

Friday 4 December 2015 / Issue 15

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA STAR POINT GUARD RETURNS TO GLEESON!

Gleeson College held our second annual Sports Presentation Evening in October 2015, with GC Old Scholar Nathan Spehr (2009) returning to share with us his sporting journey through the US College Basketball system.

Nathan, along with Adelaide Thunderbird Amy Steel, were our special guest speakers on the night. Nathan represented Gleeson in both Saturday Morning and Knockout Basketball and played for Sturt in the SA District Basketball League. He represented Australia at Under 19 level before heading to the University of North Alabama, where he has dominated in point guard and broke numerous records, and also earned himself a Championship Ring as his team won the premiership in 2014! Defender Amy was part of the Australian Diamonds Netball Team and squad from 2009-2011 and signed with the Thunderbirds after a stint with the Queensland Firebirds from 2010-2012 and the Melbourne Vixens in 2013. Amy's story of her rise from school netball to the Diamonds National team was both inspiring and entertaining for all.

The Gleeson Sports Presentation Evening continues to celebrate the successes and commitment of all our students to the Saturday Morning Sport program and recognises those who, in their coach's eyes, have earned special recognition and are deserving of the MVP, Most Improved and Team Spirit Awards. These students were presented with medallions and we then celebrated with a shared Subway supper.

We also acknowledged and thanked all our dedicated coaches, many of them Old Scholars, for their valued contribution to sport at Gleeson in 2015.

**Miss Candice Mitchell,**  
Sports Development & HPE Coordinator



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## 2015 - WHAT A VIBRANT YEAR @ GLEESON COLLEGE!



***Without trust and confidence, people don't take risks. Without risks, there is no change. Without change, organisations and movements die."***

(Kouzes & Posner The Leadership Challenge)

### Master Planning - Exciting times!

The College Leadership Team and College Board are currently working with Catholic Education South Australia to update our College Master Plan to continue to enhance our facilities here at Gleeson College. We are blessed to have a campus that offers such high quality facilities, but we can continue to enhance these to ensure that the students and staff have the best possible learning spaces to work in. An educational brief has been prepared, and ratified by Catholic Education South Australia, and the next step is the selection of architects. As this process unfolds there will be opportunities for members of our community to engage with this planning. I will keep you informed of the progress of this work, however in the meantime, if any member of our community has any feedback in terms of what should be included or focused on in terms of facilities planning, please do not hesitate to send me an email or speak to me at any time. Exciting times ahead!

There were a number of key initiatives that we adopted for 2015 in order to improve the learning and well-being outcomes for students at Gleeson College. Whilst we know that there are a number of things that we do exceptionally well, any organisation that stops critiquing itself and improving will stagnate. We are committed to continuous improvement.

Early in 2015 you may have noticed an article in The Advertiser featuring a great

photo of two of our Year 8 students Jessmin and Panos. The focus was on a whole-school literacy project that we are undertaking this year with the support of Catholic Education SA. At Gleeson, we see literacy as every teacher's responsibility, and as such we developed a vision for literacy and learning that will be embraced by our whole community. A key aspect of this work was ensuring that student voice is present as they shape their own learning journey.

Another focus area for staff this year was the implementation of restorative practices as our preferred model of dealing with student behaviour. Restorative practices mean that the people who are best to resolve a situation and restore relationship are those most closely affected by it. There are deep theological connections with our Catholic tradition and the need to work in a spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation, and these are hallmarks of a restorative approach to student behaviour.

### SACE Merit Ceremony & Academic Assembly

I was fortunate to represent the College at the SACE Merit Ceremony held at Government House in January 2015. Four students from Gleeson College received a Merit result for their 2014 studies, including Kahlia Lynch with three Merits (Psychology, Business and Enterprise, English Communications), Rebecca Gooch (Religion Studies), Katelyn James (Business and Enterprise) and Emma O'Connor (Food and Hospitality).

In February, our Academic Assembly was held with our Year 12 Graduates from 2014 returning to receive recognition for their outstanding achievements. It was very special to be able to celebrate the efforts of those students who received Merits in individual subjects, an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank of 90 or more, along with those who were named Dux of Subject. The Dux of the College for 2014, Kahlia Lynch, was also presented with the 'Thomas Medal' for her outstanding achievement. Kahlia's acceptance speech was excellent: reflective, sincere and motivational (*see page 6*).

