



# *Our Centenary*

A reflection on the major events that brought  
our community together in 2023



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS | 1923 • 2023

# Our Centenary

As a memento of our centenary celebrations, we are pleased to present you with reflections on each of the major centenary events. These articles make up the 'Our Centenary' chapter of the 2023 *Carey Chronicle*.

This year has been an incredible display of the strength and connectedness of our community, and we hope you enjoy looking through these pages and seeing the result of all of the hard work put into delivering a celebration worthy of Carey Baptist Grammar School.



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# Honouring our past, embracing our future

**Julianne Brandon**  
**Director of Community Engagement**

For three years, much planning and work went into developing a range of exciting events and initiatives to celebrate Carey Baptist Grammar School's centenary. Our aim was to deliver an inclusive and accessible celebration that paid tribute to our Baptist founders and the 100-year history of Carey, and to acknowledge our past and present, strengthen relationships and inspire innovation as we move into our next century. In preparing for this year, we considered all the different aspects of our community – not just our students, alumni, staff and parents, but extended families, donors, business partners and friends – and we wanted to ensure our celebration was inclusive and offered something for everyone.

We began our celebrations on Monday 13 February, exactly 100 years since our very first students walked into our campus on Barkers Road for their first day at the School. We had a series of special assemblies, filmed a beautiful video which culminated in the front cover of this edition of the *Carey Chronicle*, and launched our official history book, *Torchbearers: a centenary history of Carey Baptist Grammar School*. The next few pages detail some of the other major events and celebratory initiatives taken to commemorate this special milestone. However, throughout the year, we saw several smaller centenary celebrations take place, such as events for our Inaugural Girl Scholars, our multigenerational families and our century's worth of School Captains.

2023 will certainly be a year for our school community to look back on proudly and with fond memories of a milestone well-marked. Beyond our events, much work went into creating a real sense of celebration that permeated the School and all of our communications. Highlights

included the stunning centenary timeline featured in the De Young Centre for Performing Arts, the larger-than-life signage around our campuses, the beautiful commemorative edition of *Torch* magazine, the opening of our first Heritage Trail at the Kew campus, the launch of our new digital archives portal, Carey Collections, and the opening of a time capsule from 1982!

To add to all this fun, we enjoyed no fewer than nine centenary cakes and 2405 centenary cupcakes, enjoyed pouring over 4200 photos taken to chronicle our special events, sold 360 centenary teddy bears, welcomed more than 16,000 members of our broader community participate in events and saw 10,844 likes (so far!) on our centenary social media posts!

A centenary is a significant milestone in the life of any organisation. It is a privilege to be able to celebrate it in such a dedicated way, and to have spent this year looking back and reflecting on how the past has shaped our school community into what it is today. Our centenary has been an opportunity to pause and celebrate our successes, but most importantly, our growth and the strong legacy that binds us as we look forward to the future and imagine what the next century will bring.

Our centenary celebrations would not have been possible without the dedication and passion of so many people, including staff, parents, alumni, sponsors and, especially, the Community Engagement team. An incredible amount of work has gone on behind the scenes to bring this milestone to life, whether that's developing ideas; organising events; designing the suite of promotional materials, merchandise and the banners displayed all around the School; liaising with suppliers, sponsors and consultants; and constantly collaborating and supporting one another through difficult decisions, taking on extra workload and making this a special year for the Carey community!





