



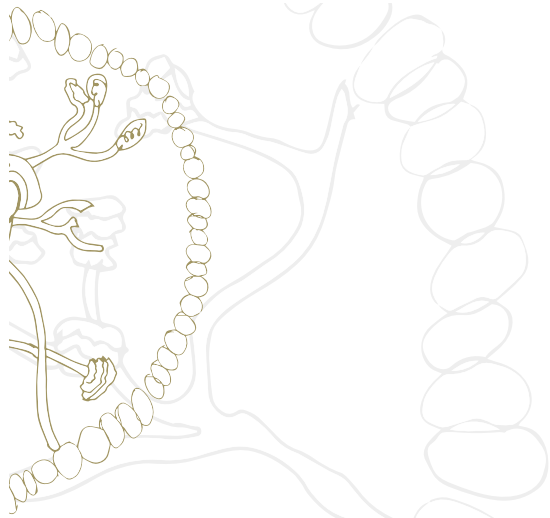
Words & Deeds

Vol. 20 No. 1



**ST VIRGIL'S
COLLEGE**

A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the muwinina people, the Traditional Owners and Custodians who for thousands of generations, lived and cared for the land on which our College stands today.

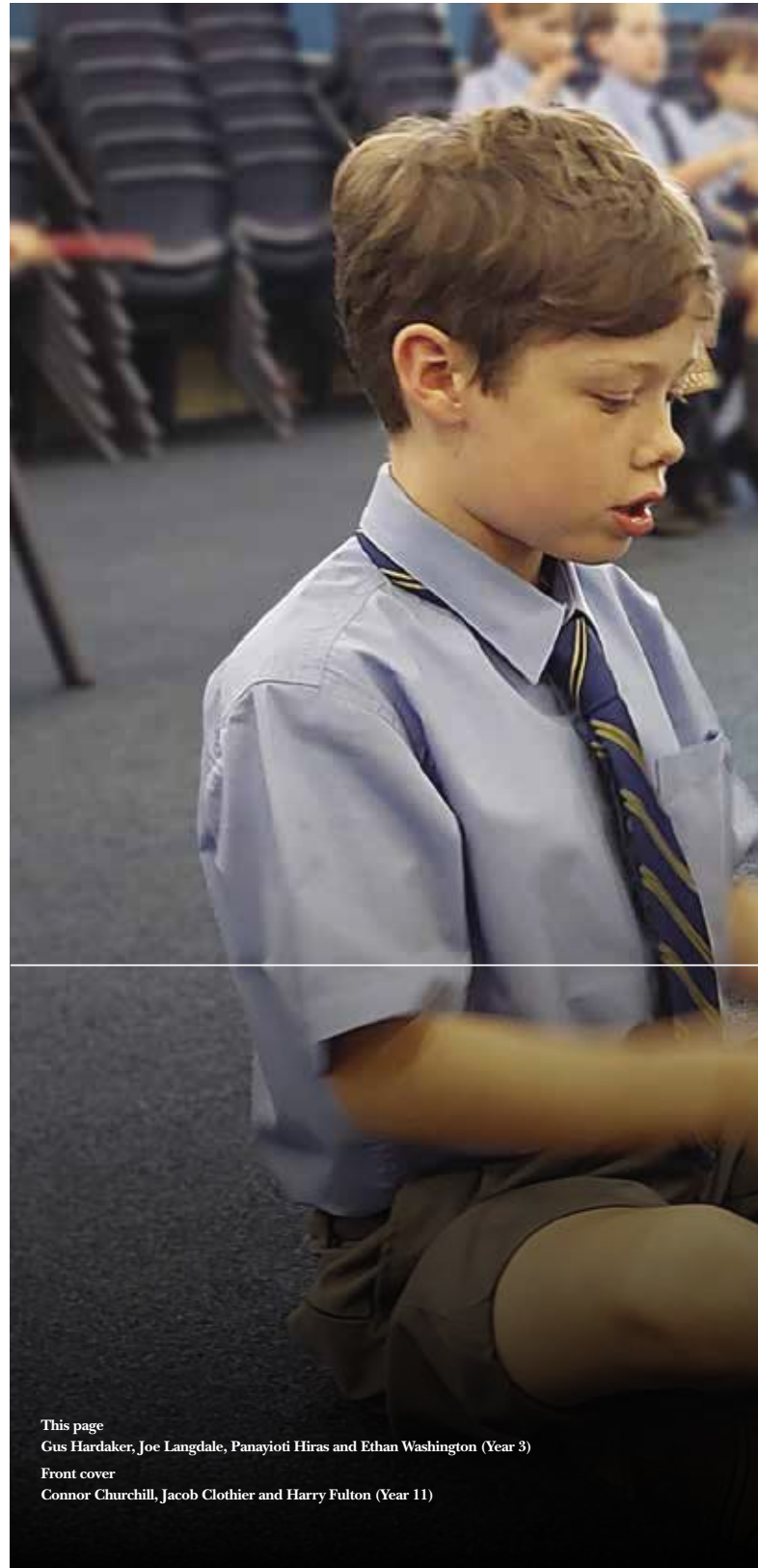
We acknowledge the continuing relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country that was never ceded and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Words & Deeds is a magazine for the St Virgil's community.

Editor

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All contributions to Words & Deeds are greatly appreciated.



This page

Gus Hardaker, Joe Langdale, Panayioti Hiras and Ethan Washington (Year 3)

Front cover

Connor Churchill, Jacob Clothier and Harry Fulton (Year 11)



Words & Deeds

Vol. 19 No. 1



**ST VIRGIL'S
COLLEGE**

A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition



Walking alongside young men as they navigate a path into their future is a privilege and a responsibility. With the reintroduction of Year 11 that is what we are all doing in a new way at St Virgil's in 2023 – as teachers and parents, friends and families, staff and students, classmates and old Virgilians.

Having a community surrounding us, walking with us and supporting us, gives the energy and motivation which we need to thrive and make our way in life. This edition of Words & Deeds reflects the multi-faceted richness which is the community of St Virgil's, which we contribute to, draw on, and which wraps around our students; giving them a place to be and a story to be part of, as they progress in education and life - now going that step further, encompassing the final senior years of schooling.

You can read of the experience of the College Captain gathering with student leaders from around Australia,



A Word from the Principal

about Junior School students developing empathy for the poor and disadvantaged, about boys new to secondary education being formed into a cohort of belonging, about broad learning coming from traditional and modern knowledge on the land, and about the care taken in sensitively revealing to boys the sacred and spiritual dimensions of life, both traditional and modern.

All of this is for the boys. Each on their own journey, but collectively walking together. And of course, the stories from Old Virgilians in this edition, and the names and memories of those past, provide a human and historical

context – the broader story and a narrative – an historical and living platform upon which today's students can look into the future.

Thank you to all the staff, parents, volunteers, friends, families and old boys who so generously walk with all our boys on the St Virgil's journey. This edition of Words & Deeds is a tribute to you and just a sample of what you give to our students.

Best wishes for the unfolding of the rest of 2023.
Mr Jon Franzin

Strong Start for College Leaders

In November last year, I had the privilege of being chosen as the St Virgil's College Captain for 2023.

As Captain, I was lucky enough to represent the College at the EREA Student Leaders Conference in Sydney. Around 50 other student leaders from across Australia attended the conference and we enjoyed many valuable sessions that broadened my view on leadership. There was an emphasis about the 'Voice' and 'Agency' we have as leaders, which I have striven to implement throughout the school year so far. Being able to openly share our approach to leadership with other leaders and the opportunities for leadership development were the most valuable parts of the trip. The conference was not all work and no play, however, as we went on walks, caught the Manly Ferry and attended a morning mass at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel.

