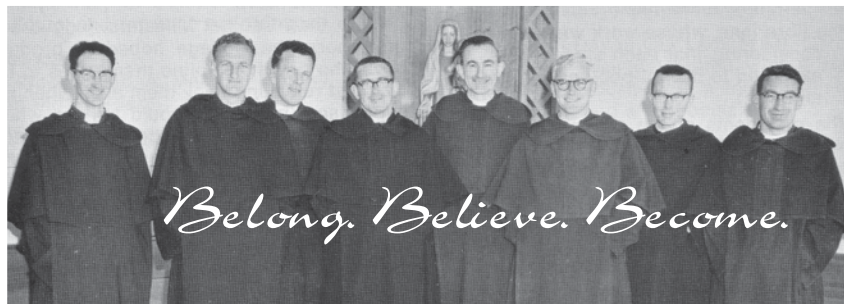


VOL 36 | # 02
OCTOBER
2021

60 Years



WHITFIELD





Dear Whitefriars Community

Well, it has been one year since our edition reflected on a year that was like no other. We had imagined this year; our magazine would be full of images reflecting the wonderful events hosted in honour of our 60th Anniversary.

With our calendar of student and community events restricted, we have chosen to focus on some of the journeys contained within our 60 Years of Whitefriars College. We understand that everyone has their own story to tell and if you have any story you would like to share, please reach out to us at the College.

We truly hope that you have been able to find some positives during this time and have found connection in your daily life. If you have not yet, be sure to register at whitefriarsconnect.com.au to reconnect with your peers and ensure you do not miss opportunities to visit the College or get involved.

Be kind to yourself and your loved ones.

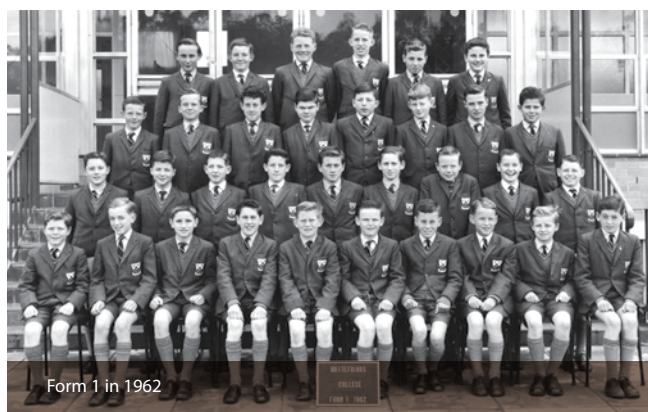
The Editors

A Whitefriars Snapshot

When you consider the history of a school, there is so much that needs to be documented. For our 50th Anniversary, James Thomson (Class of 1997) wrote 'Whitefriars College – 50 years, 1961 – 2010'. The next few pages are merely a highlight in any one particular year.



College c1961



Form 1 in 1962



1962 Opening Day

1961 First student arrived, preceding the bus load of apprehensive, excited eleven and twelve-year-old boys who were to be his 32 companions in the first year of the College's history. The staff consisted of four Carmelites.

By Term 2, there were 37 students, and it was hoped that within five years there would be at least 200.

Subjects taught: Religion, English, Latin, History, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, General Science, Geography, Art and Physical Education, with relaxation provided by sport and singing.

1962 College staff saved the school buildings from destruction by bushfire.

Official Opening of the College.

Several inaugural events occurred such as an inter-school football match, family day, Whitefriars Ball, Art Show and student retreat.

Foundation of the Whitefriars Parents' Association.

1963 No. 1 Sports Oval completed.

Students staged the first Play Festival performing 'The Bishop's Candlesticks'.

Inaugural First Easter fair.

1964 The school day started at 8.50am and finished at 3.20 pm.

Subjects taught expanded to: Arithmetic, English, PE, Mathematics, Geography, Geometry, Latin, History, Religion, Italian, Science, Music/Singing, Art, Algebra and Sport. This was taught across eight 40-minute periods.



c1965 Tuckshop



1967 Table Tennis



1966 Prefects

1965 No. 2 Oval completed.

Whitefriars team competed in the Eastern District's Schools cross-country.

Building extensions occur to the north building, adding a senior chemistry laboratory, preparation room, senior study library and chemistry teacher's room. Another new wing, the southern wing, comprised five classrooms, a locker room, basement storeroom and locker-shower rooms, and a junior science laboratory.

1966 Enrolments: 195 students.

A new chemistry laboratory, classrooms and an undercroft were built.

Mothers' auxiliary ran fundraising, the tuckshop, rosters for car transport for boys staying after school for football practice, the second-hand uniform shop and the Easter fair.

A College Ball and a Cup Eve Ball were held.

Parents established a careers sub-committee to assist senior students in choosing a career.

Clubs: Bankers (College Savings Bank), bird club, chess club, library club and music clubs were formed.

First Whitefriars Art Show.

First Matriculation Dinner was celebrated.

1967 The College received its first capital grant.

A second stream was introduced at Form 1 (Year 7) level, now 80 students.

The majority of the Leaving class returned to complete Matriculation leading to entry to university.

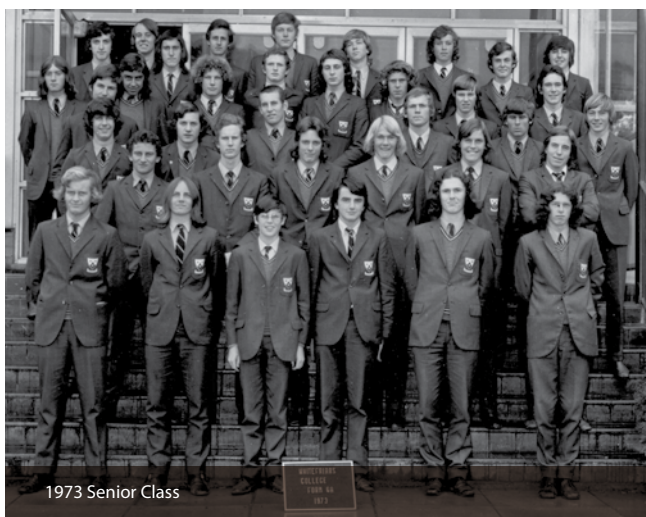
Leaving and Matriculation physics students from Our Lady of Sion were taught at Whitefriars College.

In addition to cricket, football and athletics played as part of the EIS (Eastern Independent Schools) competition, boys formed two soccer teams. Basketball and table tennis matches were also played. There was an opportunity for boys to play chess competitively against other schools.

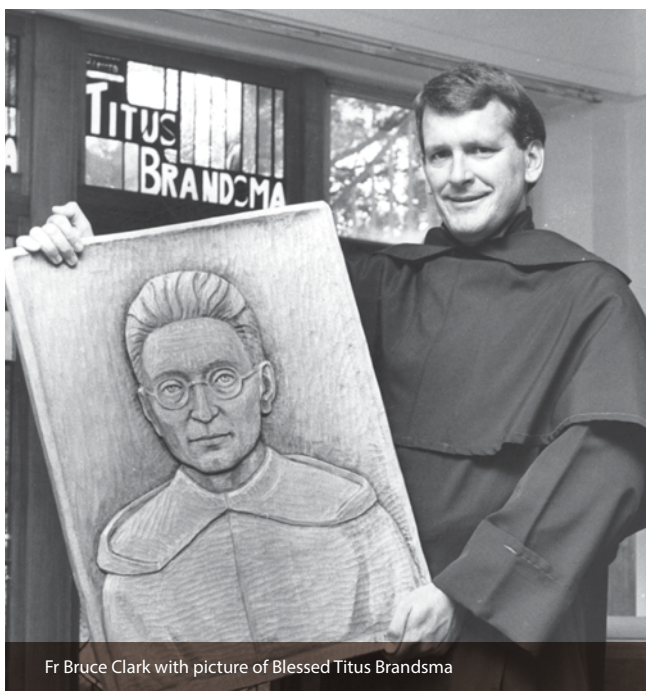
First school social was held.



