



Emmanuel College

# Fiat Lux

*enriching lives since 1911*

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE  
OF EMMANUEL COLLEGE  
WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND



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# FROM DAVID'S DESK

## THE HIGH POTENTIAL OF SOFT SKILLS

Do you find yourself just a little cynical reading between the lines of newspaper articles these days, particularly when an alarmingly increasing number are produced by the artificial intelligence of news-writing bots? Two articles from *The Australian's* Higher Education section (17 May 2017, p. 30), clearly of human intelligence, raised my eyebrows recently because they espoused “new” discoveries and ideas that Emmanuel College already does very well and continually strives to do even better.

The first article was about the relatively young Victoria University developing an “academy for high-potential undergraduate students”. The proposed academy aims to develop students’ leadership skills and service-oriented social responsibility while fostering entrepreneurship, professional development, and skills to engage respectfully in conversations about critical national and global challenges. The second article, adjacent to the first, was correctly highlighting the need for graduates to possess essential “soft skills”, naming teamwork, problem solving, and emotional judgement. To these, I would add self-management, discernment, emotional intelligence, critical thinking and “synthesis” abilities, and interpersonal skills, such as patience, respect, conflict resolution, listening, and communication. The article quotes a Deloitte Access Economics report that says demand for soft skills significantly exceeds supply and predicts that demand for “soft skill intensive” occupations will account for two-thirds of jobs by 2030.

Where can young adults develop such a comprehensive range of skills while gaining a degree? I have already experienced these attributes in abundance at Emmanuel College — shining through in our current and aspiring student leaders and in all students who embrace College life. The Emmanuel ecosystem is a dynamic interaction of academic disciplines, activities,



actions, cultures, thoughtful perspectives, and, not least, “conversations” (*Fiat Lux*, Winter 2016, p. 2). The Emmanuel ecosystem creates a vibrant milieu producing individual and collective interdisciplinary and experiential learning, genuine teamwork, caring, and support resulting in an exceptional collegiate community that is never (believe me!) stationary.

In this challenging and concerning moment in time of post-factual politics that has produced “Brexit”, the Trump phenomenon, and reduced action on climate change, I do wonder what our current students’ children will think of my generation. I am confident, however, that our students will emerge from Emmanuel College’s multi-dimensional experience as high-performing graduates with the essential “soft skills” to be the best for the world.

**Professor David Brunckhorst**  
Provost and Chief Executive Officer

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HON. MARK MCGOWAN MLA, PREMIER OF WA

Emmanuel College congratulates alumnus Mark McGowan (EMC 1985-88) on his election as Premier of Western Australia.

Mark, from regional New South Wales, lived at Emmanuel College while studying arts and law at The University of Queensland. He began his career in public service as a legal officer in the Royal Australian Navy, going on to serve as a Lieutenant at *HMAS Stirling* on Perth’s Garden Island. Mark is still a member of the Navy Reserves and was awarded the Governor General’s Commendation for Bravery in 1995 for rescuing an unconscious driver from a burning car.

A Labor party member in his teens, Mark won the state seat of Rockingham in December 1996 and has held many senior portfolios in both government and opposition. In March 2017 Mark was elected the 30th Premier of Western Australia.

Mark and his wife Sarah and their three children, Samuel, Alexander, and Amelia, live in Rockingham, south-west of Perth’s city centre.

Reflecting on his time at College, Mark said, “I liked my time at Emmanuel and made lifelong friends. The most enduring memories are the amusing moments and events that come with leaving home and moving in with 200 other young people.” Asked if he had any message for his peers at College, Mark said, “Only that I’d love to hear from them.”



Emmanuel College alumnus and 30th Premier of Western Australia Mark McGowan MLA





# BANDFEST BLITZ

by **Lizzie Schluter**, Cultural Convenor

After only a mere six weeks of intense rehearsals, Bandfest has once again proved to be one of the most incredible experiences I have ever been a part of. Not only did we end a 12-year streak of St John's College's dominance over the competition in 2016, in 2017 we took the title again and started a potential legacy.

Claudia Farhart, Callum Schalch and I have been a part of this incredible competition for three years now, which we will forever treasure. Throughout our rehearsals, Bandfest Convenor Claudia was confident that our set would receive a guaranteed third place; however, this wasn't good enough. She decided that we needed to make our set shine. It was the special sparkle that we decorated our performance with that got us over the line. We were rewarded with an almost perfect score of 49.5 out of 50 points. Through choreographed dance moves, four-part a cappella harmonies, harmonised guitar solos, drum solos, trumpet solos, and the return of rapper Jack Ramaswamy, we dominated the competition with our performance, playing to a huge crowd that included nearly 150 Emmanuel Blue Dogs.



Our original piece "Stay the Same" was written with the collaboration of the whole band, but, in particular, was facilitated by the amazingly talented Callum. With his superior knowledge in guitar, piano, drums, and nearly every instrument under the sun, it was his creativity that sparked the initial sound of the song. Through recording a rough demo, Connor Wright and I formed the lyrics. "Stay the Same" is something that we are all very proud of and love to perform. The audience also loved the song and begged for a copy (rumour has it that we may release a recording).

