

clontarffoundation

# the QUARTERLY

December 2018



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## Growing Clontarf: Opening New Academies

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## About us

The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, self-esteem, life skills and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and by doing so, equips them to participate more meaningfully in society.

Using the passion that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander boys have for football allows the Foundation to attract the boys to school. But it is not a sporting programme.

Each Clontarf Academy, formed in partnership with the local school, is focused on encouraging behavioural change, developing positive attitudes, assisting students to complete school and secure employment.

Fundamental to this, is the development of values, skills and abilities that will help the boys to achieve better life outcomes.

Through a diverse mix of activities, the full-time, local Clontarf staff mentor and counsel students while the school caters for the educational needs of each student.

## Message from the CEO

*Welcome to the final Clontarf Quarterly for 2018. Term 4 is always an especially busy time of the year as our boys work towards completion of their studies, celebrate their successes at awards nights and let off steam during end of year camps.*

While our full year results are not yet final, early indications suggest we'll exceed our exceptional 2017 results despite opening only a single new academy. Our final enrolment exceeded 6,000 participants and more than 550 Year 12s completed their studies. In particular, I want to acknowledge the Trinity Bay Academy located in Cairns, QLD which opened in early 2017. 45 of the academy's Year 12 students completed their schooling this year – a Clontarf record by some margin.

Guiding these boys to these terrific results are the 357 dedicated Clontarf staff who worked tirelessly throughout the year. Thank you for your commitment to our boys and enjoy your well-deserved break.

We welcomed a number of special guests to our academies and offices throughout the term including our Patron-in-Chief, the Governor-General His Excellency General the Hon. Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) and Lady Cosgrove who visited the Clontarf central office in Perth in October. Their Excellencies interacted with staff, listened to inspiring stories from Clontarf alumni and presented medals to our boys. It was a terrific experience for all involved.

I also want to acknowledge the Prime Minister the Hon. Scott Morrison who visited the Clontarf Academy in Waterford in October, much to the delight of the 50 boys from the Perth metro area who gathered to meet him. The Prime Minister also hosted Ross Kelly (Clontarf Chairman), Jeff Hardy (Endeavour Academy Director), four Endeavour Academy boys and I at the Prime Minister's Royal Reception in Sydney in October. Our boys were able to meet with

200 significant public figures including the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. I want to thank the Prime Minister for his support in 2018 and I look forward to working with him again in the New Year.

The Foundation was again well supported by some of our corporate partners, with a range of events hosted on our behalf. APA Group CEO Mick McCormack hosted a lunch in Sydney which was attended by Federal Treasurer the Hon. Josh Frydenberg and NSW Treasurer the Hon. Dominic Perrottet, while Rio Tinto Group Executive Joanne Farrell and Chief Executive Iron Ore Chris Salisbury hosted a lunch in Perth which was attended by representatives from their associated contractors and businesses. Without the support of our partners, the Foundation would cease to continue.

2019 is set to be a momentous year as we commence inaugural operations in South Australia, expand our reach in New South Wales and open another academy in WA. I'll be sure to keep you up to date of our progress in our first Quarterly next year.

Thank you again for supporting the Foundation in 2018. I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a safe, Happy New Year and I look forward to speaking with you again in 2019.



Gerard Neesham  
Clontarf Foundation CEO





Young men from the Alice Springs academies proudly display their certificates during the region's end of year awards night.

## Alice Awards Night Recognises A Year Of Determination

**Academy members from Centralian Senior, Yirara and Centralian Middle School Academies were joined by special guests and members of the community at Centralian Senior College for their end of year awards night in November.**

Centralian Middle School Academy Director Tom Clements said the night was an excellent opportunity for the entire community to congratulate the boys and recognise their hard work during the year.

"It was incredible to see all our families, school staff, community members and partners of the Foundation share in such a momentous night," he said.

"There were a lot of very deserving award winners across all year groups. We also recognised the Year 12 leavers from Centralian Senior College and Yirara College for finishing the year and for their hard work throughout their school life.

"We should all be proud of our boys' achievements as they become the future leaders of tomorrow and help shape the lives of others to follow."



## Dubbo and Endeavour Boys Swept Up In Royal Couple Visit

**The boys from our Dubbo and Endeavour (Caringbah) Academies had the privilege of meeting royalty in October with the arrival of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, to Australia.**

With a substantial media and security throng in tow, the 'Royal Couple's' first stop on their Australian odyssey was Dubbo Senior Campus to meet with students. Initially a game of footy involving the Dubbo Clontarf boys and the Duke had been planned, however the weather intervened and forced the game to be cancelled. The Dubbo boys quickly learned that every cloud has a silver lining, as the Duke was able to spend more time in the academy room to talk directly with them.

