



CEDAR COLLEGE ALUMNI

BRANCHING OUT

ISSUE 2, SUMMER 2013

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CEDAR COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Six Years of Graduates

This year, Cedar College graduated its 6th class of Year 12 students. In fact, 2013 was the first year in which we had two Year 12 classes graduate, bringing our total number of graduates to over 100 students.

Some of our graduates have only been with us a short time, but an increasing number of our Year 12s have been at Cedar for their entire schooling life. What a privilege for us as a school, to have the opportunity to teach, and have valuable input into the lives of so many.

Of course, we realise that the end of your school life is the beginning of your future, and what encourages us greatly is to see our graduates continue on in their relationship with Jesus Christ, and to see them succeed in their further studies and career paths.

It was pleasing to hear recently from one of our Cedar Graduates, Lauren Field (Class of 2009), who is currently completing her Bachelor of Medical Science/Masters of Optometry. Lauren recently received a Chancellor's Letter of Commendation for her outstanding academic performance, and it has been exciting to hear of her continued academic success after graduating from Cedar. A full interview with Lauren is on page 3 of this issue of "Branching Out".



Peter Thomson
Principal

As you read through some of the stories about our graduates in this issue, their success, their struggles and their aspirations, remember that our faith and trust in Jesus Christ is the firm foundation that we can build real life upon.

Many of you will be aware that one of our graduates, Paul Perperiadis, passed away earlier this year. He was at Cedar from 2005 to 2011. At his funeral it was clearly evident that he had touched and changed the lives of many people, young and old. It was powerful and uplifting. Paul had developed character traits far more important than any academic grade could ever hope to achieve - and we will remember him for his faith and his wonderful sense of humour.

Keep in touch with us, keep telling us your stories and news, and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Warm regards,

Peter Thomson
Cedar College Principal

In the Picture

The entrance to the new Administration Building, officially opened in October 2013 by the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education.

The new facility houses the Primary and High School libraries, and an array of new computer and teaching areas.

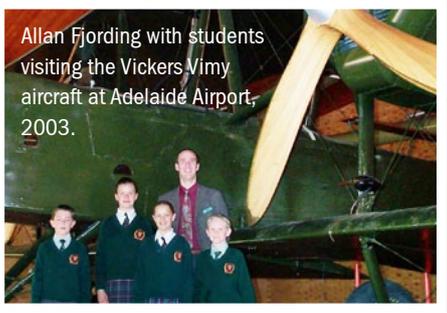
The Cedar College student body is continuing to grow, and will reach over 700 students in 2014. **See page 2 and page 4 for more photos of the Resource Centre and the official opening.**

About the Alumni Association

"Branching Out" is published annually, keeping graduates and old scholars of Cedar College up to date with news and events.



This newsletter is available online from www.cedarcollege.sa.edu.au (under community/old scholars). Alumni members may submit news, email photos, change address details and choose to receive the newsletter via post or email by using our online form. Alumni can email photos and news to alumni@cedarcollege.sa.edu.au.



Allan Fjording with students visiting the Vickers Vimy aircraft at Adelaide Airport, 2003.

Every Student who has attended Cedar College would be familiar with the name “Vickers Vimy”. The famous aircraft was flown from England to Australia by the Smith brothers (Ross and Keith), landing on what is now known as the “Vickers Vimy Oval” on March 23, 1920.

Cedar’s Vickers Vimy model, built by then Head of High School, Allan Fjording and his students, has found a permanent home in the new Cedar College Resource Centre, which features a triple-winged roof line, inspired by the aircraft.

On Thursday October 24, the Cedar College Resource Centre was officially opened by the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education.

The ceremony was held on the balcony of the new Resource Centre, with the entire school gathered below. Year 11 Student Leader, Millie Butt, spoke on behalf of the student body, highlighting some of the excellent resources available to classes, and thanked the Australian Federal Government for their significant contribution toward the building project. Mr Pyne, who opened some of the original school buildings back in 1997, was also instrumental in Cedar College receiving its original status as an Education Provider, beginning with just 34 students.

Cedar College Project Manager and Board Member, Mr Lou George, also honoured a long time supporter of the original library, Dr Mary



The Vickers Vimy model back in 2003

Stringer during the opening ceremony. Mary is a expert in linguistics, who worked with schools around the world, teaching her ground-breaking literacy techniques.

With the Resource Centre completed, work began on two new classrooms on the northern side of the Sports Centre, as well as four new Science Laboratories, in what was the old Resource Centre.

Cedar College also recently announced yet another major project - **a new Performing Arts Centre**, scheduled for 2014-2015. This new facility is sure to be another exciting chapter in the history of Cedar College.



The official opening of the Resource Centre

GOT NEWS TO SHARE?

Are you a Cedar College Old Scholar with some exciting news or photos to share? It might be a special event, award or achievement, wedding news or reunion news. We'd love to publish your news in “Branching Out”. Email your information and photos to alumni@cedarcollege.sa.edu.au.



