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Dandjoo Darbalung program
awarded \$12.8 million for
building development

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8

The sky's the limit
for new residents at
O' Week 2017

—
18

New Alumni
publication needs
a name

Welcome from the Chair of the Board

This issue of *Banksia* highlights the depth of the programs the College offers and the wide range of opportunities available to residents.

Year 12 is a year of making decisions, managing time efficiently and working hard to provide as many options as possible for the future. University and College admission also becomes a consideration, suggesting that the most significant thing about tertiary education is not necessarily where you go but what you do once you get there.

The St Catherine's Board together with the staff of the College, constantly focusses on how we can extend the opportunities for residents to ensure their education is rich, diverse and meaningful.

I encourage you to visit in person or via the website to truly appreciate how you can make the most of your university experience.



The Hon Dr Elizabeth Constable (former Minister of Education)

Cover image: Sachi Nevill from Lombardina near Broome is studying Health Sciences at UWA and is very excited about the funding for the new building.

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5 top tips from an experienced Head of College

LIVE A LARGER LIFE

– my challenge to residents!

- 1. Pursue passion, not As.** Grades are important and at St Catherine's we expect residents to work as hard as they can to be successful. However, as time passes, no employer ever asks you what your grades were, so that becomes less important. Ambition and innovation trumps grades every time.
- 2. Failure can be a positive.** Improvisation and resilience are great educators when it comes to failing. There's no way you are going to get it right every time so 'flearning' (learning through failure) can be as important as succeeding.

3. Ask big questions. Don't be afraid to question, explore and think actively. If there was no place to look it up or find a simple answer, you have planted the seed of change by asking the question.

4. Set goals and make them real. Start planning your future now. Focus on the end game and what you want to accomplish, big and small. Develop a crystalised vision.

5. Cultivate empathy for others and find a way to contribute. College life is filled with diversity, not only in terms of culture but also in terms of pursuits and aspirations. Understanding where another person comes from and what drives them creates understanding of what makes them act the way they do. Empathy and a willingness to bring a little justice to the world defines our community at College and means we can truly live a larger life!



Fiona Crowe with College dogs, Ollie and Bridie

A pioneering and inventive project

\$12.8million in collaborative funding support from both the Federal and State Government will greatly enhance the *Dandjoo Darbalung* Indigenous Access Program at the College.

Dandjoo Darbalung, which means 'mixing together' in the way fresh and salt water mix in the Swan estuary, was established at St Catherine's College in 2012 to create a wrap-around residential program to support Indigenous students with their tertiary studies, while encouraging and nurturing their cultural identity.

The new funding which will provide custom-designed accommodation, living and learning spaces, an exhibition and performance area and a large Banksia-shaped central meeting space will double the capacity of the *Dandjoo Darbalung* program, creating the largest tertiary residential program of this type and size in Australia.

"This purpose-built accommodation will provide a space that is balanced for Indigenous ways of life and learning. From this we will see many prosperous professionals come and stand in all walks of life and proudly represent our people."

– Barry McGuire, Ballardong Nyungar man and Ambassador of *Dandjoo Darbalung*

The new accommodation was designed following extensive consultation with current Indigenous residents at the College, many of whom come

from remote areas. They wanted accommodation that was differently configured, supporting interaction between year groups, more like a family home with strong peer-to-peer support.

Billie Kickett-Morris, a Nyoongar woman studying Medicine at UWA and a current resident at St Catherine's, said she liked the community focus of the program.

"I come from a big Aboriginal family so living here as part of a supportive community makes it easier for me to focus on my studies," she said. "The Dandjoo Darbalung program encourages us culturally

which has made the transition to university so much easier."

UWA Vice-Chancellor Professor Dawn Freshwater said the program did more than support students while they were at university.

"It also works on the key transition points from completing Year 12 into university and subsequently from university into skilled and sustained employment," Professor Freshwater said.

