

Spring/Summer 2018/19

Nexus

GOULBURN VALLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Jordon Butts

Something to Crow about

INSIDE: Marimba magic / Outback bound / We like to move it, move it!



Nexus

Editor: Terri Cowley

Design: Amy De Paola/Craig Thorne

Printing: Edge Print Group 1300 715 640
Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Thanks to: Steven Bayly, Debra Block, Fiona Davis, Glen Edwards, Scott Harrison, Shane McDonald, Pam Pogue, Chelsea Pohlner, Mark Torriero, Damian Trezise, Pam Wallace

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COVER PHOTO:

Year 12 student Jordon Butts about to boot the ball for Shepparton Bears during this year's Goulburn Valley League.
Photo courtesy *Shepparton News*.

ABOVE:

L-R: Stella Trezise, Olivia Jackson and Kaitlyn Martin created an Italian flag which was one of the many Harmony Day activities.

From the Principal

At the end of each year the school community pauses to reflect on the core themes of Christmas. Surely one of the most elemental Christmas messages is respect for the rights and dignity of all people. This theme seemed pertinent given the disregard for human rights currently displayed by many world leaders.

Australia is often held up internationally as a nation that has made significant contributions, at various times, to the promotion of human rights. This legacy is one that extends back to many of the critical moments in modern world history.

One of the highlights was in 1948 when Herbert Evatt became the first and only Australian President of the United Nations (UN). Following his appointment he helped draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was passed in 1948 under his leadership. The Declaration is a comprehensive statement of the unalienable rights belonging to every person. This remains one of the most important achievements of the UN and has become a foundation on which many successful human rights campaigns have been based. Leaders such as Evatt challenge us all to remain vigilant in protecting human rights through our thoughts, words and deeds.

Unfortunately there are areas in which the principles of the Declaration are not upheld in Australia. For example, currently in Australia it is lawful for schools with a religious faith to discriminate against students on the basis of their sexual identity.

Discrimination in any form is unacceptable. Particularly in school environments, it jeopardises the safe and supportive culture that is essential for promoting the healthy development of young people. Discrimination undermines the potential of individuals and the cohesion of communities. It has no place in any school community.

For many years the school has supported students and staff who are same-sex attracted. For more than three years we have been members of the Safe Schools Coalition. We have provided professional learning for all staff, which focussed on educational and mental health challenges in a school setting for students who identify as part of the LGBTI+ community. We have supported students and families who have non-traditional gender identity or sexual orientation. We also run an annual day celebrating diversity in our school community. Our commitment to diversity is reflected in our respectful behaviour policy. Furthermore we firmly assert that the promotion of diversity is not only ethically important but is fundamentally desirable. In our view, diversity creates healthier and stronger school communities.

In November this year 46 independent schools, representing a broad range of faiths, signed a joint letter asking the Australian Government to change these outdated and discriminatory laws. Goulburn Valley Grammar School was one of the schools signing that letter. The letter reminded the government that human rights recognise the inherent value of each person, regardless of their background, where they live, what they look like, and what they think or believe.

Respect for basic human rights is the cornerstone of strong, positive and productive communities in which everyone can make a contribution, feel included and thrive.

Semper Ulterius

Mark Torriero
Principal

Online revamp

A new website for the school, coupled with an online school community portal, ushers in an exciting era for online communications at Goulburn Valley Grammar School. Along with presenting a more attractive, modern image for the school, the new website is also easier to use.

A carousel of professional pictures greets visitors to the homepage, which then branches off into sections about the school, the school's focus – including school culture, values and educational philosophy – a Learning section on the school structure, a wellbeing and well-rounded section – covering music, sport, the arts, camps and outdoor experiences, international experiences and clubs and services – and a section on the school community, featuring students, staff and alumni.

The school has also launched Agora, an all-in-one online community portal and teaching and learning environment. Agora provides the tools for parents to take part in their child's learning journey and our school community. GVGS staff, students, parents and groups can all communicate through Agora.

Head of eLearning and Agora project manager, Mr Steve Bayly, said the results represents many months of work from staff, both in terms of information technology and creating the online content.

"Improving the flow of information, fostering collaboration and connecting people throughout our school community is the heart of Agora," Mr Bayly said. Agora offers secure access to information using an individual user name and password. GVGS parents, students, teaching staff and administrative staff all have a different homepage when they open Agora so that each group of users is able to easily access the information relevant to them.

Agora is in the initial stages of development. In the years ahead more services will be added to this platform.

"Agora is an ancient Greek word meaning central public space. The literal meaning of the word is 'gathering place' or 'assembly'. The school has chosen this name as it reflects the purpose of adopting this application, which is to bring our community together," Mr Bayly said. The original name of the software is Schoolbox.

Currently parents can view their child's profile, school calendar, tuckshop, library and uniform information as well as newsletters and letters to parents. Parents can also view news posts and photos of recent events as well as read information about upcoming events.

Future plans for Agora include links to year group pages, co-curricular group information and much more. An app for smartphones is also planned and this will alert you when new information is posted.

Students can communicate with teachers, manage their workload and develop a support system through Agora. Online assignments allow students to complete, submit, review marks and read teachers' comments. Students can develop their own ePortfolio where they can store and showcase their work, awards, individual style and achievements. "With Agora, they can effectively manage their workload and enjoy an enhanced learning experience," Mr Bayly said.

Agora is used by teachers to communicate with parents, manage documents and share resources and ideas with colleagues. In Agora teachers can post assignments, set up collaborative groups, monitor student workloads, view due work and mark tests and assessments online.



If you need more information about Agora you can contact
Mr Bayly: Steven.Bayly@gvgs.vic.edu.au.

To visit the school website, go to: <https://gvgs.vic.edu.au>



Something to Crow about

Year 12 student Jordon Butts received a pretty good graduation present after he finished up his VCE exams in early November: selection in the Adelaide Crows' Rookie Draft. The only down side was he had to pack his bags for South Australia, instead of going to Schoolies Week, as he'd planned.

in early December as part of an induction process. Older brother Lucas is studying information systems at Swinburne University of Technology and younger brother James will complete Year 12 at GVGS in 2019.

Jordon lived with his family in Shepparton and had been at the school since Year 7, after completing primary school at St Mel's.

Being drafted as a Rookie isn't holding Jordon back. "I'm just the same as anyone else – it just means I'm on a one-year contract, rather than two years – I can come in and play whenever," he said.

His focus is to develop his game and put on size. At 197 centimetres tall (that's a bit over 6'4" in the old measurement) he's got the height but he weighs in at a pretty slim 85 kilograms. He's working with the club nutritionist to put on about 10kg!

He's also trying to "get my head around the AFL speed and tactics". There's no doubt playing with the Murray Bushrangers and the Shepparton Bears in this year's Goulburn Valley League (GVL) helped. After playing in the loss to Kyabram in last year's GVL grand final, Jordon was pretty happy to be part of the thrilling two-point premiership victory this season that

"I had to pull out on that but I'm more than happy to do this instead," Jordon said. "I'm starting to get to know the place and know the people." Jordon certainly wasn't sure he'd be picked and was thinking he might have to action Plan B and go to Melbourne to study osteopathic science. Happily that can now be put on the backburner, as the teenager immerses himself in training.

"We go to the club five times a week," he said. "There are three main training sessions. The other days, we do gym work, go to meetings and do reviews – they are long days but it's good."

