



Alumni & Friends Newsletter

Message from the Principal

After the two years we have just come through I am filled with gratitude and awe at the way our community rallies to navigate challenging times together.

There were many highlights to Semester 1, however the Burgmann Band's *Big Night Out* win was certainly a standout. Congratulations to band members Aiden, Thomas, Poppy, Zara, Bridget, Darcy, Sam, Lily, Jade, Josh, Tom, Ryan and Kirby who worked so hard! These BNO Champions really gave it their all. During their rehearsal nights in the Chapel I confess I was a stone's throw away in my

kitchen having a boogie to Beyoncé with my daughters, Margot and Ava.

In February, soon after our *Welcome Weekend* and *New Residents Welcome Program*, Covid became an unwanted (but not unexpected) guest at the College, as I explained in my speech at the Family Weekend Gala Dinner in May...

[Read more >](#)

Sally Rensouf

Sally Rensouf

Principal

Burgmann Resident 2010-present

▼ The Burgmann Band at Big Night Out



Message from the Burgmann College Alumni Association President

Over the last two years, despite the constraints and challenges of the pandemic, Burgmann's spirit and culture has held firm and shone brightly.

In 2022, the BCAA is getting on with our mission to maintain a connection between the College and its alumni. After all the social isolation we have endured, we decided to commence organising face to face events around the country

starting with our Sydney Get-Together in April. We are working to finally deliver the best Back-to-Burg Alumni Weekend ever! [Read more >](#)

Matthew Lobb

Matthew Lobb

President, Burgmann College Alumni Association

Burgmann Resident 1989-1991

Former BRA President 1991

Acknowledgement of Country

Burgmann College 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.

▼ Sydney Alumni & Friends Get-Together



Key Updates

Back to Burg *Alumni Weekend* 19-21 AUGUST 2022



Update Your Details

It is always a joy to reconnect with our alumni. We would love to hear your news and to stay in touch. Please **update your details** via our online form and ask your Burgmann friends to do so too!

Lost Alumni Campaign

Please continue to help our lost alumni reconnect with us! While we reconnected with 168 alumni in 2021 there are still hundreds of Lost Alumni from every College decade. Please review the **'Lost Lists'** on our website and help connect us with more Burgies!

Last chance to register!

Our 50th Anniversary Back-to-Burg Weekend is a three-day program of events all about reconnecting with old friends and colleagues, and celebrating the first 50 years of what makes our community special. A highlight event is the Gala Dinner with honoured guests Vice Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt and alumnus Peter Garrett AM. The night also includes the presentation of the Burgmann College Alumni Awards.

Quicklinks:

[See who else is coming >](#)

[Register online >](#)

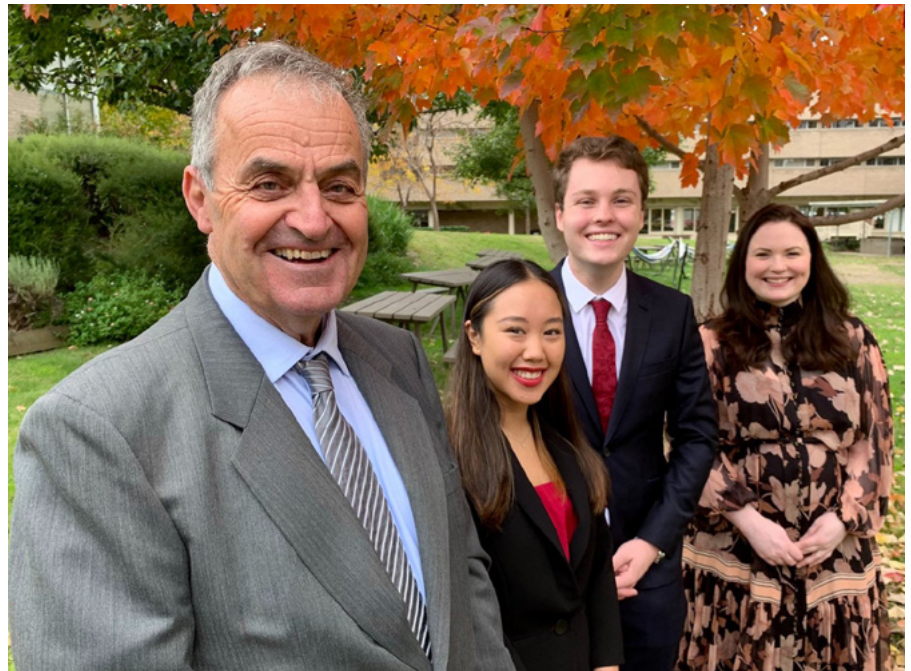
[View full program >](#)

