



ORMOND COLLEGE
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

New & Old

ORMOND COLLEGE MAGAZINE



Celebrating
50 years of
co-education

Issue No. 103
November 2023

Music at
Ormond

First Nations
excellence

Alumni-powered
internships

Entrepreneurs
in residence

From the Archives:
Murdoch Mackay

Cover. Headshots from the first co-educational group of 1973, used by former Master Davis McCaughey to commit to memory the names of every Ormond student.

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Ormond College acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation. The Wurundjeri People are the people of the wurun, the river white gum, who have been custodians of this land for thousands of years. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders – past, present, and emerging.

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FEATURES

24 Celebrating 50 years of co-education



18 Among the Stars: Tully Mahr's Galactic Leap from Ormond to NASA



30 Protecting human rights - at home and abroad



32 Health is more than an Apple a Day



40 A career propelled by curiosity and adventure



THE REGULARS

- 4 Message from the Master
- 8 Student life
- 12 Student enrichment
- 38 From the archives
- 46 Alumni news
- 57 Alumni honours
- 66 Vale

Message from the Master

.....
Lara McKay
.....

I am very pleased to present this edition of *New & Old Magazine* in a year in which the College is celebrating a significant milestone.

In some ways it may surprise people to learn that this year women have lived in the College as full residents for half a century! In many respects it is difficult to remember our College without the influence of women, yet it has only been 50 years since Ormond was a 'men's College'. Certainly one could - and should - argue that the influence of women on our College has been felt for over a century since women first joined as non-residents. The 'outpatients' as they became known joined Ormond, from as early as 1885, taking tutorials and immediately leaving an imprint on the community.

The next group of women to make their mark were those who moved into College as 'maids' who were given lodgings and access to most elements of College life in exchange for waiting on tables at Hall. This seems to have been the well laid plan of then Master Davis McCaughey to lay the groundwork to welcome women as full residents which occurred some 12 years later when 50 female students moved in as full residents in 1973.

People often make much about the fact that I am the first female Master of the College and that certainly is a source of pride. However it potentially diminishes the contribution former leaders such as female Vice-Masters, and partners of Masters, have also had on our community. For every three stories I hear of Davis McCaughey and the absolutely instrumental role he played in the lives of students, I've heard at least one about what Jean McCaughey's influence was on their Ormond experience. No matter when our community were resident at Ormond, women had a profound impact on the community of the time.

It has been a time of new beginnings in other ways at the College. We recently farewelled Di Bambra, former Director of Advancement and Vice-Master, after ten years service as she commences her retirement. We have been so fortunate to welcome two senior leaders to our College this year in Vice Master, Dr Areti Metuamata and Director of Advancement, Gareth Crowe. They have both made immediate contributions to our community and are profiled in this edition of the magazine so you can get to know them a little better.

I recently had the chance to visit the United States and catch up with members of our alumni community on both the west and east coasts. I'm happy to say that physical distance seems to play no part in fondly recollecting their time at Ormond, and these alumni are as keen as their counterparts around the world to remain connected to each other and most pleasingly, help and support current students. I am constantly impressed by the level of engagement we see in our alumni community, and the impact they have on our students. Alumni also continue to be generous in their giving, supporting a range of scholarships that help make Ormond the inclusive, dynamic community that it is.

Of course, our alumni continue to shine in the broader community as well. In this issue, you can read all about the inspiring stories of alumni including Benjamin Patrick, who leads Australia's largest Antarctic research station, Casey, and human rights expert Sharon Pickering, who is

blazing a trail as a leader in higher education. Indeed, alumni are excelling in all manner of areas. This year, several Ormond alumni were recognised in the King's Birthday Honours and you can read about them on page 57.

At the time of writing we are closing in on the end of another very successful academic year as students prepare for their final assessment and exams and our attention moves to welcoming a new cohort of students in 2024. I am incredibly pleased to report that we are planning to welcome a record number of students back to our community with very high retention next year which shows

that those COVID-affected years at College are now well behind us. Students are thriving at Ormond and we will soon be selecting from another wonderful group of applicants who are eager to make their mark on our community. At the same time we are developing some exciting plans for our campus into the future.

Please take an opportunity to connect with Ormond again in the new year. Like so many of you who have reengaged with us this year, I know you will relish the chance to meet our current students just as much as they welcome the chance to hear about your College days and the impact you are having on the world today. •

"PEOPLE OFTEN MAKE MUCH ABOUT THE FACT THAT I AM THE FIRST FEMALE MASTER OF THE COLLEGE AND THAT CERTAINLY IS A SOURCE OF PRIDE. HOWEVER IT POTENTIALLY DIMINISHES THE CONTRIBUTION FORMER LEADERS SUCH AS FEMALE VICE-MASTERS, AND PARTNERS OF MASTERS, HAVE ALSO HAD ON OUR COMMUNITY."

Ormond's new Vice Master Dr Areti (Ari) Metuamate is taking a holistic approach to Community Life; fostering educational excellence and forging a community where diverse voices are not just heard but celebrated.

New Vice Master brings a fresh perspective

01

Dr Metuamate is embracing the diverse nature of his new role. Ask Ari, who joined the College in February, what he's enjoying about his position as Vice Master, and the answers come quickly.

"One is that I can support and encourage young people to reach their absolute maximum potential," he says.

The other is the incredible "variety of the role", which can see him doing anything from attending a themed smoko function, to welcoming former Foreign Minister Gareth Evans to dinner, or supporting a student to visit and volunteer in a remote Australian community.

Then there's the dynamic 500-strong student community, which includes Indigenous students, international students and others from urban, regional and rural areas.

An impressive academic background

Ari has been warmly embraced by the Ormond community and quickly found his footing. He arrived with a stellar academic background that includes a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours) from Victoria University of Wellington, alongside a Masters in Strategic and Defence Studies, and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Pacific Studies, both from the Australian National University (ANU).

He joined Ormond College from St John's College at the University of Queensland, and has more than 10 years' experience in college leadership roles, including at St Mark's College in Adelaide, St Albert's College in Armidale and Toad Hall at ANU.

Ari has also been heavily involved in areas of Indigenous research and policy, and has served on a number of governance and regulatory boards in both Australia and New Zealand.

An Indigenous New Zealander, he says Ormond College is a world away from his upbringing. But he and his wife, leading Aboriginal educationalist and board director Dr Jessa Rogers, have seen the power of education in shaping and impacting communities first-hand. "We both know what hardship looks and feels like, because of our lived experiences. But we also know the power of education to change one's life trajectory. That drives us both to do what we do".

The pair, along with their youngest sons Fox, 11, and Iluka, 3, live on campus, which Ari happily describes as a "full-on" but enjoyable experience.

"Living here for me is important because my role is heavily focussed on supporting the student community. To be successful in this job, it's pretty essential to be present and engaged in the Ormond community."



01. Vice Master Dr Areti (Ari) Metuamate in the Games room during an informative session about the referendum.

02. Talking with staff and students at 2023 Open Day.



02

Ari, who leads the College's academic, wellbeing, and community activities, says he's not aiming to dramatically change the culture, but is excited about bringing a new lens to it, and striving to make it even more aspirational and inclusive.

For example, he recently flew to Far North Queensland for an Indigenous student recruitment trip. Rather than just waving scholarships around, he made a point of meeting with various community leaders, including Elders. "You kind of need to build credibility, and let people know what Ormond is about, before you start recruiting their talented young people to move to Melbourne. For many Indigenous students Ormond and the University of Melbourne are as foreign as, say, Tokyo's CBD or Buckingham Palace is to the average Australian".

A leader with an eye to the future

Back in Melbourne, Ari is also spearheading a project called the 'Ormond Offer', looking at what the College offers now and into the future.

In consultation with students, staff and alumni, Ormond is asking questions such as: "What are the things we offer students that work well? Is it value for money? Is it transformational? Will it give them a meaningful and connected platform for life?"

The Ormond Offer will focus all aspects of Ormond to ensure it meets the needs of current and future students. For example, the College might look to enhance its already rigorous academic program, design new programs that equip students with the skills needed for the jobs of the future, or provide opportunities for students to volunteer in local or international communities.

Ensuring nobody is left behind

Another priority for the new Vice Master is ensuring the College tailors its academic, learning and student enrichment programs so that they appeal to students with a huge variety of backgrounds and interests. "Ormond probably has the largest and best resourced academic support offering

"I CAN SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO REACH THEIR ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM POTENTIAL."

in the country. The thing is, we need to know that it is having an impact for our students".

Ari is certainly up to the challenge, lending a modern eye to everything from workshops to academic intensives, guest speaker series, counselling and wellbeing, career support, and programs around sport, music and the arts.

Importantly, Ari hopes to inspire Ormond's students to go out in the world and make a meaningful difference wherever they go, whatever their chosen profession.

And that, he happily notes, is something that students are very much on board with. "That's the thing I love most about being here. Our students are keen to use their time at Ormond as a springboard to the world". •

STUDENT LIFE

Making every moment count

From first years to grad students, there is something for everyone to gain and give by being part of Ormond's vibrant student community.



02



01

03



01. 2023 O-Week Leaders.

02. Students showing their support at the Intercollegiate Rowing Regatta.

03. The Cast of the 2023 Major Production: *Spring Awakening*.

04. Issy Campbell and fellow students during the Winter Intensives.

Students of all ages are proactively taking advantage of the College's many activities. We asked some of Ormond's most active members to reflect on this year in the Ormond College Students Club (OCSC) and Middle Common Room Committee (MCRC) and what it's meant for them.

Skip Pieper, Science 1

First-year Skip Pieper has wasted no time jumping into life at Ormond. On top of his leadership experience as the Fresher Representative for the Student Club's General Committee, Skip is starred as the lead in the College's major production. He is also an active participant for both the College's hockey team and part of the fresher dance crew.

"Being active in the Student Club, it makes me feel more a part of the College community," says Skip. "It's really interesting to hang out with different people from different backgrounds. That's probably what I'd say I've gotten the most out of my year so far - perspective."



Isabella Campbell, Arts 3

Second-year Issy Campbell has participated in everything this year from politics and student leadership to drama and academic enrichment. In addition to co-directing the College's Semester one production *Spring Awakening*, she is also engaged in the OrMa'am club, and attended the College's winter intensive program.

Issy says College life has shown her the power of collaboration and what the Student Club achieves by working together. "I think that's been really insightful seeing the human power that goes on behind the scenes. It's so inspiring."



04

05

"I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CREATE SOME AWESOME ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR PEOPLE TO ENJOY IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY."

- Reuben Rasmussen

06

07

Reuben Rasmussen, Music 2

Reuben Rasmussen, another second-year student, is one of Ormond College's resident musicians, studying music production at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA). Reuben is a key member of the Ormond Photography Film and Arts Society, and supports all Students Club events as part of the Light and Sound committee, including the College's surprise event last semester. Reuben's logistical roles have given him both practical experience, as well as a real sense of meaning in the Ormond community.

"I've been able to create some awesome activities and events for people to enjoy in the wider community," says Reuben. "What is being provided to us by the Students' Club and the space of Ormond is such a unique and wonderful opportunity, and you have a real duty to take full advantage of these opportunities."



Darcie Holmes, Arts 3

Third-year Darcie Holmes is a staple at the Junior Common Room, where she works as a barista making coffees in the student operated JCR Cafe. Darcie loves the social nature of the role, saying, "It's so nice to get to know the faces around College and puts me in a situation where I get to interact with lots of people." If being social is something you love, Darcie recommends taking full advantage of different roles and the social schedule at Ormond. "There's not one way to be part of the community."





