



Christ Church
Grammar School

Building good men

Principal's Report

May 2017

Attachment

- Media Clips

**Old Boys' Association
Parents' Association**

1. Update on Strategic Plan Implementation

Strategic Plan

(for noting)

As confirmed in the April meeting, the Strategic Plan traffic light indicators and lead and lag documentation are both approved.

2. Major Key Performance Indicators

Reporting to Council

(for decision)

Reporting to Council via traffic light indicators of strategic projects and lead and lag indicators and measures will be twice a year. The timing of this reporting to be determined.

3. Matters for Noting

Staffing

(for noting)

Appointments

- Miya Maeda: Prep Art Technician
- Di Bain: Executive Assistant to the Deputy Principal/Head of Senior School, Term 2

Resignations

- Georgia Drake: Executive Assistant to the Deputy Principal/Head of Senior School

UK travel

(for noting)

My trip to the UK during the term break was a successful mix of an OBA event, chaplaincy interviews and school visits.

The OBA event was a great success with old boys and future parents in attendance. I was able to show them videos of the Claremont campus, Koorungal and St John's Wood which they were very excited about.

I conducted interviews with prospective chaplains and met with two key Anglican contacts who have provided additional names to follow up. I also visited schools in York and Edinburgh to discuss the possibility of partnering with them for our "Beyond Queenslea Drive" program.

OBA war memorial

(for noting)

A whole school assembly was held on Thursday 27 April to commemorate the unveiling of the OBA war memorial. The assembly was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to celebrate 100 years of the OBA and to thank the OBA for the memorial gift.

St John's Wood

(for noting)

All staff were invited to attend an end of Term 1 celebration at St John's Wood on Friday 7 April. The feedback from staff has been very positive with much excitement around the use of the fields at the start of Term 2.

The official launch of St John's Wood will be held on Saturday 6 May. Please see link to video of the playing fields - <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B1xWk6RAOE6oanpCY1lrVk9WelU>.

Koorungal

(for noting)

Please see link to video of Koorungal - <https://vimeo.com/197353074>.

Annual Giving

(for noting)

The Annual Giving Campaign for 2017 will be mailed out the week commencing 8 May. The four priority initiatives are:

- Indigenous Scholarship Fund
- Alan Blackwood MC Memorial Scholarship (Education Fund)
- Scholarship Trust
- St John's Wood playing fields (Building Fund)

Morrisby training

(for noting)

In June, in conjunction with MLC, we will be holding a one day training session with Barry Darnell, the Director of Morrisby in Australia. Morrisby is a careers guidance product which is currently used in more than 1,000 schools globally.

School events

(for noting)

Please see list below of key events from Term 1 and 2.

Term1

- 15 February 2017 - Senior School New Parent Dinner
- 16 February 2017 - Preparatory School New Parent Dinner
- 23 February 2017 - Whole School Birthday Assembly
- 2 March 2017 - Preparatory School JPSSA Inter School Carnival
- 8 March 2017 - OBA Unforgettables quarterly lunch
- 9 March 2017 - PSA Swimming INTERS
- 10 March 2017 - Principal's school prefects and parents cocktail party
- 12 March 2017 - OBA v 1st Water Polo match
- 15 March 2017 - MYTC Ensemble "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"
- 18 March 2017 - Head of the River regatta

Term 2

- 26 April 2017 - Year 12 Principal's Dinner
- 27 April 2017 - War Memorial Assembly and morning tea
- 29 April 2017 - Year 12 Ball
- 2 to 4 May 2017 - Career's breakfasts
- 5 May 2017 - Combined CCGS/St Hilda's Concert
- 6 May 2017 - Scholarship testing
- 6 May 2017 - St John's Wood launch
- 10 May 2017 - Years 9 and 10 Play "Stories from Suburban Road"
- 11 May 2017 - Year 9 Mother and Son Breakfast
- 23 May 2017 - Year 9 Father and Son night with Dr Arne Rubinstein
- 24 May 2017 - BGM breakfast
- 27 May 2017 - PSA Indigenous round vs Wesley College
- 11 June 2017 - Official Opening of OBA Centenary exhibition
- 14 June 2017 - Men's health breakfast
- 18 June 2017 - Rock extravaganza
- 20 June 2017 - The Ellington's Jazz Club Night
- 23 June 2017 - Year 12 Father/Friend and Son breakfast
- 1 July 2017 - OBA Centenary gala dinner

Term break work/maintenance program

(for noting)