GRADUATE NEWS IN BRIEF

Weddings

Congratulations to **Renee Sawade** (Class of 2008) who married Phil Parkins on May 11, 2013 (pictured top, right).



Congratulations also to **Nicole Sawade** (Class on 2011), who married Jason Rowe on November 17, 2013 (pictured bottom, right).



Cedar College was deeply saddened by the loss this year of **Paul Perperiadis** (class of 2011). We were greatly encouraged by Paul's faith in Jesus Christ, and he will be very much missed by the School Community.



Lauren, at Uni, examining an eye, using a "slit lamp"



LAUREN FIELD, CLASS OF 2009

In this issue we catch up with 2009 Graduate Lauren Field and ask her...

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

So, Lauren, you graduated from Cedar almost four years ago, what have you been doing since you left us?

I've been studying Optometry at Flinders University. I've got just over a year to go. It's been hectic but I love it. Now most of my time is spent on placement in various practices, so I was lucky enough to spend a couple of weeks at the Royal Society for the Blind. They had guide dogs and puppies in training running around the place too, which was fun.

I also finally got Baptised a few weeks ago too!

What are some of the challenges that you have faced at Uni, and what advice would you give current Year 12s who are considering University?

One of the challenges I have faced with Uni is making time for God. Uni is a very secular place sometimes, and it can be very easy to leave God by the wayside, especially when things get hectic. I do wish that when I was doing my undergraduate that I got involved with the Evangelical Students group more. They're a cool bunch of people and I'd highly recommend getting involved in one of their community/life groups. I'm also finding, as I'm getting towards the end of my degree, that it's harder to stay motivated to study. You really have to stay focused on what you are doing it all for, and remember the bigger picture.

What are you hoping to do next year, and what are your plans for the future?

I'm really looking forward to spending 6 weeks of placement in Port Augusta, as rural life is something new to me. But I really can't wait to finally finish my degree at the end of next year if all goes well. My plans are to take a holiday at the end of it all, and to get a job as an Optometrist, hopefully in a corporate practice.

Were there some things that you learned while at Cedar, in terms of your personal growth, that have helped you in the years that followed?

I definitely came out of my shell by being at Cedar, which was good because if you want to make friends at Uni you have to talk to people, not wait for them to talk to you. I think doing Year 12 certainly taught me about persistence and commitment even if things are overwhelming.

Finally, what's your favourite memory from your Cedar College days?

I think it would have to be the Service Trip to Thailand. Every single aspect of it was new to me, from the trivial things like riding an elephant and living away from my parents for the first time, to seeing a completely different culture from my own. I loved seeing the difference that we, or rather God, could make.

Cedar Graduate,
Jake Culkin,
talks about his Sport, Faith, Future
and overcoming injury.

HARD YARDS

Jake Culkin (Cedar College Graduate, 2011) spent time this year with the Australian Institute of Sports, resulting in selection in the "Gridiron Australia Future Stars", Australian U/19's Gridiron Team. Jake played as a linebacker against a team from the USA in the "2013 Down Under Bowl", on the Gold Coast earlier this year, which made history by becoming the first Australian junior team to beat an American Football team. Even more encouraging was to hear of Jake's strong Christian faith, leading his team in prayer before matches on more than one occasion.

Jake, you've been out of school for a couple of years now - what have you been up to since graduating from Cedar?

Since graduating, I have directed my focus towards Uni and work. I am currently in my second year of my Bachelor of Sport and Recreation course, which I look to complete at the end of next year. When I'm not at Uni, I'm working part time at Big W, which has offered me a lot of opportunities to grow in my management and people skills.

Sport has always been a big part of your life, I know that you had a nasty injury a few years back - how has this affected your sport, and your life in general?

In 2009 I had an accident which left me with my calf almost torn in half, and was left with just under 100 stitches in my leg. At the time this affected me a lot, as I was told I would not be able to walk for a very long period of time, let alone play any sport. I struggled to get back to where I was physically for a long time, however with determination I overcame it and continued to do what I love, playing sport.

What do you see in the future for yourself Jake? Does sport play a part in your dreams?

As much as I would love to make a career out of playing sport, I have changed my focus in the last couple of years, which has led to me studying Sport and Recreation Management. I want to work in the sporting industry, and contribute to the growth of it in Adelaide. I am preferably looking to work in Marketing, with the goal that I can help to create awareness for whatever workplace I end up in.

What have been your greatest challenges since leaving school?

I believe maintaining my faith has been the biggest struggle since leaving school. It hasn't been an issue to uphold my Christian morals and standards, however, I have struggled to keep myself accountable for my faith. At school it was easier having a lot of Christian influences, and teachers that genuinely cared about sharing the Word of God. I have found that between Uni and the workplace, it has been a struggle to find others that are passionate about God.

How have you handled being a Christian on the sporting field and in the workplace?

No matter where I am, I try to show my Christian standards and ethics to others. I will admit that I am not always the nicest person on a sporting field, but I don't play "dirty" - which is a result of having Christian beliefs and doing things fairly. The same goes for the workplace, everything I do, I try to do with honesty and integrity.

