

VILLA VOICE

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**CHANGING
OF THE**
Guard

**MISSION
POSSIBLE**

**A YEAR TO
CELEBRATE**

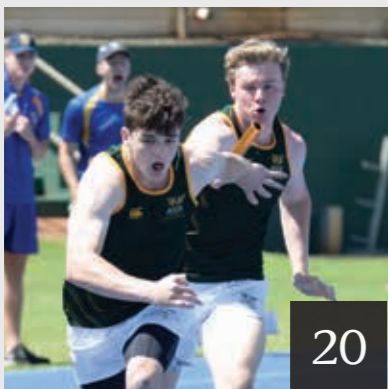
**VILLA PARK
MEMORIES**

Developing fine young men





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PRINCIPAL'S *welcome*

MR MARK STOWER — COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

It is with a touch of sadness that I write this final Principal's Welcome for the Villa Voice. I remember so clearly the day I first walked into Villanova College as Principal. I was very excited to begin, knowing that I followed in the footsteps of many outstanding leaders.

Over the past seven years I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Principal and serving the community of Villanova College. I have met so many amazing people who have given so generously to the College. People like the late Charlie Fisher, John Godwin, Fr Peter Wieneke and Amanda Waterson to name just a few. There are many in our community who have been connected to the College over many years and still remain passionate about the education of young men.

During my time at the College, we have had a number of events that have challenged our community. During these times I have always known our community will come together to support each other. The support of our families continues to be a key strength of Villanova College and I can attest to the power of our collective strength when we come together with purpose.

As I come to the end of my career, I reflect on all the 'scallywags' that I have taught. The characters that have made me laugh and reminded me to not take myself too seriously. I have been fortunate to have many wonderful mentors that have guided me along the way and I hope I have been able to put into practice all that they shared with me.

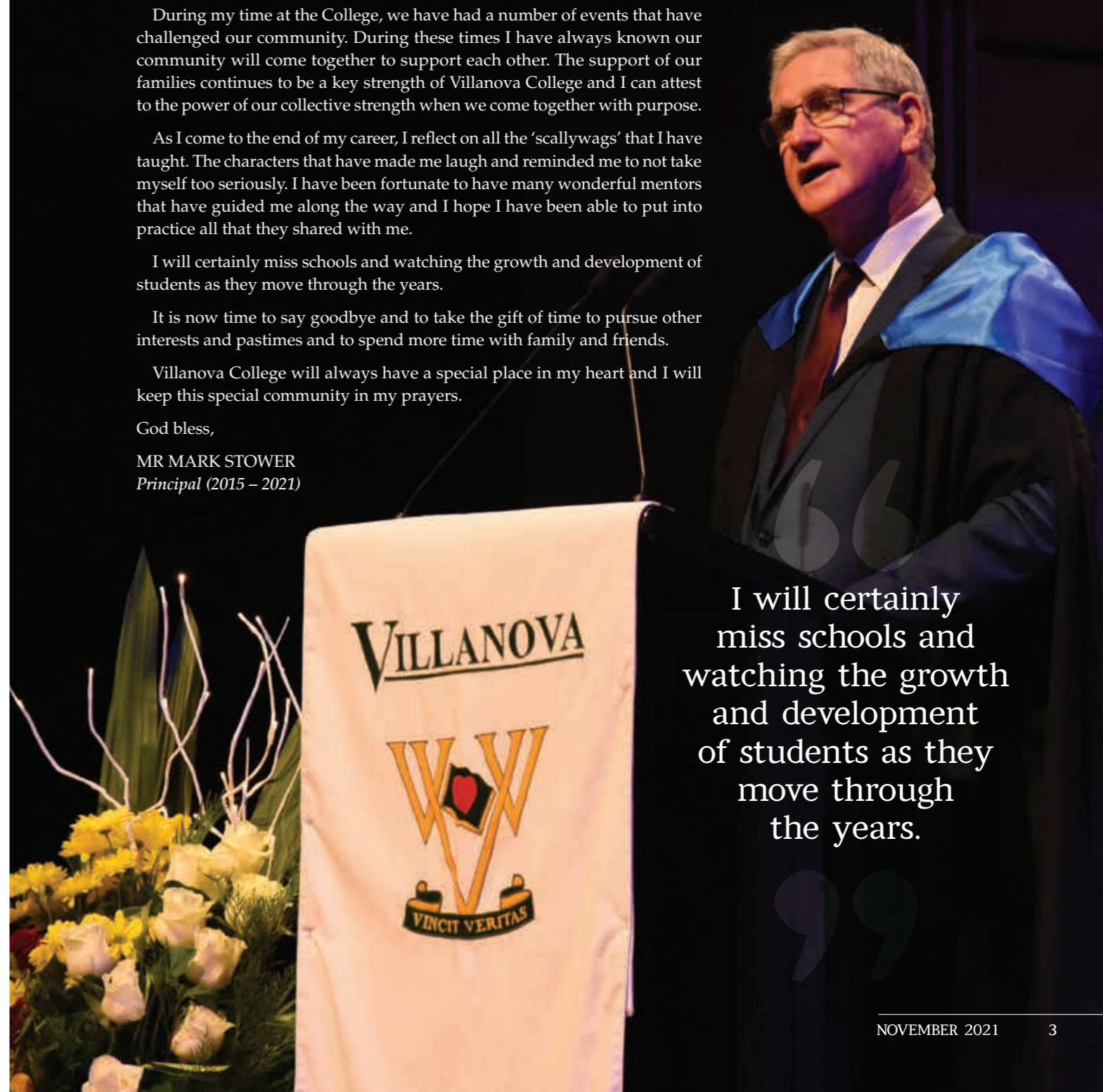
I will certainly miss schools and watching the growth and development of students as they move through the years.

It is now time to say goodbye and to take the gift of time to pursue other interests and pastimes and to spend more time with family and friends.

Villanova College will always have a special place in my heart and I will keep this special community in my prayers.

God bless,

MR MARK STOWER
Principal (2015 – 2021)



I will certainly miss schools and watching the growth and development of students as they move through the years.

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it. – MARIAN WRIGHT

Opening Young Hearts and Minds

At the conclusion of 2021, Villanova College farewells Principal Mr Mark Stower, who retires after 40+ years in education.

Mark Stower began his teaching career in 1981 at the ripe old age of 20 at Marcellin College in Enoggera – a graduate straight out of Kelvin Grove College of Advanced Education. Charged with teaching Year 8 and 9 Maths and Science students, the early years helped develop Mr Stower’s classroom and behaviour management skills. These same skills would see him go on to forge an outstanding 41-year career in education, 19 of those as principal.

Mr Stower laments on “simpler times” in the infancy of his career, “In those early days of my teaching career there were no computers, laptops or iPads and if you wanted to have a worksheet ready for the class you had to run off the sheets using a methylated spirits machine cranked by hand.”

He cites technology in the classroom and compliance as the biggest changes to the educational landscape during his career.

His first pastoral leadership position came just five years into his career, appointed Year 11 Master at Shalom College, a new co-educational school in Bundaberg. Here, Mark and his wife Leigh (a highly accomplished educator in her own right) welcomed Kirsten in 1988 and Ben in 1990.

His appointment as Dean of Students at St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace resulted in a move back to Brisbane in 1991 where he was instrumental in establishing the House system at Terrace. Roles at Terrace included Acting Deputy Principal for 12 months and College Dean from 2000–2002.

Mr Stower was appointed Principal of the Cathedral College in Rockhampton in 2003, calling the Beef Capital of Queensland home for seven years. It was here that Mr Stower says he learnt the most about leadership and being flexible and agile. He also developed his understanding of Indigenous education and the many issues facing Indigenous families seeking quality education for their children.

The family again transferred back to Brisbane when he accepted the position of Principal at Mt Maria College, Mitchelton (2010–2014). Mr Stower became Villanova’s

ninth Rector/Principal in 2015. Under his leadership, enrolments have grown by 12%.

Included in his list of key achievements during his tenure as Principal are the completion of an extensive building and refurbishment program (the St Thomas of Villanova Learning Centre is the largest single project in the College’s history) and the impact these new teaching spaces have had on student outcomes. Top of the list though, is his influence on students in his care.

“I have always striven to make a difference in the lives of young people. My greatest achievement will always be the impact I have had on students. Hopefully something I have said or did has made a difference in the lives of students that has motivated them to be a better person and to achieve their goals,” he said.

Mr Stower says it’s the people and community that make Villanova such a special place.

“The Augustinian Order welcomes all and I experienced a warm welcome from the very start of my principalship at the College.”

What of Villanova of the future? Mr Stower points to continued growth and development with the completion of the Master Plan at both the Coorparoo campus and Villanova Park. “I believe in the future we will see more high-rise classrooms and facilities as space becomes increasingly precious. Finding play spaces at the Coorparoo campus will remain a challenge for future planners.”

And his plans for retirement?

“Many people know I love boating and fishing so I plan to spend the next 12 months exploring the east coast of Australia and trying to catch big fish. Our daughter gets married in March and we are looking forward to a great family gathering on this special occasion. I also am looking forward to having time to pursue many interests including, bush walking, travelling and reading.

In farewelling an outstanding educator and Principal, the Villanova College community thanks Mr Stower for his dedicated service and contribution to the College and its students and wishes him endless days on the water reeling in big fish.



Shalom College Bundaberg 1980s

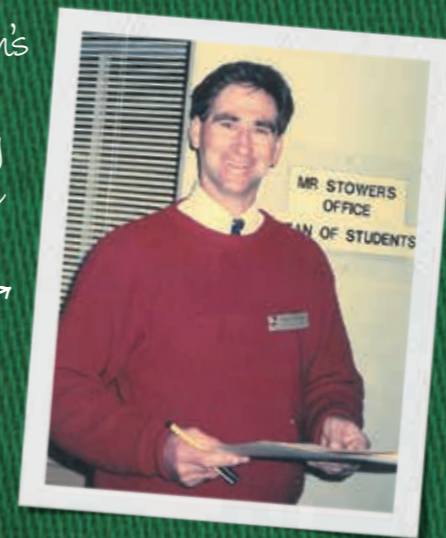
Marcellin College 1982



Graduation (Masters of Educational Leadership) 1999



St Joseph’s College Gregory Terrace 1990s



Mt Maria College Mitchelton 2013



The Cathedral College 2000s



'AUSTIN STOWERS'



Villanova College 2021

CHANGING OF THE *guard*

2022 will usher in a new era of leadership for Villanova College when Mr Paul Begg commences as the College's tenth Principal.

A Brisbane boy, Mr Begg grew up in Mt Gravatt and attended St Laurence's College. He is married to Natalie and they have two adult children, Ally who is a lawyer and Lewis who is about to enter his final year of medicine. Ollie (the Moodle) and Molly (the "not really sure") round out the Begg family.

Mr Begg joins Villanova from St Joseph's College, Coomera where he served as foundation Principal. Villa Voice recently caught up with Mr Begg to learn more about our next Principal, who it seems, already shares many connections with the Villa community.

What are you most excited about the role?

I am so honoured and excited to lead a Catholic boys' school of high academic and sporting standards with such a rich history. There are two perspectives to which I feel impassioned about starting this role at Villanova. Professionally, I love being a teacher and Villanova is a place where quality teaching and strong learning outcomes are encouraged and are clearly evidenced. Secondly, teaching and learning extends beyond the classroom and beyond examinations, the job of schools is to challenge and shape the character of young people. At Villanova there is a long history, aligned with the Augustinian traditions and values, that encourages and develops men of character. Quality teaching is about the formation of young people, their hearts, minds and bodies. As Principal, the challenge to encourage the growth of the "Villa man" excites me. It is the opportunity to be a part of forming men of humility, integrity, reflective faith, intellect, and justice. Creating the Villa man is about graduating young Augustinians, young men who respond to life's successes and challenges through reflection on Christ's story and who respond in Christian action. Is there a better job on the planet?

From a personal perspective I have spent 27 years leading, in various roles, Catholic Religious Institute schools, an Anglican school and Brisbane Catholic Education schools. The Villanova opportunity allows me to immerse myself in the Augustinian Charism and grow further in my faith. To understand and lead within the framework of Augustinian values and actions satisfies a want since I encountered my first 'Young Augustinians' at University. This is a wonderful and motivating opportunity.