The school year has started strongly at St Virgil's. While the Year 11 cohort is small, our spirit is booming - something that Old Boys have told me was exhibited by those who attended Year 11 and 12 in the past. There is a feeling of excitement around the school and I believe this is because of the new opportunities due to the transition to Year 11, the opening of the Callan Centre and the appointment of new student leaders.

Heading into Year 11, my peers and I were filled with a mix of excitement and worry. We were picking subjects

which we were passionate about, but with this came the pressure of TASC. What I have found is that by having familiar faces around, both staff and students, I am able to focus on my studies and not worry about finding my way around a new school, easing the pressure of TASC results.

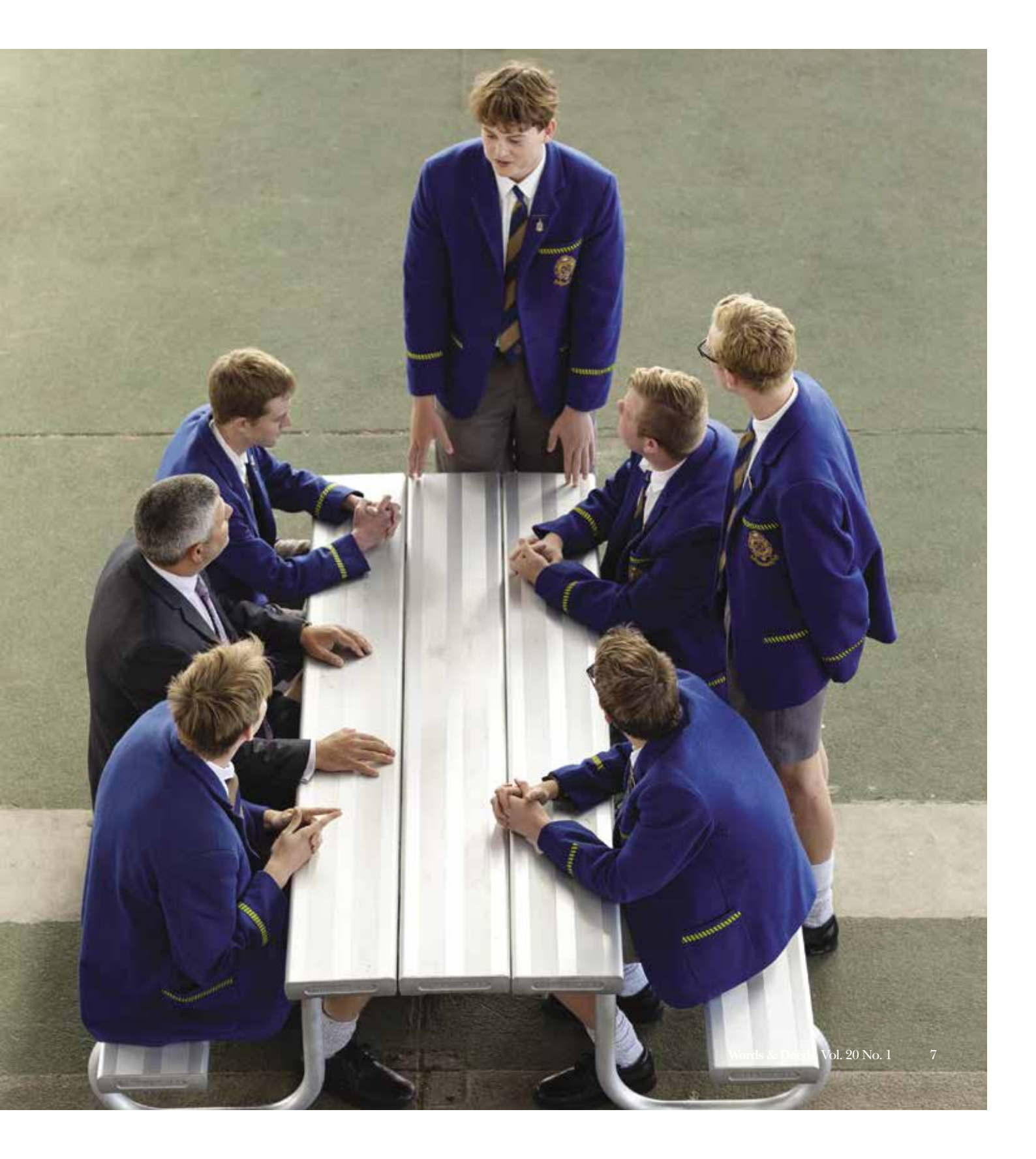
The recent opening of the Callan Centre marks a new era for the College. As Year 11s, we are treated in a more adult fashion. Distinguishable in our white shirts and new ties, we have also been given the opportunity to embark on our learning journey in brand new facilities, which includes a Year 11 Student Lounge. I am sure more students will remain at the College for Year 11 and 12 in the future and enjoy these facilities as well. With these changes has come the responsibility of acting as role models to younger years; demonstrating what it is to be a true Virgilian.

I have enjoyed my time as College Captain through the year so far, but there is a long way to go. I believe that together with the Vice Captain, Charles Lennon, and the other student leaders, we will be successful in influencing change and leading our fellow students. In recognising that positive change can only be achieved through consultation and collaboration, Connor Churchill's role as Student Voice will be crucial.

As College Captain, I look forward to the challenges ahead and hope to make this year a good one - 'By Deeds Not Words Alone'.

