

Forward

SCHOOL MAGAZINE • SUMMER 2023

School Life
Philosothon success

Senior School
Valedictory 2023

Preparatory School
UN music trip

Old Guildfordians
Chris Bins - Riding life's wave



Guildford Grammar School

FOUNDED 1896



What has surprised you?

Article by **Pete Allen**, Principal

Walking through the city with my family on a weekend shopping trip in November, I saw something that each year catches me by surprise, Christmas decorations. Considering the mass consumerism that occurs around the festive period each year, it did not necessarily surprise me as to how early the shops were looking to profit from the upcoming frenzy, it was how fast we are approaching the conclusion of 2023, and in that, my first year as a Principal.

One of the interesting questions that I have been asked about my role since commencing is, what has surprised you?

Taking stock of the year as we rumble towards its end, there have been numerous surprises about the role, the School, the broader community and perhaps also within myself.

The role

Preparation for the role, does not prepare you for the role. Often as Vice Principal I would find myself acting in the role

and stepping in where required for the Principal, whilst an excellent opportunity to learn and develop, the role itself can be very different. What has surprised me most about Principalship is the variety. Any given day can be wildly different, it can begin with Chapel or Congo, a visit to the Preparatory School for an impromptu performance, an interaction with a member of our Old Guildfordian community, caring for a family in need of support, followed by a walk around the grounds as students engage in sport, followed by a meeting with our Council. The variety is very rewarding as each experience is different and a chance to learn more about our community.

The School

Within our School, the most pleasant surprise was more of a confirmation of what I was informed of prior to arriving. We have a wonderful collection of students at our School! I still smile as I walk the grounds and ask a student how they are, and without hesitation they respond, further adding, "How are you?" It may

seem small, yet this is a sign of our culture and something I do not take for granted.

The community

Beyond our students, overwhelmingly our community is engaged, supportive and responsive to the partnership with our School. This is vital in maximising our care for the young people in our charge. Our parents are so giving to their own families, yet also deeply proud of our School and they make for a great community of supporters.

I knew I would enjoy my role, yet the greatest surprise has been just how much I love being part of the Guildford Grammar School community, and I thank you all for the welcome. I look forward to continuing to work with our wonderful staff as we implement our Strategic Plan: Go Forward 2030 over the coming years.

Pete Allen
Principal

Strategic plan: Go Forward 2023

We were excited to share our vision for the future with you this semester. Our Strategic Plan: Go Forward 2030 defines our shared vision for Guildford Grammar School as we work together to leverage our strengths and achieve our strategic objectives collectively as a community. Our pursuit is guided by you and owned by all, responsive to the needs of our students in a rapidly changing world.

Our community-based approach is shaped by our four pillars of success. Hear from our community about what this means for learning, wellbeing, community and sustainability at our School.

Join us on the journey to pursue collective and personal excellence for all as we Go Forward to 2030. Visit our website to read more about our Strategic Plan.

We value

Excellence	Being the best we can be
Respect	Showing appreciation and consideration for those around us
Integrity	Sticking to moral and ethical principles even when others are not looking
Spirituality	A personal way of loving, accepting and sharing with people and the world
Compassion	Showing sympathy and empathy for others

Our culture

Nestled by the Derbal Yerrigan, Guildford Grammar School fosters purposeful, joyful stories for a diverse community. With deep roots and Anglican values, our future-focused students embody pride and integrity. Our Chapel is our moral compass, guiding curiosity and inclusivity in personalised learning. As a leading K-12 co-ed boarding/day school in Western Australia, we stand out through heritage, community, and commitment to a just society. Our educators nurture each student's joy of learning, passions, and skills for thriving beyond school. Empowered for personal excellence, Guildford Grammar students shape their future success while honoring the past.

01

Learning

An empowered learning community: Personalised, innovative and relevant

We will...

- Nurture empowered and curious learners
- Offer engaging, adaptable curriculum
- Develop problem-solving skills
- Give learning choice to students

02

Wellbeing

Nurturing minds and inspiring futures

We will...

- Deliver a culture of child safety
- Create a school where all are visible and valued
- Empower through voice and agency
- Embrace diversity for strength

03

Community

Embracing our community: Belonging for a lifetime

We will...

- Open communication, attentive listening
- Cultivate a giving, positive culture
- Forge local, global partnerships for school
- Engage active, celebrated alumni network

04

Sustainability

Thinking forward for future generations

We will...

- Foster a dynamic, future-focused workforce
- Ensure community-backed financial sustainability
- Amplify opportunities in our distinct environment
- Enhance environmental sustainability

Anglicare WA School Sleep Out



► In Term 3, several of our Year 11 students were privileged to embark on the eye-opening experience known as the Anglicare Sleepout. This event entailed over 500 students from all over Perth going through an emulated version of homelessness, all to raise money and awareness.

The students participated in several activities, teaching them the difficulties of homelessness and the process those without a home go through in order to survive. They were given meagre supplies to live off, a small cup of soup and a thin layer of cardboard to sleep on. Throughout the night,

the Anglicare staff tried their best to ensure no-one had a restful night, with the constant noises from speakers, running through the halls screaming, flashing the lights on and off as well as slapping the walls to make resonating sounds not dissimilar to gunfire.

While the experience was challenging, all students came out with new perspectives on the issue of homelessness. The event successfully raised more than \$180,000 for [Street Connect](#), a not-for-profit organisation which helps adolescents to get off the street and into safer environments.



Service Learning

Service learning and gratitude are essential components for student growth as they foster empathy, social responsibility and personal development. Service learning engages students in real-world, hands-on experiences that connect classroom learning to meaningful community engagement. This process not only deepens their understanding of the subject matter but also instills a sense of purpose and a commitment to making a positive impact in the world.

Gratitude, on the other hand, encourages students to appreciate the privileges and opportunities they have, cultivating a positive mindset and emotional wellbeing. Together, service learning and gratitude empower students to become socially aware, compassionate, and responsible citizens, equipping them with the skills and values necessary for holistic growth and contributing to a more inclusive and empathetic society.



Spreading Christmas cheer

As part of our ongoing community service initiatives, our Year 6 and 7 students had a wonderful opportunity in Term 4 to spread Christmas cheer to the local aged care residents. We are fortunate to have established partnerships with nearby aged care facilities, enabling our Year 6 and 7 students to create personalised handmade Christmas cards for these residents, each card bearing a heartfelt message, spreading the warmth of the festive season. For many of these residents, their circle of family and friends may be small, and for some, the Christmas card they receive could be the only one, making its significance immeasurable.

It's heartwarming to witness the enthusiastic engagement of our students in this activity, from sharing the names of the residents they are writing to, planning the artwork on the cards, and pondering the lives of the recipients. This profound investment reflects the kind and generous spirit that resides within our exceptional Year 6 and 7 students.

The Guildford Partnership

This semester, another service learning initiative, the Guildford Partnership program saw our partnership with Moorditj Noongar Community College flourish, and relationships develop further.

Our Senior School students attended the College early in Term 3 to engage in activities such as cooking damper on a stick, making a shelter and playing some dodgeball with the younger students. Students from both schools had fun and learnt from one another.

Later in Term 3, the College's students visited our students on campus for a range of fun activities for all to engage in.

To conclude Science Week, students enjoyed a range of science experiments including interacting with dry ice, making their own goo out of common household products and controlled helium balloon explosions!

Sports teams were also formed for games of volleyball, tug-of-war and dodgeball showing great examples of teamwork and camaraderie between our schools as we continue to learn and benefit from these transformational relationships



► staff profile:
Andrew Rogers

What is your role at the School?

I teach Religion Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) and HASS to Year 7-12 students.

I run the weekly Philosophy Café sessions on Thursday lunchtimes in the Senior School, and on a Friday afternoon, I take Year 10-12 students to the Prep School where we run Philosophy Café Junior for a selected group of students.

I also coach the School's Philosothon team for both the Preparatory School and the Senior School.

Where did you work before Guildford Grammar School?

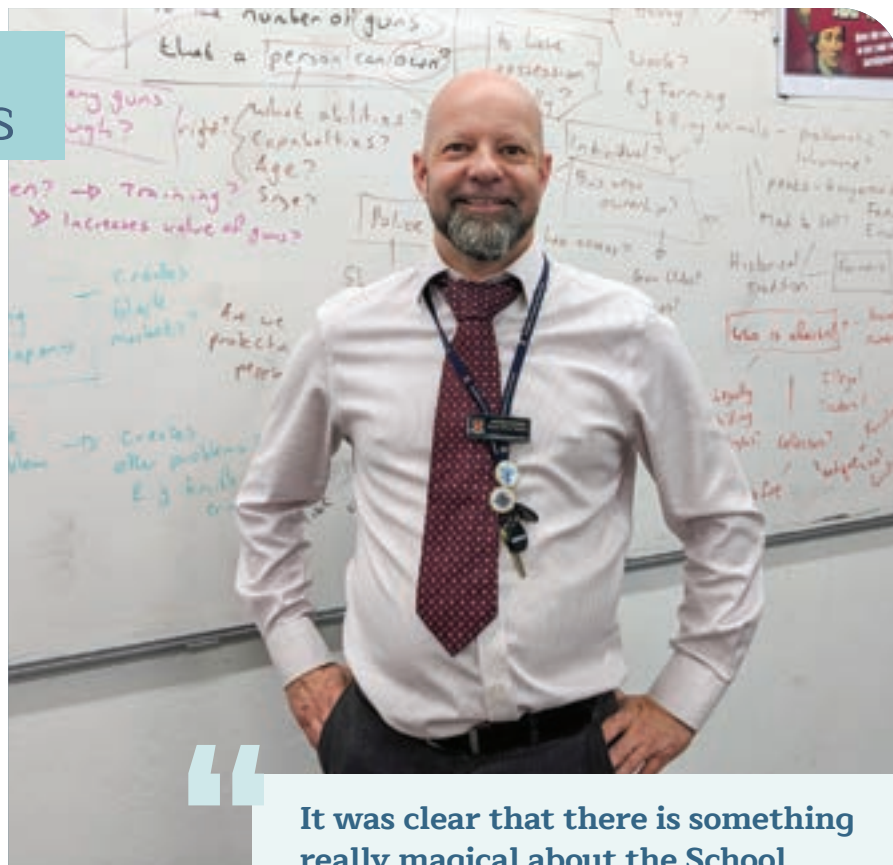
Prior to moving to Australia, I taught for 13 years as a Teacher of Religion and Philosophy in the UK, and was Head of the Ethics faculty. I moved to Australia in 2013, and between 2013 and 2021, I taught Philosophy and Ethics and HASS at St Mark's Anglican Community School.

What are the values that drive you?

My key driver is empowering young people to learn the skill of thinking for themselves. We have access to technology and can find information in nanoseconds so our skill of being able to remember things is becoming obsolete. It is important for the citizens of society to be able to critically question events around us, reason out their views and perspectives, and build arguments based on evidence. That is what I endeavor to bring to my teaching and to the lives of my students.

What do you like most about your job?

I am extremely fortunate to love my job – coming to school at GGS every day is a real joy. I love working with students to help them wrestle with big ideas and abstract concepts, to light their curiosity and empower them to ask questions about the world and their place within it. I enjoy helping students to realise that it is ok not to know.



It was clear that there is something really magical about the School.

I like that my classroom, and by extension the Philosophy Café are safe spaces where students can ask the questions that genuinely concern and interest them. My biggest reward is when students continue with their discussions as they leave the room and they often come into class the next day to share their additional thoughts.

What three words would you use to describe your role?

Teaching students to think (I think that's four...sorry!)

Describe what Guildford Grammar School means to you.

Ever since I arrived at GGS, it was clear that there is something really magical about the School. It is such a warm and welcoming environment that has enabled me to work to the best of my ability and to be my best self. It has challenged me to do better, to be better, and has presented me with so many rich and varied opportunities; it has left me with the infectious desire to do more. It gets under your skin and becomes part of your soul.

What makes GGS a community?

It is clear that there is a genuine sense of identity and pride for the School. I have been really impressed with how everyone is accepted at GGS – it has one of the most diverse demographics of any school I have worked in, yet there is no segregation or division. There is a real sense of family and belonging – everyone's successes are celebrated as proud personal achievements.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

It is hard for me to turn my brain off outside of work – I love thinking about the big questions of life and so I read lots of books to satisfy my curiosity. My favourite authors are Iris Murdoch and Haruki Murakami as they see the philosophical traits in the everyday life. If I could live in the library, I would!

I also run a lot as I find that running helps me find my 'zen'. This year I started running in competitions, and I met many school members through various runs, which has reinforced the sense of community. I also took part in the Freo Half Marathon to challenge myself further!

National Science Week

▶ The theme for this year's National Science week was 'Innovation - powering future industries'. During the week, our Senior Students took full advantage of our unrivalled surroundings to carry out science activities and experiments including:

- wetland water sampling
- designing and testing bottle rockets
- handling dry ice and liquid nitrogen
- interactive psychology experiments

Our students got stuck into each opportunity, learning and having fun along the way!

In the Prep School, Year 2 students had the unique opportunity to dance alongside a digital human in a live webinar that showcased cutting edge advancements in Artificial Intelligence and motion capture techniques.

We were introduced to a digital human called Dizzy the Digital Dancer, a lifelike avatar, that mirrored the movements and gestures of a real person.

Students learned the National Science Week dance and moved to the rhythm of the music alongside their digital counterpart. The webinar delved into the technology that is revolutionising the world of sport with a focus on using AI to analyse and enhance athletic performance.





Year 4 and 7 design collaboration

Nurturing innovation and creativity is inherent in our technology course offerings, and in Term 3, our Design Year 7 students from the Design for Wood course showcased their ingenuity by unveiling their final puzzle box designs to their Year 4 clients.

Throughout the past semester, our Year 7 Design for Wood students have honed their skills, mastering the use of an array of tools and machines while becoming proficient in industry-standard Computer-Aided Design (CAD) software. The course engages students in a design process that challenges them to transform raw materials into functional, purpose-driven products that meet key design criteria.

