



# Tartan Ties

Spring 2019

News from Macarthur Anglican School



# From the Headmaster



Advances in technology in the last few decades have made it possible to communicate with friends anywhere in the world, not just by email, but on a number of social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter and so on. We can also fly directly from the Australian mainland non-stop to Europe, North America and anywhere in Asia. As some people say, the world is a smaller place today than in the past.

We know from the number of former students who now live and work in China, Jakarta, Singapore, Hong Kong and London, to name a few places, that there are students among our current enrolment who will find employment in international companies and be based from time to time in overseas locations. This is part of the reason why at Macarthur we always endeavour to instil an international perspective into our students. One way of achieving this is through opportunities for students to travel abroad on school tours; in recent times to Europe, Indonesia, Japan and Thailand. However, tours are not compulsory and not every student can take part in them.

A more important way that can benefit all students is to have people of other national, cultural and linguistic backgrounds visiting our school. Since 1992, Macarthur has enrolled full-time international students, who complete their education here while living with local families, before moving on to attend an Australian university. More recently, short-term study tours have introduced our students to people from a wide range of nations, including nations of Europe. The contribution our international students make is immeasurable, not only in the friendships that develop with Australian students, but also in their contribution to the academic standing of the school. One former international

student was Dux of the school and as recently as the 2018 HSC, an international student recorded the second highest ATAR score.

Since 2000, we have received visits by the students of Nihon University The Third High School in Tokyo, Japan. On each 14-day visit we ensure that their programme includes time to interact with classes in our Junior School, who are always delighted to meet the Japanese students.

As well as the English lessons they engage in, they also interact with students of their own age, visiting classrooms and participating in sporting competitions.

This brings me to the recent 2019 visit by the students and staff of Nihon University The Third High School, during the year of the school's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. Once again, the visit was a wonderful success, with many new friendships made and intercultural understanding enhanced. However, this year's visit was even more important because the tour group was accompanied by Mr Arai, the Headmaster of the school, and Mr Shibata, the Deputy Headmaster. I should also mention that the group was once again accompanied by Mr Norio Suzuki, who has accompanied students on visits to Macarthur more than 20 times and is a valued friend to many members of staff.

During the visit by Mr Arai and Mr Shibata, discussions were held on how our schools can have an even closer relationship through inter-school visits and teacher exchanges. The results of these discussions are described in more detail in the article about our international programme on Page 5.

Finally, and although I have already written at length about it in *The School Bulletin*, I would like to mention again the performance of *Les Misérables* by our students in August. Although the performance season is over, vivid memories remain, especially for those students who were involved as performers, musicians or backstage and technical support. Once again, I acknowledge the enormity of an undertaking like this, which could only be achieved through the dedication of Mrs Nadine James as Producer and Director, Dr Rebecca Bennison as Musical Director and Mr Kent Palmer as Technical Director, together with the support of countless teaching and support staff. I congratulate all of the students for their fine performances, efficient backstage work and outstanding technical support. Well done!

Dr David Nockles

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**Cover Photo:** Megan Azocar as 'Enjolras', leading the revolutionaries at the barricade in the musical, *Les Misérables*.

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# Macarthur People

## Mrs Tracy Gill – Uniform Consultant

With the retirement of Mrs Sue McKell, who was featured in the last issue of *Tartan Ties*, Mrs Tracy Gill has been appointed as Uniform Consultant in the school's Uniform Shop. The school regards this as a key position since, like Mrs McKell, Mrs Gill will be among the first people to greet new students of all ages as they prepare to commence their education at Macarthur Anglican School. Although she is new to this position, Mrs Gill is no stranger to Macarthur.

Known to older and former members of staff as Tracy Baxter, Mrs Gill attended Macarthur from the beginning of 1988, completing her Higher School Certificate in 1993, just in time to see the school begin its first Junior School classes. She was a member of Barker House and was involved in the Rock Eisteddfod when that was a major school activity. Tracy became a Prefect in Year 12 and chose Hospitality for a career after leaving.

After quickly deciding she did not want to pursue a hospitality career, Tracy joined the National Australia Bank and rose to the position of Personal Banker, working with NAB for 15 years. Eventually, Tracy decided to complete a Certificate III in Educational Support and worked for a further seven years as a Teachers' Aide.

Along the way, Tracy met and married Stewart Gill and they have two children, both attending Macarthur: Henry in Year 10 and Toby in Year 8. With her background in this school as a student and a parent, Tracy will make a worthy replacement for Mrs McKell.



## Council Member Profile – Mr Marcus Judge

Mr Judge was appointed by Synod to the Council of Macarthur Anglican School at the beginning of 2018. From the school's standpoint, his experience as a member of Council of St Andrew's Cathedral School is an invaluable background to the contribution he makes on the Council of Macarthur, particularly as the Chairman of the Council Finance, Property and Marketing Committee.

Mr Judge grew up in what we now regard as inner Sydney and attended Homebush Boys High School, the foremost high school in the area where he lived. He began work with the Commonwealth Bank and through part-time evening study completed a Bachelor of Business degree and a Master of Business Administration. Over a career spanning 36 years, Mr Judge acquired wide experience in the corporate world and became Divisional Chief Operating Officer in the area of Institutional Banking at the Commonwealth Bank.

Mr Judge and his wife Anne have three adult children. They attend Moorebank Anglican Church, where Mr Judge acted as Accounts Auditor for many years and is part of the Service Leaders Team.

