



# **2022 Gallery of Achievement Inductees**

## **Selection Criteria and Eligibility**

The Lilydale High School Gallery of Achievement acknowledges those alumni who have demonstrated outstanding contribution, success, achievement and/or service in one or more of the following fields of endeavour: professional life, sporting pursuits or working in the community.

### **Nominees**

Nominees must be past students of Lilydale High School who satisfy one or more the following criteria:

- Outstanding achievements at state, national or international level in their field of endeavour.
- Demonstrated outstanding leadership or widely acknowledged as a leader within their organisation or field.
- Given outstanding service in their field and/or to others.
- Held a high office in their organisation or field.
- Performed significant heroism.

### **Nominations**

- Posthumous nominations will be accepted, as well as self-nominations.
- Nominees will be judged on the merits of their achievements.
- Nominees may be asked to provide further details of their achievements and photos, which may be used for the LHS Hall of Fame.
- Information in support of nominations will remain confidential to the LHS Gallery of Achievement Selection Committee and the Principal.

### **Please note:**

2020 & 2021 Gallery of Achievement was postponed due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Lilydale High School's focus over this period was on the wellbeing of our current cohort of students. During the two-year period, students were remote learning from home for large periods of time, subject to the government restrictions of the day.

## PETER HARMSWORTH – Public Service



**Lilydale High School:** 1959 - 1962

**Field of Achievement:** Public Service

Bachelor of Commerce (Melbourne University)

40 year career in Public Administration leadership

2008 Officer Order of Australia (AO)

Fellow/Life Member Institute of Public Administration

Peter was a student at Lilydale High School from 1959 to 1962. After finishing the equivalent of year 10 at Lilydale, he went on to complete his final two years of schooling at the Victorian Police Cadets.

Peter had a successful and fulfilling 44 year career in public administration, pursuing a variety of leadership roles in various large organisations.

Peter was part of the Victorian Police from 1963 to 1973. In 1970 he was selected as one of six police officers to form a newly created computer group within the Victoria Police. He undertook computer training with the IBM and Burroughs computer companies. Following training, Peter participated in the design, development and implementation of various operational and support police systems.

In 1973, Peter was one of 45 successful applicants from an Australia-wide recruitment scheme to undergo an intensive 12-month computer programming course at the Caulfield Institute of Technology (CIT).

Following the completion of the course, Peter was assigned to general programming duties at Commonwealth Department of Transport in the Automatic Data Processing (ADP) Branch. During this period, he was responsible for the maintenance of over 500 operational computer programs.

In May 1975, Peter was selected to establish a new Planning Section in the Automatic Data Processing (ADP) Branch of the Department.

In October 1977, Peter was selected to establish the newly created office of Electronic Data Processing with the Victorian Law Department. This management position required extensive consultation with members of the judiciary, management of the Corporate Affairs Office, Titles Office and Public Trust Office. Peter sought new career opportunities after this role.

This led him to a role in the Public Service Board where he was a Director for the Management Consultancy Division, from 1979 to 1984. This was one of five Divisions

within the Victorian Public Service Board responsible for providing high-level management consultancy services to the Premier, Ministers and agency heads.

From 1984 to 1986, Peter was appointed as the inaugural Manager of the newly formed Organisation Services Department within the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

Between 1986 and 1992, Peter was employed in Directorial roles at The Office of Corrections. This organisation had legislative responsibility for the overall management of the State's adult correctional system encompassing 14 prisons (2300 prisoners) and 25 community correctional centres (7700 offenders). In 1992/93, the Office's operating budget was \$130m, its capital budget was \$40m and it employed 2270 staff.

In October 1992, Peter began working at the newly formed Department of Education, as Deputy Secretary. In March 1993 he took up the position of Director in the Office of Training and Further Education. During his time as Director, the Office was highly successful at both a state and National level.

At this time, The Victorian Vocational Education and Training (TAFE) sector was recognised nationally as the most efficient and progressive training sector in Australia. Peter also played a key leadership role by participating in the Ramler Committee, commissioned by the Minister to review the delivery of TAFE services in the Melbourne Metropolitan area in 1998. The review's recommendations contained a series of recommendations which provided the catalyst for further significant improvements across the TAFE sector.

As Director, Peter reported directly to the education minister and was his chief adviser on training and further education matters. Peter was the Executive Officer of the State Training Board and was the Chair of the National VET CEO's Forum.

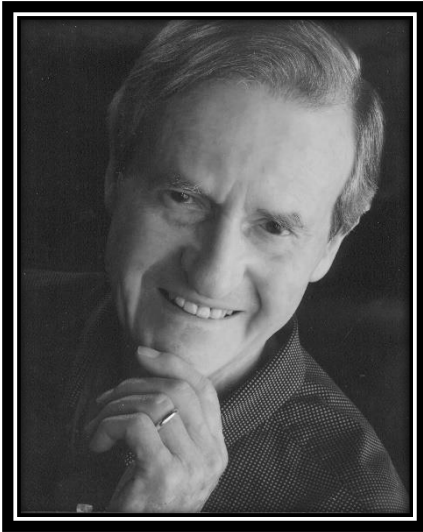
On 1 July 1998, the Victorian Premier, Kennett appointed Peter as Secretary for the Department of Justice (DOJ). This was a government executive leadership position, and the Justice Portfolio had a budget in excess of \$2b and employed.

In March 2003, Premier Bracks, invited Peter to take up the position of Secretary for the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development. This was the principal industry and economic development agency of the Victorian Government. He remained in this role until April 2005, when he became the inaugural Chairman and CEO of the newly established State Services Authority.

Following retirement in 2007, Peter has been involved in directorships on various government boards; undertaken consulting projects with a particular focus on public entity board performance and providing mentoring services to the VPS. In 2008 Peter was Appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) and became a Life Member for the Institute of Public Administration.

Throughout his career, Peter certainly contributed greatly to the success of many areas of Public Service in Victoria.

## JAMES JOHNSON – Sporting



**Lilydale High School:** 1946 - 1949

**Field of Achievement:** Sporting

Successful in Australian Rules Football and Cricket teams

Invented the 'Stab Punt' in Australian Rules Football

Antique dealer and Auctioneer

Born James Arthur Johnson in Carlton in 1933 Jim settled with his family in the Lilydale area in 1942. His father a French polisher and interior surfaces specialist had been directed to go to Canberra earlier that year to work on construction of the new Canberra Hospital – no doubt needed for urgent wartime contingencies. Later that same year the Johnson family returned to Melbourne - with its housing restrictions and with backyards and public parks remodelled to accommodate slit-trenches as air-raid shelters - opted to come out to Montrose to be closer to extended family. The Johnsons rented a stone cottage and later a small weatherboard house in Edinburgh Road. Both properties had external water tanks but no electricity or other services.

Barely nine years old Jim enrolled with two older brothers at Lilydale Primary School in Castella Street on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1942 and continued into Lilydale Higher Elementary School on the same site completing Intermediate (Year 10) in 1949 and then transferred to Melbourne High School. Jim was appointed Cummins House Captain as a fourth-former in 1949

Jim participated in sports at school, annual school sports and football against Upwey High School, and within the district: in the Mooroolbark 1<sup>st</sup> Eleven Cricket Team (captained by his father Charles). From age 13 to 15; Mt Evelyn 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Football Team 1949; Ringwood 1<sup>st</sup> 11 Cricket Team 1949-1954 and 1957-1960; Ringwood 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Football Team 1950-1953; South Belgrave Cricket Team 1954-1957 and South Belgrave Football Team 1954-1958; Ringwood 1<sup>st</sup> Baseball Team 1959; Croydon 1<sup>st</sup> 18 Football 1960 Premiership Team. In 5<sup>th</sup> Form at Melbourne High School Jim played in the 1<sup>st</sup> 11 Cricket and 1<sup>st</sup> Eighteen Football teams. He won bowling averages at Mooroolbark and South Belgrave as well as for three seasons at Ringwood; was Club Champion at Ringwood and played in Country Week at South Belgrave. At 16 years in 1950 Jim was first rover for Ringwood 1<sup>st</sup> 18; won the bowling average for Ringwood 1<sup>st</sup> 11; and won school colours for football at Melbourne High. He played as first rover for South Belgrave (1954-1958) and the Mountain District Football Association combined team (1957) and achieved "Best and Fairest" at South Belgrave.

