

# 2021 Excellence

Vol. 11 | 2021



The Scots College  
Sydney Australia

# Contents

- 3 From the Principal
- 4 Academic Excellence
  - 4 Year 12 Achievements
  - 12 Achievements Across the College
- 14 Co-Curricular Excellence
- 18 Sport Excellence
- 22 Staff Excellence

**Cover:** Head Prefect, Max McCathie (foreground); with Head Day Boy Prefect, Tyson Cogan; Head Boarder Prefect, Connor McMullen; and Deputy Head Prefect, Charles Sayers looking on.

## **Publisher**

The Scots College  
Locked Bag 5001  
Bellevue Hill NSW 2023  
Phone +61 2 9391 7600  
Fax +61 2 9327 6947  
[www.scots.college](http://www.scots.college)

## **Editorial**

Dr Ian PM Lambert  
Marcom Services

## **Design**

[imageseven | imageseven.com.au](http://imageseven.com.au)

CRICOS Provider Code: 02287G

The Presbyterian Church  
(New South Wales) Property Trust  
ABN 86 438 712 994



# From the Principal

We celebrate 2021 as another challenging and highly rewarding year.

Success arrives in many forms, and it needs to be understood almost as individually as the people recognised. This College publication, *2021 Excellence*, records the extensive adventures and learning experiences of our students. In academic, co-curricular and sporting arenas, they continue to shine.

Learning to be a member of a team and a leader of a team is at the core of that aspiration. Leadership is about influence and service. In the second half of 2021, I am sure we all missed our face-to-face engagement and participation in sporting teams, bands, orchestras, classes and numerous groups at the College.

In another way, it has provided us all with a moment in time to reflect, reset and reimagine our collective futures. Leadership is about vision. It is about tomorrow, about hope, about mission. Great teams help you walk towards the horizon of God's eternal perspective and, in thus doing, envision and achieve goals that sometimes seem beyond you.

Technology, work and social habits are shifting and changing at an exponential rate. Reinventing education requires educational practitioners, structures, programs

and systems that are a twenty-first century fit for our purpose. We do not seek to model ourselves on existing structures of schooling that perpetuate older paradigms of learning. Rather, we look to model education around boys' aspirations and their areas of giftedness.

For us, as a Christian College, reinvention is an ongoing commitment to the process that honours and responds to God's call to adopt a positive disposition towards transformation; it is not just a single act of restructure, but a way of life.

We need to be cautious of the traditions and practices that foster habits of comfortable complacency. Structure, order and predictability are important, so long as they are complemented by a restless energy that seeks to find better ways to fulfil the promise of our values – The Quest for Excellence, Our Faith and Tradition and Leadership Through Teams.

It is my hope that we continue in our collective quest for excellence.



