



HERITAGE



JULIET OWEN
3 DECADES
OF DANCE



Principal Rob Henderson

From the Principal

Schools are about people. Our students, staff and families have responded magnificently to the global challenges of 2021. Even during short-term lockdown periods with optional school attendance, our student numbers at the College have been extremely high. We are thrilled with the level of support provided by the extended school community during a challenging year.

Past and current students, staff and parents have created a College where demand for enrolment is extremely high. This year we even had an enrolment application for Year 7 in 2034. At the time of the application, the baby was five weeks old!

There has been a distinctive focus on our founding orders. The youngest of 13 children, St Ignatius of Loyola was a young man hungry for adventure and achievements. After being struck by a cannonball, he laid down his sword and took up the pilgrim's staff! It was the beginning of the story of St Ignatius of Loyola and the founding of the Jesuits. This year we have focused on the 500-year anniversary of the 'cannonball moment'. 'Landing Day' for the Loreto Sisters was 1 July 1875 when Sr Mary Gonzaga Barry, along with her nine companion sisters, arrived after a two-month trip from Dublin.

It has been an exciting year at the College as our building plans come to fruition. There will be a new look as the front entrance of the College will be

accessed from John XXIII Avenue as distinct from Mooro Drive. Recognition of our founding orders and schools will be an important feature as we prepare for the future and tell the stories of the past. Our library is being revamped to become a more contemporary facility and our A-Block classrooms are being renovated to make them more conducive to learning. Flexible learning spaces will also facilitate conversion into an examination centre as required during the school year.

Just as schools are about people, so too is the incorporation of information and communication technologies into teaching and learning. Here at John XXIII we understand that our students are agile 21st century learners and that we have to prepare them for a changing world, but we also understand that our use of ICT must first and foremost always serve our students' learning needs. In this issue of *Heritage* you will read about some of the cutting-edge



developments in the ICT arena, as well as the success of some of our graduates in this ever-evolving and fascinating field.

You will also read about a myriad of other achievements and offerings; from dancing up a storm, to enhancing sailing prowess, to cultivating business leaders, I'm sure you will be as impressed as I am by the wonderful talents of our community. It is an exciting time to be at John XXIII College!

Robert Henderson
Principal



Alumni Development

Looking back over the past six months I can say we are very fortunate to have escaped lockdown here in WA. Our community around the globe has not been so privileged and we send them our prayers and thoughts, especially those who are not well and facing challenges beyond their control. We hope this edition of *Heritage* provides a spark of interest and relieve from the ongoing COVID-19 story.

The John XXIII College Foundation, thanks to the Board steered by Michael Anderson and Executive Officer Kate Murphy, has awarded the first Bursary, to commence from 2022. This is for a student who ordinarily could not attend John XXIII College due to financial constraints. The generosity of our Alumni, no matter the size of your gift, has been enormously appreciated. Donations from the College community to our Bursary fund cover the costs of the Bursary.

Our task is not to simply engage with Alumni, but to encourage all of you to be advocates for our vision, and to be our public supporters. We want you to be proud of John XXIII College, to speak about us in your networks, whether they be among senior influencers or at a grassroots level. Our Alumni is our biggest stakeholder group; you are shareholders in our lifelong community.

Check out the Alumni webpage alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au. We would love you to upload photos, register to attend your reunion and other events, be a mentor, or simply view the expanding timeline, which includes copies of yearbooks, photos, *Heritage* and other ephemera.

Look after each other, look after yourselves and remember that everyone you know is fighting a battle you may know nothing about. Be kind always.

Anna Gingell nee Muir (Class 1978)

Alumni Development

Are your contact details up to date?

Please take the time to ensure we have your most up-to-date details.

To update your details online visit alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au

1. Login
2. Under the top navigation select 'Your Account' and click 'Update Your Details'
3. Enter your updated contact information and then click 'Save'.

Alternatively, contact the Alumni Office with your updated details:

- 9383 0520
- Anna.Gingell@cewa.edu.au

Help find lost Alumni

As part of our efforts to stay in touch with our extended College family, we are always looking to expand our Alumni database. Can you help?

alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au/#missingmembers

This page lists all those people in your year group we don't have current contact details for. If you can help us get in touch with any of these Alumni, just click on the word 'lost' under their name. You can also click on other options at the top of the page to broaden your search for other missing Alumni.

Stay connected

-  Alumni: [JohnXXIIICollegeAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/JohnXXIIICollegeAlumni)
-  Alumni: alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au
-  College: [linkedin.com/school/johnxxiiicollege](https://www.linkedin.com/school/johnxxiiicollege)
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-  Foundation: foundation.johnxxiii.edu.au

HERITAGE

SEEKING HIGHER THINGS

Tony Lennon with composer Lachlan Skipworth and Cappuccino Concerts founder Irina Buevska-Cowell



The motto of St Louis, *Altiora Peto*, which means 'I seek higher things', has become the inspiration for an uplifting new piece of music commissioned by Alumnus **Tony Lennon (St Louis Class 1957)** to mark the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Tony was inspired by the high standards set during his education at St Louis, but also by the school's philosophical and religious values. 'The school motto *Altiora Peto* was a constant theme,' says Tony. 'It was there on our school caps, our blazers, our stationery. Even the school magazine was called *The Eagle*. And it was a call to seek higher things not just through what we achieved as individuals, but through our efforts in social justice, and for our communities.'

Tony has certainly taken this call to heart, undertaking a range of roles that have enabled him to make a meaningful contribution to his community including as President of the Shire of Peppermint Grove, Deputy Chair of the Australia Day Council national board, Chair of the Curtin Aged Persons Foundation and a founding director of the Wearne and the Riversea Hostels for the Aged. Tony is also a dedicated philanthropist and he and his wife Gwenyth are long-time supporters of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra (WASO), as well as significant donors to our John XXIII College Foundation.

With border restrictions making a milestone birthday celebration with interstate family out of the question, Tony decided to turn his party plans into

commissioning a piece of music instead. The Lennons are the patrons of the chamber music company Cappuccino Concerts, which brings diverse high-quality musical productions into the community, and through this connection met the renowned Australian composer Lachlan Skipworth. Among the scores of home-grown music talents whose international commitments have been interrupted by the pandemic, Mr Skipworth was available for the commission.

Tony discussed his hopes and intentions for the piece with the composer and during the course of their conversation he recalled the special significance to him of the St Louis motto *Altiora Peto*, and requested that the composition also be uplifting and exude a sense of optimism, joy and progress, but with passages of nostalgia. It was also his preference that it feature trumpet and string instruments. So the composition was named *Altiora Peto*, and is a 15-minute piece in three movements for ten instruments, including trumpet, four violins, two violas, two cellos and double bass.

Altiora Peto made its worldwide premiere at the Gala Opening Concert of the 2021 Cappuccino Concert Spring Classics series on Sunday 3 October 2021 in the auditorium at the Grove Library. Among the ten musicians performing were trumpet virtuoso Brent Grapes and renowned violinist (and WASO Assistant Concert Master) Akiko Miyazawa and her ensemble Cygnus Arioso. *Altiora Peto* received an excellent review by *The West Australian*, which described it as a trumpet concerto.

Tony's connection to his alma mater has remained strong, with his four children attending John XXIII College, as well as four of his grandchildren. Tony has relished the opportunity to re-engage with the College through this younger generation, attending Presentation Nights, musicals and other events. 'It's wonderful to see that the values live on,' says Tony.