Jim loved Australian Rules Football (AFL) and participated in kick-to-kick whenever he could at school. He contends that in 1948 as a 14-year-old in the Lilydale Higher Elementary schoolyard he utilised the drop punt as an unconventional field pass and in the following year he converted the stab kick into his stab punt – a new kick in AFL. Both these kicks are used universally in the AFL today. Jim found these kicks to be very useful in all conditions - especially on the wet and muddy local football grounds of the 1950s. Extensive research in digitised newspapers and publications has not revealed any prior claim by any other player to invention of the stab punt.

Jim's stab punt invention was celebrated during the *Face-to-Face Exhibition: Ordinary People – Extraordinary Lives* at Yarra Ranges Museum in 2011.

From the late 1960s-1980s as an antique dealer and auctioneer Jim initiated containerised importation of antique furniture and objects from England and France and the conduct of major antiques auctions in Melbourne. From 1979 as James A Johnson and Associates, Jim and wife Helen Johnson began presentation of industry trade fairs around Melbourne: Emerald Hill Antiques Fair, at South Melbourne Town Hall; Stonnington Antiques Fair, at Stonnington Mansion in Malvern; Antiques at the Windsor Hotel; and Wilson Hall Antiques Fair University of Melbourne. In 1991 these events stepped up in size and presentation – involving over 100 leading Australian and international exhibitors at the huge Royal Hall of Industries at Sydney Showgrounds at Moore Park and the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne. Jim and Helen continued these spectacular interior design expos and successful marketing events for the antiques and art industry for 20 years until retirement in 2011.

In 1990 and again in 1995 Jim aided by an energetic committee of past students led development of school reunions involving students who attended LHES in the 1940s and 1950s. Over 300 past students attended each reunion.

Over the years in connection with our trade fairs Helen and I have worked to benefit various charities: providing space and funding for exhibition of The Lindsay Fox Classic Car Collection to benefit Very Special Kids; sponsorship of The Victorian Diabetic Association Children's Camp, Kidney Health Australia, the Garvan Institute (Sydney) Snowy-HYDRO Helicopter Rescue.

## ADAM MATTINSON – Cartography



**Lilydale High School:** 1997 - 2002

**Field of Achievement:** Arts / Science - cartography

Geospatial Analyst and Cartographer

Adam Mattinson was a student at Lilydale High School from 1997 to 2002. Adam is a cartographer and a geospatial analyst, which when broken down involves drawing maps and using data with a geographic location to help solve problems.

The journey that got him there wasn't an easy one, his enter score was too low for any university course so he took the "scenic route" through a two year TAFE course in Bendigo into a four year Bachelor of Applied Science at RMIT, finishing final year with High Distinctions, including a major project mapping the hiking trails of the Dandenong Ranges.

While finishing university he started work as a geospatial analyst at Melbourne Water, working on major infrastructure projects as well as specialising in resource management, flood mapping and biodiversity. After taking a few months off to go backpacking, he secured a new role at NBN, developing systems for address management and worked in Mumbai and Delhi training offshore teams in geospatial analysis.

Around this time, Adam started drawing maps for art as a hobby, beginning by posting on forums. This got the attention of a map loving corner of society, that encouraged him to start selling his maps, so he opened an online shop. His early works started piquing interest, with articles on the Crikey news site, then the international 'Cartographic Society' blog and the Domain news site.

After creating a mock-up map of the proposed Suburban Rail Loop, following its announcement, his work was shared in 'The Age' newspaper where it was voted best map by a public poll, he was able to talk about cartography in a news article. That same map was later shared by Dan Andrews on his Facebook page.

Over the last five years or so he also worked on a map of the Shire of Yarra Ranges drawn in a Lord of the Rings style which is around 2.5 meters wide and 1.5 meters tall. This map has been broken down into smaller local versions, selling around 400

copies, as well as being made into a jigsaw puzzle. The southern area of the map was used as a base for a mural at the refurbished Emerald Public Library.

Adam was lucky enough to speak about drawing the Shire map as part of an article in 'The Guardian Australia'. In addition to local newspaper articles he was a guest speaker for the Australian New Zealand Mapping Society webinar on pictorial mapping.

Currently Adam is working for the engineering consulting firm, Jacobs, where he seconded onto Victorian rail projects including the Melbourne Metro Tunnel and Regional Rail Revival, specialising in planning, sustainability and the environment.

His hobby maps have recently been included in the permanent cartographic collections at the University of Melbourne library and the State Library of Victoria, and he is currently compiling his work after being invited to submit to the National Library of Australia.



## **ROBYN NETHERCOTE – ARTS – Performing/TV**



**Lilydale High School:** 2000 - 2005

**Field of Achievement:** Arts – Performing  
Bachelor Of Arts (Acting) Degree

TV presenter “What’s Up Down Under”

Youth Relationships representative for  
World Vision

Television Presenter on ‘River to Reef’ -  
Foxtel / 7Mate

Robyn Nethercote was a student at Lilydale High School from 2000 to 2005. She was very involved in the school community, in particular the Performing Arts and the Student Representative Council (SRC). Robyn performed in the annual school productions, often with lead roles. She was also selected to perform in Top Acts for her Unit 4 Theatre Studies monologue exam which was ranked as one of the best monologues in Victoria.

After graduating from Lilydale High School in 2005, Robyn headed to university and completed a Bachelor of Arts (Acting) Degree. Robyn’s achievements and successes have been focussed on fields she is passionate about, including Arts, Hospitality and Travel.

For the past five years Robyn has been working for a travel show on Network 10 called ‘What’s Up Downunder’. It combines two of her favourite things, travelling and presenting. Robyn has been thrilled to travel right across Australia and experience so many incredible Australian places. During one series she was fortunate enough to go swimming with Great White Sharks in Port Lincoln.

For the past 15 years, Robyn has worked with The Melbourne International Boat show, acting as the MC on their main stage. She has also worked on a Foxtel and 7 Mate fishing show called “River to Reef”, that sees her traveling and fishing around Australia, Indonesia and New Zealand.

Robyn lived in London for two years and was given the opportunity to take part in a British tradition by performing in a Christmas Pantomime tour around the North of England.

Prior to moving to London, Robyn lived in Sydney for two years where she was a Youth Relationships Representative with World Vision. This role involved meeting with groups of students to coordinate their fundraising efforts, education around complex humanitarian issues and giving large scale talks to their assemblies about global issues. Her passion in such humanitarian issues was also evident in her time at

Lilydale High School when she was part of the SRC and successfully coordinated a whole school World Vision fundraising event.

Hospitality is another industry that Robyn is passionate about. Although it is such a cliché to work in Hospitality and Performing Arts, Robyn genuinely loves both. In 2017, (along with two business partners), Robyn formed a business 'Paycheques into wine', which periodically held pop up events with guest chefs across Melbourne. In 2018, she flew to Tassie to host an event for Dark Mofo. It has been important for Robyn to continue to grow in both areas of her career, Hospitality and Performing Arts. Having an exciting second love has been a saving grace for Robyn and in her words 'a heck of a lot of fun!'

Robyn is currently working on a television show for Network Ten with her experienced co-host Greg Evans.

Her passion for travel, food and performing have inspired her throughout her life and she has achieved great success in all of these fields. Robyn has been fortunate enough to be able combine all three in many of her roles.

## DAN NIXON – Writer – Stage, Page & Screen



**Lilydale High School:** 2000 - 2005

**Field of Achievement:** Arts (Writer - Page, Stage & Screen)

Founder and Director of Melbourne Young Writers Studio

Co-founder and Director of Pirate Size Production

Dan Nixon was a student at Lilydale High School from 2000 to 2005. He actively contributed to the Lilydale High School community and was extremely involved in the Performing Arts program. Dan performed in the annual school productions, often with lead roles. The productions he performed in included Oklahoma, The Wiz, Fiddler on the Roof, Little Shop of Horrors, Back to the 80's and The Sound Of Music. Dan was also selected to perform in Top Class at the National Theatre for his Unit 4 Drama Solo Performance exam which was ranked as one of the best drama solo performances in Victoria.

Dan is a writer, producer and educator with a Masters' Degree in Screenwriting from the Victorian College of the Arts. He is the founder and director of Melbourne Young Writers' Studio, Australia's largest creative writing school for young people, and co-founder and director of Pirate Size Productions. A production company and animation studio focused on creating and producing content for young people and families.