Jordon is currently living with teammate Kyle Hartigan but will probably move in with a host family next year. It's been a big move to a city Jordon had never previously even visited. "My family is excited for me – they're very supportive – they're happy for me to be here," Jordon said. Family members visited



Jordon Butts (top) celebrates this year's upset premiership by Shepparton Bears in the GVL; Jordon (above) at Shepparton's home ground of Deakin Reserve; Jordon (opposite) revels in his local team's success.

broke the Bombers' winning streak. It also meant he joined his father Gerard (1993) as a premiership player at the Bears.

Two games of VFL football with Werribee in August were also added to his resume.

The Crows national recruiting manager Hamish Ogilvie said Jordon played really well in the VFL and that his performance for the Bears in the GVL grand final was fantastic (he kicked the winning goal). "He's got a year to really make a name for himself, improve himself and hopefully keep going a bit further than that," Mr Ogilvie said.

Jordon, who turns 19 on New Year's Eve, studied two subjects each of English for the VCE, as well as environmental science, maths, health and human development and physical education.

Year 12 co-ordinator Mrs Chelsea Pohlner said during his senior years, Jordon had to work hard to balance his studies with training and competition. "As this year progressed, he began to reap the rewards of his consistent and more focused approach to his study," she said. "Jordon has been a consistent participant in many sporting activities during his time at GVGS. He has represented in the school not only in football, but he is also a skilled athlete in basketball and athletics. Jordon is a well-liked and respected member of his cohort and is likely to make the most of the opportunity in front of him."

Jordon is grateful for the opportunities afforded to him at GVGS. "Grammar prepares you well for communication and learning how to build relationships," he said. "It's a really social atmosphere; a nice community. It sets us up to be good people, whatever we end up doing."



Our footy stars



Two former-student football stars are enjoying being back home in the AFL off season. Josh Schache (Class of 2015) is back in Seymour after his first season with the Western Bulldogs and Ollie Wines (Class of 2012) is spending some time at home in Echuca after wrapping up his sixth season with Port Adelaide.

Josh joined the Melbourne club at the end of the 2017 season in a trade from the Brisbane Lions, which had recruited him from the Murray Bushrangers.

In the first two years of his career at Brisbane, Josh played 27 games and kicked 25 goals. With the Bulldogs he overcame niggling injuries during the first half of 2018 and after strong performances in the VFL, was elevated to the senior side where he finished the season with 17 goals in 13 games.

Josh has spoken of the challenges of playing so far away from home. "When I was up in Brisbane it was nearly every day, randoms would just message you. Nasty stuff," Schache told *The Sunday Age*. "I was 18, 19. It's crazy. When you look back at it, you think, 'Why did I go into it and read it?' I suppose I never knew how to handle that. It had never happened to me before. It can just ambush you in a way. Especially, I suppose, not being able to have many outlets in Brisbane, not being able to get away from it as much. Now I can duck down the road and go home, and just be myself."

Since joining the Western Bulldogs he visits his mother, step-father, sister and friends in Seymour almost every weekend. "The first few days I was here, I was just really overwhelmed with how accepting everyone was with bringing me in and making me feel really comfortable," Josh told the newspaper.

Josh Schache (above left) playing for the Western Bulldogs and Ollie Wines is vice-captain of Port Adelaide.

According to the *Age*, his football is coming along steadily. And even though the Dogs' season did not go to plan, Josh said the desire within the young group remains strong. "All the boys are really hungry and eager to put our best foot forward," Josh said. "I've just really enjoyed being part of the footy club this year. There's a really good vibe."

Ollie Wines, 24, is vice-captain of Port Adelaide, and often described as "captain in waiting". Six years there have led to Ollie growing into not only one of the best midfielders in the game, but one of the competition's marquee players, according to the *Shepparton News*. He signed a four-year extension with the club midway through 2018, putting an end to speculation he would return to Victoria. "Port Adelaide has done everything right by me, and I'm very happy to be there," he said.

Despite this Ollie said he has a dream to play a premiership with Echuca in the GVFL when his AFL career is played out. He loves being back in the historic river-port town. "It's one of the highlights of my year being able to come home," he told the *News*. "As good as the city is at times, I'm still a country boy so I get to come home and spend time with Mum and Dad and all the people around town who have supported me as I have grown, which is really special."



Marimba magic



Members of the school community are well aware of the musicianship of Year 12 student Aditya Ryan Bhat (pictured above) in playing the Marimba. Over many years Ryan has performed skilfully at school events and concerts. In August, Ryan's musical talent was officially recognised when he won the section for Australian and New Zealand residents at the 5th Australian Marimba Competition held at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music at Melbourne University, competing against university-level students. A Marimba is a deep-toned Xylophone of African origin.

Ryan featured in the Shepparton News, which reported that a childhood fascination with drums has led to a future in percussion. "I was very surprised because I didn't think I was going to win," Ryan told the News. The competition was held over two days at Melba Hall in the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Ryan performed four pieces, two during the heats on Saturday and two in the final on Sunday.

Ryan began playing the drums at age seven. But it wasn't until he began school at GVGS that he was introduced to the wide range of percussion instruments by percussion teacher Mr Bruce Archibald. A humble talent, Ryan excelled at many instruments, however, the Marimba became his favourite. "It's a really nice-sounding instrument — mellow and delicate," he told the News.

Goulburn Valley Grammar School head of music Mrs Genevieve Bihun was delighted to hear of Ryan's success. "Ryan is a very special young man who is extremely talented," Mrs Bihun told the newspaper. "I know he will go a long way."

Ryan was awarded a trophy and six performing mallets, which are used to play the Marimba.

On completion of his VCE studies, Ryan hopes to continue his craft, studying music at University in Melbourne.



Industry encouragement

Year 11 students Josh Dillon and Larissa Watts (pictured above) were recently presented with a prestigious IN-GV Maths and Science Award. IN-GV stands for Infrastructure Network-Goulburn Valley and is a local association that aims to promote education, networking and development between organisations that are involved with design, management, maintenance or construction of infrastructure within our region. It also focuses on education facilities to promote these careers in the local region. IN-GV sponsors include the likes of Goulburn Valley Water, Spiire, Rubicon, MC Pipes, Furphy Galvanizing, Greater Shepparton City Council and Deacon Engineers.

The award is open to Year 11 students and recognises the achievements of some of the best and brightest students in the Goulburn Valley region in the fields of maths and science. Joshua has plans to undertake a degree in biomedical science or chemical engineering after school. He has consistently been awarded in maths competitions over the years and is a student leader. "Joshua is a diligent and hard-working student," his biology teacher Dr Narelle Cairns said in his application for the award. "He completes work in a timely manner to the best of his ability and is always considering how new information fits into the bigger picture."

Larissa is looking at a Bachelor of Science or possibly engineering at Melbourne University, with a view to eventually working as a sports scientist or an engineer. Larissa has also consistently achieved both maths and languages awards during her high-school studies. "Larissa is an exceptional young person and a student of the highest calibre," her maths teacher Ms Cheryl Garratt wrote in her application. "Larissa nurtures her natural talent through her application to her studies, which is with few equals."

“The school puts a great value on individuals and the education of each and every student,”

After doing primary school at St Augustine’s in Kyabram, Simon started at GVGS in Year 7.

One of his highlights of his six years at the school was the World Challenge at the start of Year 10, when he travelled to the Indonesian islands of Java and Sumatra. “We climbed the highest mountain in Java,” Simon says. “It was a great experience travelling around a country with 10 of my good friends. It opened my eyes to our closest neighbours and how different we are. I’d like to go back to South-East Asia and have a look around there. We became a lot closer with the people we went with.”