We thank Tony and Gwenyth for their ongoing support of the College and hope that we might see an on-campus performance of *Altiora Peto* one day.

ON THE WATER

2021 COLLEGE CUP FINAL RESULTS:

- 1st - Christ Church Grammar School (Team 1)
- 2nd - Shenton College
- 3rd - Wesley College
- 4th - Christ Church Grammar School (Team 3)
- 5th - All-female Mixed Metro Area Colleges (#SheSails)
- 6th - Scotch College
- 7th - John XXIII College Alumni WA (Young Guns A)
- 8th - John XXIII College (Young Guns B)
- 9th - Christ Church Grammar School (Team 2)



Adam Glaskin with the 'Best Dressed' prize



A fabulous day on the water was enjoyed by all at the College Cup Sailing Regatta, held at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club in May. The College Cup is about having fun and reconnecting with friends from school. Everyone is a winner!

Our skipper for the day

Adam Glaskin (Class 2009) did an outstanding job rounding up the sailors; some experienced, some not. Andrew Locke (past teacher) provided the support boat and crew, which chased the yachts around the Swan River with refreshments and enabled the crew to swap places following each race.

The 'Best-Dressed' prize (and the rum barrel!) went to John XXIII College Young Guns Team A, which dressed up in their COVID-19 personal protective equipment. Despite not coming first this year, with some team

members struggling to get out of bed early and competing against very experienced and much older sailors, it was an enjoyable day on the river that ended with much laughter and talk of 'getting them' next year!

The 2022 College Cup is scheduled to take place on Sunday 1 May. Please save the date.



John XXIII College Alumni Young Guns crew and support crew

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Ben Gollow (Class 2008)

Over ten years after graduating, Ben says that some of his best mates still come from his school days, which he believes is a testament to the culture of John XXIII College. After studying a Bachelor of Economics and Commerce (Finance, Accounting and Entrepreneurship) at UWA, as well as completing exchanges to Spain and Canada, Ben started as a consultant at Deloitte. He then worked in social



Ben with wife Moira and son Sol

impact consulting at Social Ventures Australia. After four years of corporate life, he left everything for a year of travelling abroad through Central America. Upon returning to Australia, Ben landed a role in operations for Uber. After three years in the Perth office he has recently bought a house and moved to Dunsborough as COVID-19 made his job remote, which he says was the silver lining of the pandemic for him and his family. He lives down south with his wife and two-year-old son Sol and the couple is expecting a daughter any day now. Ben's days are spent by the ocean, in the surf and working from his home office, which he says is a dream come true!

Study and career advice to young Alumni:

'In terms of study and career choices, follow your passions but also consider what the world needs and what you can be paid for. In addition, I have worked in business and at Uber with marine scientists and physios so don't get too caught up with your study choices; it's all about learning to learn, problem-solving and being a nice person to be around!'



Penny with her husband Kosta, daughter Sienna and sons Leo and Hugo

Penny Kapinkoff nee Vaughan (Class 2001)

Penny and her sisters are all JTC Lifers, attending the College for all of their primary and secondary schooling. Following graduation, Penny completed a Bachelor of Commerce (majoring in Public Relations and Marketing) at Curtin University. Her love for travel has led her to live and work in London and Dubai, working in marketing for some of the biggest global brands such as Mars, Birds Eye and Kellogg's. She is now the Campaign Manager at the Department of Premier and Cabinet, working in the COVID-19 Communications Team, and is responsible for a team of five that manages all of the Western Australian Government's paid advertising associated with COVID-19, including developing the 'Roll up for WA' vaccination campaign, lockdown communications, Paid Escape and Safe WA. Penny is also kept very busy as a mother of three young children and enjoys keeping fit, reading and travelling in her spare time.

Study and career advice to young Alumni:

'It is tough to know what you want to do for the rest of your life at the age of 17 or 18. If you choose something to study that you do not enjoy, know there are many options to change pathways later. Also, listen to your parents. I wanted to complete a gap year travelling after I finished high school, but my parents encouraged me to get a degree and some work experience before travelling and moving away and this decision made my experiences of living overseas more fulfilling.'



Mary Joyce (Loreto Class 1974)

Mary Joyce has embraced a career devoted to supporting others. As Manager of Social Work Services for Sir Charles Gairdner and Osborne Park Hospitals, she leads a 100-person department committed to assisting patients, families and carers in their journey through the health system. She works with those who have a life-threatening condition, a disability, diminished physical or mental capacity and also those experiencing grief and loss. This work is often with the most vulnerable members of the community, whose health has been impacted by physical, economic or cultural circumstances and social inequalities.

Mary attended Loreto for almost all of her junior and senior schooling, with her three brothers Patrick, David and Michael all studying at St Louis. Her nephew Rohan continued the family tradition and studied at John XXIII College. After graduation, Mary completed a Bachelor of Arts at UWA, then pursued post-graduate social work studies and later undertook a Master of Business Administration.

Over recent years Mary has been travelling to Uganda to volunteer at a healthcare centre run by the Camillian priests. The Order of St Camillus is an Italian-based group of religious who dedicate their lives to working for the sick. Mary says that their work in Uganda is selfless, inspiring and non-judgemental.

A keen sailor, Mary co-owns a yacht with her brother David and says that this hobby has brought her both great enjoyment and moments of complete terror over the years. She loves participating in the annual College Cup Sailing Regatta and being able to catch up with John XXIII College Alumni and staff. 'We seem

to be better known for winning the 'best dressed' boat category, rather than for our sailing prowess,' says Mary. 'But the day is always a blast.' Mary has maintained close friendships with several of her Loreto school friends and catches up with them regularly.

Study and career advice to young Alumni:

'For me, the Loreto nuns and lay teachers provided the framework of 'how to learn' and the discipline of study. I credit them and the Loreto 'all girl milieu' of giving me the confidence to make the right choices and find my own career path. In terms of advice, I don't think there is any wrong road when exploring study and career choices, especially today when careers and work opportunities are so flexible. I think the key is understanding and growing your own attributes and discovering what your motivators are.'



Greg Flynn (St Louis Class 1966)

From the corporate world, to a successful writing career, to interviewing celebrities, Greg Flynn has certainly had a colourful journey since his St Louis days. We asked Greg to share some of his adventures and his words of wisdom with our readers.

With two aunts (Peg and Clare) as Loreto nuns and a Jesuit priest uncle (Leo), it was fated that my brother Peter and I would attend Loreto Claremont's junior school before graduating to our big-boy pants and being marched off to St Louis. Fortunately for all parties, Peter and I were never taught by our relatives.

With my uncanny ability to make choices that I and others later regret, I smugly chose a part-time (I was still working as a cadet journalist) Bachelor of Arts at UWA, majoring in English, but with Philosophy sitting

like an improvised explosive device alongside the road to my degree. Philosophy? What was I thinking? That was what we who spectacularly fail a course call 'a mistake'. Note: in no way could my lack of academic success be attributed to focusing solely on sitting on the uni's library wall in the sunshine trying to interest passing female students in my newspaper clippings.

Wait. Let me dip into my little bag of cliched insights. Ah, here's one: 'Life is a circle'. After leaving St Louis (a potentially tearful moment which the Jesuits took very bravely. Too bravely in fact), I was offered a cadetship with West Australian Newspapers, the publishers of, not surprisingly, *The West Australian* and, at the time, an afternoon shock-horror-man-bites-shark tabloid, *The Daily News*. On the latter paper, I discovered my high opinion of my writing skills wasn't always shared by my chain-smoking, beer-at-lunchtime colleagues. Now, here I sit countless summers later, once again pecking out newspaper articles on a keyboard (albeit no longer an analogue one).