[Download Registration Form >](#)

Burgmann Price Scholarship

Tiana Smerdon is the 2022 recipient of the Burgmann Price Scholarship. Tiana has a keen understanding of and appreciation for the multifaceted benefits of scholarships which by supporting individuals have the power to inspire future community level contributions and change. She is passionate about children's health and is acutely interested in pursuing a specialisation in paediatrics.

[Read more >](#)



▲ Andrew Hawker with Angelina Inthavong, Harrison Oates and Ms Sally Renouf

Hawker Scholars

Congratulations to Angelina Inthavong and Harrison Oates, recipients of the 2022 Burgmann C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship.

The former Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon. David Hawker AO, Head of St Mark's College Professor Don Markwell and Principal of Burgmann College Ms. Sally Renouf recently presented Charles Hawker Scholarship certificates to the 2022 C.A.S. Hawker Scholars.

The C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship commemorates the memory and achievements of Charles Allan Seymour Hawker - scholar, soldier, pastoralist and statesman. Established by Mrs Liliias Needham in memory of her brother Charles Allan Seymour Hawker, the scholarships are offered to capable students of principle and character who are committed to Australia's future. [Read more >](#)

[See photos from the event >](#)



Key Updates

Welcome to Country

On 12 February, Dr Aunty Matilda House and her son Paul Girrawah House performed a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony on the Back Lawn; our first whole-community event for 2022.

Aunty Matilda spoke about the anniversary of the National Apology delivered by then Prime Minister, Burgmann alumnus Hon. Kevin Rudd (1976) on 13 February 2008.

In the spirit of peace and in a desire for harmony, Paul Girrawah Welcomed everyone in his Ngambri, Walgalu, Wiradjuri language, and shared generously. Paul Girrawah spoke about a rich and powerful shared history we all have a responsibility to look after.

[Watch and listen to video >](#)



Sydney Get-Together
Young Alumni Cocktails
Melbourne Get-Together
See photos of these Alumni Events on our Facebook page



▲ **Young Alumni Cocktails at Le Chat Noir**



▲ **Tiger Lin, 2021 College Medallist with VC Professor Brian Schmidt at Commencement Dinner in March.**



▲ **BRA President Bas Brahm with VC Professor Brian Schmidt**

Move In Day

On 5 February, BRA President Bas Brahm greeted new residents and their families with a welcoming message about College culture and participation. “New Residents - I have some good news for you. By coming to Burgmann, you’ve made your first major decision of your university life. It’s an important, and yet from experience - a fairly arbitrary decision in the moment. And in my humble opinion, you’ve made a very good first decision.”

[Read more >](#)

REGISTER NOW FOR OUR
upcoming
Alumni Events:

Canberra Alumni Networking Bingo
Friday 16 September

Brisbane Alumni Get-Together
Friday 21 October

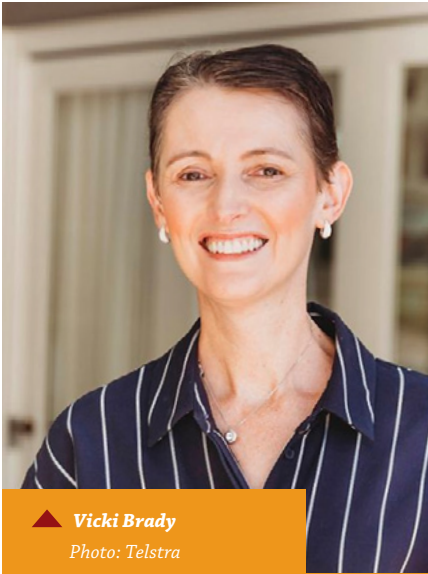
Perth Alumni Get-Together
Friday 11 November

Nominations for the 2022 Burgmann College – indigo foundation Equality Prizes are now open!

The Equality Prize and Emerging Leader Equality Prize (each valued at \$1000) are awarded to residents and alumni who have contributed significantly to reducing inequality amongst people in any of its forms.