What do you know about Villanova?

I have a long history with Villa. One of the original Augustinian priests that founded the school, Fr Denis O'Shea, went to school in Kerry, Ireland with my grandmother. Upon arrival in Australia, he would have Sunday lunch at my grandparents' home in Gordon Park when the school was located at Whinstanes. From a personal perspective though, growing up in Mt Gravatt and attending Catholic primary school all the boys only went to two places in Year 5: Lauries or Villa. As much as Fr O'Shea may have had lunch with my grandparents, the hold of the Irish Christian Brothers had me attend St Laurence's. Therefore, as so many Old Boys of Villa would know, the rivalry grew. Each year as you played against your best friends from primary school you were fiercely competitive whenever you met on the cricket pitch, rugby field or in the swimming pool but remained great friends outside the gates and after graduation. Swimming training with Leander at Langlands Park pool for nine years, and playing Rugby at Easts for six, had me cross paths and create lifelong friendships with many Villa boys.

What I know of the Villanova of today is that it is unashamedly a school of high academic and sporting standards and expectations and enjoys a great reputation for its music program. It graduates young men who grow in their success post school and move successfully into adult life. As a College it is a place where young men are encouraged and challenged to be their best and to treat all in the community with respect and dignity. I know the teachers are dedicated, authentic and committed to the boys and their learning.



Mr Begg, Ally, Lewis and Natalie

I know that parents and boys love, and are committed to, the success of their school and the "Green and Gold". I know that Villa boys are friends for life and finally, what I know from every single person I've spoken to since my appointment: "It's just a great school!"

What are your priorities for Villanova?

In starting at Villanova there are five key priorities to focus on as I begin my tenure. While broad, I believe that they will shore up Villanova's reputation as the leading school in boys' education.

- ▶ To consolidate and strengthen the current academic, sporting and music standards and success of the College.
- ▶ To identify and develop further opportunities where the students of the College may experience success and develop their personal future pathways
- ▶ To encourage and support staff growth and learning to further the College's reputation as an innovative and leading learning institution.
- ▶ To continue the development the College's strong student formation and wellbeing structures to ensure quality character growth in our young men.
- ▶ To ensure the College's long-term financial sustainability and continue to invest in quality educational initiatives and infrastructure to support the school's innovative education agenda.

What motivates you?

Student success: I get so much pleasure in seeing the students in my school achieve their goals. The impact of this means that I have to ensure the school culture allows boys to dream and for their goals to be set and met. I need to create an environment where plans to achieve goals

can mature and that there are structures, pathways and people present to encourage their success and remind them of the purpose of their journey.

Describe your leadership style?

As a leader I believe that there is a triumvirate of factors that I look to grow to ensure my leadership is informed, responsible, responsive and encourages those around me for the ultimate impact on students, College culture and growth. The first is that I spend considerable energy to build and maintain strong relationships where trust sits firmly with accountability. In a team you want to make sure that people know their roles and have the confidence and belief to be courageous in their actions.

Secondly, I understand, that as a leader I have wisdom, but I do not have all the answers. My experience is broad, filled with successes, failings, and learnings, but others have their own wisdom that can inform my path.

Listening to understand and consider a new perspective is important in both strategizing and decision making.

Finally, I aim to be present in the community. There are always times to stand on the balcony, but you must also be on the dancefloor. Decisions can't be "done to people", they have to be "made with people". As leader it is important that I understand the impact of decisions, especially those that may be met with concern or tension. This can only be done if you have spent time with your community and understand its needs and wishes.

Quality teaching is about the formation of young people, their hearts, minds and bodies.



EXPONENTIAL BRILLIANCE

Year 12 student, Patrick (Paddy) Perrier has been awarded a prize in the prestigious Australian Mathematics Competition, placing him in the top 0.3% of students nationwide.

Paddy's success comes on the back of outstanding academic results across his Senior studies. Recording exceptional grades in all seven of his ATAR subjects in 2021, Paddy has applied to study a Bachelor of Medical Science at Griffith University with plans to complete a Doctorate of Medicine and further specialty training in orthopaedics.

Paddy's Specialist Mathematics teacher, Mr Jamie Seefeld said Paddy was like no other student he had taught in relation to his work ethic and attention to detail. He said,

This Maths prize is thoroughly deserved as a reward for the many years of dedication and hard work.

Paddy is a third generation Villanovan with father Dan Perrier graduating in 1985 and both grandfathers Old Boys of the College, John Perrier Snr 1960 (dec) and David Green Snr 1957.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR A VILLA INSTITUTION

Long-serving teacher, Mr Graeme George has been awarded the 2021 Australian Institute of Physics (AIP) Excellence in Teaching Physics prize.

This award recognises Mr George's outstanding contribution to teaching at Villanova and his work with Physics students over many years. The AIP acknowledges Mr George's extensive and valuable contributions to physics education, both in inspiring his students and mentoring other physics teachers. The nomination for the award included testimonials from staff, students and Old Boys who have benefitted from Mr George's expertise and passion for physics. Mr George has inspired many students to pursue a career in Physics careers, including Michael Muthukrishna (2004) – Associate Professor at The London School of Economics and Political Science, and Associate in the Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, who wrote this to endorse Mr George's award application:

"Over a decade and half after leaving high school, I still fondly remember sitting in a classroom in Villanova College's Mendel Hall watching and learning from Graeme. The coefficient of friction and the formulas for different forces came alive through his Feynman-esque ability to help students develop intuitions for the physical world. But he cares just as much about creating good people as good scientists. He was there for me during a challenging time in my life and he nurtured in us a desire to understand the world and to do good in it."

Graeme George is a one-of-a-kind educator, and I can't imagine someone more deserving of a teaching award by the Australian Institute of Physics.



mentors MAKING A DIFFERENCE

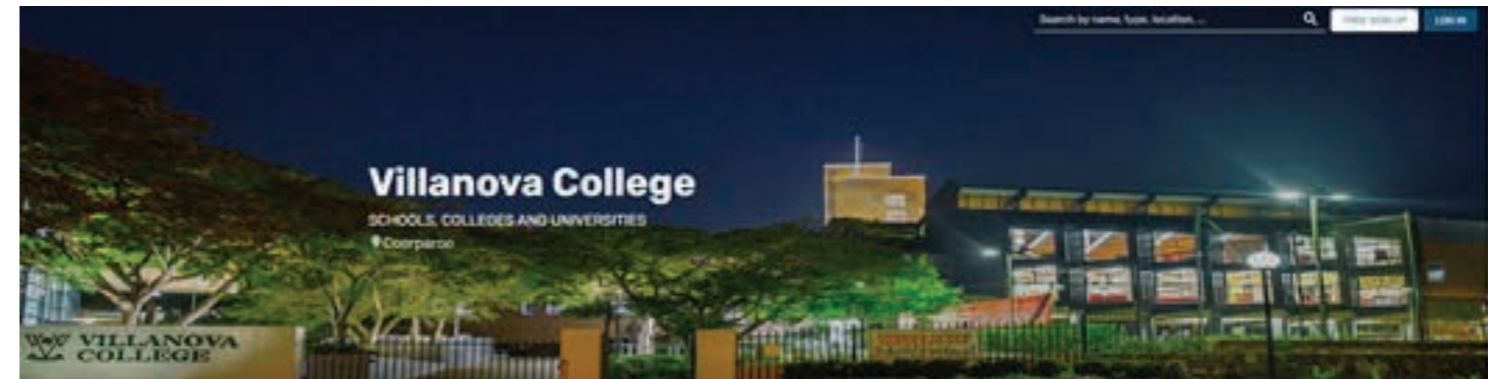


Goold Hall came alive on June 10 when 142 Year 12 students and 60 mentors gathered for the inaugural Mentoring Breakfast. The Breakfast provided Year 12s with the opportunity to learn from mentors with direct expertise in their areas of interest.

Paul Weightman (Class of 1978) provided a key note address on his successful career, guiding principles and learnings. Pat Franco (Class of 2020) provided his insight on university, self-care and advice for the first months of life after Villa. Guests were treated to a hot breakfast prepared by Year 11 Hospitality students. Two students have been able to secure apprenticeships from the Breakfast and overwhelmingly, students stated the Breakfast provided valuable and practical insights into their potential career pathways.

Villanova College thanks the 60 Old Boys, parents and supporters who readily stepped up to assist in making the big decisions for Year 12s a little easier. Our thanks to John Godwin, the driving force behind the Breakfast and Deanne Perrier for her assistance in organising the successful event. We look forward to the Mentoring Breakfast being an annual event.

The Mentoring Breakfast was an initiative of the Villanova College Foundation. 



Villanova Business Directory

Do you remember the famous hard copies of the Villanova College Business Directory? We are pleased to announce that a digital Business Directory is back. The Directory is open to current families, past families and Old Boys. It is free to list your business or service by following steps one to six.

With the continuing impacts of the pandemic taking a toll on many, we hope the Business Directory will help to raise awareness and support for the many skills and talents in the Villa community.

If you have a business or service the sign up steps are below:

- STEP 1:** Go to www.vnc.qld.edu.au/villanova-business-directory/
- STEP 2:** 'Click here' and then look for the 'Free sign Up' button located at the top right of the page
- STEP 3:** Sign up using one of the social buttons or alternatively with your email
- STEP 4:** Select provider
- STEP 5:** Follow the prompts to complete your profile
- STEP 6:** When asked to join a community, click on 'Schools, Colleges and Universities' then click on Villanova College and continue the sign-up process.

The College will review listings before they go live. If you have any questions please contact Nat Davidson, Community Engagement and Foundation Officer on ndavidson@vnc.qld.edu.au or 3394 5665.

A COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING *champion*

“Insane headaches” were the first and only sign something was not right. The sporadic headaches became more frequent until a doctor suggested that Max Shearer (currently in Year 12) get an MRI. Back then, at just 11 years old, Max was diagnosed with ganglioglioma, a rare brain tumour.

“From that point, things happened very quickly,” explained Max.

Max faced multiple surgeries to remove the tumours and underwent 12 months of chemotherapy – missing most of Year 5 and 6 through illness. While some tumours remain, they have been stable since 2015. The surgeries resulted in Max losing 50% of his vision.

When Max started at Villanova in Year 7, he received support in the form of a tutor through funding from the Brainchild Foundation. The tutor continues to support Max weekly during his Academic Coaching Program. Max was keen to give back to Brainchild and organisations funding research into childhood brain cancer.

At the end of the day, research is going to make the biggest difference.

Since then Max has helped raised over \$140,000 for charities, largely for the Ian Frazer Centre for Children’s Immunotherapy Research and the Children’s Hospital Foundation. He has completed six Bridge to Brisbane events as part of his fundraising campaigns and recently ticked-off his seventh. He has acted as an ambassador for charity events and even speaks at events.

Max points to “incredible” support from his Villanova teachers over the years who ask best how they can teach him and support him through a modified program.



“My dream was to finish Year 12 in one year. Everyone thought the best route was to do Year 12 over two years and although it’s been hard, I’m proud that I’ve done it. I’ve loved every part of it.”

Max’s love of learning will continue next year and he hopes to eventually undertake a Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

Max’s outstanding fundraising commitment was recently recognised when he was the youngest nominee in the Queensland Community Foundation 2021 Emerging Philanthropist of the Year Awards.



What started as a backyard hobby in 2015, has blossomed into a lucrative little enterprise for Year 11 student, Tom Price. In partnership with his mate, Joel, the boys are the proud owners of T&J Produce.

A SWARMING *success*

Last season alone saw over 700kg of their honey sold in outlets throughout Brisbane’s eastern suburbs including Hawthorne Garage and Mega Fresh Carina and Chandler.

Tom’s interest in beekeeping began in 2015 when his father invested in a hive at their Chandler property. “Dad got too busy, so Joel and I took over,” Tom said.

Despite a devastating set-back in 2017 when disease infiltrated the colony, the boys purchased two new hives in 2019 and sought to ramp up production. Two became four hives, and today the boys are caring for millions of bees across 20 hives.