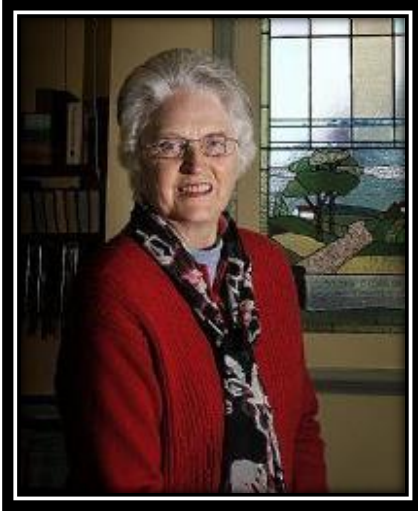
Melbourne Young Writers' Studio currently hosts programs for around 500 young writers, aged between 7-19, every week and employs around 30 people. It is also home to publishing company Bogong Books. They are currently moving from a studio in Fitzroy North to a new base in Carlton.

With Pirate Size Productions Dan has worked for many of the biggest broadcasters in the world. He is currently the lead writer and creative producer on two upcoming TV series, a preschool series for ABC Kids and a 6-12 animated comedy (about a very special log... yes, a log) for Apple TV+. His first graphic novel, part of a trilogy, is being published by Hardie Grant and is due for release in 2023.

Dan is a regular lecturer at RMIT and the Victorian College of the Arts where he teaches and mentors in writing for TV and writing for the youth market. He is passionate about engaging young people in the arts and maintains a strong belief in the power of storytelling as a vehicle for social change.

Dan is married to Hannah and has two sons, Pip and Alfie.

## HON. ROSEMARY VARTY OAM – Politics/Community Service



**Lilydale High School:** 1945 - 1949

**Field of Achievement:** Politics /  
Community Service

Member of Victorian Parliament, Cabinet  
Secretary

Established Bowls Victoria

Board member for Bowls Victoria

Order of Australia Medal (2021)

Rosemary Varty was a student at Lilydale High School from 1945 to 1949 and has since contributed greatly to both Politics and Community Service, achieving success and making significant contributions to both areas.

Rosemary served in the Victorian Parliament, from 1985 to 1999. She was the Member for Nunawading Province from 1985 to 1992 and then as the Member for Silvan Province from 1992 to 1999. Rosemary also served as the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet from 1992 to 1999, ensuring that the Cabinet ran as an efficient and effective instrument of government.

In 1993, Rosemary led several successful government information technology projects. This included the Legislation Document Management System (LDMS), which automated the Cabinet approval, drafting and parliamentary passage of Victorian legislation. This was a world first and won both a national and international award.

During the 1980's and 1990's private schools in outer Eastern Melbourne were experiencing growth. Rosemary was an active Board Member of both Tintern Girls Grammar in Ringwood East and Billanook College in Mooroolbark for five years.

In the 1980s Rosemary was part of a planning council, who lobbied the government for the establishment of Swinburne University in Lilydale. This was the first tertiary institution to open in the area. A change of government amended the legislation removing that requirement and the campus closed in 2013.

Rosemary has always been proactive in her local community. She was part of the Seville Township group that established the Seville Water Park, which Rosemary had the pleasure of opening in 2011.

In the 1956 Olympics, in Melbourne, Rosemary was an official for fencing.

In 2009, Rosemary helped establish Bowls Victoria, which she found both challenging, and very rewarding. This merger between the Victorian Ladies Bowling Association and the Royal Victorian Bowls Association was an enormous challenge as these were two organisations, each with over a 100-year history and totally different cultures.

As a Bowls Victoria Board member, Rosemary's responsibilities included writing Regulations and assist Regions, Divisions and Clubs to incorporate, and to update their constitutions, regulations, policies and rules to take account of the changes.

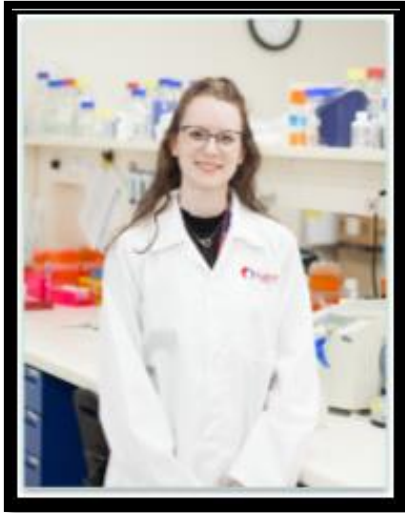
As Bowls Victoria President she had the opportunity to visit Clubs right across the State for their special anniversaries.

In the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2021, Rosemary was awarded a much-deserved Order of Australia Medal for service to the community and Lawn Bowls.



# **2019 Gallery of Achievement Inductees**

## LAURA BIENVENU - Medical Research Officer



**Lilydale High School:** 2001 - 2006

**Field of Achievement:** Science  
(Medicine)

Doctor of Philosophy, PhD, Cardiac  
Physiology

Research Officer, Baker Heart and  
Diabetes Institute

Laura and her family lived in Coldstream later moving to Gruyere; she attended Yering and Wandin Yallock Primary Schools. One of her primary school teachers commented on her commitment and dedication even at an early age, and this continued during her six years at LHS.

As a young person, Laura had a caring nature, especially with animals, and a strong sense of loyalty to family and friends. She had an interest in dancing and took lessons for a number of years. Whilst at university on a scholarship she had two trips to the USA to enhance her studies.

Laura completed her PhD at the University of Melbourne, Prince Henry's Institute and at the Hudson Institute of Medical Research. Her initial research focussed on immune cell signalling in heart muscle cells in heart attacks in males and females.

She now works at the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, as a Research Officer working on developing targeted anti-thrombotic therapies for heart attack, stroke and other blood clotting diseases. During the course of her studies, Laura has had a number of papers published.

### Education

- University of Melbourne- Doctor of Philosophy- PhD, Cardiac Physiology - 2011-2017. Thesis title: *Investigating cardiac responses to ischemia/reperfusion injury – insights into mineralocorticoid receptor and sex-specific responses.*
- University of Melbourne. - Bachelor of Science (BSc) Hons, Cardiac Physiology. – 2010. Thesis title: *Macrophage mineralocorticoid receptors mediate inflammation and fibrosis in the heart.*
- University of Melbourne- Bachelor of Science (BSc) - 2007-2009

## Honours and Awards

### *Scholarships*

- 2011-14 Australian Postgraduate Award, Melbourne University, on behalf of Australian Commonwealth Government – awarded to postgraduate students of exceptional research promise who undertake their higher degree by research at an eligible Australian University.
- 2010 Frances Elizabeth Thompson Honours Scholarship

### *Presentation Awards (oral and poster)*

- 2014 World Congress of Cardiology – ISHR Student Investigator Prize
- 2013 CSANZ/ISHR 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting: Student Publication Award
- 2012 Southern Health Research Week Poster Presentation: Third prize in cardiovascular disease/endocrinology category.  
Aldosterone & Salt: Heart and Kidney 2012:  
Young investigator poster award.
- 2011 Southern Health Research Week Poster Presentation: First prize in cardiovascular disease category.  
CSANZ/ISHR 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting: Student Investigator Award – best mini oral presentation.
- 2010 Prince Henry's Institute Student Symposium: Best honours student presentation.

### *Travel Awards*

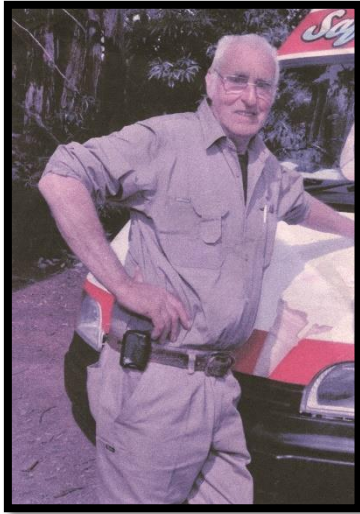
- 2014 ICE/ENDO Early Career Forum Travel Award  
Harold Mitchell Travel Scholarship, Hudson Institute.
- 2013 Melbourne Abroad Travel Scholarship, University of Melbourne
- 2011-13 ISHR Travel Grant

## Peer Reviewed Publications

Laura has been the *First Author* and *Co-Author* of a number of publications in her field of research between 2012 and 2019.



## **DON BIGHAM - Local Hero - Community Service**



**Lilydale High School:** 1957-1961

**School Council President:** 1984 -1987

**Field of Achievement:** Community Service  
(CFA)

Gruyere CFA Captain 1985-2003

CFA Life Member

2018 Ian De La Rue Award for Community  
Leadership (Posthumously)

Don Bigham - a giant of a man in spirit and goodwill. Described as 'larger than life', Don's motto in life was 'don't stress the small stuff' and he did not seem to have the word 'No' in his vocabulary.