1969 Fr Shortis and Students

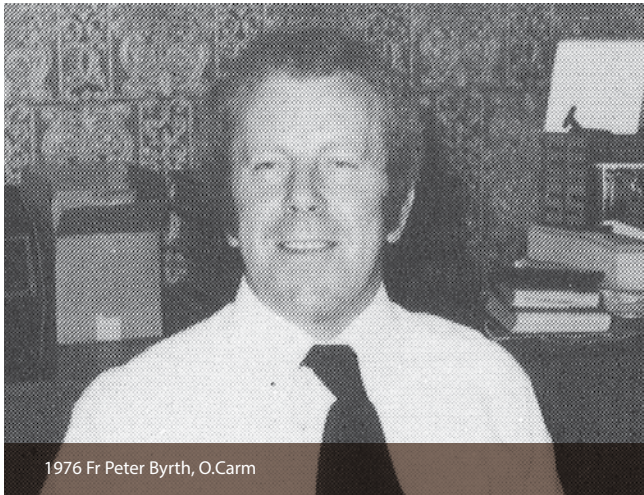


1973 Senior Class



Fr Bruce Clark with picture of Blessed Titus Brandsma

-
- 1968** Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm, Fr Bernie McPhee, O.Carm and Fr Adrian Jones, O.Carm, joined the staff.
- Two classrooms were constructed for junior forms.
- Forms 4, 5 and 6 exempted from wearing caps.
-
- 1969** Enrolments: 320 students.
- Indonesian introduced.
- Two new classrooms added to the junior wing.
- Library facilities were extended.
- Parents' Club built tennis and basketball courts and practice cricket nets.
- New general science laboratory and amenities block commenced.
-
- 1970** Higher School Certificate (HSC) was introduced, replacing Matriculation.
-
- 1972** Appointment of Fr Bernie McPhee, O.Carm as Headmaster.
-
- 1974** Building Approval to convert a Nissan Hut into a Gymnasium was received.
- Building Approval given for Science A and Undercroft.
- Building of new Religion Centre commenced.
- Three streams in Form 1.
- Senior students take a 17-day study tour of Java and Bali.
- Foundation of Whitefriars Swimming Club.
-
- Mid 70s** Four Houses introduced: Brandsma, Corsini, Mantua and Soreth.
-
- 1975** New science block completed. Commercial and legal studies introduced to Form 5 (Year 11) students.
- Rugby introduced.
- Camps became a permanent feature of the College's curriculum.
- Social sciences were introduced throughout the College.



1976 Fr Peter Byrth, O.Carm



1978 Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm



1983 Circular Lawn



c1982 HSC Physics students and their constructed Wind Tunnel

-
- 1976** Appointment of Fr Peter Byrth, O.Carm as Principal.
Enrolments: 555 Students.
Discussions took place with Sion about becoming co-educational for the final two years of secondary school. The co-educational College was to be built at Whitefriars.
The bluestone belltower was built.
Building of biology laboratory approved.
-
- 1977** Appointment of Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm as Acting Principal.
-
- 1978** Third stream of students commence.
Toilet block built in South Wing.
Building approvals for portables 28 – 30.
-
- 1980** Appointment of Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm as Principal.
Administration building opened on previous library site.
-
- 1982** Four streams in Year 7.



1986 Pirates of Penzance



New Classrooms Arrive



1987 Time Capsule buried

1984 Blessing and Opening of the Guggenheim Gymnasium.

Soreth House was removed and replaced by Avila (because all the Patrons were men).

1986 Silver Jubilee year celebrations included: family day, a student fair, mass and ball.

Stained glass windows designed by Old Collegian John Kelly and installed for Houses Avila, Brandsma, Corsini and Mantua.

College Theatre opened with a performance of 'Pirates of Penzance'. It was so successful in its new home that it ran for 13 performances.

Senior football team won the Herald Metropolitan Cup competition run by the VFL.

The swimming squad won the EIS Swimming Championships.

Whitefriars Old Collegian Football team was established and the old woodwork rooms were renovated to include a lounge, bar and toilet facilities.

A time capsule was buried in the garden in front of the canteen to be unearthed in 75 years from now, in 2062.

Soreth House was reinstated.

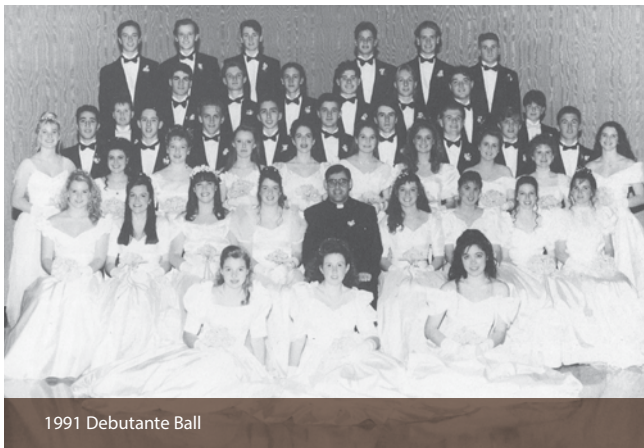
1987 Introduction of Trinity House.



1988 Student Fair



1988 Kairos



1991 Debutante Ball



1988 Mr Greg Stewart in his role as Year 12 Coordinator

1988 Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm elected Prior Provincial for three years.

Stained glass windows installed for Soreth and Trinity.

Whitefriars College Co-operative Limited was established to provide a partial business education for students and additional financial resources for the College.

1989 Appointment of Fr Hugh Brown, O.Carm as Principal.

Enrolments: more than 900.

Student Fair raised a record profit of \$19,000.

1990 Enrolments in Year 12: 100 students.

VCE was introduced as a two-year certificate program for Years 11 and 12.

1991 First Debutante Ball.

1992 Library Building Appeal launched.

Whitefriars Amateur Football Club – VAFA Centenary Year Club of the Year.

1993 Opening of the College Library.

1995 Introduction of TAFE Certificate.

1996 Masterplan Stage 1 included the Student Services Building.

New Sports Uniform proposed in blue, white and gold.

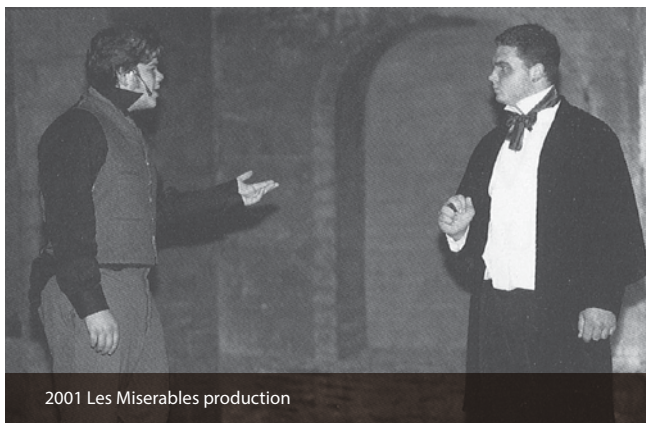
1997 Appointment of Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm as Principal.

Introduction of the Whitefriars International Student Program.

Extension of Creative Arts – Media and Ceramics, Canteen and Information Technology Centre.

1998 Outdoor Learning Program introduced.

Farewell to the EIS (Eastern Independent Schools) sport after more than 30 years.



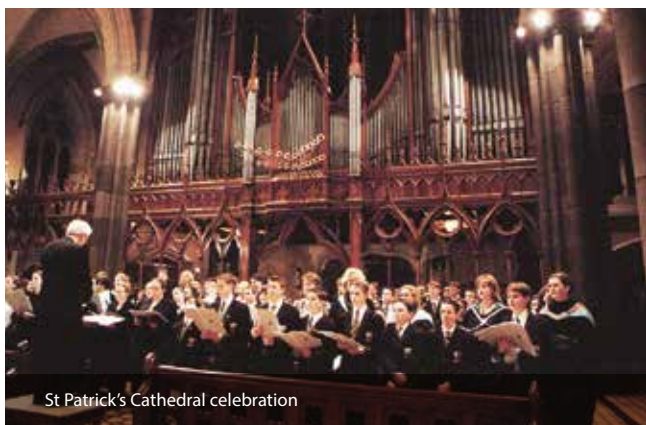
2001 Les Miserables production



2001 Year 7 Camp



Notebooks



St Patrick's Cathedral celebration

1999 Commencement of ACC (Associated Catholic Colleges) sport.
All Year 7 rooms were fitted for Notebook use.
Whitefriars Old Collegians Association was formally incorporated.
Fr Noel Kierce, O.Carm, returned to Whitefriars as Chaplain.

2000 40th Anniversary celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral.
ACC Swimming Champions.
Enrolments: 1037 students.

2001 Introduction of Junior Captain.
Whitefriars first collaborate with Siena College to produce/perform 'Les Miserables'.
Introduction of Aviation Program enabling students to graduate from the College with their VCE and a pilot's licence. Four Year 11 students completed the course at the end of 2002.
Mary and The Christ Child, commissioned by the College in honour of the 40th Anniversary of Whitefriars College and created by Sculptor Peter Schipperheyn (Class of 1973).
East Timorese Carmelites join the Carmelite province in Australia.

2002 Introduction of Stein House.
Stage Three of the Masterplan commenced.
Refurbishment of the Brother Thomas Butler Creative Arts Centre.
Introduction of Activity Captains.
Introduction of a Faith Development Coordinator, Br Sean Keefe, O.Carm.
Introduction of the Key Club sponsored by the Doncaster/Templestowe Kiwanis Club and Young Vinnies Club.