Having spent the bulk of what passes for my career shamelessly dancing on street corners for gold coins (aka working in public relations), in May I resigned after nearly 12 years with an international property development company based in Sydney. Pro tip: as I've discovered, if you try to sell your soul to Satan and he declines, then a property developer is always willing to buy. Admittedly, the Devil's demands are probably less onerous.

With a strained expression that signals either fierce determination or an incipient ulcer, I've become a freelance journalist. As a freelancer, you're always looking for another bank to rob – figuratively not literally, because if I was nicked for a heist, the ghastly green of prison-issue t-shirts would clash with the colour of my kind eyes. The 'bank' I've chosen is the showbiz and arts beat, where what remains of my smarmy charm is an asset in encouraging actors, painters, TV folk and novelists to make indiscreet remarks on which I then base almost-factual newspaper features.

At some stage between becoming a *Daily News* hack and ending my career as a PR flak-catcher, I managed to write a novel, *The Berlin Cross*. The book proved to be a bestseller at airports around Australia, possibly because once the buyers began reading it after take-off, they couldn't return it and demand a refund.

When I had very little free time because of work, family and cleaning up after the cat, I would build my own computers, play with software and bore the world with how Adobe Dreamweaver was the only

choice for web design. Now that I have more spare time – I wonder if I've accidentally switched my iPhone to silent mode? – I tend to sit in an armchair, drink at hand, and ponder life's Big Question: am I making the most of my Netflix, Apple TV and Amazon Prime subscriptions or should I do the unthinkable and go for a walk?



Study and career advice to young Alumni:

'Without hesitation, and with Saint Oprah whispering in my ear, I urge you to follow your drea...no, just kidding. Step One: marry above your station and insist on seeing certified copies of the bank statements of your prospective parents-in-law. Then, if your plans for a pop-up Tex Mex café at Geordie Bay fail, you can fall back on their money. Step Two: consider a career which engenders in others a sense of envy and loathing. Law is ideal. Nobody likes a lawyer, but they certainly envy the money lawyers earn. Step Three: consider your strengths. Hmm, perhaps this should be Step Two but it's too late now. So, on a piece of paper and using two columns (the complex logic for this will soon become clear) list your strengths in one column and your weaknesses in the other. Then tear the sheet neatly down the middle and throw away the strengths half. Over decades in the corporate world, I've watched people become wildly successful despite lacking any perceptible talent; it was purely because they were puffed up with chutzpah. Or, frankly, you could simply follow your dreams. That'll be more satisfying and more fun but, for Heaven's sake, don't tell anyone I told you.'



AT THE CUTTING EDGE

At John XXIII College we are deeply committed to realising the potential of evolving technologies to enhance and transform learning for all students. Our highly-skilled teams, ICT Operations and Library ICT Innovation Services, focus on selecting and implementing various technologies in an agile and responsive manner. Their primary focus is on the needs of individual students to optimise their learning. Technology is used to engage the learners in an environment they are both familiar and comfortable with. Teachers can teach and students can learn from anywhere at any time.

All John XXIII College students and staff have access to cloud-based technology, state-of-the-art hardware, software and systems. The use of technology begins early on, with student and teacher personal devices and a contemporary Digital Technologies lab in the Primary School. Robotics is becoming more and more popular and is also embedded in both the primary and secondary curriculum. Science and other departments are utilising drones and virtual reality to

enhance their learning programs. Digital Technologies is a subject studied from Kindergarten to Year 12 and coding (computer programming) is a focus throughout primary and secondary in these courses. There is also access to 3D printing across primary and secondary and the use of these state-of-the-art printers helps to deliver projects across multiple subjects.

ICT and academic staff are committed to collaborating to ensure the best learning outcomes for students, and to remain at the forefront of evolving technology to transform learning.

A service department

Our ICT Operations Team is a service department, supporting staff and students both in and out of the classroom. The team ensures that all stakeholders (teaching staff, administration staff, grounds/maintenance, health etc) have the best technology to support their requirements.

The team keeps abreast of emerging technologies, and works closely with the Library ICT Innovation

Services Team to make recommendations, source, review, test and implement technologies that can enhance learning, improve efficiency and productivity, focusing on ensuring the College has next-generation, state-of-the-art infrastructure. They are especially keen on ensuring that it lends itself to application information to pull data and provide analytics/measurements and generate insights to make recommendations. They focus on collaborative platforms, like Office 365, cloud-based, mobile and access anywhere anytime technologies. Both teams also look at the organisational and business needs of the College and can offer solutions to improve workflow issues.

Remote learning

The College was fortunate to have platforms and systems in place that largely shielded us from any issues in switching to a remote learning model during COVID-19 lockdowns. The Office 365 stack allowed for an easy transition to remote learning. It was supported by staff training and professional development to ensure that the capability of staff on the systems was maximised.

Data-driven planning

At John XXIII College, we recognise the need to be data-centric and integrate systems to implement a solution that draws data and can provide greater intelligence for business decisions. We have plans to further develop the analysis of student data (academic, behavioural, emotional/pastoral) to assist in pastoral care, and ultimately improve how we do things. SEQTA Analytics and SPLUNK are technologies that we are currently exploring to support our curriculum and operational objectives. SEQTA Analytics is an extension of our existing SEQTA Suite, which will allow key staff to analyse both historical and current data to make more informed decisions around a student's learning path. SPLUNK is an industry leader in data, while also able to generate insights. Ideally, the ICT Operations Team will be implementing dashboards to help manage work, troubleshoot issues and ultimately foresee and prevent potential problems from occurring.



Cyber safety

Cyber safety is an essential aspect of our work, and we are very aware that parents, staff and students all hold concerns regarding this aspect of technology. At John XXIII College we work closely with Family Zone, a College technology partner company with cyber safety

experience and a strong educational focus. Not only can the system monitor platforms, but it has recommendations aligned with best current educational practice and mechanisms to help parents, students and teachers improve online safety both on and off campus.

We are delighted to introduce you to a new

resource made available through our partnership with Family Zone; our new school Cyber Safety Hub. The purpose of the Cyber Safety Hub is to complement those tools provided by Family Zone with practical guidance and information to further support parents in engaging with their children in digital development. These tools and resources also allow the school and parent body to create a holistic approach to guiding each student's online journey. The Cyber Safety Hub provides expert advice from leading cyber experts,

ySafe, on the most pertinent issues and frequently asked questions around platforms like TikTok, Fortnite, Instagram and more. There are app reviews with age and safety



recommendations, along with a range of guides to help ensure healthy boundaries around screen-time and gaming, plus step-by-step instructions for using parental controls and filtering out inappropriate content. In addition the Cyber Safety Hub provides access to regular cyber safety events.

You can access the Cyber Safety Hub here:

<https://johnxxiii.cybersafetyhub.com.au/>



Cyber star

Antonio Magaraggia (Class 2015)

Antonio has pursued a successful career in the ICT arena and is currently a Security Analyst at Slipstream Cyber Security. Antonio credits both the contemporary and ever-evolving technology available to him at John XXIII College, and the valuable opportunity to work in the College's ICT Department as laying the foundations for his fulfilling career path.