- 05. *Surprise festival event in Ballarat.*
- 06. *Reuben Rasmussen performing at Rock Off.*
- 07. *Darcie Holmes and friends at Ormond Ball.*
- 08. *Graduate students at Ski week.*

08

Kyle Boloni, Juris Doctor, 2

Kyle Boloni, who studies Law, shares how important the College's community and academic resources have been to him. With law students being a significant group among Ormond graduates, Kyle has been able to join a supportive network of fellow students through academic tutorials. Meanwhile the College also provides him the opportunity to strike a balance between his demanding degree and cultural and social activities. Kyle believes strongly in the importance of being active in the community, saying that the College is made by the people who stay here. "Contributing can seem intimidating, but I've found I'm often surprised by how much you get back yourself by participating."



Mary Aung, Master of Development Studies

Mary Aung, who studies a Masters in Developmental Studies, has been a part of the Ormond community for two years and splits her time between Ormond's undergraduate events and events hosted by the Upper Common Room (UCR). Looking into next semester, Mary believes that all students can benefit from giving back to the community. "Contribute," she recommends, "it doesn't have to be huge, but participate and utilise what the College offers, academically or career-wise. Contribute to the College's diversity and vibrance."



This year showcased Ormond College's Student Club at its finest, with students from all levels actively participating and contributing to the vibrant community life. The diverse and active engagement of Ormondians underscores the collective strength and spirit that make Ormond College a truly exceptional place. •

STUDENT ENRICHMENT



01



02

Music at Ormond with Archer Bryett

Ormond College's musical program is composed of many incredibly talented students, each specialising in a range of instruments and unique musical techniques. One of the program's newest and brightest faces is Archer Bryett, a first-year who is enrolled in a Bachelor of Music Performance at VCA, majoring in classical trombone.

In his first year at Ormond, Archer has already achieved significant milestones. Over the first semester, he earned the prestigious role of Lodge Coordinator. Drawing from his substantial background in the music industry, he aspires to leverage his new position to transform the College's music program.

Born into a music family in the Northern territory, Archer's mother, a classically trained bassoonist, was the catalyst for his music journey. She started him on the trombone after noticing a shortage of brass players in

the area, and Archer quickly excelled in the instrument, earning a spot in the Northern Territory Music School's senior student band Apogee when he was in primary school.

"I would busk at my local market, playing pop tunes and movie themes on a pink trombone I owned," says Archer. "This allowed me to purchase my own instrument in 2016 and assisted me in funding my first ever interstate trip to participate in the Australian Youth Orchestra's Young Symphonists Program in 2018."

It was only up from there. In 2019, Archer was the finalist for the Northern Territory Young Achievers Awards and one year later was the top student in the Northern Territory and South Australia for the Australian Music Examinations Board exam.

At the same time, Archer was springboarded into interstate programs as a professional musician. "I began playing with the Darwin Symphony Orchestra in 2020 and in 2022, I was heavily involved with their Kids Classics and Education programs both as a paid musician and volunteer."



01. Archer performing with fellow musicians.

02. Archer and Associate Professor Stephen McIntyre AM, College Fellow.

03. Ormond House Jazz Band performing at 2023 Open Day.

04. The Lodge Performing Arts Centre.



After hearing about Ormond from his aunt, an Ormond alumna, Archer joined the College this year and hasn't wasted a second, becoming extremely involved in the community and sharing his immense experience within the College's music programs.

Under Archer's coordination, the Ormond College music calendar has been bursting at the seams with exciting events and programs. In just Semester one, this included the recommencement of the Ormond College Jazz Band and Ormond College choir, the College's major

musical production *Spring Awakening*, numerous Open Mic Nights, various Formal Hall performances and a total renovation of the Lodge recording studio, among other events.

Despite these already massive achievements, Archer doesn't plan on stopping any time soon. He has many more hopes for music at Ormond, including an end of year performance gala, more Open Mic Nights, increased activity from existing musical clubs and encouraging closer partnerships with musical societies at the University of Melbourne.

"I'm truly hoping to make Ormond a place where people come for music, and ultimately make Ormond the performing arts College," says Archer. "Ormond has so much potential with the students we have already, and I'm so excited and honoured to have the opportunity to bring back the Lodge and its former glory." •

Our Commitment to Reconciliation and First Nations Excellence:

Marking 15 Years of the Ormond College Indigenous Program



01

In a year where Indigenous issues have been at the forefront of public debate, the College has reaffirmed its commitment to reconciliation through the development of our new Reconciliation Action Plan.

At Ormond, we are a community that values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as fundamental to Australia's identity, and we are deeply committed to reconciliation.

In 2008, we laid the foundation stone for this vision through the inception of the Ormond College Indigenous Program (OCIP). Fast forward 15 years, and over 200 Indigenous students have found a second home at Ormond. They range from bright-eyed first-year undergraduates to seasoned graduate students, from varied backgrounds across Australia.

Over the years, our OCIP strategy has evolved. We have crystallised the strategy within the framework of our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

The experience of COVID-19 posed challenges in fulfilling our RAP goals. The pandemic particularly affected our outreach and recruitment efforts, due to travel restrictions.

This had a big impact because our recruitment of First Nations students is so dependent on our ability to travel and visit schools, and establish meaningful connections. Unfortunately, there was a temporary decrease in First Nations student enrolments.



02

01. The Mens+ Rugby team. 02. 2023 Renate Kamener Oration. From left to right: Larry Kamener, Ayla Cheatham, A/Prof Jane Freemantle OAM, Prof Barry Judd, Kitana Price, Isabel Natividad, Dr Jessa Rogers, Catherine Liddle (Orator), Caleb Adams, Vice Chancellor Professor Duncan Maskell, Guruji Wagner, Dr Todd Fernando, Max Braybrook, Amba-Rose Atkinson, Marley Wagner, Martin Kamener.

This year, our efforts have regained momentum. With the launch of our fourth RAP, our focus has been on amplifying Indigenous voices and spearheading leadership on Indigenous matters. Currently, we have 13 Indigenous students and three Indigenous staff members, including Vice Master Dr Areti (Ari) Metuamate, Amba-Rose Atkinson (a proud Gumbaynggirr woman) who is the Freemantle Fellow, and Caleb Adams (a proud Wulli-Wulli man), who is both a student mentor and advisor on the RAP. The College is also fortunate to have two residential fellows in Dr Jessa Rogers a Wiradjuri researcher, educator and board director as well as a Fulbright Scholar at Harvard University and Dr Todd Fernando (2014) a descendant of the Kalarie peoples of the Wiradjuri nation and the Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities, who provide expert guidance and support on First Nations matters.

Our approach is holistic - we institute mechanisms that elevate and champion the ambitions of First Nations peoples, enrich the understanding of Indigenous cultures and histories, and build relationships and connections between First Nations peoples and the wider Ormond community.

We offer an umbrella of support to First Nations students including scholarships, learning and wellbeing support, and career counselling. But the program is not just about financial and academic assistance. It's about building a community where First Nations students are welcomed, supported and primed for success.

Our commitment is also reflected in our social calendar. There are a wide range of cultural and community events throughout the year, from musical festivals, visiting community leaders and guest speakers, NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week celebrations, publications and writing prizes, and other events and activities to promote reconciliation.





03

04



This year's event lineup included a variety of programs aimed at sparking discussion around the Voice referendum. Highlights included Catherine Liddle's insights at the Renate Kamener Oration, a talk from Thomas Mayo on the Uluru Statement from the Heart, political reflections from the Hon Gareth Evans AC KC, and legal perspectives from Associate Professor Scott Stephenson, and constitutional expert Professor Cheryl Saunders AO.

Student-led initiatives consistently intertwine Indigenous themes. The OCSC and Indigenous Subcommittee both play a pivotal role in galvanising the Ormond community towards a united goal of reconciliation. They have curated events designed to generate conversation and move towards greater cultural competency. A recent initiative is the First Nations Voices Project, an ongoing endeavour to share, celebrate, and learn about the histories and knowledges of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by collating 100 stories, ideas, events, and texts that are essential to the First Nations' narratives. This initiative will see a major exhibition and celebration in 2028, the 20th year of the OCIP.

As you can see, our RAP is holistic and embraced at all levels of the College. While we celebrate our progress over the last 15 years, we acknowledge that the journey is far from over and our commitment has only deepened. Our latest RAP provides a robust framework for achieving long-lasting change, and we take immense pride in our journey. •

03. Guest speaker Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC KC in the Senior Common Room (SCR).

04. Ormond students during an informative session about the Voice referendum.



*Thomas Mayo delivering the
Uluru Statement from the
Heart at Formal Hall.*

Among the Stars:

Tully Mahr's Galactic Leap from Ormond to NASA



"MY ULTIMATE CAREER ASPIRATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO WORK AT A SPACE AGENCY. ALL THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, I ASPIRED TO BE AN ASTRONAUT."

Tully Mahr, a Gundungurra woman and Masters of Engineering student, has embarked on a journey that speaks to humanity's timeless quest to understand the origins of life and the universe.



01

Tully's fascination with machines and the skies began at an early age. On her 15th birthday, when she was first legally allowed to do so, she piloted Piper PA28 Warrior (light aircraft) solo across Camden, New South Wales.

But her dreams are far loftier than the heights reached by plane: "My ultimate career aspiration has always been to work at a space agency. All through high school, I aspired to be an astronaut."

And this year, at age 21 Tully took a giant leap towards this ambition, joining the inaugural cohort of Indigenous Australians to intern at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California through a groundbreaking initiative by the National Indigenous Space Academy (NISA).

Tully has been delving deep into the mysteries of life in our oceans to understand the potential for life on other planetary bodies. This research, where she has been applying her skills in mathematics, chemistry and data science, holds the promise to further our understanding of life beyond Earth.

At Ormond College, Tully has also been a dedicated member of the MCRC and the Head of the Social Committee. She has had the chance to contribute to the vibrant atmosphere and hone her leadership skills, and the friendships forged, the experiences shared, and the dynamic social events she orchestrated for the College played an important role in encouraging her to pursue her dreams.

As Tully embraces this exciting chapter at NASA, she's not only pushing the boundaries of human understanding but also championing the cause of diversity and representation in STEM fields. Her journey is a testament: the sky is not the limit; it's just the beginning. •

01. Tully Mahr in the lab at the University of Melbourne.

02. Tully at NASA with a replica of the Mars Perseverance Rover.

Alumni-powered internships fuel bright futures

Ormond alumni are playing a leading role in providing internship roles, where students to gain vital experience, grow their networks, and build a picture of “what comes next” after university.

The concept of “paying it forward” is about a compounding, continuous cycle of support. It’s about repaying the kindness that helped you reach where you are in life, by becoming a helping hand for someone else. According to Sandy Cran, Ormond’s Senior Career Advisor and the primary facilitator for the alumni-led internships, this is exactly what our Ormond alumni are doing for current students.

This year, Ormond alumni from a wide range of industries have approached the College to offer multiple opportunities in fields from commerce and investment, to agri-startups, international trade and politics, as well as real estate, energy and retirement. Some of the exciting opportunities include alumnus Davis George (2016) who has offered multiple roles with the pioneering start-up group CIS/National Agriculture and Food Incubator.

Sandy shares, “I believe one reason for this is our Alumni Relations Team and the College’s strong relationships with Ormond alumni.”

