



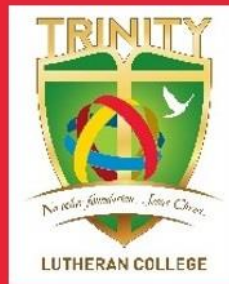
CONNECTIONS

INSIDE

- CIRQUE DE EXTRAVAGANZA
- JAPAN TRIP
- KOKODA CHALLENGE
- 2015 TRINITY SPORT



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Connections bi-annual magazine maintains links with parents, grandparents, past students and other supporters of Trinity Lutheran College. This publication keeps the Trinity community informed of the achievements of students and staff, as well as the college's exciting initiatives.

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Paula Price, Director of Community Relations

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The college
provides a nurturing
environment to
support our students
to take risks and
reach the next
milestones, and
celebrate with them
when they attain
these milestones.



HONOUR ACHIEVEMENTS, STRIVE FOR PERSONAL EXCELLENCE



MRS TSAE WONG
PRINCIPAL

What is personal excellence? The Oxford dictionary defines "personal" as "belonging to or affecting a particular person rather than anyone else" and "excellence" as "the quality of being outstanding or extremely good". Combining these meanings, I would sum up personal excellence as "being outstanding within one's capacity or capability given the personal set of circumstances". In sports, the athletes often measure their progress by tracking their PBs, i.e. personal best records.

We seek to celebrate and honour the achievements of our students and staff because each of them strives for personal excellence each day by navigating within the constraints of each of their personal circumstances to attain personal best for continual progress. Celebration of milestones reached provides

each person with the opportunity to reflect on the journey to achieve the milestones and acknowledge the efforts and sacrifice made to attain them.

Celebration can be seen as the beginning of the next stage of growth and development for personal best. Great scholars, artists, athletes, explorers and leaders do not stop at the celebration of a milestone but look for the next breakthrough in thoughts and ideas, pushing the limits of the body and mind, creating the next piece of art, music, record or concept so human beings can continue to learn and grow in our knowledge about ourselves and our environment.

I have not mentioned the word "success" because success is often linked to failure. Once a person enjoys success in something, one often stops taking

risks or pushing the boundary for fear of "failure". However, if we see our life and work as a journey with many milestones, one can see each milestone as the immediate goal to which one strives to attain, irrespective of how many attempts one might need to make. To achieve one's goal and milestone requires endurance, persistence, resilience, diligence, discipline and practice. The college provides a nurturing environment to support our students to take risks and reach the next milestone, and celebrate with them when they attain these milestones. We empower them with life skills and learning skills so that they can continue to take risks and work hard to attain their personal excellence.

“For this service you perform not only meets the needs of God’s people, but also produces an outpouring of gratitude to God.”

2 Corinthians 9:12



TRINITY JUNIOR YEARS’ CAMPUS SPONSORS

JOY

PASTOR MICHAEL ALFSON
COLLEGE PASTOR

At every chapel service on the Junior Years’ campus, an offering from each class is brought forward and placed on the altar. This offering is collected in the classrooms during the week. It doesn’t amount to much – about \$60 from the whole school each week - but with it we are able to support worthy causes both overseas and locally. One such cause we have been supporting for over thirteen years is a student in the Philippines named Joy.

Joy was in early primary school when we began supporting her. This year she is completing her third year of university. She tells us that she is studying

education. She wants to be a teacher! I doubt the little that we give each month is enough to enable Joy to fully pursue her studies. She would be receiving additional support. But how wonderful for our Junior Years’ campus to be able to make a difference to this young woman’s life that will in turn make a wonderful difference to many others. Joy regularly sends letters thanking us - and thanking God - for the educational opportunity that our coins given in chapel, provide her. ■



A PARTNERSHIP LASTING DECADES

PASTOR DIRK WILLNER
PASTOR OF LIVING WORD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The college and congregation on campus have been in a ministry partnership that now exceeds three decades. In October a special celebration marked our partnership. Thanks to Christ Jesus, for the gospel message that has inspired the ongoing development of faith and families, students and staff, as well as impacting positively on the Gold Coast community. That special event in 2015 surrounds the dedication of The Trinity Centre building (the worship & chapel building on Ashmore Road campus).

It also happens to be the 20th anniversary of the formal constitution of the congregation on campus, even though the congregation was a thriving preaching place that had met at the primary school ever since the Cotlew Street campus began back in 1981. This was our 'coming of age'. Members from the small

congregation at Trinity Lutheran Church, Southport, were the original founders of this congregation and college. Their dream was to extend the blessings they had received from Christ Jesus to bless our wider Gold Coast community. We have not looked back since.

The motto for the college 'no other foundation... Jesus Christ' taken from 1 Corinthians 3:11, is preceded by the thought that all of our undertakings are by God's grace. God has given us an open door to share the gospel - through head, heart, and hand - to make a difference in this part of the world where He has planted us. Today we can look back in thankfulness and look forward in anticipation, knowing just how much this college and congregation have influenced individual lives with the Gospel and God's grace. ■



NAPLAN 2015 AND BEYOND

MRS TRUDY MOALA
HEAD OF CAMPUS EARLY & JUNIOR YEARS

Each year our students achieve NAPLAN results that are above the state and national benchmarks reflecting the growth which is expected of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. For some students, it's just another day in their school journey; but for other students it's quite an anxious time! Formal testing is not what we generally see in a modern classroom, but it is a good exercise and a snap shot of how each student is achieving against their peers in Queensland and Australia. Currently the tests are sat in May and the results are available in August which is frustrating for educators, because most students have moved on significantly from the time of the test earlier in the year and we could not use the data productively for the students' learning.