2003 Introduction of a Board of Directors.



2005 ACC Senior Basketball



2007 Duncan Centre



2010 Chapel Opening and Blessing



2011 Production - And Then There Were None

-
- 2004** Whitefriars 1st XV111 graced the MCG and won MCC Herald Sun Shield.
- Naming of the College gymnasiums.
- Atari Diegesis Festival; of the final 153 photographs selected 19 works were created by Whitefriars students.
-
- 2005** Pastoral Care Program moved to a Vertical Pastoral System.
- Won National Intermediate Basketball Title.
- Master Plan revealed to include new Chapel.
-
- 2006** Walk for East Timor raised \$20,000.
- Refurbishment of the Nissan Hut.
- Revised Master Plan to include substantial redevelopment of the old Year 7 and 8 classrooms and the Biology block.
- Introduction of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) as an alternate pathway for senior students at the College.
-
- 2007** F Block and the Duncan Centre underwent massive restructure.
-
- 2008** Introduction of Lisieux House.
-
- 2009** Building approvals for science wing extension.
-
- 2010** Whitefriars College Chapel opened.
-
- 2013** Appointment of Mr John Finn as Principal.
-
- 2014** College Board approved the undertaking of gaining International School Accreditation through the Council of International Schools (CIS).
-
- 2015** Move to different student grouping structures, Middle Years (Years 7 – 9) and Senior Years (Years 10 – 12).
- New College Uniform.
- Whitefriars won a staggering 19 ACC Titles being crowned ACC Champion School of the Year.



2015 New College Uniform



2016 Immersion Experience to Timor - Leste



2017 Immersion Experience to Darwin



2018 Science and Technology Centre

2016 50 Year Reunion – First students (Class of 1966).
A building program has begun with the first enabling works stage around the car park and pedestrian access in progress.
Immersion Experience to Timor – Leste.

2017 Construction of the Science and Technology Centre commenced.
Immersion Experience to Darwin.

2018 Appointment of Mr Anthony Kirley as Principal.
Opening of the Science and Technology Centre.

2019 Appointment of Mr Greg Stewart as Acting Principal.

2020 Appointment of Mr Mark Murphy as Principal.
COVID-19 saw the introduction of the HLP (Home Learning Program).

2021 60th Anniversary.
Construction of the Sports Pavilion and hard surface courts commenced.



2020 College Board with Principal Mark Murphy



Class of 1966 Reunion

Mark Murphy

Principal of Whitefriars College

Class of 1982

It is wonderful to have an opportunity to write about some of my experiences as a student growing up at Whitefriars College. When I commenced at Whitefriars in 1977, the College had only been in existence for 16 years.



To us boys, it seemed like the College had been around for much longer. There was already a great sense of tradition and identity which existed and I felt very proud to be a part of it. The same sense of calm and peacefulness which I felt walking down the hill each day then, still prevails today. But our College is more than its natural environment. It is the people who greeted us each day, the staff of Whitefriars, who left the most lasting impression on this young student.

Who was your favourite teacher?

On entering my first classes as a Year 7 student, my impression of our teachers was one of commitment and passion for the subjects they taught. Their positivity was contagious and I remember engaging enthusiastically in most of my classes because of them. There are many teachers who stood out to me for different reasons. People like Fr Adrian Jones, who was the first teacher to believe in me as a young student.

Brother Leo Richmond, a man of few words, who in his gentle, quiet yet forthright manner was able to straighten up this slightly wayward Year 8 student and set him on the right path. Claire Healy and Ruth Heine who both inspired us to become passionate about the written word even to the extent of developing an appreciation for the works of Shakespeare! In reflecting on the many teachers who taught me and walked with me throughout my years at this great school, two important themes continue to emerge. The first is relationship. My teachers were interested in us, they treated us with dignity and respect and they were committed to our learning and development. The second prevailing theme was gentleness and calmness. With very few exceptions, those who taught me rarely, if ever, raised their voice much less their hand in an era when both were standard forms of discipline. It just wasn't the Carmelite way.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man?

Whitefriars was and remains a place whose aim is to develop independent, compassionate, thoughtful, faithful and mature, gentle men. When I was a student here the great models were the Carmelites themselves. People like Fr Maurice Barry, a man of quiet integrity, committed to personal excellence and self-discipline, who did not accept a 'near enough is good enough approach' both in and outside the classroom. Or Fr Robert McCormack, who always had time for each student and always saw the best in us. The generosity of Br Anthony Moffet, who braved the winter chill in his gumboots on the mud heap which was the bottom oval at Whitefriars to provide us boys with an opportunity for just one last kick of the footy. Or Fr Shane O'Connor, whose humour and theatrical talents kept us entertained but who also could be a wise counsellor for all. Most significantly, was Fr Noel Kierce, whose chair I occupy most unworthily today. A man who believed in the inherent goodness of every Whitefriars boy, a man of endless mercy and forgiveness, and a man who made every boy he encountered feel like the most important person at Whitefriars.

Some might suggest that they were not ‘tough enough’ on us. But do not let looks deceive. The Carmelite way is one of gentleness and compassion, but also one of challenge. We were taught to be independent thinkers, to stand on our own two feet, pick ourselves up and dust ourselves off and learn from our mistakes. Each of these examples of great Carmelites, along with a philosophy centred around the development of resilient, empathetic and independent learners has provided me with lessons and habits which have been a steadying influence throughout my life.

Where or how does faith fit in your life now?

I grew up in a family of faith. So, naturally, my parents desired a school which would nurture and mature that faith through learning and through action. There were times, of course, that this young teenage boy was not always keen to attend to his liturgical obligations, especially if there was a footy or some other sporting apparatus nearby. Fortunately, at Whitefriars the Carmelites got it right. They understood their audience and were never overbearing and always invitational in the way they walked with us on this journey of faith discernment. Of particular significance and influence was the contemplative approach which permeated all aspects of life at Whitefriars. As students we were practicing meditation and mindfulness long before it had those names. We called it prayer and reflection. We were given time to be silent, time to breath, to slow down. Did we always use that time wisely? Not always. We were teenage boys after all who can find it hard to sit still at the best of times. However, the Carmelites embodied the contemplative, prayerful spirit which has stayed with me, and has been a source of comfort and peace in some of the more challenging moments of my life.

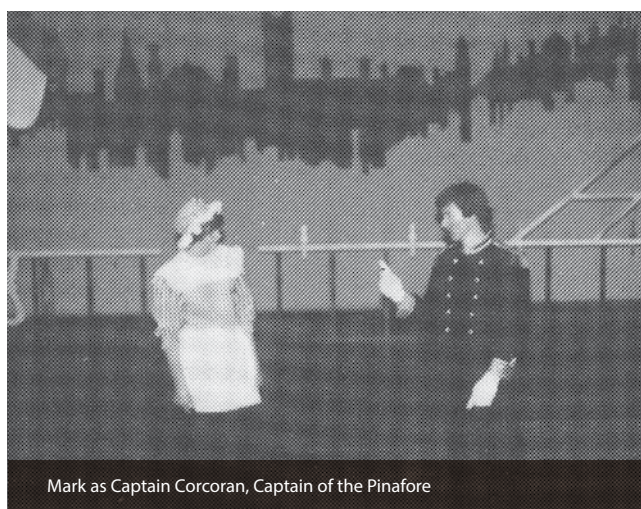
I am blessed to have been educated in this great school, a school that has inspired me to learn, has nurtured my faith and has set me on the path to becoming a good and gentle man.



Year 12, 1982



Fr Shane O'Connor, Damian Mahoney and Ruth Heine relaxing at camp



Mark as Captain Corcoran, Captain of the Pinafore

Greg Feutrill

Director Smith Feutrill

Class of 1980

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

In 2004 I had the opportunity to merge businesses with long-time friends and 'Friars Michael and Tony Smith. We were operating similar size businesses at that time, mine out of Southbank and Michael and Tony were out of Camberwell. We all knew each other exceptionally well due to our friendship at Whitefriars and time playing football together at Templestowe. We soon realised that we shared similar values in business and life which lead to a strong business understanding that has extended right through to this current time. Whilst there has been plenty of hard work throughout the years there's always been time for a laugh and a good time. Going into business with mates can be tricky but I think that the values we learnt at Whitefriars have enabled us to be totally transparent and honest with each other which has been a huge factor in the success of Smith Feutrill.

Did Whitefriars make you into a better man?

I really can't imagine my life without the involvement of Whitefriars. Our teachers who educated and opened our eyes to the world provided such a great platform for future careers and life. The guidance that we were shown from the wonderful Carmelites who taught us how to care and be considerate of others. Finally, the Class of 1980, what an incredible year we had with many close groups of friends who until this day enjoy the mateship that was forged on the values of loyalty and honesty. For me Whitefriars taught me the biggest life lesson which is to never forget who you are and where you came from!

What advice would you give your younger self?

Slow down and don't take life too seriously, things will generally work out as long as you put the effort in!

What career highlight are you most proud of?

Our company Smith Feutrill currently employs around 40 people, including a number of Whitefriars Students via our Cadet Accountant program. The Cadet Accountant program has provided us with many fine young accountants and men over the past 17 years.



What involvement with Whitefriars, post school, have you been most proud of?

Without doubt my involvement with the Old Collegians network. This has primarily been through the Old Collegians Football Club but also with the Old Collegians Cricket Club and a stint on the College Board. The involvement has been fantastic being able to extend friendships and stay connected to the College and community. The network available amongst Old Collegians is very broad and has been important from a career and business networking perspective.

Jacob Battista

Theatrical Set Designer

Class of 2009



Jacob Battista

What was your favourite age growing up and why?