Finally, what is your favourite memory from your Cedar College days - is there anything that you miss from your days at Cedar?

I'd be lying if I didn't say I missed Sports Day and Interschool Sports the most! However, I really miss the positive influences that I had at Cedar and the great environment there. Experiencing the outside world has really helped me appreciate all that Cedar did for me, and how much the school has influenced my life.

STUDENT NEWS

LATEST NEWS FROM THE CEDAR COLLEGE THAILAND SERVICE TRIP

A growing number of Cedar College students have taken part in the biennial Service Trip to Thailand, and have shared their life-changing experiences on returning.

The 2013 Service Trip Team are due to return on December 24, 2013, and below is an excerpt from a recent post by **Sean Marciniak** (Class of 2013).



"Wow! I wish the words that come to mind could summarise all that we have experienced. We have made such a great impact with the Lahu tribe on our first compassion project visit. We spent two days building a bamboo fence without the use of modern tools and structural design, however, it has been the most beautiful fence that I have seen. The amount of effort needed to carry all the bamboo from the field to the village was extremely tiring.

We spent the weekend being in community with the surrounding villages. The harsh conditions that are often depicted in movies stared us right in the face. What little they had to enjoy, to find comfort and hope, was greater than what any pastor could preach. Though, they may not all be Christians, God still holds them in His hands and presents the opportunities for these people to be blessed by the church.

It was hard leaving a community that loved us unconditionally, because we shared the one God and came to be a blessing, but left feeling blessed to be a part of it. I have heard rumours that we have mastered the art of bartering within the markets and have seen some impressive gifts and purchases so far!"



CEDAR COLLEGE
thailand
SERVICE TRIP 2013
Religion that God our Father accepts as pure & faultless is this: to look after orphans & widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. James 1:27

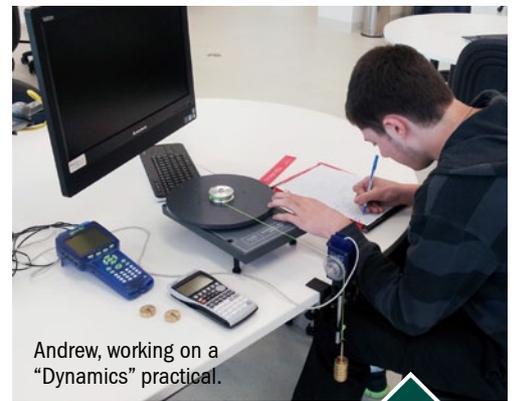


THEN & NOW

A LOOK AT NEWS AND PHOTOS FROM THE ARCHIVES, AND HOW WE'VE CHANGED!

The new face of Cedar College is unmistakably the impressive Resource Centre and Administration Building, which fronts Fosters Road with its iconic triple-wing roof line.

The new Resource Centre occupies the entire first floor of the new building and incorporates the Primary and High School Libraries, 2 fully equipped computer rooms, 2 Primary School classrooms, a Theatre Room, Balcony Area, Online Learning Room (Open Access), Lift and Disabled Toilet Facilities and Library Offices and Storage.



Andrew, working on a "Dynamics" practical.

ANDREW HOPPS, CLASS OF 2012

This issue "Branching Out" speaks to 2012 Graduate **Andrew Hopps**, currently studying **Aerospace Engineering**, and asks him...

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

So Andrew, you graduated from Cedar at the end of last year, and have been at Uni for almost a year now, what are some of the differences that you've noticed?

One main difference is not having teachers and staff that you can personally get to know, and there's obviously many more students, which I was not used to, coming from a relatively small school.

The workload is a lot different; a lot of little assignments only worth a small amount of marks, but crucial to your learning.

Aerospace Engineering is something that you've been interested in for a long time, where do you see it taking you in the future - what are your dreams?

I don't have any definite ideas yet, but some possibilities could be British Aerospace Engineering (BAE), Defence Force, or SAAB, which are all in Australia. But, it is not impossible (with the degree obtained from this course) to go to Japan and work for Boeing. Having said that, Andy Thomas, the first Australian astronaut graduated from Adelaide Uni. Also, we recently had a Skype lecture to a person in ground control of the International Space Station, who also graduated from Adelaide Uni. So there's a lot of possibilities!

You've still got a few years of University ahead of you, what advice would you give to Year 12s or other graduates, based on your experience so far?

If you're going to do engineering, learn your maths well. Very well. It doesn't hurt to be able to write well too.

In general, learn as much as possible at school, and take advantage of the one-on-one time you get from teachers and classes. Be prepared for no one to "push you" at Uni. You can do as much as you like or as little as you like, and no one will say anything.

Learn to discipline yourself. Don't just learn the content at school, but learn how to learn. Learn good study habits, and teach yourself how to actually study in a way that works for you.

Finally, what is your favourite memory from your Cedar College days - is there something that you miss?

I miss the closeness and the "family" element of the school. I also miss having friends to be able to talk to about things with, and actually do things with. I loved the Common Room talk, I loved the Year 12 Formal, and I liked being Head Prefect and being able to have a bit of an influence on others people's lives.