



CAMPION'S *Brad*

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*Catholic Learning
in the Liberal Arts*



Ben Rebbechi and his family at 2018 Graduation

2018 Students at College Social Event

2018 Rowing Club

2018/2019 CCSA

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PO Box 3052, Toongabbie East, NSW 2146
8-14 Austin-Woodbury Place,
Old Toongabbie, NSW 2146 Australia
Phone 1300 792 747, Fax (02) 9631 9200
foundation@campion.edu.au
www.campion.edu.au/the-foundation

Graduation Ten Year Anniversary

Campion reached a milestone on 11 December 2018, with the 10th anniversary of our inaugural graduation. This was when Campion's first cohort of students achieved their BAs in 2008. This year's Graduation Mass and Ceremony were held at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta.



Mr Joe de Bruyn
and College Medal
winner Laura Ryan.

We were honoured by the presence of two distinguished guests: Archbishop of Hobart, the Rev Julian Porteous and The Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC.

Bishop Porteous celebrated the Mass and gave a stirring homily on the importance of grace and truth, both as a part of the students' education and in their lives.

Dyson Heydon, former Justice of the High Court of Australia, was this year's Occasional Speaker. Mr Heydon spoke warmly of Campion and its mission, likening it to monks like Bede who kept a tradition of learning and thought alive in a time of collapsing civilisation.

We were further delighted by an entertaining Valedictory Address by outgoing Campion College Student Association President Erin Meese.

22 students graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts and 8 received either a Diploma of Liberal Arts or a Diploma of Classical Languages. Two particularly diligent and hardworking students, Thomas Denney and Kate Oski, achieved both a BA and a Diploma of Classical Languages.

This year's Campion College medal, Campion's highest award for academic excellence, was awarded to Laura Ryan. The day ended with an afternoon tea with family and friends celebrating the students' graduation.

CAMPION COLLEGE

The Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC, is a former High Court Judge. This is an edited version of his Occasional Address, delivered at the graduation ceremony 2018.

Campion College is a small Liberal Arts College covering key aspects of Western languages, Literature, History, Philosophy and Theology, together with Mathematics and Science. It has a Catholic ethos.

Naming it after Edmund Campion made a significant statement. Campion was born in 1540. He was executed in 1581. He was canonised in 1970.

His biographer Evelyn Waugh said his career was that of scholar, priest, hero and martyr. He noted that Campion's life was "a simple, perfectly true story of heroism and holiness".

Campion left England and became a Jesuit priest. He conceived the idea of returning as part of a Jesuit mission to convert England. The final 1½ years of his life were spent on it. In the middle of it, parliament enacted a statute in 1581 making it treason to convert the queen's subjects to Rome. He was arrested and interrogated by his former patron the Earl of Leicester and other ministers. He was repeatedly subjected to very cruel tortures. But he revealed nothing that would significantly incriminate himself or others.

He was then tried for treason — not only under the 1581 statute but also a statute of 1351, for allegedly seeking to raise rebellion, invoke foreign invasion and kill the queen. Torture almost rendered him physically unfit for trial.

His trial was flawed by perjured evidence, much of it hearsay. It concentrated on the more serious charges under the 1351 act. His brilliant conduct of his defence demonstrated those charges had no evidentiary support. But he was convicted. At the gallows he was heckled and pestered and taunted — for the Elizabethan mob, like all mobs, loved a good execution. He was hanged and then drawn and quartered.

The age did not understand what Campion kept saying: that he was loyal to the queen as secular ruler, but obliged in non-secular affairs to follow his conscience.

We might complacently think that a reversion to Elizabethan standards of poverty could not happen. We might complacently think that the evil of religious



Occasional Speaker:
The Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC

persecution could never rise again to Elizabethan levels.

Or could it?

Campion College is approved as a registered Australian higher education institution by the NSW Department of Education and Training. Yet it receives no funding or support from any level of government, inviting a comparison between Campion and the standard university model in this country.