Mr Judge's interests are not confined to banking, the church and school councils. Surfing is a lifelong passion. He is the Chair of Christian Surfers International, an organisation that aims to bring the Word of God to the worldwide surfing fraternity. He attends conferences and meetings every year when they are held in one of the 38 member countries. Our aim, Mr Judge says, is to, "inspire Christians who surf to be good witnesses for Christ in the worldwide surfing community".



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# Macarthur Learning



## The Year 5 and 6 Agriculture Club

An outstanding feature of Macarthur Anglican School is the Macarthur Show Team for students in Years 7 to 12. *The School Bulletin* often details the amazing results our students achieve in local shows and the Sydney Royal Easter Show each year, with many students winning ribbons for placings in the various events.

Just as important, as a preparation ground for the Show Team, is the Year 5 and 6 Agriculture Club. Under the guidance of Science and Agriculture teacher Mrs Helen Glover, the club operates on two days per week, with Year 6 meeting during the lunch break on Mondays and Year 5 meeting on Fridays. Beginning with smaller, easily handled animals, the students feed and water the school's chickens and learn how to care for them, including how to wash and groom them ready for showing. This involves gently washing the chickens in a small tub in warm water. They learn to gently clean their feet and combs with a soft toothbrush to get them looking their best.

Each year the school's chickens are entered in the Camden Show and students are always excited to see how they perform. This year, the club entered a team of six chickens and were rewarded with a third placing in the team event and overall Champion Rooster with their Silkie called Stanley.

Apart from working with poultry, members of the Agriculture Club also begin their involvement with larger animals, initially helping with each year's flock of newborn lambs. As well, they try their hand with growing vegetables with the help of Mr Paul McCarthy, the school's Farm Assistant.

This year, members of the Agriculture Club began involvement in a new activity called the Birds in Schools Project, which aims to engage students in the scientific process, by investigating and monitoring the birds and their habitat in our school grounds. The ultimate aim is to develop and implement an action plan related to improving the biodiversity of our school. Students will be taught how to identify birds in our local area, leading to the development of an atlas defining areas of habitat.

The Agriculture Club is open to all interested students in Years 5 and 6 after they complete a Safety Induction Course. It is one of the school's most worthwhile activities in which a student in this age group can be involved.

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**Above Image:** Members of the Year 5/6 Agriculture Club – Back Row: Jacob Makdessi (Year 8) holding Rocky, the Plymouth Rock Rooster, Jake Jensen, Joshua Elling, Tomas Pesic, Libby Newcombe (holding Stanley, our champion Silkie), Ellie Fitzpatrick, Ella Johnson and Amelia Kravac. Front Row: Elizabeth Ha, Riley Newman, Athan Perras and Samuel Owen

## Macarthur International

Like many independent schools across Australia, Macarthur Anglican School has an active, ever-evolving International Student Programme. Initially, this consisted of a small number of international students, mostly from Hong Kong, then later expanded to include mainland China and several other Asian nations such as Indonesia and Thailand. Apart from the enrolment of international students from these countries, the programme has evolved in more recent times to include several short-term study tours by students from a wider range of countries, including students from Europe.

A very important aspect of the International Student Programme is the link school arrangements we have with Nihon University The Third High School in Tokyo, Japan, and the Lévy József Református Gimnázium in Miskolc, Hungary. The relationship with the first of these schools has been built on annual visits by a group of Nihon students in August each year, plus a small number of visits by groups from Macarthur. The relationship with Lévy József has been built mostly on student and teacher exchanges on a yearly basis. Many students have enjoyed learning about language, the respective cultures of each country and building friendships across the world. Teachers from both schools have also been involved in exchanges where they have appreciated the sharing of teaching and learning methods.

The most recent group of Nihon University The Third High School students to visit Macarthur, were accompanied by The Headmaster, Mr Arai, and the Deputy Headmaster, Mr Shibata. Their visit was part of the school's 90<sup>th</sup> year celebrations and also coincided with the completion of 20 years of association with Macarthur. During the



visit, a Sister School Agreement was signed which will expand the relationship between our two schools. "As part of that agreement," the Headmaster said, "Nihon University The Third High School has confirmed their desire to host Macarthur students as part of the Snowsports Tour we arrange from time-to-time and also to host our students during possible future cultural tours".

In addition, a Teacher Exchange or Visitation Programme will allow Macarthur teachers to experience exchange opportunities with teachers from Japan. This is an outstanding opportunity for Macarthur teachers to gain an intimate view on the way a Japanese school operates and to experience life in urban Japan. There will also be the chance of daily contact with Japanese teachers who will spend varying periods at our school, observing the teaching methods and curriculum and comparing it with their own teaching experience.

In announcing the expansion of the relationship between the two schools at a recent staff meeting, the Headmaster mentioned that staff exchange visits to Nihon University The Third High School will take place during our school's Summer Vacation.





## Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

This subject, known colloquially as PDHPE, is a prominent feature of the Macarthur Anglican School curriculum. It is a compulsory subject in all year levels up to Year 10 and an elective course in Years 11 and 12. Thirty eight students have chosen to continue their study of PDHPE as an elective subject in 2019. PDHPE is more than just an outdoor activity, as the brief descriptions below make abundantly clear.

