NEW BEGINNINGS
Peter Fullagar
Pioneering Year 5's to College Captains

PLUS: BOARDING VILLAGE AND LEARNING CENTRE UPDATE + OLD BOY AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS
In writing to his Brother Superior in 1889, our founder Br Ambrose Treacy wrote:

I commence it (the building of Nudgee) without either the money for the building or even a promise from you of a staff of Brothers to work... In years to come I expect that this college will occupy a prominent place amongst the educational buildings in Queensland.

- Patrick Ambrose Treacy - “Christian Brother, Enterprising Immigrant” - Br Regis Hickey, 2012, p.249

What a faith in God to provide. What a hope-filled spirit upon which to build a school.

At the heart of Treacy’s statement is also a vision for the future.

We can not recreate Ambrose Treacy’s pioneering spirit but we are called to create a vision for this year and beyond. This is not my vision as a new Principal. It is a shared vision for the thousands of people presently connected to St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

In these first months of my time at Nudgee College, at various meetings, I have taken the opportunity to express key aspects of the collective vision that I foresee unfolding in the coming years. Hence, this first reflection piece for Nth Degree is a further opportunity to detail this shared vision for the future of Nudgee College.

At the heart of any school vision must be the students. In our case, it is the 1530 Nudgee College boys currently enrolled. Also at the heart of a Catholic school vision, must be the recognition of our Christian heritage. Hence, our essential calling is to ensure that Nudgee College boys are young men who embody our motto, Signum Fidei – a sign of faith. This is achieved through faith formation programs, improving academic achievement, enhancing pastoral care, increasing engagement in service and outreach programs as well as diverse extra-curricular activities. In essence, remembering always that “it is about the boys” should drive all that we do.

The essential calling of this vision is influenced by four broader agendas. These include:

1. **Strategic Plan** – many members of the community will be aware that over the last six months there has been a period of broad community consultation in the formulation of this plan for the future. The plan will be endorsed by the College Board and EREA in the coming weeks and will be launched on Blessed Edmund Rice’s feast day in May. While the document itself is critical, equally important for the direction of the College is just how it is operationalised by the College Leadership Team and subsequently shared with the school community.

2. **School Renewal Report** – in 2014 the College underwent the EREA process that ensures that as a community we can truly claim to be an authentic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. Within the report were numerous commendations and recommendations. In the coming years, we must build on the former and deal with the latter by embedding both into our current practice and future planning.
3. **The schooling landscape** – one of the challenges for all schools is how they develop their classroom approach to enable highly effective 21st century learning and teaching to occur. In our school, it means developing an innovative approach to learning and teaching within a traditional schooling context. Our existing Habits of Mind framework positions us well for this ongoing challenge. Furthermore, improving academic outcomes for Nudgee College students is reliant upon improving the quality of our teachers. We will strive to be increasingly recognised as leaders in boys’ education, based on our high-quality and innovative teaching practices, our exemplary pastoral care, and our reputation in sport, cultural activities and social justice programs.

4. **The Nudgee College context** – this is deeply grounded in our sense of community spirit. Our ongoing community connectedness and the feeling of belonging to an extraordinary institution will be built through the respectful relationships that are shared between students, staff, the Christian Brothers, our day and boarding families, the Nudgee College Old Boys and the wider public. This community spirit has been nurtured over the past 125 years by those individuals who have followed in the footsteps of Br Ambrose Treacy. While it is founded in our history and tradition, our community spirit must shape our present and it must sustain our vision for the future, as one of the nation’s great Catholic schools.

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Mr Peter Fullagar  
College Principal
“Over the course of the few days I was at the school in 2013, prior to meetings and at the end of the day, I would wander around,” Peter said. “The spirit of the boys, the energy of the community and the dynamic school environment was clearly evident.”

Peter brings almost 30 years of Catholic school experience to the Principal’s role. He grew up in Brisbane and went to St Laurence’s College. He began his teaching career as a physical education teacher and then moved into history and religious education.

“I taught at Iona College for 16 years and was a school leader,” Peter said. “I was then at Gregory Terrace for six years as Deputy Principal before heading to St Edmund’s in Canberra for six years as their Principal. Both Terrace and St Edmund’s are part of the EREA network, which was a conscious decision for me as I am committed to the Catholic faith.”

Following in the footsteps of Nudgee College’s longest-serving Principal is a big task; however, Peter is determined to face the challenges head on and create his own legacy.

“Daryl has left a wonderful legacy and I certainly hold him in the highest regard but I embrace the challenge of leading the next phase of the College’s development,” he said.

“A big challenge is getting to know and understand the school, the boys, the staff and the parents, and build relationships with each of those groups. All of that takes time. So far I have been meeting with staff and have been out and about as much as possible. Nudgee College is a complex school with many dimensions, and being highly effective in that dynamic is a real challenge.

“Maintaining a balance between celebrating the history and traditions and creating an innovative learning and teaching environment for boys in the 21st century is the biggest thing I would like to achieve in my time here. There is a long history and some amazing stories after 125 years, and balancing that moving forward is another challenge.

“I also want to build on the experience of the teachers so they are regarded as the leaders in boys’ education in Australia. The process has already begun, with the learning and teaching focus, and I want to continue to add impetus to that.”

Having Nudgee College’s 25th Principal begin in the College’s 125th year is significant in itself but Peter is also looking forward to the opening of the new boarding village and learning centre within the next few months.

“Every school year has something special about it. For a Year 5 student, it is their first year here while for the Year 12s it is their last. Occasionally, though, you get a milestone year – like 2015 is for Nudgee College – that allows you to acknowledge things that have happened before,” Peter said.

“The boarding village is the heart of the school. It is 125 years old as well, and having it reinvigorated to improve the quality of residential care for the boys and their families is exciting.

“I am also looking forward to the opening of the new learning centre and what it means for the quality of schooling at Nudgee College. Having the library, IT and classrooms in the one building shows the focus of quality teaching and makes a strong statement about where we’re going as a school.”

Peter enjoys his role as Principal, demanding as it is, but it is the time spent with the students that most appeals to him.

“The engagement with the boys and the shared experiences are some of the great joys of being an educator,” he said. “Seeing a 10 year old boy arrive in Year 5 and then seeing him as a 17 year old young man graduating is a long-term joy and reward.”

Away from his school commitments, Peter enjoys spending time with his family and friends, exercising, listening to music, watching movies, and reading books but admits maintaining a good work–life balance can be a “struggle”.

“Luckily, I have a very understanding wife and family.”

After attending an EREA Principals Conference at St Joseph’s Nudgee College in 2013, Mr Peter Fullagar told his wife he would “really love to work at that school”. A year later, former principal Mr Daryl Hanly announced his retirement and Peter was named as Nudgee College’s new Principal.
Dallas Brown
Indigenous Education Coordinator

Dallas is a Kamilaroi man from Mungindi, north-west NSW. He has completed both a Diploma and Bachelor of Education, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education at the Australian Catholic University. Dallas previously worked within the State education system in New South Wales as an Indigenous education worker and a literacy and numeracy tutor for many years. He has since permanently relocated to Queensland with his wife and five children.

Dallas was previously employed with Brisbane Catholic Education as a Year 6/7 teacher at St Patrick’s Primary School Nanango and Saint Mary’s Catholic College Kingaroy as a Year 6 teacher and Indigenous support teacher.

Why did you want to work at Nudgee College?

Nudgee College has, for a number of years, been a leader in Indigenous education and I not only wanted to be a part of it, I wanted to help grow the program into the future so our boys can leave Nudgee College as role models and leaders in their communities.

What does your role involve?

I have two roles. My Indigenous Program Coordinator position gives me the opportunity to provide positive learning outcomes for the Indigenous student population. This includes learning support, liaising with staff and house deans, pastoral care and coordinating the tutoring program, just to name a few of my responsibilities. My other role is job-sharing teaching a Year 6 class.

What do you like most about your role?

I really enjoy being around the boys, hearing their stories and helping them stay positive and engaged while at school.

What do you hope to achieve in your time at Nudgee College?

I hope to build success stories so future generations of Indigenous boys can walk through these gates and continue to inspire others in their community to be the best they can be. ●
Sean Graham
Director of Rugby

With 10 years coaching experience and a Level 2 accreditation, Sean was the Director of Rugby at Padua College for the past three years. Over his seven years at Padua, Paul was also the 1st XV coach and a Year 6–9 teacher. Last year, Sean coached the Nudgee College 2nd XV team.

Why did you want to work at Nudgee College?
I was fortunate enough to do some rugby coaching at Nudgee College last year and I really enjoyed the experience. I found the boys to be really appreciative and respectful and the College rugby program really impressed me, so I naturally wanted to be a part of it.

What does your role involve?
I am the Director of Rugby and I also teach in the middle school. When I'm not in the science lab, McKennarney Centre or SOR classroom, I'm generally planning for the upcoming rugby season. Although the GPS rugby fixtures don't commence until Term 3, there is a lot of preparation work to do with more than 700 boys in the school involved in rugby. This involves a wide range of tasks, including organising season plans, training sessions, playing gear, coaches, referees, training schedules, camps, sponsors, functions, trials, team lists, draws, and anything else rugby related.

What do you like most about your role?
Seeing boys develop through a rugby program, enjoying their sport and reaching their potential.

