



# THE AQUINIAN



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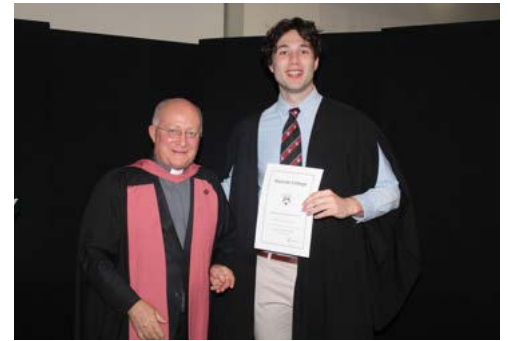
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# RECTOR'S INTRODUCTION



The pages that follow tell a story of vitality, community, purpose, fun, and achievement. In the seventy-year history of Aquinas College, that is not an unusual story; every year brings those five features in abundant measure. But 2020 has been anything but a usual year.

For decades to come, it is likely that this will always be known as 'the COVID year.' Aquinians of 2020 will long recall the time when, without warning, their university went online, their sports were cancelled, the intercollegiate competition was suspended, their part-time jobs were lost, and the pubs were closed. They will smile as they remember the internal restrictions placed on them at college: the dots on the dining room floor for them to line-up 1.5 metres apart; the limit of three people in a room; staggered meal times; no leaving the campus unless for essential reasons and not in groups; hand sanitisers at every turn. Some of them will remember having to be put in quarantine for fourteen days, with meals delivered to their door and a single hour's respite outside each day, replete with a mask and plastic gloves.

It could have been a disaster. It turned out to be quite the opposite.

In fact, 2020 proved to be a memorable year for Aquinas and for Aquinians. It became so because of how students and staff responded to a crisis not of their making, but which impacted profoundly on their personal and collegiate lives. Their response was marked by agility, creativity, collaboration, patience, humour and determination. The College took the decision to stay open, something much appreciated by students and their families. Our imagination, our generosity

and our care of one another saw us through. You can find the ample evidence of all of that running through this issue of *The Aquinian*.

At this year's Valette evening, speaker after speaker reflected on their experience of Aquinas. Without any prior cross-checking among them, they addressed remarkably similar themes and, in doing so, revealed why the College enjoyed such a wonderful year despite all that was happening around it. It was simple, really: the men and women of Aquinas. This is their home; they are family to one another. The rest is detail. This year we recast an existing event to become the Magnae Grates Dinner – or simply 'the MG'. We needed to do that: to celebrate, literally, a 'huge thanks' to one another. People came along in fancy dress as 'My Favourite Aquinian' – something that figuratively took everyone's focus away from themselves to someone else. It was essentially another-directed night. That is the heart of Aquinas – a community of people who matter a great deal to one another, who serve one another in small and big ways, who love being together, and who are always there for one another.

In setting the scene for 'the MG' that evening, I reminded people of Saint Paul's instruction to the Colossians. After urging them to be patient, compassionate and forgiving – all essential elements of any community – he finally tells them, 'and always be thankful.' It is indeed in deep gratitude that we conclude the seventieth anniversary year of Aquinas College.

Brother Michael Green FMS  
RECTOR

# Living Covidly

"Covidious" it was. A new word for the insidious impact of a scary new coronavirus. So much of the year 2020 at Aquinas, and indeed the rest of the planet, was defined by the uninvited and unwelcome intrusion of COVID-19 into our lives.

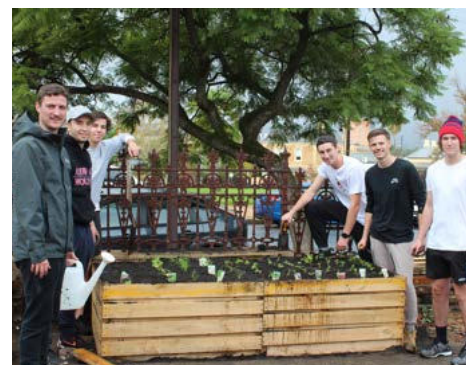
The academic year had hardly begun – just Week 2 of Semester 1 – when it hit. Uni went online (with mixed success initially as lecturers tried their best to adjust to the new Zoom software in which we were all soon to become experts), sports were cancelled, part-time jobs evaporated overnight, and even the pubs shut. What was a 20-year-old healthy and hearty uni student to do?

Aquinas was quick with the answer: "Study, you covidiot, study!"

And study we did. And study some more. And then some. Effectively locked down in college – with most of us opting to stay in residence – we soon learned that there was little option but to study hard. The College responded creatively and quickly,

its response setting the benchmark for student accommodation across the country.

But it was a very different collegiate life: Formal Dinners were suspended, and staggered meal-times introduced with just four people on a table; Pondshow went, along with most other events; weekly student briefings were held in sub-groups of Freshers, Juniors and Seniors; we got used to having students in "iso"; the dining room became both study central and social central, hosting three two-hour silent study sessions a day, as well as the place for table-tennis, board-games (who knew we had such chess masters in our midst?) and the new "Cher Lloyd Café" which allowed our out-of-work baristas to show off their skills; HTC sports were replaced with in-house competitions and morning workouts, progressively more limited as government-imposed restrictions were ratcheted up. In the end we were reduced to painting flowerpots, socially distanced of course. But



some memorable 'House Hangs' by Zoom took place and one or two surreptitious events behind closed doors and blacked-out windows.

