION

Hugh Koch (1989), President

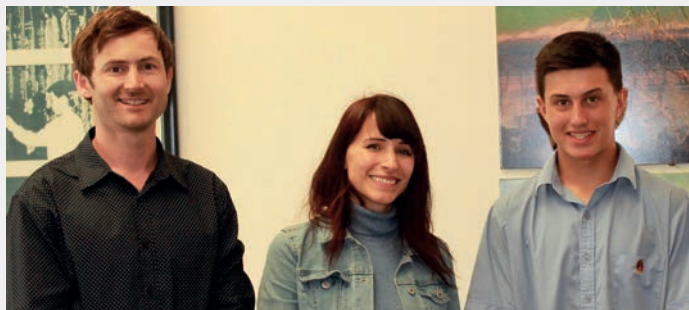
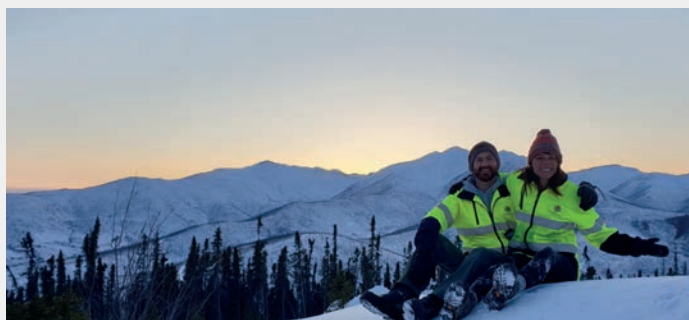
Our 150th celebrations just sang! The OCA wishes to acknowledge the enormous contribution and effort of the entire school community to with special thanks to the Sesquicentenary committee and volunteers who worked hard behind the scenes. We were particularly delighted to restart our reunion program and welcome back the Classes of 1990, 2002 and 2012 and others to explore what the College looks like in 2022.

The opportunities for so many to reconnect with the College this year gives us the momentum to build future activities and programs.

We look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to support the school to build our relationships, increase our connections, grow our enrolments and encourage greater philanthropic investment that will be essential to position College for a successful future.

We also wish to acknowledge the support of our outgoing Principal Dr Andrew Hirst in implementing changes to the Community Relations team that provides extra administrative support to the OCA.

A very happy and safe Christmas to you all.



EVERY JOURNEY IS INTERESTING!

Our students and teachers love to have alumni drop in and share their story. For our students, hearing about different career opportunities can really open their eyes and it is always more exciting when it comes from someone 'outside school' who has been in your shoes. A sincere thank you to the following Old Collegians have shared their stories with our senior students recently.

Doug Ball (2006) – A confident future in Engineering

Doug grew up near Cavendish and his wife Ash grew up in the Adelaide Hills. They are now living and working in Alaska where Doug is a Mine Superintendent and Ash is a Project Exploration Geologist. In their roles, they have travelled the world, worked with people from hundreds of different countries and cultures and challenged themselves in their careers. Thank you Doug and Ash.

Left: Doug and Ash in Alaska
Doug and Ash with Luke Pickering (Year 10)

Hannah Nichols (2018) – A confident future in Ecology

After spending a GAP year as a governess on a drought-stricken station in Northern New South Wales, Hannah's passion for endangered Australian animals became evident and she changed her university preference. She has now completed her Undergraduate Degree in Science, majoring in Ecology at UTAS. While studying online Hannah returned to New South Wales to work with Wild Deserts to track, monitor and release bilbies. She is about to undertake an Honours project studying threatened species and has some exciting plans for the coming year. Keep us posted Hannah!

Left: Hannah working with bilbies
Hannah with Maddie Green (Year 12)

SHARE YOUR
journey

We invite all Old Collegians to share your post-school story with our current students, either in person or online. We would love to hear from you. Please email Alana Brown, Director of Community Relations abrown@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au

COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Penny Adamson (Satchell 1994), President

Established in 1992, The Hamilton and Alexandra College Foundation honours our past and secures our future. It enhances a culture of giving and raises funds to support financial security and provide aspirational educational opportunity for all students by implementing strategic philanthropic initiatives.

MEET THE FOUNDATION BOARD

President, Penny Adamson (Satchell 1984 and current parent) works in high-end residential and lifestyle real estate. Penny's family lives in Yambuk.

Vice President, Hugh Macdonald (1977 and past parent) has managed several businesses and is a primary producer at Bochara.