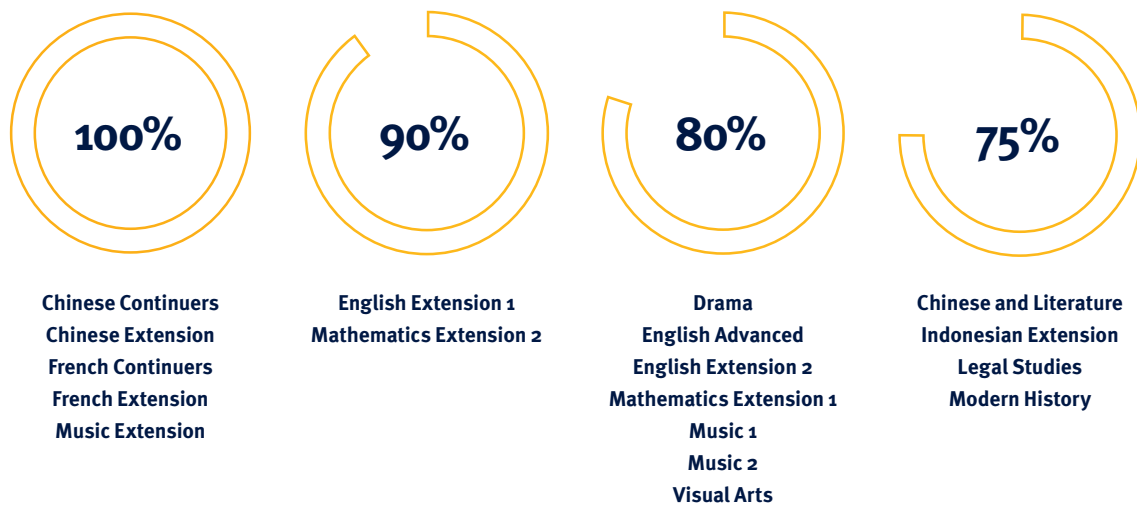
Dr Ian PM Lambert  
Principal



# Academic Excellence

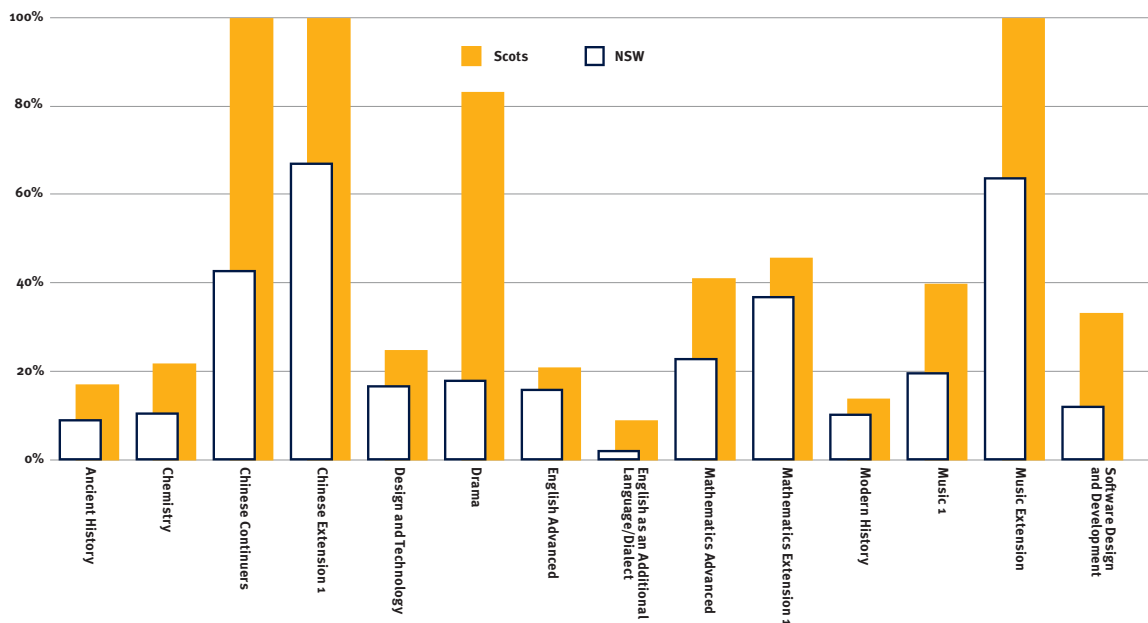
## Year 12 Achievements

Proportion of Boys in Top Two Bands by Subject



## Scots Boys Awarded Band 6

Compared to the state average





## HSC Results

If HSC results were judged solely on the proportion of Band 6s achieved, our 2021 results showed a drop from their previous record highs in 2020. To do this, however, would be at the expense of the inspiring stories of success and resilience that characterised the class of 2021's HSC results.

Strong results were obtained, particularly in the Mathematics Department with just under 70 percent of students achieving one of the top two bands in the Advanced course and 84 percent of students achieving this in the Extension I course. Chinese (Continuers and Extension) and Music

Extension both recorded 100 percent of students achieving a top band result.

It is, however, the individual stories of success that distinguish these HSC results. Ten students were recognised on the New South Wales All-round Achievers merit list, two received individual recognition for their exceptional performance in courses and a high proportion of boys were offered unconditional early entry and 'first round' places at universities.

## 2021 State High Achievers



**Thomas Choong**  
9th Mathematics

An exceptional student, Thomas is extremely motivated and sets very high standards for himself, achieving them through perseverance and hard work. His commitment to personal excellence has seen him reach this level of state recognition. The Mathematics Department is extremely proud and congratulates Thomas on his achievement.



**Kyle Soepono**  
5th Indonesian Extension

A dedicated student of Indonesian throughout his years at the College, Kyle has a deep appreciation of the language and culture, inspired by his teacher, Mr Pak Nyoman. The Languages Department is very proud of the results achieved through Kyle's enthusiasm and commitment to excellence.

“

In academic, co-curricular and sporting arenas, [our students] continue to shine.

## 2021 High Performers

**99.80** ATAR



**Edwin She**  
Dux of the College

**Ambition** After my time at Scots, I would like to pursue my interest in mathematics, in a career within commerce.

**99.40** ATAR



**Joshua Wei**

**Ambition** After graduating, I wish to go interstate to study a Bachelor of Dental Surgery, with goals of eventually attaining a Doctor of Dentistry.

**99.25** ATAR



**James Mackay**

**Ambition** I would like to spend the summer travelling along Australia's east coast, before settling down into a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws degree at The University of Sydney in 2022.

**98.95** ATAR



**Hamish Robertson**

**Ambition** I am hoping to go to university interstate to complete a health science degree, then do postgraduate medicine. I would like to travel the world, experiencing all it has to offer, while keeping in touch with my friends from Scots.

**98.85** ATAR



**Charles Sayers**

**Ambition** I aim to pursue my interests in law and economics at either The University of Sydney, the Australian National University or overseas in the United Kingdom. I look forward to maintaining strong connections with my Scots friends.

**98.75** ATAR



**Ethan Chandler**

**Ambition** After my time at the College, I would like to take some time off to travel around Australia and New Zealand. I hope to pursue a career in medicine.

**98.70** ATAR



**Harry Murfet**

**Ambition** After finishing Year 12, I hope to study medicine so that I can have a meaningful impact on the community, whilst maintaining the friendships I have made during my time at Scots.

**98.70** ATAR



**Alec Rozenbergs**  
Proxime Accessit to the Dux

**Ambition** I will endeavour to study a bachelor's degree in commerce/law at university.

## 2021 High Performers

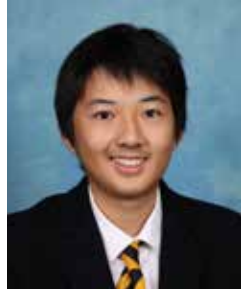
**98.50** ATAR



**Charley Huang**

**Ambition** After graduating from Scots, I would like to study economics and mechanical engineering, whilst maintaining my study in music.

**98.50** ATAR



**Mason Yu**

**Ambition** After the HSC, I hope to attend the University of New South Wales to study a Master of Actuarial Studies.

**98.45** ATAR



**Aaron Forman**

**Ambition** I hope to study economics and finance, while making the most of university life – taking every opportunity that comes, meeting new people and differentiating myself. Slotted somewhere in the future, I also wish to travel and uncover the world for me, personally.

**98.40** ATAR



**Kyle Soepono**

**Ambition** I want to study engineering or economics at either The University of Sydney or the Australian National University. I also want to make the most of post-HSC life, travelling, playing rugby and pursuing some sort of creative passion.