Just about all of those who went home at the outbreak of the pandemic had returned by Easter – because there was much more fun to be had with fellow collegians on top of Montefiore Hill than sitting at home with a dodgy internet connect and no-one to share a drink or three. Friday nights were big.

Although we enjoyed special status as both an educational institution and a residential facility, our exemptions were not always appreciated by concerned neighbours, resulting in a number of visits from the friendly constabulary. Never did they find fault, but the locals were not easily placated.

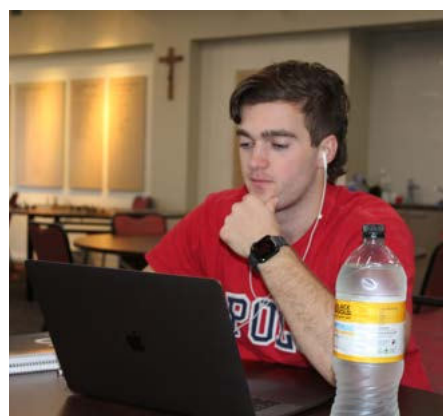
Semester 2 saw gradual easing, and a return to some degree

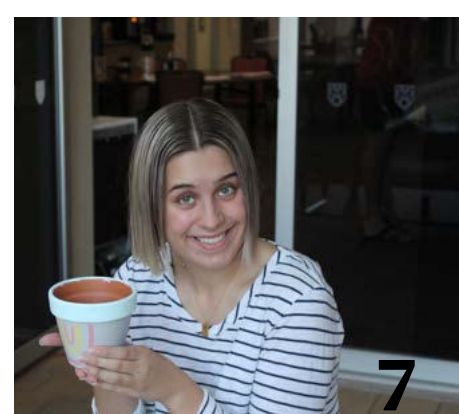
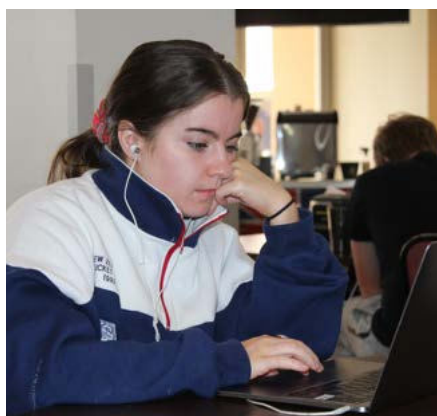
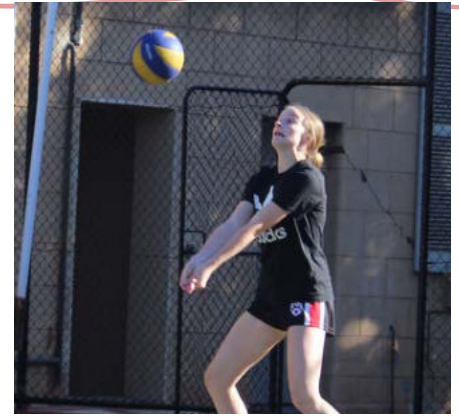
of normalcy, but COVID wasn't finished with us yet. It's last sting in the tail came during final exams, with a complete lockdown and the cancellation of 'Bash'. It was a fitting end to a year in which so much was rudely snatched from us.

Yet, where else would we have wanted to be? In a world that seemed to be falling apart, we were here with each other, we made our own fun, we were supported in all kinds of ways, and we achieved the best academic results in the College's history into the bargain. Not so covidious, after all.



# Living Covidly







# ACADEMIC LIFE

2020 has been a year unlike any other for study at Aquinas. In response to Covid-19 and the shift to online learning, the academic program at Aquinas expanded to become Uni on the Hill. With the cancellation of sports and social events, the only thing left to do was study, and Aquinians rose to the occasion spectacularly. Our Semester One results were the best results in the history of Aquinas, with over half of all students achieving a Distinction average or higher. The number of students on a High Distinction average doubled, and achievement across all bands was significantly higher.

Semester Two saw an encouraging return to more normal study routines, with many students returning to face-to-face practicals and tutorials. The highlight of this semester for Aquinas Academics was the opening of the new Lucey Centre, complete with separate seminar rooms and a 24/7 study space. We celebrated the new space with a week-long Festival of Lucey, which included competitions, tea tastings, platters and a cocktail hour for the student tutors. The week's events concluded with the Official Opening, which saw the new Archbishop bless the space, while other invited guests enjoyed tours, afternoon tea and the view from Lucey's balcony.