Antonio says that at school he benefitted from a wealth of ICT resources available to students, with labs being kitted out from day one with current technologies. His cohort also had the opportunity to trial iPads which were supplied by the College and felt very futuristic at the time (mid-2012). The use of iPads provided another approach to classroom learning while also incorporating contemporary technology into everyday life. Antonio says that his Computer Science teacher in Year 11 and Year 12, Mr John Joosten, was a profound influence on him, and helped him to develop his passion and skills. 'He was a fantastic teacher who had his own unique style of teaching which fueled my natural curiosity for the area and really helped me to excel at the subject, which ended up being my best subject for both Years 11 and 12,' says Antonio. 'We had a small class of about eight students. This was unusual, but made

everything feel more personal and stimulated the class to ask questions upon questions and delve into Mr Joosten's wealth of knowledge.'

Antonio had originally planned to study electrical engineering, due to his curiosity about how things worked and his constant tinkering with anything technical. Just a few weeks into his first semester of the degree at Curtin University, he realised that the course was not for him and transferred to a Computer Science degree. During these studies, Antonio was able to choose one of four streams and opted for the cyber security path due to the rapid growth in the area, as well as a shift towards cloud computing around the time. Apart from his studies Antonio also enjoyed captaining a social basketball team at Curtin during his studies and tinkering away with friends on their project cars.

Q&A

We caught up with Antonio to gain some insights into his career journey and the exciting cyber security landscape.

What drew you to working in the ICT field? Tell us about your journey in that area.

One of the most important steps in my progression towards the field was a result of being given the opportunity to work at JTC with the ICT team. Upon

completion of my secondary schooling in 2015, I took on some school holiday work with the team and continued to work with them all the way through till the end of my university studies in mid-2020. This really established my passion for the area and gave me numerous opportunities to grow my knowledge in a practical sense alongside the theoretical knowledge that university studies provided. The ICT Department at JTC is a remarkable bunch that gave me great support and opportunity. Without my exposure to the field here I'm not sure I'd be where I am today. They strike the perfect balance of focus and composure while maintaining a light-hearted atmosphere, as well as providing a wealth of knowledge across the field.

Tell us about your current role/business.

I currently work for Slipstream Cyber Security as a Security Analyst and have worked here since August 2020. Slipstream provides managed cyber security solutions for a number of companies and is responsible for monitoring and responding to cyber security events. My day-to-day role generally involves analysing, prioritising and responding to what we call a security alert. These are generated via a set of current rules we have in place to detect what may be a potential security threat. My responsibility here is to follow through with the analysis, confirmation and response if required to ensure that what I'm seeing does not pose a potential security risk to our client. When I'm not doing this, much of my role involves working with the team to brainstorm and create new detection rules based on current activity around the world. We call this 'threat intelligence'.

What do you love about working in this area?

My favourite part about my current role is that no two days are the same. Each day keeps me busy learning something new and constantly being surprised with the rapid development and growth that I see in the industry. I also love the exposure this area gives me to the ICT field and allows me to stay engaged with all aspects of the area.

What are some of the biggest challenges, changes and developments you have seen over time?

By far the biggest challenge I found was deciding what I wanted to do during and after high school. Both working and studying in the field definitely provided the foundations I needed to decide. Alongside this, the current growth and development in the cyber security field is ridiculous, but in the best way. Some of the simplest things are connected via the internet nowadays, which naturally creates a certain element of risk that only this field addresses.

What are some of the biggest challenges facing the ICT field?

Definitely the shift to cloud computing, with the previous architecture focusing on a centralised IT team and equipment. This is no longer the case, with everything changing rapidly, resulting in a cat and mouse game of catch up while organisations race to stay at the forefront of the industry.

Another challenge, which is prevalent in other industries as well, is maintaining work-life balance, particularly with the current work-from-home situations generated by COVID-19. The hardest bit is ensuring that you allow appropriate time for both work and life without letting the two overlap too heavily.

Any advice for those wanting to pursue a career in your field?

Find as much exposure as you can to the industry. This can be in any aspect; any learning and experience will help. Work hard and learn the basics well, you never know when that little bit of knowledge that seems obscure may help you. I'd recommend focusing on the English and mathematics side of things, both provide a number of skills you'll use everywhere and in any career, especially one in the cyber security field.

'I have been using an iPad as a personal device at JTC since Year 5 and using the school computers since early primary school. In primary school, I was able to develop my IT skills, which has prepared me for high school. IT has allowed me to easily access information, communicate with teachers, collaborate with students, film videos and much more. As a media student, I use industry-standard editing software which I can access from both my laptop and school computers. IT has been incredibly beneficial to my studies throughout my years at JTC.'

Current Year 12 student



and given their longstanding connection to the John XXIII community, made the decision to implement an award to assist students to pursue their talents in a creative endeavour and to encourage exploration and realisation of potential.

‘Our son was a quirky, creative, original person and we wanted to do something that reflected his character and honoured his life,’ said Benjamin’s mother Judy Monaghan. ‘It took him some time to find his calling in advertising, and we wanted to be able to help other young people to be able to find and pursue their passion.’ Judy says that providing the award over the past 20 years has been incredibly fulfilling, and while the family is not involved in the selection process, they believe that all those who have been selected have been inspiring and worthy candidates.

The award may be applied to promote ongoing development at school or at another institution, either secondary or post-secondary, and is made to a student in Year 11 or Year 12. The value of the award is up to \$5000. Those students who have received the award have spoken of its vital contribution to their career pathway, and also to enhancing their confidence and dedication to pursuing their passions.

20 years of the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award

This year marks the 20th anniversary of one of the College’s most prestigious and meaningful awards; The Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award. This award is made possible by the Monaghan family to commemorate Benjamin Monaghan, who was a student of the College from 1971 to 1982. Benjamin died in London in 1999.

The Monaghan family wanted to find an appropriate and meaningful way to commemorate their son,

We are extremely grateful to the Monaghan family for their generosity and continued support of John XXIII College and helping students to realise their potential.

Creating confidence

Dexter Johnson (Class 2001)

Dexter was the inaugural recipient of the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award in 2001. He firmly believes that receiving the award was about far more than the financial contribution he received, but feels that, after

facing some challenges as a young person, it gave him the courage and belief in himself to pursue his passions. Dexter shared his story with *Heritage*.

I'm really grateful for this opportunity to address the Monaghan family and to tell my story. Receiving the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award gave me such great confidence and it's something I draw on still to this very day.

In my early years at John XXIII, I was focused on everything except school and when I reached Year 11, I was far from the top of the class. I just did what I had to do; the bare minimum.

Life had a few curve balls for me at a young age and I had my excuses, and needed to become independent for my last year in high school. This newfound independence gave me a new take on life and I realised the importance of school. All of a sudden school became a place I wanted to be and even teachers became friends. I made a choice to head in a direction that I wanted to go in and I turned things around, working hard to finish Year 12 with a merit award.

Although I was unaware of it, various teachers had noticed the changes I had made and the positive path I was now on, and I was made the first recipient of the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award.

During school I was drawn to hospitality and, thanks to my grandmother, owned my first sailboat at the age of ten. This passion and love for the water became a career focus for me and I allocated the funds I received from the award to undertaking a course in marine tourism and hotel management. This gave me a range of skills, from running a high-class bar or restaurant floor using silver service, to driving tender boats and assisting in dive tours.