Growing up my favourite age was somewhere around 8-10, I think. What I can and do remember of that age was exploring in every sense. I started to get my first sense of responsibilities (chores) and that was matched with the ability to have a bit more rope. As the eldest of four brothers, I started to be allowed to go out and explore things myself, and then take my brothers out as well. I remember first gaining interest in music around Year 3, which led to learning the trumpet. This set me on the path to the Performing Arts, a decision I have never looked back on.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

It's a hard one, but there are two. The first would be Mr Robert Deller, who I don't recall ever directly teaching me, but had a great part to play when he was Head of Performing Arts in ensuring that I joined and was participating in all parts of the Performing Arts programs. The second would have to be Ms Nicole Ross, who again, I don't think ever taught me. She was a great influence and continued to always push me and ensure that I was learning but mostly learning to lead as I got older.

What do you regret not doing in 2020?

2020 was a really hard year, working in the Performing Arts it was hit so hard with lockdowns and shut theatres. So many of my closest friends left the industry and so many of us didn't have work and relied on JobKeeper. However, what I most regret not doing was learning. I look back and see that 2020 was the perfect time for me to expand my skill set and do further training whilst I wasn't able to work.

When we interview you for our 100th anniversary, where do you think you'll be?

In 40 years, I really hope I am still working in the Performing Arts in some capacity, hopefully getting paid more than I am now. However, I hope to be passing on my skills and training to those who are new and coming into the industry. This industry is hard enough sometimes to find a path into and mentorship and guidance is so important in developing skills but also connections.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

Working with students. Whilst I work currently at the Melbourne Theatre Company, I am also lucky enough to work with a couple of schools on their yearly productions, this allows me the chance to work with school students who are developing and have a passion for the Performing Arts.

How would your 10-year-old self react now to what you do?

I think my 10-year-old self wouldn't be surprised about where I have ended up and what I do. I hope that I would be proud and excited to see how I got there.

When or how will you know you've "made it"?

Every day I am excited with where I am at and what I have achieved, and then every other day brings another new challenge and something harder and more difficult to realise. My job is problem solving and I know I have made it after the curtain raises on a show on opening night and I can sit back and relax knowing that I have solved the problems on that show and "made it", only to wake up the next day and have new and different problems to solve on the next production.

Joel Sardi

Motivational Speaker

Class of 2008



Joel Sardi & his family

How old were you when you started working?

It was 2001, I was 10 years old and I began managing the scoreboard at my local footy club, my mate and I would update the manual scoreboard (no electronic stuff back then) for three games, pick up our \$20 for the day and go home feeling rich. Many mathematical errors were made in the process, it made the close games just a little bit more interesting for the crowd...

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

I joined the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in 2011, I enlisted as a young immature boy, and left a confident self-sufficient man, five years later. I obtained life skills only acquired in the ADF, travelled the world, lived all over the country, formed relationships with people who I trust with my life and discovered true independence. It gave me resilience to grapple life's hurdles and I am truly proud to have served my country.

How do you pick yourself up after making a mistake?

I despise the word perfect, in my opinion it does not exist. It is purely a subjective concept. Mistakes are life's lessons, they are opportunities to grow and improve as a person. I have made many mistakes and will continue to do so, I remind myself what has happened is done and out of my control, what I do next, is my decision and impacts my immediate future, I make it a productive one.

What do you regret not doing in 2020?

Not buying shares in Afterpay; I wish I was a better Economics student!

How would your 10-year-old self react now to what you do?

Most definitely throw some awkward stares and be intimidated by my wheelchair! This is exactly why I will continue to advocate for and educate people about disability through my public speaking journey.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

After becoming a quadriplegic, it turned my life upside down. Through the guidance and support of many I have been able to turn something potentially so devastating and debilitating into a business that helps others. It has provided the opportunity to share my experiences and change lives. There is no dollar value that can be placed on the satisfaction that I get through empowering people.

What is your definition of success?

Where I am now. What I am now. Happy.

What are you most proud of in 2020?

On 7 November 2020, our daughter Esmé was born. Nothing else in life can compare to that experience. After a year that most would like to forget, my family and I were given the greatest gift.

When or how will you know you've "made it"?

For as long as I'm alive and healthy I will always be trying to achieve something or striving for something. To feel as if I have 'made it' would instil complacency and burn that desire to keep growing.

What's your favourite story from your time at Whitefriars?

There are too many, but I know none of them occurred by chance. I was encouraged to have a crack at as much as I could whilst at Whitefriars and was fortunate to have parents who supported me no matter what the activity/sport/endeavour. Musicals, bands, multiple sports teams and trips away. The memories were created in those times, outside my comfort zone.

Luke Hamblin

Manager of Construction, City of Melbourne

Class of 2003



Luke Hamblin & his son Levi

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

Applying for a management position. At the time, I was working as a building surveyor for the City of Melbourne and when I applied for the Construction Manager role, I really didn't expect to be fortunate enough to be interviewed, let alone to end up as the successful candidate. The new role involved a steep learning curve and was challenging, however with persistence and support from my wife, family and Whitefriars' friends in similar roles, I started to make my own mark in the role to contribute positively and successfully. I am proud I put myself out there and took on the challenge to be open to different opportunities. This has ultimately enabled me to learn new skills, develop as a person and progress in my career.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

There are many dedicated, enthusiastic and encouraging people at Whitefriars that make the school such a special place. I had the opportunity to work at the College as a Learning Support Officer for five years between 2008 and 2012 and was privileged to appreciate many of the staff from a different perspective. People like Peter Ciardulli, who give so much of themselves to Whitefriars and their colleagues, positively shape the culture of the school.

As a student my favourite teacher was Karen Scott who was a hard task master and took a special interest in boosting my English skills. She knew I was capable of more and enlisted my mother to 'crack the whip' to produce better results. There was certainly no misbehaving or looking out the window during her classes and the extra effort she took with me has certainly held me in good stead.

What are you most proud of in 2020?

Definitely having our first child. In a year with COVID that has been difficult for many, working from home gave me the opportunity to spend a lot more time with my son. Earlier in life, having children wasn't the highest priority for me and I have genuinely been surprised at how happy and rewarding this experience has been.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man?

The quality of teachers, beautiful grounds, experiences through Outdoor Education camps, the Kairos retreat and sports all contributed to me leaving Whitefriars as a happy young man. What has served me well since finishing as a student is the continued support from the friends I made at Whitefriars. From my time working at the College and playing for the Old Collegian Football Club, I observed that many year levels form large friendship groups that endure long after the school years are over and this, I feel is unique and certainly not the experience of many of my university and work friends that attended different schools.

I believe I have been positively influenced and supported by the large group of friends I made during my school years and to a high degree this was fostered by the culture of Whitefriars.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

The favourite part of my current job is definitely the people. Often when a new building development is approved we are faced with a difficult balancing act between how the community will be impacted and how the builders will complete the job. In most cases, compromises have to be made and it is rare that either side is completely satisfied with the outcome. What I enjoy most is supporting my team through these difficult situations, empowering them to make decisions and watching them develop and grow in confidence. I draw a lot of parallels from sport with work and life and have been amazed at how many of the lessons I learnt while playing football at Whitefriars, about teamwork and building a good culture, have been transferable to the workplace.

What does success mean to you?

Success for family is creating and maintaining an environment where you can support and allow your family to thrive fully.

Success at work is rising to the challenges, being persistent and finding new ways to problem solve using all your ability and experience for good outcomes and being in a position to positively influence.

Success beyond family and work is to engage and support friendships and the wider community.

Mark Knapp

Dentist

Class of 1966 (Foundation Student)



Mark Knapp

Who was your favourite teacher?

The original class had four teachers – two priests and two brothers, from the Carmelite Monastery up the road. Br Matthew McPhee (later Father) taught Algebra, Science and, having taken a degree at the University of Melbourne, Physical Education. He was younger than the others, set a good example for fitness and loved his sport. He placed a high premium on effort and was always full of encouragement, especially for duffers like myself. Later, when the school struggled to field a football team, he picked me at full forward and almost convinced me it was on merit.

I had a second favourite – Trevor Pilling, the school's first lay teacher. Mr Pilling took Year 11 Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. He was a sensational teacher who stood for no nonsense but he was also a cool cat. He dressed impeccably and drove an old-fashioned Jaguar, just like Inspector Morse.

All the teachers were expected to make some co-curricular contribution. While the others coached football or cricket after hours, he screened avant garde movies and encouraged a few of us to appreciate modern jazz. There was more to life than study and sport.

What was the best career decision you ever made?

I can think of two great decisions. After I graduated I worked for my father at his Footscray and Brunswick dental surgeries. We would argue about dentistry and, after a couple of years, I decided I needed independence, so I offered to buy the Brunswick practice. I knew nothing about business and probably paid 'through the nose' but, importantly, I was my own boss.

The second decision, and the bigger one, was to get married. I had found a life and a business partner! The dental practice has come and gone but the marriage is still flourishing.

What advice would you give your younger self?

I would suggest not to worry as much. Relax and learn to develop that nascent sense of humour.