Overall, 2020 has been an academically successful year for Aquinians. Special thanks to the Senior Tutor team – Alice Fry, Keely Clark and Ben Williams – for their outstanding leadership and support, and the excellent administrative work of Cody Slade. In the face of unprecedented and unpredictable challenges, this team has made 2020 a year of achievement and

Semester One Collegiate Dinner Awards

The Father Michael Scott Scholarship (Best results Semester One)-Gorgia Robbie

The Father J.M. McNerny Scholarship (Top First Year student in Semester One)-Gorgia Robbie

Faculty Award Winners

Arts: Mitchell Thompson

Business: Chloe Venn; Ethan Packer

Education: Ruby Orchard

Engineering: Jack Gosling

Nursing: Sofie Brassel

Science: Constance McIntosh, Annie Maloney

Allied Health: Gorgia Robbie; Nathan Pinchbeck; Taylah Gartner; Ellie Breuer

Law: Lucy Tucker



# ACADEMIC RESULTS:

## Distinctions

Riley Badenoch ***	Jack Elsdon ***	Sophie Ling *	Talia Phillips *	Sara Smith **
Jack Barnes **	Elizabeth Evans *	Emma Livingstone **	Grace Piggot *	Matthew Sochacki ***
Liam Beckman ****	Sophie Falting ***	Brennan Lockwood *	Nathan Pinchbeck *	Samual Statman **
Kate Blacker **	Morgan Fisher **	Annie Maloney *	Georgia Pisani **	Chiara Trevisan *
Lauren Bowman *	Joseph French **	Hannah Manning *	Gemma Pollard **	Jordan Tucker *
Sofie Brassel *	Alice Fry **	Liam McEvoy *	Michael Qin *	Lucy Tucker ***
Ellie Breuer *	Taylah Gartner **	Kaysha McGregor *	Oscar Ricardo ***	Emily Turley **
Lily Bright *	Nadia Gilbert *	Tori McIntire **	Zali Roberts ****	Madison Turner ***
Brianna Buckley *	Jack Gosling **	Caitlin McMahon *	Gorgia Robie ***	Chloe Venn **
Victoria Circelli **	Ellie Gould *	Enakshi Mudalige *	Neve Robbins ***	Jesse Venn **
Adam Cobbledick **	Bailey Hamilton **	Olivia Murray ***	Eva Rouse *	Keely Venn **
Jemma Cook **	Benjamin Harvey *	Kale Olds **	Brianna Scanlon ***	Catherine Walsh *
Jarrold Cross *	Ashleigh Heath *	Nikkia Olds ***	Emma Schulz *	Lachlan Warhurst **
Tahlia Cua **	Ceejay Inglis *	Ruby Orchard **	Joan Seow *	Noah Waters ***
Ella Davies	Austen Kenney **	Annie Packard **	Ryan Siebert ****	Benjamin Williams ****
Courtney De Barro ***	James King *	Ethan Packer **	Jacob Skinner *	Sarah Williams **
Zoe Duncan *	Nicholas Laube *	Shiarne Petschel ****	Morgan Skinner	Liam Wormald *
Olivia Dunn **				

## High Distinctions

Riley Badenoch *	Olivia Dunn **	Patrick Klinger ****	Ruby Orchard **	Eva Rouse *
Lauren Bowman *	Jack Elsdon *	Brennan Lockwood ***	Annie Packard *	Morgan Skinner *
Sofie Brassel *	Elizabeth Evans *	Annie Maloney **	Ethan Packer **	Sara Smith *
Krystal Brennan **	Lara Falting **	Hannah Manning **	Nathan Pinchbeck *	Samual Statman *
Ellie Breuer **	Alice Fry **	Constance McIntosh ***	Georgia Pisani **	Mitchell Thompson **
Lauren Carter *	Jack Gosling **		Gemma Pollard *	Jordan Tucker *
Georgia Cash ****	Sharna Goulding ***	Tori McIntire **	Oscar Ricardo *	Austin Turner *
Courtney De Barro *	Ashleigh Heath ***	Enakshi Mudalige ***	Gorgia Robie *	Keely Venn *
Zoe Duncan *	Brailey Jachmann **	Kale Olds **	Neve Robbins *	Ruby Yates *

Despite the chaos of Covid-19, in 2020 Aquinas College produced the strongest set of academic results in the college's history. The recently released Semester Two results demonstrated consistently high levels of achievement from students across all three universities, and follow on from the outstanding grades which Aquinians attained in Semester One.

'When the Semester One results came out earlier this year, we were blown away by the high level of achievement across the board,' said Academic Director, Dr Sarah Moller. 'The Semester Two results only serve to underline the outstanding focus and effort with which our students have approached their studies this year. To say we are proud of them is a huge understatement.'

Across the three universities, nearly half of Aquinas students achieved a Distinction average or higher and over three quarters achieved a Credit average or higher. 'These statistics are not reached by simply counting up the number of Distinctions gained, but rather reflect the aggregated scores of each student' emphasised Dr Moller. 'Distinction average means that many students achieved straight Distinctions, and nearly 10% of students actually gained close to straight High Distinctions.'

These impressive grades were achieved against a backdrop of global uncertainty, where students were required to respond with agility to the challenges of online learning. Here at Aquinas, the academic program named Uni on the Hill was established as a way of supporting students and helping them to stay focused

