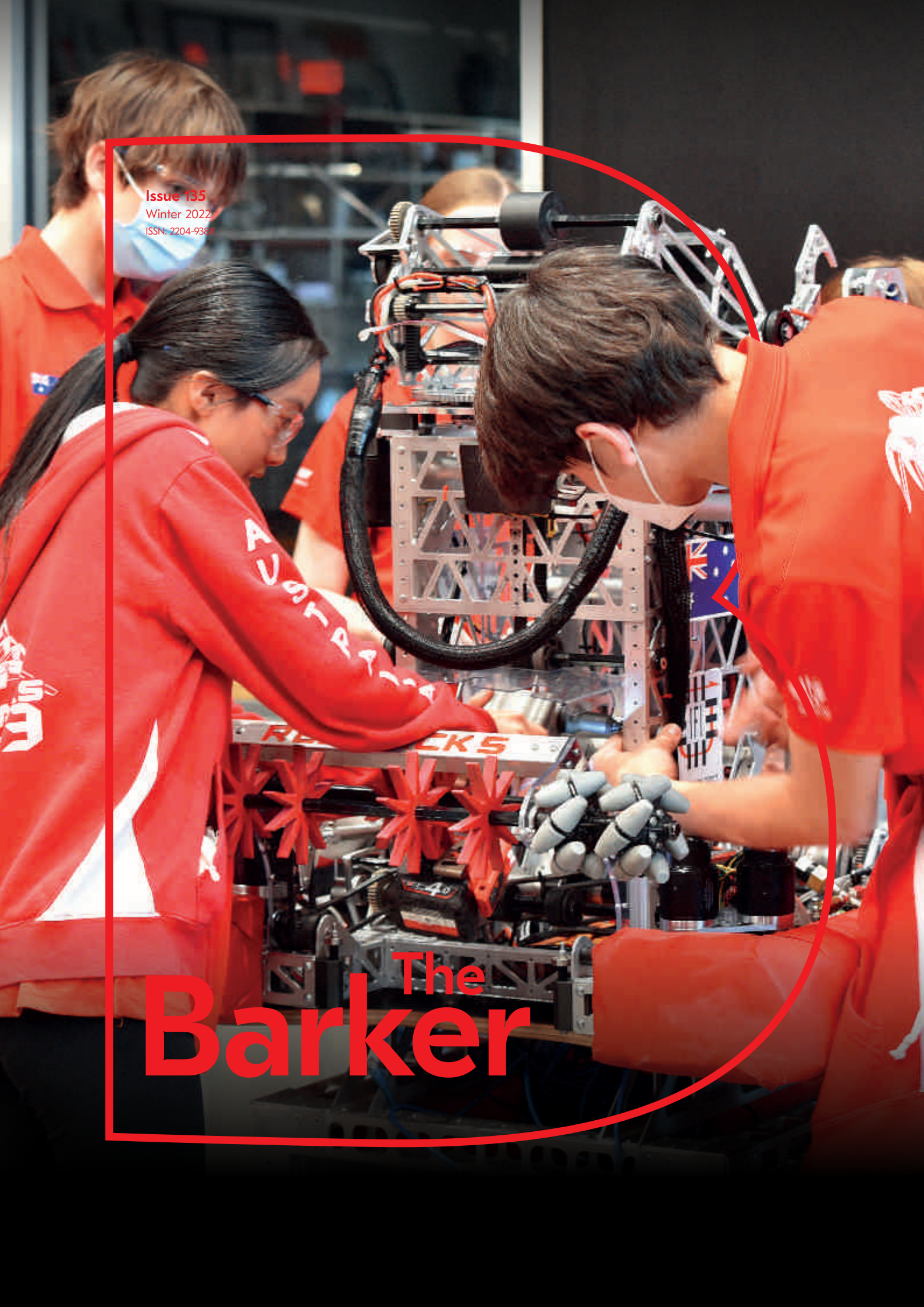


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The Barker





Cover

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Did we just make a Robot?

The game has been called, the challenge set, now it is time to make a machine, a robot, that can complete it.



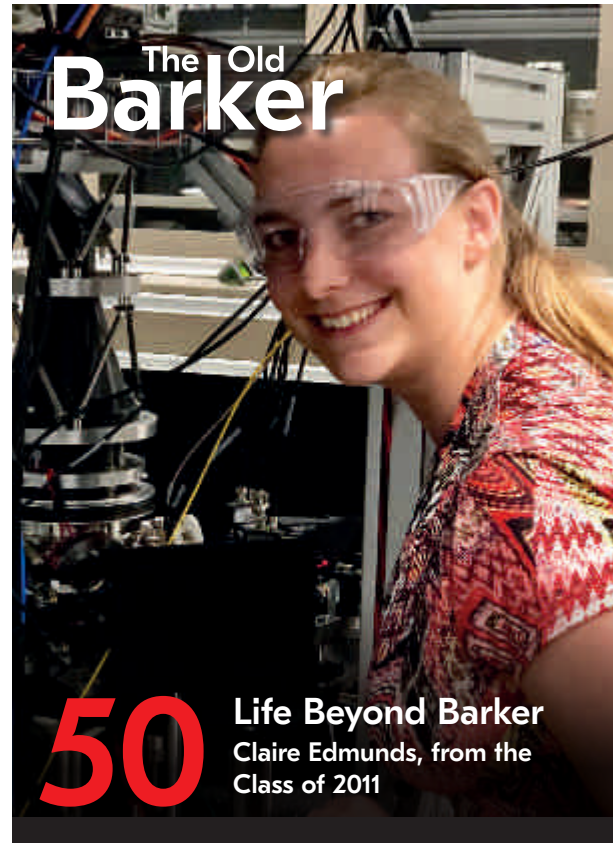
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A Festive Welcome!

You don't simply enrol at Barker, you join us!



Romeo and Juliet

On the Fates and their "star-crossed lovers"...



Redbacks Honoured by Governor-General



The Barker College Redbacks' induction into the FIRST Hall of Fame, has been recognised and honoured by Their Excellencies, The Governor-General and Mrs Hurley at a special presentation event held at Admiralty House, Kirribilli in May.

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Barker Robotics - Gracious Professionalism

Our Hall of Fame Award in the FRC Robotics program was announced in 2021 but actually presented to Barker at the International Competition Finals held in Houston, Texas, in April 2022 when the COVID restrictions eased sufficiently to allow international travel to resume.

Barker is the only school outside of the US to be admitted to the Hall of Fame. The citation for our award listed the many achievements of Barker Robotics since its modest inception at the School in 2013. Notable amongst these achievements is the spirit of "gracious professionalism" demonstrated by Barker and which is a trait highly valued by the FIRST Robotics Competition.

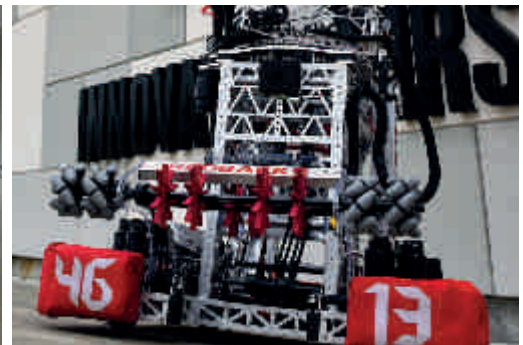
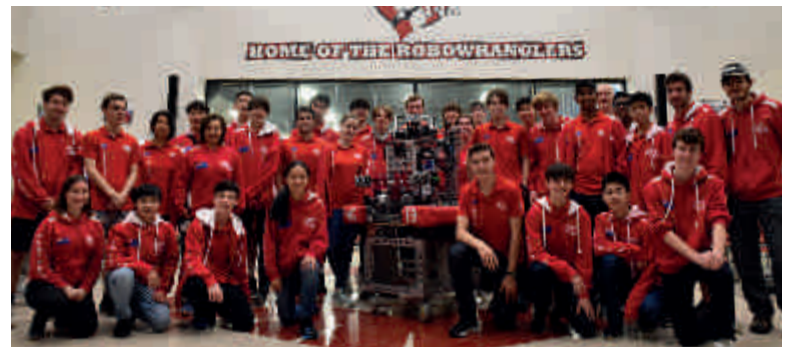
Gracious professionalism manifests in a culture that surpasses excellence in design and performance in competition. It is the willingness to share ideas with other teams and alliances, to offer support to others where there is a need (irrespective of whether they are competing against us), and a willingness sacrificial to enable others to grow. Doesn't this sound a lot like "Honor Non Honores"?

Over the past few years, the Barker FRC Team has supported the establishment of robotics in China, Brazil, South Africa and India, as well as other schools in Australia. Our team leaders, Jeser and Daiane, and their OBA alumni coaches have created robotics experiences for our Darkinjung and Ngarralingayil Barker children, thereby opening a new world of engagement and possibility.

Teams from around the world who travelled to Houston for the World Championships trace their origins back to the contributions of Barker. Gracious professionalism was also evident during the competition. Notwithstanding the fierce matchplay and tactical battling, the 4613 Barker Redbacks were again generous in their support of others, openly sharing technical and strategic advice to anyone who visited them. A few technical issues struck our Alliance in the quarter-finals where we lost 1-2 in a best of three matches.

Barker Robotics has grown significantly and now involves hundreds of students from Junior School to Year 12 in three different styles of experience. We have created a new VEX Robotics lab as well as a marvellous new space for FRC activities in the former Hornsby BMW Showroom, where we will be able to replicate a full size field and have room for design work, machining, coding and planning. I am so grateful to our community of parents, students and staff for making this happen.

From the Chair of Council



Fittingly, we were honoured by the Their Excellencies, the Governor-General and Mrs Hurley, who presented the Hall of Fame Award in a memorable ceremony at Admiralty House in May. Joined by students and families who were present at the start of our whole Robotics journey, the ceremony was a beautiful celebration of all that has been accomplished.

Robotics is much more than electronic gaming. It combines careful design, construction, team play and character forming application to detail under rigorous, even stressful circumstances. Australian students can match the best in the world if we give them an opportunity.

More than that, Barker students demonstrate gracious professionalism in the way they approach each challenge. These are qualities of good character that have long been synonymous with the Barker Way, and that will carry all our students into their future.

Phillip Heath AM
Head of Barker College



Council Strategy Day at The Grange

Located in Mt Victoria, a small village close to the highest point in the Blue Mountains and 122km west of Sydney, The Grange is one of the area's earliest buildings.

Built in 1876 as a private residence, a long low bungalow spreading across the side of a hill, it is positioned to focus on the magnificent views to the north of the property over the pagodas and bushland. Through to the mid-1930s, the property was used as a private guest house. Until its acquisition by Barker College in 1987, The Grange continued as an area for people moving through the Blue Mountains to set up camp and rest.

Since the late 1980s, The Grange has been used as an environmental and Outdoor Education centre for Barker students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Many of the fittings and much of the character of the original building have been preserved, including its tall ceilings, a heritage protected slate roof with materials sourced from North Wales, and a floor in the games room which is a rare Moroccan pink tinged slate.

The education program at The Grange focuses on Science and Geography field studies that are tied closely with the current Stage 4 curriculum. Students also undertake progressively challenging hiking activities in the surrounding National Park. Whilst at The Grange, students assist in a program of bush regeneration that teaches them about the importance of native flora and fauna and allowing them to 'put something back'.

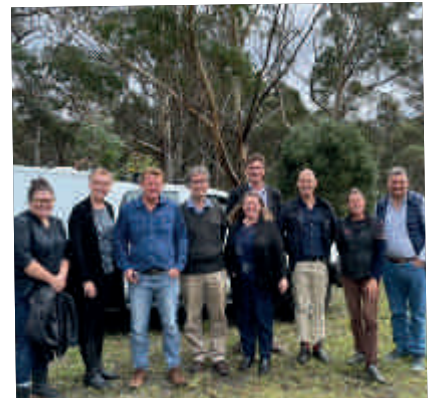
On Saturday 26 March 2022, members of the School Council and senior staff gathered at The Grange for a Strategy Day meeting. Using the venue enabled members of the Council time to explore a wonderful facility, including a 4WD tour of the whole acreage, and to understand and appreciate the important work which is done by The Grange staff, ably led by Directors, Liz Charlton and Scott Manwaring. With the advent of full coeducation, the Barker community can celebrate that Middle School girls now enjoy the full Barker Outdoor Education experience.

The School Council's discussions during the Strategy Day were rich and informative and we did not allow the (sometimes) wet conditions outside to dampen the enthusiasm, as Council members and senior staff imagined what lies ahead for Barker. Mind you, during some discussions, a crackling log fire in the main building certainly helped! The topics we considered included:

- The future of the School's academic program
- Student wellbeing and supporting them in a changing world
- Maintaining and enhancing students' sporting and other co-curricular activities
- Changing demographics in Australia
- Attracting and retaining the best possible staff
- Master Planning including the facilities required for a completed coeducational school
- Moving towards gender parity in our enrolments
- Nurturing and sustaining a beneficial culture for the School
- The future of independent schools' education in Australia and the importance of a contribution by Barker to the 'Public Good'.

Of course, there is more work to be done on these topics and other matters but we were grateful to have the chance to discuss them in such pleasant surrounds.

David Charles (75)
Chair of Council





Lieutenant Francis Ross

In Middle School Chapels this year we've been drawing upon the larger story of the Barker community to help us write our own story.

One person that I shared about was Lieutenant Francis Ross. Francis was an outstanding student and Head Prefect in both 1939 and 1940. He was a member of the Athletics team and represented the School in Cricket and Rugby.

He was the Senior Cadet in 1940 and went on to Duntroon Military Academy where he was the Dux of his graduating class. Before he departed to war, he wrote in one of his letters that he was, "hoping to teach Hitler some tactics..."

Back at Hornsby, the School Council had approved architect's plans for a School Chapel but the laying of the Foundation stone by William Stanley Leslie had been delayed by the outbreak of war. A slow fundraising campaign had also stalled progress. While answering the call to fight for his Country, Ross also responded to the needs of his former school. He gave instructions for his army pay to go to the cost of building the Barker Chapel. In 1945 he was fatally wounded in Borneo and after the war, in 1946, his mother presented a cheque to the School for £1000. This gave the project an enormous boost, encouraging William Stanley Leslie to persevere with fundraising efforts. By 1945 the honour roll of Barker students who had died in WW1 and WW2 had 51 names on the list including three recent School Captains. The Chapel became a 'War Memorial Chapel' to mark the respect the School community had for those old boys who made sacrifices in the armed services.

The story of Francis Ross raises a poignant question for us all. How might we serve? Just as Ross served his country and his school, how can we use our gifts, talents, time and money to serve others? Over Easter we remembered that Jesus himself, with all the power of Heaven at his fingertips, did not come to be served but to serve others and give his life for a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). So, both the story of Barker and the Christian faith put the same question to us. In response to how others have served us, how might we serve others?

Rev Peter Tong
Senior Chaplain



Day of Friendship URSTRONG

The years of growth and development in the Junior School provide children with wonderful opportunities to explore friendships.

Friendship-making is integral to the school experience for all children. Honouring the fact that friendship-making and maintaining healthy relationships is not always easy, we see the Junior School years as a critical intervention opportunity to teach the children to prepare a foundation for future relationships.

Friendships contribute significantly to the development of social skills, being sensitive to another's viewpoints, learning the rules of conversation, and age-appropriate behaviours. Attributes such as social competence, altruism, self-esteem and self-confidence have all been found to be correlated to friendships. Studies have found that friendships enable children to learn more about themselves and develop their identities. As children mature, friends can help reduce stress and navigate challenging developmental experiences. (Paul Schwartz PhD., 2019)

Over recent years, the Junior School has developed a professional partnership with URSTRONG. URSTRONG's whole-school friendship strategy has helped improve the social climate in schools around the world, connecting over a million children, parents, and teachers with a common language of friendship. The common language of friendships and the wealth of teaching and learning tools, provides our teachers with scope and sequence to support the children as they build connections, explore skills and engage in learning to prepare for their endeavour to make and maintain healthy relationships.

Key to the experience for the children is the 'Day of Friendship', which took place during March with Dana Kerford, of URSTRONG spending the day with students and teachers.

Through role-play and interactive instruction, the sessions throughout the day provided children from Kindergarten to

Year 6 with the opportunity to connect the fundamentals of friendship including the four Friendship Facts, qualities of a GREAT friend, and how to use the Friend-o-meter to understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy friendships. The students practised, step-by-step, how to put out Friendship Fires™ by putting a voice to feelings.

Each session of the Day of Friendship provided an opportunity to extend the student's skills and connect to key concepts delivered by teachers in the classroom as a feature of the Friendology curriculum plan. For example, the Heart of Friendship session for Years 3 and 4 explored putting a voice to our feelings and defined how to stand up to Mean-on-Purpose behaviour using a 'Quick Comeback' with practical examples.

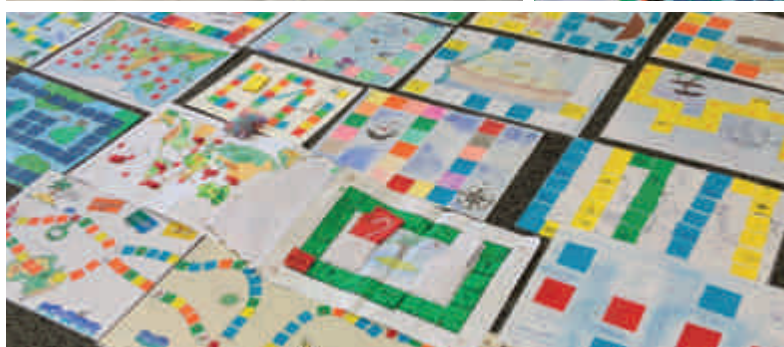
In the Friendship Fires presentation for Years 5 and 6, students explored key defining features of what is normal in healthy friendships, the importance of trust and respect, and how to use the Friend-o-meter to assess healthy versus unhealthy relationships. Linking friendship experience to the physical and digital worlds provided an important extension for keeping friendships healthy online.

Martin Conway
Junior School Director of Students



Italian in the Junior School

The overwhelming success of the Italian pen pal program continues and is a prime example of how our students uphold our School's vision of Inspiring Global Hope and developing international-mindedness.



Our Year 6 students shared their bilingual self-descriptions with our Italian friends. We look forward to receiving similar descriptions from them and reflecting on similarities and differences in hobbies across cultures.

