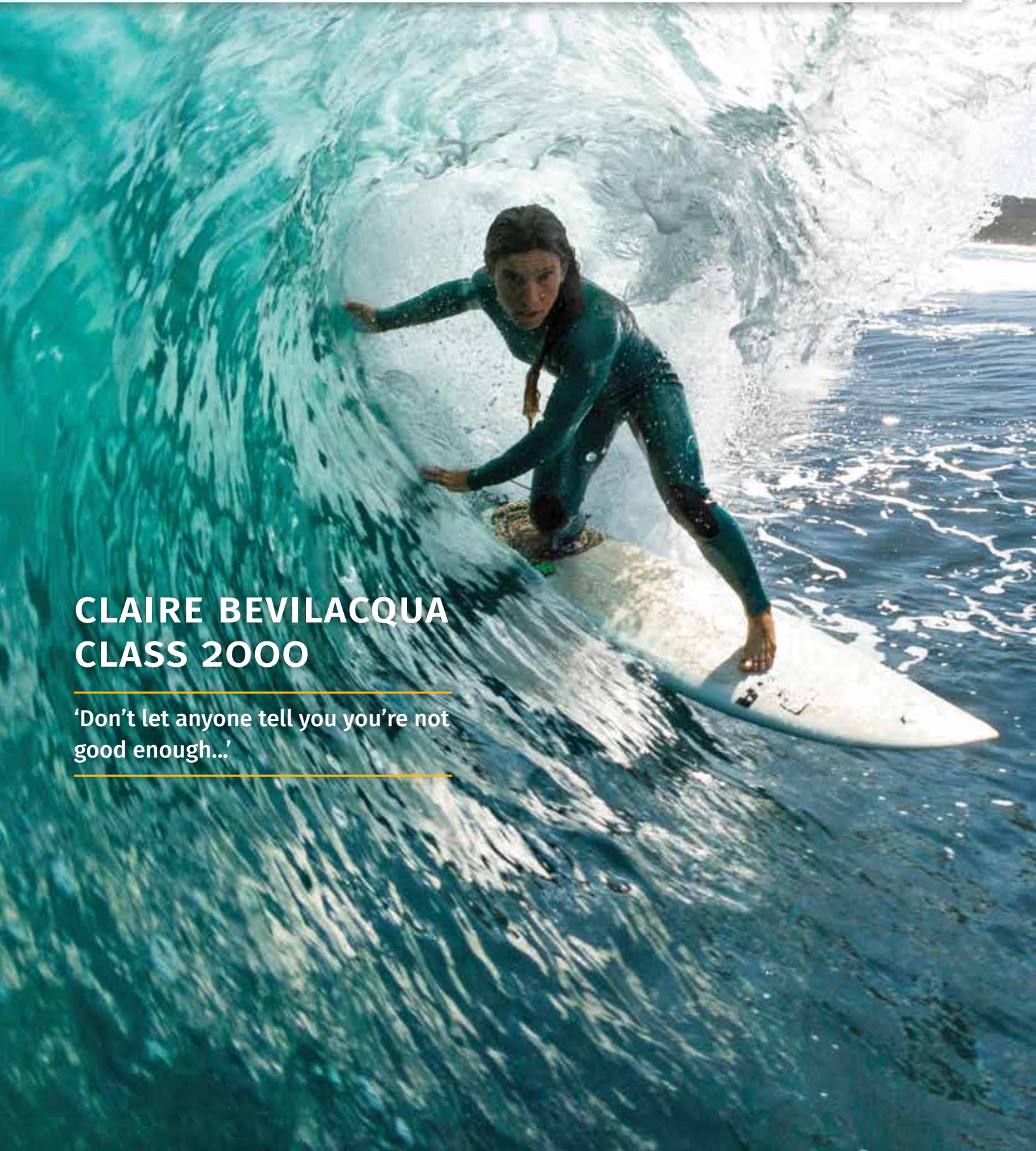




# HERITAGE

## CLAIRE BEVILACQUA CLASS 2000

'Don't let anyone tell you you're not good enough..'



## Excitement at the College: From the Principal

In his poem *A Call* the Irish poet Seamus Heaney tells the story of a man living abroad and ringing home and finishing with the message: 'I nearly said I loved him.' The poet regretted not taking the opportunity to express his love and appreciation. It has certainly been that sort of year for countries and communities across the world.



*Exterior of new administration building*

Talking to interstate colleagues in recent times has reinforced the fact that we belong to the 'lucky state'. Fortunately, most planned College activities for 2020 have been able to proceed despite the challenges facing the world. It has been a year in which we have been constantly reminded of the importance of expressing our gratitude, and a year in which we have embraced and consolidated many of our strengths as individuals and as a school community.