# Learning to Fly: Carey's centenary sculpture

**Simon Carver**

**Leader of Learning – Art and Design**

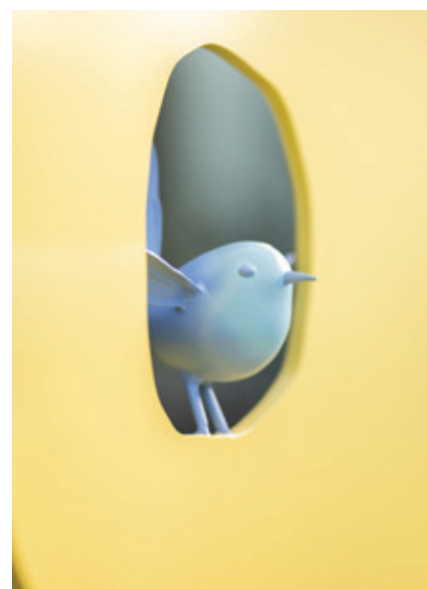
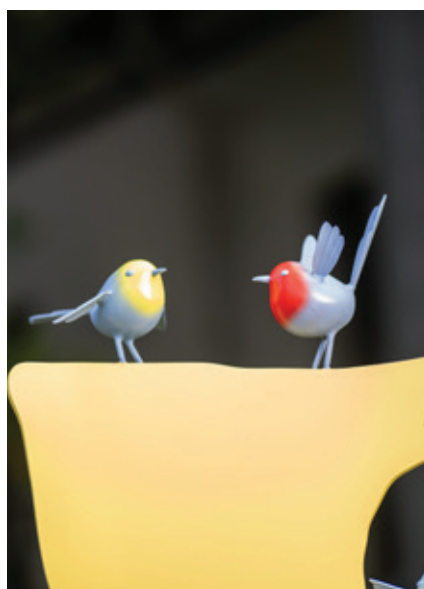
As a way of commemorating Carey's centenary, and as a symbol for our community to enjoy into the future, Carey commissioned Melbourne-based artist Alexander Knox to create a sculpture that celebrates Carey's history, represents our diverse community and speaks to our current students.

*Learning to Fly* was installed at Carey during the September school holidays and officially commemorated at a ceremony in November.

In his description of the artwork, Knox explains that *Learning to Fly* was informed by the student experience at Carey as well as the physical and social context of the sculpture:

*The work consists of an energetic assemblage of curved yellow elements that recalls the School's torchbearer emblem. This central totemic element is engaged by a cohort of small, brightly coloured wrens. These spritely birds evoke the student body. They present as a group, but their differing colours, body language and activities denote them as individuals with their own characteristics and motivations. The work speaks of the act and nature of learning and highlights the joy and wonder of the natural world.*

Over the past 12 months, a committee of members from the Carey community with a demonstrated interest in art have undergone a process of engaging with and selecting our artist from a number of applications and submissions. Our public art consultant, Jane O'Neill, has highlighted how the inclusion of public sculptures in schools provides an opportunity for students to perceive, question and absorb the artwork as part of their everyday experience of the school. In turn, the artwork has the capacity to nurture students with the idea that the experience of art is part of an ongoing program of a well-balanced life. Carey's



comprehensive arts program, along with its commissioning of this public sculpture on our Kew campus, affirms the creative possibilities for students interested in pursuing career pathways in the art and design world.

We are grateful for Alexander's work and we are honoured to be

able to proudly display his art at our Kew campus. We also appreciate our partnership with the Old Carey Grammarians Association (OCGA) to deliver this public art legacy. It is fitting to have the support of the OCGA for this sculpture, as it forms a bright and engaging intersection between past, present and future.

# The art of community at Donvale

**Steve Wilson**  
Head of Junior School Donvale



The unveiling of our centenary sculpture this May was a milestone moment for the School. In honouring our past and embracing the future, it is important to understand where Donvale sits in the overall Carey storyline.

Donvale opened in 1989 with 82 students and 13 staff. Since those humble beginnings, the Donvale campus has grown to a community of just under 300 students, 180 families and approximately 45 staff. Junior School Donvale has maintained a commitment to going beyond the

academics in an effort to nurture curiosity, collaboration and creative thinking. To that end, the visual and performing arts have been at the heart of some of the most memorable whole-school projects that have left their mark on our campus and the local community. Most importantly, in every case, these artistic pursuits have connected with concepts in mathematics, science, history, storytelling or languages. These endeavours have helped to shape who we are as the Junior School Donvale community.

Continuing this tradition, our sculpture involved every student and staff member to create a powerful story represented in three strikingly beautiful mosaic leaves. Kylie Crampton and Jeanette Jennings, current and past Donvale Art teachers respectively, designed the sculpture with the theme, 'Landscape of Learning'.