"Since 2012, the program has achieved higher than a 90% retention rate for Aboriginal students."

Construction will commence at the end of 2017, and the buildings will open at the start of the 2019 academic year.

Essentially, this project has the capacity to change lives and positively impact educational outcomes for young Indigenous people with the support of the wider residential community. It embraces aspiration and innovation and shines the spotlight on a successful program which at its heart, celebrates the fostering of cultural identity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous residents alike.



Artist's impression of the proposed buildings



Marlon Johns, current St Catherine's resident

"This purpose-built accommodation will provide a space that is balanced for Indigenous ways of life and learning. From this we will see many prosperous professionals come and stand in all walks of life and proudly represent our people."

– Barry McGuire, Balladong Nyungar man and Ambassador of Dandjoo Darbalung



Artist's impression of the proposed buildings

What's Bloom been up to?

St Catherine's has its own innovation hub, called Bloom. We believe that young people are deserving of the support and encouragement needed to fully develop their entrepreneurial skills. Bloom attracts young innovators from different backgrounds who are passionate, driven and keen to work on their own start-up. Bloom is the place to be if you have a business idea you want to develop or you like being surrounded by other bright, young people kick starting exciting things.

NASA SPACE APPS PERTH 2017

For 48 hours, problem solvers from all over the world joined NASA's International Space Apps Challenge to find a broad range of solutions to identified problems. Last year the challenge involved participants from six continents and 161 cities. Bloom again headed up the team of organisers and made this great event come to life.

Solutions varied from apps that predicted cyclones based on particle matter circulating in our atmosphere to a simulator that could predict bushfire devastation using satellite images to identify where fire breaks could be positioned to stop a fire spreading before it has begun.



LAUNCHPAD

In partnership with UWA, Bloom has guided seven young entrepreneurs through an accredited academic unit to develop their entrepreneurial ideas and turn it into a business. The Bloom Startup Launchpad commenced in Semester 1, 2017 and two of the participants were finalists in the 2017 UWA Innovation Quarter Student Startup of the Year Award - Ahmud Auleer, Co-founder of *HUMM Tech* and Haweya Ismail, Founder of *Mud and Musk*.

SLUMBERJACK

Fletcher Ehlers and Morgan Then of *Slumberjack* are two UWA graduates who pursued their passion for music. The duo has been making waves, not only domestically but internationally for their unique and diverse sound. At a workshop session, *Slumberjack* gave Bloom members valuable insight into juggling a creative and artistic passion with commercial success.



Slumberjack



A candid talk by Professor Barry Marshall (centre right) on learning from failures

FAILING YOUR WAY TO A NOBEL PRIZE FEATURING BARRY MARSHALL

UWA researcher, Nobel Prize winner and entrepreneur, Professor Barry Marshall talked openly and honestly to students about his failures, bad decisions, the outcomes, what was learned and what may have been done differently. His salient message was that the fear of failure shouldn't ever hold us back from starting something!

BLOOMERS



Ella Ganfield, Founder of GeckoSteps announced as new CEO of Teach Learn Grow.



Ryan Beckmand (right)

Ryan Beckmand, Founder of Sciosity, received WA Young Achiever Award in the Small Business category.

Jurimetrix, announced as one of Westpac's 200 Businesses of Tomorrow.

5 out of 13 of TechHub's "Tech Startups from Perth You Need to Know About in 2017" are Bloom members.

3 out of 5 of the Social Impact Festival Award winners are Bloomers too.

Orientation is a new start at uni.

An important foundation for success

O' Week was a fun and memorable introduction to College and university life for our residents whilst also providing the foundation for a successful transition from school to tertiary education. With many residents leaving home for the first time, managing independent living and learning is crucial. O' Week combines all that and allows residents to make new friends, find their way around College and the university campus and travel around Perth. Trips to Cottesloe Beach and local shopping centres are very popular!



