



Supermoon over Assumption College



SHANDON CALLS

The Magazine of Assumption College | Autumn 2019

CONTENTS

Principal's Welcome	3
Assumption's Special Guests	4
Boarding Through the Generations	5
Introducing our 2019 College Captains	6
31st Annual Queenscliff Reunion	7
'Dougjie's Lunch' Still Making a Difference	8
Our Campaign for the Future	10
Assumption College Old Collegians Association	12
Vale Bernie McCarthy	13
Vale Brother Eugene	14
Vale Nigel Engel	15
In Memoriam	15
Staying Connected	16
Where are they now?	18
Prahran – Assumption Football Club	19

Next Edition

Deadline for inclusion of news and/or event items in the next Shandon Calls is **26 April 2019** (Winter Edition).

Contributions are included space permitting and will be edited for clarity and length.

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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

In Marist schools across Australia, the shared theme of 'Wholly Holy' is guiding our steps in 2019. It's an ambitious project to be 'wholly holy' as a school community and as individuals within that community. Our focus is to find simple moments in each day where we can live our call to 'seek the things that are above' with a little more kindness, peace and joy, and to celebrate these moments for the gift that they are.

As with every school, the College continues to evolve and develop with each and every passing year. Now with 1200 students from neighbouring towns and 72 boarders (a significant proportion of whom are weekday boarders) the College is committed to offering a quality Catholic education to the families of our region.

We are also preparing for further growth with significant housing estates opening up in the northern corridor of Melbourne at

both Wallan and Beveridge. The Advisory Council, in conjunction with Catholic Education Melbourne, is currently planning an increase to the student population, seeing the school educating around 1600 students by 2027. In time, new Catholic schools will open to the south and some of this will ease, but as with times gone by, we will continue to meet our now 126 year responsibility, to ensure all families in these parts who seek a Catholic education have the opportunity to do so.

In many ways, the College has come full circle in 2019, with the opportunity for us to host the 162 students and staff from Our Lady of the Way Primary School during first term. As you would know, Assumption began with primary aged children in its classrooms and playing fields, so it has been a great privilege to have them amongst us once again. We hope you enjoy the article about the past students of Assumption who are now

dropping off their prep children at the big Assumption gates on Sutherland Street!

In the coming months you will hear more about the Building Greatness Appeal to raise funds for a new Community and Sports Pavilion next to the Carroll Oval. We are on the way to our \$3.5million target, and hope that you will consider joining us in developing an outstanding new resource for our community. The education you received relied on the donations of those who came before, and we invite you to leave a legacy that allows another generation to do the same.

Please 'save the date' of the weekend of November 1-3 for a significant community event to be held at the College of which more will be revealed shortly.

Peace and Blessings

Kate Fogarty





ASSUMPTION'S SPECIAL GUESTS

Assumption College welcomed more than just its own new staff and students in 2019.

Due to a delay in the final construction works of the eagerly anticipated Our Lady of the Way Primary School in Wallan, its students and staff were unable to start the year in their new location.

Our Lady of the Way Principal Terry Cooney was in a bit of a dilemma. Having just moved out of co-located space at St Patrick's Primary School at the end of 2018, Terry literally had nowhere to go.

Fortunately, Assumption College stepped in and offered Terry seven classrooms and an administration area for the first term of 2019, to bridge the gap.

"We were advised on January 22 that we would not be gaining access on January 28 and it was a further blow to be told we could not expect the keys until March 4," Terry said.

"Principal Kate Fogarty described what she has done as a 'no-brainer' but it has been extremely generous and just illustrates what a great community of understanding and awareness Assumption College is."

Kate and Terry toured the College and found that the Montagne Centre would offer the best area for the primary school, taking into account it could be separated from older students and provide an inclusive and accessible space for young students and their families.

"The work done by Kate and many others including Jen Dean (Business Manager, Operations), Vaughan Cleary (Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching) and Trudi Smith (Timetable Administration) has been amazing and all of them have been so happy to help," Terry said.

With special thanks also to Des Langdon (Maintenance Manager) and his team for moving all the furniture!

"In fact, all I have heard from everyone has been that it is so nice to have us here and the Assumption students have been great and nothing but respectful."

Terry acknowledges that it has not been an easy start to the year and applauds his staff for their 'flexibility, adaptability, patience and understanding.'

"They have been awesome and we have done this as a team. Everyone has just pitched in," Terry said.

"It has been a hard time, but we were determined to remain calm as we need to provide as normal a school environment as possible for these children and their families. I knew it would be great and just like we adapted for a year at St Pat's, we have done so here."

With 162 students and a projected 550 within the next four years, the Our Lady of the Way community is a fast growing one,

obviously providing a much needed primary school for the families of Wallan.

Terry Cooney recognises his long and strong association with Assumption College. He was Director of Faith and Mission, before accepting the role of Principal at Our Lady of the Way in 2017. This has made the integration easier but Terry is enjoying his return to the primary school level, after nine years in a secondary school.

"I had 20 years' experience in primary schools before working at secondary level and I have found it great to be back at that young developmental stage. As primary school educators it is our responsibility to provide students with the education that allows them to thrive as they move into secondary school," Terry said.

"Getting to know these kids and their families is amazing and this community is a very unique one. Some parents are former Assumption students, some have lived their whole lives in Wallan, and others are new to the area or even the country."

"I cannot express how grateful I am to the Assumption community. I am so appreciative of the support they have provided us and also our families who have entrusted us to look after their children here," he said.