After my studies I wanted to travel and that's what I did. In those days, a ticket to Europe set you back \$1300 return, which I didn't have, so I worked five days a week for my father's business in the mining industry and every Sunday at the Left Bank in Fremantle, pulling double shifts where I could. I left Saturdays for sailing or footy, living a life saying 'I'll rest when I'm old.' Whilst networking with friends of friends, I had caught wind of this other world in the private yachting industry and this became my new direction; the next life-changing decision.

With a pair of deck shoes, navy shorts and a white polo packed, I set off for Europe with the intention of becoming a captain of a private yacht. The only problem was not knowing how the hell I could do that! Landing in London as it was the cheapest way into Europe at the time, I knew I had to make my way to either the French Riviera or Balearic Islands. Taking my time—as let's face it I didn't just work every day to finally get to Europe and not experience some culture—I made my way to Barcelona and then onto Mallorca, arriving in April before the Mediterranean summer started.

They say timing is everything and with a little luck thrown my way I had caught wind of a boat needing a deckhand. Dressed like a yachty, I walked through the club house security and onto the dock with a few printed copies of my CV, not really knowing how to approach these magnificent yachts. Funnily,

enough most of them had door bells! I found the yacht I'd been told about and pressed the buzzer. The first mate of the ship approached and was quite rude at first. After hearing my Aussie accent he reluctantly accepted my handshake; you see he was a proud Englishman and thought all Australians were nothing more than convicts.

I went on and explained my ambitions to work within the industry and asked if there was still a position available on board. The first mate said 'yes there is but don't think we'd be giving it to another Australian. Here, show me what

you can do with this rag and polish. I want this top deck finished in two hours.' All of a sudden I had my chance to prove myself. I worked a day onboard and kept exceeding the task requirements handed to me. Come the end of the day I was told to meet the captain in the wheelhouse. I entered with utmost respect as I knew this was the business end of the ship and I was about to meet the captain. The captain addressed me in a respectful formal way, unlike the first mate (a kind of 'good cop, bad cop' thing I guessed). The captain wanted to gain a better understanding of who I was and what my intentions were coming into the industry. It was a pleasant chat and I felt relaxed at this point. He told me come back tomorrow and they would have more work for me, but that would be it as they left for Monaco that next night. I told him I'd be back but felt disappointed that there was no offer on the table.



Benjamin Monaghan Award



'Oh well, it's a start,' I thought, 'I suppose at least I can say I've now worked on a yacht.'

The following day it was more polishing for me, however I just so happened to be cleaning the rails around the life raft cradles when the life rafts returned from being serviced.

They were lifted into place by crane and no one could reach over to tie a knot linking the hydrostatic release to the dogging stapes. 'Hey you, can you tie a bowline with one hand?' they asked me. I said that I would give it a crack so they placed me into a harness and I reached over the raft to try my luck. Of course I could tie a bowline, but with one hand holding onto the rail and the other reaching over what was like a 44-gallon drum, I was doing something I had never done before. Success! I completed the task and was told 'that's better than the last one we had on, now back to work.'

The day drew near to a close, with the yacht *M.Y. Lady Beatrice* planned to depart at 5pm, I noticed two other day workers had been asked to stop work for the day and see the boat's purser on the way out. Shortly afterwards I was told the same so I went to the ship's office and was met by the upper hierarchy. 'Dexter you've worked hard and you've shown us that you know a thing or two about boats. We would like you to join the crew,' said the captain.

With that I rushed back to the backpackers, gathered my small amount of possessions, checked out of my holiday and checked into the yachting industry.

I went on to become a second mate of a 50m long motor yacht, sailing across the North Atlantic three times and visiting many more countries along the way, as well as taking further steps to train as a Master 3000 tonne Captain. In my story I didn't achieve the status of captain as I intended to. My yachting career was cut short by my own family tragedy and I chose to be back in Perth with two of my younger siblings. This would be my third life-changing decision.

Over the past seven years I have undertaken

a management role for a small business in the asphalt pavement industry, which employs 19 staff and operates a fleet of machinery including plant and heavy vehicles. We recently completed the upgrade to John XXIII College's carparks; a project I was very proud to be part of. I have a beautiful family of my own with two boys - five-year old Josh and three-year old Lachlan - and our new addition being baby Olivia, who is just four months old.

I decided to share this story as I wanted to highlight the most important impact that receiving the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award had for me, and I assume for others that followed. It gave me courage to set a path for myself and a sense of pride to follow through with what I wanted to do. When challenges are presented to me, I look back on this achievement and remind myself what it has given me. I would like to sincerely thank the Monaghan family for setting up the award and congratulate them for continuing to run it for 20 years strong. I have no doubt that the award has been a great aid for all the students who have received it, as it has been for me.

- Dexter Johnson

Find more information about the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award at:

<https://foundation.johnxxiii.edu.au/#themonaghans'gift>

Pursuing passions

Marketa Baker (Class 2019)

Marketa Baker received the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award in 2019. She has always been passionate about the arts (in particular, film and photography) and is currently studying a Diploma of Screen and Media (Film and Television) at North Metropolitan TAFE. The funds from the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award directly assisted Marketa to pay for the course enrolment fees, which was a substantial help for her and allowed her to pursue her ambition to work within the exciting film and television industry. Her course covers all aspects of editing, scriptwriting and screen switching, among other subjects, and Marketa says that she is thoroughly enjoying it, even on days when she is pushed outside her comfort zone. Outside of her studies, Marketa works part-time as a team leader at a cafe/restaurant in Scarborough and has undertaken several projects as a freelance photographer.



'I would just like to say a huge thank you to the Monaghans. This award impacted my life in such a positive way and I am incredibly grateful for their generosity.'

- Marketa Baker

Room to thrive

Roberto Vitali-Lawn (Class 2018)

Roberto received the Benjamin Monaghan Memorial Award in 2018 and credits it with sparking a passion that has helped direct his educational and career path. He used the funds from the award to participate in the United Nations Youth Emerging Leaders Tour in 2018/19. He was one of 16 participants selected from 300 applicants to represent Australia in this prestigious program, which engaged with issues of diplomacy and political sciences with a specific focus on Australian relations in East Asia. Roberto later became interested in working in the financial arena to find solutions to tackle climate change, which includes the ability to invest in and work with ethical

and environmentally friendly companies, and to facilitate the consumer being able to actively make a difference to the environment.

Roberto is currently in his final year of studies at UWA, majoring in economics and finance. He has completed a wide range of work experience and internships in areas such as corporate finance, social enterprise consulting and environmental finance. He was also a recent participant in the Uniqlo Global Management Program, for which he was selected out of 3000 applicants. Through this program Roberto was able to meet future leaders throughout the world and develop a strong understanding of future incorporation of environmental standards through the overall supply chain. Roberto is also Chief Economist of the UWA Student Managed Investment Fund, which develops economics students by partnering with industry in a proactive approach. Next year he will commence a graduate role as an institutional wealth analyst at Mercer Australia.



'Essentially this award led me down a path of developing my true passion, which is addressing climate change in some way. Receiving the award was the initial push that was needed for me to find the passion within my life. I believe the Monaghans have done an incredible job of providing me and my passion room to thrive and for this I am incredibly grateful.'

- Roberto Vitali-Lawn





WATCH OVER THEM

Leaving a gift to the College in your will

We always emphasise the fact that ours is a community for life; that the connections formed at John XXIII extend far beyond graduation. Over many generations, John XXIII College and its beloved predecessors Loreto and St Louis have built a widespread community of supporters. Every year, new students and families take their places as part of the College's history, and part of its future. Many of those who have had the benefit of a Loreto, St Louis or John XXIII College education choose to express their gratitude by giving back to the College.