Their search for Queen bees to populate each hive has seen Tom and Joel scale 30-metre trees to bring in the swarm (“find the Queen and the swarm will follow”).

Tom estimates he has been stung hundreds of times, but his immunity is such that it now doesn’t affect him too much.

“But it still hurts when they get you on your face,” he laughs.

Through Villanova’s Green Team, Tom is now sharing his knowledge of bees and their importance to our economy and livelihoods with Villanova College students. Following the presentation of a concept and risk management plan to the Principal, Tom was given approval to set up two hives on campus that are fully fenced and away from students.

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Villanova College is already gearing up for major celebrations to mark the College’s 75th anniversary in 2023. A committee is finalising a year-long calendar of celebratory events that serve to provide a special occasion for all our community stakeholders from students and staff, to Old Boys and past parents. Further details will be published late next year.

The College would be delighted to hear from any member of the College community who would like to join the 75th anniversary volunteer group – email events@vnc.qld.edu.au

Wisdom OF THE ANCIENTS

MR MATT LEVANDER — HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL



Green Team Captain Keegan Bell was one of many students involved in service-learning opportunities throughout 2021

“I often look back to the profound insights that we glean from the Ancients.”

At Villanova College, we strive to deliver a contemporary, innovative, and holistic pastoral program which best develops and forms our students into fine young men ready to meet the challenges in our rapidly changing social landscape.

Yet whilst we continue to be thoughtful of what best prepares our students for this future, I often look back to the profound insights that we glean from the Ancients. In particular, I am an ardent follower of the philosophy of the Stoics and their taxonomy of the four virtues - wisdom, courage, temperance and justice.

Summum Bonum was the expression from Cicero, Rome’s greatest orator. In Latin, it means “the highest good.” According to the Stoics, the attainment of this highest good was through the attainment of virtue. So, what learnings can our young men draw from these four Stoic virtues?

TEMPERANCE

“Ask yourself at every moment - is this necessary?”

MARCUS AURELIUS

In a consumerist society underpinned by instant gratification our young men are constantly bombarded with attitudes that they can have it all now without having to work for it. Temperance is the knowledge that abundance comes from having what is essential. The Stoics often used temperance interchangeably with “self-control.” Being disciplined and working diligently each and everyday both inside and outside the classroom will be ample reward.

WISDOM

“Ignorance is the cause of fear.”

SENECA

Our Augustinian tradition calls us to the pursuit of wisdom in our restless search for truth. Everyday our young scholars are provided with opportunities to embrace the path of life-long learning as they cultivate the knowledge and skills to prepare them for their future careers.

JUSTICE

“A commitment to justice in your own acts. Which means: thought and action resulting in the common good.”

MARCUS AURELIUS

As a Catholic school underpinned by the gospel values and the example of Jesus, our commitment to social justice is at our core. The Stoic teacher Epictetus, said, “Seeking the very best in ourselves means actively caring for the welfare of other human beings.” We continue to challenge our young men to involve themselves in ministry and service-learning opportunities at the College as a means of igniting both the hearts and minds of our students.

COURAGE

“Let us not postpone anything, let us engage in combats with life each day.”

SENECA

We continually challenge our Senior School students to shed the masks they wear, embrace vulnerability and feel comfortable in being their authentic selves. This constantly requires courage to take risks and learn from mistakes with a growth mindset.

The 2022 Senior School Formation Program will explore these four virtues through particular learning experiences as we continue to support of our students in becoming the best young men they can be, aspiring to ‘the highest good’.

OUTDOOR *Eco Learning* SPACE

MR GREG O'NEILL – HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Over the September holidays, our Middle School STEM Club held a working bee to complete their Outdoor Eco Learning Space. Located behind the Good Counsel building, the garden is the culmination of a four-month project that looked at the ecological implications of designing and refurbishing the space.

Building on their previous project that looked at reducing the noise and litter impact of crows around the campus, this project involved the removal of rubbish and regeneration of soil and landscape to usable land, the planting of natives to encourage birds and other wildlife into the area, and the inclusion of natural and sustainable furniture to create an outdoor learning space.

Middle School students Sebastian Wilson, Charlie Hodgson-Day and Gabriel Pavilion led this project under the mentorship of STEM teachers Mrs Kate Alexander and Mrs Shannon Lynam. Their project will now be entered into the Queensland Science Teachers' Association annual competition.

Special thanks goes to Villanova parent Adam White from Dorset Bottega who generously donated his time, services and resources to help make the project possible.

Our Middle School STEM Club meet twice a week and explore a diverse range of STEM topics and issues. It was formed in response to the changing world of work and the need to give students crucial skills to adapt. We know that jobs of the future will require employees to apply critical thinking and creative innovations to solve problems, which is why it is imperative that we provide as many opportunities as possible for our students to develop and practise these skills.

The Middle School STEM Club allows students to choose projects they are passionate about, outside of, or building on the curriculum learnt in the classroom. It connects students from across multiple grades and encourages them to collaborate and consider ways they can better understand and make a difference when considering real-world problems. It also provides our students avenues to engage with experts within the community, learning to communicate effectively and receive feedback on their interventions. Students get an understanding of the range of industries and jobs that are available upon leaving school and see how their projects can have a direct impact on the environment or people around them.



Sebastian, Charlie and Gabriel in the new Outdoor Eco Learning Space

THE NEW LANGUAGE OF *Learning*

MR STEPHEN ROUHLIADEFF – HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Junior School staff have risen to the challenge of cognitive verbs in 2021. It has been an area of professional development, regardless of teaching experience, that has challenged us all. Our curriculum units, planning, teaching, learning, assessment, and reflective practices have undergone transformation. This process has meant a combination of using personal time, collaborative meetings, moderation and at times, a healthy debate about learning outcomes and achievement standards. It has been a time to grow as professionals. Mindsets have truly switched to “growth”.

So how do the cognitive verbs – select, understand, analyse, apply, compare, describe, develop, evaluate, examine, explain, identify, infer, interpret, decide, and represent – really impact a student's learning? What does that mean? To parents, it's a new way of seeing how their son works – not by how much he remembers through rote learning – but rather, how he can use the information studied and apply it to familiar and unfamiliar situations. The flexible and creative problem solver emerges, using his communication and critical skills, within a social setting, to demonstrate his capacity.

and the Year 5 and 6 students begin their journey towards actualizing their potential as the 21st century learner that we often read about. Theory into practice. This takes a great deal of commitment on behalf of the entire teaching team, students, and parents. Stronger together.

Organisation is key. Time must be used effectively and if students have commitments, then support measures to catch up and check in about missed class time must take place. Before school, lunch breaks, after school or weekends – the choices are varied but smart decisions must be made to maximise outcomes. It takes dedication and I am truly proud of our Learning Enrichment Team who strive to build learning profiles and ensure strategies are in place to support every learner. Active monitoring, targeted support during lessons and accommodations made during assessment means that every student has the same platform for reaching their goals. Classroom teachers have maximised the dynamic learning spaces to communicate key concepts, deliver instructions and then provide learning experiences which mean learners of all abilities can thrive. Feedback matters more than ever. Opportunities for change and improvements have the highest impact during teaching and learning for our youngest Villanovans. It does take time and effort for a learner aged 10 to 12 to engage in this kind of process – editing, refining and re-submitting work takes resilience, maturity and determination. This is where our relationships matter most – trust, respect and the ability to bring humour into a teacher-student relationship. Without laughs, learning is stale.



It's a long-term vision. Students need to learn the verbs and what they mean. Most have two or three parts and so the breakdown, explicitly during teaching and learning is crucial. It's a conscious part of the learning goals set during lessons, so the terms are familiar in assessment tasks. High support combined with high expectations,

So, what have we learnt? That our Junior School students are capable of great things. That learning is a very broad spectrum of knowledge, skills, and critical thinking. What our experiences were in the 80s, 90s and 00s are now fond memories, not to be compared with 2021 as our realities are worlds apart. I do know that great changes take bold and enthusiastic professionals who can lead the curious, active male student towards the path as an informed and astute learner he never knew existed. In between handball, bacon and egg burgers at the Tuckshop, Pastoral Masses, and hanging out with their Senior mentors of course.



MISSION *possible*

MRS KATE GARRONE — DEAN OF MISSION AND IDENTITY

At the end of his life Augustine saw the collapse of the Roman Empire and the destruction of Rome in 410AD. What had been the most significant city in the world was in ruins and it was here that Augustine contemplated and articulated the difference between an earthly city and a city of God.

Augustine suggested a city of God shifts from self-love to a love of God; self-preoccupation to outwards focus on God; power to service of others. The significant impact of COVID reverberating around the world has brought into question so much of what we do and how we do it. In forming our young men at Villa there is an ongoing need to consider deeply what and how we ask them to engage in mission and ministries.

Every day I draw both hope and inspiration from our Villa community. Amongst the staff I have found colleagues who share a passion for creative, engaging and dynamic learning that stretches out beyond the classroom to consider how students can engage with and contribute to our world, so that their gifts and talents can make a meaningful and positive contribution in ensuring our wider community is more just, compassionate and spirit filled.

Our students too come with ideas and questions to be mulled over, and a constant stream of ideas about how they can make a contribution. In 2021, living in Brisbane, we have certainly been buffeted from the worst of COVID, but we have sat on the edge on countless days of potential lockdowns and the need to continually adapt in response to restrictions. We have realised we are not in control and that our best laid plans may not actually be able to proceed. What this has gifted us with has been the need to look again at what we are trying to achieve. It has insisted we creatively consider how we can achieve these aims. It has brought to life our theme of humility and gratitude for 2021.

As the year draws to a close, I realise that in Ministry we have discovered 'Mission Possible!' Students, staff and families have responded to need with generosity:

Our Green Team cultivated gardens, established beehives, consistently cleaned Norman Creek and worked to conscientize our community about recycling.

In our Mission Week, AFAS brought messages and videos from our Augustinian partners in the Philippines, our Year 10s mobilised to prepare and serve lunch, teachers took on dares for donations, and we had a concert that truly celebrated our community. Together we raised significant funds to keep projects and scholarships going in the Philippines.

In the midst of our Mission Week also came a call for assistance for Afghani refugees quarantining in Brisbane and we were inundated with donations from families and our staff who gave immediately and generously.

Our Year 10s have engaged in community service hours, and there have been numerous visits to places like Emmanuel City Mission where students and staff have together prepared meals and offered friendship to people experiencing homelessness.

Our Vinnies group has run several drives for food and hampers and an overnight dive into exploring more deeply the causes and issues faced by people experiencing homelessness.

This week, we have welcomed Nawid, an Afghani refugee, onto our staff as part of the Work and Welcome program. This employment experience is made possible by our staff generously donating part of their salary to create a pool of money to support a refugee working at Villa.

We are grateful for what has been possible and we know it is only so through the generosity of people giving their time and energy that Mission really has been possible in 2021.



Together we raised significant funds to keep projects and scholarships going in the Philippines.



Sport

ABOVE: Louis Henderson hands the baton on to Dimitri Horton at the 2021 AIC Track and Field Championships. The College came fourth in the Juniors and sixth in the 12 years to Open competition.



Our triumphant First V

A YEAR TO *celebrate*

There was a slight COVID lockdown interruption last term, but that didn't stop Villanova's continued success across the fields and courts in AIC Trimester 2 and 3 competitions. Villanova again dominated the basketball competition to secure 17 premierships or undefeated titles. Given the COVID interruption, the AIC Management Committee decided that aggregates would not be awarded for Trimester 3 sport. If awarded, Villanova would have claimed its sixth consecutive aggregate basketball title. Special congratulations to our First V basketball team who reclaimed the coveted First title in 2021. Of note is the strength and depth of our Junior teams across multiple sports which augurs well for the future of Villa sport. Congratulations to our Trimester 2 and 3 undefeated and premiership-winning teams.