In the Junior School years, research has shown that there is a positive association between physical activity and the cognitive, social, emotional, physical and spiritual components of health. Regular participation in physical activity during these years and during adolescence is important for promoting a lifelong positive attitude towards a healthy lifestyle. The syllabus for this stage of learning covers Active Lifestyle, Dance, Games and Sports, Growth and Development, Gymnastics, Interpersonal Relationships, Personal Health Choices and Safe Living.

A new syllabus for Years 7 to 10, which commenced in 2019, has a focus on Life Skills, specifically Health, Wellbeing and Relationships, Movement Skill and Performance, and Healthy, Safe and Active Lifestyles. The syllabus provides material for teaching several units on topics such as Anytime Activity, Managing Yourself, Developing Boundaries, Do I or Don't I and case studies about students with disabilities. Year 10 students attended the Stand Tall event. 'Committed not just motivated' is the message that resonates with the students who attend. The Stand Tall programme aims to inspire secondary students to stand tall for what is right, for positive choices, for friendship, for resilience and against bullying. The minds of our students are challenged, and the importance of setting goals is emphasised, as students are encouraged to set 'audacious' goals for their lives with a healthy disregard for what others may tell them is impossible.



The senior PDHPE syllabus is a demanding course covering health issues in Australia, including a focus on groups experiencing health inequalities, and the challenges of maintaining health throughout a growing and ageing population. Students also study the factors affecting sporting performance, such as energy systems, nutrition and psychology. Sports Medicine is another exciting topic, looking at sports injuries and rehabilitation.

Macarthur provides opportunities for students to learn about and practise ways of adopting and maintaining a healthy, productive and active life. The PDHPE programme continues to challenge the minds and bodies of Macarthur students as they learn through movement experiences that are challenging and enjoyable. Health lessons allow students to explore issues that are likely to impact their health and wellbeing in the future, including physical activity, mental health, drug use, sexual health, nutrition, supportive relationships, personal safety, gender roles and discrimination. Health issues that appear in later life are also relevant topics for study, due to the possibility that they may impact the family and other significant adults in students' lives. While setting goals is important, students are led to understand that failure is sometimes part of the process of growing, and that we are not defined only by what we achieve but also by the journey to become who we are.



## History Tour 2019

The completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> History Tour to Europe this year gives some idea of just how popular this opportunity is for Macarthur Anglican School students. The tour is a much-anticipated fixture in the calendar, allowing students to see historic sites in Europe, which creates an appetite to see more beyond the end of school.

While many of the sites are included in each tour, there are slight differences from one tour to the next, dictated by a variety of circumstances, some of which are quite unexpected. For example, one tour had to cope with the party's luggage going astray. Another was extended when a volcanic eruption in Iceland delayed all flights. This year, the disastrous fire in the Cathedral of Notre Dame ruled out a visit to this 12<sup>th</sup> Century architectural icon. New experiences in this tour included a trip to Giverny to see Monet's house and garden, then to Rouen, to avoid the Yellow Vest protestors in Paris. The group also visited the Canadian WWI Memorial at Vimy Ridge for the first time.

This list of well-known sites gives an idea of just how broad the experience was and how busy the group of 34 students were to take it all in.

In Rome, there were visits to the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, Vatican City, St Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel and the Pantheon. Pompeii and Naples are rich in archaeological sites, where students took a guided tour of the ancient streets, ruins and excavations. They saw the city centre of Naples and amazing Greek and Roman antiquities at the Archaeological Museum.

Moving on to Berlin, students visited the Berlin Wall, the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, the Holocaust Memorial, Checkpoint Charlie and the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp from WWII. In Paris, there were visits to Les Invalides, the Arc de Triomphe, Le Tour Eiffel, the Palace of Versailles, Montmartre, the Sacré-Coeur Basilica and the Louvre, followed by the diversion to Giverny and Rouen.

On the Western Front, there were visits to Amiens, Albert, the Lochnagar Crater, the Pozieres Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, Arras and Vimy Ridge. Crossing the English Channel from Calais by ferry to London, students visited Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, Piccadilly Circus, the London Eye, the Tower of London, The London Dungeon, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, the British Museum and the Imperial War Museum. What an experience!



## Digital Technology in the Junior School Classroom

In the last issue of *Tartan Ties*, the Head of Junior School, Mrs Estelle Stelzer, explained the impact a new Science and Technology Syllabus will have when it is implemented. Implementation is now under way, so Mrs Stelzer has provided this information on how digital technology has become a central feature of classrooms at Macarthur.