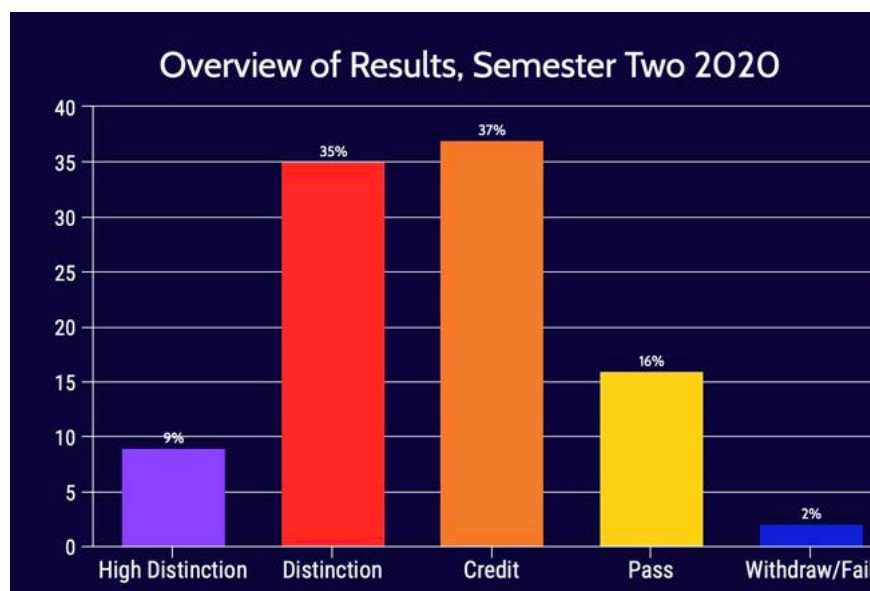
despite the distractions. The opening of the new Lucey Centre gave students a dedicated learning space and encouraged them to develop healthy study habits.

'Our students deserve their outstanding results,' said Dr Moller. 'They have worked consistently all year to earn impressive GPAs.' Special mention must be made of students at Flinders University, where 100% of students attained a Credit average or higher, and Adelaide University, where 86% of students achieved these grades'

'In a year like 2020, when over 40% of students Australia-wide identified feeling isolated in their studies, the advantages of living within a learning community were enormous. Our students worked together and really benefited from having face-to-face contact with other students on a daily basis.'

A huge thanks must go to our outstanding Senior Tutors, who helped keep study fun this year, and our wonderful team of over 40 student tutors who guided their peers through challenging times.'

The results attained in 2020 were the strongest on record at Aquinas, and reflect positively on the College's cultivation of a supportive academic environment. While we gladly leave 2020 behind, we look forward to continuing on together as a college that values academic excellence, connection, care and community.



# DEAN'S REPORT

If you were to ask me to sum up 2020 in four words, I would say change, adaptability, resilience and community. All four words have become increasingly apparent in our College vernacular. Most of the changes that have occurred this year have been forced upon us, due to the pandemic, but other changes have come from the realisation that perhaps it was time for things to evolve.

Our first-year students had no more than 10 days experience at university, when it was suddenly altered. Having events, sport and the weekly social outing pulled out from under them so early in the year, required a very quick rethink. As learning shifted online, social contact with fellow scholars at the university campus and with tutors and lecturers was quickly replaced by the laptop screen and their new friends at Aquinas. Suddenly, we had a new normal.

The students showed incredible resilience in the rapidly changing circumstances, discovering how to learn in different modes while effectively managing their time, when there really was nothing else to do but study. They devised new ways to keep fit and socialise without being in breach of any regulations, which was predominantly managed exceptionally well.

The biggest revelation for many (although those who lived in Colleges would be well aware), is the importance and benefit of living in a Community. A small number of students took the option to return home early in the year, but very quickly realised it would be more favourable to remain at Aquinas. If you must be in lockdown, what better way to do it than with 150 other young people, most of whom are your dearest friends.

I applaud our students for the way they have managed 2020. It's been a year like no other, but they've still had a wonderful experience. Hopefully 2021 can renew what it is that we love about College life, but also allow us to build on and establish new friendships and traditions.

CAROLYN MEE  
DEAN, VICE RECTOR



# STUDENT CLUB REPORT

In an unprecedented year the 2020 Student Club (S-Club) remained optimistic and busy regardless of the circumstances. Despite the unexpected challenges this year produced the S-Club successfully created a sense of normalcy and provided their fellow Aquinians with new opportunities to remain social. While following the Covid-19 restrictions the S-Club organised various new events and activities to bring everyone together to enjoy a chat and a laugh.

In accordance with the Covid-19 restrictions, S-Club Secretary Ruby Yates organised a pot-painting activity during the year, with students having the chance to enjoy a study-break and participate in a therapeutic activity. Following the cancellation of many HTC Sports and various sports being postponed, S-Club Member Ellie Gould ran early-morning exercise sessions twice a week to ensure students remained physically active. This focus on thinking of original ideas remained prevalent throughout 2020, with the S-Club meetings allowing all students to share their ideas for new events.

Held on the 12th of June the Art Show was a highlight for many Aquinians as they got the chance to showcase their artistic ability to their fellow collegians on an enjoyable night, with several photos taken on the polaroid cameras. In the hope of being more flexible when planning events in 2021, the S-Club will remain focused on organising new and enjoyable activities.

## STUDENT CLUB

2020



The last semester has seen many changes to the operations of Mission Central. We saw numerous planned events and activities postponed and cancelled, while new ideas emerged to apply with the restrictions. College masses were postponed; however, liturgies continued each week. It was great to see the rostered houses take the opportunity to create their own liturgies, explore a chosen theme and analyse the readings in a different way each week.