“I think Ormond alumni also know our students are top-quality candidates, but it’s even more than that. They know these students. By being part of Ormond, it means they are community minded, smart and curious, which are the ideal qualities you would want.”

01





02

01 and 02: Students at the Friesian-Ormond careers event.

Sayers Group Internship

Current student Mia Pope was offered a role by alumnus Will Broughton (2001) at Sayers Group, an advisory and investment business. She shares how the internship experience has connected her with her own strengths and vision for the future.

“Leaving high school I was somewhat at a loss in terms of deciding on a career path, and even starting out at my internship I was worried this industry wasn’t going to be the right fit for me. I’m now glad that this opportunity has given me

the chance to realise how I can utilise my creative strengths with a more analytical edge, a combination which I have always thought would be fulfilling for myself.”



Planum Partners Internship

Another internship recipient was student Alex Marshall with the role from alumnus Richard Wetherell (2010) at boutique financial advisory Planum Partners, where Alex has since been offered a graduate role for 2024.



“Thanks to Ormond’s alumni network, this semester I have taken on a part-time internship at Planum Partners, a financial advisory firm based in Melbourne. The experience has been incredible thus far, being placed on two live deals and actively contributing to their execution. My role has had me building out financial models, and developing presentations to pitch prospective valuation streams. I look forward to the remainder of my internship with the team.”

A key priority at Ormond has always been to support students on their career journeys after leaving university and alumni have been instrumental to this goal in 2023, providing and receiving immense value in return, and fostering generation connections between Ormondians.

Interested alumni from all over the world can connect with Ormond to offer mentorship and internships via Ormond Connect. •



Scan the QR code to find out more about Ormond Connect.



2023 Move-in Day Barbeque
on Picken Lawn.





Celebrating **50 years** of co-education



01

On the 50th anniversary year since our College became fully co-educational, we take a look back on this pivotal moment and honour the remarkable Ormond women who have trail blazed paths of excellence in their respective domains and communities.

01. 1973 women's team.

This year Ormond College marked the 50th anniversary of becoming a fully co-educational college. However, there have always been women at Ormond: there were female staff and female non-resident students contributing to College life from the very beginning.

The first women resident students joined Ormond from 1961, when a small number of female students lived in what is now known as 'O-Wing' in exchange for waiting tables in the Dining Hall. In 1969 women were welcomed to the Students' Club, and in 1972, the year before co-education, one of these women was elected onto the GC.

In 1971, amidst a wave of social change in Australia and the world, Ormond students called for the College to become co-educational, noting that mixed-gender share houses for university students were now acceptable and that this kind of environment better prepared Ormondians for professional and social life after College. Master Davis McCaughey reflected that Ormond had a tradition of seeking as diverse a student body as possible, and that it was time this included women.

Female students had started to represent nearly 45% of University of Melbourne students and across the Anglosphere, co-education was on the agenda, including at Oxford, Cambridge and our neighbour, Queen's College.

In 1973, Ormond welcomed its first mixed cohort of students with women representing first year freshers to graduates. Women were immediately part of many aspects of College life. In the first year of co-education they organised and participated in musical recitals in the Lodge, ran the Ball and were pilots in the annual Portsea to Parkville intercollegiate trike race. Similarly, Ormond fielded teams in the small but enthusiastic range of intercollegiate women's sports competitions, including AFL.

Dr Katrina Watson (1973) joined after spending her first year at the Women's College: "I had a lot of friends in Ormond and you could see what a wonderful life they had. So, I was one of the first on the doorstep when they opened the doors to women."

- **1885**
Women were admitted as non-residents, four years after the College opened, and five years after the University of Melbourne allowed its first female student.
- **1890s**
Women joined the academic staff of Ormond within a decade of the first women graduating from the University of Melbourne.
- **1921**
The Ormond Women's Association (OWA) is formed as a source of camaraderie, networking and support for female non-resident Ormond students.
- **1937**
University Women's College opens and the 'Triggle', an after-dinner walk taken by students of Ormond and University Women's College, was born.
- **1961**
Known as the 'Maids', 12 female students reside at Ormond at no cost in exchange for waiting tables in the Dining Hall.
- **1969**
Female students accepted into the Ormond College Students Club (OCSC).
- **1972**
First female appointed to the OCSC General Committee.
- **1973**
Ormond welcomes female resident students and becomes fully co-educational.
- **2018**
Lara McKay commences as Ormond's first female Master.

Sally Ingleton (1973) made the move from Frankston as a first year student in Arts and Education: "My best memories of my time at Ormond have to do with the people that I met, the friends I made and the joy of riding my bicycle along the path around the footy ovals and feeling so lucky to live right on the door of the University," she says.

Dr Liz Wilkie (nee Russell) (1973) joined Ormond College as a medical student from St Hilda's. She reflects "I became aware that there was an opportunity to become a student 'maid' - where you had a room, took part in tutorials and were very much part of student life, but my parents didn't have to pay fees. Davis McCaughey supported women who did not have the financial

circumstances to be at College, he was very supportive of women."

Rowan Downing KC (1971) remembers: "The arrival of women made a very real change to the College. I was on the GC in 1973, and we made some mistakes! The sewing machine we bought went unused by the women (although the men ended up using it to make some curtains). The ladies who came into residence were assertive of equality in every respect, which was just wonderful. I think one can say that Ormond changed for the better, a more real society with balance and consideration."



04

"The arrival of women made a very real change to the College."



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02. Dr Liz Wilkie.

03. Dr Katrina Watson.

04. Alum reviewing headshots of class of 1973.

05. Sally Ingleton.



03





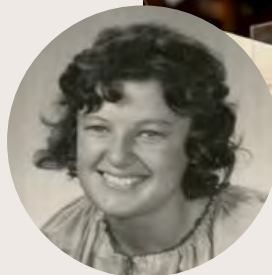
Since then, Ormond has flourished as a co-educational institution. In 1975 the Students' Club elected its first female Chair, Maryjane Crabtree, and in 1977 our first female Vice-Master, Rachel Faggetter, joined the College. Since then, the College has evolved to include at least as many women as men in its resident community, where students are able to thrive regardless of gender.

Ormond's first female Master Lara McKay began her term in 2018, a year in which both the undergraduate and graduate communities also elected female Chairs.

Ormond women have gone onto make significant contributions in their fields and communities, from Australia's first female paediatric and spinal neurosurgeon Dr Elizabeth Lewis who attended Ormond as a non-resident in 1954, to International Court of Justice Hillary Charlesworth who joined in the second intake of 1974, to the former Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner, the Victorian Equal

Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner, Kate Jenkins AO (1988).

This October we celebrated 50 years of co-education at Ormond with an enriching panel discussion hosted by Master Lara McKay and Council Member and ABC journalist, Lisa Leong (1990).



05

We are incredibly proud of the progressive ethos of the College and our commitment to a diverse and inclusive College full of people who are driven to make a contribution to their communities, chosen fields and the world. •



Read more about the inspiring stories of some of the 1973 women residents on our Ormond Stories website.

The 'Outpatients'

There were two trailblazers who attended Ormond well before the group of 1973 who warrant special attention: Dr. Merrilyn Murnane Griffiths and the late Dr. Elizabeth Lewis, who joined Ormond as non-residents in 1954.

Known endearingly as the “outpatients”, Merrilyn and Elizabeth studied medicine at the University of Melbourne in an era when women constituted just 10% of the medical school cohort. At that time, Ormond didn't offer residency to female students, so both women attended Ormond's tutorials as non-residents. Their experience at the College left a lasting impression on both Elizabeth and Merrilyn who later became active mentors and scholarship donors supporting future students at Ormond.

Both Merrilyn and Elizabeth's journeys from Ormond to leadership in the field of medicine are monumental examples of how talent, nurtured in the right environment, can impact history, shape communities, and create a legacy that propels us all forward.



Dr Merrilyn Murnane Griffiths

Dr Merrilyn Murnane Griffiths AM, MBBS, FRACP, MACLM, DCH, DDU (1954) charted her path in paediatrics as a healthcare leader, humanitarian, sponsor and mentor to the next generation of health and education professionals.

After completing her medical degree in 1960 at the University of Melbourne as an Ormond non-resident, Merrilyn undertook six months of clinical training in paediatrics in London, followed by training at Great Ormond Street Hospital, and completed her Diploma of Child Health. On returning to Melbourne in 1963, she was a paediatric registrar at Queen Victoria Hospital, where she also taught students from Monash University, which had established a clinical school there in obstetrics and paediatrics. She then moved to Prince Henry's Hospital, where she became the first female medical registrar. Dr Murnane recalls: “This was a positive year for me, as all the consultants welcomed a woman registrar, and many opportunities were offered to me.”

While Dr Murnane was a registrar at the Queen Vic, the professor of paediatrics asked her to work with children presenting in the emergency department who had suffered physical or sexual abuse. This prompted her to establish a child protection unit at Monash Medical Centre, an accomplishment that gained her the Member of the Order of Australia in 2005.

Later in her career, Merrilyn expanded her contribution internationally to work extensively in Papua New Guinea with her late husband and Ormondian, the Rev. Maxwell Griffiths MBE (1949), as well as her once-classmate and fellow trailblazer Dr Elizabeth Lewis (1954). After her first trip to PNG with Elizabeth, Merrilyn returned there each year between 2000 and 2010.

Merrilyn and Max established a mobile health unit that served twenty villages in the East Sepik area of PNG and financially supported the education of teachers, nurses and engineers, including two women doctors. Merrilyn remains connected with the community to this day, and one of the women doctors she trained now has a little daughter, whom she named Merrilyn.

“I support veterinary students in memory of my late father, Dr Daniel Murnane, a veterinary scientist, and women medical students, giving them the benefits of being part of the Ormond community during their studies.”

Now retired, Merrilyn remains a philanthropic force, offering mentorship and full scholarships to aspiring doctors and veterinarians to live at Ormond for the duration of their training. Giving back in this way has been part of Merrilyn's wish to be the support structure and mentor she never had during her time as a health professional in training.

"I support veterinary students in memory of my late father, Dr Daniel Murnane, a veterinary scientist, and women medical students, giving them the benefits of being part of the Ormond community during their studies", says Merrilyn.

The most recent recipient of the Dr Merrilyn Murnane Women's Medical Scholarship was Adeline Gabriel, the 2018 GC Chair, who is now a recently graduated doctor in Alice Springs. In that city, Merrilyn also supports Indigenous and other secondary students at St Philip's College, in memory of Max, who died in 2021.

The 2023 recipient of the Dr Daniel Murnane Veterinary Science Scholarship, Amy Frith, is completing her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, with aspirations to work in livestock medicine. Previously commuting from her home in Ballarat to complete her undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne, Amy now benefits from Merrilyn's support, which enables her to pursue her dream career and enjoy the full experience of student life and community at Ormond.

Dr Elizabeth Lewis (1935 - 2023)

Dr Elizabeth Lewis AM, FRACS, FRCS (Eng), FRCS (Glas) (1954) was Australia's first female paediatric neurosurgeon. Known for her resilience, humanity, and groundbreaking contributions to the field, she blazed a trail for future female neurosurgeons in Australia,

who, as of the latest data, comprise just 13% of the specialty.

Completing her schooling at the Presbyterian Ladies College in Melbourne, Elizabeth joined Ormond in 1954 studying a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Melbourne.

Always dedicated to further study, Elizabeth continued her education in the United Kingdom where she honed her skills at both the Royal College of Surgeons of England and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, before completing her specialised training in neurosurgery at Cambridge in 1972.