TRIMESTER 2

AIC Football Premiership/ Undefeated Teams

5th XI	Coached by Dominic Ghikas
8A	Coached by Anthony Karamihas and Connor Walker
6D	Coached by Elle McKenna
5E	Coached by Amy Roberts

AIC Rugby Premiership/ Undefeated Teams

5th XV	Coached by Jamie Mullins, Jason Harris and Shaun Hourigan
7B	Coached by Mick Ramsay
7D	Coached by Ben Lynam
6A	Coached by Dave Lowe, John Lowe and Nathan Spooner
5A	Coached by Josh Stanbury and Damien Colbert

TRIMESTER 3

AIC Basketball Premierships

First V Basketball	Coached by Jordan Mullan, Stephen Rouhliadoff and Sean O'Neill
Second V Basketball	Coached by Tyler McCluskey
Third V Basketball	Coached by Emily Want
Fourth V Basketball	Coached by Lucas Boylan and Oscar McGown
11A Basketball	Coached by Sean O'Neill
10B Basketball	Coached by Travis Warren
10C Basketball	Coached by Zac Grinstead and Dan Loveday
10D Basketball	Coached by Tom Balshaw and Declan Edser
7B Basketball	Coached by Lachlan Nuttall
7C Basketball	Coached by Declan Ries and Joseph Mahoney
7D Basketball	Coached by John Holroyd
6B Basketball	Coached by Matt Wilson
6C Basketball	Coached by Barbara Dewis
6D Basketball	Coached by Melissa Liddy
5B Basketball	Coached by Nichole Rouhliadoff
5C Basketball	Coached by Callum Hackett
5D Basketball	Coached by Chloe Adams

AIC Tennis Premiership

11A Tennis	Managed by Julian Mascadri
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AIC Rugby League Premiership

Year 6	Coached by Bart Ritchie, Damien Lyons and Vaasa Afa
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STATE AFL CHAMPS

A dominant fourth quarter set up a thrilling win for Villanova’s Junior School team in the AFLQ Primary Schools Cup grand final against Burleigh’s Marymount College on 16 October in Maroochydore.

Only one point split the teams as they went into the final quarter, but the boys in green and gold dug deep and kicked three majors and kept Marymount scoreless to claim victory and the title ‘Street Smart AFLQ Schools Cup – Primary Male State Champions’. Mitchell Vedalago was named Best on Ground.

The team was invited to contest the three-day state finals as AIC premiers. Proud co-coach, Adam Fry said it was a terrific weekend away for the boys.

“The team came together only two weeks prior to the state finals and have walked away as the best Primary AFL team in the state. The level of support from families up at Maroochydore was incredible as well. It was just a fantastic couple of days and an even better result!” he said.

All coaches including Matt Conlan and James Dent are to be congratulated for their efforts in preparing these boys over the last two seasons



Photo credit: AFL Queensland

BASKETBALL TEAMS EXCEL AT STATE CHAMPS

Villanova College can lay serious claim to being up with the best basketball schools in the state following success at Champion Basketball School of Queensland (CBSQ) tournaments held over recent months.

Three College teams - a (Year 7/8), a Junior (Year 10) and Senior team – contested the tournaments and recorded top 10 finishes.

Seniors	9th in State (Open Division 1)
Juniors	9th in State (Junior Division 1)
Year 7/8	2nd in State (Sophomore Division 1)

Villanova’s Co-ordinator of Basketball, Mr Sean O’Neill said it was an indication of the depth of the basketball program.

‘Villanova College was one of only a few schools to record top 10 finishes in the three division 1 boys’ CBSQ tournaments,’ he said.

“We’re proud of the program and the results our players and coaches have produced throughout the year.”

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS *Honours*

Villanova College will have its name recorded in perpetuity against not one, but two players selected in the 2021 Australia A, Australian Schools’ Rugby Union team following the selection of Year 12 students, Gus Godwin and Tom Twaddell. Scott Mains was Villanova’s last representative in the Australian Schoolboys team in 2011 with James Klaassen (2010), Ben Mowen (2002), Ashley Riley and David Lewis (1997) also earning Australian selection.

As the Australian Schools Rugby Union Championships could not be held this year, team selection was based on the players’ performance at school, Association and State matches played in 2021.

The boys’ selection comes off the back of their inclusion in Queensland Schoolboys’ teams and the Reds Academy in 2021.

Both local Easts Tigers’ products since Under 6 and Villa players since Year 5, selection was a huge surprise for both players, so much so, that when Principal Mark Stower emailed the boys to offer his congratulations on the day of selection, the boys had no idea what they were being congratulated for.

“I never thought I’d be in this position,” said Gus. “My goal since Year 10 was to make the Queensland Schoolboys’ team. To achieve the ultimate honour was incredible.”

Well known Villa rugby figures feature in both students’ list of influential coaches – Graham Holt, Craig Kassulke, Paul Davey, Jon Winsbury and Eddie Harris to name a few. The boys also credit Andrew Slack and Ben Mowen for their work in both skill and leadership development over the past year.

A self-confessed ‘gumby’, Tom points to Year 10 as a turning point for him, where his hand-eye co-ordination clicked and his confidence as a player grew.

While another Brisbane club has already approached Gus and Tom, they will return to where it all began next year at Easts Rugby Union.



AN INSTRUMENT FOR THE AGES:

A STORY OF REMEDIATION... AND SUPPORT

MR MICHAEL JONES — DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

During Term 1, 2021, the Augustine Centre suffered its first complete shutdown as a venue since its construction in 2005.

Rising damp, combined with aging air conditioning and ventilation systems, led to increased humidity and the development of a mould issue in some spaces in the Augustine Centre. A decision by the College Board to close and remediate the building was actioned at the end of Term 1 with the Music Department moved to various spaces around the College to continue delivering the quality performance music program of the College.

As the semester drew to a close, the cleaning of the Augustine Centre was finalised and a minor renovation of teaching and learning spaces was completed. Thanks to the Facilities Team of Villanova, the teaching and learning spaces on Level 1 of the Augustine Centre have been given a quality face-lift with colourful sound-proofing

pianos of varying ages, and our six-foot baby grand piano that took pride of place on the Hanrahan Theatre Stage. We were advised to remove these items from the building to negate the risk of future contamination – an unfortunate circumstance; however, necessary. As we worked through the removal of contaminated items, plans for the resourcing of our teaching spaces and avenues of support to follow took shape.

The Villanova College Music Support Group (MSG) quickly leapt to the program's aid, offering to purchase a new grand piano for the Hanrahan Theatre Stage. To place this generous donation in perspective, the cost of a grand piano came in at about 60% of the total cost of piano replacement. The instrument that our MSG purchased – a brand new Kawai GX3 – is valued at just over \$50,000. This was an incredible gesture of support at a challenging time for our department.

Music Support Group President, Mike Molloy (2006) presented the proposal of support to the group, strongly advocating for the purchase of the new instrument. An Old Boy with a strong association with the Music Department, Mike spoke of the importance of providing a quality instrument for our flagship performance space, and the important legacy such a piano would provide our music program and community well into the future.

The Music Support Group are a motivated group of parents and community members who are actively involved in music events, including the Queensland Catholic Schools' and Colleges' Music Festival.

The group meet every second Monday of the month in the Villanova College Chapter Room commencing at 7:30pm.

The brand-new piano has been used several times now over the past month with a series of concerts in the Hanrahan Theatre. Our piano students are relishing the opportunity to play such a quality instrument, and the ensemble performances our students have been providing have been enhanced by this fine grand piano. We look forward to many more years of use and great music!



Music Support Group President Mike Molloy with the new baby grand.

tiles installed on walls, surfaces newly painted, and a new library hutch constructed. Our IT team has installed com-box monitors in all teaching spaces, bringing our digital teaching and learning up to a similar standard to the rest of the College. We now have a vibrant teaching and learning environment in which to engage our students!

Unfortunately, as part of our remediation process, several items were retired from general use due to actual and possible future mould contamination. Among these items were the College's fleet of pianos: four upright

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THE RENTONS *rock on*



With nine original songs already written and “loads of ideas”, The Rentons are ready to take Brisbane’s music scene by storm. Comprising three Year 12 students – James Lewis, Tyler Castles, and Aidan Pedrina O’Connor – the boys teamed up with then Senior, Sean Kearns in early 2020 to start writing songs.

The band has just completed gigs at The Triffid as part of Schoolapalooza and at October’s Battle of the Rock Bands at Clairvaux MacKillop College where James was awarded Best Guitarist and Aidan Best Bass Player. They were the only band (of 20) to receive a standing ovation from their peers.

Music teacher, Mrs Belinda Tucker has supported the band in their music careers at Villanova and says, “the boys have gone from strength to strength - independently gigging and notably attracting significant accolades from seasoned industry professionals.”

“Some of the set list from Battle of the Rock Bands originated within the student’s own assessment work for Music and Music Extension, so it’s pleasing to see this go beyond the classroom.”

James says the band’s sound varies. “We enjoy all genres of music and take influence from all types of rock and indie/alternative music,” he said.

While gigging has been put on hold temporarily for external assessments, the band has already recorded three original songs which they hope to release early next year. They are also collaborating with Old Boy Jonty Carlson (2017) to book gigs in 2022. While their ambition is clear, the main goal is to keep having fun.

“Nothing is more enjoyable than playing to a crowd and feeding off the enjoyment and energy of the crowd, so as long as we can keep doing that, we will all be happy,” says James.

Also keeping them busy in the immediate future will be tertiary study which incorporates their love of music. James is hoping to enter a dual degree in law and creative industries majoring in music and sound at QUT, Tyler has applied for a dual degree in business and creative industries majoring in music and sound at QUT while Aidan has applied for both Jazz and Popular Music degrees at the Conservatorium and has passed his first round of auditions. Sean is currently studying law and communications in entertainment at QUT.



Our team of video editors hard at work in preparation for an online QCMF

QCMF 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic continued throughout 2021, challenging live music performance events across our nation yet again. However, in the immortal words of His Grace, Archbishop Mark Coleridge,

**...nothing,
not even COVID,
can stop the
Music!**

QCMF 2021 was slated to be scheduled as the largest hybrid school music festival in the Southern Hemisphere. Students from across Australia and the Tasman were preparing performances for filming up to July this year. These videos were to be placed in stream queues ready for beaming via livestream during our Festival event. Our comperes and adjudicators were to be positioned within four make-shift ‘studios’ where our production team would mix footage of performances with live compering and adjudication. It was a highly unique delivery within this realm and we were greatly looking forward to sharing this with the world. Then COVID struck....again.

Ten days prior to Festival, the Queensland Government determined to place South-East Queensland in lockdown. New restrictions limited movement and we were unable to host visitors on school sites within the lockdown area. The Festival Organising Group met with key volunteers and we determined to pivot yet again – this time moving to a completely online event.

Our production crew became our editing crew overnight. Hundreds of hours of performance footage was edited professionally into videos that were broadcast via YouTube.

Our admin staff moved to ensure our adjudicators received their required materials via courier as travel was limited, and we pooled all human and technical resources we had to make this happen in ten days! It was an incredible feat considering this year’s event was a similar size to our 2019 festival with over 12,000 student performances.

The outcome remained a positive one for all involved. QCMF 2021 ran effectively, ensuring all participant students maintained a key performance opportunity for the year. The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive, and we were extremely pleased to ensure the Festival maintained its high standard of presentation and music and educational outcomes.

Thanks must go to the many volunteers that assisted in ensuring QCMF 2021’s success. Thanks also to the participant schools who continue to support this valuable project. We look forward to QCMF 2022 and a time where we may share music in community once again.

Thank you FROM THE CHAIR OF THE VILLANOVA COLLEGE FOUNDATION



It is an honour to serve as Chair of the Villanova College Foundation. Villanova College as we know it would not exist without the generosity of generations of parents, families and Old Boys. The Foundation is proud to continue this tradition by raising funds for bursaries to assist families who require tuition fee support, and raising funds for major building projects to enhance the learning opportunities and environments for our boys.

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Through the 2020 End of Year Appeal and 2021 Legacy Appeal, the Foundation has focused on raising bursary funds. An ambitious challenge of raising funds for five tuition bursaries was set by our Student Executive Leadership Team and we are honoured that the past and present Villanova community responded with great generosity. With the challenge met we say thank you to all who have donated. I also thank Jake Dwyer (Class of 2000) and Wendy Zeremes, mother of Luke (Class of 1996) and Matt (Class of 1998) for sharing their stories so that others can be helped.