Head to our website for more details >
Nominations close 31 August.

Alumni in the News



▲ **Vicki Brady**
Photo: Telstra

Alumna Vicki Brady announced as the new CEO of Telstra

Thirty years after graduating from the ANU with a Bachelor of Economics, Burgmann Alumna Vicki Brady has been appointed the first female CEO of Telstra

[Read more >](#)



▲ **Tara Morice**
Photo: Shanahan Management

Alumna artist shortlisted for prestigious prize

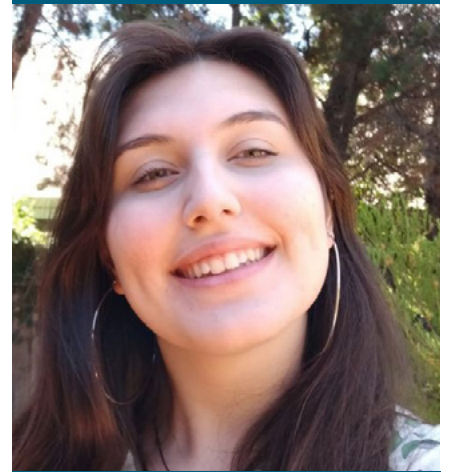
30 years on from the premiere of Strictly Ballroom, Tara Morice (1982 – 1983) reflects on her lead role.

[See more >](#)

Burgmann Resident joins DPOA

Burgmann Resident Margherita Dall'Occo-Vaccaro joins Disabled Peoples' Organisations Australia (DPOA) at the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

[Read more >](#)



▲ **Margherita Dall'Occo-Vaccaro**
Photo: Margherita Dall'Occo-Vaccaro



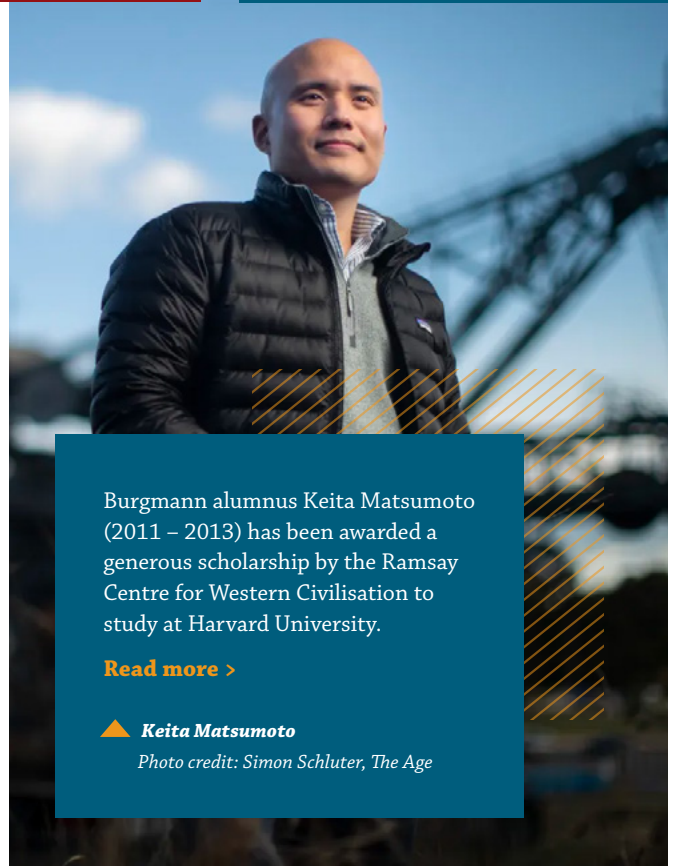
◀ Congratulations to alumnus, Council Member and Former BRA President Dr James Popple (1984-1987, 1989, 1997-2000) who was recently appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Law Council of Australia.

[Read more >](#)



Massive congratulations to Burgmann alumnus Jonathan Tjandra (2015 – 2016), recipient of a Ramsay Postgraduate Scholarship!

[Read more >](#)



Burgmann alumnus Keita Matsumoto (2011 – 2013) has been awarded a generous scholarship by the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation to study at Harvard University.