To deepen the authenticity of the learning experience this year, each Year 7 student was paired with a Year 4 client from Mrs Weston's Year 4 class. This approach aimed to build our budding designers' capacity to interpret and bring to life their client's interests, passions and hobbies. Their challenge lay in crafting puzzle boxes that not only aligned with their client's preferences but also presented a challenging, yet solvable, puzzle design.

From initial concept sketches to the careful refinement of ideas based on their client's feedback, our Year 7 designers engaged in a process mirroring real-world design practices.

Numerous meetings held throughout the journey allowed the designers to capture valuable perspectives and feedback, ensuring that the final puzzle box designs resonated with their client's preferences.

After some persistent trial and error, our Year 7 designers proudly presented their

puzzle box creations to their clients. As the wrapping came off, the expressions on the faces of the Year 4 students affirmed that our Year 7 designers had indeed captured the preferences, interests and passions of their Year 4 peers!

Graham Lawson

Head of Middle Years



► staff profile: Elise de Jong

What is your role at the School?

My role as a Kindergarten Teacher is to shape a child's early experiences in education. I believe in creating a nurturing environment, and a home away from home where young learners feel safe, loved and supported. I prioritise the emotional wellbeing of my students to foster a sense of security and belonging. By embracing joy and curiosity, my hope is to inspire a lifelong love for learning, encouraging children to explore, ask questions, and discover the world around them, laying a strong foundation for future education and personal growth.

Where did you work before Guildford Grammar School?

Before becoming a member of the remarkable GGS community, I worked at a number of different schools for the Education Department. One of these positions was working at a community Kindergarten where I found a passion for emotional wellbeing and became aware of the pivotal role of an Early Childhood Educator.

What are the values that drive you?

The values that drive me are deeply rooted in fostering meaningful connections. I believe in forming strong partnerships with families, recognising that parents are a child's first teachers, and collaboration between home and school is essential for holistic development. I want to empower children by instilling in them the belief that they are strong and capable individuals, fostering self-confidence and resilience from a young age.

What do you like most about your job?

It is a fulfilling journey where collaboration with my colleagues forms a strong and supportive team. Together, we share knowledge, experiences, and innovative teaching methods, enriching each other's skills and creating a dynamic learning environment.



“Here, everyone is embraced with open arms, creating a sense of belonging.”

The joy comes from helping children and families navigate the early stages of education. I am grateful to have the ability to inspire a love of learning; witnessing the moment a child's eyes light up with understanding and enthusiasm is a moment to be cherished. It's a job filled with purpose, where every day presents an opportunity to make a positive, lasting impact on young lives.

What three words would you use to describe your role?

Nurturing, adaptive and collaborative.

Describe what Guildford Grammar School means to you.

I've had the privilege of teaching at Guildford Grammar School for seventeen years. During this time, I've had the joy of teaching numerous children and connecting with amazing families, leaving a lasting impression on my teaching career. It brings me immense happiness when former students return

to visit after completing Year 12. The satisfaction of knowing I've contributed to their learning journey is truly fulfilling.

What makes GGS a community?

The GGS community thrives on strength and support. It's a hub of connections, filled with laughter and joy. Here, everyone is embraced with open arms, creating a sense of belonging.

What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

During my downtime, I enjoy chasing the sun during the cold, winter holidays. I cherish precious moments with my family, finding joy in their company and excitement in my children's sporting activities. Connecting with close friends brings me happiness and is something that I do regularly. I will be forever grateful to our beautiful Jen Griffiths for introducing me to reformer Pilates, it is my favourite way to look after my own wellbeing.

Philosophy begins with **wonder**



In a world of 'fake news', the ability to be able to use our reason, to construct and criticise arguments, and to think for ourselves is of vital importance. Philosophy gives a strong outlet for students to explore issues of wonder and curiosity that tie into life's big questions.

2023 was a hugely successful year for Philosophy at Guildford, with the School cementing itself as the leading provider of Philosophical studies in the State, and one of the top schools in the country.

The year began with the announcement that Guildford had been recognised as a top performing school by SCSA for its 2022 Philosophy and Ethics ATAR exam results. This is an extremely significant achievement and shows the high level of achievement of our Philosophy students at the highest level of high school study.

Throughout the year, the Preparatory School has been hosting a Philosophy Café Junior to invited students on a Friday afternoon. Here, the students participate in Philosophical inquiry and discussion, as they develop their critical thinking skills, and their abilities to work respectfully and collaboratively together.

The group is led by Mr Rogers and Mrs Ray, and they have been supported by Senior School Philosophy students who have worked with them to stretch their understanding.

A number of these Preparatory School students were able to put their philosophical skills to the test as they entered the second annual Junior School Philosothon competition at MLC. Students took part in four rounds of Philosophical discussion with students from other schools on subjects as diverse and abstract as "Can you think about nothing?" and "What is real?". Students were awarded points for their critical, creative and collaborative thinking, and prizes were awarded for the most promising Philosopher in Year 4-6. Guildford excelled in this competition, and Juniper Tolchard was awarded the Most Promising Philosopher in Year 5, while Nava Adin was awarded the Best Overall Philosopher prize for her level of thinking and engagement.

In the Senior School, we host a Philosophy Café once a week, where students bring their lunch and discuss

ideas of a Philosophical theme that are chosen by the students and discussed in a collaborative manner. This naturally led to Guildford entering a team of its finest philosophers into the Senior School Philosothon competition that was held at UWA in September. We competed against 21 other schools and students took part in four discussion topics, and were judged on their ability to think critically, creatively and collaboratively. This year's topics were "Is Australia still the King's country?", "Should Chat GPT be banned in schools?", "Do colours exist in reality?" and the issue of gamification.

Guildford Grammar took out a string of prizes, with Daniel Hainsworth taking out 3rd place in the Year 8 category; Summer North taking out 3rd place in Year 9, and Liz Moss winning 1st place in the Year 10 category and being named overall Best Female Philosopher in the competition. Other team members – Amos Rogers (5th in Year 7) and Benny Tang (6th in Year 11) also contributed to the overall team prize, as Guildford was crowned the Perth Philosothon Champions of 2023, finishing in 1st place overall for the first time in our history. Recognition must also



be given to Avani Di Santis (Year 10), who accompanied the team on the night and acted as the Team Manager.

To build on this success, we were invited to take part in the National Australasian Philosothon the following week. The Australasian Philosothon standard of competition was extremely high and students competed in four community of inquiry discussions. The topics this year included the mind-body problem of consciousness, the issue of gendered uniforms in sport, the question of whether anyone can be a Philosopher, and the question of racism in Australia.

As a true wild card entry, and with no time to prepare, including calling in reserve students, we entered purely for the experience of the competition.

Guildford, however, surpassed all expectations and enjoyed another event filled with amazing success. Daniel Hainsworth took out 3rd place in the Year 8 category, and last-minute call-up, Finlay McLean was awarded 3rd place in the Year 11 category. Benny Tang was awarded the Most Promising Male Philosopher in the whole competition, with fantastic performances by Summer North (placing 4th in Year 9) and last-minute replacement Daniel Doheny (Year 10) led to the final overall team placement of 2nd place.

The Chief Judge commented "Convey my congratulations to those in the school environment at Guildford, including (of course) the participating students themselves. To have such a wealth of creative, critical, and collaborating

thinkers at the school is both a credit to the school and a bright sign for society!"

This phenomenal achievement is testimony to the culture of the inquiry-driven, curiosity-led, critical, creative and respectful collaborative thinking that has been developed at Guildford Grammar School. It is beyond doubt that this success, combined with the success of the ATAR exam results, the Junior School Philosothon and the Perth Philosothon has cemented us as the State leader for Philosophy, and one of the best schools in the country for its development of philosophical thought and inquiry.

Mr Andrew Rogers
Teacher of RPE



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NAIDOC Week



Our School celebrated NAIDOC Week with various activities for our staff and students. We're fortunate to have many Indigenous students from different language groups, allowing us to learn about their rich cultural traditions.

At assembly, Nan Roma Winmar/ Yibiyung (Noongar Elder) gave a moving speech and a Welcome to Country. Indigenous students performed dances with the help of volunteers, and Andrew Beck (Ngadju Mirning/Wudjari), our former Indigenous Program Coordinator, played the didgeridoo with **Brian Nokes** (Palyku/Banjima/Niyaparli/Noongar/Arrente, 10SG). Our School Co-Captain,

Lemarna Valentine (Gubbi Gubbi/ Koreng Koreng, 12Wb), shared her Guildford Grammar School journey, and **Chanell Garlett** (Ballardong/ Whadjuk, 11Fr) discussed the importance of NAIDOC events. The assembly ended with a group dance by our Indigenous groups, with the audience clapping along.

During lunch, our students served delicious kangaroo burgers on damper buns with cheese, bush tomato chutney and nasturtium leaves.

Traditional Owner, Fiona Augusston (Yamitji Yinggarda/Badamija) also

visited on Tuesday afternoon for Kaartdijin Conversations at our Boarding House precinct. She provided sound educational advice to our students and relived memories of growing up in Western Australia with former Australian rules footballer Jimmy Krakouer (Noongar Koreng/Mineng).

'Bright Bookas,' encouraged staff and students to wear Indigenous prints or colours from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags for a gold coin donation to support Indigenous literacy. This shows our commitment to cultural awareness and literacy in our School community.



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Our outstanding educators

Sarah Langley



The Nelson Science Year 10 textbook series published earlier this year was co-authored by Senior School Teacher, Sarah Langley (Acting Head of our Religion, Philosophy and Ethics faculty). The series went on to win the Educational Publishing Awards Australia 2023 for the best student resource in the Junior Secondary Maths/Science/Technologies category. Congratulations Ms Langley!

Elise de Jong



Congratulations to our Kindy Teacher, Elise De Jong on her recent achievement. Elise has been involved in AISWA's Powerful Learners Project this year.

The AISWA consultants were impressed with Elise's classroom environment and her reflective practice, and as a result, have brought other schools to visit to showcase the beautiful environment she has created for and with her students. The focus of the project was centred around student wellbeing, agency, democratic power and values, self-efficacy and engagement.

New Deputy Principal – Operations (K-12)



With great pleasure and excitement, this term we announced our appointment of Deputy Principal – Operations to Dr Holly Miller, commencing in January 2024. Holly is well-known to our community for her exceptional leadership as Head of the Preparatory School, where she has nurtured an inclusive and stimulating learning environment.

With extensive leadership experience and a commitment to continuous learning, Dr Miller brings extensive knowledge to the role, including a Doctor of Education and her experience in positions such as Director of Studies and Director of Pastoral Care, Planning and Co-curricular at Christ Church Grammar School.

Holly is a champion of educational best practices and continuously seeks ways

to enhance the educational experience for all. Her innovative approach to curriculum development aims to nurture curiosity, build resilience and foster a lifelong love of learning for our students.

Her warm nature and strong work ethic will have an increasing influence across the School as Holly leads the day-to-day running of all operational aspects of the School, from Little Explorers to Year 12. This role is complemented by our existing Deputy Principal roles, allowing us to maximise the student experience for the entire school journey.

Holly's vision, energy and passion for Guildford Grammar School stood out strongly during the appointment process, and we look forward to the immensely positive impact she will bring to her new role. Congratulations Holly

Did you have fun at sport today?

We all have positive childhood memories of sport or physical activity, whether that is scoring the winning goal in a grand final, playing tag or cricket in the backyard or climbing a tree; those memories will undoubtedly include friends or siblings and most certainly were fun.

In a 2015 study, *Fun Integration Theory*, children cited fun as the primary reason for participation in sport and physical activity and its absence as the main reason for attrition. The children in this study cited 11 dimensions of fun including: playing games, trying hard, learning and improving, team friendships and team rituals. As I positively reflect on 2023 at Guildford Grammar, I do so through the lens of Fun Integration Theory.

'Playing a sport specific game' as a starting point to training is a concept we are rolling out across all sports at all ages. This initial engagement in training starts the session in a fun and more dynamic way. And like a dose of vegetables disguised as juice, it ensures all children engage in an age-appropriate warm up. Prep Hockey and Soccer lead the way and we are already seeing increased engagement with growth in numbers and measurable improvement in our competitiveness in both sports within the JPSSA.

There are many examples across each and every fixture of 'Trying hard', however Andrew Naylor's (11Fr) unflinching efforts at PSA Cross Country every week which have epitomised this for me this year. Over his time at the School, Andrew has earned the esteem of his teammates and the whole PSA Cross Country community. It is always a highlight of a Saturday winter fixture to experience the community come together to celebrate Andrew's grit and determination in his quest for personal best as they join him when he crosses the line.

'Learning and improving' was positively reflected within the Athletics program in 2023. In our Quarter Athletics Carnival, we further expanded opportunities



for students to learn and our Year 3-6 students participated in all of the core events. This inclusive approach allows us to create a stronger platform upon which to improve. It was also the theme of our senior Athletics interschool team where we edged ever closer to promotion to B division in the interschool ACC Carnival. After holding the lead for most of the day, we slipped behind in the last 40 minutes to finish 31 points behind the winning school. Our improvement across the program was evident as we were awarded both Senior Girls Champion School and Senior Boys Champion School. Bring on 2024!

'Team friendships' this year were demonstrated strongly within the Football program when the 1st XVIII PSA Football team lined the edge of the pitch as the 2nd XVIII team held on to their first ever victory in a nail-biting final quarter to finish 61-57 ahead of Christ Church Grammar School. The palpable engagement in every pass, every kick and every tackle is testament to the strength of their bonds formed by years of playing alongside each other.

'Team rituals' are an important part of bringing a group together, they allow us to tell the story of the group we belong to in significant and often symbolic ways.