Your contribution directly supports our mission of creating people of competence, conscience and compassion, who are committed to God and the service of others. It also assists us profoundly in

our dedication to providing an accessible Catholic education to all who desire one, to embracing inclusivity and fulfilling our responsibility to provide a preferential option for the poor. Every gift, no matter how large or small, helps us in that quest.

Many of our Alumni who feel grateful for the lives that their education has afforded them choose to express their gratitude by remembering the College in their will. Our John XXIII College Foundation provides a convenient means of bequeathing funds to the College, allowing donors to watch over the lives of students who are yet to be born. All those who leave a bequest are made members of the Koolyangarra Society. This is our way of thanking and honouring those who have pledged gifts by inviting them to special events, acknowledging them in our annual gratitude report and keeping them in touch with the College.

We encourage you to invest in the future of young lives by considering leaving a bequest to the College in your will, and express our sincere gratitude to all those who have done so.

'I am grateful for what John XXIII College has given to my family. As parents and grandparents of past and current students, my wife Sue and I see how this College creates students and members of the community who have significantly benefitted from the opportunity of attending this great College. We are committed to assisting the College to continue to deliver educational excellence to 'men and women for others' by leaving a gift in our wills. We are excited that our gift will continue to assist students and the College well after we are gone.'

- Michael Anderson, Foundation Chair

A gift for future generations

John Shervington (St Louis Class 1957) is one of our graduates who has decided to leave a bequest to the College, confident that this will help future generations to take advantage of the educational opportunities given to him. 'St Louis was a very important part of my life,' says John. 'I got a very good education and I feel very strongly about giving back to John XXIII College. I hope that my contribution will help to continue the Loreto and Jesuit influence at John XXIII College.'



John was pleased to meet Fr David Strong sj and Principal Robert Henderson at the All Years Reunion in Sydney and was thrilled to see that the Ignatian ethos was still so strong. He greatly enjoyed reconnecting with fellow students and reliving his memories of his school days.

John attended St Louis as a boarding student and has particularly strong memories of Fr Leo Hessian sj, who recognised his difficulties with reading and provided enormous assistance to him. John also vividly remembers Fr Leo constructing an electric clock in a glass case and being fascinated by the pendulum. John also speaks very positively of Fr John Williams sj, a Welsh Jesuit known fondly by the boys as 'The Bill'. John recalls Fr John supervising the boarders' studies and listening to his piano practice. He encouraged John to play the organ for Benediction, which John did, with one of the other boys

pumping the foot pedals for him.

John is a deeply committed Catholic and from a young age had wished to enter the priesthood. So that he could carry on with his studies, John entered the Redemptorist Minor Seminary in Gaylong in NSW, and then continued on the

Pennant Hills Novitiate. He took his first vows at Gaylong and then studied philosophy for three years at the Major Seminary in Ballarat. He ultimately

decided not to take his final vows. 'I had a strong foundation as a Catholic,' says John, 'but with my own mind and self-awareness, which was part of the Jesuit influence. I remember we studied a book called *Faith and Reason* in Religious Knowledge class, which made me focus on my own human reasoning.'

John pursued studies in occupational therapy and worked lecturing in this field before moving to Sydney and working in research for a management consultant, obtaining a grant to develop testing for disabled people.

He went on to complete his Master's degree in occupational therapy at Sydney University and made a significant contribution to the field across his long career, working for a range of different hospitals and organisations and in private practice. He then specialised in injury management and worked for a private insurance company called Employers Mutual until his retirement in 2004. John was married to Kay Rapley from 1966 to 2003 and the couple had three children; Mark, Christina and Tim. He married Katie Herle in 2005.

The College is deeply grateful to John for his contribution to our future.



Explore making a bequest at: <https://foundation.johnxxiii.edu.au/#agiftforlife>
For more information, contact Kate Murphy, Foundation Executive Officer:
E: foundation@johnxxiii.edu.au T: (08) 9383 0403 M: 0403 345 662



A JOURNEY BEGINS

Bursary update

We are delighted to announce that the inaugural John XXIII College Bursary has been awarded. The committee carefully reviewed all applications, which were judged anonymously, and selected the bursary recipient, whose school fees will be covered by the bursary. The application required the students themselves to respond to several questions, and also evaluated the financial circumstances of the family.

The family of the student who was selected for the bursary was overwhelmed and deeply grateful. They sent us this expression of thanks:

Our family is just so appreciative of this extraordinary opportunity that has been provided for our child. We are Catholics, and very much wanted the best possible Catholic education for our child, but did not have the capacity to afford the school fees at John XXIII College. We were so delighted and relieved when we were told that our child had been selected to receive the bursary and will have this incredible opportunity for the best possible education. We want to extend our most heartfelt thanks to all of those whose generous donations have made this possible. We hope that one day our child may be successful and return this favour to the school for some other child. Once again, thank you.

Donor and Bequest Honour Roll

We are grateful to the below members of the John XXIII College community who have made a donation, notified the College of their intended bequest, or both.

A	Darren and Joanne Miller (1989)
Anonymous	Michael and Judy Monaghan (1956)
Michael and Sue Anderson	Matt and Kate Murphy
Mark Arundell	N
B	Anonymous
Hudson Blenkinsop (2020)	O
Michael Boylson (1953)	Stephen and Shea Oo
Edward Browne (1947)	P
Tobias Byrne (1990)	Elizabeth Prendergast (1959)
C	R
Chen Family	Georgie Randklev nee Cunningham (1989)
Sarah Cherian (1992)	Anonymous
Cooney Family	S
D	Anonymous
Nigel D'Cruz (1978)	Evan and Kathryn Salt
Ric and Annette Del Pizzo	Anonymous
F	John Shervington (1957)
Anonymous	Anonymous
G	Anonymous
Anna Gingell nee Muir (1978)	T
H	James Thompson (1986)
Robert and Robyn Henderson	James and Belinda Tourneur
Stephanie Hillbeck nee O'Connor (1990)	W
I	Jacki Walsh
Emma Irvine nee Cunningham (2020)	Anonymous
J	Y
Anonymous	Margaret Yoon
L	
Anonymous	The Donor and Bequest Honour Roll
Tony and Gwenyth Lennon (1957)	acknowledges those who have generously
M	donated to the College from 2019 until 30
Anonymous	September 2021. Many have made multiple
Lisa Martella (1997)	donations. Every effort has been made
Julius and Catherine Matthys	to ensure this list is accurate. If an error
Mazza Family – the children and	has been made, please accept our sincere
grandchildren of Jim and Maureen Mazza	apologies and contact Kate Murphy (see
	below) so we can correct it.

The Foundation provides a range of giving initiatives for you to make a difference to John XXIII College and ensure that current and future generations of students continue to enjoy the College's extraordinary opportunities. Every gift, no matter its size, impacts the lives of our students and we are extremely grateful for every one. **To donate online, scan the QR code to go direct to our Donate page.** To learn more, please contact Kate Murphy, Foundation Executive Officer: E: Foundation@johnxxiii.edu.au T: (08) 9383 0403 M: 0403 345 662





BOOMING BUSINESS

We are always so deeply impressed with the entrepreneurial talents of so many of our Alumni, with an incredibly diverse range of innovative and exciting businesses in our community that have been founded by our former students. As part of our efforts to support our Alumni business owners, we have developed the Alumni Business Networking Hub. Please visit the Alumni portal to find out more about fellow graduates who have started their own business, or to list your business. Take advantage of special Alumni discounts and offers, and support the entrepreneurs among our College community.

