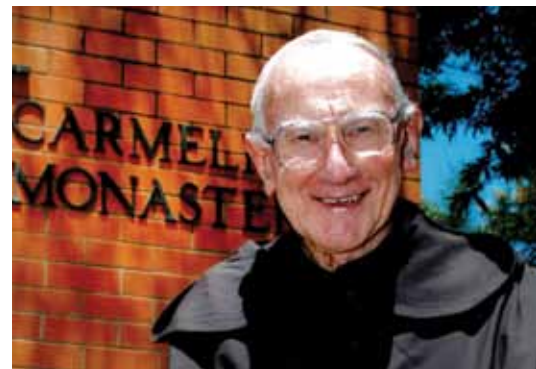


WHITEFRIAR



Belong. Believe. Become.





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Chairman's Report

Since I last wrote to you two most memorable events have occurred within the wider Whitefriars / Carmelite community, the death of Fr Noel Kierce on 9 May and the death of Fr Frank Shortis on 24 July.

Fr Noel's contribution to the College and its community was shared in the April 2015 edition of the *Whitefriar* and through the posts of those who contributed to the blog dedicated to Fr Noel. The words captured the thoughts of thousands of us. The events at the College in the days after Fr Noel's passing were rightly summarised by our archivist as "an incredible week completed - one the likes of Whitefriars will never see again I believe. The whole experience has left us in sadness, joy, awe and the magnificent goodness of people".

In the requiem mass for Fr Frank on 31 July, Fr Denis Andrew (Provincial of the Carmelites for Australia and Timor-Leste) started by saying, Luke 12:48 "When someone is given a great deal, a great deal will be demanded of that person." This beautifully summarised the life of Fr Frank. From the Board's perspective Fr Frank was a member of the College Board for 12 years (2003 to 2015). His insightful input to the current (2015) Mission and Vision of the College drew significantly from his time as the Founding Principal (1961 to 1972) and his nine years as the Provincial of the Carmelites for Australia and Timor-Leste. His passion for Whitefriars never diminished in his 63 years as a Carmelite. We as a Board will miss his presence greatly.



From an operational perspective the Board is pleased to report that our financial position is strong, and as a result we are currently in the process of committing to a major building program, which will be preceded by the development of an upgraded Master Plan. We have appointed an Architect and Quantity Surveyor/Project Manager to lead us in this building program.

It is anticipated that the planning process, with requisite council planning approval, is likely to take until mid-2016, with the building phase commencing on its completion. Our current financial position will enable us to commit in the order of \$10 million. Financially, as a College we operate conservatively and we are not keen to over extend our financial commitments. All of the funds for these capital works will come from our own resources and borrowings.

The Master Plan has taken into consideration the continued strong demand for places at Year 7, with 2016 being full and initial figures in 2017 reflecting the same. We are also pleased to note, over the past two to three years, the increased retention rates of students in the Years 9 to 12.

As a result, our current student population is 1,208. Our Strategic Plan will not see us increasing our Year 7 intake above the eight classes.

We have been developing, in conjunction with the College Leadership team, our Strategic Plan (2016-2020) for the College and at our most recent Board meeting were presented with an advanced draft covering five strategic aims. The Strategic Aims cover the following areas:

- **Strategic Aim 1 – Our Carmelite Identity** (detailing our mission and values within our Carmelite tradition)
- **Strategic Aim 2 – Our Learning for Life** (detailing our plans for continued improvement in the development of our young men)
- **Strategic Aim 3 – Our Staff** (detailing our plans to continue to provide quality educators)
- **Strategic Aim 4 – Our Carmel** (detailing our environment and facilities plus financial and sustainable management of the College)
- **Strategic Aim 5 – Our Community** (detailing our engagement with the broader College community).

The document shall be completed and published towards the end of 2015.

Mr Peter Duffy
Chairman

Principal's Report

The last edition of the *Whitefriar* was significant as it had the photo of Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm, on the cover celebrating his 60 year commitment to Priesthood, one that was spent almost exclusively working with boys and young men.

Within four weeks of that edition being posted Fr Noel had suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. So much has been said, written and symbolised about our much loved Chaplain since that time that it is hard to condense any thoughts into concise wording. Suffice to say that we still miss him dearly.

Another giant of Whitefriars, Fr Frank Shortis, O.Carm, passed away in July. He was the inspiration behind our College and as the founding Principal established the tone that would enable boys to grow into gentle men. A large number of our students attended Fr Frank's funeral service which celebrated his contribution to Whitefriars and the larger educational and Parish communities of Melbourne and beyond.

Both of these men lived faith filled lives that were dedicated to promoting and living out the Carmelite tenets of *community, prayer and action*. They were wonderful role models.

The season of *Fame – The Musical!* has taken place. Congratulations to the cast, crew, orchestra and staff who all worked in a very collaborative way to ensure that the



Fr Noel Kierce O.Carm



Fr Frank Shortis O.Carm

shows were both professional and enjoyable. The fact that all shows sold out and that the audience was highly entertained spoke well of the worth of such productions. In a boy's college it is very important that the Performing Arts is a strong and attractive option.

We are delighted that a number of our students have performed at high levels recently. Given below is a sample of such achievements:

- Joshu Faye-Chauhan of Year 12 for winning the Regional Final of the VCAA English Plain Speaking Competition
- Andreas Lepore of Year 12 for winning three silver medals at the Australian Gymnastics Championships

- Joel Duggan of Year 8 for 1st prize in the prestigious Write4Fun National Competition
- Lachlan McAlary of Year 8 for 1st Prize and Jake Hester of Year 11 for 2nd Prize in the Victorian Indonesian Statewide Speaking Competition
- A group of 32 students from Year 9 and 10 represented Whitefriars and placed 3rd at the State Championships for the National Science and Engineering Contest.

Congratulations to these young men and so many others who are using their drive and talents to achieve their potential.

Congratulations to these young men and so many others who are using their drive and talents to achieve their potential.



Our Year 11 Kairos retreats have now been held. This is always a powerful time for the young men and staff who attend. Kairos literally means, 'In God's Time'. It reminds us of the need to remove ourselves from the busyness and intensity of life to reflect on our own journey. For the boys it is about their relationship with God and their future aspirations. It is so encouraging to hear boys express themselves so openly and in a trusting manner knowing that such trust is safe within the group.

The new College website, launched in July, is highly user friendly and offers an interactive platform. We have had a number of favourable comments about the up to date news items, visual acuity and the general accessibility of the website.

It was wonderful to welcome back to the College both Travis Garone and Andrew Gibbins; Travis is one of the founders of Movember, the men's health initiative. These Old Collegians have had a significant impact on how men view their health in terms of physical and mental wellbeing. They have raised over a staggering \$650,000,000 since Movember began and are now operating in 21 countries. They spoke to our boys about how we can all make a difference in our own ways.

Three overseas student experiences take place at the end of this term. Our Timor-Leste immersion has 16 boys with four staff who will be assisting in Dili, Hera and Zumalai whilst the Battlefields Tour group of over 55 students, parents and staff will visit the Western Front and Turkey to re-trace the history of those conflicts. The third group is the Italian Study Tour boys and staff who will be travelling to our sister school in Imperia, Italy, which is near the French southern border.



Whitefriars College is seeking to be a fully accredited member of the Council of International Schools. This group accredits schools, colleges and universities across the world. Currently they have 660 schools and 475 colleges and universities as fully accredited members in 121 countries.

There are three stages for accreditation which are the Membership visit, Preliminary visit for Accreditation and the Accreditation visit. Whitefriars have now completed the first two stages and will move into an 18 month stage of self-study where we will benchmark against world class standards in all areas of the College. This will involve staff, students and parents in the process.

Of those who seek accreditation, approximately 20% of schools reach this final stage of self-study. The feedback from our latest four day panel visitation was most positive and affirming of our College and the community as a whole. More information is available on our website.

Almae In Fide Parentis

Mr John Finn
Principal

Carmelite Ministry in Australia and Timor-Leste

The first group of Carmelites came together on Mount Carmel in Palestine in the latter part of the 12th century to live a simple, Gospel-based life. They shared what they had, grew their own food, ate and prayed together and nourished their individual spiritual lives in silence and solitude.

Monasteries and religious houses in those days were among the few safe places to stay on long journeys. So the Carmelites on Mount Carmel soon found themselves welcoming and feeding pilgrims and travellers.

Recognised as people close to God, the Carmelites tended not only to the physical needs of those who came to their door, but also to their religious and spiritual needs.

Spreading into Europe nearly a century later the Carmelites found themselves in a vastly different world from Palestine.

In some of the more remote towns and villages they lived much as they had before. But in the cities where land was hard to come by, they had to find other means of support. Some became teachers in the universities and schools, others went on preaching missions or became chaplains in convents and hospitals.



The Carmelites proved very enterprising people. In Germany, for example, they set up a brewery to support themselves and their ministry in 1367. Though the Order no longer owns it, Karmeliten Brauerei in Straubing still produces a large range of beers, some of which have won international recognition.

Almost everywhere they gathered a group of lay people, attracted by their celebration of the liturgy (Mass and the Divine Office), preaching and the values of their Carmelite way of life. Their houses also became places where people sought individual spiritual guidance.

As European nations expanded into Asia and the Americas in the 16th century, Carmelites found themselves in large missionary settlements ministering to both indigenous and colonial people. Here they celebrated Mass, baptisms, weddings and funerals, founded schools and orphanages and introduced more modern farming techniques.