SUNKEN GARDEN PARTY

An opportunity for residents to dress up and enjoy UWA's Cultural Precinct, dabble in virtual reality 3D painting, and cap off the evening with a sundowner and African drumming and dancing.

CULTURAL IMMERSION

A campfire showcase of our country's wonderful Indigenous culture and tradition, encompassing everything from Indigenous dancing to storytelling and learning about cultural sensitivity. The evening culminated with a performance under the stars by the fantastic *Struggling Kings*, an Indigenous band who play everything from their own cultural songs to *Kings of Leon*!



FRESHER DANCE

A college tradition where residents spend O' Week learning the moves and then battle it out against the other Colleges at the Fresher Festival on the banks of the Swan River.





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RESIDENT LEADERSHIP

Leadership is an integral part of St Catherine's and is one of our core values. Our residents are appointed as leaders to their peers, allowing them to gain real world training and the possibility of receiving university credit in a newly developed training module. These appointed leaders foster our community spirit and provide support to all our residents. Our team of 24 leaders mostly work as a team but they also take on individual responsibilities to further develop their skills and include portfolios such as sport, diversity and volunteering.

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INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT YOU

Professor Marc Tennant, Dr Kate Dyson and their team have generously offered their time and expertise as the College's inaugural 'Scientists-in-Residence' program. Together they offer assistance and advice to residents, particularly those studying a postgraduate degree, to find research projects and work placements. While at the College, they will also be working on their own research into public health issues related to dentistry.



Prof Estie Kruger, Professor Marc Tennant and Dr Yulia Shiikha are available in the College every week to assist residents in the Sciences

COLLEGE TRADITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS



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COMMENCEMENT DINNER

The highlight of O' Week is the Commencement Dinner which heralds the formal start of a new academic year. All residents don their finest evening attire and their academic robes to celebrate together as a community of scholars.

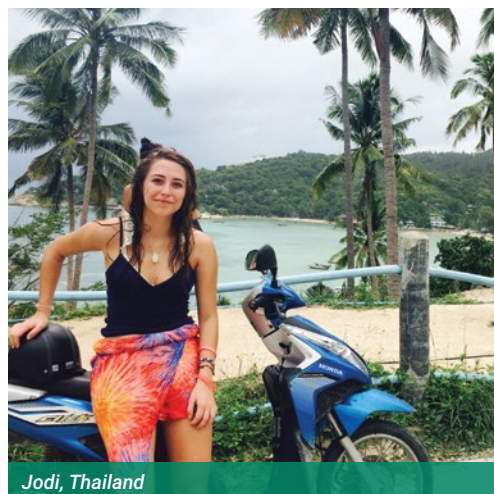


Making new friends and having an active social life is an important part of living at College. The College creates numerous opportunities for residents to get to know each other, from smaller Wing events to large group activities like bowling or roller disco.

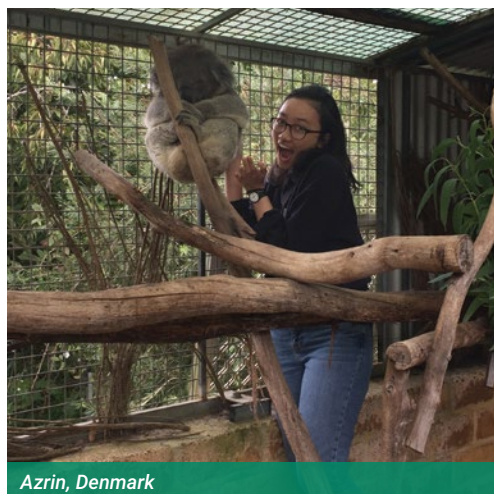


HOLIDAY TRIPS WITH FRIENDS

International residents from 38 different countries meet Australian residents at College and forge lifelong friendships. Exciting holiday trips are planned to explore Australia and our residents proudly promote St Catherine's in the most unusual places... they do the same when they return home as well!



