

# Queenslea Quarterly



Term 3 2017

## Dear Queenslea Club members

Welcome to another edition of our Queenslea Club Quarterly.

This year the Old Boys' Association (OBA) turns 100, and we started the term off with a celebration - a special war memorial gifted to the School by the OBA. This included a ceremony on school grounds in the week in which ANZAC day was celebrated, with special guest speaker old boy, Lieutenant Colonel Ben Passmore CSC of the Royal Military College Duntroon. The service was attended by our Army Cadet Unit, members of the Old Boys' Association, all of the boys from Pre-Primary to Year 12 and other special guests. The war memorial is now nestled into the School's soil outside our Main Administration building and I invite you to take a close look the next time you're on campus.

In May, over 200 Year 9 boys and their fathers gathered in the School Refectory for the inaugural Year 9 Father/Son experience. This was an opportunity for fathers to discover new ways to build healthy, strong relationships with their boys and it turned out to be a great event. We know that Year 9 is a challenging year for boys and this event, combined with guest speakers throughout the year and fabulous pastoral care, assists in helping the boys make sense of their identity, relationships and purpose.

Canberra is always a wonderful trip for our Year 6 boys, and this year was no exception. Strengthening and cultivating pride in our nation, 102 students paid a special visit to our nation's capital to consolidate their understanding of Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. Across four rigorous days, the boys were able to develop a deeper understanding of our national identity and explore a number of iconic attractions.

This year our Midnite Youth Theatre Company celebrates three decades of joyous experiences for young people. On 20 May, 130 guests attended Midnite's 30-year celebration at His Majesty's Theatre to celebrate the official birthday of the production company. It was a great event and I congratulate the MYTC on this milestone.

Boarders at Christ Church continue to play a special role within the school community and between 14 to 20 May our boarders participated in a wide variety of activities during the inaugural National Boarding Week. This is a week dedicated to generating positive awareness around boarding nationally.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Kind regards

**Alan Jones**  
Principal



On Sunday 11 June, the official opening of our exhibition titled *Reflections of the past 100 years* took place in the Old Boys' Gallery as part of the OBA centenary year, celebrating and showcasing the association's history and achievements.



The Queenslea Club is for friends of Christ Church Grammar School who wish to maintain a connection to the School.

To join, contact the School on (08) 9442 1555 or at [info@ccgs.wa.edu.au](mailto:info@ccgs.wa.edu.au)

## Building healthy and strong relationships



**Over 200 Year 9 boys and their fathers gathered in the Refectory for the inaugural Year 9 Father/Son experience, a special opportunity for fathers to discover new ways to build healthy, strong relationships with their boys.**

Facilitated by adolescent development expert, Dr Arne Rubinstein and hosted by The Wynne Centre for Boys' Health and Wellbeing, the interactive evening was designed especially for our Year 9 boys and their fathers/male mentors.

Throughout the evening, Dr Rubinstein shared guidelines and practical solutions to support fathers and sons in building strong, healthy relationships. He explored topics such as the impact of technology, how to grow the father/son relationship, the importance of independence and resilience, and the need to create appropriate coming of age ceremonies.

"It was such a privilege to see so many fathers/male mentors and sons connecting authentically, showing a commitment to their relationship and the importance of working on this into the future. Family is important to the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people", said Director of The Wynne Centre for Boys' Health and Wellbeing, Liam Casson.

"Research shows that young people who experience a nurturing environment and are provided with emotional, social and physical support are most likely to experience positive wellbeing and reach their full potential."

As part of the Personal and Spiritual Development (PSD) program, the boys consistently explore the concept of positive relationships and the evening provided a great supplement to this course.

Following the event, Year 9 fathers and boys have been encouraged to support one another, understand each other's world and the challenges that each face.

Dr Arne Rubinstein has over 30 years' experience as a doctor, counsellor, mentor and workshop facilitator, and is author of *The Making of Men*.



## Army Cadets deliver an exemplary start

**Our Army Cadet Unit (ACU) have been keeping busy with a number of support activities in past months, including a guard and flag orderly for Dalkeith Primary School's ANZAC assembly. This was their sixth year of involvement and it is now an annual fixture on the unit's calendar.**

Under the command of RSM WAUR, WO1 Bruce Williams, the unit provided flag orderlies and escorts alongside soldiers from the Western Australia University Regiment for the Len Hall Memorial Game between the Fremantle Dockers and North Melbourne on Saturday 22 April at Domain Stadium. The Len Hall Memorial Game honours returned and fallen Australian and New Zealand Defence Force members and commemorated the 75th anniversary of a range of 1942 battles.

Twenty-five of our cadets participated in the 8km Perth Mint Gallipoli Run at Kings Park in April. "All cadets who participated finished and it was outstanding to see some of our better runners go back and help those who were outside of their comfort zone. This teamwork was in the spirit of the event and the boys' efforts were outstanding. A significant amount of money was raised by the boys for Legacy", said Co-ordinator of Army Cadets, Duane Nurse who also participated in the run.

"The cadets have been exemplary over this period, and I have lost count of the number of members of the public who have approached cadet staff to congratulate them on their conduct. The challenge now is to maintain the standard throughout the rest of the year."

## Proud to be Australian

**Annually, our Year 6 boys tour our nation's capital as they explore Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. Through this experience, the boys are able to develop a deeper understanding of our national identity and further strengthen and cultivate pride in our nation.**



Accompanied by 11 staff including Head of the Preparatory School, Mr Richard Wright, and Director of Pastoral Care, Planning and Co-curricular, Mrs Holly Miller, our current Year 6 boys embarked on four rigorous days of exploration filled with hands-on experiences.