As you enter our campus, this imposing sculpture is a reminder of the three-way partnership of student, parent and educator that underpins everything we do.



The child is the central leaf, the most prominent and integral part of the learning landscape. The tones reflect the comfort of the embracing landscape alongside the blues of the Mullum Mullum Creek. The creek reflects the flowing nature of the student in their learning journey, and their capacity as an individual to respond to the curriculum.

To the left is the parent leaf, guiding the development of their child. We also pay respect the land of the Wurundjeri people through the colours of Australian wattles: orange, yellow and the colour of the earth.

To the right is the leaf representing our educators, who nurture and provide knowledge. One side depicts the reds of flowering gums, a colour that connects us to the earth with the deep brown of the tree trunks.



# Planting the Centenary Tree at Camp Toonallook

**Josh Edwards**  
**Head of Outdoor Education**

To celebrate Carey's centenary at our Toonallook campus, on Tuesday 30 May, Year 4 Junior School Donvale students took part in planting a Centenary Tree and officially marked the opening of the Camp Toonallook solar panels. Steve Wilson, Head of Junior School Donvale, was there to mark the occasion.

The participation of Junior School Donvale students in the planting of the Centenary Tree and the opening of the Solar array provided valuable learning opportunities for the students. This included connecting with the School's history and learning about the legacy of Junior School Donvale by honouring Mr Ken Lyall and Mr Ralph Shinkfield, who were key figures in setting up Camp Toonallook. Junior School Donvale has honoured these two people through their House system, so it is fitting then that Donvale students should be the ones to honour their legacy at Toonallook by planting the Centenary Tree. This historical context helped them develop a sense of pride and appreciation for their school's heritage.

Furthermore, the Centenary Tree and the solar array remind the students about their role in preserving the environment and embracing sustainable practices. This hands-on experience allowed them to understand the importance of renewable energy and its impact on reducing carbon emissions. It also gave them a tangible example of how individuals and communities can contribute to a sustainable future. These visual representations of environmental consciousness can inspire and reinforce the students' commitment to sustainability in their daily lives.

The new solar array at Toonallook shows Carey's commitment to a sustainable future: the 25kw system has already offset 12 tonnes



of carbon dioxide! In combination with the Centenary Tree, we could expect to sequester a great deal more carbon in the coming years.

The Centenary Tree is a native Eucalyptus Melliodora, a yellow box eucalypt. Its name roughly translates to mean sweet/honey smelling, as it is a tree known for nectar and therefore bee productivity. Bees are essential for a healthy environment

and the sustainability of our planet, so the tree symbolises the importance of taking responsibility for the future and making choices that prioritise the planet's wellbeing.

The event supported and complemented the students' overall learning objectives and fostered a deeper understanding of the School's centenary theme: honouring the past and embracing the future.

# The conference and the cocktail party: staff centenary events

**Emma Young**  
**Communications Advisor**

Our centenary presented many opportunities to celebrate our staff and the impact they have had on our school for the past 100 years. We have hundreds of staff at Carey, and they each play an essential role in keeping this large, innovative and leading school running to a high standard.

To celebrate together at the beginning of the year, Carey hosted a staff cocktail party for us to come together outside of the workplace and honour this milestone year. The theme was 'a touch of gold', a celebratory colour that formed a motif throughout the year. We heard from our longest-serving staff member and Property Manager, Mick Calder, and danced the night away to the music of Stand and Deliver, a fun 1980s cover band who also performed at our Centenary Fair, Gala Ball and Year 12 Valedictory evening.

Professional development is key to ensuring Carey staff are always delivering best practice approaches to their work, and our centenary theme of 'Honouring our past, embracing our future' was woven into a two-day Centenary Education Conference for all staff.

At the conference, inspired by a range of speakers, staff were encouraged to rethink the changing world and how Carey can continue to support students in it. In the many topics discussed, a key theme was the importance of our connection to First Nations peoples. The conference had a special opening performance from Gamilaraay singer Mitch Tambo. Mitch performed versions of 'You're the Voice' and 'Great Southern Land' in English and Gamilaraay and explained how music is a way he connects with his Aboriginal heritage.