He also enjoyed stage-managing this year’s senior production High School Musical and has worked back stage on previous productions.

For the Victorian Certificate of Education, Simon studied English, environmental science, geography, maths methods and physics. In previous years he received numerous distinctions in academic competitions.

He described his leadership style as helping other people. “I’m not an ideas person,” he said. “I said to Gabi (Gabrielle Patterson also 2018 school captain), if you have anything you need assistance with just let me know. I’ve really enjoyed getting to work with Gabi and the other prefects.” He especially enjoyed being involved in the school Pelic-nic – a picnic for the school’s Pelicans (students).

“The school puts a great value on individuals and the education of each and every student,” Simon says. “I always feel valued here. You can just be yourself. If you have other interests that’s fine. The teachers and the resources and just the classroom environment is very good and allows you to achieve goals and what you want out of your education.”

Simon’s gap year is likely to be a great learning experience, despite having spent his weekends and holidays working on the family farm. “I don’t know where I’ll be yet – Queensland or the Northern Territory,” he says. “I’d like to see what else is out there. I know that dairy is not everything.” He thinks he’ll probably then study at Charles Sturt University.

“I think the technology [in agriculture] is getting a lot better – we are always going to need food and farmers,” Simon says.

Outback bound

School captain Simon Pell (pictured above) is planning to spend next year on an outback cattle station before launching into agribusiness studies. His life will be a far cry from the comfortable surrounds of Goulburn Valley Grammar School, but that is part of the point of this experience. “This is to make sure it’s definitely where I want to go,” Simon says. “My parents would want me to get tertiary education before coming back to the farm.”

Simon grew up on his family’s grain and dairy farm near Wyuna. His father Russell bought next to his parents’ farm with his brother, expanded and then bought his brother out. Russell is still dairy farming, milking 750 cows twice a day, despite the recent challenges experienced by that industry. Simon’s mother Cath takes care of the business bookwork.

“I’d like to go into agriculture,” Simon says. I don’t know what section yet but that’s definitely a path that I’d like to take.”

Simon has a sister Emma, 19, who finished at Goulburn Valley Grammar School in 2016 and is now studying accounting and psychology at Monash University. He also has three older half-siblings.

“Being the youngest hasn’t been too much of a worry for me,” Simon says. “I’ve not had a lot of pressure. My parents always say to do the best I can. That’s all they can ask and that’s all I can ask for myself. I’m happy but I wouldn’t say I do particularly well compared to some other people. I do what I have to do.”

Scouting has been a big part of Simon’s life in recent years. He is a Venturer at the Kyabram Scout group and completed the prestigious Queen’s Scout. He was the chair of the Kyabram Venturer unit for more than a year and organised different events, including a visit to the Afghan mosque. “It’s vital we get to know different sectors of our community,” Simon says. “It’s very important to know them and understand beliefs, even understand differences and similarities.”

Simon’s inherited a passion for the outdoors from his dad. “I do enjoy the outdoors,” Simon says. “Most of our holidays have been out bush or in national parks, where me and my dad enjoy travelling around to.” Recent highlights include four-wheel-drive trips to Yanga National Park in New South Wales and the Canning Stock Route in Western Australia. “We see how different areas of farming and agriculture are doing,” Simon says. “We look at the health of waterways. Dad is rather in to that.”

Our new Chair

Mr Andrew Galbraith is the Chair of the Goulburn Valley Grammar School Board.

Mr Andrew Galbraith (pictured opposite) brings a wealth of business and legal experience to the position of Chair of the Goulburn Valley Grammar School Board.

Mr Galbraith took over the role with Mrs Prue Dobson's retirement earlier this year, after nine years at the helm and an involvement with the school from its earliest days. "We want to continue to offer the best form of academic education in the Goulburn Valley," Mr Galbraith said. "Our focus is high-quality academic education. Part of that education is providing a happy and well-organised environment for the students. The impression I have is that, on the whole, students love to be there and they love to learn."

Mr Galbraith has been a member of the council since 2007, the year after his eldest child Henry started at the school in Year 5. Henry was School Captain in 2013 and is now finalising his law and international relations degrees at the Australian National University in Canberra after a stint at the Australian Mission of the World Trade Organisation in Geneva, Switzerland (see previous issue of Nexus).

Mr Galbraith's daughter Eliza finished in 2015 and then spent a gap year working at a boarding school in England and will be entering her third year of studying arts (journalism) and law at Monash University.

Mr Galbraith is a director of Shepparton law firm Dawes & Vary Riordan and has more than two decades of experience in the commercial, property and corporate sphere. "I don't know what happened," Mr Galbraith laughed, referring to the fact that both his children ended up following in his footsteps by studying law. "I would have thought they would have learnt from grumpy dad coming home late!"

Mr Galbraith works directly with large and well-known businesses in the region and beyond, as well as individuals and families and for local authorities. He is one of only two Accredited Business Law Specialists in the Goulburn Valley. "With work in the country you can form enduring relationships with your clients," he said. "That's what I've enjoyed about country work."

Mr Galbraith grew up in Melbourne and graduated in Law and Commerce from the University of Melbourne. Shortly after being admitted in 1986 he moved to Perth to work for Hamersley Iron (now part of the Rio Tinto Group). While in Perth he met his future wife, Tanya, who had a degree in fashion and design and worked as a milliner.

They married in 1992.

Mr Galbraith intended to head back to Victoria at some stage, but wasn't keen to work in Melbourne. The thought of a big country town appealed to him. "I had read an article about five relatively young partners in a well-known and respected law firm called Riordan & Partners. I bought *The Age* one day on a whim, responded to an advert they had in the paper, had the interview, passed the test of a late night dinner party that night and started shortly thereafter. That was at the beginning of 1992." Now, with the merger with Dawes & Vary, the firm is one of the largest in regional Victoria with significant clients and a staff of more than 80.

Mr Galbraith is also chair of the Shepparton Access Foundation, allocating funding to Shepparton Access, which supports people with disabilities to become more involved in our community. He was previously on the board of Goulburn Valley Family Care, a member and later President of the School Council at Orrvale Primary School for a number of years, Chair of the inaugural Board of Zaidee's Rainbow Foundation and is a fellow of the Fairley Leadership Program.

Mrs Galbraith is also a major contributor to the school, coordinating and creating the costumes for numerous school productions.

Over the past 11 years on the Board, Mr Galbraith has helped oversee significant building works, including that precipitated by the Federal Government's Building Better Schools program, which included a new Year 5/6 building, language centre and various building improvements. "This was just after the school had completed its new library so the new funding that followed it really accelerated the school's building program." Since then works include the WB Hunter Music Centre, a new staff precinct, significant additions to car parking and improvements to landscaping. "We are certainly hoping for more improvements in the relatively near future, and some of them will be significant."

He wants to see the school continue to be an attraction to families across the Goulburn Valley – not just Shepparton. The school reached out to many outlying towns in the region in the early days, mainly to bolster enrolments. "That is not really a concern now but it remains something that is important for the school to do, in my view," he said.

Although the school clearly fosters academic learning,



“Our focus is high-quality academic education. Part of that education is providing a happy and well-organised environment for the students.”

Mr Galbraith thinks it is most important that the school-enrolment policy retains its position of not being selective on the grounds of initial academic excellence. “A school can greatly improve its academic credentials without having to do it the ‘easy’ way by just bringing in bright kids,” Mr Galbraith said. “Even if a student completes his or her schooling without a tremendous ATAR, by and large, that student will have left the school with gainful experience, with friends and with knowledge on how to learn and learn well.”