[Read more >](#)

▲ **Keita Matsumoto**
Photo credit: Simon Schluter, The Age

Memories of Burgmann

Remembering Richard Cook, first BRA President

In 1971, Richard Cook was the first elected President of the Burgmann Residents' Association. Little did we know what an indelible mark one person would come to leave on our community. Richard's values of egalitarianism and inclusiveness are woven throughout the Burgmann spirit and Richard was responsible for establishing many of the College's most defining elements and traditions; many of which are still proudly celebrated today.

Richard sadly died unexpectedly in December 2019. The Burgmann College community holds Richard's family in our thoughts, in particular his wife Juliet, and Richard's children, Alice, Jeremy, Lizzy, William and Annabel. 1949 - 2019 First elected BRA President, 1971.

In 2018, Richard kindly agreed to be interviewed on his thoughts on the College.

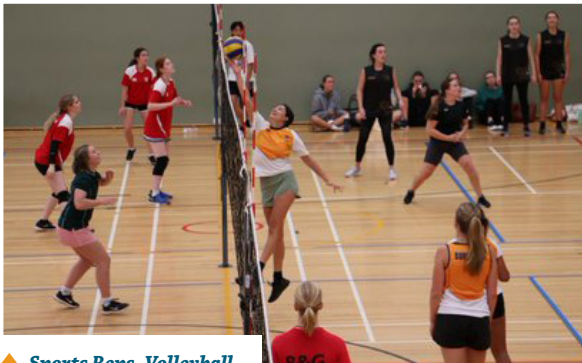
What follows is a compilation of Richard's interview, as well as excerpts from Richard's moving eulogy delivered by his brother-in-law and fellow Burgie, Paul Hauff. [Read more >](#)



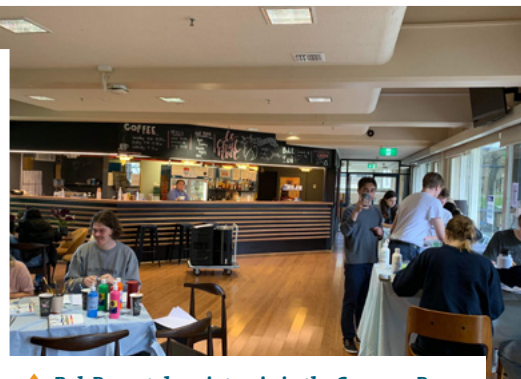
“ Richard was larger than life, he filled the room, had a great brain, cared about others, he was enthusiastic, gave you hope, made you laugh, sometimes made you squirm and shake your head, was often a shambolic dresser, but always made you smile. ”

- Paul Hauff (1972 - 1973)

College News



▲ Sports Reps, Volleyball



▲ Bob Ross style paint n sip in the Common Room

Semester 1, 2022 Sports & Arts Update

Arts

Collaboration has been a key feature this year, with a hugely successful Arts x Queer* book club event, and a Poker Night held in conjunction with the Village. The introduction of the ongoing (and much loved) Burgmann Speakeasy represented one of many efforts by the Burgmann leadership to breathe life back into the Common Room following COVID.

Sports

After two years of interruptions (thanks to Covid), this is the first year since 2019 that Burgmann has had a full year of Interhall Sports (ISO). We have been excited by the significant participation at all the trainings/games across all the year groups.

[Read more >](#)

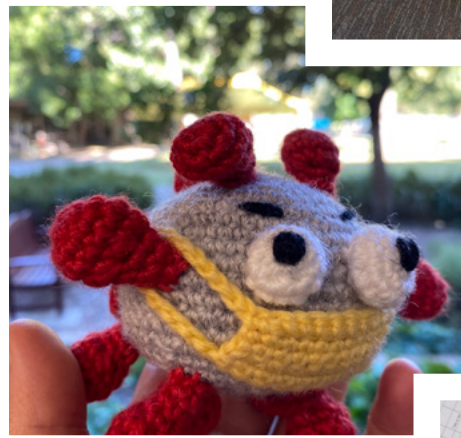


▲ Darcy Morgan at the Big Night Out

That's College Life



2010 - M. DIRTY-MICK SLAVEN
 2011 - BENEDICT ARMITAGE
 2012 - K MATSUMOTO
 2013 - TOM BAILY
 2014 - TOM BAILY
 2015 - GUS FORTH
 2016 - Will BEST
 2018 - Hugh Brennan
 2019 - Jim Macdougall
 2021 - Ryan Phillips
 2022 - Harry Chester



That's College Life

Family Weekend Gala Dinner



Giving to Burgmann

Creating your own Burgmann legacy

Making a gift in your Will can be an amazing opportunity to create something truly remarkable for the future, without impacting your financial security in the present.