What is your most prized possession?

When I was 15, the College held an art show. I gathered my pennies and bought a large semi-abstract oil painting in the impasto style. It still has pride of place in the house.

What career highlight are you most proud of?

Twenty years ago, I treated one of Australia's top sportsmen – 'Sprinter', we will call him, was missing a front tooth. The conventional treatment would have been an implant, but that would have involved time and surgery. Instead, I found a simpler solution and Sprinter soon had a new smile. To show his appreciation he donated three thousand dollars to a charity of my choice. Every time he appears on television, I tell the family, 'the tooth still looks good!'

When and how did you know you'd made it?

I was born in Rathdowne Street, North Carlton and went to St Mark's Primary School on Lygon Street. The first home we bought was opposite the old school. It was a Federation-style property but few of the original features remained. Fireplaces had been removed and leadlight bricked over. Spending what little money we had, Margaret and I set about renovating the property.

When it eventually looked presentable, we celebrated by throwing a party. We hired a pianist and invited family and friends. One friend-of-a-friend was the great popular soprano, June Bronhill. After an hour, our friend whispered, 'June wants to sing', and sure enough she sang her signature tune *Vilia* from *The Merry Widow*, (you can hear her on YouTube.) I felt I had arrived.

Matt Drew

Studio Manager - Bastion Brands Advertising

Class of 1988



Matt Drew & his family

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

Malcolm Campbell was the Year 9 Coordinator, and to the younger kids, could be VERY scary! But he was also the Graphics teacher for Year 10 to 12, and incredibly supportive and encouraging to me throughout my time at Whitefriars; especially when I contracted glandular fever between Year 11 and 12, missing a large part of the my VCE year. I was intent on studying Graphic Design at Swinburne, but my marks would have been below entry level. He got me focused on my folio and steered me towards Finished Art at NMIT and helped arrange a late application.

This was the top TAFE course and was very, very competitive to get into. From around 2000 applicants, they took in 20 each year and I was the last person accepted that year. The Head of the Department then told us look around, *"only 10 of you will graduate, but you will all get jobs in the best advertising agencies and design studios in town."* Apple Macs had only just arrived and were about to revolutionise the industry – we were all basically self-taught and no one could see where things were heading.

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

Taking a gamble and choosing this path was the best career decision I made. After a work experience placement at Young & Rubicam Advertising on St Kilda Road, the home of advertising in the 80s and 90s, I was asked to stay on as the 'Mac guy'.

How old were you when you started working?

I started working at 19 when most of my friends still had three to four years of University ahead of them – I was cashed up and living the dream! A night out including cab ride out to the suburbs was around \$50!

At the time, the industry had a seismic shift as technology exploded – and I found myself in the right place at the right time – working freelance in the hey-day of advertising, at the forefront of the

newest technology, willing to do anything and everything, and jumping in headfirst to every job that came along, spending the majority of my career freelancing around some of the most vibrant studios and running my own business along the way.

When or how did you know you'd "made it"?

I thought I'd 'made it' when I was planning a trip to America with a mate from work. We were asked by the Creative Director to go and visit the iconic Y&R Headquarters on the famed Madison Avenue in New York on a fact-finding mission into new technologies. We were treated like rock stars and literally had the red carpet rolled out with a huge welcome party when we arrived. It was on my 22nd birthday and very surreal! When we were given the tour of the several floors of the creative department, probably around 100 designers, all sitting at brand new computers, it was like something out of the future!

What career highlight are you most proud of?

Becoming Head of Design at Village Roadshow, and managing a large team of designers in Melbourne and Sydney, working on many marquee movie franchises such as Harry Potter, Batman and Lego for over 12 years, and having longevity in a very competitive industry.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man? How?

It taught me to be resilient, ambitious, and take challenges head on.

Do you live by any piece of advice or motto & what advice would you give your younger self?

Say yes to every opportunity, and figure out how to do it later!

How did you get to school?

Living in Warrandyte, it seemed like such a long way away from Whitefriars. The public transport was not great. There was only one very early bus that took us out through North Ringwood, loop around Mitcham, then back through Park Orchards – at least an hour trip each way. We did this until a few of us got our motorbike licenses in Year 12 and it became a 15-minute ride ... the speed restrictions were very different back then!

What app do you wish existed when you were younger?

Find my friends app – if you were supposed to meet your mates to go somewhere and were running late, they would just leave and you had no chance of finding them and missed out on the fun! Of course, we didn't have mobile phones, so it did teach us to be punctual.

Mike Jackson

Teacher at Whitefriars and owner-operator of Mike's Bikes and Classic Cars, Ringwood

Class of 1991



What was your favourite age growing up and why?

My six years at Whitefriars, from the age of eleven to seventeen. These were formative times when some lifelong friendships were made. They were stellar years, but they also brought their fair share of challenges. That's what gave them meaning.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

There are too many to list. The Carmelites (Fr Shane, Fr Barry, Br Darryl, Br Leo, Fr Hugh, Fr Laurie and the great Fr Kierce); Greg Stewart, Nicole Ross, Lyn Diradji, Vin Burton, Murray Pryer, Mark Merry, they all had time for me. They were friendly, firm and fair.

Where or how does faith fit in your life now?

As a younger guy I lacked faith, probably because I thought knowledge was more important. Faith has become more important with time. Faith in many things keeps me alive. It never seems to let me down.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man? How?

Whitefriars didn't make me a better man, but it provided ample opportunity for me to choose to become one. It enabled me to gain a deeper appreciation for empathy, mateship, the value of education and community. Whitefriars offered me plenty. I was very fortunate to take the opportunities.

Do you think being educated in a boys' school was as important historically as it is now?

It's more important now than it was in the past. I feel there is now more of a need – and more of an opportunity – to foster the formation of young men in schools than there used to be.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

Being a teacher allows me an insight into the world I would otherwise be denied. It helps me appreciate how much I don't know as I become older. It also keeps me feeling young! Teenagers are great to work with. They provide you a fascinating portal with their ideas, questions and humour. Operating a vehicle detailing business, when I'm not teaching, allows me to indulge a range of other interests and skills. Working in garages is something I'm passionate about. Like a classroom, a garage is a place of possibilities and solutions.

How would your 10-year-old self react now to what you do?

He'd nod his head in approval. He'd also smile.

What is your definition of success?

I can describe it but never define it. It's something deep and intrinsic. It's achieving something of personal significance. It's all relative. It could be shared but it might be something nobody else understands.

What are you most proud of in 2020?

I honestly don't know. Being proud is something I don't really 'do' that often. I tried to maintain perspective and balance. There were also many, many days my television was not turned on. I read and enjoyed music instead. It was good for the soul. I also changed my diet for the better and did plenty more exercise.

When or how will you know you've "made it"?

That's an elusive call. I'm usually living for the moment as well as for the future. I can only hope there are many "I've made it" moments along the journey. The destination accounts for far less.

What's your favourite story from your time at Whitefriars?

I was once sent to the Principal for telling a teacher what my name was. There's a little more to it. I played a joke on a teacher and it didn't go quite as planned. The guys in my class in the first semester of Year 11 might remember it.

Patrick Tehan

OAM QC, Barrister at Law

Class of 1970



Patrick Tehan

Did Whitefriars make you a better man?

I believe that Whitefriars made me a better man. Fr Frank Shortis was Principal throughout the whole of my time. His aim was to make of us *"fine Christian gentle men"*. I do not believe that he thought of this ideal as representing some particular religious fervor that we should emulate. Rather, he thought of it as representing decency and respect for humankind. Fr Frank encouraged leadership and courage. He would certainly want us to walk in his footsteps, as men of understanding, trying to do some good in the world.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Concentrate more on the big picture of life. The quest for good academic results is a crucial one for our own identity and often it shows where our own personal strengths lie, but the higher quest is to strive to make the world a better place. Seek a purpose in life. Find something that you can do really well and go for it. If you find something you love to do it's even better. And never give up.

What was your favourite subject?

I enjoyed Latin. There were only three of us in our final year class. Our teacher was John Wilson, who died too young. Latin with its erudition and discipline led me to the study of law, the best decision I ever made.

Why men and women do what they do to others – and sometimes to themselves – is something that, as a criminal lawyer, I have spent a good deal of my life trying to figure out. Along the journey my understanding of the human condition commenced with this lesson I took from Whitefriars: search for the good in all.

My next loved subject was History, brought to life by a fine teacher of Modern European History, Tim Martin. Our teacher of Australian History, Fr Noel Kierce, had a big impact on many of us. He was a kind, gentle man. Like Fr Frank, through his own character, he taught us the values to carry through life.

What do you remember about the College?

One thing I will never forget about Whitefriars is the surrounding bush, which we were taught to respect. I remember vividly how in the 60s fires licked the surrounding bush of the ovals and the smell of smoke brought threat.

In 1966 I was a member of the newly formed "Bird Club." One weekend, we actually camped in the surrounding bush, studying the feathered species and its abundant wildlife. The bush sets Whitefriars apart from other schools; it brings a message of tranquillity and respect for the environment.