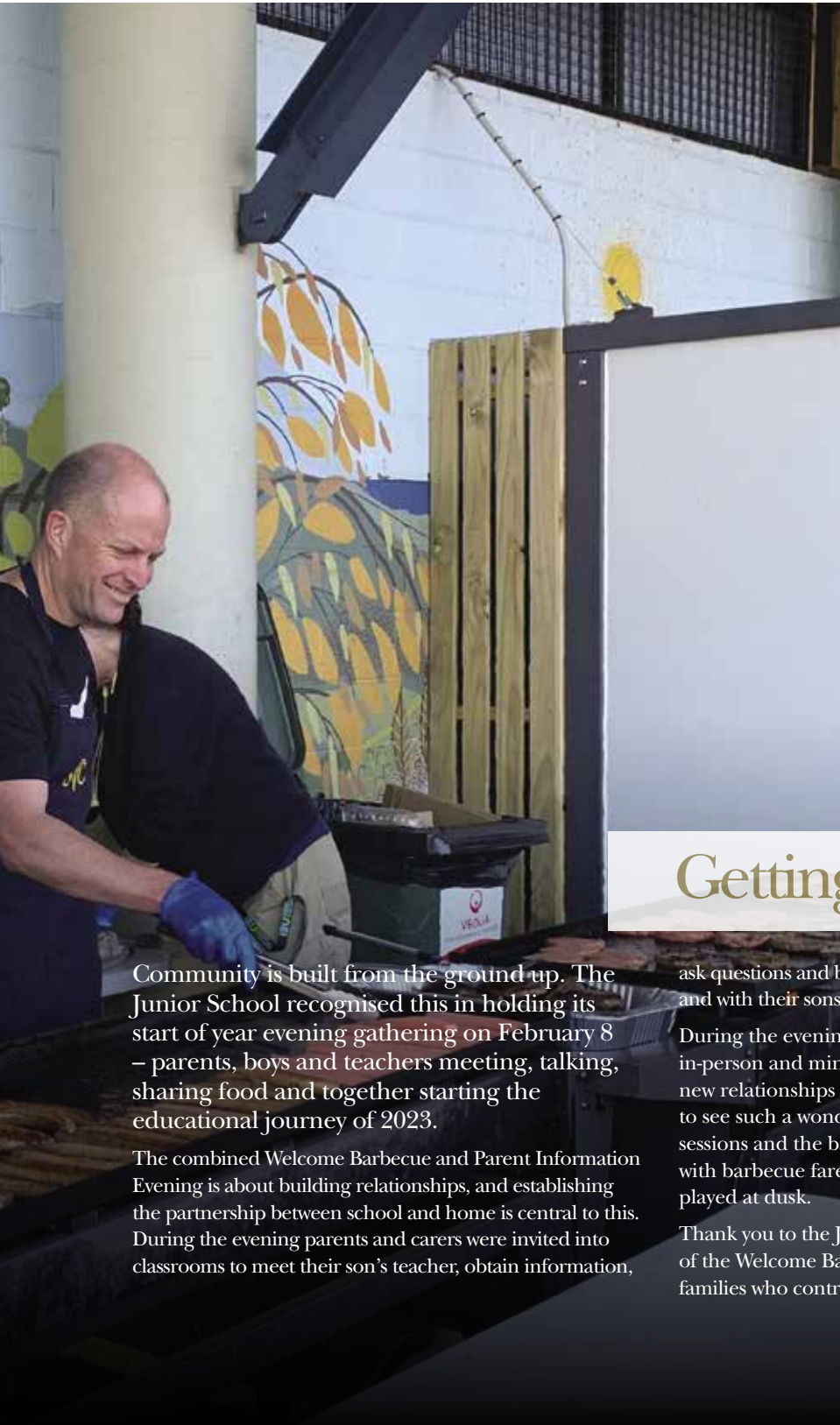


“By having familiar faces around, I am able to focus on my studies, easing the pressure of TASC results.”



BY DEEDS NOT WORDS





Getting to Know You

Community is built from the ground up. The Junior School recognised this in holding its start of year evening gathering on February 8 – parents, boys and teachers meeting, talking, sharing food and together starting the educational journey of 2023.

The combined Welcome Barbecue and Parent Information Evening is about building relationships, and establishing the partnership between school and home is central to this. During the evening parents and carers were invited into classrooms to meet their son's teacher, obtain information,

ask questions and begin the ongoing conversation about and with their sons that will continue through 2023.

During the evening families took the opportunity to join in-person and mingle with staff and each other, forming new relationships and rekindling old ones. It was lovely to see such a wonderful turnout to both the information sessions and the barbecue, as hungry bellies were fed with barbecue fare and boys, their friends and siblings played at dusk.

Thank you to the Junior School P&F for the coordination of the Welcome Barbecue and the generosity of our families who contributed a salad or dessert to share.

Cohort and Culture – New Beginnings

Old Virgilians talk of the enduring bonds and school pride formed during their school days. How does that happen? How does a large, disparate collection of boys starting secondary school in Year 7, evolve into a single cohort with a coherent sense of place and history, spirit and identity? How do they become Virgilians?

Building a sense of belonging for boys at St Virgil's is more than getting a new uniform. Genuine belonging is the ground for being secure and being able to thrive, individually, educationally, socially, emotionally and spiritually. This year it began in a structured way at the start of Year 7, through participation by all boys in the New Beginnings Program.

Before routine classroom life began in Term 1, for two weeks the Year 7 cohort of 2023 rotated through the four components of the program. Upending the normal timetable to make this happen is a big investment by the College, but it enabled a group of boys coming from a wide geographical and social range of feeder schools to draw together, outside formal classroom structures, build relationships, reveal their individual selves, get to know and be known by each other and the ever important Pastoral Care staff and to learn about the richness of the community they have joined.

The Environmental Experience is an overnight camp at which students undertook activities including bike riding, walking, paddle boarding, problem solving and abseiling. There was also an Aboriginal Education session revealing ancient connections with the landscape.

The Spiritual Journey informed students about the history of the College and the Christian Brothers through the story of Edmund Rice. Students reflected on Catholic identity and how this relates to the values and attitudes that are an essential element of everyday life at the College. Along with on-campus activities were visits to St Bernard's Catholic Church, Claremont and St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart.

The Relational Journey had a strong focus on student cooperation, social intelligence and building connections with other students who will be a consistent presence within the House group up until the end of

Year 12. On the second day of this rotation students, accompanied by their Pastoral Care Teacher, took part in 'The Great Race' around Salamanca and the Hobart waterfront, guided by a series of clues and checkpoints.

The Service Journey engaged students with the College motto 'Through Deeds not Words' and enabled students to invest in the College as they contributed to initiatives, such as the bike paths, that create opportunities for others. They also travelled off campus to visit community-based organisations.

This foundational and formative experience for the boys could not have been provided without the expertise, time, care and guidance of Mr Greg Mills, the Outdoor Education Department, Pastoral Care Teachers, Counsellors, Mrs Kim Mooney, Mrs Bridget Jenkins and Dr Eleanor O'Donnell.







Blending Traditional and Western Scientific Perspectives

Sitting within Aboriginal Cultural Education at St Virgil's is the tunapri makuminya Project, and sitting within that is the work led by young trawlowolway and plangermairenner pakana scientist Jamie Graham-Blair, creator and leader of the project through 2020. Jamie's unique and broad blend of knowledge, heritage, experience,

vision and commitment has been vital to the project's success and potential for longevity and wider impact. Growing up in Launceston, with outdoor interests and wanting to go into conservation and natural sciences, Jamie started studying geology before moving to marine science and will graduate in Ecology and Marine Science from the University of Tasmania's Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies this year.

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Learning from the Land

Aboriginal Cultural Education

St Virgil's' Austins Ferry Campus is without doubt on a beautiful site. The views captivate. But as a place of learning, the land itself is a pathway to knowledge, ancient and modern; a pathway to growth and understanding, community and reconciliation.

The magic years of childhood are the perfect start for this journey of learning and growth at St Virgil's through the Bush Kinder and Early Years program, where the boys get to spend time on beautiful muwinina Country. By spending time walking on Country, building huts, searching for native foods and animals and hearing traditional stories of creation, these sessions offer much in the way of normalising and caring for Country and learning about palawa culture.

Through the lens of palawa perspectives Bush Kinder powerfully introduces the young students to Country in a connective and playful way. Bush safety, deep listening and fun coalesce in these sessions where the groundwork to true community allyship, justice and reconciliation is laid down.

In older years, as learning morphs into subjects and topics across the timetable, whether it's biology, engineering, history, art, sport or spirituality, the holistic nature of palawa culture can be found within the St Virgil's curriculum. On Country and in partnership with Aboriginal sharers of knowledge, students can gain deeper understanding and a broad worldview.

Beyond St Virgil's

The College recognises the importance of the land to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including the Austins Ferry site, and it has been a deliberate choice to meaningfully engage with the school's surroundings from this point of view.

Accompanied by members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, the College continues to seek ways to bring the learning that comes with this perspective - beyond classroom walls and to share these experiences with staff and students from other schools. Aboriginal Student Cultural Sessions and Staff Professional Development are also offered. The variety of Aboriginal Cultural Education programs available to parish schools can be found on the College website.

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Jamie's work at St Virgil's is enriched by ongoing experience in education and tour guiding, as well as active involvement in the visual and performing arts, including dance and art, and writing.