At Burgmann, there are many ways your legacy could make a profound difference—making it possible for even more young people to launch their grown-up lives in this special place, or helping to preserve our rich collegiate experience for generations to come. **Every bequest, large or small, has the power to be a transformational contribution.**

If you would like to explore the possibilities, please visit **Gifts in Wills** and download our Gifts in Wills Booklet, or contact our Director of Advancement Ms Amelia Zараftis, ph: +61 2 6125 6890, email: giving@burgmann.anu.edu.au



An indelible mark - Sai Campbell's story



Earlier this year the College produced a new brochure which tells the stories of Burgmann residents and alumni who were supported by a Burgmann Bursary during their years at College. One such story is that of current resident, Sai Campbell, whose family back in Thailand live in a small village and work in rubber farms.

[Read Sai's story >](#)

“ It is difficult to express how much it can mean to receive these supports – it is an affirmation of our value as a person and tells us that someone believes in us and our potential to contribute to the university and beyond. **”**

Sai Campbell (2019 – 2022) Bursary & Scholarship Recipient

[Read our 2021 Bursary Brochure >](#)

Giving to Burgmann



Alumnus Dr John C Mitchell OAM makes generous gift to refurbishment project

Dr John C Mitchell OAM (1975-1978) is unexpectedly realising the aspiration of a self-confessed larrikin prankster, with his generous gift of \$200,000 to support the refurbishment of rooms for Burgmann College.

Known for his passionate belief that the shortest distance between poverty and wealth is education, this gift to Burgmann is in addition to a bequest John has already made for the College in his Will; a testament to the high affection and esteem John holds for Burgmann.

John hopes by taking a lead, he will encourage other alumni to follow.

[Read more >](#)

“

I've put the washing on the line, so to speak—I'm issuing the challenge!

”

Alumna Dr Susanna Price upgrades bar and common room

A huge thank you to alumna and Council member Dr Susanna Price (1971 – 1972) for her recent gift which has enabled the College to transform Le Chat Noir in the common room and make refurbishments to the Grenfell Price Room. The updates have been much welcomed and have transformed these rooms into comfortable and stylish meeting places.



Thank you
to our
50th Anniversary Donors

2021 Impact of Giving Report

It is only with the support of our donors that Burgmann College has been able to shine in the most challenging of circumstances. We are sincerely grateful for your support, which makes both a practical and meaningful impact to the lives of current and future residents, and to the future of the College. **Thank you!**

[Read More >](#)

Bursary Appeal Progress Report

A warm thank you to our 2022 donors! In June, with the generous support of our alumni, friends, families and staff we made important progress towards growing the Burgmann College Bursary Fund, raising over \$36,000 to support bright Burgmann futures. This support means the world to us, as it ensures we are removing the barriers for entry to the Burgmann community, and we couldn't do it without you! **Thank you!**

We want to ensure that all deserving applicants can take up their rightful place in our community.

Find out more about our annual appeal >

Read our Bursary Impact Stories >

Donor Honour Roll

To all our donors and supporters, **thank you!** Everything Burgmann College does is enhanced by the incredible generosity of our staff, alumni, parents, friends and volunteers who invest in Burgmann every year.

See our **Donor Honour Roll >**

Class Notes

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

Where are they now? Latest news from alumni around the globe

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



In June-July, alumnus Morgan See (2016 - 2017) undertook a clinical placement with Lions Outback Vision in Kalgoorlie and the Kimberley region of WA. The service's mission is to prevent blindness and vision loss among regional, remote and Indigenous Western Australian's by improving access to quality eye health care services.

▲ *Morgan See at Broome airport following a three-day clinic and surgery outreach trip to Kununurra for patients in the East Kimberly.*



▲ Ngura Winkiku - Many Places Exhibition

Photo credit: Amelia Zараftis

Ngura Winkiku - Many Places Exhibition

We were thrilled to share the 'Ngura Winkiku ~ Many Places' exhibition as part of our 2022 New Residents Welcome Program earlier this year. 100% of proceeds from sales went to the Burgmann College New Beginnings Indigenous Bursary Fund.

Works in the exhibition are from Maruku Arts. **Read more >**

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