We are all aware of how the COVID-19 pandemic has hit small businesses particularly hard, and now more than ever is the time for us to shop local and support local businesses, while also engaging meaningfully with other Alumni.

If you are interested in gaining important exposure for your business and supporting your fellow graduates, sign up at:

<https://alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au/#businessnetworkinghub>

CREATURE COMFORTS + CO

Ann Nie Chong (Class 1997)

Ann Nie recently returned to the College to launch the Visual Arts Exhibition. A talented entrepreneur, Ann Nie has forged a successful career as a fashion designer, founding a successful design and giftware store, developing her own handbag and accessories label and also working as a consultant. Ann Nie discovered her love for fashion design while at John XXIII College, where she participated in Apex



fashion competitions. After graduation she completed a BA in Design, Public Relations and Marketing at Curtin University. At that time, fashion studies were not readily available at any Western Australian universities, though Ann Nie was able to study design, which helped

to diversify her skills. She also had the benefit of a mentor who had many years of industry and international production experience. Ann Nie says that her biggest rookie mistake was thinking that only the designer was central in the fashion world, but soon came to realise that it took a team to make any venture succeed, and went on to pursue many other avenues in the fashion industry.



Ann Nie ran a successful fashion and giftware store and gallery in Northbridge for 15 years before branching out as a consultant in business, design, graphics and fashion. She is also hard at work on a new venture involving designing a range of bags and accessories under her own label Creature Comforts + Co, which is a social enterprise involving well thought-out utilitarian designer wares. The focal piece is a baby backpack and pouch accessories.

Ann Nie believes that there are many more opportunities for study in the fashion and design world today, however it is also a far more competitive market than when she started out. She credits social media, when done right, as a powerful marketing tool that can really push your brand and business.

Advice to young Alumni and students pursuing a career in the arts?

'It's true that if you enjoy and have a passion for your field, then it will reflect in the success of your career. Thrive on the thirst for creativity. Work and chase it. As you grow you will find your niche. Any decisions and moves are not wrong, you have learnt and grown, so it's a win. Try everything as you will never know!'

More information can be found on Instagram: creaturecomfortsandco

Following is just a small selection of our talented Alumni entrepreneurs and business owners.

Alana Willis (Class 1997)

[Interior Designer] + [Ideas Person]
www.alanawillis.com.au

Alana is an interior designer specialising in residential and hospitality interiors. She started this journey in 2008 after she had children and was looking for a career that allowed her to satisfy her creative flair while also being available to her young children. Alana completed an interior design course, and many years down with track, with her children now in high school, her business is keeping her on her toes.



Alana says that while at John XXIII College she was always drawn to hands-on classes such as home economics, physical education and art. 'From Year 1 with Miss Mckenna (who held my hand at lunch) to backstage doing makeup for the school musicals, to the Year 11 Italian trip and Year 12 graduation, there were so many teachers who impacted my development in a positive way, seeing the best in me even when I couldn't. Growing up is hard and I am grateful for my JTC community!' says Alana.



Allan Pavlinovich (Class 1990)

Boatfix
www.boatfix.com.au

Allan started his career in designing and producing surfboards; a trade he cultivated while still at John XXIII College, where he says surfing was a very popular sport and a favourite pastime. Allan first started repairing his own boards and then expanded his skills so that he could design and produce better boards. He credits teachers Rod Downie and Richard Haddo for always supporting him and encouraging him to pursue his passions. Allan's surfboards and repair jobs started attracting attention from other people, who engaged him to repair their watercraft. The demand for his services became so high that Allan started his own fibreglass repair company, which he named Boatfix. The business specialises in fibreglass repairs for boats, caravans and jet skis and also provides insurance quotes, modifications,

HERITAGE

restorations and improvements for all watercraft types. Allan liaises with clients and insurers to provide a mobile quoting service for fibreglass repairs. In addition he oversees all work conducted by his team of qualified tradespeople and ensures quality control.

marketing approach to achieve better business outcomes. Jane worked in New York running the digital arena for Merrill Lynch, then returned to Australia as Head of Digital at Bankwest before launching her own business.



Lenox Hill's services include digital strategy and solutions, user-centred design, platform requirements and evaluation, website development and CRM integration, marketing and communications strategy and implementation. Jane leads a team of digital strategists, marketing professionals and digital and technical developers.



Amanda Zuvela nee Glauert (Class 1996)

Viewfinder Photography
www.viewfinderperth.com



Amanda runs a freelance photography business called Viewfinder Photography. Her passion for photography started while she was in high school, and Amanda says that the College and Art Department were very supportive in allowing her to convert an unused space behind

the art building into a darkroom. After graduation she completed a Bachelor of Communication (Photomedia major) and now runs her own successful photography business. Amanda says that she appreciates the many opportunities to meet and photograph people in a variety of industries, from conferences and corporate to architectural, interiors and family portraits. She also loves the flexibility of being a photographer as it fits well with raising her three children.



Sarah Gazia (Class 1989)

Help for small businesses



A successful entrepreneur herself, Sarah is now working full-time in communications and marketing for the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC).

If you run a small business in Western Australia, a wide range of resources and guidance is available from the SBDC, which is

a State Government agency dedicated to supporting businesses with fewer than 20 employees, including sole traders. The support available includes unlimited free business advice from experienced small business advisers, low-cost business skills workshops, a dispute resolution service to help resolve business to business and business to government disputes, and online resources.

Visit www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au to learn more, or call 133 140 to speak with a business adviser.

LENOX HILL

Jane Muirsmith nee Muir (Class 1985)

Lenox Hill
www.lenoxhill.com.au

Jane runs a business named Lenox Hill, which specialises in helping businesses transform their digital and marketing capabilities. Since its inception over seven years ago, the Lenox Hill team has been responsible for helping many organisations in Perth and abroad improve their digital and

BUILDING PROGRESS



Our exciting and ambitious building program is underway and we will soon have a 'new look' for the front of the College: the entrance will be accessed from John XXIII Avenue instead of Mooro Drive.

Major developments to our A Block and library will profoundly enhance our learning and teaching spaces, making them more appropriate for our future 21st century thinkers, leaders and innovators.

We will also see the creation of a new administration building, and many other improvements to our beautiful campus.

Top The skeleton of the new Grounds and Maintenance building taking shape. **Middle Left** Fr Rodrigo da Costa Ponte blesses the new Grounds and Maintenance building and staff. **Middle Right** The new administration building emerges from the ground. **Bottom** Demolition of the John XXIII Avenue main carpark.

Over the past thirty years, our resident choreographer extraordinaire Juliet Owen has become a beloved and integral part of our celebrated College musicals, choreographing dancing styles from ballet to tango to tap and transforming first-time dancers into breathtaking performers seemingly overnight.

'Juliet has made a huge contribution to the reputation of performing arts at the College and her choreography is an integral part of the success of the musicals,' says Head of Learning Area (The Arts) George Tsakisiris, who has worked on 25 musicals with Juliet. After so many years of service, Juliet has found herself working with different generations of students, with some of those she coached to dance as students reappearing offstage many years later to help out as parent volunteers as their own children dance their hearts out onstage.