Dubbo Senior Academy student Quincy Ross said despite being nervous, he relished the opportunity to shake hands with the Duke and guide him on the tour of the academy room.

"I was very nervous at first but also very honoured to be able to talk with Harry," Quincy said. "They are down to earth people and are willing to have a laugh."

Not to be outdone, the boys from Endeavour Academy in Caringbah attended a special function involving the Duke and Duchess hosted by the Prime Minister the Hon. Scott Morrison later that week.

"The boys were thrilled to meet the Royal Couple and were stunned

that Prince Harry had such a good understanding of the programme already," Endeavour Academy Director Jeff Hardy said.

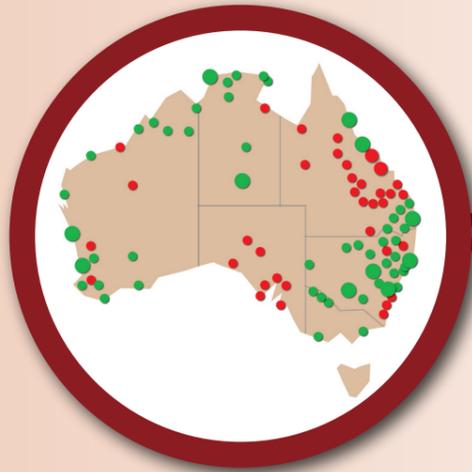
The Dubbo and Endeavour boys would like to thank the Duke and Duchess as well as the Prime Minister for these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.



Clontarf staff and Endeavour Academy students meet the Duke and Duchess of Sussex at a special event hosted by the Prime Minister.

# Growing Clontarf: Opening New Academies

2019 is set to be Clontarf's biggest year of growth yet with a new region opening in South Australia, large scale expansion in New South Wales and a new academy opening in Western Australia. With 2018 wrapping up, now is as good a time as ever to take a look behind the scenes at the work that goes into opening new Clontarf academies. And if you've ever entertained the idea of joining the Clontarf team, be sure to head to [www.clontarf.org.au/careers](http://www.clontarf.org.au/careers) to send us your expression of interest.



**Potential school identified:** The location for a new academy may be brought to our attention by an interested principal or teacher at a school, a recommendation by a member of the community (such as a parent) or research conducted by Clontarf staff. At this point, Clontarf determines whether it is appropriate to open an academy in that location.



**Gain Approval:** An important next step is to reach an agreement with the education department and host school as well as secure funding through government departments and corporate partners.



**Community Consultation:** An academy will not open without the approval and support of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. To help grow public awareness, we hold information sessions where community members can meet staff, ask questions and raise any concerns they have.



**Staff Recruitment:** Selecting the right people to staff a new academy is the single most important factor that influences its success. Our people are chosen for their demonstrated ability to work in challenging conditions, their capacity to show empathy and their willingness to be mobile.



**Establish partnerships:** Partnerships with local businesses and organisations are integral to the successful opening of a new academy. Partners can provide the academy with vital funding, assist with preparation of the new academy room and provide employment avenues for our boys.



**Training:** All new recruits undertake an extensive induction period followed by months of practical training in an operating Academy. They will continue to be mentored by senior Clontarf staff once the new academy opens.



**Academy room preparation:** One of the last steps is to ensure the facilities our boys utilise on a daily basis are ready. Academy rooms are given fresh coats of paint, new furniture is moved in, a kitchen is installed, a new barbecue is assembled and walls are adorned with Clontarf related paraphernalia.



**Open!** The doors to the academy room open and students are welcomed in. The academy will have established an activity plan for the first Term so the boys can start getting involved with the programme immediately.



Swan Hill alumnus Zac Cattlin is successfully juggling university studies, an internship at Qantas and casual work at Bunnings in his quest to become a pilot.



## The Sky Is The Limit For Zac

**Zac Cattlin is flying – literally.**

The Swan Hill Academy alumni graduated from Year 12 and completed a school based carpentry apprenticeship in 2016. During the year he was awarded the Caltex Best All Rounder Award which recognised his excellence in academic, leadership, sporting and community service activities.

He thoroughly enjoyed the trade industry at the time and couldn't see himself doing anything else, though he longed to undertake university studies with the hopes of becoming a pilot.

"I didn't think I would have got a good enough score to chase my dream of being a pilot," Zac said shortly after he completed school.