Doing this kind of pastoral work was something new for the Carmelites. Most of their houses in Europe had a public church, but usually they were not permitted to celebrate baptisms, weddings or funerals. These were celebrated by the local parish priest in the parish church.



In the 19th century the Irish Carmelites decided to expand into North America and Australia partly because bishops in those places wanted the Carmelites to work in parishes – a rare opportunity in Ireland at the time.

In both places they established parishes, schools, spirituality and retreat centres, and overseas missions.

Today, Carmelites in Australia and Timor-Leste work in four parishes (three in Australia, one in Timor-Leste), two schools (Whitefriars College and Zumalai Parish Primary School), a boarding house for school students (Zumalai), giving retreats and spiritual support through the Carmelite Centre, Middle Park (Victoria), Sancta Sophia Meditation Community, Warburton (Victoria), and our communities in Hera and Fatuhada (Timor-Leste). Carmelites also work in formation ministry (training young Carmelites), communications and hospital and school chaplaincy.

Fr David Hofman, O. Carm

WOCA President's Report

Recent events have reminded us of the College's 55 year history - the sad passing of the founding Principal and our longest-serving Carmelite teacher.

Fr Frank Shortis was known in the early days of the College by his chosen religious name, Cyril, and more affectionately as 'Pop' by the first groups of students. He was the driving force behind the building of the College, was Principal from 1961 to 1973 and was a high-quality teacher and administrator. His legacy is still felt today and his basic following of the Carmelite tenets of *community, prayer and (service) action* drove his approach to the development of staff, students and the College ethos.

Fr Noel Kierce's history was eloquently described in the April edition of the *Whitefriar* and it was with great sadness that we learnt of his sudden death on 9 May. Noel had been an intricate part of College life since 1968 and his personality had a great impact on many people over the years. His memories of past students and their families was simply incredible - when Fr Noel shuffled in to the Function Room at many Friday night reunions, groups of men would rush to him with very genuine fondness and he reciprocated every time.

The College provided Fr Noel the great honour of a final walk around the College on the day before his funeral

– the entire perimeter roads were packed with past and present students, staff, parents and well-wishers on both sides of the road. The walk took over 25 minutes and the only sounds were the mournful, poignant bagpipe of Devin Ryan, mixed with birdsong and a visible out-pouring of heartfelt emotion. It was an extremely memorable occasion.

We have recently held reunions for the Class of 1995 and Class of 2005; both were well-attended and enjoyable events. It's always interesting to hear old stories and recollections (however hazy and confused they seem to be) and the overall impression is that the vast majority of boys greatly enjoyed their time at Whitefriars. When they realise what it's like now from the facilities, academic and sporting aspects, many would like to start their time over!

We are making solid progress with the re-building and validating of our database of past students thanks to the wonderful efforts of the Development Team within the College's administration. We've also managed to source some relevant items which may be of interest to Old Collegians – the Year 12 Tie mentioned in the last edition is now available for sale along with our Cuff Links. Visit www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au/community/old-collegians to find our more.

Mr Philip Thomson
WOCA President



Welcome to Country Smoking Ceremony

The College gathered to experience a Welcome to Country ceremony for the first time. Uncle Colin Hunter Junior, was the Wurundjeri Elder who led this ritual which has been performed for thousands of years in the Mullum Mullum area. At the end of the ceremony, all boys and staff moved through the smoke to assemble in the gymnasium for a Christian ritual involving prayer and water.





Exciting and Masterful Performing Arts

Our Performing Arts students have had a very busy time, with two major productions providing opportunities to develop and display their considerable skills in acting, singing, dancing and instrumental performance.

The Whitefriars/Siena production of *Fame* was presented over three nights at the Karralyka Centre in Ringwood, to rapturous sell-out crowds. Over 50 students were involved in the production, working on every aspect; on-stage and orchestral performances, audio and lighting design and operation, stage crew and front of house. The cast and crew rehearsed for six months to perfect the show, and gained many new skills throughout the process in order to entertain their audiences with a polished and energetic performance.

The *Fame* audiences were able to follow the successes and failures, triumphs and sorrows of the multi-talented students at the New York High School of the Performing Arts. But these students, much like our own, didn't spend all day dancing on cafeteria tables and jamming in bands – they really did put in a lot of hard work to make sure that they were making the most of their training.

The Senior Play for 2015 was a humour and pathos-filled production of Louis Nowra's *Così* and featured eight of our most outstanding actors, alongside three



actresses from Catholic Ladies College in Eltham. The cast was in rehearsal for only six weeks, and turned out a masterful performance of this Australian classic.

Set in 1971 in a burnt-out theatre adjoining a mental institution in Melbourne, *Così* is the story of an unconventional production of Mozart's opera *Così Fan Tutte*. Lewis, a recent university graduate, finds himself employed to direct a play with a group of patients in a mental institution. Lewis' university education has not prepared him for such a demanding task, a challenge increased by the explosive blend of personalities within the group. Our talented actors were able to deliver a realistic and

sympathetic performance, which highlighted their skill in understanding and developing a challenging script such as *Così*.

This year has been an exciting, busy and rewarding year for Whitefriars Performing Arts!

Ms Nathalie Fox

Learning Leader – Performing Arts



Movember

In the Spotlight

Old Collegian and current staff member Mike Jackson interviews two members of Movember, Travis Garone and Andrew Gibbins

CLASS OF 1991

A cool morning in late winter, walking down the Whitefriar’s driveway to sign-in at reception, it was a pilgrimage many have made. The walk was nostalgic but also invoked memories of being late to school and a subsequent pang of guilt for Travis and Andrew. It had been some 25 years since they had graduated from Whitefriars, and despite their salt-and-pepper stubble and a touch of temple frost, both of them made a triumphant return, feeling much younger than their early 40s might reveal. They were breathing in the air of their elusive youth. Modestly. Calmly. Humbly.

Travis Garone, a founding father of Movember and Andrew Gibbins from the foundation’s board, kindly returned to share a little of their story. Some 12 or 13 years and over 650 million dollars in donations later, and with Movember now a global phenomenon, these lads strode not in fancy clothes or with their noses in the air; rather, as the gentle, esteemed, successful men we would hope our students become.



Andrew Gibbins and Travis Garone with some of our College Captains

“Absorb everything every day at Whitefriars. Make the most of your formation – and education... Look after yourself and your friends. Whitefriars boys should have each other’s backs.”

After addressing the College we got comfortable with coffee, biscuits and no matter the questions, the answers seemed to lead us back to the six years we spent at this very special place. Here are some of the fruits of our conversation.

“Friendships and mateships were the conduit of all our time at Whitefriars. The mates we got to hang around with were always so important. A lot of the buildings were new then. The ovals were getting to a decent quality. There was lots of construction.

Catholicism wasn’t the only learning focus. We got a good look at all religions. It gave us a good, broad, respectful view. We enjoyed woodwork with Mr Potts. The old chapel was a great place to chill. We meditated there without really knowing it.”

Andrew brought his crossbow to an archery class once. The bolts it shot were so powerful they tore the target. He took it home on the bus and thought nothing of it. What days they were!



Andrew Gibbins and Travis Garone addressing the College assembly



So, what about Movember? How much luck came into making it a success?

"Some luck came into it. The timing of it was lucky. But you've got to make your luck. Being a little naïve while being open-minded helped. We have been very fortunate. Movember was a bunch of guys with an idea, emanating from a chat between myself and Luke Slattery and it developed from there with my brother Adam, another friend Justin and many others, all having fun with a great idea. We believed in ourselves. Then more people started to get into it.

Then we made it into other countries. It wasn't just dumb luck or luck alone. It was definitely a lot of hard work. We fight every day to keep Movember simple. The heartfelt emails, meeting people who have been affected by Movember or have done something for their health, who are we to stop this?

We give our all for that month of the year, night and day. The amount of work that goes into running the Movember project is monumental – it's a full time job for one hundred people all year. At the end of the month formally known as November, we are spent. There are times we feel underappreciated. Some people doubt Movember so we try to keep Movember fun and real as a charity. We always want to be different. Movember has personality. We labour over looking for a fresh marketing campaign each year. We have to be resourceful and think differently and get as much money to our beneficiary partners as possible. We can't travel the world spending money; we need to give it to men's health."

As our conversation drew to an end, we focused our thoughts on the young men at Whitefriars today. When Andrew and Travis both shared their ideas – a real trademark of their work together – this was what they had to offer:

"When there's a curveball and life's tough, it's probably not going to be the worst thing you've faced. It will pass. You've got to have the bad to have the good. The difference between an idea and a successful idea starts with implementing it. Maybe your first idea and your second idea won't make it for you, but a failure to implement is the difference between successful people and people who tell you they've got a great idea but just do nothing with it. Keep going and don't sweat the small stuff. To be your best, you've got to push yourself. Look out for others who need a hand and stay young.

Absorb everything every day at Whitefriars. Make the most of your formation – and education. Even if you're not enjoying it, these are your fun years to be with your mates. Don't take yourself too seriously. Look after yourself and your friends. Whitefriars boys should have each other's backs."

We thank Travis and Andrew for taking the time to be with us. May their work benefit many, moreover, may their example inspire.

To read about the Movember cause, please visit their website:

<https://au.movember.com>

Mr Mike Jackson

Learning Leader - LOTE

Ben Crowe

Co-Founder at Unscriptd.com

CLASS OF 1986 - School Captain

I have great memories of my time at Whitefriars, from the inaugural Surfing Team in 1983 (we were really bad but looked really good) to football and being Herald Cup premiers in 1986.