Although our Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in 2016 will still sit a paper test, in 2017 it is expected that the students will undertake their test on their iPads. We are already planning for this change and ensuring our students are very familiar with an iPad keyboard so that they can type their written task and spelling words. It is unlikely the test will be sat as a single exercise because it is anticipated it will take longer to facilitate the IT capacity of schools in Australia if each conducts the tests at the same time. With the new IT capability, it is expected the results will be collated faster allowing each school and its families to receive data which will be useful for immediate forward planning or remediation.

Congratulations to our Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students for attaining a high standard in their NAPLAN results in 2015. ■



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P: 07 5556 8325 **E:** maree.pooler@tlc.qld.edu.au **W:** www.tlc.qld.edu.au

CHALLENGE PROGRAM

HIGHLIGHTS

In Term 2 this year we sent four Trinity students to Japan as part of the Year 10 Challenge Program. Kelly Gallagher and Laura Gordon went to Reitaku Senior High School in Kashiwa, near Tokyo; and Boree Jung and Michael Woo went to our sister school, Reitaku Mizunami Senior High School near rural Gifu. During their stay the students lived in the school dormitory, attended classes Monday to Saturday and spent Sunday and any free time with their new Japanese friends. On their return, I asked the students some questions to reflect upon their time in Japan, and these are Michael and Boree's responses...

MRS KYLIE DAY
HEAD OF LEARNING (LANGUAGES);
HEAD OF YEAR 6

What was the most challenging part of your stay?

The most challenging part of the exchange experience was verbal conversations with fellow students and teachers. At the start we conversed through body language and small phrases, which brought many laughs as we tried to make out what each other was saying. However, this problem eventually ceased as we got closer and more comfortable with speaking Japanese.

Communal showers were a huge step out of our comfort zone. We arrived at the school aware of this culture, however, we didn't know what we were expected to do. It took several minutes to enter the showers initially but with support from the teachers and friends we were able to clear our minds and adjust to the system. In reality, the communal showers were significant in helping us to make new friends in the end, we've seen and know everything about each other!

What was the most enjoyable part of your stay?

The most enjoyable part of the experience was the welcome and farewell parties prepared. For our welcome, a party was held in our allocated dorms where everyone sat together and we were introduced to each other. It was a memorable night as it was the beginning of our exchange student program. The

farewell party was filled with tears because by then we clearly understood the moments we loved the most. We danced to our favourite songs of Reitaku Mizunami and sang together. We were also fortunate enough to participate in several of the school's sports and cultural festivals as well as special dormitory related events.

Outline any cultural differences and how you felt about them.

The most significant cultural difference we experienced was the powerful level of respect the younger years had for the older students, known to them as their 'senpais'. The respect the Japanese students had for their senpais was different to the mutual respect we have for our older students in Australia. The senpais' pressure did not really affect us as we were viewed as exchange students; and hence we were treated as "equal" friends. Overall, we felt that this method of portraying strong respect was effective in promoting the self-discipline of students.

Something you have learned through this opportunity.

Through this amazing opportunity we have become aware of the importance of: family, making new friends and responsibility as an individual. We have many extraordinary memories, however, we also have some regrets for not trying every new opportunity. We are really lucky and privileged to have been able to attend such an amazing, supportive school that provided us with these unforgettable memories as exchange students. We miss attending classes at Reitaku Mizunami and everyone we met there. ■





BREAKING DOWN THE CLASSROOM WALLS

MR ANDREW MCCASKILL
HEAD OF LEARNING (ICT INTEGRATION)

Learning in the 21st century is no longer bound by classroom walls and dictated by static curriculum. Anywhere anytime learning is abundant in the online world and it not only globally connects our students, but lets them be innovative in their learning possibilities.

Two such students are Ryan Williamson in Year 10 and Lachlan Swan in Year 9 who are expanding their knowledge beyond the everyday learning environment and being encouraged to follow their individual passions.

This year Ryan Williamson was given the opportunity to participate in the college's Challenge Program because of his interest in computer science and software engineering. His challenge was to create a new online tracking and reporting system to monitor the staff at Trinity through their professional development of ICT skills. It involved planning, designing and producing the system that broadened Ryan's knowledge of the software development process. He has gained a fantastic experience through this project and invaluable opportunities working with software engineers and development

teams. With this new knowledge, Ryan is hoping that it will give him a head start and open up new opportunities outside of the college to broaden his future career path.

Lachlan Swan at the age of 14 has already started his own IT business outside of school, and this year took an interest in programming to broaden his market interest. During one lesson each week, Lachlan has been completing online courses through the Microsoft Academy, MIT, edX and The New Boston sites. He has expanded his knowledge of coding languages such as C++ and Javascript, and has also started game development using the Unreal Engine 4. This term, Lachlan is going to develop software to either enhance his business or promote his skills to online employers who are constantly looking for programmers and developers.

