



Alumni & Friends Newsletter



Acknowledgement of Country

Burgmann College gratefully acknowledges the Ngambri and Ngunnawal people as the traditional custodians of the land on which the College is situated. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We affirm our commitment to foster and maintain a respectful community of informed residents, staff, and alumni, embedding respect for the world's longest surviving cultures and communities throughout our practices and programs.

Message from the Principal

We had a tremendous start to our 50th Anniversary year, with thanks to the energy and thoughtfulness of our staff, members of our 2021 residential leadership team, and our enthusiastic volunteers.

While the pandemic continues to present some challenges, we are incredibly fortunate to have been able to run a considerable number of events in Semester 1.

[Read more >](#)

Sally Renouf

Sally Renouf

Principal

Burgmann Resident 2010-present



▲ Principal Sally Renouf with daughter Ava at the Women's AFL match.

Key Updates



CELEBRATING
50
YEARS
1971 - 2021

Back to Burg *Alumni Weekend*

NEW DATES
19 - 21 NOVEMBER 2021

NEW DATES: Registrations open for Back-to-Burg Alumni Weekend, 19-21 November 2021

The ever-evolving situation with COVID has meant we've had to reassess timing for our planned Back-to-Burg Weekend in August. We are now postponing the celebrations until the weekend of **19-21 November** and look forward to being able to celebrate together with you then. Download the detailed Program for more information and **REGISTER HERE**.

Thank you to everyone who registered for the original August dates—we will contact you by email regarding your registration.

Register by 30 September 2021 for your chance to win free tickets.

Save the Date: Luigi's with London (Online Event)

Sunday 15 August 2021, 8pm AEST/11am UK (GMT+1)

Make scones and catch up with Burgies over Zoom. Details to follow (including scone recipe!)

Stay tuned for further international Luigi's dates—coming to a corner of the globe near you!

See video from our Valentine's Day Mega Luigi's >



Update Your Details

Keeping up with Burgmannites and Burgies across the generations keeps us on our toes, but we love to hear all your news! Please remember to **update your details** to help us stay connected.

'Lost Alumni'

There are also many we've still to connect with since relaunching our Alumni & Friends program. Can you help find these **'Lost Alumni'**?



Nominations open for new \$1000 Equality Prize

Nominations are now open for our new annual Equality Prize, offered in partnership with the **indigo foundation** and BillBerry Blue Stocking Fund of the Greater Good Foundation, to recognise a current resident or alumnus/alumna who has contributed significantly in any way to reducing social inequality. **Find out more and make a nomination.**



Nominations close 31 August

It's a fitting new accolade for a College named after **Bishop Ernest Henry Burgmann**, who assisted Australia's then Foreign Minister Dr HV Evatt in establishing the United Nations and drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



▲ *In keeping with tradition, President of the Burgmann Residents' Association (BRA) Isobel Kuo and her mum, Sue Cunningham, both gave speeches at Family Weekend on 8 May.*

[Read Isobel's speech >](#)

Photos from recent events

There have been so many lovely events already this year! See our photos from recent activities with residents, families, alumni, staff and friends:

- **Welcome to Country 13 February**
- **Mega Luigi's Celebration 14 February**
- **Mega Luigi's Celebration - Video**
- **Commencement Dinner 4 March**
- **International Women's Day / Woman Power Opening 8 March**
- **Foundation Stone Commemoration 31 March**
- **Foundation Stone Commemoration - Video**
- **ANZAC Day Commemorative Service 25 April**
- **Family Weekend 8 May**
- **Annual Reconciliation Lecture by Professor Asmi Wood 26 May**

College welcomes new Deputy Principal Ms Cris Clucas

It's with great pleasure we share the appointment of Ms Cris Clucas (she/her) to the role of Deputy Principal. Cris studied at ANU School of Art in the early 1990s and worked as a graphic designer before moving to student support roles. She's the creator of the renowned Faces of The Australian National University Facebook page (@FacesofANU).

