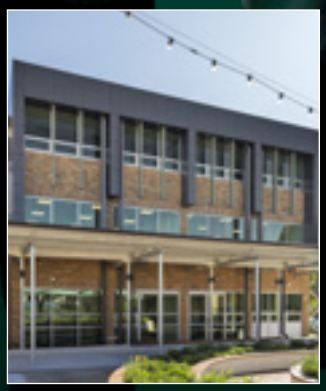
Clayfield College

SHINE

Summer 2025 | **Issue 02**

06
THE EDGE - A Bold New Era



10
Illuminating Innovation



12
Parallel Learnings



22
On the Green



Contents

A Year of Purposeful Progress	4
THE EDGE: A Bold New Era	6
Illuminating Innovation: Entrepreneurship at Clayfield	10
Parallel Learnings	12
Broadening Perspectives: Real-World Experiences	14
The Arts at Clayfield: Creativity in Action	15
Boys' Sport: Gaining Strength and Spirit	18
Athletes SHINE at Clayfield	20
On the Green Lights Up	22
Passing the Torch	24
New Look, New Chapter for Boarders	26
Boarding: A Transformative Experience	28
The Symphony of Belonging	29
Spirit of Clayfield Awards	30
Clayfield Sparkles at Luminous Lunch	34
CCOCA Report: Advancing Alumni Networks	35
A Celebration of Connection and Tradition	36
Old Collegians' Spotlight	37
Connected by Clayfield	38
Building History: A Model for the Future	39
Legacy of Creativity: Honouring Janet 'Meme' McDonald	41
Boarding Bonds: The Hilda Minado Dinner	41
Foundation Report: Our Community of Giving	42
P&F Report: The Clayfield Way	44

Clayfield College

LET YOUR LIGHT **SHINE**

Cover
Left to Right: Finn Latimer, Abbey Hinder, James McDonald and Daniel Gallagher at the official opening of THE EDGE, holding the rubik cubes gifted to all students to mark the special celebration.

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06

THE EDGE - A Bold New Era



12

Parallel Learnings



18

Boys' Sport: Gaining Strength and Spirit



22

On the Green Lights Up



26

New Look, New Chapter for Boarders



A Year of Purposeful Progress

As we reach the end of another purposeful year at Clayfield College, I have found myself reflecting on the many moments that have shaped our shared journey. So much of what we do in schools is grounded in the everyday — the conversations in classrooms, the achievements quietly celebrated, the connections built between students, staff and families. Yet every so often, a year brings with it a sense of collective momentum, a feeling that we are moving with purpose toward something bigger. This has certainly been one of those years.

Perhaps the most visible milestone this year has been the opening of THE EDGE. While you will find a full feature about this space later in the magazine, I want to share the sense of excitement I have witnessed as students and staff have stepped into the building for the first time. THE EDGE has already begun to spark curiosity and inspire new ways of approaching learning. It is so much more than a building. It stands as a testament to the College's growth and commitment to innovation in teaching and learning. It shapes how we will empower students to explore and innovate through hands-on, real-world learning experiences. Seeing students explore the space with confidence and imagination has been one of the great joys of this year.

This year also brought moments of celebration that speak to the dedication of our staff and are an encouraging affirmation of our direction as a College. In May, Clayfield was named an Excellence Awardee in the Best School Strategic Plan and Boarding School of the Year categories at the Australian Education Awards. To have our *Strategic Intent 2023-2027* recognised nationally reflects the careful planning, deep consultation and shared belief that continue to guide our evolution as a fully co-educational school. Similarly, the boarding award acknowledgement highlights the commitment of staff and students who make the Carolyn Hauff Boarding House a warm and welcoming environment. This recognition is the result of the collective effort of many, and I am proud of the progress they represent.





Clayfield College

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Australian Education Awards
2025 Awardee
Best School Strategic Plan
Boarding School of the Year



A significant announcement for our community has been the news that Mrs Audrey Fellowes will conclude her time at Clayfield at the end of 2025. Audrey has been a guiding presence in our Primary School since 2020, and her service and leadership has strengthened many aspects of school life. While you will read more about her contribution later in this edition, I want to acknowledge Audrey's genuine care for our students, commitment and invaluable contribution to the Clayfield community. We wish Audrey every happiness as she embraces the next chapter of her career at Independent Schools Queensland.

Amid these larger moments, what continues to inspire me most are the day-to-day interactions that make Clayfield the connected and caring community we all value. The sense of belonging across our campus remains strong, and there is a palpable feeling of optimism for our trajectory.

As we conclude the year, I want to thank our students for their energy and enthusiasm, our staff for their dedication and care, and our parents for their ongoing trust and partnership. I hope this edition of *Shine* affirms the progress, spirit and possibility that define Clayfield, and I look forward to all that we will continue to achieve together in the year ahead.

Dr Andrew Cousins
Principal

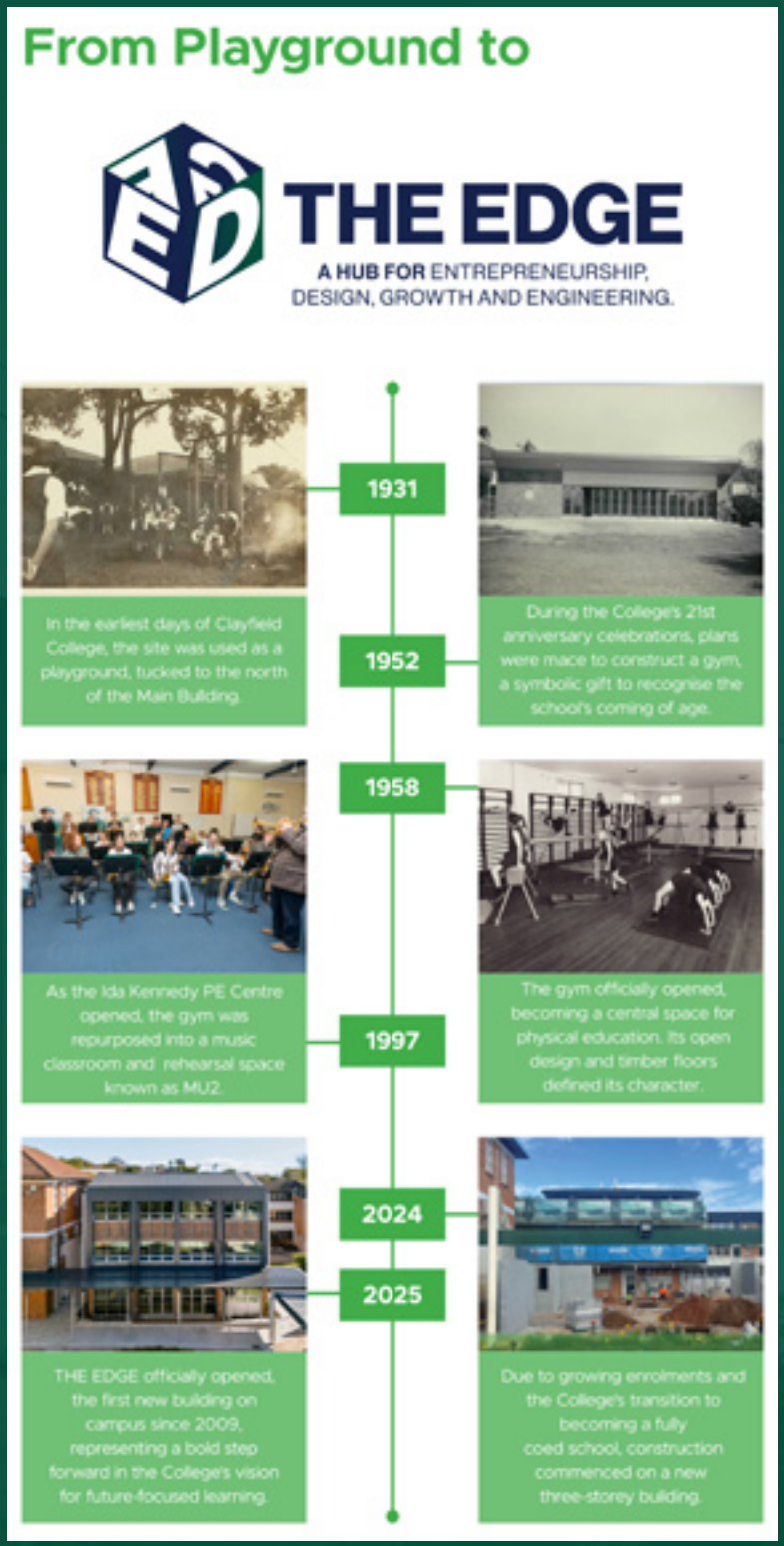
THE EDGE: A Bold New Era

Every school has moments that quietly signal a shift — the kind that reshape what learning can look like and remind us why education matters so deeply. For Clayfield College, the opening of THE EDGE is one of those rare and exciting moments.

After years of planning, collaboration and anticipation, this remarkable new learning hub opened to students in Term 3. From the moment the doors opened, there was a sense of energy and curiosity in the air — not just because this is a new building, but because it represents a new way of learning at Clayfield. THE EDGE is the College's purpose-built hub for Entrepreneurship, Design, Growth and Engineering, and it has already begun to redefine what is possible for our students.



A Building Designed for the Future



THE EDGE's arrival signals an important step forward in Clayfield's journey as a thriving co-educational school. While it serves all year levels, the space has been thoughtfully designed for Secondary School classes, offering an environment where students can stretch their thinking, test ideas and create with confidence.

Inside, students can access six flexible learning spaces, each designed to transition seamlessly between instruction, collaboration and hands-on experimentation. Movable furniture, writable surfaces, digital screens and breakout zones give teachers and students the freedom to reconfigure the space according to the task at hand — whether that is a prototype pitch, a team design challenge or a deep dive into engineering concepts.