Robyn Harrison
Head of Information Centre

Robyn was employed as Teacher-Librarian at Iona College for the last three years, assuming the role of Acting Head of Library over the past year. Robyn has also taught at Brisbane Boys’ College, Townsville Grammar School and St Aidan’s Anglican Girls’ School. Robyn holds a Diploma of Teaching (Primary) and Associate Diploma in Teacher Librarianship.

Why did you want to work at Nudgee College?
I was excited about working at Nudgee College because the opportunity to be the Head of Information Centre allows me to work collaboratively with other teachers and staff at a College that echoed all of my personal and professional beliefs about educating boys. I especially resonate with the following mission statement: ‘We celebrate our diversity and work together to create an environment where every person is respected.’

What does your role involve?
My role involves bringing the Library to the centre of the learning process by collaborating with teachers to plan, resource and deliver quality digital literacy and literature programs to support the curriculum. Purchasing, developing and curating resources for assignments that meet the diverse range of learning abilities and styles of our students is also a major part of my position.

What do you hope to achieve in your time at Nudgee College?
I hope to develop in all of our boys a love of reading and to change any negative mindset to consider themselves as readers. My belief is that those who think they don't like reading have not found that one book that resonates with them; once they do, there will be no stopping them.
Jeanette Maxwell  
Head of Careers  

Jeanette was St Francis’ College’s Careers / RTO Manager for the past seven years, and holds a Master in Education (Career Educational and Development), Graduate Diplomas and Certificates in Career Development, and Career Education and Development, a Bachelor of Adult and Vocational Education, and certificates in Business, Training and Assessment, and Career Development. She has acted as Assistant Principal (Administration) at St Francis and was the VET Coordinator at Lourdes Hill from 1998–2006.

Why did you want to work at Nudgee College?

The Nudgee College ethos and the vision of Edmund Rice education is in harmony with my own Catholic values and beliefs. In the role of Head of Careers, I will be able to assist young men to be empowered to make decisions and choices that help them to act justly and have positive relationships. I am totally committed to helping each boy achieve his potential, especially those who are disadvantaged/marginalised and who often need more assistance.

What does your role involve?

The Head of Careers is a full-time position, which also includes teaching hours. A normal day, for example, could be made up of working with students to generate career ideas, explore career options, develop a career plan, and make career decisions that are based on student abilities, interests, work values, personality and external influences; talking to students about university, scholarships, UMAT, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships and TAFE pathways; assisting Year 12 students with QUTAC applications; ensuring career-related information is easily accessible to students; being involved with career-related activities in the classroom; organising career events (eg. careers evenings, trips to career expos); and working with teaching and guidance staff.

What do you like most about your role?

Supporting students through the process of planning and managing future career directions and pathways. I believe strongly in students identifying their goals and developing action plans to address their preferences and needs, not only for subject selection but in preparation for life beyond school.

What do you hope to achieve in your time at Nudgee College?

The ultimate aim of career education and guidance is to equip students to develop their careers throughout their lives. Teaching students an identified set of understanding, skills and attitudes – career management competencies – helps them achieve their life, learning and work goals.

The new career management paradigm is not about making the right occupational choice. It is about equipping students/people with the competencies (skills, knowledge and attitudes) to select the right choices from the numerous ones that all adults are confronted with daily, in all aspects of their adult lives.

Amber Shaw  
Director of Teacher Performance and Development  

Amber was employed at Clayfield College for the past 11 years, holding leadership positions including Head of House, Head of Careers and Vocational Education and, most recently, Acting Head of Senior School. Amber is currently completing her Masters of Education (Leadership and Management), and has completed a Bachelor of Education (Business Management), Certificate IV in Career Development, and Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

Why did you want to work at Nudgee College?

Nudgee College has an undeniably strong reputation in the community and when I saw an opportunity to carry out a role I was extremely passionate about, at such a well-renowned school, I just couldn’t resist applying. It was hard to leave my former students and colleagues at Clayfield College; however, I am thoroughly enjoying my transition as a new staff member here at Nudgee College. I have been warmly welcomed into the community and can truly appreciate why its reputation is so strong. I am continually in awe of the strength of spirit and demonstration of service leadership by both students and staff and feel incredibly blessed to have been afforded this opportunity.
What does your role involve?
My role gives me the opportunity and responsibility for building and fostering capacity and growth in the academic teaching team of the College, leading to continuous improvement and more in-depth engagement in student learning. As educators, we are effectively preparing young men for a rapidly changing and complex world, requiring flexibility and creativity to solve problems, as well as the ability to explore exciting new possibilities. To prepare students effectively, the College promotes and cultivates learning with Habits of Mind in all that we do here at Nudgee College. Teachers are supported and encouraged to utilise effective strategies in designing learning experiences that build confidence in our students to develop a strong “internal compass” to guide them on their way in their post-school journey.

What do you like most about your role?
I like working alongside both teachers and students to increase engagement in lifelong learning. I am thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to build relationships with fellow teachers and staff members of the College. Listening to students and teachers describe their experiences of learning, both in and out of the classroom, is also fascinating and will continue to inform my own professional development journey. I also have the opportunity to mentor pre-service teachers and beginning teachers, who are just setting out on their teaching journey. I also value the fact that this is an important relational role with a strong strategic focus on improving student outcomes. Teaching a wonderfully energetic, engaged Year 12 Accounting class is a continued joy. These students continue to remind me why I love teaching and working with young people.

What do you hope to achieve in your time at Nudgee College?
I aim to design and promote programs, initiatives and learning opportunities to champion and empower teachers in fostering, sharing and celebrating rich, collaborative learning and teaching to promote innovation and creative thinking in our young men.

Jo Barrett
Tierney House Dean
Jo began working at Nudgee College as the Support Officer for the Indigenous Education Program in 2011. In 2013 she moved into a part-teaching role in addition to remaining in the Indigenous Education program with a focus on AIEF partnership programs and tutoring. Last year Jo was the Indigenous Education Program Coordinator and remained on the academic staff as a core teacher. Jo is a PE/English teacher who worked with Education Queensland in Roma and Warwick before taking leave to work in the NRL as Development Officer with the Gold Coast Titans and was later based in Brisbane. Since starting at Nudgee College, Jo has coached rugby and track and field and joined Kairos and Immersion programs.

What does your new role involve?
My new role primarily involves overseeing the pastoral care of all boys in Tierney House in addition to my academic workload as a teacher. Working collaboratively with PC tutors and the Student Formation Team, my focus is on the students based in Tierney and how to work with them to ensure they are supported in all facets of their Nudgee College journey.

What do you like most about your new role?
I enjoy the challenge of the new role and the opportunity to work in a dynamic student formation team, while also finding a balance by working collaboratively with the Tierney tutors, students and wider community.

What do you hope to achieve in your new role?
Initially, I hope that I am able to develop the relationships with Tierney students, staff and parents that are essential for each and every student to belong and succeed during their time at Nudgee College. I’m fortunate to be in a position where Tierney House had already developed its own identity and culture over many years within the broader College community. To lead this House is a privilege and I hope that in doing so I’m a positive addition to a well-established community that values participation, effort and being an authentic example of Signum Fidei on a daily basis.
Stephen Meara  
Director of Boarding  

Stephen has been at Nudgee College 10 years this Easter.

“I came to teach Senior SOR and immediately became involved in Nudgee College boarding,” Stephen said. “I became a Head of Boarding House in 2007 and have been Head of Hodda and Murphy in that time. I also acted as Dean of Identity for a term in 2011.

“My role as Director of Boarding is to support those who work with our boarding students in the care of these young men – ensure their safety, encourage their learning, develop their faith and support their active life (and to do the same for the staff).

“What I enjoy most in my new role is the privilege I have been given to share in the story of so many of our Nudgee College men and their families. The most exciting task I have this year is to bring online our completed Nudgee College Boarding Village and to use all the wonderful new facilities we have to continue the improvement in our boarders’ educational outcomes.”

Lara Morgan  
Head of VET

Lara started at Nudgee College in June, 2007, after several years working and living in London. In North London, she worked with students who were a “challenge to engage in the classroom” but she found this encounter enjoyable and the results incredibly rewarding.

“One of the methods to engage these students was to make the work we completed in the classroom relevant to the English used in their daily lives,” she said. “When I saw the opportunity to be Head of English Communication here at Nudgee College, I knew that it would suit my passion to engage students with relevant curriculum. I enjoyed that role for seven and a half years.”

What does your new role involve?

The role of Head of VET allows me to help students achieve success by supporting them in their pursuit of alternate pathways. Previously, I was responsible for student progress in the subject of English Communication whereas now I have the opportunity to influence students in creating and opening doorways to opportunities and success in other areas of their life.

What do you like most about your new role?

I get to work more closely with students and their parents in choosing the direction they wish to pursue post school, and showing students that in whatever pathway they pursue, they can be successful.

What do you hope to achieve in your new role?

I hope to raise the profile of VET pathways and educate our community on the benefits it can provide. VET is an exciting and constantly evolving area that not only engages students but allows them to find success, thus I hope to keep our VET program relevant and engaging along with our rapidly changing society.”
On Tuesday, February 10, Archbishop of Brisbane Mark Coleridge visited St Joseph’s Nudgee College to preside at the opening mass and commissioning of new Principal Mr Peter Fullagar.