Thank you to Emmanuel College for their support and massive thanks to the band for their hours of tireless commitment and passion for this project. Bandfest holds a special place in my heart and has created moments that I will remember for the rest of my life.



Bandfest winners: (back row) Fraser Gray, Lizzie Schluter, Callum Schalch, Will Webster, Connor Wright, (middle row) Kieran Walsh, Claudia Farhart, Neve Cavanagh, Sam Skinner, and (front) Jack Ramaswamy





Victorious Emmanuel College Choralfest choir

## CHORALFEST VICTORY A LOT TO SING ABOUT

by **Kira Fitzgerald**, Choralfest Convenor

When asked to be the ICC Choralfest Convenors for 2017, Rebecca Azzopardi and I knew that we had some large boots to fill. With the help of our wonderfully talented and enthusiastic conductor Elspeth Sutherland, we were able to live up to the high standard set by last year's choir and once again bring home 1st place!

Our first challenge came in figuring out this year's set list. After pondering over a list of almost 20 songs, we narrowed it down to three that would showcase the choir's flexibility and technical ability, all while being engaging and fun for an audience. Each song featured something unique — a percussive solo in African "Kpanlogo", the eerie atmosphere of Joseph Twist's "On the Night Train" and the high energy of Pentatonix's "Sing". We wholeheartedly embraced that song's refrain: "Sing, sing, sing, sing / Sing it out as hard as you can / Make 'em hear ya' from LA to Japan".

The two months that followed were very busy, with bi-weekly (and even more frequent) rehearsals. This year the Emmanuel College choir was comprised of more than 70 people, ranging from long-standing musicians to those who had only sung to themselves in the shower. The dedication we witnessed from everyone was incredible. Thank you to all involved for their commitment and hard work — we are very proud of what we achieved together.



Emmanuel College's YouTube channel features videos of the Choralfest and Bandfest performances. [www.youtube.com/UQEmmanuelCollege](http://www.youtube.com/UQEmmanuelCollege)

## AN UNDEBATABLE TRIUMPH

by **James Gover**, Debating Team

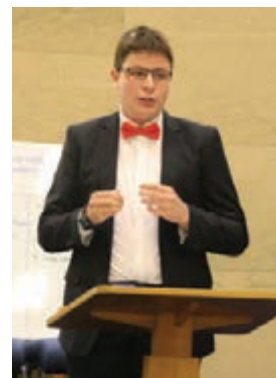
The Emmanuel debating team — Islwyn Wilson (1st Speaker), Kai Matsumoto (2nd Speaker), James Gover (3rd Speaker), and Matthew Diamond (Prep Helper), with Callan Morgan and Juhi Malhotra filling in as Prep Helper and 1st Speaker respectively — had a brilliant season, culminating with a win in the Inter-College Competition grand-final.



Debating Coach Ryan Minuti (EMC 2014-16), Debating Coordinator Emma McLaughlin, James Gover, Matthew Diamond, Islwyn Wilson, Kai Matsumoto, and Debating Coach Crispin Scott (EMC 2012-15)

As first-year students, the speakers had no university debating experience, so the team participated in some pre-season sessions. With two Emmanuel alumni, Crispin Scott and Ryan Minuti, taking on coaching roles, we quickly gained skills and experience.

The four debaters suited up for the first debate, rocking the Emmanuel bow ties and feeling a decent amount of nerves. It was a successful first round against Union College debating for private school funding. After a few strong rounds, the first and only loss came against Duchesne College in a good debate on whether the media should have the power to hack people's phones in the public interest. A few debates later and the team had made it into the quarter-finals with Emmanuel paired off against King's College debating for a ban on teacher strikes. Emmanuel emerged victorious from this and from the debate against The Women's College as negative to the motion "we should put citizenship on the international market". It was then on to the grand-final against St John's College.



James Gover debating in the Emmanuel College Chapel

After some close competitions between Emmanuel and John's earlier in the year, the pressure and excitement was on. The lecture theatre at UQ was full to overflowing with people sitting on the stairs. The Emmanuel team — as affirmative and championing the wordy and technical motion "the tax office should be able to retrospectively make using aggressive accounting practices to exploit tax loopholes illegal" — edged out John's in what was a skilled and competitive debate to claim the ICC trophy.

# TAKING THE LEAD IN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

by **Michelle James**, Marketing and Communications Officer

**“Being 20 is hard. You have the best years of your life, but there’s a lot of stress and pressure. It’s important to have that person you can chat to and have a debrief with, that’s why I love being a wing leader.”**

Sophie Rae, Busch Wing Leader

In any year, one in five Australians aged 16 to 85 suffers from some form of mental illness, such as anxiety, depressive, and substance use disorders. Three-quarters of all Australians who experience a mental illness have their first episode by age 25, which means that university students are in the primary demographic for the onset of mental health problems. This year Emmanuel College initiated a program to foster good mental health and support students experiencing mental health issues.

The Mental Health First Aid program ([www.mhfa.com.au](http://www.mhfa.com.au)) extends the concept of first aid training to include mental health problems. Created by educator Betty Kitchener in partnership with researcher Professor Anthony Jorm in 2000, the not-for-profit program aims to empower community members to provide initial support to people with mental health problems. Mental Health First Aid Australia trains instructors, for a fee, who then deliver courses within their communities. The program has spread throughout the world, with over 2 million people trained.