At the heart of the building lies the Fabrication Workshop: a high-tech maker space equipped with the tools students need to bring ideas into the real world. Here, 3D printers hum alongside laser cutters, heat presses and CNC equipment. Traditional hand tools sit beside advanced digital technologies, giving students the chance to work across materials, disciplines and design styles.

But perhaps the most striking feature of THE EDGE is how intentional it feels. Every space, surface and learning tool has been considered through the lens of student agency: How can we help young people explore? How can we help them solve problems? How can we make learning irresistible?

> “
> … perhaps the most striking feature of **THE EDGE** is how intentional it feels …

A Community Celebration

THE EDGE was officially opened during STEM Week — a fitting choice for a building so deeply connected to innovation and discovery. Students from Years 9 to 12 were invited to a special breakfast event hosted by the Clayfield College Old Collegians' Association Future Leaders Program. It was a morning filled with conversation, excitement and the shared understanding that this was a milestone worth celebrating.

The event featured guest speaker and Old Collegian Dr Julienne Senyard (Class of 1990), Associate Professor at Griffith University and an accomplished entrepreneur and academic. Her work spans entrepreneurship, AI, innovation, resourcefulness, creativity and social impact — areas that resonate strongly with the intentions behind THE EDGE.

Dr Senyard spoke with warmth and honesty about the twists and turns of her own career journey, reminding students that innovation begins with curiosity and a willingness to explore the unknown. As an Old Collegian standing inside Clayfield's newest learning space, her presence felt especially meaningful.

Her message to students was clear: "Those people who think they can change the world are the ones that usually do. You need curiosity to create and courage and belief in your ideas. Expect more than others think is possible. Dream more than others think is practical. Risk more than others think is safe. This is when you end up creating the most amazing things."







A Vision Shaped by Many

THE EDGE is the result of a strong, collaborative effort across the school community. The College extends its sincere thanks to the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association (PMSA) — including Board Chair Mr Wayne Knapp and Chief Executive Officer Mr Alan Swanson — for their leadership and advocacy.

We also acknowledge the ongoing support of the Clayfield College Advisory Council, the P&F Association, the Clayfield College Foundation and the Old Collegians' Association, that all play a vital role in shaping the opportunities available to our students.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated Project Controls Group guided the building from concept to completion. The College recognises the contributions of Mrs Elizabeth Hughes, Ms Leesa Taylor, Mrs Trudi Woodhead, Mr Steve Wintraaken, Hutchinson Builders, and members of our ICT team, whose expertise ensured the space is both technologically strong and future-ready.

We also acknowledge our Teaching and Learning leaders — Mrs Lakshmi Mohan, Mr Jacques Stemmet, Mrs Chantal Carter, Mr Brett Steeples and Mrs Ianthe Campbell — who worked closely with architects and designers to ensure the educational vision was central to every decision. Their insight has shaped a building that doesn't simply house learning, but actively encourages it.

THE EDGE will continue to evolve as students and teachers breathe life into its spaces. Already, classes in engineering, design, digital technology and entrepreneurial thinking are embedding new kinds of learning — learning that asks students not only to absorb information, but to experiment, refine, iterate and imagine.

During the official opening breakfast, Principal Dr Andrew Cousins described THE EDGE as a powerful step forward for the College. "THE EDGE invites our students to think boldly and embrace challenges with confidence. It is a space built for curiosity — a place where ideas can be tested, solutions discovered and creativity nurtured. We are excited for what our young people will design, build and become within these walls."

The building also forms part of a broader vision for an expanded Secondary School precinct. Through the generosity of our community during Giving Day 2025, the Clayfield College Foundation will now lead the transformation of the Japanese Courtyard into the new Foundation Courtyard — a dynamic central hub that will connect with THE EDGE to support collaboration and provide additional space for students to gather and learn.

THE EDGE is not just a new building; it is a bold new era — and the beginning of countless stories yet to be written.

Illuminating Innovation: Entrepreneurship at Clayfield

At Clayfield College, students are provided with an educational experience that extends well beyond the academic curriculum. The Business and Entrepreneurship Program is a shining example of this – a unique initiative making significant strides in cultivating the creative and innovative minds of the future.

Head of Business, Entrepreneurship and Performance, Mrs Chantal Carter believes Clayfield's multifaceted approach to the subject makes it appealing to all students. "Entrepreneurship at Clayfield is so much more than the common misconception of simply teaching students how to start a business," she said. "It's about inspiring them to think creatively, act confidently and solve problems that really matter. That's at the heart of what we're doing, and we're constantly reviewing what we offer."

The program collaborates with pioneering enterprises like BOP Industries and Future Anything to conduct interactive sessions that spark curiosity and entrepreneurial thinking. These are further enriched and supported by business mentors from our extended Clayfield community. Together, these initiatives provide our students with authentic, real-world experiences that emphasise financial literacy, leadership and contemporary innovation. The recent opening of THE EDGE further highlights Clayfield's commitment to forward-thinking education. It provides students unparalleled opportunities for collaborative engagement and inventive thinking in an environment intentionally designed to inspire critical and creative thought processes. As Chantal explains, "The collaboration booths in these spaces are generating such rich discussions amongst the students. We've also got whiteboard tables, so the students can write their ideas all over the desk, which is always quite popular, and walls with whiteboard paint. When the students are brainstorming, we can just give them a patch of wall and they dive into drawing, creating and mind-mapping. It's really quite exciting seeing the new environment helping to facilitate the creative process."

Beyond the logistical aspects of establishing a product or managing an organisation, Business and Entrepreneurship students develop competencies in critical thinking, problem-solving and resilience. "We want to encourage our students to take risks in a controlled manner, to learn from their experience and deal with conflict resolution," Chantal said. "We focus on fostering key 21st-century skills including effective communication, digital literacy and try to include modern applications like social media marketing."







> With Entrepreneurship, there's so many different strategies to try and various forms it can take ...







Year 10 students demonstrate practical application of these skills through initiatives like the Vend Marketplace. They conduct comprehensive market research, formulate business proposals and present financial pitches for loans. This provides students with an authentic opportunity to operate market stalls alongside established entrepreneurs, so they are integrating theoretical knowledge with practical business skills. "We are constantly asking 'What do the students really enjoy? Let's try to get that happening." Chantal said. "With entrepreneurship, there's so many different strategies to try, and various forms it can take, that you're really only limited by what you think you can do."

There are also plans for ongoing expansion of Clayfield's entrepreneurial initiatives. "We are increasing our partnerships with community mentors and collaborating with Griffith University to explore further ways to enhance the program," Chantal explained. Discussions are also underway with other departments at the College to introduce more cross-curricular projects that engage students from Business, Food Technology, Design, Engineering and Creative Arts.

Clayfield's entrepreneurial philosophy is not confined to the Secondary School. Younger year groups are introduced to foundational business concepts. This year, the Year 5 Entrepreneurship Showcase involved student-generated marketing campaigns for existing charities, blending the students' creativity with social consciousness.

The Entrepreneurship Program exemplifies Clayfield's commitment to preparing students for a future of limitless opportunities, enabling them to navigate and thrive in an ever-evolving global landscape of challenges and prospects.



Parallel Learnings

Mid-year, Principal Dr Andrew Cousins sat down with parents and students at a forum to listen to their experience of Clayfield's Parallel Learning model since its introduction in 2023. Here, Dr Cousins shares some of the highlights from the discussions.



What has been the overall experience of Parallel Learning so far?

We talked a lot about the model allowing students to really understand themselves at a time — socially and emotionally — when it is most important. What also came through strongly was how students have developed positive friendships across the different year groups.

How has parents' understanding or appreciation of Parallel Learning evolved over the last nearly three years?

I think for some parents who had older children at the College before Parallel Learning, it confirmed what they know about our school. For others it was about how well we work with them to individualise the journey for their children. Whether that be around subject selection, co-curricular offerings, or even overseas opportunities — we really work together.

How are teachers adapting their pedagogical strategies in single-sex classes?

We are fortunate to have excellent teachers who consistently differentiate their practice to meet the needs of the students in front of them, regardless of whether they are teaching boys or girls. In Years 7 to 9, the key differences between teaching boys and girls are more about tailoring pastoral care. Our focus is on ensuring that every student feels valued, understood and supported in a safe and comfortable learning environment.

Are there advantages of the model that you hadn't expected?

It really leans into our intent for every student to be known, valued and understood. We can have conversations which may be more appropriate within a group of boys, or a group of girls, rather than a co-educational group. Also being able to develop our partnership with families. When that is strong, really great things happen.

Parallel Learning enables the College to tailor the pastoral and academic provisions for students more sensitively, in an environment that removes gender stereotypes.

How does this influence student identity formation and engagement?

The students are relaxed and focus in class, while mixing outside classes in a co-educational environment, as well as with different year groups as they mature and grow. That allows an optimum experience where they develop a really healthy respect for each other.

Those respectful relationships are vital. From a developmental perspective, there are differences in all individuals, not just boys and girls. We provide a safe atmosphere, at a time when they really need to feel secure to be themselves.

How do the core philosophies of Parallel Learning reflect current research on adolescent development?

It comes back to knowing and understanding yourself along the learning journey. When you feel good and function well, you get great results - socially and academically. The research talks about confidence-building as vital for young adolescents. Being in those single-sex classrooms in Years 7 to 9 provides a great opportunity to support their confidence and growth.

How has your professional learning shaped or enhanced your view of Parallel Learning?

My PhD focused on gender inclusivity in Chemistry in Secondary School, exploring how gender and identity are constructed, and how students

develop their sense of self differently. This deepened my understanding of the importance of moving beyond traditional gender stereotypes, such as simply providing same-gender role models, which can sometimes reinforce the very biases we seek to dismantle. Fundamentally, what students need are excellent teachers who connect with them as individuals, and role models who demonstrate strong values and character, regardless of gender. It is about being a good person and developing to become a good citizen.