Her formative years in medicine were spent at the Queen Victoria Medical Centre in Melbourne, a convention-challenging hospital founded and run by women for most of its 200 year history - a fitting setting for Elizabeth who became a leader and mentor to many surgeons who now carry her legacy forward. In 1992, Elizabeth was awarded The Order Of Australia for her service to the medical profession.

In response to the devastating 1998 tsunami in PNG that swept the coast taking thousands of lives, Elizabeth was supposed to be part of an ADF deployment of surgeons to PNG. When she was informed at the last minute that a neurosurgeon was not required, as anyone with brain or spinal injuries was unlikely to have survived, she made her own way to Vanimo arriving just hours after the ADF deployment arrived. Those who worked with Elizabeth know this was her unwavering and resourceful character which shone through no matter how dire or challenging the circumstances.

This was only part of her international contributions, which included teaching ward rounds in local hospitals on the



northern border between PNG and Indonesia, as well as setting up and offering surgical services. Here she teamed up with fellow 'outpatient' Merrilyn Murnane Griffiths (1954) where they did incredible work in the region. Elizabeth was also invited to attend and speak at a number of international healthcare conferences where she was highly regarded among her peers for her significant contributions to the field of paediatric neuroscience.

Besides her professional contributions, Elizabeth had a life-long love of Australian sports. She was a big supporter of the Richmond Football Club and also enjoyed attending cricket matches, especially the Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Grounds. Earlier this year, Elizabeth received a medallion for being a member of the Melbourne Cricket Club for 50 years. She was blessed to have many friends all over the world and loved spending the festive season and Christmas with her family.

Later in life Elizabeth gave back to Ormond both through the gift of her time as a student mentor, as well as a donor. Her strong support for the Hugh Collins Scholarship for Government School Students and the Access Scholarship has made a difference to countless students over decades. Elizabeth is proof of how one life can touch thousands. •

Protecting human rights - at home and abroad

Professor Sharon Pickering's (1991) commitment to human rights has taken her around the world. Now a respected leader in higher education, she's enabling the next generation to make an impact across the Indo-Pacific.

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01. Sharon Pickering
speaking at International
Women's Day 2023.

02. Monash Pride
March, O-Week 2023.



Sharon's advice to her Ormond self:

"Do your reading and go to class!"

Sharon credits her international experiences with shaping the trajectory of her life.

After leaving Ormond, her work in international relations and criminology took her from Northern Ireland to South-East Asia, where she led an Amnesty International study of women's human rights in the region.

"Human rights remains my passion, especially the rights of women and girls," Sharon says. "It just does not make sense to not have access to, and celebrate, the brilliance and capabilities of all people."

As Acting Provost and Senior Vice President of Monash University – and a global expert on criminal justice, migration, and trafficking – Sharon is committed to giving students a culturally well-rounded education.

"I am passionate about the student experience, particularly in relation to graduating the most internationally experienced and culturally competent students regardless of their degree," she says. "The student experience and the joy of research discovery is what drives me, and I couldn't be prouder of what Monash has achieved across Australia as well as our campuses in Malaysia, India, China and most recently in Indonesia."

As Acting Provost and Senior Vice-President, Sharon oversees the development and implementation of Monash University's academic vision. She is a highly respected leader in education, and committed to the contribution that education and research can make to the Indo-Pacific region's overall success.

"The Indo-Pacific region will be the most contested region of the world over the coming decades, and we need generations of graduates across a wide variety of disciplines to drive innovation but also have the social, economic and cultural understanding to actively contribute to peace and prosperity," she says.

At Monash, Sharon has nurtured many research and education programs including the recent establishment of the Australian Research Council, Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. It's a fitting contribution for a woman whose work has stemmed from a lifelong commitment to human rights, especially those of women and girls.

After graduating from the University of Melbourne in 1994, she spent four years in Belfast, Northern Ireland, amid the Troubles conflict. As part of her doctoral study, she conducted an oral history of 100 women involved in the conflict.

Next, her work took her to South-east Asia. Her research has focused on the intersection of international relations and criminology, and she's written extensively on sex trafficking, border enforcement and refugee law. She was made professor in 2010 and has held various fellowships and visiting posts around the world.

In 2012, she won the Australian Human Rights Award for print and online media on human rights and asylum and in 2020 received the Australian Financial Review Award for International Education. She has also served as Executive Dean and then Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education).

Sharon says her time at Ormond coincided with significant gender-related debates across the university, which "sharpened" her views on leadership and cultural change. Mostly, she's grateful for the "extraordinary friendships" she gained while at the College.

"Ormond really has given me a range of extraordinary friendships that have stayed close throughout my life, and supported and inspired me in so many ways," she reflects.

"Being able to travel life with deeply committed, talented and decent humans is a gift." •

Vicki Powell's (2013) career has taken her from working in multiple health start-ups and product design engineering at Apple to co-founding her own startup. Now, after securing an MBA from Oxford, she's launching into the most exciting phase of her career yet – co-founding a wearable technology company.



Health is more than an Apple a day

Vicki Powell loves the energy and passion of working in a start-up company.

"You get to do everything, whatever needs to get done; you're imagining what's possible and building it from scratch," she says.

After over five years as a Silicon Valley product engineer, Vicki has this year completed an MBA at Oxford University's entrepreneurial-focused Saïd Business School, where she put together a rigorous business plan and product development for her own co-founded new venture, a health technology start-up called Rythym.

The company will make wearable technology to measure health at a deeper, molecular level, where the early signs of poor health first appear, she says.

"Our first product uses wearable biosensors to measure concentrations of different biomarkers in sweat, aiming to directly identify disruptions in the circadian rhythm—a primary cause of poor sleep and a mechanism driving many leading causes of death including cancer and heart disease."

The next step after building their first prototype is a move to San Francisco, to raise capital.

The city has become Vicki's second home; it's here that she did her first internship, while studying a Master's in Engineering at the University of Michigan, and then moved there to start working at Apple after graduating.

"That summer interning at the startup in Silicon Valley was a big turning point in my career and led to me working at Apple," Vicki recalls.

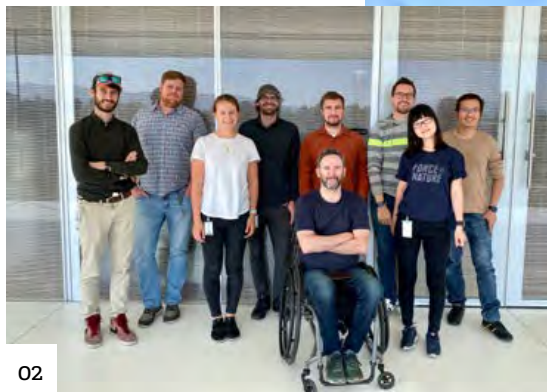
Much of Vicki's time at Apple involved working as a product design engineer in Apple's sensor technology research and development team.

She describes her nearly-five years at Apple as 'fascinating' and says she learned a lot quickly, becoming consumed by the company's high-performing culture, before deciding to embark on her own start-up journey.

It's a long way from regional Victoria, where Vicki grew up splitting her time between Daylesford with her mum and Kooweerup, her dad's farm where she spent lots of time hands-on outside.



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Those practical skills, plus her love of maths and physics at school, led Vicki to enrol in engineering at the University of Melbourne. On moving to Melbourne and making her new home at Ormond College, which her dad also attended, Vicki began honing her leadership skills.

She was on the GC (General Committee), was the sports rep in her second year and captained both the Ormond College football team and rowing crew.

“Ormond cultivates an environment that not only challenges you academically but creates lots of opportunities to experiment with becoming a leader, I loved it” Vicki recalls fondly.

Vicki also joined the Varsity rowing crew during postgraduate study in the US and rowed for her College at Oxford.

“There are many parallels between sport and engineering,” says Vicki. “You put in the work together, day in day out, to chip away and get to a shared goal.”

Sport has also informed her leadership, she says. “You learn to work within the different dynamics of people’s working styles.”

While Vicki has travelled and worked all over the world and plans to keep doing so, she says she will always carry a little bit of Ormond with her.

“When I think about my undergrad years, almost all of my memories are Ormond memories; it formed such a foundational part of my experience.” •



Vicki’s advice to her Ormond self:

Being involved in the sports teams will be your favourite part of College, connecting you with people across the year groups; and giving back as a volunteer in different leadership positions will shape the future leader you become.

01. Apple Park, Cupertino.

02. Mechanical Engineering Prototyping Team, Apple Park, Cupertino.

03. Vicki Powell at Radcliffe Camera, Oxford.

Superconnection:

Meet Wade's Entrepreneurs in Residence

For our Entrepreneurs in Residence and Ormondians, Hector Williamson (2007) and Steph Stubbe (2008), being part of the Wade Institute has meant the difference between the too-often lonely road of entrepreneurship versus amplifying their businesses and connection with the wider entrepreneur and investment community.

Becoming friends during their time at Ormond, Hector (2007) and Steph (2008) both started out in traditional careers in law and veterinary science respectively, before ultimately feeling motivated to address a key problem in their industries. For Steph that was making sustainable products for animals available to vets and pet owners through starting her company AniPal. For Hector and co-founder David Wright, that was exploring a gap in the market for sourcing raw materials for manufacturers and bringing it under one roof to make it that much easier to build quality Australian-made products.

so connected to the investor community which has been incredibly valuable. Being based in Wade's co-working space has meant being part of a wider community."

For Hector, using the Wade Institute as their business space has brought new meaning to the idea that one's surroundings matter, as they grow ChemCloud and approach their daily work from the beautiful Wade buildings surrounded by Australian native flora. This is coupled with the energising and diverse community of Masters students, teachers, and fellow entrepreneurs.

On a broader scale, the Entrepreneurs in Residence share how the Wade Institute has acted as a superconnector for the entrepreneurship and investor space in Melbourne and Australia and in this way has made a significant impact on their businesses and entrepreneurial journeys. In particular, Wade Institute events have been a vital way for Steph and Hector to network and connect with other entrepreneurs, but especially with investors and advisors with key business skills. For example, Wade event speakers have included the likes of Australia's biggest VC (venture capital) firms such as Blackbird, Flying Fox Ventures, and Tractor Ventures to name a few.

"As an entrepreneur, investors can feel very far out of reach. We didn't know anyone in VC before joining the Wade. We've been able to connect with a number of investors but also had introductions through events and Peter Wade himself to people that we would never have met otherwise," says Hector.

"It was Hector who called me up one day and said ChemCloud is joining Wade's Entrepreneur in Residence program and I think you should join too," says Steph, who had just started AniPal part-time with her first product, recycled pet collars.

Hector shares, "From our search, there were not many other hubs for entrepreneurship like Wade in Melbourne, especially not one



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01. Hector Williamson.
02. Steph Stubbe.

By participating in the Wade's VC Catalyst investor education program as a practice pitch, ChemCloud was able to attract investors and advisors who have made a significant impact on the company's growth. Since the early days of her business, Steph has also moved into working full-time on AniPal, hiring a team, selling products nationally in major stores like Petbarn, and becoming part of the health and wellness group Martin and Pleasance as their only pet brand.

The two entrepreneurs are also giving as good as they're getting when it comes to the Wade Institute. With the Wade being the home to the University of Melbourne's Master of Entrepreneurship, Hector and Steph have been valuable sounding boards for students, both casually and through leading occasional panel sessions for the Masters program. Both Steph and Hector have also been recurring judges for Wade's UpSchool 3-Day Teacher Workshop, designed to empower teachers and their students with the entrepreneurial mindsets and capabilities needed to navigate an increasingly uncertain future.