Despite his doubts, Zac soon received exciting news that he had been accepted into university. Two years on, Zac has completed his second year of a Bachelor of Applied Science (Aviation) at RMIT in Melbourne, has secured an internship at Qantas and is employed casually at his local Bunnings café where he serves coffee to the store's patrons. Needless to say, Zac is loving every bit of it.

"I absolutely love the feeling of flying," Zac said. "I have met some great people along the way who have been very supportive and encouraging, especially the teams I work with at Qantas and Bunnings."

While most university students are returning home for the festive season, Zac is staying in Melbourne to work with the Qantas engineering team and to take on additional shifts at Bunnings, much to the admiration of his colleagues.

"Zac has a great attitude and a real willingness to learn and become better," said Paul Wyborn, Zac's flight mentor at RMIT. "He is always organised and up-to date with his uni work and flying."

"Zac is a terrific addition to our team and has a very bright future," said Richard Bar, Zac's Team Leader at Bunnings. "I am glad we can support him in his journey to becoming a pilot."

Zac has shown anything is possible if you have the right attitude, are eager to learn and commit to never selling yourself short.

Well done Zac and thank you to our partners Qantas and Bunnings (Wesfarmers) for providing these opportunities!

## Trinity Bay Breaks Record

**45 young men from Trinity Bay Academy in Cairns, QLD completed their Year 12 studies in 2018 - shattering the previous record of 32 held by Casuarina Academy (Darwin, NT) since 2015.**

Cairns Regional Manager Chris McDonald said the boys made the commitment to finish the year during the Far North Queensland Region Year 12 Leadership Camp to Lake Tinaroo in February.

"The boys were really determined to see out the year and were quick to put strategies in place to make it happen," Chris said. "They focused on showing leadership at school and the academy, developing job-ready skills and participating positively in the local community."

"We're extremely proud of them and wish them all the very best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. We must also thank the teachers

and school leadership at Trinity Bay State High School for their support and commitment since we opened in 2017 and throughout 2018."

25 of the graduates had the opportunity to put their skills to the test on their recent end of year trip to Perth. One of the many worthwhile activities the boys engaged in during their adventure was a visit to Wesfarmers head office in Perth where they met and presented to more than 70 senior Wesfarmers staff members, including CEO Rob Scott. The boys were very engaged with the Wesfarmers staff and represented Clontarf and their academy with esteem. Well done gentlemen and all the best in your very bright futures!



Wesfarmers CEO Rob Scott and General Manager Corporate Affairs Naomi Flutter with Trinity Bay Academy Year 12s during their end of year trip to Perth.



The Prime Minister the Hon. Scott Morrison shows off his footy skills during a light training session at Clontarf Academy in Waterford, WA.

## PM Kicks Goals At Clontarf

**There was loud applause at the Clontarf Academy in Waterford, WA in early October as the Prime Minister the Hon. Scott Morrison kicked goals, literally and figuratively, with young men from our WA-based academies.**

The Prime Minister, who is a long-time supporter of the Foundation, was joined by the Member for Swan the Hon. Steve Irons for a morning training session and barbecue breakfast with boys from across the Perth metropolitan area and Northam.

Despite being the second week of school holidays, close to 50 young men from Cecil Andrews (Armadale), Northam, Swan View, Yule Brook (Maddington) and the new Fremantle Academy gathered at the beautiful grounds of the Clontarf Aboriginal College for the chance to mingle with the Prime Minister.

The boys who attended were given the opportunity due to their excellent school attendance and

behaviour at their respective academies. During breakfast, the Prime Minister praised these young men for their efforts and reinforced the importance of finishing school.

The Prime Minister also spoke at length with Clontarf alumni and heard their stories of success since graduation from school.

All of the Clontarf boys, alumni and staff in attendance would like to thank the Prime Minister and Mr Irons for visiting and providing such valuable support to our Foundation. We would also like to thank Principal Troy Hayer from Clontarf Aboriginal College for providing access to the grounds, particularly during school holidays.



High attenders enjoyed breakfast with the Prime Minister at Clontarf Academy in October.

## Staff Profile: Lee Stewart

**With the big expansion in NSW and the commencement of Clontarf operations in South Australia occurring in 2019, it's an appropriate time to gain an insight into Clontarf's Recruitment Officer, Lee Stewart.**



Born and raised in the historic Victorian town of Maryborough, Lee worked with YMCA Victoria and Ballarat Squash Association prior to moving to Wadeye in the Northern Territory where he worked with the Australian Red Cross.

He started his Clontarf journey in 2011 as an Academy Director at Gunbalanya Academy and moved to Cairns to be an inaugural Employment Officer for the region in 2017. He moved to the Perth central office in 2018 to take up a role as Recruitment Officer and is now responsible for sourcing the next generation of Clontarf academy staff.