As you can see, Trinity offers many opportunities for many different learners, especially those who show an appetite for entrepreneurial skills. Good luck to both Ryan and Lachlan, and we look forward to seeing your completed projects. ■

TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE AT TRINITY

MRS CAROLYN THISTLETHWAITE

DEPUTY HEAD OF CAMPUS EARLY & JUNIOR YEARS, PYP COORDINATOR

MR BRETT MASON

DEPUTY HEAD OF CAMPUS MIDDLE & SENIOR YEARS





In the Junior Years our teaching and learning program is reaching new heights as we implement innovative teaching pedagogies and reflect on our excellent practice. Several key strategies have been implemented over the last couple of years such as our approach to teaching literacy in the junior years, maths strategies for children to enhance their mental computation skills, and a spelling program focused on understanding words and their patterns. These programs are now embedded and are leading staff to be more reflective of their approach to teaching. At our recent IBO evaluation, we received several commendations for our teaching and learning program. Commendations were in the following areas: our commitment to the Primary Years Program, the embedded language

of the learner profile, our collaborative planning with the staff, our focus on developing independent learners, our approach to inquiry and a constructivist approach to learning, analysis of student data to inform teaching and learning, and the teachers' abilities to differentiate individual student's learning needs. All very important qualities assessed by an external body, which in turn improve educational outcomes for individual students.

Middle years' students have always been exposed to excellence in the teaching of literacy. Our outstanding team of teachers has been dedicated to focusing on the individual literary skills of each student to help them to 'unlock' knowledge in all areas. This year we have been fortunate to be able to introduce

more teachers to our Year 6 and 7 student rotations to increase the care, attention and differentiation to support students to perform at their literary best. All classes have been completing intensive reading lessons, and we are seeing significant improvements in student abilities in a range of contexts.

Senior students at Trinity have been blessed with pathways that support their individual goals. Recently we have seen an increased number of learning options accessed by students as we continue to support each student to achieve their personal best. ■

TRINITY ALUMNI

THE PRESIDENT WELCOMES NEW ALUMNI —CLASS OF 2015

MR HAYDEN WHITWORTH
TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



With end of year in sight, on behalf of the Alumni Auxiliary Committee, I'd like to pass on a huge congratulations to each and every member of the graduating class of 2015!

You have just reached a very significant milestone. The life that you have known for the past 13 years is about to change. A lot. Having travelled a fairly well defined path through your school years, you now have an almost infinite number of choices before you. After years of hard work, routine, timetables, rules, uniforms and discipline... you are FREE!

So what now?

Perhaps you've got it all worked out and are just chomping at the bit to get out there and get going already, or maybe (like me) you're feeling pretty undecided and perhaps even a little daunted by all these decisions you're supposed to be making...

Whatever the case may be, I thought I'd do a little bit of research for you, so I asked around at the recent 20 year reunion to find out what your fellow alumni would recommend... Here are a few gems I thought worth passing on:

1) Celebrate - like you needed any encouragement here?! Seriously though, make sure you find a way to celebrate in a way that means something to you. Party (safely) with your friends, go travelling, book yourself in for an adventure or perhaps just some luxury somewhere... Celebrating is an important part of how we were designed to live. Enjoy this moment and create some great memories!

2) Purpose - Regardless of how sure you are of what path to take, ask yourself now what you want to look back on? When you're 70, what things will you have accomplished that might mean the most to you? Most people will nominate an interesting cross section of things, and it's usually more than just a career on its own. So don't wander aimlessly for too long, but also don't get so consumed with one thing that you lose sight of the bigger picture. You were designed to be more than just a robot - give yourself permission to place value on things that are significant and important to you, and embrace a full and balanced life.

3) Dare to go after the dream - don't get to 70 and wonder "what if?". Chances are you're capable of more than you think. Summon the courage and find a way to give it a go!

4) Connect with your alumni - Okay, I made this one up, but in all seriousness, welcome to the alumni community, and please make yourself known. You'll be amazed at the incredible people you'll meet and great networks you will build as you get involved. We'll be in touch and hope to catch up with you at an alumni event sometime soon, and if you'd like to get involved in the Alumni Auxiliary Committee, let us know at alumni@tlc.qld.edu.au

Congratulations again on all you have achieved as you graduate, and welcome to the Trinity alumni community. ■

TRINITY ALUMNI
COMMITTEE PROFILES



HAYDEN WHITWORTH

PRESIDENT, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 1995

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

My name is Hayden Whitworth and as a graduate of the Class of '95, I am celebrating my 20th year of post-Trinity adventure this year. I am married to my beautiful wife of 10 years Jess, I am the father of two awesome young boys Corbin (5) and Ethan (3), and I am living locally in Ashmore. I currently keep myself busy serving as the CEO of Juice1073 here on the Gold Coast, and as the Director of Strategic Partnerships for Christian Media Australia, and also as the President of the brand new, Alumni Auxilliary here at Trinity, which is a great honour.

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

So many memories, so little space! Walking around the school recently, I was struck by how different it all is to how it once was... I remember regularly seeing koalas in some of the trees outside our classroom, many of the footpaths were gravel, and the original track up from the car park was so steep and narrow we called it the goat track... It's all so civilised now by comparison! Embarrassingly, I also remember that when I graduated I had no idea what the Internet was - and yes, saying that makes me feel like a grandpa!

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

I think the stories of our past students are a vital part of the identity of who we are as a school (you don't have to look far to realise we have much to be proud of), and I think the benefit of belonging to a school community like Trinity should extend well beyond your Year 12 graduation. It's small steps in this first year, but I'd like to work with our team to establish some great foundations that allow a strong, dynamic and beneficial alumni community that enriches the college and the lives of those who graduated here. ■



ANGELA TYLER

VICE PRESIDENT, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 1996

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

I graduated from Trinity with the class of 1996 after spending my entire schooling life as a Trinity Lutheran College student. My husband David and I live on the Gold Coast with our three children Dean (11), Ava (9) and Zara (3). I'm currently a primary school teacher at a Gold Coast school and am also working with my parents in International English Education through their study tour programs at Trinity and other Queensland schools. It's rewarding to see the Trinity Alumni become more firmly established so that our school community connections grow, and alumni may have an opportunity to continue to be part of school life.