*Interior of new reception area*

As we respond to changing circumstances with resilience and flexibility, the support, understanding and cooperation of our students, staff and families has been outstanding. John XXIII College remains a school of choice for many families and we are inundated with applications for future years. I encourage our Alumni to apply early if you are considering enrolling your own children.

Our Master Planning is at an exciting stage with significant enhancements planned for the next two years. These include:

- An upgrade and modernisation of the Library
- Extensive refurbishment of A Block and the creation of an examination centre
- Air-conditioning of Roncalli Hall
- Construction of a new administration block and staff facility
- Movement of our maintenance facilities to a recently purchased adjacent property, allowing for possible future expansion of the College
- Re-configuring the College entrance and improving parking and traffic flow.

Earlier this term we had the excitement of opening



*Library common room*

a time capsule from 20 years ago. It was fascinating exploring the past through reference to learning materials from previous generations. It was fitting that Dr Margaret Yoon was on hand to open the capsule she had helped organise at the turn of the century, and then to coordinate our next time capsule to be opened in 2040. We are certainly ready for whatever the next 20 years brings, and we look forward to the future with excitement.

It has been a fascinating year. Congratulations to our



*Upgraded and modernised library*

current and past families for creating a very special history at John XXIII College.

All my very best wishes for a happy and holy Christmas season.

**Robert Henderson**  
Principal

## Alumni Development

**As the year draws to a close** and preparations are underway for Christmas, it is a time to reflect on 2020 at John XXIII College. It has been a true pleasure meeting and speaking with Alumni across the globe this year. I felt very disappointed that not all year groups were able to get together for their reunions due to COVID-19 restrictions and border closures. I sincerely hope 2021 is going to be the year of reunions and celebrations, travel and renewed faith in health, business, and world issues.

Early in the year our Principal Robert Henderson and Foundation Executive Officer Kate Murphy and I travelled to Sydney for an 'All Years' reunion held at the Luna Park function venue. The spectacular views of Sydney Harbour and the Opera House across the water were enjoyed by the many Alumni who attended.

The 1st year reunion was also held off-campus for the first time. With almost a full cohort attending, our Class 2019 graduates celebrated, danced, and excitedly exchanged stories before heading off into the night. It was also the beginning of their journey into the Alumni Association.

The generosity of many Alumni towards the Foundation has meant that in coming years we will be providing a bursary for a student to enjoy a John XXIII College education. The Foundation welcomed past parents and galvanised renewed interest in the historical cookbook, *On the Wings of a Stove*, with cooking demonstrations and an event to spark enthusiasm.

We were also very fortunate to welcome Fr Tom Scirghi SJ from Fordham University in Boston, who delivered a talk entitled 'Finding Purpose in a Restless Age' to many within our community.

This year, due to COVID-19, the College did not host reunions. In 2021 we will host the 1st, 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 year reunions and an 'All Years' reunion in Melbourne. We were very fortunate to still be able to host the Ron Logan Cup (Aussie Rules Football) and the Theresa Elliott Shield (Netball) Alumni versus Year 12 students competitions. We took time to remember Alumni who have gone before us at the All Souls Day Mass and welcomed many graduates back to the College to speak to students, parents and grandparents at various events throughout the year.

We wish all our Alumni and their families a wonderful Christmas, and we look forward to keeping in touch to hear about all the fabulous stories of our Alumni creating, leading and innovating for a better world.

### 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 [www.alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au](http://www.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](mailto: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 us?

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

This page lists all those people in your year group whose current contact details we are missing. 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
-  Alumni: [alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au](http://alumni.johnxxiii.edu.au)
-  College: [linkedin.com/school/johnxxiiiicollge](https://www.linkedin.com/school/johnxxiiiicollge)
-  College: @johnxxiiiicollge
-  College: JTC\_johnxxiii
-  College: @johnxxiii\_college

A photograph of Sarah Fordham, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a green patterned shirt and dark pants, walking two small white terrier dogs on leashes in a grassy park. The title 'LEADING FROM THE HEART' is overlaid on the image in large, bold, green and black letters.

# LEADING FROM THE HEART

**Sarah Fordham (Class 1985)** has certainly embraced the values of John XXIII College in her successful and diverse career. In her current role as CEO of the Heart Foundation Western Australia she is fighting the single biggest killer of Australians: heart disease.

Sarah completed an Executive Masters of Business Administration at the University of Western Australia and has worked in a range of positions for various global and multinational companies including Qantas, Shell and Alcoa, holding roles in external relations, community partnerships, brand and marketing and Indigenous engagement. During her

impressive career she has managed multi-million-dollar corporate giving programs and has been nominated for the WA Business News 40 Under 40 Awards and the Telstra Businesswoman of the Year Awards. She was the youngest ever State Marketing Manager for Qantas; a role she was appointed to at only 24 years old, and she also worked as Brand Manager at Shell in Australia, which is one of the top ten brands in the world. Sarah also has significant experience working in the not-for-profit arena and has held the roles of State Manager for Make-A-Wish and Development Manager at Telethon Kids.