[Read more >](#)



▲ **New Deputy Principal Ms Cris Clucas.**
Photo credit: Madeleine Sharpe

When alumni become staff... introducing Charlie Rozario and Hope Dyson

Two alumni recently returned to Burgmann to join our College staff team: **Mr Charlie Rozario (2016-2018)** as College Dean, and **Ms Hope Dyson (2013-2015)** in the newly created role of Advancement Support Officer. Both bring much Burgmann wisdom to their roles, despite being much younger than the College! [Read more >](#)



▲ *New College Dean Charlie Rozario enjoying Commencement with partner Dom.*



▲ *Alumna Hope Dyson now helps organise events like Back-to-Burg in her role of Advancement Support Officer.*

Amelia Zараftis steps into role of Director of Advancement

Ms Amelia Zараftis stepped into the role of Director of Advancement in May to lead Burgmann's Alumni & Friends and advancement programs, which follows five years as a dedicated Deputy and Acting Principal. Amelia championed the development of our inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan in 2019 and led the College's reopening after the pandemic closure of 2020.

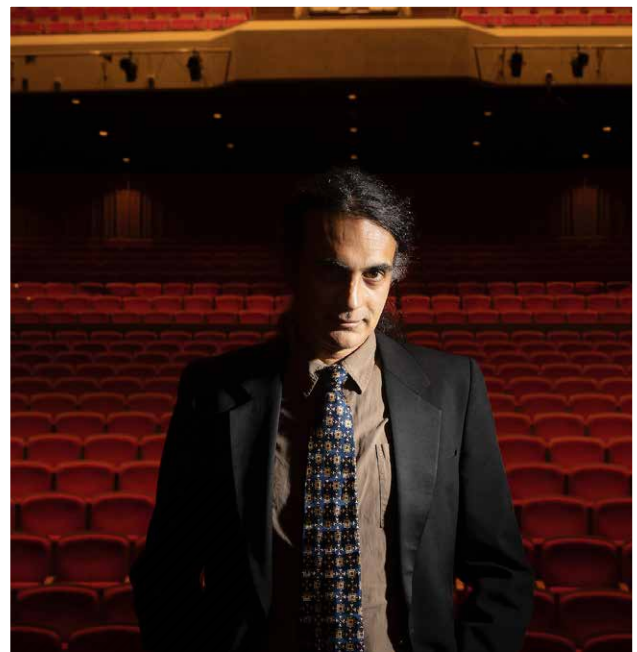
[Read more >](#)



▲ *Former Deputy Principal Amelia Zараftis is our new Director of Advancement.*

Newest Residential Fellow opens up world of music

Activist composer, performer and Head of ANU School of Music **Assoc Prof Kim Cunio** now shares his extraordinary passion and talent for music with the Burgmann community as our newest Residential Fellow. [Read more >](#)



▲ *Assoc Prof Kim Cunio, pictured at ANU's Llewellyn Hall.*
Photo credit: Sithixay Ditthawong



New limited edition print of Burgmann College available

The beautiful new *Portrait of Burgmann College* painted by alumna **Thea Katauskas (1993)** to commemorate our 50th Anniversary will shortly be available for purchase as a limited edition print.

For more information, email alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au

[See more of Thea's work >](#)



▲ Then Acting Principal **Amelia Zarfatis** with artist alumna **Thea Katauskas**.

Alumni in the News

*Ian Darling explores deep themes of friendship in **The Twins***

Famous for his film *The Final Quarter*, about the intense racism experienced by First Nations AFL legend Adam Goodes, award-winning documentary filmmaker and alumnus **Ian Darling AO (1981-1983)** invited a group of Burgmann residents and staff to attend his play, *The Twins*, at The Canberra Theatre Centre in May. The play was an incredibly direct and personal account of the friendship between Ian and co-star Greg Fleet, exploring themes of trust, vulnerability and regret. And to our delight, Burgmann College gets a mention in the script!