We saw the renovation of the Chapel create an inviting space that allows people to pause, reflect and be at one with God. As weekly masses returned, several students relished the opportunity of being the reflector where they shared their thoughts on the readings and related them to our Aquinas community and modern society. Emily Turley took on the challenge of providing live music for our weekly masses and collegiate events. A highlight was having Emily singing a reflective song, Home by Phillip Phillips at the Valete service. We thank Emily for sharing her musical talents with the Aquinas community.

Mental health and mindfulness were a theme we continued to explore this semester. Mindfulness colouring was a favourite activity amongst the students as it helped them clear their mind and reflect. We loved seeing the many coloured mandalas displayed around college.

New initiatives like "Tackle Tuesday" came to light to encourage students to tackle topical world issues. Topics of Migrant and Refugees, Homelessness, the environment and other subjects were discussed during our "Tackle Tuesday" nights. It has been a privilege to provide support and opportunities for students to reflect, be mindful, share their views on the world and continue to explore their faith during this semester.

Cassie Wilmot

YOUTH MINISTER



# Outreach Program

The 2020 Outreach program at Aquinas was very different to previous years. Many regular Outreach opportunities were unable to proceed due to coronavirus-restrictions, but the Aquinas community were able to find new ways of aiding those less fortunate in our community. This included delivering food and care packages to those in need in partnership with Vinnies and raising money and awareness for Autism Spectrum Australia and MS Research Australia through walking fundraisers. As restrictions eased in Semester 2, we participated in various activities, including the annual Sleepout, the World's Greatest Shave and Hutt Street Centre's Walk a Mile; all of which were well supported by students.

Throughout 2020, the Aquinas community collectively dedicated 1335 hours towards Outreach, supporting a wide range of causes at a local, national, and global scale. Over \$16,000 was raised for those organisations with the support of family and friends, including \$7000 for MS Research Australia, \$3500 for the Leukemia Foundation, \$4200 for Autism Spectrum Australia, and \$1500 for Hutt Street Centre. Outreach person of the year recognises an Aquinian who has demonstrated a great commitment to support those



less fortunate. The 2020 Outreach person of the year was Bilal Rahman who individually raised over \$1200 for various organisations and completed 35 outreach hours.

It has been a privilege to take on the role of Outreach Coordinator in 2020, and I wish to thank and congratulate the Aquinas community for their dedication and enthusiasm towards the program this year.

## Outreach Leaderboard:

1. Marcellin
2. Hannan
3. Roma Mitchell
4. Beovich
5. Roche
6. Catherine
7. Mackillop
8. Gleeson
9. Finn
10. Marian

Hannah Manning

OUTREACH COODINATOR



# Lawrie Smart Shield

Shortly after moving into College, the Freshers became acquainted with their housemates when they participated in the first Lawrie Smart event, which was a tunnel-ball race. Despite every house registering some impressive times, it was ultimately the night of the Roma-Mitchell Roo's who, led by House Coordinator Kale Olds, were victorious.

Just prior to Covid-19 disrupting the 2020 Aquinas year, the second Lawrie Smart event saw the houses compete in a prisonball competition. With faces covered in tribal paint, all students aimed at throwing the balls at their fellow Aquinians. In a fiery final Finn House Coordinator Tahlia Cua and her housemates were able to claim victory over Roma-Mitchell.

Pictionary was the third Lawrie Smart Event, with each house getting their chance to demonstrate their creative ability and guessing skills. Faced with some difficult words, the drawers for each team rose to the challenge and made it easy for their housemates to guess the subjects. Marian House proved the best house at Pictionary, guided by their House Coordinator Ashleigh Fogarty.

With only two Lawrie Smart events remaining, Rob the Nest had every house putting in 100% effort in the hope of rising-up the Lawrie Smart leader board. Rivalries were formed as each house tried to fill their bucket full of small balls, before stealing them from other houses' buckets. Despite only having a small number of people Marcellin house's determination and positivity saw them become the winner of this year's fourth Lawrie Smart event.

The final Lawrie Smart event for 2020 was Tug-of-War, with each house keen to show-off their muscular strength. Held outside Adelaide Oval there were several tight contests, as houses refused to concede in the hope of claiming the Lawrie Smart Shield. Roma-Mitchell were crowned the strongest team on the night, becoming the only house to win two Lawrie Smart events this year.

Under the leadership of House Coordinator Austin Turner, Beovich won the 2020 Lawrie Smart Shield for the first time since 2009, after they completed a great number of Outreach Hours and displayed strong efforts in the Lawrie Smart events. All the Lawrie Smart events were well-organised by the House Coordinators and enjoyed by all who participated in them.

## Lawrie Smart Leader board

1. Beovich-49 points
2. Marcellin-46 points
3. Roma-Mitchell-44 points
4. Roche-38 points
5. Cathy-31 points
6. MacKillop-29 points
7. Gleeson-28 points
8. Finn-27 points
9. Marian-27 points
10. Hannan-21 points







# MARCELLIN MEDALLION

Due to the emergence of Covid-19 earlier this year the Marcellin Medallion Dinner, was postponed till Semester 2. Attended by all students, staff and several Brothers from around the state the annual event saw one student from each house awarded with a medallion and a badge for positively contributing to the college and displaying the qualities of Saint Marcellin Champagnat. Following a service in the Chapel, the students, staff and invited guests enjoyed platters and beverages in lower Glesson, before journeying to the dining room to have a delicious dinner and desert. After much deliberation, each of the House Coordinators announced their chosen medallion recipients, prompting significant applause from their fellow Aquinians. The evening concluded with the new and past medallion recipients, staff and invited guests going to the Davenport Room for a drink and chat.