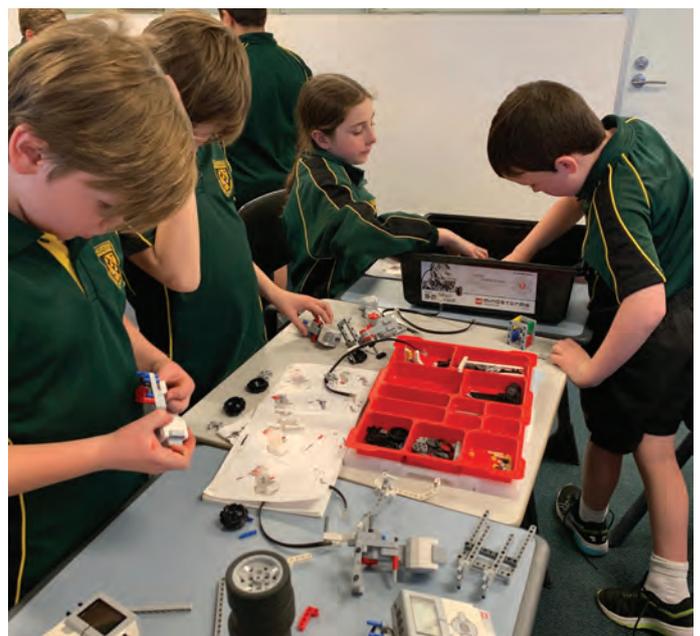
Technology has drastically changed the way we live and the way in which we teach and learn. We are so firmly entrenched in the digital age that most primary school children today don't know a world without Google, iPhones and the internet. Since the 1980s, when computers first appeared in front of primary school students, they have been used for a few core purposes: word processing, researching information, adding an audio-visual element to learning and playing 'educational' games. Computers were originally set up in specialised 'labs' and accessed as an add-on to the classroom curriculum. However, within the last few years we have seen a radical change in the way technology has been integrated into the classroom.

Technology helps us move away from a traditional industrial model of education and towards educating 21<sup>st</sup> Century learners who are creative problem-solvers, and who are adept seekers, rather than possessors, of knowledge. Technology is no longer relegated to laboratories but embedded in daily classroom routines. With the implementation of the new K-6 Science and Technology syllabus, students at Macarthur have embraced the opportunity to participate in developing innovative ideas and solutions in response to questions they have about the world.

While digital technology involves the use of hands-on equipment such as blue-bots, sferos, Lego We-Do and other such devices, it also involves developing skills such as computational, scientific, systems and design thinking. These are explored within each stage of the children's learning and encourage students to question, manipulate, inquire and produce solutions to problems. Through knowledge and understanding of digital technologies, students are encouraged to become critical consumers of information and creative producers of digital solutions.



There will always be a place for a real, live teacher in the classrooms of the future regardless of advances in technology. Research has shown that the single biggest factor in student achievement is the teacher-student relationship. You can have an unlimited budget, a one-to-one device approach, continual internet connectivity and a suite of the latest and most engaging software, but the fact remains that without an expert teacher on hand to engage the students and scaffold their inquiry, learning is limited. Professional learning for staff in this area of digital technology will continue to be prioritised as changes and advances in technology arise, further developing our students as 21<sup>st</sup> Century learners.





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# Macarthur Stars

Several outstanding sportspeople have attended Macarthur Anglican School. Two young achievers in the world of cricket are Jade Errington of Year 12 and William Salzmann of Year 11.

Jade Errington was selected to compete at the Indoor Cricket National Championships in Melbourne during July this year. This was the fourth time that Jade has represented NSW Metro in Indoor Cricket. The team went down in two challenging early encounters against powerful Queensland and Victorian teams, before winning their next five matches to reach the finals.

NSW Metro faced South Australia in the first Semi Final, securing an impressive 125 to 96 run victory. Jade scored 22 runs with a strike rate of 183.33 and took two wickets with the ball. Jade's team progressed to the Preliminary Final to face Queensland. After two losses to Queensland early in the tournament, the momentum shifted as NSW produced a scintillating performance, defeating Queensland 105 runs to 83 to secure their spot in the National Championships Grand Final against Victoria.

Victoria's very strong side remained undefeated throughout the National Titles. NSW Metro fought hard in the Grand Final, but it was Victoria who eventually secured a 104 to 77 run victory. Jade made 15 runs in the Grand Final at a strike rate of 115.38 and had the excellent bowling figures of two wickets for just one run from her two overs.

Jade was second highest run scorer in the Nationals tournament, compiling 175 runs in 11 games, at an average of 15.91 and a strike rate of 119.87. She was also the first-string wicketkeeper, along with being called on to pick up wickets at crucial times with the ball.

Jade, by statistics, was Player of the Match for three of the eleven games played during the Nationals and picked up her third Player of the Match Award in the Grand Final despite the loss, an outstanding achievement!

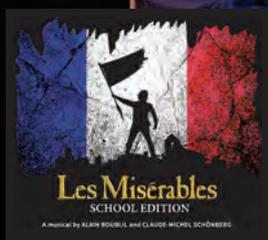
Jade has also been selected in the NSW Under 18 Outdoor Training Squad from which a team is selected for a National Tournament later this year.

William Salzmann is to be congratulated for the outstanding achievement of being selected in the Under 17 Cricket Australia XI. William earned his selection following an intensive training camp run by Cricket Australia at the National Cricket Centre in Brisbane in early July.

William caught the eyes of national selectors during February this year with some very strong performances with both bat and ball at the Under 15 National Championships in Queensland. William was a consistently dominant player in the NSW team that went through the National Championships undefeated.

In the Grand Final against Queensland, William scored an impressive 29 runs not out from just 15 deliveries, including three fours and a six. He also picked up a crucial wicket with the ball, as well as taking two catches to help secure the National Title for New South Wales.

Four days after the National Championships, William was announced as part of the Under 15 Australian Cricket Team. A few months later William earned selection in the Under 17 Cricket Australia XI.



