

LutherLetter

Sharing news of Luther College | Number 2, 2020



Luther
College

Celebrating the Class of 2020



Highlights

Celebrating our
Class of 2020



Virtually
Impossible



The Little Mermaid



The Rite Journey



Ready Set Go:
Warran and Yarra



Greig Fraser
Class of 1993



Class of 2010



Correction from last edition

Thank you to Elizabeth Gellert, an original member of Warran House who phoned to correct an error from our last edition of LutherLetter. The original pictures of Yarra and Warran Houses were incorrectly labelled.

Thank you for your eagle eye and continued support of Luther College.

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Michael Kleidon

LutherLetter Editor

Lisa Trent

From the Principal



I am proud of our community this year and all that has been achieved.

Learning, service, excellence and community

This edition of LutherLetter once again successfully captures what really matter to us as a College. It focusses on stories of learning, of service, of excellence and of community.

The year 2020 has been full of blessings and challenges, opportunities and uncertainties. The vision of what we had all expected for the year has required us to do some adjusting, to do things differently and at times uncomfortably so, and yet it gave us a common focus and commitment.

It gave us clarity. It gave us perspective. It allowed us time to reflect on who we are, as individuals and as a College and importantly it gifted us the opportunity to consider what really matters.

I am proud of our community this year and all that has been achieved. I am grateful for each member of the Luther Community who has capitalised on the opportunity this year to take the extra step to serve, to care and to connect with one another, to demonstrate the Christ centeredness that makes Luther College special.

I am thankful for all the times when patience was shown, trust was afforded, learning achieved, and optimism displayed. These are the things that really matter.

Congratulations and thank you to you all. I hope that you enjoy this edition of LutherLetter.

Mr Michael Kleidon
Principal

Introducing our 2021 College Captains

The Luther College community congratulates our 2021 leadership team on their Captain and Vice-Captain appointments. We wish you every blessing as you serve and lead the community.

School Captains

Alyssa Sanders
Ewan Webber

School Vice Captains

Tobey Draffin
Jess McCall
Harry Smith
Eliza Wilson

Middle School Captains

Ryan Farley
Amy Perkins

Middle School Vice Captains

Saveen Attale
Coby Baker
Maia Ford
Ava Kernich



Back row (L-R) Jess, Tobey and Harry
Front Row (L-R) Alyssa, Ewan and Eliza



(L-R) Maia, Saveen, Amy, Ryan, Ava and Coby

Luther Medallion Shawn Mitchell

First awarded in 1997, Luther Medallion recipients exhibit leadership qualities, are involved in co-curricular activities, actively support the College ethos and demonstrate academic endeavour.

Shawn is a talented leader and team player, boasting an impressive list of contributions during his six years at Luther College.

As School Vice-Captain, Middle School Vice-Captain and Class Leader, Shawn represented his peers with pride and effect, advocating on their behalf, identifying opportunities for improvement and growth.



Shawn is a talented public speaker whose engaging approach commands attention. He has been a regular and successful contributor to debating and House Public Speaking and was a respected Peer Support Leader.

Shawn's commitment to sustainability has been evident with long-running roles in the College sustainability programs including Green Shoots, SAGE and the introduction of eco-tokens to motivate students to care for the College. Described as a clever and engaging learner and an asset in class, Shawn has also enjoyed a long-running role on College magazine Analecta, first as a reporter then editor.

A keen supporter of Wicklow House, Shawn has participated in many House events including athletics, cross country and public speaking.

Shawn has proven himself to be an all-rounder trying everything that comes his way. Whether it be through activities such as LutherChef or our Social Justice Program, his mature perspective, hard-working and enthusiastic approach makes him the perfect candidate for the Luther Medallion.



2017 Middle School Captains



Final day of school

The College is proud of you Shawn and all you have achieved. We look forward to watching you build your career and positively impact those around you.

Caltex Medallion **Maddie Bradshaw**

Presented in many schools across Australia, the Caltex Medallion recognises a student who stands out for their contribution to school life, demonstrates leadership, academic success, involvement in co-curricular activities and who actively supports the school's ethos.

Maddie has demonstrated exceptional commitment throughout her educational journey at Luther College, with an incredible willingness to try everything and inspire others to do the same.

An accomplished leader, Maddie began Year 7 as Class Leader, going on to



become Middle School Captain, Peer Support Leader and School Captain in 2020. She is a compassionate, service-minded and generous student, while also competitive, always striving to achieve her best.

Her impressive list of activities spans every department from participation in LutherChef to House activities for Birt including athletics, cross country, House Drama and the House Performing Arts Festival. Maddie has also been a regular member of the College EISM cross country team.

An avid flautist, Maddie has been heavily involved in the College Training Band (as trainee and mentor), Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and the McMahon Flute Ensemble. She has also graced the stage in all College Musicals, starting with Hairspray in Year 8 and then lead roles in Seussical (Year 10) and The Little Mermaid (Year 12).

Maddie is a talented singer and part of the Luther Voices choir as well as regular Chapel singer and contributor. Described by her teachers as an attentive, delightful and articulate student, Maddie has achieved excellence during her six years at Luther.



Seussical

Maddie is a deserving winner of the Caltex Medallion and is to be commended for her achievements. The College is proud of you Maddie and looks forward to welcoming you back as a College alumni.



ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award **Marcus Kane**

This award, established by the Australian Government as a tribute to the veterans of the battle of Long Tan in the Vietnam War, recognises a senior student who has shown teamwork, tenacity, compassion and leadership.