Marcus Winter Cooke (1978 and past parent) has been on the Board since its inception and is a primary producer at Tahara.

Basil Brock (past parent) is a managing partner at an Accountants & Business Advisor firm in Warrnambool.

Bill Crawford (1970 and past parent) is a primary producer at Victoria Valley.

Dale Ford (past parent) is a doctor and the Chief Medical Officer at Western District Health Service in Hamilton.

Sandy (Alexander) Johnson (1955) is a construction consultant based in Melbourne.

Alex Robinson (current parent) is an owner and director of a bespoke architectural windows business and lives in Warrnambool.

Graham Linke (past parent) owns a local real estate and property valuation business and has worked across South West Victoria for over 30 years.



Acting Principal Kristen Waldron, Foundation Vice President Hugh Macdonald (1977), Foundation President Penny Adamson (1984), Board Chair Rosie Merrin (Agar 1994), Marcus Winter Cooke (1978), Graham Linke and Bill Crawford (1970) at the Foundation Board meeting in October 2022; Board members who attended the meeting via Zoom were not able to be in the photo.

Thank you

The Foundation has contributed to the development and growth of school infrastructure and scholarship funds, supporting significant development that school fees alone cannot cover. I sincerely thank each member of the College community who has

generously given to the Foundation. Through philanthropy we can build on the extraordinary 150-year history of The Hamilton and Alexandra College to ensure that our students are learning the skills they need for future careers and industries.

150 CLUB

This year, we launched the 150 Club, a program dedicated to funding Tower Scholarships. We are enthusiastic about supporting worthy students and are proud that so many alumni scholarship recipients have made a profound impact on society. Thank you to those who have already joined the 150 Club and we welcome everyone to support this *extraordinary* program that helps students to access an *extraordinary* education.

150 Club members give a tax-deductible donation of \$1,200 per year and commit to supporting the program for three years. If we reach this goal, it will provide 36 years of independent education through the Tower Scholarship program.

We would welcome you to connect with us or introduce us to others in your network who may also be interested in learning more.

MEET SOME OF OUR NEW 150 CLUB MEMBERS

"We feel the importance of giving, no matter how small or large. It can make a huge impact on the lives of students in need and allow young people to realise their true potential for future education."

Min and Harry Youngman

"I am proud to be an 'Old Girl' and to this day I still have many friends from College. My daughter Georgie was also a student and absolutely loved her time at the College. Joining the 150 Club has given me a great thrill to provide an opportunity for other children to enjoy such a beautiful school and access a quality education. Being part of this program feels good!"

Lorraine Wearne (Hobbs 1959) with daughter Georgina Wearne (2008)

"I joined the 150 Club as I strongly believe in the concept of the Tower Scholarship program. If receiving a Tower Scholarship makes it possible for a child to attend The Hamilton and Alexandra College, then that child will have an education and opportunities offered that may not otherwise have been within reach."

Roslyn Law

Penny and Nick Adamson and Rosie and David Merrin were inspired to join the 150 Club after meeting some scholarship recipients. They are proud supporters of a College education as an irrevocable gift to the next generation.

Rosie Merrin (Agar 1994) and Penny Adamson (Satchell 1984)

Save the Date

FOUNDATION CELEBRATION AND APPRECIATION EVENING

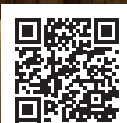
Friday 28 April, 2023 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm

The Hamilton and Alexandra College Senior School

This will be a special event to say 'thank you' and to welcome all new members and recognise significant contributors to our Foundation. This will be a wonderful opportunity to mingle with Foundation supporters and hear from scholarship recipients who, without your generous support, could not enjoy a College education.

If you are interested in joining the Foundation Board or the 150 Club or have any questions or ideas for our Foundation strategic direction, I would love to hear from you. Please call me at any time on 0407 600 767 or email Alana Brown, Director of Community Relations abrown@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au Warm regards to all! Penny.





We are thrilled to announce that **More Food with Friends** is now being stocked through Collin Booksellers. This really is a nod to the quality of this amazing product and the recipes. If you would like one for yourself or a Christmas present, go to <https://tha.ac/more-food-with-friends> or use the QR code.