We heard presentations from David Price OBE, a global thought leader, learning futurist and innovation



consultant; conference emcee, Shelley Ware, a well-known Yankunytjatjara and Wirangu media personality; Carey alum Jon Yeo (1990), an experienced speaker and curator for TEDxMelbourne; economist-turned-business-storyteller Yamini Naidu; Sophie Renton, a social researcher and trends analyst at McCrindle Research; and Carey alum Kynan Robinson (1989), Founder and CEO of EnRusk. We learnt about global changes and trends, systemic barriers in education and technology, artificial intelligence, the importance of self-education and self-awareness and the power of storytelling. We were challenged to imagine what the future of Carey could look like and what we need to keep, change and get rid of in order to achieve it. Our emcee also facilitated a panel discussion with Principal Jonathan Walter, David Price, alumni Lucy Jepson (2014) and Kynan Robinson (1989), and Year 12 student Mercy.



The panel discussed how well schools prepare young adults and what the future of education could look like.

The conference was supported by our Centenary Partners, ANZ, Bob Stewart and Moores, and Major Event Sponsors, CompNow and Campion. We are grateful to Deputy Principal – Learning, Kate Croft, with the assistance of Julia Robinson, who put the conference together.

Through keynote presentations, workshops and other interactive sessions at the two-day Centenary Education Conference, staff were challenged to think about how we can influence our future. The conference provided important ideas to inform Carey's ongoing commitment to supporting students and staff and ensure Carey is ready for the next 100 years. As Jonathan Walter said, it might feel like we're building the plane as we fly it, but we're doing it together and we're doing it well.









# The Centenary Fair: a celebration of community

**Luka Best, Octavia Kegele and Diya Sachdeva**  
**Community Captains**

Carey's Centenary Fair was a blast for everyone who got involved. As students, we were able to explore and enjoy our school through a different lens of creativity and fun as well as getting to celebrate Carey's centenary milestone with an amazingly well-put-together fair.

Our Junior School area for the younger kids was an absolute hit with music, magicians and a giant bouncy castle. All the bigger kids loved the rides and games and enjoyed being in the company of their friends and peers. The atmosphere on the day was electric and it was amazing to see how our community came together to revel in all our achievements.

It was also great to have some of our alumni come back on the day. One of the highlights was the panel with Carey sports people: Meg Lanning, Ahmed Kelly, Jess Hansen and Jack Viney.

The rides were another stop for excitement. Whether you wanted to experience the fear and adrenaline of going on the Hurricane or enjoy something a bit less daunting like the dodgem cars, there was something for everyone.

There were also so many stalls available for the whole Carey community to enjoy. The stalls were operated by Carey families along with volunteers who helped out on the day. The amazing variety on offer included delicious delicacies like special Carey cupcakes, Carey centenary merchandise and even handmade items created by members of our community. We are so appreciative of all of the incredible hard work by all to allow the stalls to run as smoothly as possible.

Carey's Centenary Fair was an amazing day. While the weather at the start of the day looked like it might dampen the celebrations, this

was not the case and Carey students, alumni and families enthusiastically turned up for the festivities. It was great to see so many of the Carey community there and we hope that you all had a wonderful time!

We want to greatly thank everyone who was involved, you each played such a key role in allowing our day to be so special. A big thanks also to our centenary sponsors who helped make the day happen, in particular, our Centenary Partners, ANZ, Moores and Bob Stewart; and our Centenary Fair Major Event Sponsors, Hairhouse and Trippas White.

On behalf of everyone, we thank you.













# A retrospective of Carey Musicals Through the Years

David Crawshaw

Senior School Musical Director, 1991–2009



When Anton Chekhov wrote, 'You should feel a flow of joy because you are alive. Your body will feel full of life. That is what you must give from the stage. Your life. No less. That is art: to give all you have,' he could well have been describing Carey's Musicals Through The Years Concert.