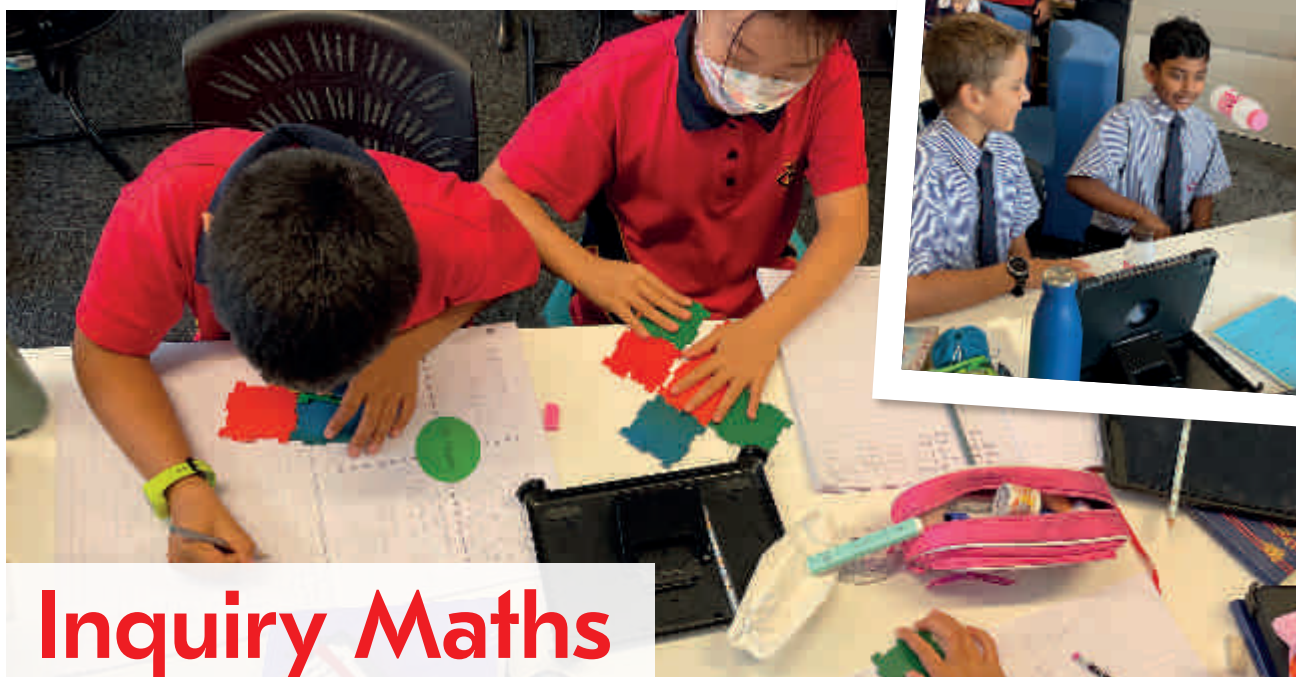
Students from our Italian sister school in Como, have explored 'Climate Change' and solutions to create a sustainable future. Action, the core of student agency, is integral to the PYP learning process as is developing international-mindedness. Our Italian friends have taken action and shared their designs with logos in English.

Our Italian friends have learnt about various explorers around the world including Captain Cook. They created board games reflecting their knowledge of these different explorers. The students were excited when we opened our pen pal package and saw the intricately designed board games. We cannot wait to play them and share in the learning.

Grace Bergan
Junior School Teacher - Italian

Helen Posega
Junior School Specialist Teacher - Italian

Lisa Bonazza
Junior School Director of Primary Curriculum / PYP Coordinator



Inquiry Maths

“I’m just not good at mathematics,” is a phrase we sometimes hear from students, or perhaps have even said ourselves.

Teachers and parents are often quick to find something the student is good at, and respond with a well-meaning “don’t worry, maybe you’re more of a reading and writing person,” or “true, but you are excellent at art and singing.”

While providing a quick boost to the child’s self-esteem, responses like this can unfortunately perpetuate the myth that mathematics is either something you’re good at or not good at, and nothing is going to change that basic biological fact.

In the Junior School, being innately “good” at something is not one of the key attributes of a learner. We encourage students to use the knowledge they have and build on it; to be curious and inquire into ideas and concepts; and to take a risk and give something a go.

Mathematics is a prime example of this, if you’ll pardon the pun. So many mathematical concepts which are fundamental to our world have been born of someone’s curiosity and risk-taking in the past. Someone spotted an interesting shape and decided to inquire into other similar shapes; someone noticed a nice pattern and tried to determine the rule behind it; someone realised that it’s easier to win some games of chance than others and wanted to win as often as possible - once we are curious about our world, mathematical discoveries will follow.

We encourage Mathematics to be inquiry-based, therefore trying to build upon and develop the mathematical curiosity and risk-taking of the students. We look for tasks that may appear simple at the outset but can unlock a world of discovery.

Tasks and questions that promote curiosity and wonder: Students have asked; “is Rosewood Field, larger than, smaller than, or about equal to 1 hectare?” and “what is so interesting about February 22, 2022?”. They have used data to discover if flipping a bottle is a game of skill or a game of chance, and they have generated lists of solutions to simple problems and become curious about the patterns that they spot in the answers. We have been curious about how to build the cheapest paddock, whether a game is fair or not, and how many ways we can flatten out a cube.

Few people are innately “good” at Mathematics. Mathematical ability, like any skill, can be practised and improved. We can all be wonderfully curious about the mathematics that surrounds us, and that is the first, and the most important, step to building new skills and confidence.

Edwin Tomlins
Junior School Specialist Teacher - Mathematics



Dhupuma Barker - Celebrating its First Birthday

The official opening of Dhupuma Barker on 19 April 2021, to the sound of the Yidaki, singing and dancing by the Yolŋu djarrmakuli and community was a significant occasion bringing together the months of planning and preparation by Yothu Yindi Foundation, Gumatj Corporation and Barker College.

The establishment of the School was aided by the expertise, dedication and support of local woman Ms Marina Wangurra as the Strategic Consultant, working in conjunction with the Director of Indigenous Education from Barker, Sophie Mynott.

Twelve months on, the celebration for the first Birthday of the School was a greatly anticipated event in the community. On Tuesday 3 May the community, students, staff along with the Head of Barker College, Phillip Heath, Head of Junior School, Martin Lubrano and Deputy Head People & Culture, Alison Binet, gathered together at the School and shared in festivities including a Bungul (ceremonial dancing with the djarrmakuli, community and staff) along with speeches by Yothu Yindi Foundation Chair, Australian of the Year Galarrwuy Yunupingu, Phillip Heath and the teachers, Lori Cross and Tom Spencer. A wonderful feast including fish cooked on the open fire was shared by the entire school community and rounded out what was an incredible occasion.

The success of the School is being realised in any number of areas; student attendance and confidence, skill in English language and curriculum learning, staff teaching practice, community engagement and two-way learning both in class and on-country. Community support is incredible and there is a shared responsibility as well as pride in their own school.

The 28 Dhupuma Barker djarrmakuli are extremely proud of their school. They arrive from 7:00am in the morning, many of them can't wait until the official start time of 8:15am. On the morning after the birthday celebration, as Tom Spencer, Lori Cross and I walked the 1km to school from the teacher residences at 7am, we were greeted by children who promised to be at school soon, as well as picking up two along the way who just wanted to join us on the walk and get to school. Another arrived at the same time, dropped off on an early run out of town 15km away to collect high schoolers and others for town school.

The djarrmakuli arrive and dress quickly in the uniform shirt and then immediately begin some learning activities, either individually or with one of the staff members. Once some reading is signed off, they have some breakfast and begin activity either in the classroom or head to the basketball court to kick a footy or shoot some hoops. And then instinctively, they call - "it is class time". They want to be in the classroom. Official class starts with "Circle Time" and the School Prayer (spoken in English and Yolŋu-Matha). Community is alive in the classroom.

Attendance is incredibly positive. There are ten djarrmakuli who are over 90% attendance with a further five over 80% and four more over 70%. These figures are outstanding, as high as any Indigenous school in the Territory, possibly the country.

Dhupuma Barker staff are incredible. Tom Spencer and Lori Cross, alongside well-regarded co-teachers Caroline Dhamarrandji, Valerie Dhamarrandji, Janet Gurriwiwi, and Lizzie Roe along with Wellbeing Officer Berlius Hetharia, are paramount in the School's success. Relationships are strong and they care for the djarrmakuli. The children feel safe and connected, they belong. Often the bus does two or three runs in the morning to pick up the djarrmakuli who are running late or need some encouragement. In addition, the support of the Fatt educators, Leah Cheynoweth and Jerisha Burarrwanga, is wonderful, and the team work together effectively, regularly collaborating and sharing in on-country and classroom experiences.

Reaching the first year anniversary of the School's opening is extremely rewarding and a significant milestone. We are so proud of the teachers and the djarrmakuli for all that they are achieving. Learning experiences are rich, and the djarrmakuli are showing exciting levels of improvement. They are engaged in learning and are benefitting from immersion in culture, language and heritage as part of their day-to-day curriculum.

*Martin Lubrano
Head of Junior School*



Junior School Music Camp



On April 1, 130 keen music students mostly from Years 5 and 6, and staff armed with instruments, music stands and luggage for the weekend, met in the Undercroft to start their adventure in the beautiful bush setting of Elanora Heights on the first Junior School Music Camp.

Over the weekend, students from the Junior School Wind Ensemble, Wind Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Paganini Strings and Chamber Orchestra rehearsed and workshopped new pieces, received expert tutoring on their instrument from talented Visiting Music Teachers and past students, and developed important team connections with their sections, their ensembles and their Directors - David Saffir, Elaine Slawski, Graham Hunt, Joshua Hughes and Brad Lucas. Supported by Simon Smith, Mary-Jayne Smith, Andrew McWade and Brendan Collins, and magnificent camp singing with Bridie Taylor, students made new friends and established friendships with a common musical interest, particularly students new to the School this year.

The Junior School team consisting of Yvonne Howard, Jamie Shackleton, Annie Wilson, Hannah Yeow, Georga Mankarious, Heidi Watts, Nick Pluss and Nita West, created and led fantastic games and evening activities which kept everyone entertained and active, further developing the friendships and bonds between students. We had delicious food provided by the friendly staff at Uniting Venues - Elanora and were looked after by our nurse Trish Townsend.

The camp culminated on Sunday afternoon with an open workshop for parents and families to see what students had worked on and achieved over the two days. It was a wonderful opportunity to perform together for our parents for the first time in nearly two years. Many thanks to Galit Fisher, the COVID Safety Team and all staff who worked behind the scenes to make the camp possible and an absolute success.

Elaine Slawski
Acting Junior School Head of Co-curricular Music





STEAM is Fantastic

In Junior School STEAM we teach three different strands. In this edition, we will be focusing on the design strand in Years 2-4.

The design strand is an awesome hands-on unit that allows the students to discover, learn and adapt hands-on skills that are often overlooked in digital childhoods, while also learning how to use these skills for the future.

In Year 2, students learn woodworking basics on how to cut, hammer, drill and screw. They apply these skills to design and create cool designer toys called 'Junk-bots'. The Junk-bot are designed based on materials found in the workshop and the students combine them in interesting ways.

Year 3 sees students move into the latest design and production technology of 3D printing. The students learn the basics of computer-aided design to create functional boxes. As their confidence grows, students begin to create different shaped boxes to suit a specific need and make aesthetic changes to express themselves through design.

Year 4 sees the old and the new worlds collide as students combine woodworking and 3D printing skills to create a single cohesive product. The students shape and engrave a piece of wood to express their identity and then design and print a 3D solution to display their sign. Through this process, they explore the practicality, functionality, aesthetics and environmental impacts of traditional timber work and modern production with plastics.

In Year 5 students produced a design solution for carrying multiple items or library books to various classes at school. They used a sewing machine after learning the requisite skills to produce a messenger bag and then they will elect to design and produce an item that is helpful to others that requires the

application of these newly acquired sewing skills. Types of helpful items they are designing include: pouches for orphaned animals under care, sustainable shopping bags, library bags for less fortunate students and many more helpful ideas have emerged.

Year 6 students are reading technological drawings to build billy carts and then designing an effective and safe braking system. An additional design task involves designing and producing a sailboat prototype by hand and then as a 3D printed product. Their boat is required to be buoyant, aqua-dynamic, aerodynamic and fast as it will compete in a rain gutter regatta. By building the prototype, students understand the dimensions to produce the tested and improved boat in Makers Empire as a 3D printed model. These various models will be shared with Barker Prep students to race and enjoy.

The enthusiasm students show in STEAM is fantastic. They are always ready to learn and love sharing their expertise to help their peers. It is a pleasure to teach them, and we can't wait to see what amazing creations and inventions they make.

Tim Gee
Junior School Specialist Teacher - STEAM

Lindsay Bosch
Junior School Specialist Teacher - STEAM



Crusaders Day Camp



Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Year One students celebrated the end of Term 1 with a Crusaders Day Camp held on-site at Barker on Tuesday 29 March.

What a wonderful way to celebrate the children's hard work, resilience and dedication during a challenging term. CRU Camp was a whole day event organised and run by the Crusaders staff and student volunteers. There was a wide range of engaging and challenging activities organised for the children including games with the giant parachute, mini Olympics, oval games, code cracking activities and craft. The scavenger hunt that culminated in the creation of a pink pig was very popular! In addition, the children participated in a Christian discovery session where they shared God's word through songs, prayer and stories. The children were reminded about God's great love for them and how unique and special they are.

The children really enjoyed the experiences and were enthusiastic to participate in all that was on offer. The passion and dedication shown by the CRU leaders was so lovely to witness - the children really enjoyed playing, learning and sharing with their new friends!

Cecilia Greer
Junior School Classroom Teacher & Early Stage 1 Coordinator

Academic Care



A quote by the philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard, "The most common form of despair is not being who you are.", has been shared with students this term by the School's new Deputy Head Academic Care, Dr Julie Wilson Reynolds.

"I want to encourage the students at Barker to be strong and confident learners. To be comfortable being who they are and developing their own strengths and passions," Dr Wilson Reynolds explained.

The Deputy Head Academic Care is a new role and one that Dr Wilson Reynolds was particularly attracted to, given the strong links between academic and wellbeing.

"When these two elements are in synergy, we see greater success in educational outcomes."

Dr Wilson Reynolds joins Barker after teaching English at St Mary's Star of the Sea in Wollongong. She has also been the Principal at St Hilda's on the Gold Coast and Cedars Christian College and Deputy Head at Abbotsleigh.

She believes the authentic balance that Barker offers through its coed environment is reflective of the real world.

"21st century skills require collaboration and strong relationships, and our coed framework helps our students to understand their own sense of self whilst embracing diversity." she said.

In this role, she will oversee and support all facets of the academic and pastoral programs, supporting those who are already experts in these fields.

"Barker has extraordinarily talented staff in these fields and I want to support these experts."

Married to David and with two adult children, John and Stephanie, Dr Wilson Reynolds has found these early weeks both dynamic and encouraging.

"I have a passion to learn and I get my energy from meaningful relationships with others. I find real joy in seeing others achieve."



Julie McAllister
Editor



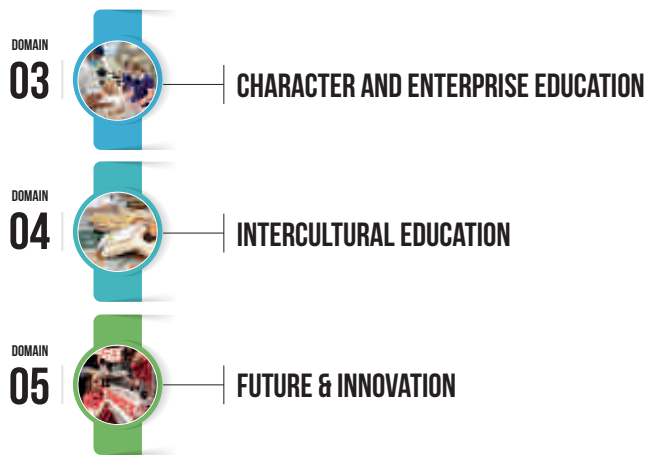
Research Agenda

This is the power of a school-based educational research centre: the Barker Institute researchers are also teachers.

In recent years, schools have been increasingly research-engaged. They have begun to carry out their own research to inform their practice and even to contribute authentically to the wider academic discourse on learning and teaching. It is an exciting development to see as such engagement leverages the intellectual resources a school has to offer to facilitate growth in learning throughout the school and its wider community. Barker has long had this experience. Since its founding in 2014, the Barker Institute has actively provided a greater understanding of teaching and learning, supported innovation and growth from teachers and leaders, and provided a deeper sense of what teaching and learning can mean from a student's perspective. In recent years, the Barker Institute has continued to build on these accomplishments, conducting research as a community whose members are simultaneously experienced educational researchers and educational practitioners. This is the power of a school-based educational research centre: the Barker Institute researchers are also teachers.

To further define school-based educational research at Barker, the Barker Institute developed its Research Agenda, which was launched earlier this term at the staff Professional Learning Day. An outline of how the Barker Institute will go about its work, what its focus will be in the coming years, and how being research-engaged at Barker will impact education at Barker as well as further afield, the Research Agenda came to fruition after five months' consultation and deliberation with stakeholders in the School and the education community more broadly. Ultimately the priorities of the School and its teaching and learning, the future of education, and the issues, concerns and interests held by the local, national and global community in which Barker finds itself, shape the focus of Barker Institute research detailed in this important document.

It lays out, at a high level, an exciting and unique program for this year and into the future. The Barker Journey, the School's longitudinal study that tells the story of a group of Barker students making their way through school in the 21st century, remains a centrepiece of the Barker Institute's work. Alongside this project, the Barker Institute will pursue research in



five domains illustrated above: These research domains were established through a combination of recognising issues facing education that warranted further investigation and pursuing interests that were immediately relevant to Barker’s educational context. Continuous consultation with educational practitioners, policymakers and leaders in Australia and abroad was also a part of the process by which the Barker Institute developed its five research domains. Producing meaningful research in each of these areas is essential to Barker’s vision to be a leader in Christian education that is characterised by a global vision that inspires hope.

There is much to each of these domains.

- Research in the Coeducation domain will draw on Barker’s recent move to being a fully coeducational school. Across the School and in individual classrooms teachers will research efficacy and implications of coeducation in achieving academic and wellbeing outcomes.
- Barker’s ongoing commitment to Indigenous Australian education is supported by the Barker Institute’s goal to further investigate what approaches to schooling can best support the educational needs of First Nations students, and what schools can do to equip their teachers to be the most effective in supporting Indigenous students in their classrooms.
- Within the research domain of Character and Enterprise Education lies an opportunity for Barker to examine further how schools can best position themselves support students to acquire and strengthen virtues, values and the competencies that will help them make wise, creative, and truly impactful choices that have a positive effect on the society in which they live.