Charitable when asked to lend a hand, always willing to help those in need from all walks of life and with an ever present sense of humour. Growing up in a hardworking rural farming community, with minimal resources available, Don understood from a young age the importance of a strong work ethic, the sense of community and relying on your neighbours.

Don became a Member of the Country Fire Authority (CFA) from age 14, and ultimately would serve 55 years as an active member supporting the Victorian and interstate communities in time of need, earning the title, of the 'elder statesman of CFA', with his knowledge unparalleled. He was a revered CFA Captain of the Gruyere Fire Brigade from 1983-2003, encouraging future generations to embrace the spirit of volunteerism and leading from the front by example. Don was a renowned, well-respected and generous mentor, always the first to put his hand up and volunteer his time and energy to help others. Don was also intricately involved with other local Brigades in the Yarra Valley from 1978-2005, holding varied roles such as Group and Deputy Group Officer. During his time in Group leadership roles, Don's skills and expertise were utilised for major bushfires nationwide as well as within Victoria. Through Don's drive and vision, he played a pivotal and central role in bringing the community together for successful, local fundraising, resulting in thousands of dollars in revenue over 40 plus years, that went straight back into community infrastructure.

He was a talented football player and was part of the Lilydale High School team of 1959 that remained undefeated for the season. He was actively involved in the Coldstream Football club during the 1960's winning the Best and Fairest Award in 1963, and best and fairest for the Eastern District League in the same year.

Don always had a practical, hands-on approach, with a sense of ingenuity. The School Principal, at the time (late 1950's), rather than see Don leave school (not being the academic type) put his skills to good use by utilising him for school-grounds work on the tractor - to plough, harrow and sow seed on the LHS football oval.

Although only at Lilydale High for three years himself, Don later became School Council President during the years his daughters were students there. Don was involved in many local community groups and held offices as Gruyere Primary School President, LHS School Council President (1982-1987) and as an active member of the Gruyere Progress Association over the 1970-1980 decades.

He assisted actively for fundraising events for Seville Pony Club and Wandin Yallock Primary School where he was also involved in the student mentoring program. Don was a leader in organising numerous community-led aid drives following natural disasters at both local and state level. He arranged the collection and delivery of fodder and grain for animals as well as setting up workgroups for reconstruction activities such as completing kilometres of rural fencing, chain-sawing and delivering firewood for many victims.

In 2003 Don was presented with a community service award from the Rotary Club of Wandin. In 2007 he was awarded the National Medal (Fire Services), in 2009 he received the National Emergency Services Medal, and in 2017 the community accolades would continue as he was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the local Federal MP for 'commitment and dedication to local community and the nation.'

Awarded posthumously, Don continued to be remembered and recognised by a grateful local community by receiving the 'Ian De La Rue' Australia Day award in 2017 for community leadership from the Shire of Yarra Ranges.

Don's wisdom, leadership style and legacy remains ingrained in the lives of many in the community and will be ever present as future generations continue to follow his lead.

## ALLAN BURGESS – Australian Dairy Industry



**Lilydale High School:** 1961 - 1965

**Field of Achievement:** Agriculture (Dairy)

President, Australian Dairy Farmers Federation

2017 Pat Rowley Award for Outstanding Service

Allan Burgess started at Lilydale High School in 1961. He and his siblings were raised on the family dairy farm in Dixons Creek. During his school years, Allan spent every available moment at the Lawrence Family farm, a Jersey stud named 'Rainga', opposite the Tarrawarra Railway Station. Allan and his Yarra Glen born wife, also a LHS student, moved north to the Goulburn Valley after their marriage. They used this same name for their own stud.

There would be few in the Australian dairy industry who have not been impacted by the work of Allan Burgess. He was the former Australian Dairy Farmers President, and has long been well known as a fierce advocate for farmers, leading the industry through some of its most formative decisions. In 2017 he was honoured with Pat Rowley Award for Outstanding Service. The Australian Dairy Industry Council (ADIC) Chair, Terry Richardson, said the award was a fitting tribute to what has been a stellar career in dairy.

It was said of Allan that there would be few others who have worked so tirelessly, and had such a significant impact, on the long-term success of the dairy industry. For 30 years Allan led the dairy industry to understand that they could largely create their own future. He was an architect driven by strong ideas and a collaborative spirit. Whether it's been leading the way at a local level or tackling the complex task of building some of the industry's foundation organisations, Allan had consistently led from the front.

Mr Burgess first became involved in his local United Dairy Farmers of Victoria (UDV) District Council in the early 1980s. He was a believer in the 'power of like minds with a joint vision', and over the following three decades he held numerous positions of leadership including Deputy President of the UDV, Board member of Australian Dairy Farmers Federation, and President of Australian Dairy Farmers. Through his relationships he was able to leverage millions of dollars from State and Federal Governments to support the industry and many of the major initiatives of the industry over the last 30 years have been underpinned by the work of Allan.

His commitment to establishing strong research and development structures to support industry growth, meant Mr Burgess was involved in the formation of Dairy Australia and the Dairy Cooperative Research Centre. He was also a key player in the establishment of the Regional Development Program network. With the betterment of farmers always a priority, Allan recognised the importance of educational opportunities and was a driver in the establishment of the National Centre for Dairy Education. His strong lobbying of the Commonwealth Government also secured assistance for dairy farmers in a number of challenging times throughout the 2000s.

In his time as President of ADF, Allan played an instrumental part in trade negotiations, particularly the three-fold increase in the amount of Australian dairy able to be sold to the United States achieved in the US Free Trade Agreement.

## ANDREW CHRISTIE - Music Composer and Arranger



**Lilydale High School:** 2000 – 2005

**Field of Achievement:** Arts (Music Composition)

Los Angeles based music composer, arranger, engineer and producer alongside Hans Zimmer

2017 & 2018 nominated for International “Music & Sound Awards”

Andrew is a Los Angeles-based music composer, arranger, engineer and producer.

Whilst a student at Lilydale High, Andrew was an enthusiastic member of the Performing Arts. He learned trumpet from Years 7 – 12, participating in junior, intermediate and senior bands and was also a talented pianist and vocalist. He was instrumental in forming the LHS rock band, ‘The Missing’, which went on to compete and win several Battle of the Bands competitions, locally and nationally. Andrew was the lead singer in the band, but also composed and wrote the lyrics for many of the songs. He studied music and drama in VCE and was cast in a lead role for the school musical, ‘Little Shop of Horrors’.

After leaving LHS in 2005, he graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Music (Composition) Degree majoring in Film Scoring from the Box Hill Institute in 2008.

Andrew’s first foray into sound recording came courtesy of a four-track, tape recorder given to him as a Christmas present when in his teens. He pushed the little machine to its limits and dreamed of a recording desk with not four, but four hundred tracks at his disposal.

Inspired by The Beach Boys and the Beatles, he deconstructed their sophisticated chord progressions and vocal harmonies, gradually learning how to arrange and develop his own work. He admired Phil Spector’s “Wall of Sound” and developed a precocious taste for rich and textured arrangements.

At a time when most musical teenagers were cutting their teeth on indie rock, Andrew’s tastes ranged from 70’s retro pop and rock to classic cinema scores. Andrew’s screen music heroes are Hans Zimmer, James Newton Howard, John Powell, John Williams and Danny Elfman. Thomas Bergersen is also a big influence.

Andrew landed his first big break when Broadway legend, Stephen Schwartz, heard a recording of his backing music during a musical theatre workshop at the University of

Tasmania during 2011. The following year he joined film composer Hans Zimmer's Remote Control Productions.

In 2013 he commenced working as a composer for the Bleeding Fingers Custom Music Shop, the Emmy and BAFTA-nominated commercial scoring powerhouse co-founded by Zimmer with Extreme Music and Sony TV. As of 2018, he has composed music for numerous TV series, amongst them: *The Simpson's*, *Blue Planet 11*, *Survivor*, *Catfish* and *Roman Empire*.

In 2017 Andrew was nominated as a finalist in the international Music and Sound Awards for Best Original Composition in Television for his work on the Netflix production, *Roman Empire*. In the same year he was commissioned by Princess Cruise Liners to produce and arrange the music for a Stephen Schwartz / John Tartaglia live theatre show called, *Secret Silk*. The show has been touring internationally since 2018.