Read Frank McKone's review for the Canberra Critics Circle (5 May 2021) >



▲ *Burgmann residents and staff who enjoyed seeing **The Twins**, (L to R) Ollie O'Brien & Jade Cohen (Arts Whips), Assoc Prof Kim Cunio (Residential Fellow), Principal Sally Renouf, Will Salkeld (Arts Rep), BRA President Isobel Kuo, Director of Advancement Amelia Zarfatis, Poppy Thomson (Arts Rep), Lara Nicholls & Prof Asmi Wood (Residential Fellows).*

Brazen Hussies tells the story of Australia's most influential feminists

Development practitioner, feminist, academic and alumna **Elizabeth Reid AO FASSA** is one of the stars of feature documentary **Brazen Hussies**, released in 2020 and now reshowing, which tells the story of the daring and diverse group of Australian women who joined forces to create profound social change through the

Women's Liberation Movement (1965-75).

[Watch Brazen Hussies on Vimeo >](#)

Read also:

[Deep Dive: Brazen Hussies – Q&A with Catherine Dwyer and Elizabeth Reid \(2020\) >](#)

Youth advocate draws international accolade

Twenty-one-year-old Yasmin Poole (current resident) was named **Youth Influencer of the Year** in January with an international award honouring the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. This follows recognition in 2019 as amongst the **Australian Financial Review 100 Women of Influence** and **Top 40 under 40 Most Influential Asian-Australians**.

[Read more >](#)

Freya Wills wins Rhodes Scholarship

In December, Burgmann alumna Freya Wills (2015-2017) was announced as one of two ANU students to win the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University. The Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts (First Class Hons) graduate will continue her passion for social justice and gender equality.

[Read more >](#)

Campus News

Celebrating the foundation of the Burgmann experience

Marking the official beginning of Burgmann's 50th Anniversary year was the 31 March commemoration of the same day in 1968, when the Hon Malcolm Fraser laid our foundation stone. It was also the public launch of our vision for a **'Bigger Burgmann'** and unveiling of the new **College Master Plan**.

[Read more >](#)



▲ BRA President Isobel Kuo & Chair of the Master Planning Committee, Bruce Glendinning, do the honours unveiling our new Master Plan on 31 March.



Moving ANZAC Day Service led by residents

A group of 11 undergraduate and postgraduate residents led a moving ANZAC Day Service for residents, staff and alumni, featuring poems, personal reflections, and letters sent home from the battlefield during World War I.

[Read more >](#)

◀ Joseph Negrine playing bagpipes at the ANZAC Day Service.
Photo credit: Amelia Zараftis

A special visit from the Tiwi Strong Women

During the Canberra International Music Festival in May, we were delighted to host the **Tiwi Strong Women's Group** for a Welcome Dinner with residents, residential staff and colleagues from ANU School of Music, as well as a fireside singalong on the Back Lawn.

[Read more >](#)

Read also:

[Tiwi Strong Women perform ancestral song and dance for Canberra International Music Festival >](#)

[Tiwi Strong Women in Concert >](#)

The Tiwi Strong Women's Group with the Japanese Maple at Burgmann, (L to R) Gemma Munkara, John Louis Munkara, Frances Therese Portaminni, Augusta Punguatji, Katrina Mungatopi, Regina Kantilla, Elizabeth Tipiloura and Calista Kantilla (seated).

Photo credit: Genevieve Campbell



Renowned musician Joe Geia visits the Village

We were honoured to host Murri Aboriginal musician Mr Joe Geia in our Village twice in Semester 1 as guest of Residential Fellow Assoc Prof Kim Cunio, while he helped launch ANU School of Music's **Yil Lull recording studio** for **First Nations musicians**.

[Read more >](#)



▲ Residential staff jamming with Joe Geia (2nd from left) during a visit. Photo credit: Amelia Zarafitis

Sports update

Sport at Burgmann started off in fine form in 2021, with the College currently second in the Interhall Sport Shield standings. Highlights so far include seizing the title of Women's Volleyball Champions, and what is rumoured to be one of the finest hockey line-ups in Burgmann's history.