“The presence of the Archbishop is always special for a school community,” Dean of Identity Ms Erin Wedge said. “It serves to emphasise the ecclesiastical function of the school, signalling to the wider school community our place in the local church of Brisbane.”

Ms Wedge said the Seniors were also invested into their positions of leadership in the ceremony.

“Year 12 is a busy year,” she said. “The added responsibility of student leadership remains a great privilege. Yet it comes with equal measures of responsibility as our student leaders model what it means to be a sign of faith to others in the Nudgee College community.”

New Principal Mr Peter Fullagar and 2015 College Captain Ben Rada Martin spoke to the College community at the ceremony about their goals for the year ahead. Following are excerpts from these speeches.

**Ben Rada Martin:**

*The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience* - Eleanor Roosevelt

Every year, every month, every day, every second, we are motivated by something inside. Behind the insecurities, behind the questions, there is an inner passion, a drive, or a commitment to a goal. But, how can we discover these, realise these talents, uncover our gifts and build on our weaknesses? Whether it be how we react when frustrated, how we diffuse situations, how we challenge contemporary social norms, or make the impossible possible, every day we are called to be something more.

It is this calling that resonates within the 2015 Senior motto, “Accept the challenge, take the risk” – to stand up against adversity and beat the odds; to take the responsible risk and attempt the impossible. We all have it in us; we all aim to be something more. All it takes is for us to aim high and push through the pain.

St Mary Mackillop is an extraordinary individual who grew up in ordinary times – a time where sexism was so entrenched in social norms, that it was not your work ethic, but your gender, that determined how society saw you. But Mary had a vision. She found her calling, she found a way she could push her limits, she accepted the challenge, she put herself out there, she took the risk.

St Mary Mackillop is an extraordinary individual who grew up in ordinary times – a time where sexism was so entrenched in social norms, that it was not your work ethic, but your gender, that determined how society saw you. But Mary had a vision. She found her calling, she found a way she could push her limits, she accepted the challenge, she put herself out there, she took the risk.
Everest, these individuals pushed their own limits. They aimed high, and they were relentless in their determination. It was not by chance that Hillary and Norgay wanted to attempt Everest. Everest was a symbol of the ultimate achievement, the ultimate height, the ultimate challenge, the ultimate risk.

Whether it be our attention and concentration in the classroom, our views on social inequality, our involvement in social justice activities or through the contest of sport, we are challenged at Nudgee College every single day, and it is not how you think about these issues, but how you react to these challenges that shows what kind of person you really are.

It was 125 years ago that Br Ambrose Tracey dreamed of a new Christian Brothers school, a home for the boys of the bush. It was a trial he met, he embraced, and a challenge he accepted. This year we celebrate the legacy of the thousands of brothers before us, the legacy of sacrifice, the foundation of what has built our school today.

At Nudgee College, we often hear the phrase, becoming “Nudgee men”. The term “men” entails a maturity, an understanding and an element of sacrifice. This idea is the basis of Edmund Rice’s beliefs: a liberating, holistic education which stretches boys to become men through so many different facets of life. A life grounded by an unwavering spirituality, a faith and a commitment to serving the poor and the marginalised. 2015 is the year of challenge, the challenge to become Nudgee College gentlemen. To face uncertainty with determination, fear with passion, hatred with love. To live out the virtue of being a Signum Fidei, a Sign of Faith, to all.

Mr Peter Fullagar:

It is with a deep sense of honour and profound feelings of responsibility and of excitement for the future that I stand before you today as the 25th Principal of St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

My message today picks up the theme of service. In today’s liturgy and commissioning we heard this recurring theme – it has been in our prayers and in our hymns; it was in the first reading when the wisdom of Eli guided the
young Samuel to truly hear the voice of God from the perspective of the servant; the pledge made by our Senior students included a commitment to serve others, and, in my own commissioning, I have given an assurance to serve this community.

This theme of service to others is an important one as I believe it is a distinguishing feature of Catholic schools, and indeed this call to be of service to others has become a hallmark of Catholic schools in the Edmund Rice tradition. Further to this, our own College’s mission statement reminds us that:

For over a century, our College community has been based on Catholic faith, service to others, loyalty and friendship in day and boarding contexts.

The four Touchstones that are the quintessential features of those schools and educational entities that are governed by EREA also echo this theme. At the core of the Touchstones of liberating education, gospel spirituality, inclusive community, justice and solidarity is the call to be of service to others, particularly the poor and the marginalised. Service to the poor of Waterford was at the heart of the work of Blessed Edmund Rice and his example has been followed by generations of Christian Brothers.

So, on a day that acknowledges leadership within Nudgee College, all our leaders, including myself, are called to be servant leaders like Samuel. The ultimate epitome of servant leadership was that modelled by Jesus. Jesus did not speak of leadership, but the strength of his leadership came from service and his engagement with those on the fringes of the society of his time.

The 2015 Senior motto – Accept the challenge, take the risk – can be applied across many dimensions of school life but it is also true to the endeavour of servant leadership. Expressing the theme of service in words is easy. However, the challenge is that our actions must speak more loudly than our words.

Reaching out to others – the poor and marginalised – involves taking a risk. It challenges each of us to step beyond our own needs and to place the needs of others before our own. This is not something that our modern, consumerist culture encourages. This era of the iPhone, the selfie and various modes of social media is constantly reinforcing a message that puts I before we; the needs of the self ahead of the needs of others.

Our calling, as members of Nudgee College, is to act in ways that are counter to that way of thinking. At Nudgee College we are a community first and foremost. It is our defining quality.

In the year ahead we are called to not only open our hearts but to open our minds as well. The Touchstone of Liberating Education reminds us that we “open hearts and minds through quality learning and teaching”.

In accepting the position of Principal of St Joseph’s Nudgee College, improving the quality of learning and teaching is a commitment that I have made, and it is one that I will aspire to on a daily basis.

At the heart of our endeavours to be an authentic Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, we must be working to fulfil our God-given potential in all dimensions of College life, but particularly so in facing the challenge of the classroom. Your academic effort and individual application to your studies will
ultimately enable you to succeed, to be truly liberated and to live life to the full. A life at the service of others.

In conclusion, to the young men of Nudgee College, in particular to the Senior leaders commissioned here today, I remind you that to whom much is given, much is expected. In 2015 you are the holders, the custodians of the good name and reputation of this great school. All those who have gone before you since 1891 – those tens of thousands of Old Boys – some of them your brothers, your fathers, your grandfathers – have been called to live our College motto *Signum Fidei* – to be a Sign of Faith in their time. It is now your calling, your challenge, to be a Sign of Faith in your time. In all that we do in the year that lies ahead, may we be strongly committed to this daily calling to be of service to others.
In my first year at Nudgee College, I remember visiting the Locker Room to purchase the many College uniforms. I remember being driven in on the first day, truly blown away by the size of the school – a school like no other. My initial reactions when I arrived for Year 5 on January 30, 2008, were daunting, excited and inspired – in equal measures.

Little prepares you for the countless experiences you will have here. The little things, the stories of Nudgee College legends you hear, the challenges you face, the assembly presentations that resonate; it really becomes a place where you not only learn in the classroom, but you learn about life.

Memory after memory; it is often surreal when considering what I was a part of in even just that first year. From witnessing the drop goal to win the GPS Rugby Premiership to shaking so nervously with the honour of reading a prayer at a full school assembly, I was blown away by not only the size, but the great potential and vast opportunities Nudgee College offered me.

Many of these experiences, which had such a significant impact on me, were instilled by the Seniors of 2008 and now, being a Senior in 2015, they reaffirm the responsibility our year has to make the Nudgee College journey as rich as it can be for all. The responsibility is on us to continue traditions, and encourage our younger Nudgee College men to experience the inspiration we felt. Furthermore, we need to build on these traditions, and provide new depth within the Nudgee College experience because it is when we build on our past, and move forward, that anything is possible.

Ben Rada Martin
College Captain

Having been here since 2008, I have grown from a small Year 5 boy, who was nervous to start with, into a young man who Nudgee College has blessed with good morals, an education among the best possible and an exposure to more sports and activities than I knew existed. Over the past eight years, friendships have formed, social and global awareness has developed beyond my comprehension, and the world has opened itself up to everything it can offer a young man.

My time at Nudgee College has consisted of literally all kinds of experiences – from firing 12-gauge shotguns in Gun Club to being involved

In 2008, a pioneering group of 24 Year 5 students began the next chapter in the Nudgee College story. Fast forward eight years and these students are now College Seniors, who will graduate at the end of the year as the first group to have spent the full eight years at Nudgee College.

Three of the original students are also Nudgee College Captains. Following are their stories.
in several productions the Drama department offered. Upon reaching Nudgee College I was astounded to learn there was even a farm with real animals! Everything was fantastic, and still is.

Growing from a Year 5 boy into a Year 12 Senior at Nudgee College has changed my life profoundly. From looking up to the Seniors, who seem like giants when you’re in Year 5, to looking down (and in some cases, still up) has been the key component to injecting the realisation of responsibility into my life.

The most important, and spiritually igniting, aspect of Nudgee College to me is its spirit. My main goal as a Senior is to provide the younger boys of Nudgee College with the same sense of brotherhood, inclusion and passion as those who walked before us have done graciously for me. There really isn’t anything I have experienced in my 17 years quite like it. There are no words in the English vocabulary that are capable of doing the Nudgee College spirit justice. It truly is a special thing to have and feel.