PARENTS' & FRIENDS'

Mandy Nagorcka (Mack 1996), President

I feel privileged to have taken on the role as P&F President last term, working closely with P&F Vice President Zoe Price, Treasurer Stacey Balkin and Secretary Sarah Baker. I am a proud Old Collegian and have three boys at College, in Prep, Year 4 and Year 7. I would like to thank the executive teams of the past for creating such a fabulous example of what passionate parents can achieve to support our children and their school and how parents can connect and become part of a wonderful school community. I sincerely thank Sarah Baker for her work as P&F Secretary over the past two years. She has been a dream to work with; always positive, pragmatic and willing to pitch in. Sarah and her family are returning to their roots in Adelaide. Sarah you will be missed!

P&F ACTIVITIES ARE BACK

How wonderful it is to be back in the swing of 'friendraising' and fundraising for our incredible school. After P&F activities largely ground to a halt over the COVID lockdown years, spirits have been lifted through a number of opportunities to get involved *in person*!

The **Sheepvention raffle** raised well over \$1,500 and is always a drawcard for past and present parents and alumni to pop into the College marquee. Thank you to the families that supported this initiative through donations and selling tickets.

Congratulations to the team behind our **beautiful cookbook, More Food With Friends**. It continues to be sold in locations far and wide, with one even sent to Poland.



1. College parents, P&F Treasurer Stacey Balkin, P&F President Mandy Nagorcka (Mack 1996) and P&F Vice President Zoe Price 2. College parents Danielle Thomas and Penny Stewart 3. College parents Amanda Adamson and Narelle Hill

College Christmas Cakes are back on and, as always, it is a merry band of College parents that bring these cakes to fruition. This is one of the P&F's biggest annual fundraisers and, after a two-year hiatus, we are thrilled that our loyal customers are coming back to purchase the tried and tested fruit cake recipe. They are selling quickly!

The P&F is always welcoming of new initiatives, particularly those that encourage parents getting together. Recently Kate Novikov ran a **hot dog lunch for the Myrniong Footy Colours Day** on the last day of Term 3 and we thank her for putting this together. It was a giant hit with the students!

Several parents also suggested a **second-hand uniform sale** and we quickly put this into action with a sale held at both the Junior and Senior Schools. Thank you to everyone who donated and supported on the days.

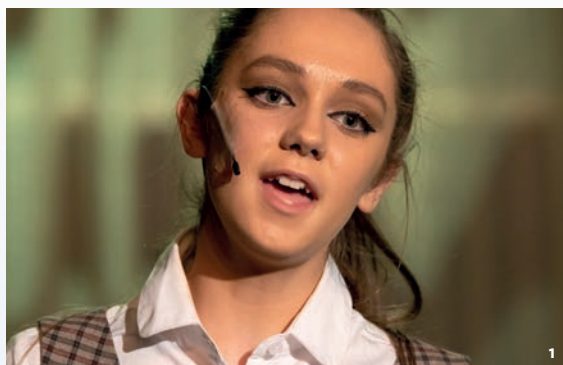
Next year, we will be focusing our efforts on **fundraising for a new outdoor space** at the Middle Years Positive Education Centre. Part of this process will be working with staff, students and a landscape architect specialising in school spaces. This is an exciting opportunity to develop a space that will provide students with quiet areas, engaging activities and wellbeing initiatives incorporating the environment around them and structures that potentially encourage physical activity and emotional wellbeing.

With Christmas around the corner, the P&F wishes the College community a safe and happy summer period. Community and connections are what makes this school so special, and we want to continue building on this and welcoming everyone to get involved!



Cakes are for sale once again at the Rox Café (Roxburgh) and Tosca Browns or you can pop in to see Fiona at the Senior School reception in the Tower Building or email the P&F directly at paf@hamiltoncollege.vic.edu.au





Bonita Silva, Director and Head of Drama

After seeing Broadway's 'When I Grow Up,' I knew 'Matilda' was a must for the Kantor Family Music and Performing Arts Centre. With such dynamic and colourful characters, it was a dream to cast, design and direct. Tim Minchin's eclectic style of composition was both challenging and exciting, providing a lavish variety in musical styles which our musicians and performers relished.

From top notch auditions we selected a beautiful mix of experienced performers and up-and-comers that included students from Years 7 to 12. The cast was a dynamic bunch who proved to be committed, enthusiastic and skilled. In true College style they supported each other from our first rehearsal to our last.

The relationships formed in a cast like this are very special in secondary schooling. When like-minded performers with a passion

for the arts come together it is inspiring. With the majority of our cast not having had the chance to be on stage for three years, a lot of support was needed and I commend the senior students on the way they mentored the cast.