Music was really big and I played flute in a few musicals, although Geoff Harrison was our gun flautist and often played my solos sitting down while I stood up and pretended it was me (can't believe I did that!).

Whitefriars also helped me through a really sad chapter - losing my dad in Year 11. My teachers and school mates really looked out for me as dad was my biggest role model and close with all the teachers through his cleaning company, so his memory was everywhere. Three teachers in particular Fr Shane O'Connor, Mrs Anne Maree Wight and Fr Noel Kierce helped me enormously through that period and I am forever grateful for how much they looked out for me.

Whitefriars sparked in me a keen interest in English and writing. This would later become a love of creative writing and then Athlete storytelling, which is what I did when working at Nike and what I do today with Unscriptd.com.

I graduated from Whitefriars in 1986 and completed an Arts degree at Monash University, majoring in history and creative writing. I really struggled initially at University with all the freedom and enormity of student life, and the independent will required just to show up to class.



Ben with his wife Sally

I was still really close with many ex-school mates and the next year, in 1987, we formed the inaugural Whitefriars Under 19s football team coached by my brother Paddy - and then played senior football with my other brother Danny. WOFCF was the glue that kept so many Friars together as the Club shared the same strong culture as the school. My family's cleaning company also had the cleaning contract at the time and employed about ten school mates (including me) so we were always close to the school.

After graduating from Monash I was unsure whether to do further study and be a journalist, a teacher or a lawyer. But I loved creative writing and through a friend managed to land a job at Hockey Australia as their first media and promotions manager, with the main task to lift the profile of hockey. I had never played hockey but the role was a lot of fun. We were told to be disruptive and challenge the conservative culture, so we created a national hockey league, changed the men's team name to The Kookaburras and landed a few sponsorship deals - one of them was to change my life (Nike).

Marketing and branding became prominent themes in businesses in the early 90s so I enrolled in a post graduate sports marketing course at Deakin University while working at Hockey Australia. One of my best mates from school Simon Strike had encouraged me to do so, having completed marketing (and commerce) degrees himself while we shared a house together in 1992.

In March 1993 'Strikey' was tragically killed in a car accident. He and Sally, my girlfriend (now wife) were the only people I had told that my dream job was to one day work at Nike.

Amazingly three months after his death I was offered a job to join Nike Australia as their first Sports Marketing Manager. Nike was seen as a very 'American' brand and my role was to help the brand become more authentic and locally relevant in Australia by signing local Australian heroes and telling their stories. Cathy Freeman was the first athlete we signed, followed by Shane Warne, Wayne Carey and Lleyton Hewitt.

In 1996 at age 27, Sally and I moved to the US to work on the Atlanta Olympics for Nike and then onto Hong Kong, where I ran Nike Asia Pacific Sports Marketing and

was lucky to work with a few famous athletes and teams, including Michael Jordan, Andre Agassi and Tiger Woods. We spent most of 1996 and the next few years travelling between Nike's headquarters in Portland, the Atlanta Olympics and Asia. It was a great adventure with Sally but the travel was insane – almost 60% of the year on the road which was fun when Sally could travel, but stressful later on with a young family.

Nike grew very quickly but in 1998 during the Asian financial crisis Nike 'laid off' almost 150 staff, closed the Hong Kong offices and moved the remaining Asia Pacific headquarters back to Portland, Oregon. There were only six Directors left and I was the only non-American one. So while they were moving home I was moving further away. I was pretty burnt out and probably too young to deal with the lay-offs, so with the birth of my first boy Harry I decided to leave Nike and move back to Australia. However, in between, I received a call from the Hong Kong Jockey Club which, unbeknownst to me at the time, was the world's largest and richest sporting club, with 19,000 employees and a turnover of \$26 billion. I had no clue. Horse shoes were the only shoes Nike didn't make! The Club's revenues had dipped 10% during the financial crisis so I joined the HKJC as their first Marketing Director in 125 years.

After two years there we eventually moved back to Melbourne where I started an entertainment consultancy, Gemba, set up to help the sports and entertainment industry on commercialisation and storytelling. It was great fun helping sports organisations but my favourite project was working with the Federal government to develop a sports policy for Australia. We worked across all stakeholders but I particularly loved helping athletes.

So after 12 years I sold out of Gemba to start Unscriptd.com. This new venture is an Athlete publishing company I set up with a few ex-Nike mates and athletes including Stephanie Gilmore, Cathy Freeman and Andre Agassi. Unscriptd RAW is an App purely for elite athletes to create two minute video selfies from their phones and publish to social and mainstream media with pre-roll advertising. Cristiano Ronaldo did our first RAW post which was pretty cool.

For me looking back at school, I really loved the Carmelite philosophy which balanced courage with consideration, as well as a healthy dose of humour and not taking things too seriously. Studies and sport were obviously a focus but for me Whitefriars also emphasised the importance of relationships and caring for each other - a philosophy I found really cool and have always held onto.

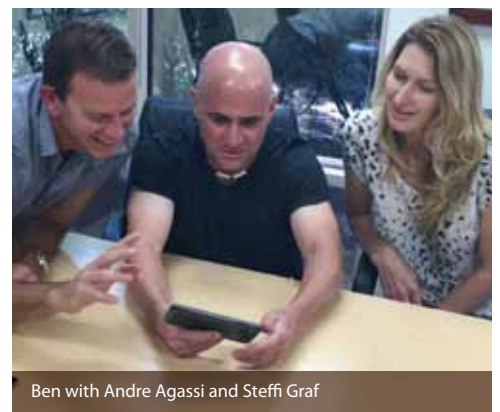
I still have a lot of mates from my days at Whitefriars and run into a lot of Whitefriars alumni in the workforce today and there is definitely a certain camaraderie and anti-establishment humour that I think is distinctly our own. Perhaps it's the resilience from wearing brown blazers or being based out in the "sticks" of Donvale, but I used to enjoy it in the 1980s and 1990s when guys from more well-known private schools had never heard of us. It made us smile. It's changed now as the school has become more successful and well-known – but the camaraderie and humour remains intact. I feel very lucky and grateful to have attended this great school and wish it all the success for the future.



Ben centre, with a surfing injury



Ben on the far left



Ben with Andre Agassi and Steffi Graf



Ben with Michael Clarke

Doctor Gerard Powell

Orthopaedic Surgeon – Orthopaedic Oncologist

CLASS OF 1981

I started at Whitefriars College in 1976 and did my HSC there in 1981.

My family moved out to the eastern suburbs to be closer to the school, which had impressed my parents with its academic reputation but even more so by the philosophy of the Carmelites. The nurturing environment espoused by the words *'in the care of a loving mother'* impressed them and I think this was important to my father, who had been raised in Jesuit boarding schools.

In those days the College was small with really only two permanent buildings. The grounds were mostly grassed (mud for half the year) and we all had to wear slippers inside. During my time at Whitefriars there were enormous changes. Portable classrooms arrived, a new oval was created, the administration centre and library were built and the plans were well underway to replace the Nissen hut that served as the gymnasium with the current building and also to build the Arts Centre. When I was in 4th Form, the school acquired its first computer (an Atari) that the more scientific minds put their name on a roster to use at lunchtime!

Fr Noel Kierce was Principal for most of my time at the College and he was a good friend who remained interested in my career long after I left the College. He concelebrated mass at my wedding and kept in touch with a lot of my classmates. There were still a number of Carmelites teaching back then, including Br Leo (Indonesian), Br Anthony (who coached my U-12 and U-13 footy teams) and Fr Barry, who taught me Latin and who was my Form Master the year that we underwent vocational counselling. It was that year that I decided that I wanted to pursue a career in surgery.



Gerard with his children

Being a small school, I really had no idea if I would make the grade but was blessed with teachers that believed in us and encouraged us. Dr Eddy De Jong's HSC 'contract' was certainly a boost to my self-belief and I was fortunate to be in a year where there was a group of others who wanted to pursue medicine. There was great camaraderie and we would all push each other academically. John Seymour, David Blakey and John Hackett were all with me at the University of Melbourne starting our medical careers, whilst Rick Gysberts went on to become a successful dentist.

After graduating MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery) in 1987, I did my surgical residency at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and took a year out to do full-time research. I found to my surprise that my passion was Orthopaedics and did specialty training between 1992 and 1995 to become an Orthopaedic surgeon. I was married just before starting and by the end of my training we had three little children.

In 1996 our young family headed overseas so I could engage in various sub-specialty fellowships. These comprised of Joint Replacement, Trauma and especially Musculoskeletal Tumour Surgery. I was lucky enough to spend time in pre-eminent tumour centres in the United Kingdom, Austria, Italy and the United States before returning home to Melbourne in late 1998. Along the way the family expanded to four children and in 2000 it had grown again!

My year of research had taught me that I was more suited to clinical research than laboratory work and my public practice has principally been at St Vincent's Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute, although I did do rural surgery up until recently. The Victorian Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma Service provides the nation's busiest centre for dealing with tumours arising in bone and the connective tissues. We deal with tumours from the scalp right down to the toes and the Service is multi-disciplinary, comprising of surgeons, radiation oncologists and medical oncologists.

Who would have guessed that three Whitefriars boys in HSC 1981 (John Seymour, David Blakey and myself) would be working side by side there in those three disciplines?