I have always remembered and looked back upon my first daunting orientation to Nudgee College. The older boys catered to this aspect of Nudgee College that people describe as “spirit” as they were the “big brothers” I never had. This is something I will never forget and for which I will be eternally grateful.

Now, having recounted my journey, I realise that it has always been an education on the school spirit’s behalf; gradually showing us the way to enlightening each other with unconditional support, love, respect and mateship. All of this follows the spiritual enrichment that the school’s rich history provides through its historic and absolutely beautiful buildings and grounds.

As I often converse with boys who have graduated before me, they all feel the same. The energy is rich and fulfilling; the energy of the “ten thousand brothers” who have come and gone before us. Boys from every walk of life have taught me how to love and accept the spirit, in an attempt to keep it developing for future generations who will be lucky enough to experience all that Nudgee College has to offer. For this, I am thankful and will be forever indebted to Nudgee College for changing my life for the best.

Dane Brady
College Vice Captain

My time at Nudgee College can only be expressed as a journey. It is a journey that has taught me the values of being a Nudgee College man. Since Year 5, I have heard the speeches that always begin with “Good morning, Nudgee men”, and each time I wondered if the Seniors really thought we, as Year 5 boys, were really men. Now, in their position as a Senior at Nudgee College, I am aware that the students from Year 5, all the way through to Year 12, are men. Nudgee College men who “Be the difference”, “Journey with purpose” and “Accept the challenge, take the risk”.

The line “one small man, ten thousand brothers” is one that can not be sung light-heartedly. Even as a Year 5 man, it struck a chord and made me feel a part of the Nudgee College family. It was a sense of pride and honour for my school that I had never felt before and the fact that my Nudgee College experience had only just begun was so exciting.

Alex Seccombe
College Vice Captain

The camaraderie, sense of brotherhood and mateship is why I call this place my home. Since walking through the gates on my very first day, back in 2008, I was inspired to be more and to do more. To be a Sign of Faith.
As director and co-founder of boutique Impératif Call Centre Partners, Chris and his business partner, Paul McMahon, have spent six years honing and perfecting their “little call centre with a big difference.”

“Paul and I have automotive and call centre backgrounds and, because of this, we launched the call centre as catering to the marketing and customer-service needs of car dealerships only,” Chris said. In a relatively short time, Impératif had contracted many automotive clients and, in keeping with their motto, were actually providing the dealerships with a great return on investment via services such as telemarketing, service retention calls, electronic marketing as well as satisfaction surveying.

“When we first started” Chris said, “it was just Paul and I, making and taking calls in a small, local call centre. However, from analysing those calls and customer experiences via our CRM system, we perfected the process and in no time our client base grew from word of mouth. This meant it was time to grow the Impératif family.

“However, before we began to welcome more staff it was important that we really broke down the barriers of call centres, from both sides of the phone. We knew that translating great customer service to our client’s customers would only be possible if the call centre staff themselves have a great experience, so we set about removing all the unnecessary call centre norms.”

Chris said that things such as average handling times of calls and timed breaks were the first to go.

“Then we removed the normal call centre annoyances, including call queues and automated button pressing.

“We have had phenomenal success in our business but it all boils down to treating our staff as our most valuable asset and providing both staff and customers with the technology that facilitates a truly personal experience which, of course, translates into great customer experiences.”

Whilst Impératif is a boutique call centre in the sense that they are much smaller than traditional, stereotypical call centres, they have grown to serve more than 50 Australian clients and have 17 staff, handpicked for their polished telephone skills. This puts Impératif in the unique position of being able to focus attention on their clients.

Recently Impératif altered its service offerings to incorporate all businesses outside of the automotive world and have already become partners with finance, search engine optimisation, charities and beauty companies.

Chris attended Nudgee College from 1995–99 (Years 8–12). During this time he was a member of the 1st V basketball team and the track and field team and represented Nudgee College Vocational Education at Queensland Parliament.

However, like many others, Chris’s association with the College began long before his first day.

“I was still in primary school and attended a 1st XV Nudgee College v Terrace rugby game with my uncle, who is also an Old Boy,” Chris said. “I recall the Nudgee College war cry being

Call centres are not often thought of in a positive light; however, Old Boy Chris Torrisi is attempting to change this perception, one happy customer at a time.
belted out and echoing through the school grounds as I was making my way towards Ross Oval. I had never heard anything like it and I wanted to be a part of it. It is something I will never forget.”

Like most new students, Chris remembers being “excited but also petrified” on his first day.

“I came from a very small Catholic primary school so the sheer size of Nudgee College scared me,” he said. “I remember getting lost and being late to just about all of my classes but I was made to feel welcome and part of the Nudgee College community straight away.

“Nudgee College brings together a community. Students from different social backgrounds, different countries and different cultures are brought together to learn not only on an academic level but also tolerance of diversity. As students, you live, work and play together and you learn the importance of ‘getting on’.

“You learn to achieve your full potential and that, as an individual, you can live in a society that is not homogenous; you can live happily with people of different skin colour, different values and different social backgrounds. You learn that to achieve your full potential, not only academically but also in sport and personal development you need to not simply ‘get on’ with other people, but to respect and appreciate their differences from you. Nudgee College actively fosters that attitude.”

Despite his current success, Chris knows that life doesn’t always turn out the way one expects and advises current students to embrace the opportunities available at Nudgee College, as you never know where they might lead.

“Things don’t always go to plan. If someone had of told me back in high school that I would be running my own company, being an outsourced call centre, I never would have believed them. Hard work is the only way to achieve your goals. Enjoy your time at Nudgee College, study hard and dream big. The ‘spirit of Nudgee College’ will stand you in good stead all your life.”
Regardless of what 2015 may hold for the Nudgee College community – or the nation – it will certainly be a boom time for the manufacturers of commemorative souvenirs. Events ranging from medieval history to modern warfare to political machinations in Canberra will get a guernsey in terms of commemorative acknowledgement. Yet for all the fanfare, re-enactments and souvenir mugs and tea towels, some are indeed major turning points in history.

None are bigger than the humiliation of King John, 800 years ago on June 15, 1215, when at Runnymede, he was forced to sign the Magna Carta. This “Great Charter” has remained the most famous and iconic legal document in history, establishing, as it did, the basic principle of the sovereignty of the parliament. Two hundred years later, in 1415, Henry V and his “band of brothers” decimated the French nobility at Agincourt in a battle immortalised by Shakespeare.

In June, 1815, on a rain-soaked field just outside Brussels in what was then the United Kingdom of the Netherlands, Napoleon Bonaparte was defeated by an Allied army led by the Duke of Wellington. Two decades of warfare, which had followed the French Revolution, were therefore brought to a close, ensuring that Rule Britannia survived well into the next century.

In April, 1915, with the French this time as our ally, Australian troops, Nudgee College Old Boys among them, stormed ashore at Gallipoli. The subsequent eight-month campaign ended in defeat, but bequeathed to the new Commonwealth a foundation myth that reverberates to this day. Other commemorations will also find their place: the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the 40th anniversary of the dismissal of the Whitlam government among them. Yet, for Australians, it will inevitably be Gallipoli that dominates any deep engagement with the past.

The question of Nudgee College’s “new beginning” is an intriguing one. What it will mean at a grassroots level for a community that values tradition is open to conjecture. This is further complicated by the fact that new beginnings at the College have generally been understated affairs. Revolutions, it would seem, are generally heralded by gentle breezes long before the storm breaks. In fact, two of the most profound “new beginnings” at the College, at least at...
a symbolic level, passed with very little fanfare. The College might be shaken by change – at times it has shown a tremendous capacity to embrace it – but it is rarely stirred by it.

Although there was some student disquiet at the demolition of the Handball Courts in 1973 to make way for yet another extension to cater for growing numbers, it is a long-forgotten alteration to a campus having undergone even more profound changes in the years that followed. The two courts had been constructed in 1910 and, for many decades, it was an activity pursued with considerable vigour. Nudgee College was not alone, however, in its devotion to the game, for the sport across Australia came to be primarily associated with the Christian Brothers and their Colleges. Almost every prominent handball player in the early twentieth century was linked to the order or tied in some way to Catholic schools and religious and clerical communities. It was part of the very fabric of early Irish-Australian life.

The Brothers were just as fervent devotees of the sport as their students, with a posting to a school with good facilities being viewed as particularly fortuitous. Requiring a considerable financial outlay, handball was more than just a sport, however, for it was “intertwined with notions of Irishness, community, and the construction of an Irish Catholic school culture”.

For the Brothers, it articulated an Irishness they never dispensed with, and, for their students, it represented a transitional Irish-Australian identity. The 1922 Annual noted that it was a “matter of regret that national prejudices preclude Handball from some of the other larger Colleges, as its benefits are unlimited”. Although perhaps reflecting a belief that one of the benefits going begging was an opportunity to be beaten by Nudgee College in a GPS Handball competition, the sport was clearly perceived as a point of both difference and assimilation. The demolition of the courts showed that in designating the College as “Irish Catholic”, the emphasis would now be firmly on the latter word rather than the former.