Jodi, Thailand



Azrin, Denmark



Australian Travels



Julian, Greece

Support for sport

St Catherine's has won the College Sport Cup competition for the past two years and is well on track to do so again. Residents are fiercely supportive and they cheer loudly for their fellow resident athletes, who play in 14 different sports throughout the year. We like to win and support one another and in doing so we also won the Spirit Shield in 2015.



Annabelle Standing (left)



Zach Wilson (left)

ANNABELLE STANDING

Annabelle has a strong passion for sprint kayaking, which started when she was in primary school. Just last year she was drafted by the Australian Institute of Sport. Training consistently for 11 hours a week, her efforts allowed her to compete at a national level, ultimately achieving a Silver medal in Nationals K1 1000 in 2016 (competition for Kayaking).

Outside of her sporting endeavours, Annabelle is pursuing a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Sport Science at UWA. She is also currently working at a hospital as she intends to start a Medicine degree for her postgraduate studies. Her mantra is "Make sure you're enjoying what you do!"

ZACH WILSON

Zach Wilson, first year resident at St Cat's, has blended his love for the environment with mixed martial arts. Zach is studying a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Marine Science and Natural Management at UWA. When he is not hitting the books, he is out practicing his mixed martial arts; and he takes his practice very seriously!

Balancing an active lifestyle with his pursuit for academic excellence is therefore imperative for Zach, and the range of academic and health and wellbeing services that the College offers, helps him to excel in his academic studies and fosters his active lifestyle.

COMPETITION TABLE

	MEN'S	WOMEN'S	OVERALL	POINTS
1st	St Catherine's	St Thomas More	St Catherine's	72
2nd	UniHall	St Catherine's	St Thomas More	62
3rd	St George's	Trinity	Trinity	53
4th	Trinity	UniHall	UniHall	51
5th	St Thomas More	St George's	St George's	51



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SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Swimming Carnival is one of the premier sport events and St Catherine's turns out in force to support our swimmers and soak up the atmosphere.



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**Transition
to
University**

In her role as the Director of Student Development, Lucy Sharp, completing a Master of Science Communication, assists residents studying an undergraduate degree to reach their full potential both academically and socially. Through the coordination of the *Transition to University* Program, targeted workshops and support, Lucy equips residents with the skills and strategies needed to navigate their university journey.

"I most enjoy meeting with residents individually to hear how I can help them or provide support and this understanding informs my approach in my area of work".

Why students choose St Cat's as their #1 choice. The added value is in the opportunities!



Academic success

Director of Studies at St Catherine's, Jiaranai Keatnuxsuo, has been able to apply the skills learnt in her Master of Commerce to administer the St Catherine's Academic Tutoring Program. With over 200 individual requests for tutorials and over 120 weekly sessions each semester, Jia implemented a cloud based innovative management solution.

"I find it intriguing to re-evaluate and improve business processes and I applied my in-class learning to a real world problem."

Utilising this new software has allowed the College's staff to capture analytics on areas of need, resident participation in tutoring sessions and feedback which all aid in developing the program further. As a free service to residents, tutorials in any subject can be requested and residents can participate in individual or small group sessions where they can ask questions, clarify concepts and delve deeper into their subjects.

Each month there is an average of 320 hours of tutorials delivered in the College with 96% of participants reporting that tutorials significantly improve their marks.



Internships help find jobs even in New York!

Studying a Master of International Relations/International Law, Adil Cader's career aspiration would be to represent Australia abroad in a diplomatic capacity. He recently completed an internship at the United Nations in New York where he rubbed shoulders with senior diplomats like Malcolm Turnbull, the Foreign Minister of Iceland and industry leaders such as Zainab Bedawi from the BBC.

"Employers value internships very highly, sometimes more so than where you studied. It gives you a real understanding of how the political process works and teaches you valuable skills like team work and collaboration," said Adil.

"St Catherine's actively promotes these opportunities to residents and it makes a massive difference as I can tap into the College's vast network and be as career-ready as possible."