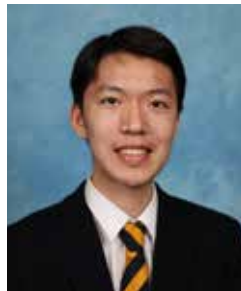
**98.25** ATAR



**Justin Qiao**

**Ambition** After graduation, I plan to discover new passions at university, working hard to live life to the fullest.

**98.05** ATAR



**Shimin (William) Lu**

**Ambition** After graduating from Scots, I intend to pursue my interests at The University of Sydney, undertaking a Bachelor of Commerce/Advanced Studies. I am excited for life at university and eager to make new friends.

For the full list of ATAR results above 95, please visit [scots.college/academic-performance](https://scots.college/academic-performance).

## 2021 Dux Profiles



**Year 7**  
**William Porter**  
James Bee

William has a passion for learning and achieves excellence in all his endeavours. He has a strong work ethic, is constantly striving to do his best and is a positive role model to his peers. William is a valued member of the Debating team and has received unanimous praise from his teachers for his outstanding effort in all subjects.



**Year 8**  
**Zhenpei (Lucas) Zhu**  
Brandt

Lucas is committed to every activity he takes on. He was awarded a Pass with Honours in his Grade 8 Australian Music Examinations Board (AMEB) cello exam and delivered a presentation on 'Maths and Music' in the MaPS (Mathematics and Problem Solving) Correspondence Program. Lucas' enthusiasm for learning is an asset to Scots and his peers.



**Year 9**  
**Macgregor Finlayson**  
Anderson

Macgregor has balanced his academic, sport and co-curricular commitments very successfully. He actively participated in the Glengarry program and the school musical, and has demonstrated great focus and effort, achieving an outstanding grade point and effort point average. He is commended for his maturity and engagement.



**Year 10**  
**Jehiel Pather**  
Macky

Jehiel sets himself high standards and then strives to exceed them. His teachers comment on his work ethic, willingness to learn and adaptability. He is a natural leader and encourages others by his actions. He can be relied on to get involved with activities as diverse as STEAM, Debating and Chess, and is a keen sportsman.



**Year 11**  
**Thomas Choong**  
Bruce

Thomas is a true intellectual academic, displaying a natural curiosity and a desire to explore new ideas and concepts. He has highly sophisticated analysis and problem-solving skills, and combines academic excellence with a love of sport and music. He cares deeply about important issues, while exhibiting a sense of humour and relaxed nature.



**Year 12**  
**Edwin She**  
Fraser

Edwin is inquisitive and highly motivated. His work ethic has led to exceptional academic results. His meticulous nature and drive for excellence set a standard for his peers to emulate. Attaining a Perfect Score and Gold Award in the invitation-only Australian Mathematical Olympiad, amongst other achievements, Edwin has excelled in his time at the College.



## The Art of Life



The graduating cohort of 2021 has endured two lockdowns, various periods of isolation and near constant Zoom classes and meetings – all the while separated from their normal social environment.

For a number of students, art provided a rare opportunity to step outside their home-based learning and devote themselves to a form of creative expression that helped untangle and interpret this unusual set of circumstances.

The 2021 HSC Showcase artworks were outstanding and diverse. They include Harry Prodes' collection of costumes in *The Vital Signs Collection*, Louis McCarthy's documentary photography as featured in his *Dystopia* and Jaedon Djerrkura's *Totems from the Wangurri and Warramiri Clan in the Yolngu Culture*, just to name a few.

Some of Scots' finest young artists have produced some very fine works indeed.



*Dystopia* by Louis McCarthy.

Artist's Statement: "My film-based photographic series immerses its audience into the passive world of the industrial paradigm ..."



*The Vital Signs Collection* by Harry Prodes.

Artist's statement: "The Vital Signs Collection focuses on rising temperatures, the pulse of our rivers, the air we breathe and the pressure the Earth is under ..."



*Totems from the Wangurri and Warramiri Clan in the Yolngu Culture* by Jaedon Djerrkura.

Artist's Statement: "This painting ... represents both my mother's and father's totems from the Wangurri and Warramiri clan in the Yolngu culture ..."

## A Real Adventure

The Adventure Academy was introduced in Term 3, 2021. An extension of the Glengarry experience, this carefully designed program encourages 20 Year 9 boys to take responsibility for their learning, achieving their goals and engaging with others meaningfully in a new, adult world. Even with adaptations for pandemic restrictions, it was an exhilarating experience.

The students delighted in Bannockburn, located near Culburra Beach, where they hit the waves for surfing lessons. The boys learnt farm skills including horticulture, animal handling, regenerative land management and machinery use. They built nesting boxes to assist animals after the fires, erected new fences, drenched animals, planted an organic garden and even became involved with the future design of Bannockburn itself. Groups rotated through horseriding instruction and all spoke fondly of their horses.

Back at Glengarry, the boys continued their academic studies via Zoom with teachers and collaborative projects. There were fitness sessions as well as time with local craftsman, Mr Travis Frenay, who instructed the boys in paddle building, with exceptional results.

The boys then used their paddles for a canoe expedition. They were the first group to embark on a river journey that joined Glengarry and Bannockburn. The planned 100 kilometres over six days saw them cross the Tallowa Dam and travel the upper reaches of the Shoalhaven River.

The 2021 Adventure Academy concluded with a six-day experience on the tall ship, *Søren Larsen*. The ship sailed to Jervis Bay to collect the students from Bannockburn and return to Sydney. The group experienced four metre swells, 30 knot winds and four-hour watches day and night. On the final day, each watch coordinated the ship – they selected their captain, navigator, engineer and first mate, then set the sails and navigated five nautical miles from point A to point B in a set time. Sailing into Sydney Harbour, the students (and staff) had covered a journey of 456 nautical miles (850 kilometres)!

The next Adventure Academy will build further on this extraordinary learning experience.