Like the demolition of the handball courts, a minor alteration to the 1991 speech night did not bear any of the hallmarks of revolution. Perhaps it had been so long coming that its arrival was anti-climactic. Perhaps in the hustle and bustle of the centenary year its importance was obscured by the sustained celebrations. Perhaps some welcomed it. Yet, what is certain is that the addition of a boarding report showed that the world had indeed changed.

In the past, boarding was the heart and soul of the College, so comfortable in its pre-eminence that there was little perceived need for such a consideration. Although the addition might not appear a storming of the Bastille moment, it is worth remembering that it was not until 1988 that the College had broken with tradition and installed Ivan Astori as the first day boy captain. However, the decline in boarding numbers had begun, and increasingly day students would begin to exert a hitherto inconceivable dominance, both in numbers and influence. Though the boarding school would still lay claim to ownership of the soul of the College, her heart had to be increasingly shared with others.

If the past is, as Hartley characterised it, a foreign country, 2015 will indeed be a year marked by significant travel. As the College embarks on a new beginning under a new Principal, it will confront the need to balance tradition and modernity, philosophy and pragmatism. What is certain in this evolution is that sometimes the change will not be loud. It will nevertheless be deep and profound. One just needs to know where to look.

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ST JOSEPH’S NUDGEE COLLEGE MAGAZINE
Roll forward 14 years and the Ladies Auxiliary are contributing $1 million to Nudgee College’s Learning Centre. It has taken several years to achieve these funds, but will be appreciated by current and future generations at the College.

The Learning Centre is located prominently at the centre of the school campus – a move that assists in raising the profile of academic pursuits at the College. A learning commons approach has been used to co-locate complementary functions: the school library, IT and AV services, the Learning and Teaching Team, IT Labs, Year 7 learning spaces, a giant chess space, the cafeteria and a large covered outdoor space. These uses are distributed across four interconnected levels as a series of varied spatial volumes that accommodate learning activities at the scale of the individual, the group, and large community gatherings. There are spaces for a variety of teaching modes, including collaborative, contemplation and didactic teaching.

The architecture references the notion of “epic” theatre, whereby the performative nature of learning is expressed and exposed to critical view. This idea is extended through the black backdrop interiors that act to focus the students’ attention to the act of learning and “props” that are utilised to illuminate the Habits of Mind at play in the building. The Habits of Mind are thinking dispositions that we are trying to embed in all boys across Nudgee College. The Habits of Mind focus is on performance under challenging conditions that demand strategic reasoning, insightfulness, perseverance,
creativity and craftsmanship. The College’s architects, m3architecture, have cleverly included physical features of all 16 Habits of Mind across the Learning Centre. Through these moves, the building facilitates the school’s vision to create lifelong learners.

**Boarding Village**

The Boarding Village is a home for 332 boys and associated supervisors. There are common rooms and kitchens for groups to gather, individual rooms for students to sleep and study, bathrooms organised around vertical gardens, administration offices and a boarders’ courtyard.

The building is analogous to a castle in the centre of a city (the school). This analogy usefully connects the pre-existing form of the original 1960s Hodda building with the culture of boarding.

Castle-like boarding houses have a long tradition in English schools. These offer appropriate frameworks for safety, security, learning and community building – factors that persist and are valid today. The Boarding Village brings together all four boarding houses into one complex for the first time in the history of boarding at Nudgee College. The building is a three to four storey castle wall, which encloses a private courtyard. The courtyard will enable and foster a strong boarding community, while the castle wall and gates provide an appropriate sense of physical and psychological separation from the day school; a threshold into another world and a place to call home.

Castles are embedded in our psyche from a young age through nursery rhymes, fairy tales and fictional stories. For example, the old nursery rhyme ‘I’m the King of the Castle’ is powerful in instilling ownership: a useful trigger for encouraging a sense of feeling at home in a place that might otherwise feel foreign.

The idea of the castle has the capacity to foster community and the individual, and it is hoped that this complex will further enliven the boarding community at Nudgee College for the benefit of the boarders and also the school community more broadly.

When boys feel safe, cared for and valued, they perform at their best. This m3architecture design aims to cater to these and more.
The start of the 2015 academic year included a number of firsts for the Junior School. First, 120 young men began what would be their seven or eight year journey at Nudgee College.

Joining them for his first year was our new Principal, Mr Peter Fullagar. Finally, the first students who entered the Junior School in its inaugural year (2008) will graduate Year 12 this year.

The 120 students who joined us for the first time arrived full of energy and with great expectations and were greeted eagerly by their “big brothers” and core teachers. Since that first day, the boys have settled into Nudgee College life extremely well. I was so impressed to watch the Year 5A team win their first cricket game against Toowoomba Grammar School, and what followed was priceless.

The boys gathered after the match and were not sure how to celebrate their victory until one boy took charge. He moved all his teammates to the stumps in a huddle and let out one almighty “En Gar Wee” war cry; one they had learnt from our assembly four days earlier. It was certainly a great way to start their sporting career at Nudgee College, and exemplified their bond with the College in just four days.

Academically, it has been a steep learning curve. Boys have had to learn our Google Doc system and also learn to navigate our electronic calendar, where all their homework is posted. As Term 1 draws to a close, I am proud to report that all boys have transitioned well and are very excited about the dynamic school community they have entered.

In his visits to the Year 5 classrooms on Day 1, our College Principal welcomed our newest students and impressed upon them that both he and they...
were starting their journey at Nudgee College together. I know Mr Fullagar and the boys will look forward to their graduation in 2022. Our Principal’s message was clear to each class; what happens in the classroom Monday to Friday, periods 1–5, is our main game. This message has been repeated many times, and Mr Fullagar would be pleased to know our newest students have engaged with his message.

Our College Captain for 2015, Ben Rada Martin, started his Nudgee College journey in the first-ever cohort of Year 5 students back in 2008. While I was not present on that day, it is our privilege as teachers to witness the growth of our students from these formative years to adulthood. Back in 2008, 25 students started in Year 5, and 26 started in Year 6. This year, in the Junior School, we reached another record enrolment milestone, with 249 students across Years 5 and 6.

We have had many highlights this term, including the:

- 2015 Induction Mass, which had an active role for our youngest member of Nudgee College, Adam Pearson.
- Inter-House Swimming Carnival; congratulations to Shaw House on their victory.
- Year 5 Retreat, which allows our newest members to the College time to explore how we walk in the footsteps of Edmund Rice, and to learn how we can be Signum Fidei for all.
- GPS Swimming Championship; congratulations to all participants and our coaching staff for an outstanding performance.
- Years 5 and 6 Lenten Fair; what a fun and fantastic morning, which raised over $1500 for our Caritas Lenten Appeal.

I welcome all new students and families to Nudgee College. You have entered a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition and, as stated by our Northern Director of EREA, Mr Peter Chapman, our College ‘gets its direction from the intersection of two stories – the Gospel story of 2000 years ago and the Edmund Rice story of 200 years ago, and it’s these two stories that bring us to this particular point in time’.

All the best for the year/s ahead.
2014 OP Results

The 2014 St Joseph’s Nudgee College academic year finished on a high with the announcement that 12 Senior students achieved an OP1.

In addition, 96.3 per cent received their Queensland Certificate of Education. Nudgee College students also achieved a total of 94 Level I, II, III and IV Certificates. The OP ineligible students can continue on to tertiary study using a tertiary entrance rank or by completing an apprenticeship or traineeship.

“Results were consistently strong across the board,” Dean of Learning and Teaching Mr David Johnston said. “Twenty-two per cent of eligible students achieved an OP 1–5, and an impressive 82 per cent achieved an OP of between 1 and 15.

“Nudgee College is extremely proud of the OP results received by the class of 2014. These results not only reflect the hard work of the students but are also testament to the school’s policy of encouraging students to undertake a program of learning that best suits each individual.

“Academic success occurs when individual students utilise all resources on offer and strive to achieve to their full potential. It is safe to say that the class of 2014 did this, deservedly producing some very good exit results.”

Nudgee College welcomes new students

In this milestone year, Nudgee College welcomed 270 new students to the College in January. Nudgee College celebrates its 125th year in 2015 and it is also the year when Year 7 officially became part of the high school year levels. This meant Nudgee College had significant intake numbers across three year levels – Years 5, 7 and 8.

Once the first-day nerves had calmed down, the students enjoyed getting to know their “big brothers” and are now settling into everyday life as Nudgee College men.
Drama success

In January, 2014 Senior Timothy McGowan, along with Year 12 students Jacob Elordi and Liam Riordan, performed in Shake and Stir Theatre Company's production of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Powerhouse Theatre in New Farm. Timothy played Lord Capulet, Jacob played Mercutio and Liam played Gregory.

“These three boys had great success in the 2014 Shakefest, run by Shake and Stir, and the outcome of this was the roles they were cast into for the final production,” said Head of Drama Ms Alison Crilly. “The boys embraced the stage with maturity, passion and dedication and, along with the rest of the cast, engaged the audience from beginning to end.

“Their performances were outstanding.

It was fantastic to see three Nudgee College boys stand out on the stage in their captivating performances, a very proud moment. The experience they have had through this festival and final production can never be replaced and no doubt they have gained immensely from it.”