Over the last few years I have been honoured to serve as president of the Australian Sarcoma Group, which is the tumour sub-specialty branch of the Australian Orthopaedic Association. The group works to promote world-class care to our patients and provides education and research opportunities for medical and para-medical practitioners. The nature of the surgery I do is very diverse and rewarding. Most limbs with cancers can be preserved without recourse to amputation and there are forever new reconstructive techniques. Although orthopaedic oncologists are a small band worldwide, it is a close-knit community and we share our experiences frequently. My time abroad doing fellowships has left me with a great number of colleagues around the globe whom I call friend and Melbourne is fortunate to host fellows from around the world every year, strengthening the bonds particularly in South East Asia. At a more personal level, the relationships developed with one's patients are humbling and enriching.

My family is growing up quickly with only two of five children still in school. The kids are my passion, along with a fascination for all things aviation-related. If I hadn't chosen medicine I would probably have been a pilot. I love catching up with mates from school who have pursued other careers, including Paul Sastradipradja, Michael Taylor, Phil Ragg and Peter Italiano, and keep bumping into Old Boys in the most unexpected places. I was very sad to learn of Fr Kierce's passing – he will be greatly missed.



Year 11 class photo 1980 – Gerard circled in red



Gerard in Form 2 Whitefriars 1977



Dr Gerard Powell preparing for Orthopaedic Cancer Surgery

There was great camaraderie and we would all push each other academically.

Looking back, I think the stimulating environment I experienced growing up at Whitefriars was one of the major influences shaping my decision to become a surgeon. Both intellectual pursuit and compassion were encouraged. It's hard to believe that next year will be my 35 Year Reunion!

Professor John Seymour (AM)

Director of Cancer Medicine

CLASS OF 1981- Dux

I can still vividly recall riding my orange Peugeot 5-speed bicycle along Park Road to Whitefriars College every day from my start in Year 7 in 1976, through the era of Carlton's dominance in the then VFL, right up until my Year 12 in 1981.

I always looked forward to my school days and I was invigorated and stimulated by the personal, intellectual and physical challenges the College environment and curriculum put in front of me. There are strong and influential memories of a few specific events or characters, such as the genuine enthusiasm and energy of my Year 10 History teacher discussing my (likely very simplistic) interpretations of the social factors contributing to Germany's instigation of the second world war. There was a very young, engaging and inspiring Year 12 Physics teacher taking the time to individually discuss personal academic goals for the year with each student in his class and reach mutually agreed targets. It was that very same, now not quite so young Physics teacher, Dr Eddy De Jong, who recently contacted me and asked me to write this short piece reflecting on my life.

On one level it may seem that nothing much has changed in the intervening 35 years, except for the Carlton dominance element, of course!



I still look forward to my days with the same energy and enthusiasm, still rely on the self-directed learning and internal motivation instilled in me at Whitefriars, and still call on the same personal values of integrity, honesty, humanity and community spirit that my parents and the College espoused and exemplified.

On another level, so much has changed! I was fortunate enough to have formulated some sense of the professional direction I wished to pursue, strongly influenced by a fantastic work experience program in a healthcare environment, and I worked hard enough to allow me to pursue medical training at the University of Melbourne. I recognised this was simultaneously a huge privilege and a wonderful opportunity; no previous relative from either my mother or father's family had a University education.

I was continually challenged and stimulated by the unresolved issues and clinical dilemmas that my work as a junior doctor at St Vincent's and the Royal Melbourne Hospitals' placed in front of me, leading me to pursue specialist training in Haematology (blood disorders, particularly blood cancers such as leukaemia and lymphoma).



The fascination of the newly emerging understanding of the molecular control of these complex cellular systems and the ability to unravel the causes of these devastating diseases through new genetic tools lead me on to PhD studies at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research – a leading world class facility right here in Melbourne. Further training and research at a major Cancer Centre in the United States (the MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Texas) taught me the power of research through clinical trials and the ability to apply this new knowledge at the bedside of needy patients.

My wife Helen and I had the yearning to raise our family in the nurturing setting of our home town of Melbourne and Australia's wonderful environment. This therefore brought us back and lead to an appointment at the iconic Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre where I have worked continuously for the past 18 years. This role has earned me an appointment as a Professor at the University of Melbourne, and allowed me to pursue a repertoire of direct 'hands-on' patient care, research in the development of new, more effective and safer therapies for these life-threatening blood cancers, and teaching of many students and trainees from many countries.

My work has opened so many opportunities - conferences and invited presentations in many countries, living with my family and working in France, establishing strong friendships with colleagues around the globe.

Like most areas of medicine and the biological sciences, Haematology has been transformed by burgeoning new knowledge, and I have a great sense of pride to think that in some small way through my own research, scientific publications and conference presentations I have contributed to this progress. I was humbled to receive Membership in the Order of Australia this year for this work.

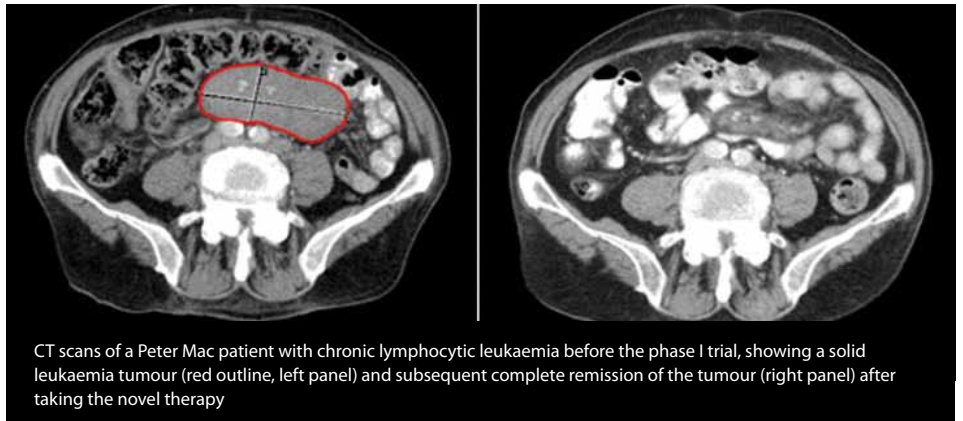


1981 Year 12 Form Group - John Seymour is in the back row far right



John relaxing on his bicycle in his own 'Giro d'Italia' in the Dolomites 2007

I still cycle, in fact quite frequently, past Whitefriars, although the quality of the bicycle has dramatically changed from earlier years. On those cold and frosty and often foggy early mornings, as I toil up the Park Road hill I smile and recall with fondness and gratitude the values the College instilled in me, that have continued to serve me so well professionally and personally that I hope to exemplify them for my own two teenage sons James and Gabriel. The current pupils of Whitefriars are indeed fortunate recipients of that legacy and hopefully will recognise and grasp the opportunities available to them and carry them forward in their own life journeys. With motivation, hard work, family support and some luck they will be able to carve out careers as productive, fulfilling and exciting as my own!



CT scans of a Peter Mac patient with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia before the phase I trial, showing a solid leukaemia tumour (red outline, left panel) and subsequent complete remission of the tumour (right panel) after taking the novel therapy

On John Seymour's Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Professor John Seymour, Clinical Director of Cancer Medicine at Peter Mac, has been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his significant service to medicine in the field of Haematology with groundbreaking research in blood and bone marrow cancer.



John's Membership in the Order of Australia Medal awarded in June 2015

With colleagues at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Professor Seymour has, in recent years, led an international trial of a new therapy for people with advanced chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, for whom no conventional treatment options are available.

Reporting preliminary results of the ongoing first-in-human clinical trial of the novel compound to treat chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) at the American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting in New Orleans in 2013, Professor John Seymour revealed 84 per cent of patients experienced remission, despite participants' disease having failed an average of four prior treatment regimes.

Professor Seymour says the results of the trial are unprecedented in the quality of the disease responses: "Patients on the trial were typically incurable, with an average life expectancy of up to 18 months, so to see complete clearance of cancer in nearly one quarter of these patients, after taking this single therapy, is incredibly encouraging."

Where Are They Now?



Michael Winterburn Head of Corporate Development, Associated British Foods

CLASS OF 1994

When Michael completed Year 12 at Whitefriars he commenced a Bachelor of Commerce with the University of Melbourne. He secured a scholarship from Pricewaterhouse Coopers to undertake an honours degree in finance in 1999, after which he commenced full time work in the tax department. Michael then joined the Investment Banking department at UBS in 2001, where he worked for six years specialising in mergers and acquisitions advice for various companies. One such company included George Weston Foods, the Australian subsidiary of Michael's current employer Associated British Foods plc.

In 2007, Michael took a 12 month sabbatical from UBS where he travelled through parts of Africa, Europe and the USA. Highlights of the trip included a full immersion Spanish language course in Barcelona, the tour of WWII sites throughout Western Europe and an extended stay with Br Daryl, O.Carm in Chicago. Br Daryl was the Chaplin and Teacher whilst Michael was at the College and the two have remained in contact over the years.

Being away from home and away from the Investment Banking industry gave Michael a different perspective and shortly after returning to Melbourne he resigned from UBS and took up the role of Head of Corporate Development for Associated British Foods plc. This position took Michael to London in 2008 where he has worked for the past seven years.

Michael married his wife Jessica in 2009 and they have three young children, two daughters and a son. They love living in London and having Europe on their doorstep, but they do miss the wide open spaces, weather and their friends and family from back home.