Sarah has also remained committed to volunteer work throughout her life and has held a range of roles including volunteer wish granter for the Starlight Children's Foundation, Ambassadorial Board Member for the Business School at the University of Western Australia, Corporate Volunteer Council Committee Member for Volunteering WA, and was also a Board Member for Shell's Reconciliation Action Plan.

Sarah's leadership role at the Heart Foundation, which she commenced in 2018, is a particularly special one for her, as her father died of a heart attack when she was 15 years old, so the chance to be part of the fight against heart disease has a very personal resonance. The Heart Foundation is dedicated to educating Australians about the risks of heart disease and raising awareness about living a heart-healthy lifestyle. It runs a range of campaigns, provides information and educational resources, as well as offering support (including a free telephone helpline) to those who have had a heart incident. The Heart Foundation also works with health professionals to support their work in preventing and diagnosing heart disease, and in treating patients. It is the largest funder of cardiovascular disease research outside of the Australian Government, and it does all this thanks to donations from generous Australians.

Sarah has put her experience in Indigenous engagement into excellent practice at the Heart Foundation, which has a particular focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who are twice as likely to die from heart disease as non-Indigenous Australians, and works closely with cardiologists, researchers and health professionals and Indigenous communities to help close this gap.

We caught up with Sarah, who shared some of her insights about leadership.

### **What are your three biggest accomplishments?**

My career, my friendships and my cooking.

### **What one thing makes you most proud?**

My resilience in the face of personal and professional challenges.

### **What is the one word that describes you the best?**

Authentic.

### **What role does God play in your life?**

My connection to God is through my Godchildren and my friends' kids who attend JTC.

### **What do you get up to in your spare time?**

I love to get outdoors on long walks with my two dogs.

### **What is your management philosophy?**

I like to describe it as supportive; I want my staff to be successful, enjoy their jobs and if times are difficult, know that they can count on me.

### **What is one characteristic that you believe every leader should possess?**

Courage: to make decisions and accept the consequences for your actions.

### **Which other CEOs or industry leaders do you look up to?**

Jacinta Ardern, the New Zealand Prime Minister, continues to inspire me and Mark McGowan, our Premier, and the way he has handled COVID-19.

### **What advice would you give someone going into a leadership position for the first time?**

Find yourself a mentor and be curious to learn from others how to lead. When I worked at Shell, once you became a leader of a team they had special training to help you develop the skills necessary to lead a team and I think this approach really helps first-time leaders be successful.

### **What are you doing to ensure you continue to grow and develop as a leader?**

I have a business mentor and I also belong to a group of women CEOs. I love to read articles and listen to podcasts on leadership; you can never stop learning.

### **What is the biggest challenge facing leaders today?**

Pandemics aside, it is the speed of change. Planning cycles, products, structures and processes are all so dynamic and you need to be energised by this and not fatigued or frightened.

### **How do you continually deepen your personal relationships with your clients, staff, peers and other leaders?**

You need to be genuinely interested in people; listen, engage, celebrate, and communicate, communicate, communicate.

### **Any healthy tips for our John XXIII Alumni?**

Heart disease is the number one killer of Australians, so if you are 45 years or over please go to your GP and ask for a Heart Health Check; this is a non-invasive check which could save your life. Start walking or keep walking; a brisk 30-minute walk a day will reduce your risk of heart disease by 35%.

# TOAST OF THE TOWN

# INTERVIEW

An unexpected swerve in his life path and a willingness to take stock, re-evaluate and embrace the unknown has led Alister Miles (Class 1999) on an exciting and unforeseen journey. Alister is the founder of the enormously successful Toastface Grillah cafes, serving up grilled cheese sandwiches to perfection in several different locations.

A career in hospitality has come as a happy surprise to Alister who was originally set on the path towards becoming a professional golfer. Golf had been his passion throughout secondary school, and after graduating he embraced this career path for several years before realising that his heart was not entirely in it. 'Golf is such an individual, competitive sport,' said Alister, 'and I'm very much a team player. The lifestyle was also difficult, with a lot of travel and time alone in hotel rooms. I really started questioning what I was doing.'



The period that followed was a confronting and difficult time for Alister as he reflected deeply on who he was and where his journey might take him next. 'It wasn't an easy thing to give up something that I was good at and that had been my career path,' says Alister. 'My life had been so focused on golf up until then and I was really anxious and afraid of judgement for giving it up. I felt like I was starting from the beginning again and I really needed to take the time to find myself, to listen to my own voice and figure out where I would go from there.'