During the Legacy Appeal we received \$60,000 in donations, an outstanding result during a challenging period. Our number of donors increased significantly over this time to 131 donors, an increase of 90% on the previous year. The donations received enabled the Foundation to disburse tuition and music bursaries to seven students over 2021. Thank you for this life-changing support.

This year we have been fortunate to hold community engagement events including the inaugural Mentoring Breakfast for Year 12 students and Blessing of the Villanova Grandstand, as well as assisting with organising a number of community events. These positive events have provided rewarding opportunities for past and present members of the Villanova community to join together.

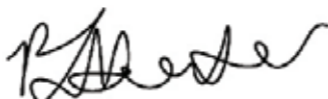
The Foundation has had the privilege of connecting with many Old Boys this year through events, College tours and via our College Archive project. It has been a pleasure to share the wonderful journeys of our Old Boys through social media and Villa Voice, and we look forward to sharing many more over the coming years.

A heartfelt thanks goes to Nat Davidson, Community Engagement and Foundation Officer who works tirelessly on making the Foundation activities a success and ensuring people feel they belong.

I would also like to thank the members of the Foundation Committee, Mark Stower (Principal), Matt Levander (Head of Senior School), Peter Geraghty (College Board Chair and VOB 1967), Father Saldie, Chris Andersen (Old Boys Association President and VOB 2003), Christian Burke (Chair of the Investment Sub-Committee and VOB 1995), Nikki Molloy (Parent), John Godwin (Parent and VOB 1986), Loreena Clarke (Parent) Alan Scott (VOB 1981), Kush Sami (VOB 2011) and Paul Green (Treasurer Old Boys Association and VOB 1982). Thanks are also extended to the Investment Sub-Committee members Agi Waloszek (College Business Manager) and Dan Carroll (VOB 1978). Thank you for your continued service and dedication to the success of the Foundation.

The Foundation looks forward to continuing our focus in 2022 on community engagement events, planning for the 75th Anniversary of Villanova College and raising funds for bursaries for those in need and the College building program. We warmly welcome all donations no matter how large or small. Donations can be made through the link: <https://www.vnc.qld.edu.au/support-villa/donate-now/>, the enclosed donation form or by contacting Nat Davidson on (07) 3394 5665.

Thank you once again for your support. 



 PAULA HOCTOR
 Chair of the Villanova College Foundation

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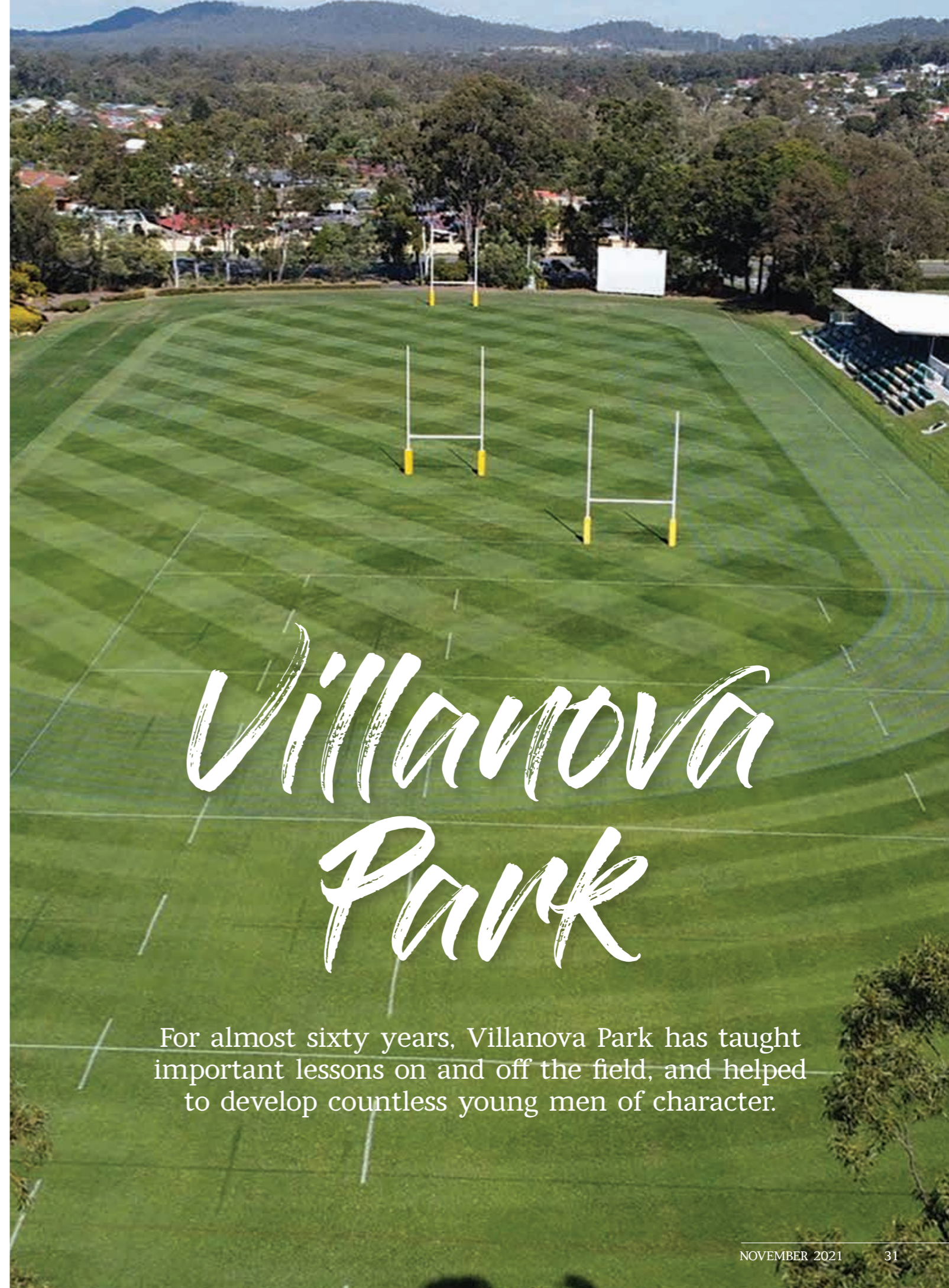
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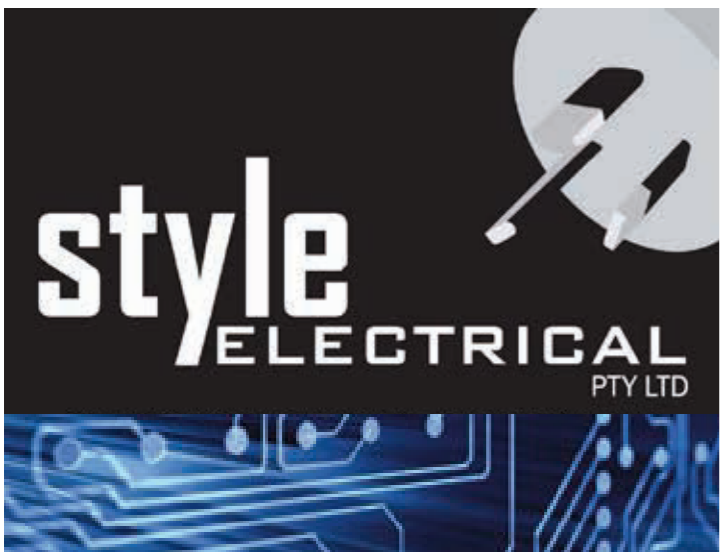
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FROM THE *archives*

VILLANOVA PARK

This edition's 'From the Archives' pages celebrates our much-loved sporting fields, Villanova Park at Tingalpa. Villanova Park is a second home for our school community. For almost sixty years, it has taught important lessons on and off the field, and helped to develop countless young men of character.

Timeline

1962



24 acres of farmland is purchased at 180 Manly Road, Tingalpa for £4,400. Robert's Pty Ltd is contracted to provide earthworks to create five playing fields for £2,900.

1964

Villanova Park is used for the first time when Inter-school Junior Football fixtures are played against Marist College Ashgrove.

1965



Brisbane City Council grants permission to erect a canteen and two dressing sheds. Costing £1520, the work also includes drainage around the fields, fencing and goal posts

2006



The Cor Unum Centre opens, as do two new playing fields to the east (Fr John Seary Oval)

2005

A nine-lot residential subdivision funds the purchase of additional land and redevelopment of the site (including a function centre, caretaker's cottage, parking and maintenance facilities)

2017



The Cor Unum Centre is destroyed by fire

1967



The First XV Rugby Union team win the College's inaugural Firsts TAS Premiership

2003

Playing Field 1 is renamed in honour of Old Boy and Wallabies captain, Andrew Slack

2018

The Deceased Staff/Student Memorials open and are blessed on 5 May

1969

An additional five acres of land is purchased at a cost of £2,100

2000

The canteen, functions area and dressing sheds are renovated

2020

Dedicated track and field facilities open including tartan long and triple jump runways, a tartan high jump fan, two shot put circles and a fully caged discus circle

1974



The First XI Cricket team win the College's inaugural Firsts TAS Premiership

1989



The First XI Football team win the College's inaugural Firsts TAS Premiership (Red Division). Three years later the Firsts take out the Blue Division premiership

2021



The new Grandstand is opened and blessed

1981

A new canteen is built at a cost of \$15,000

GRANDSTAND COMPLETES THE NEXT CHAPTER OF VILLA PARK HISTORY

Almost four years after the Cor Unum Centre was destroyed by fire, and with COVID-restrictions delaying a 2020 opening, the Villanova Park Grandstand was officially blessed and opened on June 12.



Federal Member for Bonner and Old Boy (1984), Ross Vasta MP officially opened the Grandstand while Fr Peter Wieneke OSA (1962) celebrated the blessing. It was fantastic to welcome back many long-term supporters of Villanova as special guests.

Mr Vasta said Villanova Park was a gathering place for generations of Villanovans. "I am proud to see how Villa Park has evolved, and continues to be loved by students and supporters alike," he said.



Ray Thomas

VILLA PARK *memories*

BY GLEN (1969), MARK (1973) AND SHANE (1979) THOMAS — SONS OF LONG-SERVING GROUNDSMAN, RAY THOMAS

In the 1960s Father Gerry Dullard organised working bees at Villanova Park and Dad was a keen volunteer with a group of other Villa parents. These working bees achieved great progress at the park and the volunteers became good friends of Father Dullard and the Augustinians. The part-time groundsman had to leave in the late 60s and Father Gerry was looking for a full-time groundsman to live on site.

In 1969 Father Gerry offered the groundskeeper job to Dad as he knew he had the skills from what he had observed at the working bees, was a tractor mechanic and had three sons attending the College.

A LITTLE HISTORY

Father Gerry recently told me that he was given the task (by Fr Hanrahan who was taking leave in Ireland) to help find playing fields for the College. Langlands Park, Thompson Estate, Kianawah Park and other local fields were proving unsatisfactory. The school had a connection with the Tingalpa area as sport was played at Kianawah Park at Tingalpa. The owners of the farm at 180 Manly Road Tingalpa, not far from Kianawah Park were approached and they sold the farm to the Augustinians.

Father Gerry then had to go searching for machinery to use on the new property and he bought or was gifted some machinery pieces. These needed regular servicing and weren't in the best of shape. Work on developing the ovals had commenced.

I remember bus trips from the College to clear rocks from the oval. The boys would all line up and walk down the fields removing rocks and sticks in preparation for turf to be laid. In later years I remember shredded rubber was put on the grounds. I'm not sure the reasoning for this, but the rumour around the boys was that it made the ground softer!

In the late 1960s I remember as First XI cricket players, we arrived on Saturday mornings to brush and roll the turf wicket before we played. A heavy roller and/or small roller, which Shane still has, was used. Dad just directed us. That same roller has been used on a few lawns of Villa Old Boys still connected to Shane.