- How intercultural learning and understanding can help prepare young people for life, citizenship and employment in multicultural societies and in a globalised world sits at the centre of the Barker Institute’s work in the area of Intercultural Education. Barker’s ongoing and increasing support for students in varied contexts will be supported by this research.
- Finally, what the future holds for students, for teachers and for schools in general is what drives the work that takes place within the area of Future & Innovations.

The Research Agenda is publicly available online at barker.institute.

Dr Tim Scott
History Teacher & Barker Institute Research Fellow

Dr Matthew Hill
Director of the Barker Institute

FURTHER READING

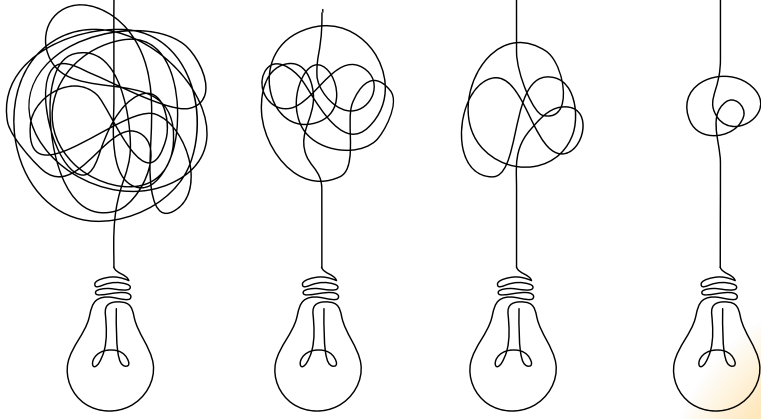
Did you know that the Barker Institute featured in the Australian Financial Review? (Furze, A. 2022, 'Schools research hubs put insights into action', AFR Weekend, 23 April, p. 2 Special Report)



Also featured in the Australian Association for Research in Education Blog. www.aare.edu.au/blog/?p=12747



Teaching and Learning



Rhetoric Week

Celebrating Reasoning, Persuasion, Writing, and Oratory.

Week 9 of Term 1 saw the running of the inaugural Barker College Rhetoric Week. Phillip Heath has identified rhetoric as one of the central pillars of a Barker education, captured in the language of thriving at Barker and in the Thrive Framework. Drawing on the words of Aristotle, rhetoric is understood as, learning to think, to reason, to persuade. In a Barker context, a thriving learner will know how to think and how to engage in respectful discourse with others at a time when so many things once taken for granted are being called into question.¹

Rhetoric Week was an opportunity to bring these ideas into sharp focus and to celebrate thinking, reasoning, and persuading across the School. The week was punctuated by a number of rhetorical events.

New Zealand academic and writing expert, Dr. Ian Hunter, spent three days working with staff, students, and parents on the craft of writing as rhetoric. Every student in the Middle School worked with Dr. Hunter. They were introduced to the traditional rules of writing composition, learning about the Em-dash sentence and the power of the very short sentence. Their writing improved dramatically (that's a very short sentence!).

Former student, **William Solomon (17)** ran a short course entitled *Becoming a Rhetorician*. William is an accomplished public speaker and debater and shared his love for rhetoric with an eager crowd of students over three lunchtimes.

The Middle School undercroft hosted The Sixty Second Soapbox. The 'soapbox' is the classic impromptu

platform used by speakers to stand above the crowd to get their point across. Several staff and students shared their opinions with the assembled crowd. Topics ranged from why netball is the ultimate team game, to why Barker should become an independent republic.

A highlight of the week was the running of the Junior School and Senior School Public Speaking Finals. This is always a fantastic celebration of oratory and persuasion and this year's speakers were a fantastic addition to Rhetoric Week.

Greg Longney
Director of Teaching and Learning



THRIVING
at Barker

Boarding at Barker



We would like to warmly welcome our three new permanent boarding supervisors Kirstie, Claudia and Taylor who joined our Boarding team at the beginning of the year.

Kirstie Ogilvy

Growing up in a small town in the Wimmera, Victoria I was always destined to be a part of boarding life. I boarded at a school in Ballarat and my headmistress was a scary older lady. I always thought how different my experience would have been if I had someone caring looking after us for all those years. Fast forward 30 years and due to COVID-19, my husband is now able to work from home some days, allowing me to take this role on. We have three great kids, a dog and one very arrogant cat! Juggling family life can sometimes make things a little tricky, but the joy I get out of being a second mum to our boarders makes it more than worth it. Before I started my Boarding career, I nursed my way around the world for a little over 20 years. I have always liked being around others and I am certainly happier for being so closely involved in the development of our young students.



environment and am most looking forward to getting to know the students, their families and working with the team to help create a functional, consistent, safe, and home-like environment within the Houses. Boarding is such a unique experience for the students, and it is an honour to be able to get to know the students and share this experience with them.

Taylor Herbertson

I started at Barker Boarding this year after two years working in boarding at Abbotsleigh, and am thrilled to have joined the team here. I grew up in Hornsby and am currently studying both Sociology and Performing Arts. Moving forward, I am excited to continue getting to know the boarders and supporting them day-to-day, as well as some of the more unique and out-there experiences that make boarding so special. Overall, I would like the boarders to know they have someone in their corner, to help and assist them grow into incredible and independent young adults.



Claudia Fulford

I am the mother of three high school aged children and have dedicated my career to the education, care, and wellbeing of children. I have joined Barker Boarding having recently left an all-girl boarding



Hannah McGrory
Social Media Coordinator

Service Learning at Barker



During Semester 1, Barker has offered several opportunities for students from Years 7-12 to be involved in Service Learning.

Barker's aim is for students to participate in meaningful experiences to help our local community.

In Year 7 students continued the recycling program, whereby they collect recycling from classrooms and staffrooms weekly in order to keep our school environment eco-friendly.

Year 8 volunteers have been working with The North Foundation, a charity which works in partnership with our hospitals and research units across the Northern Sydney Local Health District. Students visited Pymble Ladies' College to meet with the charity and other student representatives from across the North Shore. We discussed how to support the Costumes for Cancer event that took place at Barker at the end of Term 1. On the day, ambassadors from Year 8 led the Junior School in dressing up as Health Care Heroes and representatives from the charity as well as two oncologists visited Junior School students. A total of \$1,924 was raised on the day.

Year 9 have been supporting both Dignity Dishes and Hornsby Connect. For Dignity Dishes, students have been preparing frozen meals to give to the charity that supports those who are homeless. Students have also been volunteering at nearby Hornsby Connect, a local supermarket that serves those in need within the Hornsby community. Students have visited each week in different House groups and are charged with serving customers, working the till, and helping restock the shelves.



Year 10, 11 and 12 have been supporting the Clarke Road School, Time Out Basketball and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Womens' Shelter. For the Clarke Road School program, students have undertaken training to prepare them for working with students with disabilities. They started visiting the School weekly throughout the term to help in the classrooms as well as with their swimming carnival. For Time Out Basketball, students have hosted fortnightly basketball training sessions offered to the local community members with disabilities, aimed at giving carers time out. In May, our students supported the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Womens' Shelter, through the hosting of a book launch fundraiser soiree at the School, where they helped to entertain, direct guests and cater for the event.

Olivia Smith
Languages Teacher & Coordinator of Service Learning



SPELLING BEE!



The annual event, held in the 'BeeCMA' Theatre, was fabulous and fantastic.

The Year 7 and 8 competitors were excited and enthusiastic. These superior spellers demonstrated tremendous talent over the two days. There was a suspense filled and electrifying edge of seat sections.

The wonderful winners received book vouchers generously provided by the Barker Foundation along with a Young Adult fiction novel.

Spelling Bee Winners Year 8

- 1st - Sam Wang
- 2nd - Ben Li
- 3rd - Grey Wang
- 4th - Audrey Ng
- 5th - Jessica Bradford

Spelling Bee Winners Year 7

- 1st - Chloe Teng
- 2nd - Amelie Streeter
- 3rd - Talin Swaminathan
- 4th - Nicola Reed
- 5th - Jeffrey Ng

Thanks to our sensational spelling staff:

- Magnificent Word Master - Greg Cunningham
- Crowd Cheer Controller - Charlotte Wells
- Cue Card Co-ordinator - Mark Dobbins
- Photographic Prints - Hannah McGrory
- Queen Bee MC - Martine Sloper



*Martine Sloper
English Teacher*



Special Spaces

In Year 9 Visual Arts we have been exploring what is considered spiritual and sacred within our society, in other cultures (both past and present) and in our own personal life.

Selecting a personal and special space, students created an interior painting inspired by Brett Whiteley's expressive style and Henri Matisse Fauvist bold colour palette.

Shirley Ji *"An Impression of Me"*

The subject of my artwork is a room that represents me. For my painting I used a combination of warm colours for the interior, contrasted with the pale blue outside to create a mood of happiness and optimism. I used various objects to symbolise aspects of my personality. The paints and brushes represent my love of painting and the addition of the shadow hints to the viewer that I am the room.

Sophia Zhao *"A Green Rendition"*

The subject of the painting is my bedroom. The artwork has a cool colour palette with a few warm highlights and details to create an overall tone of peacefulness. I have used various symbols including the flowers and floral patterns which represent my interest in nature, the family portrait which indicates my appreciation for my family members and the posters and colours to depict my personality.

Hugo Leim *"The Interior of Hugo" 2022, Acrylic paint.*

My painting takes inspiration from the Australian artist, Brett Whiteley. I used the interior of my bedroom to re-create my own piece of expressionism, that is warped and uses exaggerated patterns, colours and textures. The primary colours I chose were yellow and blue with aspects of red. Instead of using white as my wall colour, I used yellow to make my artwork stand out more and to connect my work further with Brett Whiteley's style. I painted in detail, the objects, posters and pictures in my room as these are symbolic of me and my interests.

Ally Habgood *"The Poison Garden"*

For my painting I chose to do my Grandparents' balcony garden. I included some of my favourite poisonous plants to the garden, hence the name 'the poison garden'. I selected bright colours to connect with Whiteley's style, I also did this by adding the pink heron contrasting against the night sky.

Lilly Lyu *"Hooping"*

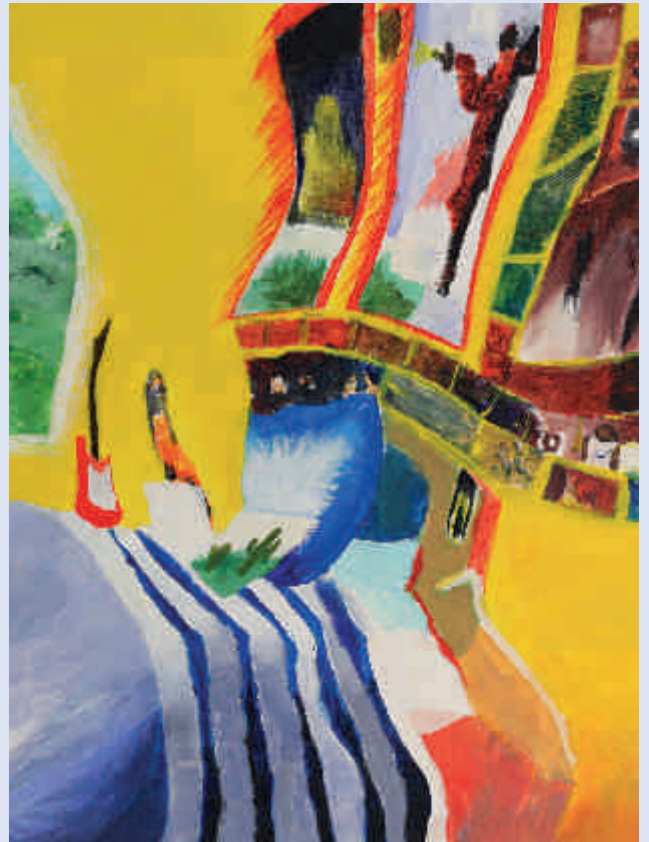
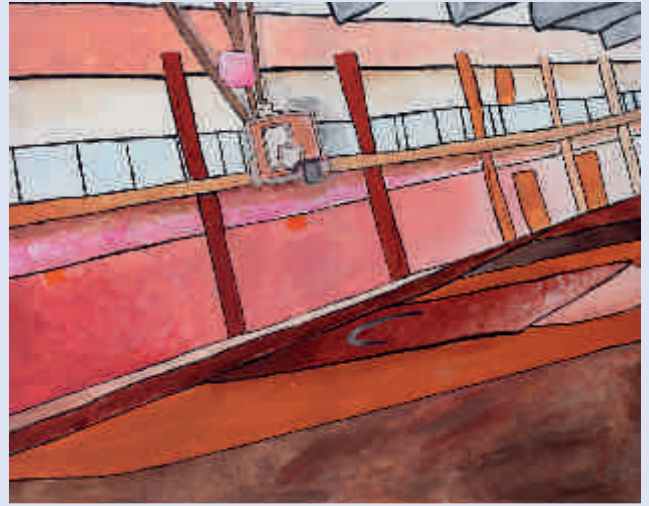
I chose to paint the Barker Rosewood courts because it is a very special place for me. At Rosewood I feel like I can connect with my peers and friends more easily without any troubles. I feel safe and welcomed at Rosewood since there is a lot of chattering and sports going on.

For this painting I selected a set of warm colours and lots of outlining with a thin black brush. The colour of Rosewood reflects my sense of comfort and happiness I feel when I am playing basketball. Rosewood is a lovely place that you could go and feel appreciated and valued.

Lydia Hsieh *"A Sunday Morning"*

The painting is of my studio at home. I chose to paint this room because I spend most of my free time there. This is where I practise my musical instruments and paint. This is reflected through some of my painting supplies in the corner, my xylophone, and a mirror I have painted. Moreover, I decided to paint the walls a blue-grey colour as it connected to me on a personal level and conveys a sense of security. I also wanted this room to appear very spacious, and I achieved this by making the windows curve outwards, exaggerating the open space in the centre of the interior.

Tara Jongsma
Head of Visual Arts



Clockwise from top left Lydia Hsieh; Lilly Lyu; Hugo Leim; Shirley Ji; Ally Habgood; Sophia Zhao.

Diversity in Thinking



The return to fulltime learning at School this year has been welcomed by the students and staff within the Design and Technology Department.

Engaging students in designing and developing their ideas on paper and through the use of computer applications provides some clarity, however nothing is quite like the testing and prototyping of physical materials to manifest the final solution. This enables students to get a better sense of size and proportion, of how they will interact with the product and how the product will best fulfil its intended purpose.

This Semester, four classes in Year 9 Design and Technology have been producing bird habitats for their local area. In this new unit of work, students have investigated the local flora and fauna and the needs of particular bird species. It has fostered quite a deal of diversity in thinking and the students have enjoyed using the tools and machines to construct their solutions. It will be interesting to hear back the reports on how well the local birds take to the habitats that they have constructed and some photos to verify this will be used to validate their designs.

Felix Larkin's bird habitat is influenced by the architect - Luis Barragan. He is well known for his use of colour, light, shadow, form and texture. His designs include a water feature. The design consists of a water run on the roof that directs rain water into a small pool surrounding the bird house. It is designed for a Blue Fairy Wren bird. Felix has already placed the bird house on the pole that will be inserted into the ground.



Jack Strathdee wanted to use natural materials that replicate its surroundings. He used PVC pipe for the shape and then wrapped it in hessian strap to give it the texture of the tree bark. It is designed for a Rainbow Lorikeet. These birds like nesting in small twigs and leaves inside hollow knots of trees. The birdhouse represents a small tree knot.



Keeping up with Technology

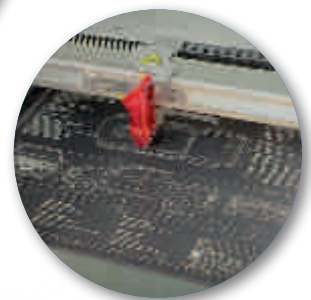
Recently the Design and Technology Department acquired a new laser cutter to support students with cutting and engraving materials. The steady increase in the use of machines which require a digital interface provides much opportunity and we are grateful that the School has continued to support the Design and Technology Department with this acquisition.

The Trotec Speedy 400 provides a higher wattage and greater processing speed when cutting and engraving. It also provides a digital interface that enables editing of designs to occur more efficiently.

This machine will support students from Years 7 to 12 in the realisation of their projects and also provide significant opportunity for the School to create signage.

Darren Woodrow
Head of Design & Technology

trotec
laser. marking cutting engraving



They Lost their Marbles!

Year 7 became outstanding problem-solving engineers in their STEAM challenge days held in Term 1.



Students participated in House groups over a very tight timeframe to complete a marble run, with the most successful run taking the longest journey to the ground. A relatively simple challenge that could be achieved in just one day - but with many tricks and turns required.

The evidence of fantastic problem solving, teamwork and initiative was displayed in the students' active learning of forces, gravity, friction and motion.

Daniel Woolley, our iSTEAM course coordinator and senior Physics teacher, is also a qualified engineer, so he took the students on a journey through simple principles as they started their planning and preparation. The students designed and tested some elements of the marble run before they settled on their final design and construction. Much sticky tape and cardboard were applied to enormous display boards as the House teams busied themselves with the build sessions.

Alison Gates, our STEAM coordinator, enthusiastically led the sessions and showed the students some amazing marble runs from all over the world, helping the students identify problems and issues that needed to be solved before their construction was complete.

The Connect Group leaders for each Middle School House were also involved in coaching the students through the day. It was clearly a fruitful day for strengthening relationships and for the students to build an understanding of each other's strengths.

On each of the days the students received a range of awards for their work, including best teamwork, most innovative design, most successful run and a people's choice award.

It was exciting to see the visible thinking that our Year 7 students were able to display, and I look forward to working with this outstanding group as they move through their experiences and opportunities in Science and STEAM Innovation.

Virginia Ellis
Head of Science & STEAM





A Festive Welcome!

You don't simply enrol at Barker, you join us! It was with these words that Phillip Heath, warmly welcomed all of our new parents and families to the School.

Almost 350 of Barker's new parents/guardians came together in the first week of Term 2, for this Welcome event.

From a taco bar, a slider station, dumpling station to a mouthwatering dessert bar - the evening was a very festive affair.

Guests were also able to hear from the Chair of the Barker Foundation, John Slack-Smith, who shared his experiences as a past parent of now four adult sons.

"I see the influence of Barker interwoven into their personalities, as men," he said. "Barker is an outstanding School that grows both character and capacity."

Emily Tutt (09), Vice President of the OBA, shared with the new families the proud support that the OBA provides for approximately 18,000 past students of the School.

"We seek to foster relationships and to uphold the values gained from Barker," Emily said.

Guests were also able to learn more about the work of the BCPA, the much-anticipated Spring Fair and how to get involved at the School through volunteering in the School Tuckshops, from Committee member, Deanne Uy.

As the Chair of the School Council, David Charles (75) highlighted, Barker is a place where you will grow to be the best person you can be.