At the request of student leaders who wanted to further support their peers, Emmanuel’s Assistant Dean (Pastoral) and Resident Life Coach Jennifer Jasinski undertook the Mental Health First Aid Instructor five-day course earlier this year. Commencing in Preparation Week, student leaders completed the 12-hour course over four modules covering depression; anxiety; psychosis, such as schizophrenia; substance use; suicidal thoughts; self-injury; panic attacks; and aggressive behaviour. After passing assessment, students become an accredited Mental Health First Aider for three years, with refresher courses available to extend their accreditation for a further three years.

Jenn Jasinski points out that the Mental Health First Aid course is part of the spectrum of intervention; it does not teach people to provide a diagnosis or therapy. The aim is mental health literacy and administering first aid until appropriate professional help is received or until the crisis resolves. “My aim for our students is that they talk to their peers, who they perceive as being distressed, sooner rather than later — having a conversation is an intervention, a sign of caring and addressing a concern. This course gives our students the confidence and ability to do that.”

While Emmanuel College has always focused on pastoral care with effective programs in place, Jenn says that the specific training student leaders now receive means they are actually under less pressure and that the student who needs help can get it more quickly. “Our leaders have always helped students in their wings, by being there for them and providing counselling, but this course gives them an understanding about the options and resources for help. The burden is less because their understanding is so much deeper. They are also letting us know what’s going on more quickly. Once we’re aware that a student has a mental health issue, myself or Dean of Students Kelly Wade-Johnson or one of the pastoral care team can connect them with professional help — such as a GP or therapist or psychology services — consistent with their values and that addresses their fears and concerns.”

**“Increasing the acuity of mental health issues is of the utmost importance. The greater the density of people who are aware of it, the more effectively we can address it. Taking the lead in running the Mental Health First Aid course is instilling this in the younger generation, so that benefits not only Emmanuel, but also society in general.”**

Callan Morgan, Henderson Wing Leader



Jennifer Jasinski conducting Mental Health First Aid training with student leaders in the Gill Student Centre

**“We’re the first responders — I know what I can do to alleviate the situation in the acute circumstance and to weigh up whether or not I need to send it higher up.”**

Callan Morgan, Henderson Wing Leader

**“I’m able to better understand and handle certain conditions. For example, I didn’t know what to do to help someone with bipolar, but, after doing the course, I now understand what the triggers can be.”**

Daniel Fitzmaurice, Edmonds/McGregor/2nd Res Wing Leader

**“The course makes you feel more confident in yourself and how to deal with things.**

**It’s a touchy subject, people can be embarrassed. We need to educate people, especially young people, that it’s ok to not be ok sometimes and to know who to go to for help.”**

Sophie Rae, Busch Wing Leader

**Lifeline provides 24-hour counselling and crisis support, call 13 11 14.**

## References:

Kitchener, B., Jorm A., Kelly, C. *Mental Health First Aid Manual*, 4th ed. Melbourne: Mental Health First Aid Australia, 2017.



# SUPPORT, SECURITY AND SAFETY: EMMANUEL'S STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

**Kelly Wade-Johnson**, MA (Hons) International Relations,  
PhD (current studies)

**Dean of Students**

"I lead the Student Services Team at Emmanuel. My role as team leader is to ensure that students can access all available support during their time at College. Part of my role is investigating and implementing new services and programs to support our students at all stages of their university experience. Student Services is more than just academic tutoring or pastoral care, it is also about students feeling safe and at home while living at College. When students feel safe and supported, they are more likely to succeed and reach their full potential in all aspects of their lives."

**Charlotte Lawrence**, BA (Hons), MLing,  
PhD (current studies)

**Assistant Dean (Academic)**

"As the Assistant Dean (Academic) at Emmanuel, I coordinate the academic program and provide students with academic support and advice. The program includes Emmanuel's Tutorials and Short Language Courses, MasterClasses and SuperTutes. The best part of my job is meeting with students, discussing their plans for the future, and identifying how the College can assist in creating opportunities for them to succeed."

**Jennifer Jasinski**, BSc(Kin), PCC (ICF), MHFA  
**Assistant Dean (Pastoral), Resident Life Coach,  
Mental Health First Aid Trainer**

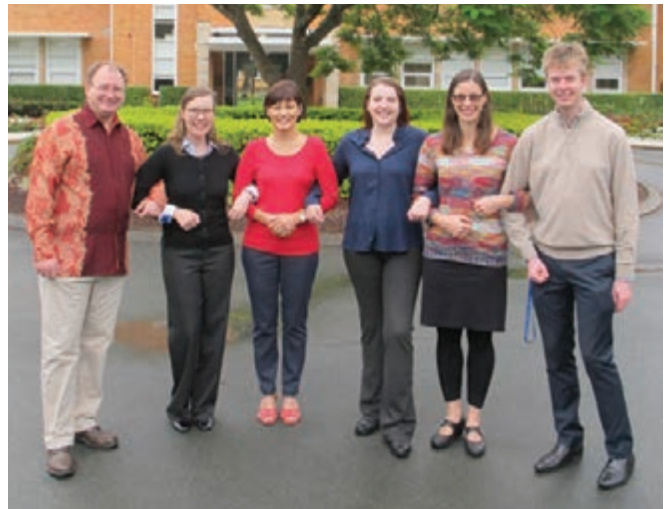
"I use my skills as a life coach, a mental health first aid instructor and sexual harassment advisor to assist students in their adjustment to university. It is a privilege to engage students in exploring what matters most to them. I enjoy working alongside them to develop the habits, discipline and depth of purpose that will carry them through their challenges to fully embrace the opportunities available to them."

