

Alumni & Friends

Newsletter

ANU Alumnus of the Year award

Congratulations to Burgmann alumnus HE the Honourable Dr. Kevin Rudd AC (1976–1977), former Prime Minister of Australia and current Australian Ambassador to the United States, who received the 2023 ANU Alumnus of the Year award. Hear his thoughts on receiving the award, and his cherished memories of Burgmann College in this video.



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 and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Burgies Unite: Burgmann alumni reconnecting all over the world

A recent get-together of Burgmann alumni in London has sparked an offshoot event planned for Singapore in 2024.

Hosted by Burgmann alumni John Dauth, AO, LVO, OBE (1972–1974) and Rebecca Hossack (1976–1977), the November "Lunch in London" event started with a lunch held in a private room at Law of the Land, a traditional British pub in Fitzrovia, followed by chocolates and coffee at Hossack's nearby **Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery**.

"[The event] was a nice reminder of how important those years at Burgmann were for all of us and amazing to hear everyone's experiences and stories, in a perfect setting with great food. I thought it was very telling that three people out of the group had stories of changing a first-choice college—and even university—to move to Burgmann!"

Alumna Kirsty MacKenzie (1988–1991)

Mark your 2024 calendars now, as there will be another

alumni reunion event London on Wednesday, June 5 at the Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM.

"It's not often you sit down at a table of strangers and two hours later feel like you have known them forever—and want to see them again." Alumna Rebecca Hossack (1976–1977)

Alumna Bronwyn Young (1980, 1983–1985) is based in Germany and is interested in a reunion event in 2024 for alumni in the EU.

Two other Burgmann alumni, Dr. Jock Wong (2002–2006) and Adrian Cheong (2001–2002), plan to co-host another meetup in Singapore on Saturday, August 3, 2024, with more details to follow.

For more information about these reunions, or help to organise one in your region, please email alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au.

We look forward to the stories and photos from the alumni who attend these events!





2024 Alumni & Friends Events Save-the-Date!

Download the 2024 Alumni & Friends Event Calendar >

Please add these dates to your calendar!

Sydney Alumni Get-Together: 13 April

Trivia Reunion @ Le Chat Noir: 3 May

The Burgmann Village turns 20: **6 May**

London Alumni Get-Together **5 June**

Alumni Dinner in Singapore: **3 August**

Back-to-Burg Annual Alumni Awards Dinner: **7 September**

Melbourne Alumni Get-Together: **11 October**



BCAA President Update

In 2023 the BCAA continued to help our Burgmann alumni reconnect with their mates, with successful events in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra, and an international meetup in London. Additional catch ups are planned for 2024, and we are happy to help if you'd like to organise an event in your region.

It's also been fantastic to see the strong support of our Burgmann alumni for the college's fundraising efforts. This year our focus was raising funds for the College Bursary, and it was great to see that we all recognise the value of a diverse college community to sustain our cherished traditions.

A personal highlight this year was... Read more >

Matthew Lobb

Matthew Lobb

President, Burgmann College Alumni Association

Burgmann Resident 1989-1991 Former BRA President 1991

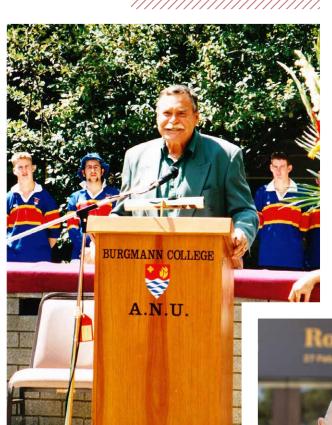


Photo from the most-recent Singapore meetup.

Save the Date: Burgmann in Singapore

Alumni Adrian Cheong (2001–2002) and Dr. Jock Wong (2002–2006) are planning an event in Singapore for Saturday evening, August 3, 2024.

More details to follow!







- Alumna Kate Roffey
 AM (1986-1988) and
 Honorary Alumnus
 Ron Barassi AM
 carrying the 2021 AFL
 Premiership Cup.
- Former Burgmann
 Principals Robert
 "Bob" Northey (L) and
 Dr. Philip Dutton (R).