Julie McAllister
Editor

Maths Hub



Maths & Senior Studies Hub

The construction of the Maths Hub and Senior Studies Centre at the end of The Avenue, is a harmonious addition to the campus, with the form and natural materials creating connections between the new and old architecture.

The building's scale and contemporary form respect the adjacent Rosewood Centre and the broader campus' masterplan.

Due to open in Term 2, 2023, this project is a complex build as the building actually has three sections. The past few months have certainly presented a number of challenges for the build - not just the disruptions that have been caused by COVID, but also the weather. We are delighted the concrete slabs for the first two floors of the southern section are now complete, yet there are still many months of construction to go.

Some clever engineering by Buildcorp has ensured that the ground slab has been designed as a suspended slab with a void between the underside of the slab and the soil. This was required as the building ground slab is over uncontrolled fill, meaning without

such a solution, the soils can shrink and swell, exerting upward pressure on the concrete ground slab causing it to crack. The cavity or void, creates a free zone that allows the ground soil to swell without any heave or upward pressure on the concrete slab.

The Student Hub and Dining Commons will encourage social interactions on the ground floor by creating active edges where the students can enjoy meals and socialise on the boardwalk shaded by trees and overlooking the playing fields. The teaching and learning on the two upper levels are designed to adapt to a mixture of styles, with traditional classrooms interspersed with breakout spaces for student-led small group activities.

Several interesting design features by the architects, Architectus, are being incorporated into the building. The timber structure has environmental and

Buildcorp

architectus



sustainability benefits because of its low embodied energy and the fact that it has sequestered a significant amount of carbon during its lifetime of growth. The mass timber structure, exposed from within the building, establishes a subtle connection with nature. Biophilic qualities facilitate increased productivity and improved focus and concentration for both the students and teachers.

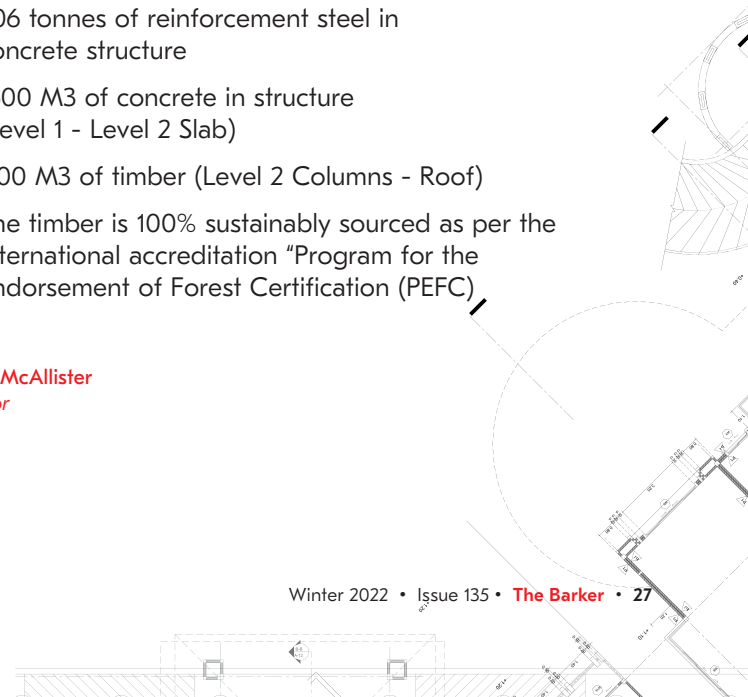
The building also reflects the sustainability goals outlined in Barker's Sustainability Charter through collaborative design and engineering. The mixed-mode ventilation will provide good air quality and improve energy efficiency with a series of louvres in the building that will support a hybrid approach to space conditioning using natural ventilation and mechanical systems. The façade's high-performance glazing and thermally efficient insulating spandrel panels are designed to optimise daylight, reducing the need for artificial lighting during the day and heating during the winter. Inside, operable blinds will provide solar protection and glare control.

Schools like Barker benefit from the support of previous generations. Many of the buildings that our students and staff enjoy today have been provided by past generations of effort and ingenuity. This generation will leave a legacy for our students for learning and wellness, making the full Barker experience so much richer.

Facts

- 206 tonnes of reinforcement steel in concrete structure
- 1600 M3 of concrete in structure (Level 1 - Level 2 Slab)
- 1100 M3 of timber (Level 2 Columns - Roof)
- The timber is 100% sustainably sourced as per the international accreditation "Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)"

Julie McAllister
Editor





Drama after Hours

Year 7 and 8 students jump into Drama after Hours feet first.



Quirky characters invaded the Kefford Building. Creative worlds were built and explored in the Drama rooms. Surprising tales of danger and adventure were shared about haunted forests, adventures on the high sea and alien planets. There was laughter. There was applause. There were lots of new friends along the way.

In *Drama After Hours* in Term 1, students enjoyed a crash course in performance skills and ensemble work. They played skills-based games, improvised a range of creative situations and characters, and collaborated to script and rehearse their own scenes. Having performed their way through a great first term of drama, some of our young actors shared their experience.

How would you describe your term in *Drama After Hours*?

"It was really fun, it's creative and it gives you lots of experience in drama."

"The activities were really good, and I really enjoyed doing it with my friends. It was a really good experience".

"I've met a lot of new people and made a lot of friends."

What have you learned in *Drama After Hours* this year?

"I probably learned how to step out of my comfort zone and do things I just haven't done before"

"I've learned about including other people in scenes."

What are you looking forward to in Term 2?

"I am really excited to do more acting!"

"Probably the big performance that we're doing"

"To just have fun."

Meet great people, develop drama skills and have fun while you learn! If you want to learn more about Drama in Year 7 and 8, contact Keshini de Mel at kdemel@barker.nsw.edu.au

Keshini de Mel
Languages and Drama Teacher

Romeo and Juliet

On the Fates and their “star-crossed lovers”...

Against immense odds, a beautiful production of *Romeo and Juliet* was offered to the Barker community earlier this term. Despite the incessant disruption of COVID related illness, the cast and crew ensured that the show went on. Ever higher standards of production are being achieved by Barker Drama and these performances illustrate, once again, that if we raise the bar a little higher Barker students can summon the dedication and talent to meet the challenge.

For some of the students, this was their first full production, and for almost half, it is their first year at Barker. What they achieved over the space of 11 turbulent weeks was incredible.

The Year 10 production of *Romeo and Juliet* explored a puzzle in the play: Why does Shakespeare put a Franciscan Friar in the middle of a Greek tragedy? For the play is most assuredly a Greek tragedy, one in which a miasma (the ‘ancient grudge’) is cleansed through a sacrifice (the children), paid by the wrongdoers (the Montagues and Capulets). Indeed (for Shakespeare anyway), the Aristotelian unities of time, place and action are startlingly observed, and we even have a Greek chorus to help us on our way. However, from Shakespeare’s contemporary Christian perspective, we are also left with a grieving Catholic

Friar who, despite his best efforts to heal the town, has irredeemably lost two souls to purgatory through the act of suicide. From this perspective, we are no longer cleansed by catharsis, but punished by sin, leaving us in fear and wonder at God’s plan.

In structuring the play this way, Shakespeare sets up a fascinating tension between the Greek concept of unbending Fate and the Christian allowance for human agency inside ‘God’s Plan’. Forget ‘true love’, the play actually seems to ask: who or what truly guides our lives? The form of the play argues for impassive Fate, its world suggests an inscrutable God, yet its characters imply unruly passions and pride.

Romeo and Juliet is ultimately a play about healing a community, where adults must learn to bury old differences or lose their children to them. Like most of Shakespeare’s play, this point seems eminently pertinent today.

Ed Lembke-Hogan
Play Director



Masterpiece 2022 — A Triumph!

In June last year, Barker Music presented a sell-out Masterpiece concert in The Concourse, Chatswood. Within a few short weeks, the state was once again in lockdown, and the Barker Music program went into hibernation, emerging briefly for Celebration 2021.

It emerged again at the beginning of this year, but with an intensified appreciation of what we have. There is noticeable added verve and commitment in the students' music making which was on brilliant display at this year's Masterpiece Concert on Thursday June 9. There was a strong choral focus because the choirs — along with the concert bands — were very restricted in their activities for two years. The final three items — *I was Glad* by Parry, Sondheim's beautiful *Sunday* and the spectacular *Sing to the Lord* by our composer in residence, Brendan Collins — provided the definitive "We are BACK!", with 150 choristers from Years 5 - 12, joined by staff and parents, lifting the roof off!

The depth and quality of all parts of the Barker Music program was there for all to see and hear in the rest of the concert. A highlight was the dazzling virtuosity of Alana Gao's performance of Hubay's *Carmen Fantasie* with the Symphony Orchestra. Alana was a fitting winner of Barker's Concerto Competition this year. The Symphony Orchestra also provided what may have been the most moving moment of the night, performing the *Taras Bulba Overture* by the 19th century Ukrainian composer, Mykola Lysenko. Performers and the audience were all acutely aware of the pain being suffered by the Ukrainians at this time.

The concert featured two concert bands; the Wind Orchestra and the Wind Symphony. Despite absences, the Wind Orchestra gave impressive performances of *Silent Stands the Elm* by Roland Barrett and *Kosciusko*, another work by Brendan Collins. The award-winning Wind Symphony's performances of

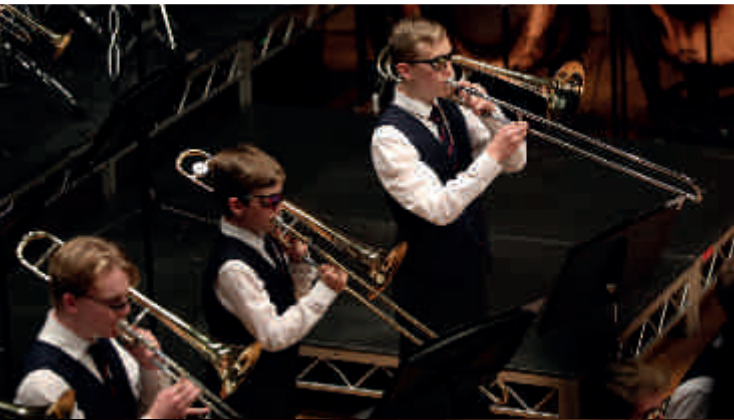
Mothership by Mason Bates conducted by Andrew McWade, showcased yet again the beautiful new sound worlds being explored by concert band composers. We were privileged to have guest conductor Manabu Inoue from Japan to conduct *Ikaruga* by Tetsunosuke Kushida, giving the students a wonderful direct insight into this work by a Japanese composer. It was a tangible sign that the world is indeed opening up again.

The Chamber Orchestra's performance of the Introduction and Allegro for String Quartet and String Orchestra by Edward Elgar showed musical understanding and maturity beyond their years; the Chamber Choir gave beautiful performances of *A New Song* by James MacMillan and *Ascendens Christus in Altum* by the seventeenth century composer, Raphaella Aleotti; and the Senior Choir sang *Meet Me Here* by Craig Hella-Johnson with conviction. The awesome Jazz Orchestra's rendition of *Children of Sanchez* by Chuck Magione and *Two Seconds to Midnight* by Alan Baylock had even the most staid members of the audience jiving.

Once again Barker Music has given the School and the community one of its most memorable events for 2022, which we hope to be able to do for years to come.

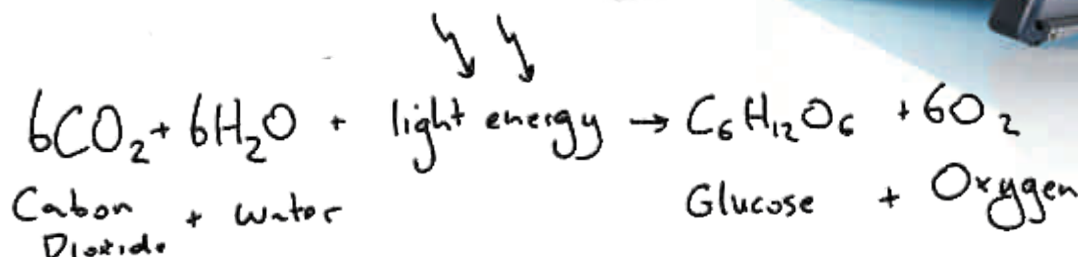
David Saffir
Director of Strings





The Stylus is Mightier than the Pen

You may recognise this chemical equation as the process of photosynthesis. This truly miraculous process is fundamental to just about all life on earth and it is studied in varying detail from primary to senior years.



There are several tools available on my computer that I could have used to type this formula instead of writing it, however it would have taken me much longer than simply jotting it down. Creating any form of mathematical or scientific equation, diagram or sketch with a keyboard, mouse, or touchpad is often a tedious and frustrating process.

Likewise, there is significant evidence to show that the physical act of handwriting helps us process and retain information more effectively than typing. These facts make a strong case for using pen and paper for student notetaking and class work.

There are however huge opportunities for improving learning outcomes when students use digital tools instead of pen and paper.

When students create notes and generate ideas digitally in a OneNote Class Notebook, teachers are able to provide instant feedback. As a teacher I find this incredibly empowering.

I do not have to collect notebooks and paper from students or wait until work is emailed, handed in or submitted to me to be able to gain insight into how my students are progressing. This has the added

advantage that students are never without their notes. I can see what my students are doing as they are doing it. Being able to review work in this way allows me to respond to my students' needs and provide feedback instantly. I can quickly adjust my teaching strategies to meet the needs of my students as individual learners and as part of a class. This becomes particularly powerful when students are working on projects or research tasks as I do not have to wait until a task is submitted to ensure students are on the right track. I can view student work as the project is progressing and provide feedback and guidance as the project develops.

Over the last few years, we have seen amazing improvements in tablet and stylus based devices that have resulted in a writing experience that feels more natural. We are now able to provide our students with devices that combine the proven advantages of handwriting with the efficiencies and benefits of digital notetaking. Devices that provide multi-modal input in this way present many opportunities for innovation and collaboration.



At Barker, all student school supplied devices are tablet based. In the Junior School iPads and Apple pencils are used and in the Middle School, students use a Microsoft Surface Pro and Microsoft stylus is supplied. All teachers are also provided with similar devices. The Barker Digital Learning Team ensures that teachers and students are employing best practice in the use of the device and associated applications. We have a strong focus on ensuring the devices are being used in innovative ways to improve learning outcomes and help teachers and students use the devices effectively and productively.

Many daily classroom activities such as brainstorming, ideation, note taking, sketching ideas, writing mathematical and scientific formulas are simply easier with a stylus.

Digital notetaking opens a range of new possibilities. Notetaking need not take place on blank pages, to help students with their handwriting OneNote pages can include ruled lines and grids for graphing and drawing. The ability to take a screen snipping of any image or information be it from a web page, video, digital textbook or even teachers notes and diagrams, and annotate that material is quick and easy using a tablet and stylus. Being able to take notes in context in this way is particularly useful.

Teachers are now able to connect their tablets to classroom projectors wirelessly and write notes with their stylus which are projected for the class to see. This gives teachers the ability to move freely about the class and deliver content in more flexible and engaging ways. Instead of having to hurriedly try to transcribe notes from the whiteboard, students can engage with the teacher and what they are saying, knowing that they will have available on their device in their OneNote class notebook. The teacher generated notes are automatically filed and organised in the correct location making them easy for the student to find and refer to. Not only does this allow students improved engagement with the lesson, but research has shown that trying to listen to a speaker and takes notes at the same time, does not result in good retention and processing of information.

The Barker Digital Learning Team are very excited about the opportunities that using a tablet computer and stylus in the classroom provide and are committed to ensuring that our students and teachers are given the opportunities to find new and innovative ways to engage with this technology.

Stephen Liseo
Acting Director Digital Learning



MathsPlus

The Iranian mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani said "The beauty of mathematics only shows itself to more patient followers. It is a skill which must be practised and developed."

She would have been thrilled to see that every afternoon in the Hornsby Hundred building, students from Years 7-12 come to develop their skills in mathematics. There are devoted followers who turn up each week completing homework, regardless of the assessment schedule. There are last-minute questioners who concentrate their attendance the week before an assessment. Another unique group are those who race in and ask a quick clarifying question such as "can you explain how the unit circle relates to trigonometry?" before receiving an explanation and racing back to Leslie Hall to help with the new Year 7, 2023 tours.

I have only joined Boyd Carruthers and Daniel Chua in the MathsPlus team recently but have enjoyed meeting students from all years in their mathematical journeys.

The MathsPlus room was a sea of faces in Term 1, Week 8 with questions about functions, rollercoasters, domain and range for the Year 11 Advanced Maths investigation task. Some Year 11 Standard Maths students were discussing Excel skills and seeking guidance with analysing data for their investigation. The next week, Year 12 Extension Maths students brought problems they couldn't solve and clarified their understanding of the binomial theorem and trigonometric functions before their exam on the last day of school. Maryam would have been proud.

MathsPlus runs Monday to Friday 3:30-5:00pm in H303 and is open to Years 7-12.

All welcome!

Allison Davies
Assistant Coordinator Mathematics and Mathematics Teacher

Redbacks Honoured by Governor-General



The Barker College Redbacks' induction into the FIRST Hall of Fame, has been recognised and honoured by Their Excellencies, The Governor-General and Mrs Hurley at a special presentation event held at Admiralty House, Kirribilli in May.

In awarding the Hall of Fame Clock to the team, the Governor-General, congratulated all team members, their mentors, Alumni and staff, on the significant role played in the success of the Barker Redbacks in the 2021 and 2022 FIRST Robotics Competition.

"It is an impressive set of skills: decision-making, planning, research and development, organisational, oral and written communications, ability to work as part of a team, and perseverance," his Excellency said.

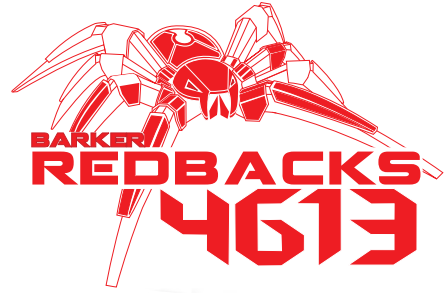
"The skills that enabled you to be successful at FIRST Robotics are the same skills that will serve you well for the rest of your life."

In the 33-year history of the Competition this is only the second time an Australian team has won the award and the first time for an Australian high school team.

In his address to the guests, Phillip Heath shared how proud he was of what our students have achieved.

"Character and capacity to learn and solve challenges together is beginning to trump knowledge and content as markers of readiness to engage in post school education. The Barker Redbacks have achieved all their accomplishments as volunteers in a co-curricular activity that sits outside our academic program. They are the creators, not the consumers, of the future," he said.

Julie McAllister
Editor



Did we just make a Robot?