Alister explored a range of avenues during this time, dabbling in golf fashion design and creating his own label, as well as undertaking some golf coaching and working in a clothing store and for a friend's coffee van. Before long he found himself involved in running a city hair salon, and transforming the struggling business, which gave him renewed confidence in his own abilities and made him realise how much he enjoyed taking on a new challenge. Working on Perth's dynamic King Street also saw Alister immersed in the thriving urban food and coffee scene, which he admired greatly for its capacity to push limits and constantly evolve. Travels in the United States were also an important part of Alister's journey. 'My time there really opened my eyes to the importance of backing yourself and being confident,' says Alister. 'In Boston there was this incredible new chef on the scene who had just opened five restaurants with this cutting-edge cuisine and it just made me think about the importance of diving in. There's never a perfect time to do anything and sometimes you just have to go for it.'

This increasing confidence was part of what led Alister to open the first Toastface Grillah café in Grand Lane in the Perth CBD in 2013. Focusing on the art of the toasted sandwich, the laneway venue, which was styled with an edgy urban vibe and features a mural by a local street artist, soon attracted a devoted fan base and business boomed. Several years later the Toastface empire has expanded to encompass six venues, with a café recently opening in Margaret River. Alister certainly has his hands full with balancing the demands of the business with family life but says that his passion for his work and the satisfaction of his loyal customer base keeps him motivated every day.

Alister shares some of his wisdom for career and life:

### **1. Be flexible**

Don't be afraid to change course at any time in your life. You don't have to have everything figured out from the very beginning. You get more than one chance.

### **2. Really care about others**

It's important to have an emotional investment in your work. One of the reasons I realised that a golf career wasn't right for me is that making other people happy makes me happy, and golf is very much an individual sport. I really, deeply care about my customers; about the experience they have and the connection I make with them. I give it my all every single day.

### **3. Stay passionate**

Whatever industry you work in, being passionate and committed and really wanting to evolve and grow is essential. You can't become complacent. Invest in your work and keep learning. I must have made thousands of toasted sandwiches and coffees over the years, but I never stop questioning whether it is good enough and if I can improve. It's because I care so much about it. I want to learn and get better every day. It can be exhausting, but that passion, that commitment, that dedication is essential – and it applies to anything you do.

### **4. Cultivate a good support network**

Having a network of friends and family is really important. Surround yourself with people who motivate you. Don't be afraid to tell your friends when you're not feeling great. Accept feedback and constructive criticism. Be inspired by other good humans.

### **5. Boldness pays off**

Sometimes you have to throw yourself in the deep end in life, back yourself and take a risk. I had no experience in the food industry when I first opened Toastface Grillah. I have two managers right now who by rights never should have had those roles. They had no experience in the hospitality industry when I hired them, but they pushed so hard and were so dedicated that I knew they would be fantastic.

### **6. Be authentic**

Really get to know yourself and love yourself for who you are. It's so important to be real, to admit to weaknesses, to not feel that you have to have everything right all the time. People are drawn to authenticity and the more you back yourself the more people will jump on board. Management can be really hard at times, but you need to find your identity and inspire people and you need to be the best version of yourself to do that.



# SAFETY FIRST

**John Cummins, our 'Lollipop Man'**, is a familiar and much-loved fixture in our College community. Deeply committed to the safety of our students in the often- hectic conditions of the daily drop-off and pick-up, John's role is a vital one, and his work is greatly appreciated.

John was born in Geraldton and educated by the Christian Brothers. After working in the retail industry for a period of time, he moved to Perth and became a parcel post contractor for Australia Post, covering the Scarborough area for 28 years. After undergoing two hip replacements, John was looking for a change of pace in his career when he saw the advertisement for a traffic warden position, and he hasn't looked back since.

John has been based at John XXIII College for 12 years and greatly enjoys being part of the school community, which he says feels like a family to him. He particularly appreciates the connections he has formed with students and their families and feels valued and respected by them and loves hearing their enthusiastic greetings every morning. 'From the first day I started, the school community has been so welcoming,' says John. 'It's such a privilege to see the students grow up and graduate. I have fostered some great friendships here at the College and I feel like I belong.' Last year, John even went to the graduation mass and morning tea and felt honoured that the

## John's top safety tips

- Remember to drive the speed limit (40 km/h) in school zones.
- Always be on the lookout for students crossing.
- For pedestrians using a crossing, wait for the whistle, as this indicates that all cars have stopped, and it is safe to cross.

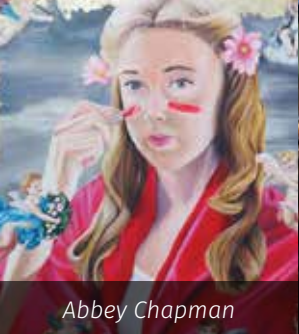
students and their families consider him to be a part of their College journey.