Held at the Forum Theatre on 18 and 19 May, 140 past and present students staged musical numbers from the 35 different musicals Carey has performed in the past 40 years. Make no mistake, this was a spectacular production, starting with a fully choreographed number from the 2023 show, *The Addams Family*, then recalling the early days of Gilbert and Sullivan with the glorious voice of Henriette Feith (1987), who had flown in from the Netherlands for the occasion, singing 'Poor Wandering One' from *The Pirates of Penzance* (1987), and followed by a continuous line up of 'golden' numbers that evoked so many memories. Act 1 finished with stunning extracts from *Les Misérables* and, at the end, the whole theatre was dancing in the aisles to the songs of ABBA from *Mamma Mia!* There was no shortage of tears, smiles and sustained applause.



James Cutler (2000), in brilliant style, hosted the evening as the narrator, and screens displayed magnificent footage of each past production as the numbers were performed: a fitting tribute to past and present performers and a wonderful celebration for our school.

The off-stage cast was almost as large as the on-stage cast. Tim Schwerdt must take enormous credit for the artistic direction and energy at rehearsals, supported by so many pianists, singing specialists and choreographers; as must the Community Engagement team, especially Kim Major, Grace Phillips,



Erin Boyd and Julianne Brandon. Thank you also to Jon Willis of CVP who provided visual imaging, Marriner Group for their magnificent venue, Diadem and our Centenary Partners for their sponsorship, Sam Ponsford for stage managing, and Sally Davis for conducting an orchestra that inspired the performers to heights unforeseen.

For those of us who were there at the start of this journey in 1985, this was not a 'walk down memory lane' but an infusion of all the images of so many Carey students who have performed with such distinction on 'our' stage.



# Oh, what a night!: the Centenary Gala Ball

## The Gala Ball Committee

Our 'Once in a Lifetime' Carey Centenary Ball went off with a real bang at Crown Palladium on a lively Saturday night in July.

We were absolutely thrilled that so many of our community came ready to celebrate Carey in style. 'We are so lucky to be part of the wider Carey community and are delighted to see all parts of that community represented here tonight at the biggest event we have ever held,' said Andrea Fragiadakis, President of the Ball Committee, in her address on the evening. 'We have current and past parents and carers, staff, alumni, leaders and Board members.'

There was a palpable energy right across the event and the fun and frivolity started from the get-go as our wonderful entertainer Mike Snell serenaded us all into the beautifully decorated Palladium room. The dancing started when the doors opened at 7.30pm and continued

right through to our midnight close. The band Chunky Jam then took the party up a level, ably assisted again by Mike and his team.

Carey's Gala Ball Committee was thrilled to see our long planned event finally come to life and seeing so many people having so much fun.

Angela reflected on the work we as volunteers can do when we work to build a vibrant school community in her speech. 'As this is a centenary celebration, it makes me reflect on all the parents who have volunteered their time and passion to building the strong Carey community we have today,' Andrea said. 'There must be hundreds of parents who have worked on school committees, parent associations, fundraisers and events. They often go unnoticed but, in this centenary year, I would like to recognise the valuable contribution parents make to the school community.'

We are grateful to all those who assisted us in making this event happen: our Major Sponsors, Kay and Burton and JB Were; the Centenary Partners, ANZ, Bob Stewart and Moores; Carey's Community Engagement team; Crown Events Group; Encore for their AV support; our entertainers, Mike Snell Entertainment and Chunky Jam; and Gavin Blue and his photography team.





# Celebrating music at the Centenary Concert

**Sally Davis**  
**Head of Performing Arts**

The Centenary Concert was a very special evening celebrating our school's centenary through music, with performances and reflections shared with our Carey community. The concert showcased groups from Junior School Kew, Junior School Donvale, Middle and Senior School – Choirs, Big Band, Symphony Orchestra, Chamber and Junior Strings and Wind Symphony. We also heard from Jason Digby, the longest-serving member in the department, who presented a poetic reflection, accompanied by Vivien Lee at the piano. Jason spoke of the community established through involvement in the program, a fitting representation of his many years at the school. Year 12 student Yana also offered a reflection on her growth through the program, starting from her first lessons as a Year 2 student at Junior School Donvale. Perhaps the highlight of the night though was the Finale, presented by the Wind Symphony with combined Middle and Senior School choirs. Commissioned especially for the concert and composed by Melbourne-based composer Edward Fairlie, the piece was a rhapsody based on the Carey School Song. Reaching its peak with a full four-part choral offering of the School Song, the piece was delivered with majesty and pride, and was a fitting end to a fantastic concert.