Embedding more of our Indigenous cultural heritage through sport allows us to learn from the custodians of the land we play our sport on. This year we broadened the scope of the PSA indigenous round and included all teams in every sport across the fixture. Our Netball teams came together to craft hair ties and ribbons and wore them with pride during the PNA indigenous round. At the Guildford on Swan Rowing Regatta we acknowledged the Waugal, the rainbow serpent in Noongar Nyitting,

who created the rivers, waterways and lakes on his journey from the hills to the ocean and paid respect to this traditional practice under the guidance of the Davies family by throwing sand into the river and saying kaya/ hello to the Waugal.

The most positive reflection of 2023 for me is of 2023 is that, "It was fun" is a more common response this year to the question, "How was training today?" This a strong indicator of lifelong participation

and ongoing improvement. Throughout 2023 we have seen innumerate moments of fun and we look forward to providing the opportunity for many more in 2024.

Janine Finnie
Director of Sport

Reference

The fun integration theory: toward sustaining children and adolescents sport participation (2015). Amanda J Visek
1, Sara M Achrafi, Heather Mannix, Karen McDonnell, Brandonn S Harris, Loretta DiPietro.

New Co-chair of ATOM National



We are excited and proud to announce that Mr Brad Minchin, our Head of the Arts and Media Teacher has been appointed as Co-chair of Australian Teachers of Media National! The new role will see Mr Minchin step up from Chair, which he has held since 2013, to coordinate and support all state chapters.

ATOM National is the national governing body of the various ATOM chapters around Australia and Western Australia's primary media teacher education support provider. With statewide perspectives, they also assist with exam support and provide media related professional learning.

In addition to this role, Brad has also been offered a seat on the board of the

National Advocates for Arts Education Alliance (NAAE), specifically representing media education. The NAAE are also strong advocates for Arts education Australia wide.

Brad is thrilled to be part of this prestigious leadership team and is looking forward to learning from some incredible leaders in the Arts, and most importantly, advocating for media teachers around Australia.

Huge congratulations to our esteemed and passionate educator, Mr Minchin and we look forward to his ongoing contributions to the Arts at Guildford Grammar School and nationally across Australia!

New school traditions

Article by **Jennyfer Leah**, Acting Head of Senior School

Over the years at Guildford Grammar School, we have developed many meaningful traditions that help connect the community and celebrate significant events in the lives of our students. In 2023, we began two very special traditions which we hope will have a lasting impact in bringing our community together.

Presentation of the Year 12 leaver's jumpers

In a very special community event, some of the youngest members of our School helped present our Year 12 students with their leaver's jumpers in a gathering at the Foundation Pavilion in August.

Each Year 12, along with their jumper, was presented with a hand illustrated card from their younger peers with some amazing artwork and special messages to the Year 12s to wish them well in their final months of school.

The Year 12 Valedictory celebration

In a departure from recent tradition, Valedictorians, families and staff gathered at Optus Stadium for a memorable evening celebrating the graduating class of 2023. This significant event in the journey of our Year 12 students was celebrated over dinner, set against the stunning backdrop of the Swan River.

A poignant moment of the evening occurred as parents discovered letters of gratitude placed on the tables upon their arrival. These letters, penned by each graduating student, expressed deep appreciation for the unwavering support, sacrifices and encouragement provided by their families. It was a special moment as families began to read these heartfelt letters, setting the tone for an evening that celebrated, not only academic achievements, but also the profound relationships that influenced our students along the way.

The Valedictorians entered the function room, led by their House Captains, and were seated with their parents, friends and staff members from their House. It was a wonderful way to spend the evening reflecting on the journey of each student and enjoying the company and the camaraderie of connections that have been built over the years spent at Guildford Grammar School.

Inspiring Old Guildfordian and Australian of the Year, Jimmy Murphy was our guest speaker, delivering an engaging address that resonated with the graduating cohort. Nathan Schupelius and Matilda Hermann-Ralph, 2023 Vice-Captains of School, made a heartfelt and warm Valedictory address that captured the special nature of this wonderful group of young people.

The event was a wonderful success and we look forward to continuing to build on these new tradition in the coming years.



The Year 7 Hub



We have excitedly watched the Hub transform this term with the inclusion of purposeful, age-appropriate equipment and furniture. Students will be able to share break times in the Hub with peers at one of our high benches or comfortably from the sofa. They will be able to enjoy the convenience of toasting a sandwich or heating up last night's leftovers for lunch. The Hub will be a place where students can come together to share a story, play games and make new connections.

Our current Year 6 students trialled our play areas and filled the air with raucous laughter and chatter as they engaged in volleyball, basketball, handball and soccer. Some students opted for a quieter activity of giant Jenga or to sit in the conversation pit with friends. Additional seating areas are already being used for break-out spaces during class time and we are excited to see how this area will continue to transform with our new Year 7 students in 2024.

Whilst we are busy preparing physical spaces for our youngest students in the Senior School, we are also thinking forward to our pastoral and wellbeing programs under the theme of belonging and connecting for next year. We are thrilled to be collaborating with Educated by Nature to foster connection and strengthen resilience whilst building our own nature play area. In recognition of this critical transition stage, students will also be exploring healthy and changing friendships, skills for functioning well at school, setting boundaries and expectations, and mindfulness. We look forward to connecting our Year 7 students with their fellow peers, Houses and the wider Guildford community in the new year.

Keralee Radi

Deputy Principal – Year 7-8



2023 Chapel Gift

The Chapel Gift is a 520m race measured by the bells of the Chapel of St Mary and St George, traditionally welcoming the Athletics season.

Congratulations to Emily Anderson (gSG) who set a new record time for the girls' race, and Harrison Webster (12Ha) who won the boys' race. Congratulations to all runners for their courageous efforts!

Girls' race

- 1st – Emily Anderson (gSG) – 1 min 27.89 secs – 31 bells (new record)
- 2nd – Mikaela Hyman (10Be)
- 3rd – Emilia Tassone (10Wb)
- 4th – Emma Pittman (11St)
- 5th – Chelsea Trent (12Fr)
- 6th – Claire Hill (12Ha)
- 7th – Matilda Hermann-Ralph (12He)
- 8th – Sarah Locke (10Sc)

Boys' race

- 1st – Harrison Webster (12Ha) – 1 min 19.63 secs – 28 bells
- 2nd – Nathan Schupelius (12St)
- 3rd – Oliver Sills (12Fr)
- 4th – Chaz Gresele (11Sc)
- 5th – Charlie Unitt (12He)
- 6th – Sam Clode (12Wb)
- 7th – Matt Metcalfe (12Be)
- 8th – Sam Brierly (12SG)



A photograph of four students in school uniforms walking along a paved path outdoors. From left to right: a boy in a grey suit and tie, a girl in a grey blazer and striped skirt, another girl in a grey blazer and striped skirt, and a boy in a grey suit and tie. They are all smiling and looking towards the right. The background shows trees and a clear sky.

The future of Boarding

Article by **Matt Weston**, Head of Boarding

▶ The past five years have presented a significant period of change for our boarding community. Following the School's transition to fully co-educational throughout the School, we renovated Graham Malcolm Junior Hall of Residence in 2019 to accommodate our first ever girl boarders the following year. By 2021, we had relocated the girls' dorm rooms from downstairs to upstairs to accommodate twice as many girl boarders in just our second year.

By 2022, despite the delays of COVID-19, we had completed construction of our new 132 bed Boarding House and all boarders moved 'across the road' into this world-class facility. Within one year, our Boarding House was overflowing, and Sir Francis Burt Hall of Residence was re-opened to accommodate our junior boy boarders.

The increasing demand for enrolment has once again required us to reassess the structure of the whole Boarding Precinct and Graham Malcolm Junior Hall is once again under refurbishment, this time to be re-instated in 2024 as our junior boy's Boarding House.

This significant renovation is well and truly underway, and we are now looking forward to re-opening its doors to our Year 7 and 8 boys in 2024. To mirror this environment, we are also modifying Sir Francis Burt Hall to create a dedicated junior girls' Boarding House, giving our community a structure that provides two single gender boarding houses tailored to the needs of our junior boarders. This will nurture preparation for life in the middle and senior years and enable our youngest learners to be younger for longer with their peers.

Once construction is complete for both junior halls, our Year 9-12 boys and girls will co-habitat in the main Boarding House as they have for the past two years. As we have experienced this change, both our Boarding Precinct and boarding community have grown into one of the largest in Western Australia.

Our vision as we look towards 2030 will be to become the biggest and the best boarding experience our State has to offer. This is an exciting time for Guildford Grammar School and our boarding community, and we look forward to celebrating the re-birth of Graham Malcolm and Sir Francis Burt Hall in 2024.



Wellbeing in boarding

▶ The VI Wellbeing program in boarding was created during the post-pandemic climate to increase positive wellbeing following a period of unprecedented change and uncertainty.

VI in Latin has two meanings. In Roman numerals it means '6' and represents the important steps our boarders take along their journey from children in Year 7 to young adults in Year 12. VI also translates to 'you' and in this way it represents the crucial role that students themselves play in managing their own lives with their personal wellbeing sitting at the centre of this. As part of the VI program, every boarder engages with a different

theme in each year of their schooling. These themes were selected based on our collective experience in dealing with common issues experienced by students in these cohorts, which are also familiar to year groups in other schools.

Year 7 students are **Looking In** and engage with and develop interpersonal skills such as self-confidence, resilience, managing their emotions, alleviating anxiety and developing social and emotional building blocks for life.

In Year 8, students are **Looking Out** and engage with and develop interpersonal skills that enable them to build better

relationships with other people. They explore ideas of bullying and how to develop kindness, gratefulness and empathy. There is a strong focus in Year 8 on digital/social media use and how engaging with this can impact ourselves and other people.

In Year 9, students begin **Venturing Out** and learn to develop further confidence by challenging themselves mentally and physically. Along the way they will explore their own spirituality and learn perseverance and resilience by overcoming challenges.



In Year 10, students are **Helping Out** by engaging with their community and learning the importance of giving back. Throughout the year students will reflect on what they're appreciative of and how they can help others in need. This will also involve a series of activities of service learning, an act closely linked to improvement in wellbeing.

Our Year 11s are **Stepping Out** and engage with a series of 'real-world' activities that are vital for them to develop into young adults. They will become prepared for life after school by attending cooking classes, preparing resumes, practicing for job interviews, opening bank accounts and most importantly, they will take their first steps on their journey towards workplace or tertiary studies post-school.

Our Year 12s theme is **Looking Back** and at this point our senior students reflect critically on who they are, the kind of people they want to be, what it looks and feels like when they're feeling low, and what wellbeing activities help to improve this.

We have found that by having a balance between explicitly teaching wellbeing skills, complimented by a variety of opt-in/opt-out practical activities ensures all of our students are engaged whilst promoting independence and self-management of one's own wellbeing.

Schools must find ways to provide wellbeing avenues for their students without 'doing it for them' as by nature it is a deeply personal experience, comprising feelings, thoughts and ideas.

Although our program is still in its infant stages its impact in the post-covid world has been significant.

Students are happier and more engaged with attendance rates back to and exceeding pre-pandemic levels. Rates of pastoral and behaviour issues have decreased, and student enrolments are on the rise. Since transitioning to co-educational boarding in 2020, our boarding program has seen significant growth with further expansion commencing in 2024. Our facilities will provide the best possible environment for us to support our students' physical needs as they grow whilst their social, emotional and wellbeing needs will continue to be supported by the VI Program.



The energy was high on and off the water for the annual Guildford on Swan Rowing Regatta in November. The community spirit was wonderful with all competing schools bringing their supporters to cheer the 60 crews who raced along the Swan River. The morning commenced with a Welcome Ceremony and ended with all schools coming together at the Boat Shed to acknowledge the success of the day.

Congratulations to all of our rowers who did us proud, earning us 2nd place overall! We were also proud to see our boat, the Tony Lovrich in action with indigenous artwork added to the bow by Year 10 student, Brian.

A huge thank you to the Guildford Rowing Association, who pulled out all the stops on the day and provided much support for this amazing event.





Opportunity and excellence

Article by **Bruce Derby**, Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning

► This year has been a year of outstanding academic and co-curricular achievements. We conclude the year with both stories of excellence and stories of promise for our future.

In 2024, we will be among the first schools in the state offering Agribusiness ATAR. This exciting new offering is a welcome addition to our School given its close connection to the rural industries in Australia. In 2021-22, 11.6% of Australia's goods and service exports and 2.5% of its employment came from the agricultural sector.

Regardless of what happens in other industries, the need for a flourishing agricultural sector in our country is a key national priority. With the burgeoning growth of Australia's tech industries, an understanding of our agricultural sector represents important opportunities for our students. The university of Western

Australia has connected with our staff to provide support for this new course, and this is a connection that we will sustain into the future.

We are also thrilled by the introduction of Dance General in Year 11, which expands the excellence of our Arts faculty, which continues to shine at Guildford Grammar School. A vibrant culture in the Arts is an essential feature of any school, and the growth of Dance is a wonderful sign of the strong connection of our students to artistic expression in all forms.

At the end of term, we held our annual Prize Giving Ceremony, and the excellence of our students was on full display. 2023 has been unusual in the most delightful way with our Dux awards being shared for the first time in both Year 11 and in Year 12. In Year 12, Samuel Brierley and Nathan Schupelius shared the ATAR Dux awards while

Daniel Johnston and Minudi Umayakarunawardena shared the Year 11 ATAR Dux awards. Alongside them, Ali Johns and Chalice Proud won the Year 11 and 12 General Dux awards respectively.

It is a genuine treat to be part of acknowledging the excellence of students on a variety of pathways in our School. While we acknowledge by name the excellence of students who win awards, we are also cognisant of the personal wins achieved by students to do not get recognised through these accolades. These quiet achievers are the bedrock of our school who go out into the world as key stewards of the legacy of Guildford Grammar School.

Bruce Derby
Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning



Valedictory 2023

▶ The Valedictory 2023 celebrations commenced with our new school tradition where our littlest learners presented our biggest learners with beautiful handmade cards and their much-anticipated Year 12 leavers' jackets. In return, they received a card from a Year 12 student and a big high-five, finished off with delicious cupcakes.