Marcus is an outstanding student and worthy recipient of the ADF Long Tan Leadership Award. A team player, Marcus works cooperatively with others, while also displaying excellent leadership skills. House Captain for Wicklow in Year 9, Marcus continued to build his leadership skills, becoming School Captain in 2020. Together with Co-Captain Maddie and Vice-Captains Shawn, Austin, Carli and Holly, Marcus demonstrated innovation and commitment during a year of challenges. He has been a worthy Captain and mentor to others. Described by his teachers as polite, enthusiastic and motivated, Marcus can be proud of the long list of activities and achievements during his six years at the College. Marcus regularly participated in House Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country, EISM Cross Country and State Touch Rugby. He was also involved in the House Performing Arts Festival and has been Peer Support Leader.

Congratulations Marcus, your compassion, tenacity and leadership skills are something to be proud of.



Celebrating the

In a year that felt more surreal than real, celebrations for our Class of 2020 took a slightly different turn. There were however plenty of opportunities to celebrate their time at Luther and to create memories we will never forget.

A Valedictory Service on Saturday December 5 was a wonderful way to wrap up the year for our Class of 2020. Students and their loved ones walked the red carpet, stopping for photo opportunities and drinks before being celebrated and awarded with a certificate and their Year 7-time capsule.

Celebrations will continue in 2021 as we host an early reunion for our Class of 2020.



Class of 2020





Special Gifts

Students received a gift bag full of goodies including Class of 2020 glasses, balloons, cupcakes and a graduation bear together with a House coloured Class of 2020 keep cup from House Coordinators. They were also welcomed to the Luther College Old Scholars Association (LCOSA) with a special keyring.





A Fitting Farewell

There were multiple farewells this year including our traditional quad farewell to the tune of the Rembrandts classic (and Friends theme song) *I'll be there for you*. A roll call by our 2020 Captains saw the Class of 2020 leave via a guard of honour from our Year 11 students and College staff. Students also enjoyed a picnic on the lawn.



Virtually ~~Impossible~~!

Ancient Egypt Pop-Up!

YEAR 7 POP-UP MUSEUM *Virtual Edition*

Students in Year 7 spent Term 3 exploring the world of Ancient Egypt. It was impressive to see the way they coped in a very different learning context. Our teachers did a wonderful job using the available technology to make the topic engaging through Genius Sessions, Zoom and video content.

The assessment for this unit lead students in groups through an inquiry process to ask and answer questions focused on one aspect of the Ancient Egyptian civilization. In previous years, after researching, groups would usually prepare and present an exhibit for a Pop-Up museum. This year, students presented their exhibits in our first ever 'virtual' Pop-Up. It was a great opportunity to gather students and parents (via Zoom) as a whole cohort and within 'class galleries'.

Thank you to the teachers for so ably supporting the students. Thank you to the parents for attending and encouraging your children. Most importantly, thank you to the students for your curiosity, flexibility, resilience and sharing your learning in a public forum.

Anita Morton
Humanities 7-8 Learning Leader

The Pop-Up museum was an enjoyable learning experience. It got us back together with our friends after weeks in lockdown and gave us something to work on and have fun with. Despite not seeing each other for ages, we got the chat out of the way quickly and began to focus on the task ahead. One thing that I learned about trying to work with my group was that it was difficult to focus because we had not seen each other in so long. I really enjoyed working as a team and feel we all did well.

Genevieve



Doing the Pop-Up museum, I learnt a lot about the Egyptian pyramids and the history of the pyramids. It was cool to see what everyone else had done and created and the information they found. When we were faced with a challenge, we discussed with each other and tried to figure out a solution. It was nice to be able to share my work with my parents so they could see what we have achieved.

Zac

I learned how to work collaboratively as a group and present a well thought out presentation. I felt proud to show our detailed presentation to all the parents because we worked really hard on our research and presentation.

Sophie

I was a bit nervous at first because I had to speak but in the end it was great fun, so thanks.

Sam

I was really happy to show my parents the gallery page on the night. We had spent a long time making these presentations together, so it felt amazing to finally show everyone the final product.

Elena

This year we learnt that virtually anything is possible when you try new things. With technology to connect us and help us reimagine some aspects of learning, we saw

some incredible opportunities for our students. A virtual Pop-Up museum showcasing ancient Egypt, plus online presentations from a Parisian tour guide keen to discuss

his French food secrets and the Executive Director of Logie Award winning series Little J and Big Cuz.

Year 9 Food Tech Incursions

In August and September, my Food Technology class had two virtual incursions via Zoom. One was with a local café owner, and the other a Parisian tour guide.

We first had Maggie Agha talk with us. Maggie is the owner of two local cafes, Rumour Mill and Kofi Beans. She shared her favourite part about being a café owner; the importance of location; the skills and qualities she looks for when hiring; as well as a lot of other interesting information. It was such a fun experience and really allowed us to see a glimpse into a café owner's lifestyle.

Three weeks later, we had another virtual incursion, but this time with Herbert, a

Parisian tour guide. It was fascinating for us to hear all about Paris and some of his personal favourite foods. It was very informative, with a lot of interesting facts shared, such as the history of the croissant; how baguettes are a necessity; and tips about when to travel to Paris and where to go to get amazing pictures of the Eiffel Tower. I loved every second of the Zoom meeting and found it so fascinating learning about Paris. You could tell Herbert was very passionate about his home city!

Overall, these virtual experiences are and will be a definite highlight of Year 9.

Caitlin Edwards
Year 9



In August, we had the pleasure of hosting a Zoom incursion with Maggie, the owner of Rumour Mill and Kofi Beans. The incursion gave me an insight into what goes on in the operation of a café.

I personally found it interesting how even if you have great food and service, it can all come tumbling down without a strong business element. Another aspect I found intriguing was that if you're looking to open a new store, it's better if you go to the owners directly, and put in an offer, as Maggie discovered when she purchased the Rumour Mill. The thing I found most interesting was following trends and establishing a connection with the community you're in. I was in the mindset that if your store sold great coffee and great food, that you would be alright, but trends can determine whether you're able to survive or not.