Heartfelt thanks to the students from

our Class of 2014 and their families for returning to Gleeson to accept our congratulations for their wonderful work. We wished them all the best for the future and certainly hope that Gleeson would remain a joyful memory for them and that they will maintain contact with us as they venture out into the world.

### Making History: Exciting Partnership signed with University of South Australia

In March 2015 I was privileged to attend the signing of an historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of South Australia, Gleeson College, Pedare CC and Golden Gove HS. This MOU signals the intention of each of our three schools, as One+, to work closely and in genuine partnership with UniSA to progress some exciting initiatives that will be of benefit for all parties. For example, our partnership will further enhance the ability to provide UniSA Education students with teaching experience in the three different sectors represented by our schools. UniSA is also keen to provide our students with programs in the areas such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). This MOU is another example of the great benefit that is derived from our unique campus and One+ model.

### Staff @ Gleeson

In 2015, we welcomed new staff members Mr Joshua Boden, Mr Daniel Uglesic and Ms Emma Gay to our College community. It was my pleasure to announce Mr Shannon Bertram as our Assistant Principal - Student Development and Mr Adam Cibich as our new APRIM (Assistant Principal - Student Identity & Mission). Mr Richard Sellers, who was on leave in Terms 3 and 4, decided to step down from the APRIM role and we thanked him sincerely for all of his work and dedication over the past two and a half years. Richard will return in a teaching capacity. Mr Richard Milne was also seconded to O'Loughlin College in Darwin as Assistant Principal - Religious Education for Term 4 of 2015 and Term 1 2016, with Mr Clint Vause returning to the College to take on his teaching load.

We recognised and congratulated our staff members who have provided 15 years of



## 2015 - WHAT A VIBRANT YEAR @ GLEESON COLLEGE!

service to Gleeson College, and you may be surprised to know that on our current staff there are 20 who have worked at Gleeson for over 15 years! This is great testament to the commitment of these people to our community, and no doubt many thousands of young people have benefited from the guidance and learning experiences provided by these staff. New 'inductees' in 2015 included Mr Andrew Crosby and Mrs Rebecca Sinclair, while we also recognised Mrs Peggy Busbridge and Mrs Lina Russo, who both celebrated 20 years of service to Gleeson College.

### College Board

It was my delight to report that Mr Mark Scott was elected as the incoming Chair of the College Board in 2015, with Mr Peter Stewart elected as Deputy Chair. We thank both these people for their willingness to take on these roles and to our other new Board members, Vera Ierace, Jorge Morales, and Michelle Sauerwald for serving our College community as Board members. Our main business was to outline the strategic directions and goals for the College for 2015 and beyond, and I must say that I am very excited about the future of Gleeson working with such talented and committed Board members.

### Relay for Life 2015

100 Gleeson College students, Old Scholars and staff members participated in the 2015 Cancer Council Relay for Life at the Adelaide Showgrounds in Wayville. This level of participation for this event speaks volumes of the commitment and servant leadership that exists within the Gleeson Community and this event has become one of the highlights of our school calendar. Once again our students shone, were a great credit to themselves and ambassadors for the College, and subsequently we were awarded the 'Youth Award' by the organisers, the Cancer Council of SA!

### STEM Expo

Our annual Gleeson College STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Expo was again a fabulous evening for our students and their families. Technology and innovation are transforming the economy, and a recent report from Price Waterhouse Cooper

entitled 'A Smart move: Future-proofing Australia's Workforce' highlighted the need for STEM graduates, saying that with more than 40% of today's jobs at risk of becoming automated, businesses of all sizes must help future-proof Australia's workforce by radically rethinking their own operations and positioning specifically with regard to STEM university courses. While around 75% of fast-growing occupations require STEM skills, only 16% of high school graduates pursue degrees in STEM disciplines. I am pleased to report that our STEM Expo demonstrated that interest and ability in STEM subjects is alive and well at Gleeson College.

### 2015 College Musical A Big Hit: 'The Wedding Singer'

We were privileged to witness the fruits of many months of hard work with the fabulous College Musical 'The Wedding Singer' in 2015. Students involved had been rehearsing diligently for most of the year, giving up a lot of their own time, as did a group of dedicated staff, ensuring this production was one of the highest quality. We had approximately 400 students from our partner Primary schools attend the two matinee sessions, and around 800 in attendance at the three evening performances. It was superb! The quality of this production was staggering in every aspect; the singing, dancing, acting, the sets, costumes and music. Even the staff cameo performances were good! I lost count of the number of people who attended and have told me it was the best school production that they have ever seen - and I completely agree!! Many in the audience could not believe the complexity and polish of the performance.