The game has been called, the challenge set, now it is time to make a machine, a robot, that can complete it.

That was the thinking of more than 60 Barker students on the 8 January 2022 when the game, "Rapid React", was released by FIRST for the FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC). At this time the students, under the guidance of their mentors, alumni and the leaders of Robotics, Daiane Rodrigues-Becker and Jeser Becker, started to brainstorm and explore how they could design, build, and program a robot to successfully complete the challenges set. This included; an autonomous routine, picking up and shooting balls into a hopper, and climbing to the top of four horizontal bars at 2.3m high.

Over the next six weeks the students worked together to produce prototypes and iterations of components that would become the competition robot for the Barker Redbacks. The first use of the robot in competition was in the Southern Cross Regional, held in Wollongong from 11 - 13 March, 2022. It was in this competition that the Barker Redbacks demonstrated their capabilities, winning the competition and qualifying for the FRC World Championships in Houston.

Yes that was right. We had just qualified to compete in the World Championships against the best teams on the planet in Houston, as in Houston, Texas in the USA.

After two years of no international travel, cancelled access to competitions, students being awarded prestigious FIRST awards but not being able to have them presented, and most significantly, the Barker Redbacks awarded membership to the FIRST Hall of Fame (2021), a special Barker College Redbacks Tour had to be organised. This group was different from previous tours as we focused on recognising and providing an opportunity for the students from these challenging years. We also focused on building the knowledge, skills and experience of our emerging

student leaders.

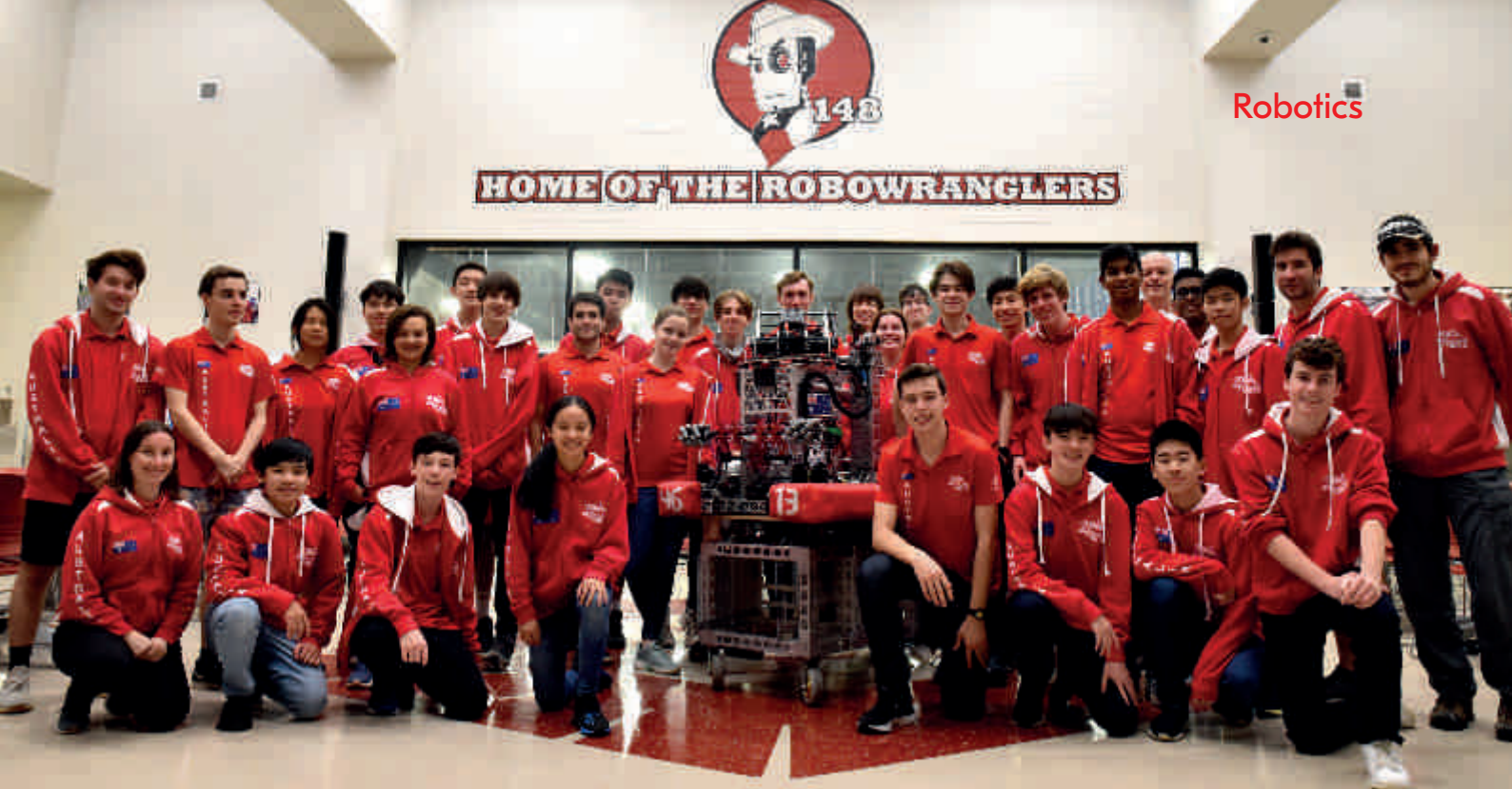
The tour group included some Year 13 alumni, Year 12, 11 and 10 students, mentors, parent helpers and Barker staff. Together we travelled on a memorable journey, full of life's learnings and memories to compete in an amazing experience.

Following the arduous journey to Dallas, remembered by its split plane journeys, changing flight plans, and spontaneous fixes to missing tickets, the team quickly began to rebuild the robot that had been disassembled for travel. Though this may have started in the hotel rooms, we were blessed to be welcomed by two Texan school teams, the Black Hawk Robotics #3310 from Rockwall Heath High School, and the Robowranglers #148 from Greenville High School. These teams provided us with access to their incredible robotics facilities to rebuild and recalibrate. Whilst working alongside these teams, our students shared ideas, collaborated and enjoyed forming relationships. This was enhanced by other activities such as playing dodgeball and soccer, and the catchup conversations that they had during the Championships in Houston.

After four days in Dallas it was time to repack and take our robot to Houston for the World Championships, as well as the amazing experience of our induction into the FIRST Hall of Fame. This journey south consisted of a short five hour drive, including a memorable and event filled lunch and shopping experience at an Outlet Shopping Mall outside of Houston.

Once in Houston it was game time. The students, alumni and mentors all embraced allocated roles with motivated vigor. These roles included the Scouts who were responsible for researching and observing the





capabilities of our competitors; the Strategists who analysed the data recorded by the scouting team to plan gameplay; and the Drive and Pit team who implemented the game plan on the field as recommended by the Strategists and Scouts. The Drive team were also responsible for maintenance, repairs and refinement of our robot, as well as communication with other teams about on-field strategies during the qualifying matches.

The World Championships competition was an amazing event with over 450 of the best international teams competing over four days. The first day started with a ceremony recognizing teams that are members of the Hall of Fame and included our induction from our award in 2021. The rest of Day 1 was then for setup and practice matches, followed by two days of Qualifying matches, spread out over six Divisions, where all teams competed in ten out of each divisions 125 qualifying match series. The Barker Redbacks were allocated to the Turing Division where we were competing against some very tough competition. At the end of the Qualifying matches Barker ranked 5th, earning a position as Alliance Captain for the selection

of teams. After alliance selection we embarked upon the challenges of the finals, where we were defeated in the Quarter-finals in a nail-biting series of matches, eventually succumbing to a 2:1 loss.

So, was there more to this than just building a robot? Absolutely is the answer.

Problem solving, creativity, collaboration and communication were skills actively learnt and developed. The importance of observation, analysis and strategy were demonstrated. Friendships and rapport with others were nurtured as we interacted and shared experience, and finally, all involved gained memories that they will reflect upon well into the future.

Robotics is more than just building a machine. It is a journey of learning that reaches well beyond school.

Tim Milkins
Head of Computer Science

Alumni Profile

Dr John Rich (Class of 1970) is the Executive Chairman and Shareholder of London Stock Exchange listed MHP SE, the largest agricultural farming, food processing and poultry producer in Europe which has a large base in Ukraine. With an impressive CV, Dr Rich's experience certainly speaks for itself. Currently, John is also a director of four other internationally based companies.

Career Highlights

- 1980-1984 admitted as a member to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
- 1989 - appointed by the Premier of NSW to the NSW Premier's Advisory Committee on Agriculture
- 1992-1995 - Director, CSIRO Scientific Committee
- 1995-2002 - Director and Shareholder, AN-OSI Pty Limited, a joint venture company with OSI International Foods, USA, at that time, McDonalds largest supplier globally
- 2000-2006 - Member of the University of Sydney, Faculty of Veterinary Science external Advisory Committee
- 2000-2005 - Executive Director and founding shareholder, Austasia Pty Ltd (formally PT Santosa Agrindo, member of the Japfa Comfeed Poultry Group)
- 2005 - Admitted to the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists
- 1989-2006 - Managing Director, Australian Agricultural Consulting Pty Limited
- 1989-2022 – Director, Australian Agricultural Nutrition and Consulting Pty Limited (AANC)
- 2005-2022 - International Finance Corporation (Senior Global Agribusiness Consultant)
- 2006-2016 - Advanced training in financial management, development banking, debt and equity transactions and accounting.
- 2020-2022 - Agribusiness Board Advisor, Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC London)
- 2006-2016 - Independent Director, MHP - SE (MHPC)
- 2017- 2022 - Executive Chairman MHP - SE (MHPC)

Tell us how your company has responded to the Russian invasion and is supporting the humanitarian effort in Ukraine.

MHP is one of Ukraine's biggest food producers and globally the 5th largest exporter of poultry and 2nd largest exporter of sunflower oil. The Russian invasion of the Ukraine has created significant challenges for MHP. There have been disruptions to most supply chains and some smaller producers have had to cease operation.

MHP has been integral in providing humanitarian aid with the support of investors, a courageous workforce and a determined military. In the first two months of the war, MHP donated 30,500 tonnes of chicken to those who need it most including nursing homes, hospitals and orphanages.

Dr Rich confirmed the company has also found other ways to ensure business continuity, including the restart of its soybean and sunflower crushing plants, allowing these vegetable oils to be distributed around Europe, MENA region and UK, where prices for vegetable oils have doubled.

What have been some of the biggest challenges and how has MHP overcome these?

- Rapidly changing management' mindsets from denial to acceptance of the onset of war and its vicious impacts – clear direction, action lists, contingency plans, alternative strategies etc.
- Moving vulnerable women and children from conflict zones to neighbouring countries
- Focusing on the production of food and its distribution to the country and supplying food pro bono to those in need under harsh conditions.



- Changing the business model and adapting to new production and logistical situations, making rapid decisions based on the power of trust in senior managers.
- Utilising the unbelievable determination of the Ukrainian people to fight for their freedom.

Do you have any advice for today's Barker students?

1. You must love what you do in life – this is taken from Apple founder Steve Jobs' address to Stanford graduates; life can be almost endless or very short, so find something you are passionate about.
2. Never be afraid to change careers to find what you love. Follow your dream and if the dream changes follow the course. I originally matriculated into medicine and changed to Veterinary Science. I went from being a Vet to a business owner in Asia to a Chairman of the largest and most profitable integrated food and agricultural company of its type globally. I always followed what I loved and was never afraid of leaving my country of birth and exploring all alternatives in life's great adventure. Follow the opportunity.
3. Always think outside the box when faced with difficult management decisions and ensure you embrace the power of trust when selecting key staff in your corporation.
4. Lastly, never underestimate the power of being multi-lingual. Speaking five languages, English, Indonesian, French, Turkish and Russian, has opened many global opportunities.

Inside the Mint Gates

After three COVID challenging and interrupted years we were finally able to hold the 'Inside the Mint Gates' function in the Undercroft of the Multi-Purpose Hall on 5 April.

It was a balmy Tuesday evening, as the fairy lights twinkled above us, new families mingled with old, and everyone agreed it was fabulous to finally be able to socialise again within the School grounds.

The BCPA cookbooks were popular on the evening, with many sold as gifts for Mothers Day!

There are more BCPA fundraising events coming up in 2022, including the highly anticipated event of 2022 - the Barker Spring Fair on Saturday 17 September.

Michelle Biet
BCPA Vice President



Barker College  Presents

SPRING FAIR

Alive with SOMETHING NEW

For more information or to find out how you can get involved, please email BCPAfair@barker.nsw.edu.au



AFL Makes its Mark

AFL at Barker continues to grow, with 2022 being the first year of coed involvement. Across Years 5 to 12 the School has over 220 students involved. As an AFL Ambassador School, Barker has continued their close connection with the NSW AFL, who provide valuable resources that keep the program evolving.

Player numbers have almost doubled in the Independent Boys' School competition over the last two years, making it one of the fastest growing sports at the School in recent years. The School has two Middle School teams in the Girls ISA competition as well as our 1st Girls team competing in the Under 18 Youth League.

This year marks the eighth continuous year for a few of our Senior School students, after our Secondary School teams first started playing when they were in the Junior School.

Students continue to receive quality support from the coaching staff, with many Alumni returning to develop the player's skills across all age groups. Our Girls' program is in good hands with Georgie Fowler (Class of 2021), who made her debut with Greater Western Sydney Giants (GWS) in the AFL Women's competition this year, as part of the coaching group.

At the beginning of Term 2, students were fortunate to have an opportunity to play on No. 1 Oval. This was a momentous occasion for all, particularly for the girls as they officially marked Barker's coed participation in the sport.

This year, we will look to enter two Middle School teams into the NSW Schools Cup for Year 7-9 students.



Andy Cameron

AFL Coordinator and PDHPE Teacher



In preparation for the current winter season of sport, many of our Rugby players attended a training camp over the two weeks of the April school holidays at the Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Camp on the Hawkesbury River. The 1st XV squad enjoyed an intense five day training camp in the first week, which provided a genuine tour experience and an excellent opportunity for the players to spend time together as a team and prepare for the season. On their return, the squad took on a strong Eastwood U18 side, with Barker prevailing in a high scoring match.

The second week of the holidays saw the Juniors head off to Broken Bay. Boys from the U13 and U14 teams spent the first three days with their coaches on hand, to run through numerous drills and game simulations.

The U15 and U16 players spent the second half of this week training hard and preparing for the winter season.

Adam Perkins
1st XV Manager

Australian Age Championships



In April, the Australian Age Championships were held in Adelaide with 11 students representing Barker.

To compete swimmers were required to qualify with an improved time which ranks them approximately better than 30th place from the previous year.

A few highlights from the week included an increased number of qualifiers than last year, all three relays not only qualified, but competed extremely well; and Year 11 student Dijana, was selected in the NSW 4 × 50 freestyle team that not only won gold, but also broke two South Australian records!

Six swimmers successfully met the individual qualification criteria:

- Milla Lawrence (Year 9) - 200 backstroke - 7th place, 100 Backstroke 10th place, as well as 50 Butterfly, 200 Individual Medley, 50 Freestyle, 50 Breaststroke
- Jeffrey Lu (Year 10) - 200 Individual Medley, 100 Butterfly, 50 Butterfly, 50 Freestyle, 100 Freestyle (PB)
- Dijana Mazumdar (Year 11) - 100 Freestyle 8th, 50 Freestyle 9th, 50 Backstroke 13th, 200 Freestyle 9th and 50 Butterfly 6th

- Robert Nam (Year 11) - 50 Freestyle and 100 Freestyle (PB)
- Jordan Takounlao (Year 11) - 50 Breaststroke (PB)
- Harrison Woodrow (Year 9) - 50 Freestyle (PB) 100 Freestyle (PB) and 50 Butterfly

Three Barker relay teams qualified:

- 16-17 years boys 4 × 50 medley relay: Noah Workman, Jordan Takounlao, Kyle Li and Rowan McKenna
- 14-15 years boys medley relay: Jack Mercer, Harrison Woodrow, Jeffrey Lu and Robert Nam
- 14-15 freestyle relay: Harrison Woodrow, Jeffrey Lu, Hamish McNaught and Robert Lam

Students' hard work continues to pay off with two more students swimming in the finals and as individual qualifiers this year.

**PB - Personal best*

Steve Critoph
Head Coach - Swimming

Origins of the Barker Rugby Honours Caps

The game of Rugby is said to have originated at Rugby School in Warwickshire, England, in 1823 when during a game of football, local boy William Webb Ellis, with a fine disregard for the rules, decided to pick up the ball and run with it.



Left to right 1st XV Rugby Cap Presentation 2020; Honours Cap belonging to Charles Starky 1925; Barker College 1st XV Rugby Team 1926

Although little evidence can be found to support this tale, the Rugby World Cup Trophy is now named after him.

In 1839, Queen Adelaide visited the Rugby School, where the boys paraded for her wearing crimson velvet caps with gold tassels. Having heard of the popular 'Rugby football' game, the Queen requested a match take place. The boys retained their velvet caps, marking the first time any type of uniform was worn in a match.

The practice of cap wearing was retained into the 1840s, so that fellow team players could be distinguished in a scrummage. Soon after, only some players at the Rugby School were allowed to wear caps, these players were allowed to 'follow up' or play the ball. Those without caps, normally the younger pupils, would act as 'goalkeepers'. There was no hard rule as to how a boy won his cap, it was on the whim of the house captain as to whether the player was good enough, and was 'invited' to pick up his cap.

This tradition evolved over time and as the sport began to be played internationally, the tradition of 'honours caps' was retained. The 'velvet' cap rewarded players who were 'worthy individuals', who showed dedication, and were deemed of good character by

their peers.

It is not known when the first Barker College honours caps were awarded. The blue velvet honours caps feature gold trim and tassel and are embroidered with the stylised interloped 'BC' letters and the year(s) the cap was awarded.

The earliest cap in the archive collection was awarded to Harold Thomas in 1905 and the most recent was awarded to Ronald Worboys in 1940.

Eventually the tradition of honours caps at Barker has been lost to history. Today, the outgoing 1st XV team holds a handover ceremony for the incumbent team where the honours caps, along with a photograph, school sporting achievements, and acknowledgement of military service of the owner are provided by the archives. These are presented to the new players as a reminder of the rich history of duty, honour, and respect that comes along with playing for the 1st XV.

Rachel Byrne
Archivist



Honouring the Past and Imagining What is Next



149 members of the Barker community have filled the first 40 years of the Foundation with energy, genuine intentions and tangible results, through the structural capacity of Barker and the interpersonal capability of the School's talented staff.

In May we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Barker Foundation at a special event held in Boyce Hall. The evening was an opportunity to celebrate and honour the past, whilst looking forward to new initiatives and strategies that streamline the positioning of all of the Foundation's activities under the Future Fund banner.