Initially Jamie was commissioned by the College to create a biocultural survey of the Austins Ferry campus, one in which the College hoped to identify every plant

species on the campus which was of cultural significance to Tasmanian Aboriginal people. During the disruptions of 2020, the project also provided an opportunity for Aboriginal students to stay connected to the land upon which their school sits, while being involved in the project. The final project was much larger and came to include conservation and regeneration suggestions and proposals to grow palawa community

engagement, cultural practice and knowledge reclamation and sharing opportunities within the surrounding muwinina landscape. Collaborating with Jamie have been other key staff, including Mrs Bridget Jenkins, Mr Mark 'Bushy' Smith, Mr Trent Prouse, Mrs Sandra Mazengarb and previously the late Mr Mark Waddington.

Jamie continues to work at the College as an

Aboriginal Learning Support Officer to support classroom learning, accompany school excursions to sites of cultural and historical significance and lead professional learning for staff.



With the reintroduction of senior secondary schooling at Austins Ferry this year, a new generation of young men have picked up the baton to ‘run the race to the finish’ at St Virgil’s. When they graduate from Year 12 next year, they will be reestablishing a tradition, and joining a long line of graduates going back over a hundred years.

In the words of Connor Churchill, Year 11 Student Voice Leader, “It’s a great honour knowing that many graduated before 1995, and knowing that we are the first of a new

generation of boys to graduate after 30 years, we will set the path for the future.”

In regaining what was lost, respecting history and re-capturing some of the great traditions of the past, the College is using the reintroduction as an opportunity to create new ways of celebrating success, introducing new styles of student leadership, capturing the best of what works for boys and young men as they take on the contemporary challenges and opportunities Australia and the world present.

The delivery of senior secondary at St Virgil’s is also building on the College’s existing strengths in teaching



Year 11 is Back!

and learning for boys. The College has a long history of understanding how young men engage best in learning, encouraging them to take risks to achieve in leadership, academics, arts, community service, sport and outdoor adventures. Much of this expertise in boys' education resides in the College staff, as noted by Principal Mr Jon Franzin, "Students in their crucial senior secondary years will be taught by teachers who already know how boys and young men learn best. In anticipation of providing a senior curriculum, considerable expertise has been brought into the College and a great deal of time spent on professional learning by subject area."

The boys are noticing the leap in expectations. Again, from Connor Churchill, "I did not think it would be much different but to me it is a lot harder. The work is coming in fast and it really makes your mind work. It makes you have the courage to make way for assessments, classwork and studying after school. I am however grateful that I am able to keep my best mates along with me in this amazing journey."



The Callan Centre at the St Virgil's College Austins Ferry campus opened its doors on Wednesday 15 March, providing purpose-built facilities for young men in Year 11.

Set over three levels with views of the River Derwent, the Centre sits on a portion of the 70 acres on which the College stands and boasts modern classrooms, technology labs, breakout spaces and a student lounge.

Historians and Old Vigilians (alumni of St Virgil's) will remember 30 years ago when Year 11 and 12 ceased to be offered at St Virgil's to make way for Guilford Young

College. A decision which has changed to accommodate learning styles of boys, the expansion will provide greater opportunities and new facilities for students in greater Hobart.

The Centre's name reflects on the College's formation by the Christian Brothers, founded by Edmund Rice who was born in Callan, Ireland. With history and tradition, along with modern and best-practice learning methods, the College provides a place of spiritual, educational and social formation.



New Building for a New Era

The Callan Centre has been designed from feedback and a detailed analysis of what works best for young adult learners at other schools around Australia. The extensive selection of subjects on offer includes sports sciences, business, commerce, health sciences, food, music, art and drama subjects to name a few.

Year 12 will be introduced in 2024 as St Virgil's fast becomes a preferred option for boys' education with the College, grounded by its Catholic ethos and with values of Community, Integrity, Justice, Kindness and Learning.



The annual Caritas Cup at the Junior School involves the boys raising money for Project Compassion, but the event has a bigger purpose – helping them see that poverty is real. Helping them understand that poverty is what life is like for children just like them, often simply because of circumstance.

Fun leads the way for students, so the lead up to the annual event had activities such as the ‘50 Cent Fair’ – which included kicking the footy into the bin, musical chairs, lucky stick pick and chocolate target toss, through to competitions on the Cup Day on Holy Thursday, April 6, such as tyre rolling, newspaper soccer and water relays. The day concluded with a big drawcard of course – the Easter Raffle draw.

Caritas Cup activities are designed to help students become aware that many people end up poor purely through circumstances.



Poverty Aware – Caritas Cup

The water relay echoes the reality of people who have to carry their water every day, the tyre relay to see that a tyre may be the only toy some children have and newspaper soccer – played with a ball made of newspaper – is what soccer really is for some; there is no money for a ball, let alone for food and other basics. Through the fun of the day, the goal is to build their sense of solidarity with those worse off than themselves.

Money raised went to Project Compassion and an Easter Hamper given to Bethlehem House for homeless men.

Activities went all day, including the Stations of the Cross in Tableau by Year 6, the raffle draw and the pouring of coins gathered throughout the month into tubes to see who raised the most. In the spirit of the day, the winning House – Joyce – received a recycled trophy, ready to be reused in 2024.

Exploring St Virgil's' Identity

Putting the 'Catholic' into 'Catholic School' is an invigorating challenge and opportunity given Australia's relatively secular culture. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, supporting St Virgil's' identity as a Catholic school is a joint community enterprise – all contributing in their own way. One person has a particular focus on that mission at St Virgil's is the Assistant Principal for Religious Identity and Mission, Mrs Kim Mooney.

Mrs Mooney joined St Virgil's at the beginning of 2023 – about a 2 500 kilometre move due south from her previous position in a similar role at St Patrick's College, Gympie. Looking for a "new challenge in a new place", Mrs Mooney visited Tasmania and loved it. As for the attraction of St Virgil's, it isn't just the site, she comments, "glancing out the window and catching the view along the river is stunning", but the way the four Touchstones of Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition underpin everything at the College - Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Inclusive Community and Justice and Solidarity. "I really like the visibility of the Touchstones. They are very grounding for how to be a good young man, underpinning everything they do – a great foundation for life."

St Virgil's has existing programs and initiatives which express and support its Catholic ethos and Mrs Mooney has her sights set on supporting, developing and taking these further.

These include the social justice initiatives and a Service Learning Program in which boys can confidently participate and step outside their comfort zone. "This is linked to our motto – By Deeds not Words". This year also saw the first senior secondary (Year 11) retreat, part of a program of retreats to be extended to each year level over time. The invaluable relationship between the College and the local parish as well as the cathedral is also a local strength welcomed by Mrs Mooney.

Mrs Mooney notes many families and boys are not familiar with the Catholic faith and are yet to learn about sacred space, ritual and spirituality. "For some students, it's like learning a new language". The 'New Beginnings' program in Year 7 provides a great opportunity to start exploring those dimensions with the boys, and Mrs Mooney says this as an important chance for boys who have never set foot inside a Church to start a journey. They begin with recognising, experiencing and starting to understand sacred space, ritual and tradition, with the longer term aim of eventually developing a culture and a confidence in the boys to be able to be able to express their own faith, by their words and deeds.