"If you think about Silicon Valley," says Steph, "it's this ecosystem where the people it attracts, the conversations, even the atmosphere, is different to other places. It's alive with the people it collects."

"Well the Wade is building the same thing for Australia where it's bringing together all these disparate people doing their own thing, and making something so much better." •



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Empowering Impactful Investors:

VC Catalyst returns to Wade



2023 was another successful year for the VC Catalyst investor education program at Wade Institute, featuring a diverse and impressive cohort of 25+ participants, representing a broad range of backgrounds and impact areas. Tailored for active investors looking to enhance their expertise in early-stage high-growth venture capital investments, the program is delivered intensively across 10 days and includes 6 months of 1-on-1 mentoring.

In May, we had the privilege of hosting esteemed investment expert Laela Sturdy, Managing Partner at CapitalG (the independent growth fund of Google's parent company, Alphabet), whose insights greatly enriched the program. Alongside Laela, we welcomed over 20 distinguished speakers, including Dr Kate Cornick, CEO, LaunchVic, Matt Allen, Co-CEO, Tractor Ventures, and Kylie Frazer, Co-founder, Flying Fox Ventures.

VC Catalyst Lead Facilitator, Rachael Neumann, founding partner at Flying Fox Ventures, has made invaluable contributions to the Victorian startup ecosystem over the past decade. Her exceptional efforts and achievements earned her the prestigious title of "Investor of the Year" at LaunchVic's Victorian Startup Awards, hosted by the Governor of Victoria. This recognition reflects Rachael's unwavering dedication to activating capital for early-stage founders.

Since its inception in 2019, graduates of VC Catalyst have invested more than \$72m in the startup ecosystem - an outstanding achievement. With each passing year, our alumni community continues to grow, resulting in increased deal flow and facilitated investments.

Applications are now open for VC Catalyst 2024. Scan the QR code to learn more.

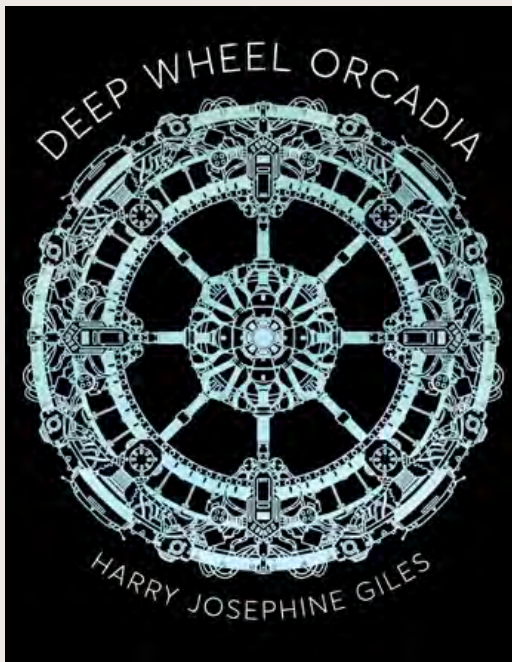


Exploring language and its boundaries:

Top book recommendations by Dr. Jo Allan



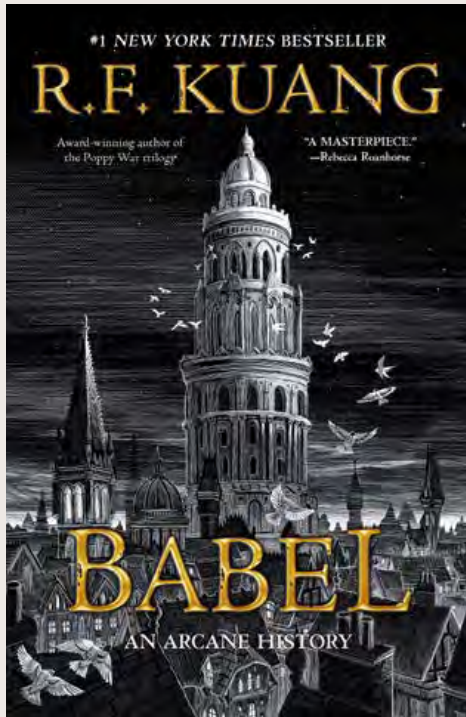
Our librarian, Dr Jo Allan, shares their latest book recommendations: “As a writer and reader, the limitations and flexibility of language is of particular interest and fascination. These three books explore this topic in different ways.”



Deep Wheel Orcadia

by Harry Josephine Giles

This is a science-fiction verse-novel written in the Orkney dialect, with a corresponding translation into English. The translation captures the imprecise nature of such an endeavour, with the translated words often comprising several alternatives combined into one word, rather than limiting translation to an inexact choice (for example, *bide* is translated as *waitstaylive*, and *piece* as *placedistancepartwhile*). This expansive approach allows the fullness of meaning to shine through and challenges the traditional model of translation.

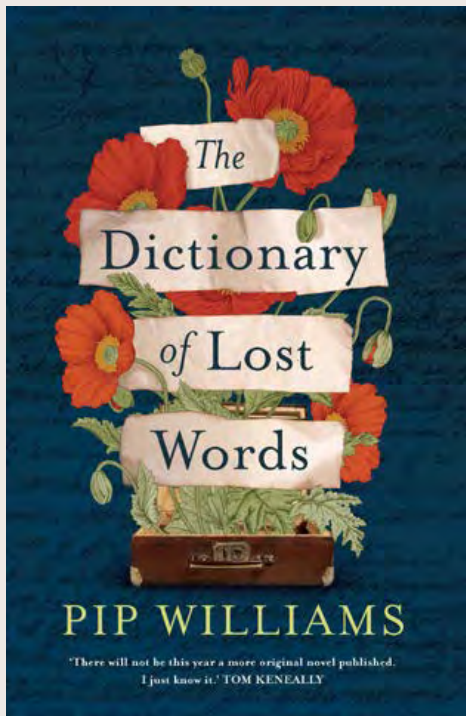


Babel

by R.F. Kuang

“An act of translation is always an act of betrayal.”

This novel is set in an alternative Oxford University in 1836, home to the Royal Institute of Translation. In this world, the tension, compromise and often violence of colonial translation provides the British Empire a source of power, stored in the form of silver bars that inscribe translated pairs on opposite surfaces. Having exhausted the power of their current colonies, the Empire extends its tendrils into Asia, seeking out new languages to shape, mould, break and manipulate, and “recruiting” the native speakers that will aid them in their endeavours.



The Dictionary of Lost Words

by Pip Williams

The Dictionary of Lost Words refers to a collection of words put together by a young girl, who witnesses her father and his team assembling the first Oxford English Dictionary. When she realises that some words are valued more highly than others, leaving the experiences of women often discarded and unrecorded, she sets out to collect her own set of “lost words”. This novel explores the power of words in shaping the world and our understanding of it, and how what is excluded can be just as impactful as what is included.



FROM THE
ARCHIVES

Murdoch Mackay:

Life so full of promise



Author
Ross McMullin (1972)

01. Murdoch Mackay seated second from left in the Ormond dining hall.

02. Major Murdoch Mackay in uniform.

03. Murdoch Mackay graduation photo.

A brilliant scholastic record so exceptional that it ranks with the most gifted students in Ormond's long history would be special enough in itself. Combine this, though, with outstanding leadership at some of Australia's most famous battlefields, and you have a rare individual indeed. No wonder those closest to Doch Mackay (1907) concluded that becoming prime minister was not beyond him. However, Murdoch Mackay is long forgotten today. He deserves better.

Murdoch was born at Bendigo in 1891. His father, George, was the accomplished editor of *The Bendigo Advertiser*, an author whose books established him as Bendigo's leading historian, and an excellent cricketer who was selected for an Australian tour of England.

Mary Mackay, wife of George and mother of Murdoch, was an acclaimed teacher before her marriage. After her five (surviving) children reached school age, she became active in numerous pursuits, including political activism, charitable activities for the underprivileged, and dynamic leadership of the Bendigo Red Cross.

So Murdoch, widely known as Doch, emerged from a high-achieving family. He entered Ormond as a resident law student in 1907 having just turned 16. He remained in College throughout his course, aided by the scholarships arising from his superlative results, including the feat of double first-class honours in his third year.

Doch finished top in final year with first-class honours, winning the prestigious Supreme Court Prize and qualifying for the Master of Laws degree — all shortly after he turned 20. The law professor concluded that in almost two decades at Melbourne University he had taught no abler student.

During his final year he met Margot Watson of Elsternwick, and soon became head-over-heels in love.

Unfortunately for Doch, Margot did not reciprocate his intensity. She liked him, and was flattered by his ardent interest, but was not willing to close off her options with an exclusive commitment when she was only 18. Doch realised that his only option was to play a long game to win her over, but he found the requisite patience increasingly difficult.

Like his father, he was a talented cricketer. Playing for Bendigo in 1911 against the touring English team between that summer's first two Ashes Tests, Doch Mackay top-scored with a fine innings.

He completed his articles with a Bendigo firm of solicitors, and embarked on a career as a barrister. His ability was soon evident. Having been at the Bar little more than two years, he was engaged to appear in a landmark constitutional case before the High Court, a remarkable achievement when he had just turned 24.

Like his parents, he was interested in politics. In 1913 he involved himself in the campaign against trade and commerce referendum proposals to expand the federal government's powers, writing articles and delivering speeches in Melbourne and regional localities.

Doch Mackay involved himself in the militia, and served in Melbourne and Bendigo units. One of his admirers, who was to become renowned as Pompey Elliott (1898), had much in common with Mackay — residence at Ormond College, a law degree culminating in the Supreme Court Prize, and militia service as an officer. Elliott's firm of solicitors sometimes briefed Mackay as a barrister.

When European war suddenly erupted, Australian contingents were formed to take part, and Elliott was chosen to command a battalion. He invited Mackay to become an officer in it. But Doch preferred to undertake advanced officer training with a view to serving in a later contingent.

Doch had been fervently in love with Margot for more than four years, but was still waiting for her to commit. The prospect of his imminent departure seemed to galvanise things for Margot. They became engaged in mid-April 1915, and then married early in May, only a week before he left Melbourne as a captain in the 22nd Battalion.

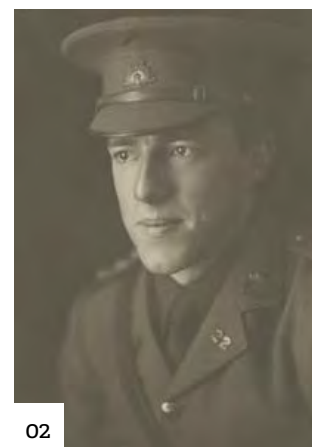
Doch proved to be an outstanding officer — brave and decisive, inspiring and selfless. He was also the battalion's champion letter-writer, renowned for the hours he devoted to long love-letters to Margot. He served at Gallipoli throughout the 22nd Battalion's months opposite the Turkish trenches at Johnston's Jolly until the nerve-racking evacuation.

Perilous experiences followed in France in 1916, particularly after his unit participated in the Somme offensive. The 22nd was involved in two attempts to drive the enemy away from the Pozières heights. The first conspicuously failed, and the second seemed on the verge of becoming a similar fiasco when Major Murdoch Mackay made a crucial front-line intervention. He took charge, devised and directed alternative methods, and enabled the attackers to attain their objective.