Did you make lifelong friends?

This year most of our 1970 class, and some who had left earlier, came together to celebrate our graduation. The occasion had been preceded by a steady stream of email exchanges concerning music in the 60s, footy conquests, commentary upon past teachers and life experiences. One of our number sent around a photo of himself dressed in his school jacket and cap which he threatened to wear.

We met early on a Saturday morning and travelled by train to Kyneton where we had a long pub lunch. Perhaps it was the distances we travelled to school – some of us came from Middle Park the home of the Carmelites – which decided upon a train trip. There was a great sense of goodwill. Fifty years in the interim had not obscured our recognition of the young schoolboys we once were.

The binding reality for each of us was our time at Whitefriars. We celebrated our friendships made long ago and mused about the different paths of our life journeys. We remain in contact and months after our reunion we visited the school to marvel at how it has flourished. Afterwards we had another long pub lunch. There is something magical in cherishing friendship.

Paul Virgona MCIPS

Certified Procurement Practitioner, Qantas Group Procurement

Class of 1998



Paul Virgona

What's one thing that can instantly make your day better?

Coffee walks with colleagues – having a break from the office, taking in some fresh air and good conversation with work colleagues whom are essentially my second family. Another is a phone chat with friends – this has been increasingly more important. To pick up the phone and have a chat about each other's day and what's going on one-on-one in lieu of a text or the assumption everything's going well.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

Mr Brad Bird. I had Brad as a teacher in my latter years at Whitefriars – more than 20 years on, I still remember him taking the time to connect well with each of us where, particularly throughout VCE, we commonly joked around as friends would, which really made the difference when deadlines approached, or exams were nearing.

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

At one point I worked in a technology purchasing role for the State Government. It was great money at the time and easy work, (I could still be there today), however I actively left that role for Jetstar. I took a pay cut and the work was much more difficult, yet had promises of diversity and challenge.

Since then (mid 2007) my various procurement and operations leadership roles at Jetstar and then Qantas accelerated my professional career through exposing me to sourcing and negotiating a wide range of products and services with a myriad of cultures and styles literally across the globe. It is also unlikely my family and I would be as well travelled without this career move all those years ago.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man? How?

I do believe so, through:

- learning understanding of yourself and of others' views and opinions
- valuing self-worth / resilience against others with better performance, have more or perceived greater happiness
- patience - learnt determination to affect the things you can change and patience to manage through those that you cannot.

Do you think being educated in a boys' school was as important historically as it is now?

I didn't necessarily see it as much at the time, however as my eldest son prepares for Year 7 at Whitefriars in 2022, I'd probably say it's an element that would have benefited me throughout my adolescence and helped me focus on my education – the immediate support network at Whitefriars being friends in exactly the same scenario.

Today and in the years ahead with the prevalence of internet-based media and the internet of things knowing more about what we do and when we do it, on top of the regular in-person social interaction opportunities, I'd say boys being educated in a boys' school will remain important, if not more so.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

In my current role at Qantas, I lead the procurement of airport-based services, in-flight catering and amenities, and security. The highlight is definitely the role diversity and the diversity that comes from colleagues and suppliers with such wide-ranging backgrounds, cultures, mannerisms and respective do's and don'ts in business. Everyone's got their own story so the challenge for me lays with adapting my approach and style to ensure a win-win no matter the circumstances.

I'm also really proud of Qantas supporting the use and nurturing of Indigenous business.

What are you most proud of in 2020?

Keeping it together (just) for my family and for myself. Like many others, 2020 presented significant new challenges both at home and in the workplace. For me, the two places became one, my profession in the Aviation sector meant the workload and level of accountability, including that of my geographically diverse team was instantly turbocharged. My wife, Trish, and I relied on each other like never before where Trish focussed on our three boys during the day so I could be the best I could be at work, but then to switch gear and be present for each other and the boys at night.

What's your favourite story from your time at Whitefriars?

Although I was never the most musically minded, having the 'rock' version of the 'Our Father' performed by the College band during mass was always a hit. Not surprising, it occasionally comes up in conversation with friends today when remembering moments from our time at Whitefriars. In retrospect, it was and probably still is a great way to proactively maintain connection between well-founded values and tradition, and the ever-evolving modern-day teenager.

Ross Baglin

Executive Vice President, Royal Dutch Shell (Retired, 2018)

Class of 1979



Ross Baglin

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

I can't split Morag Fraser and Margaret Taft, who both taught English through my last school years in 1978/79. Since English was my best subject, they took an interest in me and inspired a love of words, ideas and good writing that has been a big part of my life. I particularly recall Morag telling me to write more like myself and less like a pompous so-and-so. Since I was a bit of a pompous so-and-so, and it is still an ever-present temptation, it cut through!

Where or how does faith fit in your life now?

Christianity was irrelevant to me for many years. Then this archaic, fierce tale - of humility, love, sacrifice, forgiveness, redemption and rebirth - began to make sense as I watched earthly life unfold. I am grateful that I had the framework for making sense of it when I was old enough, and serious enough, to appreciate it. I fear that most children today grow up with no grounding in it, and they are poorer for it.

What app do you wish existed when you were younger?

YouTube. I was ok academically but I'm not a natural book-learner. I spent hours lifting and dropping the needle on the same place in a vinyl record to learn a piece of music, or stared with fragile concentration at a maths book, which might have been inscriptions on the tomb of Akhenaten, for all it spoke to me. Ten years ago, I passed tertiary-level mathematics largely through internet-based learning. It's an amazing resource.

What is the greatest challenge you see for teenagers now?

Same as ever – find a direction in life, then someone who'll think you admirable or even lovable; keep your self-esteem healthy and get results at school while your body is awash with hormones and social awkwardness. These are hard for every generation, but we did not have to contend with the human chaos that floods across the internet, and the much greater prevalence of drugs now. The last thing you need, at that age, is stuff that adds to the chaos that's in you. With three children in their twenties, I have some experience.

What is your most prized possession and why?

The archive of creative writing that I've put together with my good mate Stuart Greenbaum, Professor of Music Composition at The University of Melbourne. We have done two operas ("The Parrot Factory" was performed by the Vic Opera), and had many performances in Australia, London, New York et al. Last year's royalty cheque was \$25.78, I think. I framed the first few and keep the other cheques in a drawer somewhere. On the proverbial death bed, I'll be more pleased with this than I will with my business career. Writing creatively, on the rare occasions it flows, is like being visited by magic.

What career highlight are you most proud of?

After university I more-or-less drifted into a large company and was transferred to its London HQ. After a few hesitant months, I realised that most of the people who had been to Oxford, MIT or wherever, were not (with a few clear exceptions) much smarter or better-educated than I was. I ended up on the top executive team of a large global business, confident I could mix it with anyone. That still seems a decent journey for a kid from a 3-bedroom brick veneer in Vermont.

Do you live by any piece of advice or motto?

"All of life is struggle for perspective". There is no absolute frame of reference in life. The triumphs are rarely as complete as they seem, and the defeats rarely as catastrophic. You might be the star of your own life, but you only have a cameo role in other people's reality.

What's your favourite story from your time at Whitefriars?

Sneaking away at lunchtime on a hot summer's day, at the ragged end of a school year, with a few mates to watch the (riveting) last session of the Centenary Test at the MCG in 1977. We asked if we could go and we were sternly told no. We went anyway. I wasn't a defiant type, so it was quite a big thing for me to do. I came in the next day, expecting to be told off, and found that no-one had really noticed our absence. I realised, for the first time, that the adults were not as in-control as I had always assumed!

Edmund Tutty

Engineering Manager

Class of 1991



Edmund Tutty

Did Whitefriars make you a better man?

During my time at Whitefriars I was given the opportunity to try many different interests. Everything was supported and encouraged. It was a great culture, and with really good facilities that have continued to improve. I think my time at Whitefriars helped head me down a path, towards the best I can be. I also made a lot of strong friends, that I still keep in touch with today.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

I have memories of many great personalities from my time at Whitefriars and it's difficult to single out one. It feels a bit like classic cartoon, so many teachers with memorable antics, classic eccentricities and dynamic personalities. I do remember that if ever I needed to talk about something, there was always some good advice. But I guess if I had to pick one standout, it was Mr Daniel Mawhinney. All of us attended his class with excitement and a little bit of fear – anything could happen, and his amazing energy made things very unpredictable. We definitely never forgot to take our dictionary or thesaurus to class.

How do you pick yourself up after making a mistake?

Having studied engineering, I guess I tend towards a structured approach. Working out what went wrong, getting perspective on the outcomes, and how to prevent recurrence. Mistakes are inevitable, but life goes on.

Is there any product you couldn't live without?

I sat with a group of peers last year having a coffee and some lunch, and we pondered this exact question. For me, I guess it is my iPhone. I didn't even imagine during school days that I would own a device that could instantly stream films or music from anywhere; Facetime and track other people; along with thousands of other functions. I probably spend more time than I should with phone in hand, but I love the flexibility it gives. If I am stuck somewhere I can watch the football replay, stream some music or podcasts. It really is amazing. Someone else at the lunch said the thing that changed their life was when toilet paper first became available in households. That definitely put the technology in perspective.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

Working on interesting projects with interesting people. My engineering degree has enabled me to try a lot of different avenues. After a long time in the automotive field, I now work in refrigeration. It's a constantly changing landscape and generally quite rewarding. I like working from home a lot as well.