I thank everyone involved from the beginning to the end. It takes a dedicated support crew to pull off a full-scale musical! Each and every performer absolutely blew me away! With the talent coming up through the year levels, I am excited to see what the future brings to the stage at The Hamilton and Alexandra College.

I am always sad to see a show season end, however I can't wait to start the next one.



1. Matilda Wormwood played by Sarah Crowle (Year 8) 2. Bruce Bogtrotter played by Cairo Cullinane (Year 7) 3. Miss Agatha Trunchbull played by Hettie Byrne (Year 12)
4. Matilda cast 5. Michael Wormwood, Mr Harry Wormwood and Mrs Zinnia Wormwood played by Finley Hiscock, Daisy Herman and Jorja Herman.

SPORTING CELEBRATION

GLENELG DISTRICT TRIPLE CROWN!

College was thrilled to take out the prestigious Triple Crown (Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country) for the second year in a row. A wonderful result in our 150th year and the first time in the College's history to achieve back-to-back Crowns!



DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Thank you Leigh Alexander

Leigh has decided to step down as the Director of Sport after 16 years. What a way to finish with back-to-back Triple Crowns! Leigh's focus has been on participation and sportsmanship and he has invested everything into our program. He has overseen more than 20 sports and has led countless athletes to represent College at different levels of competition. Leigh will continue to teach PE at College and will be involved with a number of sporting teams.

Welcome Elly Dixon

Elly Dixon will be joining College from Trinity Grammar in Kew at the start of 2023. Elly has a passion for supporting cross-age participation and the learning that occurs through co-curricular activities. She has managed teams in tennis, athletics, middle distance running and snow sports and has led outdoor education trips and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Elly's personal interest in health, wellbeing and resilience will be a fabulous asset to College.



STAFF FAREWELL

FAREWELL FRAN AGAR

Fran is retiring after a long and passionate career as an educator. Fran has taught at College for 21 years, in the Maths, Science and Learning Enhancement faculties. Fran's clear and patient advice has supported countless students to reach goals that may have otherwise been out of their reach. Come exam time, students can be found knocking on Fran's door for support with their preparation.

College parents have appreciated Fran's welcoming approach and her genuine interest in and care for their children. She has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to keep up with the latest in policy, programs and funding, including the introduction of the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data. Fran is always organised, clear and accommodating and she has worked collaboratively with colleagues to provide advice on the best ways to meet their students' learning needs.

Fran's passion for the College community has been on show in so many ways, from her involvement with Parents and Friends while her own children attended College to playing piano and singing with the choirs and as part of House Music competitions.

I wish Fran all the best for her retirement and I'm sure her days will be filled with family, garden, music and her many and varied interests.

Valetta Bolton, Learning Enhancement Teacher

STAFF FAREWELLS



Frances with Lucy Wall and Sophie Taylor (Piccolo, ELC 3)

**"I LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT MRS O'BRIEN.
SHE IS REALLY NICE AND FUNNY."**

Ted Bufton, Piccino, ELC 4

FAREWELL FRANCES O'BRIEN

Like my family, many in our College learning community have been lucky enough to have Frances as an early childhood educator and a 'significant other' on a shared journey of learning. By my calculations, she has positively impacted over 400 young lives during her 15 years at College, helping them communicate with the world and overcome obstacles by using their potential, strengths and language.

A hallmark of Frances' teaching has been the deep connections she has fostered between children, culture and education. In 2018, Frances travelled to Reggio Emilia in Italy on a study tour, returning invigorated with ideas for shaping the future of the ELC. Over the past four years, those ideas have resulted in an amazing learning environment which nurtures students who are strong, powerful, competent, rich in potential and, most of all, connected to their environment, adults and other children.

Frances is leaving a lasting legacy and she will be dearly missed by her colleagues and College families.

Stephen Nelson, Head of Junior School



Kate with Year 12 student Harry Mould

FAREWELL KATE COUCHMAN

Kate stepped into a newly formed role as School Counsellor and has been an inspiration and a trailblazer in this area for College. Kate is always approachable and we will be eternally grateful for her patience, empathy, professionalism and passion for supporting and guiding students of all ages.