**Michael D'Arcy**, BEcon, BA (Hons)  
**Assistant Dean (Residential)**

"Emmanuel College has been a big part of my life for a decade, as a student, an alumnus, and a residential tutor. Earlier this year I was appointed as Assistant Dean (Residential) within the Student Services Team. Pastoral care is a priority at Emmanuel and I find my experience invaluable in understanding students' needs. My duties include overseeing the Residential Tutors and Assistant Hall Porters, who provide support for students outside of office hours, so my experience helps in this area, too."

**Nicky Hart**  
**Administration Officer**

"As Emmanuel's Administration Officer, I am responsible for the College reception, front office, and admissions. In addition to everyday tasks helping students, customers, and visitors, I am responsible for the online student application process and answering queries from applicants and their parents. I also work closely with other front office staff members in helping to coordinate various tasks that arise daily. My aim is to make the whole College community feel welcome and supported to the best of my ability."



Emmanuel College Student Services Team (l-r) Duncan Barlow, Charlotte Lawrence, Nicky Hart, Kelly Wade-Johnson, Jennifer Jasinski, and Michael D'Arcy

**Duncan Barlow**, BA, BMin, BTh, MA(Th)  
**Chaplain**

"Being the Chaplain, I'm available for students of all faiths or none to talk through any issues they may want to discuss. My experiences as a husband, a dad, and having work outside College — including Toowong Uniting Church Pastor — help students to see life's bigger picture when we have conversations (and also means I'm qualified to tell dad jokes!). I also work with Emmanuel's student Christian Convenor to promote and grow the Christian foundations of the College and seek to help students see how trusting in Jesus can impact our study, relationships and, indeed, our whole worldview."

## RESIDENTIAL TUTORS AND HALL PORTERS

Emmanuel College provides a safe and secure environment for students 24 hours a day. Integral to this service are our Residential Tutors and Hall Porters, who attend to students' security and safety needs and pastoral care outside of regular office hours. This ranges from unlocking doors for students who have accidentally locked themselves out, to dealing with medical emergencies, to identifying and supporting homesick students.

Residential Tutors, who live on-site, are generally senior postgraduate students. They oversee College activities on weekends during the day and are assisted in their duties by the Assistant Hall Porters. Our Hall Porters, John McLeod and Peter Leventis, care for our students and ensure the College is secure in the evenings and overnight. Trained in security and pastoral care, John and Peter have many years' experience working with young people.



## CHANGE IS ON THE MENU: LIVE BELOW THE LINE

Susanna Connolly (front row, centre) with some of the Emmanuel College Live Below the Line team

by **Susanna Connolly**, Community Service Coordinator

One cup of coffee: \$4. A sandwich and a drink for lunch: \$10. A quick shop at the supermarket to pick up ingredients for tonight's dinner: \$15. Now, can you imagine living on just \$2 a day?

This is the reality for more than 1.2 billion people around the world who live under the extreme poverty line. Poverty is more than a lack of income; it manifests as hunger, malnutrition, and limited access to education and other basic services. Over the past two decades the number of people living in extreme poverty has more than halved — that's the good news. The bad news is that one in seven continue to live in extreme poverty.

This May, more than 40 Emmanuel College students participated in Oaktree's annual Live Below the Line fundraising campaign. During Live Below the Line, participants are sponsored to live on \$2 a day for five days. However, the challenge is not only to spend \$2 on food each day. The aim of Live Below the Line is to grow compassion, spread awareness and raise money to fund vital education initiatives in Cambodia, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea.

Oaktree is Australia's largest youth-run, anti-poverty organisation and partners with grassroots organisations in the Asia-Pacific region to empower young people through funding education initiatives and leadership development. The programs funded by Oaktree make meaningful change, enabling more young people to access education. Education can alleviate poverty and it is vital to personal, financial and social empowerment. For every extra year of education, a person's income can increase by up to 10 per cent.

Emmanuel College was fortunate to have two Oaktree representatives, Phoebe Nind and Caitlin Gordon-King, speak at our formal dinner. Their encouragement and support, just before the students began the challenge, was welcomed and appreciated.

The Emmanuel College team raised over \$7140 through sponsorship by family and friends. This far exceeded our original goal of \$5000 and we are very

grateful for the support. Several other UQ colleges also participated in Live Below the Line, altogether raising \$16,215. This money can fund the training of 32 teachers in Timor-Leste or Cambodia, or provide 162 children with the uniforms and class materials needed for three years of education, or fund 311 student scholarships. Poverty is a direct barrier to education. The money raised, and the initiatives it funds, can contribute to breaking down these barriers and enabling more young people to access education.