1. In the inaugural year of Adventure Academy, Year 9 boys Alexander Doble, Felix Lydiard, Lachlan Colin (standing on boom), Campbell Bowman and Carter Evans set sail on tall ship *Søren Larsen*.
2. The inaugural Adventure Academy boys embracing the rural life at Bannockburn.

“

Year 9 boys ... take responsibility for their learning, achieving their goals and engaging with others meaningfully ...

## Great Moments in Science and Geography



Scots boys excelled in Science, both as individuals and as teammates, whether they were in the classroom, immersed in imagined scenarios or focused on home-based learning.

### Scots' Titration Competition

In July, after 18 months of training, Years 10, 11 and 12 Chemistry students tested their skills in the Scots Titration Competition club final. The competition involved standardising a solution of sodium hydroxide and then using this to calculate the concentration of an unknown acetic acid solution. The result came down to a difference of 0.001 moles per litre. The winners were Year 12 boys Oscar Dai, James Harris and Tianyu Wu – well done!

### The Big Science Competition

Between February and May, Year 10 students participated in the Australian Science Innovations Big Science Competition, achieving outstanding results: 11 high distinctions, 23 distinctions and 37 credits.

The competition tests a student's science knowledge, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, with questions set in contemporary contexts and aligned with the Australian Science Curriculum.

### Dream Rover Robotics

In July, Albert Zhong (Year 7) was a member of the Sydney Robotics Club's Dream Rover team who achieved sixth place out of the nine countries competing in the second Kibo Robot Programming Challenge.

Each team was faced with the scenario of an air leak on the International Space Station. They had to repair the rupture that had been caused by a small meteor hitting it at a velocity of approximately 28,000 kilometres per hour and ensure the space station remained safe.

The Dream Rover team earned the right to represent Australia in the international competition by winning a national trial round in

*A still shot of Felix Pham (Year 10) from his Geography documentary, in which he investigates the tipping point for ice sheets melting.*

early 2021. Most other countries were represented by university-based teams, while Dream Rover was composed of primary and secondary school students from across Sydney – a remarkable achievement.

### Environmental Tipping Points

In Term 2, Year 10 Geography students learnt about environmental tipping points and how they relate to climate change. They put forward the question: when, or if, will we reach a point of no return?

Groups were asked to research a specific tipping point and present a short factual documentary video. Students investigated topics such as ocean acidification, ice sheets melting and the perceptions of climate change.

# Achievements Across the College

## Poetry in Mathematics

On Friday 19 November, James Mackay (Year 12) was featured in *The Sydney Morning Herald* in an article about solving 2021's hardest (and optional!) HSC Mathematics Extension 2 question. James provided an outstanding explanation of the solution.

You can view the full article, complete with James' mathematical explanation, via the QR code below.

The mathematicians at the College consider his answer to be "mathematical poetry".



*James Mackay (Year 12) in the process of solving the hardest HSC Mathematics Extension 2 question.  
Photo supplied by Dominic Lorrimer, The Sydney Morning Herald.*

## The Business of Business Studies

The Applied Entrepreneurship Program is an innovative framework, preparing boys for their higher learning and vocational pathways. It offers a future-focused approach that embraces innovative educational strategy.

In August, the Applied Entrepreneurship Program students completed their Business Services intensive, with a number of students immersed in an accelerated Economics program with the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

Then, towards the end of Term 3, the Business and Economics Department launched the Accelerated Business Studies Course for Year 10 students.

This was an exciting development, providing boys with the opportunity to accelerate their HSC studies.

Students were invited to apply for the program after being identified as strong potential candidates for the course based on their progress in Commerce. Fifteen were selected to undertake Preliminary Business Studies in Year 10 and HSC Business Studies in Year 11. Following the successful completion of Preliminary Business Studies, the Year 10 students commenced the HSC course in Term 4 2021 and will sit their HSC examination in Year 11 in 2022.

The course fits into Scots' personalised learning model, which enables boys to participate

in learning experiences that are engaging and challenging, ensuring students develop greater flexibility and depth in their thinking.

The Year 10 participants in the inaugural 2021 course were Harrison Bathgate, Jack Beck, Andrew Bennett, Thomas Bullock, Will Destro, Iwo Ellis, Mike Giannikouris, Maxwell Halliday, Jeremy Lau, Ruben Mead, Mason O'Brien, Oliver Qi, Raffaele Rossi, Jack Ruming and Archie Taylor.

The majority of HSC students in the Applied Entrepreneurship Program received early entry offers to UTS and Bond University.

## Excellence in English



The Scots College's students again produced excellent English results in the 2021 HSC. Students excelled across all courses, with historic performances that consolidated the College's high standing in English.

In English Advanced, 21 percent of students produced results in the top Band 6 level, and 82 percent of the cohort performed in the top two bands. In Extension 1 English, 95 percent performed in the top two bands (E3 and E4), and in Extension 2 English, 87 percent of the cohort performed in the top two bands (E3 and E4).

What is also very pleasing is how these English results stand in relation to the students' results across all subjects. In each HSC English course, the cohorts held English as their first or second top result at very high levels: 50 percent of Extension 2 English; 45 percent of English Standard; 39 percent of English Advanced; 36 percent of English as an Additional Language or Dialect; and 18 percent of Extension 1 English. As the only subject that all students take, these results are a testament to the diligence of our 2021 HSC cohort and the support of teachers who guided them through the complex process of responding to HSC English texts.

One of the texts most students studied during the HSC was Zadie Smith's reflection on the process of writing, *That Crafty Feeling*. In this text, Smith ruminates about the ultimate goal of satisfaction with the final pieces that we write: "... this line, that paragraph, these were exactly what I meant to write, and the fact was, I'd written them,

*HSC student, Joshua Gale, one of the top performers in English, presenting his work on TS Eliot poetry to his peers.*

and I felt OK about it, felt good, even. It's a feeling I recommend to all of you."