# Macarthur On Stage

## Senior Musical Production of *Les Misérables*

The novel on which this musical is based was first published in 1862 with the musical premiering in Paris in 1980. Many stage and movie productions have been seen since throughout the world, and only recently became available to younger people in the School Edition. Set in early 19<sup>th</sup> Century France, against a backdrop of a revolutionary period in France, Jean Valjean, a French peasant, desires forgiveness and redemption after serving 19 years in gaol. In his new life he practises forgiveness, reflecting the forgiveness

bestowed on him by a bishop after he was caught stealing. This act of mercy is contrasted throughout the musical by the resentment of Police Inspector Javert.

*Les Misérables* is a favourite musical of Producer and Director, Mrs Nadine James, as it is for many people around the world. She describes it as a challenging show to stage, requiring many capable vocalists and musicians.

### Les Misérables Cast

Jean Valjean

**Timothy Gidiess**

#### *ABC Students*

Javert

**Jonathan Kennedy**

*Ethan Byatt, Hannah Davey, Ayva Gibbs, Elijah Gray, William Kennedy,*

Fantine

**Charlotte Denning-Hughes**

*Henry Key, John Lawless, Luke Platt, Austin Sierra, Raymond Zheng*

Eponine

**Sally Fowler**

#### *Thenardier's Gang*

Cosette

**Olivia James**

*Isabelle Banks, Brajden Johansen, Luke Platt, Amelia Wood, Lucy Wood*

Thenardier

**Micah Paki**

#### *Chorus*

Madame Thenardier

**Lisa Kanatli**

*Ruth Alexander, Vidun Amarasinghe, Charles Atkin, Crystal Azocar, Mystery*

Marius

**Reuben Gomez**

*Bond, Zoe Byatt, Claire Cooper, Rachel Davies, Bayley Gandy, Madeline*

Enjolras

**Megan Azocar**

*Grabowski, Sarah Guyer, Gabriella Hand, Elliot Herd, Madina Herta,*

Gravroche

**Isaiah Gray**

*Matthew Howlett, Jacinta Johnson, Imogen Johnstone, Alexandra Kidd,*

The Bishop of Digne

**William Kennedy**

*Ainsley Mackie, Jessica Overton, Sophie Patterson, Caroline Psarris, Lucinda*

Bamatabois

**Xavier Sciberras**

*Saunders, Gabriella Seghabi, Lilly Siemon, Anoli Siriwardane, Christopher*

Fauchelevant

**Henry Key**

*Sutcliffe, Hannah Sutcliffe, Lilly Tindal, Ethan Watts, Natalie Wong*

Little Cosette

**Lilly Ferrari**

Young Eponine

**Sascha Masjuk**

Army Officer

**Micah Paki**

*(A full list of Cast, Crew, Musicians Technical Support Team and Credits will be included in the 2019 Yearbook.)*



"I was confident that the students were ready for the challenge," Mrs James says. "The students rose to the challenge and when faced with the pressure of audience expectation surrounding a show such as *Les Misérables*, I knew we had to bring out the best of what we can do."

Students, teachers and other helpers spent many hours in vocal and orchestral practice, in acting and choreography rehearsals, in set design and construction, costume planning and in designing lighting and sound effects. In performance, the large cast was supported by a superb orchestra of mostly student musicians, and conducted by Dr Rebecca Bennison, a very efficient Backstage Team and a highly skilled Technical Support Team overseeing lighting, sound and special effects.



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# Macarthur News

## Retirements

Mrs Sue McKell, who was featured in the last issue of *Tartan Ties*, was farewelled at the end of Autumn Term after 32 years of service to the school as a Uniform Shop consultant. Mrs McKell and her husband John have retired to a new home south of Nowra.

After commencing at Macarthur in 2012, the Reverend David Hayman retired as Chaplain at the end of Summer Term this year. Mr Hayman led Chapel services, taught Biblical Studies, coached Basketball teams and ran several co-curricular activities such as the Dads and Daughters weekends, Super-Cru Day Camps, Oasis Getaway weekends and the North Queensland Outreach for Year 6. Mr Hayman will continue in ministry closer to his home in the Southern Highlands.\*

Mr Bruce Manning retired at the end of Autumn Term in June, after serving the school since 2010 as a bus driver and on grounds maintenance. Mr Manning has been a church pastor and, as a licenced electrician, was able to carry out a number of small electrical jobs for the school. His knowledge, skills and sense of humour will be missed by students and teachers alike.

Mr Larry Turner of the Grounds and Maintenance Department retired in August after serving the school since 2011. Mr Turner will also be missed by the school because of his trade skills in welding and repairing the school's maintenance machinery. Among many other jobs Mr Turner has done around the school, such as reconditioning mowers, parents should note the number of green and timber slat seats spread around the school, from the Transition and Kindergarten play area and the pick-up waiting area, to the Senior School recreation areas.

The school is grateful for the service these members of staff have provided and would like to wish them many of God's blessings in the years ahead.

\*The Headmaster recently announced the appointment of Rev Michael Hyam as the new school Chaplain. Rev Hyam will commence in the new calendar year.



*Pastor Colin of New Hope School, Dhaka*

## Caleb Foundation

The Headmaster also announced at the end of 2018 that Macarthur will be partnering with the Caleb Foundation for South Asia ([calebaustralia.org.au](http://calebaustralia.org.au)) to form a link with the New Hope School, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. This work is now under way, allowing the school to serve and give generously in a direct and significant way that will benefit the students and teachers of New Hope School. Macarthur

is committed to providing \$7,000 per year to support New Hope School, with each of the six Houses aiming to raise at least \$700, and the balance coming from other school activities such as Happy Day. In August, the students heard from Pastor Colin, who described the work of the Caleb Foundation in supporting a total of nine schools and 23 pastors in Bangladesh, one of the poorest nations in the world.