The Live Below the Line week was constantly challenging and always eye-opening. The students missed many luxuries, especially coffee. However, the toughest aspect of the campaign was realising the immense challenges and disadvantages faced by one in seven people around the world daily.







# FINDING FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING CULTURE IN JAPAN

by **Rebecca Azzopardi**, third-year Bachelor of Engineering student



Rebecca Azzopardi (front row, centre, wearing black kimono) with Mitsui Educational Foundation Study Tour participants and members of their host families following a traditional tea ceremony

In late November last year, I set off on, quite literally, a tour of a lifetime — the Mitsui Educational Foundation Study Tour of Japan. The tour, which has been running since 1971, aims to strengthen the bond between Australia and Japan, promoting mutual friendship and understanding of each nation's culture. Over the three weeks I was in Japan, I travelled to eight different cities, engaging in business, cultural and people-based exchange activities.

I began my journey in Sydney, where I met the seven other excited university students selected to participate in the tour.

Each of us were from different universities around Australia, studying degrees in (to name a few) engineering, international relations and fine arts. We were a diverse bunch, but all shared a passion to learn about Japan. Being able to engage with people of such different mindsets to my own was very rewarding, as it challenged me to think about the lens through which I perceive the world.



Traditional sushi



Robot Restaurant in Shinjuku, Tokyo, one of the district's most well-known tourist attractions

The tour of Japan was a phenomenal whirlwind of experiences, providing me with snapshots of the country's rich history and multifaceted culture. Visiting a Japanese hot spring (*onsen*) and participating in a tea ceremony allowed us to immerse ourselves in traditional Japanese culture, giving us an appreciation for the detail in which these customs have been preserved. In sharp contrast to these traditional practices were the bustling streets and subway stations of modern-day Tokyo, filled with lights, gaming arcades and thousands of people. Having grown up in northern Queensland, it was all far removed from anything I had ever experienced. I loved every second of it.

Two experiences particularly resonated with me, the first being my homestay with a Japanese family. For three days, I was looked after as one of their own, being made to feel at home





sake barrels

in a country that was completely foreign to me. The hospitality and genuine care I received was truly touching, with my host mother going so far as to give me her own bed to sleep in. I remain in touch with my host family, and look forward to doing so for many years to come.

From heart-warming to sobering, the other overwhelming experience was visiting Hiroshima. Spending time in this city, now a vibrant hub of life, profoundly affected me. Simply hearing of the events that occurred at Hiroshima can in no way prepare you for visiting the city — a place which will forever carry the scars of WWII in a very real and human way.



Study Tour participants at Todai-ji Temple, Nara, one of the world's largest wooden structures

Participating in the MEF Study Tour of Japan has taught me numerous things about both Japan and myself, broadening my horizons in a way that nothing else has. The tour has left me with a strong desire to learn the Japanese language, which I am pursuing thanks to Emmanuel College's Short Language Course. The trip also left me with a love of Japanese food, people and culture. I am truly grateful to Mitsui & Co. (Australia) Ltd for giving me this opportunity. I'm sure that many future Australian university students will find the program as rewarding as I did.



First tori gate leading to Hakone Shrine on the shores of Lake Ashi

The UQ Student Employability Centre has information on the Mitsui Educational Foundation Study Tour of Japan and other leadership opportunities and global experiences.

[www.employability.uq.edu.au](http://www.employability.uq.edu.au)

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW? DR JESSICA WALSH (EMC 2006-08)



I lived at Emmanuel College from 2006 to 2008, down by the river in Martin wing, then Glaister and Drewe. Since graduating from UQ, I've been extremely lucky to travel around the world, learning about different cultures and exploring wild landscapes. My scientific research focuses on the conservation of threatened

species and ecosystems globally. During my PhD at the University of Cambridge, UK, I developed methods to improve management effectiveness of protected areas. I'm excited to now be working on sustainable fisheries management and policy of Pacific salmon in the Great Bear Rainforest, British Columbia. I live in beautiful Vancouver, Canada, spoilt with views of impressive snow-capped mountains, extraordinary outdoor adventures and a flourishing micro-brewery scene.

### What do you remember most about College?

College was dominated by daily shenanigans with friends, 5pm dinner queues for the famous chicken and rice, and endless

procrastination from studying facilitated by DC++ and eTV. But the most memorable highlights were College balls, epic recoveries, Dancefest and getting blue for O Week.

### How did being part of the Emmanuel community shape your life?

I left Emmanuel with undoubtedly the best friends I'll ever have — ones that I hope will last for many more decades to come. In particular, College was where I met Ryan, my wonderful partner!

### If you had anything to say to your peers who attended College at the same time as you, what would it be?

It was such a pleasure to spend time with you at Emmanuel! I sincerely hope that you all have followed your dreams, created new ones and persisted when things are down. To those who have kept in touch, thank you so much for your ongoing friendship. Looking forward, I encourage you to explore your local nature reserves and I hope we can all be guided throughout life by principles of equality and environmental sustainability.