The College is most proud of what the class overcame to write what they felt, to write what they meant. In the strangest of times when this group was embattled by school shutdowns, home-based learning, changed schedules and cancelled events, they displayed the fortitude and poise to not only create pieces of writing, but to craft these with artistic quality. They would 'feel good' about this. Their experience commends to us all this same excellence of character they have embodied.

“

... these results are a testament to the diligence of our 2021 HSC cohort ...

# Co-Curricular Excellence

## They Rocked Us



The April 2021 Senior School Musical was an incredible accomplishment for all involved, especially after the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on 2020's musical.

This year's production, *We Will Rock You*, featured a full rock band, three-tiered scaffolding staging, a hydraulic lift and state-of-the-art rock concert lighting. The spectacular lighting was set up by the same crew that orchestrated the Sydney New Year's Eve lighting display, Chinese New Year lighting, Vivid Sydney's *Cathedral of Light* and Ricky Martin's and Pnau's touring concerts.

*The extraordinary cast performing Bohemian Rhapsody with Charles Sackar (Year 11) as Britney Spears, Louie Gu (Year 12) as Khashoggi, Jack Hawthorne (Year 11) as Lead Guitarist, Sterling Nasa (Year 11) as Galileo and Jet Hendrie (Year 11) as Buddy.*

In a breathtaking addition, lead guitarist Jack Hawthorne (Year 11, and Head Prefect in 2022) flew – yes, flew! – in and out of the roof cavity.

The most exciting element was the ability to perform to full houses every night, over the four performances, at the NIDA Parade Theatre.

## Musical Moments and Mentors

At Scots, we are committed to providing expert guidance for every boy to develop a deep love for, and value of, music, regardless of their existing skill level or future musical aspirations.

Our community embodied this philosophy in rallying together to put on the Live Winter Music Showcase concerts in Term 2. These concerts were a fantastic opportunity to come together after a long period of missing live performance. The 300 performers exceeded expectations, proving that the whole is, indeed, greater than the sum of its parts. They displayed how resilience is a significant part of any quest for excellence and delivered stirring, artistic performances.

During the July school holiday break, the College held two pilot 'activities days' via Zoom, introducing The International Students' Music Mentoring Program.



*The Roar Vocal Ensemble performing at the Live Winter Music Showcase at The Concourse, Chatswood, under the direction of the Coordinator of Vocal Music, Mr Alex Pringle.*

The program was an opportunity for boys to learn from the experiences of others, cultivate leadership qualities and organisational abilities, and embody Scots' Leadership Through Teams approach. This was achieved with the assistance of mentors from the community organisation Jericho Road and recent Old Boy graduates Mr Andy Chen ('20) and Mr Leon Zhong ('20).

## Walking Through History

Co-Curricular Activities program, The History Society, develops boys' technical skills, curiosity and leadership through a spirit of exploration and service for the wider community.

The student body of The History Society has begun creating projects of remembrance and virtual exploration of the College's near 130-year history. One successful project has been the creation of a guided walking tour app of the College, which can be downloaded by searching for 'Scots College Tour' via any app provider. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of the Senior School campus and explore some of the stories from Scots during World War II.

The 'Scots in World War II' tour begins at Aspinall House with war hero, Mr Guthrie Wilson, who survived a firing squad and went on to become a novelist and the fifth Principal of Scots. Incorporating GPS technology, visitors explore Scots' buildings and hear many remarkable, mostly unknown, stories.

The tour concludes at the War Memorial Chapel (known colloquially as 'The Chapel'), where the remains of the

College's wartime Principal, Mr Alexander Anderson, and his wife, May, are interred in the east wall.

Developed in collaboration with the College's Office of Heritage and Tradition, the Scots in World War II app was nominated for an Australian Society of Archivists' Mander Jones Award in Category 4, relating to an innovation which "uses, features or interprets the organisation's archives ... addressing unmet needs."



1. *The History Society Year 12 students Sebastian Mitchelmore and Sam Crow selecting the 'Scots in World War II' section of the College walking tour app, to learn more about Principal, Mr Guthrie Wilson.*
2. *Members of The Scots College community can discover more about the College's history with the app created by The History Society students.*

## The Launch of Academy Sports

The inaugural Academy Sports program was introduced for sports and competitive activities that do not sit within the College's existing Years 7 to 12 curriculum and are not included in the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) summer and winter competitions.

Four students represented Scots at New South Wales Combined Independent Schools (NSWCIS) and AAGPS in AFL, six boys were national champions in Beach Volleyball and numerous athletes trialled for NSWCIS in Hockey, Rugby League and Touch Football.

A record number of athletes trained for the Triathlon (which was unfortunately cancelled due to flooding), there were Master catches in Sportfishing and some impressive results in other Academy Sports activities. Public Speaking and Debating welcomed a passionate Director in Ms Jeannae Bierstedt, with students excelling in many of their competitions, notably as representatives at the only Great Public Schools (GPS) competition to have occurred in Term 3.



1. *The Public Speaking and Debating Senior 1sts celebrating a win against Newington College in round three of the GPS season in August: Isaac Zhang (Year 12); Director of Public Speaking and Debating, Ms Jeannae Bierstedt; Captain of Debating, Oscar Taylor (Year 12); Harry Worthley (Year 12); Joshua Gale (Year 12); and Coach, Miss Eden Blair.*
2. *Thomas Hitchens (Year 10), 2021 NSWCIS Representative and member of the 2021 inaugural AFL Academy.*

## Toby Caesar's Remembrance Day Speech

For Remembrance Day on 11 November 2021, Toby Caesar (Year 9) wrote a speech to honour the memory of his grandfather and those who have served Australia in military service. Toby reflected on the opportunity, saying: "We should never forget those men and women who fought for their future generations, especially those who did not return to their families."