A Loreto graduate herself (Class 1966), Juliet has been dancing for as long as she can remember, and was selected to join the Australian Ballet. After a fulfilling and successful ballet career involving extensive touring, Juliet returned to Perth to start her family, keeping busy with five children. Juliet continued the connection to the school, with her sons attending John XXIII College. She was soon conscripted by Sandra Gorringe to assist with the annual musical and the rest, as they say, is history. 'The first musical I helped with was *Calamity Jane* and it turned out to be the beginning of a long and very wonderful journey,' says Juliet, who has been involved in every musical since then; an impressive 30 productions in total.

'It's been an absolute privilege to be involved,' says Juliet, 'and has become such an important part of my life. The love of dance is so strong for me and I absolutely adore working with such a fabulous team of people. The final product is always such a wonderful marriage of acting, singing, dance, music and costume design, not to mention the band of dedicated mothers who generously give their time.' Juliet speaks glowingly of the dynamic collaboration between the stellar team of the legendary Toni Strong (music), the talented Kiri Moore (costume design) and the wonderful George Tsakisiris

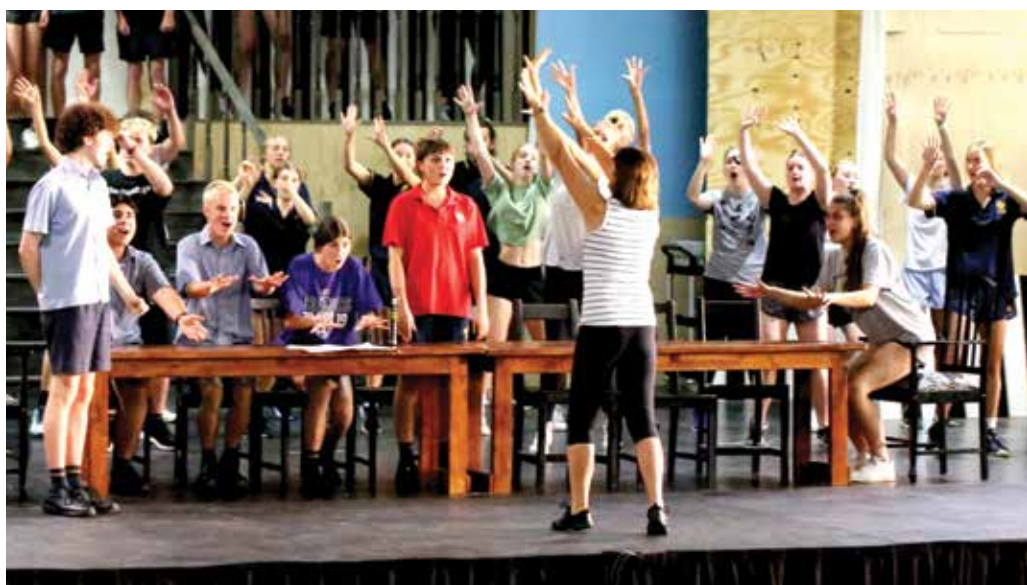


(acting) to create such spectacular productions. 'It's so much about team work,' says Juliet, 'and I've just loved working with this trio, and later with David Dockery and James Kros, who are just fabulous.'

Juliet particularly appreciates the enthusiasm and dedication of the students. 'The joy is that a lot of them are totally raw to dancing; I'm essentially turning non-dancers into dancers. And I'm always so impressed because whatever you ask them to do, they have a go at it. And of course performance week is the most exciting time of exhilarating joy, and the culmination of weeks of hard work. The cast becomes like one big family.'

Josephine Ferguson-Allen nee Conway (Class 1992) has a unique insight into Juliet's talents, having been involved in College musicals first as a student performer, then as a staff member during her years working at the College, and now as a parent volunteer for the musicals that her daughter Genevieve Ferguson-Allen (Year 11) has performed in.

'When I was performing as a student, Juliet was as fabulous back then as she is now,' says Josephine, 'so enthusiastic and engaging, even with the trickier dance numbers. She coached us through being stately processing nuns in *The Sound of Music*, to raucous, cheeky pub goers and elegant serene Ascot attendees in *My Fair Lady* to munchkins and winged monkeys in *The Wiz*. Juliet had the most wonderful way of encouraging everyone to keep trying and to keep stretching what you thought you could do, so we just got better and better. I remember in *The Wiz* how Juliet managed to convince a very apprehensive me, as Glinda, to be hoisted up by a bevy of footmen and carried aloft (quite terrifying at the time), but she





coached me through to appearing graceful and serene. Only Mrs Owen could've helped me pull that off!

As a teacher in charge of backstage, Josephine says that the talents of the students and their intense dedication never ceased to amaze her. 'Working with Juliet and being able to watch her teach, encourage and grow the skills of the students, especially those who would start in Year 10, then build on their knowledge for Years 11 and 12, was a delight and a privilege. Now, as a parent, I am delighted once again to see the love the students have for the amazing Mrs Owen. And she still has the passion and energy she had way back when I was one of her students! We are so very blessed to have her.'

Nicola Peachey nee Quinlan (Class 1991), has very fond memories of performing in *The King and I*, *The Sound of Music* and *My Fair Lady*. She particularly remembers Juliet's extraordinary choreography in *My Fair Lady*, in which Nicola played the role of Mrs Higgins (Henry Higgins' mother). 'Her musical numbers were fantastic,' said Nicola. 'I especially remember the 'Ascot' scene; the choreography and costumes were amazing!' Nicola particularly enjoyed the camaraderie and bonds during the musicals with peers in my own year group but also in older and younger years, and is delighted that her daughter has followed in her footsteps: 'It's so wonderful to see my daughter Anna has the passion for theatre and the arts like I did



Lydia Ng (Class 1992), who performed in 'The King and I', with her daughter Ava Kwei (Year 10), performing for the first time in 'The Addams Family' | Jo Ferguson-Allen nee Conway (Class 1992), who performed in 'The Sound of Music', 'My Fair Lady' and 'The Wiz', with her daughter Genevieve Ferguson-Allen (Year 11), who performed in 'Wicked' last year and 'The Addams Family' this year | Juliet Owen, Nicola Peachey nee Quinlan (Class 1991), who performed in 'The King and I', 'The Sound of Music' and 'My Fair Lady', with her daughter Anna Peachey (Year 11) who performed in 'Wicked' last year and 'The Addams Family' this year.

(and still do) and I'm so happy that she has had the opportunity to perform in the school musicals as I know it was a highlight of my time at JTC! Nicola has been part of the backstage crew for *Wicked* and *The Addams Family*.

Lydia Ng (Class 1992) relished her experience performing in *The King and I* in 1990, saying that it was one of the highlights of her high school years. Now a College parent, she was delighted to be involved in this year's musical *The Addams Family*, in which her daughter Ava Kwei performed. 'Juliet was always so giving of her time and, as I witnessed through this year's musical as well, so supportive and encouraging of each and every one of her students,' said Lydia. 'Each year I am just so impressed by the exceptionally high standard of the College musicals. 'I love how students can share their talents, not only by performing on stage but also by being involved in so many different ways, from assisting with makeup, to sound and lighting, backstage, set production and music.' Lydia assisted backstage with costume changes for *The Addams Family* and said the experience helped her to appreciate just how much attention to detail goes into every aspect of

the production, as well as how deeply the students love being part of the whole experience.

We thank Juliet for her many years of dedication to the College, and for making our musicals as spectacular and professional as they always are.



**JOHN XXIII
COLLEGE
ALUMNI**

Alumni website

www.alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au

College website

www.johnxxiii.edu.au

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