Mr Galbraith is proud of parents, who over a number of years and in particularly tough times, continue to prioritise school fees. “It is not easy,” he said. “A private education comes at a cost. Many regional families have income levels that rise and fall as a result of factors, many of which are outside their control. Fees do rise even though incomes may not. They are very resilient.”

Government funding is always an issue front and centre for the school, as it is for all education institutions.

Mr Galbraith said the Board is keeping a close eye on the debate about government funding for private schools. “There’s uncertainty about how the new Federal Government model will work and how it will affect the school financially,” he said. “We constantly monitor the

finances of the school. It is in great financial shape at present but government funding is such an important component.”

Mr Galbraith said it is a tremendous privilege to chair the Board. “The school had great founders and myself and other members of the Board are the beneficiaries of all of their good work,” he said. “I still see many of them who offer me encouragement and support. There is also a considerable amount of responsibility to all parts of the school community to see that the school remains focused on its values, remains financially viable and faces and deals with the challenges ahead.”

Although his children have left school, Mr Galbraith was happy to remain involved to see that the school continues to provide quality learning, to encourage achievement and to have a well-balanced environment.

What makes him happy are the many positive stories about the school. “They come from many voices: students, past students, parents, grandparents,” he said. “I don’t think they say it just to start a pleasant conversation. By and large, the stories are unprovoked and glowing. A school can put down on paper many good objectives. It is another thing to carry them out. I believe this school carries out its objectives really well and that is why the good words come back.”

Netball champions



The GVGS Intermediate Girls' Netball team (pictured with coach Mrs Meagan Harrison) took out the top spot at the Intermediate School Girls' Championship.

On Tuesday, September 4, some of the school and region's finest netball players ventured down to the State Netball and Hockey Centre in Melbourne to play in the State Finals. This was an honour in itself, just to make it through qualifying rounds to finish top of our pool against many talented state, Catholic and private school teams.

The girls went through the day winning each of their six matches in a very tough pool, which included: Ballarat Clarendon College (14-2), Catholic Ladies College (14-7), The Scot's School Albury (17-2), Mackillop College Werribee (13-10) and Lilydale High School (14-5). The girls finished top of their pool with the highest percentage out of any of the three pools there on the day.

Our girls faced off against a very tall, talented Trinity College in the semi finals winning this match 14-8 to see us face Melton in the "big dance." Our never say

die attitude saw our girls make it back to tie the score after a four goal deficit in the first half. Needless to say there were tears of joy, after going goal for goal, playing two three-minute halves, when our girls looked up at the scoreboard to find we were victors by one goal. This was topped off with a photo opportunity with the Melbourne Vixens who were there to watch the last part of our match.

I would finally like to congratulate the girls not only on their victory but, more importantly, on the way they represented themselves, their families and our school. Many umpires and officials made comment to me on the way they not only played but their professionalism both on and off the court. Our wonderful team consisted of our captain Taryn Cameron, Elle Brooks, Eliza York, Niamh Thorn, Charlotte Keady, Emily Ratten, Sophie Kamenjarin, Kate Adams, Meg Eishold and Ellie Jager.

This article was written by Year 10 student Kate Adams during work experience at The Shepparton Adviser

New arch rival

The ICCES Junior Girls Football Team (Years 7 to 9) started the day with a close game against Girton Grammar with Girton winning by a narrow five points. The second game against Bacchus Marsh Grammar proved more difficult with that team coming out on top by more than three goals. The girls finished the day well with a win against Braemar and the score 52-1 on the final siren. Best players for the day were Aurora Smith (captain), Lily Cox, Sophia Varley, Matilda Casanelia and Charlotte Keady.

The Senior Girls (Years 10 to 12) won one game, with 2 losses that were closely contested and decided by 1 point and 2 goals. Chloe Hill was the top goal scorer for the day with Octavia Thompson contributing also in the forward line. Best players were Chloe Hill, Kate Adams, Ella Sprunt, Meg Eishold and Lucy Eishold.

The Intermediate Boys (Years 9 and 10) were pitted against our traditional arch rivals Girton Grammar in the first match. Captain James Nethersole won the toss and kicked with the slight breeze. After a dour affair, GVGS prevailed to get off to a good start in the competition. Final Scores: GVGS 7.1 43 defeated Girton 4.3. 27.



The second match was against new rivals and 2017 nemesis Bacchus Marsh Grammar. It's fair to say GVGS now has a new arch enemy given the closeness of the match again. Final scores: Bacchus Marsh 5.2 32 defeated GVGS 3.5 23

The final match was a dead rubber against Braemar College. After a goalless first half, GVGS cleared away to win. Final scores GVGS 4.2 26 defeated Braemar College 0.3 3.

GVGS finished second overall to Bacchus Marsh Grammar. Best players for the day were James Nethersole, Luca Mamone,

James Nieuwenhuizen, Jacob Watts, Jack Cassidy and Harry Murdoch.

The Junior Boys (Years 7 and 8) had three tough matches and prevailed in all games to take and win the shield for the second successive year. Mr Shane McDonald, Director of Co-Curricular, said the impressive part about this team was their ability to follow instructions for the betterment of team play. Adopting these simple strategies was the difference between the teams. Best players were Zach Dwyer, Charlie Barnett, James Auld and Jack Telford.

Winter winners

Goulburn Valley Grammar School (GVGS) claimed the Independent Country Coeducational Schools (ICCES) Winter Tour aggregate trophy this year, after a drought lasting back to 2013. GVGS hosted the annual competition on June 21 and 22, with approximately 800 students from six schools taking part at the Shepparton Sports precinct. Competition events included basketball, hockey, netball and soccer. Other ICCES schools involved were Bacchus Marsh Grammar School; Braemar College (Woodend); Girton Grammar School (Bendigo); The Hamilton and Alexandra College (Hamilton); and Highview College (Maryborough).

"The Shepparton Sports Precinct features an excellent design with all the competition venues only a short walk away from each other," said Mr Shane McDonald, Director of

Co-Curricular Programs. "The City of Greater Shepparton council's investment in the expansion of the facilities in recent years has only enhanced the venue even more. The ICCES association continues to view the Shepparton facility as the best location for such a competition."

This was the ninth year the carnival had been hosted by GVGS and sunny weather with no wind was a bonus. The competition has become stronger each year and 2018 was no exception with four points separating first and third. GVGS won by only one point! The result was a triumph of all round consistency by the school's teams.

"More important than any final result was the spirit in which the whole competition was played," Mr McDonald said. "All school team managers commented on the very positive



Sport Prefects Edward Adams and Lucy Eishold with the ICCES Winter Tour trophy.

nature of the competition and the respectful way teams competed against each other. Overall the two day round robin event was a great success in all respects."

We like to **move it, move it!**

When a group of animals escapes the New York Zoo and accidentally finds themselves in the midst of the African jungle, hilarity ensues and so it was for the middle years' school production of *Madagascar Junior* at Westside Performing Arts Centre at Mooroopna in August.

Our young performers brought to life the well-loved *Madagascar* characters from the blockbuster DreamWorks film. Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the Hippo and those hilarious, plotting penguins bounded onto the stage in an entertaining musical adventure. Filled with outlandish characters, adventure galore and an upbeat soundtrack, the show left with no choice but to "Move It, Move It!"