The following extract has been supplied by Mr Peter Hickson, Secretary of the Rose Bay RSL Sub-Branch, where the speech was read.

"My Grandfather, Joseph Caesar, served as a leading aircraftman in the Ventura bomber from 1944 to 1946. He served on the front lines of Papua New Guinea, the Pacific Islands and the Philippines.

"Remembrance Day ... commemorates the actions of all of those who have fought and died in military service since World War I. It reminds all Australians that they didn't die in vain. We live in our free, democratic society today because of their courage and bravery.

"... It is very important to do this every year, so we always recognise what our war heroes did for us and what they sacrificed for our freedom ... While young Australians are taught about these acts of service ... the meaning of Remembrance Day is found in the individual stories of those who have served Australia.

"... My Grandfather was an important figure when I was growing up. He passed away three years ago at the age of 92 and, whilst he shared some stories with us about the war times,



*Mr Joseph Caesar's war medals, which are carefully preserved by Toby Caesar's (Year 9) family.*

we know we only heard a fraction of the terrible events that unfolded.

"We are forever grateful for what he and others did."

## Total Camera Control

Throughout 2021, the Co-Curricular Photography program focused on technique and creative development.

While they were strengthening their camera basics and learning to control the camera in manual mode, the boys tackled a different technical brief every week: everything from working with light and shadow to creating portraits and handling an external flash for action shots.

During the Photography sessions, the students created a visual diary, summarising their research and work created. The creative work circled around defining what it means to be Australian and how this can be expressed visually. Their research considered relevant

Australian photographers like Max Dupain, especially his iconic image of the *Sunbaker*.

The boys made great efforts to submit their work to photography competitions, including the Head On Photo Festival (Student Award) and The National Portrait Gallery's Little Darlings Youth Portrait Prize with the theme of 'identity'.

1. Thomas Cooke's (Year 11) photograph, Jayden, makes effective use of tonal contrast.
2. Luka Mattani's (Year 12) photograph, Peaks and Troughs, captures "... surfers exist[ing] in these troughs of shadow, contrasted against the highlighted peaks."





## Cadets and Pipes and Drums Connect with the Community



In 2021, over 500 boys were involved in Pipes and Drums across the College. Term 1 saw an influx of boys, with 150 students from Year 7 and 80 from the Preparatory School joining. These are impressive numbers that show the willingness of boys to try something new and continue our strong traditions.

On 8 March, the A Band participated in Commonwealth Day events, performing for Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales, and other distinguished guests at New South Wales Parliament House. Over 50 Cadets provided an honour guard and flag party for the Commonwealth Day celebrations held in Sydney.

The full Highland Band was unfortunately not able to join the City of Sydney Anzac Day March due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, this did not stop them from paying their respects to our service men and women. Year 11 and 12 boys began Anzac Day by marching with Brighton Preparatory School students and Mr Rod Stoddart in the Ramsgate Anzac Day March.

In May, the annual Sydney Highland Gathering was held on the Main Oval, albeit on a smaller scale than in 2019. The B Band won the Juvenile B and Grade 4B events and the A band won the Juvenile A and Grade 4A Championships. The A Band was crowned the overall winner for the day and ensured the Ray Lee Memorial Trophy was retained by Scots. Scots' Pipes and Drums also won the New South Wales Pipe Band Championships.



1. The National Rugby League invited the College's talented snare drummers to perform at the Sydney Opera House for their season launch.

2. The Cadets proudly representing The Scots College in the Cadet Guard of Honour on Commonwealth Day.

Then in June, Pipes and Drums took part in the Knox Grammar School Mini Band Series. Twelve 'mini bands' (four pipers and four drummers per band) played competition standard tunes, with Scots winning first place in each of the four competition categories.

Scots' snare drummers were thrilled to perform at the 2021 National Rugby League (NRL) season launch, receiving signed jerseys as a mark of gratitude. Joining Pipes and Drums on the NRL pitch a few weeks later, the Cadets Senior ranks also participated at the NRL Anzac Day match, to much acclaim. A first for the unit, this will hopefully be a recurring event.

# Sport Excellence

## Volleyball Victories



The College experienced an exciting summer in 2020-2021, introducing Beach Volleyball in its first ever season.

Eight Scots athletes were selected for the New South Wales Beach Volleyball State Team, with three of those teams going on to become national champions at the Australian Youth Beach Volleyball Championships in the Under 14, Under 15 and Under 16 age groups, as well as achieving a fourth place finish in the Under 17 division. On top of that, two Scots Beach Volleyball teams were silver medallists in the Year 7 and Year 10 divisions in the national 2021 Australian Beach Volleyball Schools Championships.

Despite being a relatively new program, it was a strong start to

the 2021-2022 season, with 11 boys from Years 10 and 11 selected for the College's Beach Volleyball Gold Squad and ten selected for the New South Wales Beach Volleyball State Team. Eighteen Years 6, 7 and 8 students will also be participating in the Scots Beach Volleyball program for a total of 28 athletes!

The teams will compete in a number of youth and senior events (both in New South Wales and interstate) as well as additional qualification tournaments. Boys will also have the chance to compete against other schools at the NSW Beach Volleyball Schools Cup in Manly at the end of February 2022, in preparation for the national Championships in April 2022.

*Athletes, coaches and parents at the Volleyball Australia School National Championships in Coolangatta, Queensland in April 2021.*

“

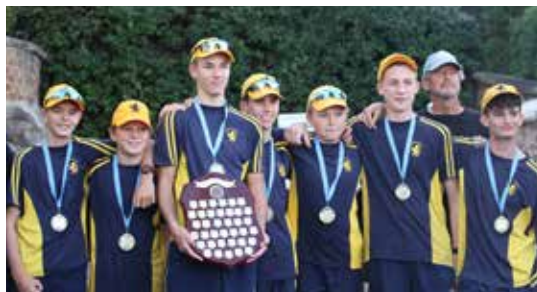
The College experienced an exciting summer, introducing Beach Volleyball in its first ever season.