A father of seven and grandfather of five, John is also devoted to community work. He is a committed Catholic and attends mass each day before work at Holy Spirit Church in City Beach.

Luckily John has never been hit while working as a traffic warden but says there have been a few close calls. 'Students are very understanding of the rules and mostly know what they need to do at the crossing,' says John. 'The Mooro Drive crossing can be tricky, especially in the afternoons as cars sometimes park in the no-standing zone, which means that other cars weaving around may not see me stepping out. That's why it's always important for people to follow the road safety rules.'

John says that he loves his job, and it keeps him young-at-heart and interested in life. He has no plans to retire any time soon, so hopefully many students in the years to come will continue to benefit from his friendly presence and commitment to their safety.





Abbey Chapman



Luke O'Donohoe opens the Visual Arts Exhibition



Jasmine Slatter



The Visual Arts Exhibition

**Excellence in the arts** continues to be a hallmark of a John XXIII College education, and we have recently celebrated a range of artistic achievements in our school community. Three students were selected as finalists for the Lester Prize Youth Award (formerly known as the Black Swan Portraiture Prize) and five students were selected to exhibit their works in the Angelico Art Exhibition, which was held as an online exhibition this year. These achievements are a tremendous affirmation of both the talents of our young student artists, and the vibrancy and excellence of our visual arts instruction.

The outstanding achievements of our students were also showcased at our annual Visual Arts Exhibition, where enthusiastic audiences were deeply impressed

by the diverse works on display. The exhibition was formally opened by Alumnus Luke O'Donohoe (Class 2003). Luke has forged a successful career in the arts since graduating from John XXIII College, with his own artistic practice characterised by his striking large-scale murals and public artworks.

One notable project saw Luke install a large-scale mural in Fremantle for the renowned London-based artists Morag Myerscough. Other recent commissions have included murals for the Water Corporation, FORM, the City of Vincent, the City of Stirling and the Shires of Quairading and Mukinbudin. Luke was delighted to return to the College to open the exhibition and was deeply impressed by the diverse talents of our students.

# ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT



Yvette Rigg

# SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

Educating our students to be stewards of the natural world is more important than ever as the world faces ever-growing environmental challenges. The John XXIII College Year 12 Sustainability Award is an initiative that provides support to a Year 12 student who intends to pursue an aspect of environmental or sustainability studies at tertiary level, and who is committed to improving the world we live in. Initiated by Dr Margaret Yoon in 2012, the initial funding for the award came from prize money that was endowed to the College by the Australian National University when Dr Yoon was one of six national recipients to win the 'Secondary Teacher of Excellence Award'. Deeply committed to sustainability and the protection of the environment, Dr Yoon conceived of the Sustainability Award as a way of inspiring and supporting students and to act as an incentive for them to pursue tertiary studies in this area. The award has a monetary value of \$500 and the selection committee takes into account the student's academic results, their involvement in environmental activities at the College or in their local community, and their commitment to the natural world.

We caught up with several past Sustainability Award winners to see where their journeys have taken them.

## **Stephanie Lowenhoff (Class 2012)**

I had the pleasure and honour of becoming the recipient of the first Sustainability Award, which helped me enormously in my first year of engineering studies, as it contributed towards textbooks and a laptop. Last year I completed my Master of Mechanical Engineering, during which my thesis was published in the *European Journal of Engineering Education*. One of my most memorable units during my degree was Ecological Engineering, which investigated the local, regional and global contexts of industries dependent on ecological processes, promoting thought-provoking discussions

incorporating ecological principles into engineering design. Studying engineering has given me the opportunity to work in unique and remote locations such as the Tanami Desert in the Northern Territory and also in regional WA, not to mention the semester breaks that allowed me to travel extensively through Africa, India, Sri Lanka, North America, Europe and various other destinations. Currently I am working at Woodside Energy in the Offshore Turnaround Team and spent a month offshore for the first time in September. I look forward to working towards moving into the New Energy Team to contribute to the energy transition to hydrogen, a more sustainable source of energy for our future.

## **Georgia Johnson (Class 2012)**

During my studies in Environmental Science and Conservation and Wildlife Biology at Murdoch University, I was able to work as a vacation student with Gold Fields in Darlot, near Kalgoorlie. After finishing university, I went to South America to travel and volunteer for three months. This included a month in the Galapagos working with the Parks Department.