Getting involved and taking opportunities

First year resident and scholarship recipient Ross Godwin is on an assured pathway to Medicine but believes in keeping the balance by embracing every opportunity. "Right from the get go I've been involved in as much as possible, from leading chants at the Fresher Festival to competing in swimming, kayaking, cross country and cricket to learning the Cha-Cha with the dance club. St Catherine's has given me the best College experience!"

Not one to be limited in his pursuits, Ross also plays the violin in the West Australian Youth Orchestra and is studying Indonesian with a view to working internationally.

Ross has taken on the role of Cultural Officer and is working with a committee of students to deliver the College's very own art exhibition.



Name your own publication

Contact and engagement from our alumni is growing quickly across all age groups and in a range of ways including social media.

The time has come to produce a dedicated Alumni Publication featuring success stories, ways to get involved and how to support current residents. This new publication will be launched later this year but it needs a name which will resonate with our alumni community.

Please send your suggestions to alumni@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au by 1 September 2017 for a chance to win an overnight stay at *St Catherine's on Park*, the College's beautiful short-stay accommodation.

Alumni getting together to make a difference

Alumni reunions are always nostalgic and fun but two recent reunions have left an indelible mark on current and future residents.



1970s reunion

1970s SCHOLARSHIP

A group of 50 enthusiastic alumnae from the 1970s met up at the College for a tour, lunch and an opportunity to catch up on 40+ years since they last saw each other.

The reunion coordinator, Julie Quansing-Rowlands, took everyone on a very amusing trip down memory lane and the afternoon concluded with a heartfelt talk by Ella Edwards, a current postgraduate resident, completing her Doctor of Medicine (MD). In organising the reunion, Julie's prudent financial management

resulted in a small surplus which the group decided they would like to invest as seed funding for a scholarship to recognise the women of the 1970s. Giving to education is powerful and Ella's own story was testament to the transformative power of scholarships.

If you would like to support this newly-created scholarship (*literally every dollar makes a difference*) please go to stcatherines.uwa.edu.au/philanthropy/



Enjoying the view from the roof top gardens



Libby Marmion, Penny Scott, Debra Herring (nee Young) and Susan Worley.



Christina Leandri (nee Tropiano), Reunion Coordinator Julie Quansing-Rowlands (nee Quansing) and Judy Meagher (nee Menzie)

Read Julie's full reunion report online: stcatherines.uwa.edu.au/community/alumni/1970s-alumni-reunion-article



ELLA'S STORY

"I want to be involved in a field that is dynamic and challenging and medicine was the right fit because it also combines my interest in the human body and a desire to work with people. Winning a College residential scholarship last year changed everything because it enabled me to be involved in an innovative medical research project which required spending a lot of time on campus. Living at St Cat's meant I not only had the support from other post-grad residents but from the high profile academic network of the College. I also didn't waste time travelling and could purely focus on my research!"

Ella Edwards



Singapore alumni got together to catch up and continue supporting the College

Singapore professional Alumni program



Ankush Wagle, St Catherine's Singapore Alumni Coordinator

On April 30, alumni living in Singapore gathered to celebrate their time at College. Ranging from the 1980s to 2016, the discussion was lively, loud and filled with laughter.

This newly formed Singapore Alumni Group has been very active and has established an integrated way to stay connected to each other and to the College:

1. Young alumni mentoring sessions to assist onboarding new residents moving to College from Singapore (what to expect and what to bring).
2. Helping returning residents to settle back into life in Singapore and provide much needed mentoring and career advice in securing work.
3. Peer-to-peer support from more experienced alumni to those beginning their career.
4. A close knit social network to continue friendships made at College.