Mr Cooney expects the new Our Lady of the Way Primary School to be up and running by term two.

BOARDING THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

All the way from King Island, new boarder Jackson Taylor (Year 9 McAuley) is most likely finding the boarding experience rather different from his mother Nikki Taylor's (nee Day) when she attended Assumption College in 1999-2000.

"Mum was pretty jealous when she saw how different it is now to when she came here," Jackson said.

Nikki certainly noticed the difference in lodgings for the boarders who now enjoy the new and spacious boarding houses with private rooms.

During Nikki's era, wonderful facilities such as the Fourviere Building and the Marlhes Restaurant were not in existence and the boarding accommodation was certainly less 'chic'.

Not surprisingly, and despite the generational differences, both mother and son share similar boarding experiences.

"I made some great friends and loved the opportunities Assumption gave me, not just for schooling but the sport and traveling around Victoria to compete," Nikki said.

"Jackson has always been an active kid who wants to do more and see more, so Assumption is perfect for that: he can do as much as he can manage!"

Jackson is indeed enjoying all the opportunities on offer at Assumption.

"I have found that building friendships amongst the boarders is really easy. The co-curricular program is really great and where at home on King Island, there were only really two sports you could play at school - footy and netball - here there are all kinds and I am playing tennis," Jackson said.

"Mum and Dad gave me one piece of advice when they dropped me off and it was to give everything a go and that is what I hope to do."

While Jackson has tackled the usual hurdles of navigating his way around such a large



campus and coping with homesickness and missing his siblings and parents, he has received fantastic support from the boarding community as a whole.

"The older boarders have been great. They offer lots of advice which is really helpful and are happy to show you around," Jackson said.

"They can recognise if you are feeling a bit homesick and are there for you if you need."

"Mr Garrett and Mr Katal (Redden House Boarding Supervisors) have also been great. The boarding house is very family focussed and you really feel cared for."

Nikki also recalls feeling very well supported during her time as a boarder.

"I started boarding as a Year 11 student in 1999 and finished Year 12 in 2000. King Island District High School was a Kinder to Grade 10 school, so kids had to go off the island to do Years 11 and 12. My cousin, Jeremy Batey, had already left KI to attend boarding at Assumption so it made sense to follow. My sister Ashley then attended in 2001 and 2002," Nikki said.

"When I came across there would have been 12-15 King Islanders attending Assumption so there were plenty of familiar faces."

While Jackson will continue to build his memories of Assumption over the next few years, Nikki recalls fondly what she has taken from her boarding experience.

"Playing sport and making some great friends both day student and boarders are special memories. Spending time with the other boarders and then travelling back to their home towns like Kyabram, Yarrawonga, Hay - places I'd never heard of - and travelling to Adelaide with the Sacred Heart Exchange Weekend," Nikki said.

"I really hope Jackson makes the most of all the opportunities that come his way, from learning new things in the classroom to enjoying his sports, to making some great lifelong friends."





INTRODUCING OUR 2019 COLLEGE CAPTAINS

What a privilege it will be to work alongside Ben this year and lead Assumption College in 2019. Together as a leadership team we are excited for what the 2019 school year will bring and are committed to supporting our college to 'seek the things that are above'.

Attending this school as a boarder for the last 5 years has given me so many opportunities and experiences. My goal will be to encourage all students to make the most of the endless opportunities that Assumption College provides whilst honouring this year's Marist theme of being 'Wholly holy'. The theme of 'Wholly Holy' to me means to be consistently committed to being the best possible version of myself.

I'd like to take this time to wish the best of luck to all staff and students for 2019 especially the year 12 co-hort who undertake their final year of schooling.

To the Assumption community, thank you for giving Ben and myself this opportunity and we will endeavour to constantly put our best foot forward and represent our school with great pride.

Mardie Hamilton – 2019 College Captain

It is my pleasure to lead the College alongside Mardie, guiding our school community with a positive mindset for the beginning of 2019.

Since being given the honour to lead the College in late 2018, one of my highlights has been welcoming and working with our largest ever year 7 co-hort, making them feel a sense of belonging and comfort in our school community. Through this transition, I have loved meeting the new families and students coming into Assumption with fresh ideas and work ethics.

Our Marist vision this year is 'Wholly Holy'. To me, this means being completely present whilst following Marist characteristics. In my case, devoting my energy and time to my leadership whilst being present and in the moment.

2019 is not only a big year for me, but many of our Year 12s. Therefore, I would like to wish all of my fellow Year 12s the best of luck with their studies this year.

I really look forward to what the rest of 2019 will bring for Mardie and myself, and look forward to working with the student leadership team to drive our College in a direction of which we can all be proud.

Ben Gregory – 2019 College Captain





31ST ANNUAL QUEENSCLIFF REUNION



The Queenscliff reunion is always a chatty affair as attendees reminisce about their old college days and their lives over the intervening years. While some attendees remain in touch at other times throughout the year, for many, the reunion is their once a year catch up with old friends.

Gathered together with organiser Ron Forbes (Class of 1948) and his wife Gloria at the local bowling club, old collegians travel from far and wide to catch up and honour the memory of the original organisers and past presidents of the ACKOCA, William (Bill) Alen (dec) and Ron Slattery (dec). Bill and Ron (both Class of 1938) organised the event for the first 20 years.

Ron makes a special effort to ensure past students know about this reunion and feel welcome to attend by placing an advertisement in the Herald Sun every year.