[Read more >](#)



▲ The victorious Women's Volleyball Team. Image supplied by Sports Reps



Arts update

There we were, in the shimmering light of a freezing Canberra sunrise, knee-deep in Kambah Pool, holding onto the camera for dear life.... If the previous year of Arts at Burg was characterised by thinking outside the box, the first semester of 2021 saw the whole of Burgmann plunging, literally, into the depths of College experience.

[Read more >](#)

◀ The Burg Choir. Photo credit: Paris Sharkie

Queer* update

Semester 1 kicked off with the annual Queer* Night In—a forum for all residents to discuss queer issues, share stories, and learn from each other—followed by Mardi Gras Paint n Sip, which produced an incredible new Pride banner for the Dining Hall (pictured).

[Read more >](#)



▲ The new Pride banner created for the Dining Hall. Photo credit: Emily Osborne

Memories of Burgmann

The Place That Became the Place to Become

...It's where much questioning thrives / of what and why and what's been / and too, what might come yet...

Alumnus **Robin Brown** (1971-1973) was inspired by the College's Foundation Stone commemoration on 31 March to capture the Burgmann experience in a poem he recited on the day.

[Read poem >](#)

Robin has many reasons to remember his Burgmann experience fondly—not least of which is the fact he met and married love of his life, Jill McSpedden (1972-1974), on College grounds. Robin and Jill shared their story with *The Canberra Times*, **The enduring love stories of Burgmann College as it celebrates 50 years.**

Robin Brown and Jill McSpedden on their wedding day in 1976 at Burgmann College. ▶



Afternoon tea with Bishop Burgmann's daughter Dorothy Bennett

Dorothy Bennett, daughter of Bishop Ernest Henry Burgmann, after whom our College is named, was delighted to hear about the new Master Plan and vision for 'Burg Space' over afternoon tea with Principal Sally Renouf, daughter Ava, and then Acting Principal Amelia Zaraftis.

[Read more >](#)



▲ Dorothy Bennett with Principal Sally Renouf & daughter Ava. Photo credit: Amelia Zaraftis

Scones and recollections with foundation resident Judy Middlebrook

Avid historian and foundation resident Judy Middlebrook (1971-1980) shared homemade scones and archival riches with Principal Sally Renouf and then Acting Principal Amelia Zaraftis in March.

[Read more >](#)

▼ Alumna and Honorary Fellow Judy Middlebrook with then Acting Principal Amelia Zaraftis & Principal Sally Renouf's daughter Ava. Photo credit: Sally Renouf



Spotted on campus, former Principal Bob Northey

Former Principal Bob Northey came for afternoon tea in April. Burgmann's sixth principal in 10 years, Bob brought a measure of stability to the College with his tenure (1989-1995), and his dog Melba attended so many classes with residents, she was thought to be the first dog to graduate from ANU.

[Read more >](#)





▲ Former Principal Bob Northey (1989-1995). Photo credit: Amelia Zaraftis

That's College Life

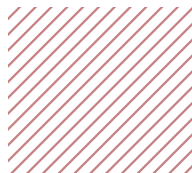


Burgmann CASS
Academic Dinner:
The World in 2071




 **BURGMANN COLLEGE**
Affiliated with The Australian National University

Wednesday, 19th May
6pm-9pm
Burgmann College



Saturday 22nd
Week 11
10:00 AM before
the Swap Shop

**JAZZ
ON
THE
LAWN**



JANET MCKENZIE · JENNY TOPPER · THEA KATAUSKAS · KIRRI LY HAMMOND · EMMA BEER · UNITY PATERSON · LUCY WATERSON

**WOMAN
POWER**

8 - 31 MARCH 2021



Giving to Burgmann



Building a *bigger*
BURGMANN VISION

Almost halfway to \$100k goal for Undergraduate Courtyard Redevelopment Appeal

With the phenomenal support of our community—parents, alumni, staff, Council members and friends—we are **almost halfway to our goal of \$100,000**, to match the \$100,000 contribution of the Resident Building Levy for restoring and enhancing our undergraduate courtyard and BBQ area.