More opportunities to meet **old friends**

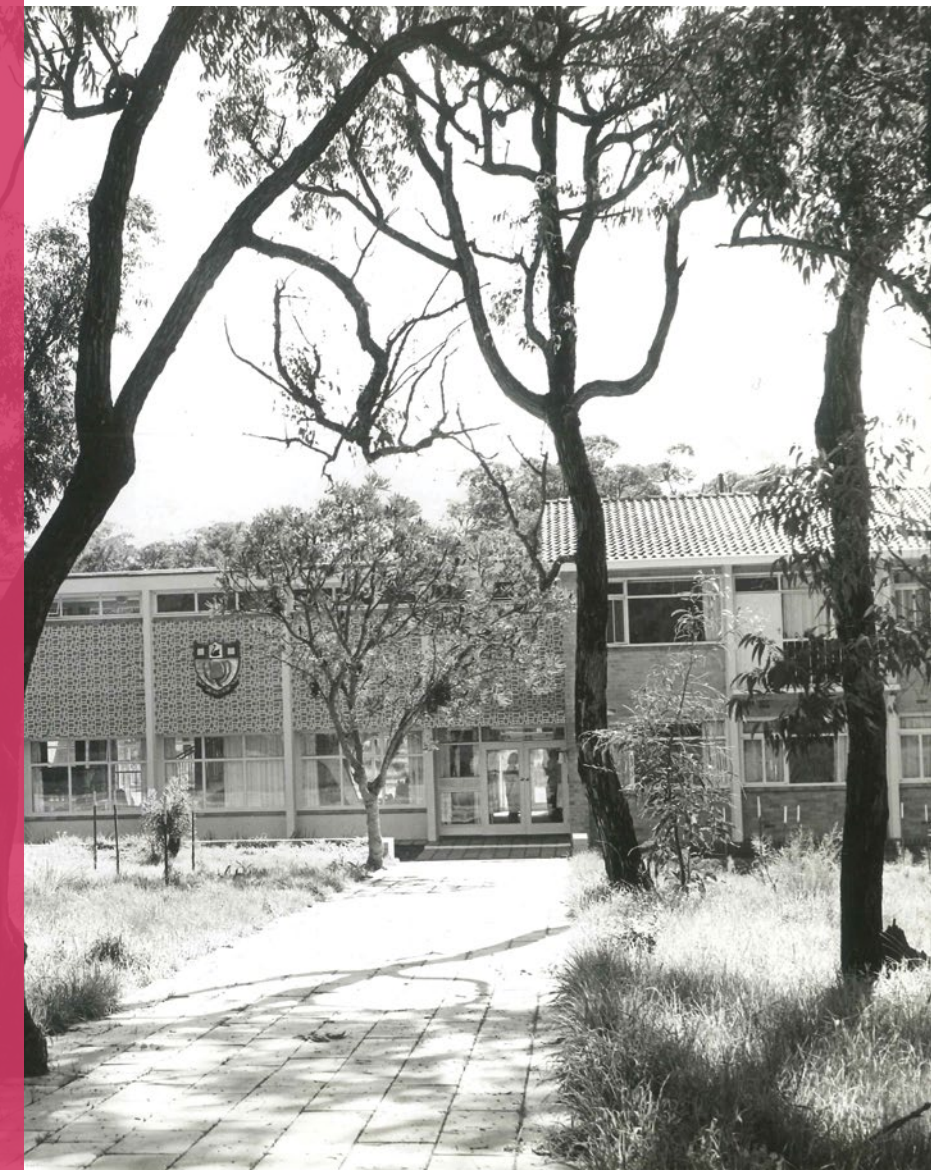
Reunions

1980s REUNION

- : Friday 27 October 2017
- : 5.30 – 8.00pm
- : Cocktail
- : Cost \$40
- : Website sign-up: stcatherines.uwa.edu.au/events/2017/10/27/1980s-reunion

1960s REUNION

- : Saturday 2 December 2017
- : 2.00 – 4.30pm
- : High Tea
- : Cost \$40
- : Website sign-up: stcatherines.uwa.edu.au/events/2017/12/2/1960s-reunion



Residents making a difference

Our residents are empathetic and care about others. They also understand that they have to be the difference in the world, so they embrace opportunities to raise funds and awareness on issues of plight.

