

clontarffoundation

the QUARTERLY

April 2021



clontarf
foundation



Clontarf Continues to Grow



**Boys Do Their Bit
to Help Clean Up
Australia**

**Year 7 Boys Get
First Taste of
Clontarf Action**





FEATURE

Clontarf Continues to Grow.....4-5

HIGHLIGHTS

Clontarf Boys Help Clean Up Australia...3

Dominic Receives Prestigious Award...3

Alumni Profile: Jack Kearns.....6

Levi Guides Future Generations.....6

Clontarf Welcomes New Year 7s.....7

Staff Profile: Jane Conder.....7

Year 12s Prepare For Final Year.....8

Clontarf Bowls Over Imparja Cup.....8

Our Supporters.....8

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.



Gerard with the Director General of the WA Department of Education, Lisa Rodgers, Deputy Director General Jim Bell and several Clontarf alumni at Clontarf's central office in Perth.

Message from the CEO

Welcome to the first Clontarf Quarterly for 2021. It has been a very busy start to the year for the Foundation with the commencement of six new programmes and the steady enrolment of young men across our existing network of academies.



I'm pleased to report that, following our census in early March, the number of participants enrolled in our programme grew to a record-breaking 9,800 boys. This number includes 800 Year 12s who will work towards school completion and prepare to transition into employment or further education.

This represents strong growth on our final 2020 enrolment of 8,643 and is testament to the quality programmes our 490 staff members are delivering in their local communities.

As I alluded to earlier, we opened six new academies, located in WA (2), SA (2), NT (1) and QLD (1), taking our total number of academies to 131. These academies are staffed by a mix of new and experienced Clontarf staff - I congratulate those who have been appointed to Academy Director positions and welcome those who are new. You hold very important roles within the lives of the boys under your charge and will be integral in their shaping into young men over the coming years. I also welcome the new boys and extend my profound thanks to the host schools for being so accommodating during the set up of the academy rooms.

While our plans for expansion in 2020 were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, this year will see the Foundation return to its growth strategy as we work towards our target of 12,500 boys by 2023. The new locations in Term 1 represent just the first phase of expansion

with several other locations earmarked and discussions started with communities, education departments and schools who have expressed interest in hosting a Clontarf programme.

Since the state and territory borders have reopened, I've had the opportunity to visit several of these locations and speak with many key people, including senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, teaching staff, families and business owners. I was provided with tremendous insight into the inner workings of their communities and all welcomed the idea of a Clontarf academy being introduced into their schools. Our Development Team will continue to work with these stakeholders in the coming months.

Term 2 is shaping up to be another busy one with many key activities taking place, including employment forums, sports carnivals and camps. Thank you for reading and I'll speak with you again soon.

- Gerard Neesham, CEO

Key stats in 2021

Participants	9,800
Year 12s	820
Academies	131
Schools	141
Staff	500



Boys from Centralian Middle, Centralian Senior and Yirara academies left no stone unturned at the Todd River during Clean Up Australia Day.

Clontarf Boys Help Clean Up Australia

Clontarf boys across the country rolled up their sleeves and slipped on gloves for the 2021 Clean Up Australia Day community event in March.

In Alice Springs (NT), more than 60 boys from the Centralian Middle, Centralian Senior and Yirara academies joined Mayor Damien Ryan and Josh Burgoyne MLA at the Todd River to scour the river bed for rubbish. The group took to the task with enthusiasm, managing to fill more than 20 large garbage bags.

The annual event provides the boys with a chance to learn the importance of maintaining a clean environment while giving back to the local community.

"It sent a powerful message to the Alice Springs community about what these young men are capable of," Yirara Academy Director Dan Toner said.

"It was also a great reminder to the Clontarf

boys about how good it feels to do something for someone else."

Meanwhile on the east coast, 10 boys from Matraville Academy (Sydney, NSW) headed down to the popular Malabar Beach to comb the sand and nearby bushland.

"The boys did a tremendous job by working together as a team and they were rightly proud of the result," said Operations Officer Jacob Gagai. "It was a fun and productive community day for everyone."

Well done to the hundreds of boys from around the country who took part in Clean Up Australia Day activities and thank you to our partners and supporters who joined them.



Oxley Academy Alumnus Recognised With Prestigious Award

Oxley Academy (Tamworth, NSW) alumnus Dominic 'Dom' Goodwin-Hauck was presented the 2021 Tom Harvey Award for Citizenship from the Australia Youth Trust by the NSW Governor Her Excellency Margaret Beazley AC QC during a special ceremony in March.