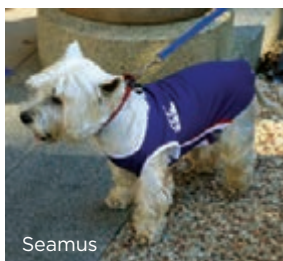


# SPORT SENSATIONS

Emmanuel College has enjoyed a sensational sporting semester. Our teams had great results in a number of Inter-College Competition sports: **Cross Country** (men 1st; women 2nd), **Badminton** (women 2nd; men 3rd), **Tennis** (women 2nd; men 4th), **U20 Rugby** (men 2nd), **Hockey** (women 3rd), **Cricket** (men 3rd), and **Rowing** (men 2nd; women 3rd). Continuing our successful run in the annual **UQ Great Court Race College Relay**, our men's team placed 2nd and our women's team placed 3rd.

This year, our enthusiastic supporters' ranks were joined by a special follower: Professor Brunckhorst's Westie Seamus — underneath that snowy coat beats the heart of a Blue Dog.

With Emmanuel currently in 3rd place in the men's and 4th in the women's ICC Sports Cups, our competitors and supporters are looking forward semester 2.



Seamus



Cross Country



Badminton team



Hockey team with Seamus



Seamus, Professor Brunckhorst and the Cricket team



Rowing Regatta



Tennis



Great Court Race College Relay



U20 Rugby



Blue Dog supporters



# ENCOURAGING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EMBRACING DIVERSITY

by **Lindsey File**, second-year Bachelor of Environmental Science student  
and **Hazel Kagwiria Muthomi**, first-year Bachelor of Environmental Management student

Environmental issues are at the forefront of global concern as climate change is turning into a more pressing problem and species are being lost to extinction at an alarming rate. The environment is something that connects all humans, as we all require a healthy planet to thrive. With each passing decade the world is becoming even more connected through travel, migration and technology. As American and Kenyan students living at Emmanuel and studying at The University of Queensland, we reflect this trend of globalisation.

Emmanuel College has made an effort to live sustainably through implementing recycling bins in every wing and participating in activities such as Clean Up Australia Day. However, there are some ways that the College could improve in terms of energy conservation and wastage. For example, we could turn off the hallway lights during the day that are otherwise permanently on, use more renewable resources such as solar panels, and donate excess food from the kitchen to the homeless or orphanages instead of throwing it away.

The College does a good job at supporting an international culture within the community. We have had students from the UK, Malaysia, Ecuador, India, China and beyond, which is reflected through the flags in the dining hall. Emmanuel welcomes these students into the Australian culture and offers opportunities to explore the greater Brisbane region further. However, the College could also improve by increasing the diversity of food available, having formal dinners that celebrate different cultures, and accepting more international students or students on exchange into the community.



Hazel Kagwiria Muthomi and Lindsey File

Emmanuel College has given us so much. It provides us with a home for eight months of the year, three meals a day and laundry service. It offers us tutorials that expand our learning, as well as sporting and cultural activities. Most important of all, it creates an environment where we feel safe and respected. It is because we love Emmanuel so much that we want it to be better. We challenge our College to become more environmentally friendly and we encourage our fellow Blue Dogs to embrace diversity further.

## RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE

by **Professor David Brunckhorst**, Provost and CEO

I was delighted to see this article by two of our international students come across my desk. Emmanuel College celebrates diversity, with some 24 nationalities represented across staff and students.

Before coming to Emmanuel, I researched recent surveys of 17 to 26 year olds. Overwhelmingly, the two most important issues of concern to this age group are future jobs and the environment. Of course, as a research professor in sustainability science and policy, I am on the same wavelength.

Emmanuel College sustainability initiatives are in abundance at present. Lighting has been moving towards 100 per cent highly efficient LEDs, with about 92 per cent currently completed. Solar panels are being installed on the long carport roof. The panels will produce around 86,000

kilowatt-hours per year — more than enough energy to run the kitchen and all its fridges and freezers. The economics are a no-brainer. Students are organising a “planting party” for early in semester 2. This will involve planting around 1000 native shrubs to extend and connect the habitat corridor for Blue Wrens along the river. After previous false starts, I am very pleased to see the recycling bin initiative working so well and our students reminding each other to “do the right thing”.

Perhaps it is no surprise that “ecology” and “economy” share a common root: “eco” from the Greek word “*oikos*”, meaning “the home”, which includes our living spaces from households (or College) to the earth. Unquestionably, we can always do more and I look forward to more ideas and initiatives from Emmanuel’s bright young minds.

# RETHINKING THE FACT/MEANING DICHOTOMY

by **Dr Paul Tyson**, Director of the Emmanuel Centre for the Study of Science, Religion and Society

Earlier this year I went to Cambridge in the UK to talk to a number of world-class scholars who are across science, the philosophy of science, and theology. The trip was a great success and nearly all of the people I spoke to signed on to pursue a significant research project with Emmanuel College. The terms of this project are inspired by Professor Peter Harrison's recent book *The Territories of Science and Religion*.

Professor Harrison, the Director of The University of Queensland's Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, is one of the international lead scholars in the history of modern science and religion. Professor Harrison is also an Academic Fellow of Emmanuel College, a group of academics who take part in the life of the College and enrich our students' lives, intellectually and personally. His work on the way the territories of science and religion have evolved historically describes how what we now call "religion" only emerged in its modern form about 300 years ago, and what we now call "science" only emerged in the nineteenth century. Once these two territories were marked out, the potential for conflict between them also emerged. There are reasons for this.