This was leadership of the highest quality. No less an authority than the official AIF historian, Charles Bean, concluded that this battle had been Australia's "greatest victory on the Somme", and the result had depended on the "courage and resource" of "one man". His "gallantry and presence of mind constitute a feat of arms that ought to be known to all Australians", Bean added.

Regrettably, while displaying this superb leadership, Major Mackay had been killed. Doch was 25 when he died. The tributes were glowing. Some who knew him well felt that he had appropriate attributes for the very highest positions in the nation.

His name is listed on Ormond's memorial tablet, visible near the entrance to the Dining Hall. Spare a thought for him as you pass by. •



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The story of Murdoch Mackay is published in Ross McMullin's *'Life So Full of Promise: Further Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation'*, available via the Ormond Merchandise Store.



Benjamin Patrick in Antarctica.



Ormond alumnus Benjamin Aeneas Patrick wakes on a small, rocky outcrop on the edge of the ice cap on east Antarctica, and the bay that stretches out below his living quarters is frozen over with metre-thick sea ice. Over a video link from his desk, he shares that a blizzard is building outside, wild winds hurling loose snow, and visibility is scarce.

"But on a clear morning, we have the most beautiful sunrises, and as the sun swoops low across the horizon it throws amazing light on the icebergs," he says.

Patrick leads Australia's largest Antarctic research station, Casey, and will be based on the world's coldest continent until December.

During summer, as scientists and researchers descend on the settlement of "colourful, Lego block-esque buildings perched on a little promontory", his workplace is a hive of activity as visitor numbers swell into the hundreds.

But just as vital is the work Patrick's core team undertakes over winter to maintain the station – upgrading infrastructure, servicing vehicles and laying the groundwork for the next influx of scientific minds.

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"The Australian Antarctic Program delivers a huge range of really interesting science," Patrick says. "For me, being able to play a role in enabling these programs to get out and achieve their scientific outcomes is the great reason for being here."

Close encounters with wildlife, especially the cute, waddling kind, comes a close second, he jokes. "It can never be a bad day if you're watching penguins, and there is some wonderful seabird research that goes on.

"There is also some really impressive physical science, such as the million year ice core project, where scientists are trying to establish a climate record back for one million years to help us better understand what's going on with the planet. Supporting projects like that is incredibly motivating."

Patrick studied Geology and meteorology in a Science degree as an undergraduate at the University of Melbourne, when he lived at Ormond.

"Ormond provided a wonderful home, steeped in history. The shared experience of College life in such formative years forged friendships which are still with me today, and across the world," he says of his time at the College. "I've already planned a few catch-ups on my return from Antarctica."

02



01. Benjamin Patrick at the Casey research station.

02. Team Casey in Antarctica. Credit: Jeff Teda.

He first fell for the remote beauty of Antarctica in 2000, during a summer season working as a glaciologist at Davis, another of Australia's three permanent research outposts.

"I remember being struck by how there was every imaginable shade of blue in the surrounding landscape," he says. "It was always a dream of mine to return."

Embracing a spirit of adventure

The experience also taught Patrick that his adventurous spirit craved varied challenges, and so began more training and 13 years' service in the Australian Defence Force. He specialised with the Royal Australian Engineers in mapping, remote sensing and surveying. On leaving Defence, he leveraged his operational experience into management consultancy roles.

He was deployed to East Timor, dealing closely with local government officials, then served twice in Afghanistan working alongside Afghan security forces. Patrick credits his time in the Army as solidifying his values.

"These trips were amazing opportunities to develop empathy and an understanding of peoples' places in the world. I got to learn and experience the culture from the locals. I also learned about myself and recognised a lot of the privilege I carry in my life, the fact of my education and my opportunities."

While still in uniform, Patrick returned to the university to study a master's degree in public and international law, to better navigate his defence work.

"I started with humanitarian law to make sense of my military time," he says. "Then, as my subjects progressed, I pivoted to environmental law, which nicely ties in with the front seat I've got here at Casey."

Empowering scientists to achieve their best

For all the uniqueness of his environment, he says his work at Casey is all about being a great manager and empowering the station's team leaders to develop their people.

"Everyone needs something a little different to be able to do that, and understanding people is a central theme."

While his career trajectory may not have been linear, Patrick can identify the connecting threads – an interest in people and the welfare of the planet, predominantly – which also bind his years of volunteer work with Disaster Relief Australia.

So, does he identify foremost as a scientist, a humanitarian or an administrator?

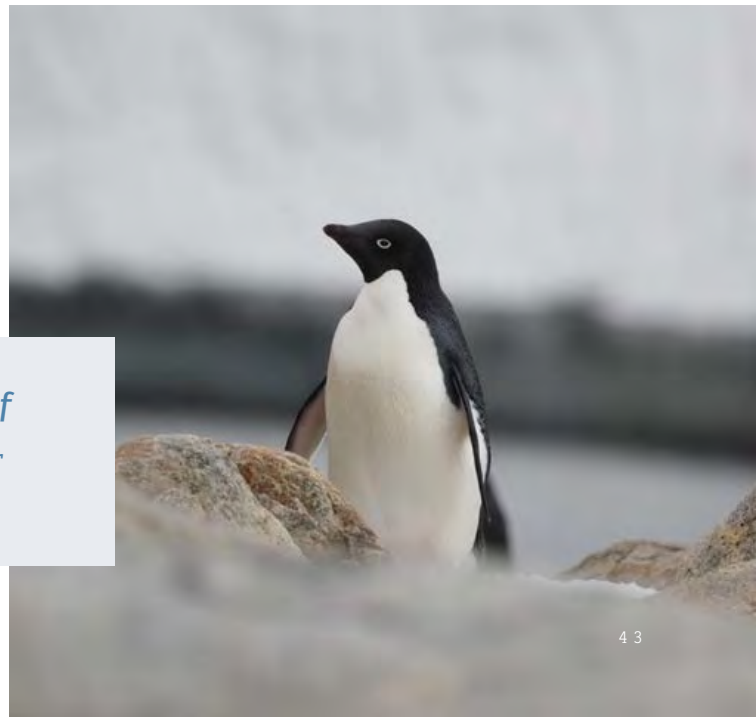
"Perhaps 'problem-solver'?" he wonders. "Or simply, a 'curious person?' I have learned throughout my career that you've got to be curious, and curious about other people."

"There are many smart people out there who are coming up with the ideas to help us treat the planet better . . . I want to support the implementation of science and technologies which will preserve and restore our planetary ecosystems." •



Benjamin's advice to his Ormond self

If you work hard, you can create your own good fortune.



Alumni and students enjoying drinks in the Quad prior to the Nostrum Futurum Dinner.





ALUMNI NEWS

Message from the OCA President



Author

*Simon Thornton (1988), Chair of
the Ormond College Association*

Hello Ormondians,

It is exciting to see our College flourishing as it has been in 2023. A bubbly and excited group of students is driving a fun vibe through the cloisters and onto the Picken lawns.

Our alumni have had a full catalogue of activities running around the College and abroad this year – from traditional events like the OCA dinner to organised gatherings of different year groups around the world. The OCA dinner marked the 10-year reunions for the classes of 1983, 1993, 2003, and 2013, along with a special 25-year celebration for the 1998 cohort. The event featured a delightful dinner in the Dining Hall and a nostalgic 'Smoko' in the JCR with a saxophone playing DJ and dancing. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the OCA Committee for their invaluable support in ensuring this event's success particularly Sunday McKay (2003) who stepped in to provide great leadership with the dinner. These events always bring together old friends for social activities and mobilising our shared network to help the newest generations of Ormondians to launch their career journeys.

The OCA committee has organised more great events throughout the year. I would like to thank Eleanor Bridger (1988) for bringing together the 1988-91 cohort for a cocktail party in College,

followed by dinner at Naughtons. Hugh Macdonald (1986), who gathered the alumni who are current parents of the College for a pre-Ormond event.

More than 20 alumni attended the Friesian-Ormond careers event in May to swap stories with 48 current students who came along to hear about the world of business. From banking to consulting and corporate careers, the Ormondians delivered for the next generation.

David Davies (2007) ran a well-attended pub night in central London. Luke Bennett (2011) and Aaron Patrick (1989) hosted a Sydney event based around the NSW state elections in March. Moya Lucy called alumni back to the Ormond production of Spring Awakening in August.

In May, the College launched the 2023 Ormond Connect mentoring program, which linked together 29 later-year current students with alumni to act as guides and sounding boards for their career planning. These mentors have enabled countless further introductions to set the students on their paths in the wider world.

In September, our students invited a roll-call of business alumni back to the Nostrum Futurum dinner in the hall to discuss their career ideas and get some glimpses into their futures.

Over 40 accomplished alumni shared a meal and their wisdom across tables organised by career aspirations from medicine, to finance and not for profit sectors. Guests were treated to some incredible musical performances and an enlightening keynote from Ormond alum Anthony Healy (1986) - CEO and Managing Director of the Australian Business Growth Fund. This student-led initiative was facilitated by our new Vice Master Dr Areti Metuamate as well as our students, especially Max Hepperlin and Jennifer Wu, whose vision crafted an evening of inspiration, ambition, and a deep sense of connection. We are so grateful to the alumni community for supporting what is hoped to become an annual event.

The Master travelled to the United States of America in late September, where she was hosted in L.A. by Sarah Harden (1990) before journeying on to New York where Nigel Bell (1989) gathered the east coast alumni for an Ormond cocktail party. In October, Phil Bell (1988) gathered the Ormondians in Canberra for the Master's annual visit.

Please look out for emails and newsletters from the OCA telling you about events that you might like to attend in the new year.

We wish you all a wonderful 2024. •

Recent College events

Founders & Benefactors Service &
Dinner, Sunday 10 September 2023



OCA events

OCA Dinner and 10 Year
Reunions, Friday 14 July 2023



OCA Ormond Parents Welcome hosted by Simon Thornton (1988) and Hugh Macdonald (1986), Friday 17 March 2023



OCA 1987-91 Ormondians Cocktail Reception hosted by Simon Thornton (1988) and Eleanor Bridger (1988), Saturday 25 March 2023



Interstate and abroad

Reception in Los Angeles hosted by Sarah
Harden (1990), Tuesday 26 September



Reception in New York hosted by Nigel
Bell (1989), Wednesday 4 October



Reception in Canberra co-hosted by Phil Bell (1988) and Dr John (Jack) McEwen (1963), Tuesday 24 October 2023



OCA Reception in London hosted by David Davies (2007), Wednesday 19 April 2023



Celebrating 50 years of co-education

Et Vetera Luncheon and 50-year Reunion with guest speaker Dr Penelope Foster (1973), Thursday 23 March 2023



50 Years of Co-education hosted by
Lisa Leong (1990), Friday 13 October 2023



Family celebrations

Mother's Day Brunch,
Sunday 14 May 2023



Father's Day Brunch,
Sunday 3 September 2023



Nostrum Futurum Dinner

Student - Alumni Networking Dinner with guest speaker
Anthony Healy (1986), Monday 18 September 2023



For more information and to register for these events, please visit ormond.unimelb.edu.au/events

To arrange your own gathering, please don't hesitate to contact the Community Engagement Manager who can help with group invitations on 03 9344 1169 or alumni@ormond.unimelb.edu.au

ALUMNI HONOURS

The College extends its congratulations to four alumni who have been recognised in the recent Australia Day and King's Birthday Honours lists.

2023 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Four alumni were recognised in the 2023 Australia Day Honours list:

Dr Francis Gurry AO (OC 1975) has been made an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to intellectual property law and research, and to tertiary education.