- War memorial install and general planting
- H block parapet wall repairs
- L block concrete remediation and repairs
- N block roof refurbishment
- Q block painting
- R block concrete floor and painting
- T block kiln removal and reinstatement of new unit
- OBG refurbishment
- 14 Queenslea Drive refurbishment
- Hazardous material removal
- Stirling Highway panel steel panel refurbishment & repaint

- Mt Claremont and SJW repairs and general oval setup for start of term fixtures
- Security integration works
- General campus clean
- Test and tagging in Prep School and Science block
- Pest control
- Air-conditioning service and repair
- Emergency exit light
- Fridge and freezer maintenance in Sandover and Canteen
- Roof and gutter clean
- Emergency fire equipment maintenance
- Strip and seal of vinyl, tile, grout and timber floors

Competition heats up for top school places

EXCLUSIVE

■ **Bethany Hiatt**
Education Editor

Demand for places in gifted and talented programs at WA public high schools has become so competitive that some parents are signing up children as young as seven for academic coaching.

Education Department figures show the overall number of students applying for places in gifted programs has soared 30 per cent in just four years, from 3631 to 4756.

The number of children hoping to get into Year 7 at WA's only fully academically selective school, Perth Modern, also increased by 30 per cent, with 1548 students competing for the 225 places available next year, up from 1187 in 2014.

Even though the department says coaching will not improve a child's chances, private tutors report growing demand for entry-test preparation courses.

Rachel Hayes, owner of Claremont tutoring agency My Academy, said when she started the business seven years ago she had about 15 students preparing for gifted program testing, but



Eleven-year-old twins Misree and Rudra Trivedi with their mother Sejal. Picture: Nic Ellis

now she had more than 300. "We start offering workshops from the beginning of Year 5," she said, adding some agencies take in children as young as Year 2.

Julia Gilmore, who owns A1 Learning in the northern suburbs, said the selection tests differed from those at school so it was unfair to put a child into the

exam without some preparation.

"There is a chance that a gifted child could miss out to a child who wasn't so intelligent, because the other child has been prepared," she said.

Misree Trivedi and her twin brother Rudra sat the public school entry tests three weeks ago after about six months tutor-

ing at A1 Learning. The Year 6 students will find out in July if they have won a coveted spot at Perth Modern or their second choice Shenton College.

Their mother, Sejal Trivedi, said they would also sit private school scholarship exams, but even if successful, they would still prefer Perth Modern.

Dean Bowker: OB - Post April 15, 2017

UWA maintains eye contact with Bali

By SARAH McNEILL

Bali Studio is a second-year fine arts unit at the University of WA that encourages students to engage with Balinese people on a spiritual and cultural level.

The group supports the John Fawcett Foundation in Bali, which runs mobile eye clinics, and this week presented a cheque of \$2500 to two John Fawcett Foundation representatives, Win Jones, chairman of the foundation's WA branch, and Dean Bowker, director of fundraising.

Eye disease and blindness are endemic in Indonesia, and the foundation runs mobile clinics in remote locations to perform surgery on cataracts, treat eye conditions, and to provide spectacles and education on eye care.

There are still over four million Indonesians who need cataract surgery.

John Fawcett (85), former deputy director of the Perth Technical College, has been living in Bali since 1983, when he first recognised the basic medical needs on the island.

With assistance from Rotary Australia and Rotary International, he set up a cleft lip and palate program in 1989 and then a mobile eye clinic for cataract surgery in 1991.

The foundation now has four mobile units and UWA Bali Studio has now committed to

trying to raise enough money every year to fund two mobile eye clinics.

Since July 2015, Bali Studio has held four art exhibitions and raised \$7500 to fund three mobile clinics.

Bali Studio coordinator Paul Trinidad said the idea behind Bali Studio was to engage students in a program that focused on conscience and spirituality rather than books and scores.

"It's about a lived experience and committing time and effort to embody the spirit of karma - doing good things," he said.

Mr Bowker retired from Christ Church Grammar School after 43 years as a teacher and then as director of the school's foundation.

Now fundraising for John Fawcett, he said he had a vested interest in the foundation because his son, now aged 43, had had three corneal transplants since the age of 11.

Associate professor Trinidad and assistant Cathy Maslen both have relatives who are vision-impaired.

Mr Jones, former owner of Broadway and Captain Stirling newsagencies, said he found out about the foundation through Rotary and now spent four months every year in Bali.

"John is inspirational," he said. "When anyone says 'impossible' he takes that as a challenge to do it."



Cathy Maslen, Paul Trinidad, Dean Bowker and Win Jones look at the photos and paintings done by Bali Studio students on their recent trip to Bali to work with the John Fawcett Foundation.