This much-cherished space between the Homer and Barassi Wings is an important communal hub, not only for residents but for gatherings of our whole community.

Please help realise this important project by making a gift to the fund.

All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible within Australia and 100% of your gift goes to the cause.



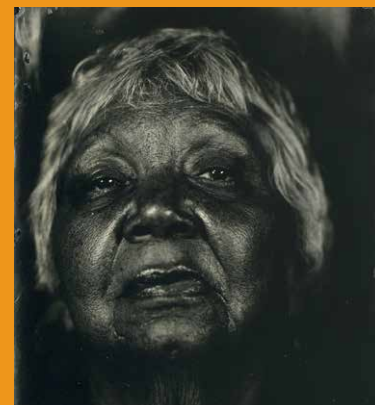
NFF President presents COVID-delayed Hawker Scholarships to four Burgmann residents

All four of the ANU-based 2020 and 2021 Charles Hawker Scholars were Burgmann residents. Established by Mrs Liliias Needham in memory of brother Charles Allan Seymour Hawker, and valued at up to \$60,000 over three years, this residential scholarship is one of the most generous privately funded scholarships available to students in Australia.

[Read more >](#)



▲ L-R: C.A.S. Hawker Scholars Mr Benjamin Nolan & Miss Jae Brieffies, National Farmers' Federation President Ms Fiona Simson, & Scholars Mr Kristian Jongeling & Ms Sai Campbell, pictured with portrait of Charles Allan Seymour Hawker following the Burgmann College presentation in May 2021.



▲ Detail from *Matilda (Ngambri/ Ngunnawal)*, 2019, by Brenda L Croft.

Inaugural First Nations Arts Initiative acquisitions

In 2020, we established the **First Nations Arts Initiative** as a core element of our Reconciliation Action Plan. Our ambition: to purchase significant artworks as inaugural acquisitions in a growing collection of works by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. With sincere gratitude to our donors, we are delighted to announce we've been able to purchase four remarkable works this year to launch this collection.

[Read more >](#)



▲ Benjamin Jefferson, Declan Duncan-Keen, Gregory White & Casey White.

Bruadarach Medal awarded for efforts keeping our community connected

A gift of alumna Casey White (2010-2013) and family, the Bruadarach Medal is awarded to residents showing exceptional entrepreneurial spirit in providing an educationally beneficial experience. This year's medallists are Benjamin Jefferson and Declan Duncan-Keen, who kept our spirit alive in 2020 through BurgFM.

[Read more >](#)

Thank you for your support

Our deepest gratitude to all those who have made a gift in support of Burgmann and our residents in 2021. We warmly acknowledge your generous contributions in our **2021 Donor Honour Roll**.

Get Involved

Burgmann Alumni & Friends Mentoring (BAM) Program

Have you thought about sharing your career knowledge and experience as a mentor? The highly successful **Burgmann Alumni & Friends Mentoring (BAM) Program** puts current residents in contact with professionals working in fields of interest, allowing them to ask questions about career pathways and gain greater clarity on the sometimes daunting transition from university to the workplace.

For our mentors, it can also be a deeply rewarding experience. **Find out more and register your interest >**

A mentee perspective

3rd year Business Administration student **Lucy Coote** gained valuable insights from her alumni mentors.

Read more >

3rd year Business Administration student Lucy Coote gained valuable insights from her BAM mentors. ▶



Class Notes

Find out what Burgmann alumni and former staff have been up to since leaving. **Read more >**

These 'Class Notes' are shared for publication through the **Update Your Details** form. Share your own update for the next issue of this newsletter!

This Alumni Newsletter is published by the Burgmann College Advancement Office. For all feedback and enquiries, please contact us at tel: +61 2 6125 2254, email: alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au