Through my research and conversations with both boys and girls, I gained valuable insights into how differently they perceive their learning experiences, motivations and confidence levels, even in subjects like Chemistry, which is often considered gender inclusive. On the surface, their academic performance may be similar, but when you listen closely, you find their experiences can be vastly different. This highlighted the importance of truly engaging with students, understanding their unique perspectives, and creating a learning environment where they feel seen, heard and supported. These insights have greatly informed my perspective on Parallel Learning, reinforcing the need to personalise learning and pastoral care in meaningful ways.

In your opinion, what has been the greatest benefit of Parallel Learning?

It comes back to providing the 'best of both worlds' in terms of the best of single-sex and co-educational learning, when it really matters most.

Next year the first cohort of students under the Parallel Learning model will move into Year 10, transitioning back to co-educational learning in selected classes. How are you preparing for the transition?

We're being very careful in terms of how we can continue to develop their confidence as they head into Years 10, 11 and 12. We have a strong subject selection process where each student has multiple meetings with the Deputy Principal and the Careers Counsellor as they choose their pathways.
We want to give each student the confidence to set clear, realistic goals. To get the balance right between their individual journeys and the breadth and depth of our subject offerings.

Broadening Perspectives: Real-World Experiences

At Clayfield College, trips and tours are an important part of student life, offering meaningful opportunities for growth, connection and real-world learning. Throughout 2025, our students embraced once-in-a-lifetime experiences across Australia and around the globe. These experiences nurture independence, deepen cultural understanding and broaden students' perspectives beyond the classroom, a true reflection of our *Strategic Pillar: Learning from Experiences.*

Cambridge Scholars' Programme – Learning at a Global Level

This year, ten students in Years 9 and 10 spent a fortnight at the University of Cambridge, immersing themselves in lectures on global leadership, critical thinking and international relations. They explored historic sites, completed assignments in ancient courtyards and even participated in mock interviews and entrance-style assessments. It was an extraordinary opportunity to experience academic life at one of the world's most renowned institutions and to form friendships with peers from across the globe.

Exchange Programs – Building Connections Beyond Borders

Five Year 8 students enjoyed an enriching exchange at Pymble Ladies' College, attending classes, forming strong connections and exploring Sydney landmarks including Darling Harbour, Circular Quay, Luna Park, The Rocks Markets and the dazzling Vivid Festival. Evenings with warm, welcoming host families created memories to last a lifetime.

Four Year 10 students embraced boarding life in Canada during their exchange at Trafalgar Castle School. They discovered iconic destinations such as Niagara Falls, the CN Tower and Whistler's snow-covered slopes — and even had the rare thrill of spotting a grizzly bear. This immersive experience fostered both cultural enrichment and personal confidence.

Spanish Tour – Immersed in Culture and Language

During the Term 3 holidays, students embarked on a cultural journey through Barcelona, Valencia and Madrid. Highlights included exploring Montserrat and its Black Madonna, walking through the Gothic Quarter, visiting La Sagrada Familia, celebrating a birthday with churros and riding bikes through Valencia's Turia Gardens. In Madrid, students immersed themselves in language classes and visited iconic sites such as Puerta del Sol and the Royal Palace. This tour broadened horizons, strengthened language skills and deepened friendships.

Duke of Edinburgh Sailing Expedition – Learning Through Adventure

In October, 14 students completed a six-day sailing expedition to Stradbroke Island as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Guided by skippers from Blue Peter Australia, they learned to sail, practised navigation and gained essential first aid skills. Life on board and on shore brought daily challenges, from cooking meals to navigating tides as a team, strengthening confidence, resilience and leadership. Congratulations to all participants working towards their Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards.






The Arts at Clayfield: **Creativity in Action**

Guided by our philosophy of *Arts for All* and aligned with our *Strategic Pillar: Learning from Experiences*, the Arts at Clayfield continue to inspire curiosity, confidence and creativity. Our programs provide meaningful opportunities for students to explore, perform and create in ways that enrich their education and nurture a lifelong appreciation for the Arts. These experiences help students thrive in an ever-changing world while celebrating individuality and self-expression.

Arts Day

Arts Day 2025 was a bold celebration of imagination, anchored by the inspiring theme *Be Fearless – Unleash Your Emotions*. From early rehearsals to the final performance, the campus buzzed with colour, music and movement. Students showcased their talents in the House Choral and Dance Competitions, judged by industry professionals Natasha Veselinovic and Ella Giammichele. Engaging workshops in musical theatre, jazz dance, stage combat, media, storyboarding and even Venezuelan and Spanish cooking ensured there was something for everyone, bringing the Arts to life.











Opus Concert Series

Throughout the year, the Opus Concert Series brought together our talented musicians for four inspiring performances, each showcasing the depth of musical talent within our College. A highlight was the opportunity for our students to perform at Saint Andrew's Uniting Church. The exceptional, natural acoustics and beautiful historical setting provided the perfect backdrop for our students to perform a blended program featuring classical masterpieces, contemporary favourites and even original compositions.





LUX 25 Exhibition

The Clayfield community gathered once again to celebrate LUX 25, our annual Art Exhibition and Showcase. When rain required a last-minute shift indoors, the LRC, Chapel and Black Box Studio were transformed into vibrant gallery and performance spaces. The evening featured expressive works across drama, dance, music and visual art, including the impressive final pieces of our Year 12 Visual Art graduates, a fitting finale to their creative journeys.

Professional Partnerships

Our long-standing partnership with Opera Queensland continues to provide students with extraordinary opportunities to learn from professionals. This year, students participated in workshops and masterclasses led by celebrated baritone Jason Barry-Smith, gaining insights into vocal technique. Opera Queensland also supported College initiatives by adjudicating performances and presenting *The Adventures of Figaro* for our Primary School students, which was a magical introduction to the world of opera!

















Boys' Sport: Gaining Strength and Spirit



Welcoming two classes of Year 7 boys in 2025, and a third class of Year 5 students, has provided an exciting opportunity to boost the Sports Program at Clayfield College across both the Primary and Secondary Schools.

Boys in Years 2 to 6 currently compete for the Britton Shield in Aquathlon, Basketball, Cricket, Cross Country, Football, Swimming and Touch Football. However, this year, they also had the chance to hone their skills in AFL, with the popular sport added to the Britton Shield line-up for the first time. Training twice a week for each one-day competition, the boys rotate through two Sports per term, with the opportunity to strengthen their abilities in both individual and team pursuits.

Head of Sport and Activities, Ms Cerene Hughes, said the Britton Shield — and the equivalent Andrews Cup for girls — is helping develop all-round skills in Primary School that can be built upon in Secondary School. "Particularly in those traditionally unisex sports like Aquathlon (run-swim-run) it gives incentive for our students moving into the high school years to strive further in those specialty sports, and hopefully Triathlon will be a Secondary sport we can offer in the future."

Boys within the Secondary School participate in Clayfield's Club Sport Pathways Program. Club pathways allow Clayfield to enter its own teams into competitions outside of the College and include Basketball, Tennis and Touch Football at this stage.

"One thing we've been offering the boys with great success is club Basketball," Cerene said. "We've gone from one team initially, to three boys' teams in the competition that we're associated with, and they include players from Years 5 to 9."

Another exciting addition this year has been the opportunity for boys (and girls) in Years 7 to 9 to try Mountain Biking as an Adventure Sport, with Clayfield having entered events in the Rocky Trail Academy Series. This also follows the successful introduction of PMSA Sailing last year, where students completed a pre-requisite Learn to Sail course, before representing Clayfield in Fleet Racing and Teams Racing. In 2026, there will also be the exciting opportunity for boys and girls to participate in Club Fustal as part of the VETO Sports School Futsal League.

"The way we look at it is to provide experiences, so that when students graduate from the College, they've been exposed to these wonderful samplings of not only a variety of sports, but incredible experiences across all aspects of those sports."

In anticipation of additional sports being offered, Cerene also revamped the Secondary Strength and Conditioning Program in 2024 to better engage the boys in training leading up to competitions. 'Power Pavilion' sessions involved weights programs designed more specifically for the boys, and the traditional cardio room became better known as the 'Endurance Zone'.

"We have four strength and conditioning coaches across the College who write programs specific to each student and the sports they are focused on," Cerene said. The programs are adjusted every six weeks as the students improve or choose to work on different aspects of their training. "This has been really successful and we are continuing to refine the program to ensure it caters to individual needs within each sport."