Jeremy Williams
Year 9



Rumour Mill owner Maggie and son Noah talk to our students.



Little J and Big Cuz

During Term 3 students in Year 9 Aboriginal Cultural Discovery were privileged to work with Lisa Norris. Lisa is the Executive Director of the ABC Logie award winning cartoon Little J and Big Cuz.

The cartoon is the first ever Australian Aboriginal animation. It was targeted at Aboriginal children yet children all across Australia have shown their love for the characters and story lines. Lisa worked with Luther students via Zoom to explain the planning, designing and collaboration of the show. She discussed the importance for Aboriginal children to see themselves on the screen and in a school setting that they can relate to. Lisa shared images of the planning and making of the animation. She also explained the importance of the characters being authentic, culturally appropriate and representative of different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia. The program has also been translated into numerous Indigenous languages – also a first in Australia.

Students really enjoyed working with Lisa and learning about the program.

Kellie Lohrey

Christian Studies Learning Leader



Virtual Co-Curricular Clubs

At Home Learning provided new ways for students to engage in co-curricular activities. A range of virtual activities were on offer every lunchtime from Astronomy

to Mindfulness Arts & Crafts, Book Chat to Luther Pet Club, Sustainability (SAGE) to Muscle Pump and Food Hacks & Chats to Chess. These opportunities provided for

collaboration, connection, trying something new or engaging in something students are passionate about.

Engineering Building W

When these programs were launched, some Year 7 students volunteered their time to collaborate on a Minecraft project and “Tour Luther” was formed. The project required students to recreate Building W in Minecraft for the purpose of a virtual tour and was an engaging transdisciplinary learning experience. They commenced using floorplans, mathematics, and problem-solving skills to plan the space to ensure accuracy of scale. They used creative thinking to replicate circular-shaped learning spaces into the Minecraft block format. Students were immersed in real-world learning through developing their collaboration, negotiation, and digital design

skills. Once the building was complete, the students planned a virtual tour for future students joining Luther to help familiarise them with Building W prior to Orientation Day. The students planned and filmed a walk through the building and used their creative language skills to guide the experience of student life in Building W.

Celeste Acfield

Languages 7-12 Learning Leader



The Joy of Music

Luther in Concert

As many of you will be aware, Luther has a thriving Ensemble Program. In a typical year, around 19 ensembles rehearse every week including: vocal groups, concert bands, string groups, stage bands and chamber groups. At the commencement of At Home Learning, some ensembles took on the challenge of rehearsing online and as we progressed through the year they have taken a variety of paths to keep making music together. This year's annual Luther in Concert was unlike we have ever produced before, showcasing a sample of the learning that took place over a six-month period in online ensemble rehearsals. Our esteemed Music Captains Tomas Cooney and Jasmine Hotton hosted our online concert experience with performances from Luther's senior music students presenting their Unit 3 Recital alongside an array of ensemble performances that were recorded individually and pieced together through the wonders of technology.



Music Captains Tom and Jasmine host Luther in Concert.



Lessons move outdoors!

With the commencement during Term 4 of face-to-face lessons allowed outdoors for Brass, Woodwind and Voice our students stepped up to the challenge with lessons being conducted in large marquees on the north lawn. Only lasting a couple of weeks (before lessons were allowed back inside) the school was once again blessed with the sound of these instruments.

A Very Virtual Christmas: Christmas Choir and Orchestra

Hark the Herald Angels Sing is a beautiful and traditional hymn written in 1739 by English Methodist Leader Charles Wesley. Inspired by the bells on London, it was originally a Christmas Day poem called Hark, later developed by student George Whitefield, into the tune we know and love today. Charles Wesley dedicated

the writing of over 6000 hymns to people unable to read or who lived in poverty as a way of sharing Christian values and messages. Given this, our College community came together to form an iso choir and orchestra to perform the Christmas classic. It was enjoyed by all as we approached the festive season.



Disney THE LITTLE MERMAID



This year's College Musical will go down in history as one of the most unique, perhaps not for the costumes, or the set or the final performance, but because we were reminded that the process and journey can in fact be more valuable than the end product.

The show must go on right? And in many ways, it did.

In true Luther style, our cast and crew demonstrated grace and resilience as they pulled together an outstanding display of talent and creativity. The equal largest cast in College Musical history, we saw 80 students on the journey of a lifetime.

When school was school and lockdown wasn't a thing, rehearsals kicked off, students learned to harmonise, practice choreography, lyrics and more. They became friends, mentors, and role models, particularly during the full cast rendition of *Under the Sea*.

Just about every scene throughout the performance featured students from every year level - then just like that the world changed.

Students adapted by combining rehearsals at home, at school and both until all rehearsals went online. Despite not being able to showcase the final product on stage our students developed great resilience and were thankful for the experience.

"I'd just like to give a big thank you to everyone on the production team for providing me with a sense of community during isolation."



"I got to extend my singing, acting and dancing skills regardless of whether it was on stage or not"





The light shines bright

In the theatre, there's a centuries-old tradition: the ghost light. A ghost light is a single lamp that illuminates the stage when the theatre is not in use. Legend has it that the light shines while the theatre is otherwise 'dark', to protect the actors, patrons and theatre from bad luck and ghosts.

However, in these strange new times, where auditoriums around the world are empty, ghost lights have taken on a new meaning. They are now beaming a message of hope and inspiration, as we keep keeping on, through these difficult days together.

Ghost lights are being left on in theatres around the globe - symbolising that theatre, and the connection and joy it brings, WILL RETURN.

Here at Luther, the students involved in the musical this year are our light. And whilst that light is metaphorical rather than physical, WOW - does it shine!