The 25-year-old from Gunnedah was nominated for the award by the Clontarf Foundation in recognition of his volunteering with local community organisations, including the Gunnedah Shire Library, GoCo Gunnedah, the Rotary Club of Gunnedah and the local Salvation Army branch.

Dom said it was a great honour to receive the award.

"It makes me happy to help others but also just being able to make someone's life a bit better at the same time is the best part about it really," Dom said.

A passionate musician, Dom is currently studying a Bachelor of Music degree at the University of New England in Armidale. As well as teaching music to children and adults at Salvation Army, he is heavily involved with the Gunnedah Conservatorium where he performs in the community choir.

He recently commenced work as a Student Learning and Support Officer at Gunnedah High School where he assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with their studies and post-school pathways.

His goal is to become a music teacher where

he'll be able to continue to share his love of music with younger generations.

The entire team at the Clontarf Foundation congratulates Dom on his well-deserved award and wishes him the very best with his promising career.



Clontarf Continues to Grow

After successfully navigating the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020, Clontarf now turns its attention to expanding its network of academies into new communities around the country. In Term 1, the Foundation opened six new academies across WA, NT, SA and QLD, representing the first phase of our ambitious plan to grow our enrolment to 10,500 boys by the end of the year. The following pages provide a brief look into the new academies that opened in Term 1 as well as a preview of where new programmes will open in Term 2.

Newman (WA)

Since opening in early February, 40 boys from Newman Academy have participated in 100% attendance lunches, morning training sessions, a community barbecue and an amazing race.

"With the help of staff from Newman SHS, we have seen the academy room transform from an old classroom into a vibrant space where our boys have the chance to play some pool or ping pong, have a chat or get involved in our various activities. Our morning training sessions see an average of 14 boys per session. We are really looking forward to getting away on camps and excursions in the coming terms, and continuing to develop the boys' values and understanding of the programme." - Academy Director Paul Pitchers.



Belmont (Perth, WA)

The Belmont Academy boys were very busy in Term 1, participating in a parent information evening, a school staff morning tea, several 'Big Day Out' activities, a Year 12 leadership camp to Busselton and regular morning training sessions.

"It has been a great term full of activities and surprises, from lockdowns to Year 12 leadership camps. Thank you to all the students, families, community and school staff who have welcomed Clontarf to Belmont City College." - Academy Director Brendan Welsh



Paralowie (Adelaide, SA)

The boys from Paralowie participated in several induction sessions and lunchtime activities to give them a better understanding of the programme and what is expected of them as members.

"It was very pleasing to see the boys interacting with the academy and each other. They all understand what it takes to be a 'good bloke' and to work together as a team." - Academy Director Che Murray



Taminmin (Humpty Doo, NT)

The Taminmin Academy has already attracted 80 eager boys to the programme, all of whom have enjoyed early morning pick ups, daily games of footy or basketball, community clean ups and barbecues. The boys are now looking forward to participating in big carnivals with other academies, including the Top End Cup in Katherine and the Northern Carnival in Kununurra.

"It has been great to see improvement in the boys already. 'Clontarf Spirit' has been embraced by all with everyone keen to help out, whether it has been helping at community events or picking up rubbish around the school."

- Academy Director David Friebe



Western Cape (Weipa, QLD)

Hosting 102 boys in Term 1, Western Cape Academy has already held several community barbecues, staff vs student footy games and meet and greets with Clontarf partners, including Rio Tinto and Woolworths.

"It has been a great start for the Western Cape Academy, and we can't thank the community and Western Cape College enough for their tremendous support in helping us get off the ground. We look forward to the opening of our academy room in Term 2 and hosting academies from the FNQ region at the Western Cape Cup in Term 3."



The Future

We are pleased to announce that the following new academies will open in Term 2:

- Hedland Primary (Port Hedland, WA) encompassing Cassia PS, Baler PS and South Hedland PS.
- Karratha Primary (Karratha, WA) encompassing Bayton West PS, Tambrey PS and Pegs Creek PS.

Newman Academy will also expand to include Year 4-6 boys from Newman Primary and South Newman Primary. Additional academies will open throughout the year, so be sure to visit the Clontarf website regularly for all the latest announcements.