Many months of rehearsal and planning were clearly evident with the very high quality of the singing, acting and dance in the show. "The very high standard of performance was all the more impressive given the youth of the cast who are all in Years 5 to 8 and the fact that many were performing in their first production," Principal Mr Mark Torriero said. "We congratulate all our young performers on their hard work and dedication. We also thank and acknowledge the efforts of students, parents and staff working behind the scenes. Sincere thankyou to all the costume team who worked hard to turn around costume preparation within a very tight timeline. We particularly thank the outstanding direction and leadership of Director Mrs Helen Janke and Mrs Genevieve Bihun, Musical Director."

As well as the public performances, the dress rehearsal was attended by an audience of more than 250 guests including students from three primary schools and guests from Shepparton Access.



Alex the Lion played by Tom Cucinotta (above) and (right) the penguins of Madagascar.



The colourful and talented cast (top) of Madagascar Junior. Hannah Bhullar (above) as Gloria the Hippo and Tom Nethersole (left) as King Julien.



Locally made

Former students **Tim Russell** and **Rohan Sali** are great advertisements for living in Shepparton.

Tim Russell and Rohan Sali have the sort of friendship you only get from a long association. While both young men are working in key positions at Greater Shepparton City Council, it was actually as boys that they first met in Year 7 at Goulburn Valley Grammar School.

“Our year level was a very close bunch of kids,” said Rohan, council’s Manager of Tourism and Events. “We weren’t in the same group but we definitely knew each other and had the utmost respect for each other.”

“People now ask us, ‘What was it like at Grammar?’” said Tim, council’s Place Manager, Greater Shepparton Central Business District. “You saw all the people in your year level all the time. You talk to people from other schools, and it just wasn’t like that. I can’t imagine going through school with someone in your year level, and not knowing their name.”

After graduation from GVGS in 2009, Rohan did a Bachelor of Business at La Trobe University, majoring in international marketing and finance, including time at

Central University in Beijing, China. During his final year he undertook an internship at Greater Shepparton City Council as part of a unit on economic development. He also worked in council’s marketing and communication department during his university holidays for two years.

When his mentor – Team Leader, Business and Industry Geoff Hay – left council, Rohan was asked to fill in, which led to him securing the lesser role of Economic Development Projects Officer, which he did for five years. He was recently promoted to his current position.

Rohan’s well-known Sali family is of Albanian heritage, although Rohan only visited Albania for the first time this year. He is an active member of the Shepparton Albanian community and helps organise the annual Shepparton Albanian Harvest Festival. Rohan married Yaas two years ago. The Sali family business is based around a large apple, pear and stone-fruit orchard on Verney Road (so Rohan grew up the road from GVGS) and it also includes the stores Traffik, Arcade Fashions and Shop 221, all in central Shepparton.



Former schoolmates Tim Russell (left, above) and Rohan Sali work together at Greater Shepparton City Council; a young Rohan works on an art project with fellow student Shane Mitropoulos, in their early days at GVGS.



Rohan Sali (above, left) in the school tuckshop; Tim Russell (left, middle picture) and Kevin Ellis ham it up at a school event; Tim in more serious mode (back row, centre).

After school, Tim completed a Bachelor of Arts majoring in politics and international studies as well as a Masters of Public Policy and Management, both at the University of Melbourne. He then worked with a Melbourne company hired by property and retail developers to undertake research analysis and stakeholder consultation. “I always had moving back in the back of my mind,” Tim said. “I was looking for an opportunity to come home when a job came up with council; a new position. It was a nice fit and related to work I was already doing, which was looking at strategy to activate spaces.”

Tim had contacted Rohan a year earlier about possible opportunities and was following news reports about the challenges faced by retailers in the Shepparton CBD. “Tim caught up with me before the role was created,” Rohan said. “I said, ‘What they really need is someone to run this part of Shepp!’” Rohan’s role at the time involved him doing “bits and pieces” in that area, but nothing really focused. “It was a really, much-needed position,” Rohan said.

Very much part of the equation was Tim’s high-school sweetheart Georgie Prentice, whom he started dating in Year 10. After studying both criminal justice administration and then switching to early childhood education, Georgie was also keen to get back to the country.

“We always said they’re the couple who will get married,” Rohan said. Tim and Georgie tied the knot in 2017 and are expecting their first child this Christmas.

Today Tim and Rohan have their desks in the same area at Welsford St. “It helps having the history and the respect for each other,” Tim said. Rohan said both men had been imbued with “great principles” at GVGS and “when we talk we are on the same page”.

“We promote the Grammar school all the time,” Rohan said. “We always say, ‘If you want kids that turned out like us, they’ll be right,’” he laughed. “It is a high performance culture, encouraging you to try things like drama and sport. I’m so thankful I was able to go there and I would definitely send my kids there.”

Both men maintain contact with several teachers, with Tim particularly mentioning his history teacher Dr Darius von Güttner. “He opened a lot of kids’ minds as to what is out there in the world,” Tim said.

Tim and Rohan were both members of Fairley house and say their school years were Fairley’s “glory years”. They said fellow student Paul Bugoss was also in Fairley and an amazing swimmer who “won everything”. Paul is now a teacher at St Augustine’s in Kyabram and Tim and Rohan work with Paul’s father Steve at council. Other students in their year level working locally include Jayne Young at MB+M and musician Matt Head.

Rohan, now 27, was the youngest of three boys in his family to attend GVGS. Nathan, 29, runs signwriting business GV Signs and Shane, 31, who left GVGS in Year 10 to go to another school, works in the family business.

Tim’s family is no less well-known in Shepparton: Tim’s parents Ursula and Glen are both doctors at Shepparton’s Lister House Medical Centre. Glen was a well-known GP obstetrician for many years, delivering an amazing 1500 babies. Tim’s brother Lachlan, 26, works at Advance Computing, a Shepparton and Kyabram-based software developer and Nicholas, 24, works in hospitality in Melbourne.

Tim and Rohan are great advertisements for young people staying in or coming back to Shepparton. Tim said around the time he and Rohan left school there was a real stigma attached to growing up in Shepparton. Both men believe this has improved in recent times.

“Even when I was going to come back people would still ask me, ‘Why would you go back there?’ For me, the position was a unique opportunity to contribute to making it better. For our demographic, there are opportunities everywhere but it is more so a lifestyle change,” Tim said.

It used to be a case of people being ‘pushed’ out of Melbourne, Tim said, but now there are many ‘pull’ factors in Shepparton such as great cafes and restaurants, events, sports facilities and housing affordability.

Rohan said he sees huge potential for the future of the Goulburn Valley. “A lot of the businesses here employ so many varied professions,” he said. “For example on a farm there isn’t just the farmer but the whole back end from accountants to technical and marketing people.” Both Tim and Rohan said they encouraged other former students to think about moving back.

Absolute dedication



The year 2018 marks a truly inspiring list of anniversaries for staff members at Goulburn Valley Grammar School. Teachers Mr Bruce Archibald and Mrs Vicki Prewett have each achieved an amazing 30 years' service to the school, as has Director of Development, Mrs Pam Pogue. Teachers Mrs Jacinta Carter and Mrs Leona Sterling – who is also retiring – each marked 20 years of dedication to the school.

At a dinner attended by the School Board and staff, Principal Mr Mark Torriero said: “We know that this wonderful school culture and physical environment is due to the outstanding teamwork of our staff. Our teachers and operational staff are highly professional and hardworking and committed to our students and the school’s vision.”