In an article by Maxim Boon in 'The Sydney Morning Herald' in August 2018, Andrew talked about his pride and pleasure in being asked by National Geographic to write the music for a retrospective of its library of nature footage. He said "Ever since I first decided that I wanted to write film music, my dream has been to write for natural history documentaries". Working with fellow composer, Austin Fray, the musical odyssey, *Symphony for Our World*, was born. He said it had been a very rewarding project to work on; marrying a visually breathtaking exploration of our planet's wild wonders with an epic musical soundscape. The 90-minute score accompanying the documentary was performed by a full symphony orchestra and chorus when it toured various world-wide venues including Australia in 2018. Andrew said it was a particular joy to be bringing his work home in this way; one performance of *Symphony for Our World* was performed at Hamer Hall in Melbourne's Arts Centre, where his parents used to bring him to see concerts as a child.

[Biography sourced from [ArtistEcard.com](https://www.artistecard.com), The Sydney Morning Herald and Jackie Goode - LHS Staff]

## GORDON COLLIS - VFL Brownlow Medallist



**Lilydale High School:** 1954 – 1958

**Field of Achievement:** Sport (AFL)

1964 Brownlow Medallist

Games: 95 Goals: 40

Best and Fairest: 1964

Gordon Collis (born 1940) was a gifted key position player of Australian Rules football in the Victorian Football League and played for Carlton.

He only had a comparatively brief career at the top level, but it was certainly eventful. He made his VFL debut as a forward in 1961 after the Blues had won a race with Fitzroy to procure his signature. Most of his early football was played on the forward lines, and he was successful enough to be chosen at centre half forward in the VFL 'B' team in 1962. In 1963 his form fell away, and it later emerged that he had been having sight problems. Collis credited his optician with the Brownlow win, as in 1963 he struggled to see the ball and *"All the other chaps would be coming down as I started to go up in a marking contest."* This was rectified with contact lenses, resulting in a much improved 1964.

Recruited from Healesville, Collis spent his formative playing days with the Healesville Bloods of the Yarra Valley Mountain District Football League. The town of Healesville, some 50k northeast of Melbourne's CBD, has contributed several Australian Rules players to the VFL and AFL, with Collis being the most prominent. He played less than 100 games of VFL football, but his place in history is assured as a winner of one of the game's highest honours – the Brownlow Medal

Prior to the start of the 1964 season, Collis was fitted with contact lenses, and, lo and behold, his form underwent a remarkable improvement. After beginning the season at full-back he was moved to centre half back during the round five clash with Collingwood at Victoria Park after Magpie full forward Terry Waters had threatened to cut loose. Collis took to centre half back as though born to the position: week after week he made the best player lists, he was selected to play there in the senior VFL interstate team, and he ended up running away with the Clubs Best and Fairest Award.

Collis won the medal in 1964 with 27 votes, although his Carlton Football Team had its worst finish in the VFL, ending the season in 10th position.

Wearing number 17 for the Blues between 1961 and 1967 (playing 95 games and booting 40 goals), the red-haired Collis played primarily at centre half back. Unfortunately, the remainder of Gordon Collis' 95-game VFL career was short-circuited by recurrent, niggling injuries, culminating in serious damage to a foot which prompted him to 'retire' at the end of the 1965 season. Still aged only 27, he decided after a year away from the game that he would give it one more try, and 1967 saw him back at Princes Park for what proved to be his final league season. On doctors' advice, he retired for good at the end of the year after being diagnosed with stomach ulcers. Ironically, in 1968 the Blues broke through for their first flag since 1947, an achievement to which Gordon Collis would, no doubt, dearly have loved to contribute. He was not quite 27 years of age, but the physical demands of the game proved too much, providing proof once and again, that footy players are completely justified in taking the approach that every time they step on the oval could well be their last.

He maintained his interest in football and the Carlton Football Club and in the late 1960's was a non-playing coach of the AFL team North Albany in Western Australia, mixing business as an insurance representative and football.



## Professor MARK COOK - Medical Specialist



**Lilydale High School:** 1974 - 1977

**Field of Achievement:** Science (Medicine)

Chair of Medicine, St Vincent's Hospital  
Director of the Graeme Clark Institute, and Sir  
John Eccles

Chair of Medicine, Department of Medicine,  
University of Melbourne

World Renowned expert in Epilepsy  
Management

Professor Mark Cook was a student at Lilydale High School in the 1970's and has been described by his nominator, a friend from his school days, as a 'late bloomer'; a genuinely friendly and 'down to earth person'.

Currently Chair of Medicine at St Vincent's Hospital, Professor Cook specialises in the treatment of epilepsy – his previous role was at St Vincent's as Professor and Director of Neurology. He is recognised internationally for his expertise in epilepsy management, particularly imaging and surgical planning.

After completing specialist training in Melbourne, Professor Cook undertook an MD thesis whilst working as Brain Research Fellow at Queen Square, London. He returned to St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne to continue his interest in neuroimaging in epilepsy.

Under his directorship, both the research and clinical components of the Neurology Department at St Vincent's have been significantly enlarged. Currently one of the largest units in Australia for the surgical treatment of epilepsy, this was a direct extension of work he began in London, where he developed techniques for the accurate measurement of hippocampal volumes, and established their position in non-invasive assessment of surgical candidates. More recently his interests have included experimental models of epilepsy and seizure prediction.

## TONY D'ALOISIO AM - Corporate and Government Roles



**Lilydale High School:** 1962 - 1967

**Field of Achievement:** Corporate

Australian Securities & Investment  
Commission Chairman (2007 - 2011)

Australian Government Centenary  
Medal 2000 - Services to Law &  
Taxation

Chairman, Perpetual Ltd & IRESS Ltd.

Director, Oakridge Wines Pty. Ltd.

Tony D'Aloisio has served at both executive and non-executive roles in commercial and Government enterprises. He has held roles of Chief Executive, Chairman and Board Member in local and international bodies involved in financial markets and professional services. Mr D'Aloisio's current roles are:

Chairman, IRESS Ltd  
Chairman, Perpetual Ltd

Director, Oakridge Wines P/ L  
Director, Atlas D'Aloisio Foundation

He is also President of the European Capital Markets Cooperative Research Centre. He was Chairman of the (International) Joint Forum from 2009 - 2011, Managing Director and Chief Executive Office at the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) from 2004 to 2006, and Chairman of Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) from 2007 – 2011.

Tony D'Aloisio was Chief Executive Partner at Mallesons Stephen Jaques between 1992 and 2004, a company he joined in 1977 as a commercial lawyer. His principal areas of practice were mergers and acquisitions, taxation and restrictive trade practices, and international trade and investment. In addition to practising law. Tony held a number of management and business positions with Mallesons.

Mr D'Aloisio received Managing Partner of the Year in 2001 and 2002 at the Australian Law Awards. He also received the Australian Government Centenary Medal in 2000 for services to law and taxation. He became a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2012, and received the Monash Distinguished Alumni Professional Achievement Award in 2013. In 2014 he was awarded the Ordine della Minerva: Università degli Studi 'G. Annunzio' Chieti e Pescara.

In 2007 Tony visited Lilydale High School to participate in the school's 'Principal for a Day Program' and spoke to senior students about life beyond school and achieving your goals.

# HARRY GARSIDE – Boxing Champion and Reach Foundation Ambassador



**Lilydale High School:** 2010 - 2015

**Field of Achievement:** Sport (Boxing)

2018 Commonwealth Gold Medallist

6 Consecutive Australian Titles

REACH Ambassador

Harry started boxing at the age of nine and fell in love with the sport instantly. Since beginning boxing, it has always been his dream to represent Australia on the biggest stage and win medals for Australia and the sport of boxing. He attended LHS for six years finishing Year 12 with the class of 2015. Sport was a major part of his journey at LHS and he admits to participating in nearly every sporting day and sporting code it was possible to do.

Harry said “I was lucky enough to have teachers like Mr (Alister) Stuart take time out of his lunchbreak to run the beep test individually for me on numerous occasions. He did this just so I could keep trying to beat my score and wanting to seriously push myself to my limit.” Outside of sport, history was probably his favourite subject, studying both Australian History and History Revolutions in Year 12.

In Year 10 he was fortunate to attend a Reach Foundation Locker Room Workshop (males only) at LHS. Harry describes this as “A great opportunity for me to challenge myself in a different way and show a little bit of a different side to me than all my peers had seen. From that day, I have now become a crew member/ambassador for the foundation and continue to do work where I can, as I see so much value in the work Reach does. I think now more than ever our youth need Reach and similar organisations that can start young adults having honest conversations about real things not just surface level stuff.”