Tommaso D'Orsogna

POST Community news

(OB)

Dolphins take to the water

The sunny pool at St Hilda's in Mosman Park set the scene for a super Junior Dolphins carnival.

Dual Olympians Blair Evans and Tommaso D'Orsogna, West Coast Fever netballer Jessica Anstiss and Fremantle Dockers player Lee Spurr helped to lead a group of 85 children in an afternoon of fun in the water.

The idea behind Junior Dolphins is to encourage kids to have fun with their friends while improving their swimming, without the pressure of competition or serious training.

Swimming Australia president John Bertrand said the program would break down barriers and allow children to simply enjoy

swimming.

"It is often said that swimming is a sport for life, from cradle to grave, and Optus Junior Dolphins has been created to give kids the opportunity to keep swimming after they have learnt the basic skills," he said.

"The whole of the swimming community, state associations, swim clubs and swim schools have come together to create Optus Junior Dolphins."

The national program will soon roll out to registered swim schools and affiliated swimming clubs as well as participating primary schools.

It is designed for children aged five to eight with a range of abilities.

A poolside chat between Bill (right), 41, and Karl, 54, saw these two high achievers join forces for a special cause.

Bill

I was always wanting to race people in backyard pools. When I went to school, I was probably talking up about what an awesome swimmer I was — the Dianella backyard pool champion — when a girl called Marnie said “I’ll race ya”. So the word got around and most of the class came to watch this race between Billy and Marnie. Well, she beat me by a body length and a half! I think I cried.

That event motivated me to do some proper swimming and I found a really awesome swimming coach in Graeme Williams. I don’t think anyone thought I had any exceptional ability, and I certainly wasn’t a big kid, but by the time I started to train hard I knew I was a little bit different in that I actually liked the suffering. I always pushed myself harder.

Winning the 100m relay at the Sydney Olympics was a career highlight but even more memorable was being at the Opening Ceremony. When Cathy Freeman went to light the torch and the whole crowd went completely still, I thought: “I’m here.”

I got married a few months after the Olympics. I’d met Saskia when we were studying physio together. We were in the surface anatomy lab and you had to strip down to your underwear and I just happened to be standing next to her when they assigned partners, so that worked out well.

I got a call from my old school, Christ Church, asking me if I wanted to run a program out of their pool. The timing was ridiculous — it was exactly what I was looking for. That got Saskia and I started in our business, Kirby Swim, which now has five locations.

One of the first programs I ran was an adult squad. Karl joined up and soon after a couple of his kids were in my learn-to-swim program, so I got to know Karl and his family really well.

I was standing next to him one morning and said I’d been chatting to some friends on the east coast who run charity swimming events and that I wanted to do something like it here. Karl said “It’s funny you should say that”, because he’d been looking to

re-establish this thing called Autism West and needed a fundraiser.

We were hoping to get a couple of hundred people along to the first Team Sprint Cup, and more than a thousand turned up. We raised something like \$90,000 — every cent for Autism West. Karl is a great people person and had pulled together an amazing list of sponsors. He looked after the dollars and I looked after the swimming. We couldn’t have done it without each other.

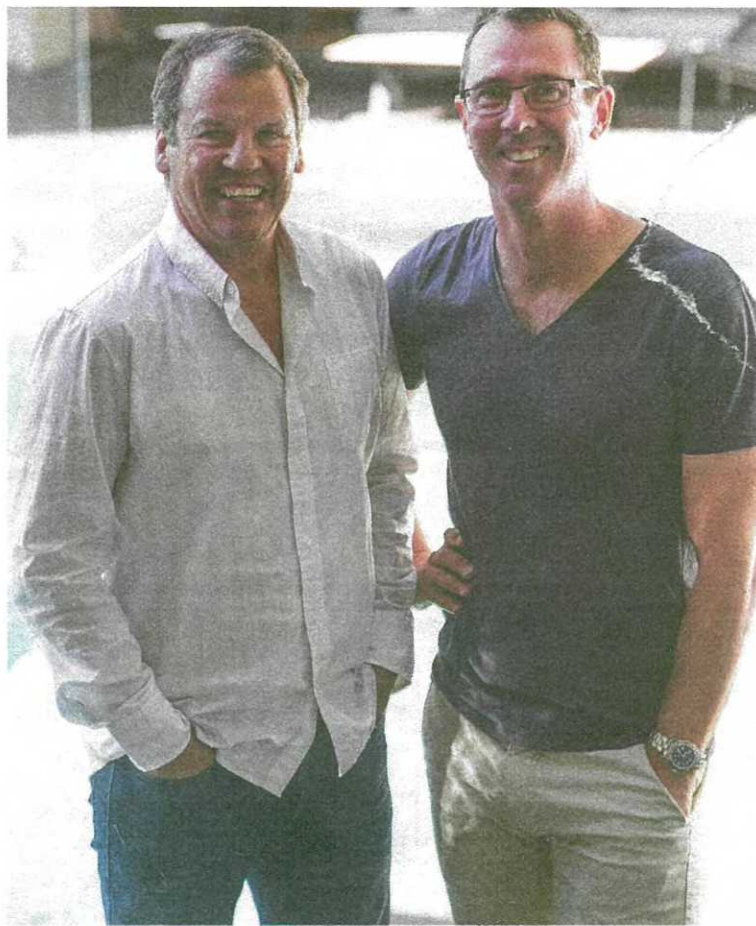
I remember being so exhausted at the end of that day. I’d been trying to look like a swan but sweating bullets the whole time. At 9pm when we’d finally finished packing up, Karl turns to me and says “OK, so next year ...” and I thought “Oh bugger — we’ve started something”.