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

Mr Jeff Minge was my Year 7 teacher and I always remember looking forward to a birthday in our classroom because Mr Minge would compose a funny song just for the birthday student, get out his guitar and perform it with full gusto in front of the class. Something I'll never forget!

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

We are fortunate to be members of such a special community, and I'm excited to be part of this committee where we can jointly build a strong alumni so the door to our school remains open for everyone long after their years of schooling have passed. ■



DANNI FOSTER-BROWN

SECRETARY, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 1996

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

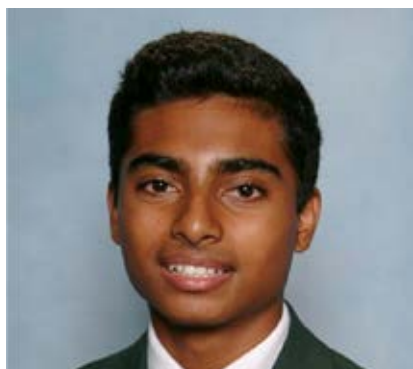
I'm Danni Foster-Brown and I am the Secretary of the Trinity Alumni Auxilliary. After graduating from Trinity in '96, I completed my Bachelor of Education and taught at the Trinity Junior Years Campus from 2005-2013. My daughter, Hayley, graduated from Trinity last year. After leaving Trinity to teach at another Gold Coast school last year, I missed it so much I had to come back as part of the Alumni Committee!

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

The thing that first comes to mind when I think of Trinity is how approachable and friendly the teachers were... Dancing at the social with Miss Arahill to UB40, sitting around a new computer in the lab with Mr Day as he showed us this new thing called the 'Internet', netball shenanigans with Mrs Huth, and of course science lessons with Mr Bowen - who didn't love Mr Bowen?!

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

I'm really looking forward to re-establishing connections with people that I share a history with. Facebook has been great for catching up with a few people from school, but there are still many that I'd like to get in contact with; I'm looking forward to my own 20 year reunion in 2016. 20 years - Wow, I must be getting old! ■



JOSHUA COUTINHO

TREASURER, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 2013

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

Joshua Coutinho, I serve as Treasurer on the Alumni Committee.

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

The thing I remember best is participating in the school musical with all my friends and having the time of my life.

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

I hope to give back to the community that has given me so much. ■

I hope to give
back to the
community that
has given me so
much.



KATE MORRISSEY

COMMITTEE MEMBER, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 2002

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

Kate Morrissey, I am currently a Home Economics and Business teacher and Head of Year 10 at Trinity. I am also a mum of two and have a passion for cooking nutritious foods. My role involves supporting the Alumni Committee in organising events, connecting past Trinity students and emphasising the significance of being a Trinity student through building the past student community.

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

I love it when someone asks me this question. The spirit of Trinity! The camps, carnivals, activities, and all of the extra-curricular events. Year 10 camp, for instance, had many thrills and spills which forged strong bonds with peers that I still share today. Of course, the Trinity teachers are also one-of-a-kind. There are too many to name and they were always caring and encouraging while demanding personal excellence.

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

I have such appreciation and gratitude for Trinity. As I have become older, I realise the many opportunities that were bestowed on me as a result of being a Trinity student. The Alumni's goal is to strengthen Trinity connections and continue the value of being a part of the Trinity community. ■



REGAN MACKIE

COMMITTEE MEMBER, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY
CLASS OF 1994

Who am I? What is my role on Trinity Alumni?

Hi I'm Regan Mackie (Maxwell), class of, dare I say it. . . 1994! Which makes me classic, vintage or just old. A few years after graduating, I began travelling Europe and the UK, settling and working in Scotland. Returning home to start a family, I am now mum to three daughters and a son, all attending Trinity. I am a supporting member to the Alumni Executive team.

Name one thing you remember about Trinity during your school days?

Sports Day; whether I was pleading my case trying to get out of running the 100 metres (which might I add never worked), dressing up from head to toe in House colours, all grades coming together to cheer and support each other, with an overwhelming sense of belonging and being part of a team, with immense pride, and house spirit. Go Karowmin! (Mackenzie).

What do you hope to achieve through the Trinity Alumni?

My hope is to reconnect and create new connections among the Trinity Alumni - engaging alumni to share in social and business opportunities, while sharing their expertise and life experiences with the current student body. ■

WEDDINGS

Ashmore Road campus Library Technician Cindy Mattiazzi married her fiancé, Benjamin, in an intimate ceremony on Thursday 24 September 2015. The sun shone bright as Cindy and Brendan were blessed by Pastor Phil Reuben (Impact Ministries Gold Coast) and exchanged vows surrounded by 55 of their closest friends and family on the banks of the Nerang River with Surfers Paradise as their backdrop. This was followed by the reception at Tribeca NYC on Chevron Island. The newlyweds will celebrate their marriage on their honeymoon with a cruise around the Pacific Islands in December. Congratulations Cindy and Benjamin. ■





PROFILE

AN INTERVIEW WITH AN ALUMNUS: BRIONY LABERTHONNIÈRE (CLASS OF 1992)

MRS PAULA PRICE
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Briony Laberthonnière is one of those pastry chefs who have achieved nearly everything.