This year's gathering was again a great success with 22 in attendance including: Ron Forbes, Fred Le Deux, Cyril Anderson, Joseph Anderson, Shane Mc Carthy, Ron and Laurie Pickett, Ron Christopher, James Gallagher, John and Phil De Neeffe, Frank Gazzola, Sergio Fassio, Tom O'Connor, Michael Fogarty, Michael Minogue, Bryan Hoban, Robert Ryan, John Iacono, Bishop Peter Connors and Wally Connors, Michael Collins, and Assumption College's Community Relations Officer, Maria Cleve.





Br Doug surrounded by 1988 Crew: David Williams, Paul Shaw, Andrew Kennedy, Jon Henry, Chris McNamara, Matt Merrigan, Caroline Killeen, Bret Lee Conway, Nigel Haynes & Michael Foldi



Br Doug & Sam Crimmins (1992)



Sam Crimmins (1991), Craig Ryan (1993), Paul Kearney (1993), John Curtin (1993), Guy Kelly (1993), Damien Kennedy (1994) & Christian Lonzi (1994)



Simon Costa (1985)

'DOUGIE'S LUNCH' STILL MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Attendees at the fourth annual 'Dougie's Luncheon' on Wednesday, 13 February were inspired by a number of Assumption old collegians leading the way in altruism.

Speakers on the day included recently awarded Officer of the Order of Australia and Assumption College Hall of Excellence inductee Simon Costa (Class of 1984), current president of the St Vinnie's Soup Van program, Sean Burke, Michael Foldi (Class of 1988) and Brother Doug himself.

Recognising the need to assist the soup van program and raise funds to cover meals for

the homeless on public holidays and over the Christmas holiday period, former student Sam Crimmins (Class of 1994) identified the attraction of having someone like Brother Doug central to the event.

"Brother Doug is still so well loved and the same person he was all those years ago at school and this is what draws old collegians in from such a broad range of ages," Sam said.

"Getting different eras together is great and the connection with Brother Doug is really important."

Guest speakers shared the different ways in which philanthropy is making a difference both here and around the world.

Simon Costa shared stories of the numerous barriers and challenges he faced working in Africa for the United Nations World Food Program. Originally a six month volunteer gig where Simon shared his expertise in logistical and supply chain systems, the project extended to seven years and resulted in improvements for thousands of communities across the continent.

Sean Burke, the new manager of St Vinnies Soup Vans, spoke about the work being done

every day of the year to provide nutritious meals to the most vulnerable in our community. As enthusiastic and personable as his predecessor Br Doug, Sean is young person on a mission for change.

A special highlight was the story of Liam Foldi, the 16 year old son of old collegian Michael, who saw a gap in the market for making it easy for people to help others. Liam started a social enterprise, Kenshi Charity Candles, with the objective of making it easy for any person, club, school or charity to raise money. Unfortunately, Liam was at school and couldn't attend Dougie's lunch, but proud dad Michael gave a great presentation on his behalf.

Since its inception four years ago, Dougie's Lunch has raised in the vicinity of \$80,000 for the soup vans and now also for the Angel Presence School in the Phillipines.

"I travelled there with Br Doug last year and saw first-hand the difference these funds make to the lives of these children. To see what they come from and to be able to ensure they have their basic educational needs met is a great feeling and to see them come back for reunions and the camaraderie they share is just amazing," Sam said.

Twenty-seven old collegians attended this year's "Dougie's Lunch" at St Andrews Hotel (formerly the Pumphouse) in Fitzroy, including Marty Breen (Class of 1974), Mark Branigan (Class of 1979), Terry Breen (Class of 1980), Dick Coloretti and Peter Curtin (both Class of 1982), Simon Costa (Class of 1985), Graeme Lidgerwood (Class of 1986), Andrew Kennedy, Brett Lee Conway, Caroline Killeen, Chris MacNamara, Dave Williams, Jon Henry, Michael Foldi, Nigel Haynes and Paul Shaw (all Class of 1988), Meaghan Lavelle (Class of 1990), Jamie Pickett (Class of 1991), Paul Burke, Carmelo Raco (both Class of 1992), Brad Hall, Craig Ryan, John Curtin, Paul Kearney (all Class of 1993), Christian Lonzi, Damien Kennedy and Maria Cleve (all Class of 1994), who is also the College's Community Relations Officer.

"The lunch is just a really great opportunity to bring a lot of really good people together in one room for a great cause. It's a get together where anyone is welcome," Sam said.



Br Doug & Caroline Killeen (1988)



Jon Henry & Andrew Kennedy (1988)



Damien Kennedy, Maria Cleve & Christian Lonzi (1994)



Jamie Pickett (1993) & Christian Lonzi (1994)



Michael Foldi (1988)



Mark Branagan (1979), Graeme Lidgerwood (1986), Peter Curtin (1982)



Meaghan Lavelle (1990), Graeme Lidgerwood (1986), Caroline Killeen (1988) & Anne Lindsey (Past Staff)





BUILDING GREATNESS APPEAL

HELP BUILD THE DREAM

It is the vision and foresight of those who have come before that inspires us to lead the delivery of a new state-of-the-art community and sports pavilion. This facility will celebrate our Hall of Excellence, become a home for all sports, a practical learning hub, a gathering place for old collegians and a space for community.

Over many years, the College's achievements on the sporting field are legendary. We now take enormous pride in bringing our teams together in one place: a place that will list the heroes, the champions and the leaders.