Michael has many fond memories of Whitefriars. He was SRC representative, Kairos leader and football captain during his schooling years. He was actively involved in the Whitefriars Old Collegian Football Club from 1995 until 2000 and was a participant in the Kairos retreats as an Old Boy. He is still in regular contact with many Friars, not only classmates from his year level, but students from other years as well. What he remembers most about his time at Whitefriars College is the strong friendships and bonds that were created during those years, not only amongst students but also between students and staff. There was genuine caring for each other amongst the school community. Michael believes this bond is unique and what separates Whitefriars from the vast majority of other secondary boys colleges.



Duncan Bucknell Intellectual Property Strategist, Lawyer and Patent Attorney

CLASS OF 1989

After finishing Year 12 in 1989, Duncan went on to graduate with first class honours in Veterinary Science and Animal Science from the University of Melbourne. Whilst working as a full time Veterinarian Duncan completed his Law degree in two years at Monash University. He qualified as a patent attorney whilst working at Allens Arthur Robinson. Duncan became a senior lawyer there before moving to Mallesons in a similar role. Duncan started his own consulting firm in 2003 focusing on intellectual property strategy. Duncan is a solicitor, patent attorney and trademarks attorney, and consults to companies globally.

Duncan still does a little vet work on his farm and for friends, and enjoys spending time with his wife and children, travelling around Australia, camping and the occasional round of golf. Duncan is an active member of his local CFA Brigade in Kangaroo Ground.

Duncan met his wife Natalie whilst they were both in Year 11, Natalie was a student at Catholic Ladies College. They have four children; one son and three daughters, with his eldest son commencing as a student at Whitefriars in 2016. Duncan remembers his time at Whitefriars very fondly and keeps in contact with a group of his closest friends from his year level, catching up with some of them on a regular basis.



Professor Eóin Killackey
Professor of Functional
Recovery in Youth Mental
Health and Associate
Director of Research at
Orygen, The National Centre
of Excellence in Youth
Mental Health, Parkville

CLASS OF 1991

After graduating from Whitefriars, Eóin commenced a degree in Physics, however part-way through he realised he was enjoying studying psychology more and also decided he wanted to be a Clinical Psychologist. Eóin completed his degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Melbourne and then gained a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Deakin University. He completed his coursework and was very grateful to Whitefriars for the support that they gave him with his research in allowing him to interview students for his thesis. Eóin then commenced his career working clinically in both a public adult psychiatry unit and in an adolescent outpatient service. In both these positions Eóin worked with people who were suffering from severe mental illness. It was really evident that for many of the people he was working with, they had received help long after the onset of their illnesses and as a consequence their paths in life had been severely disrupted.

This ignited a passion for early intervention in mental health and Eóin went on to take a role where he was providing the therapy in a research project at the Early Psychosis Prevention and Intervention Centre (EPPIC) in 2001. His Head of Department was Professor Patrick McGorry (who was Australian of the Year in 2010). EPPIC has evolved since then, and in 2014, with funding from the Federal Government became Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health. At the same time, Eóin was offered and took up the position of Professor of Functional Recovery in Youth Mental Health.

Over the years Eóin's research has focused on early intervention, recovery and prevention in youth mental health. He specialises in investigating ways of helping young people aged 15-25 years, who have had mental illness, return to school or work and find stable and secure accommodation. Eóin's role has developed to include research, clinical skills, teaching and advocating for young people with mental health. Up to 95% of people with schizophrenia are unemployed – despite finding employment being their number one priority. Eóin conducted the first study in the world using an employment intervention in early psychosis. He discovered they could get 85% of people with psychosis back to work or school. His study has been replicated in the USA and the UK with Eóin giving talks in Europe, America and Asia.

This research has now broadened its focus to look at physical health, homelessness, sexual health and parenting in young people with mental illness, as these are all areas that are impacted by illness and are areas which have largely been ignored in terms of a person's treatment or recovery. In addition, he has been involved in the development and implementation of national mental health reforms that have led to the national Early Psychosis Program, currently being rolled out through headspace.

Eóin is married to Stacey and they have two young children, Finn and Grace.

Eóin remembers his time at Whitefriars with fondness and gratitude. In particular he has great memories of the teachers who inspired him, and thinks of them often, as he researches and advocates for better support for young people facing great struggles, to be able to complete their education and make successful transitions to the workforce.

Reunions



CLASS OF 1995 – 20 YEAR REUNION



CLASS OF 2005 – 10 YEAR REUNION



Help us Reconnect

Whitefriars College would like your assistance to connect us with Old Collegians with whom we have lost contact.

We would like to keep everyone informed about College news, events and reunions. If you are able to assist Whitefriars in contacting any of the following Old Collegians, please contact the Development Office on +61 3 9872 8213 or email woca@whitefriars.vic.edu.au.

CLASS OF 1966

Damien Doyle
Noel Hardwick
Peter Lazzaro
Peter Licckvorish
Antonius Maes
John Storey
Ronald Woodbridge

CLASS OF 1976

Terry Arvidson
Peter Blyth
Phillip Candy
Bracey Cooke
John Cridland
Peter Danson
Gregory Dempsey
Jeffrey Doyle
Brendan Fleiter
Peter Foley
John Garratt
Michael Gearon
Michael Gilbertson
Jeremy Herrod
Philip Kelly
Chris Lamb
Brendan Lawlor
Michael Mansfield
Brendan Martin
David Martinus
Gregory Moore
Bradley Nesbitt
Joe Papalia
Barry Perham
Victor John Perton
James Rebbecki
Robert Remmers
Paul Rigby
Tony Sanders
Paul Sproule
John Turner
Timothy Walsh
Stephen West
Marshall White
Paul Worsnop

CLASS OF 1986

Paris Ayiomamitis
Andrew Baker
Justin Bernal
Mark Blyth
Jonathon Brown
Colin Bulmer
Bruno Buratti
Nick Cartmel
Joe Connellan
Glenn Corrie
Damian Cracknell
Joel Dabrera
Simon Davies
Michael Di Vincenzo
Matthew Ditchfield
Sean Donovan
Andrew Dronia
Michael Durkin
Anthony Ellul
Troy Fardell
David Fitzpatrick
Mark Fullarton
James Gibcus
Russell Greig
Paul Grover
Luke Grundy
Brian Hargan
Shaune Holmes
Martin Hope
Warren Hutchinson
Gary Jackson
Michael Kirwan
Karl Leitner
Angelo Marchetti
Jason Martin
Enzo Massarotti
Steven Matousis
Adrian McClelland
Roger McDonald
Richard McDonald
Colin Mcintyre
Steven Mcintyre
Oliver Negri
Antony Neil
Robert Nestic
Aldelber Noveloso
Andrew O'Connell
Damian Passlow

John Pickett
Geoffrey Portelli
Sean Prichard
Jason Pritchard
Adrian Robertson
Dean Salter
Stephen Sastradipradja
Gregory Selkirk
Michael Shark
Luke Thomas
John Todaro
Michael Ward
Russell Weeks
David Welsh
Bruce Wielinga
Alexander Yates

CLASS OF 1996

Reza Afrasiabi
Nicholas Andrews
Luke Armstrong
Karl Barban
Adam Beattie
Martin Blake
Nicholas Brisbane
Travis Brown
Jonathon Condon
Damien Conti
James Cousland
David Cursio
Joseph Dabley
Christopher Dance
Nicholas Di Stasi
Benjamin Doherty
Peter Donovan
Andrew Fahl
John Fairhurst
Josef Ferguson
Christopher Ferraro
Cody Field
Aaron Fitzpatrick
Michael Gigliotti
Lawrence Gozlan
Brendan Herbert
Matthew Hofmann
Christopher Hughes
Matthew Hurley
Ryan Jacobs
Adam Johnson
Bradley Jones
Nicolas Kenos
Simon Knowles
Andrew Lawrence
Tony Leigh
Nisar Malik
Lincoln O'Hara
Adrian Pensak
Adrian Rao
Nicholas Renzella
Cameron Ross
Shannon Ryan
Peter Sang
Brett Schlink
Daniel Schultz
Nicholas Shepherd
Mark Szota
Daniel Walker
Nickolas Zulic

VALE

Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm

21 October 1935 – 9 May 2015

The passing of Fr Noel was a tremendous shock to the entire Whitefriars community and it produced an outpouring of sadness from all over the world; friends, colleagues, current students, old collegians and parents, past and present, wrote in and called in, to express their grief and their condolences.

Below is a snapshot of some of the messages which were posted on our website. You can view more here: www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au/news/goodbye-fr-noel

Cardamone Family

Fr Noel what can I say, your kindness, loving nature and stories will never be forgotten. You probably didn't realise this, but you were like the boys' grandfather as they lost theirs when they were quite young. Thank you for your wisdom, until we meet again you will always be in our hearts and we will always hear your voice. Rest in Peace Fr Noel.

Mark Walters - Class of 1990

After 20 odd years I was lucky enough to catch up with Noel at the Warrandyte pub just a few weeks ago. Mind as sharp as a trap he instantly recognised and greeted me by my lifelong nick name "G'day Wally". The night continued with references to a whole bunch of things he hadn't forgotten about me, and I know the other Friars blokes there had the same experience. Extraordinary guy. Almae In Fide Parentis. Noel was that. Thank you and RIP.