It was a pleasure to welcome back former Heads of Barker College, past Chairs and Directors of the Foundation, as well as current parents. The evening provided a unique opportunity for Phillip Heath to engage in a Q&A with Dr Neil Tucker (7th Headmaster of Barker), Dr Rod Kefford (8th Headmaster of Barker) and Mrs Catherine Crouch (Foundation Chair 2008 – 2012), each providing their reflections on the Barker Foundation, its legacy and purpose and what's next.

The Foundation was in its infancy when Dr Tucker commenced as the 7th Headmaster of Barker. He recalled how in the early 1980s, there was little history of the giving of actual dollars to the School and the Building Fund relied on a voluntary donation of \$15 through the termly fees.

"Schools like Barker rely on the enormous volunteer effort and philanthropy of a range of kinds, not just financial," he said.

Under the extraordinary leadership of the Foundation's first Chair, Garry Boyce, the focus turned to the School's centenary and 80 receptions in the Headmaster's home were held to support the fundraising efforts for the Centenary Design Centre and the new swimming centre.

As the millennium approached, the context in which the Foundation operated changed and as Dr Kefford explained, it was a time to take the fullest advantage of the Barker community spirit.



"The Barkerness of Barker is a unique quality that we know attracts parents to Barker as a school of choice for their children," Dr Kefford said.

"There was a strong desire during the 1990s to draw our parent community together and to take advantage of their gift of time, not necessarily their gifts of financial support. A particular effort to 'friendraise' was made by the Foundation."

With the Foundation's support, the R E Kefford building opened, learning spaces were refurbished and the Travelling Fellowship for staff was introduced.

"Barker is indebted to the Foundation, for facilitating architectural design that enabled us to deliver a pedagogy that was utterly 21st century. Today's parents and generations of parents before, have served this community by selflessly giving their gifts of time and personal resources where able to, so that our students have the best possible education experience, to prepare them in the best possible way."

During Catherine Crouch's tenure as Chair of the Foundation, she witnessed a new set of economic challenges for the School.

"Through this period we continued to be inspired by people's generosity."

In his concluding remarks, Phillip Heath, shared some of the School's priorities as Barker continues to strive to live up to its motto and continue to do things honourably and well.

These include Indigenous education and the education of refugees; making the School accessible by anybody with a disability; providing more learning spaces for ever expanding programs such as Robotics and Music; as well as ensuring the coed experience is done well.

"It falls to this generation to imagine what is next," he concluded.

John Slack-Smith
Foundation Chair



Barker Future Fund

The establishment of the Barker Future Fund encourages the support of the following:



Transformational scholarships for deserving children of all backgrounds



Tomorrow's inspirational education spaces



Enriching the diversity of the School



Indigenous education initiatives

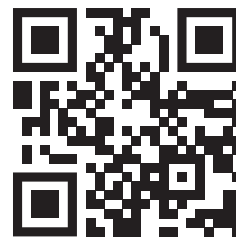


Funding operating gaps to keep fees as low as possible

The impact of your generosity is helping to inspire tomorrow's Barker for us all. Whether you choose to support a specific area, such as Indigenous Education, make regular donations through termly giving, or give major gifts, your support is vital and the School is so grateful. We are honoured by your shared commitment to ensuring an ever-improving experience for not just your own children, but for others' children still to come.

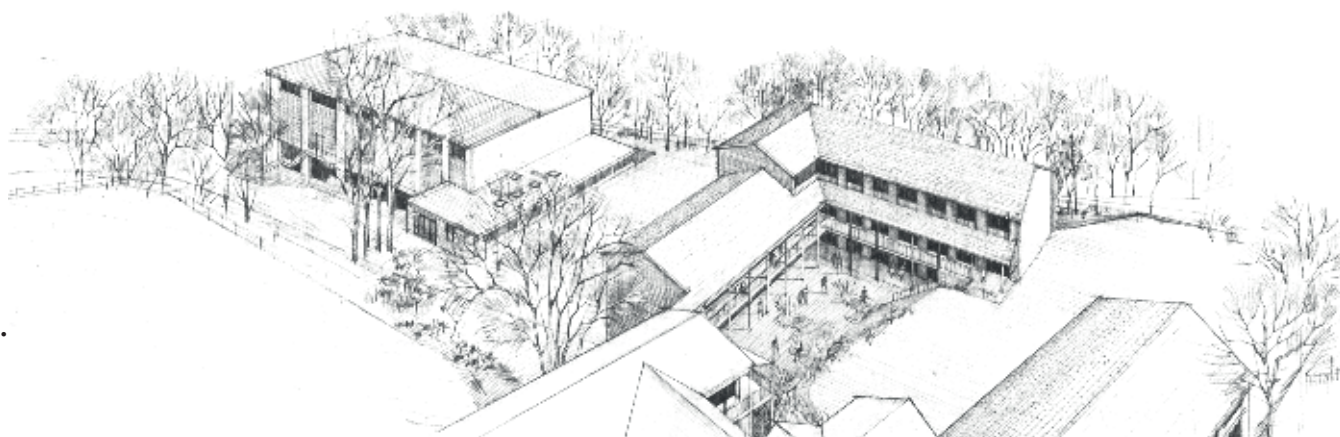
Your gift to the Barker Future Fund will allow us to continue the work of evolving the School, for the good of all our community past, present, and future.

*John Slack-Smith
Foundation Chair*



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www.barker.college/community/foundation/donate-today



The Old Barker

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Josh Grace (90)

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Anna Suttton (05)

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Georgia Breckenridge (18)
Gemma Dywer (Davies 09)
Declan Flaherty (16)
Anthony Hearne (90)
Jenny Kalaf (Melville 78)
Lachie Lloyd (18)

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Chris Russell (70)

OBA Annual Patron

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OBA Support for Life

<https://landing.mymirror.com.au/old-barker-association>

Talk to an online psychologist today

Old Barker Association is supporting you with 3 sessions with My Mirror online psychologist.



OBA Support for Life

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Contributions Welcome

Please send contributions to Karina Drummond, Director of Alumni and Community Relations, 91 Pacific Highway, Hornsby NSW 2077 or kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au.

For further information please contact Karina Drummond on 8438 7283.

Personal notes are published in good faith, as a service to the Barker Community.

OBA President's Message



OLD BARKER ASSOCIATION

Over the past few weeks, members of the Old Barker Association have been invited back to the School to present OBA training shirts and OBA Spirit Awards to students across all year groups.

The Spirit Awards are presented to students who best represent the School's motto of *Honour Non Honores*. It is such an honour to go back and hear about how recipients of the award are adding to the fabric of the School, including those who are children and grandchildren of our alumni.

When we go back to the School and hear about what students are achieving, it reinvigorates the OBA's commitment to finding new ways to engage with the School. Over the past few months we have had back to Barker days for our female sports teams, OBA Seniors and the resounding success of the Year 11 mentoring program. What is apparent at each of these visits is how much the students and the alumni get out of connecting with each other.

These opportunities also allow us to talk to students about how the OBA can keep supporting them in their passions when they walk through the Mint Gates for the final time. The mentoring program we have started to work with the School for Year 11 students will now be available to members of the OBA looking for a mentor to support their careers.

The online platform for this program has been specifically designed for our members, and I encourage you to reach out to find out how you can become involved as a mentor or mentee.

I would also like to give a shout out to our upcoming golf day and annual dinner - events that have been impacted by COVID over the past few years but are always a highlight for those able to attend. Hopefully this year I won't let the team down with my terrible putting.

As we approach our annual general meeting, please let me know if you would like to be more involved in the OBA, either as a Committee member or office bearer. We have a Committee with a broad diversity of experience, but are always excited to see new members putting their hands up to help set the agenda for the OBA in delivering services for members, connecting members and continuing our connection with the School.

Angus Abadee (07)
OBA President





OBA Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 114th Annual General Meeting of the Old Barker Association Inc. will be held in the Sue Field Room, Rosewood Centre, Barker College, Hornsby on Wednesday 27 July 2022 at 6:30pm

1. Acknowledgment of Country
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 113th Annual General Meeting of the Old Barker Association Inc. held on 3 August 2021.
4. President's Report
5. President's Award
6. Report by the Head of Barker College, Mr Phillip Heath
7. Presentation on Support for Life
8. Honorary Treasurer's Report
9. To receive and consider the Income and Expenditure Report for the financial year ended 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, together with the Balance Sheet at that date
10. Appointment of Honorary Auditor
11. To receive and consider the Annual Statement to be lodged with the Department of Fair Trading for the year to 30 June 2021
12. Appointment of Patron and election of Office Bearers (only Treasurer and Assistant Honorary Secretary at this stage). Refer note below.
13. Appointment of Representative to the School Council for a period of three years to fill the position vacated by Michael Brodie. Refer note below.

14. Motion to change the constitution relating to the term for School Council Nominees, to reflect the terms as detailed in the Barker College ordinance.
15. Other Business permitted to be raised pursuant to clause 31(2) of the Constitution.

By Order of the Committee,

Josh Grace, Honorary Secretary

Note: Appointment of the OBA nominee to the Barker School Council as set out in Section 25 of the OBA Constitution.

Note: In accordance with the requirement of Clause 29(2) of the Constitution any further nominations are hereby called and shall be in writing, signed by a Member of the Association, endorsed by the candidate and lodged with the Honorary Secretary at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting in compliance with Clause 29(3). Any nominee must be a financial member of the OBA.

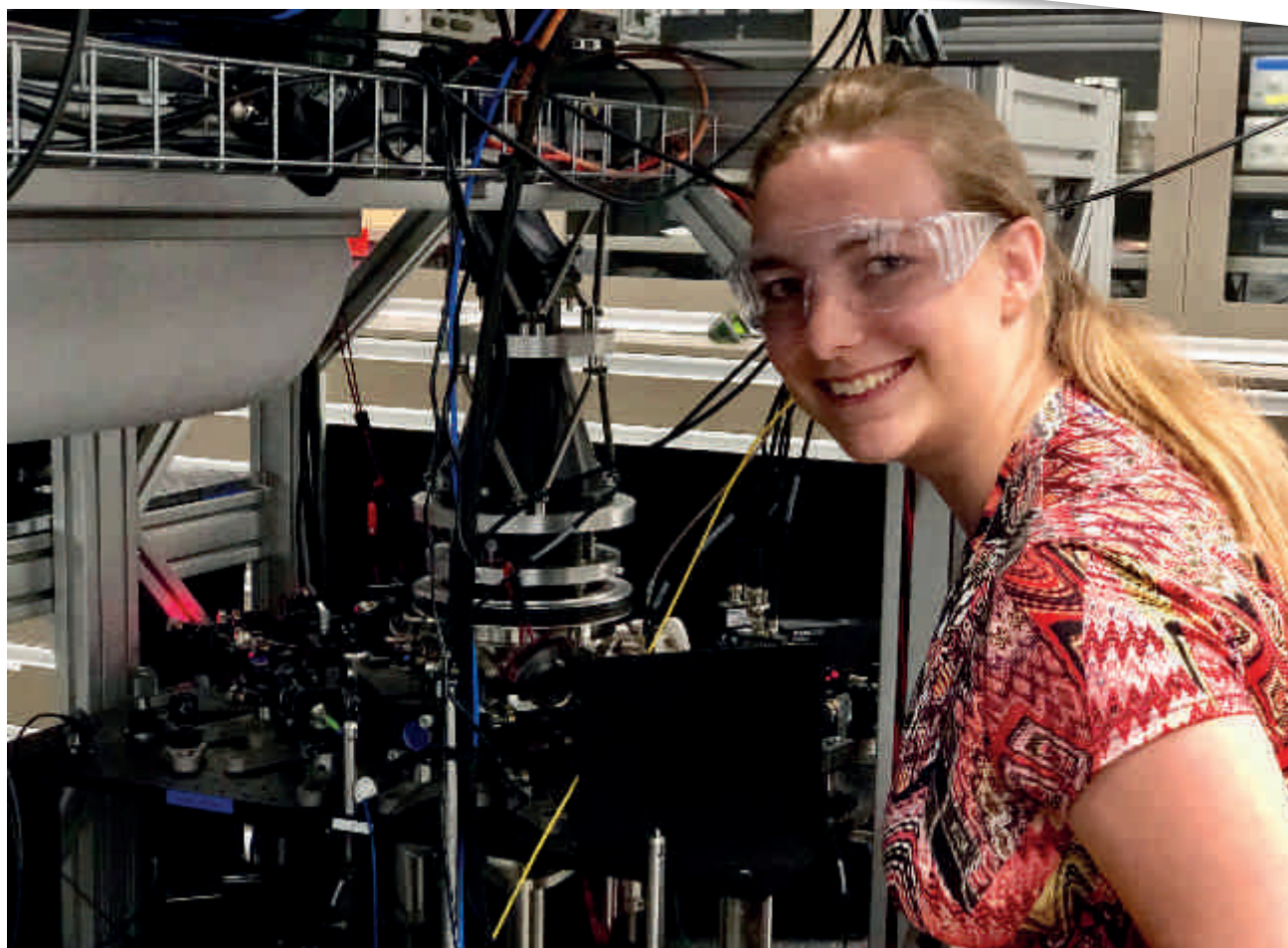
Note: Committee member serve a three year term on a revolving basis. Hence not all positions are open at each AGM.

Please note, advice will be sent to alumni with login details if the AGM has to be held remotely via Teams.

The Old Barker

Life Beyond Barker

Claire Edmunds, from the Class of 2011, shares her experiences since leaving Barker in the field of quantum physics.



What was your journey after finishing at Barker in 2011?

After Year 12, I began a Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics) at the University of Sydney, majoring in physics and mathematics. During my undergraduate time, I had the opportunity to work in several research groups at the University, which gave me an insight into academic work and research, inspiring me to continue my studies into Honours and a PhD.

I started my PhD in 2016 working in experimental quantum physics, using trapped charged particles, or "ions". I learnt how quantum computers work, even helping to build one, and develop strategies to improve them.

During my PhD I collaborated with a world-leading quantum computing group here in Innsbruck and was offered a post-doctoral position with them. I attained a fellowship from the Austrian government (the Erwin Schrödinger Center for Quantum Science and Technology or "ESQ" fellowship) and began working at the Quantum Optics and Spectroscopy lab at the University of Innsbruck in 2021.

What inspired you to start work in the field of quantum physics?

Quantum physics is extraordinary. The physics of matter on the smallest scale is very different from the more intuitive physics we see in everyday life. So much of the field is unknown; the very foundations are still being tested. It is a deeply mathematical discipline, which appealed to me as a way of continuing technical maths during my PhD.

Initially, experimental work as experienced through the undergraduate lab program had not interested me as much as the theory. It was only when I had the chance to work in an active research lab - with real, unknown questions - that I became captivated by its possibilities. Having hands on experience and learning through trial and error taught me a huge amount about how research works.

Tell us about your work and how this has led to you receiving an ESQ fellowship from the Austrian Academy of Sciences?

My work has focused on making quantum computers better. Governments, private companies, start-ups, and academia are all racing to develop quantum computers because of their problem-solving power and potential to solve complex algorithms in fields from pharmaceuticals, to finance, to logistics.

However, the best devices we have are still limited by "noise". Their incredible sensitivity makes them powerful computers but also vulnerable to errors. Tiny changes around us can cause a quantum computer to lose information or produce the wrong answer to a

question. In our Sydney labs, our trapped-ion quantum device was so sensitive to magnetic fields that we could detect trains passing nearly one kilometre away.

In my work, I use the unintuitive processes of quantum physics to make these computers work in the real world. I am developing techniques to make quantum computers more robust so that they will reliably give the correct answer even when this type of "noise" is present. This is a fundamental component of building up these devices to sizes where we can answer interesting questions.

What are you enjoying most about living in Austria?

In addition to the chance to work in a world-leading academic group, I have found myself entranced by Innsbruck's alpine scenery. It is bizarre being surrounded by nearly 3,000-metre-tall mountains on all sides. I have had a wonderful time hiking, exploring, and learning to ski.

Do you have a favourite memory from your time at Barker?

I had a fantastic time at Barker. Despite arriving in Year 11, I quickly found wonderful friends and brilliant teachers. In particular, I have Dean Bunn and Year 12 Physics to thank for furthering my fascination with science.

Many of my favourite memories were actually in the Music department. Whenever I wasn't busy with a scientific endeavour, I could almost always be found there. Between Music 2 lessons, choir, orchestra, band and percussion ensemble, it was practically my second home!

Do you have any advice for today's Barker students?

Opportunities create opportunities. Wherever you go, if you are interested in a topic try to sign up for volunteering or outreach, find chances to learn more and meet experienced people in the field. Get practical experience as soon as possible - if you attend university, don't let your undergraduate be entirely theoretical. Find research groups or work that will give you real applied skills and foster a network from day one. All of this will allow you to develop your own future whilst simultaneously giving back to the community.

Learn to communicate - it is one of our most important skills particularly in an era where facts are, unfortunately, decreasingly important.

Most importantly, never be afraid to ask stupid questions. Despite years of teaching physics to everyone from five-year-old children to advanced university students, I'm still yet to hear one.

OBA Groups



Old Barker Football Club

As the crisp air returns, leaves begin to turn and the sounds of the weekend become amplified; Masked Plovers, whistles, cheering and excitement... football is back!

A bevy of fresh faces arrived at the Club in 2022 and are showing tremendous promise. Colm Walsh and Caiman Conroy are already making a mark on the 1st XI starting line-up. Nipping at the frail heels of a rapidly aging **Ned Robinson (05)** is **Lachie Davis (17)**, **Ollie Bacon (21)** and **Callum Bishop (21)**. Each passing week of competition for this new crop of talent is like a month in the feedlot. The Club is actively exploring ways to support parents of these fresh recruits to up their calorie intake, amidst rising cost of living pressures. Key to the success of the Premier League will be getting the recent school leavers up to an all-age competition weight! The Club explored feedlot

support with Aldi, unfortunately overtures weren't returned. But, as former NSW Labour chief said, "it's what's in the Aldi bag that counts," anyway...

The Division 4 team have somehow managed to avoid the first four games of the season, having all been washed out. An enthralling pre-season derby against the over 35 team saw a six-all draw. Both sides either have a blistering attack, or questions will be asked of their defenses this year. Division 4 are running a lean squad, so anyone interested in donning football boots would be a welcome addition. Please contact the club for more information - oldbarkerfc.com

Undefeated after two games are inaugural Club participants, the over 35 team. Cobwebs were dusted off the boots and Dencorub is the odor du jour. **Andrew Boak (95)** has become a stalwart in

holding midfield and directionally challenged **Chris MacKenzie (05)** somehow managed to find the back of the net in his first two football games after 15 years.