The final Congo Service marked the first of my 'lasts' for our departing Year 12s as we farewelled this cohort with many special events over the next two days.

This included our legendary Tractor Pull. This fun Valedictory Eve tradition began 10 years ago and sees each House pull a stationary tractor 40 metres over the line in the fastest time. Congratulations to Harper House for winning the tractor pull - they took the lead by only 0.04 seconds!

After an energetic lunchtime, the whole Senior School attended a special final assembly to farewell our Year 12s. Our Co-Captains, Ollie and Lemarna gave

thoughtful (and teary) farewell speeches, and we looked back at our Year 12s journey in photos - then and now - always a crowd favourite!

Then it was onto the main event. We gathered at Optus Stadium to celebrate our Year 12s with a very special Valedictory Ceremony. Students gave their parents gratitude letters, families shared a meal, we listened to musical performances and heard from our staff, students and guest speakers. We laughed, we cried and looked back on our Year 12s journey through Guildford Grammar School with many students with us from the Preparatory School as 'lifers'.

After an amazing celebration our Year 12 students, staff and families reconvened for a relaxed breakfast at the Boatshed the next morning to reminisce, reflect and soak up one of the many things they love about our school - our green and spacious environment. The President of The Old Guildfordians Association and management committee members took

the opportunity to welcome their newest members to the Association with a special welcome pack. It was the perfect way to prepare for our Year 12 students' last day at Guildford Grammar School.

It was then onto the final proceedings of our Valedictory celebrations; the much anticipated Guard of Honour from our Year 11 students and Valedictory Chapel Service, where we once again, shared these experiences with the whole community.

It has been an emotional send-off for our Class of 2023, with many more cherished memories made. Whilst students, staff and families have shared some tears, they have also shared joy, excitement and gratitude. As a community, we are bound by these experiences and traditions, and it is these meaningful relationships and long-lasting connections that make us who we are. Being an Old Guildfordian is more than just a feeling, it's belonging for a lifetime.

► pathways to personal excellence:

Oliver Sills

Year 12 Co-Captain of School**Tell us a little about yourself.**

My name is Oliver Sills, but my friends call me Sillsy. I started my journey at Guildford Grammar in Year 3 in 2014. I've lived in Guildford most of my childhood and I've enjoyed growing up in this nice pocket of Perth. When I'm not busy with schoolwork, I like to play football, go surfing, travel, play music, and do a bit of gardening. I love spending time with my family and friends, they are the most important thing to me.

What is your leadership role at Guildford Grammar School and what does this entail?

In 2023, I had the privilege of being Co-Captain of School. I got to share this position with my longtime friend Lemarna. We shared many duties in the role such as speeches at assembly, organising events and fundraisers for the students to get involved with, and being a role model for the younger students.

As Co-Captain, what does this mean to you?

Being elected to the role of Co-Captain meant so much to my family and I. Guildford has provided me with countless opportunities and experiences, so I saw it as a way to give back to the School, specifically the staff and students who had shared this journey with me. I believe the most important part of the role is to be a constant positive figure, always being there for a chat with the students and supporting them if needed.

What do you enjoy most about school?

I enjoy the social aspect of school very much. Chatting and having a laugh with the students and the staff keeps me in a positive mindset. Participating in the co-curricular activities has been something I've truly enjoyed, whether that was playing football or basketball with mates, surfing on a Friday afternoon, or playing in some of the school bands, it's all been great! One aspect of Guildford that I think is underrated is the choice of subjects for electives every year. I've been lucky to study courses that I'm greatly interested in and discover possible future pathways. Finally, hanging out with my friends every recess and lunch was easily a highlight too, and something I'll miss.

What are your goals for the role? What do you hope to have achieved by the end of the year?

This year was a great opportunity to create positive change in our attitude towards Guildford. There were times when pessimism outweighed our optimism, and we defined our success by only a small number of things. My goal was to encourage students to showcase their brilliance in music, sports, the arts, and academics. The talent we have at our School is immense, we just don't always get to see it on show. And even if it was something that you weren't brilliant at, simply giving your best efforts would take you in the right direction. During my junior years there were many senior students whom I looked up to and made me feel like I



belonged at GGS. This was something I wanted to incorporate this year, making a positive impact on students and ensuring they were an important part of the School.

What are your aspirations beyond school?

Year 12 has been a hectic year, so I haven't really had the chance to think about it. Next year I'm planning on having a gap year so I can work and travel. I look forward to going out into the world and experiencing new places, meeting new people, and trying new food. The year after next, I plan on going to university, with the possibility of studying in Melbourne.

How has Guildford Grammar School supported you on your school journey?

Guildford Grammar has been a massive part of my life for the last 10 years. This place hasn't just helped me along my school journey, it has supported me through my childhood journey and enabled me to grow along the way. The opportunities in learning, sports and music helped me find myself. One thing I'm truly grateful for are the friendships that I've made and the teachers who have supported me along my journey. The teachers who have taught me over the last six years have left a positive impact on me and significantly contributed to my growth toward life beyond school.

What advice would you give to new students?

My advice would be to enjoy your time at school. Although that seems easier said than done, I truly mean it. School is not for everyone, it can be a tough place for some of us to come to every day, but I encourage you all to find something that you are interested in and really work at that. I'm referring to areas that can improve your life and take you a step in the right direction. Discover what you're good at, make it your passion, and do it to the best of your ability.

PE lessons - swimming, lifesaving and learning

A major focus for our passionate Health and Physical Education (HPE) team this year has been upskilling and elevating our students' skills in sports that align with the vast co-curricular program that students compete in throughout the year.

HPE lessons involve students in Year 7-10 enjoying physical activity in a fun and inclusive environment. This encourages them to become passionate about sport and encourages participation so they can enjoy the benefits of sport and exercise well beyond their school lives.

Our program is wide and varied, catering for all differing year levels, age and skill levels. We have worked throughout the year with our amazing students establishing strong fundamental movement skills, building strength and fitness, learning the skills of resilience, independence and leadership. These important skills carry through to the classroom, in the playground and within life in general.

At Guildford Grammar School, we are so fortunate that our facilities give us many opportunities to participate in many varied sports and this includes our 50 metre swimming pool. What better opportunity to allow our students to experience to joy of swimming and upskilling in stroke techniques, competitive race skills and lifesaving, DRSABC (Danger, Response, Send for help, Airway, Breathing, CPR) in our regular PE lessons.

Our students in Year 7-10 have enjoyed fine tuning their stroke techniques and will be House Carnival ready to demonstrate their correct race starts and finishes, from diving correctly off the blocks, to engaging with the finer skills of split strokes and dolphining.

Year 8 students also had the opportunity to plan and strategise for a team Biathlon event. All students loved getting involved with this team aspect, planning team outfits, while also demonstrating how far they had progressed with their swimming fitness.



Year 9 and 10 students have also been enjoying preparing for emergency water situations, practicing the important life skills of DRSABC, rescues, tows, CPR and how to safely manage water scenario emergencies.

There is something very rewarding watching all our years engage with our Swimming program and our students have taken on the challenges with vigor. The pool has been alive with the sounds of our students having fun, upskilling,

practicing their technique and improving their skills.

The level of engagement has been amazing, and our students have achieved personal success by being brave and trying new skills, in many cases, achieving things they never thought capable of!

Naomi Caple
HPE Teacher

The Great Outdoors

As we look towards the end of 2023, it is a perfect time to reflect on the Outdoor Education journeys 187 students have been on throughout the Semester.

We are fortunate to be situated on such an incredible campus, as well as having access to incredible facilities around Western Australia for our Outdoor Learning Program. This Semester has seen our students explore and engage with nature at Manjedal Activity Centre, Point Walter, Nanga Bush Camp and a range of areas in the South West.

Our students have had the opportunity to develop key life skills relating to the following foundational pillars: personal development, connection and relationships, mental and physical

health, appreciation of the natural world, personal confidence and resilience, and gratitude for their community. Looking forward to 2024, our students will continue to have the opportunity to access these incredible experiences, as we continue to grow our programs and ensure that our student outcomes and experiences are at the forefront of all we do.

We hope that the Summer break provides opportunity for our greater community to connect with family and friends, as well as the great outdoors.

Karlle Payne

Director of Co Curricular and Experiential Learning



The Talent Show

The much-anticipated return of the Talent Show was typically wild and wonderful. As advertised, several international celebrities were in attendance including hosts, Elvis Presley and Snoop Dogg, as well as judges Thanos, Kim (from Kath and Kim), Judge Judy, Ludwig Van Beethoven and MC Hashtag. We were entertained by the talents of Lachlan Raddock on guitar, Josh Buchanan with a song from Les Miserables and an interesting medley of tunes from Pitch Perfects.

The top three acts were :

- Elwood Birgden playing La Cucaracha on harmonica
- Mitchell Enright playing guitar
- Sinista M (Mason Lai's rapping performance)

Thank you to all who got involved and we look forward to more talent on display in 2024!



The G-Up

▶ In 2023, Mr Colin Dymock launched a new, student-led magazine written principally by and for students. The G-Up proved to be a hit throughout the senior School with entertaining articles, quizzes, jokes and humorous information, as well as student and staff profiles. We eagerly await the next production in 2024

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Music

Semester 2 has proven to be an incredibly busy period for the School of Music at Guildford Grammar School with many events and performances to mention.

Queensland Music Tour

During the final week of the mid-year holidays, 47 students (from Year 8-12) and 6 staff embarked on a Music tour to Queensland. These students were assembled into a collective 'super group', known simply as the Tour Band, who prepared a selection of songs from a wide-range of contemporary genre arranged by both Mr Kieran Hurley and Mr Mark Underwood. Concerts at Cleveland State High School, Fairholme College in Toowoomba, and Mr Hurley's alma mater St. Paul's School saw each host school reciprocate performances with more traditional programs and repertoire for our students to enjoy. The Motown Band and Senior Rock Band performed to an energetic audience

of staff and young students at Stafford Heights Primary School and Newfarm Park, with many members of the general public stopping their morning strolls to listen and film.

The tour party was also able to enjoy a range of non-musical activities, including day outings to both Sea World and the Australian Zoo, visits to the Southbank Parklands, Moreton Bay, Tweed Heads and Surfers Paradise and fossicking for Thunder Eggs at Thunder Bird Park.

The tour was an enormous success and a wonderful experience for all involved, with students not only developing their musical abilities, but learning the values of teamwork (loading and unloading buses, setting up stages), organisation (being ready on time for morning bus departures and rallying at agreed meeting points during day activities), and interpersonal skills (many students had never really socialised with one another prior to the trip). It was a tour that will live

long in the memory of our students and staff, and all should be very thankful for the hard work of Mr Hurley and Mrs Kaye Timms in planning and organising such an amazing experience.

Legally Blonde – the musical

Within two days of arriving home from tour, several of our senior touring vocalists and musicians resumed rehearsals for the School's upcoming production of Legally Blonde. Due to the complex nature of typical music theatre scores, schools will inevitably hire professional musicians to negotiate these challenges. At Guildford Grammar School, we were proud to again be able to provide an all-student ensemble under the expert direction of Mr Mark Underwood. Those that were fortunate enough to witness the production would agree the performances of the singers and supporting band was of the highest quality.





House Eisteddfod

In Week 3 of Term 4, the School of Music hosted the annual House Eisteddfod competition. In 2023, there were a record 158 student entries and the event was therefore scheduled over three days, with a further evening added to accommodate the Open Section performances. Adjudicated by renowned local musicians, Stephanie Nicholls and Courtney Murphy, the overall standard of performances was considered higher than in previous years. Congratulations

to all section winners, with special kudos to the winner of the Open Section, Mackenzie Knoop-Bender (12He), and Bennett House for winning the overall competition.

Rock Night at the Crooked Spire

The annual Rock Night event was held in August and, as always, is a fantastic opportunity for our various rock bands to perform on a large stage supported by professional sound and lighting equipment. The show began in the Crooked Spire Café, where family and friends were able to enjoy coffee and cake whilst listening to Claire Hill (12Ha) perform her now traditional pre-entertainment solo act. All were then ushered into the main performing area, where the audience were treated to a smorgasbord of rock performances covering a wide range of styles and genre. A fantastic time was had by all!

Year 12 Music ATAR final recital

Each year, the Year 12 Music ATAR students are given the opportunity to perform their course repertoire to those they hold dearest – family, friends, and select staff. These items are generally assessed behind closed doors, so this event allows students to showcase the results of many hours of dedicated practice for select invitees that have encouraged and supported their musical pursuits.

This year, the recital was held at the Midland Arts Centre in September, and our Year 12 students wowed their audience with their diverse range of talent and skills.

Music that tells a story

Inspired by the more traditional repertoire performed by schools visited on the Queensland Music Tour, several students approached Mr Kieran Hurley requesting that the School of Music form an orchestra that could perform a variety of pieces ranging from the classical period to popular movie soundtracks. In September, friends, family, and staff were invited to witness the Guildford Grammar Symphony Orchestra present a program of select pieces that outlined a narrative at an event aptly named Music That Tells a Story, held in the beautiful Midland Town Hall. The audience were treated to excerpts from works by Mozart, Beethoven, Berlioz, and Tchaikovsky, as well as an arrangement of Pirates of the Caribbean soundtrack – our students' favourite!

Valedictory evening

The Valedictory Dinner event was held at Optus Stadium this year, and as is tradition, the Year 11 Music ATAR class arranged, rehearsed and ultimately performed a moving rendition of My Hero by the Foo Fighters as tribute to the attending Year 12 students. The String Ensemble created a sophisticated atmosphere during the pre-dinner gathering of invitees, with the Chapel Choir providing the backing to a stirring processional.