Honouring the life and legacy of Ron Barassi AM (1936-2023)

Anyone who knew Ron carries a special memory of him. Mine is carrying our 2021 premiership cup off the MCG when we unfurled our 13th Premiership flag. Never in my craziest dreams, when I was sitting in my room in the Barassi Wing at Burgmann studying for exams – could I ever have possibly imagined that I would one day be standing on the MCG with the man himself and a shiny AFL Premiership Cup.

Alumna Kate Roffey AM

(1986–1988), President of Melbourne Football Club More than 5,000 people attended the State Funeral for AFL Legend Ronald Barassi AM held on November 10, 2023 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

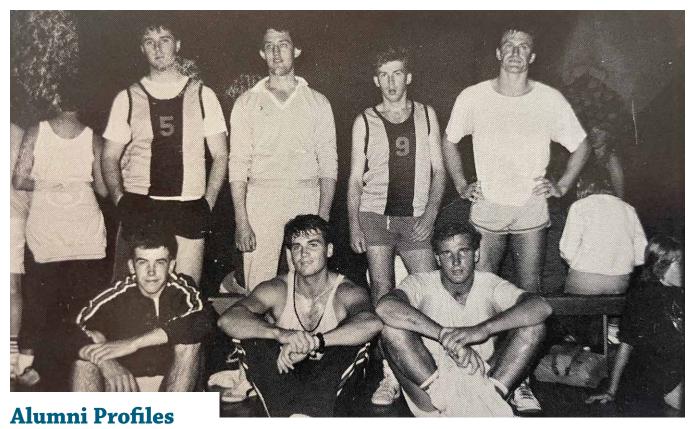
Sports icons, politicians, musicians, close friends, beloved family, and adoring fans paid their respects to the player, captain and coach the AFL called "the single biggest figure in post-war Australian Football history."

Burgmann College has enjoyed a special connection with Ron Barassi since its inception, with students lovingly christening their residential wings "Homer" and "Barassi" in the college's first year; a tongue-in-cheek nod to the scholarly and sporty proclivities of the residents in both wings at the time.

When the residential wings were finally officially christened "Homer" and "Barassi" in 2001, Ron Barassi attended the event and was named an Honourary Alumnus of Burgmann College, cementing the friendly relationship between the legendary athlete and Burgmann College.

Lewis Rushbrook was Burgmann's Principal when the buildings were officially christened, and shared a fond memory of inviting Barassi to the event...

Read the humorous story former Master Lewis Rushbrook remembers when he phoned Barassi to invite him to the Barassi Wing formal naming ceremony, and more of alumna Kate Roffey's reflections on Barassi, here. >



▲ Top: Robert Beech-Jones, top row, second from right, is pictured in his #9 sports jersey.

Alumnus Justice Beech-Jones reflects on his time at Burgmann College

Alumnus Justice Robert Beech-Jones' (1984–1986) appointment to the High Court of Australia commenced this November; the culmination of a distinguished judicial career that began at the ANU College of Law and Burgmann College. We are honoured by Justice Beech-Jones sharing his cherished memories of Burgmann, and proud of his history-making appointment to the High Court of Australia.

Justice Robert Beech-Jones grew up in Wynard and Savage River,

Tasmania, the youngest child of Welsh parents who had immigrated to Australia for work opportunities in the early 1960s.

Beech-Jones was awarded a scholarship to study Science at the Australian National University, though he would eventually graduate with Bachelors in both Science and Law.

His eldest brother, David, had lived in Bruce Hall during his studies at ANU, so Beech-Jones had initially followed in David's footsteps and lived in Bruce Hall. However, Beech-Jones said by the end of the first year, he knew it wasn't a fit, and changed his residence to Burgmann College.

"It was the right choice then, and in retrospect, I still think it was the right choice," says Beech-Jones.

He says his time at Burgmann opened his perspective to a wider community, allowing him to live with and befriend people he wouldn't otherwise have a chance to meet and know.