Last year our residents volunteered their time to raise over \$12,000 for the “Do It In A Dress” campaign, which aims to increase awareness and raise money for girls who are being denied access to education in Sierra Leone and Uganda.

Sam James, a second year resident and the 2017 Community Engagement Residential Advisor explained, *“working together to achieve something positive allows residents to be exposed to more global issues and teaches young people about the impact of philanthropy”*.

Our current residents are preparing to put on their dresses again in October and they are hoping to exceed their 2016 total.




Summer Porter, St Catherine's resident and 2017 Student Co-President

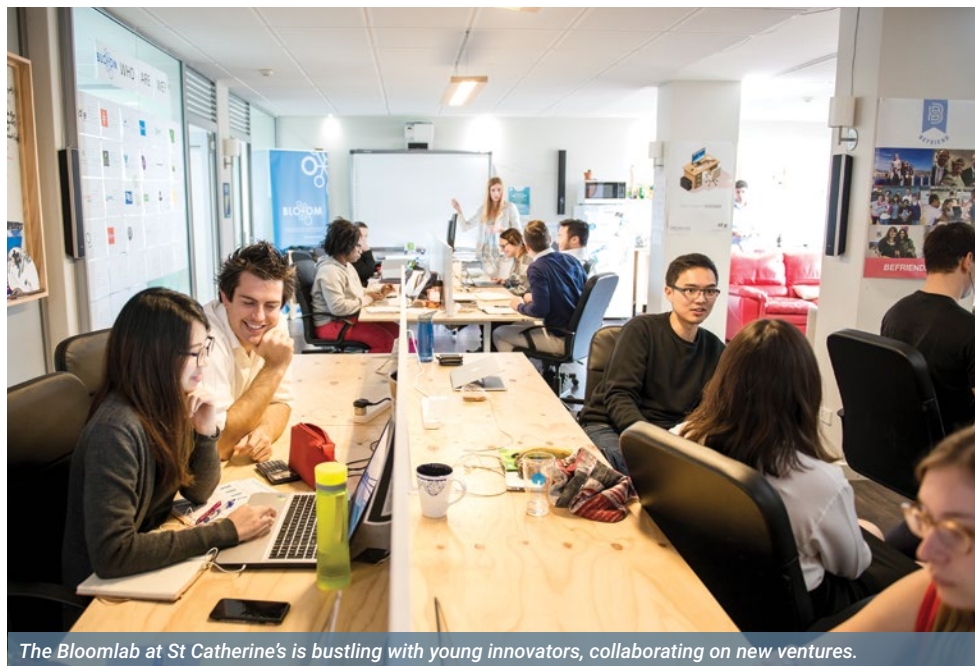
Annual Giving 2017

St Catherine's is a place of vitality, energy and a focus on constant renewal to remain at the forefront of contemporary collegiate living. This not only means innovative programs and support mechanisms for residents to be successful, but also means building projects to modernise and re-invigorate older parts of the College. St Catherine's has grown and with increasing demand in enrolments, re-development is a priority.

Our Annual Giving program is a lifeline for the College to achieve all that it must and our sincere thanks go to those Alumni and friends of the College who continue to support a range of initiatives from buildings to Innovation, Indigenous support or scholarships.



Fiona Crowe
Head of College



The Bloomlab at St Catherine's is bustling with young innovators, collaborating on new ventures.

St Catherine's Annual Giving Fund 2017

Your gift means so much to the College!

Please visit stcatherines.uwa.edu.au/philanthropy/ to donate online to any of the following projects:

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A gift to this fund will ensure that St Catherine's can offer opportunities to students, many of whom could not otherwise be able to have a residential College experience. It's a life changing gift!