OVA Committee

President

David Mazengarb (SVC 1971-79)

Vice President

Bruce Woods (SVC 1955-60; Staff 2011 -)

Secretary

Graeme Rainbow
(SVC 1957-63; Staff 1971-82, 1985-2001, 2011 -)

Treasurer

Michael Harvey (SVC 1983-88)

Chaplain

Fr Michael Delaney (1963-68)

Committee

Paul Boutchard
(SVC 1967-75; Staff 1983-85, 1987-91)
Corey Bygraves (SVC 1984-89)
Zac Piesse (SVC 2008-11)
Chris Wright (SVC 1966-73)

Website

www.oldvirgilians.org.au

The OVA website provides Old Virgilians with greater options to stay connected and support the College and OVA.

Feedback is welcome and all contributions to The Old Virgilian greatly appreciated.

In the News

Please note - an extensive list of news stories from old boys across the world can be found in OVAtions - the monthly e-newsletter of the OVA. To subscribe or to access past editions, please visit the OVA website

www.oldvirgilians.org.au



The Old Virgilian



ST VIRGIL'S
COLLEGE

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2023 Events

RSVP: Graeme Rainbow 0467 514 667 or grainbow@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

OVA Luncheon

Bring along an OV friend or two and join us for a meal at the Maypole.

When: Tuesday 8 August

Time: 12.30 pm

Where: Maypole Hotel, New Town

Melbourne Reunion

Gather together with OVs from Victoria for a meal and beverage. Further details to come in OVATIONS newsletter, on the OVA Facebook page and OVA website.

When: Saturday 19 August

Time: 6.30 pm

Where: RACV City Club, Melbourne CBD

OVA Annual Golf Day

Join us for the biggest OVA event of the year! Registrations will open in August.

When: Friday 10 November

Time: 12.30 pm

Where: Royal Hobart Golf Club, Seven Mile Beach

Memorial Mass & Luncheon

A memorial mass will be held to remember those who have passed.

When: Tuesday 21 November

Time: 11.00 pm

Where: St Virgil's College Chapel, Austins Ferry



“ ... a strength of the OVA is that when we are men down others step up. ”

OVA President's Message

I am pleased to introduce the Old Virgilian section of Words & Deeds as the new President of the Old Virgilians' Association. Apart from this publication bringing you up to date on the membership and plans of the OVA Committee, you will be able to read news of the ventures and achievements of some Old Virgilians and also, to reflect on the names of those who have gone to God.

To name but two, during the last 12 months OVA has been saddened by the loss of both Mark Waddington and Tony Rainbow who both individually and collectively did so much great work for the association and College. Quite simply, neither of them can be replaced and they leave a great hole for us to fill as well as our heartfelt loss of their passing.

During the last 12 months the OVA Committee has been focusing on its role in the St Virgil's Community and the best ways OVA can deliver outcomes to Old Virgilians and the College itself. We are seeking closer ties with the College and have commenced a process of engagement. I see the OVA as having the single largest and potentially influential membership base across the College network - harnessed collectively it should be able to provide some great outcomes. To define those outcomes the Committee will be consulting with membership over the next 12 months. Attendance at OVA events is a good opportunity

for old boys to share their views on this and make input generally into OVA's future directions. Further to that end, visiting the OVA website www.oldvirgilians.org.au is a great way of staying connected as well as catching up on news, via the monthly e-newsletter OVAtions.

In relation to the OVA Committee, a strength of the OVA is that when we are men down others step up. At the AGM in March this year, the committee welcomed new Committee member Chris Wright, and retained a number of those who have already contributed for several years. Zac Piesse relinquished the position of President due to other demands, however, he has opted to remain on the committee for which we are greatly appreciative. There a couple of vacancies on the Committee – including someone who can take the mantle of Treasurer after Michael Harvey's years of service in that role, I urge OVA members to please consider! Furthermore, Graeme Rainbow and Bruce Woods feel they are reaching their “used by date” and would willingly step aside if younger Virgilians made themselves available. They have made, and continue to make, great contributions to our extended Virgilian community – their work is interesting and rewarding, provides connection and community for many and is something in which it would be well worth taking an interest and becoming involved.

Best wishes until the next edition of 'Words & Deeds'.

David Mazengarb

Old Boys in the news

Service to Justice

Jim Connolly

A long career in the service of the Tasmanian justice system, including a decade as the 17th Registrar of the Supreme Court, has ended with the retirement of Jim Connolly (SVC 1972-77).



After time in private practice Jim entered employment with the public service, more broadly, the Department of Justice. In 1998, Jim was appointed as the Administrator (Principal Registrar) of the Magistrates Court, a position he held for 14 years, until his appointment as Registrar of the Supreme Court.

During 2011, Jim was appointed as the Deputy Secretary (Acting) of the Department of Justice. As the Registrar, he has held the titles of Sheriff of Tasmania, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commissioner, the Admiralty Marshall, and Registrar in Probate. Jim conducted many mediations of civil disputes before the Court and taxations of the legal costs of practitioners.

The Law Society of Tasmania acknowledged Jim's considerable contribution to the administration of practice in Tasmania.

Law Reformer

Jeremy Prichard

The University of Tasmania's Jeremy Prichard (SVC 1986-91) has been appointed Director of the Tasmania Law Reform Institute.

Professor Prichard has been a member of the Institute's board since 2015 and Acting Director since August 2022. The Criminal Law expert and University of Tasmania alumnus has recently led research into strategies for preventing cybercrime, in particular child sexual abuse material.

He previously worked on child protection policy for Queensland's Department of Premier and Cabinet and conducted research into drugs and crime at the Australian Institute of Criminology and the Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission.

The Institute was established in 2001 by the State Government, the University of Tasmania and the Law Society. Its role includes the review of laws with a view to their modernisation, simplification, improvement and uniformity with other States.



Creating Opportunity

Michael Sylvester

After finishing at St Virgil's in 1994, going on to study Engineering, Michael Sylvester's career path has led him to leading an award-winning organisation creating employment and opportunity to those who face additional challenges gaining meaningful work.

Michael Sylvester (SVC 1989-94) gained media attention recently through the ongoing success of Blueline Laundry where he has been the Chief Executive Officer since February 2020. Since that time Blueline has been the recipient of numerous awards in recognition of business excellence including the Best Practice Disability Employment, Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards and Cultural Diversity in the Workplace, Multicultural Council of Tasmania in 2022.

Blueline Laundry creates meaningful employment for people of diverse abilities, cultures and backgrounds. Of their 240 employees, 35% are people with disability, 35% are culturally and linguistically diverse and 51% are female. Through their Supported Employment Program, staff with a disability gain economic participation in society through performing commercially valuable work in an integrated team environment.

On leaving the College, Michael gained a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) with Honours, and has since acquired a Diploma of Business Management, a Master of Technology Project Management and Innovation. He was 'Young Tasmanian Professional Engineer of the Year' in 2011, and the 2014 'Project



Director of the Year. In the July 2020 edition of The Top 100 Professionals Magazine Michael was ranked in the top 50 CEOs in Australia.

Michael's association with the College has been ongoing. He has three sons and a daughter – Harry, Max, Louis and Eve. All three boys have been SVC students with Harry being College Vice Captain in 2022. Michael is on the SVC Advisory Council (Board) and was on the OVA committee in 2019.

2023 Australia Day Honours

Stuart Wilkinson & Dale Webster

Commander Stuart Wilkinson (SVC 1987-92) was the recipient of the Australian Police Medal in recognition of his outstanding service.

Dale Webster (SVC 1977-82), pictured left, the Deputy Secretary Department of Health and Commander of the COVID-10 vaccine operation received the Public Service Medal for his outstanding service during the pandemic.



Still at School!