Lance Drury and Rex Rogers (both Queensland cricket representatives) became firm friends of Dad with cricket and the turf wicket being the context. There was always

lots of discussions about ways to prepare and look after the wicket. It was very serious business! Both men would also offer advice freely to us young cricketers from Villa and were great supporters of the College. Villanova College and Dad were lucky to have such great cricket minds to help set up the cricket pitch.

Dad, Mum and family arrived at Villa Park in 1970 to take up the new job. It was very different from living in a neighbourhood. There was a dam at the bottom of the hill where we played. There was plenty of room to play footy and kick the ball. Practising our long jump and using the athletics track was a great bonus for us! Goal posts on hand for kicking practice! A new adventure for us all.

I refereed Rugby games on Saturdays and helped coach. Most enjoyable was coaching John Murphy's fifths Rugby team. He was my History teacher when I was at Villanova and he embedded my love for history which I still have. He asked me to help him as he didn't know a lot about Rugby.

I remember lunch provided by the mums underneath the lean-to shed or the backyard of our house during our all-day cricket games.

Mum enjoyed looking after the tuckshop on Saturdays. She also took great pride in the grounds around our house, planting trees and building gardens.

Dad loved 'his' fields and worked long hours by himself, giving up most Saturdays and Sundays for over 20 years. He would use us boys and Mum to assist with putting out flags, pads, corner posts, sprinkler pipes, mowing or marking the fields. He even got Mum up during the night

if the rain came to put the covers on the wicket! "Can't have the boys with a sticky wicket tomorrow!"

Dad's tasks included preparing and maintaining the fields, servicing machinery, mowing, brush cutting, line marking, aerating and fertilising. In the early days he even sharpened the blades on the slashers!

He used to have 44-gallon drums of fuel before the bowser was installed. We had to hand pump the fuel into the tractor and the mowers. Dad taught me how to siphon fuel sucking on a hose and putting it into the mower. He thought it was a great joke when I received a mouthful of fuel!

On the days the students came down for sport, Dad would be in his element - looking after the fields, chasing boys off the old scoreboard stand, keeping them away from the precious turf wicket or corner and goal posts and stopping them from walking on the covers with their cricket spikes. But he sometimes allowed them to hitch a ride on the tractor!

Villa Park is a great place for the College to gather and support our community. There have been three generations of the Thomas family through Villanova over 60 years and all would say the vibe and energy created at Villa Park is something special. There has been a Thomas son at Villanova continuously since 1959 and there are still two great grandsons of Ray and Fay at the College. We are glad and proud that Ray and Fay were part of the early establishment of Villanova Park.

Mum and Dad loved the Augustinians and would do anything for them. Mum passed away on Christmas Day last year, age 92. Dad had a heart attack while rolling that cricket pitch by himself one Friday afternoon. Mum got him up into the house where he passed away soon after in December 1992 at age 64. It was a huge shock to us all.

Father Gerry Dullard particularly, the Augustinians and Patrick Mullins from Mullins Lawyers supported Mum after Dad's passing. The family appreciated that very much.

HELP NEEDED - PRESERVING VILLA HISTORY

The annual Villanovan captures achievements, memories and milestones of generations of Villa students. We know that Villanovans continue to have pride of place in many homes. However with the earliest Villanovans dating back to late 1950 there is the need to preserve these important resources for generations to come.

Thanks to a generous donor, all Villanovans over the decades have been scanned and digitised. In doing so, Archives Assistant Belinda Grant has noted that, "due to the absence or limited technologies of the times in which they were produced, a considerable number of Villanovans have incorrect student details." Belinda is beginning the important process of reviewing each Villanovan to correct errors on the digitised version.

Belinda and Nat Davidson are seeking Old Boys to assist in reviewing the Villanovan from their respective year and identifying any issues. The process has begun with Michael Slack (1968) who kindly came in on the eve of retirement to review the Villanovan from his alumni year.

It was great to review the 1968 Villanovan. It brought back many good memories, some of which were even helpful in identifying some schoolmates' names which were missing in a couple of the photos.



Belinda Grant and Michael Slack (1968)

We are seeking past students and staff to review Villanovans from the years 1965 to 1999. Villanovans can be emailed to you or volunteers can come into archives. The process should take no longer than 15 minutes. If you are interested, please contact bgrant@vnc.qld.edu.au.

OLD BOYS news

VILLANOVA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

President	Vice Presidents	Treasurer	Secretary
Chris Andersen (2003)	Luke Moloney (2004) Rob Lucas (2014)	Paul Green (1982)	Tim Gillespie (2004)

Members: Xavier Vasta (2012), Harrison Adams (2011), Peter Ferguson (1964), Jack Drake (2011), Simon Healy (1977), Doug Caltabiano (2015), Tadhg O'Neill (2020), Fr Peter Wieneke (1962) and John Godwin (1986)

CHRIS ANDERSEN – PRESIDENT – VOBA

FROM THE PRESIDENT

G'day Old Boys and the wider Villa Community

I hope this year has been kind to you and your families and businesses. While our Old Boys events were still affected by Covid-19 in 2021, we were fortunate to be able to run a couple of new events that will remain in the calendar in 2022. Our biggest event this year was a new one, the Langlands Drinks, at the College in February with a barbecue and beers format and over 100 people in attendance. We were pleased that the event was very well received, along with the Old Boys Day. We look forward to better weather for the Old Boys Day in 2022 with a match-off against our old rivals, Lauries, at the end of May at Villa Park. I've provided the full event calendar below.

Langlands Drinks – Friday 18 February

AGM – Monday 14 March

Old Boys Day at Villa Park – Saturday 28 May

Old Boys Dinner – Friday 5 August

Deceased Villanovans Mass – Sunday 11 September

Mothers of Villanova Old Boys – Saturday 8 October

Charlie Fisher Cup – Friday 21 October

If not for the lockdown, this would have been the first year that we held the dinner offsite in about a decade. We had almost 200 tickets sold before we had to cancel in the final weeks. We look forward to sticking to the same plan in 2022 with an offsite dinner at the Royal on the Park in the CBD. I'll be providing a breakdown of the survey results before the end of the year which will give you

some further insight into our decision-making process for event planning. In short, the community wanted more, smaller, less expensive events and you were open to having the dinner offsite with a drinks package as well as some entertainment. We've delivered on your feedback with our updated event calendar.

2021 has also been a big year for finalising future plans for the Terry Hendle Bursary now that we're also supported by the College Foundation. Although we weren't able to run the dinner, we've still been able to raise funds through our other events, the raffle and donations from the dinner ticket sales, as well as the end of financial year appeal with the College Foundation. We thank you for your support and we look forward to continuing to provide a Villanova College education for families in need through the Terry Hendle Bursary.

If ever you'd like to provide feedback to the Old Boys, please reach out via our social media channels or come along to our AGM in March or any of our regular meetings. We look forward to building a stronger, more connected community in 2022.



Chris Andersen (2003)
President

MAKING NEWS



George, Lucas and Oscar



Harry (left) with his swimming coach, Guilly

Congratulations to Villa Old Boys George Stokes (2019), Lucas Boylan (2019) and Oscar Donoghue (2020) who represented the Queensland U19 Maroon Rugby Union team, defeating Queensland White 38-12.

The boys are part of the Norths Colts 1 Rugby team, with George and Lucas also making their Queensland Premier Rugby 1st Grade debut this season for Norths.

Justice James Douglas QC (1967) was appointed by Prime Minister Scott Morrison on 8 July as one of the commissioners appointed to conduct a Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicides.

Harrison Vig (2020) was selected as part of the 16-athlete 2021/22 Para Swimming National Development Squad

in July. Harry competed at the Tokyo Paralympic trials back in June – achieving five PBs in his six races and a bronze medal (in a qualifying time) in the 400m Multi-Class S6 - S13.

Despite making a qualifying time, only 32 athletes were selected in this year's Paralympic team with priority given to athletes who perform across multiple events. However, with a repertoire of events in his armoury and new PBs achieved every year, Harry is gunning for Paris 2024. Watch this space!



Prefects 1972

50 YEAR REUNION

2022 marks 50 years since the Class of 1972 left the College gates! Classmates Stephen Kemp and John Kelly are organising a reunion at the August Old Boys Dinner. To commemorate this significant milestone they are keen to hear from former classmates.

To find out more, contact Stephen at steve@childcaresolutions.net.au



Thank you to James and Zack from Grill'd Camp Hill

WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

When Villa reached out to our local Camp Hill Grill'd restaurant for a voucher to include in wellbeing packs for our Year 12 students during their external exams, the response was an immediate, "of course".

Turns out that managers are Old Boys themselves. Our thanks to Manager, James Lawler (2012) and Assistant Manager, Zach Seipel (2018). Grill'd Camp Hill employs many Villa boys, feeds many Villa boys and is one of the busiest Grill'd restaurants on a Friday evening in the whole of Australia.



Jacob Meecham (College Captain 2009) married Eliza Hinchliffe in the Holy Spirit Church, New Farm on May 22. The four groomsmen were all from the Class of 2009 and Eliza's bridesmaids were all Loreto past students.

The wedding party from L to R: Rebecca Healy, Nick Spillane, Sophie Hinchliffe, Sam Jessop, Ellie Hinchliffe, Jake Meecham, Nicola Hinchliffe, Matt Zahner, Cara Mattiuzzo and Ben Davies.

In remembrance

David Connors

(1961) passed away in September. Beloved father of Brian, Mark, Nicole, Natasha, grandfather and great-grandfather. Loved brother of John (dec) and Peter.

Gregory Gordon

(1961) passed away in April. Dearly loved husband of Kirstine. After leaving Villanova, Gregory became a zoologist and respected researcher.

Peter Hellwig

(1969) passed away in June in Sydney. College Counsellor Adrian Hellwig has provided reflections about his much-loved brother. "When I first started work at Villa, Peter was delighted to renew the connection. Although Peter left in grade ten [because our family moved to Fiji] he always fondly remembered some of his teachers, definitely not all, and the sporting life that Villa offered. In particular, he loved the chance to play cricket. Peter played from the time he started at Villa until he left in grade ten by which time he was in the 2nd XI.



After Villa Peter joined the Army Medical Corps and worked in various military hospitals with the Vietnam veterans. He was amongst the last reinforcements sent to Vietnam – though they never made it, only getting as far as Singapore before the Whitlam Government ended our involvement. On leaving the Army, Peter continued his work as a laboratory technician but his Army experiences [which resulted in PTSD] meant he had to change careers. Not to be defeated, he joined the NSW Railways and eventually retired as a Station Master. Peter leaves a wife and three boys of whom he was very proud.

Wayne Houghton



(1972) passed away at the end of June. Wayne was a valued staff member in the Primary/Junior School. He was extremely caring and would always strive for his students to reach their potential. His connections with Villanova included his mother working in the library and his sons Ben (2004) and David (2006) also enrolled as students. Staff fondly recall the epic pre-school hours badminton matches with Wayne.

Theo Jovellanos

(2015), brother of Xavier (2011) and much-loved son of Issandra and Alan lost his long cancer battle on 3 August 2021. Theo was first diagnosed with Medulloblastoma in 2006. He was in remission for 12 years and lived the fullest of lives engaging heavily in music, the Arts, and experiencing his dream of working for Disneyworld Florida in 2018. In March 2019, he was diagnosed with Glioblastoma and fought a hard battle for almost 2.5 years. Theo's family will always remember the precious moments when their sons' music performances at Villanova took their breath away and they thank God that Theo and Xavier were members of the Villanova College family. Theo brought much joy to all and is forever cherished.



Anthony Lupi

(1968) passed away in early March.

Michael McMahon



Michael is pictured in the back row third from the right

(1961) passed away in September at his home in Diamond Valley near Mooloolah. Michael is part of the McMahon legacy of the College along with Leo (1962), Peter (1965), Brian (1967), Vincent (1970), Laurence (1972), Kevin (1975) and Christopher (1982). Michael joined the Augustinians at Rochester and Rome and undertook a Bachelor of Theology and Philosophy completing his formation until Deaconate stage. His great passion was his chosen profession as a social worker and his important work with the Vietnam Veteran's Counselling Service.