## Lifelong Learning

Macarthur encourages students to regard learning as a lifelong pursuit. A wonderful example is set by teachers who continue their own learning in order to increase their knowledge and expand their teaching skills. Of note is the example of Macarthur Science teacher, Dr Rachel D'Arcy, who recently completed a PhD degree. Her scientific research was titled *Chronic Kidney Disease in Non-Domestic Felines*, which involved research in the field of veterinary medicine, investigating kidney disease in big cats such as lions, tigers, cheetahs and snow leopards that live in Australian zoos. All of these are threatened species, underlining the importance of this work. Dr D'Arcy commenced her research in 2012 and was conferred with a PhD by the University of Sydney in 2018. In the course of her research, she visited eight zoos throughout Australia, sometimes being present during veterinary procedures on anaesthetised animals.



*Dr D'Arcy with one of her subjects.*

# Macarthur Community

At Macarthur, our school community continues to be an engaging and supportive one. Led by Women@Macarthur (W@M) and Men@Macarthur (M@M), there is a willingness across the breadth of our community to be involved and connected.

The year to date has seen many and varied activities.

## Activity in Brief

- New families breakfast welcomed over 130 mums, dads and students to the school.
- Launch of Parent Connect for parents of Transition and Kindergarten students.
- W@M hosted Afternoon Tea in celebration of International Women's Day.
- M@M monthly BBQ Breakfasts for Dad's to connect after dropping the children to school.
- Grand Champion Sponsorship of the Camden Show.
- Headmaster's 10<sup>th</sup> Golf Challenge, with our first ever ladies' team.
- Community Groups enjoy an advance performance of *Les Misérables*.
- Talk Back Thursday meet on Thursday and Playgroup meets on Monday.





A major event in the Community calendar is the Annual Dinner. This was held on 25 May at Camden Civic Centre. Guests were treated to a roving card magician, the vocal talents of Claudia-Rose Hackney from the 2016 cohort and two videos that had been pre-recorded – Insights with Mr Kokic and Big Kids, Little Kids. These insightful and funny videos can be viewed on our website.

Dave Harvey from David Harvey Auctions brought a thrill to the evening with his Auctioneer skills, particularly when he started the bidding on a diamond pair of earrings at only \$5.00! Stuart McIntosh (2014) and Grace Barrett (2015) kindly assisted in the evening by running the trivia and table games and lolly bar.

Thank you to everyone who generously donated items or gave of their time and energy to make it a great night. Thank you to those who attended the dinner, the feedback for the night was very positive.

A special thanks to our generous sponsors. Without their support an event of this calibre would not be possible.

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Choice Seedlings

**Bronze Sponsors**

PC Soft

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# Donation from Norma Harris

We were humbled to recently receive a particularly special donation to the school. Mrs Norma Harris, Rex Harris's widow, contacted the school and generously gifted us with two very important paintings. Purchased by Rex some years ago, Norma says they reminded him of Macarthur after he retired.

Since the passing of Rex, Norma felt the paintings now belong at Macarthur. They have been hung in the Rehearsal Hall, near to where Rex conducted many student musicians. As a member of Staff for 17 years, and a much-loved teacher, Rex is deeply missed.

We are very grateful to Norma for thinking of Macarthur and are honoured to remember Rex in this way.



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# Partnering with Yandelora School

Macarthur is delighted to have begun a partnership with Yandelora School. Built on Macarthur's original site at Narellan, Yandelora is a state-of-the-art School for Specific Purposes (SSP), catering for students with disability. Yandelora will eventually have an enrolment of 100 students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

We have been working with Yandelora on a number of initiatives to link the two schools, the first of which commenced in Term 3. Students from Macarthur can choose, as a sport elective, to assist a Yandelora student to participate in a sports program.

This initiative is already proving to be beneficial for students from both schools. They eagerly look forward to Tuesdays when it's time to catch up with their 'buddy'. Comments from Jacquie Lockyer, Principal of Yandelora School, have been glowing and we are keen to build on this success.



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# Macarthur Staff



## Claudia Angrisano

Mrs Angrisano completed a pre-service practicum at Macarthur in 2013. She then worked at Sir Joseph Banks High School in Revesby in 2014 and at St Mark's Coptic Orthodox College in Wattle Grove from 2015 to 2018, before commencing at Macarthur near the end of 2018. On

returning she found a very welcoming and supportive Social Science Faculty. She says that her Faculty colleagues were a great support as she made the transition into her new school.

Mrs Angrisano is second generation Italian, the youngest of four sisters and is married with one 16-month-old child. In terms of what she hopes to achieve as a member of staff at Macarthur Anglican School, Mrs Angrisano says that she would like to have a positive influence on student experiences during their secondary school journey and, more generally, on their adolescence. "I hope to inspire students to be critical thinkers who challenge the status quo," Mrs Angrisano says. "I wish to see students become leaders in their learning while becoming active and informed citizens."



## Anita Lesmana

Mrs Lesmana is one of the first people you meet as you enter the Administration Centre. After commencing at Macarthur in 2000, she has served in the school for almost 20 years, presenting a smiling face that makes visitors immediately feel welcome.