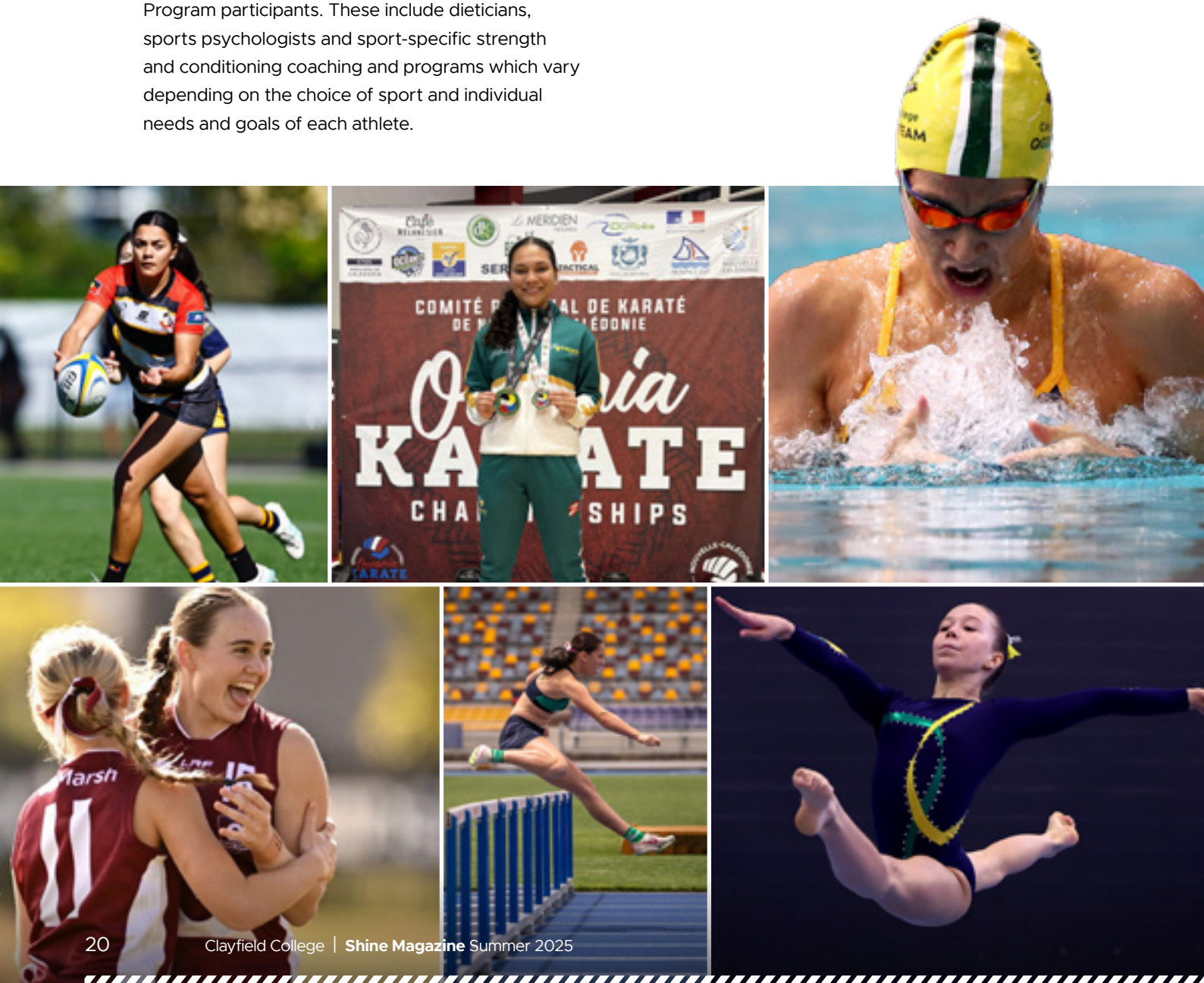
Athletes SHINE at Clayfield

Clayfield College's Athlete Support and Enrichment Program, SHINE, allows students to balance their academic and social commitments with their sporting aspirations and training. This may involve the opportunity to train during school hours or to have scheduled study lessons to focus on the learning time they miss owing to extensive training commitments.

Head of Sport and Activities, Ms Cerene Hughes, says the priority is to support students on their potential higher performance pathway. "It is also about how we enrich them so that when they leave school, they are better equipped in terms of their all-round athlete development and any association they have been identified for, in terms of having a future in their sport," she said. "It is very much a point of difference for Clayfield."

Supplementary services are also available to SHINE Program participants. These include dieticians, sports psychologists and sport-specific strength and conditioning coaching and programs which vary depending on the choice of sport and individual needs and goals of each athlete.

There are over 50 students participating in the SHINE Program at Clayfield across a wide variety of Sports, including AFL, Artistic Gymnastics, Athletics, Cheerleading, Equestrian, Karate and Swimming. It is expected that a student in the program be at a state or national representation level (or equivalent). Each participant's timetable is constructed and managed by Cerene in close consultation with the Academic Team.



Grace **Hunter** (Year 7)

Sport
Track and Field, Cross Country, Football

What does your current training program/ commitments look like?
I train at least 17 hours per week, which includes running, Football training and games, as well as strength and conditioning sessions.

How has the SHINE Program supported you to help you achieve/work towards your academic and sporting aspirations?
The SHINE Program has given me the opportunity to complete assignments and study during school hours, which helps me stay on top of my academic work. Access to programs such as strength and conditioning and support from sports psychologists has also been extremely helpful.

What do you enjoy most about being part of the SHINE Program?
I enjoy the opportunities it provides and being part of such a supportive community. It is incredibly helpful to be surrounded by people who understand the commitment needed to balance training demands with academic achievement.

What has been your proudest achievement to date since being part of the SHINE Program?
Winning State Cross Country and placing fourth at National Cross Country this year.

What are your personal goals and ambitions in your chosen sport?
In the short term, I want to keep working hard, improving, and hopefully continue making State teams. Long term, I aspire to compete at the Olympics as a runner or play for the Matildas.

Michael **Maddalena** (Year 9)

Sport
Tennis

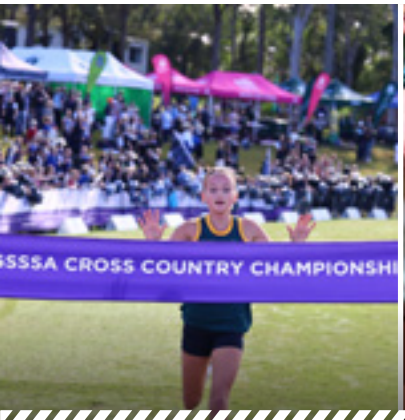
What does your current training program/ commitments look like?
My current training program involves Tennis training every school morning from 6:30am to 8:00am. I also complete strength and conditioning sessions during school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:20pm to 1:10pm.

How has the SHINE Program supported you to achieve or work towards your academic and sporting aspirations?
The SHINE Program has supported me by providing morning and afternoon opportunities to continually improve my Tennis. It has also helped me develop greater discipline and commitment towards both my academic and sporting goals.

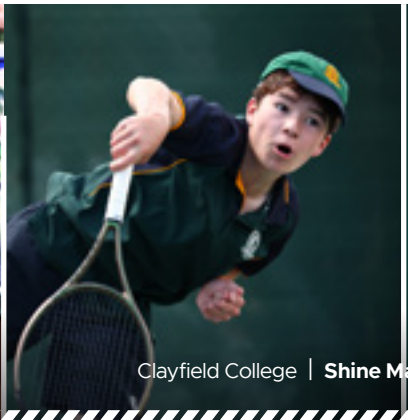
What do you enjoy most about being part of the SHINE Program?
Having the opportunity to continually improve my Tennis every day, while also attending a school where I can learn and grow.

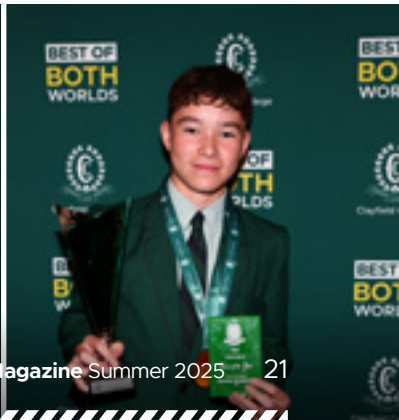
What has been your proudest achievement to date since being part of the SHINE Program?
My proudest achievement was being selected for the Queensland team in 2024 to represent my State against others in Darwin. The selection was based on a competition of 64 players, with the top seven making the team, I finished sixth.

What are your personal goals and ambitions in your chosen sport?
My personal goals in Tennis are to compete on the Pro Tour and play Tennis for a living. I want to become the best in the world and earn my place in history.









On the Green Lights Up

Showcasing some of Australia's music icons, the musical prowess of Clayfield students and the warmth of our community, On the Green has become the flagship event on the College calendar.

Each year, more than 1,500 guests gather to share an afternoon brimming with music, laughter and connection. Behind the scenes, there is another facet to the event that enriches the learning journey for Clayfield music students.

In 2024, ARIA Award-winning singer-songwriter Kate Miller-Heidke graced the On the Green stage with her remarkable artistry. Before her performance, Primary and Secondary students participated in a special Open Rehearsal and Q&A with Kate, gaining invaluable insights while soaking up her warmth and wisdom.

She went on to delight the audience with performances that included collaborations with Year 6 students Leila Geere and Ruby Cao, Allegria Chamber Strings, and members of Canzona. Kate and the student ensembles brought a captivating energy that had everyone in the crowd up and dancing.

This year, On the Green welcomed Australian music legend Kate Ceberano who brought her trademark warmth and authenticity to her performance. Like the previous year, music students had the rare opportunity to take part in a private workshop and rehearsal with Kate, gaining hands-on experience in staging, musical direction and performance. For many of the lucky students, it became more than just a rehearsal; it was a proper masterclass in creativity, professionalism and artistic collaboration.

Kate then performed alongside Clayfield's Viotti Strings, Brass and Wind students and vocal ensembles Ciao Bella, Ragazzi and Canzona, a collaboration which showcased the incredible breadth of musical talent within our College. A highlight of the afternoon came when Year 12 student Georgia Johnston joined Kate for a moving duet, creating a moment that both she and the audience will never forget.

Adding to the excitement, the supporting line-up featured Clayfield musicians Ella Jesson-McIntryre and Caitlin Southwell, alongside performances by Chloe Noon (Class of 2024), the Brisbane City Big Band, the Clayfield College Big Band and local artist Jame Prendergast.