Clinical Professor Graham Lieschke AM (OC 1977) has been made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to medicine as a haematologist, and to medical research.

John Woodside OAM (OC 1962) has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the construction industry.

Colonel Thomas Nairn CSC (OC 1987) has been awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross for outstanding devotion to duty as Commander Australian Contingent and Senior Military Observer, Operation Aslan, United Nations Mission in South Sudan from November 2020 to September 2021.

2023 KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Three alumni were recognised in the 2023 King's Birthday Honours list:

Mr Alexander J Forrest OAM (1962) for his service to youth through Scouts.

Ms Kate M Jenkins AO (1988) for her distinguished service to human rights governance, to advancing gender equity, to the promotion of inclusivity, and to the law.

The Rt Rev Alison M Taylor AM (1976) for her significant service to the Anglican Church, and to conservation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI ON THEIR RECENT SENIOR APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS:

Congratulations to Professor Doug Hilton AO (1986) on his appointment as the new Chief Executive of CSIRO, Australia's national science agency. Professor Hilton is a molecular and cellular biologist, Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI), the Lorenzo and Pamela Galli Chair in Medical Biology and head of the Department of Medical Biology in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at the University of Melbourne.



From Dublin to Down Under:

Meet Gareth Crowe Director of Advancement



Gareth Crowe has been impressed with the Ormond alumni and student community since hitting the ground running as the College's new Director of Advancement in April.

"My office is in the College, so I am lucky to chat with students," he says. "These are nice people. They're plugged in socially. They're good to each other. They give you faith in the future."

"Actually, if this is what the future looks like, I think Australia is going to do alright."

Many Ormond alumni have gone on to make significant contributions to Australian society, Gareth notes. Given this impact, he is passionate about more meaningfully engaging alumni into the College's future.

"Since its foundation in 1881, Ormond has produced some really inspiring Australians – important people who have gone on to share their knowledge and expertise around the world and made it a better place" he says. "They've been pioneers in medical science, law, engineering, media, all fields."

"I see us having a huge resource – people in our midst who we can draw on, engage with, and learn from as we grow the culture of social and academic excellence that Ormond is renowned for."

In his most recent role before moving to Australia, as Associate Director Advancement at Trinity College Dublin, Gareth embarked on the largest public philanthropy campaign in Ireland. The "Inspiring Generations" campaign raised 400 million Euros just two years after launching in 2019.

The campaign is now dramatically changing the Trinity landscape and has established the college as a philanthropic university. Gareth says the success came down to the credibility of the institution and a genuine belief that it would deliver on its vision.

"This is one of the reasons I was attracted to Ormond: the deep heritage and credibility it has within the Melbourne community. I hope my experience can lend itself to embedding a culture of philanthropy here."

Gareth strongly believes that philanthropy is key to enhancing the student experience at Ormond. Indeed, he notes that the College's founder, Francis Ormond, was himself a philanthropist, and so it makes sense to push this ambition into the 21st Century.

"I want to help broaden educational opportunities here and provide pathways to students who may not ordinarily have them," he says. "Philanthropy enables that. Another thing I want to build upon are the opportunities for alumni and students to engage with each other."

"These exchanges are invaluable and can lead to mentoring, internships and even employment opportunities, while at the same time broadening generational perspectives."

This is his first time living overseas, and Gareth says the welcome he has

received from the Ormond community has been nothing less than extraordinary.

"It's made it impossible to be homesick. When I go to work and am around my colleagues and students, it's wonderful. It gives me hope for what this work can achieve." •

**"THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS
I WAS ATTRACTED TO ORMOND:
THE DEEP HERITAGE AND
CREDIBILITY IT HAS WITHIN THE
MELBOURNE COMMUNITY."**

Turning pages of hope:

Fiona Luth's Fiji Book Drive

On a fateful trip to Fiji, former teacher Fiona Luth (1992) saw an opportunity to make a difference. More than a decade on, her charity Fiji Book Drive has delivered almost 300,000 books to schools in Fiji.



01

An English teacher by profession, Fiona Luth has experienced first hand the power of literacy and having access to ideas, stories and information. On a trip to Fiji's fourth largest island, Kadavu, Fiona was struck by the lack of books in local schools. She returned to Australia ready to address this issue and founded Fiji Book Drive in 2012.

Fiona has built the charity from the ground up over the last 11 years, including handling freight companies, sourcing books, hiring local staff, and managing thousands of Australian volunteers. As of today, Fiji Book Drive has been responsible for nearly 300,000 books sent to the island nation of one million people.

"It's definitely hard and there are constant challenges. But the work we're doing in Fiji, teachers are now starting to say that it's nation building, and I truly believe that to be the case," says Fiona.

Current Ormond students and staff recently had the chance to contribute to this worthy cause in a Fiji Book Drive Volunteering Day midyear, which was held at the warehouse of the charity's partner Hinkler Publishers. In one day, 23 Ormond staff and students joined the effort to pack a staggering 12,000 books. This included Fiona's daughter and current Ormondian Holly Luth who is the most recent of her family to attend the College.



02

Fiona shared a significant moment from the day for herself and the students, "One of our volunteers, Mijica, is from Papua New Guinea and took the overnight bus down from Canberra to be part of this recent drive! She packed books all day, and afterwards took the overnight bus back home. She did the same thing for an event we hosted earlier this year."

"At one point in the day, she gave a talk to the Ormond group about the shortage of books in many parts of the Pacific and how she grew up reading mostly Ghost Busters because there was just nothing else. I think her story really hit home to everyone how important this work is."

Since the volunteering day, three Ormond students have applied to work with Fiji Book Drive and support the charity. To Fiona, this is the "social justice muscle" of Ormondians coming out strongly, which she says has been a fact of the College since she was a student.

"I've always loved how well rounded and socially engaged Ormond students are. Having them contribute to the charity, it was stratospherically awesome."

The Luth family have strong ties to Ormond. Fiona's husband Daniel (1993), her father William (1969), her father-in-law Colin (1959), and her brother-in-law Anthony (1986) are all Ormondians. •



01. Holly Luth, Fiona's daughter and current second year student volunteering at the Fiji Book Drive in August.

02. Fiona Luth and the village children of Naluwai, Naitisiri.

03. With modern technology, current student Holly Luth, father Daniel Luth (1993) and grandfather Colin Luth (1959) were able to capture a very special family photo with the inclusion of great grandfather Norman Luth (1918) overlooking the College Quad.

04. Ormond students and staff volunteering at the at the Fiji Book-Drive in August.

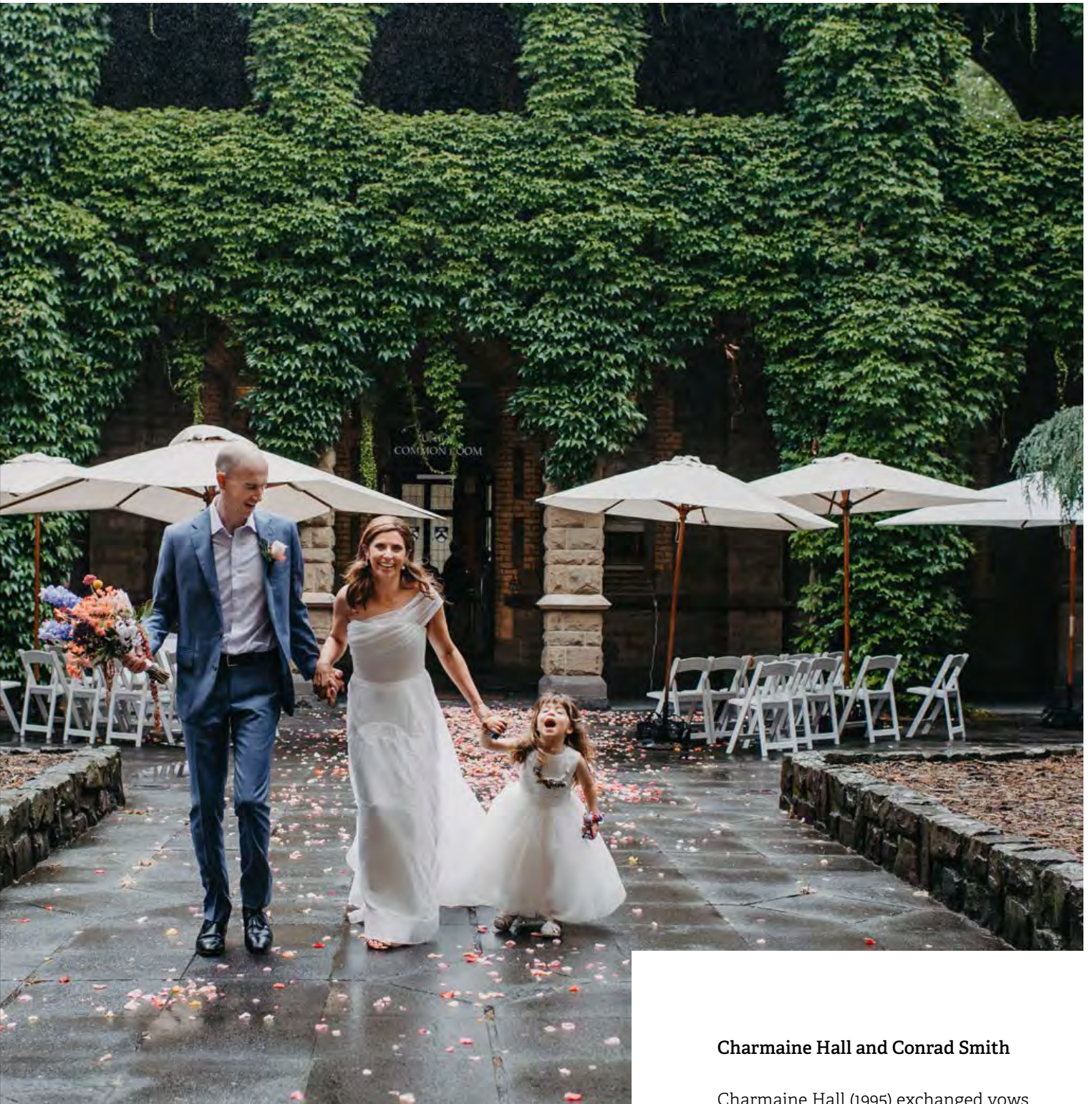


To become a volunteer and contribute to Fiji Book Drive.

An Ormond kind of love

Ormond College has a rich history of fostering love stories that lead to lifelong commitments. Warmest congratulations to some of our alumni who have recently tied the knot.





Charmaine Hall and Conrad Smith

Charmaine Hall (1995) exchanged vows with Conrad Smith in a beautiful ceremony held at Ormond College on 18th January 2023. The Ormond community sends Charmaine and Conrad best wishes for a happy, healthy and successful future together.



Jared Russell and Anna Murray

In Ormond's long history, the College has been the meeting place for many a wonderful couple. At the recent wedding of Ormondians Jared Russell (2020) and Anna Murray (2019), Jared addressed their guests with the story of the pair's synchronous meeting as Ormond graduate students.

"When I came to Ormond, little did I know that I was 88 feet, that's 27 metres for our non-Americans in the room, from my future wife in Grad A. And yes, I contacted Ormond for someone to measure the distance," said Jared in his groom's speech.

Anna and Jared met at Ormond in 2019 as graduate students studying a Master of Art Curatorship and a Master of Public Policy and Management respectively. Since then, the pair have lived in all corners of the world as Jared completed a Masters of Philosophy at Oxford University and Anna worked remotely as the Communications and Curatorship lead for indigenous mother-daughter artist duo, Miimi and Jiinda.