Harry is trained locally by veteran coach Brian Levier who is one of the most successful and respected trainers in Australia. They train out of Pure Boxing in Ringwood alongside fellow boxer and Australian Olympian, Jason Whateley. Brian describes Harry as one of the best prospects he has ever seen, and as having remarkable evasive techniques and a great temperament. When competing internationally, Harry fights under the guidance of the Australian National Coach, Kevin Smith.

With a record boasting 88 fights, 67 wins, 21 losses (by 2018) Harry is one of Australia’s most promising young boxers. The last loss Harry received in Australia was in 2013.

Since transitioning to the Elite level in boxing, he has won numerous titles. In 2015 he captained the Australian Youth Team in Samoa and in 2017 was the youngest Elite Team Captain for the Victorian team competing at the Nationals in Adelaide SA.

In 2018, Harry competed in the Commonwealth Games, where he won the Gold Medal in the 60kg division. Harry consistently demonstrates the highest standards of professionalism both inside and outside the ring. This was reflected in him winning the 2018 Leader Newspaper Group award, as senior Sports Star of the Year for his exceptional sportsmanship and achievements.

Harry trains at least twice a day both morning and night and when in full preparation for a competition will train at least three times a day to ensure he is in peak fitness and prepared. He continues to volunteer with the Reach Foundation when time allows.

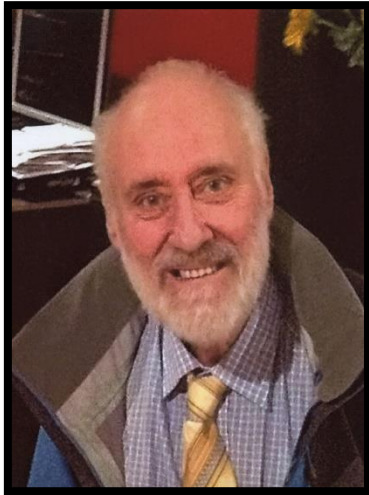
Discipline is essential to Harry Garside in both his career as an apprentice plumber and his training as an elite international boxer. He is currently training for the World Championships in Russia where his eye is on the Gold Medal prize, and then the qualifying events for the Olympic will begin in earnest in December with the ultimate goal - Gold at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Recent Competitions and personal achievements:

- Highest Internationally ranked male Australian Amateur Boxer 2019
- Won 2019 National Championships and World Qualifying Event
- Bronze medal winner GeeBee Tournament Finland
- Bronze Medal winner Belgrade Winner Tournament Serbia
- Highest Internationally ranked male Australian Amateur Boxer 2018
- Won 2018 National Championships
- Won 2018 Victoria's Leader Elite's Sports Star award as well as the Lilydale and Yarra Ranges Sports Star Award
- Won Gold – Australasian Golden Gloves Championships in Perth WA
- Won Super 8's tournament in SA in his weight division
- Won Silver at the Kalpori Cup in Indonesia
- Won Gold Commonwealth Games 2018
- Won Gold 2017 National Championships and Commonwealth Games Selection Event
- 2017 represented Australia at the World Boxing Championships in Hamburg
- Victorians youngest Elite team Captain at 2017 Nationals.
- 2017 Oceanic Championships Qld Australia– Flag Bearer and received Gold
- 2017 Represented Australia at the Feliks Stamm Tournament in Poland where he received Bronze
- 2017 Training camp at USA Olympic Training Facility in Colorado
- 2016 Represented Australia at the Trans-Tasman championships in New Zealand.
- 2016 Represented Australia at the Olympic Qualifiers in Qian'an, China.
- 2016 Represented Australia in the Olympic qualifiers in Azerbaijan.

## Dr Robert Hall - General Practitioner

*BSc(Med)(Hons), MBBS, GCHE, MPH, Dip RACOG, FRACMA, FAFPHM, MASM, FPHAA*



**Lilydale High School: 1956 –1961**

**Field of Achievement:** Science (Medicine)

National Medical Educator for the RACGP  
Family Medicine Program (FMP)

Director of Vocational Training at Box Hill  
Hospital

Regional Coordinator FMP, Gippsland  
Developed new models for Community  
Health / General Practice services

Nickname: Jungle Jim – because he wore a Livingstone-style Pith Helmet on his first day at High School. Attended LHS 1956 - 1961.

Robert was the second of four sons in the Hall family, spending most of his childhood in Mooroolbark. A promising student, he was awarded the National Mutual Scholarship to undertake medical studies at the University of Melbourne. He threw himself into student politics as well as attending philosophy lectures to feed his curiosity.

In addition, Robert supported his living costs with a lolly round, which he conducted from the back of a motorbike in the pubs around inner Melbourne. This was an early indication of his flair for creating and seizing opportunities where he found them. He graduated as a doctor in 1968.

In the 1970s Robert was the National Medical Educator for the RACGP Family Medicine Programme (FMP) and mentored many studying for their Bachelor of Medical Science. At that time Robert was the chief medical officer of the Hall Medical Centre in Box Hill, and then became the Director of Vocational Training at Box Hill Hospital (1979-1989).

Subsequently, Robert moved to Gippsland as a goat farmer's husband where he soon developed a keen interest in the challenges of rural general practice. He became the FMP Gippsland Regional Coordinator and subsequently was a major driving force in the establishment and development of the Monash University School of Rural Health.

Over the years, Robert Hall was involved in developing a range of new models of community health/general practice services, always with an emphasis on education and research. Robert provided significant leadership in education, particularly vocational training, and in research/development projects including the Rural Hospital Quality Assurance Project with the West Vic Division of General Practice, the Extended Latrobe Valley Injury Study, the Rural Men's Health Project, and the Moe After Hours Medical Service.

A true family physician, Robert was passionate about providing holistic, team-based care and educating medical students and young doctors to be resourceful, caring and effective health promoters. At the official opening of the Monash Rural Health facilities at Latrobe Regional Hospital in 1998, Robert was described as epitomising the spirit of rural health in recognition of his pivotal role in developing academic rural health not only for Monash but at national and international levels.

The worlds of academic general practice, community health and rural health lost an extraordinary contributor with the passing of Robert Hall in Feb 2014. He was remarkable for his irrepressible creativity, boundless enthusiasm for innovation, and tendency always to think outside the box.

## MIRIAM KNEE - Australian Women's Cricketer



**Lilydale High School:** 1950 - 1955

**Field of Achievement:** Sport (Cricket)

1961 Selected for Woman's Cricket  
Touring Team to NZ

1963 Selected for Tour of England

1971/72 Test Captain of Australia Team  
First Woman's ODI Captain and  
Australian Selector

Born in Croydon, Miriam was one of the pioneers of women's cricket in Australia. A talented all-rounder, she was a feature of the dominant women's team during the 1960's and 1970's. Miriam's main discipline was her right arm medium/spin bowling, but she was also a handy left-handed batsman and an excellent slips fielder.

In 1961, after consistent performances for Victoria, and five years since Australia last played a Test Match, Miriam was selected in the touring team to New Zealand. They played eight tour games and a one-off Test. It was during one of those tour games that Miriam displayed her great value.

Miriam was selected for the tour of England under new Captain, Mary Allitt in 1963. In the second Test of this series ('Test in the Mist'), Miriam took her career best bowling figures of 5/35 and shared a sixth wicket partnership of 125 with the Captain and then 3/22 in the second innings, this gave her career best figures of 8/57. Miriam finished this tour as the leading wicket taker with 47 wickets at a rate of 13.64.

In 1971-72 Miriam became the sixth Test Captain of Australia when New Zealand toured Australia. She went on to become an instrumental figure in women's cricket taking part in history making tours both to the Caribbean and to England for the very first international ODI World Cup. Miriam was also a selector for many seasons and an outstanding contributor to the game both on and off the field for decades.

Playing golf at the Oatlands Club, NSW, has become Miriam's interest in more recent years. When discussing her cricketing history with the club's manager, Miriam reminisced about the difference between today's cricket tours and those of her era, with the tour to England taking six weeks by ship to reach the shores of the UK, and players being billeted during their stay. She said 'We were paired up in two's to billet; you would go into the home of complete strangers and by the end of the tour have developed life-long friendships'.



## ERIN McIntyre - Actress



**Lilydale High School:** 1999 - 2002

**Field of Achievement:** Arts (Performing)

International Stage Actress

“Glinda” Stage Production of Wicked

“Phoebe” in A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder (Broadway)

Erin found her passion for singing and stage performing when she was cast in the role of Laurey in Oklahoma when she was 15 at Lilydale High School. She believes that this changed her life and she never looked back.