After spending her early years in Jakarta, Indonesia, Mrs Lesmana's family moved to China and then to Hong Kong. Her father ran several businesses there and her mother opened a restaurant, while Mrs Lesmana attended a Business College. In 1981 the family moved to Australia and remained until 1990, when they moved back to Indonesia. However, civil unrest in Jakarta during the Asian Financial Crisis of 1998 led them to move back to Australia. With such a varied background, Mrs Lesmana is trilingual; fluent in Indonesian, Cantonese and English.

Supporting her colleagues and the teaching staff, as well as guiding visitors constitutes Mrs Lesmana's daily role in the school. However, she is also interested in helping to further the Christian ethos of the school in any way she can. She attributes her desire to work for such a long period at Macarthur to the fact that the people around her are so considerate and that the school is in such a beautiful location.



## Leanne Dib

Mrs Dib commenced at Macarthur in May 2019 to work in the field of Community Relations, Marketing and Publications. This is a broad role which will see her promoting the school to prospective families. "I want to engage with parents and express our brand promises to them," Mrs Dib says. "I want to build relationships with the hope of bringing new families into this great community." Mrs Dib will also have a role in assuring the highest standards in school publications.

Mrs Dib has enjoyed a varied work history in marketing and advertising roles since completing a Bachelor of Science degree at The University of Sydney. She was one of only two graduates in New South Wales to gain a Marketing Cadetship with Mobil Oil. During her time with Mobil she rose to the position of Territory Manager and completed an international training course in Marketing and Public Relations. Mrs Dib has also worked for Dymocks Booksellers and a number of non-profit organisations, including Anglican Youthworks.

Mrs Dib describes the joy of working with like-minded people, who are committed to the school and its community, as the most enjoyable aspect of her work at Macarthur so far. She says it is fulfilling to see the staff delivering on the promises we are making to parents about what they should expect from the school. "It's the very heart of our marketing!"

# Macarthur Archives

## Junior Classes at Macarthur

While Macarthur Anglican School has now been operating for 35 years, junior classes educating children from Transition to Year 6 have only been in existence for just over 25 years. The Foundation School Council initially planned for a secondary, Year 7 to 12, independent Anglican school. However, by the early 1990s it was apparent that there was a need for junior classes, which would satisfy demand as the surrounding areas grew rapidly, and which would provide the advantage of a number of children entering Year 7, who were already steeped in the culture of Macarthur.

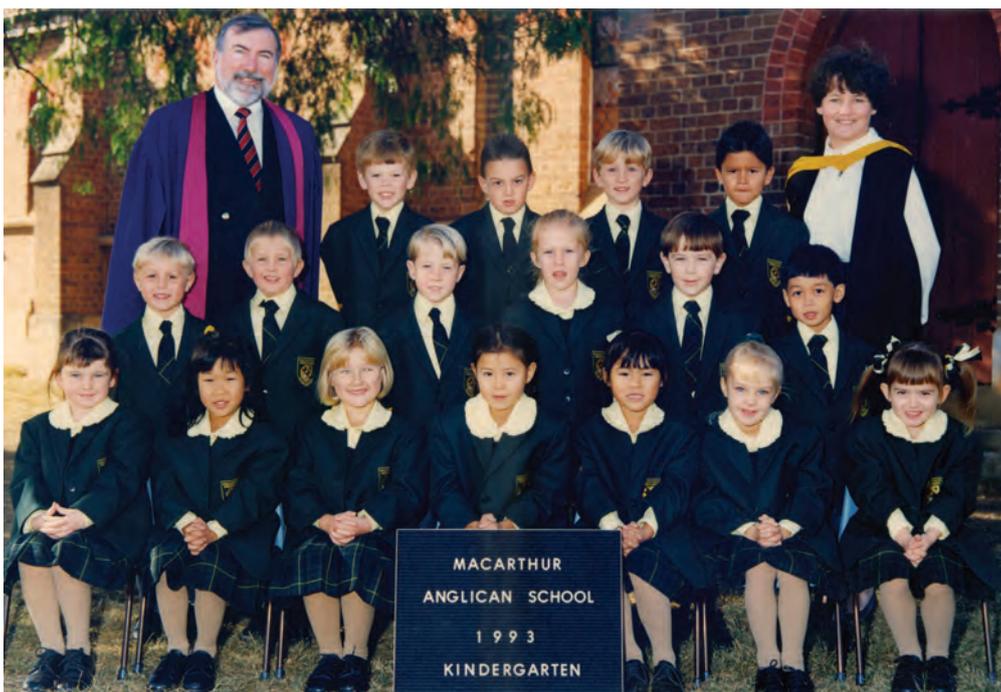
Initially, the demand for Kindergarten to Year 6 places was determined by conducting a survey among existing parents and the wider community. Tentatively, the School Council took the step of establishing in 1993 just three classes, a Kindergarten, a Year 5 and a Year 6. The school employed Mr Andrew McPhail as the Head of Junior School, Mr Richard Turnbull to teach Primary and Mrs Karen Oliver to teach Kindergarten. At this stage, the entire school was located in Richardson Road, Narellan. Interestingly, those first children to attend Macarthur in Kindergarten are now around 30 years of age.