Currently living in Jared's home state of Colorado in the United States, the couple held an intimate wedding this June at the Denver Botanical Gardens in an ornate green-painted glass house filled with well-wishing guests, many of whom had travelled from across the US and even the globe to be there. Among the guests were close friends and fellow Ormondians, Anthea van den Bergh (2020) and Shania Rossiter (2020), who flew in from Australia to attend the wedding of their friends. It was a beautiful culmination of Anna and Jared's multinational union that began in finding their home at Ormond College. •

Photo reunions decades in the making

Alumnae Indi Swan (1993) and Bec Wilson (1993) embarked on a heartwarming journey down memory lane as they shared a multi-generational story. Back in 1993, their enduring friendship was captured in a photograph at Ormond College. Fast-forward 30 years, and their daughters, Jess Swan and Ruby Wilson, recreated this nostalgic image. Adding another layer to this quintessentially Ormond narrative, Jess Swan is married to Ormond alumnus Doug Swan (1994), while Ruby Wilson's husband is also an Ormond alumnus, Peter Wilson (1992), who notably served as the GC Chair in 1995. In a beautiful display of the Ormond spirit, their son, Charlie, is currently a student at Ormond College, cementing this alumni connections that come full circle, embodying the enduring essence of the Ormond community, where friendships and traditions stand the test of time.



*Images. Mums
Indi Swan and Bec
Wilson back in 1993.
Daughters Jess
Swan and Ruby
Wilson in 2023.*



*Images. 1983 (left to right):
David Clunie, Craig Mills, Mark
Marrows, Glen Farrow, Marcus
Thorne. 2023 (left to right):
Marcus Thorne, Glen farrow,
Mark Marrows, Craig Mills,
David absent in the USA.*



Four Ormond alumni came together after 40 years to re-enact their Graduation photo of 1983. Only one, David Clunie, was unable to attend in person, although he did facetime in briefly from Pennsylvania. The ravages of age (grey hair, no hair, and spectacles) were clearly evident. After remembering legendary tales of derring-do from their College days they spent a wonderful evening catching up with each other's brilliant careers and families, renewing friendships made so many years before. •

VALE

Remembering Barry Cairns (1941 – 2023)

Barry Cairns, known to the Ormond College community as a warm and generous man, will be fondly remembered. He was a resident of Ormond from 1959 to 1964, and again from 1969 to 1971. Barry went on to have a successful career in medicine, including working with the Australian Army, before retiring in 2008.

Barry and his wife, Mary, made significant contributions to Ormond College, particularly in supporting medical education and helping talented

students, especially those from rural and regional areas, to access the College. Their commitment will have a lasting impact on Australian society.

Our sincere condolences go out to Mary Cairns and their extended family. Barry's memory will be cherished for his warmth and his meaningful contributions to the Ormond College community. •



Remembering Professor Robert Bartnik, FAA (1956 - 2022)

Robert was born February 1st, 1956, the eldest of four boys. He attended Balwyn North Primary School and, after receiving a full scholarship, Scotch College. Rob then attended Melbourne University in 1974, spending the first two years at Ormond, a place he always had fond memories of. Rob's brother Mark and daughter Diana Hull also attended Ormond. Whilst at Melbourne University, he won the Australian Junior Chess Championship and competed in the

World Junior Chess Championships in Manila in 1975.

He completed his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Melbourne University and then a PhD in mathematics from Princeton University in 1983. Following completion of his PhD, he served post-doctoral positions at the Courant Institute at New York University and then at Stanford University in California, before moving back to Australia in 1985. Rob then pursued professorial positions at University of NSW, University of New England, the University of Canberra and finally at Monash University.

Rob was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) in 2004 for his contributions to the application of geometric analysis to mathematical problems arising in Einstein's theory of general relativity and has contributed to understanding

of the properties of the Einstein equations and gravitation. He is also known for introducing what is now known as the 'Bartnik quasi-local mass'. His peers describe him as an original researcher and one of only a select few responsible for introducing the new techniques that reshape the mathematical landscape.

Rob was diagnosed with Parkinson's in early 2001 but kept himself busy lecturing and writing papers, travelling all over the world to collaborate on mathematics projects until his retirement in 2016. He never felt sorry for himself or complained, but just got on with life as best he could. Rob passed away on November 12th 2022. He is survived by his wife and two daughters. •

By Mark Bartnik (1975)



Remembering Robert Alick Robson CBE (1927 - 2021)

Born in 1927 in Middle Park, Melbourne, only child to Cecil and Minnie, Robbie was Captain and Dux of Melbourne High School before attaining a scholarship to study civil engineering at Melbourne University. Training with the military engineering corps in World War II, Rob then took up his engineering studies at the University's Mildura branch. It was here he met lifelong friends Noel and Dorothy Blennerhassett, who introduced Rob to Joan, his beloved wife of 68 years.

Robbie was in residence at Ormond College from 1948 to 1951. A well-remembered occupant of the three-windowed study above Ormond's main entrance, Rob was also a keen rugby player, captaining the seconds team in 1950. Thus began a treasured lifelong connection with Ormond. Maintaining a keen interest in College affairs, Rob was central to the establishment of the Ormond College Association (OCA) in 1973. Reborn from the Old Ormond Students' Association at the time when Ormond welcomed its first women student residents, the OCA sought to 'broaden its base for membership' and increase engagement. Rob was unanimously elected as inaugural OCA President. Years later, he delighted in attending the 2019 OCA Dinner with granddaughter Kate Robson (Ormond 2002), delivering a memorable address (and song!).

Rob and Joan were married in 1953, and Rob began work as a civil engineer with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, during which time he designed the Elwood canal. Rob then joined Rocla Concrete Pipes, relocating

to South Africa in 1957 with Joan and sons Mark and Brett (Ormond 1974) to establish the company there. Their son Craig was born in 1958, and the family spent 8 years in South Africa, creating many treasured memories of travel and adventures. Returning to Australia in 1965 when Rob became Rocla's NSW State Manager, the homeward voyage took them up the east coast of Africa to India on British East steamer SS Karanja and through Southeast Asia.

In 1980, Rob was awarded Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to industry. Officially retiring aged 62, Rob continued as a non-executive director on several company boards for another decade.

An avid sailor and keen fisherman throughout his life, Rob spent many hours on the water with his family and friends. He entered the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race with his own beloved 'Quetzal' in 1984 and 1986. Later in life, he enjoyed croquet, theatre, cinema and all things computers.

Rob died peacefully in November 2021 with wife Joan at his side; she died 6 weeks later. They are remembered by sons and daughters-in-law Mark and Marea, Brett and Jane, and Craig and Sharon, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. •

*By Kate Robson (2002) -
Granddaughter of Robert.*



VALE

Ormond College wishes to extend deepest sympathies to the families and friends of Ormondians who have passed recently:

Dr Eric King-Smith (1943)

Mr David Strong (1944)

Dr Ron Benson (1948)

Mr Ian Bainbridge (1950)

Dr Cas McInnes OAM (1950)

Rev Dr Francis Macnab AM (1951)

Dr Alex Buchanan AM (1952)

Dr Elizabeth Lewis AM (1954)

Mr Len Ashburner (1955)

Mr Peter Dawson (1956)

Mr Peter Sloane (1956)

Associate Professor Peter Paterson (1957)

Dr John Yates (1957)

Dr Barry Cairns (1959)

Dr Walter McGregor (1960)

Mr Graeme Willersdorf (1961)

Professor Sandy Clark AM (1963)

Dr Terry Reichl (1964)

Mr Jim Pfeiffer (1966)

Mr Roger Clarke (1967)

Mr Keith Oliver (1970)

Dr Alf Wall (1972)

Mrs Diana Renard (1973)

Professor Robert Bartnik (1974)

Mr Lachlan Mackenzie (1988)

Professor Neil Russell
(Residential Tutor)

Remembering Lachlan Mackenzie (1970 – 2022)



Lachlan arrived at Ormond in 1988 after completing his schooling at Swan Hill High School. He remained at Ormond for all of his studies and completed his Honours degree in Chemical Engineering at the end of 1991.

Fully embracing College life, Lachlan distinguished himself both academically (winning a MacFarland scholarship in 1988) and on the sports field where he played football, cricket, volleyball and basketball. He was a member of the winning golf team in 1989 and captained the golf team to victory again in 1991. Ormond was where Lachlan met his future wife of 26 years (Emma Hillier 1988) and where he began life-long friendships with Rob Marcolina (1988), Cameron Begley (1989), Jason Start (1988) and Andrea “Tas” McCullough (1988) to name a few. In a letter to Emma during the 1988 Summer break, he remarked that Ormond was not just a place to live. “When I walk back from uni and walk through the Ormond College gate, I think how I lucky I am to be here. People laugh at my small room but I wouldn’t swap it for any other room on College Crescent.”

A gifted engineer, Lachlan contributed to the safety, reliability and sustainability of Australia’s oil, gas and wine industries for 30 years. Lachlan’s work ethic, integrity and commitment to excellence were the hallmarks of his career and he is described by his colleagues as a true, natural leader, a kind and generous mentor, a true gentleman.

Nothing about Lachlan was mediocre, he excelled at everything he did. He was an A grade championship golfer, a brilliant home cook, a passionate gardener. He enjoyed nothing more than to cook a beautiful meal, share a good bottle of red from his cellar and enjoy the company of family and friends gathered around his table.

In 2018 Lachlan was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive brain tumour and in July 2022, he passed away at home surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife Emma, daughters Rose and Grace, his parents, and brothers.

Lachlan was a much-loved and respected member of the Ormond community and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. •

By Emma Mackenzie Hillier (1988)





ANNUAL GIVING APPEAL 2023

As we approach the year's end, we are eager to share the remarkable progress we've achieved and to extend our heartfelt appeal to the Ormond community to continue supporting our mission of making our College truly accessible in every aspect.

We express profound gratitude for the incredible generosity demonstrated by our community, which has resulted in over \$220,000 in contributions dedicated to both Scholarships and the Accessibility Building Fund. Nevertheless, there remains a significant journey ahead, and we earnestly seek your continued support.

Our commitment to ensuring that all students, regardless of their physical abilities, including those with mobility, hearing, speech, or vision impairments, can fully benefit from the enriching experience and nurturing environment Ormond offers necessitates an investment of \$180,000 for essential accessibility enhancements. Additionally, we aim to install a much-needed lift in the Main Building, with a total cost of \$485,000.

We recognise that many students and their families are currently facing increasingly challenging financial circumstances, particularly Indigenous students, those from rural and regional areas, and those attending government schools. Your support is pivotal in enabling us to provide equal opportunities to all students, and together, we can continue to transform lives through education.

To support the College and make a difference, please consider making an online donation before the end of the financial year

For more information on how you can support Ormond, now or in the future, visit ormond.unimelb.edu.au/support-ormond



←
Scan to donate to
our appeal today

Contact Gareth Crowe, our Director of Advancement, via email gcrowe@ormond.unimelb.edu.au or by telephone 03 9344 1141.

The (Early) Late Show!



50 years of co-education celebration with host Lisa Leong (1990) and panelists Liz Wilkie (1973), Kate Jenkins AO (1988), and Henriette Rothschild (1989) with student Producer Ola Wallis, and student guest Jennifer Wu.



Make a donation to the Ormond College Women's Scholarship and support future generations of female leaders at Ormond College.



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