RAY CARROLL

Co-Patron, Former Staff, Coach XI, Coach XVIII

“

I am so very happy to be involved in this campaign. To work with the College on a project of this scale is humbling for us all. I'd encourage all the people I have worked with over the years, the players I have coached, the students and boarders I taught, to pitch in and help make my dream a reality.

”



“ I invite all members of our great Assumption College community: past students, current and past families and staff, suppliers and friends of the College to get behind this truly wonderful project by making a gift of significance and impact. ”

DAMIEN MEREDITH
Appeal Chair, Class of 1974



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE
COMMUNITY PAVILION

EVERY GIFT COUNTS

This project will require a total investment of \$5 million. Importantly, the College has pledged to invest \$1.5 million into the project. As the first philanthropic program in more than 40 years, our dream is to raise the majority of these funds from our extraordinary Assumption community.

We invite you to pledge a gift that is meaningful and significant to you, understanding that all of us have different capacities and life circumstances.

To donate, simply visit our website www.assumption.vic.edu.au/donate or contact the Campaign Manager, Catherine Watts, on (03) 5783 5000.

Gifts are tax deductible and can be pledged over three years.



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION (ACKOCA)

INTRODUCING THE OLD COLLEGIANS COMMITTEE FOR 2019.



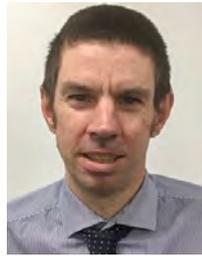
SIMON J. COSTA
President
ACK 1981-1985



LUKE SOULOS
Vice President
ACK 19871-1976



SAM CRIMMINS
Events & Marketing
ACK 1986-1991



MATTHEW MEIER
Secretary
ACK 1988-1993



MICHAEL MCMASTER
Treasurer
ACK 1980-1985



ROBERT RYAN
Memberships
ACK 1942-1948

ASSUMPTION STORIES

Throughout 2018, ACKOCA implemented the monthly Assumption College interviews, which aims to share the stories of former students who are making a positive impact on the lives of others across their careers and lives. We're delighted to share some excerpts from our interviews in this edition of Shandon Calls, including some sage advice for our recently graduated Year 12s. We welcome suggestions for future interviewees. Full interviews are available on our webpage located here: <http://assumption.vic.edu.au/alumni/ackoca/>

Simon Costa
President ACKOCA

CAMERON LOFTUS (CLASS OF 1986)

Cameron Loftus is currently the Chief Executive Officer Barwon Sports Academy. Cameron graduated in 1986 and enjoyed the distinction of playing in both the First XI Cricket and First XVIII Football teams. The Barwon Sports Academy (BSA) a non-profit organisation which depends significantly on the support of its partners to ensure it can provide ongoing support to promising athletes in the Barwon Region ...

... "Be grateful for your opportunities and follow your own dreams. Don't try to be a version of someone else, be the best version of you! We are all unique, with unique skills, experiences and dreams. Enjoy the journey because you never know how long it's going to last."

FREDRICK "FRED" LE DEUX (CLASS OF 1952)

Fred Le Deux grew up in Nagambie, Victoria and attended Assumption between 1948 and 1952 (5 years) as a boarder. After leaving school he attended Bendigo Teachers Training College where he played for the Sandhurst Football Club. He moved to Ocean Grove to take up a teaching position. During this time Fred went on to play 18 games for the Geelong FC between 1956 to 1958. Fred is a teacher and sheep farmer who lives in Bannockburn (near Geelong). He is also the proud grandfather of current AFL Player Tom Hawkins ...

... "If you are absolutely certain of your future give it all you can. If you are however not certain take your time and choose wisely. And remember follow the ACK motto, Quae Supra Quare, calls us to seek the things that are

above. It's been 70 years since I walked into the ACK foyer when my Father looked up to the Honour Board and said that's where your name should be. It was the Good Conduct Roll and sadly I didn't make it."

DAMIEN MEREDITH (CLASS OF 1974)

Damien Meredith describes the last 30 years a whirlwind of building a career, marriage and three children. He has spent nearly all of that time in the automotive industry working at a corporate level for Honda, Volkswagen and The Hyundai Group (Hyundai and Kia), and considers himself incredibly lucky to work in an industry that is very dynamic and challenging. For the last four years he has been the Chief Operating Officer of Kia Motors Australia. Being part of a successful business turnaround has given him a great deal of satisfaction and continued drive. Kia in Australia is now a highly respected brand which has doubled sales in four years to over 60,000 vehicle sales a year ...

... "Work hard to find the right balance between career and family. Family and friends are precious and the reality is you spend more time with work colleagues than

you do with family and close friends. Every successful person I have ever spoken to will always say the same thing: "if I could change anything it would be spending more time with family and real friends." The reality is most work colleagues are great people but there is a transient and transactional aspect to it that doesn't occur with family and friends."

STEVE RIENIETS (CLASS OF 1980)

After finishing at Assumption in 1980, Steve attended university and obtained a Bachelor of Civil Engineering and later an MBA. He was also a graduate of the 1996 Williamson Community Leadership program run by leadership Victoria. Steve has remained living in Gippsland ever since spending 33 years working in the electricity industry predominantly in the Latrobe Valley and spent around 18 months working in the USA in the late 1990s with his young family.

Steve commenced working with the then SECV in 1985 as an engineer in the Latrobe Valley coal fields and progressed quickly through the management ranks to his current role of General Manager of the AGL Loy Yang Power Station and Mine in Traralgon in the Latrobe Valley.