Modern science unlocks many of nature's secrets, giving us new insights and technologies that have both wonderful powers to heal and terrible powers to harm. But science itself has no depth in dealing with the perennial questions of human existence — its value, meaning and purpose. This is because science is a method of knowledge construction that relies on observing measurable phenomena and making mathematical models, so it is not equipped to deal with value and meaning. Even so, scientific

reductionism is a philosophical outlook that presupposes an understanding of reality where only material things are real, so values and meanings can be made up however we want. Such an outlook is inherently at odds with religious conceptions of value and meaning.



Springtime at the University of Cambridge, UK

Whether one is a philosophical materialist or not, the big challenge of our times is how we integrate the staggering instrumental power of modern technology with wise values and true meanings so that we can pursue the common good. The project that the Emmanuel Centre is undertaking facilitates the coming together of scientists, historians and theologians to talk about how we have defined science and religion, and how the fact/meaning dichotomy inherent in the separated territories of modern science and modern religion might be re-thought. It will be a fascinating project involving some of the deepest thinkers in their fields.

## EMMANUEL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SCIENCE, RELIGION AND SOCIETY

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**28 JULY**

**"Physics and Metaphysics" | "Metaphysics and Theology" seminars**  
with Rev. Dr Stephen Ames

**18 AUGUST**

**"Reimagining Environmental Policy — A Public Theology Challenge" seminar**  
with Dr Chris Dalton

**18 SEPTEMBER**

**"Stem Cells: Science, Ethics and Theology" seminar**  
with Dr Nathan Palpant and Dr Megan Munsie

**27 OCTOBER**

**"Why do we (Still) Believe in Zombie Economics?" seminar**  
with Professor John Quiggin

To keep up to date with Emmanuel Centre for the Study of Science Religion and Society events, please visit [www.emmanuel.uq.edu.au/centre](http://www.emmanuel.uq.edu.au/centre).

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# Vale

## John Flemming

(EMC 2005-08)

11.12.86 – 12.12.16

Emmanuel alumnus John Patrick Flemming passed away peacefully surrounded by his family and friends on 12 December 2016, one day after his 30th birthday.

A much loved Emmanuel student, John spent four of his university years, 2005 to 2008, in various Emmanuel wings, participating in all College events and building treasured friendships which were to last the distance in his short, but purposeful, life. Never one to let his degenerative condition, Friedreich's Ataxia, nor his wheelchair, dictate his life, a Bachelor of Science (Maths) followed by an Honours with Distinction (Maths) were a testament to his determination to succeed and dedication to study.

Among the many fond memories spoken of by his Emmanuel friends at his funeral were tales of his incredible sense of humour, his kindness and generosity to staff and students alike, his willingness to give anything a go, and his total commitment to Emmanuel's cultural and sporting events. He participated in every event that his wheelchair would allow, once even fronting up at a College concert where he spent 15 minutes spinning joke after joke, with the audience in fits of laughter. He was also known to enjoy racing his wheelchair against his friends around the College grounds.



John (centre) at Emmanuel College Orientation Week 2005



John (second from left) with Emmanuel College friends

Weekend in, weekend out, his wheelchair was parked by the side of an oval, whatever the weather, as he cheered on his beloved College's sporting teams. Despite being unable to play any sport himself, John was a staunch supporter of the Melbourne Storm, the Brisbane Roar, and the Australian cricket team, and he was a driving force in organising many trips to various venues and matches for his Emmanuel friends.

John often stated to his family that the four years at Emmanuel College were the "very best years of my life". He loved the many nights of Monopoly, chess, and war games with other students, and maintained close friendships with Kevin Wu Won, Jordan Hancock, Rob Cope, Shaun Chen, Amanda Sproule, Steph Pernase, Simon and Skye LaBlack, and Arun Kannan, to name a few.

John was a young man loved not only for his wit, generosity, and positivity, but for his incredible appreciation of life itself. A truly remarkable person, he has left an indelible footprint in the world and on Emmanuel College.



John with his parents Peter and Carmel Flemming

# Vale Emeritus Professor Graeme Langdon Wilson

(EMC 1936-39)

26.09.17 – 14.12.16

Graeme Langdon Wilson was born in Brisbane on 26 September 1917 and led a full and distinguished life. A natural and admired leader whose advice and opinion was often sought and generously provided, he spent his early years at Victoria Point where he attended the local one-teacher school. Later he boarded at Brisbane Boys' College where he was captain of rugby, rowing, and athletics, and, ultimately, School Captain.

Graeme earned an Open Scholarship to The University of Queensland prior to World War II where he completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Hons) and was awarded a University Medal in 1940. A talented sportsman, Graeme became the UQ Athletic Champion over three years, as well as earning several Australian university titles. He was Captain of the Australian University team touring New Zealand and represented Australia at the British Empire (now Commonwealth) Games.