The Little Mermaid cast and crew journeyed together through a show, far different from any other. But together they overcame every obstacle and thrived in the connection and community they created. The resilience and determination of everyone involved, was nothing short of incredible. It was a true blessing to watch how the team conquered every adversity thrown their way and still created fabulous theatre.

The end product is often impressive. However, the journey itself is always the most important thing.

This show stands as representation of what we can achieve when passion, determination and talent are brought together. But it also stands as a beacon of hope, a light that says we will be back.

Josh Mitchell
ArtsReady Trainee/ Director
The Little Mermaid



"I've come away with a lot more confidence in myself, I've made new friends and built stronger friendships"

"It was a rollercoaster, but it was so much fun. It taught me resilience."



"I've come away with many new relationships with people from Year 7 to Year 12."



House Cross Country

Virtual House Cross Country was a month-long competition this year with students and staff clocking up plenty of kilometres (and battles) between them.

The rules

Competitors were asked to run (or walk) for a maximum of 30 minutes (at the time of the competition Melbourne had strict one-hour exercise limits) and record their distance via a device or Google Maps. One entry per day per person.

Points

Points were awarded for participation, performance, pride and perseverance.

Results

With a total of 840 entries, it was pleasing to see participation from every year level. Congratulations to our youngest and oldest students with Year 7's recording the most entries (198), followed closely by Year 12s with 196. The girls also had the boys outrun with 100 more entries.

Overall results saw Birt claim victory, followed by Cheong, Nelson and Wicklow.

Congratulations to the following students for their contributions and achievements.

Most Entries	Annie Harrison (Year 7, Birt) entered 29 times
	Joshua Churchward (Year 10, Cheong) entered 28 times
	Luca Scholes-Robertson (Year 10, Cheong) entered 25 times
Highest Total Distances	Annie Harrison (Year 7 Birt) 148.34kms
	Joshua Churchward (Year 10, Cheong) 130.95kms
	Luca Scholes-Robertson (Year 10, Cheong) 129.94kms
Furthest Distances (Female)	Annie Harrison (Year 7, Birt) 7.48kms
	Jasmine McKenzie (Year 9, Birt) 7.05kms
	Holly Cocking (Year 12, Cheong) 6.68kms
Furthest Distances (Male)	Ewan Webber (Year 11, Nelson) 8.61kms
	Luca Scholes-Robertson (Year 10, Cheong) 8.11kms
	Lachlan Marasco (Year 8, Birt) 7.97kms





Cumulative House Distances

Cheong – 1246.71kms

Birt – 1014.23kms

Nelson – 714.15kms

Wicklow – 529.62kms

Cumulative House Participation (No. of entries):

Cheong – 282 entries

Birt – 234 entries

Nelson – 187 entries

Wicklow – 133 entries

Staff results

Top distances	Shane Asbury (Head of Sport) – 7.03kms (to be expected!)
	Rohan Ware (P.E, Head of Warran House) – 6.6kms
	Tim Lee (English Teacher) – 6.00kms
Highest total distances	Karri Butterworth (P.E. and Science) – 5.8kms
	Kylie Loebert (Head of Commerce) – 104.2kms
	Jane Natoli (Assistant House Coordinator Birt) – 84.22kms
Most entries	Richard Malone (Head of Middle School) – 72.9kms
	Kylie Loebert
	Yvette Lancashire
	Jason Wallace
	Jane Natoli
	Andree Buchanan



The Rite Journey



The Rite Journey is a yearlong program undertaken by Year 9 students to support their development, create self-awareness, responsibility, respect, resilience, and resourcefulness.

While there were certainly some twists and turns in 2020, our students were able to participate in a range of activities including djembe drumming, virtual tours, Walk my Way, safe partying and much more. The program came together with a special 'homecoming' service where students and their families gathered via Zoom to watch videos and view photos, tell stories and discuss lessons learned.

At the beginning of the year, Year 9 Coordinator Anthony Coghlan lit a candle to signify the start of the Rite Journey. Given so many of the Rite Journey activities took place at home, it felt important students finish the year with their own candle. The candle was symbolic of that journey, with its label displaying leaves and flowers representing life, growth and transformation. It also had an infinity sign to remind students they have endless possibilities ahead of them.

The Rite Journey has many elements, some of which are detailed here.

Worship Tour Online

Students were challenged with designing their own places of worship following an online tour of some of Melbourne's most beautiful churches.

St Pauls Cathedral was popular among students for its sheer size, intriguing design, and stained-glass windows. Others took an interest in Crossways Baptist Church for its use of technology and broad ranging activities available to its congregation.

St Eustathios Greek Orthodox Church impressed with its unique display of

artworks and religious stories, while others were inspired by St Pauls Lutheran Church for its use of wood and contemporary architecture.

Students focused their designs on making their places of worship feel welcoming, light and bright and environmentally friendly. A greenery plus kids areas and plenty of spaces for a range of activities also featured. For some, a beach-side place of worship was a priority!

Those who drum together work best together

Teamwork was at the heart of the djembe drumming activity with students finding rhythm and harmony through teamwork. Listening to each other and working together, they created a holistic sound that echoed through the building.

Symbolic of life, students learnt that without a plan or teamwork they could not accomplish their goal.

"It was hard at first and took practice, but once we mastered it the result was amazing. It was symbolic of how we live our lives - listening to others as well as ourselves and working as a team delivers the best results" Year 9 Student

Continuing the theme of teamwork, students were also involved in a skipping

challenge. Groups of two, three, four and more had to jump rope together working as a team to jump the rope without it touching them. Students huddled working on strategies, vocalised instructions and achieved some great results.