INNOVATION FUND

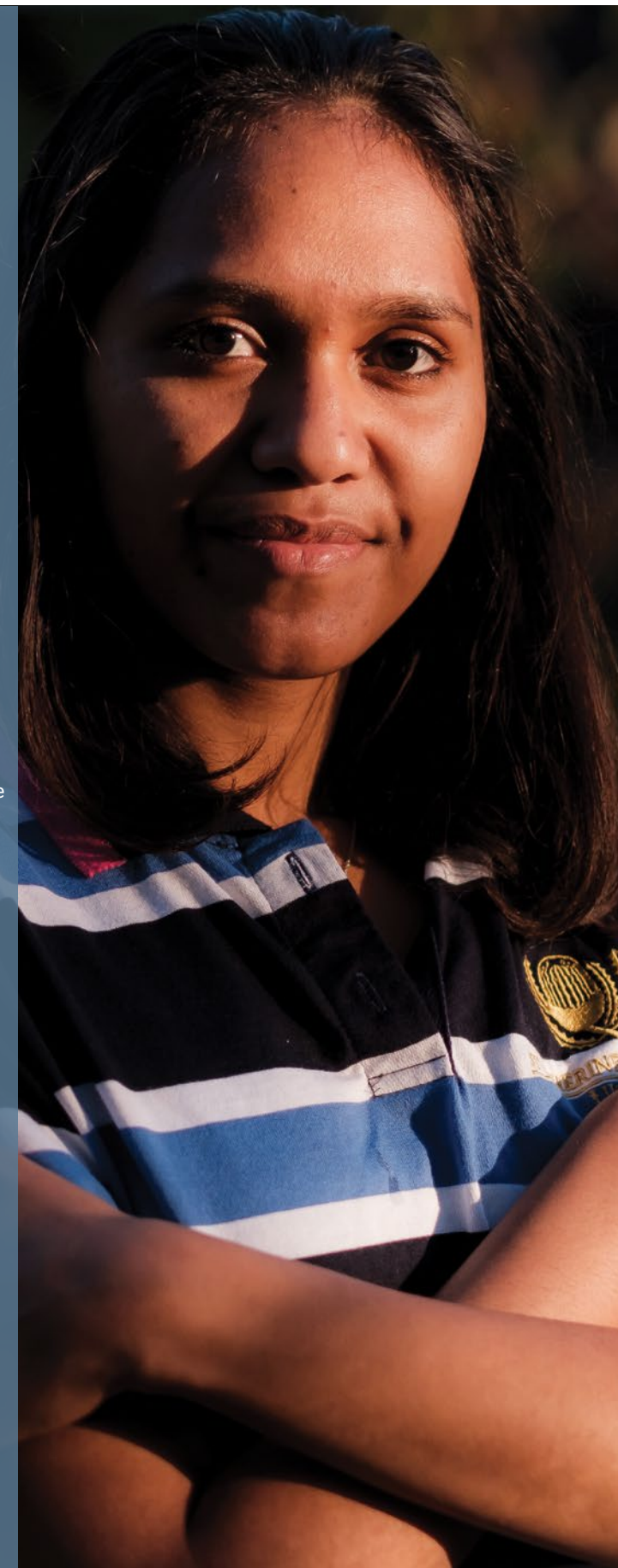
Donating to the Innovation Fund can provide seed funding for a startup, it can assist individual innovators to progress their idea or support Bloom in growing the whole innovation ecosystem with skills development.

INDIGENOUS SUPPORT FUND

Support indigenous education at St Catherine's College. The program is growing and we need increased resources to maintain the level of support required.

BUILDING FUND PROJECTS

A gift to the Building Fund is important for our students so they can live and learn in a state-of-the-art environment and we can continue to maintain our beautiful heritage.



Celine Tait, a Jaru woman from Halls Creek, studying Primary Health Care



ST CATHERINE'S
COLLEGE

2 Park Road
Crawley WA 6009

+61 8 9442 0400
enquiries@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au
stcatherines.uwa.edu.au



@stcatscollege
#stcatscollege