There is so much happening in the School of Music, there is too much to mention! We have proudly rounded out the year with the Chapel Choir performing at the annual Carols by Candlelight Chapel Service, and performances from GGSO and the Motown Band at the Senior School Prize Giving Ceremony. We look forward to giving 2024 all of our musical energy as we take a well-deserved bow for 2023 and a restorative break over the holidays.

Quentin Edmonds

Music Teacher



Drama productions

The Wizard of Oz

We joined the Junior Drama (Year 7-9) students on a journey down the yellow brick road for the production of the timeless classic, The Wizard of Oz! It was a spectacular production filled with heart, courage, and the joy of friendship following the adventures of Dorothy as she finds herself in the whimsical world of Oz. Our students put on an amazing performance and did a great job of bringing Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion to life!

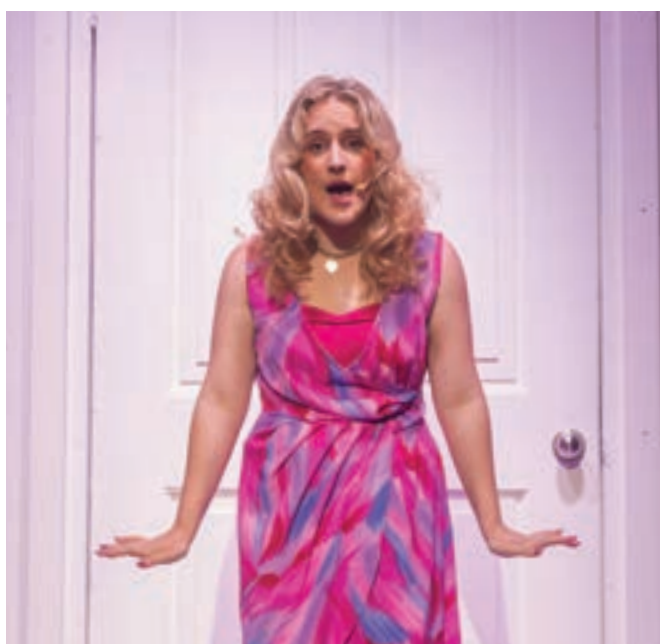




Legally Blonde

The Senior School Drama student's production of Legally Blonde, the Musical was an explosion of pink, music and energy! This upbeat and toe-tapping production follows the transformation of pink-loving fashionista Elle Woods, who attempts to win back her ex-boyfriend by getting a law degree at Harvard University, presented by our talented cast.

We watched our talented performers showcase their dynamic dance moves and passion for the arts as they presented this upbeat story of Elle Woods and her journey of self-discovery. It was a delightful and memorable production for all.



Change is inevitable

Article by **Dr Holly Miller** Head of Preparatory School



Change is inevitable and something that we embrace as a future-focused and forward-thinking School. The world around us is changing every day and we must adapt and respond to ensure that we are not just preparing our children and young people for their future, but also to ensure they are thriving in the now. Our children are highly capable and competent in so many ways and as contributing citizens of the modern world, seeing them in the present is just as important as the future. As change occurs, both organically and strategically within a school, we must also ensure that we hold onto the aspects of our culture and heritage that define our values and what drives us to achieve personal excellence and work together to create a just, loving, and peaceful society.

The trees at Guildford Grammar are always a symbol of the organic change that occurs at our School. Each year they change throughout the seasons and are accompanied by the many aspects of the natural environment that signal change is coming. You know winter is ending and spring is arriving when you hear the

many magpies on our campus signing and warbling; you can smell in the morning breeze that Birak, the Noongar first summer, has arrived and our campus starts to warm up. You can see the end of Makaru season by the flooded river banks, and in some years, even the carpark begin to subside and the baby ducklings begin to appear.

While the campus continues to cycle through change every year, so do our students. They grow taller, expand their knowledge and understanding and build their friendships as the year goes by. At the end of each year, it is noticeable that they begin to be very ready to move to the next year level and step up to the new challenges and more complex learning opportunities. As a community, we all grow and change each and every year. We make mistakes and are presented with new challenges that we learn from and as we reflect, we are reminded that every one of us are lifelong learners with a plethora of knowledge, understanding and emotional skills that we can refine and develop.

There is also the strategic change that we intentionally seek, making plans to achieve the ongoing improvement and development that is desired. As an educational institution, we are always driven by what is best for our students and what they need in their learning and development. As a school, we are outwardly facing, researching and observing what is best practice within education, but always taking time to discern how current innovation and research fits with the Guildford Grammar context and our School purpose.

We not only review and redevelop authentic and meaningful learning opportunities for students but also how we are continuing to foster a culture of kindness and inclusivity. Our School motto encourages us to always look ahead and Go Forward, embracing new ideas and innovation that support and enhance student engagement, curiosity and overall character development.

Change is inevitable and while we never want to change for changes sake, the world around us will continue to keep changing, and if we do not continue to adapt and respond, we are in fact going backwards.

Pre-Primary Recipe Book

Our Pre-Primary students have made a recipe book!

Introducing our community recipe book full of family recipes from our students and staff members, featuring hand-drawn illustrations by our young chefs! Our Pre-Primary students created this project as part of their inquiry unit throughout the year, and all proceeds will go to Anglicare WA. Copies can be purchased for just \$20 by scanning the QR code.



Dad's Big Breakfast

▶ We embraced the foggy weather for our Dads' Big Breakfast celebration. The weather began to clear after breakfast and our students, fathers and father figures enjoyed a friendly game of tug-of-war. The students then gave a tour of their classrooms and the latest projects they have been working on.



Year 6 Robotics

► In some very exciting news in the Prep School, the Year 6 cohort have been given the opportunity to take our brand-new Lego Spike robots for a spin. Students have been busy at work as they first needed to create the challenges they would need to conquer.

We have been able to create a small city with some accessibility issues throughout, and students needed to use their creativity and innovate some clever robots which are able to access the city and navigate the challenges it presents.

There is no right or wrong way to go about this, and the variety of robots created has been impressive to see. Some are large and

use force to make things happen, while others have adopted a more sophisticated approach to the problem.

Once created, students use simple block coding to manoeuvre around their creations. This requires students to take a trial-and-error approach, learn from their mistakes and persevere through the challenges.

While they are learning a lot about coding and Lego Robotics, they are also learning about problem-solving and the innovation required to navigate real world problems.

Shaun Jasper

Digital Learning Coordinator



Prep Christmas Concert

In December, we held our annual Prep Christmas Concert. Our students spread Christmas cheer, sang their hearts out, and performed brilliantly in front of our supportive community, plus a few Santas and elves! It's certainly got us into the festive mood!



Write a Book in a Day

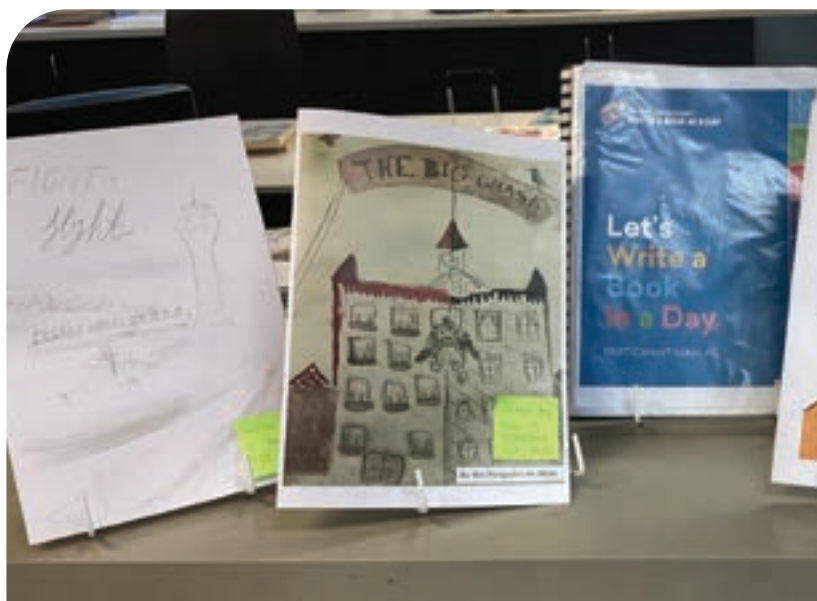
The 'Write A Book in a Day' competition was created to help raise funds and awareness for The Kids' Cancer Project.

Teams of up to 10 people are challenged to write and illustrate a children's book within 12 hours. On top of this, surprises such as characters must be included and random words utilised within.

Our students began the competition at 7.00am and published their books by 3.30pm, well before the 7.00pm deadline.

The team exercised their creative skills and raised over \$3,500, an incredible achievement all round!

One of our student participants, **Abby Armstrong** (8St), had this to say: "I enjoyed fundraising for the Kids Cancer Project. I hope children in hospitals read and enjoy the books we have created."



Drama production – The Greatest Showman

The Preparatory School Production The Greatest Show captures not only our students' creative talents, but also their ability to collaborate with others as they work as a team to perform.

The commitment and hard work that culminates in our students' performances has provided many moments of resilience building as challenges and problems have been overcome.

Opportunities for confidence and self-belief to grow as students have prepared them to step out on stage. We congratulate every cast member of The Greatest Show and thank Mrs Caroline Edwards, Mrs Carole Anderson and Ms Merylena Sulak for their leadership and direction of the production.

Canberra Tour

2023

Article by **our Year 6 students**

Parliament House was a big highlight of our Year 6 Canberra trip. We went to the old house, and the new one. One of my favourite things that we did at the New Parliament House was being able to see the Senate (the red room) and the House of Representatives (the green room). We see the New Parliament House all the time on the news so it was amazing to be able to go inside it and learn all about the history surrounding it. We were also lucky enough to take a visit to the Old Parliament House which is now a museum. Once we went inside, we had to wear white gloves to protect the building that had been here since 1927-1988. They had to stop using it because the house had gotten too small, so they built the New Parliament House that we now see.

By Natalie Leong

At the High Court, my group was led by Rohan, an Old Guildfordian and he showed us courtroom number 1. He taught us all about the cake making Australian constitution. The ingredients are democracy, federation, separation of power, rights and nationhood. I really enjoyed it when Rohan told us the story of Mrs Strong and the hot chip (that may or may not have caused her to fall and injure herself) and how Woolworths was involved. This case ended up in the High Court and Mrs Strong won.

By Sophie Kavanagh

The Botanical Gardens were so much fun. We spotted a sugar glider almost immediately. We also saw kangaroos, frogs, ducklings and some water dragons. At the end, we went into a rainforest gully where we saw funnel web spiders (not venomous ones!) There were so many plants including a dinosaur plant (Wollemi Pine) which was around when dinosaurs lived on Earth.

By Ben Felsch

We visited Tent Embassy (in front of Old Parliament House) and met one of the direct descendants of the original protesters who had created it in 1972. The purpose of the Embassy is to focus on Indigenous land rights and the needs and rights of Indigenous People. We gathered round a fire that had been burning continuously since the Embassy had been made. We placed some eucalyptus leaves and stood in the smoke, to ward off bad spirits.

By Isabella Reynolds-Pratt

We visited the Governor General's house, where he stays during his term. We had a tour of the lower level, and even saw the table where Queens, Kings, Prime Ministers and Governor General's sign official documents. After a tour of the beautiful house, we went outside to admire the 216-acre property. We saw the ceremonial Rolls-Royce, which does not have a number plate, but a crown!

By William MacAlasdair



A Great Time in Canberra A poem by Evelyn Rees 6G

Waiting at the airport
The fun has just begun
Excitement in the air
Canberra here we come

A toilet in the bus
A sun gleaming down on us
As we pull up to where we stay
Everyone yells hooray

Talking in our dorm all night
While no teachers were in sight
We were tired the next day but that's all ok

Mount Ainsley was our first stop
The views just made your jaw drop
But oh no I forgot to bring my camera to capture all the sights

The beautiful tulips at Floriade
Thousands and thousands of them
Colour explosion of such a beautiful sight
Buying gifts for people and lots of fudge too
It really was great for both me and you

Pedestrians needed to take care
With 43 students riding everywhere
Round lake Burley Griffin on our bikes
People had to be careful where they hiked

The dinosaur museum
Was my favourite said Liam
Seeing scary shadows in the dark night
Staying up late without any lights

Indoor rock climbing
Was friend binding
You needed trust
It was a must
Or you will fall straight into the dust

Trying different skills at the institute of sport
A different activity for everyone even if you're short
Winning a gold medal
Cycling with the pedals
Lots of fun for everyone

Australian Botanical Gardens really was a hit
There was no time to laze around and sit
Seeing sugar gliders way up in the tree
Spotting different animals was fun for you and me

Fancy Governor General's House
I felt as small as a mouse
Where the queen had once being
That only some people had seen
Lovely gardens everywhere
It really was very rare
To see such a beautiful sight

Naughty kids should have been sent to the high court
A lesson there they would be taught
A tall tall building we went inside
Swept in like the tide

There is too much to fit in this long poem
But as you should have known
Canberra was a blast
But went way too fast!

Koort Intergenerational Project

▶ In Semester 2, the Pre-Primary classes hosted members of the City of Swan Community Care Day Centre as part of an ongoing intergenerational project, the Koort Project.

To support and promote Dementia Awareness Week, a City of Swan Council representative presented badges to the students and staff who have become Dementia Friends. A member then read the story Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox to the children and the book was presented to our School to say thank you.

The students shared their reflections with the visitors on why they love their grandparents and why their grandparents are so special which was followed by morning tea.



Book Week

During Book Week Author, Nat Amore visited the Prep School Library to talk about the positives of being a children's author. Students were fascinated to hear about her exciting adventures (some of which turned about to be fictitious!).

Amelia Gorton (Year 4)

"The stories she told were flowing with imagination and descriptive language. I just love how funny she is. I have already read *Secrets of a Schoolyard Millionaire* and I am starting to read *The Right Way to Rock*."

Dylan Yuen (Year 4)

"I really want to read *Secrets of a Schoolyard Millionaire* because imagine finding one million dollars in your locker. What would I spend it on? Food? Books? Or chasing your wildest dreams? Buying anything you desire? And it all starts at school."