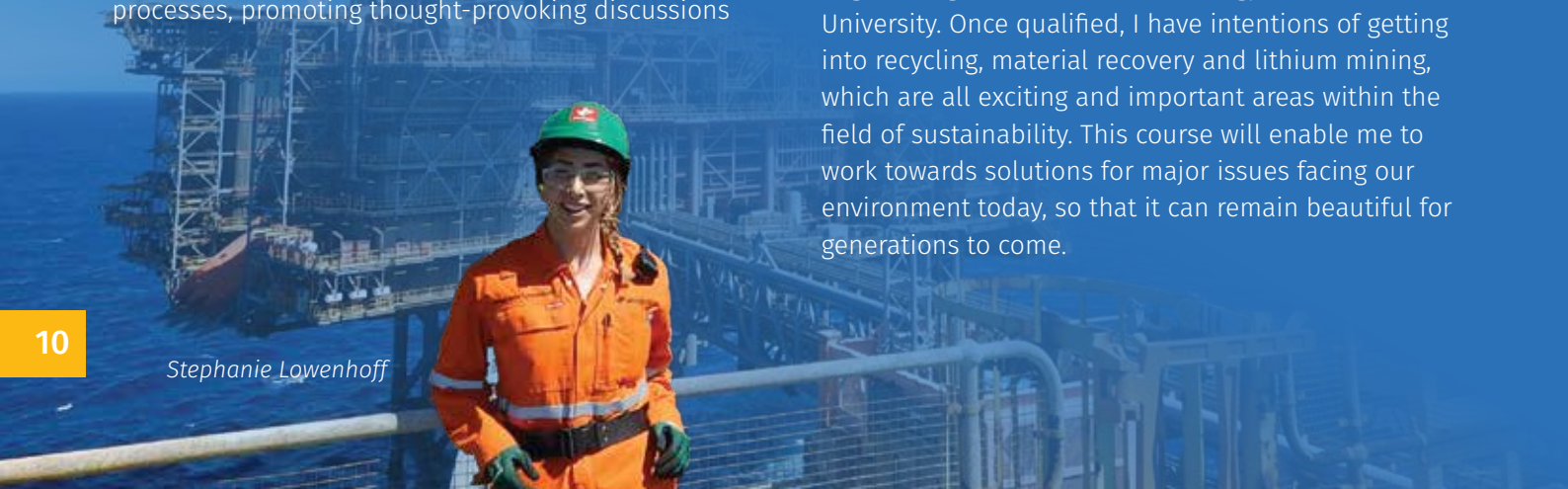
A graduate job offer from Rio Tinto in Weipa, Queensland, drew me back to Australia. After working for three years in Weipa both as a graduate then as an Environment Advisor, I am now working at BHP Iron Ore in Newman, Western Australia.

## **Kinia O'Brien (Class 2018)**

Since graduating I have gone on to study Conservation and Wildlife Biology and Marine Biology at Murdoch University. I have also been fortunate enough to volunteer at the Aquarium of Western Australia and the Greenbatch Foundation and have met many inspiring people. I am thoroughly enjoying my course and hope to become a conservation scientist and assist in habitat rehabilitation and endemic species population recovery.

## **Harry Sapsworth (Class 2019)**

I am currently studying a double degree in Chemical Engineering and Extractive Metallurgy at Curtin University. Once qualified, I have intentions of getting into recycling, material recovery and lithium mining, which are all exciting and important areas within the field of sustainability. This course will enable me to work towards solutions for major issues facing our environment today, so that it can remain beautiful for generations to come.





# CHASING WAVES

Claire Bevilacqua (Class 2000) has surfed her way to stardom, with an exciting career as a professional surfer that has seen her travel the world and garner many accolades. Claire's surfing career began almost accidentally after she found a discarded surfboard on the side of the road and decided to teach herself to surf at the City Beach groyne. Claire proved to be a natural and rapidly progressed in the Junior Australian surfing rankings. In 2003, after only four years of competing, she was named WA State Champion, as well as winning the Australian Pro Junior Women's Championship. Following this, she moved on to the World Championship Tour of the Association of Surfing Professionals. In 2005 she was ranked tenth in this worldwide competition, and in 2006 she progressed to sixth place. Claire has won several international competitions including the Outer Banks Pro in North Carolina, the Hello Kitty Boardfest in California, and the Women's Pipeline Pro in Hawaii.

Following a surfing accident in which she suffered a neck injury, Claire became particularly interested in holistic approaches to wellness and healthy living, and is a great devotee of yoga and meditation, as well as focusing on optimal nutrition to stay in the best possible shape. Claire is also committed to marine conservation and works with a range of organisations in this area.

Claire remains extremely connected to her Italian heritage, with her father originally from San Felice in the Lazio region of Italy. Claire frequently visits San Felice to surf and enjoy the beach life there, and she has entered into a contract with the Italian Olympic Federation. Claire is currently in training for the Olympic qualifiers, representing Italy.

We caught up with Claire for a Q&A to learn more about her incredible journey since leaving John XXIII College.