He said working with Clontarf has given him many opportunities to explore unique Australian locations.

"Working in a remote location was one of the best experiences of my life and I encourage anyone who has an opportunity to go outside of their comfort zone to do so," Lee said.

"While it's impossible to pick one particular experience as a highlight, it's hard to beat the camps to Arnhem Land and Kakadu National Park. They were truly special trips and I met some amazing people on each."

Lee said finding the right people to staff our academies and support our boys was challenging yet rewarding, and he encouraged all Clontarf supporters to think about who would be a perfect fit and to send through their recommendations.

When he's not recruiting future Clontarf staff, Lee likes to stay active by going to the gym, travelling and exploring the west coast of Australia. He and his wife also recently welcomed their first daughter, Indiana.

"She definitely keeps my wife and I on our toes!"



The Katherine Academy boys quickly discovered that being a firefighter isn't all fun and games.



## Firefighting Hard Work For Katherine Boys

The young men from Katherine Academy were recently asked what they wanted to do for work when they completed school. Needless to say, firefighter was a popular choice for many.

So when the boys had the opportunity to visit the local Fire and Rescue station in November, they started asking questions such as 'Can we ride in the fire truck' and 'Can we jump down the fireman's pole?'

The boys soon realised that being a firefighter isn't all fun and games.

During the visit, the boys were put through their paces over a number of challenging obstacle course-style activities which saw them carry heavy hydraulic rescue tools (aka the jaws of life), drag a 50kg dummy and carry a relay firehose - all tasks real firefighters do on a daily basis.

To top it all off, the boys battled it out in a tough push-up competition where they were required to wear the complete firefighters uniform, webbing and oxygen tank.

It was a stark reality check but also a great chance to show the boys what they could achieve physically and mentally when they were challenged.

Katherine Academy would like to thank Leading Fireman Garry Branson and his team at Katherine Fire and Rescue for showing the boys what it takes to become the best of the best!

## Broome Boys Build Work-Ready Skills

The senior boys from Broome Academy in WA have worked hard throughout 2018 to become work-ready.

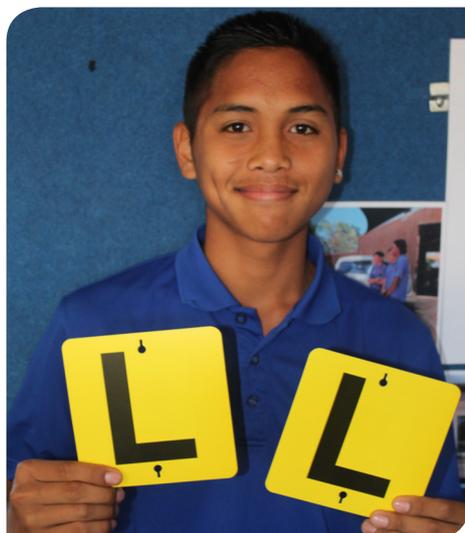
The academy staff organised for a number of external agencies and providers to visit the academy room and assist the boys with obtaining important documents and cards such as their birth certificates, Tax File Numbers and Medicare Cards.

Representatives from the Department of Transport also attended the academy to assist the boys to prepare for their learner's permit test.

Academy Director Jack Reagan said the academy used a special board to help the boys keep track of where they were at and what they needed to work on.

"Our Work Ready Documents board is a great way for the boys to keep track of their progress and motivate them to reach for their next milestone," he said. "Many

of our boys are visual learners so having it up on the board keeps it front of mind and maintains their momentum."



## Thank you for your support

Clontarf would like to acknowledge the following organisations for their recent commitment to support the Foundation:

- Qantas Airways Holdings
- The Coca-Cola Foundation
- Sutherland District Trade Union Club
- Google Australia & New Zealand
- Huawei Technologies
- Winc
- Blacktown Workers Club
- Saracen Mineral Holdings
- Pinsent Masons
- Deutsche Bank
- NSW Minerals Council
- City of Mandurah
- University of Notre Dame Australia
- Hot Copper
- Camco Engineering
- SunRice
- Bellevue Gold

### Workplace Giving & Donations

There are a significant number of individuals who support the Clontarf Foundation through donations and workplace giving programmes.

We are very appreciative and thank you for your ongoing support. If you would like to donate directly please [follow this link](#)

**Qantas Frequent Flyer** members can redeem their points for a cash donation to the Clontarf Foundation by [following this link](#)

You can redeem Qantas Points on Clontarf for as little as 2,900 points, which will go towards the continued operation of our Academies across Australia.

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