The Book Week parade concluded our Book Week activities with students dressed up as their favourite book characters for this year's theme 'Read, Grow, Inspire'. As always, so much

effort goes into the amazing display of costumes on show and we appreciate our parents, staff and students for embracing this fun and creative event!



WA Symphony Education Chamber Orchestra visits the **Prep School!**

What an amazing way to start Term 3 with a musical incursion by the West Australian Symphony Education Chamber Orchestra! These concerts are a wonderful way to introduce orchestral music to young children and are both fun and uplifting.

The concert started with an all-time favourite, Jupiter from Holst's Planet Suite or, as the students will tell you, Sleepy Time from Bluey. The concert brought to life the picture book story of Milly, Jack and the Amazing Cat. It was an inspiring experience for all the students in Pre-Primary to Year 3. The sounds of Mambo filled the air with electric energy! In the words of **Celine Ha** from Year 1S, "It was awesome!"



The vibrant world of Kindergarten

▶ In the vibrant world of Kindergarten, young minds embark on exciting adventures, nurturing curiosity and friendship along the way.

In this enchanting environment, our students have learnt about the wonders of nature, including the captivating butterfly life cycle. This year our Kindergarten children eagerly delved into the magical transformation of butterflies. From tiny eggs to caterpillars, they witnessed nature's artistry, fostering a deep sense of wonder and appreciation for the world around them.

Mystery seeds sparked imagination for our young learners and through keen observation and teamwork, students chose a mystery seed and this fostered

curiosity and inquiry. They spent time planting their seed and experienced excitement as it grew.

Our excursion to the local library was a wonderful experience for our learners. Meeting an author and listening to her read her own story was a fantastic opportunity. Our Kindergarten Adventure Walks were filled with excitement as students explored the natural world around them. Rainy days brought joy as they splashed and danced in puddles, connecting with nature in its purest form.

They had great fun participating in the Athletics Carnival, with emphasis on participation, fun and giving things a go. Students have enjoyed role-playing with a variety of fabrics and materials,

construction with bamboo channels, building on their imagination in the mud kitchen, experimenting and creating potions.

Nurturing emotional wellbeing is the cornerstone of early childhood education. Kindergarten is a place where children can feel safe to express their emotions. By fostering an atmosphere of trust and acceptance, our classrooms are places where students can explore and learn about their emotions. There have been many moments in Kindergarten this year filled with laughter, curiosity and the joy of discovery, making 2023 a magical journey for all.

**Jen Griffiths, Maddie Lumbus
& Elise De Jong**
Kindergarten Teachers



Music for the **United Nations**



Sometimes, a rare and unique opportunity comes to those of us who play and teach Music which stays with us for life. Such was the nature of a performance by the Preparatory Chamber Strings Ensemble, who performed at the 78th United Nations Day event at the Duxton Hotel in October.

Accompanied by Mr Kruger, Mrs Pigneguy and Ms Peachment, 13 excited students ranging from Year 1-6 played to representatives from State Government, heads of government departments, foreign consuls and heads of various organisations. The Chamber Strings group is made of preparatory students who have some years of experience or demonstrate excellence on their string instrument.

Students performed a piece by the Australian Composer, Stephin Chin, Sunrise at Kakadu and Twilight Trek. Complete with long, lush melodic lines and short bursts of sound, this beautifully curated piece was musically evocative of the sounds of the Australian bushland. Imitative bird sounds and the idea of a journey on foot at dusk were expressed on violins, violas and cellos.

The audience responded very warmly to the students and one could hear a pin drop during the performance. The President of the UNAAWA, Randhir Amoganathan, kindly wrote to Dr Miller a few days later with this positive feedback, "Your students and teachers have done Guildford Grammar School extremely proud and showcased not just the school, but also Perth and Western Australia in an excellent light to a high-level international audience."

It is these experiences that not only remind us that music skills take time to learn, but also that excellence comes from perseverance and persistence. Our students were impeccable in their conduct and musical prowess. We are certainly looking forward to future opportunities to take our music to audiences beyond the school.

Amelia Peachment
Music Specialist



Year 1-6 art mural

The Prep School have been working on an art mural together! Every Prep student and staff member has the opportunity to help create a part of the mural, adding their own small, personal artwork and creative ideas. Each year group has a visual theme, and within that, students create small visuals that represent themselves as a person, including their interests and likes, their background, beliefs or just something they love.

They first designed these on paper during Art class, and are now using pencil, posca pens and acrylic paint to create them on the wall.

The wall will become a colourful collage of unique ideas and creativity that represents the individuality of each learner and educator, showcasing the curiosity, wonder and joy that is the Prep School! The mural will be finished by Term 1 2024 so drop by to see the finished result!



Week of the Arts



The Art Exhibition is a wonderful celebration of visual arts within the Preparatory School with every student from Year 1 to 6 having multiple pieces of work on display. At the exhibition opening, several students performed piano items to welcome the community. There was also a STRETCH art opportunity with artist and GGS community member, Jan Pittman who saw students draw on our strong connections with nature in exploring sketching and using watercolour to capture natural items.

Younger students enjoyed participating in African drumming sessions as a part of exploring World Music and their continued journey on learning how to create music in varying forms. Year 5 and 6 students enjoyed an interactive concert from Adam Hall and Velvet Players and our Music night was a celebration of our wide and varied ensemble program and an opportunity for students to perform.

A highlight of the week was the Quarter Rap competition. A big congratulations to South who were the winners. The leadership from our Quarter captains to work with Mr Brian Kruger to write the lyrics that represented their team and then get up and rap in front of a crowd was simply superb. The energy, enthusiasm and incredible team spirit captured our School culture in many ways. The delivery of each rap required a full team effort, with many students stepping out of their comfort zone, yet still trying their absolute best.

The Week of the Arts highlights much of what happens all year round within the School and provides opportunities for our students to foster their creativity, collaborate and work with others to produce, perform and create as well as build courage and resilience as they try new things. Arts-based learning experiences also provide opportunities for higher-order thinking skills such as analysis and problem-solving, all of which contribute to overall academic development; another reason why our School remains committed to the Arts.



Brenda Mazzucchelli

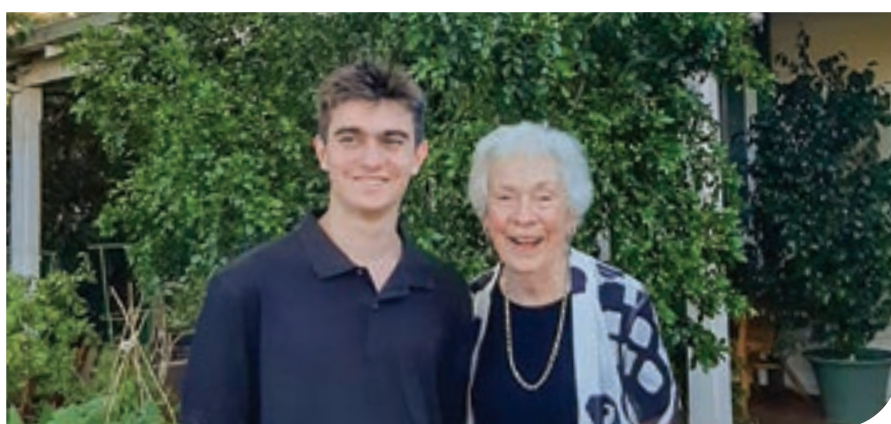
This year, sadly Brenda Mazzucchelli passed away on 3 March 2023. Brenda's connection to Guildford Grammar School spanned far and wide as a prominent and active member of the community since 1978. Brenda was mother to Old Guildfordians, Keith Mazzucchelli, Dux of School (Stirling 1978-1982), Geoffrey Mazzucchelli, Vice-Captain of School (Stirling 1980-1984), and Trevor Mazzucchelli (Stirling 1983-1987). As well as grandmother to William Kail, Co-Captain of School (Stirling House 2015-2020).

She was notably, the first female Fellow of Council from 1986-1997, as well as a member of the GGS Council Works Committee and Chairperson of the GGS Council Planning Committee. Archdeacon Michael Harford reported in the April 1988 edition of the Forward, "Brenda has always brought a mother's perspective to our overview of buildings and grounds. Her love of Guildford Grammar and of the whole community has been infectious."

Her purpose was always two-fold, to organise events of outstanding quality and to involve as many members of the School community as possible. In this role she aided the Headmaster, John Moody, in acting as hostess in 1991 for the AHISA Dinner held at the School, catering for over 300 Heads of Independent Schools. Her beautiful large floral arrangements and native hanging baskets in the Dining Hall were admired by all.

Brenda's talents and impact knew no bounds and she was President of the Ladies Auxiliary in 1982 and 1986. Her first year commenced with the usual Morning Tea for mothers of new students held for the first time in the garden of the Headmaster's house graciously hosted by Janet Moody.

During 1982, Brenda was involved in organising Breakfast and Film Mornings and the Melbourne Cup Lunch in the DLD. Brenda also helped organise the supper for the Prefect's Dance held in



May. A jumble sale was also organised and held in June at the St Luke's Church Hall in Maylands.

The Ladies Auxiliary led by Brenda helped with the catering for the GGS Sportsmen's Dance held at the Embassy Ballroom in October, and they assisted in making new kneelers for the Chapel and Preparatory School.

Brenda was again very busy in 1986. She was involved in organising the purchasing of the new School rugs, Melbourne Cup Lunch held in the gymnasium, Fashion Parade at Mulberry Farm, Quiz Nights, catering for Prefect's Dance, home Sports games, Drama productions and film mornings in the DLD featuring such films as Passage to India.

Brenda was also the Chairman of the Ceremonies Committee during the centenary year. Her organisation of the School Ball at Government House and the celebrations at Woodbridge had

Brenda's stamp on them with exceptional standards and a happy atmosphere.

As a wonderful supporter of the Drama department, Brenda made many of the costumes for each school production, especially memorable was her involvement in the amazing performance of World Apart in 1988.

Brenda's funeral took place in the Chapel of St Mary and St George on the 20 March, celebrating her life, reflecting on her impact, and the significant contributions she made to the School.

Brenda was a member of the Oliverson Society and generously left a bequest to the School, which will leave a legacy in her name. This generosity will help us achieve upgrades to our Memorial Science Building, a subject area Brenda was passionate about.

If you are interested in learning more about leaving a bequest to the School, please email: communications@ggs.wa.edu.au.

Rube Edmonds

Sadly, we also acknowledged the passing of past Guildford Grammar staff member, Robert 'Rube' Edmonds, on 17 October 2023. Rube taught at Guildford Grammar School for 33 years, from 1969-2002 and he was also the inaugural Housemaster of Bennett House. Rube was also father to current staff member and Old Guildfordian, Quentin Edmonds (Stirling 1982-1986), Travis Edmonds (Stirling 1984 -1988) and Cameron Edmonds (Stirling 1986-1990).

We are fortunate that Rube's journey led him to Guildford. To marry his future wife Wendy, who was nursing in Tasmania, Rube needed to find full time employment. He found an ad in the paper for a Math's Teacher at Guildford Grammar School, applied and was successful. He then travelled back to Tasmania, married Wendy and moved to Western Australia.

Wendy and Rube were provided with modest accommodation, a small bedsit in St George's House. Their first child, Quentin was born in 1969. They now needed an extra room and were hoping the School would move them into one of the many houses owned in the surrounding areas. Instead, the School provided them with a portable partition. The now had two rooms.

At the birth of their second child Rube, Wendy and Quentin moved to a smaller house in Waylen Street which had two



bedrooms. Travis, along with a twin sister was born in 1971. Suddenly, Waylen Street seemed a little small, so the family bought double decker bunk beds and their youngest child Cameron was born in 1973.

Rube was soon promoted to Head of Mathematics and was given a larger house at 454 Great Eastern Highway. Finally, he had room for a desk. Rube was a dedicated and inspirational Teacher and Head of the Mathematics Dept. He loved Guildford Grammar School so much and wanted his three boys to be given the many opportunities it offered. All three sons are now proud Old Guildfordians.

He was also a Basketball Coach and the Manager of the 1st VIII Rowing crew. He was known to be a passionate educator and caring mentor to thousands of Guildford Grammar School students. He

was known for his love of music, and this influenced his first son Quentin, who now teaches Music at the School. He was a proud ex-pat, Queenslander who passionately supported the Brisbane Lions, and was also obsessed with Manchester United.

On retirement, Rube volunteered for Men of the Trees, and later at Whiteman Park, both at which he was able to indulge his passion for nature.

Rube celebrated his 84th birthday with Wendy, his children and grandchildren two days before passing. He was much-loved and well-known within the community, especially for wearing a purple suit, which is now proudly on display in the School Museum.

We held a Memorial Service for Rube in the Chapel of St Mary and St George on 25 November 2023 to honour his life and impact on our School.



International student – Jerry Tan in the 1950s

Article by **Rosemary Waller**, Archivist

Jerry Tan attended the School from 1953-1955 as a boarder in St George's House. At that time, St George's was situated where Freeth House is currently located.

Jerry was attending an English school in Singapore and the Acting Principal told him, "You are getting stale. What you need is a change." Jerry recalled him visiting his home in December and

over drinks with his father, discussed the advantages of going abroad to continue his studies.

Jerry admitted he had spent more time on sports and games and had put in minimal effort with his studies, except at examination time. Jerry was a keen sportsman and represented his school in interschool meets.

It was then decided that Jerry would attend Guildford Grammar School in Western Australia. Jerry departed from Singapore in March of 1953. Jerry's mother was very upset at her son's departure as he was her youngest son.