During the tour the boys saw iconic landmarks including the Australian War Memorial, old and new Parliament House, the National Portrait Gallery, the Australian Institute of Sport, the National Archives, the National Art Gallery, the National Arboretum, Questacon, Cockington Green Gardens and the Australian Mint. The boys also enjoyed bowling, eating out at Jamie's Italian in the city and playing at many of Canberra's wonderful parks.

Highlights of the tour included real life experiences such as role playing the passing of a bill in new Parliament House and asking endless questions of professional guides about our democratic system of government and our history.

"The Canberra tour is an absolute highlight of the Year 6 Christ Church experience. Having this real-world experience provided so many rich learning opportunities and all teachers were very impressed with how the boys conducted themselves and demonstrated their knowledge in the way they interacted with the education programs, the discussions they had and the questions they asked", said Mrs Holly Miller.

## Midnite Youth Theatre Company celebrates 30 years

**2017 is a special year for the Midnite Youth Theatre Company as it celebrates three decades of joyous experiences for young people. Valued by artists and audiences alike, Midnite is treasured for its continued commitment for those seeking to explore dramatic arts beyond the limits of school drama.**

One-hundred and thirty guests attended Midnite's 30-year celebration at His Majesty's Theatre in May, celebrating the official birthday (20 May) of the production company. Guests included Her Excellency, the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AC, Governor of Western Australia and Vice-Regal Patron of MYTC, The Honourable Dr Ken Michael AC, Mr Max Kay AM, CitWA, Theatrical Patron of MYTC and Mrs Kay, and The Honourable John Cowdell AM.

Director of Drama, Mr Gregory Jones said on the evening "We owe our success to the outpouring of love and generosity from you, our community, and we are so grateful for your loyal support over the years. Things have come a long way since that first production of *Midnite*. Over 200 productions later and 12 international tours, Midnite epitomises Perth's journey from culturally challenged to a thriving national arts environment."



Established in 1987 following a collaboration between Christ Church Grammar School and Methodist Ladies' College on Randolph Stow's *Midnite*, the company's best-known Alumni include Tim Minchin and Stuart Halusz, as well as Mitch Thomas and Andrew Newnham, who work in production.

Professional director and actor Jenny Davis says "I first worked with The Midnite Youth Theatre Company in the early 1990s and have always been impressed by the level of commitment and pursuit of excellence by the company. The exciting experiences many young people have had, both in Perth and on tour, and the access to professional mentoring and venues, have remained with them as an invaluable part of their education and I'm struck by how often they feel it has been a positive influence on their lives."

# National Boarding Week 2017

**This year, boarders at Christ Church participated in a wide variety of activities during the inaugural National Boarding Week (14 to 20 May), a week dedicated to generating positive awareness around boarding nationally.**

Led by the Australian Boarding Schools' Association (ABSA), many boarding schools across Australia took part in this initiative including Christ Church. ABSA is the leading authority in Australia on boarding for school-aged children, promoting the interests and well-being of boarders, boarding staff, boarding parents and boarding institutions in Australia.

Competitions and challenges which our boarders participated in during the week included a:

- 1 km run around the school campus
- gold coin collection which raised \$140 – each boarder was encouraged to donate a gold coin in support of 'Beanies 4 Brain Cancer', a charity lead by TV personality Carrie Bickmore
- 'who travels the furthest to school' competition, revealing which of our boarders covers the most ground to be at Christ Church.

A 'why I love boarding' competition was also held and some of the great responses received included, "I love boarding because of the countless brother-like relationships I have developed, something that I wouldn't have had if I didn't attend boarding school" and "I love boarding because I now have good mates for life and it places me in future life situations so I am developing lots of new skills."

Director of Walters Residential Community, Brad Downing said "It was good to recognise and celebrate the contribution of our boarders to the wider school community. Considering that many of today's youth are leaving home at age 20 and above, these boys are making an early start by joining the boarding community at around 11 years of age, equipping them with lots of important life skills."



# Principal's Food Drive



Each year we invite the community to support important projects and initiatives. This term boys from our Peter Moyes Centre did a fantastic job with our Principal's Food Drive. The drive required the boys to co-ordinate and pack food items collected by each of the Houses (e.g. dried fruit, muesli bars, tinned baked beans), then to be distributed to Perth's homeless through St George's Cathedral.

## Dates to diarise

### The Arts

#### **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**

The Midnite Youth Theatre Company

3 to 5 August 7.30pm

5 August 2.30pm

Heath Ledger Theatre – State Theatre Centre of WA

**Book here**

### The Centre for Ethics

#### **Ron Banks Book Launch**

*Other Times: Life, journalism and the arts*

Senior School Staff Room

Christ Church Grammar School

Wednesday 26 July at 5.30pm

RSVP: ron.banks@iinet.net.au

### Maggie Dent

*The Importance of Calmness,*

*Silence and Stillness in Children's Lives*

Senior School Staff Room

Christ Church Grammar School

Wednesday 9 August at 7.30pm

**Book here**

### Screenagers

#### **Community screening (for parents)**

*The impact of the digital age on today's children*

Chapel

Christ Church Grammar School

Monday 14 August at 7.00pm

**Book here**

### **Ochre - I want to paint**

Senior School Staff Room

Christ Church Grammar School

Wednesday 16 August at 7.30pm

**Book here**