Geoff Doolan

Geoff Doolan (SVC 1946-55) commenced at the College in 1946 and matriculated in 1955 and has maintained an ongoing association for the past 67 years.

The Doolan family's connection with St Virgil's College goes back to its very beginnings. His father, Eric Doolan, attended the first year of the College in 1911 and his three sons, Ron, Ian and Geoff, would follow.

Br Peter Flint (SVC Staff 1998-2018) and Geoff became instrumental in changing the profile and operation of sailing at the College.

In 2006 the College acquired six pacers and a RIB (Rigid Inflatable Boat). The RIB was a necessity for the safe oversight of the emerging sailors. These craft were housed at the Austins Ferry Yacht Club (AFYC). Much of the cost



associated with the acquisition of these craft was made possible through a generous benefactor, with Geoff and his wife Kate being trustees of the fund.

In 2016, with the AFYC being no longer viable, St Virgil's initially rented the facility and after extensive negotiations with the AFYC and the State Government the lease on the land was reallocated and the site rebranded as the SVC Marine Education Centre (MEC). The MEC now houses 12 yachts and two support craft in addition to the six pacers. Geoff was also able to facilitate the purchase of six Sabot dinghies from the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.

Geoff's role in the acquisition of the Centre and the associated equipment, his mentoring of students in this sport and his involvement in the necessary ongoing maintenance associated with the Centre's operation has been enormous. St Virgil's and its students are the beneficiary of his significant input.

The Kerin Rowing Benefactor

The Kerin family has had a long association with Edmund Rice Colleges - St Patrick's Ballarat, St Kevin's Toorak, St Joseph's Nudgee, St Virgil's College and St Peter's School.

The connection that Damian, Stephen and Gregory have with St Virgil's College runs deep and when Stephen stopped rowing about seven years ago, a part of him 'moving on' from the sport saw him donate four sculling boats to the College.

Stephen was thrilled to hear the College was again offering Year 11 and 12 and had the urge to provide further support to its rowing program. He happened across a Hudson Eight for sale in Brisbane and together with his brother Greg jointly funded its purchase along



with a set of new sweep oars. Stephen also gifted his remaining single scull and five sets of sculling oars. Furthermore, Stephen organised for the transportation of all the above to their new home at the New Town Rowing Centre.

Principal, Jon Franzin said, "The College is extremely appreciative of this significant contribution - extraordinary generosity. The

addition to the fleet will greatly contribute to the success of the St Virgil's College rowing program and support the move to the development of our senior rowing program".

Above: Gregory, Damian and Stephen Kerin with their sister, Lisa

Read the full article about Geoff Doolan and the Kerin family and other news and stories of Old Virgilians at www.oldvirgilians.org.au

Vale Tony Rainbow

Old Virgilians Association Committee Member

Anthony William Rainbow, always known as Tony, was born in Launceston on 7 May 1946. He was the third of four children born to Thomas and Margaret. The family lived in Rosebery on the West Coast. He and his siblings had a wonderful childhood in what was then a virtually land-locked township – the only means of reaching the outside world was by the Emu Bay Railway. A great place to grow up – great friends, great adventures, the freedom to roam and being loved. A great start to the first phase of their various lives.

The four offspring completed their primary education at the local state school, but their parents were determined that the children would have good education and, in time, all four would complete their secondary education in boarding schools in Hobart. Tony, Michael and Graeme were sent to board at St Virgil's College, whilst Maureen, the youngest, went to St Mary's College.

Tony matriculated in 1963 and succumbed to a perceived expectation of going on to university. He enrolled to study Geology, but it was not long till he decided Geology was not his thing, and he was also becoming increasingly aware of the additional burdens his parents were carrying to support him at university.

Off to the paid workforce – initially to the PMG – the forerunner of Australia Post and Telecom and then at the Commonwealth Bank North Hobart Branch in 1965. Tony remained with the bank for the ensuing 33 years, rapidly progressing through a variety of roles in the Bank's Hobart branch and State Administration.

During this period Tony met and married Louise Porte and the three of his four daughters were born – Catherine, Emma and Sonia. In 1975, Tony accepted a promotion to

the International Division of the CBA's Head Office in Sydney. A fourth daughter, Nerissa, was born whilst the family was in New South Wales. Tony moved to Melbourne in 1979 where he further progressed in a variety of roles.

Unfortunately, the marriage did not last and Tony and Louise separated in the early 90s. In 1995 he met and married Janet and they were to become inseparable for the next 27 years.

A career change followed in 1998 when he left the CBA and moved to the auto parts recycling industry. Tony became the Group General Manager of five companies operating from seven sites. In this role he was fortunate to travel both interstate and overseas. After retiring, he returned to Hobart to live in 2013.

Tony always had a strong affiliation and loyalty to St Virgil's College and the Old Virgilians Association. Upon his return to Hobart he was a regular at OVA functions – delighting in catching up with people from his school years.

He became aware that he had developed stage four lung cancer during the latter part of 2022 and has passed while still a serving member of the OVA Committee.

Rest in peace, Tony.

Below: Tony Rainbow, centre, with brothers Graeme and Michael



Sporting Honours

Over past months former students of the College have attained considerable success in sport.



Last December **Tristan Thomas (SVC 1999-2022)** was inducted into the Tasmanian Sporting Hall of Fame. Tristan was an outstanding schoolboy athlete and St Virgil's won both carnivals in each of the years he attended the College. As a 400m runner and hurdler, Tristan represented Australia on several occasions with the

highlight his being part of the Bronze Medal winning 4 x 400m relay team at World Athletics Championships in Berlin in 2009 – the same year that he was named Tasmanian Male Sportsperson of the Year.

The Tasmanian residential men's 200m had stood at 20.92sec. since 1997. That is until **Jacob Despard (SVC 2010-13)** clocked 20.78 sec. at the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre in March, to better Simon Bresnehan's mark. Nine days later he lowered it further to 20.59 sec.



Both he and fellow Old Virgilian, Jack Hale, are preparing for the World championships later in the year and for the world relay championships in The Bahamas and the Paris Olympics.

Tasmanian Records

Former St Virgil's College students hold the following

Tasmanian Athletics Residential Records:

Senior: 100m (Jack Hale); 200m (Jacob Despard); 400m (Tristan Thomas) & 400m hurdles (Tristan Thomas) and OVA holds the 4x100m, 4x400m and 4x800m records. Under 20: 100m (Jack Hale); 200m (Jack Hale); 400m (Simon Hollingsworth); 400m hurdles (Simon Hollingsworth); Long Jump (Jack Hale); Triple Jump (Patrick Coleman) and OVA teams hold the records for the 4x400m and 4x800m relays.

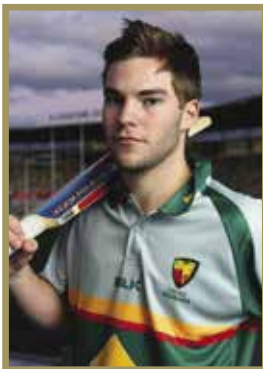
In Swimming records - **Max Giuliani (SVC 2012-19)** holds the Tasmanian Men's residential records



for the 100m Freestyle at 49.66 sec and the 200m Freestyle at 1:50.43. In a nail-biting finish at the South Australian State Championships during January 19-year-old Max managed to beat out multi-Olympic medallist Kyle Chalmers in the 100m freestyle. Max left Tasmania in November 2022 to move to the Miami Swimming Club on the Gold Coast “Just to give it a crack, so there are no what-ifs,” he said.