Loy Yang provides 50% of Victoria's electricity. My role has overall responsibility for the mining operation and the power station, which includes the safety and well-being of over 1000 employees.

Steve married a local Gippslander, Kathy and has three adult children – Jordan (28), Meg (25) and Charlie (22) ...

... "My advice to existing Year 12 students at Assumption is summed up in our motto "Quae Supra Quaere" – seek the things that are above. Aside from the spiritual meaning, set yourself ambitious, but achievable life goals. They may seem beyond you at the present time, but if you do your very best with what you have, you will achieve them. Be on time. Make your showers less than 3 minutes. Be resilient. And whenever in doubt, do the right thing."

VALE BERNIE McCARTHY

Bernie McCarthy, former Assumption College student and North Melbourne footballer, was farewelled from this life by an overflowing crowd at St Mary's Seymour on Monday, 25 February.

Born in 1943, Bernie had a splendid career playing at the elite level and then plying his footballing trade via several country clubs as player-coach until in his early forties.

The long career had many highlights but took a severe toll injury wise, especially in later years.

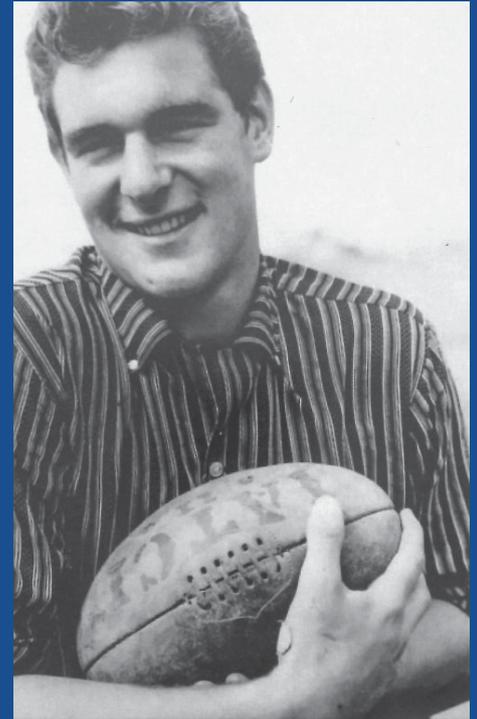
In 2015, he was named in Assumption's 'Team of the Century'. Bernie was delighted with this honour.

A career school teacher, he taught at a number of primary schools in the Mitchell Shire and was well regarded by colleagues and students.

Bernie was very proud of his offspring, married twice, with six children in all – firstly Nicole, Paul, Simone and Michelle and later Cael and Teagan, both of whom attended Assumption. He was also grandfather to nine.

Bernie and his siblings grew up on the Homewood farm. Parents Jack and Edna were hard working people of strong faith. Aside from Bernie the children were Michaela, Tom (dec.), Gabrielle (dec.), Gavan, Paul (dec.), Jack, Shane, Maureen and Patrice.

The large crowd at St Mary's and later at Seymour Football Club was a fine tribute to Bernie and also the large extended families.



The assemblage included Assumption College classmates from the sixties and current college First XVIII lads. There were many who played with or under Bernie from North Melbourne, Preston, South Bendigo, Broadford, Rushworth, Euroa, Murchison, Seymour, Avenel and Yea. Several had great stories to tell at the wake.

At St Mary's, Father Ashkar presided over a fine service during which siblings, children and grandchildren all contributed well.

Bernie McCarthy was one of many VFL-AFL stars who were ACK champions during my early years at the college.

Ray Carroll



VALE BROTHER EUGENE

PETER JOHN DWYER 1941-2018 EUGENE DWYER FMS

'And there shall be one Christ, loving Himself.' - St Augustine

Eugene Dwyer FMS was buried on All Souls' Day from St Patrick's Church, Kilmore. Aged 77 years, Eugene had done it hard for almost ten years. A series of strokes progressively reduced the capacity of one of the most talented Marist Brothers to stand before a class of pupils at Assumption College.

Having taught at North Fitzroy/East Brunswick Marist Brothers, Eugene arrived at Assumption in 1971. He was 29. Kenneth Harris FMS, the then Principal, must have been quietly pleased to have picked up a rising star of this calibre, corroborated by Eugene's already being a member of the Provincial Council.

Eugene taught Leaving Mathematics I & II and Physics, together with Pure & Applied Mathematics and Physics to Higher School Certificate students. He was dormitory master of Dorm 5, a dormitory comprising a mix of about thirty Leaving and HSC boys.

He was the swimming coach. He took the senior refectory more often than not. Before Mass, he taught new hymns to the boys. During Mass, he played the organ. He often accompanied senior boys to socials staged by Catholic girls' schools in Melbourne.

In and out of the classroom his workload was considerable.

Apparently indefatigable, he was sometimes forced to take to his sick bed, flattened by episodic migraines. A silent day in the dark usually sufficed to revive him.

With the spirit and text of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) documents at the ready, Eugene advocated personal and spiritual transformation. So imbued, he proposed an ambitious, perhaps at times Utopian, communitarian vision to the College, which at the time was composed of about 350 boarders and about 70 day scholars.

Within this context, Eugene was responsible for the creation of the Students' Representative Council. The SRC comprised members elected by each class from Forms 1 to 6. The College Captain and Vice-Captain were ex officio members. Eugene served as SRC staff member.