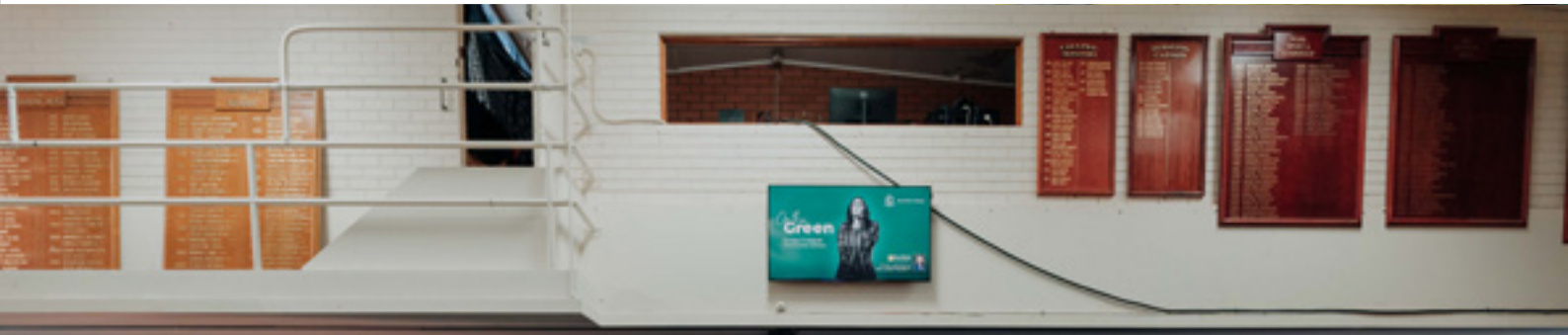
Beyond the stage, On the Green offered something for everyone — raffles, children's activities and an irresistible array of food and drink. Families relaxed on picnic blankets as they enjoyed fare from Briz Wood Fired Pizza, SoCal Tacos, House of Poffertjes and Flavours of Eataly, along with cheese boxes prepared by the Parents & Friends Association and refreshments from Aether Beer, New Tricks Gin and the ever-popular Champagne Bar.

Reflecting on the event, Principal Dr Andrew Cousins shared, "On the Green has evolved into a celebration that unites our community in joy and pride. When we come together, great things happen — and that spirit was evident throughout the evening as our College truly let its light shine."

On the Green would not be possible without the support of the Clayfield College Foundation and its Opportunities of Excellence program, which continue to enrich the student journey and create unforgettable experiences for all. We also extend our sincere thanks to our generous sponsors including event sponsor, Ray White Kim Olsen Property, who has supported On the Green for three consecutive years.


On the Green


Sunday 3 August 12pm-4pm
Featuring Kate Ceberano
Buy Tickets clayfield.qld.edu.au









Passing the Torch

In August, Mrs Audrey Fellowes announced that she would be resigning from her position as Deputy Principal - Pastoral/ Head of Primary at the end of the 2025 school year. On behalf of the extended Clayfield family, we would like to acknowledge Audrey's outstanding contribution and thank her for her leadership over the last six years.



> "Seeing the growth in our school and the development of our pastoral care framework has truly been a highlight of my career.

Audrey joined Clayfield College in 2020, in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, she has played a pivotal role In shaping the College's evolution, leaving an indelible mark on both the community and its educational offerings.

Audrey has a deep appreciation for her time at Clayfield. "The journey we've embarked on these past few years has been nothing short of transformative," she said. "Seeing the growth in our school and the development of our pastoral care framework has truly been a highlight of my career."

Principal Dr Andrew Cousins said Audrey's vision and commitment have been widespread, from fostering academic rigour in the Primary School to supporting student wellbeing and building strong connections with families. "Audrey led the development and implementation of our College-wide wellbeing framework, Care@Clayfield, incorporating weekly Pulse Check-ins to promote gratitude and emotional awareness, along with a dedicated Parent Series designed to strengthen home-school partnerships," he said.

For Audrey, engaging with the community has always been a priority. In just six years, Primary School enrolments have grown significantly, prompting the introduction of additional classes across most year levels. Dr Cousins acknowledges that this growth reflects Audrey's leadership and vision. "Audrey introduced evidence-based literacy programs, developed a range of clubs and after-school activities, championed inquiry-based learning including the much-loved Bush School, enriched our calendar of celebrations and thoughtfully revitalised the Primary facilities." In recognition of her impact, Audrey was duly named an Excellence Awardee for Primary School Principal of the Year (Non-Government) at the 2023 Australian Education Awards.







But perhaps her most significant work occurred behind the scenes. “I think our focus on policy and governance has been the biggest shift for us,” she said. “It involved redesigning and remapping our entire platform, which was an incredibly important safeguarding piece. It was a great team effort and has enabled more community-facing initiatives to happen.”

Not least of those was the transition to Parallel Learning. “Our goal was always to create an environment that nurtures every aspect of a child’s development,” Audrey reflected. “I think we all see the goodness here and believe in it.”

As Audrey looks ahead to the next chapter in her career, she leaves behind a legacy of nurturing growth and fostering a strong sense of community at Clayfield College. “Clayfield is where incredible people make the magic happen together. Not many people get to hand over a school like this. It’s just such a privilege and a blessing.” Audrey will soon assume the role of School Advisor – Governance at Independent Schools Queensland, where she will share her knowledge and expertise to support independent schools across the state.

Dr Cousins said Audrey’s contribution stands as a testament to the positive change that a passionate leader can achieve. She embodies the spirit of Clayfield College, inspiring staff and students to continue to strive forward – to let their light shine.

New Look, New Chapter for Boarders

As the finishing touches were made to the boys' boarding area upgrade earlier this year, the occasion also signified a historic moment in finalising Clayfield's physical transition to the unique Parallel Learning model. This milestone continues the College's rich history of successful growth from small beginnings into one of Queensland's leading independent schools.

A former hospital, the Carolyn Hauff Boarding House had ample capacity and was easily adapted to create separate boarding facilities for boys and girls while allowing all boarding students to benefit from shared services such as catering and social areas.

Head of Boarding, Mrs Kathryn Searle, said in honour of the building's extraordinary history, the Boarding House maintains the original hospital wing layout, including use of some original wing names. "The walking balustrades still line main corridor walls, and we have held onto some lovely antique nurses' bells that the students can ring," she said.

Prior to COVID-19, the boys' wing was a dormitory for girls in Years 5 to 8 with open plan rooms. While this area was closed during the pandemic, the College continued to accommodate one boarder in each of the twin-share rooms for Years 9 to 11 and the private rooms for Year 12 students. The dormitory re-opened to coincide with the College welcoming boys to board for the first time. It was fitted with private rooms to accommodate 16 boys.

The transformation of the boys' wing is just one element of a broader upgrade program that has significantly enhanced comfort and security across the entire Boarding House in recent years. Key improvements have included:

- A new kitchen and dining area
- An upgraded outdoor courtyard
- Modernised bathroom facilities
- Enhanced security systems
- A redesigned reception area to support a safer, more efficient environment for both students and staff.

> "We maintain strong diversity amongst our boarders ...







Looking ahead, Clayfield will develop a new outdoor recreation area, featuring a pickleball court, basketball court, media and gaming room, and an outdoor firepit. These additions are designed to enrich students' social experiences and support their wellbeing beyond the classroom.

Clayfield's ability to accommodate boys and girls within the same building is a unique feature that creates a genuine homely feel for students. "It's all about the kids, and I think if you give them the ability to be comfortable and relaxed, they can just be themselves," Kathryn said. "There are policies and procedures in place to keep them safe, but the older ones look after the younger ones and it all just fits, so it's working really well."

Kathryn said the very first and 'bravest' boy moved into the Boarding House at the start of 2024. In 2026, the boys' dormitories are projected to be at capacity, a significant achievement only a couple of years since introducing the offering.

"We maintain strong diversity amongst our boarders, welcoming international students from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, along with Indigenous students, local weekly boarders, and students from rural areas," Kathryn said. This is evident in Clayfield's ongoing connection to central Queensland regions.

Throughout 2025, Kathryn and Principal, Dr Andrew Cousins, along with members of the Senior Leadership Team, visited Goondiwindi Longreach and Winton to meet with current and future boarding families and Old Collegians. These visits followed international tours to Hong Kong and Taiwan in March.

The transformation of the Boarding House into a co-educational facility, along with strong enrolment growth and national recognition as a Boarding School of the Year Excellence Awardee in 2021, 2023 and 2025 at the Australian Education Awards, reaffirms why more families are choosing Clayfield as a true home away from home for their children.



Boarding: A Transformative Experience

For sisters Molly, Mary and Sally Sproat, boarding at Clayfield College is more than a place to stay — it's a community that feels like an extended family.

Growing up on a cattle property in Muttaburra near Longreach with another three siblings (older brother Frank, and younger siblings Annabelle and Archie), the girls faced long travel times and limited schooling options. Boarding has opened doors to friendships, activities and opportunities they could never have imagined at home.

Mary (Year 9), the self-confessed social butterfly, loves the constant company: "It feels like living with a house full of friends." Molly (Year 8) appreciates the way the Boarding House keeps everyone informed and involved, while Sally (Year 11) values how the environment connects students across year levels: "You really get to know people you might never talk to otherwise."

That sense of belonging is intentional. The College's Care@Clayfield wellbeing approach creates a welcoming, structured environment where boarders feel at home very quickly. Experience Days, Buddy Systems and family-style dining tables all help younger students transition and settle into life at the Boarding House. While themed dinners — such as a recent Papua New Guinea evening — celebrate culture, community and connection.

For Sally, who has been announced as one of the Boarding Captains for next year, supporting new boarders through homesickness is a personal goal: "I remember when I first arrived an older girl told me that a busy boarder is a happy boarder," she reflects. "At the time I didn't think much of it but it's so true — getting involved really helps and you meet so many new friends through common interests and all the activities. You quickly realise there are people who genuinely care about you and who want to make it a good experience."