## **What is most important to you?**

Health and family.

## **What are your strengths as both an athlete and a person?**

I'm relentless and passionate.

## **What has been your biggest sporting achievement?**

Earning a living from my surfing career.

## **What is your biggest achievement outside of the sporting arena?**

Building my own house from scratch.

## **What challenges did you face in getting to where you are today?**

Bad influences, self-doubt, the usual life struggles of a girl trying to build her empire.

## **What motivates you the most about your profession as an athlete?**

Just that natural desire to constantly challenge myself and run at an optimal level.

## **What is your fondest memory of John XXIII College?**

My friends and the beautiful grounds and buildings.

## **What was your favorite non-sport activity at John XXIII College?**

Eating junk food with the girls and not caring about a thing or having any real problems in life.

## **What piece of advice would you have for current John XXIII College student-athletes?**

Don't let anyone tell you you're not good enough. If you put in work and set goals daily, you will get results.

# HEADED FOR SUCCESS

Nichola Zed



Vincent Matassa



Scott Sinclair

The roles of Head Boy and Head Girl are incredibly challenging and deeply rewarding. Such important leadership roles, and the need to balance these responsibilities with the demands of such an important academic year, stand our young people in excellent stead for success in life after school.

Ahead of some of our upcoming reunions, we caught up with some of our former Head Boys and Head Girls to hear about their diverse and exciting journeys since leaving John XXIII College.

### **Vincent Matassa (Class 1990)**

Vincent Matassa's career with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has taken him all over the world and allowed him to experience a range of different cultures, which he believes has given incredible perspective to his own life. Vincent is greatly enjoying living in Perth again after so many years of travelling. Vincent's strongest memory of his school years is the big move to the new Mount Claremont campus in 1986, when he was in Year 8. 'Apart from the huge increase in size and facilities, I also remember less fondly that there was no grass around, only sand, which drove us a bit crazy during recess and lunchtime,' says Vincent. 'Even worse was that when the grass finally grew, we still weren't allowed on it for the first 12 months while it bedded down. Deputy Principal Richie Haddow's piercing whistle would inevitably ring out from a hundred metres away if you dared set foot on it even just to take a shortcut between classes. It seemed a perverse form of torture for us sports-loving students who just wanted to kick the footy around at lunchtime. Of course, the school looks amazing in how it has been developed since then.' Now that he is back in Perth, Vincent is very much looking forward to catching up with old school friends at his upcoming College reunion.

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**Advice to his 12-year-old self:** *While your school results are important, in itself this is not actually what is going to define you or your life. More importantly, it's the level of self-respect you maintain and your willingness to engage with people from all walks of life that will decide how you are most remembered. Maintain respect for yourself and others around you, and everything else will fall into place.*

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### **Nichola Zed (Class 2000)**

Nichola has undertaken a colourful and exciting career in philanthropy, design and the arts, working in Australia and abroad. She initially studied architecture and environmental design at the

University of Western Australia before embarking on a Master of Art History at Warwick University in the United Kingdom. Nichola later completed her Master of Business Administration at the University of Australia and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' acclaimed Company Directors Course. Nichola currently works in Corporate Affairs and Communications at Woodside Energy and is part of a team involved in climate action. She is also passionate about marine preservation and is heavily involved in pro-bono support of ocean research at the Centre for Marine Futures at the University of Western Australia. Nichola also volunteers with an organisation called Adopt Change, which is committed to ensuring that every child has access to a safe and happy home. Nichola names her most memorable experience as the Year 12 retreat to Margaret River and her most embarrassing school memory as the time when she almost knocked herself out with a javelin, which she puts down to trying to be too competitive! She greatly enjoys attending College reunions to hear the fascinating variety of life stories from her very special year group.

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**Advice to her 12-year-old self:** *Enjoy the journey and have fun; there is no rush! If you keep your eyes open, opportunities will always be there.*

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### **Scott Sinclair (Class 2000)**

After completing an engineering degree, Scott Sinclair joined a V8 supercar team and completed 14 exciting years working in professional motorsports, travelling extensively to compete in various races. Scott left professional competing at the end of the last season so that he could spend more time at home with his three young daughters and is currently planning his next career move while renovating the family home. Scott remembers with great fondness participating in various John XXIII College sporting competitions and particularly enjoyed participating in the Quit Cup football competition and having the opportunity to play full games as curtain-raisers at Eagles and Dockers matches. He also names being part of the backstage crew for the College musical as a particular highlight. Being based interstate, Scott has greatly valued the opportunity to travel back to Perth over the years to attend school reunions and catch up with old friends.