Angelo Vasta QC

passed away in September surrounded by family. Angelo became a Villanova parent in 1973, a role he loved throughout the decades. Angelo is the beloved husband of Raffaella, much-loved father of Salvatore (1981), Ross (1984), Andrew (1985), Damien (1988), Roseanne and Pauline; adored great-grandfather of one and grandfather of 18 including Dominic (2010), Xavier (2012), Matthew Thompson (Year 12), Brendan Thompson (Year 9) and Caelan Macintyre (commencing Year 7 in 2022). Angelo's legacy through past, current and future Villanovans is in good hands.



Peter Williamson

(1964) passed in February. Married to Jan for 55 years, father to nine and grandfather to 23 including Bede Earthrohl (Year 9), Xavier (Year 8) and Rafael Wincote (Year 6). Peter had a successful 25-year career with Proctor and Gamble in Sydney. He was close friends with Terry Hendle and was devastated by his passing in Vietnam. Over the years Peter and Jan kept in contact with Father Gerry Dullard who baptised their first child and maintained a long friendship with Bishop Bill Morris.



AFAS ELDERS CONTINUES ITS MISSION WORK

By Tony Hindmarsh

Earlier in the year, the AFAS Elders in conjunction with Old Boy, Greg Cooley (1982) presented the La Forza Concert to raise much needed funds for the communities on Kinatarcan Island which the Elders visited in 2016 and 2018. As the Elders Exchange was unable to proceed in 2020 due to Covid, all funds raised on the night were used to purchase important equipment for the midwife's clinic on the island.

At present, Fe Lydia, the midwife, travels to mainland Cebu (a two-hour round trip by boat) to sterilise all her utensils. For most of 2020 and 2021, mainland Cebu has been either in lockdown or under severe travel restrictions due to the high number of Covid cases.

Thanks to the generosity of all who attended the La Forza Concert, AFAS Elders were able to purchase a steriliser and medical supplies, and also air-condition the birthing suite.

Whilst it has taken a while for the goods to get to the island due to Covid restrictions and availability, the equipment was finally delivered early October.



AFAS Elders thank all involved in making this happen and hope to see you at next year's fundraiser on February 12 at Villanova College.

Strength of the Old Boys *network*

When Tim Howard (1998) saw a recruitment post on the Old Boys Facebook page, he figured he had nothing to lose. As the owner and manager of Decking Solutions at Murarrie, Tim was becoming increasingly frustrated at attempts to recruit a storeman for his business. A message to Old Boys President, Chris Andersen resulted in a Facebook post advertising the role and the hiring of Old Boy, Sam Preston (2015).

“We could not have found a more perfect candidate in Sam,” said Tim. “We had the job out with a recruitment agency for two months and the industry association for six weeks and had not received a single response.”

Sam has brought huge experience to the role as the previous team leader of the timber division at Bunnings. The uncanny match even saw Sam drive the exact same forklift in his prior role.

Tim has owned Decking Solutions since 2016 and employs six staff with warehouses in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. They are the Australian distributor of Trex, a premium composite decking product sold directly to timber merchants. Incredible growth over the past 18 months due to the COVID renovation boom will see the company expand to New Zealand in 2022. Outside hours, five children keeps Tim on his toes.

Similar recruitment success has been experienced by Old Boys President, Chris Andersen who recently employed Brandon Isaak (2017) at Pure Real Estate in a sales and leasing role.



Brandon and Chris

Chris's advice:

Reach out if you have a job opportunity going. We're happy to connect Old Boys and especially give our younger Old Boys starting out every opportunity for employment.



Tim and Sam at Decking Solutions

Memorial Tradition *continues*

Each year, the College's fastest student over 800m is awarded the Stephen Gannon Memorial Trophy, in memory of Stephen Gannon (Class of 1972) who passed away following a tragic car accident at just 22 years of age. Stephen was an outstanding athlete during his time at Villanova. This year's recipient was Luke Pascoe. Luke's achievement at the 2021 AIC Track and Field Championships was extra special, as Stephen's brother Gerard was in attendance. Gerard penned this letter to Luke and it is reprinted with permission.

Congratulations Luke Pascoe for winning the Stephen Gannon Memorial 800 metre Trophy for 2021.

Watching your race, I was really pleased with the effort you put in, particularly down the home straight – you fought hard to the end to secure a massive PB – a great way to finish your running journey with Villanova!

Stephen was an outstanding school-boy runner, excelling at both the “8 and 15” over many years. He completed Year 12 in 1972, I was in grade 5, my first year at Villa.

Stephen ran the 800 metres (and 400 metres) at the TAS (now AIC) athletics meet at Lang Park in 1972. Lang Park, at the time, had a grass track with a slight incline up the home straight.

Whilst 49 years is a very long time, I do remember a few things about that night.

Stephen false started twice (you were allowed three chances in those days), with 200 metres to go Stephen hit the lead and the race was won, the last thing I recall was the Villanova War Cry post victory.

Interestingly, finishing behind Stephen were two runners, Peter Hawes (SLC) and Mike Pullinger (SPC). Both went on to represent Queensland in National Championships in future years.

Sadly, Stephen was a passenger in a car accident and never recovered, passing away on 4 October 1977.

Stephen, with Dad, rest in the Mt Gravatt Cemetery overlooking the QSAC – a fitting place!

As you can see, the Trophy means a lot to the Gannon family, and we are very pleased that your name will be included alongside the Gannon family members and other worthy recipients in the years gone by.

Congratulations again and we wish you the very best in the future.

*Gerard Gannon
for the Gannon Family*



Stephen Gannon



Gerard Gannon with Luke Pascoe

Fierce Rivals but Mateship Endures

They were fierce rivals in the pool and on the courts and fields as students, but for a group of Villa and Lauries Old Boys, their friendship has stood the test of time.

In 1961 a group of friends (aged 12/13 at the time) from Villanova College and St Laurence's College formed a basketball team to play in the Brisbane competition. Their coach, Vince Hickey, would later become the first coach of the Brisbane Bullets. The team played together for five years, with several members of the team going on to represent Brisbane and Queensland. One member, Laurie Freier became a professional rugby league player and coach, playing in the 1972 grand final in New South Wales for Easts.



In 2021, the team celebrated 60 years of friendship with a special reunion organised by Carl Law. The 1961 photo includes (L-R): John Murphy (1966), Carl Law (1966), John Percey (1966), Tom Murphy (1967), John Buckley (dec SLC), Robert Murray (1967), Ray Mackey (SLC), Laurie Freier (SLC) and Brian Freier (SLC).



Missing from the most recent photo of the team (standing in roughly the same position as the original photo) is John Buckley who was seriously injured in the line of duty as a motorcycle policeman in Melbourne and passed away several years later.

The men have decided to make the team catch-up an annual event. According to John Percey,

“We are starting to believe that we were better at basketball than we were. Nothing like living the dream.”

EDITOR'S NOTE: Many thanks to John Percey (1966) for this contribution. John went on to play rugby league for Brothers. His two sons attended Villanova - Johnny (1991) and Daniel (1995) as did great nephew, Jack Trevethan (2011). His other great nephews, Cameron and Luke Bukowski and Tom, Matthew, Andrew and Will Trevethan are current students. John still keeps in contact with Fr Gerry Dullard who married he and his wife Trish in 1968 at St James. John is the National Sales & Marketing Manager for Steadfast Underwriting Agencies and lives on the Sunshine Coast.

Creating opportunities One cycle at a time



Michael Hansen, Class of 1980 (and very briefly 1981), has found a way to combine his interest in cycling with giving back to the community. Salvos Recycle Bikes, established in 2019, is a social enterprise that gives donated and discarded bikes a second chance, along with the people who work on them.

Andy Steele founder of Salvos Recycle Bikes has a long history of raising funds for charity through cycling. Through his years of community involvement, he identified the opportunity to reduce waste and landfill while also upskilling people in need of a helping hand. Salvos Recycle Bikes is a bustling workshop based out of two donated shipping containers at Salvos Red Hill. The workshop services and reconditions bikes. There is never a shortage of stock due to donations of unclaimed stolen bikes from police stations and stock that is donated to Salvos op shops.



Michael at the Salvos Recycle Bikes workshop (on right)

The reconditioned and safety-checked bikes are sold through Salvos with all proceeds going back into the social enterprise. Bikes that can't be saved are pulled apart and recycled for parts. Individuals who have experienced long term unemployment receive certificate level training to work on the bikes. However, Andy and Michael agree that the conversations and mentoring that happen along the way, and the increase in self-confidence of the trainees, are equally or even more important.

Michael met Andy through a running group in which Andy shared his idea for utilising bikes to help others. Michael found himself with some spare time on his hands after selling an insurance business he had worked in since leaving school (thanks to employment from another Old Boy). He loved riding but didn't know how to fix bikes, so he offered to assist with admin, sales reports, collecting

bikes from police stations, doing odd jobs and providing fellowship to the trainees as they re-enter society. Michael humbly describes himself as doing dog's body work around the place but knows it's important to have a consistent presence to build trust. He has been involved from when there was just a block of dirt and two shipping containers. Since then hundreds of bikes have been given a new lease of life and he has formed life-long memories with volunteers and trainees.

Michael shifted schools to attend Villa in Year 11 after his mum started work in the library. He says that it was one of the best decisions. A self-described 'average Joe' at school it was his Villa mates who helped him find his way through. He still catches up with Villa classmates three or four times a year and knows they would always stand by him.

One of his fondest memories of Villanova was sharing laughs with Sean Quinn whose great teaching and sharp wit was a constant. He appreciates now that some of the teachers like Nick Simpson were only five years older than the students they were keeping in line and educating.

Michael's advice to students is to,

“be yourself and don't be in a hurry to turn into anyone else, you'll find your feet!”

If you have any unwanted bikes to donate please drop to Salvos at 80 Glenrosa Road Red Hill or to arrange a drop to the College contact Nat Davidson on ndavidson@vnc.qld.edu.au, ph 3394 5665.



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Riding the Wave

Robert Gunning (1987) has gone from involvement in swimming, rugby and basketball at Villanova to working alongside the world's surfing greats. Since leaving Villanova in 1987, Robert followed his keen interest in travelling across the globe. A love of surfing eventually led to an opportunity to start judging with the Spanish Surfing Federation in 2000 and in 2002 Robert landed his first chance at judging with the World Surfing League.

This experience assisted Robert to gain a role as the World Surf League Europe Tour Manager, a position he has successfully held since 2010. No two days managing the Pro Junior, Longboard and Qualifying Series tours in Europe are alike. He is the link between event organisers, World Surf League technical staff (judges, IT technicians, photographers, media, commentators) and the athletes, coaches and parents.

Robert ensures that all aspects of the events are properly organised to the World Surf League rules and standards and that staff travel, accommodation and salaries are taken care of. Perhaps most importantly, he ensures that the athletes have a well-run event, prize money is paid and there are two winners on the final podium – quite the position description!

Robert explains that all the big names in professional surfing come through Europe and the World Surf League events on their way to qualification to the Championship Tour. "It is quite nice to see these athletes develop and reach their goals and go on to win World Titles. The older athletes like Kelly Slater just come each year to do the Championship Tour events. It's enjoyable working with these amazing athletes."