The girls all highlight how boarding has boosted their confidence and independence. They've learned to organise themselves, talk with adults and balance study with fun. The structured prep time, tutoring from Old Collegians and even visits from teachers during study sessions helps them to stay focused and achieve academically.

Beyond daily life, boarding has unlocked extraordinary opportunities. Earlier this year Mary joined the immersive Cambridge Scholars' Programme, enjoying a real-life university experience and visiting London, while Sally spent eight weeks on exchange with three other Clayfield boarders, staying at the Trafalgar Castle School in Toronto, Canada.

For this outback family, Clayfield boarding isn't just a place to live — it's a springboard to lifelong friendships, new adventures and a future full of possibility.





The Symphony of Belonging

On Harmony Day, the Clayfield College community comes together in a powerful expression of unity and connection. The day invites everyone to embrace their uniqueness and to celebrate what makes our community so vibrant and strong.

Held in March, the annual Harmony Day Assembly is a lived example of the College's *Strategic Pillar: Wellbeing Through Belonging.* This pillar underpins the belief that every student should feel known, valued and understood, and that belonging is not just felt, it is created together.

Dean of Secondary, Mr Adrian Walker, described the assembly as "a true reflection of belonging."

"Harmony Day is about celebrating our differences, embracing uniqueness and creating a sense of community where everyone feels valued," he said.

The assembly provided a cultural showcase, highlighting how we can transcend borders and languages. The Procession of Nations saw students and staff proudly represent 45 countries, dressed in traditional attire and carrying flags that filled the Ida Kennedy Physical Education Centre with colour, movement and pride.

The performances that followed brought the spirit of Harmony Day to life. Pacific Island dancers told stories of history and heritage, while a Bollywood routine burst onto the stage in a dazzling display of energy and expression. The audience was then transported across Asia by a graceful Primary Chinese Kung Fu Fan Dance from our Year 4 students and a performance of the Japanese Soran Bushi, blending tradition with togetherness.

The Allegria Strings and Irish Dancers delighted with a joyful rendition of The Wise Maids and Merrymen, and Year 11 student Georgia Johnston, accompanied by contemporary dancer Iara Chaves, delivered a moving performance of Colours of the Wind. A notable highlight was the whole-school chorus of Heal the World — sung in seven languages: Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Spanish, Italian, Irish and English.

Year 7 student, Lucas Zhuang described the sentiment of the day best when he shared, "Even though I am far from home, Clayfield still makes me feel at home."

Harmony Day stands as a day when our community's diversity takes centre stage and every student joins in the symphony of belonging.







Spirit of **Clayfield Awards**

The Spirit of Clayfield Awards honour students, staff, Old Collegians and community members who embody our values and inspire others to let their light shine. Presented each year at the Foundation Day Assembly, the awards recognise individuals whose service, integrity and commitment enrich our College.

The Old Collegian Award celebrates past students who have excelled in their professions, contributed to their communities or shown enduring support for Clayfield. With Gold and Green categories, it recognises both established and emerging alumni leaders. The Community Award acknowledges those whose long-term dedication has strengthened the College across generations. Recipients are selected through a thoughtful nomination process led by the Principal.

This year, we proudly celebrated our 2025 winners and finalists — shining examples of passion, service and quiet leadership. We thank everyone involved in the nomination process and look forward to continuing this special College tradition.

2025 Winners

The Spirit of Clayfield Gold Award – Old Collegian
Laraine Kelly nee Eaves (Class of 1963)

Laraine has been a dedicated leader, educator and community champion for decades. From her historic appointment at Wavell State High School as the youngest Senior Mistress, to pioneering English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, she has shaped education with innovation and passion. Her commitment extends beyond the classroom through leadership roles on prestigious boards, including St Paul's, Somerville House, and Clayfield College.

As a volunteer, she has played a pivotal role in the Old Collegians' Association and the Clayfield College Foundation Board. Her generosity, enthusiasm and fundraising prowess have left a lasting impact. A truly deserving Spirit of Clayfield Gold Award recipient, Laraine's contributions have enriched countless lives and institutions.

The Spirit of Clayfield Green Award – Old Collegian
Tara Ryan (Class of 2017)

Tara embraced all aspects of College life, excelling academically, athletically and artistically while demonstrating strong leadership. She earned a dual Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Honours) and Economics at UQ, engaging in student organisations and sustainability initiatives.

While completing her Masters in Copenhagen, she co-authored a paper, led a Sustainability Careers event and was nominated as an Exceptional Young Woman in Resources for her CSIRO work. Now a Sustainability Consultant at Minviro in London, she is dedicated to decarbonising metal supply chains. Tara's commitment to environmental advocacy and creating positive change continues to inspire those around her.

> “We thank everyone involved in the nomination process and look forward to continuing this special College tradition.

The Spirit of Clayfield Award – Community

Raewyn (Rae) Morris

Rae exemplifies the true spirit of Clayfield College through her dedication, leadership and enthusiasm. A tireless volunteer, she assists at every event bar, helps set up major events like the College Fair and On the Green and actively supports sports and music activities. She also welcomes prospective families, fostering an inclusive and supportive community.

As P&F President since 2023, Vice President from 2020 to 2022, and P&F Sport Support Group Chair in 2019, Rae has strengthened parent engagement, shifting the focus from fundraising to 'friend-raising'. Rae has truly enriched us all and our College community.

The Spirit of Clayfield Staff Award (Academic)

Mrs Miriam Bryan, Dean of Primary

Mrs Bryan is a kind, professional, and dedicated part of Team Clayfield whose outstanding work ethic and collaborative approach foster a positive and supportive environment for both colleagues and students.

With her specialised curriculum knowledge, she provides invaluable guidance that empowers others to excel.

Mrs Bryan's contributions to the Clayfield College community are deeply valued and appreciated by all who work with her.

The Spirit of Clayfield Staff Award (Corporate)

Mrs Miranda Cavaliere,
Executive Administrative Assistant

Mrs Cavaliere is an exceptional professional who brings enthusiasm, dedication and unwavering positivity to her role. Friendly, approachable and highly competent, she treats staff and students with kindness and respect.

Her expertise in academic administration is evident, particularly in data interpretation of standardised testing, where she leads with knowledge and experience. Always welcoming and supportive, she fosters meaningful interactions with warmth and professionalism.

Guided by strong Christian values, she consistently makes time for others. A valued member of the Academic Office and the wider Clayfield College community, Mrs Cavaliere's contributions are deeply appreciated by all who work with her.









The Spirit of Clayfield Student Award (Primary)
Zoe Peters (Year 6)

Zoe embodies the College's values of care, integrity, resilience and respect. Her kindness, responsibility and quiet yet impactful contributions in sport, debating and leadership make a lasting impression. A role model of warmth and dedication, Zoe's actions inspire those around her. Her light shines brightly, guiding others with compassion and humility every day.

The Spirit of Clayfield Student Award (Secondary)
Charlotte Strickland (Year 10)

Charlotte reflects some of Clayfield's most prized values like kindness, integrity, resilience and respect. She supports peers, engages thoughtfully in learning and contributes actively to school initiatives. With enthusiasm and pride, she creates a welcoming atmosphere through her courteous and cooperative nature. Charlotte's dedication and positive influence inspire those around her.





2025 Finalists

We also extend our warm congratulations to this year's finalists. Each of them reflects the College's values through their actions and the way they encourage others to let their light shine. We are grateful for their contributions and proudly acknowledge their achievements and dedication. Their commitment to their communities, professions and to Clayfield itself continues to inspire our students and strengthen the spirit of our College.

The Spirit of Clayfield Gold Award – Old Collegian
Jacqueline Armitstead (Class of 1983)
For service to her profession

Annette Fifoot nee Wilson (Class of 1957)
For service to Clayfield College

Dr Susan Grummitt (Class of 1986)
For service to her profession

The Spirit of Clayfield Green Award – Old Collegian
Yashaswini Makkoth (Class of 2015)
For service to her profession

Ella Tomazic (Class of 2015)
For service to her profession

The Spirit of Clayfield Community Award
Dr Vicky Abad




Spirit of
CLAYFIELD
Awards
25
Laraine Kelly
Overall Winner
The Spirit of Clayfield
Gold Award - Old Collegian
LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE


Spirit of
CLAYFIELD
Awards
25
Yashaswini Makkoth
Finalist
Green Award - Old Collegian
Service to her profession


Spirit of
CLAYFIELD
Awards




Spirit of
CLAYFIELD
Awards
25
Ella Tomazic
Finalist
Green Award - Old Collegian





Clayfield Sparkles at **Luminous Lunch**

Our 2025 Luminous Lunch, held at the stunning Calile Hotel, was a celebration of connection, community and the unmistakable Clayfield spirit. From the moment guests arrived to champagne and canapés, there was a joyful energy in the room — a sense of coming together, reconnecting and welcoming new faces into our growing community.

We were honoured to have Zahna Fitzhenry (Class of 2002), current parent and proud Old Collegian, guide the afternoon as MC. With her signature warmth and grace, Zahna set the tone for a memorable event. Our Foundation Chair, Sandra McCullagh (Class of 1977), opened with an Acknowledgement of Country, followed by an official welcome from Principal Dr Andrew Cousins, whose words highlighted the strength of a community united by purpose and shared pride.

Guests enjoyed exceptional hospitality from The Calile, including alternating main courses and decadent desserts, before being treated to beautiful performances by our Middle School Quartet and Georgia Johnston (Year 12) — a musical highlight conducted by Karen Gordon.

This year's event was made even more special thanks to our Bronze Sponsors, Tina Couture and Clayfield Jewellery, whose generosity helped bring the occasion to life.

Whether long-time friends of the College or joining us for the first time, every guest played a part in creating an atmosphere of warmth, celebration and genuine connection. Our Luminous Lunch has quickly become one of Clayfield's most loved gatherings — a reflection of community at its very best. Be sure to mark the 2026 event date in your calendar!