I would like to sincerely thank all the students involved for their engagement and enthusiasm in presenting this concert. Their focus and patience at the rehearsals is to be commended, and there was no doubt that they were relishing the opportunity to perform in such a wonderful venue. To the Performing Arts staff – thank you for your commitment to providing these students with authentic and

memorable experiences. Your work is greatly appreciated. We must also acknowledge the Centenary Sponsors, including the Centenary Partners, ANZ, Moores and Bob Stewart, and Community Sponsor of the Centenary Concert, Fine Music, for their support for the event. And to our Carey community – alumni, family, friends – thank you for your ongoing support of and enthusiasm for music at Carey.



# 100 years of Carey sport – we love it!

**Paul Jepson**  
**Head of Sport and Activities**

The much-anticipated celebration of 100 years of Carey Sport dinner at the mighty MCG on Friday 20 October could well go down as one of the great nights in Carey's history. With over 350 staff, alumni, family, friends and special guests in attendance, the night showcased Carey's rich and proud sporting history in a way so unique to Carey – it was fun, informal, informative and memorable in so many ways.

Guests arrived for pre-dinner drinks in the magnificent MCC Members Long Room before taking their seats in the Dining Room overlooking the vast expanse of the world's most hallowed turf. Masters of Ceremonies Tiffany Cherry (1989) and Ian Cohen (1984) led the festivities brilliantly, ably supported by former Olympian and our Head of Athletics, Tamsyn Lewis-Manou, who played the role of roving reporter, interviewing some of Carey's former sporting stars in attendance, including Jack Viney, James Tomkins, Noel Donaldson, Laura Barden, Jess Hansen, Ahmed Kelly, Graham Yallop and David Wansbrough. Other highlights of the night included video presentations which encapsulated our magnificent sporting history, a stirring musical tribute by Richard Thomas (1992), a fun Kahoot sporting quiz and the calling down of the

years to celebrate our long serving alumni in attendance on the evening.

Notwithstanding the formalities and brilliantly researched and produced content, the chance for guests to re-acquaint themselves with former colleagues and teammates was what made the event so special. Past Carey APS Premiership teams were celebrated and those in attendance took the opportunity to take photos of the APS premiership cups on display throughout the night.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the organisation of this magnificent event, particularly Julianne Brandon, Kim Major and Benita McLeod, who were ably supported by Erin Boyd and the Community Engagement team. A shoutout goes to Helen Wolff and Felix Lam who, along with Kim, assembled the incredible booklet documenting the history of Carey sport – a brilliant keepsake for everyone who attended. We are also grateful to our Centenary Sponsors for the evening, particularly our Centenary Partners – ANZ, Bob Stewart and Moores – and our Major Event Sponsor, OnTrack Sportswear.

The 100-year celebration was a stunning success, fully encapsulating our famous slogan: 'Carey Sport – We Love It!'



## Our sponsors

Our centenary celebrations would not have been possible without the generous support of our 26 centenary sponsors. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our community, suppliers and contributors in seeing Carey's milestone celebrated in style.

We had the support of a range of sponsors across many events and encapsulating many different levels of support, as shown below. Our three Centenary Partners, ANZ, Bob Stewart and Moores, represent the highest level of support

and endorsed us throughout the year at each event and more.

Our centenary sponsors exemplify the value of building meaningful relationships with people inside our community and out.

### Centenary Partners



### Centenary Fair



### Education Conference



### Musicals Through the Years



### Centenary Gala Ball



### Centenary Sports Dinner



### Community Sponsors



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