"Burgmann allowed people to choose and change who they wanted to be," he says. "Many of my closest friends are Burgmann alumni."

Remember you are privileged to have a college life," he says.

"The best way to respect that is to take full advantage of your time in university while keeping your eye on learning.

High Court Justice Robert Beech-Jones. Photo by Oscar Colman Photography. Licensed by Nine.

Alumni & Friends in the News

Alumna Charlotte Young nominated for Young Australian of the Year (VIC)

Charlotte Young (2021–present), Burgmann College's 2023 Cultural Change Working Group Co-Chair, was nominated for Victoria's 2024 Young Australian of the Year.

"Being nominated for the 2024 Young Australian of the Year has been a deeply humbling and empowering experience," says Young. "It is a recognition of not only my achievements, but also the achievements of disability rights leaders such



as Judith [Judy] Heumann, and the people who have inspired me, educated me, and challenged my thinking along the way. I am grateful to continue Judy's work through disrupting the thoughts and systems which prevent 1 in 5 people with disability (and their families) from achieving their full potential as equals."

Read more >



2023 BRA Diversity Committee Chair spoke on period poverty at Prime Minister & Cabinet panel

2023 BRA Diversity Committee Co-Chair Angelina Inthavong (2022–present) was a featured speaker on a recent Prime Minister and Cabinet panel, where she spoke about period poverty and highlighted key facts from Plan Australia's A Tough Period report.



Alumnus Matthew Tjapaltjarri Heffernan nominated for the 2024 ANU Alumni Awards

Matthew Tjapaltjarri Heffernan (2021–2021) is a Pintupi-Luritja technologist from central Australia, and a dedicated advocate of preserving and sharing Indigenous voices, experience and culture through technology. As the lead developer of Indigital, the first Indigenous tech education company in Australia, Heffernan championed greater accessibility and inclusivity for Indigenous users.

After the success of Indigemoji, where Indigenous youth collaborated with Elders on Country

to develop a brand of Indigenous emojis, Heffernan also helped to develop the second generation of Indigenous emojis through a project called Kaytetyemoji.

Burgmann College is proud of Heffernan and his fierce dedication toward preserving and promoting Indigenous voices, and thrilled that he was honoured with a nomination for his trailblazing contributions.

Read more about Heffernan's work and the other nominees for the 2024 ANU Alumni Awards here. >



Photo credit: linkedin.com/in/kateroffey

Alumna Kate Roffey AM inducted into University of Canberra's Sport Walk of Fame

Burgmann alumna Kate Roffey AM (1986–1988) was inducted into the Sport Walk of Fame at the University of Canberra on November 17, 2023, in recognition of her celebrated achievements on the field and consistent effort to elevate women in sport. Roffey is also the first female President of the Melbourne Football Club, and the CEO of Melbourne Sports Centres.

Read more >

Campus News

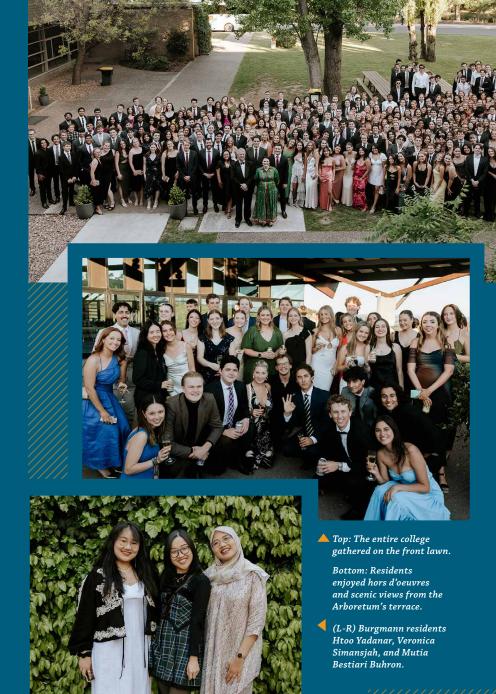
2023 Valete Dinner and Awards

Burgmann residents and staff and distinguished guests gathered at the National Arboretum in Canberra on October 11 for the 2023 Valete Awards Dinner; a special event to send off our graduating residents and commemorating their time at Burgmann College.