At the time of writing, the Club is eagerly awaiting its player of the month drinks, held at the Crows Nest Hotel. The outstanding player over the last month, as voted by their peers, will be awarded a midi of beer... inflation is the silent thief in the night that robbed the winner of their schooner.

The atmosphere around the Club has never been better and we are always looking to provide a playing opportunity to friends of the Barker community.

www.oldbarkerfc.com

Matt Vickers (05)



OBA Netball

The Old Barker Netball Club began in 2015 and is a registered Club with the Hills District Netball Association (HDNA).

Lauren Kirkby (07) is one of the two founding members and is the current President. Due to work and other commitments, Lauren would like to pass the running of the Club to a new generation of Barker girls. If you would like to be involved

and would like more information, please contact Lauren on 0414 837 992 or at barkeroldgirlsnetball@gmail.com. You will always have the unwavering support of the Alumni & Community Relations Department at Barker as well as the Old Barker Association, so you are never alone. Lauren will also be able to assist you with the transition so don't be afraid of stepping into the role!

Over the years, the Club has played in the night comp seasons

along with the Saturday winter competition at HDNA.

If you would like more information about the Club and to get involved, please email barkeroldgirlsnetball@gmail.com for more information.

Lauren Kirkby (07)
President: 0414 837 992



Old Barker Rugby

The Old Barker Rugby Club has entered the 2022 season with ambition and passion following a productive pre-season and the opening of a brand-new club house at Turramurra Memorial Park. Whilst the Club's 2021 season was cut short due to COVID interruptions, the Club finds itself in a new division, eager to grasp all the opportunities that NSW suburban rugby union offers.

The boys' season commenced in Round 1 against Old Ignatians Rugby Club. The Colts team coached by **Sam Northcott (09)** began the season with a hard-fought but unfortunate loss, going down 20-5, with **John Krieger (19)** receiving man of the match. 1st and 2nd Grade saw more success, winning 22-17 and 46-17 respectively. Debutant **Harry Davis (21)** starred scoring a try for both Colts and 2nd grade, Alex Wall outstanding and everywhere on the field and **Matt Hayter (10)** scored four tries, simply superb!

The Club's Women's 7s team played in the first tournament of the season, the Subbies Women's

7s, taking the win in the Plate final against north shore rivals, Lindfield. Our BOBETTEs played awesome rugby, winning their pool games against Newport, Briars and Cronulla and losing only one game to Renegades, before winning the Plate final. **Mollie Phipps**, **Latecia Lolohea (22)** and **Jacqueline Hamilton (21)** scored try after try and **Liv McEwen (15)**, **Alana Sargent**, **Georgia Breckenridge (18)** and **Payton Metzmacher (19)** were each outstanding amongst a BOBETTEs team that looks like they have a successful 2022 season ahead.

The inclusive and engaging community that the Club offers is always open to players and supporters, who are now able to enjoy the mentioned club house with outstanding locker room and canteen facilities.

Watch for details for our annual Ladies Day, later in the season, which is always memorable. Be sure to follow the Club on Instagram and Facebook to keep updated with all relevant news, fixtures and events!

Jack Finnegan (14)
www.oldbarkerrugby.com



OBA Careers and Networking

The OBA committee is working on ideas for alumni networking and mentoring. These initiatives will help OBA members from various years, professions, interests and career stages to network and learn from each other.

To help us facilitate communication via LinkedIn we would love you to do three things:

1. Join our group the **Official Barker College Alumni**
2. Switch on notifications so that you get our updates
3. Invite your other Barker LinkedIn connections to join as well so we build the community

Of course, if you have information that you feel would benefit other OBA members, we'd welcome your posts in this group too.



Alumni Volunteers

We are so thankful to our alumni for the generous support given to our current students.

Some recent contributions include: the Year 11 Career Mentoring Program, Careers Evening, Women & Girls in Science, Robotics, Book Week, ANZAC Day, Service Learning projects, Debating, Music and Drama, presenting awards, social media, the Barker Institute, business case studies, and guest speakers sharing their experiences aligned to curriculum topics with student groups across the School.

If you are keen to contribute and would like to be contacted for future virtual and in-person opportunities, please email **Karina Drummond** - kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au or phone 02 8438 7283

OBA Groups

OBA Big Band

The OBA Big Band hit a new milestone this year, recording our first album in the studio! We recorded six pieces over a two-day period at Yap Yap Studios in Coogee. The rhythm section and soloists recorded first, laying down the foundation tracks. The trumpets, trombones and saxes recorded over the top the following day. Many found the experience to be exciting yet oddly surreal. The rhythm section had to record with missing horn parts. The horns had to record over a rhythm

section without any visual cues. Although most of the notes are in ink, it's a bizarre feeling when members aren't in the room.

We are still fresh out of the studio and are eager to see the final result. The tracks are being mixed and mastered and we are yet to commission the album art. Many members are eager to get CDs and even vinyls! In the meantime, you can listen to our non-studio recordings and find out more at www.OBABigBand.com

Luke Davis (09)



OBA Support for Life

Access free mental health support as a Barker Alumni.

This year has shown us that taking care of our communities and our collective wellbeing is of absolute importance. New challenges have relied on resilience, connection, and developing skills to cope with changes. In the interest of being there for you on your journey beyond being a Barker student we want to offer you support for your mental wellbeing.

Support for Life, an initiative of the Old Barker Association that has been running for the past three years, has recently

partnered with My Mirror online psychology to provide access to three videoconferencing sessions with an experienced psychologist at no cost to you. My Mirror is a leader in "online" mental health care and provides access to skilled professionals of many demographics with focused specialisation in critical areas such as anxiety, depression, domestic violence, substance abuse, career difficulties and so much more.

My Mirror psychology sessions can be accessed from the comfort of home or from any device up to 21 hours a day, 7 days a week. These sessions are available to anyone feeling like they would benefit

from talking to someone to get on track with how they are feeling and navigating life's challenges. You do not require a mental health diagnosis to access or benefit from My Mirror sessions. My Mirror psychologists use evidence-based strategies to help you build skills and strategies for resilience and agency in your life.

For more information and details on how to access these sessions please see link: <https://landing.mymirror.com.au/old-barker-association>

Talk to an online psychologist today

Old Barker Association is supporting you with 3 sessions with My Mirror online psychologist.



**OBA
Support
for Life** 

OBA Christian Fellowship

The OBACF recently enjoyed our annual Easter Breakfast in person at Barker. We heard from Joshua Charles, a 2018 graduate and current ministry apprentice, on the Easter story. We also enjoyed catching up with each other and welcoming some new faces.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for upcoming events and reach out to any friends that might be interested in joining the fellowship!

The OBACF aims to offer an opportunity for the multi-generational network of Barker Alumni to meet, connect and encourage one another in their faith journeys. We would love to grow our network even more. If you are interested in joining, please join our Facebook Group by private messaging **Georgia Breckenridge (18)** or contact Karina Drummond kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

Georgia Breckenridge (18)



OBA Seniors

If you graduated from Barker 50 years ago you are now a member of The Old Barker Association Seniors. This is a social group who organise a number of events each year. We look forward to seeing you at our next OBA Seniors event.

If you would like further information, please contact the Alumni and Community Relations Office on (02) 8438 7283 or oba@barker.nsw.edu.au

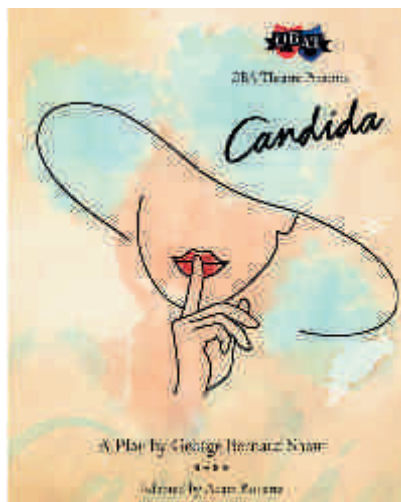
Ian Pont (63)
Honorary Secretary

Old Barker Association Theatre Group

The OBA Theatre Company is excited to announce two shows this year; the long anticipated "Candida" by George Bernard Shaw, but first an award-winning performance by friend of the company Luke Townson in his original show "Green Tea".

"Green Tea" is an adaptation of Sheridan La Fanu's chilling Victorian Gothic novella of the same name, detailing the story of Reverend Jennings's troubled state as he questions his own faith and his sanity. Luke Townson is a seasoned writer and actor, and after touring the show across the country brought his show to the Barker stage in June as part of an extended Sydney tour this year, yet to be announced, before heading over to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival later in the year.

And of course, the company's long-awaited production of "Candida" will be taking the stage on June 23, 24, and 25. This Shavian masterpiece takes us back to turn of the 20th century London, a rapidly modernising city, where we meet Reverend James Mavor Morell who is helping to drive



social and worker reform through the increasingly popular ideas of Christian Socialism. However, the return of his wife Candida and of the young poet Eugene Marchbanks brings unexpected conflict in the discovery that Marchbanks has fallen in love with Candida. The show is a sharp, witty, enthralling piece of early modern English theatre, bringing the previously favoured world of farce and satire into a modernised skin of early realism.



For more details on shows and all things OBAT, visit our Facebook and Instagram.

<https://www.facebook.com/oba.theatre>

<https://www.instagram.com/oba.theatre>

Adam Roberts (14)



Community Events

Class of 1991 - 30 Year Reunion

On April 2 the class of 1991 finally celebrated their 30 year reunion. Despite numbers being slightly down as some were still trying to avoid COVID, a great night was had by all who attended.

Thanks to Scott Brown, the venue and food at Hinchliff House was amazing!

Everyone was in great form and didn't want the night to end. Luckily Hinchcliff House has the awesome Apollonia bar downstairs, so we didn't have to go far to continue the celebrations. Perhaps a few sore heads the morning after, but totally worth it!

Vanessa Bennett

Class of 1992 - 30 Year Reunion

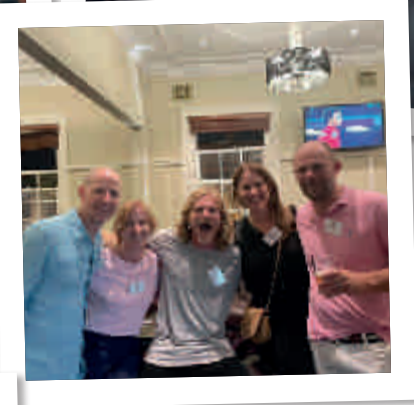
In the midst of the Sydney March storms over 70 members of the Barker Class of 1992 gathered at the Crows Nest Hotel to celebrate 30 years since leaving school. The faces all still looked amazingly familiar (albeit a number of the gents are wearing their hair a little more "close cropped" these days) and there was much laughing, catching up and reminiscing about the golden years of our days at Barker. Until the 40th reunion!

Jeff Reid

Class of 1995 - 25 Year Reunion

After a couple of false starts I'm so glad the Class of 1995 25-year reunion which became the 2022 27-year reunion could take place on Saturday 19 March. Sadly we had a few last minute COVID cancellations but it was still a fantastic turnout with 70 people coming along. It was great to see so many happy faces and lots of laughs. Many people said we should catch up more often so luckily we only have three years until our next catch up at the 30 year reunion!

Dimity Brown (Macleod)





OBA Seniors Back to Barker Day

We were delighted to welcome our OBA Seniors for their Back to Barker Day on Wednesday 11 May 2022. Alumni guests ranged from the Classes of 1948 to 1970 with many regular attendees as well as those attending for this first time such as **Jay Brosius (64)** and his wife who were visiting from the USA. This year's program included a Robotics demonstration where the group learned about the design and build process and the skills the students develop throughout, before watching the robot in action. The students also shared their experiences in the recent competition held in the USA and how the Robotics team imparts their knowledge and assists other schools.

The OBA Seniors enjoyed the Q&A session with the students following the presentation. After morning tea, the group moved to the BCMA Theatre for a sneak peek of scenes from the Year 10 play 'Romeo & Juliet' which was opening that night. What a treat to see the stage production facilities Barker students enjoy today. The OBA Seniors had the opportunity to interact with students before a backstage tour of the Drama classrooms and props areas. Some of the alumni enjoyed catching up with grandchildren who are current students at Barker during the day. Lunch was held in the Rev. John Griffiths Courtyard and we were delighted **John Griffiths (48)** joined us this year. We were also very thankful for such a sunny autumn day!

OBA Seniors Luncheon

The first OBA Seniors event for the year was an enjoyable luncheon at the Hornsby RSL Club with around 80 OBA Seniors attending from the Class of 1948 through to the Class of 1971.

Tony Gamson (78) and his wife Meegan were special guests and the OBA Seniors committee presented Tony with a special award honouring his outstanding service to Barker College in his roles as OBA President and in recent years as an OBA Nominee to the Council of Barker College.

The guest speaker for this year's event was Harley Medcalf from the Class of 1969 who shared his experiences spanning a career of over 50 years as an entertainment and concert promoter, theatre producer and manager. He shared many fascinating stories and kept the audience enthralled.

Phillip Heath provided an update on Barker in 2022 and enjoyed conversations with many of the attendees.

Karina Drummond
 Director of Alumni & Community Relations



Personal Notes

(Number in brackets is the alumni year)

John Cocks (53) was awarded the Australian Masters Swimmer of the Year 2021. This award is for the swimmer gaining the highest number of points over a calendar year in competition in FINA recognised meets. John has also been named one of the Top 12 Masters Swimmers by the American Swimming Magazine, "Swimming World" due to him breaking four World Records in his age group for the 200m and 400m Individual Medleys, the 100m Butterfly, as well as the 200m Breaststroke. This is an incredible achievement especially considering John spent most of the year in "lockdown" in Melbourne. John was a keen swimmer when he was at Barker and was Swimming Captain in his senior year. After Barker John stopped swimming and focused on Rugby instead, was captain of the Under 19 squad in Victoria and later played for the Wallabies. He then spent his career as a consultant surgeon and helped introduce laparoscopic (keyhole) abdominal surgery in Australia. John didn't return to swimming until he was in his 70s and retired. He now enjoys breaking world records! Unfortunately John missed the recent National Titles as he and his wife had COVID and were unable to attend but looks forward to further competitive swimming soon.



Bruce Edwardes (54) met Barker students before they embarked on a hike in the Blue Mountains after he spotted the BC logo on the caps which a few students were wearing. Bruce, now aged 84 and living in Canberra, was a day boy at Barker in the 1950s. He still keeps close tabs on the goings on at his alma mater and expressed how amazed and impressed

he is by the incredible opportunities such as outdoor education at The Grange that today's Barker students enjoy. Bruce has never been to The Grange but is now determined to pay a visit! He was thrilled to see the students carrying packs and navigating their way in the bush and stressed the importance of keeping up one's fitness! He reminded the group how lucky they were to be Barker and left a lasting impression on the students with his positive enthusiasm for life.



John Robert Warneford (55) remembers great years at Barker between 1951-1955. Excellent teachers under Headmaster Bill Leslie. Keeps in contact with Bob Roberts, Tom Garrick, Richard Solomon, Ross Barwick, Bob Charley and Neil Thomas. Our extended family are now 3rd generation at Barker.

Anna Reid (Ward 81) returned to Barker in March to adjudicate Barker students during their Music Concerto Competition Final. Anna is the Dean of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and has been an orchestral and chamber musician during her early career playing cello and viola da gamba. Her focus at the SCM has been to introduce equity schemes to ensure that all students of musical talent are able to enter the SCM regardless of the location of their schooling. She also researches in the areas of creative thinking and practice, sustainability, and cultural expression. Professor Reid is also well connected with Barker. Her father, David Ward, commenced his long career here in 1962, her brother **James (80)** (and all of his children) were educated at Barker. Anna's daughter **Elizabeth (04)**, also attended the School.

Alyssa Healy (08) successfully hit the highest ever individual score in an ODI World Cup final (170), overtaking Adam Gilchrist's 149.



Sarah Ford (14) has signed with the Sydney Swans ahead of Sydney's inaugural season, which commences later this year.

Caity Plummer (15) made her professional Music Theatre debut with the Australian Premiere cast of Bonnie and Clyde as Dance Captain and On-Stage Swing with Hayes Theatre Co.



Curtis Abagi (16) from Ryde Salvation Army worked with Barker's Social Justice Captains Roy and Saloni for the Red Shield Appeal School's Launch this year.



William Solomon (17), Rhys Mackintosh (20) & Rowan Gray (21) went against Barker 1sts to debate the topic 'Cancelling of public figures is a meaningful way to bring about social change'. A high-quality debate, won by the Alumni on the negative side of the topic. Lots of high-quality rhetoric on display, enjoyed by the crowd of students and staff who listened in!



Tom McPherson (18) and Jenna Wright (18) were awarded Horizon Scholarships by AgriFutures Australia. Only 20 are awarded across Australia each year and the recipients are chosen as future young leaders in Agriculture who are doing Agriculture-related degrees at university.



Piper Duck (19) made her Wallaroos Rugby debut on Friday 6 May 2022.



Benjamin Goldman (21) has been awarded a Barton Fund Scholarship from the Classical Languages Teachers' Association for his studies of Latin and Classics in his first year at Sydney University.



Liberty Jacob (21), our 2021 Young Scientist of the Year, won a 3rd Place Grand Award in the category of Biomedical Engineering. Her HSC Design and Technology project "Walking Tall" poles are a preventative device aimed at decreasing the number of falls by improving balance in older adults. Building on the proven technology of Nordic hiking poles and inspired by the paralympic running blade and the biomimicry of the tail of the Australian kangaroo, Liberty's product includes two poles, each with a force-absorbing blade attachment at the base.



Personal Notes

Max Zhao (21), was one of ten winners (US \$1,200) of the China Association for Science and Technology Award. His HSC Design and Technology project was a remote-control raft cleaner that can scoop up plastic pollution that aggregates in confined areas close to shore such as jetties and under bridges.



Alana Kavanagh (21) has been selected in the Australian Junior (Under 21) Women's Jillaroos Squad.

Neil Tucker (Headmaster 1986-1995) in February 2021 was awarded his PhD degree which was formally presented in April this year. This completes a life-long learning journey of seven universities and 30 years of tertiary study in various disciplines. The thesis topic for his doctorate is "Educating for Humanity: The holistic principle. A paradigm for 21st century early childhood and school education. A gathering of voices." His thesis examines a declaration by UNESCO (1972) that there is a fundamental aim for education: The development of complete human beings. In preparation, besides 2000 sources, Neil also undertook a year-long field research project into an Australian PK-6 pedagogy (involving state, Catholic and Indigenous schools), and planned an early childhood centre. Neil also drew on his previous experience in a Steiner school and two years in an International School offering the IB. In total Neil has visited over 200 schools in Australia and 16 countries. His original contribution to the 'world of education' creates a jigsaw of that world and develops a critical argument not previously integrated. We look forward to Neil presenting to the Barker Institute in the near future.