Graeme Wilson (front row, second from right) with Principal Rev. Mervyn Henderson (front row, centre) and the Emmanuel College 1936 Athletic Premiership Team



Principal Professor Stewart Gill OAM, Joy Wilson, College Council member Mrs Sally Algate, and Emeritus Professor Graeme Wilson at his Honorary Fellow induction at Emmanuel College Founders' Day 2010

In July 1941 Graeme enlisted in the Australian Army at Victoria Point and began military service with the AIF. He was sent to Malaya as Lieutenant in the 2/26th Battalion AIF. In 1942 he was captured at the fall of Singapore and imprisoned as a Japanese POW, spending some time on the Thai-Burma Death Railway.

After being discharged from the army in 1945, he returned to Australia and married Joy Fisher. The wedding was conducted by Principal Rev. Mervyn Henderson at Emmanuel College.

Graeme also earned a Rhodes Scholarship and completed a PhD at Oxford gaining a lectureship in botany and progressing to Professor of Agriculture. He received the Colin Donald Medal from the Australian Society of Agronomy, which is awarded to an eminent agriculturalist for outstanding contribution to agronomy.

A passionate environmentalist, in retirement Graeme became Editor in Chief of *Crop Science* (Elsevier, Netherlands), President of the Rotary Club of Brisbane, and won the Lord Mayor's Senior Citizen of the Year award in 2013 for his volunteer work.

On speaking of his time at Emmanuel College, Graeme said, "I contemplate in wonder the changes at Emmanuel since my days in residence. It provided somewhere to live and (in retrospect, importantly) fellowship. What is there now is rather mind boggling, and while still closely linked with UQ, there is substantial independence of activities. In ways it reminds me of the Oxford colleges which were initially quite independent places of learning and, while now part of Oxford University, still operate in many ways independently. I often wonder to what extent I might have been influenced in later life if Emmanuel had, in my days, offered so many options."

Graeme will be missed by many people whose lives he touched and enriched. He is survived by wife Joy and children Alan, Barbara and Andrew.



# MEIKLEJOHN'S SILVER SALVER RESURFACES

by **Michelle James**, Marketing and Communications Officer

An ornate nineteenth-century silver salver presented to Emmanuel College's first Principal, Reverend John Meiklejohn MA DD, over a century ago has recently made its way back to College thanks to his family's generosity.



Portrait of Reverend John Meiklejohn MA DD, first Principal of Emmanuel College

Reverend John Meiklejohn (1841–1915), originally from Larkhall, near Glasgow in Scotland, was a prominent minister of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria, first Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia when it was federated in 1901, and a professor of Systematic Theology. Announcing his appointment as the College's first principal, *The Brisbane Courier* of 15 September 1911 reported that Meiklejohn was "a distinguished scholar,

and has fulfilled professorial duties at Ormond College [Melbourne] on various occasions". Meiklejohn served as Emmanuel College Principal from 1911 to 1914, without remuneration at his request.

In centuries past, salvers were used in formal circumstances as a tray to serve food and drinks or to present letters and visiting cards. They also had a commemorative function, as a memento of and award for success. When Meiklejohn retired in 1914, the College presented him with a silver salver.

Three generations later, Michael Hunter of Lanarkshire in Scotland contacted the College, writing:

I have recently researched the background of a silver salver which has been in our family for many years. It was presented to my great-grandfather's younger brother, the Very Rev. John Meiklejohn when he retired as founding Principal of Emmanuel College in 1914. It is inscribed in Latin, which translates as:

VERY REVEREND

JOHN MEIKLEJOHN MA DD

EMMANUEL COLLEGE BRISBANE

HAVING TODAY RELINQUISHED THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL

THIS SALVER IS GIVEN IN WELL-DESERVED

AND GRATEFUL AFFECTION

BY THE COLLEGE SENATE

11 NOVEMBER 1914

The salver is silver, with hallmarks indicating that it was made by William Bateman of London in 1839. It weighs approximately 2250 grams, and has been described by a silver expert as a very nice piece. I wonder if you would be interested in having the salver for the College.

Now in the College's collection and on display in the Stevens Bonnin Room, Meiklejohn's salver has been polished to a mirror-finish revealing the intricacy and brilliancy of the decorated piecrust border and four scroll feet. Hallmarks on the reverse verify the year it was made, the silversmith, and the 925/1000 sterling silver purity, which is signified by the lion passant (walking) mark.

Emmanuel is very grateful to Michael Hunter and his family for their generosity in returning this historically and culturally significant artefact to the College.



The 1839 sterling silver salver presented to Rev. John Meiklejohn on his retirement in 1914

#### References:

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## Fiat Lux

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WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY  
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#### Editor

Michelle James, Marketing and Communications Officer

#### Student photographers

Alexander Dimmock and Christopher Roche

#### Alumni relations

Margy Chatburn, Director of Advancement

Comments and story suggestions welcome; please  
contact [communications@emmanuel.uq.edu.au](mailto:communications@emmanuel.uq.edu.au).

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**front cover image:** Emmanuel College band – winners of 2017 ICC Bandfest  
**photo:** Bimo Prabowo Reksoprodjo, International House



**Emmanuel College**  
within The University of Queensland

**Ph: + 61 7 3871 9100 • Fax: + 61 7 3870 7183 • [enquiries@emmanuel.uq.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@emmanuel.uq.edu.au)**

**Sir William MacGregor Drive, St Lucia Qld 4067 • [www.emmanuel.uq.edu.au](http://www.emmanuel.uq.edu.au)**

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