After leaving school, Erin received a scholarship at Melba Conservatorium of Music focusing on opera and musicals. She then went on to study privately with world renowned tenor, Jon Weaving.

Erin got to lead in various smaller professional productions with Opera Victoria, playing roles such as Julie in Carousel, Kathy in Company, Rapunzel in Into the Woods and Eurydice in Orpheus in the Underworld.

She landed her first life changing role at the age of 22 as Glinda in the stage production of Wicked. She performed this role all over Australia for the duration of 3 years. She got to work with some amazing performers such as: Bert Newton, the late Rob Guest and the original Broadway writer, Stephen Swartz.

After this she landed the understudy role of Christine in ‘Love Never Dies’. Here she had the wonderful opportunity of working alongside Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Most recently she landed her dream role on Broadway, New York, as Phoebe in ‘A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder’. This also involved a touring production throughout the United States. Here she was lucky enough to work with Tony Award winning writers.

Erin continues to live her dream doing concert work and shows throughout the world, singing opera and musical theatre.

Erin will never forget how the belief and support of the teachers at Lilydale High School made her realise her true dreams. She is forever grateful. Erin resides in the USA.



## PROFESSOR KERIN O'DEA AO - Research Scientist



**Lilydale High School:** 1958 - 1963

**Field of Achievement:** Science  
(Medicine)

Order of Australia 2004 for service in the areas of: Medical & Nutrition Research; the development of public health policy, and the community, particularly Indigenous Australians through research into chronic disease

Has held many key senior academic and leadership positions

At Lilydale High School she was sports mad, becoming Victorian schoolgirl javelin champion when she was 17. Her older sister Janet, also attended LHS, said that she and her “little sister” are as chalk and cheese. As she puts it, one is a high-powered academic who loves city life, the other a more retiring type who hates parties, and is most at home in the country, with sewing, cooking and craft. That may be, but an outsider is struck by the similarities. Both are evidently straight talkers who exude a strength of character and opinion. This is attributed to their mother, the family matriarch, who brought up three children (the sisters’ young brother died 30 years ago) after an early divorce, while teaching languages at the local high school. Her mother gave her the belief that with hard work she could do well in whatever profession she chose.

With a slew of senior research appointments behind her, most recently as Director of the Sansom Institute for Health Research at the University of South Australia, O'Dea has certainly proven her mother right. A professor of Nutrition and Public Health in the Health Sciences Division of the University of South Australia, she has spent many years researching diet and chronic disease in Indigenous Australians. Kerin O'Dea has dedicated her whole career to the Australian Indigenous health area and is a legend for her activities on these issues.

But it was the mechanics of how drugs worked and were developed that initially fascinated O'Dea. Her postgraduate years alternated between pharmacology and physical biochemistry, and, like many young Australian researchers, she linked her career development with opportunities to travel, working for Bayer in Germany, INSERM in Paris, and the Cleveland Clinic in the USA.

It was in the late 1970s, after returning to Australia, that O'Dea began using her research in nutrition to help understand the health of Australia's Indigenous people. She took a post at Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital, to try and find out why many Indigenous people were developing diabetes, and she led a series of studies in remote locations to study eating and lifestyle behaviours among Indigenous Australians.

The links between nutrition, chronic disease, and the health of Indigenous Australians has remained a focus of O'Dea's research and she recently led a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Program on "Improving chronic disease outcomes for Indigenous Australians: causes, interventions, system change". Kerin is one among few who is greatly respected for her research and efforts by Indigenous societies. She generously shares her knowledge and wisdom—something that many PhD students, colleagues, and friends have greatly benefited from for more than 30 years.

O'Dea's research has also extended into the Mediterranean diet. She points to immigrant Mediterranean populations in Australia, such as Greeks and Italians, who while having similar or higher rates of obesity than Anglo-Celtic Australians, actually seem to live longer. Her expertise in this area was one reason for her appointment as inaugural chair of the NHMRC's Prevention and Community Health Committee. O'Dea has also led projects on diet and lifestyle to prevent vascular diseases and diabetes in susceptible remote populations, working with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

Professor Kerin O'Dea is Emeritus Professor in Nutrition and Population Health in the Centre of Population Health Research, School of Health Sciences. As a scientist she has made major contributions to understanding the relationship between diet and chronic diseases, particularly type 2 diabetes and CVD.

She is probably best known for her novel research on the marked beneficial health impact of temporary reversion to traditional hunter-gatherer lifestyle on diabetes and associated conditions in Australian Aborigines. As a consequence, she has a strong research interest in the therapeutic potential of traditional diets and lifestyles.

Key previous senior academic and research leadership positions include:

- Director of the Sansom Institute for Health Research, UniSA (2009-2012)
- Director, Menzies School of Health Research, Darwin NT (2000-2005)
- Deakin University (1988-1997) as Professor of Human Nutrition
- Dean of Health and Behavioural Sciences (1993-1994) and Pro Vice Chancellor Research (1995-1996).

She was awarded Officer, Order of Australia (AO) in 2004 for "service in the areas of medical and nutrition research, to the development of public health policy, and to the community, particularly Indigenous Australians through research into chronic disease and prevention methods".

In 2005 Kerin was also nominated for Australian of the Year in the Northern Territory for her work on diet with indigenous Australians.

# KELLAND O'BRIEN - Professional Racing Cyclist



**Lilydale High School:** 2011 - 2014

**Field of Achievement:** Sport (Cycling)

Australian World record holder

Team pursuit World Champion x 2

Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist

Kelland O'Brien is an Australian professional racing cyclist. He rode in the Men's Team Pursuit Event at the 2017 UCE Track Cycling Championship. In December 2017, he was awarded Australian Institute of Sport Emerging Athlete of the Year.

Born in May 1998, Kelland was a student at LHS from 2011 – 2014. Thanks to his Dad who took him to a local BMX club where he loved the experience, Kelland then progressed through all different types of cycling.

A young star of the track cycling world Kelland is a multiple National and World Junior Champion on the track. A Team Pursuit specialist, he has held the title of World Champion in the senior category of that event and has risen through the ranks of Australian cycling as quickly as anyone in history. He joined the ACA in 2018 where he had his biggest year yet, his results including a gold medal and world record in the team pursuit at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, where they also claimed a world record.

Despite the lack of official state support, O'Brien's parents were hugely supportive. With only two weeks before the 2015 nationals, his parents encouraged O'Brien to just have a crack and enter. The event was in Melbourne, it was the first year an independent rider could enter the Track Nationals. With four days to go, O'Brien was back in business and with one chance to try out a new bike before the Nationals. At this point, O'Brien had nothing to lose and his confidence was edging back. He hadn't made the state squad and missed out on a scholarship at the VIS.

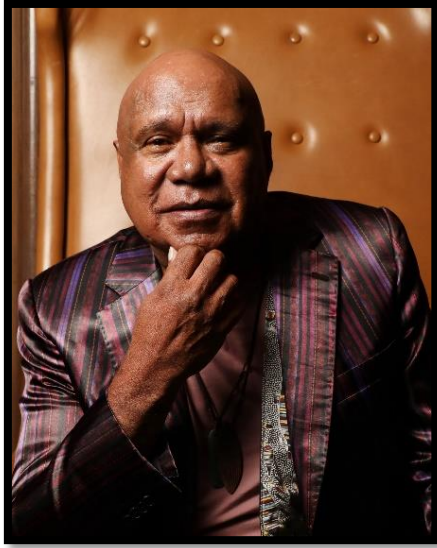
Although he had only one ride to try the new bike, O'Brien's frame of mind was now at the polar opposite end of where he was just a week earlier - the 3km Individual Pursuit was his target. Incredibly, in the qualifier he set the fourth fastest time (3:22.573). Although he was six seconds off South Australia's Rohan Wight (3:16.566), O'Brien was the fastest Victorian by almost a full two seconds. It was a massive boost to his confidence with no state support.

With his father, John, calling the pacing splits from the sideline, even O'Brien admits that they had little idea of what they were doing or what he could achieve. In the final he didn't just ride for third, he went all-out at a pace that could have arguably been good enough for the gold. It was simply a ride no-one could believe; from a second-tier rider to a contender in one day. The turnaround was stunning. O'Brien was now a National Championship Medallist and a member of the 2015 Australian National Junior Track Team headed for Astana. In the months leading up to the World Championships, O'Brien's progress accelerated, and his confidence grew as he started receiving the training support he had been without. Since winning his two world titles, he has gone from strength to strength and his progress has shown no sign of slowing.