Innate curiosity, determination and devotion to precision and control, traits she shares with mentor and past-Trinity Lutheran College teacher, Lorraine Eldridge, have transported Briony Laberthonnière from the Gold Coast's ANA Hotel as a trainee to international attention and acclaim. As pastry chef and owner of Paris based cake design business called 'Prêt à Rêver' ('ready to dream' in English) and Head Pastry Instructor at France's cooking school, 'Cook'n With Class', Briony has been recognised with multiple accolades. During this time, she was also lucky enough to be trained by Head Pastry Chef to three presidents of France, including Jacques Chirac (1995 to 2007), Nicholas Sarkozy (2007 to 2012) and France's current president, Francois Hollande.

An enthusiastic proponent of gastronomy, Briony created a kitchen "laboratory" in Paris. "When I had the opportunity to build and operate my own business, I noticed that there was a gap in the market for fun and imaginative children's birthday cakes, Parisian mums were searching for children's cakes similar to the type of cakes that we as kids grew up with, and Parisian brides were looking for a cake that became the centrepiece of their big day. I thought, 'hey let's wipe our heads clean of conventional cake design,' she recalls. "I analysed cake design and adapted my recipes and expanded around that. Using quality and fresh ingredients, Valrhona

chocolate the best sourced chocolate in France, and offering five star service, "Prêt à Rêver became a cake design kitchen where cakes were delicious pieces of art."

For an innovative pastry chef and instructor, there's a strong grounding in the fundamentals and leadership skills - and Briony credits Trinity Lutheran College for instilling these in her. "I entered the ANA Hotel fresh out of school under the Australian traineeship system," she says. "The college helped to give me the confidence and the foundation that is required to achieve the success that I have experienced over the years; I learned to manage myself, groups of students when teaching and my own business." She feels fortunate to have been a part of the bold and innovative food industry that has taken shape in the last 20 years. "I graduated in 1992," Briony says, "and a lot has happened since then - the rise of delectable French pastries, and what they represent for global cuisine. In 2013 the Team Pastry Australia won the Asian Pastry Cup and came 7th ahead of Belgium in the World Pastry Cup in France. With talented Australian pastry chefs like Anna Polyviou and the role of the celebrity chefs now taking hold in Australian society. It remains a very exciting time to be in this profession."

Briony is now back in Sydney with her family to lead the next generation of culinary entrepreneurs by putting all of her experience into something incredible! ■





PROFILE

AN INTERVIEW WITH AN ALUMNUS: MITCHELL KERR (CLASS OF 2013)

MISS KIRBY BARR
COMMUNITY RELATIONS ASSISTANT

Thriving off late nights at university and sustaining himself with two-minute noodles, Trinity alumnus, Mitchell Kerr has learnt some tough, but wonderful, life lessons since graduating in 2013.

After 13 years of schooling at Trinity Lutheran College, Mitch was inspired to become a teacher. He gained direct entry into Griffith's Bachelor of Education and commenced his studies in 2014. But a fateful day in March 2014 would see Mitch's life take a dramatic turn. Riding his bicycle to uni, with his textbooks in a bag on the handlebars, Mitch had a massive crash when the bag swung into his bike spokes. At that moment he was unaware of just how bad his injuries were; adrenalin and shock had kicked in. A few hours later and after many tests, X-rays and CT scans, it was revealed Mitch had fractured numerous bones, including his left wrist, elbow, cheek and right hand, along with significant tendon damage and bruising to his hands and forearms. It would be revealed seven months later when a bout of pneumonia required a chest X-ray, that he'd also fractured his spine in the bike accident. When asked if he still rides his bike, Mitch said "It's taken me a long time to get back on a bike but I will always, always wear a helmet!"

The accident forced Mitch to defer from university to recover from his injuries, but it was during this time of healing that he discovered his passion (and talent) for design and all things technological.



His favourite times at Trinity were influencing him once again. "My fondest memories of Trinity were web design with Mr Togher, Drama with Mrs Moore-Carter and doing the sound and lighting for musicals with Technical Services – they're all the things I felt most confident doing. I also got my Certificate III in Media while I was in Year 11 and that's actually one of the greatest things I've done through school." To pass the long days in recovery, Mitch used his skills in Photoshop to design patterns, wallpapers and make funny videos, eventually motivating him to switch degrees to a Bachelor of Multimedia, majoring in 3D Design.

A year is a long time to recover from an accident, but looking back Mitch sees this time as a valuable life lesson; it allowed him to discover who he was, what he wanted and what his passions were. "The year allowed me to sort out my life. The biggest lesson I learnt was life changes, expect the unexpected, go with the flow. I know it's cliché but it's true."

Mitch loves studying for his new degree and is now working for a start-up company, Studio 39, developing apps as a story-boarder, graphic designer and icon designer and will soon move into 3D modelling and printing. His dream job would be an animator of video games. Mitch's advice for any students entering university is "Go to lectures. Go to tutorials. Go to workshops. Keep up with the work because it will catch up with you. Don't plagiarise. And don't carry your textbooks on your handlebars while riding a bike!"



“OH MY... IS THAT?!”

20 YEARS LATER, THE CLASS OF '95 REUNITES

MR HAYDEN WHITWORTH
PRESIDENT, TRINITY ALUMNI AUXILIARY

Some things never change, and while the class of '95 certainly looked a little different to last time we saw them in their Trinity uniforms, the familiar friendships and laughs took no time at all to re-surface at the recent 20 year reunion held on the 26th September 2015 at the QT Hotel.