In 2015 Tasmanian woman – Ariarne Titmus – made a similar move and achieved great results.

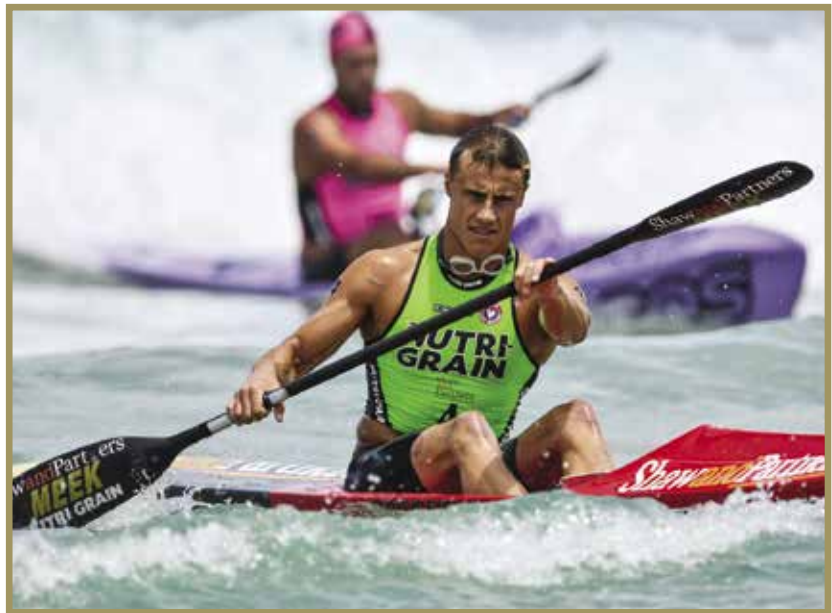
Caleb Jewel (SVC 2010-13) has been awarded the 2022-23 Ricky Ponting Medal as Tasmania’s best cricketer in the Sheffield Shield and One-Day competitions. He was runner up in the 2021-22 season.



Caleb has had an outstanding season and it was fitting that he was included in an Australian A side to compete against a New Zealand side in New Zealand recently.

Also, for the record - former student, **Sam Siggins (SVC 2007-10)** won Tasmania’s major Australian Rules award for the 2022 season. Playing for Lauderdale in the Statewide League, Sam was the recipient of his second Alastair Lynch Medal. Sam had won the award previously in 2020.

After five rounds in the 2022-23 Nutri Grain Iron Man Series, going into the final round **Matt Bevilacqua (SVC 2001-08)** was level on points with Ben Carberry, as the pair engaged in a thrilling battle for the series crown in the final race at Kurrawa on the Gold Coast on Sunday 5th Feb. The duo were neck-and-neck after the ski leg, getting to their feet at the same time for a beach sprint to determine the champion. A surge to the finish line gave Matt the title. Matt had won this event previously in 2018. Among his other accomplishments are a win in the Coolangatta Gold in 2019, and he is a five-time world champion in the gruelling 51.5 km Molokai to Oahu Paddleboard World Championship.



OVA Golf Day

The 61st Annual OVA Golf Day held on Friday 11 November was a rousing success within excess of \$4 000 being raised and 115 players entered in the Irish Stableford Event.

The Royal Hobart Golf Club ensured the course was maintained to a great standard considering the ample rain in the months prior.

Without the tireless efforts of Michael Harvey, and the assistance of Terry Kaye and Peter Bevan, the Golf Day would not have been so enjoyable and successful.

Thanks to our major event sponsor, Raine & Horne, and minor sponsors Graham Funeral Home and Tilford Motors, for their ongoing support, and to Par Avion, Pennicott Cruises, Peppermint Bay and the Taste of Summer Festival for providing the raffle prizes.

Overall Winner: Ian Garrett with 49 points

- Best Old Virgilian: Ian Garrett
- Best non-Old Virgilian: Edison Lee with 40 points (current Year 11 student)
- Best Ladies Winner: Tricia Dixon with 38 points
- Teams Winner: Liam Tollard-Williams (SVC staff), Elijah Monaghan (Year 11 student), Edison Lee (Year 11 student) and Zac Piesse (2022 OVA President)
- A Grade Longest Drive: Simon Direen
- B Grade Longest Drive: Zac Piesse
- C Grade Longest Drive: Jason Kennedy
- Ladies Longest Drive: Deborah Goddard
- Straightest Drive: Peter Lane
- Nearest the Pin: Kayde Saward, Michael Dilger and Lynne King



Your prayers are requested for the following recently deceased Old Virgilians and friends of St Virgil's and for their family and friends.

Vale

If you are aware of any recently deceased members of the St Virgil's College community please send details to please pass on details of recently deceased Old Virgilians to Graeme Rainbow - grainbow@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

DERMODY, Edward Graham 'Itchy'
SVC 1946-53

28.01.1936 – 12.07.2022. Dearly beloved husband of Hap. Loving father of Will, Sam and Tom. Adoring grandfather of Ollie, Gus, Zac and Issy.

WARE SM, Fr James
SVC 1975-77

20.09.1937 – 13.08.2022. Fr Jim was a Marist priest, ordained in 1970 and a part of the Claremont Parish and Chaplain at St Virgil's early in his ministry. He lived on-site at Austins Ferry - his room was where the clothing store is currently located.

PARKER, Ross
SVC 1950-52

29.06.1936 – 19.10.2022. Husband of Patti. Ross passed away at Turoos Head, NSW, in October 2022.

He was a larger than life character and an outstanding footballer. He and Patti made a significant contribution to the SVC Centenary History Centre.

CANNELL, Eric Anthony
SVC 1986-91

28.04.1974 – 19.10.2022. Dearly beloved second eldest son of Caterina and Tony (dec). Adored and cherished brother of Owen (SVC 1986-90), Paul (SVC 1989-94) and Mark (SVC 1991-94).

HANKIN, Louis Dayle
SVC 1952-61

15.05.1944 – 10.11.2022. Loved Husband of Gaylene. Dad of Audra, Tara and Leah (dec.). Stepfather of Glen, Maxene and Lee. Son in law to Albert (dec.) and Helen Tringrove.

ALLISON, Paul Francis
SVC 1963-1965

18.9.1949 – 23.11.2022. Father of Paul Allison Jnr (SVC 1992-95) and Kristy Allison. Beloved partner of Wendy Robertson. Son of Frank and Mary Allison. Brother of Pam, Peter and Julie. Step dad to Peter, Jamie, Jody and Daniel. Beloved Pop & Great-Pop.

JONES, Jason Paul
SVC 1988-93

11.02.1976 – 24.11.2022. Beloved son of Kay and David (dec). Loved and loving father of Loretta, Jeremy, Logan and Teegan. Cherished Poppy of Rosie.

BOUCHER, Roger Alfred
SVC 1959-62

11.02.1944 – 25.11.2022. Dearly loved brother and brother-in-law of John and Betty and loving Uncle of Liz.

VOUT, Neil George
SVC 1946-51

5.04.1936 – 27.11.2022. Devoted husband of Gloria of sixty years. Adored Dad of Damian (SVC 1976-81), Simon (SVC 1979-84), Brigid and Katrina (dec). Loved father-in-law of Andrea, Nicole and Michael. Loved Pop of his eight grandchildren.

LOUIS, Neil Robert
SVC 1959-67

20.11.1948 – 27.11.2022. A loved and loving husband of Lynette. Much loved father of Brett, Gavan, Nicole and Janet. Grandfather of five.