Salisbury (Adelaide, SA)

The boys from Salisbury Academy are off to a flyer with 21 Year 8-12 boys enrolled in the programme in Term 1. The academy has already held 'Good Bunch Lunches', regular morning training sessions and 'Minute to Win It' activities. The academy even hosted its very first 'Clontarf Super Training' session.

"The students have already demonstrated excellent commitment, leadership and teamwork in such a short time. We are excited to see what the boys can achieve throughout the rest of the year."

- Academy Director Jamahl Liddle





Alumni: Jack Kearns

Jack Kearns reckons working at Bunnings is “awesome”.

The 2015, Year 12 graduate from Warwick, Queensland, began working at the local warehouse within customer service and shelf filling more than five years ago. He’s now in the timberyard full-time, swapping advice with tradies and weekend warriors.

It’s a role that suits the son of a Winton shearer. His cheerful demeanour reflects that of somebody who is grateful for having survived a brain tumour at the age of 10. He missed a lot of school but came back strong and hopes to have a long and successful career with Bunnings.

“I love coming to work,” Jack said. “I like the money, the sense of independence and the people I work and speak with each day.

“You need to find something that you like doing.”

Jack also admits his life would not be as good without Clontarf as it helped him with his studies and to engage with other students.

“It made school a lot more enjoyable,” Jack said.

“It would’ve been a struggle without it.

“My life wouldn’t be as good and I’d rate it 8 out of 10 at the moment.

“I’ll keep learning and it can only get better.

“I’m very grateful for having Clontarf.”



Palmerston 10-12 Academy alumnus Levi Nichaloff helps a Driver Primary School student with his schoolwork, supported by Driver Primary Academy Director Jamie McLean.

Levi Guides Future Generations

“I’m being the person I needed when I was younger.”

Palmerston 10-12 Academy (NT) 2020 graduate Levi Nichaloff has come full circle since enrolling in the Palmerston 7-9 Academy as a Year 7 back in 2015.

Having successfully completed Year 12 as a member of Palmerston 10-12 Academy, Levi is now employed at Driver Primary School as a teacher’s aide where he works next to his original Clontarf mentor, Jaime McLean, who is now Academy Director at Driver Primary Academy.

“It is a privilege working alongside someone who helped me so much through school and life,” Levi said.

“He continues to mentor me every day. I’m lucky enough to see both sides of Clontarf. Having been a member for six years, I now have the opportunity to see the mentor side and see the actual work that goes into the activities.”

Levi is one of 17 boys who started at Palmerston College and Clontarf in Year 7 and went on to finish Year 12 together.

“Coming through the programme with 17 close mates was a huge blessing and the bonds we created with each other and Clontarf will last forever.”

He said he always wanted to work with children and teens, and that his time with Clontarf prepared him for his chosen career.

“I know I’m helping these kids achieve their goals in class. I like the fact that I can push them further than they think can go.

“I still use the Clontarf ‘pillars’ to this day. Being respectful, honest, committed and being proud of who you are and where you come from. One of the main lessons I learnt is to build strong relationships with the students. Once you have their respect, you have their trust and that’s very important.

“Jamie asked me what I wanted to do in Year 8 for a career and I immediately said I wanted to be a Clontarf worker. I’m excited to be working in education helping young kids and you never know, maybe I’ll be a Clontarf worker in the future.”





Year 7 boys from the Greater Sydney region came together for their first ever 'Clontarf Super Training' session, held in Mount Druitt.

Clontarf Welcomes New Year 7s

The Foundation welcomed a record-breaking 1,988 Year 7 boys in Term 1 - the most in Clontarf's history and the largest year group across Years 3-12.

The young men were given their first taste of Clontarf action during induction camps which took place across the country. The following are just a few examples of the activities that occurred in Term 1:

- Broken Hill Academy (NSW) headed seven hours east to Brewarrina for their induction camp alongside fellow Clontarf inductees from Bourke and Brewarrina.
- Dripstone Academy (Darwin, NT) were given hands-on first aid demonstrations by local St John Ambulance staff.
- Endeavour Academy (Caringbah, NSW) joined 60 other Year 7 boys from the Greater Sydney Region for a Clontarf 'Super Training' session in Mount Druitt.
- Kingaroy and Murgon Academy

(QLD) joined forces for a two-day trip to Goomeri Bush Camp and enjoyed a visit to Bli Bli Water Park

- Narrandera Academy (NSW) made the trek to the nation's capital of Canberra where they met several Clontarf partners and alumni.
- Newton Moore Academy (Bunbury, WA) headed south to nearby Busselton for fishing, swimming, beach games and a tour of the Ngili caves in Yallingup.
- Swan Hill Academy (VIC) camped out in Bendigo where they visited the local Bunnings and enjoyed several recreational activities including mini golf and the local scooter park.