Jacob and Year 11 student Will Tyquin are also to be congratulated on their great success in the Queensland Theatre Company's Youth Ensemble auditions at the end of 2014. They are now members of the Youth Ensemble for 2015.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for these two boys,” Ms Crilly said. “They will engage in weekly workshops with the Queensland Theatre Company and will work alongside professional actors, writers and directors and be involved in a mid-year production.”
Boarders Day Out

In what has become the traditional opening weekend of the year, on the first Sunday in February about 170 Nudgee College men and boarding house staff visited Wet ‘n’ Wild on the Gold Coast to join with other boarding schools from the south-east.

Director of Boarding Mr Stephen Meara said the outing provided “a great opportunity for many of the new boarders to get to know the returning boarders in a very different setting to our normal daily routine.”

“It very much helps them feel a part of this community and is just basically a lot of good-natured fun,” Mr Meara said. “We had good weather for swimming and it was a great day out.”

Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday in February, each Nudgee College House group ran their own ritual where the community members were marked with ashes on their foreheads, hearing the words, “Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return” to which they responded, “Amen”.

Dean of Identity, Ms Erin Wedge said, “Ash Wednesday is a significant day in the Christian calendar as it marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a period of six weeks that leads up to the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, and the Easter season.

“The ritual of ashes is a sign that we acknowledge that being true disciples of Jesus takes hard work and is not an easy task. Nudgee College’s charter challenges us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus by standing in solidarity with those who are marginalised and build a better world for all.

“This challenge is difficult, and we can fall short of the mark and often fail. The ashes on our foreheads remind us that we will sometimes fail, but we continue to strive to make the good news of Jesus part of our daily lives. The season of Lent asks us to make Lenten promises where we focus on our weaknesses and ask for strength and guidance from God to embrace the call of discipleship of Jesus.”
Narelle Oliver’s visit

Renowned Australian author Narelle Oliver visited Nudgee College in February to speak with the Year 5 students. Narelle is the author-illustrator of a number of award-winning children’s picture books, including *Leaf Tail*, *The Hunt*, *Fox and Fine Feathers* and *Don’t Let a Spoonbill in the Kitchen*.

During her visit, Narelle shared with students the process she goes through when developing her stories, showed them her wolf skin she used to assist in *Fox and Fine Feathers* and demonstrated how she creates lino prints. Narelle also helped students develop their own story.

Congratulations, Brother Vic Larkin

St Joseph’s Nudgee College congratulates Br Vic Larkin, who recently achieved the outstanding milestone of 70 years as a Christian Brother. Br Vic celebrated this milestone with his fellow Christian Brothers, members of his family and the wider College community at two events in February.

Principal Mr Peter Fullagar said, “Br Vic is clearly an iconic figure in the school community and we give thanks for his long, generous years of service and for his continued inspiring presence amongst us.”

New Zealand Tour

On Monday, January 12, 25 excited boys and four support staff gathered at the International Airport bound for New Zealand. Twelve days of travel lay ahead, with some cricket mixed in, to the destinations of Wellington, Picton, Nelson, Christchurch, Dunedin and Queenstown. The squad comprised a senior team and a development team. Each team played six games, which gave the boys the opportunity to perform different roles within the team and to experience conditions in a different country. The senior team dropped only their first game, winning five from six, while the development team enjoyed strong results from start to finish, winning six from six.

The tour itself offered the boys many life experiences. They were fortunate to witness first-hand the slow rejuvenation in Christchurch following the 2011 earthquakes and, in contrast, enjoyed the leisure delights of Queenstown during the final two days of the tour.

While many of the meals were provided on tour, the boys also relished their own Master Chef challenge, where they had to display their culinary skills and prepare their own meals.

A huge thanks to the following people for making the tour such a success:

- Cricket Supporters Group, for their ongoing support of the boys, both on tour and back at home
- sponsors of the tour – Ideal Locksmiths, Partners Engineering and Bank of Queensland, Kippa Ring
- tour staff – Mr Sean Toovey, Mr Brian McFadyen and Mr Greg Thorne for their energy, time and commitment
- the College Leadership Team and the College community for their support of the tour
- the Locker Room for their assistance in arranging clothing
- Gullivers Sport Travel for their organisation of the itinerary
All Stars T20

For the second year in a row, the Friday evening of the first week back at school saw Nudgee College Old Boys combine with some of Queensland’s favourite cricketing sons to challenge the 1st XI in an All Stars T20 match on Ross Oval to launch the Nudgee College cricket season. Chief Justice Tim Carmody (NC 1969-74) and Chief Magistrate Ray Rinaudo (NC 1966-70), got proceedings underway with the captains’ official coin toss.

Boasting a weighted side of cricketing greats, the All Stars team included Andy Bichel and Wade Seccombe as well as Old Boys Jimmy Maher (NC 1990–91), Chris Lynn (NC 2003–07), Nathan Hauritz (NC 1996–98), Brendan Nash (NC 1993–95), Joe Burns (NC 2002–06), and Corey Barsby (NC 2007–09). For the second time, the All Stars (6/224) showed their class, defeating the 1st XI (7/178) by 46 runs.

The respective captains led the way with legendary Queensland batsman and former Bulls captain Jimmy Maher winding back the clock to smash 81 runs from 52 deliveries, including five sixes and seven fours. Not to be outdone, 1st XI captain Nathan McSweeney responded with 72 runs off 50 balls, including 12 boundaries.

Former Australian Test bowls Andy Bichel snared two wickets for 11 runs while 1st XI opening bowler Clancy Nugent (2/39) picked up the prized wickets of Chris Lynn (Brisbane Heat and Australian ODI batsman) and Jimmy Peirson (Brisbane Heat wicket keeper and opening bat).

Australia’s newest Test player, Joe Burns, served as 12th man for the All Stars after straining his hamstring.

The players provided a sensational spectacle for the crowd, with a total of 24 fours and 22 sixes smashing into the top of the trees surrounding the hallowed turf of Ross Oval, clearing the top of the Ross Oval Grandstand and bouncing off historic Ryan Hall nearly 100m from the middle.

Following the game, former West Indian Test player and Queensland batsman Brendan Nash was inducted into the College’s Walk of Fame. The Walk was established last year to recognise the College’s rich cricketing legacy of Old Boys who have played representative cricket at state, national and international levels.

Brendan and many other distinguished Old Boys, such as Jimmy Maher and Nathan Hauritz, are now mentoring the next generation of players through the Nudgee College Cricket Development program.
Athletics

Australian All Schools and Schools Knockout Final

In December, 2014, six St Joseph’s Nudgee College boys competed in the Australian Schools Track and Field Championships in Adelaide. This meet pits the top two athletes from each state in U14, U16 and U18 age groups against each other in a states’ point-scoring competition. In the U14 age group, new Nudgee College record holder Will Harris competed in the 800m final while 14 year old Isaiah Naawi ran an excellent race in his heat in a field where most other athletes were nearly a year older.

To win a medal in this competition is exceptional and we congratulate the following students: Shem James, who continued his formidable success by winning long, triple and high jumps (with a high jump PB 2.15m); Brandon Herrigan, who took silver in U18 110m hurdles and bronze in the 200m; Conor Warren, who won the U18 javelin (as a 16 year old) with a PB of 68.03m; and Dan Mowen, who ran a PB to place fourth (48.47sec) in the U18 400m.

After the championships, the above boys banded together with other members of the 2014 GPS championship team to compete in the Australian Schools Track and Field Knockout Finals. Nudgee College fielded teams in both Intermediate and Senior divisions:

- Intermediate – Josh Bunney, Nick Dooley, Alex Flechtner, Brandon Herrigan, Will Harris, David Lean, Hayden Shoobridge, Conor Warren; and
- Senior – Yousif Birogi, Shem James, Hayden Lane, John Lean, Dan Mowen, Isaiah Naawi, Harry O’Sullivan.

In Intermediates, Conor Warren was superb in winning both shot and javelin. The younger members of the team, Will Harris and Hayden Shoobridge, acquitted themselves particularly well as did Brandon Herrigan, who won the hurdles and placed fourth over 100m. Unfortunately, due to injury, Brandon had to withdraw from the 200m but later returned to run a 300m leg of the final Swedish relay event, in which Nudgee College placed third. The intermediate boys finished overall with 240 points, just 7.5 points below the bronze medal.

In the Senior division, Shem James was again dominant in winning long and high jumps, while Dam Mowen and John Lean were most impressive on the track. Misfortune, again, hovered over the senior team with Yousif Birogi being tripped from behind midway through his 1500m event. After most of the field had hurdled him as he lay sprawled on the track, Yousif stoically scrambled back into the race to catch up to, and overtake, five of the 16-man field.

Despite Yousif’s heroic efforts, the seniors finished on 184 points, only one point shy of the bronze medal.

Many thanks to all on tour, including Mr Peter Kropp, Mrs Maureen Toohey for her exhaustive organisation, and Ms Jo Barrett and Mr Nick Toohey for their expertise and assistance.

Chess

In March, two Nudgee College chess teams entered the Brisbane High Schools Inter-school Chess Competition, which was held at AGGS. This competition goes some way towards deciding which school gets to contest the state titles later in the year.

The results were simply unprecedented as Nudgee College took out first place on 21 points, narrowly defeating BGS (20.5) and a tied AGGS 1 and BGS 2 (both 18).
Rowing

Nudgee College’s Year 9 boys raced with pride and reached their goal of being in the top three as a year group against the other schools at the Junior Head of the River in February.