## Sailing State Champions

In the local interschool teams racing circuit, Scots had enough skilled sailors to competently field four competitive teams. Fielding four teams in this format of yachting is something that has never been done before in the College's history and highlights the depth of sailing ability at Scots.

From 30 April to 2 May, these four teams competed in the NSW Secondary Schools Teams Racing Championships, which were held at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron. With a tweaked Swiss League format implemented by the race committee, cementing your team in the top eight of the draw was critical to securing a spot in the final series. After 140 races on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, all four Scots teams had done just that, making their way into the final eight.

The Scots 3rd and 4th squads were unfortunately eliminated before the semifinals, but the boys still finished sixth and eighth respectfully. The Scots 1sts and 2nds teams drew each other in the semifinals, with the 2nds team being outclassed by the 1sts. The 2nds team then sailed off against the Cranbrook School's 1sts team to decide who finished third and fourth.



*Captain of Sailing, Tyler Creevey (Year 12) holding the Faulkner Hackney Trophy on behalf of Scots' 1sts Sailing team at the NSW Secondary Schools Teams Racing Championships.*

The Scots 2nds team sadly lost to Cranbrook School and finished fourth overall.

Ultimately, the 1sts team was crowned NSW Secondary Schools Teams Racing Champions. They won the Championship Regatta for the fifth consecutive year and both the 1sts and 2nds qualified to represent NSW at the 2021 Australian Secondary Schools Teams Racing Championships – which was unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic.

## For the Love of Tennis

The 1sts Tennis team secured another Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) Premiership, seeing through the season undefeated. They were the only Summer Sport from Scots to win a premiership in 2021 and were joint-Premiership winners with The King's School. They would have been Premiers in their own right had the season not been affected by weather.

In Term 4, Jeremy Zhang (Year 11) was selected by Tennis Australia to resume his climb up the world junior tennis rankings and compete at a major International Tennis Federation tournament in Nonthaburi, Thailand. Jeremy was clinical in his qualifying matches winning 6-0, 6-1 in his first match against his Japanese opponent, going on to defeat a local player 6-4, 6-0 to qualify for the main draw.

He drew a local Thailand player ranked nearly 400 places above him in the first round. Once again, Jeremy showed determination to win the match 6-3, 6-1. This presented the opportunity to take on the number 1 seed, Siwanat Auytayakul.



*The 1sts Tennis team achieved another AAGPS Premiership in March, finishing the season undefeated.*

In a close first set, Jeremy was unlucky, losing the tie breaker 3-7. He fought hard in the second set, only to come up short losing the second set 4-6. This was an outstanding effort against his opponent who is ranked 362 in the world junior rankings.

Jeremy partnered with Taj Hibbert (Endeavour Sports High School) to reach the quarter finals of the doubles, going down to Auytayakul and his partner 2-6, 5-7.

Jeremy will lead the 1sts Tennis team as they look to defend their Premiership-winning position in 2022.

## Head of the River



Our 1st VIII Rowing crew had an incredible journey throughout the racing year. They started the first regatta of the season in seventh place but finished the penultimate race in second position – narrowly beaten by Shore by 0.03 of a second.

On the big day, The King's School rowed home to first place, while Shore held off our late charge, placing second, with Scots finishing third.

*Our 1st VIII Rowing crew in warm-up training, just before the 2021 Head of the River.*

This did not diminish the boys' achievements. At the 2021 Head of the River, Scots achieved more podium finishes by Senior crews than ever before. This is something every member of the team can be proud of and something we look to build upon.

## Going the Distance

Success came early in 2021 at the Australian College of Physical Education (ACPE) NSW Junior Athletics Championships held in April. Will Haydon (Year 8) and George Cox-Wilson (Year 12) produced some great performances, while James Kotis (Year 11) stole the show by winning Gold in the Under 18 110 metre hurdles in a time of 14.14 seconds.

The Cross Country Juniors challenged for the 2021 Athletics Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) Premiership, which came down to Newington College and Scots. Miles Carson (Year 9), Brandon Cunningham (Year 8) and Will Haydon (Year 8) consistently finished in the top ten AAGPS placings.

Scots, Shore and The King's School were all contenders for the Intermediates' Premiership, but the race was ultimately between Shore and Scots when the pandemic brought an end to the season. One highlight was having 26 boys selected for the New South Wales Combined Independent Schools (NSWCIS) Cross Country Championships – the most ever in the history of the College.

With the pandemic restricting athletics opportunities, the Sport Department designed an online House Athletics



*Scots' Senior Cross Country team competing against The King's School.*

competition of 3,000 metres, which was a great motivator that encouraged goal setting, regular activity and a spirit of camaraderie.

Launched on Saturday 14 August, in what would have been the trials for the AAGPS Athletics Championships, the number of boys who competed, and the quality of the run, was beyond expectations.

Prizes were awarded weekly, with Fraser House the overall winner. The individual champion was Miles Carson (Year 9 who ran an impressive time of 9.19 minutes. A time like this would have placed him fourth in the Opens 3,000 metres at last year's AAGPS Athletics Championships – an impressive result!

## Winners on Land and Water

Basketball and Swimming were two of Scots' three Summer Sports played at the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (AAGPS) competitions in 2021. (The third was Tennis – see page 19.)

Well done to the Under 14As who won The King's Cup tournament as the only undefeated team. Congratulations also to our 1sts representatives Chandler Skelton (Year 11) and Luca Ace-Nasteski (Year 12) on being selected for the AAGPS 2nds team.