Karl

I was born in Perth and grew up in Floreat Park, one of three boys. My older brother had done law at uni and so that became a natural progression for me, too.

I decided I didn’t want to be a litigator after I got smashed up in court one day as an articulated clerk. I always liked the commercial and corporate sides of law and got my start with a big firm, before being recruited to be in-house counsel for Robert Holmes a Court before he died, and then for (Robert’s widow) Janet. Robert was an intriguing character and Janet is a terrifically astute lady and the 12 years I spent in that role gave me enormous experience and exposure to national and international transactions.

Ange and I have three boys. Our eldest, Charlie, was diagnosed with autism when he was two. As a dietitian, Ange is a science-based person and picked up on things pretty early. In those days there was still a stigma around an autism diagnosis but we knew there was no point going down the road of denial. Once you have a diagnosis, you can have a plan and access all the available support.



PICTURE IAIN GILLESPIE

Photo available at westpix.com.au



You used to hear all these stories about parents mortgaging their houses to fund ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) therapy for their autistic children but we found that even when you had the funds, finding services was really hard. There were only three service providers back then.

I looked at setting up Autism West back in 2005 — Charlie was about five or six — in order to provide extra services, as well as to provide an independent voice for parents and a place to share information and to empathise. Parents and families can be under enormous pressure when they’re going through this.

‘He’s not your coach, he’s your mate.’

I was one of the earliest starters in Bill’s adult squad and my kids went into his swim schools, so I was down at the pool with him all the time. He’s such a personable guy — he’s not your coach, he’s your mate.

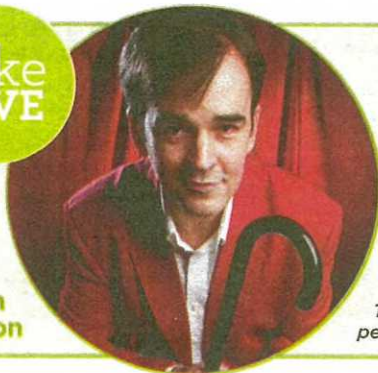
When I said to him we needed a solid fundraiser for Autism West, he said his mate Duncan Armstrong had done a charity swimming event in Sydney and he’d find out how it was done. Duncan came over for the first event and has been a couple of times since. Lawrie Lawrence has probably done five of them.

I don’t know if Bill couldn’t do it without me but I definitely couldn’t do it without him. Here’s a bloke who doesn’t have a child with autism but he’s the guy calling me every September to get the ball rolling again. I have enormous respect for Bill — he’s understated but also very determined and focused. One of the gifts of having a child with special needs is that you meet so many saints on the way through.

Carrie Cox

The Team Sprint Cup has raised more than \$1 million for Autism West in the past 10 years. Autism West is also hosting An Evening with Kathy Lette on May 9, see autismwest.org.au.

take
FIVE



I love ... pronouncing “quinoa” phonetically. Drives hipster waiters berserk.

I loathe ... Northbridge vegans working on their first album.

I will ... come to your house, naked.

I won’t ... come to your house (it’s a metaphor). But I will be naked.

I wish ... hipsters weren’t fast enough to evade the hunting hounds.

The Doug Anthony All Stars perform Near Death Experience, State Theatre Centre, May 18-20, as part of Perth Comedy Festival, see perthcomedyfest.com.au.

with
comedian
Tim
Ferguson