Kate is highly respected for her proactive and positive approach to improving mental health. She was constantly on the lookout for opportunities and programs that would support our students and she was able to connect students into appropriate services and the wider community. Kate's work with the Standing Tall program has enabled many young people to find connections and purpose. Her genuine concern and active listening gave students confidence to express their anxieties and feel like they had an ally. Kate was also a fabulous English teacher and took students who lacked confidence into a world of reading and language.

We will miss Kate, not only for her work with our students but as a respected and admired colleague and a friend to so many. We wish her every happiness as she makes her new role an amazing success.

Helen Reiher, Head of Senior Years



Yang with Year 10 students Daniel Su, Bella Chow and Muirne Reilly

FAREWELL YANG LIU

In 2017, a beautiful, gentle and softly spoken Chinese teacher joined our College community. Since then, Yang has made a huge impression on our school. She is a passionate and dedicated educator who wants the best for each of her students. It was not uncommon for Yang to work many additional hours to ensure her students reached the highest possible standard and she regularly offered support in the Boarding House.

Yang has willingly dedicated her time to translate documents for the College and support our international families. This has been greatly appreciated and our international students are incredibly thankful for all she has done to ensure their time at College was a happy and positive one. Yang was a key supporter of the Year 9 Experience and travelled to China on three occasions to lead the students through this amazing opportunity. She has supported our basketball program and enjoyed playing squash recreationally. We know Tosca Browns and The Rox will miss her patronage.

We are so sad that Yang is leaving College to return to Melbourne and we feel very fortunate to have had her in our lives. A special friend forever.

Kristen Waldron, Acting Principal and Helen Reiher, Head of Senior Years

We also farewell Mrs Bonita Silva, Head of Drama and Learmonth House and Ms Matilda McGoon, Head of Hospitality, VET and Clay Target Shooting. Messages for Bonnie and Matilda will be in the next edition of *The Ivy and The Tower*.

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 2012

10-Year Reunion, Saturday 8 October



Back: Monty McLindon, Jaques Touzeau and Christian Nagorcka **3rd row:** Dominique Gordon, Amanda Horne and Bowes Kelly **2nd row:** Alex Warner, Maddie Lowe, Nina Wootton, Clara Shepherd, Jessie Barnes and Sarah Wilson **Front:** Jack Hand, Declan Murphy, Hamish Verco, Alisha Frankenburg, Katrina Rentsch and Nicola Symons

CLASS OF 2002

20-Year Reunion, Saturday 22 October



Back: Tom Giles, Claire Crossfield (Roll), Guy Robertson and Kellie Hamilton (Tobias) **3rd row:** Pete Fraser, Nic Dacomb, Emily Janze (Rooke), Bec Cameron (Addinsall) and Emily Pearce (McTaggart) **2nd row:** Fi Clift (Mack), Kate Holcombe, Warrick Southwell, Alexandra McLeod, Clare Campbell and Paddy Milne **Front:** Sarah Bull (Sutherland), Jane Crozier, Emily Furze-Smith, Penny Edwards (Griffin) and Max Jahufer



Richard Gough,
Kate Holcombe,
Bec Cameron (Addinsall)
and Alexandra McLeod

COMMUNITY NEWS



CHRISTINE WOODS (2017) (pictured centre) caught up with the Year 10 Central Oz tour group in Alice Springs

BIRTHS

CRAWFORD: WILLIAM (2005) and **PRUE (MCINTYRE 2008)**, a son George Lindsay Crawford on 14 January 2022 – a brother for William

CROZIER: ANDREW (2005) and Melissa, a son Jed David on 18 May 2022 – a brother for Harvey

STAUDE: HANNAH BENSCH (2013) and Murray, a daughter Charlotte Elizabeth on 5 August 2022

CHIVERS: FIONA COULSON (2002) and Mark, a daughter Maeve Emma on 9 October 2022 – a sister for Hazel

BOTTERILL: THOMAS (2006) and Claire, a son Louis Thomas Geoffrey on 30 April 2022

DEATHS

NIGEL JACKSON (TEACHER 1974–1977) in July 2022

ANNE KANTOR AO on 14 September 2022

One of Australia's leading philanthropists, Anne was an avid supporter of environmental, Indigenous, social justice, arts and educational organisations. Mrs Kantor and her late husband, Dr Milan Kantor AOM, were true lovers of music and The Hamilton and Alexandra College is grateful and honoured to have the incredible Kantor Family Music and Performing Arts Centre facility at the Senior School.



THE
HAMILTON
AND ALEXANDRA COLLEGE

CONFIDENT FUTURES

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