Congratulations to the Year 9 1st Quad (Flynn Morgan-Smith, Timothy Mark, Angus Braithwaite, Matthew Engelbrecht and Tom Johnston, coached by Annie Phillips and James Hart) and Year 9 10th Quad (Surya Stark, Daniel Webb, Harrison Miller, William Priestley, Tom Jackson and Cooper Webster, coached by Luke Meacle) on their wins at Junior Head of the River.

Director of Rowing Mr Christian Oneto thanked both the boys and their supporters.

“I want to commend this group of boys who trained so hard,” he said, “but, more importantly, learnt what it means to be part of this community.

“Thank you also to our wonderful parents who supported all season with camps, home baked goodies for afternoon training and breakfasts on Wednesday mornings.”

At GPS Head of the River two weeks later, Nudgee College won the O’Connor Cup (1st VIII) for the third year in a row and were back to back champions in the Old Boys Cup (overall).

“In years to come Head of the River 2015 will be remembered for a number of reasons,” said Mr Oneto “Some people will remember our six outstanding wins on the day, or our Open 1st VIII who held their composure, while shouldering the enormous weight of expectation, to claim the Head of the River Championship for the third year running. Others will remember the determination of our Year 11 1st VIII, who went in ranked 6th and produced an outstanding race to finish 3rd, or perhaps the Open 2nd VIII who showed incredible resolve to overcome BGS on the line and claim 2nd place.

“For each and every one of these reasons 2015 will never fade from the memory of Nudgee College Rowing. For me, I will remember the spirit that existed on the day, the passion the boys, coaches and parents exude and the commitment we all make to ensure that Nudgee College Rowing is successful,” he said.

“Whilst it is a rare feat to win both cups back to back, I hope that when the boys look back on the 2015 season they also remember the important lessons learnt and the experiences shared. This demanding sport provides boys with the unique opportunity to test their capabilities and learn to surpass their own physical and mental boundaries.”

Congratulations to the winning crews at Head of the River:

- Year 10 6th Quad – Christopher McCarthy, Matthew Anderson, Calum Harper, Samuel Nugent, Angus Brodie, coached by Mitch Frearson and Will Purki
- Year 10 4th Quad – Angus Woodward, Jack Patane, Leyton Rodrigues, Isaiah Stevens and Lachlan Carmody, coached by Adelaide Dadic and Marius Van Der Mere
- Year 10 3rd Quad – Zac Warren, Ben Molineux, Hamish Cook, Duncan Hartwig and Josh Purkis, coached by Sam Gaffney and Colin Stewart
- Year 10 2nd Quad – Jack Yeaton, Will Scott, Jack Prosser, Max Ledger and Liam McCoy, coached by Tom Moloney and Sam O'Reilly
- Open 3rd VIII – Jack Martin, Jack Gosdscban, Lachlan D'Alessandro, Morgan Lynch, Joe Easton, Chris White, Alexander Gastaldon, Tom Kelly, Jacob O'Brien, Eamon Moore and Austin Pascoe, coached by Ross Schamburg and David Steyn
- Open 1st VIII – Adam Bakker, Royden Skeet, David Verrayne, Sean Gaffney, Thomas Jeffries, Lachlan Becker, Jordan Jameson, Bill Peereboom and Isaac Schmidt, coached by John Bowes, Graham Leddie and Andrew Price
Swimming

With the 2015 GPS season now over, the coaches have had time to reflect on the team’s successes. Although 5th (Junior Team) and 6th (Senior Team) place at the GPS Championships may not suggest this, the very high percentage of personal best times do.

“Our Junior Team fought hard throughout the relay events to climb from 7th place at the completion of the individual events to finish 5th place overall,” said Swimming Director Mr Josh Krogh.

“These results are true indications of the hard work all our young men, along with Mr Pat Conway, Mr Ken Adams, Mr Michael Byrne and Mr Col Cressor, put into this preparation. The courage that the junior swimmers showed in the morning of the championships was a taste of what was to come with the Senior GPS meet in the evening.

“Although we knew we had strong opposition, our young men would not let this become an excuse. Evidence of this came in the high levels of determination shown by all involved,” Mr Krogh said.

Lachlan Gough started off the night with the open 400 freestyle; an event that he has very little experience with. It was a tough race for Lachlan, however it was not until later in the night that we would see the best from him. Under adversity, following the 400m freestyle, Lachlan showed tremendous courage, digging deep and toughing it out to claim victory in the 200m freestyle. In doing so, Lachlan was awarded Best Swim of the Night at the season wrap-up function afterwards.

Although Lachlan’s swim was the only win, Hayden Cotter, Steven Coombes and Brenton Woolf came agonisingly close to snatching their own victories in five of their individual swims. With these results, the latter two took out the awards for Best Overall Performance and Most Improved respectively.

“These boys showed tremendous courage and true ‘Nudgee College Spirit’ to score strong points for our team,” said Mr Krogh.

Other award winners on the night included the U15s 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay (Best Performance by a Relay), Josh Tomlinson (Junior Training) and Aidan Cowman (Senior Training).

“All staff and supporters had one major goal prior to the commencement of the season; rebuild a culture where both success and enjoyment are a common theme. The way the team handled themselves throughout this season, culminating with a courageous effort by all in the relay events is evidence that we were successful with this goal.

“The team has placed itself in a great position leading into the next chapter of swimming at Nudgee College and I wish to thank all the boys, coaches, parent supporters and the College for their efforts throughout the season.”

Volleyball

Australian Schools Cup Competition

In December, two Nudgee College teams won through to the ASC event held in and around Melbourne. The two teams were looked after and coached by Mr John Cross and Mr Paul Begg.

The U17 team competed in the Division 2 competition, winning eight of their nine games, to come home with the silver medal after going down narrowly to Loxton High School (SA) in the final game.
The U15 team competed in the Division 3 competition, winning five of their nine games. They took out the bronze medal after defeating Unley High School (SA) in an exciting and energised bronze-medal play-off.

Tours like this offer the opportunity for boys to experience their sport beyond the scope of the GPS competition, to travel and to be part of a team. Mr Cross and Mr Begg are thanked for their efforts in bringing this tour together and for managing the boys throughout the competition.

**Congratulations**

Nudgee College congratulates the following students on their sporting and cultural success:

- Trumpet player Tom Moore (Year 11), who successfully auditioned for the Queensland Youth Orchestra and will take up a position with their prestigious and talented Wind Ensemble.

- Guitarist and vocalist Tom Watson (Year 11), who was selected by the Director of the Australian Institute of Country Music, Dr Geoff Waldron, to perform in one of the Institute’s Bands when they were guest performers at the Australian Country Music Festival.

- Footballers Rhys Raymond and Lachlan Strogusz (both Year 12), who were signed by Brisbane Roar for their U18 side and will play with the squad this season.
Dr Walter Barry Wood
OAM; MBBS(Hons); BSc

For service to medical education and to the community

With these few words on Australia Day, 2015, Dr Walter Barry Wood (NC 1951–52) was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia. Neither those few words, nor a summary of his achievements over more than 60 years of professional life can do justice to his outstanding career.

After attending primary school in Laidley, “Wally” Wood came to Nudgee College in 1951. He completed his Junior in 1952 and, his parents having moved to Brisbane, attended Gregory Terrace to complete Senior in 1954.

Wally graduated from the University of Queensland in Medicine (with Honours) in 1960 and with a BSc (in anatomy) in 1966. Walter is a medical anatomist. He developed a new approach to the teaching of anatomy to medical students and achieved great success. His career included stints as Senior Lecturer in Anatomy at University of Queensland, Lecturer in Anatomy at University of Papua New Guinea, Adjunct Professor of Forensic Anthropology at University of Tennessee, and Professor of Anatomy at Bond University. He was an honorary consultant in skeletal identification for the Queensland Health Department, the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage, and the Queensland Police Service.

His success was rewarded with receipt of awards nationally and internationally. He is an honorary life member of the University of Queensland Medical Society.

Wally retired from the University of Queensland in 2001, but came out of retirement in 2004 to accept an appointment as Associate Professor of Human Anatomy at Bond University. He taught Medical Anatomy and Forensic Osteology at Bond until 2013. Wally maintained his credibility as a teacher of anatomy by working part time as a general practitioner.

In 1965, as part of his BSc degree at the University of Queensland, Wally researched the origins of Australian Aborigines and co-supervised the rescue excavation of a prehistoric Aboriginal burial ground at Broadbeach. He became skilled in the biological profiling of skeletal remains. He is recognised as an expert in human and Aboriginal bone identification.

Throughout his career Wally was supported and encouraged by his wife, Beverley, herself a renowned teacher of speech and drama, an actress and an adjudicator.

On a more personal level, since returning from PNG in 1971, Wally and Beverley expend endless hours every year in the design and erection of Christmas lights around their house and garden. Their generosity and enthusiasm has been, and still is, a significant voluntary contribution to the Brisbane community and surrounding districts. Additionally, they have raised substantial donations for the Mater Children’s Hospital Appeal.

L M (Lawrie) Cusack

Thanks and acknowledgment is given to Prof. R A Cooke OBE OAM MD FRCPath for his generosity in providing information.
Lieutenant Brenton-James ‘BJ’ Glover

Conspicuous Service Cross

Nudgee College Old Boy Lieutenant Brenton-James ‘BJ’ Glover was awarded a Conspicuous Service Cross in the 2015 Australia Day Honours.