See the full list of the Valete Award winners and more photos from the 2023 Valete Dinner and Awards Ceremony here. >

Our outgoing Principal,
Sally Renouf, was also honoured
at the event with a surprise flash
mob by dancers disguised as
waitstaff. Our Burgmann staff
joined the choreography, dancing
to The Black Eyed Peas' "The Time
(Dirty Bit)" —a nod to Renouf's
favourite movie, Dirty Dancing—
while Renouf and residents
laughed and cheered them on.

A warm farewell to our residents and Principal Renouf as they begin the next exciting chapters of their lives as part of our alumni community.





Meet our new College Dean

Burgmann College welcomes Taryn Ahsing as its new College Dean. Ahsing and her partner, Matej (Mat) Stasak, moved to Canberra from Perth after Mat secured a job as a Ministerial Adviser in Parliament House. Prior to joining Burgmann College as its dean, she was Deputy Head at Yukeembruk Village, a residence also on the ANU campus. Ahsing brings her

passion for cultivating students' growth and academic success into her new role as dean, in addition to a strong background in community development, health promotion and student wellbeing.

When she's not assisting Burgmann residents, Ahsing loves watercolour painting and playing netball. Welcome to the Burgmann family, Taryn and Mat!

Meet the 2024 BRA Leadership Team

A huge congratulations to the newly-elected 2024 BRA Team! We're so proud of you and can't wait to see what your enthusiasm and dedication to Burgmann will bring next year.

President | Anaina Langrana

Vice Presidents | Joshua Borland & Oscar McAuliffe

Treasurer | Amy Grant

Secretary | Katie Sheridan



Mens* Sports Reps | Billy Fuller, Xavier Russell

Womens* Sports Reps | Millie Matthews, Taylor Deuchar

Mens* Arts Rep | Jonah Siede

Womens* Arts Rep | Tess McClintock

Green Rep | Rose Dowdle

Village Rep | Rae Siddiqi

International Rep | Chen Li

O-Week Chair | Charley Ellwood

Farewell to Residential Fellow Kim Cunio

The College is saddened to be saying farewell to Residential Fellow Professor Kim Cunio, Head of the ANU School of Music who is taking a sabbatical with his wife Heather in 2024.

The College would like to enthusiastically acknowledge Cunio's contribution to the Burgmann community, and thank him for sharing his warm and beautiful spirit and music with residents and staff.

In particular, we acknowledge Cunio's support of a number of our residents recently affected by the Israel-Palestine conflict. Cunio provided a moving and healing opportunity for some of our affected residents which was deeply appreciated by those in attendance. Cunio left Burgmann at the start of December.





Baking cookies for mental health and elevating the needs of underrepresented ANU students

Meet the 2023 Equality Prize and Emerging Leader Equality Prize winners

Burgmann College awarded the 2023 Equality Prize to Richard "Rick" Cohen (2014–2015) of Worthy Cause, a Melbourne-based charity that empowers disabled and disadvantaged people to secure long-term employment through its skills training and support program, and the 2023 Emerging Leader Equality Prize to Sai Campbell (2019–2022), for her tireless efforts fighting for equal representation and assistance for low-SES students at the ANU.

The Equality Prizes are awarded annually to recognise alumni and current residents who have "contributed significantly in any way to reducing inequality amongst people in any of its forms."

The prizes attract an award of \$1,000 and are sponsored by indigo foundation and the BillBerry Bluestocking Fund.

Read the inspiring stories of the 2023 prize winners here. >





Burgmann College welcomes two new staff members

Gillian Pereira has a background

workshops for adult string engagement, and enjoying building positive and productive

Lindsey Nascimento da Silva

Incoming ANU Vice Chancellor Genevieve Bell delivers talk at Burgmann

Burgmann College residents were treated to a lively talk and discussion with Distinguished Professor Genevieve Bell during a recent dinner hosted by the College. Professor Bell is a cultural anthropologist, technologist, futurist, a Senior Fellow at Intel Corporation, the Director of the ANU School of Cybernetics, and ANU's incoming Vice Chancellor.