MILLS, Donald 'Don' Carling
SVC 1945-52

18.02.1935 – 7.12.2022. Loved husband of Geraldine (dec). Loving father and father-in-law of John, David and Alison, Kathryn and Rodney (dec) Grimwood, Robert and Sonia, Scott and Michelle, Jacquelyn and Craig Quinn, Brent and Cathy. Pop to his 20 Grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Son of Leslie and Gladys Mills (both dec). Brother and brother-in-law of Ian (1954-64) and Mary Mills and Pat (dec) and Lois Fahey.

MURNANE, Patrick 'Chris'
SVC 1966-71

27.12.1954 – 14.12.2022. Passed away peacefully. Loved son of Ivy and Pat Murnane (both dec). Loving brother and brother-in-law of Sue and Wayne, Nick (SVC 1970-76) and Maureen, and Simon (SVC 1970-78) and Fiona. Uncle of Ben and Courtney.

BOND, Raymond Joseph
SVC 1955-56

27.07.1943 – 1.01.2023. It is with deep sadness that Raylene, Chris, Angela, Matt and Maria announce the passing of their adored and adoring father Ray. Loved father-in-law of Steve, Gina, Jon, Mel & Matt. Loved son of Walter & Joan (both dec.) & loving brother of Veronica, Judy, John, Frank & Brendan. Adored by his 12 grandchildren.

NORTHAM, Charles Victor
SVC 1955-57

23.03.1940 – 5.01.2023. Our cherished Charles, Dad, Grandpa Charles died peacefully with family

around him. Dearly loved by his wife Maureen; his children Charles, Edward and Olivia, Kate, Sarah and Andy. Much loved brother of Hugh (SVC 1955-61), Paul (SVC 1964-72) and Frances Underwood.

STANFIELD, Mark Nicholas
SVC 1971-74

08.04.1962 – 07.01.2023. After a short illness, Mark passed away peacefully at the Royal Hobart Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Dearly loved only son of Ann and Barry (dec) Stanfield. Cherished brother and brother-in-law to Joanne and John Holborow, loved uncle of Daniel (SVC 2002-05) and Rachel Holborow, Chris and Annie Jordan and Sophie Holborow, great uncle of Daisy Holborow and April Jordan. Soul mate and treasured partner of Caroline Share.

HARRINGTON, Graham Paul
SVC 1949-55

01.04.1938 – 14.01.2023. Passed away peacefully on January 14, 2023. Dearly loved husband of Rosanne. A wonderful and much loved father to Mark, Linda, Philip, Kathryn and Vanessa. Loved grandfather and great-grandfather to his 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

RIBBON, Peter John
SVC 1962-67

28.01.1950 – 25.01.2023. Much loved husband of Roslyn. Loving father to Alison, Baden, and Craig. Cherished brother of Lorraine (dec), John (dec. SVC 1967-72), and Tanya.

PATMORE, Darrel
SVC 1947-53

12.01.1938 – 2.02.2023. Loved son of Sheila and Darrel (both dec). Loved and loving husband of Eileen, Father and Father-in-law of Scott (SVC 1973-79), Mark (SVC 1972-79) and Patty. Cherished Grandad of Sophia and Violet.

MCSHANE, Peter Francis
SVC 1954-57

13.09.1941 – 9.02.2023. Beloved and loving husband of Sue. Dearly loved and loving father of Kate. Loved and loving Grandpa of Sophie. Respected father-in-law of Guy Barker. Son of the late Jim and Jean McShane. Brother of John (dec.), Robert (SVC 1947-53), Kathleen (dec), Enid, Jim (dec. SVC 1954-57), Allen (SVC 1957-59) and Gerard (SVC 1960-64).

GOSS, Athol Patrick
SVC 1939-44

22.11.1927 – 11.02.2023. Beloved husband of Margaret Mary for 68 years. Loved and respected father of Catherine, Louise and Libby. Adored Pa of Adam, Madeleine and Jeremy, Nick and Eden, James, Anna and David, and Luke. Precious great grandpa of Ellis, Delilah, Lexie and Etta. Respected father-in-law to Frank and Craig. Son of Raymond and Agnes Goss and brother of Molly, Clive, Marie, Phyllis and Keitha (all dec).

SPAULDING, Lance Junior
SVC 1972-77

7.05.1960 – 28.02.2023. Dearly loved husband to Mandy, much loved

father to Dane (SVC 1998-2001), Ryan (SVC 1999-2002), Kirby, Kaitlin and Connor. Father-In-Law to Yaz, Emma and Toby , Cherished Pop to Levi, Sage, Sammi, Summer, Leona and Maya. Loved son-in-law to Gill, son of Junior (dec. SVC 1949-51) and Wanda Louise (dec) Loved Brother to Steven (SVC 1977-81) and sister-in-law Lynda.

RAINBOW, Anthony ‘Tony’ William
SVC 1958-63

7.05.1946 – 6.03.2023. Dearly loved husband of Janet. Proud and loving father of Catherine, Emma, Sonia, Nerissa, and step-sons Mark and Phillip. Father-in-law to John, Dan and Steve. Loved Pa of Sean, Rosie, Claudia, Jarvis, Lachlan, Karla, Hayden, Sam, Ben and Charlotte. Brother of Michael (SVC 1955-59), Graeme (SVC 1957-63) and Maureen. Uncle of Matt (SVC 1987-92) and Luke (SVC 1991-94).

OLD, David Robert
SVC 1961-62

27.06.1947 – 10.03.2023. Loved and loving husband of Fay. Cherished father and father-in-law of Katrina and Scott, Steve and Lisa, and Sarah. Adored Pop of Ellie, Nick, Kalia, Xavier, and Victoria.

HISCUTT, Hugh James AM
SVC 1943-46

10.07.1926 – 21.03.2023. Late of “Raheny”. Died peacefully. Loved husband of Joan (dec.).

Loving father and father-in-law of Maureen and Gary Parsons,

Bernadette and Tom Burke (SVC staff 1974-80), Peter (dec.), Angela and Graeme Carrington, Kevin, Martin and Stephanie, and Paul and Lisa. Treasured Grandpa Hugh of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Son of the late James (SVC 1911-14) and Susan Hiscutt, of Kenneeglen, Howth. Loved brother and brother-in-law of Terence and Pat (dec.) and Jean, Desmond (SVC 1948-49) and Margaret, Mary Owen and Terence (dec. SVC 1942-46) and Trevor (dec.).

HISCUTT, Terence Quaid
SVC 1942-46

3.09.1929 – 24.03.2023. Loving husband of Pat (dec.) and Jean. Loved father and father-in-law of Cathee and Tim Little, and Ben and Leonie. Pa of Thomas and Phoebe, Joseph (dec.), and Casey and Monique, and great grandfather of Marli, Joel, Flynn, and Harper. Loved step father of Dale and Nieta Clarke, Harvey and Sue (dec.) and Leanne Clarke, and step Pa of Matthew, Julia, Deanne, Rachael, and Rebecca, and great Pa of Kyle and Haley Aiken, and Lucy, Ruby, and Jack Langham. Loved son of the late James (SVC 1911-14) and Susan. Brother and brother in law of Hugh (SVC 1943-46) and Joan (both dec.), Des (SVC 1948-49) and Margaret, and Mary and Terence (dec.) and Trevor (dec.).



ST VIRGIL'S COLLEGE

A Catholic boys school in the Edmund Rice tradition

Senior School - Year 7 to 11

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Old Virgilians Association

www.oldvirgilians.org.au