Nearly 50 former students and partners made their way from all over Australia and abroad to catch up with old friends, share stories and enjoy some of the fond memories of the Trinity years.

We were also fortunate to have several past and present Trinity staff join us, with the expression on alumni faces as they entered speaking volumes as to how much these teachers and mentors have meant to them, and some of the conversations that followed providing some of the highlights of the night. A huge thank you to those staff who joined us - we hope you enjoyed the night and we would love to have you back for future reunions!

As 20 years' worth of unique stories were shared around the room, it was clear that post-Trinity life has taken us all in many different directions, but as one of our former teachers put it, "It's just so rewarding to see how well everyone has turned out!"

It was also good to see how relaxed and genuine the friendships were, with many of the group still chatting long after the kitchen and bar had closed.

20 years on, it appears that Trinity gave us not just an education, but also enduring friendships and foundations for life that seem to have served us very well.

A special thank you to the college Community Relations team who helped make the night a huge success. This was a night that will long be remembered, and many have already started talking about the 30 year reunion, so watch this space! ■



10 YEAR

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

MR PHILLIP HINDS
BUSINESS MANAGER

Trinity has embarked on developing a new 10 Year Capital Development Master Plan this year, and will be excited to announce the outcome and projected timeframes around these new projects early next year.

While this planning has been occurring, the conclusion of the most recent building approval was being completed on the Cotlew Street campus. A new Prep classroom and amenities block is the latest addition to the Trinity facilities and will be

a very welcome sight for the new Preps starting in 2016. The building was designed to integrate with the current facilities at the same time, incorporating the new direction in the learning environment and is therefore a more collaborative and engaging learning area.

The addition of more individual learning areas will be sure to excite the many new children who will start their first day of school in the new facilities. To

ensure the children in the two existing Prep classrooms aren't disadvantaged, those rooms will be renovated to ensure the same collaborative and engaging learning environment and furnishings before the start of Term 1 2016.

2016 will be a productive year with several projects commencing to add to the exciting future journey of Trinity Lutheran College.



ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN VISUAL ART

In August, schools across the South East region participated in the regional exhibition of the 2015 Creative Generation Excellence Awards in Visual Art at the White Box Gallery at Griffith University. These awards recognise excellence in Senior Visual Arts and promote the high standard of artwork being achieved in Queensland schools. Senior students' work selected for inclusion this year were created by Selina Cullen, Charlotte Schmidt and Monet Mooney, who are all current Year 12 students. Their works exemplify achievement of personal excellence in their visual art studies this year.



CHARLOTTE SCHMIDT



'Tangled'
Digital photograph

My work explores the idea that we can be confused about our true nature and struggle to reveal who we are.

The figure represents the struggle of understanding yourself and your place in the world. I believe we are easily tangled up in societal expectations, sometimes making it difficult to stay true to our values and passions. The continuous loops around the head portray entrapment metaphorically, suggesting the feeling of being engulfed and trapped in a web of confusion. The shadow creates an illusion of a reflection to convey the slightly unclear form we project to others.



MONET MOONEY



'Fantasma Retrato'
Digital photograph

My work explores the idea that identities are intangible, indistinct, elusive and changeable. Each

individual personal identity is multi-layered and defies specific description. They are not straightforward and logical, but rather include the mystical and spiritual, and are composed of our differences, similarities, quirks, and individual mentalities all in constant flux. The multiple views presented at once suggest that there is more to know, but beyond our grasp. People reveal enough of themselves for others to connect, to begin to understand something of that person, but are left guessing at the same time, and aware they don't fully know.



SELINA CULLEN



'Disconnected'
Digital photograph

My work, Disconnected, embodies the concept of having your 'head in the clouds', through

the constructed cloud hat depicted, and how you lose yourself in the process, as the cloud engulfs the figure. Losing all connection from the outside world, becoming isolated and detached from reality, the figure loses its identity as it disconnects from reality. This piece depicts how we can lose a sense of who we are if we cut ourselves off from the world around us, and the subsequent consequences, for if we don't identify who we are then the world around us will define us.'



PREP TO YEAR 12 BREAKFAST

CHARLOTTE SCHMIDT
KATIE MUNDAY
2015 COLLEGE CAPTAINS



It's hard to believe we have journeyed together now for thirteen years of schooling - that's thirteen out of the seventeen or eighteen years we've been alive!

On Tuesday 13 October the Year 12 students, who began their Trinity education as Prep students in 2003, joined their parents and teachers for the annual celebration of thirteen years of schooling at Trinity Lutheran College.

2015 College Captains, Charlotte Schmidt and Katie Munday, gave the following speech on behalf of their fellow students.

"It's hard to believe we have journeyed together now for thirteen years of schooling - that's thirteen out of the seventeen or eighteen years we've been alive!

Taking it back to junior years, it was the most exciting moment when you were chosen to be the recipient of the Trinity Award for being a risk-taker or picking up some rubbish. When it was our birthday we desperately waited to be called up to light our birthday candle in chapel, while the rest of the school sang the *'It's Your Birthday'* song.

We were always scared of the Year 5's, until we became them. We thought we ruled the world, until we stepped onto the middle years campus.

This was a jump we all made together; from lockers to a walk-in canteen, the Ashmore Road campus is where we have spent the past seven years together. We made some fond memories on the Year 7 Canberra trip. Year 9 we faced our first survival camp, ate bread for a day because no one washed the pots well the night before and our food tasted like detergent.

Senior years was another jump we all took together. We became more independent in our studies, choosing subjects to suit our futures. Our talents have shone in so many different areas we wouldn't have dreamt of in Prep.