As I am sure you would be aware; productions of this calibre and magnitude only happen with the commitment and dedication of the staff and students involved. The staff volunteered so much time and effort outside of school, on weekends, during the holidays and beyond to ensure that the students involved in 'The Wedding Singer' could put together such a wonderful performance. We deeply thanked Mrs Carly Meakin, Mrs Dianne Deptula, Mrs Sally Parsons and Mr Andrew Crosby in particular for

their unwavering commitment. We also thanked the students involved in any way, both on stage and behind the scenes, for all of their hard work.

### Damiani Wins 2015 House Cup

In a switching of 1st and 4th places from 2014, Damiani turned last place into victory to take out the coveted House Cup in 2015! Each House and Year Level displayed their strengths in each of the categories, however Damiani proved too strong across the board. Fyfe House finished in 2nd place, while Hughes and Fyfe were awarded 3rd and 4th place respectively.

### Fyfe Domination in 2015!

The 'Green House Effect' swept over Gleeson College as a dominant Fyfe House snared not only top spot at the Athletics Carnival to go back-to-back in 2015, but also reigned champion in the pool, triumphing at the Swimming Carnival! Congratulations to House Coordinator Mrs Sarah Kerrigan and her Fyfe House on their outstanding clean sweep, and especially to all the talented athletes and swimmers on their exceptional performances throughout the carnivals which earned them the title of 2015 Champions!

### 2015 Athletics Carnival Final Results

<b>Fyfe</b>	<b>1230</b>
<b>Hughes</b>	<b>1056</b>
<b>Damiani</b>	<b>1005</b>
<b>McDonald</b>	<b>904</b>

### 2015 Swimming Carnival Final Results

<b>Fyfe</b>	<b>533</b>
<b>Damiani</b>	<b>450</b>
<b>Hughes</b>	<b>420</b>
<b>McDonald</b>	<b>391</b>

### Director of Catholic Education SA Visit

Late in 2015 we were fortunate to host Director of Catholic Education, Mrs Helen O'Brien at Gleeson College. Helen visited classrooms, met with our Middle School Student Leaders and joined staff for morning tea. We were very fortunate that Helen could make time in her busy schedule to see the wonderful community we have here at Gleeson College.

*God Bless,*

**Mr Andrew Baker, Principal**

## CALEB'S UNEARTHING HISTORY AT PICHİ RICHİ RAILWAY!



Gleeson College Old Scholar Caleb Jenkins (2013) has enjoyed playing an integral part in the current restoration project at the Pichi Richi Railway's extensive Rollingstock Restoration Workshops in Quorn this year.

The Pichi Richi Railway, located in the Flinders Ranges, was once a huge and busy locomotive depot of the South Australian Railways. The workshop is located at the back of the Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Societies' Quorn Depot and it is said to be one of the most equipped workshops of its kind in the nation.

An expert group of professionals were engaged to work on 'Car 5' and all are

volunteers - but as for Caleb, he says he is still learning the ropes! 'Car 5' is of historic significance, not just to the society, but to the whole nation as it is one of the cars that they have uncovered the remains of engravings on, which were done as graffiti in the war days. These engravings were to tell the people in the car ahead or behind which regiment or service they were in during WW2. So far Caleb and his team have been able to locate one such engraving to a serviceman who served in the army from 1942 to 1945!

*Well done Caleb and keep up the great work!!*

## 'GREEN HOUSE EFFECT' TOO STRONG IN 2015



## 2015 SWIMMING CHAMPIONS



## 2015 ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS



## CALLOUT TO OLD SCHOLARS: COME JOIN US IN 2016!

*This is a callout to all Gleeson College Old Scholars who would like to make a difference in 2016...*

Gleeson will again be participating in the Relay for Life held in May 2016 and we would like to see as many of our Old Scholars come join us for the event as possible. Register your interest by emailing us at the College at: [info@gleeson.sa.edu.au](mailto:info@gleeson.sa.edu.au)



## DAMIANI REIGN SUPREME: 2015 HOUSE CUP

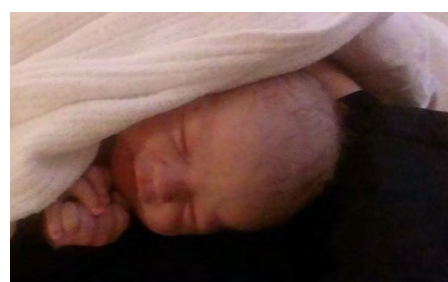


Photo (L-R): Damiani Middle School Captains' Daniel Barber and Amelia Delic, Senior Captains' Lauren Arnold and Joshua Abela, and Senior Vice Captain Christian Raggatt were presented with the House Cup at a special Presentation Assembly in the Dame Roma Mitchell Centre.