What is your definition of success?

Finding the things that make me happy and doing them. Time is valuable these days, but if I am on top of my work and organised at home, I get the reward of spending time the way I want to. Right now, that is mostly about spending it with my family.

Phillip Donnellon

Film Director

Class of 1991 (Finished Year 10)



Phillip Donnellon

What was your favourite age growing up and why?

The ages 15 and 16 shaped up to be my most memorable years. Lots of girlfriends (I used to bring hairspray and a hairdryer to Whitefriars in my bag and spend ten minutes in front of the mirror in the toilets before catching the bus) and in these years I also travelled to the US and went to high school there for a couple of months.

Where or how does faith fit in your life now?

To be honest, religion, Catholicism was lost on me as I was growing up. I would attend mass with my grandfather and at special events, christenings, Christmas, weddings. I went to church after the 9/11 attacks. Although my relationship with religion became indifferent it did provide the foundations for a greater awareness of the need for spiritual connectedness and my own personal spirituality. In later years this evolved and became part and parcel with my sporting life, health and wellbeing, surfing, rowing and yoga.

When was the last time you cried and why?

I used to cry all the time! After a breakup. After seeing an accident. When friends have died. Sometimes after going through a challenging period a film or a song will cause me to cry and I just let the tears flow because I see it as a healthy release of tension.

What app do you wish existed when you were younger?

I'm so glad I didn't grow up with Facebook, Twitter or Tinder. I was way too insecure emotionally and these apps would have been a great threat to me psychologically. I'm a people person and thrive on face-to-face interaction. There are so many apps I would have liked for practical reasons, but back then, girls were the focus of much of my attention so I would have loved a simple video messaging app like Whatsapp, Messenger, Zoom or Skype because I spent a lot of time on the phone.

When or how did you know you'd "made it"?

I had made my first short film and was invited to Griffith in NSW to attend a small film festival. Road trip! I slept in the back of my car in a Coles carpark and was a bit smelly by the second day. Lo and behold my little short was nominated for best short film and then it won. My nervous wobbly legs brought me onto the stage to accept my first ever award. On the long drive back to Melbourne I pulled over because I was busting and while peeing, and watching the sun set behind a row of silos, that's when I had that feeling ... I'd made it! I had found my audience. Ironically, I might not have gone on to make films you might recognise had the following not happened. A week later I received a call from Paris and not long after that I was walking up the red carpet with Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman at the Cannes opening night. That was all a bit too much, too soon. My advice to anyone who gets thrust up onto a big stage really quick – mind your ego and surround yourself with your best mates.

Do you live by any piece of advice or motto?

It might be clear by now that I spent a lot of time chasing girls growing up. This didn't slow down in my adult years. I was chasing the most beautiful girls, romances, loves, passion etc. I was chasing an ideal; a dream. The one critical factor I failed to recognise is that the guy never picks the girl (or the guy)! She might let you think you picked her but it's always at her discretion and the moment I pivoted my thinking from "casting actors in a play of love" to being in service of a partnership – that's when I started to enjoy genuine lasting love, happiness... a shared life.

What's your favourite story from your time at Whitefriars?

I've got two. The first was playing football on the top oval and it was super muddy. I tackled the bloke with the ball and it was stacks on the mill. My face was pressed into this blokes guernsey and I said "wow, your top smells really good!" and without skipping a beat he said, "Cuddly fabric softener – lavender!"

My second story was when kick-to-kick on the bottom oval became an exploration. As was commonly the case, guys were down at the creek smoking. I've never smoked, which was lucky because there was a raid! Occasionally the staff would conduct a raid by spreading out along the top of the ridge. Boys would be running everywhere! Anyway, with ball under my arm I emerged and standing in front of me was the Principal, Fr Noel, (who used to give out minties even if you were in trouble), and he said "Ahhh Phillip! Now where do you think you're coming from?" and I said "We were having a kick and the ball went into the scrub, I just went to retrieve it." He smiled and told me to get going while others were all being apprehended.

Randal Glennon

Managing Partner, Three Wise Men Communications

Class of 1973



Randal Glennon

How old were you when you started working?

I was 18, fresh out of Whitefriars and ready to get my career in advertising up and running. My big decision was, do I go to RMIT and enjoy university life for a few more years of student indolence, or do I get a real job at an advertising agency and start at the bottom and work my way up? I decided to do both; undertake the advertising course at RMIT at night and try to get an entry level job at an agency. But this momentous decision was made only after disappearing down the coast surfing with mates for a few weeks, trying to stave off the last vestiges of having to grow up and get a job, while my dear conscientious mother scoured the papers looking for suitable openings, which she did successfully. In fact, she bribed me to come home, made me buy a suit and go to interviews; I never looked back. Thanks Mum, lesson learned; if you want something to happen, do it yourself.

What is the best career decision you ever made?

I was in my mid 30s in my advertising career and found myself at a crossroads, working for a reasonably steady but safe agency. I was encouraged by an industry colleague to 'get off my arse' and try and get a job at Australia's best agency, The Campaign Palace. I vigorously argued against it, citing the fact that they didn't know me and why

would they be interested to meet someone from a non-descript agency background like mine. Feeling aggrieved, I actually hung up the phone on my colleague in exasperation, only to change my mind overnight to give it a go. I sent a cryptic fax (shows how long ago) to the agency's superstar Creative Director who loved my 'bolshy' approach and invited me in for a chat, only to find that I was offered a job to my absolute amazement. Timing is everything. And lesson learned that good advice should always be acted upon.

Do you live by any piece of advice or motto?

I met a famous VFL footballer, Ron Barassi, early in my advertising career, who subscribed to the notion that success was the result of the decisions you made and the actions you took, that made the difference in the outcome. He coined the phrase "If it is to be, it's up to me", which pretty much sums it up, with a nice piece of memorable alliteration.

What career highlight are you most proud of?

I have only ever worked in the advertising industry my whole life, for over 45 years, scary as that sounds. In that time, I have been involved with campaigns for clients as exotic as airlines, travel destinations, fashion and AFL football, and as mundane as car tyres, insurance and laundry products. But for 12 years, I was privileged to head up the TAC road safety account at one of Melbourne's leading agencies, responsible for one of the highest profile campaigns in Victoria. Working with amazing people, we created dozens of award-winning campaigns to help curb the road toll, knowing that our efforts were helping save lives, a far cry from selling toilet cleaner.

When or how did you know you'd "made it"?

It was always nice to see your name in industry publications, associated with breaking campaigns or an opinion piece, but when I started my own agency and received front page coverage, that was a satisfying moment. The only issue was, it took me over 40 years to stop dreaming and actually do it.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Take more risks. I've taken quite a few but I should have taken more. Weigh up what's the worst that can happen and take a calculated punt. Life is not a rehearsal.

David Morris

Olympic Silver Medallist & 3 x Winter Olympian /
World Championship Medallist / Aerial Skiing Apprentice Coach

Class of 2002



David Morris

Who was your favourite teacher?

I had so many great teachers and I particularly loved the PE department, yet I always liked Mr Stewart because we could mess around just enough and have a great time, but he'd also be able to then just tell everyone that was enough, and the class would settle down and concentrate. It was a perfect combination of respect and fun, and we would only be making noise within his parameters and I thought that was really admirable.

How old were you when you started working?

I started working at 15 as a gymnastics coach, and transferred some of that to breakdancing classes at lunch time in the College gym which became a bit of a thing at the time.

What is the best career decision you've ever made?

The best decision I made was not to plan too early and give myself the full spectrum of options. I didn't quite know what I wanted to be early on so I picked the most difficult subjects at school to give myself a good score to then get into whatever I wanted at the end. Two weeks before the end of Year 12 I decided I would do teaching, and it was easy with the subjects I'd chosen.

Did Whitefriars make you a better man? How?

I learned a lot of things at Whitefriars, how to be respectful of those helping me, those around me and to appreciate what was on offer and then how to use it. There was such a variety of people, all with their own skills and areas of expertise and I learned to accept that everyone had different goals and strengths and that it was okay to be different.

How do you pick yourself up after making a mistake?

Everything that happens is a learning opportunity and if you choose to see it as that, all mistakes are just useful information you can use to improve yourself. You can choose to find the positive take from it or choose not to, there are no wasted experiences or attempts unless you actively decide not to learn from it. On my worst days as an athlete I would simply say, hmm – nothing I did today worked, so tomorrow I won't do that again, and I'll try the next idea and avoided making the same mistakes over again.

What do you think the greatest challenge would have been to students between the 60s and 90s?

Finding books in the library, scanning, copying and re-writing everything by hand. This was the hardest thing that students now probably have no concept of. That and forgetting to return the book and having to pay a late fee.

What's your favourite thing about your current job?