Save the Date: Friday 12 June 2026 | The Calile Hotel











CCOCA Report: **Advancing Alumni Networks**

The Clayfield College Old Collegians' Association (CCOCA) continues to strengthen alumni links, preserve the College's heritage and support current students. During the year that the College celebrated the 94th anniversary of its founding, the Association has played a meaningful role through a diverse range of initiatives.

Throughout the year, Old Collegians have remained strongly connected to the life of the College. Foundation Day featured a special Archives presentation tracing the evolution of the campus, alongside the unveiling of a model of the Main Building created by past Head of Senior School, Doug Kiddell. Year 3 students enjoyed a special incursion delivered by the Archives Team, which included a sports uniform parade from across the decades and a panel of Old Collegians who shared their memories and reflections.

Alumni engagement continued with the CCOCA Future Leaders Program, including the Industry Networking Collective for Year 12 students, and the opening of THE EDGE, with keynote speaker Dr Julienne Senyard (Class of 1990). Principals' Receptions in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide also brought together Old Collegians living interstate.

Reunions and community events remained a highlight, with gatherings for the 5s' Decades and the Class of 1990, along with strong alumni participation at the Back to Campus Celebration at On the Green and Luminous Lunch. The Emerald Club High Tea once again brought together Old Collegians over 70 for a preview of the LUX 25 Exhibition and the judging of the CCOCA Art Awards. The year concluded with celebrating the Class of 2025, as they transitioned to becoming Old Collegians. This was recognised by a symbolic rose-planting ceremony in the College's Circular Drive, and receiving a yellow rose, Old Collegians' badge and scarf at their Final Assembly. Save the date for Foundation Day which will be held on Tuesday 10 February in 2026. We welcome all Old Collegians to attend and to keep their details up to date so they can stay connected and involved. Email: CCOldCollegians@clayfield.qld.edu.au

Anna Lloyd (Class of 2008)
President
Clayfield College Old Collegians' Association

CCOCA Committee
Patron: Carolyn Hauff AM, Past Principal (1991–2006)
Guardians: Deidre Brandon (Class of 1957), Wendy Grummitt (Class of 1960)
President: Anna Lloyd (Class of 2008)
Secretary: Fleur Wrakuale (Class of 2018)
Committee Members: Melanie Wildey (Class of 2005), Melinda Sawers (Class of 1991), Ava Pearson (Class of 2019), Rachael Walsh (Class of 2023), Georgina Hawkins-McCarthy (Class of 2023), Naomi Denes (Class of 2008), Georgia Lennon (Class of 2020), Jordana Chulio (Class of 2009)
Membership Secretary: Christine Beehler (Class of 1986)







A Celebration of **Connection and Tradition**

The annual Emerald Club High Tea, held in November, remains one of Clayfield College's most cherished traditions, honouring our Old Collegians aged 70 years and over.

The morning commenced with bubbles and conversation on the College's Main Veranda, setting the tone for a day of elegance and nostalgia. Guests enjoyed an exclusive pre-reveal of the LUX 25 Art Exhibition, alongside the judging of the CCOCA Art Prize Winners, all accompanied by music from Allegria Strings. A spontaneous rendition of the College Hymn added a heartfelt touch that delighted all in attendance.

The celebrations continued in the Upper Level of THE EDGE for a scrumptious High tea.

Stories were shared, friendships rekindled, and the warmth of community was felt throughout. Highlights included visits to the Clayfield College Museum, a special cake-cutting for our 90th birthday guests, and the spirited chant of the College war-cry echoing through the Foundation Courtyard.

This special occasion beautifully showcased the spirit of Clayfield — where traditions are celebrated and the sense of belonging grows stronger with every passing year.







Old Collegians' **Spotlight**

Vale Fiona Winning (Class of 1978)

Fiona Winning is remembered as a vibrant creative force whose Clayfield years sparked a lifelong dedication to the Arts. As College Vice Captain in 1978, she was known for her distinctive flair, humour and generosity, qualities that shone through every drama lesson and performance. Under the guidance of beloved teachers such as Miss Bev Langford and Miss Ida Kennedy, Fiona developed the discipline, curiosity and collaborative spirit that would later define her career.

Fiona went on to become one of Australia's most respected Arts leaders, contributing to theatre, dance and contemporary performance. She served in senior roles at Performance Space, Sydney Festival and later as Director of Programming at the Sydney Opera House, shaping its artistic vision during the venue's 50th anniversary. A passionate advocate for new work, she championed emerging artists and shared her expertise through teaching at NIDA.

Across every stage of her career, Fiona remained grounded in the same qualities she embodied at school — warmth, humility and an instinctive ability to make others feel encouraged and included. She is remembered with deep affection and pride by the Clayfield community.





We Remember

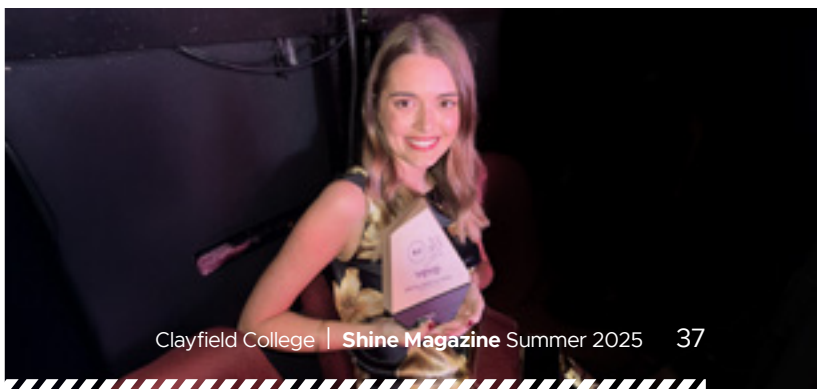
We honour the lives and legacies of Old Collegians who have recently passed:

Olivia Shaw (Class of 2020) • Mary Spork (Class of 1953) • Edwina Pickering (Class of 1988) • Sue Norris (Class of 1962) • Catherine Ashdown (Class of 1990) • Anne Lockyer (Class of 1948) • Fiona Winning (Class of 1978) • Naomi Magnus (Class of 1959)

We Celebrate

We celebrate Old Collegians who continue to make an impact across industries and communities:

Ella Wilkins (Class of 2022) Appointed Associate Dean of Student Support, King's College UQ
Jacinta Fitzgerald (Class of 2021) Speaker, APAC Wind Energy Summit 2025
Chelsea Shoobridge (Class of 2018) Completed YNG program, London Business School
Julie Townsend (Class of 1989) Completed Human Centred Design, CQU
Rebecca Morrissey (Class of 2002) Appointed New Zealand Trade Commissioner in Germany
Trisha Sharma (Class of 2022) Appointed Student Ambassador, QUT
Rebecca Carter (Class of 2011) Judge at Australian Gymnastics Championships; joined Paralympics Australia as Partnerships Coordinator
Jean Tiller (Class of 1992) Speaker, Specialist Disability Accommodation Conference 2025
Crystal Davis (Class of 2014) Winner, B&T 30u30 Entrepreneur 2025
Tracey De Simone (Class of 1988) QCAT Chair, Succession and Elder Law Conference 2024
Dobu Ungureanu (Class of 1997) Senior Project Manager of the North East Link Project in Victoria





Connected **by Clayfield**

This year, Old Collegians gathered across Australia and on campus, proving that Clayfield spirit knows no bounds. The sense of belonging that defines the Clayfield experience continues well beyond graduation.

Principals' Receptions

Principal, Dr Andrew Cousins; Past Principal and Patron of CCOCA, Mrs Carolyn Hauff AM; and Foundation and Alumni Manager, Ms Meg Graham (Class of 1989) visited Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide to reconnect with Old Collegians. Dr Cousins shared exciting updates on new facilities and Clayfield's future, while Mrs Hauff brought warmth and insight, reminiscing with former students.

Reunions

The annual Decades Reunion, along with a special celebration for the Class of 1990, filled the College with laughter and stories. Reunion groups from the Classes of 1955, 1975, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2005 and 2015 were joined by Dr Cousins, Mrs Hauff and Ms Anna Lloyd - President of the CCOCA - to share memories that spanned decades.

Guests enjoyed exploring memorabilia and the Clayfield College Museum, followed by a campus tour showcasing how new facilities stand proudly alongside familiar spaces. The celebrations continued at On the Green, where Old Collegians relaxed in their dedicated marquee and enjoyed live music, including a standout performance by Kate Ceberano. For the Class of 1990, this milestone was especially meaningful after their 30-year reunion was delayed by COVID.

Looking Ahead

We are excited to welcome the Class of 2024 for their one-year reunion this December. These gatherings are a warm reminder of the shared experiences that shape our community. From classroom memories to lifelong friendships, every story adds to the rich tapestry of Clayfield's history.

We look forward to hosting future events throughout Australia, overseas, and on campus in 2026 and beyond.





Building History: **A Model for the Future**

The nuts and bolts of Clayfield College date back 105 years to when it was first built, originally for Brisbane Boys' College. Now, generations of students will have a glimpse back to those historical beginnings, through an intricate scale model, delicately brought to life by past long-standing teacher and Head of Senior School of Clayfield College, Mr Doug Kiddell.

The model was unveiled at Clayfield's Foundation Day celebrations this year and is an accurate replica of the building at the time of Clayfield's official opening in 1931. Still in use today, this building provides the structural heart of the College. Doug said while the model took about six months to build, the idea was several years in the making.

Generously commissioned by former Principal, Mrs Carolyn Hauff AM, it is by far the largest model Doug has built, spanning 2.2 metres by 1.7 metres. "Initially it was a case of working out how I would physically build it because it was too big for my workbench," he said. Due to the building's L-shape, Doug found he could build each wing separately. "I had to be quite precise in building the ends, so when they joined it still looked like one integrated piece."