Although the powers of the SRC were minimal, its existence was democracy in action, and its meetings exposed elected students to a forum in which policy was debated and procedure and process were observed. Agendas were distributed. Minutes were kept. SRC members would formally report back to the class who had elected them. In this way, the student body would be kept informed, and each SRC member had to give an account of his stewardship.

It was Eugene who was the architect and chief engineer of this model of student representation.

In an era where, since its inception, discipline at ACK had consisted of the spectacle of corporal punishment being meted out, Eugene endeavoured to introduce a community-based model, a City of God, in which membership implied taking responsibility for one's own actions. Such an aspiration brushed up against the on-the-ground reality of the frères giving the cuts for major and, let it be said, sometimes minor infractions too. This clash of approaches produced its own incoherence, unresolved during Eugene's time at the school.

If a boy were ill and confined to the infirmary,

it was not unknown for him to receive a visit from Eugene, armed with a good book and a kind word. His office door, too, was open to anyone who wished to speak to him. To cross that threshold resulted in the student's being lent an empathetic ear and a message of fraternal encouragement. In this writer's experience, that could be life-changing.

Not everyone thanked Eugene for his vision of New Jerusalem. His idea of across-the-board Christian equality challenged the status quo of hierarchy based on sporting prowess, then so entrenched at ACK.

History is yet to pronounce on whether Eugene was a Don Quixote tilting at windmills or a change agent whose social reforms left Assumption a better place for his unremitting toil in its vineyard.

May God and Mary, whom Eugene loved, take care of his immortal soul.

Nicholas Green QC
1972-1974

VALE NIGEL ENGEL

Assumption College grieves the unexpected passing of our esteemed colleague, friend and teacher, Mr Nigel Engel. A passionate and enthusiastic professional, Nigel was the driving force behind our Marthes Restaurant.

Nigel came to work at Assumption at the beginning of the 2012 school year. After a long and distinguished career as an Executive Chef and/or Manager at a number of Five Star hotel eateries and as the operator of his own hospitality businesses, his application to Assumption noted that he wanted to teach so that his 'experience, enthusiasm and vitality' for the hospitality industry could be put to good use. With the opening of the Marthes Restaurant, Nigel's skills certainly found their home, and as we all came to learn, his enthusiasm and innate welcome and warmth was as much a part of the customer's experience in the restaurant as was the amazing food and lovely atmosphere.

Of course, Nigel's real gift was with our students. He understood that not every student needs the same things, and could shift gears quickly when the situation required gentle encouragement, an extra try at explaining a difficult concept, a good laugh or a firm hand! His passion was contagious, and the way he spoke about his hospitality students, both publicly and privately, assured them of his respect and confidence in their capacity to learn and grow. Never one to hold back when praise was needed or due, Nigel's effusive joy at any students' achievement frequently brought tears to many an eye.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to offer our deepest thanks for the support of our families, and especially our students during this time. Their gentle care and respectful acknowledgement of the grief suffered by the staff has allowed us in turn to offer our support to the students feeling Nigel's loss most keenly. Your notes of encouragement and small gestures of care have not gone unnoticed, and indeed, prove again, the tremendous family spirit Assumption College engenders.

Kate Fogarty
Principal



IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of the following old collegians:

WILLIAM (BILL) JOHN BRANIFF

Class of 1947

4.9.1933 – 21.12.2018

JOHN TIMMINGS

Class of 1952

17.2.1935 – 20.11.2018

JOHN DE LAI

Class of 1950

28.8.1933 - 15.12.2018

LUKE FRANCIS ANDERSON

Class of 1991

10.5.1974 – 12.12.2018

BERNARD MCCARTHY

Class of 1961

AFL/VFL Team of the
Century Inductee

21.8.1943 – 16.02.2019



STAYING CONNECTED



We welcome ongoing connection with our old collegian community and there are numerous touchpoints where this can take place.

REUNIONS

Reunions are an obvious starting point with our Community Development Officer, Maria Cleve (nee Hempenstall, Class of 1994), attending as many reunions as possible throughout the year. In addition to assisting with much of the 'pre' reunion work like distribution of invitations and coordination of attendance, working with our Archives Officer Maki Daisley, Maria can create a photographic slide show of relevant images from your year level's college days for display at a reunion.

While in attendance, Maria takes photographs, shares news and information about the college and gathers vital updates for our database. Many reunions reveal hidden treasures; donations in the form of college annuals, blazers, caps, badges and photographs which are gratefully received and added to our growing archival collection. Donated gifts are carefully curated and displayed for all to see at various college events throughout the year.

FIELD DAYS

You will see our Registrar Bernie Jephson around the traps at Henty Field Days, Elmore,

Farmworld and the Seymour Farming Expo. Bernie has an association with the college that spans thirty years and while his work at these events centres on boarding and enrolments, it is also the place where he spends time catching up with many of his former charges (or in some cases, the parents of former charges!). We welcome our old collegians at these events and look forward to having a chat and a catch up.



CAREERS

Many readers will also know Jenny Pendlebury another long-serving staff member. Jenny is our Pathways Leader who, along with her team, help our students explore career and job pathways for education/training and beyond. Jenny has a vast array of old collegians on speed dial, many of whom are more than happy to return to the college as a

guest speaker to share their expertise with our senior students.

Our Career Expo in May each year is also a great place to continue your association with the college. With all of our own students plus hundreds of others from local secondary schools, there is an opportunity for former students to get involved. Past exhibitors include: trades, tourism and hospitality, veterinary and vet nursing, real estate, paramedics and police to name a few.