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**Advice to his 12-year-old self:** *Experience as much as you can while you're young. Work out what you like doing then go for it!*

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# HARVESTING EXCELLENCE

# HERITAGE

A passion for viticulture has seen former student Trent Kelly (Class 1997) rise to the role of Chief Winemaker for Margaret River's oldest winemakers, Credaro Family Estate. Trent relishes this challenging role, which involves him overseeing every aspect of wine production. Passionate about the quality of the wines he produces, Trent is particularly aware of his responsibility for safeguarding the legacy of the pioneering Credaro family, which first started making wine in Margaret River in the 1930s. He sees his role as paying homage to the hard work of previous generations. 'As Chief Winemaker, my focus is to ensure this is not forgotten, but to grow that legacy for generations to come,' says Trent.

Unlike many winemakers, Trent does not have a family connection to viticulture or agriculture, but developed an interest in the industry when his parents built a holiday home in the Yallingup Hills and he started visiting some of the iconic nearby wineries. A gap year spent working at Amberley Estate and Moss Brothers in Margaret River cemented his passion, and he went on to study viticulture and winemaking at Curtin University.

After working at D'Arenberg Wines in McLaren Vale, Trent was approached to take on a role as Assistant Winemaker at a newly-formed winery in the Niagara Peninsula in Canada specialising in high-end Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Riesling. 'It was an incredible experience as it was a start-up winery, so I came in for the first year of production and got to see the whole process through to bottling,' says Trent.

His time in Canada was not the end of Trent's international experience and in 2010 he embarked upon a six-month journey to Europe. Trent says that his experience working in the Languedoc region of France and the Mosel region of Germany helped to drive his winemaking to new levels.

Trent joined the Credaro Family Estate team as Winemaker in January 2016 and the following year he was promoted to Chief Winemaker. Credaro has thrived under his leadership, growing from producing 5000 cases of wine per year to 30,000 cases. Winning the 2019 James Halliday Regional Trophy for the 2018

Credaro '1000 Crowns' Chardonnay was a special triumph for Trent.

Trent has fond memories of his time at John XXIII College, where he was heavily involved in various sports. He particularly remembers former College Principal Greg Clune, who was instrumental in facilitating his academic journey. 'He was so flexible and supportive in allowing me to come back to the school to repeat Year 12 so that I could get to where I wanted to go,' Trent said. 'He would often give me a lift to school in the mornings and I felt really supported by him.'

Trent follows the various trends and changes in the wine industry with great interest, and says that one of the current fashions is for natural wines, though feels that a more holistic focus on comprehensive organic principles is key to producing wines sustainably, rather than the production of natural wines per se. 'At Credaro we are always focused on giving back to the land and farming sustainably,' says Trent.



Trent admits to being a devoted fan of a good Pinot Noir but nominates the Chardonnay as his particular favourite among the varieties produced by Credaro. When he is not drinking wine, he is particularly fond of a good craft beer and he names his ultimate food and wine pairing as Oysters Kilpatrick and a good Riesling.

Trent says that the greatest satisfaction for him is to know that people love the wines he makes; 'Just seeing people enjoying our wines is pleasure enough for me and everyone I work with.'

## Reunion dates for 2021

We are excited to announce that the reunions below will be taking place between August and October 2021. Now is the time to ensure that our Alumni Office has your contact details so we can keep you updated.

# RECONNECT

### Postponed in 2020 to take place in 2021

Class of 2010 (10 year reunion)  
Class of 2000 (20 year reunion)  
Class of 1990 (30 year reunion)  
Class of 1980 (40 year reunion)  
Class of 1970 Loreto (50 year reunion)  
Class of 1970 St Louis (50 year reunion)

### 2021 Reunions

Class 2020 (1st year reunion)  
Class 2011 (10 year reunion)  
Class 2001 (20 year reunion)  
Class 1991 (30 year reunion)  
Class 1981 (40 year reunion)  
Class of 1971 Loreto (50 year reunion)  
Class of 1971 St Louis (50 year reunion)  
All Years Reunion (Melbourne)  
– Tentatively booked for 26 August 2021

### 50-Year Loreto Reunion (Class 1971)

#### Welcome gathering

Friday 29 October 2021 | 6–8pm  
UWA Club  
Contact Patsy Murray: [patsymurray@me.com](mailto:patsymurray@me.com)

#### Reunion dinner

Saturday 30 October 2021 | 7–11pm  
Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club

#### Walk

Saturday 30 October 2021 | 10am  
Two-hour walk followed by coffee and a chat  
Swanbourne Beach carpark

#### Wildflowers

Saturday 30 October 2021 | 2pm  
View the wildflowers, coffee and chat  
Kings Park



From all of us at John XXIII College, we wish you a happy, Holy and peaceful Christmas. More than ever, this is a holiday season where we celebrate the importance of connection, community and our mutual care for each other. We look forward with optimism to the year ahead.