I'm now the Australian World Cup / Olympic team aerial skiing coach and I get to travel all around the world, that is super cool and being involved in such an impressive sport but it still comes down to my love for teaching and I get to assist and help athletes learn new things. I love watching the lightbulb moment when they figure it out after working so hard and I know that I was part of that moment and everything that flows on from that will be a result of my help, that's really cool.

How would your 10-year-old self react now to what you do?

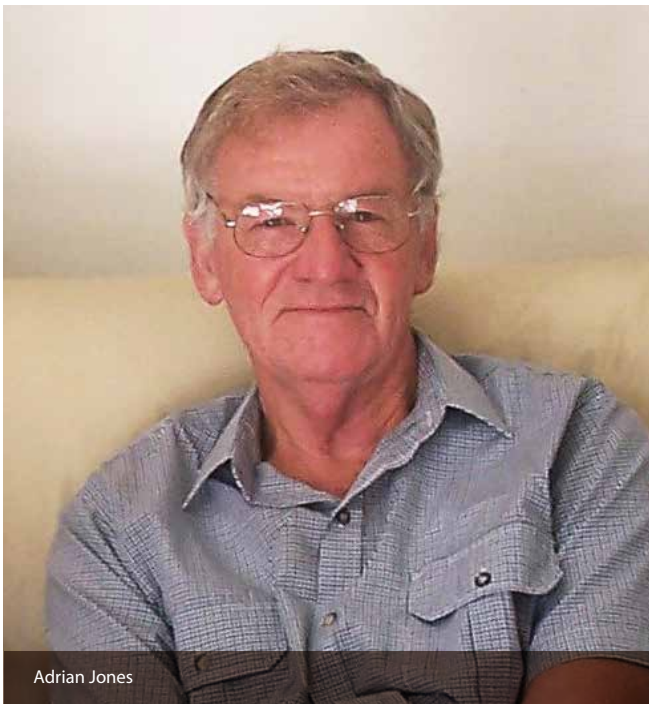
At no point could I have imagined having done and achieved everything I have because it's all overwhelming to consider everything at once, but step by step and over time, it's all possible.

VALE

Adrian Jones

1936 – 14 July 2021

Adrian was a Carmelite Priest who taught Science, Mathematics and Religious Education at Whitefriars College for most of the years between 1968 and 1979, becoming Deputy Headmaster in 1972.



Adrian Jones

Adrian was born and grew up in the Carmelite parish of Port Melbourne. After completing his secondary education at Parade College (then in East Melbourne), Adrian completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Science degree at Melbourne University. On completing this degree, he joined the Carmelites in 1959 and spent the following seven years exploring Carmelite life and studying to be a priest. He was ordained a priest in 1966 and completed a Diploma of Education course at the University of Queensland in 1967 before returning to Melbourne in 1968 to take up his appointment to Whitefriars College. Whitefriars was a relatively small school in those days and was still developing its second stream. Apart from his involvement in the academic curriculum, Adrian also coached footy and cricket and was involved in a number of co-curricular activities.

Adrian's interest in agriculture and horticulture was something that stood by him throughout his life. During his time as a student for the priesthood at Whitefriars Monastery (previously adjacent to the

College), Adrian was an influential gardener. At Whitefriars College, Adrian took a keen interest in the grounds and was directly influential in ensuring their ongoing beautification. A lasting testimonial to Adrian's contribution in this regard is the beautiful gum trees, planted on Adrian's advice, that still, to this day, enhance the 'Reflective Garden', leading up to the Chapel.

As a Science teacher, Adrian introduced the 'Web of Life' program into the curriculum. Its philosophical basis on the interconnection of living organisms aligned well with the College's environmental outlook, an enduring strong feature and of ever-increasing importance.

To the students of the time, Adrian is probably best remembered for his role as Deputy Principal, in which he was responsible for student welfare and discipline. Adrian had a direct and determined style, very effective – to the consternation of some more mischievous students – in unearthing the culprits of disapproved activities and taking remedial action. He was always scrupulously fair in his dealings with students and enjoyed both their respect, and that of their parents'. More importantly, though, he was encouraging of students' efforts, wanting to bring out the best in them. On hearing of Adrian's death, current Principal, Mark Murphy, paid the following tribute: *He was my Year 7 homeroom and Science teacher (at Whitefriars in 1977) and he left a marked impression on me as a young boy. He was the first person who truly believed in me as a student. Adrian's humble, gentle and thoughtful nature were greatly appreciated by this shy and self-doubting young school boy.*

In Adrian's time at Whitefriars, there was great involvement between the Carmelites and parents in many projects, including building the first tennis courts (which eventually made way for the current library building). Adrian was a strong man, eager and willing to 'roll up his sleeves' and lend his physical, as well as his intellectual and spiritual energy, to the development of the Whitefriars community and its facilities. A strong sense of community, an enduring feature of Whitefriars, was built up in the process. As well as earning their respect, Adrian developed strong friendships with many of the Whitefriars' parents during his time at the College, a number of which persisted for the rest of his life.

VALE

Evelina Thornton

9 February 1960 – 19 June 2021

In 1979, Adrian was appointed to 'formation' ministry by the Carmelites. In this role he was associated with the training of young Carmelites and was drawn more closely into 'spirituality' ministry, in which he assisted many people in their spiritual journey. He continued to exercise this ministry for the rest of his life, even though he eventually left the Carmelites and married Maureen in 1987. He also continued to be involved with the Carmelites in outreach to people seeking to deepen their spiritual lives. Adrian's 'Carmelite spirit' endured throughout his whole life, as did the respect and friendship of many Carmelites. He had made a great contribution to the Order during his years at Whitefriars College and in subsequent years in 'formation' and 'spirituality' ministries, on the Order's Provincial Council (governing body) and as the Promoter and Support Group Coordinator for the Carmelites' mission in Indonesia in the 1970s and 80s.

After marrying, Adrian and Maureen took up farming at Foster in South Gippsland. Whilst at Foster, Adrian continued to teach, first as an emergency teacher at different schools and then with a chemical company, advising on the safe and environmentally 'friendly' use of chemicals in agriculture. At this time, he also coauthored the AgVet Chemical Users Course Resource Manual. Adrian and Maureen loved life on the farm, but eventually its physical demands meant they moved back to Melbourne, where Adrian lived out the rest of his life. Nonetheless, in these latter years, he and Maureen continued to develop and enjoy a bountiful garden, giving expression to their love of nature and the environment.

A confrère from his days at the Monastery, said Adrian had an imposing physical presence. He reportedly barged into packs on the footy field, elbows and knees not so well guarded! Always an enthusiast, this extended to his life-time love of the South Melbourne – then Sydney Swans VFL/AFL team.

Even greater than his love for the Swans, was Adrian's enthusiasm for what was right and just; a hallmark of the personal integrity for which he was widely loved and respected. Adrian Jones is remembered and honoured as a faithful, committed, determined, wise and insightful Carmelite, husband and stepfather. May he rest in peace.

Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm

Provincial

It was with a sense of great sadness that Whitefriars farewelled Mrs Evelina Thornton following her long battle with cancer.



Evelina Thornton

Evelina passed away peacefully in her home with her beloved family. Evelina was a dedicated and passionate teacher who taught in the areas of Italian, English and Religious Education for more than 10 years. She was a thoughtful and caring member of staff who was always there with a supportive heart and a listening ear for all members of our College community. For Evelina, teaching was truly a vocation. She genuinely loved her time with students and colleagues and saw Whitefriars as her 'second home'. Evelina will be sadly missed, but always remembered at Whitefriars. May she rest in peace.

Mr Greg Stewart

Deputy Principal - Staff

VALE

Robert Agostino

27 September 1997 - 5 August 2021

Whilst high school is reflective of your education, equally, it's about the lifelong friendships and bonds that are formed.

Robert was a loved and respected member of Mantua House. Embraced and adored by his peers, he was a charismatic individual who studied hard, participated with dedication and was above all, a perfect representation of what it was to be a Whitefriars student.

Robert was also a football fanatic. Right throughout his Whitefriars journey, Robert's commitment and passion for the round-ball game was unparalleled. Always selected for the 1's, he looked forward to the early morning training sessions and senior games.

Robert's family, friends, and the wider community are deeply saddened by Robert's sudden passing. A student of the Class of 2015, Robert leaves an immeasurable amount of pain and hurt behind.

Rest in Peace our beautiful brother. Whilst you may not be here physically, you will forever live in on in our hearts and minds. We will always remember your beaming smile, wonderful nature, and warmth.

**Kosmo Tsivelekis, Daniel Varrasso, Andrew Amato,
Christian Kairouz and Christian Belia**
(Class of 2015)

Robert was a member of my Pastoral Care group during my time at Whitefriars College. I remember Robert to be a kind, caring and responsible student. He was respected by his peers, friends and teachers. Robert had a calm and easy-going nature and was a positive role model for younger students during his senior years at the College. I was very saddened to hear what happened to Robert and would like to pass on my condolences to his family and friends.

Mr Paul Davis
M2 Pastoral Care Teacher, 2008-2014



Robert Agostino

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