Welcome to all our new Year 7s and good luck in your first year of high school!



Staff Profile: Jane Conder

Jane Conder is Clontarf's Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary, responsible for managing the Foundation's increasingly complex budget and expenditure.

Born in the small market town of Peterborough in the UK, Jane brings with her a diverse skillset which she has cultivated across several different industries and countries.

At Clontarf, she's been able to find a role that ticks all the right boxes.

"The best thing has to be the dream combination of coming to work for a purpose that is far greater than a pay cheque, and being able to work with the amazing team around me," Jane said.

"It makes such a difference knowing that we have a shared goal to get great outcomes for the boys and to keep pushing forward with opening new academies. I feel very honoured to be part of this journey and to do my bit in whatever way I can."

Jane joined Clontarf in 2017 as a Financial Controller and was elevated to the CFO position later that year.

When not expertly managing the finances of the Foundation, Jane loves hanging out with her husband Terry and son Ollie.

"Ollie, who is now 12, is on the cusp of thinking we aren't cool, so I'm making the most of it. We like dunking our kayaks in the river and caravanning when we can."





24 Year 12 Clontarf boys from Clontarf's Victorian academies volunteered with The Big Umbrella in Melbourne during their leadership camp in February.

Year 12s Prepare For Final Year

'Sharing the journey' was the message to the Year 12 boys who travelled to Melbourne from across Victoria for a three-day leadership camp in early February.

Designed to prepare the boys for their final year of school, the annual camp is replicated in each Clontarf region across the country and attended by hundreds of senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander boys each year.

Victorian Regional Manager Ben Djuve said the Victorian iteration of the camp, which featured 24 boys from Bairnsdale, Mildura, Robinvale, Swan Hill and Warrnambool academies focused heavily on developing camaraderie across the senior group.

"It's vital for these boys to come together as a team and develop a closer bond so they know they aren't in this alone," Ben said.

"Year 12 is an important year and it can be tough, and while parents/guardians, teachers and Clontarf staff can support them, they'll also need to lean on each other to get the best education and employment outcomes."

This year, the group volunteered with The Big Umbrella Foundation to help feed people experiencing homelessness. The boys served food and shared stories with people doing it tough. For several of the boys, the stories were sobering and reinforced the need for them to be leaders in their own local communities.

Well done to all the boys and good luck in your final school year.

Thank you for your support

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

- Ampol Australia
- Western Cape Communities Trust
- Cricket Australia
- Woodside Energy
- AMP
- Western Power
- Aurizon Holdings
- Reece Plumbing
- TransGrid
- Landbridge
- The University of Sydney
- Clough Foundation
- Hastings Deering
- DHL Global Forwarding
- Fenix-Newhaul
- Flinders Port Holdings
- Protech
- Transdev
- Wren Oil
- WorkPac
- Ormond Civil
- SunRice
- Monford Group
- Steelstruct
- SEE Civil
- Margaret Dundas Hospital Brisbane
- St Vincent's Private Hospital Brisbane
- Cowie Group
- RC Construction
- Pinsent Masons
- Central Petroleum

Clontarf Bowls Over Imparja Cup

Wickets were bowled over and balls hit for six when two teams of Clontarf boys stepped up to the crease during the annual Imparja Cup cricket competition in Alice Springs, NT in February.

The four-day carnival attracted teams from across the country, including one composed entirely of Clontarf alumni and another made up of Year 10 boys from Centralian Senior and Yirara academies.

Following a successful Imparja campaign in 2020, the alumni team attracted 14 Clontarf graduates, some from as far back as 2008, to compete in the Men's Community Division. The team again performed well, winning three of their five games.

The young men from Centralian Senior and Yirara academies were just as impressive, making up for lack of cricket experience with effort and enthusiasm during what was a hot, and at times gruelling, four days of action.

Both teams were well supported by friends, family and the community throughout the entire competition.

Congratulations to all boys, young and old, for battling through the heat and representing Clontarf in fine fashion.



Donations & Workplace Giving

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](#)

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