Walk my Way

In Term 3, as part of the 'Is there something more and my impact' unit, the College partnered with the Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) Walk my Way initiative. Each week students heard stories from refugees and people living in poverty, afterwards discussing ways they could make a positive difference and contribute. Upon their return to school they were able to do a range of activities around the following eight themes:

- Why do people walk?
- What would you take? You have five minutes to leave.
- Walking to sing. What are other Lutheran schools doing?
- Walking in solitude.
- Walking for water.
- Fleeing with a child.
- Walking when you are elderly.
- Walking with a disability.



Some of these themes really challenged students both physically and mentally, pushing them out of their comfort zone. For example, having a disability in a country already on the poverty line, walking up to five kilometres just to collect water or having to decide in a split second what personal items you would take if you had to flee. Over \$1200 was raised along the way to help send East African Refugee children to school.



Rock and Water

Rock and water sessions helped students better understand when its time to act like a 'rock' or time to act like 'water. These series of exercises, based on martial arts, help students develop self-awareness, self-confidence, self-respect and self-reflection. They can learn to block, hit strike shields,

stand strong, negotiate using "rock" or "water" verbal approaches, walk away from a fight, consider alternatives to aggression, and develop understandings about who they are, their intuitive feelings and their personal direction.



Juggling

Juggling is for clowns, right? Not necessarily, in fact it is the perfect activity to improve concentration and brain ability, for stress relief and coordination. Students worked in teams to help one another master this tricky skill, ensuring team mates had the support, strategies and encouragement they needed to succeed.



Party Safe

Learning how to 'party safely' is an important part of the Rite Journey program as it introduces concepts, resources and activities to students about how to have a good time responsibly. A range of methods were used to relay important information including role play

and board games. Topics included online safety and reputation, what is a positive or negative bystander, sticking together, plus drugs and alcohol. Students undertook these activities both during At Home Learning and upon their return to school.



Ready Set Go: Warran

In 2021 two new Houses will join our existing four. LutherLetter caught up with our newly appointed Heads of House, Mr Rohan Ware (Warran) and Mr Tom Schneider (Yarra) to talk about their plans for Warran and Yarra Houses.

Rohan Ware Head of Warran House



Former Assistant Coordinator for Cheong House, Rohan will be changing alliances as he takes the reigns of newly established Warran House. Rohan, a long-standing staff member of the College having taught Mathematics and Physical Education shared his thoughts about being the foundation Head of House for Warran House.

What does it mean to be Head of a foundation House?

I feel very proud and fortunate to be the Head of a foundation House. It means that, as a House, we can create our own story. I am looking forward to working alongside students who have chosen to be part of this journey and part of the history of the College.

What are some of the opportunities you see ahead?

I strongly believe we have the opportunity to build a positive culture which encourages students to connect with one another, to stand by one another and to strive for excellence when engaged in their passions.

What do you see as the interaction between House spirit, care and support?

I believe House spirit is established when people work together to achieve a common goal, and this can help build camaraderie and healthy competition. However, at the core of our work is the care and support of our students. I hope that students of Warran House will always strive to challenge themselves and feel comfortable in doing so knowing that they are in a supportive and caring environment.



What are you most looking forward to as Head of Warran House?

Getting to know our foundation students, working closely alongside them and building positive professional relationships.

While Rohan's new favourite colour is clearly orange, he is also realistic about when Warran House may take the next House Cup. In fact he doesn't mind, as long as students challenge themselves and participate they will grow and succeed.

and Yarra

2021 House Competition

Swimming

Athletics

Cross Country

Performing Arts Festival

Public Speaking

House Events Cup
(Combination of events to be determined by House Captains)

Tom Schneider Head of Yarra House



Old scholar, teacher and former Year 10 Coordinator, Tom Schneider has been part of the Luther fabric for many years. Having worked in numerous Departments across the school including Commerce, Mathematics, Christian Studies and Sport his teaching focus has been VCE Business Management as well as coaching the College Volleyball team.

His next challenge is to establish Yarra House!

What does it mean to be Head of a foundation House?

Having the opportunity to work with students, to build something together, a new culture, new expectations, and new understandings. It is an incredible opportunity of which I feel very grateful.

What are some of the opportunities you see ahead?

There will be some unique leadership opportunities for students being part of a foundation House. There will also be new relationships forged between students and teachers, and importantly we can build on our already strong vertical Homegroups.

What do you see as the interaction between House spirit, care and support?

I believe it is essential to know a student as a person and a learner and the family that stands behind them. The House structure allows a direct interaction between all parties, so as to further the student in all school disciplines. Our Houses are all about inclusivity.



What are you most looking forward to as Head of Yarra House?

A new challenge and focusing a growth mindset. Working with students to build something great!

Tom has every belief that 2021 will be a hugely successful year for Yarra House, with plenty of opportunities for team building, his aim is to support students to be their very best.

Greig Fraser (Class of 1993)

Oscar nominated, Emmy Award
winning Cinematographer

For most people, stepping into the Batcave or standing in front of a Star Wars X-Wing would be nothing more than a fantasy, but for Class of 1993 Alumni Greig Fraser, it's a reality.

An award-winning cinematographer, Fraser is currently working in London on the latest instalment of DC Comic favourite Batman. Together with Director Matt Reeves, Fraser is set to take audiences on a visual journey back through the streets of Gotham City. Set for a 2022 release, the film has quite the cast including Twilight's Robert Pattinson as Batman.

Fraser has been steadily building his enviable CV, with films like *Rogue One*, *Lion* and *Zero Dark Thirty*.

"I have a firm belief that you need to keep doing stuff that challenges you. Pushing yourself and being brave with your choices both personally and professionally. Even occasionally feeling terrified pays off," he laughed.

It seems that bravery is well and truly paying off.