## 2020 Marcellin Medallion Winners

- Beovich- Ruby Yates
- Cathy-Jordan Tucker
- Finn-Lahiru Yasanga
- Glesson-Airlie Walters
- Hannan-Jodie Price
- Mackillop-Emma Livingstone
- Marian-Joe French
- Marcellin-Hannah Manning
- Roche-Maggie Daw
- Roma-Mitchell-Lily Bright



# ART SHOW

On the 12th of June Aquinas held an Arts Night, organised by Student Club Secretary Ruby Yates to provide students the opportunity to showcase their creative ability. The event ran smoothly, with the Student Club assisting with the set-up and pack-up, while also working on the night. Dressed in cocktail attire, both students and staff thoroughly enjoyed admiring the diverse art forms while socialising with each other and getting pictures taken with the polaroid cameras.

By attending the event students formed a greater understanding on the importance of art in society. There were a terrific range of art pieces on display, including dresses, sketches and paintings. As chosen by the students, Lahiru Yasanga was awarded the People's Choice Award, with Mckenna Reidy being presented with the Runner-Up People's Choice Award. Picked by Lauren Pike, Dr Sarah Moller and Ruby Yates, Rachael McKay was presented with the Rosie Pike Award for Artistry. Due to the success of the night it is expected to become an annual event, with parents and friends allowed to attend in coming years.



# HTC Sports

## TENNIS

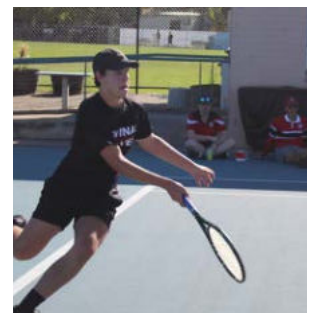
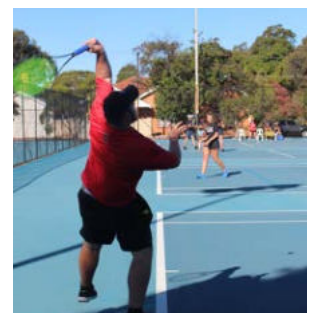
**COACHES: JORDAN TUCKER & MIKAELA RICHARDSON**

With a new year just beginning and excitement at an all-time high we commenced the year with High Table Tennis.

After seeing promising signs from several collegians during tryouts, a final squad of 14 was selected featuring some of the finest racquet prowess Aquinas College has seen for many years. After registering dominant wins over Flinders and Lincoln College, we headed into our matches against Saint Anns full of confidence.

Unfortunately, despite a positive start against Saint Ann's we were unable to claim the victory, going down by three sets to two. Despite leaving everything out on the court against an undefeated Saint Marks unfortunately our team of tennis superstars were unable to defeat the eventual champs, leading to our spirited team finishing third.

In true Aquinas spirit, we still departed the courts with our heads held high and feeling a sense of accomplishment.



## SWIMMING

**COACHES: STELLA REIDY & KALE OLDS**

The Aquinas swimming team arrived at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre with high hopes of getting a higher placing than recent years, but despite the valiant efforts of all our swimmers, it was not to be. Kate Blacker and Neve Robins stood out early with some great efforts in the Girls 50 metre backstroke and freestyle, while Jarrod Cross swam brilliantly in the Boys 50 metre breaststroke with only one good shoulder. It was an uphill battle the entire night for the team, as many records were broken by other swimmers. The relays were well represented, with Annie Maloney and Lachie Warhurst achieving some great individual times. Sadly, it just was not our night, with our final position being fifth. Everyone put up a great effort and should be very proud of their achievements throughout the night! Despite not being the best in the pool, we were definitely the best out of it!

I love your coaches. Stella and Kale.



# MEN'S NETBALL

COACHES: **MADI TURNER & KALE OLDS**

The Men's HTC Netball team achieved success this year, as overall champions to secure the Netball double! In the first game the men were a bit unsteady, with errors in defence and attack, but the time spent training paid off, with a 10-goal win over Lincoln. The height of Saint Ann's team proved challenging and led to the men suffering their first loss by two goals. When facing Saint Marks, following a tight start the men found some fluency in the second half, with multiple turnovers leading to scoring opportunities. After comfortably beating Saint Marks, the men defeated Flinders by 15 goals to conclude the first round. In the grand final against Saint Anns, the men started brightly and never dropped their intensity, with Matt Sochacki and Ryan Siebert's cohesive play giving Liam Beckman and Jack Gosling multiple scoring chances. Jack Dickeson outclassed his opponent and Nathan Pinchbeck's solid defensive play created frequent turnovers. The men beat Saint Anns by 16 goals and reclaimed the HTC Netball Cup, with Sochacki being named best on court.



# WOMEN'S NETBALL

COACHES: **ELLIE GOULD & MADI TURNER**

After being postponed until semester 2, the Aquinas women's team were eager to get on the court for 2020 HTC netball. The longer build up worked to our advantage, as we had more time to train and shape our teams. Following last year's exciting win over Flinders Uni Hall, the Aquinas women were pumped to continue their winning streak. The first day of games saw the women have reasonably close wins over Flinders and St Ann's. These results gave the Aquinas women a wakeup call and prompted them and the crowd to lift their intensity and consolidate wins against Lincoln and St Marks to finish the day in top position.