Old collegians from the business, recruitment and trade sectors have also participated in lunchtime seminars and mock interviews with our Year 11 & 12 VCAL students. Seminars have included: career pathways, mental health and resilience and leadership.

If you are involved in a business or sector and could provide a practical and interactive display at our Careers Expo, we would love to hear from you. We appreciate any time you can spare to share your talents with our students, either through a visit to the college or through a work placement. Our sincere thanks to the many old collegians who continue to support the school in this way.

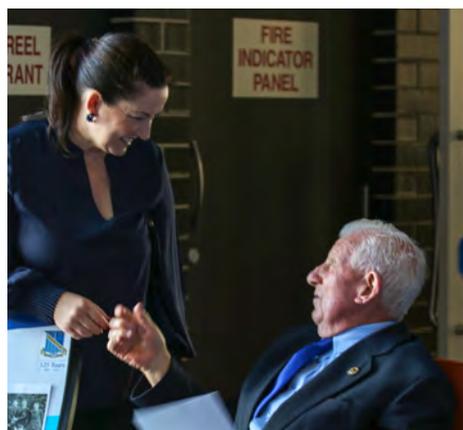
HERITAGE

At our special 125th memorial door commissioning last year, old collegians Ron Forbes (Class of 1948) and Bob Ryan (Class of 1948) made excellent "living history books". Students and guests alike were fascinated with the stories and information shared by Ron and Bob and we thank them for their gift of time.

GIVING

The Assumption College Foundation, established in 2010, accepts donations to develop and build the college. Generous legacies received over the years have enabled the college to expand and grow to the level it has today.

Treasures, in the form of bequests, are a most gracious gift. Former staff member Madame ten Brink passed away in 2016,



leaving a significant and generous bequest to Assumption College. This enabled the substantial refurbishment of both the Kenneth Wing, and the Upper and Lower William Wings. The college is forever grateful to those who have left such a legacy in their will: a truly generous gesture.

In the last edition of Shandon Calls, we shared details about our recently launched Building Greatness Appeal. This provides an opportunity for old collegians to contribute to the future of the college through the development of our new Community and Sports Pavilion adjacent to the Carroll Oval (formerly the Main). This magnificent new building will be a gathering place for our college, our community and, importantly, our old collegians for reunions and events. Our sincere thanks to those who have already given to this milestone project.

HONOURING OLD COLLEGIANS

And, of course, our 125th gala in 2018 celebrated the extraordinary achievements of our former students whose talents extend from the arts, philanthropy and humanitarianism to law, sport, healthcare, science and technology, and religion.

Through acknowledging our past students we showcase to our current students the lived experience of our school motto – Quae Supra Quae – 'seek the things that are above', so they can truly grasp the opportunities available to them throughout their schooling at Assumption College and aspire to be the best they can be now, and in their future.

Please consider nominating an old collegian you think is deserving of consideration for our Hall of Excellence when we do it all again for our 130th anniversary in 2023!

Your time, treasures and talents, no matter how big or small, are welcomed and encouraged. If you have ever wondered how you might give back to your alma mater, this article might give you some inspiration.

For any inquiries regarding reunions please contact:

Maria Cleve (Community Relations Officer)
 Maria.cleve@assumption.vic.edu.au
 P: (03) 5783 5343

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1979 40 YEAR REUNION

01
JUN

Venue TBA (Melbourne)

Organisers: Mark Branagan, Chris Dow, & Neil Duncan

Trybooking: TBA

CLASS OF 1969 50 YEAR REUNION

15
JUN

(with ALL from the 60's welcome)

Sandridge Events Centre

Port Melbourne FC

\$105 for a 4 course meal and drinks

Organisers: Peter Keenan

Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/BBTCX

CLASS OF 1994 25 YEAR REUNION

27
JUL

Terminus Hotel Abbotsford

\$30 per head for finger food and platters
 Drinks at bar prices

Organisers: Noel Skehan, Damien Kennedy,
 Christian Lonzi, Laura Snyman & Maria Cleve.

Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/BBJNH

CLASS OF 1999 20 YEAR REUNION

12
OCT

Waterside Hotel

Organisers: Annette Moore (nee Kurzman),
 Jen Huffer (nee McBride) & Andrea Hoskins

More information to follow

CLASS OF 1989 30 YEAR REUNION

19
OCT

Terminus Hotel Abbotsford

\$30 per head for finger food and platters
 Drinks at bar prices

Organisers: Ernie Hug

Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/BBXVN

CLASS OF 2009 10 YEAR REUNION

TBA
TBA

Organisers: Victoria Mepstead

Trybooking: TBA



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



PHIL McAULIFFE

Class of 1994

This is going to be an unorthodox start of one of these 'Where are they now?' pieces. Here we go. I could not wait to leave school.

Of course, I was sad to say goodbye to friends but I knew that there was a world waiting for me to explore. I wanted to get out into it. After leaving school in 1994, I did a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) at the University of Melbourne, living at Newman College for three of my four-year degree.

At the end of my final year of that degree, I earned a position in the graduate program in the then Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs and moved to Canberra. Far from being social death promised by Melbourne-based friends, I found more people in Canberra like me: keen to get into the world and make their mark.

During that first year in Canberra, I met my now wife, Sophia, who was a graduate at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. After a few months together, we had to

decide whether our relationship was worth the investment of me accompanying her to Venezuela on her first posting. Caracas was from another world; big, hot, dangerous, the flashy rich next to the desperately poor and all swaying to ceaseless salsa rhythms.