In 2022, Jett Wells (Year 10) looks forward to attending and playing high school basketball at Montverde Academy in Florida, which is currently ranked as the number one high school basketball team in the USA. Old Boys Jack Meagher ('20), Matthew Wachter ('20) and Ethan Yetman ('20) received scholarships to attend Springfield



College (Massachusetts, USA), The University of Sydney and Trinity College (Connecticut, USA) respectively.

The 2021 Swimming season began with College Finals at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. Seven College records were broken!

The Scots College Representative Swimming Team was impressive at the AAGPS competition, capably led by Year 12 students: Captain, Sebastian Mitchelmore, with Charles Hoffmann and Hamish Robertson as Vice-Captains.

*In January, Scots' 14s Basketball team were undefeated at The King's Cup tournament, winning for the second straight year.*

The cumulative point score each week saw Scots place sixth in the Junior Division, fifth in the Senior Division and third in the Open Relay. In the Intermediate Division, the team placed an impressive second.

Ultimately, nine Scots swimmers were selected to represent the AAGPS at the Combined Independent Schools (CIS) Championships.

## Darby Lancaster in Sevens Heaven



After successfully completing a season as a member of Scots' 1st XV Rugby team, Darby Lancaster ('21) was selected in November as one of only eight full-time contracted Australian Men's Sevens players. He was first spotted as a future Sevens star while playing a Scots Sevens game in 2018.

The Australian Men's Sevens team competed in Dubai this year, playing two tournaments on consecutive weekends as part of the HSBC Sevens World Series. Darby joins them in 2022.

We wish Darby every success with his international career and

*Scots 1st XV Rugby team of 2021, with Darby Lancaster sixth from the right. Image credit: Peter Wade Photography*

we wish him similar success with the Waratahs and Wallabies in the fifteen-man game.

# Staff Excellence

## Scots' Compassionate Care

In the middle of 2021, Head of Counselling, Character and Care, Dr Tom Cerni completed the Managing Health Care Delivery (MHCD) program at the prestigious Harvard Business School, marking an important milestone towards mapping out integrated and high-quality care at Scots.

Dr Cerni commenced the MHCD program in November 2019 and, due to COVID-19 delays, completed the final module in July this year. The final module of the MHCD program focused on 'Innovation for Impact', with particular attention given to the areas of learning and teaming, design thinking, innovation for customer service, redefining care delivery, engaging clients and data analytics.

The program involved global case studies and online tutorials, individual exercises and team projects, industry guest speakers, panels and small group discussions with clinical and non-clinical leaders.

All participants had more than ten years' experience in health care delivery organisations, including careers



*Harvard Business School Health Care Initiative Faculty Chair, Professor Robert Huckman presents a case study to Dr Tom Cerni (top left) and international participants via Zoom.*

as diverse as physician and sub-specialty chiefs, nurse executives and executives in administration, information technology, finance and human capital.

Planning for the John Cunningham Student Centre, Dr Cerni explored how the breakthrough delivery models and strategies for the provision of quality and compassionate care in a cost-effective and integrated manner could be applied in this context.

## The Stars Among Us

Every member of The Scots College staff aims to inspire students in The Quest for Excellence, while setting their own sights higher every day. Exceptional teachers lead by example. This year, the College farewelled two of its longest serving teachers and recognised the enthusiastic commitment of others.

### Fond Farewells

Since the early 1970s, Head of Visual Arts, Mr Gary Faulkner's passion for artistic freedom has led to him being a much appreciated member of the teaching staff at Scots. He is retiring from teaching, but not creativity, and will be missed.

Head of Mathematics, Ms Michelle Ferguson, is retiring after 40 years of faithful service. In 1982, she was one of Scots' first female teachers, guiding and inspiring students and her colleagues. Ms Ferguson will be remembered well.

### Speech Day Award Recipients

At the 2021 Speech Day held in December, the following staff members were recognised for their service and commitment to Scots:

#### ***Mrs Sharon Gomez – 25 Years of Service***

Mrs Gomez is a highly experienced and essential member of the Glengarry staff team at Kangaroo Valley. As an administrator for staff and students, she is immensely valuable and deeply appreciated.

#### ***Ms Julie Qi – The Dr Robert Iles AM Award for Outstanding Classroom Practice***

This award was presented to Ms Qi, recognising her progress as a teacher in her early years of teaching.

#### ***Mrs Madeline Moses – The Richard Blackett Medal for the Inspirational Teaching of Boys***

Mrs Moses has assisted the Languages team and leads the Year 7 Debating competition.

## Scots' Australian and International Listings

In September, *Spear's* magazine included The Scots College in its list of the top 100 private schools in the world, in 15th position. Scots was one of only two Australian independent schools included in this prestigious listing, the other being Geelong Grammar School.

'The Spear's Schools Index' was compiled in partnership with Carfax Education, listing the best private schools according to a range of criteria and broken down by region (UK, Europe, Middle East, USA, China and South-East Asia, and the 'Rest of the World'). Carfax Education is a private education consultancy offering services across the world, advising on tutoring and providing university admissions counselling and school entry guidance for ambitious applicants. They also deliver education projects for governments and non-government organisations. To read the full article, please scan the QR code.



Then, in October, *The Educator* revealed their list of '5-Star Innovative Schools of 2021', which included The Scots College in their top 30 (of 150). The inclusion was well-earned by Scots' staff across all campus locations. The online publication described the selection process, stating, "Entries were open to all schools in Australia that could demonstrate innovation and creativity that is driving the education industry forward."

*The Educator* provides an international and Australian education news perspective, case studies, leadership and management best practice, and in-depth interviews with experts in the education sector. To take a closer look at this year's list, please scan the QR code below.



# The Scots Advantage



**The Scots College**  
Sydney Australia

[www.scots.college](http://www.scots.college)