The following Thursday saw the Aquinas women face Flinders in the Grand Final. The women were confident in their ability to get the win, after extensive training and planning. In a tight contest, Aquinas composed ball-movement and determination saw them maintain the lead for the entire game and hold onto to the title for the fifth consecutive year. Following a strong performance in the Grand Final McKenna Reidy was named best on court.



# WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

COACHES: **MADI TURNER & KALE OLDS**

HTC football for 2020 was another huge success for Aquinas College. Being one of the most inclusive and anticipated sports of the year, there was plenty of excitement in the lead-up to the event from both players and spectators. The first weekend started positively for the women with a win against Flinders Uni hall by over 100-points. In the following game, the women continued their dominant form with a win over St Ann's by a margin again exceeding 100-points and our opponents being held to one-point in both games. The second weekend brought nerves and excitement, however the women remained focused to defeat Lincoln College, by 179-points, with Lincoln failing to score. In an anticipated match-up against St Marks, the women's cohesive play saw them rush to a 40-point lead at half-time. Despite conceding two goals in the final quarter, the Aquinas women's determination to win didn't falter, seeing them claim a 62-point win and become Women's HTC football champions for the 6th consecutive year!



# MEN'S FOOTBALL

COACHES: **CEEJAY INGLIS & KALE OLDS**

The boys 2020 HTC football campaign commenced against a tall St Anns team, with the boys battling hard in the first half before gaining full momentum, with Ryan Siebert and Liam McEvoy key players in the victory. When playing Flinders, despite a slow start, the boys lifted their intensity and consolidated the win. Joe French utilised his speed on the wing and Jordan Tucker was resolute in defence. Against Lincoln, the boys claimed a comprehensive win, with their speed and aggression proving too great. Nathan Pinchbeck was solid in defence and Lachie Warhurst was lively up forward. The last game of the tournament was against St Marks, where the boy's lacklustre performance saw them beaten connivingly. Jack Dickeson's persistent efforts saw him named best-on-ground, while Liam Beckman was composed across half back and Ceejay Inglis was poised under pressure. Overall, the boys finished second, with strong efforts throughout the two weeks.





## DEBATING

COACH: **BRENNAN LOCKWOOD**

The 2020 Aquinas Debating Team set out to do well and have fun! Held at Lincoln College, due to COVID-19 restrictions every college could only bring 20 people, with most Aquinas students watching over Zoom.

In the first week we faced St Marks and Lincoln College. We were beaten by a point in the debate against St Marks but managed to claim an incredible victory over Lincoln.

Still ecstatic about a first-round win, we met St Ann's and Flinders Uni Hall in the second round. Sadly, we narrowly missed out on a win against St Ann's but managed to beat Flinders.

Based off wins and losses, we tied for 2nd place with Lincoln and St Marks, but due to individual scores, we unfortunately placed 4th on the leader board. I am beyond proud of our debating results, especially considering the squad consisted of many young students. I sincerely thank everyone that supported our 2020 HTC Debating campaign and wish everyone all the best for 2021 Debating!



## ATHLETICS

COACHES: **LAUREN PIKE & KALE OLDS**

The last 2020 HTC sport Aquinas competed in was athletics. Whilst Kale and I had a slow start to coaching, we managed to gather a team of some of Aquinas' finest athletes to conclude our HTC campaign. It was the perfect day for running, jumping, and throwing paired with a great turnout of supporters and a few nasty sunburns. Kale and I could not be prouder of how the team performed on the day; each athlete gave it their all resulting in Aquinas achieving podium placements in most events. Overall, the college finished third in athletics, an awesome effort given the tough opponents from the other colleges, but as always, we had the biggest crowd, the loudest cheers and the most fun. It was a great way to end the year and me and Kale's last ever HTC sport, thank you to our team and supporters for an awesome day. Go Wolves!



# MUSIC NIGHT



Like many events at Aquinas this year, the Colleges' Battle of the Bands Night was cancelled much to the dismay of many students. Due to the cancellation of the popular event, for the first time in Aquinas history our traditional Music Night was taken outside of college and shifted to the famous stage at Jive Nightclub. The night proved to be a fantastic showcase of the wide-ranging musical talent we have here at Aquinas. Solo acts from Oscar Ricardo and Kate Spuler were a fantastic way to set the tone for the evening, before a half-hour setlist by the Aquinas band. The band performed many well-loved songs by bands such as Two Door Cinema Club and Gorillaz, reminding Aquinians what it's like to be at a live gig. A special thank you to the team and sound engineers at Jive for having us, along with all the performers on the night. It was a truly memorable experience that won't be forgotten any time soon.



# MAGNAE GRATES DINNER



This year's 'MAGNAE GRATES' DINNER on Monday 26th of October was a celebratory mix of fun and formality as the members of the Aquinas community gathered to say a literal 'BIG THANKS' to one another for this extraordinary year. Incoming Student President, Ruby Yates, who helped to organise the evening, said that making it a themed event added an extra dimension to the occasion. 'Everyone came dressed as "My Favourite Aquinian"' and there were certainly many creative efforts,' Ruby said. The prize for best dressed went to Liam Beckman who dressed as a lost parrot which had figured in the story of the year.