Congratulations **Aryan Sethi (21)**, who received the Highly Commended award for the Tertiary category at the Mosman Youth Art Prize. Aryan submitted an acrylic painting of prominent Punjabi singer Diljit Dosanjh, alongside four traditional ceramic water vessels. Aryan is pictured here with Artist Ken Done, whom he had the opportunity to meet.



Baptisms

26 February, Bella Anne Susan, daughter of Melanie and **Luke Doran (06)**

19 March, Beau Terry Donald, son of **Laura McGregor(10)** and Kale Disher

19 March, Olivia, daughter of Lana Sturmer and **Andrew Phelan (02)**



2 April, Thomas John, son of **Sophie (Reid 08)** and James Cady



30 April, Harrison Jude, son of **Loren (Place 06)** and Michael Seager

7 May, Nathaniel Graeme, son of Catherine and **Brendon Long (04)**

Obituaries

(Number in brackets is the alumni year)

David Gary Francis (55) 1937 - 2021



David attended Barker College from 1946 [Y2] to 1954 [Y10] where he gained his leaving certificate in 1953.

David or 'Duck' as he was known by all, had wonderful memories of his time at Barker especially the lifelong friendships he made. Dad was a knock-about person with a deep loyalty to his friends.

Peter Marsh (55) was one of those lifelong friends who recounted at Dad's service some of the great memories they all forged.

One memory that Peter mentioned had also been recounted by Dad over the years, referring to his great rugby ability in the 1st XV. One day in particular he scored the winning try and was carried from the field on the shoulders of his teammates. That feat did not go unnoticed by the principal of the day William Leslie.

Although that was a proud moment for him, he was also a very unassuming person who didn't go out of his way to seek accolades but did his best and the end results speak for themselves.

In fact, I feel that Dad emulated the school's motto, 'Honor Non Honores' and the fact that his father Cec. who worked for William Arnott's with their motto being 'Honesty is the best Policy', cementing these core beliefs into his DNA.

In 1954 David was part of the Barker contingent to greet Queen Elizabeth II as a drummer, he never forgot what it meant to be at that ceremony.

After leaving Barker David and his brother Geoff started a bike shop in Pymble where Peter Marsh also recounted the time where David, Ian Norman and he, may have been few girls in the car as well, were hurtling around Hornsby in a 1927 Essex when a wheel passed them. David said "That wheel looks very familiar". In fact it was from the Essex and it ended up in the bush at the end of Palmerston Road Hornsby. Not a way to impress those in the car but a very funny situation.

Prior to moving to Nowra to join the family business and while completing his National Service at Holsworthy in Sydney, David attended a dance in aid of children with special needs where he met a recently arrived young British lass Margaret. They were married in July 1958 and built a home in Beinda Street, Bomaderry. Son Gary arrived, followed two years later by his sister Deb.

David joined his father Cec and brother Geoff in the family business at Nowra on the corner of Berry and Norths Street known as Francis Garage. David taking to the

mechanical work, while his brother Geoff was a master of the spare parts.

This business expanded and established Francis Auto Electrical in Kinghorne Street Nowra, where Bendigo Bank is today located. While the Francis Garage was demolished and the Shoalhaven Autoport established on the same location in the mid to late '60s, the auto electrical business was brought back to this complex around 1980. Over the years David had many apprentices, full time and casuals working for the business and it was extremely humbling to see many of them attend his funeral to pay their respects.

In the early days of the business his wife Margaret recalls David rewiring and rebuilding all types of motors and they would undertake deliveries up and down the coast. The phone would ring at all times over the weekend with clients seeking his assistance and expertise in the repair of their truck, tractor, car and any type of vehicle. We remember Dad heading off to assist any day and any time.

In the 1970s David and a few of his local friends decided to get into property developing, the first being a sub-division in Berry with Lance Sewell and Max Lamond. This went very well and started David down the track of property developing where he built up an impressive portfolio over the years of both commercial and residential investments.

Obituaries

He was very passionate about making a difference and keeping a focus on local. Local employment, local procurements and local investing.

Over the years he was a keen supporter of many charities including the guide dogs, assistance dogs, and later in life Variety where he undertook a couple of Bashes with mates in an old ambulance and dressed as Batman. That was a sight to behold.

He had a love of history and in particular Nowra's history and could tell you some fantastic stories of times gone by - remembering clearly when Nowra's only car park was actually a paddock with horses in it.

He would often visit local nursing homes and give history talks, of course including the time the circus came to town and the elephant decided to lie down on the Shoalhaven River bridge and wouldn't budge.

Community-minded he was involved in the local Chamber of Commerce, the Nowra Lions Club, was an A grade player at the Nowra Golf Club, even managing to secure two holes in ones just weeks apart that were featured in the Daily Telegraph as a news story.

David, Dad enjoyed life to the full, had lifelong friends, generous to those in need, travel and plenty of life stories.

In the end he died peacefully on the 31 December 2021 at 7am surrounded by his family after finally succumbing to that hideous disease Dementia which he bravely fought.

David is survived by his wife Margaret, children Gary and Deb, his four grandchildren Naomi, Elisha, Nicholas and Alex and great grandchildren Alaska, Aliya and Everest.

Gary Francis

Warwick Lionel Lane (51) 1935 - 2022



Warwick Lionel Lane was born at the War Memorial Hospital in Waverley, to parents Lionel and Dulcie Lane on 16 February 1935 and attended Barker as a day student and boarder from 1944 to 1951 with his younger brother **Donald Fletcher Lane (52)**. He excelled in both the classroom and the sporting field, representing the school as a prefect, playing in the Rugby 1st XV and captaining the 1st XI Cricket team.

After school he went onto technical college to pursue an accountancy qualification and not long after joined Paint Industries at Mortlake (also known as Anzol Paints). This was a family business set up by his father with two other families, the Blackwells and Taubmans.

In 1959, he met and married Jennifer Dundas-Smith. Together they had three beautiful girls Suzanne, Carolyn and Anna.

In the years that followed, Warwick developed his skills in business and management and after his father's death in 1975 went on to become the Managing Director and CEO of Anzol. His considerable abilities were instrumental in sustaining the company through the economic hardships of the late 1980s and built the company into a force in the industrial surface coatings world providing products to a wide range of end users including aerospace coatings for Qantas jets, internal can coatings, water-based road marking paints for the government and coil coating finishes for BHP Colorbond products. The great success of the company allowed it to move from the original 1950s factory in Mortlake to extensive,

modern facilities in Western Sydney and subsequently made it a keen takeover target to be eventually acquired by the international company Valspar in 1998. On reflection, the success of Anzol was a testament to Warwick as a man of great integrity and consideration for any decisions of consequence. He was well-respected by his peers in the industry, fellow owners of the company and all his employees.

In 1986 he married Janice Pamela Procter and along with her two boys **Scott Procter (82)** and **Todd Procter (84)**, a new chapter of Warwick's life began. Together they had a long, strong and happy marriage and shared a great enthusiasm for life, music, travel, golf, entertaining, fine food and wine.

Retirement followed the successful sale of Anzol which also coincided with Warwick and Jan's move to Burradoo in the Southern Highlands. It wasn't in Warwick's nature to just spend all his time sitting on the couch and watch the football - however this past-time did feature regularly. He was inherently a social creature who indulged his passion for keeping up with friends, playing golf and travelling while still staying in contact with Barker as the Southern Highlands contact.

Warwick loved golf and was a member of Avondale Golf club for 55 years and on his move to Burradoo a keen member of the Bowral Golf Club. As the Club Treasurer for Avondale for several years, Warwick was an integral part of the group that organised the sale of property connected to the club which put Avondale in such a wonderful and secure financial position it enjoys today.

Warwick had a deep love of music and together with Jan became patrons of the Sydney Welsh Choir which they supported by accompanying the choir on several overseas tours, attending

functions, numerous concerts and gave freely to enable the choir to produce their newsletter and made contributions towards replacing the choir's electronic piano and uniforms.

Warwick was a strong, stoic, smart, successful man, respected and resourceful, a leader in business, a family man who was known for his legendary Christmas speeches, a traditional man at heart with a strong moral compass, who always showed genuine concern for others. He was inherently a good person who often showed significant generosity whether it was being a benefactor to many charities or being there in times of need for the family.

Unfortunately, Warwick spent the last 12 years of his life with ill health, battling melanoma and the auto immune condition Myasthenia Gravis. He passed away peacefully on Thursday 28 April 2022. He leaves behind his beloved wife and partner of nearly 40 years, Jan, his three daughters Suzanne Logan, Carolyn Levin and Anna Lane, his stepsons Scott Procter (1975-82) and Todd Procter (1977-84) and his grandchildren Alexander Logan (attended Barker 2008-9), William Logan, Courtney and Chelsea Levin, Emily Vilimas (nee Procter) (boarder and day student from 2010-2012) and Rachel and Kate Procter. Warwick will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Scott Procter (82)

John William Rothe (41) 1924 - 2021



John attended Barker as a boarder from 1939 to 1941. His father **Christian (1909)** and his grandsons **Simon Kemp (97)** and **Adrian Kemp**

(98) also attended Barker. John was a keen cricketer while at Barker playing in the 2nd XI Cricket team in 1940 (CAS Joint Premiers) and was a member of the 1st XI Cricket team in 1941. In his final year John was a Prefect and recipient of a Form V General Merit Prize. The four old boys all played in the 1st XI cricket team.

John joined the RAAF as Flight Officer and served from 1943 to 1945 in Australia and England. On his return to Australia, he joined CSR as Christian was the General Manager. He was transferred to Fiji as a Field Officer from 1946 to 1965. On his return to Sydney, John worked at the CSR Head Office in the Purchasing and Share Departments until he was made redundant in 1978. He then worked part-time for Professional Share Registries and ERA until his retirement in 1987.

John and his wife Joan travelled to Hong Kong, Japan, Hawaii, UK, China, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea to visit his daughter Louise who lives there.

John enjoyed playing golf, bowls, tennis and swam regularly. He was an avid reader.

John, late of Vaucluse and Belrose passed away on 19 November 2021 (his wife passed away 27 December 2001). He is survived by four daughters Susan Fisher, Wendy Kemp, Annette Brown, Louise Franklin, 13 grandchildren (1 grandchild pre-deceased) and 17 great grandchildren.

Tsung Gin Lee (45) 1926 - 2022



Tsung joined Barker College at the start of high school directly from mainland China. Tsung attended from 1941 to 1945. He spoke very little English and used

a pocket dictionary to talk to his fellow students (he produced the dictionary many years later at a Barker Over 70s event). Tsung quickly gained the respect of Headmaster W S Leslie and his fellow students for his strong work ethic and his aptitude for academia and sports. In his final year at Barker Tsung was a Prefect, Captain of the 1st XV Rugby team and a member of the Athletics team.

His classmate, **Bill Gorman (44)** had this anecdote to share - "Tsung Lee was a tough little bloke! Four of us tried to put him in a laundry basket outside Carter House - he ended up putting us four in! Also, one time when we were playing football, Tsung Lee had the ball running down the sideline - when one of the opposition tried to bounce him over, he just bounced back off him - you should have seen the look on his face - he must have thought he had hit a brick wall."

Tsung's daughter Linda shared the following stories about her father's time at Barker:

"Buster" John Rickard was a close friend since they sat together in class on Tsung's first day at school. Buster was a larrikin who always got into trouble, got the most canes. Tsung's bed was next to Buster's in the boarding house dormitory and they were called "The Odd Couple". Tsung and Buster started the public speaking club Rostrum #23 after school in their early twenties. They remained friends for decades attending their children's weddings.

Tsung brought his own basketball from China. He adapted to rugby with his hand skills from basketball and kicking skills from soccer. In his first rugby season he played in the 2nd XV as winger, second season he played in the 1st XV and in his final year he was the captain of the 1st XV which was quite unique being Chinese.

Tsung preferred staying at school on the weekends and joined cadets to earn respect after he was bullied.

He was selected to go to officers' camp and came fourth in the state but couldn't become a commissioned officer because he was not an Australian citizen or British-born.

Tsung also took up boxing with teacher Tommy Hanley who was an Australian fly weight champion who taught him extra moves after class.

He passed his intermediate certificate even in French translating to English then to Chinese. Following school, Tsung's father wanted him to work in the business and not go to university.

He was always grateful to Barker College for his schooling saying they encouraged all round development.

Tsung's connection to Barker continued over the years. His children, **Michael (72)** and **Bruce (78)** attended Barker as have many relatives in his extended family. Tsung was a founding committee executive of the Barker Over 70s group (now OBA Seniors), serving as their inaugural President from 2003 - 2006. He enjoyed the social connection with fellow alumni at the various events.

OBA Dinner

4 November 2022 | Multi-Purpose Hall

Elysse Morgan is the ABC's leading voice on business, finance and economics. She is an award winning journalist hosting Australia's most respected nightly business program The Business.

Her career began at Sky News in Canberra where she produced the award winning 2007 Election Agenda programs.

Elysse moved to the ABC as a rural reporter in 2009 and was based in Port Pirie, where she won several awards for her coverage of devastating drought as well as the fallout of the GFC and then subsequent mining boom on rural and regional communities.

She then moved to the NSW Rural team where she hosted the state-wide Country Hour program where she earned a reputation for tough interviews.

She has worked on Australia Network Business Today program as a reporter and producer and executive producer, the ABC's business desk reporting on leading current affairs programs including AM, PM, 730 and The Business.

Elysse is now host for The Business. She has earned a reputation for forensic and insightful interviews, bringing warmth and humour to what can be dry topics of business and economics.

Elysse is passionate about sharing her knowledge of the subject and regularly gives her time to schools and charities to help teach and inform people about finance.

Bookings: Visit www.barker.nsw.edu.au and click on the Payment option to book this OBA event.

Queries: Karina Drummond (02) 8438 7283 or events@barker.nsw.edu.au



OBA Annual Golf Day 2022

All Welcome
Friends | Colleagues | Clients

Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 11.00 am
RSVP: Wednesday 17 August 2022



OLD BARKER ASSOCIATION
Est 1908

Pennant Hills Golf Club

Green Fees & Catering (non PHGC Members): \$110.00 pp

Green Fees & Catering (PHGC Golf Members): \$55.00 pp

Cart Hire to be booked through PHGC (8860 5860)

To book: Visit www.barker.nsw.edu.au and click on the Payment option to book this OBA event.

Queries: Karina Drummond 8438 7283 or events@barker.nsw.edu.au



OLD BARKER ASSOCIATION
Est 1908



Introducing

Barker Alumni Mentoring

Your OBA is excited to launch our new alumni mentoring program. We want to connect inspirational Alumni leaders and entrepreneurs, with aspirational young graduates and professionals.

Our program will build a sense of belonging, create a culture of shared learning, and enhance personal and professional growth.

Become a Mentor Today

Help make a difference for recent leavers during this time of uncertainty, isolation and anxiety, whilst building connections for greater futures.

Our first step is to recruit alumni from all industries and skills with a passion to give back.

Simply visit the link below to register and learn how you can contribute.

oba.net.au/alumnimentoring



Barker

Barker Community Events 2022

Class Reunions

1962 – 60 Year Reunion

Fri 5 Aug

Graham Lawson
0451 442 933
emerit1@y7mail.com

1957 – 65 Year Reunion

Fri 5 Aug

John Donovan
0416 140 202
johndonovan@ozemail.com.au

1971 – 50 Year Reunion

Sat 6 Aug

Wolfgang Hofbrucker
0428 993 964
w.hofbrucker@gmail.com

Mike Langford

0414 781 291
driffing@bigpond.net.au

1967 – 55 Year Reunion

Sat 3 Sep

Ralf Rendall
0411 670 294
rendallholdings.ralf@bigpond.net.au

Peter McIntyre

0418 972 040
peter@mcin.com.au

1977 – 45 Year Reunion

Sat 10 Sept

Don Gilchrist
0476 874 727
gilchristdon7@gmail.com

1982 – 40 Year Reunion

Sat 23 Sep

Margot Renton
margot.renton@gmail.com

Kym Fowler

kym@implementmktg.com

Penny Edney (Gore)

penny.edney.office@gmail.com

Meg Brodie (Timmins)

megan@mednews.com.au

1981 – 40 Year Reunion

Sun 2 Oct

Jo Camp (Fisher)
0407 951 356
jo.camp@pearson.com

Jenni-Lee Williams (Lennon)

0412 412 726
jennilee13@mac.com

1987 – 35 Year Reunion

Sat 22 Oct

Genevieve Bayliss-Smith
Nicki Green (Calford)
Micky Mylne (Barnsdall)
barker87reunion@gmail.com

1972 – 50 Year Reunion

Sat 29 Oct

Malcolm Day
02 9924 6522
malcolmrday@hotmail.com

David Treloar

0412 713 275
dtreloar@bigpond.net.au

1986 – 35 Year Reunion

Sat 5 Nov

Mark Cooper
0400 344 697

Gaile Smith (Yeates)

0412 784 221

Jodie Elliott (Conomos)

0457 724 099

2017 – 5 Year Reunion

Fri 18 Nov

Savannah Brown
events@barker.nsw.edu.au

OBA Events

OBA AGM

Wed 27 July

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

OBA Golf Day

Tue 6 Sep

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

OBA Meeting

Wed 14 Sep

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

OBA Annual Dinner

Fri 4 Nov

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

OBA Seniors Events

AGM, Luncheon & Rugby

Sat 6 Aug

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

Day Trip to Wollombi

Thursday 1 Sept

Karina Drummond
(02) 8438 7283
kdrummond@barker.nsw.edu.au

Regional Events

Southern Highlands

Sat 25 June

Julie Fitzpatrick
02 8438 7240
events@barker.nsw.edu.au

Sunshine Coast

Sun 6 Nov

Brian Allen (53)
0417 644 016
bballen314@gmail.com

Canberra

Fri 2 Dec

Andrew McColl (74)
0422 985 281
As.mccoll@icloud.com

Regional Events

Regional events provide a great opportunity to connect with members of the Barker community in your area.

Please contact community@barker.nsw.edu.au for information about regional events or to update your contact details if you are living in a different location to your Barker mailing address so we can invite you too!

Privacy

Due to changes in Privacy Legislation we are required to inform you that your contact details may be shared with OBA reunion organisers with the strict guidelines that they are only to be used for the purposes of organising your OBA reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office if you wish to keep your details private.

Photos

Photos from your event may be posted on the OBA Website (www.oba.net.au), the Alumni Facebook page (www.facebook.com/barkercollegealumni), the Alumni Instagram page (www.instagram.com/barkercollegealumni) and in The Barker magazine. For further queries please contact the Alumni Office.



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