On behalf of the Prep to Year 12 students, thank you to our parents for investing in our education, not only financially but in

encouragement, support and motivation. We never get enough chances to thank you, mums and dads, but do know that we appreciate every little thing you do for us.

Thank you teachers, for being the role models we needed throughout the years. "To teach is to touch lives forever" (unknown).

We've come a very long way since that first day way back in Prep. It's been thirteen years of growing, learning and becoming. Growing up in a Lutheran community has also shaped us into the people we are today. Ever since receiving *'My First Bible'* from Pastor Michael back in Prep, we have been exposed to Christian values, such as generosity and humility which we will take with us into the future. With God by our side, we conquered the toughest assignments, made precious memories, both in and out of the classroom, and have created friendships we will carry with us into the future." ■



The 2015 Gold Coast Kokoda Challenge is possibly the hardest thing that any of us have ever done. We may not have been fighting for the freedom of our country in the jungles of New Guinea, but our eyes were certainly opened to the mateship, sacrifice and honour that the Kokoda veterans lived and breathed.

MATT DOWNES

YEAR 12 STUDENT

In the months leading up to the challenge we participated in regular training sessions: 20, 30, and even 40km hikes which were no easy feats.

When the day finally arrived we all woke early, nervous, scared and worried about how gruelling this trek would really be, but still very confident. We started off strongly, sticking together as a unit and setting a steady pace; but this was not to last.

The first few hours went smoothly with the teams arriving at the first few checkpoints together, but by dinner the stress and

fatigue were starting to tell; everyone was grumpy and tired.

Now we were finding ourselves arriving at checkpoints in twos and threes, some even alone. Some caught a few winks, while back in the bush, others struggled on with their gruesome blisters, sore knees, rolled ankles and battered confidence.

At the second to last major checkpoint we found ourselves waiting... and waiting. Some were missing. Mr Breese and Elizabeth McLeish were nowhere to be found. After a time Mr Breese finally made an appearance but still no Elizabeth. We sat, all realising that we had let her down; we weren't there for her. After more than an hour, with still no Elizabeth in sight, Maddy courageously decided to go back and find Elizabeth who was hurt, but still battling on. With everyone now reunited we recognised that we would need to take better care of each other if we were to all

get to the end, and so we set out on the final stages as a tight unit, determined to stick together; we buckled down and just kept walking.

Not only did we make it to the finish line, we did so together! And together we learnt an extraordinarily important lesson along the way... that such challenges can only be achieved by sticking together and caring for each other. Alone we faltered; together we triumphed! It was a tough way to learn this lesson for sure, but by learning it under such arduous conditions it is a lesson none of us will ever forget. It took a mighty 36 hours to complete, but when we crossed the finish line together we shared one of the most memorable events in each of our lives.



KOKODA CHALLENGE PUSHES THE LIMITS



CIRQUE DE EXTRAVAGANZA CAST SOARS TO SUCCESS





MS CHERIE SMITH

DIRECTOR OF ARTS

After 12 months of intense planning and preparation, 350 nervous and excited cast members, alongside 35 crew members, embarked on the biggest show Trinity has ever staged over the weekend of 1st and 2nd of August. During 3 incredible shows in front of 1,700 appreciative audience members, the Trinity Performing Arts cast sang, danced, played and entertained their way into the history of performing arts at this fine college. The show was a resounding success and has received incredible accolades from everyone who attended one of the performances.

Each and every cast member is to be congratulated on his/her outstanding dedication, commitment, hard work, enthusiasm and most importantly, on sharing their wonderful talents so generously with the Trinity community. There is no doubt that life long memories were made that weekend amongst cast and crew alike, as we now look back so proudly at what we achieved together as an incredible team.





Front row (L-R): Shona Jeanneret-Gris (Secretary), Damon Harris (Vice President), Lea Fitzpatrick (President), Fred Cherrier (Treasurer)
Back row (L-R): Julie Swift-Hoadley, Andrea Seppelt, Regan Mackie, Tanya Richardson
Absent: Suzie Vandegraaf

CALLING ALL P&F VOLUNTEERS!

MRS LEA FITZPATRICK
P&F PRESIDENT

Parental support and community spirit have always been strong features of Trinity life.

Each year the Parents & Friends Auxiliary (P&F) coordinates a number of friendraising and fundraising activities to benefit all students of the college, and to develop a strong community.

The P&F needs your help!

Our committee warmly welcomes volunteers and supporters to help us provide our activities and functions – we promise you will have fun!

If you would like to be involved, please email me at pandf@tlc.qld.edu.au ■



GRANDPARENTS' DAY

MRS TRUDY MOALA
HEAD OF CAMPUS, EARLY & JUNIOR YEARS

On Thursday 17 September, Trinity celebrated its 23rd annual Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day on both the Cotlew Street and Ashmore Road campuses.

This event continues to be a notable event which brings so much joy and happiness to grandparents, students and parents of Trinity. The children are so excited to have their grandparents and special friends attend their classrooms to discover what they are learning at school. It is wonderful to see the joy on the students' faces as they proudly show off their work and engage their grandparents in the classroom learning and activities. Many grandparents plan their annual holidays around Grandparents' Day and come from around Australia and overseas to attend. The day provides a special opportunity to celebrate the importance of family and reinforces the very active home-school partnerships which exist at Trinity.

This event has always been well attended and this year we enjoyed the company of over 400 guests who were treated to a wonderful concert celebrating the musical abilities of the students of Trinity. There were many comments about the amazing talents of these young people, and support for the teachers who encourage and nurture such talent.