Mr Archibald was appointed by then Principal Mr Vic Ryall in 1988. An outstanding percussionist in his own right, Mr Archibald has taught classroom music at Year 6, 9 and 10 levels. On top of this, the percussion studio continues to thrive with three full days of instrumental tuition. Mr Archibald led the first overseas tour of the school percussion group to England in 1990 and became the school’s director of music in 1991. Former students include the outstanding percussionist Matthew Head and Ryan Bhat, winner 2018 Australian Marimba competition. He has led, conducted and performed in countless school bands and ensembles and has contributed to a vast number of performances at concerts and events over the years. “Many past students speak with great fondness about Bruce and what a wonderful person he is,” Mr Torriero said. “He is a quiet achiever – except when behind the drums.” Mrs Archibald’s children Bing, Calypso and Dexter all attended the school and Djembe is currently in Year 8.

Music teacher Mrs Prewett was employed by Mr Ryall in 1988, as well. She has taught wind and brass instruments and strings, as well as junior classroom music. She has directed many ensembles, including the flute ensemble, and is a very accomplished performance musician, playing in the Goulburn Valley Concert Orchestra (GVCO). Mrs Prewett’s three children attended the school: Aidan (Class of 2004), Natasha (2008) and Mitchell (2012). “Vicki is very humble and very caring,” Mr Torriero said. “She has a high expectation of all her students. She has made a wonderful contribution to the music program of the school.”

Mrs Pogue also began in 1988 under Mr Ryall. She has played such diverse roles including running major fundraising campaigns, coordinating the P & F and Mothers’ Club and managing events, alumni records and reunions. Pam’s triplets Cameron, Tara and Julienne were in the school’s class of 1987 and Anna followed, finishing up in 1994. Now her grandchildren attend the school with Ashia graduating in 2017, Milla just finishing up in Year 12 this year and Gus in Year 5. “Pam is so strong, both physically and mentally, and so reliable and dedicated,” Mr Torriero said. “She is totally committed to the school. Pam is a builder of community and is the glue that binds the school together through so many wonderful events and functions. Pam is a legend of the school.”

Mrs Carter was appointed by then Principal Mr Ian Rule in 1999 to the position of fulltime science teacher. Over the years she has taught science at all levels – including biology, chemistry and environmental science for the VCE – and has also taught Year 8 and 9 maths. She has often taken on extra responsibilities, such as year tutor, managing external testing, coordinating the science

department and being the leader of Ryall House. Two of her environmental science students have achieved Premiers Awards: Andrew Brock in 2016 and Chelsea Rathbone in 2017. Her sons Matthew (Year 9) and Millar (Year 7) now attend the school. “Jacinta is a dedicated and active member of the school community who has contributed to leadership and administration of the school in a number of areas,” Mr Torriero said.

Mrs Sterling is retiring as she notches up two fantastic decades at the school. She has taught music as well as languages at all levels. She has been acknowledged by the Victorian School of Languages for her passion and commitment and is also a talented member of the GVCO. Her co-curricular involvement has included directing productions and coordinating chess. “Leona has been so dedicated to the school and so generous with her time,” Mr Torriero said. “She has a prodigious intellect, is so caring for others, has an incredible work ethic and is tough and resilient. She sets high standards for herself in everything she does and for our students, personifying the school’s vision.”

The school also farewelled maths and physics teacher Mr Alan Moore (14 years); school nurse Mrs Susanne Bennett (11 years); English teacher and Director of Teaching and Learning Mrs Deborah Moore (10 years); teacher aide Mr Fergus Russell and MY Maths Coordinator Ms Lauren Wood.



Mrs Vicki Prewett, Mr Bruce Archibald and Mrs Pam Pogue (top) and (above) Mrs Leona Sterling and Mrs Jacinta Carter.



Choosing maths

Year 9 students Matthew Lowe, Reily Menhenett, Akhil Gadde and Shiv Dutta placed in the top 20 of the Maths, Camera Action competition. The competition run by the CHOOSEMATHS Student Awards celebrates mathematical achievement, creativity and excellence in Australian schools. This year's awards encouraged students to get creative as they stepped beyond the classroom to bring their understanding of mathematics to life with a 3–5 minute video based on this year's theme, Our world needs maths. Their teacher Mrs Fiona Davis said the aim of the competition was for students to produce a video that explained a mathematical problem, or demonstrated an application of mathematics, using clear and precise mathematical language, in a creative and entertaining way. She said students competed as a team in order to foster a positive environment, giving them the opportunity to reason and work collaboratively.

The boys' five-minute highly commended video called Maths makes the world go round, was narrated by Reily and how maths is used in everything from computing coding to agriculture to transport, specifically the Theory of Buoyancy and the Laws of Motion. "Our world not only needs maths but it depends on it to advance into the future," Reily said in the film. "Our world is primitive without the application of mathematics.

You can watch the film here:
<https://bit.ly/2DXMPvT>



School community

Sam and Laura (nee Thomson) Bowmaker

Photo credit: Nicole Williams Photography

Babies & Marriages

- Teacher Mr Tim James married Ms Kate Sandercock on September 15.
- Mrs Jessica Benton (nee Taylor) from the IT department, married Brad on May 26.
- Ms Kath D'Elia and Mr Matthew Fenech are the proud parents of their first child Ellie D'Elia Fenech, born on September 28.



Ms Kath D'Elia and Mr Matthew Fenech



Mr Tim James and Ms Kate Sandercock

- Teacher Ms Kim Starkey and Mr James Sheehan are the proud parents of Samson Paul Sheehan, born on July 5.
- Sam and Laura (nee Thomson) Bowmaker, both Class of 2010, were married in 2017 and had a baby Penelope last July.

Diary Dates 2019

Reunions

Saturday, October 19

- Class of 1989 – 30 year reunion
- Class of 1994 – 25 year reunion
- Class of 1999 – 20 year reunion
- Class of 2004 – 15 year reunion
- Class of 2009 – 10 year reunion

Saturday, November 23

- Class of 2014 – 5 year reunion

Mother's Club Luncheon

Friday, September 13

Grandparents' Day

Thursday, November 28

Presentation Night

Wednesday, December 11



CLASS OF 1988



CLASS OF 1998

Where are they now?

Every year, class reunions are held at GVGS. Attendees have been asked to pen an update on their lives, which we will now publish in Nexus for the interest of classmates and the wider school community.

CLASS OF 1988, 30 YEAR REUNION

TRACY CLOSE: Administrator, Dental Studio, Gold Coast.

ANN CORNISH: Working as the Laboratory Manager for the Doherty Institute at the University of Melbourne. Busy at home with children's activities and getting out for the odd bushwalk.

KERRIANNE JACKSON (NEEDS): Safety Advisor for Laing O'Rourke (INPEX Construction Project-Darwin). Moved back to the area two years ago to manage her family's beef cattle property in Moama. Now Safety Specialist for Coca Cola Amatil (SPC Shepparton) and runs the family property in her spare time. With her partner Ash also runs a business 'Paddock to Plate', an on-farm butcher service focusing on expert butchering alongside the ethical and humane treatment of animals, providing a professional and peace-of-mind service for farmers.

SANDY JENSEN: Working in disability with the Department of Human Services for 25 Years. She is a Health and Community Services Union Senior Delegate. In May 2018 relocated to the Goulburn Valley after 30 years of living and working in Melbourne. In 2014 had a midlife baby at 43 years old, another precious daughter Lily, sister to Amber, 19, and Violet, 16. Elected onto the Board of Committee Management for Health and Community Services Union 2018.