It has been a big ten years for Fraser, receiving his first Oscar nomination for

acclaimed movie *Lion* and then this year taking home a Primetime Emmy for his work on Star Wars spin off *The Mandalorian*. If that's not enough the epic sci-fi blockbuster *Dune* hits cinemas late 2020.

"I like to push myself and create something amazing, but equally you can't please all the people all the time and you have to push on, do your best and hope that people appreciate the end product," he said.

Boasting incredible diversity, Fraser's projects range from documentaries and commercials, to dramas, biopics, thrillers and more recently science fiction. Working with big name directors Jane Campion, Denis Villeneuve and Kathryn Bigelow, sports stars including the late Kobe Bryant and an enviable list of actors and actresses, this boy from Mooroolbark has certainly made a name for himself in Hollywood.

Winning an Emmy for his work on *The Mandalorian*, it's Fraser's innovative approach to film making that is attracting attention. The use of LED screens to replace locations means actors can be transported almost anywhere without the physical challenges of shipping an entire crew to multiple locations.



Notable works

Dune

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story

Lion

The Mandalorian

Zero Dark Thirty

Snow White and the Huntsman

Nominations and Awards Highlights

Primetime Emmy Awards – Outstanding Cinematography for Single-Camera Series for *The Mandalorian* (Chapter 7) (Won)

AACTA Awards – Best Cinematographer for *Lion* (Won)

New York Film Critics Circle – Best Cinematographer for *Zero Dark Thirty* (Won)

Academy Award Nomination – Best Cinematographer for *Lion*

British Academy of Film and Television Arts Nomination – Best Cinematographer for *Lion*

Greig's tips for students wanting to explore photography

The way to get better is by 'doing' there is no magic formula, you just have to do it and follow your instincts.

Draw inspiration from people but do your own thing, find your own language and niche.

Try to never stop learning, you can get so good at something then you cruise and if that's the case you stop growing.

My work is best when I learn, if you can do things that scare you or make you terrified it's a good thing.



"As well as being cinematographer, I coproduced *The Mandalorian* which meant I was able to develop this new technology. Ultimately if we can get the same great results but be more efficient when making films, we reduce budget and help the environment as well. With technology now a massive part of the film business, being agile and proactive is essential," he said.

Fraser's passion for photography developed in his late teens, when he stumbled across a skill he didn't know he had thanks to Luther College teachers Mr Robert Mau and Mr David Modra.

"My path wasn't as defined as some; it was a slow burn. I tried things and wasn't always good at them, but I am doing what I am doing now because of the amazing leadership and guidance from teachers and staff at Luther. One person can change your life – they saw in me a skill that others didn't," he said.

Nearly 30 years on Fraser sees the world differently through the lens of his camera. The angles, the light, the beauty. "I've learnt how to see the world and capture what I want through a camera. What I thought was a great shot twenty years ago perhaps wasn't, but you learn as you go and never stop learning," he said.

Fraser was immortalised at Luther in 2012 with the introduction of *The Greig Fraser Photography Award* given annually to a student showing photographic promise.

Entries are judged solely by Greig, something he sees as an important part of maintaining his connection and giving back to the College.

"I love seeing student entries, knowing I can encourage someone who sees

the world a little differently. The images I see and judge, I go off gut instinct, if they see the world in an unusual or abstract way that is great, that piques my interest," he said.

As far as future projects go, Fraser and wife Jodie Fried along with kids Felix, Leo and Poppy have become quite the international travellers. "I can't wait for the opportunity to film at home. Australia is a powerhouse of film making but with every project we must see what fits.

"Family is a major factor in deciding my projects. A lot goes into looking at 'what's next'. I ask myself - where will it be, how will that work for family, what is the impact on my wife's business, is it a great project?

"We are always trying to make the most of the opportunities the job gives, but equally the job asks a lot in return. It can bite into your life, but it can also give a lot back. My kids visited the set of *The Mandalorian* and *Dune* and that's an incredible educational experience.

"To them though, I'm just Dad, my eldest son just asked me when my Emmy was being delivered so he can take it to school for show and tell. I am not sure how I feel about it being thrown into the bottom of his school bag!" he said.

Greig's 30-year reunion is in 2023, a milestone he couldn't quite believe!

"When I think about thirty years, I can't believe that's even possible," he said.

Whether a project brings him home or we continue to watch his career in awe, the College is proud of Greig Fraser, an innovative visionary bringing film and photography to life.

Class of 2010

Like many events world-wide our reunion program was postponed in 2020. To celebrate the Class of 2010, a number of former students shared an update about their ten years since graduating. We have also added some memorable moments from ten years ago.





Christel Weston (Schachtner) Captain

A lot can change in ten years, just ask Class of 2010 Captain and Caltex Medallion recipient Christel Weston. A Physiotherapist, wife and mum to be (of twins no less), Christel has been busy.

“After graduating from Luther, I studied Physiotherapy at La Trobe University, I then went on to complete my post-graduate studies in Women’s Health and Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy at Melbourne University.

“I chose Physiotherapy, and particularly the women’s health specialty, because I was fascinated by health-sciences and passionate about working along-side women navigating various gender-specific health issues. Physiotherapy is a brilliant career that brings both science and helping people together beautifully,” she said.

Christel now works for Eastern Health across several areas including ante-natal care, on the maternity wards and post-natal recovery. She has also spent time working with breast cancer survivors in the Breast and Cancer Centre and exploring the area of chronic pain management.

“Physiotherapy offers so many different streams to specialise in - you can ‘change careers’ multiple times without ever leaving the profession or having to retrain from scratch, so there is no excuse to get bored,” she said.

Winner of the 2009 Senior School Art Award, Christel’s passion for the arts also continues to inspire her. “Mr (Tony) Downward taught me to value creativity and the arts whilst at Luther and even though I didn’t pursue the arts as a career path I still love to paint. I found I really re-discovered art when I learnt how to paint with watercolour in Italy several years ago and I rarely leave home to travel without my painting kit,” she said.