Damian Fitzgibbon - Class of 1989

I first met Fr Noel at my interview to join the school as a nervous 11 year old. Over the next six years I was so lucky to experience his love and guidance. A visit to see Kiercy usually ended with some wise words of counsel and



a dip into the Mintie jar. He WAS the Whitefriars motto Almae In Fide Parentis, and even after an absence of nearly 20 years I was greeted so warmly by Noel at our class reunion. I am always so grateful and thankful for my time at Friars and Fr Kierce was at the centre of this.

Nick Reece - Class of 1991

Vale Noel Kierce. As a naughty Year 7 in the eighties, a trip to Fr Kierce's Office was something that would strike terror into one's heart. But by the time of graduation in the nineties, a visit to Noel was something students would actively seek out. Even the toughest kid knew the value and wisdom of his counsel. Thank you Noel. For the thousands of souls you have helped through the trials and tribulations of being a young man growing up. A wonderful life, well lived, has passed. RIP Great Man!

Matthew Corigliano - Current Student

Fr Kierce will be sorely missed by everybody at Whitefriars. He was a man of the people, and no matter how close you were to him, every time you saw him, it would put a smile on your face. I know every time that I said hello to him when I was walking around the school, he would just make your day even better. The positive presence that he brought should never be understated. May Fr Noel rest in peace.

John Buccella - Class of 1990

Fr Noel Kierce, a true gentleman and wonderful human being. He was my Principal from my time beginning in 1985 and one of the most genuine, dedicated and compassionate people I had ever met. A man who was there for the community and the students at Whitefriars and of course to serve his God, a legend. This is a huge blow to the Whitefriars community, but Fr Noel Kierce will live on in our memories and hearts forever. RIP.

Jack Gargano - Class of 2010

I will never forget you Fr Noel. Words cannot describe how much you meant to our College, you will never be forgotten as the true legend that you were. Love you Fr Vincent Noel Kierce. Almae in Fide Parentis.

Paul Ryan - Class of 1972

A great man who did wonders for me in the late 60s & early 70s. He even kept me at full back when I told him I wanted to play forward like all the cool kids! I haven't seen Fr Kierce for many many years but I have a tear in my eye writing this. God bless Kiercey.

Sean Blackley - Current Student

Father, you were an inspiration to all and it's sad to see such a well-respected man go. You always helped with the Whitefriars swimming team and each year told me how much I had improved. You will be dearly missed, rest in peace.

Paul Dietzsch - Staff

In all my years in the teaching profession and in all the educational settings I've worked, never have I met a man so universally admired, respected and loved by all. Life is simple; don't take yourself too seriously, everyone deserves a fair go, people do make mistakes, and the sun will rise tomorrow. He embodied the notion of living in the present moment and appreciating others for the individuals they are. In his presence I always felt a sense of calm and the influence of a guiding hand. Rest easy Fr Noel. Your work here is done.

John Snowball - Class of 1972

What a good man Kiercey was. I remember his warm sense of humour and his understanding of the bigger picture, that people make mistakes. A fine tribute to a life well spent to see such similar sentiments expressed over a 40 plus year span. RIP Noel, Go Tiges.

Christopher Lazzari - Class of 1987

May the light shine for Kiero. A great teacher but most specifically a compassionate, forward thinking and fair leader of young men. I sought his counsel many times after my final year and still keep these words close to me. Thank you Father.

Brendan Douglas - Class of 1979

I was so sad to hear the news about Kiercey. Such a gentle man whose quiet wise ways helped me out of quite a few scrapes as I negotiated my time at Friars. A wonderful friend to my family, he married two of my brothers and remained interested and concerned about our welfare and how we were going throughout all those years. As I've grown older and perhaps a little wiser, I reflect on the gift that I was given being educated by the Carmelites. No finer example of their loving care of their students could be found than in our beloved Kiercey. God bless you mate, your legacy will continue to live on in the fine College that Whitefriars is today.

Mike D - Class of 1993

Father K – what a man after God's own heart! I have many fond memories of hours spent discussing our faith and the amazing God we all serve. I have him to thank for helping me stay on the right path. Almae In Fide Parentis.

Cecille and Family

Thank you Fr Noel for sharing your love, support and care that you and your sister Ursula (deceased) had given us. For being a grandfather figure to John, your time whenever he needs you, you're always there. We're going to miss you so much, your smile, your voice and your big embrace. There's so much to say... we want you to know that we'll always love you. Goodbye Fr Noel. May your soul rest in peace. Almae In Fide Parentis. "I will not forget you. I have carved you in the palm of my hand." Isaiah 49:15

Eric - Class of 1995

Thanks for everything Father; from pointing out the finer points of how to wear one's school uniform, to baptising all three of my children. You were a kind, gentle and loving man and we won't forget you.

Greg Tate - Class of 1993

Those four little words under the Whitefriars name – Almae In Fide Parentis – were made real by Father Noel. We were truly in the hands of a loving, gentle man, both whilst at school and even beyond our school days. May he rest very peacefully knowing he gave so much to so many. May we always remember this legend of the College.

Suriel Youssef - Current Student

RIP Father, you have shown me a lot over these past two years and you are a MASSIVE inspiration. I remember the day I had parent teacher interviews and you told my parents about me and all they did was laugh because you are a hilarious person. Thank you for being who you are and always looking out for people, I will make you proud I promise.

Greg Monks - Class of 1994

Gee, I loved this guy! He was a true mentor and guardian angel in every sense. From the day Mum, Dad and I first met him in December 1988 we knew how special he was to so many. He was the core, the essence, the blood of Whitefriars College and a devout Carmelite for 60 years. So many treasured memories of our times together include school musical theatre productions; Kairos retreats; swim squad at Nunawading pool; countless lifts home from school because I was always running late and had missed the bus; family gatherings; his treating me to opera nights at the State Theatre; marrying my mates; baptizing their babies; his words of wisdom and acts of grace; his often repeating himself and telling me the same stories year after year; his joy when he learned I got the school captaincy; his visiting us in London 10 years ago; his encouraging me to pursue law and to sing, sing, sing; my trip to see him in Adelaide in 1997; our 20 year school reunion at the College last November; my last phone call to him from Singapore two months ago; and the lifelong intensely beautiful friendship he shared with Mother Marie Cameron, parts of which I was so lucky to share and enjoy too! He was like a grandfather to me and one of my dearest friends, a true legend sadly gone from this world but now in full flight up there in heaven handing out a stack of minties to all the other angels. RIP Fr Noel Kierce. I've got Puccini, Verdi plus Gilbert & Sullivan's *Pirate King* playing over here in Singapore now. You were loved by a cast of thousands and will forever remain in our hearts. Bravo! God bless ya xo

**Lachlan Green – Current Student**

The footfalls were heavy,
tears rolling a many

While the music played,
his soul was surely swayed

The morning was gloomy and wet,
however it was with honour that we met

To see our family member and on his way,
till we see him again when it is our own day

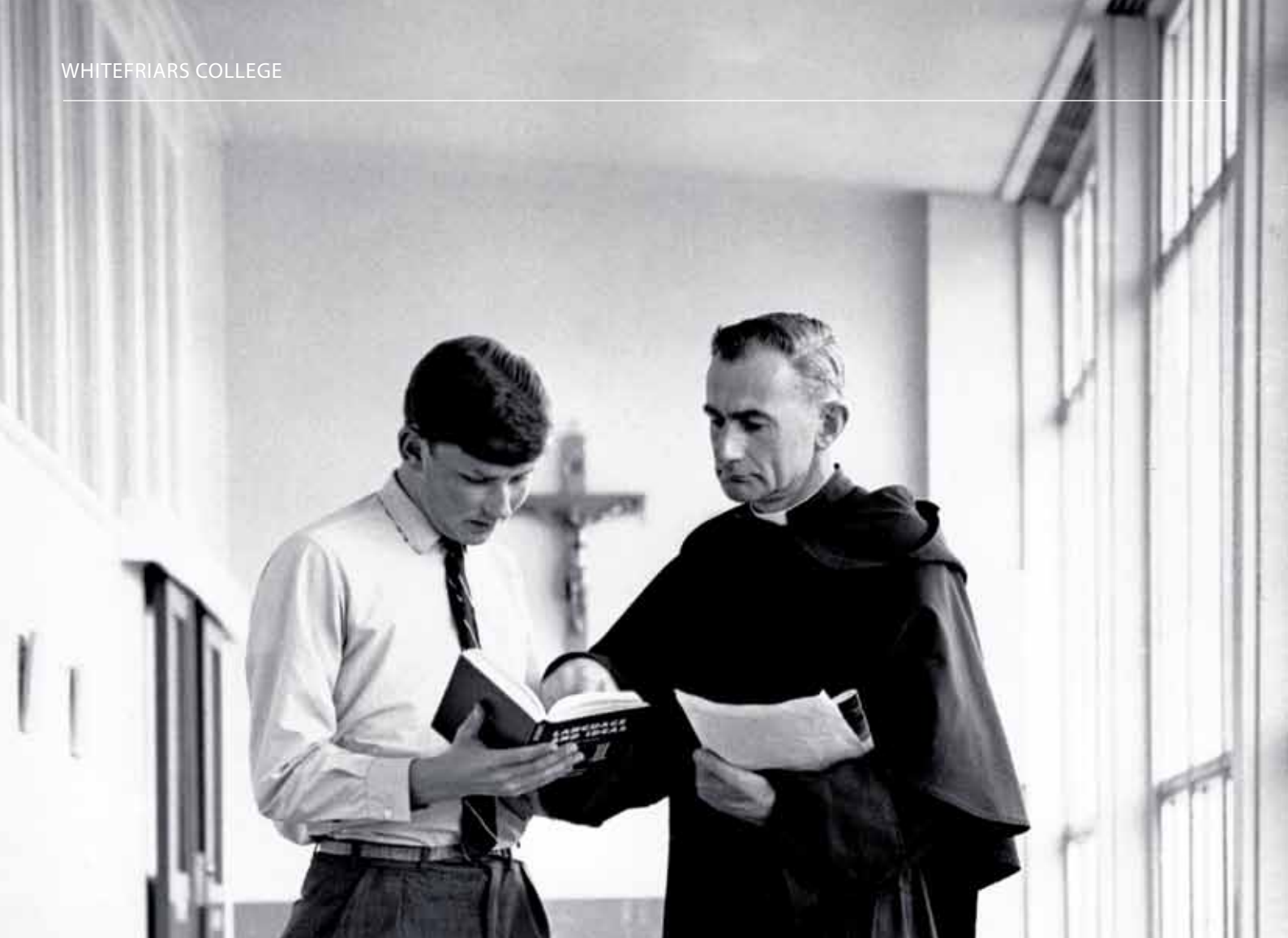
Let it be what you remember of Father Noel,
he always had a kind and gentle soul