Professor Bell reflected on her career and the lessons she has learned, including the importance of iterative conversations, "productive discomfort," and the value of diverse perspectives.





Manager and proud Bundjalung Nation woman, Tanya Austen, was highlighted in October by Compass Group, Chartwells catering's parent company, as they celebrated Black Future Month through this year's theme, "Celebrating Our Sisters."

"Celebrating our sisters [means] connecting our people, and envisioning and working towards positive futures for Black people," said Austen.

Read more >



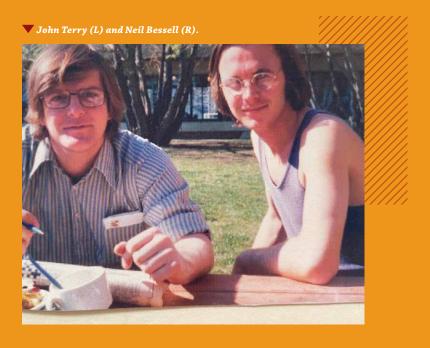
Memories of Burgmann

An Alumni Mystery: Searching for stories of alumnus John Terry

Neil Bessell (1971–1973) with the late John Terry (class years unknown), who was the 1973 BRA President.

responsible for several Burgmann traditions, had a fine

Profile of him, to preserve his contributions and time at Burgmann. Please share at alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au.



Celebrate The Village's 20th birthday

The Burgmann Village will be turning 20 next year. To celebrate, we are collecting stories and photos from our alumni of your time living in the Village!

Record your experiences as part of the Village's rich history. From potluck Dinners to Village Parties, please send your stories and photos to alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au.

Issue 1 of the Project Burgmann newsletter.



CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Kevin Rudd MP, Co-Patron PROJECT BURGM. Minister for Foreign Affairs, former resident.

Mr Len Goodman AO, Chairman of Bur

About Burgmann College



Throwback to 3B: Friendship and lots of laughs

Alumna Zoe Walker née Nawrot (2003-2007) recently visited Burgmann with her daughters, and shared this fun photo.

"Throwback to 2004: Where laughter bounced off the 3B walls, turning ordinary moments into extraordinary memories with these fabulous friends," said Walker.

That's College Life



















Giving to Burgmann

Announcing The Ian Darling Scholarship

With thanks to with a generous gift of \$150,000 by alumnus Ian Darling AO, we are thrilled to announce the establishment of **The Ian Darling Scholarship**.

Invested as a limited-term endowment, Darling's gift funds a scholarship of \$10,000 to support a resident of Burgmann College each year.

Ian Darling AO is well-known for his award-winning documentary films and his documentary film production company, Shark Island Productions, which focusses on crafting stories to drive social change. Darling was awarded the 2020 ANU Alumnus of the Year Award for creating positive social impact and advocating for a more inclusive society through his work.

We are honoured to award an annual scholarship in Ian Darling AO's name, and we look forward to seeing what doors will open for future Burgmann residents thanks to The Ian Darling Scholarship.







- Angelina Inthavong, Hannah Benhassine and Nathan Khoury.
- Rae Siddiqi (L) and Hannah Benhassine (R).

Resident-led "Spooky Morning Tea" bursary fundraiser

On Friday the 13th of October, The Diversity Committee of the 2023 Burgmann Residents' Association hosted a "Spooky Morning Tea" fundraiser, raising over \$2,700 to support the 2023 Burgmann College Bursary Appeal.

November– December Bursary Appeal update

Alumna and Rhodes Scholar Sai Campbell (2019–2022) launched our 2023 Bursary Appeal at Family Weekend last May, and we're delighted to report that, with thanks to the generous support of over 100 members of our community, our 2023 Bursary Appeal has raised \$116,748 to date for the Burgmann College Bursary Program.