Congratulations to Tara Pfeifer (nee Van Der Linden), Class of 2008, and husband Matt who recently welcomed their third son, Austin, in September 2015. Big brothers Jayden and Harley are over the moon with their new addition to the family!

*We wish beautiful Austin and your family all God's blessings.*



## WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR NEWS!

Please send your Old Scholar news and photographs to Rebecca Sinclair (Community Relations Coordinator) via the College email: [info@gleeson.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@gleeson.catholic.edu.au)

## HELP REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT!

GC OLD SCHOLARS GLOBE ISSUES ARE NOW ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE VIA THE GLEESON COLLEGE WEBSITE AT [www.gleeson.sa.edu.au](http://www.gleeson.sa.edu.au) AND/OR VIA YOUR EMAIL REGISTRATION TO THE GC OLD SCHOLARS GLOBE E-MAILOUT LIST - IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE OLD SCHOLARS GLOBE ISSUES VIA EMAIL PLEASE REGISTER ASAP BY EMAILING YOUR CONTACT DETAILS TO:

[rebecca.sinclair@gleeson.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rebecca.sinclair@gleeson.catholic.edu.au)

**\*\*PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME (including maiden surname if applicable), CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS & FINAL YEAR @ GLEESON COLLEGE + ANY NEWS YOU MAY HAVE!!!\*\***

 [WWW.GLEESON.SA.EDU.AU](http://WWW.GLEESON.SA.EDU.AU)

# ENROLLING NOW FOR 2017

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 DUX OF COLLEGE: KAHLIA LYNCH



*It is an extreme honour to be standing on this stage, being awarded Dux of College for 2014. Firstly, I just want to congratulate all of you in my year level. Together we did so amazing and I couldn't be more proud to be apart of our cohort.*

*For my results to be reflected by the effort I put in is just incredible. I feel so grateful to be recognised for my hard work, but of course, it would not have been possible without the support of my teachers, family and friends.*

*Firstly, thank you to all my teachers from Year 8 to Year 12 - I definitely would not be the person I am today without all of you. In particular, I would like to thank my Year 12 teachers, Ms Spiroulas, Mr Ackan, Mr Vause, Mr Francis, Mr Cibich, Ms Sala and Mrs Pill. Without all of your support in allowing me to submit numerous drafts, ask a million questions and receive and complete work in advance, my poor parents would have had to deal with a lot more of my emotional distress.*

*So to my parents, thank you for comforting me and giving me the strength, reassurance and confidence to push through when times were tough. Clearly having a lot of work to do can be overwhelming. It's okay to let that intense moment of stress take over you, because once its out, you can focus on the real work at hand and be productive. For me, I found it very important to have an outlet. Luckily we have our parents' unconditional love to project that on to. So thanks again Mum and Dad.*

*To my friends, thank you for giving me the necessary distraction from assessments I needed from time to time. Even if you are so determined to excel in your studies, as I was, I learnt quickly that it is physically impossible to work 24/7. If you don't get a chance to laugh with your mates, then not only do you miss out on experiencing the wonderful nature of high school, but you don't get a chance to relax. With that being said, I also don't recommend going out and partying every weekend! Balance was so essential during my last year. I found that having regular breaks throughout each day really enhanced my productivity. Specifically, physical activity such as running or working out, not only maintained my good health but gave my mind a break to not think about studying.*