KELLY KEARNEY (WARNER): Currently studying the fine art of business affairs, negotiation and manipulation of two small boys (my own). This study is taking place at the University of the Kearney Family – it's one tough, and often crazy syllabus but does have some amazingly wonderful perks! I'm really enjoying being a 'supermum'!

Culturally, there are lots of trips to the MGV for their fantastic free kids' program and taking full advantage of their amazing 'back yard' where the kids can explore to their little hearts' content! I'm feeling very blessed and life is grand!

JULIE MASON: Working at Small Business Victoria, coordinating the delivery of workshops for people wanting to start or grow their business. Have worked there for many years (17) in several different roles. Started some study in Visual Arts (part-time) three years ago, which has been fun and satisfying. Doing lots of enjoyable stuff with my daughter. Had a memorable trip to Central Australia with my daughter and my partner, who had lived there for 10 years. We went to Uluru, Kata-Tjuta, Hermannsberg where we met the Aranda women's choir. In the last three years have co-established a community group – Newlands Friends of the Forest, advocating for the protection of Victoria's native forests that are currently being logged. We have held many events, met politicians, run forest tours, painted banners, written letters, connected with affected communities and argued for this issue at conferences and consultations.

CLASS OF 1998, 20 YEAR REUNION

JAMES ARMSTRONG: Farmer, cropping, beef and sheep with farms in Undera and Kialla East. Supports his wife Cathy with her business, skin clinic Lush in the Wyndham Mall and the Armidale Mall. They have two children, Ella 2, and Archie, 1.

MELANIE BROWN: Has been working in the Emergency Department at GV Health as Associate Nurse Unit Manager. Resigned from this position in May after 14 years. Now working as Stroke Coordinator and Medical Education teaching and supervising junior medical workforce. Loving no shift work and having a normal life. Bought a house and have been renovating it slowly. Nearly how I want it.

JESSICA COOK (SMITH): Over the past 15 years have worked as a Physio in a number of different clinical settings. Made the decision last year to return to study to become a teacher. Will finish studies at the end of this year and look forward to getting back into the classroom. We moved to South Gippsland just over five years ago.

Bought a farm, built our house (off the grid) and have loved settling in and exploring our new home.

FIONA DAVIS (HARWOOD): Have been employed at GVGS for the past 10 years and have enjoyed teaching a range of subjects including VCE Accounting and Economics as well as Maths to a number of different year levels. Currently only teaching Maths, which I love. Also assist with co-curricular program, coaching the senior netball team. Living on a farm in Congupna with husband Brett, and our three boys Reuben, 7, Lachie, 5, and Alby, 3. In January 2018, our family along with another local family opened a new Veterinary Practice in Shepparton, GV Vets Clinic and Hospital. We also manage and run Bara-Simbil Wiltshire Horn Sheep Stud (the foundation stud of Wiltshire Horns in Australia) which, in 2019, will celebrate 50 years since establishment 1969.

DARIA WEST: Still working for Ambulance Victoria as a Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic (MICA Paramedic) in the city, which I love. Mum to Billy, 19 months, and number #2 was due to arrive in November.

MELITA GIUMMARRA (TAYLOR): Gained a PhD in the School of Psychological Sciences at Monash University in 2011. Working as a post-doctoral research fellow at Monash University, currently funded by an Australian Research Council fellowship (Discovery Early Career Research Award) as a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine, Monash University. The research focuses on the persistence of pain and mental-health conditions after injury, much of which has involved close partnerships with the Transport Accident Commission, and funding from government fellowships and grants. We've had a blast in the last couple of years making wine as a family up in the Heathcote region, and we like to travel as much as we can. Now that our boys are getting older – 8 and 10 – they have also been travelling to conferences overseas, most recently Japan and America.

DANIEL KRAAN: In 2017 spent four weeks touring Europe and catching up with family in Holland and Spain. Still living in Kyabram.

HAMISH McARTHUR: Have completed Diploma of Brewing and am working as Technical Brewer and head of New Product Development for ASAHI Australia. Married my gorgeous wife in

2013 and we have 2.5-year-old twins Kasper and Evie. They are exhausting and a lot of fun.

ALISON MCGORLICK: Worked over 10 years in fashion footwear and needed a change. Found a role developing private label ranges of beauty and grooming tools for international brands, specialising for clients in the Americas and Europe. The company restructured and sadly all roles were relocated to the international offices. Have recently joined the Miele ANZ team, adding appliances to my product portfolio and taking on the management of the professional portfolio. Took time off after finishing the footwear job and joined my sister in Spain for what I thought was a relaxing bushwalk. Thirty days and 800km later, I proudly completed the Camino de Santiago, along with a pledge to research anything she signs me up for. In 2016 my husband Peter and I welcomed son Henry, and we recently purchased our own home. We now have renovations to look forward to, so my Miele job couldn't have come at a better time.

MEGAN STRANT (KERR): Currently working as a Practice Head of Organisational Change focused on large scale technology transformation. Have spent the last 5–6 years living between Melbourne and Seattle with husband Loryan and two children, Chloe, 6, and Holly, 4.

CLASS OF 2003, 15 YEAR REUNION

MICHAEL ADDISON: Worked for several years as an IT Technician for a large Melbourne Automotive Group but have now changed roles. Currently working as a digital producer for a large digital agency in Melbourne, as well as completing my Bachelor of Business Information Systems. Married high school sweetheart and Year 11 Deb partner Sophie. Together we have a beautiful two-year-old son, Milo. An avid cyclist and have competed in many long distance cycling events.

SOPHIE ADDISON (GILL): Completed Bachelor and Masters in Architecture as well as gaining registration as a practising architect. Have worked in several large architectural firms in Melbourne working on multi-million dollar projects. Currently working at Fender Katsalidis, working on the Australian 108 Tower – set to be Australia's tallest building. Married Michael Addison, also Class of 2003,



and Deb partner in Year 11. Together we have a beautiful two-year-old son, Milo. Have completed several half marathons and two full Melbourne marathons.

ANNELIESE GEARD (SEAGER): Finished work at Specialist Referral Hospital in Tamworth. Moved to Moruya on the South NSW Coast to own a vet clinic. In 2016 moved to Mangoplah on an Angus cattle stud and own Holbrook Breeders Australia where husband works as embryo transfer vet for cattle. After having our first bub now work part time at the Vet Clinic in Wagga. Had a beautiful baby boy in 2017, Fletcher George. Enjoy mustering cattle on horseback around the farm. Finished first marathon in February 2018 and enjoy running when I can.

LAUREN GRAY (WILSON): Started Rehub Studios, a multidisciplinary health clinic in Carlton North, consisting of Physiotherapy, Myotherapy, Remedial Massage, Pilates and Bike Fitting. After finishing up in AFL, started working as a therapist for the Australian Open to keep a foot in the door working with elite athletes. Married Daniel Gray, purchased a property in Fitzroy North and became a mother to Huxley in August 2017.

**CLASS OF 2008,
10 YEAR REUNION**

SAM BLOCK: Assistant Retail Operations Manager with RB Sellars and Driza-Bone. Completed Bachelor of Arts, Media & Communication at Deakin, Geelong. Enjoy travel interstate and overseas, camping and fundraising through the 'Pub Footy' organisation.

NIC BRUN: 737 Captain flying for the Royal Australian Air Force. Still the reigning golf champion with Tom Davey at the annual Goulburn Valley Christmas Eve Classic.