Lieutenant Glover (NC 2000–04), who was recognised for his outstanding achievement as Executive Officer of landing craft heavy ship HMAS Brunei, says he was shocked to receive the award.

“I was a bit lost for words when I found out,” he said. “I wasn’t expecting it as, at the end of the day, I was just going to sea and doing my job. I didn’t realise that my contribution had such a high impact on the capability and effectiveness of the ship over the last three and a half years.

“It was a busy time maintaining the effort and professionalism of the crew at a high level, but it was made easy having such a great, close-knit team,” he said.

Apart from the camaraderie of the ship’s company, Lieutenant Glover says he was fortunate to be involved also in some meaningful and historic activities.

“Last year Brunei was tasked to attempt to recover the remains of Stoker Percival Cameron, from near Guluwuru Island in the Northern Territory,” he said. “He was on board HMAS Patricia Cam when it was sunk after being bombed by a Japanese float plane in 1943.

“The search meant a lot to Stoker Cameron’s daughter and, as my grandfather was a World War II veteran, these efforts would have meant a great deal to a generation that sacrificed so much. While at the end of the day we weren’t successful in locating him, it was meaningful to try to help the family.”

Lieutenant Glover was also part of Brunei’s decommissioning crew, an experience he said was memorable.

“You don’t often get a chance to decommission a ship that has seen almost 42 years of service,” he said. “Reflecting on everything the ship had achieved and the men that served on her, it really stuck with me.”

While currently posted ashore, at HMAS Cairns, Lieutenant Glover is looking forward to deploying to an operational role in the Middle East region in coming months. He spent Australia Day celebrating what is great about this country with his mates.

“Working in Navy, you meet a lot of great people,” he said. “They’ll probably be as surprised as I am about the award, but no doubt pleased for me.”

Story courtesy of Navy Daily; Ms Natalie Staples (author), ABIS Richard Cordell (photographer)
Created in the Year of the Outback, in 2002, the blue-grey Grandee granite sculpture depicts a stockman crouching on his haunches, with the texture deliberately left rough to express the harshness of outback life, the tough challenges of honest hard work and the raw nature of young men in need of education, culture and spirituality. The figure’s triangular shape symbolises the Christian Trinity and the omniscient sacred within all.

Born in Mitchell, in south-west Queensland, and educated at Nudgee College, Mr McKenzie says, “True Blue represents the everyday, the eternal and the honest integrity of the working man and the genuine true blue Australian spirit, which we associate with culturally.”

The sculpture, which took 1475 hours to carve from the original 20-tonne granite stone, was unveiled in October 2002, under a guard of honour formed by representatives from the Australian Light Horse, while John Williamson performed his legendary True Blue anthem. It stands today overlooking the Flats and is celebrated as an embodiment of the Nudgee College ethos.

“Think there is a place in Australian schools for a representation of our saying “True Blue,” John Williamson said. “It’s about all the noble things that fair dinkum Australians hold on to dearly, such as trustworthiness and loyalty, belief in our nationhood, and standing up for freedom.

“For me, it’s also about caring for the amazing natural environment of this ancient continent. The outback stockman is a great symbol of an Aussie who takes pride in his achievements and shows by example that you get out of life what you put into it. That’s True Blue!”

Nudgee College Principal Mr Peter Fullagar says, “True Blue has become an iconic symbol within Nudgee College culture. I believe the sculpture reminds us of, and brings to life, those solid country values, such as resilience, perseverance and a love of this great land.

“I also appreciate the passion, skill and legacy that Old Boy Chris McKenzie has embodied in the sculpture. Every boy who comes through Nudgee College should appreciate the opportunities, development and support this great College provides. This appreciation...”
should encourage them to look to give something back to the College for future generations to benefit."

Mr McKenzie now devotes his time, energy and labour to his three loves: creating works of art, teaching/tutoring/mentoring young men and coaching boxing. He is a modern "Renaissance man".

Two signed, leather-bound, original artist copy portfolios, one containing the project’s concept designs, and the other the project’s development design plans, are being offered by the artist for sale. Expressions of interest can be emailed to chris_mckenzie_sculptures@yahoo.com or by contacting the artist on 0448 098 442.
President’s message

With 2015 already one-quarter gone, it seems a little late to be addressing the Nth Degree readership for the first time this year. The NCOBA calendar is now gathering speed with most of our key events hosted in the back end of the year. To be included on the full details of all NCOBA activities, it is imperative that Old Boys register on our online community at ncoba.com.au and update their contact details. For those who are already across this, please view your alumni group to assist us in contacting others you may know who might not have updated their details recently.

At our recent AGM, the executive positions of the NCOBA were confirmed, and I am pleased to advise the re-appointment of Vice President Hugh Hamilton, Treasurer Doug Carrigan and Secretary Tony Gleeson. I am also continuing as President, and Immediate Past President Simon Carter is also a member of the Executive Committee. We will be ably assisted by our Sub Committee members, Andrew McNamara, Matt Hart, Vince Rao, Saxon Mew and, of course, Mr Lawrence Cusack who continues as strongly as ever as your association’s Registrar.

The NCOBA Business Plan for 2015 is available for viewing on our website for those interested. A key aspect of our strategy continues to be the engagement of our Old Boy community with the wider Nudgee College community. Many of our events, particularly our regional events and annual gala evening, are focused on this inclusive approach as we recognise the valuable contributions of the Nudgee College family as a whole. We will, of course, continue our Old Boy-focused events, too; these are predominantly the alumni events and our annual CBD gathering.

As you read this, the NCOBA is hosting the Nudgee College community at the Goondiwindi Picnic Races, and next month we will be supporting our extended family in Rockhampton at Beef Week. We will also be hosting a gathering for the Nudgee College community at the Gold Coast this year on August 22, after the Nudgee College v TSS rugby match.

The main event for reunion activity in 2015, however, is based around the Nudgee College v GT rugby home day on Saturday, September 5. Key alumni groups should already have begun to establish contact; these are the 1, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30 year etc. reunions. While each year group can arrange their own events for the weekend, the NCOBA will host these groups and any other Old Boys at the College on the day. Rather than catering specifically for our Old Boy groups in relation to food and beverages, we have deliberately chosen to support the other groups also hosting events over the weekend. There is a Friday night function at the College in support of the Dimensions Art Festival, the Ladies Auxiliary will hold food stalls on that Saturday, and the Boarder Parent Support Group will host a function after the match on that Saturday evening, which we encourage all Old Boys to attend.

The Nudgee College Gala has emerged as our signature annual event after a highly successful launch in 2014. All the details for the 2015 Gala are included in this edition. As has been highlighted previously, this is a Nudgee College community event that the NCOBA host as part of engagement and presence strategies from our business plan. It provides the opportunity for Old Boys and their partners and friends to join with other members of the Nudgee College family to celebrate our great College in five-star fashion. This is a true black-tie event. However, despite the extravagance of the venue, entertainment, food and beverages, there will be no raffles or auctions to interfere with our enjoyment of the night.

Anthony Hart
President

Julian Tonino

When graduating from university, there is no higher honour than being named valedictorian of your class. Old Boy Julian Tonino (NC 2006–10) was bestowed this honour when he graduated from the University of Queensland in December of last year with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering. Upon learning of his achievements, it is plain to see why he was chosen. Not only was Julian heavily involved in many engineering clubs and societies, holding several executive positions in the process, but was also still able to graduate with the highest possible GPA of 7.0.

Despite Julian’s obvious proficiency for civil engineering, it wasn’t always the path he saw for himself when he finished at Nudgee College. Throughout Year 12, Julian was constantly weighing his options, from law, to medicine and to engineering. He decided on engineering upon exiting the College, still mildly unsure about whether it was for him. Julian gained great enjoyment from the degree and has not looked back since. Now working for Arup, one of the world’s largest civil consultancy firms, Julian is firmly of the belief that he made the right choice.

One piece of insight that he can offer to current Nudgee College men, or those who have recently graduated, is to use all their time efficiently and to avail themselves of every opportunity that arises. He is incredibly thankful to the College and its staff for all of the opportunities that were afforded to him, and urges current students to seek out their own chances, irrespective of their career pathway.

Guy Stacey
INVITATION

Nudgee Gala

THE MARQUEE

VICTORIA PARK

SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2015

6.30PM TO 12.30AM
TICKETS $260 EACH • $2600 PER TABLE OF 10
3 COURSE DINNER
6 HOUR DRINKS PACKAGE
FRENCH CHAMPAGNE UPON ARRIVAL TILL 7.30PM
DRESS BLACK TIE

BOOK ONLINE AT WWW.NCOBA.COM.AU
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED AND BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT

Hugh Hamilton
(OLD BOY)
Phone 0438 787 924
hugh@mwrecruitment.com.au

Natasha Swenson
(CURRENT PARENT)
Phone 0419 271 160
nksvenson@bigpond.com

Daniel Tonino
(PAST PARENT)
Phone 0408 870 306
dtonino@bigpond.net.au

A NUDGEE COLLEGE COMMUNITY EVENT
HOSTED BY THE NUDGEE COLLEGE OLD BOYS’ ASSOCIATION
Congratulations to the Nudgee College 1st VIII rowers on their third consecutive Head of the River title.