### **Notable achievements**

- Gold and World Record 3:49.804 - Men's Team Pursuit - Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast 2018 (Porter, O'Brien, Howard, Welsford)
- World Champion Team Pursuit - 2017 Track World Championships, Hong Kong
- Bronze Medallist Individual Pursuit - 2017 Track World Championships, Hong Kong
- National Madison Silver 2017 (Dec 17, 2016 Hisense Arena) with partner, Callum Scotson
- Oceania Madison Gold 2017 with partner Callum Scotson
- Oceania Team Pursuit Gold 2017.

## ARCHIE ROACH AM – Singer / Songwriter



**Lilydale High School:** 1969 - 1970

**Field of Achievement:** Arts (Singer /Songwriter)

Singer, Songwriter and Guitarist  
Campaigner for the rights of Indigenous Australians

*Deadly Award* for Lifetime Contribution to Healing the Stolen Generation

Member of the Order of Australia (2015) - Services to Music & supporter of Social Justice

2019 Victorian Australian of the Year

Archibald William ‘Archie’ Roach was born in Maroopna in 1956. He is a singer, songwriter and guitarist, as well as a campaigner for the rights of Indigenous Australians.

Roach’s debut solo album was released in 1990. It featured the song ‘Took the Children Away’, which was added to the National Film and Sound Archives’ Sounds of Australia registry in 2013.

At the age of four, Archie and his sisters, along with other Indigenous Australian children of the stolen generations, were forcibly removed from their family by government agencies and placed in an orphanage. After two unpleasant placements in foster care, Archie was eventually fostered by Alex and Dulcie Cox, a family of Scottish immigrants in Melbourne. Alex Cox would sing traditional ballads and introduced Archie to guitar and keyboards. Roach said, ‘He was a big influence on me - a good influence; I’ll love him to the day I die.’ It was whilst living with the Cox family that Archie attended Lilydale High School in 1969-70.

When he was fifteen, Roach was contacted by his natural sister, who told him their birth mother had just died. He spent the next fourteen years on the streets battling alcoholism. Roach met his future wife, Ruby Hunter, at a Salvation Army drop-in centre when she was sixteen.

In the late 1980’s Roach and Ruby Hunter formed a band, the ‘Altogether’s’, with several other Indigenous Australians and moved to Melbourne. Roach wrote his first song ‘Took the Children Away’, which he performed on community radio and on an Indigenous current affairs program in 1988. Australian musician, Paul Kelly, invited Roach to open his concert early in 1989, where he performed ‘Took the Children Away’, a song telling the story of the Stolen Children and his own experience of being forcibly removed from

his family. His performance was met with stunned silence, followed by shattering applause.

In 1990, with the encouragement of Kelly, Roach recorded his debut solo album, *Charcoal Lane*. The album was certified gold and awarded two ARIA Awards at the 1991 ceremony. The album included 'Took the Children Away' which became one of the most important songs in Australia's contemporary history. In 1992, it won an international Human Rights Achievement Award.

In 1995, Roach toured extensively throughout the US, Canada, the UK and Europe. He returned to Australia to record the title track for ATSIIC's Native Title CD, *Our Home, Our Land* with other Australian singer/songwriters. In 1996, he performed as part of a presentation to the Human Rights Commission's inquiry into the Stolen Generations, before embarking on a national tour as a guest of Tracy Chapman.

His first album was followed over the next 25 years by *Jamu Dreaming*, *Looking for Butter Boy*, *Sensual Being*, *Journey*, *Into the Bloodstream*, *Let Love Rule* - several of them winning awards.

Archie Roach has worked solo and in collaboration on a number of screen and theatre scores – 'The Tracker' (2002), 'Ruby' (2004) and 'The Secret River' (2015). In 2004 the score for Ruby, a musical experience telling the story of Ruby Hunter's search for identity, won the 'Deadly Awards' for 'Excellence in Film & Theatrical Score'.

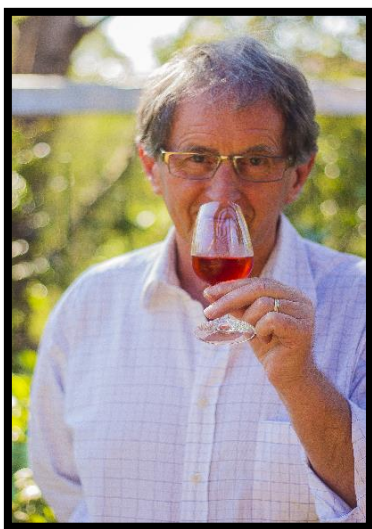
Archie currently lives on a homestead near Berri, South Australia, with his children. His home has become something of a refuge for troubled Aboriginal youngsters, now dealing with some of the problems he himself faced. Roach is a supporter of 'Justice Action', a criminal justice reform organisation based in Sydney.

Archie's wife, Ruby Hunter, died in February 2010; in the same year, Archie suffered a number of serious health problems himself, but returned to live performances in April 2011. In April 2018, Archie performed at the Commonwealth Games Closing Ceremony on the Gold Coast with Amy Shark. In October 2019, Archie was named as Victorian Australian of the Year for 2020. He will represent Victoria at the 2020 Australia Day awards.

### Other Awards and Honours

- Roach was one of the first people inducted to the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll in 2011.
- In 2015, Roach was honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours list as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).
- At the APRA Music Awards of 2017 he won the Ted Albert Award for Outstanding Services to Australian Music.

## **DR GEOFFREY R SCOLLARY FRACI, CChem - Oenologist**



**Lilydale High School:** 1957 - 1962

**Field of Achievement:** Science (Wine Industry)

PhD in Chemistry at Latrobe, School of Chemistry at University of Melbourne

1997 Foundation Professor of Oenology Charles Stuart University and first Director of the National Wine & Grape Industry Association

After completing Matriculation in 1962, Geoff went to the University of Melbourne where he decided to major in chemistry. After completing his Honours degree in 1966, Geoff obtained a PhD scholarship, firstly completing a MSc degree at University of Melbourne and then transferring to La Trobe University for his doctoral work. Geoff was awarded his PhD in 1970 (graduating in 1971), as the first PhD in chemistry at La Trobe University.

Commencing teaching at the then Secondary Teachers College to serve out his bond to the Education Department, Geoff undertook studies in education, completing his BE degree in 1974. The attraction of chemistry outweighed education and so Geoff returned to chemistry research in collaboration with his colleagues at La Trobe University. His research focus changed to analytical chemistry and environmental chemistry. After a period of study leave at Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany, Geoff added wine chemistry as a research interest. To underpin this wine chemistry research focus, Geoff studied the BAppSci (Wine Science) at Charles Sturt University as a distance education student. In 1993, Geoff moved to the School of Chemistry at the University of Melbourne, a position from which he could expand his wine research.

In February 1997, Geoff accepted the offer to become the first or foundation professor of oenology at Charles Sturt University (CSU). In May that year, he became the first Director of the National Wine and Grape Industry Centre (NWGIC) in Wagga Wagga, a partnership between CSU, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the NSW Wine Industry Association. In July 1997, Geoff was also appointed as head of the School of Wine and Food Science at CSU, continuing in position until June 2003.

Focusing full time on research management from July 2003, Geoff coordinated the NWGIC's successful bid to the Grape and Wine R&D Corporation for a five-year \$28 million co-investment Winegrowing Futures program. Geoff's corporate activities included the Board of Governance, Cooperative Research Centre for Viticulture, the Australian Wine Research Institute Council, the NSW Minister for Primary Industries



Wine Industry R&D Advisory Council and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, Ontario, Canada. After leaving CSU in 2007, Geoff was contracted as a consultant by the Grape and Wine R&D Corporation to write a scientific status review of research into wine tannins.

He has published extensively in scientific and technical journals. Internationally Geoff has been president of the *In Vino Analytica Scientica* conference series and he developed partnerships with research agencies in France and Germany. He was a visiting lecturer in *Tecnología Enológica* at Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina and an EU funded guest lecturer under the Erasmus Mundus framework for the International Vintage Master Program with teaching in Budapest, Hungary, and Angers, France.

Professionally, Geoff is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (FRACI) and a Chartered Chemist (CChem). Geoff's commitment to chemistry and the wine industry has been recognised by his award of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute Analytical Chemistry Division Medal for excellence in analytical chemistry in 2000 and the 2006 Graham Gregory Trophy for service to the NSW Wine Industry.

In retirement, Geoff mentors' young researchers in wine chemistry and sparkling wine chemistry and writes a wine chemistry column for *Chemistry in Australia* every two months.