After the concert, guests were treated to a sumptuous morning tea, prepared by staff, Sandra Mendez-Cortes and Royce Obst, along with the support of parents and students.

We would like to acknowledge the P&F Auxiliary who generously funded the morning tea.

Another fantastic celebration of excellence at Trinity Lutheran College!



JAPAN TRIP





MRS KYLIE DAY

HEAD OF LEARNING (LANGUAGES); HEAD OF YEAR 6

It was with much anticipation that the group of 14 students, along with Mrs Susan Haines and I, boarded the flight to Tokyo, the first destination for the 2015 Japan trip. What had been months of planning and preparation for some and a dream for others, was about to become a reality.

The two week trip was a blend of old and new Japan with school attendance, sightseeing, home staying and sleeping at an inn on a futon on the floor. Along with cultural experiences such as the tea ceremony with a Maiko-san (a training Geisha), visiting the peace park in Hiroshima and the excitement of a day at Tokyo Disneyland, we had an action packed trip.

While at our sister school, Reitaku, the students participated in the annual sports festival, as well as doing calligraphy and interacting with their students in conversation classes. Using Reitaku as our home base for Tokyo, we saw the traditional Asakusa Temple and Meiji Shrine, and modern side of Japanese life was captured by going to the top of the Skytree. 'People watching' was extremely entertaining with the outrageous fashions of Takeshita Dori in Harajuku.

While sightseeing for a week, taking the Shinkansen and all modes of transport, we added two extra Year 10 students, Boree and Michael, who had finished their Year 10 challenge exchange.



We saw the famous red torii gates of Miyajima Island, rode a cable car up the mountain, somberly viewed the A-bomb museum, climbed to the top of Himeiji Castle and Mt Mizen, saw the amazing Kinkaku-ji (known as the golden pavilion) and Kiyomizu-dera temple, took in the tranquility of the Bamboo Forest as well as the Ryoan-ji Zen rock garden, fed deers and monkeys, and we all raced to Harry Potter's World to enjoy the fun at Universal Studios in Osaka.

Japan was full of delicious foods and sweet delights which we thoroughly enjoyed. The activities and sights experienced were an eclectic mix of ancient and modern and the students learned about and appreciated all the Japanese culture had to offer. It was the trip of a lifetime that will hold countless memories for years to come. ■





HOUSE RUGBY 7s

**MR JASON BREESE,
MS RACHEL KIMLIN,
MS SARAH JOHNSTON**
HEADS OF HOUSE

Term 2 this year saw the second annual House Rugby 7s Competition taking place between our three Houses: Strohmeyer, Stephan and Mackenzie.

Rugby 7s is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and with its introduction into both the Commonwealth games and the 2016 Olympics in Rio, rugby nations all over the world are channelling both resources and money to not only develop and grow this format of the game, but to also develop all rugby players whether they be 7s players or the traditional 15 a-side players.

Trinity has been working on developing an elite Rugby 7s program, and the introduction of this House competition is the first step in this process. Not only does this competition provide a further avenue for our elite sportsmen to be involved, it also creates a fantastic spectacle for the entire campus to watch and support.

This year the competition was expanded to include boys from Years 9 and 10, thus each House fielded a joint Year 11/12 team and also a Year 9/10 team. Our

senior girls also participated this year playing Oztag, giving many students the opportunity to be involved.

The most pleasing aspect of this competition was to see the leadership of our students. Our players took control of their squads and ownership over them to achieve a common goal. They showed support and empathy for their teammates and opposition, and were great examples of what leadership at Trinity looks like: students serving each other for the betterment of all.

The final results of the competition were:

1st: Mackenzie
2nd: Strohmeyer
3rd: Stephan

We look forward to the continued growth of this competition in the years to come.



TRINITY SPORT

MR JOEL FINNIS
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

2015 has been one of Trinity's best sporting years in recent memory. In the major APS sporting carnivals of swimming, cross country and athletics our squads have enjoyed unparalleled success.

In Term 1 our swimming squads were outstanding winning the percentage trophies at both middle and senior years and junior years carnivals. During Term 2 our cross country teams worked extremely hard with our senior years squad finishing 6th in the aggregate championship and also winning the percentage trophy. This was by far our best outcome at this carnival for many years. Finally, the athletics season in Term 3 was also very successful with both middle and senior years and junior years squads striving for success and winning both percentage trophies once again. Winning 5 out of 6 percentage trophies at the major APS carnivals is simply outstanding, and all of the students who were selected in these squads should be very proud of their efforts.

Our Years 4 to 6 students were also involved in the annual Lutheran swimming and athletics carnivals and, again, fantastic results were achieved. In swimming, the squad won both the aggregate and the percentage trophy in a dominant display. In athletics, the team continued our fine year by bringing home another percentage trophy.

Our rowing squad led by Head Coach Mrs Jenny Pemberton has also had a sensational 2015 culminating in the squad receiving 16 gold, silver or bronze medals at the State Championships held in Rockhampton. Our small and dedicated rowing squad has once again demonstrated that hard work and perseverance pays off. ■





COMMUNITY
RESPECT SERVICE
PERSONAL
EXCELLENCE



Founded in 1981, Trinity Lutheran College is an Early Learning and Kindergarten to Year 12 Christian coeducational college of the Lutheran Church of Australia Queensland District.
ARBN:051602996.

**COTLEW STREET CAMPUS
EARLY & JUNIOR YEARS**

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