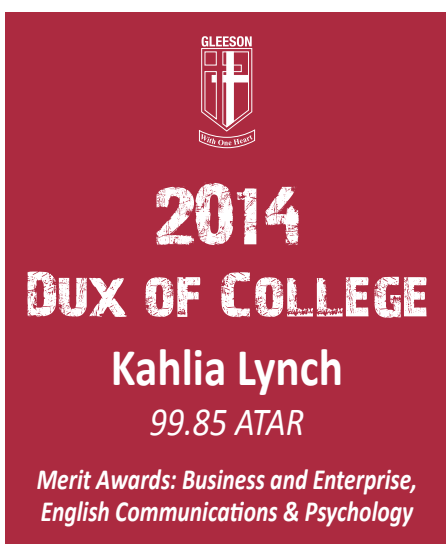
*The best advice I could give to anyone who commences Year 12 is to ensure organisation and understanding of all assessments. Set goals and record when you wish to have each assessment completed, manage workloads by assigning a certain amount of progress to be completed each day and keep on track of all assessments, because the last thing you would want to do is forget about one. In addition, ensure you have a thorough understanding of each assessment given. So actually read the marking criteria, ask lots of questions and make plans so you know you are definitely fulfilling the tasks requirements.*

*I truly believe that if you want to succeed then you can and you will. When I think of myself starting Year 8 as an average student, getting B's and C's, I never thought I could achieve the Year 12 results that I did. With determination and confidence I believe that anything is possible.*

*As for the rest of life, luckily accomplishing school teaches you so many vital skills to fulfil future goals and dreams. Using your discipline, organisation and responsibility learnt through school, go after your dreams and pursue what you want to do, not what other people want you to do. This has sought me now happily living in Melbourne, fulfilling a dream of mine to study interstate.*

*Everyone has the potential to do anything you put your mind to.*

**Kahlia Lynch,  
2014 Dux of College**





## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 STAGE 2 ACADEMIC AWARD WINNERS



## 2014 DUX OF SUBJECT MEDALS

### 90+ ATAR ACHIEVERS

Kahlia Lynch	99.85
Sophie Guidolin	98.80
Kevin Dang	98.15
Katelyn James	97.75
Lucy Spear	96.60
Brooke Pitt	95.20
Jackson Jury	94.35
Emma O'Connor	94.35
Isabella Cansdell	94.30
Georgia Campagnale	93.95
Bianca Cutler	93.10
Casey Wherry	92.90
Catherine Spear	92.55
Rebecca Sayer	91.85
Brooke McCabe	91.05
Sophie Nelson	90.75
Abbey Sinfield	90.50
Sam DeSantis	90.20

Biology	Isabella Cansdell
Business and Enterprise	Kahlia Lynch
Chemistry	Lucy Spear
Child Studies	Margarita Fitzharris
Design & Technology (Furniture Construction)	Daniel Miotto
Food and Hospitality	Emma O'Connor
English Communications	Kahlia Lynch
English Pathways	Sam DeSantis
English Studies	Sophie Guidolin
Information Processing and Publishing	Joanna Unson (Year 11)
Mathematical Applications	Casey Wherry
Mathematical Methods	Sophie Guidolin & Kahlia Lynch
Mathematical Studies	Lucy Spear
Modern History	Katherine Robb (Pedare CC)
Music (Ensemble Performance)	Tara Szurkalo (Pedare CC)
Music (Individual Study)	Rebecca Gooch
Music (Solo Performance)	Sophie Guidolin & Serena Martino-Williams (Year 11)
Physics	Kevin Dang
Psychology	Kahlia Lynch
Religion Studies	Rebecca Gooch
Research Project	Katelyn James
Society and Culture	Liam Hayes (GGHS)
Visual Art Studies (Art)	Kristina Coluccio
Workplace Practices	Jaimee Sanderson



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 STAGE 2 ACADEMIC AWARD RECIPIENTS

### SACE BOARD OF SA MERIT AWARD WINNERS

**Rebecca Gooch**

Religion Studies

**Katelyn James**

Business and Enterprise

**Kahlia Lynch**

Business and Enterprise, English  
Communications & Psychology

**Emma O'Connor**

Food and Hospitality



## GLEESON FC SEEKING NEW PLAYERS: GET ON BOARD!!

The Gleeson Football Club (GFC) are always seeking new players to join a fantastic club with a great, family-friendly atmosphere!

There are plenty of Old Scholars playing in the squads with three teams (Seniors, Reserves & C Grade) competing in the South Australian Amateur Soccer League (SAASL) Division 2 on Saturdays. The Senior side finished a commendable 4th this season and are looking to further improve next year!

Our playing grounds are located on Quinlivan Road, Pooraka, and kick off times are at 11.30am, 1pm and 3pm. Trainings are held twice a week on Monday and Wednesdays from 6:45pm. We are always looking for fresh faces to join the ranks. Hope to see you out there!

**For more information please contact us on 0402 105 113  
or find us on Facebook (Gleeson FC).**

**Matt Mylrea (Class of 2005)**