ALICE CLARKE: In 2012 graduated from Deakin University with a Bachelor in Property and Real Estate with an interest in property valuations. Took a GAP year in 2015, became a Governance on a sheep station in Western Australia. Was the at-home educator for a family whose children are enrolled through Broken Hill School of the Air. Loved it and stayed for 2016. Became more involved in the school process committees, contributing to improvement plans and redeveloping the preschool program. In 2017 began studying a Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education but was forced to reduce study and work load as I was

diagnosed with Ross River Virus. Term 3, 2018, study now completed and working as the director and teacher at Violet Town Kindergarten. In 2010 was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and from 2012 to now volunteer on Diabetes Camps run by Diabetes Victoria for children with Type 1 Diabetes. Moved home to the farm I grew up on at Murchison East and enjoying working on the farm and working locally.

KATE COLLINS: Completed a Medical Degree at Monash University. Have been working in Geelong for the past three years as a Medical Registrar. Recently passed the Royal Australian College of Physicians written and clinical exams. Playing Hockey for Greensborough Hockey Club. Overseas travel to Singapore, France, Canada, New Zealand, India, Vietnam and Cambodia.

THOMAS DAVEY: Over the past two years have been completing a second degree and working as a podiatrist in Melbourne. Podiatry work has swung heavily towards the sporting population and musculoskeletal injuries of the lower limb and foot. Graduated Podiatry in 2016. Since then and where possible have been planning and completing trips touring Australia.

KIERAN DICKSON: Self-employed Landscape Designer and Community Consultant.

SEAN DIMITROPOULOS: Completed Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and Business double degree at Swinburne University. 12 months' work placement at Nissan as a Process Engineer then 3.5 years at Silvan as a Product Development Engineer. Currently at AL-KO International as a Recreation Vehicle Design Engineer. Married in May 2018.

KARL LANGE: Graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronics and Robotics) and Bachelor of IT (Games Development) at Deakin University 2014. Worked at GV Water as a Graduate Electrical Engineer as part of the Operations IT Department 2015-2017. Currently work at Lotus Doors in Melbourne as a Mechatronics Design Engineer in the Design Department. In 2015 started designing modern board games in my spare time and now getting a game published in November 2018. President of the GV Gamers Guild, running an annual Board Game Convention in Shepparton. Run monthly Prototype Playtest Group in Melbourne CBD. On the committee of

the Tabletop Game Designers Australia (TGDA). Met Laura, a Canadian, at University in 2012. We are engaged and are getting married in Canada in September 2019.

ALICE MENTHA: Double Diploma of Resort Management and Beauty Therapy 2010 and 2011. Spa Therapist at Hyatt Regency, Coolom 2011. Beauty Therapist at Grand Hyatt, Melbourne 2012. Receptionist and Swim Teacher at Sporties Health & Fitness, Barooga 2015. Currently studying Certificate 3 and 4 in Fitness 2018. Travelled Europe, Maldives, Indonesia and South Pacific. Became a mother to Heidi Maria Jones in 2015.

TESSA MITCHELL: Finished university at the end of 2014. Commenced as a Graduate Lawyer with Dawes and Vary, Riordan in Shepparton, and admitted in February 2017. July 2017 started work as a lawyer with Sparke Helmore Lawyers in Perth. August 2018 moved to Darwin to be PGA of Sparke's new Darwin Office.

STEPHANIE MOREY: Completed Bachelor of Pharmacy in 2015. Completed Pharmacy Internship at Austin Health in 2016. Willing enough to stay on as a Clinical Pharmacist. Still love seeing my close friends I made at GVGS. I love returning to the Goulburn Valley.

WILLIAM NEVILL: Primary School Teacher. Travelled in South America for 12 months.

CAMERON NICOLL: Completed Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) with Honours in 2015. Graduate employment at Murray Goulburn in Production processing and Lead. New job at Tetra Pak this year as a Technical Sales Engineer. Travelled to New Zealand and Denmark for work with Tetra Pak. Holiday planned for Europe next year with partner Cath. We currently live together in Hawthorn East.

STEPHANIE NIELSEN: Completed Bachelor of Law and Arts with Honours at Deakin University. Currently working at ATC Insurance Solutions in Melbourne CBD as their in-house legal counsel. Have recently been appointed company secretary. Have extensively travelled Asia, Europe and South America and looking forward to a trip to Hawaii.

THOMAS NIELSEN: Completed Bachelor of Science and further completed a Master's Degree in Mechatronics Engineering at the University of Melbourne. Academic

highlights include the design and development of hand held embedded devices, assorted electronic circuits such as amplifier circuits, a robotic arm and a multi rotor drone for a capstone project for which I was awarded the enterprise sustainability award. Upon graduation was accepted into the Telstra networks grad program and was enlisted into the Global enterprise and product engineering division. Currently contracting for Telstra within the chief technology office, developing computer vision solutions. Have travelled to assorted countries within South and North America, Europe and Asia with an upcoming trip to Bali.

PRUDENCE ROTHWELL: 2013-2018 at Melbourne Farmers' Markets (not for profit social enterprise that coordinates farmers' markets in inner-city Melbourne) in various roles of administration and management. 2018 started studying a Master of Food Systems and Gastronomy and exploring pathways for further research in the local food sector with a particular interest in farming succession, barriers for beginning farmers and vulnerabilities/opportunities within the existing farmers' market sector. 2016 Fellowship recipient of the International Specialist Skills Institute enabled me to travel to the United States for 10 weeks to research best practice in the farmer's market sector. Spent a number of years cycling competitively with a Melbourne-based National Road Series women's team. Now kicking goals in a social Sunday game of Futsal, which includes Class of 2008 mate Kieran Dickson.

JOSH THRUM: Property valuer in Bendigo.

GRACE UKICH: Graduated from UNSW in 2014. Have worked as a Doctor in Wollongong, as a Youth Minister and Chaplain in Sydney and now as a Doctor just around the corner at GV Health. Hope to continue training to be a happy and holistic GP. Now lives the closest she has ever lived to GVGS. Has spent a lot of her twenties travelling and meeting interesting people. Have travelled to Italy, Poland, Ireland, Peru and most recently the USA. Doing mission trips, leading pilgrimage groups to WYD and holidaying as well. Enjoying much the same things as 10 years ago: music, handcrafts, family, friends and swimming. Hopes to add 'gardening' to that list before the next reunion.

ROBERT WESTON: Self-employed, working in the field of waste water.

Peer support

Year 10 students took part in the annual Peer Support Program in November.

The program prepares students to be buddies to Year 7 students next year, and aims to equip them with the skills needed for them to provide a supportive environment for the younger children. The program has been part of the school's curriculum for the past 15 years.

Teacher Mrs Rebecca Morris told the Shepparton News: "It provides students with a supportive environment in which to develop the skills, understanding, attitudes and strategies to improve their mental, social and emotional wellbeing. The students develop resilience, assertiveness, decision making, problem solving and leadership skills.



The popular newspaper fashion activity sees teams of students create a newspaper outfit within a time limit which they then judge to decide the winner.

CLOCKWISE FROM MAIN PHOTO: Eliza York; Bianca Phillips; Noah Rensford; Lucy Worsfold, Jackson Barnett, Jordan Clothier-Harris and Molly Cox; Isabella Dixon, Thomas Loughnan, Meg Eishold, Nell Ryan and Eloise Schmedje; Chloe Harmer and Tegbir Kaur (centre).

GOULBURN VALLEY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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