Of course, there were more serious awards given out, such as the Outreach Person of the Year (Bilal Rahman) and the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year (Jack Dickeson and Madi Turner respectively). Presentations were made to student leaders – including the House Coordinators, Student Club Executive, Academic Team, Outreach Coordinator and Social Media and Marketing Assistant – and appreciation expressed to all those who had served the community in service scholarship roles. As always, the dinner was also an opportunity to farewell those leaving the College, especially Seniors who would not be Valetants. For those who could afford the time, celebrations continued – in full costume – at The Archer until late in the evening.



# Valete



On the 31st of October Aquinas College held its 2020 Valete evening for those graduating university whilst living at college. The night started off with a Chapel Service, which involved students' roles being officially passed over to returning Aquinians. Following the service, students and staff participated in the whole college photo on the Gleeson Lawns along with house photos, before enjoying nibbles and drinks prior to dinner.

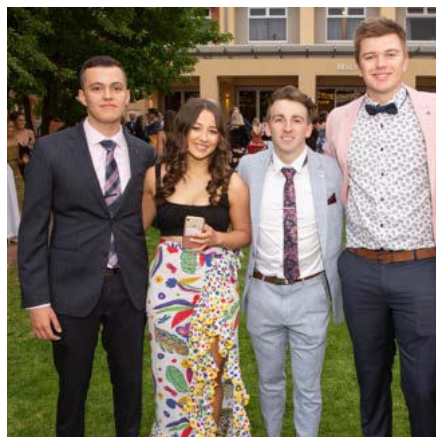
This year there were 10 Valetants; Jack Barnes, Catherine Walsh, Oscar Ricardo, Morgan Fisher, Gemma Pollard, Bailey Marzola, Austin Turner, Emma Schulz, Ben Williams, and Mitch Thompson. Throughout the night, each Valetant was recognised for their contributions to college life, their future endeavours and academic accomplishments. Each of them felt very appreciated while listening to heart-warming stories told about them; to make the event even more special the Valetant's families got the opportunity to see the place their children have called home during their studies.

To ensure the event ran smoothly the Valetants chose two first year students to MC, Freshers Jodie Price and Noah Waters. The pair did a wonderful job at fulfilling this responsibility. Another significant moment during the evening was the presentation of Aquinian of the Year awarded to a valued member of Aquinas College. The recipient was the very humble Liam Wormald who will be the Beovich House Coordinator in 2021.

I was so lucky to plan such a special evening for some very special people. Steph and I felt greatly acknowledged for our hard work and we loved every moment of the evening.

Ruby Yates

2020 Secretary



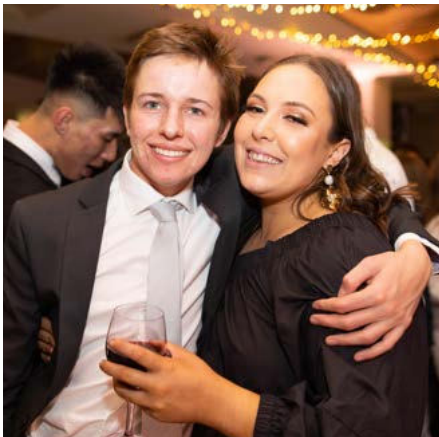




Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Aquinas Ball had to be held at College this year on the 22nd of August. The great organisational skills of Student Club members Emma Livingstone and Ellie Gould led to both students and staff having a delightful night as they devoured a splendid meal, before engaging in conversation and singing along to some catchy tunes. Following Ball, students ventured to the Fat Controller to enjoy a sit-down drink.



# Aquinas College Ball



# The Annual



On the fifth of October, Aquinas held its Annual Charity Auction to raise money for the Australian Cancer Council. Aquinians very generously donated a wide range of items, such as hampers, wine tours, double dates and even our very own Dennis the axylotl. Dressed in their worst op shop clothes, the students managed to raise over \$5000. A big thank you to everyone who donated items, helped on the BBQ and to the people who donated their money to a great charity.



# The Lucey Centre and Chapel of St Thomas

On the 11th of September the Lucey Centre for studying was blessed by the Archbishop of Adelaide Patrick O'Regan and opened by Brother Peter Carroll FMS. The introduction of the Lucey Centre was part of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of Aquinas, with the study area being named after former collegian Dr Shane Lucey. After 34 years of continuous service on the College Council Dr Lucey retired from his role last year, leaving a great impact on the college during on his time on the Academic Committee. Within the study centre there are several tutorial rooms named after alumni-Rob Kerin, former Premier of South Australia; Kevin Duggan AM, former Justice of the Supreme Court; and Professor Elizabeth Leane, former Rhodes Scholar. An additional room is named after Sister Margaret Kenny RSJ, who was a tutor at Aquinas for 25 years.

This semester also saw the refurbishment of The Chapel of St Thomas, with the beauty of the rejuvenated Chapel being noticed by many special guests and parallel to the study centre helped promote Saint Thomas Aquinas' focus on faith and learning. Special thanks to Property & Facilities Manager Scott Cua and Groundsperson David Laughton, along with Senior student Oscar Riccardo who helped with the construction of the Lucey Centre.

# FESTIVAL *of* LUCEY