Doug's interest in model building was sparked by his grandfather, a master cabinet maker. "Myself, my brother and sister, would always be around my grandfather, just working with tools and timber," he said. Growing up in London, Doug aspired to join the RAF, but said his eyesight wasn't good enough, and so he turned to building model airplanes. He rediscovered the hobby during the COVID-19 lockdown, seeking more challenge in the replicas of old Queensland homes. "Being a Science teacher certainly helps because most of those models use the old imperial system, so that ability to convert easily from one to the other is very handy."

The Clayfield College Main Building model includes fully enclosed verandas, complete with timber casement windows. It is hard to imagine the noise-level between the open classrooms, as dividing walls were only added much later. "When Carolyn first raised the idea of the model, she wanted it to capture that moment of Clayfield's history," he said. "So it was important that everything, all the rooms and furnishings, are true to how they were back then." Doug's design, with removable roof and first floor, features a Principal's office, bathroom and locker room, staffroom, classrooms and an upper-level Assembly Hall.

Using hand-crafted balsa wood to create each individual element, Doug said the most difficult part of the build was matching all the colours to make them look realistic. "It was those little details that were the trickier bits, like getting the brickwork to look right," he said. "It was a lot of trial and error, staining different bits of wood in different ways, and adjusting painting techniques."

Doug's association with Clayfield College spans more than 30 years. He joined as Science Subject Coordinator in 1992 and was Head of Senior School when he retired in 2006. His two daughters are also Clayfield graduates. "I have a really strong connection to the College, so this project was a labour of love as well," he said.

Continued over ...





To help depict the true character of the building, Doug sought help from members of the Old Collegians' Association. "They were absolutely fantastic, particularly Mrs Deidre Brandon (Class of 1957) and Mrs Annette Fifoot (Class of 1957), they had so many great memories and historical details," he said. "For me, it wasn't just the joy of building it, it was the joy of meeting those wonderful people, too. I think that's something special about Clayfield – that deep and caring connection to its community and especially with the Old Collegians."

This year the College opened its new innovation hub, THE EDGE – the first new building to open on the campus since 2009. However, Doug insists he has no immediate plans to build another model at this stage. "But in terms of Science, it's really exciting times, especially in the Technology area and AI fields," he said. "It's fascinating, and in some ways, I wish I was back there teaching again!"

Now protected by a specially built perspex cover, the Clayfield College model is on permanent display for generations to enjoy.







Message from **the Archives**

This year, Miss Sarah Vanden Berg joined the College's Engagement Team as a part-time Archivist, working closely with our dedicated Archive volunteers, Deidre Brandon (Class of 1957) and Annette Fifoot (Class of 1957).

With more than 5,000 objects in the College Museum and Archives, the team continues to conserve significant pieces of Clayfield history and is seeking contributions to help fill key gaps, particularly early photographs and memorabilia from events such as dances, music performances and excursions. Please contact Sarah via CCOldCollegians@clayfield.qld.edu.au if you have any contributions for our collection.

Restoration work has also continued, including the professional framing of a College blazer belonging to Meredith Yates (Class of 1946) and the original Old Girls' Banner. A new banner was also generously gifted by Diana Osbaldiston (Class of 1952).









Legacy of Creativity: **Honouring Janet 'Meme' McDonald**

Clayfield College honoured Janet 'Meme' McDonald (Class of 1971) in a special tribute held in the Boarding House during National Boarding Week.

Meme attended Clayfield College from 1963 to 1971, serving as Boarding Captain in her final year, and is remembered fondly for her talents in Tennis and Drama.

Meme later built an acclaimed career as an author, director and Arts leader, earning The Ros Bower Award in 2012 and inspiring communities through her generosity and vision. In tribute, her family donated the artwork *Women's Business 2015,* now displayed in the Boarding House Main Reception and Entry as a lasting reminder of her connection to Country, creativity and bonds with Clayfield.





Boarding Bonds: **The Hilda Minado Shield Dinner**

The Boarding House recently hosted a special dinner to celebrate a remarkable gift — a hand-carved shield created by Elijah Maidala, husband of Old Collegian Hilda Minado (Class of 1999). Featuring the College crest and imagery from Hilda's school years, the shield was presented in gratitude for the support shown to their community on Kitava Island, Papua New Guinea.

Hilda boarded at Clayfield from Year 10 to graduation and now teaches on Kitava, where everyday supplies require a two-day ferry trip. A chance meeting in 2016 between Hilda and Lyn Swann, who has connections to Clayfield College, led to ongoing support from Brisbane community members and the College, particularly during COVID-19 when access to supplies was cut.

The dinner brought together PNG boarders, their families, staff and long-term supporters to celebrate the continuing relationship between Clayfield, Hilda and the Kitava community.

Foundation Report: **Our Community of Giving**

Through the generosity of our donors, we continue to build a bright future for Clayfield College and generations of students. Scholarships and bursaries, campus refurbishments and the Opportunities of Excellence Program are creating meaningful and lasting change across our College.

Giving Day 2024

This year saw the rollout of several key projects funded through Giving Day 2024, including:

- LED scoreboard and audio visual upgrades in the Ida Kennedy Physical Education Centre, elevating College events, celebrations and sporting fixtures.
- Mountain bike trailer and new fleet of bikes, enriching our co-educational sporting program and enabling students to challenge themselves, build teamwork skills and learn through experience.

The Foundation also continued its support of students and families through donations to the Scholarships and Bursaries Program, ensuring exceptional learning experiences and access to a Clayfield education remain central to our mission. The Opportunities of Excellence Program was instrumental in securing Kate Ceberano to perform at On the Green and work with students at a rehearsal, a unique opportunity to learn from and perform alongside a world-class musician.

Giving Day 2025

Building on this momentum, Giving Day 2025 reflected our community's extraordinary generosity. Students, staff, families and Old Collegians united in celebration with our Giving Stars inspiring a wave of kindness and philanthropy across campus. The House Giving Competition added fun and pride, with Campbell House taking out the 2025 Spirit of Giving Award.

Donations strengthened the Foundation's Scholarship and Bursaries Fund and Building Fund, enabling two transformational initiatives:

- Reimagining the Japanese Courtyard as the Foundation Courtyard, soon to become a vibrant centrepiece of the Secondary School precinct.
- Establishment of a new Foundation Scholarship, expanding opportunities for future Clayfield students and reinforcing our commitment to accessibility and excellence.

As we reflect on the year, one truth stands out: philanthropy at Clayfield is more than giving, it is a shared belief in what we can achieve together. Thank you to our matching donors, parents, volunteers, staff, students and Old Collegians. Your generosity continues to illuminate the future of Clayfield College.

We acknowledge the unwavering dedication of the Foundation Board Directors, whose expertise and guidance drive the important work of the Foundation. In partnership with the College, our focus remains on reinvesting in projects and initiatives that create immediate impact on the student experience. Together, we are proud of the progress we continue to achieve.

Sandra McCullagh (Class of 1977)
Chair, Clayfield College Foundation

Foundation Board Directors

Chair – **Sandra McCullagh**
Director – **Dr Andrew Cousins**
Director – **Dayna Field**
Director – **Troy Green**
Director – **Laraine Kelly**
Director – **Adrian Slaughter**
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Introducing the
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P&F Report: **The Clayfield Way**

The P&F Association has once again played a meaningful role in shaping the rhythm of College life this year, strengthening connection across our Clayfield community with events and initiatives. It has been a privilege to work alongside our dedicated committee and enthusiastic volunteers, whose generosity ensures every occasion feels warm, welcoming and unmistakably Clayfield.

We began the year by welcoming our new boarders and their families at the P&F Boarders' Welcome — a relaxed gathering that set the tone for the year ahead. This was soon followed by our broader P&F Welcome event, where new and returning families connected while students enjoyed a magic show and dinner. Our beloved Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls brought joy to our Primary students, who proudly selected gifts for their families. Thank you to everyone who helped make these moments so memorable.

The P&F Disco was another highlight, lighting up the Assembly Hall with colour, music and endless energy. Students revelled in dancing, games, bubbles and neon lights, with a surprise appearance from Clayton the Croc on the dancefloor. We were also proud to support the College's flagship event, On the Green, providing drinks stations for the 1,500-strong crowd.

A wonderful new addition to the calendar this year was the Beyond Boarders event, which brought together boarding families and the day families who have supported their children throughout the year. Guests enjoyed live music, delicious Greek food and signature cocktails, a beautiful celebration of connection.

Alongside hosting events, the P&F has proudly supported Story Dogs (Literacy Support Program), breakfasts for Primary and Secondary sporting teams, dinners for musicians at Opus Concerts, the Grand Concert and Combined Choir, and, to the students' delight, the installation of new water fountains around the College.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our P&F Executive committee, the Friends of Primary, Boarding, Sport and Music Groups, and every volunteer who has contributed throughout the year. Your generosity, teamwork and commitment to service make our Clayfield community shine brighter.

Rae Morris
President, P&F Association

2025 P&F Executive Members

President – **Rae Morris**
Vice Presidents – **William Child, Matt Wells**
Treasurer – **Andrew Karzons**
Secretary – **Meg Child**
Executive Committee Members – **Gillian Gout, Charlotte Reichard**
















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Three-Time Percentage Cup Champions

Team Clayfield took out the Percentage Cup at the Andrews Cup Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics!
A momentous achievement for our Primary School girls in 2025!





















Illuminate Students Let Their Light Shine

Learners from Years 4 to 9 in the Illuminate Extension Program across HEAL, STEM and Creative Arts presented their passion projects during a special Term 4 Illuminate Showcase. Families were invited to experience firsthand their creativity and confidence.

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