According to Christel her time at Luther provided a fantastic environment with endless opportunities. “I’m so thankful for the amazing, devoted teachers who had endless patience for my never-ending questions. Their passion for their subjects was contagious and they taught me



valuable studying skills, including taking ownership of my own learning, which set me up well for university. It doesn’t matter how well you do in VCE as long as you do your best,” she said.



Sam Suke Captain

In his Year 12 profile featured in the College yearbook *Analecta*, Sam Suke stated his goal clearly and simply: 'to manage my own physiotherapy clinic' and ten years on he has gone a step further by owning one!

Class of 2010 Captain and recipient of the Luther Medallion, Sam studied Physiotherapy, before starting his own business in February this year. He also spent time on the physiotherapy team at the Western Bulldogs and was part of their 2016 Premiership win. Sam also worked with fellow alumni Tom Boyd while at the Bulldogs.

"The 2010 *Analecta* testifies to my goal of leading a physio practice. I achieved this when Exercise Thought Physiotherapy opened just months before the Coronavirus struck. The practice has remained open and is growing steadily despite juggling restrictions.

"Our first client was a former Luther student, referred to us by another Luther alumni who was incidentally my Dad's best friend when they attended Luther together.

"I have also hosted my fellow Co-Captain Christel's younger sister on her physio placement. The contribution of the Luther community in sparking and fulfilling my dream is demonstrable.

"We even send personalised gifts baked by Luther College alumni Emma Roberts, to our first 50 referrers. It really is a great community to be part of," he said.

Sam's other passions have been surf lifesaving, having played a role in forging the College's relationship with Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club. Sam also served as a rescue swimmer for the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter for six summers.

Sam's own reflection

Our (Class of 2010) first experience of "lock down" came well before COVID-19, when students were ushered to the College gymnasium as a Victoria Police SWAT team besieged a nearby home. Not a common occurrence in Croydon Hills and nothing to

do with Luther but a lockdown nonetheless! Students were reassured by our recently appointed principal, Mr Kleidon, that we had nothing to fear because he had, that morning, dressed in his lucky tie. The "lucky tie" became something of a cult icon, a nickname for our esteemed Principal and was, distinctly, yellow. Never did we expect that our next experience of "lockdown" would, 10-years later, be entirely different.

Nor did we think iPads would take off (we distinctly remember speculating in the Y12 Common Room that "If someone wants a small screen, they'll use a phone. A preference for big screen will choose a computer"). They did take off. 2010 was also the year of symmetry. The AFL Grand Final was drawn. So was the federal election. Many of us would vote for the first time - a right of passage for some, a chore for others. The result was a hung parliament between Tony Abbott and Julia Gillard, the later of whom became Australia's first female Prime Minister. Facebook was our online habitat. Instagram was launched during our final exams.

The strongest recollection of from my Valedictory speech was my resisting the urge to laugh when I had to acknowledge my Mum who was listed amongst other dignitaries owing to her then, and



Analecta Future Ambition:
To manage my own Physiotherapy clinic.

continued, role as Chair of College Council. I also recall in my Valedictory speech that we conveyed our apologetic thanks to the School Pastors, after students in our cohort had conducted a chapel service that went memorably "off script." The Ministry Team had a routine of reviewing and approving chapel scripts several days prior which, thanks to a particularly un-chapel like chapel service, became a routine of "we will meet you in the chapel for a run through 5 mins beforehand."



Sam worked as a rescue swimmer for the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter.

Claire Nielson

It's been ten years!
Tell us about what you have been up to.



I went straight to university and studied Arts at the University of Melbourne, majoring in Media and Communications, because I originally wanted to become a journalist. During my undergraduate studies I took a gap year and spent six months backpacking across Europe. I came back to finish my degree, before taking another gap year to work and spend some more time overseas, this time in South East Asia and New Zealand. Finally, I ended up enrolling at Melbourne Law School and completed the Juris Doctor in 2019.

How did your time at Luther set you on that path?

If you'd asked me in Year 12 what I'd be doing in 2020, I never would have guessed law. While at Luther I was far more interested in art and literature, or more realistically, playing peggel and watching episodes of Gossip Girl on my laptop (when I should have been paying attention).

And now that your studies are complete, are you working?

Over the last year I've been working as a legal trainee at a construction/infrastructure law firm. Towards the end of the year I'll apply for admission as a lawyer, granted COVID-19 doesn't continue to delay the process!

Fondest memories from Luther?!

My fondest memory would have to be the Arts/Culture trip we took to Italy and France in Year 12. I was lucky enough to spend a couple of weeks in the European summer with some really good friends, making pasta with an old Nonna in the Orvieto countryside, exploring the streets of Florence, Rome, and Paris, and eating mountains of pizza and gelato.



Tim Hyndman (Class of 2010 Dux)

It's been ten years! Tell us about what you have been up to.

I went straight into a Bachelor of Science (Science Scholars Program) at Monash University. When I started, I was planning to major in one of physics, applied mathematics, pure mathematics, or astrophysics; the final choice to be decided by whichever subjects I enjoyed most. I minored in physics and double majored in mathematics. During this time I also completed my AMusA in piano (something I had been working towards in my last year or two at Luther).

In 2014 I completed an honours year with a thesis that proved a result in probability theory relating to the Ising model (a model commonly used in statistical physics). From 2015 - 2019 I completed my PhD at the University of Melbourne on topics in probability and statistics.

So in the end, I have specialised in probability and statistics - the one area of mathematics I did not originally think I was interested in!

How did your time at Luther set you on that path?