The plane flew to Jakarta and then on to Darwin. Jerry was put on a MacRobertson Miller Dakota and travelled to Perth after

Athletics Team 1954



Back row: J A Tan, A S Fletcher, R b Venn, T R Harrison, J T Forehan, A J Mcglew, K S Wheatley.
Third row: D Clarke, J Grant, G G Scott, G V Baker, B R Raynor, G G Money, Unkown, G E Palmer, P J Reynolds
Second row: G M Paddick, K N O'Halloran, G L Honninball, Mr E Merryweather, Mr L Jamieson, D M Johnston, M C Broome, J S Howells
Front row: R S Warren, B A Money, P Chant, P J Williams, N J Hunt, A N Sands

stops in the gravel airstrips of Broome and Derby for refuelling. The plane touched down in Perth around 9pm. A taxi driver helped Jerry with his bags and said, "Where to mate?". Jerry replied in a dignified manner, "Guildford Grammar School please". "Right you are sport" he replied. The fair was ten bob.

When Jerry reached the School, the taxi driver helped him locate the Headmaster's House which was a cottage next to the School surrounded by a high wall with a creeper growing on it. The Headmaster was a very young Peter Thwaites. They walked from the cottage across the courtyard to a two storied building which was St George's House. Jerry was introduced to Mr Mattingley, the Housemaster. He had a kind face, ash grey hair, was slim and tall at about 6ft 2 inches. Jerry felt he was twice his height. He had an air of dignity and honesty, and Jerry immediately trusted him.

Jerry was asked about his school background, subjects he liked and disliked and what sport he played. It was decided he would start in Lower Fifth Form. Jerry was then taken upstairs to meet the Matron known as 'Tigress' by the boys.

St George's House was divided into three dormitories, and Jerry was placed in the intermediate dormitory. Lights out was at 11pm. The boys had short

sheeted his bed, so he had some difficulty tucking himself in.

On the third day of school, Jerry had his first haircut. The boys had to cross Terrace Road to Henn's House where the barber was stationed. Jerry had an interesting chat with the barber but when he returned to St George's he nearly fainted as he looked like one of the three stooges. It appeared the barber had put a bowl on his head and just applied the clippers right around. Jerry did not know whether to laugh or cry but one consolation was all the boys had a similar hairstyle.

The day started for Jerry with the morning bell at 7am. A dress parade and assembly was held in the Prep Hall. There was no room for slovenliness, and if your bed was badly made, you would have to go upstairs and remake it. The boys then marched into the Dining Hall for breakfast by House. The Head Prefect said grace before and after meals.

Daily classes were preceded by Chapel Service. In the winter months, the boys were allowed a warm bath. This was a luxury and had to be taken in turns. "Times up, plugs out" was the familiar call.

Saturday morning was cadet training. Every pupil was required to be a member of the Australian Cadet Corps. Once a year, all the public schools including some State schools would converge at the Northam Army Camp. At night the cadets slept in nissan huts on mattresses filled with hay. It was wintertime and icy

cold. The cadets had a three-mile route run in heavy boots. They were taught field craft and mock battles.

Once a month on a Saturday, a film would be screened in the gymnasium. Most of the films shown were oldies. Invariably, the sound effects of the projector would fail, and the boys ended up watching silent movies.

It was compulsory to play interhouse football matches. Jerry recalled wintery and muddy fields when he slid in the grime and after the game the jerseys were saturated with mud. Jerry also decided to take up rowing. The training squad was fed with special meals at teatime including steak. It was the envy of the boys who did not do sport. The day before the Head of the River the crews would row down the river and the boat would be stored at the Crawley boat sheds. On the day, the Guildford boys looked resplendent in their grey suits and boater hats.

The taller Australian boys had a decided advantage over Jerry in athletics. For every stride they took, Jerry had to take two. Jerry did manage to make the 1954 Athletics team and was awarded colours.

In Jerry's final year he was made a House Prefect. The photo shows Jerry in the 1954 Athletics team in the back row.



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Tom Meredith • Old Guildfordian/Greenstone Founder & Director

From PhD to the Pyramids

In the wake of completing a rigorous 10-year journey in tertiary academia, **Alison Kunstler** (nee Davis Prep 1998-2002), has now emerged with a newly minted PhD, a beautifully renovated home, marriage to the love of her life, the trip of a lifetime and an extremely exciting new career.

With a degree in Geology, with first class honours, from the University of Western Australia already under her belt, Alison completed her PhD in 2021 amidst the challenges of the Melbourne COVID-19 lockdowns. Her thesis, dedicated to her father **Geoffrey Davis** (Prep/Ha 1962-1968), was titled Silver isotope analysis of gold-silver alloys with applications to mineral deposit genesis. Alison's research developed a new technique for determining the depth, size and formation method of high-grade gold deposits.

Upon completion of her studies, Alison took a few months off to renovate her home as an owner-builder, which

involved a painstaking restoration of a beautiful period house.

With the sharing of wedding vows with her beloved William Kunstler in February 2023, the couple embarked on an extraordinary honeymoon that lasted almost six months. Alison and William saw this as a rare opportunity for a significant holiday that they would cherish forever, so they made the most of it. This whirlwind odyssey brought them to places like the towering Pyramids of Giza, the ancient Jordanian city of Petra, the charming cobblestone streets of Florence, the magnificent Acropolis of Athens, the insanely picturesque Santa Cristina Gherdëina that looked more like a movie set than reality, and Iceland's basalt columns and crystal blue glacial waters of the Stuðlagil canyon. With too many locations to mention, the journey was monumental and ultimately memorable.

With the honeymoon of all honeymoons now complete, Alison could now focus

on her career. Alison has wasted no time in capitalising on her Geology experience from the mining sector, along with her newly acquired PhD. After a rigorous recruitment process, Alison has accepted a position with the global firm Boston Consulting Group. A thrilling organisation to work for, Boston Consulting Group collaborates with major global entities and maintains a presence across 100+ cities spanning over 50 countries.

As Alison relaxes in her remodelled home, her husband by her side and her cavoodle resting on her knee, we hope she finds the time to reflect on her incredible journey over the last two years. Including her PhD, the wedding, amazing honeymoon and her sensational new job, Alison has a great deal to be proud of. We wish her well for the next exciting chapter and look forward to hearing more about her successes in life.





Local hero and 2023 Old Guildfordian of the Year: **James ‘Jimmy’ Murphy (Prep/St 1990-1997)**



Few people can lay claim to being a hero, but Jimmy Murphy won the WA State Local Hero category at the 2023 Australian of the Year Awards. To cap off a great year, Jimmy was then selected from a tremendous group of candidates to be awarded the 2023 Old Guildfordian of the Year.

Recognised for his wonderful work with Town Team Movement, which Jimmy co-founded, this non-profit social enterprise inspires and supports people as they connect with local government and take responsibility for improving their own communities.

A vocal champion of the arts, Jimmy also co-founded a philanthropic organisation that ignites and funds arts projects called Arts Impact WA.

As a skilled trumpet player and stalwart of the live music scene, Jimmy found himself connecting with his own community and this led him to serve as a Councillor for the City of Vincent in 2015-2019.

We hope Jimmy keeps up the great work building communities.

Jimmy Murphy has been recognised for his work with communities.

Riding life's wave

There is nothing orthodox about the life of **Chris Binns** (He 1989-1996), and that is exactly how he likes it.

Chris was born in Delft, The Netherlands, in July 1979, to an Australian mother and an English father, who worked as an engineer in the oil and gas industry. At the age of three, the Binns family relocated to Norway, where Chris spent his formative years skiing.

The family moved to Australia in the Bicentennial Year of 1988 and Chris hoped to make a seamless transition from skiing to surfing. His hopes were dashed however, when his parents bought a house in Kalamunda, a long way from the coast. Chris was enrolled at Guildford Grammar School and he spent a lot more time playing cricket and hockey than at the beach.

Much to Chris' delight his family bought a little holiday shack in Yallingup when he was in Year 11, so he did finally end up taking to the waves, though to this day Chris wishes he could surf even half as well as he can ski.



Chris catches a wave at Lagundri Bay on the island of Nias, off the west coast of Sumatra.

Throughout his school days, Chris demonstrated an avid interest in creative writing and languages, culminating in English Literature and French during his final year. After finishing Year 12, the travel bug kicked in and Chris did a 10-month high school exchange in France, before heading

to university. Chris initially thought he wanted to be a physiotherapist and studied Human Movement at the University of Western Australia. While he enjoyed university and made some lifelong friends, in hindsight Chris wonders if he should have pursued journalism instead.



Chris (Right) pictured with Australian world famous surfer Mick Fanning.



Chris (left) has interviewed some of the world's greatest surfers, including three-time world surfing champion (2014, 2016, 2021) Gabriel Medina, seen here after winning the 2023 Margaret River Pro.

With the gift of an around-the-world ticket for his 21st birthday, Chris started sending group emails from his Hotmail account over the following three months of backpacking. By the end of his trip, Chris was sending his missives to a mailing list of over 500 people, long before blogs were a thing. On returning home, friends asked Chris what he was going to do with his writing, leading Chris to consider the possibilities. A proud Dad cut-and-pasted all of Chris' dispatches into one big document, added some maps, printed it all out and ring-bound a 60-page book; Chris felt like he was published for the first time!

For the next couple of years, and now with a taste for journalism, Chris alternated between working fly-in-fly-out on Australian oil and gas projects to help fund overseas adventures and writing freelance for surfing magazines. The thrill of seeing his work published far surpassed the monetary rewards, propelling him into a whirlwind of freelance work and travel.

In 2006, while in New York, Chris applied for an editorial position at Australia's Surfing Life, a monthly magazine he had subscribed to since Year 8. It felt like destiny and Chris somehow knew he would get the job. His application was successful, and he celebrated landing the job in Spain, before flying home to pack up his life and move to Queensland's Gold Coast. Working his way up, Chris became the editor-in-chief in 2010, navigating the evolving landscape of print, online, social media. Surfing Life also produced monthly DVDs, which piqued Chris' interest greatly, and it was about this time he started commentating at surfing events as well.

After seven fulfilling yet exhausting years at Australia's Surfing Life, Chris sought a change in 2013, shifting his focus to contributing to Red Bull's website. This role grew enormously at just the right time, leading him to become Red Bull Surfing's Senior Contributing Editor,

while continuing to commentate at competitions around the world, write editorial and produce video content. In late 2013 Chris found himself commentating at an event in Bali and ended up making The Island Of The Gods his home, flying in-and-out of Indonesia over the next seven years while working on various competitions, or writing and producing video projects for various clients.

In 2020, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Chris returned to Western Australia and built on the site of the old Yallingup shack, finding solace in the South West during the hiatus in event work.

In 2022, he briefly delved into producing lifestyle TV for Channel 9 shows in Perth before returning to full-time independent work, invigorated, and armed with a renewed sense of confidence.

In February 2023, Chris accomplished a feat that was previously unimaginable to him – swimming solo to Rottnest, an experience he cherishes deeply. His paddler on the day was old school mate and 1996 rowing captain **Hamish Nicholls**.

In late 2023 Chris' beloved Yallingup was used as the location of upcoming Nicholas Cage movie, The Surfer, and naturally Chris found himself working on the film, to add another chapter to his colourful resumé.

Chris' philosophy revolves around creating his own opportunities and making his own luck, living by the mantra, "If you don't ask, you don't get." He says that he has zero job security, but his career has been filled with such extraordinary experiences that he wouldn't change a thing. This is more than happy to ride the highs and lows of life's tide, always in search of the perfect wave, always content with what he discovers along the way. He's looking forward to his Yallingup wedding next year and tackling the next adventure, waiting somewhere over the horizon, after that.

Johnno's Jag

In July 2023, the School was delighted to have a visit from **John 'Johnno' Johnston** (Prep/He 1957-1963) and his recently recommissioned 1948 3.5 Litre Mark IV Jaguar.

Bought new by his father, the car features in many of Johnno's beloved childhood memories, including when the family drove across the Nullarbor when they moved to Western Australia. On leaving Sydney in December of 1951, when Johnno was just five years old, the family then spent the next 12 days travelling in the Jag, spending Christmas Day on the Nullarbor before arriving in Perth in January of 1952.

In 1957, Johnno became a student at Guildford Grammar Preparatory School and the car was regularly spotted at school drop-offs and community events.

Years later, Johnno learnt to drive in the Jag and was driving it when he got his driver's licence. Then in 1968 it was parked, and the mechanicals were not touched again until February this year, almost 55 years later. From years of sitting in a farm shed, the car had become inoperable and a long-term home for rats. Terry McGrath, Vice President at the Jaguar Car Club of Western Australia, a keen Jaguar historian and author, helped the family source someone to bring the car back to life. Rather than a full restoration, it was decided that it would be best to preserve the Jag as much as possible as a survivor. With this in mind, Terry believed Markich Motors, and our very own **David Markich** (Ha 1976-1980), was the best option to make the car roadworthy with servicing

of the brakes and motor. In July, after five months of hard work, it was running beautifully again, re-trimmed and re-registered. David's wife, Jennie, even helped out by lovingly polishing the paint and chrome.

Johnno was beaming with joy and feeling overwhelmed with nostalgia when he was reunited with his beloved Jag. Those sharing the magnificent moment with him at the School were Johnno's family, including his Old Guildfordian son, Hamish Johnston (Henn's 1987-1991). Treasured by the family, this superb automobile's historical connection with the Johnston name will surely see it enjoyed by generations to come.

Enjoying the nostalgic reunion with the Jag were Old Guildfordians (L-R) Hamish Johnston, Johnno Johnston and David Markich.



Johnno with the Jag on the Nullarbor during Christmas of 1951.



Out and **About**



Class of 1993 Reunion
26 August 2023, Bells Functions, Perth



Old Guildfordians' Annual Dinner
7 October 2023, Guildford Grammar School



Class of 1963, Old Guildfordians' Annual Dinner
7 October 2023, Guildford Grammar School



Class of 1973, Old Guildfordians' Annual Dinner
7 October 2023, Guildford Grammar School



Class of 1983, Old Guildfordians' Annual Dinner
7 October 2023, Guildford Grammar School



Class of 2013 Reunion
25 November 2023, The Shoe Bar, Perth

Update **your details**

Have you moved or changed your mobile number or email address? You can now login and update your information on our website, or contact **David Williams** on og@ggs.wa.edu.au or (+61 8) 9377 8522.

www.oldguildfordians.com.au



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Reunions & Events 2023

To ensure you receive timely notification of events, please provide your email address to **David Williams** at og@ggs.wa.edu.au or call (+61 8) 9377 8522.