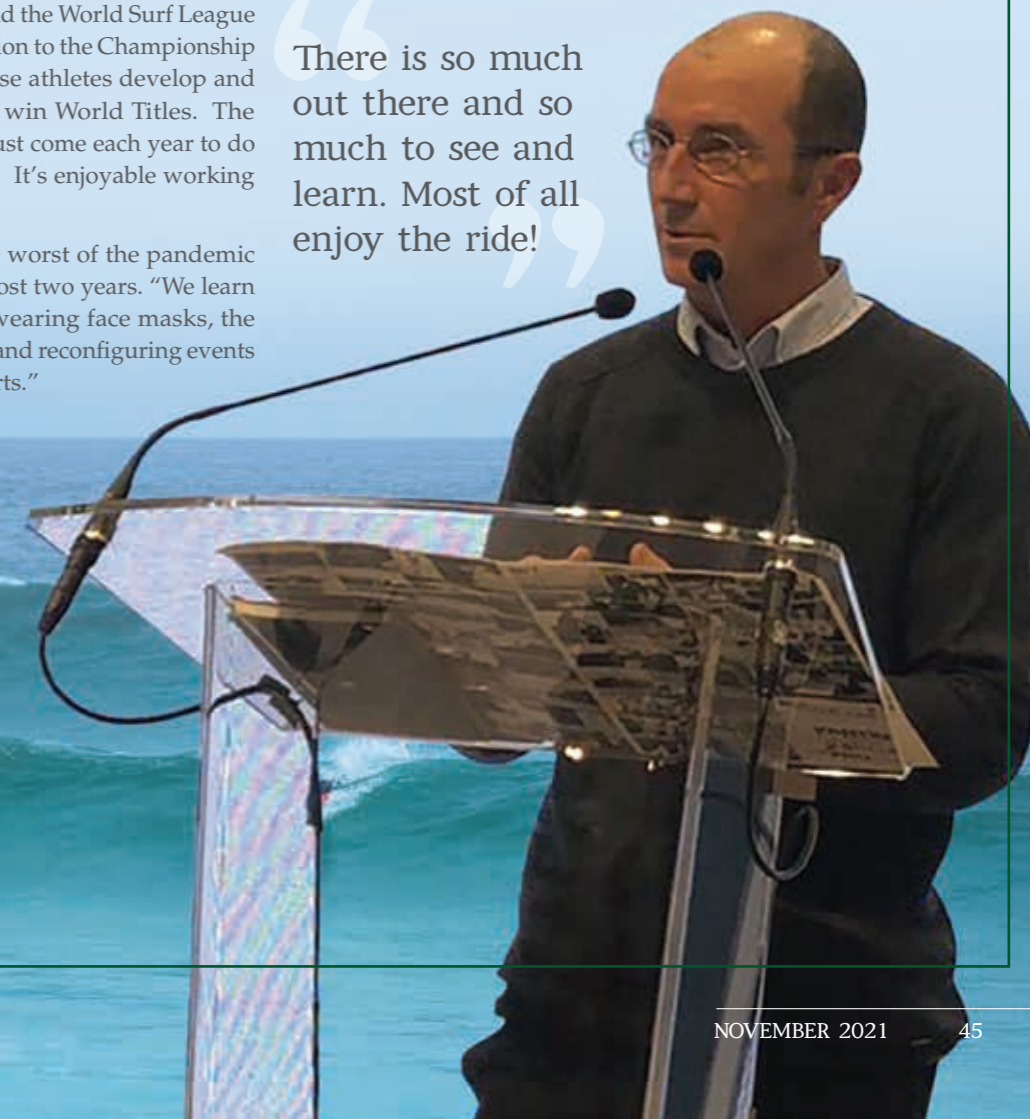
Robert has lived through the worst of the pandemic in Europe which has lasted almost two years. "We learn to live with curfews at night, wearing face masks, the constant changes in restrictions and reconfiguring events with many complex moving parts."

Even from the other side of the world, Robert keeps in touch with his Villa classmates through a social media group which sees the regular sharing of interesting articles and family news. "Our 1987 school captain Matt Gallagher manages the group with those leadership skills that never go away."

When asked about memorable teachers Robert particularly recalls Mr Peter Rowley and Mr Nick Simpson because, "both were able to motivate and teach in a way that felt like you weren't actually learning but, in reality, we very much were."

Robert's advice to students: "Do what you enjoy doing and don't give up on your goals. In my professional life I have seen so many super keen young people make it to where they want to go."

There is so much out there and so much to see and learn. Most of all enjoy the ride!



The foundations of learning: reflections from an early Villanovan

Mr Edmond Scott OAM was recently warmly welcomed back to the College after 65 years. Commencing at Whinstanes in 1951, Edmond provided insight into his experiences of the early Villanova and his remarkable career.

On Edmond's first day at Villanova the entire class consisted of four students - the roll call being Edmond, John Clarkson, William Tyler and Dion McCarthy. School with these three other boys was six days a week in those days!

Edmond entered Villanova with a love of sport, particularly sprinting, and relished the many activities organised by the priests to keep the boys active. The challenge came with sporting teams. The College being so small meant that Edmond and classmate Dion would have to play across multiple teams in one day. He recalls, "by the third match of the day we weren't much chop!" Because teams played by weight, Father Hanrahan would take them to the nearby railway station to be weighed on the scales. Like other early Villanovans he remembers the onsite boxing ring where students vied to be the recipient of an American one cent piece. Edmond also enjoyed the Villanova Choir and the performances at City Hall annually on Saint Patrick's Day.

During this time Edmond lived on Gregory Terrace with the Cathedral as his parish. He became an altar boy and served at Archbishop Duhig's Masses. This included Edmond assisting with the laying of the Foundation Stone for the Villanova Coorparoo campus and then years later, at the official opening of the Coorparoo campus in 1954.

Edmond's life as a teenager after Villanova included working as the junior messenger delivering x-rays around the Royal Brisbane Hospital. 19 years later he became the assistant manager at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

He enjoyed a decade playing rugby union with Brothers and rugby league with Valleys and Wests.

Edmond was approached by the YMCA to take on a new challenge to develop sports and community complexes. As Director, Edmond developed the Acacia Ridge, Jamboree Heights, Toowoomba and Murgon YMCA. The substantial job also involved becoming accredited as a coach in nine different sports to develop and run the programs.

Edmond undertook university studies for eight years as a mature student and four children in tow, to complete a degree in human movements and then a Master's degree. Edmond went on to become the Executive Director for the then Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing and Director of Sport under Minister Bob Gibbs. His role during this tenure involved the redevelopment of Lang Park (now Suncorp Stadium), Ballymore and the Gabba. At the time he also instigated the Queensland Academy of Sport. He then served six years as a Director with PCYC. His long-term service to sport earned Edmond an Order of Australia Medal in 1995.

Edmond's final official role was as Chair to oversee the development of the Queensland Children's Hospital, an extremely complex \$1.3b project. And if you thought Edmond might slow down in retirement, he goes to the gym three days a week, swims two kilometres twice a week and is undertaking a Bachelor of Theology through ACU at 82 years young!

"I was absolutely amazed with the development of the College... I cannot believe that it is now so big. I was 'gob-smacked' at the modern classroom facilities."

Upon returning to Villanova after over 65 years, Edmond shared that Villanova has always had a deep place in his heart. The visit:

"Gave me the opportunity to recall great memories and also the opportunity to appreciate more, the Augustinian religious principles, educational and ethical standards and the role they played in my religious and personal development."

The main benefit from my time at Villanova, as a young boy, was the religious education by the priests. It set the tone for my current religious beliefs as a daily communicant.

"I was absolutely amazed with the development of the College. I compare this with my initial visit and role with Archbishop Duhig for the laying of the Foundation Stone and in turn, with him again at the official opening. I cannot believe that it is now so big. I was 'gob-smacked' at the modern classroom facilities. At Whinstanes, we sat at an old desk in an old army shed! I could not believe that Year 12 students not only enjoy amazing classroom facilities, a stunning city skyline but have their own kitchenette!"

Edmond's advice to Villanova students of today, "follow your instincts. Don't feel you have to be better than others because you probably are and don't lose sight of your religion."





THE CLEAR SKIES PROJECT



Anthony Summers, Class of 1990 and son of former Villanova Science teacher John Summers has dedicated his career to helping youth at the margins. Anthony's early career involved teaching science and geography, including briefly teaching back at Villanova.

Clear Skies for Disengaged Youth

It was a role at a school on the outskirts of Brisbane that set Anthony's path, when his teaching had to focus on working with behaviourally-challenged kids – a stark contrast to the community and team camaraderie at Villa.

Anthony was then selected to lead an intensive program of working with 10 of the most challenging students who were living through trauma and complex disadvantage. He went on to specialise in developing complex behaviour management programs for students and overseeing teams.

A sea-change to the Gold Coast led to his most recent role working as a behaviour management teacher. Anthony's approach was to introduce learning through pro-social development programs for kids which included volunteering in nursing homes and child care centres. He saw a transformation in the battle-weary kids as soon as they interacted with different generations and were able to give back even when they believed they had nothing to give.

The power of supporting disengaged youth inspired Anthony to take a leap of faith and begin the Clear Skies Project. Based in Coolangatta, Clear Skies offers a day respite wellness program for kids. It allows them to have time out while helping to ultimately engage them back into school, distance education or work, and make better choices along the way. At the core of his work, Anthony is championing these vulnerable teens to believe in themselves again and help them discover their often-hidden talents, intelligences and abilities that are within them.

Clear Skies works with some of the most disengaged youth who may only attend school part of the week or may not have attended for over a year. Kids who Anthony works with often have limited parental structures and have extremely low levels of literacy and numeracy due extended periods of absence from school. Anthony's

program works with a cohort of kids that don't fit into mainstream schools, have extremely low self-esteem and for who, simply turning up for a session is a major achievement. "Turning up, being social, connecting with others are little wins that can empower young people to become more than they ever imagined."

Anthony has noted the impact of COVID on disengagement levels, with some students not attending since the first lockdown over a year and a half ago. His office itself is just streets away from the locked-down and army patrolled QLD/NSW border (at the time of writing). To keep this dream alive into 2022, Anthony is looking for funding support to continue to build a community of supporters around the project.

When asked about his days at Villanova and how they shaped him today, Anthony remembers the sense of inclusion and teamwork that came with participating in cross country, cricket and in the 1sts for tennis in Year 11 and 12, taking out the Premiership.

With a Dad on staff, Anthony became very involved in College life, a distinct difference to the youth he assists today. This even extended to being a roadie for the band his Dad played in (The Villans), a favourite at the renowned College musters!

Anthony recalls how his teacher Ian Brown inspired him, providing wise council through story telling. He shared his beliefs and convictions which was very powerful and in some way, influenced how Anthony works with young people today.

Anthony's advice to students - "understand that failure and hardship are the greatest lessons. It's okay to be vulnerable because that's when we open ourselves to learning."

More about Anthony's work can be seen here: <https://theclearskiesproject.com>



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DAVID DE VITO

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- GUEST ARTISTS TABATHA ASHMORE & NADYNE THORNE -

Join us under the stars on the terraces at Villanova College and enjoy some food, wine and fabulous entertainment as we kick start the 2022 Villanova College school year!

A great opportunity to have some fun while meeting new parents & teachers!

Proudly raising funds for the Australian Filipino Augustinian Solidarity (AFAS)

SAT 12 FEB 2022

Tickets \$60pp

Villanova College
Sixth Avenue, Coorparoo

**SUPPORT ACT
LUKE DICKENS**

Runner up Australian Idol!

**DOORS OPEN 5.00PM
SUPPORT ACT 5.30PM**

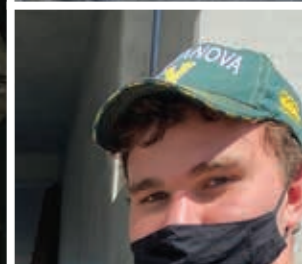
BYO Platters OR order one of our GRAZING PLATTERS on-line at just \$30 pp.

BOOK NOW ONLINE AT: <https://www.trybooking.com/BUWYQ> (limited tables)
PHONE BOOKINGS: Call Kelli Shanahan at Greg Cooley Wines on 0421 055 799



2022 *community* EVENTS

<p>SATURDAY 19 MARCH Villa Carnival</p> <hr/> <p>FRIDAY 6 MAY P&F Mothers' Night</p> <hr/> <p>THURSDAY 26 MAY Open Day</p> <hr/> <p>FRIDAY 27 MAY Sports Club Lunch</p>	<p>SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER Deceased Villanovans Mass</p> <hr/> <p>SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER Mothers of Old Boys Afternoon</p> <hr/> <p>SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER Derby Day for Ladies</p>
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"In an orchestra there are many
different instruments. But all are tuned
so carefully and played in harmony so
that the audience only hears one melody.
This must be our ideal
to be one orchestra for the Lord."
- Sr. Agnes



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