Year by year, the Junior School grew, adding to the total enrolment of the school which reached almost 700 within a few years on the rather confined two-hectare site in Narellan. With the foresight of the School Council, a search began at the same time for a larger permanent site for the school, now expected to reach 1,000 enrolled students.

After 'filling in' every year level from Kindergarten to Year 6 within four years, growth continued by establishing two classes per year group. In addition, the Transition class for pre-Kindergarten children began in 1997. After senior classes transferred to Cobbitty in 1997, the Junior School continued at Narellan until 2005, when all classes were finally established at the school's present site.

In recent years, the Narellan site where Macarthur began was purchased by the Department of Education, which found that the buildings were not fit for their purposes and had them demolished. They have now built a new School for Specific Purposes (SSP) called Yandelora, catering for children with disabilities. Macarthur has already established an exciting partnership with Yandelora, which is described by Mrs Karyn Ingram in the Community section on Page 15. Through this partnership, Macarthur will maintain a link with the place where our school began.

The 'journey' of the Junior School has been an exciting development in the history of Macarthur as a Kindergarten to Year 12 school, providing high quality Primary and Secondary education, within a Christian framework. Ongoing expansion, with the opening of Exploring Tree Macarthur in 2018 and the impending development of the Integrated Studies Building, will ensure that future students of all ages will continue to learn in outstanding facilities.



### Kindergarten 1993

**Front Row:** Emma Jeffree, Kai Men Chieh, Stephanie Gibbs, Edwina Lim, Mirella Buckler, Jemma Glanville, Lena Hughes

**Row 2:** Joel Sargent, Timothy Ash, Patrick Daly, Alicia Lyons, Benjamin McLean, Joseph Lee

**Row 3:** Mr Riley Warren (Headmaster), Adam Vaughan, Mitchell Cole, Paul Wyper, Robert Klaic, Ms Karen Oliver (Teacher)

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# Macarthur Alumni



## **Emily Bailey (2006)**

completed a Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design at the Australian Catholic University. For several years she worked in the graphic design field for Solutions Outsourced, the company that has been managing the school's website. Emily then completed a Diploma in Education and has been working for several years now at Wollondilly Anglican College, teaching Food Technology, Information Software and Textiles. She is the Year 9 Advisor and is actively involved in designing costumes and make-up for the school's musical productions. Beyond her work life, Emily is interested in maintaining fitness and has participated in several weight-lifting competitions.



## **Elliot Ku (2008)**

is helping to plant a new evening service at Gracepoint Church, Lidcombe, for university students and young adults. Elliot has preaching and teaching responsibilities at the morning services and has been ordained by the Presbyterian Church. He is also studying part time for a PhD. "I'm feeling slightly overwhelmed, yet also excited as I outline all this, and so we covet your prayers as we embark on this renewed journey," Elliot says. Elliot describes his ministry as a Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered, God-glorifying, and community-supported endeavour.



## **Madeleine Prociuk (née Mortier, 2015)**

married Andrzej Prociuk (2014) in January this year. Madeline and Andrzej met at Macarthur when she was in Year 9 and Andrzej in Year 10. Madeline says she is always grateful to Macarthur for bringing them together.



## **Britney Harvey (2017)**

has been sworn in as a Police Constable in the NSW Police Force, fulfilling a long-held dream. Britney's proud parents are grateful to the school for giving Britney self-confidence and for teaching her how to achieve her goals, after only joining the school in Year 10. Constable Britney Harvey is now stationed at Bateman's Bay and loving her new career.

*Left: Constable Britney Harvey at her graduation with Police Commissioner Michael Fuller, APM.*



## **Adam Ebeling (2017)**

was awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award by Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC, Governor of New South Wales, at St Stephens Uniting Church Sydney, followed by a reception at Government House. One of Adam's Award highlights was learning to fly. The skills Adam demonstrated over the three categories of the award led to him gaining a restricted Private Pilot's Licence.



**Alicia Millard (née Alchin, 2013)**

married Jerome Millard on Saturday 2 March 2019. Her maid of honour was her sister Courtney (2011) and one of the groomsmen was her brother Jarrod (2015). Alicia and Jerome have settled into their first home in Currans Hill.



**Suzanne Purvis (2015)**

was married on 7 December 2018 to Bruce Klaic. She is currently studying for a Bachelor of Communications degree in creative writing at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). At the same time, Suzanne is working as a travel agent in Bondi Junction.



**Nikhil Goyal (2015)**

representing Australia, won second place early in the year in the Man of the Globe International Pageant, held in The Philippines. Man of the Globe International Charity is an organisation encouraging young people to have a positive impact throughout the world.



**Tynan Williams (2013)**

was teaching in the Macarthur area, but decided to relocate and explore Europe. He has accepted a 2020 teaching position at Riverside International School in Prague.



[www.facebook.com/macarthuranglicanalumni](http://www.facebook.com/macarthuranglicanalumni)



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### Executive Staff

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Deputy Headmaster: Mr Andrew Kopic  
Dean of Studies: Mrs Kylie Elling  
Dean of Students: Mr Timothy Cartwright  
Director of Business and Advancement:  
Mr David Stewart  
Head of Senior School: Mrs Rebecca Joel  
  
Head of Middle School: Mrs Carolyn Watkins  
Head of Junior School: Mrs Estelle Stelzer  
Head of Admissions and Staff Services: Mr Neil Davies  
  
Head of Innovation Research Centre: Mrs Rebecca Fitzpatrick