Over the years, we've lived and worked in Canberra, Darwin (where our boys, Tom and Leo, were born), had my postings in Ho Chi Minh City and Seoul. Now we're in Wellington with Sophia's posting. We have been collecting stories along the way while doing our bit to serve Australia.

During my posting in Seoul, and close to turning 40, I had a mid-life crisis. I realised that I was lonely. Our lifestyle and careers meant that I felt that I had no one in my life with whom I could pick up the phone and talk. I had no one in my life who got me. Hell, I didn't even get myself. I was scared, but I got brave. I got help, did a lot of work on myself and am now unashamedly me.

I began to realise that I was not alone in my struggles. Other diplomats around me were doing it tough but didn't necessarily know it. I'm now using the time here in Wellington to write a book and blog, start a podcast and begin coaching mid-career diplomats to help them reconnect with themselves and the world around them through my website, www.thelonelydiplomat.com.

While the themes in my work apply to many people as they enter mid-life, there's been nothing designed specifically for diplomats and our lives. Until now. It's a privilege to do what I can to help others in some way.

While I was eager to leave Assumption and get out into the world, I've found that Assumption hasn't ever left me. I call on what I learned and experienced on issues of social justice at Assumption all those years ago: especially the importance of making a positive contribution to the world around me using my skills, talents and experience to help others put their authentic selves into the world.

PRAHRAN ASSUMPTION FOOTBALL CLUB

FOOTY SOUNDS OF SILENCE

David Turner with Tim Habel

Excerpt of story published in the Stonnington Leader on 28 July 2018.

As the siren sounds on the Hassett Oval on a sunny day, Emily Hastie sprints across the ground from where she's been patrolling the half-back line like a lifeguard at the busiest of beaches and takes up her position on the left shoulder of Prahran Assumption Coach Wayne Oswald.

The pair – Hastie an articulate teenager, passionate about her footy and her teammates, Oswald a seasoned football veteran with decades of experience at the highest level including time as Central/Sandringham Dragons region manager in the TAC Cup - are an unlikely combination.

Together, however, they are achieving remarkable things.

Hastie is Oswald's sign language interpreter and 10 of her Two Blues teammates are deaf.

Her fingers moving frantically, she delivers Oswald's quarter-time instructions and, as the huddle breaks, she returns to the park and chases kicks for her side.

"It's definitely hard work," she said. "I reckon I'm doing more work off the ground than on it. I'm trying to catch my breath as well."

Hastie, 17, became aware of Auslan, the sign language of the Australian deaf community, while attending classes in school in Adelaide.

"I just enjoyed communicating with my hands," she said.

A member of the South Australian Under-18 state squad, she came to Melbourne last year to hone her Auslan skills at Melbourne Polytechnic and played TAC Cup footy for the Oakleigh Chargers. She soon became heavily involved in the deaf football community.

"I had an idea some of the girls might be interested in playing team footy," she said. "They want to promote deaf awareness, they are very capable players and, just like us, they love it."

Hastie also had a run with the Prahran Assumption under-18s where she met Oswald, and he soon became her footy mentor.

One night, when discussing the possibility of starting a senior women's team at the club, the pair hatched an ambitious plan.

"(I was) talking about it to Wayne and he said



"I want to start a senior team, do you know anyone who wants to play?," Hastie said. "And I said 'I have a lot of deaf girls who'd love to play at a club'.

"They play in the deaf community and play about one game a year. They really wanted to be involved in footy because of the (interest generated by) AFL Women's.

When Oswald first flagged the idea of starting a senior team at Prahran Assumption, he said it had to be a team with inclusivity as its byword. Indigenous, underprivileged, players with a disability – the team would not merely pay lip service to the notion of inclusivity.

"To the credit of the Prahran Assumption footy club, they backed me," he said. "I saw this as the perfect opportunity for something I'd had a long held belief in.

"And it speaks volumes about the capacity of footy (to play a part in inclusion)."

At Hastie's urging, Oswald touched base with the deaf football community.

"I had no idea, so I just said 'you tell me what to ask'," Oswald said. "And they said 'these people want to play, they don't care about not hearing the siren. So, they'll find a way around it, they've been doing that all their lives'.

"None of them had ever picked up a football before because there were no opportunities for them." "Now they are halfway through the season and the improvement is just phenomenal."

Initially there were doubters, but any obstacle

was quickly batted away.

If the umpires whistle blows and a player can't hear it, her teammates all raise their hands as a visual cue while Oswald uses written reports, emails and Facebook posts to reduce the amount of verbal communication he needs to do on match day or at training.

No hurdle is too great for a bunch of players who've been clearing them every day of their lives.

"It does take a lot of work, but you get a lot of richness out," Oswald said.

"It's one of the best things I've done and I'm a lucky guy, I've done a lot of things in sport."

"You talk about leadership groups, this whole team is a leadership group."

Watching the girls in action, you're quickly struck by how different this isn't.

As players cross in the interchange area they quickly sign instructions to each other about the player they are picking up. At halftime Hastie and Heidi Beasley-Ellich head to the change rooms signing excitedly about the first half action and, following a hefty Prahran Assumption win, they all join the singing of the club song as enthusiastically as any other player.

"They probably cheer and shout a bit more than sing," Hastie confessed. "But that's the whole point of this, that they're not all that different."

Footy is footy.





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