By honour we stood shoulder to shoulder,
in eternal belief that he can never get older

Your Journey here is complete,
now it is our turn to continue till the ends meet

Continue we will for the rest of our days,
as we know you guide us in so many ways

Be it well that we see you again one day,
maybe then it will be to stay.



At the Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral celebrating the 40th anniversary of Whitefriars, Frank preached the homily. In his typically engaging style of speaking or writing, Frank recalled the day when the first students arrived at Whitefriars, 14 February 1961:

"It was still early in the day but the countryside had been exposed to the hot sun of a February morning for three hours.

Past a sign which proclaimed the name of a builder and down a drive which had been smoothed out in previous months by trucks with concrete, mobile cranes and carpenters' cars came a small boy in a grey uniform and a dark brown cap carrying a bag which seemed far too large for him.

The first pupil had arrived at Whitefriars College, preceding by some 30 minutes the bus load of very apprehensive, very excited, 11 and 12 year old boys who were to be his companions in the first year of the College's history.

Two priests changed quickly from overalls to brown habits to welcome the boy; and when the school bus had brought his companions there were also two Brothers aboard. These four Carmelites were the College's initial staff, their other duties of each day spoiling what might otherwise appear as the perfect teacher-pupil ratio.

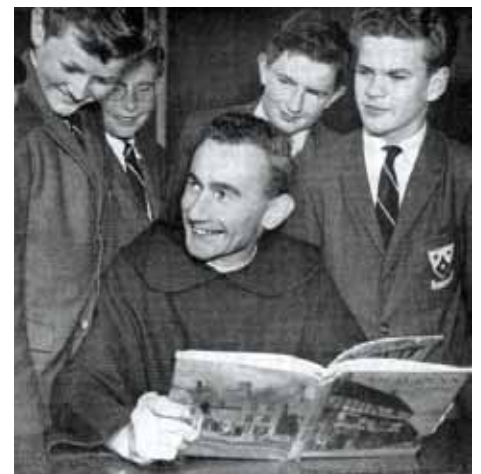
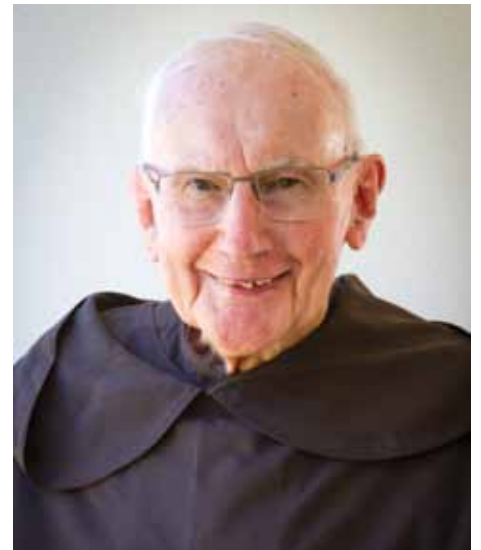
The new boy and 32 other new boys sat in new desks, wrote in new books and started to form the spirit of a completely new school."

VALE

Fr Frank Shortis, O.Carm

Founding Principal of Whitefriars College

10 July 1926 – 24 July 2015



That new school is now flourishing in its 55th year as a highly respected and popular contributor to Catholic education in this Archdiocese. The foundations on which it was built and which continue to guide its operation and development were laid down solidly by Frank.

For the first five years after his ordination as a Priest in 1953, Frank completed his University studies while assisting in the Parish of Port Melbourne. At the same time, he was charged by the Carmelites to implement a vision he had formulated as a student ... of the Australian Carmelites entering a new ministry, that of secondary education. After acting as Novice Master for the Carmelites in 1959 and working intensively throughout 1960 in preparation for the opening of this new school, Whitefriars College became a reality.

Frank was the inspiration and drive behind Whitefriars, formulating its philosophy and vision and attending to everything from building to programming, financing and staffing. From the outset, Frank ensured that Whitefriars offered something distinctive. As quoted in James Thomson's book, *Whitefriars College – 50 years, 1961 – 2010*, Frank said:

"All parents were looking for a good secondary education, but some parents who had themselves been educated in Catholic schools were looking for something better, something different from the basic six or seven subjects, staff with basic training and corporal punishment."

And further, Frank added: "We valued one-to-one conversations. In those early years, teachers knew all the students and their parents by first name. This set a pattern. Students felt they were known and respected." In establishing a school with a distinctive vision and a different style from what was then usual, Frank was ensuring that the school was imbued with the Carmelite charism. From the naming of the school to the honouring of Mary in its motto, to the establishment of student Houses patronised by various Carmelite saints, to the choice of curriculum extending to literature, art and music, to the focus on the individual, to the style of respect for each person and careful listening to their stories and trying to help develop their particular talents and interests, Frank was giving concrete expression to his own contemplative spirituality, to his dedication to the service of others and to the value of community in our lives and in our world.

Here was a man deeply imbued with the spirit of the Prophet Elijah, spiritual 'father' of the Carmelites. Like Elijah, Frank experienced God deeply in the silence of his heart; like Elijah, he was zealous to share God's love and care for him with those whom he felt called by God to serve in many different circumstances over the years.

Frank's enthusiasm for Whitefriars, where he was still active on the Board until failing health began to overtake him in the last few months of his life, was almost life long and something in which Whitefriars has been richly blessed.

VALE

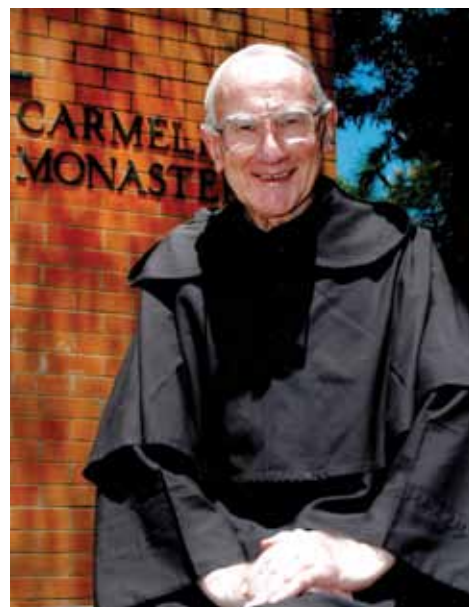
Fr Frank Shortis, O.Carm

Founding Principal of Whitefriars College

10 July 1926 – 24 July 2015



Frank's eloquence in presenting a vision or in arguing a point of view, in giving an occasional address or preaching a homily is legendary.

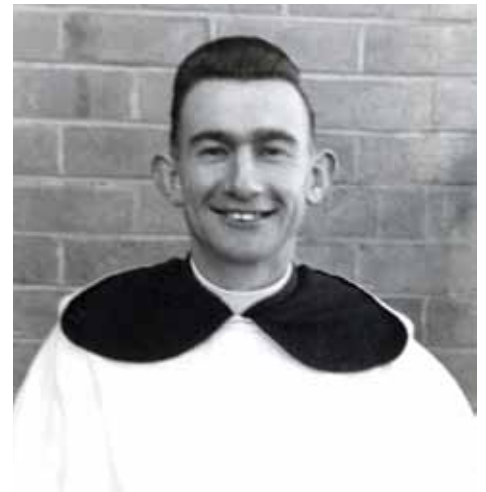


A new chapter began in Frank's life in October 1972 when he left Whitefriars to take up an invitation by the Archdiocese of Melbourne to be the founding Principal of Geoghegan College, a new senior co-educational school which opened in Broadmeadows the following year. These were heady, tense, demanding, yet defining and ultimately highly significant years in the successful development of Catholic education in Victoria, as the world, Australian society, the political landscape and the Church were all changing. In many ways, the fact that we enjoy such a professional, effective, significant, yet Gospel inspired Catholic educational ministry in Victoria today, is due in large measure to the visionary and practical commitment and endeavour of a number of important figures in the 1970s, who steered a highly successful course through the turbulent waters of those years. Numbered significantly among these important figures was Frank Shortis. With his

qualities of nature and grace, he was able, particularly as founding President of the newly formed Principals Association of Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools, to facilitate collaboration among Catholic schools for the good of them all.