Obviously, completing VCE is necessary for the university course I chose, but in addition

to this, I had some great teachers who allowed me to push myself further in my favourite subjects.

And now that your studies are complete, are you working?

I am now working as a Data Scientist at a small consulting company called Biarri. At the end of my PhD I had to choose between continuing with academia or transitioning to industry. Both had their pros and cons - I was attracted to the freedom and flexibility of academia but put off by the expected hours of commitment required for most researchers to keep progressing. A job in industry gave me a little more predictability and I was lucky enough to find somewhere that allows me a reasonable level of flexibility when it comes to how, when, and where I work. But I haven't ruled out returning to research.

Fondest memories from Luther?!

I have lots of fond memories from Luther, and particularly from the Music Department. For most of my time at Luther I managed to fill each morning with a different music ensemble rehearsal. If I couldn't attend one of the official ensemble rehearsals, then I would practise with my string quartet, *Veidi Parem*. We probably ended up talking more



than we played so it was kind of like our own homegroup! I'm still very good friends with the other members of the quartet, and we occasionally catch up to play together again.

My favourite teachers were Alan Collyer (an absolute music theory wizard, and all around a super encouraging and lovely person), Kate-Jane Amey/KJ (made English language the first English subject I actually enjoyed, and I had lots of fun accompanying the choir she ran), Andrew Duncan (I still think about the chatter-pillar turning into a fail-fly), and the whole Music Department.



Joshua Witbreuk



After finishing his VCE, Joshua completed a Bachelor in Aerospace Engineering, combining study with internships and programs across the USA, Thailand and Germany.

"I studied Aerospace Engineering for the challenge. Not because I am an aircraft geek or anything, but because it was something I could really sink my teeth into!

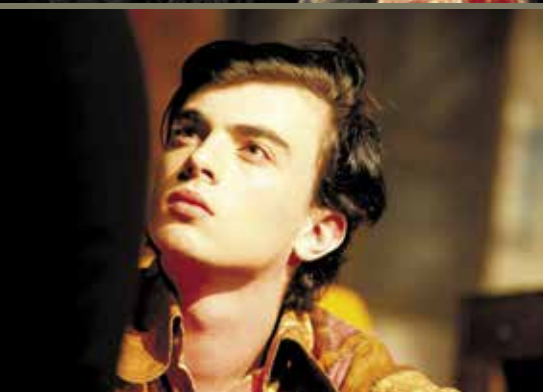
"The teachers and careers advisors at Luther did a great job providing me all the information, challenges and practice they could muster for when I finally left school. I felt prepared.

"Looking back, Luther college is and was a great school. I even remember when we got the Year 12 common room and the new Middle School was under construction.

"I'd have to say one of my favourite memories was being the year level's mascot more or less. For our year level photo, instead of shouting "cheese" we all shouted "Flanders!" and I look back on that and smile.

"In terms of future goals, I'd still like to go back in time and find out where 'Flanders' started," he said.

Joshua is married to wife Esther and father to newborn daughter Zoe.



Reunion Update

The College will host its regular program of reunion events in Semester 2 2021. We would usually spread them throughout the course of the year however Semester 2 gives us the chance to plan and consider opportunities to bring together those who missed reunions in 2020 along with those due for 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 plus year reunions in 2021. Keep an eye on our website for dates.

It is our preference to communicate via email so if you are not sure we have an up to date email for you please email reception@luther.vic.edu.au to update your details as soon as possible.

Tamara Goudswaard

Keeping with tradition, Tamara followed her dad, brother and sister into Luther College, completing her VCE in 2010.

Tamara now works as a Registered Nurse, supporting immigration detention and people in need of physical rehabilitation. Living and working in Brisbane, Tamara fondly remembers her time at Luther as somewhere she made lifelong friends and enjoyed a raft of great experiences.

"I have been working in physical rehab for over three years now, working with patients in multi-trauma car/motorbike accidents teaching them to walk again and assisting them to return back to a normal life.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do when I finished school, but nursing was definitely the right path, it is a very rewarding career and opens up so many different pathways.

"I was supported and encouraged during my time at Luther, always given diverse opportunities to learn. It really did shape my future and where I am today," she said.

Tamara still plays cricket, a passion of hers and continues to study, completing a business degree.



Class of 2020 Reunion

The **Class of 2020** will celebrate with a very early reunion on **Thursday 25 March 2021**.

Invitations with details will be sent early in 2021.



Community News

LutherLetter

If you have news you wish to share in LutherLetter, please contact the College on (03) 9724 2000 or email communications@luther.vic.edu.au

Births



Congratulations to **Stuart (Class of 2009)** and **Jessica MCKENZIE (Tuck) (Class of 2007)** on the safe arrival of their daughter Ada Grace. Born 16 August 2020 weighing 7.8lbs.



Congratulations to **Catherine SCHUBERT (Class of 1996)** and Ian Campbell on the arrival of their son Lawson Blake. Born in Box Hill on 13 November 2019. Brother for Sienna and Riley.



Congratulations to **Beck Knoll (SKILBECK)** Class of 2008 and husband Caleb on the birth of their son Jeremiah in June 2020.

Weddings and Engagements



Congratulations to **Bethany Brown (CROCKER)** Class of 2014 and Justin Brown on their marriage. Their wedding was held at Waverley Baptist Church on 16 November 2019.

Congratulations to **Mark PRESSER (Class of 2013)** and **Siobhan OLDFIELD (Class of 2013)** on their engagement on 3 July 2020. They will look forward to a 2021 wedding.



Ava Lily Carter, daughter of David and **Sina Carter (DREVERMANN Class of 1995)**, was born prematurely at 30 weeks on 15 October 2019. She is now a healthy and active one year old who loves playing with older sisters Emily and Alyssa.