Without the support of a bursary, Campbell would not have been able to take up her place to study at ANU. "I was only able to attend ANU with the assistance of the needs-



based scholarships and bursaries from Burgmann," she said. "Burgmann College's support was transformational and speaks to the impact that college can have on a young person."

Since graduating, Campbell has been studying at Oxford University, and has sent an update, which **can be read here**.

There is still time to support our Bursary Appeal.

Donate here >



▲ 2023 Staff Christmas Lunch.

Workplace Giving Program

The Workplace Giving Program is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our staff who, together, donated \$7,614 in 2023 to support various Burgmann programs.

Our latest First Nations art collection acquisition

With much joy and gratitude, we are delighted to announce the purchase of this stunning painting, *Watiku Tjukurpa*, by senior Aboriginal man Sandy Willie.

Read more about the artist and Burgmann's growing First Nations art collection.

To learn more about the artist, his work, and Burgmann's growing First Nation's art collection, please read more here. >

Watiku Tjukurpa, 2018. Acrylic on Belgian linen 910 x 1210mm.





L) Reverend Doctor Lewis Rushbrook, Burgmann Principal from 1995-2005 and 1971 Foundation resident; (R) Burgmann College Director of Advancement Amelia Zaraftis.

Burgmann partners with Gathered Here to provide free online wills

We have some exciting news!

We've teamed up with Gathered Here, Australia's most trusted online will provider, to offer free online wills to the Burgmann College community.

Writing a will is one of the most important things you can do for your loved ones. It saves them time, stress and money when it comes to managing your estate.

But writing a will is also an amazing way to support the causes you care about, without feeling any financial impact during your lifetime.

Please know, there's no obligation to pledge a gift to Burgmann College if you decide to use this free online will. You can still write and update your will for free, no strings attached.

But, if you do decide to leave a gift to us, your legacy will continue beyond your lifetime, and you'll be helping us to sustain the thriving Burgmann College community into the future.

To learn more about pledging a gift in your will, or to get advice on adding a charity gift to your existing will, you can contact the Advancement Team at giving@burgmann.anu.edu or 6125 2254.

Write your free will here!

Thank you for your generous support in 2023

A heartfelt thank-you from all of the staff, residents, and alumni of Burgmann College to those who gave generously in 2023. Without your support, Burgmann wouldn't have been able to accomplish so much, and make so many dreams reality for our wonderful residents.

See the Donor Honour Roll>





Annual Appeal.

















Get Involved

BCAA Committee 2024 meeting dates

Burgmann College Alumni Association meets regularly throughout the year. Please email alumni@burgmann.anu.edu.au if you would like to join our 6:30 PM meetings on any of the following dates in 2024:

- 6 March (Zoom)
- 1 May (Zoom)

AGM 7 September

(5.30pm at Back-to-Burg Weekend)

- 18 September (Zoom)
- 6 November (Zoom)

Nominations for the 2024 Burgmann Alumni Awards are now open

We are now accepting nominations for the 2024 Burgmann Alumni Awards. These awards are designed to:

- Recognise, encourage and reward alumni excellence, for endeavours both inside and outside the College community, at different levels of accomplishment and life stages; and;
- Recognise our outstanding volunteers and staff for their commitment to the Burgmann community.

For more information, or to nominate a Burgmann alumni, click here >



Class Notes

(1996-1996, pictured here in a yellow hat) with her husband, Jeff Anderberg (top row, second-fromright), and their six children.

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

Pam Anderberg

After her experience at ANU and Burgmann College as an exchange student, Pam Anderberg (1996–1996) finished her international relations degree at her home university, the University of Southern California, and graduated in 1998. She is married and has six

kids, and lives in a small coastal town south of San Francisco. Pam and her husband Jeff own their home and run a family business. Pam homeschools her children, of whom three have graduated. She says she loves it when her Australian mates come to visit. These "Class Notes" are shared for publication through the **Update Your Details** form on our website. Share your own update to be included in the next issue of this newsletter!

To read more Class Notes submitted by other alumni, click here. >