After six very demanding years at Geoghegan, in 1979 Frank became Prior Provincial of the Carmelites in Australia for the next six years. He was re-elected to this role for a further four years in 1997. All his administrative and leadership skills were evident as the Province leader and were recognised by other Religious and Church leaders. He was enlisted onto various committees concerned with implementing visions of how Religions might better engage with each other and with the broader Church for the building up of the Kingdom of God.

After completing his first six year term as Provincial, Frank trained as a Spiritual Director and subsequently practised this ministry at Whitefriars Spirituality Centre in 1988. His personal humility and holiness, his attentive listening and his sage counsel made him an attractive spiritual guide to many people and he continued to assist people in this way, including the Lay Carmelites in Brisbane, until quite recently – even though he was primarily engaged with other responsibilities and with other ministries.



In 1989, a newly elected Carmelite Provincial Council saw a need to breathe new life into the Carmelite Parish of Hilton in Perth. Even though Frank hadn't been in parish ministry since 1958 in Port Melbourne, Frank was the clear 'go to' man for this task. He generously and cheerfully took up this challenge, driving the building of a new Church – a potent symbol of the new life breathed into the Parish. Even more important, however, was his attention and loyalty to the people; from the most humble to the most gifted and talented, endearing him, as it had always done, to a broad range of people – including and especially, young people. The people of Hilton, like the people of Coorparoo in Brisbane where he served after completing his second term as Provincial in 2001, appreciated his faith and his faithfulness, his prayerfulness, his knowledge, his insights, his homilies, his way of relating to each of them, his good humour and his genuine and gentle style.

The final year of Frank's life was lived in Middle Park where, with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the province's history, he made an immense contribution to the organisation of the provincial archives. At Middle Park, he also got to be known and loved by the young Carmelite students from both Timor-Leste and Australia as a genuine, friendly, happy, encouraging and inspiring brother.

Frank sustained a life-long interest in theology, the arts, history, literature, sport and education, in particular. Frank was also a very devoted family man. He loved his brother and sisters dearly, as he did their spouses, their children and their grandchildren – and they loved him. He was there for so many significant events in their lives, including Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals. He supported them through various tragedies and struggles which came their way throughout their lives. He shared both good and sad times with them and they loved sharing time and special occasions with him. Frank had grown up in Kyabram in northern Victoria and he loved to get back there and to Shepparton where his siblings lived. His family, as indeed anyone he met, were beneficiaries of his wonderful ability to give them his undivided attention – to 'be there'.

Frank's eloquence in presenting a vision or in arguing a point of view, in giving an occasional address or preaching a homily is legendary. Wisdom, nuance, careful consideration of different points of view, respect for his audience, historical awareness, literary acumen and effective delivery were always evident. Like so many others, I was privileged to enjoy his oratory and writing, but particularly his company, wise mentoring, lively interest in what was happening, encouragement, wit and humour. He will be sorely missed in so many ways by so many.

May this humble man – so open to God, this gentle, compassionate, honourable, wise, talented, kind, just, merciful and peaceful man of the highest integrity rest now in eternal peace and joy, in the fullness of the kingdom for which he longed and to which he gave life-long witness.

Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm

Community Connections

Two Wolves



Whitefriars College and St Anne's Primary School, Park Orchards, recently joined forces to extend St Anne's keenest Grade 5/6 readers and writers by completing a short unit on 'Wolves, metaphor and mystery'. Using contemporary Australian author, Tristan Bancks' new novel, *Two Wolves*, as their muse, the group explored the significance of the novel's title and epigraph, as well as its connection to two iconic novels from years gone by: *The Call of the Wild* and *My Side of the Mountain*.

We also had a lot of fun examining the conventions of mystery fiction and the role YouTube book trailers now play in attracting an audience and foreshadowing the concerns of the novel. Discussion of the novel's complex themes, protagonist and antagonists was also a real highlight.

Like most keen English students, we then turned our attention to making sense of all of our discoveries and observations by writing an expository essay and using a super graphic organiser from Read, Write and Think to structure their first formal text response. It was lovely to see a group so enthusiastic about writing an essay!

Many thanks to Grade 5/6 students involved for their enthusiasm and great chats about their favourite books and characters. Discussing Harry Potter's Creature Vaults was a real highlight! Thanks must also go to St Anne's Deputy Principal, Katie Schroder, for the invitation to work with her students, assistance and encouragement.

Young Performers



Our students from the Junior Concert Band, Junior Guitar Ensemble, Junior Rock Band, Drama Ensemble and Technical Crew were invited to perform at St John's Parish Primary School, Mitcham. The students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 had finished studying a unit on performance, and our students were invited to perform a concert and answer some questions that had been put together.

The concert went well, with all students performing at a high standard and carrying themselves to the high standard that we've come to expect from our Ensemble Program members. The students at St John's were a gracious and appreciative audience and a good time was had by all.

An Explosive Display



Catholic primary schools in the eastern suburbs have been treated to visits from the Whitefriars Science learning area.

Dr Goodall and his team of helpers, including both staff and students, have been entertaining and educating pupils in Grades 3 and 4 with some spectacular examples of chemical science. Many “oohs” and “aahs” have been elicited from the children, most of whom have not seen laboratory equipment or chemical experiments before.

They were entertained and educated with demonstrations of exploding baby formula and witnessed colour changing chemicals with the elephant’s toothpaste experiment. They witnessed the movement and change of chemicals and learnt that with an indicator, you can tell if a liquid is an acid or not. They looked at the gas, carbon dioxide, and saw how it could extinguish a flame, before learning about how fire extinguishers work.

These and other simple illustrations are designed to show the children how science is used to help us understand the world around us. It is also hoped we will inspire their young minds and generate some enthusiasm for what lies ahead in secondary school – which for many of them will be at Whitefriars College.

The Learning Commons

The College is extremely grateful for the response we have had from the Whitefriars College community. Donations have been warmly received from current families, Old Collegians, past parents and staff.

Although we have not yet reached our goal, the funds will enable us to commence planning for the re-fit of our current Library space. As this development will require a capital investment of \$50,000 to \$60,000 we are hoping for additional contributions and would encourage anyone still wishing to make a donation, to please do so.

Donations may be made via the link www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au/community/annual-appeal and all donations over \$2 are fully tax deductible.

Our sincere thanks to the many donors who have contributed. Some have chosen to donate anonymously, we thank you, whilst also acknowledging the following families:

Bellos Family	Naidu Family
Bolton Family	O’Connor Family
Bullock Family	O’Farrell Family
Deltondo Family	Passeri Family
Dickinson Family	Reynolds Family
Dunmill Family	Roughsedge Family
Kelly Family	Sanderson Family
Kiraly Family	Schafer Family
Levi Family	Stapelfeldt Family
McLeod Family	Sticca Family
Miller Family	Tran Family
Mow Family	Walker Family

Are you an Old Collegian?

We welcome past students to contact the Development Office at woca@whitefriars.vic.edu.au if you would like to contribute an article to the next issue of the *Whitefriar*.

Important Dates

OCTOBER

Monday 5	First Day of Term 4
Friday 16	Last Day of Year 12 Classes Full College Assembly Opening Visual Arts Exhibition
Sunday 18	College Open Day 9am – 3pm
Monday 19	Student Free Day
Tuesday 20	Year 12 Celebration Morning Year 12 Valete Mass & Valedictory Dinner
Saturday 24	Ensemble Performance at St Thomas Fair Class of 1975 40 Year Reunion
Wednesday 28	Unit 3 & 4 Exams begin
Thursday 29	Year 9 Social

NOVEMBER

Monday 2	Mid-Term Break – Student Free Day
Tuesday 3	Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday
Thursday 5	Last Day for Year 11 Classes Full College Assembly Mother's Thank You Dinner
Friday 6	Unit 1 & 2 Exams
Wednesday 11	Year 7 2016 Transition Information Evening
Friday 13	Year 11 Flying Start Program at Latrobe University
Monday 16-27	Year 11 Flying Start Program
Tuesday 17	Presentation Night – Hamer Hall
Friday 20	Last Day for Year 11 Students Year 7 2016 Transition Morning for singles Whitefriars Science Roadshow to Our Lady of the Pines Primary School Class of 2014 First Year Reunion
Monday 23-27	Year 7 OLP Camp

Monday 23-27	Year 10 Exams
Wednesday 25	Christmas Mass and Supper
Thursday 26-3	Year 9 Exams
Friday 27	Last day for Year 10 Students
Monday 30	Year 8 Immersion Program

DECEMBER

Tuesday 1	Student Free Day Year 7 2016 Orientation Day New Staff Induction Day
Wednesday 2-3	Year 9 Exams
Wednesday 2	Year 8 Immersion Program
Thursday 3	Last day for Years 7, 8 & 9 Students
Thursday 10	Last Day for Teaching Staff
Monday 14	Year 12 Results released
Monday 14-15	Year 12 Change of Preference

JANUARY 2016

Monday 18	College Administration Reopens
Monday 25	New Staff Induction Day
Wednesday 27	Middle Park Immersion Day for all staff

FEBRUARY

Monday 1	First Day Term one for Year 7, 10 and 12
Tuesday 2	First Day Term one for Years 8, 9 and 11
Thursday 4	Mass for the Opening of the School Year – St Patrick's Cathedral
Friday 26	Applications Close for Year 7 2017

MARCH

Saturday 19	Interviews for Year 7 2017 Students
Wednesday 23	Last day of Term 1



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For more information about Whitefriars College visit www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au



WHITEFRIARS
CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR BOYS