Event Date	Event	Venue
Thursday 14 March	Old Guildfordian Parents - Botanical Art with Jan Pittman	Big School Room, School
Friday 22 March	Old Guildfordians' Golf Day	The Vines Country Club
Saturday 20 April 9.00am	Winter PSA Sport Season Opener (at home)	School
Wednesday 8 May	50 Plus Reunion Day	School
Saturday 18 May	Old Guildfordian Parents - Botanical Art with Jan Pittman	Big School Room, School
Thursday 6 June	Old Guildfordian Parents - Boarding House Tour and Big School Room Morning Tea	School
Monday 17 June 1.30pm	OG mentors sought for student Careers Expo followed by networking function	School
Saturday 6 July 4.00pm	Class 1984 (40 Year) Reunion	Rambla on Swan
Tuesday 13 August 7.00pm	GGs on Stage	Heath Ledger Theatre, Perth
Saturday 31 August 7.00pm	Class of 1994 Reunion	Perth CBD
Friday 13 September	Old Guildfordian Parents - Guildford historic walk and morning tea at Poste Café	Guildford town
Saturday 5 October	Annual Dinner	School
Saturday 5 October	Reunion for Classes of 1964 and 1974 at the Annual Dinner	School
Friday 25 October	PSA Old Boys' Golf Day	Cottesloe Golf Club, Swanbourne
Friday 1 November	Old Guildfordian Parents - End-of-year lunch	TBC
Saturday 9 November 7.00pm	Class of 2004 Reunion	Perth CBD
Monday 18 November 6.15pm	AGM	Foundation Pavilion, School
Saturday 23 November 7.00pm	Class of 2014 Reunion	Perth CBD

Reunions every 10 years – help us organise yours: 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, 2014 to celebrate in 2024

The Old Guildfordians Association holds reunions for classes every 10 years. If you are from the class of **1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004**, or 2014, we need your help to make it a celebration worthy of the occasion. If you are not sure what your class year is, consider what the calendar year was when your age group graduated in Year 12, even if you left beforehand.

If you would like to assist in organising your reunion, please contact **David Williams** on og@ggs.wa.edu.au or (+61 8) 9377 8522.

Business Hub for Old Guildfordians and Old Guildfordian Parents

**Support your community.
Search for businesses and mentors.**

With over 300 businesses now listed, our Business Hub is growing nicely. Support our Old Guildfordian community and make the Hub your first port of call if you have a business opportunity, or you are looking to extend your network ... all searchable and from the one place.

Add your business at no charge to increase exposure and access the advice and support of mentors, or become a mentor yourself.

To take a look or register, visit:

www.oldguildfordians.com.au/hub



news

in year order

David Johnston (SG 1950-1954) was married in the Chapel on 25 October 1963 with a full choir in attendance. He had been the lead tenor for two years, so this was very important to him. David and Lynne celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this year and they received congratulations from King Charles and Queen Camilla, the Governor General, State Governor, Prime Minister, State Premier, and their local representative. It was a complete surprise, so was the celebrations with family and the wedding party from all those years ago. The party to celebrate the anniversary was organised by their two daughters and they had another dinner on the actual day. David is 86 and Lynne is 80.

Robert Meadows (St 1954-1959) has been posthumously appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), for significant service to the law and the legal profession in Western Australia. Rob was informed of his appointment before his sad passing in November 2022.

Ronald 'John' Eddington (Ha 1961-1965) has a grandson that has been selected to train with Manchester United.

Jeremy Price (Sc 1964-1967) continues to work in the resources sector. He is currently involved in commercial studies that aim to reduce greenhouse gas

emissions, through the use of renewable energy, for BHP's WA mining operations.

David Bruns (St/Ha 1965-1969) retired on 1 July 2023 after 33 years as a barrister practising from Francis Burt Chambers.

Kenneth 'Ken' Jolly (He 1966-1969) is now living in Bargara, QLD, during the winter months to be close to his youngest son, Kirk Jolly (He 1997-2001). With his wife, Sally, Kirk manages a very large Blueberry Farm in Munduberra. Ken then returns to Perth for the summer months. His eldest son, Dan Jolly (He 1996-2000), is the Branch Manager of the John Deere Dealership in Dalwallinu that Ken previously owned.

Kim Hames (St/Fr 1966-1970) finally hit 70 years of age and retired after 27 years as a general practitioner (GP) and 20 years in Parliament. He is now working three months a year, three to four weeks at a time, in Aboriginal medical clinics around Australia and wherever there is fishing. Kim says it would be great to hear from any old mates on kim.hames@outlook.com.

Jeffrey 'Jeff' Young (Wb 1969-1972), while serving his time at Guildford, was encouraged by his parents to learn the piano with Mrs Gardiner across the road. Jeff, of course, thought he knew better and didn't want to learn piano having

discovered other "more exciting" things to do. He has regretted not learning an instrument his whole life. Skipping forward to the year 2011 and Jeff and his wife were blessed with a granddaughter who, at the age of about three, started playing with an old keyboard they had at home. His granddaughter seemed to enjoy making sounds and her mother, who coincidentally was married in the School Chapel, promptly enrolled her for private lessons at Forte, in Canning Vale. His granddaughter has progressed wonderfully and her brother, who is five-years-of-age, is also learning a thing or two about music at the same school. Jeff and his family recently returned from a weekend in the wheatbelt. Koorda was the destination and they reached it indirectly, which Jeff says is the best way to get to some places. The plan was to arrive in Wongan Hills on the Saturday as the local cafe would be open, and it has a piano and other instruments that the public are encouraged to play by the café owner, who is an accomplished musician. While at this venue called 'Café of Note', the grandchildren put on bit of a concert while lunch was being cooked. Jeff loves watching them play. The reason for the trip to Koorda was to go to a drive-in theatre that is in the town. This, as a tourist attraction, seems to work as the drive-in is quite full each



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time they go. Jeff says it is so good to get away from the stress of the city and just chill - having been retired for four years, Jeff does that every day.

Terence Stacey (SG 1970-1974) is seeking contacts for St Georges House, Class of 1974, to organise a reunion in 2024. You can email Terry on nookawarra@yahoo.com.au and 0429 451 224.

Charles 'Chris' Iseppi (Sc 1978-1980) now has one of his response units on a solar farm build in Mudgee, New South Wales. His business, Medical Field Care Response Unit, has expanded with a Nissan Patrol's conversion into a fully equipped response unit (ambulance). Chris lives in beautiful Hervey Bay, Queensland, and he does what he can for his community. He has a brilliant and supportive partner, and her children are also fantastic. They are looking at getting married next year.

Dimitrios Christianopoulos (Be 1980-1984) remembers Robert 'Rube' Edmonds (Staff 1969-2002) who died in 2023. Chris says Rube was a great guy and a wonderful Housemaster of Bennett House.

Luke Hewitt (Wb 1981-1986) acted in *Taking Liberty*, a 2023 play about one of the greatest moments in Australian sporting history - the defeat of Liberty by Australia II in the 1983 America's Cup.

Julius Skinner (St 1984-1988) was very proud to have attended the Valedictory celebrations for the Class of 2023 in October. His eldest son, Conor Skinner (St 2011-2016), graduated in 2016. Now James' daughter, Emma Skinner (Be Yr12) graduated in 2023 and has the honour of being one of the first female 'lifers'.

Thomas O'Sullivan (Fr 1989-1996) was cast as Lance Williams in a Seven Network, two-part TV miniseries called *The Claremont Murders*.

Samuel O'Sullivan (Fr 1993-2002) has written a play called *Charlie Pilgrim* (or a *Beginner's Guide to Time Travel*). Have you ever wanted to change the past? *Charlie Pilgrim* has. And with the

prototype of her time machine - The Mobius - ready for a test run, she was hoping to get her chance. Unfortunately, starting up the machine has accidentally created a closed time loop that adds a new Charlie every twenty-four hours. With the population rising and group dynamics coming into play, things go from *Interstellar* to *Lord of the Flies* pretty fast. To save her soul, and to prevent the universe from collapsing under the weight of a mounting series of mind-bending paradoxes, Charlie is forced to do battle... with herself.

Bobby Servat (SG 1998-2002) founded his business, Ultimate Tax & Advisory, in July 2016 and the business has grown to have nine staff members. The firm handles tax for hundreds of small and medium businesses across Western Australia and specialises in allied health professionals, medical, dental, fitness and wellness industries, along with professional services, trades and hospitality. Bobby says, "It's never too early to prepare for tax time!" There are downloadable templates on his website to assist with record keeping (www.ultimate-tax.com.au).

David Modolo (St 1998-2003) was elected as Councillor for the North Ward of the City of Kalamunda.

Alex Irvine (Sc 2001-2004) commenced his own business in 2022 called Irvine Diesel Repairs, specialising in Komatsu.

Alexander Rance (Fr 2005-2006), the former Richmond premiership full-back and five-time All-Australian, will be working for the Gold Coast Suns in the AFL next season. He will be joining Damien Hardwick's football department as a leadership consultant after recently moving to Queensland. Alex will also work with a new partner of the Suns, LOOP Logics, in an off-field role.

Stacy Price (He 2005-2010) welcomed his first born into the world, the beautiful Gracie Price, in October 2023. He has been living in the United Kingdom for the past five years, working as an electrician and playing rugby.

Justin Purslowe (Sc 2003-2010), of Aviso WA, won the National Insurance Brokers Association WA Young Broker of the Year Award (for under 35-year-olds) in July 2023. He also did the 2023 Variety 4WD Adventure in the South West with co-driver Ray Zaretsky, raising money for the children's charity. As part of the program, they flew to New South Wales to help out in the local community at a place called Kempsey.

Nikola 'Niki' Andonovski (Wb 2008-2012) started a new role in January 2023 as the Player Development Manager for the Western Australian and Perth Scorchers men's cricket teams. He is responsible for managing player wellbeing, education and career development to ensure well balanced lives for both during and after their sporting careers.

Eloise Armstrong (Prep 2009-2012) graduated from Como's Penrhos College in 2018 and gained entry to a Physiotherapy and Sport Science double degree at the University of Notre Dame Australia. However, she followed her heart and changed to Curtin University to study Occupational Therapy, graduating in 2022 with honours. She is now an Occupational Therapist at Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital, working in a team to facilitate the best possible outcomes for patients being discharged from the acute care setting.

Brooke Rego (Prep 2010-2012) was recently awarded the 2022 Economic Society of Australia (WA Branch) Prize, for the High Achieving Student in the Bachelor of Commerce course (Honours in Economics) at Curtin University. In addition, Brooke has gone on to win the Rising Star Category at the One FTI Awards 2023 for FTI Consulting.

Nicholas Morrison (Wb 2010-2015) completed his law degree at the University of Western Australia at the end of 2022. He has recently completed his practical legal training and has been admitted as a lawyer to the Supreme Court of Western Australia. Nick is continuing on at his current firm

which specialises in employment law, industrial relations, discrimination, and work health and safety.

Andrew Wirth (Be 2012-2017) and **Matthew Wirth** (Be 2010-2015) celebrated the 10th anniversary of their luthier woodworking business, Wirth Guitar Company, in December 2023.

Christopher Peters (Prep/Sc 2005-2018) completed his graduate studies last year for James Cook University. He received his Bachelor of Science in Aquaculture in March 2023, along with the Professor John Lucas Memorial Prize for Excellence in Aquaculture for 2022 - Awarded to the graduating College of Science and Engineering student deemed to have achieved the highest overall result within the discipline of Aquaculture Science and Technology. He is currently completing his research and thesis at James Cook University for his honours and contemplating a PhD.

Christopher continues to play premier grade rugby and coaching.

Marcus Peters (Prep/Sc 2005-2019) is currently studying at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in the United States of America. He is working towards a double degree in Computer Science and Financial Economics. Marcus played in his first game of rugby for Cornell in March 2023 at Scrum Half.

Celine Noort (Staff 2019-2023), after almost five years, finished her employment at Guildford Grammar School mid-November to open her mental health training consulting company based in Perth, Western Australia. She is a qualified counsellor, and mental health first aider who recently completed her 'Mental Health in the Workplace Instructor' training.

Vale

Our sympathies are extended to the families and friends of the following Old Guildfordians:

Judith Acaster (Staff 1981-2006)

Doreen Beales (Staff 1965-1996)

William 'Peter' Bruns (Sc/St 1938-1946)

Peter Chant (St 1951-1957)

Ralph Dowding (Sc 1951-1952)

Robert 'Rube' Edmonds (Staff 1969-2002)

Philip Egerton-Warburton (SG 1953-1955)

Peter Glasfurd (Sc 1943-1949)

Richard 'Dick' Gray (SG 1957-1957)

Paul Nichols (Sc 1956-1960)

Peter Orriss (Staff 1989-2020)

Marcus Plunkett (Sc 1956-1963)

Dudley Williams (St 1960-1960)

David Sweetman (He 1974-1978)

Dudley Preston (Sc 1945-1947)



Have you ever wondered about **Freemasonry**?



Have you ever wondered about Freemasonry? Or maybe you once had a family member who was a Freemason? Did you know that there is an Old Guildfordians' Masonic Lodge, which was established in 1953?

You don't need to be an Old Guildfordian to become a member, so calling all staff members, parents, care-givers, grandparents and Old Guildfordians. If you'd like to know more, please contact **Jon Durrant** on mobile 0424 265 215, email jonathan.durrant@outlook.com or contact **Grant Cucel** on mobile 0438 418 009, email gcucel@yahoo.com for further information.

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Guildford Grammar School

FOUNDED 1896

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