Unlike many of the universities based on the standard model, Campion College does not:

- Employ a vast bureaucracy that substantially exceeds its teaching staff in numbers, or pay such staff salaries reminiscent of sleek bankers — way above their desserts, and way above even the most able and internationally respected of the teaching staff.
- Perpetrate cruel deceptions on people from foreign lands who cannot speak English effectively by inducing them to enter Australia and undertake degrees that, if anything is to be gained from them, call for an excellent standard of English skill.
- Relax the standards of assessment to ensure that those foreign students obtain at least a piece of paper, however worthless.
- Engage in this conduct solely for the purpose of ensuring solvency in university funding and creating massive "invisible export earnings", supposedly for the greater good of the nation.
- Overlook the fact that the expression "earnings" implies that something of value is supposed to be supplied in exchange for the money received.
- Ensure that staff promotion can be achieved only by conducting useless

EGE Graduation

research, by obtaining (as distinct from fruitfully spending) research grants, and by nauseating exercises in self-boosting.

- Take great libraries that cultured and thoughtful academic staff assembled in earlier decades and destroy them by consigning their contents to landfill or worse.

- Operate an institution at which there is little liberty to express views diverging from the current orthodoxy because dissent is seen as a moral failing — that is, as a mean spirited and insolent refusal to jump on the virtue bandwagon.

- Instantly humiliate those few people who exercise even a small degree of liberty.

John Henry Newman had a vision similar to that underlying Campion College. The vision led to the Catholic University of Ireland. It rested on what Newman's biographer, Ian Ker, called "the idea of a liberal education within a confessional religious context" something resistant both to "utilitarian attacks" and "anti-intellectual clericalism".

But the purpose and function of Campion College rests on even older ideas.

During a time of collapsing civilisation and cultural despair, monks such as Bede, living in their little communities in the Dark Ages, kept alive a tradition of learning and thought in a world poised halfway between the rising power of persecuting barbarians and the decaying power of the Roman Empire and its successor kingdoms.

Those monks saved a large part of the intellectual capital of the West, and contributed to it. Campion College flourishes in that tradition.

As the very long reign of the Queen proceeds, the world we are entering may or may not have emerging similarities with that world

of the Dark Ages or the world of Elizabeth I, emerging similarities in material poverty and in moral and intellectual poverty. A career at Campion College may or may not in itself be an asset readily exchangeable into money. But that career will have created a different sort of capital.

It will have created a stock of intellectual and moral treasure for those who have experienced it, whether or not they appreciate it fully right now.

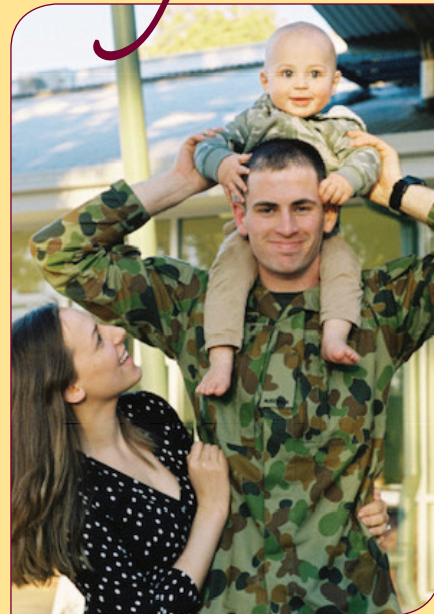
Those who have experienced Campion College can draw repeatedly and with great advantage on that stock of treasure for the rest of their lives. A small institution such as Campion can help ensure the development of a pluralistic tradition, independently of mega-institutions emanating from and parasitic on the modern state. A small body can develop and preserve qualities that giants may have forgotten, or, if they remember them, may seek to destroy.

That is especially so when a small body is independent of the state, uninfected by the state, and nourished by sources of which the state knows nothing.

Below: Mrs Keziah Van Aardt attending to Graduate Isabella Smith.



Where are they Now?



Joseph Rebbechi

Following graduation in 2015, I began working with one of Australia's largest trade unions. In my role I apply employment law onto situations involving conflict of a company and its staff, and work to provide a positive outcome for people working in low socioeconomic jobs; often meaning the outcome I can attain is bread on the table for their family. Additionally, I have joined the Australian army, which I do part-time in addition to my full time job. This role will expose me to high-stress situations where I must balance rigid procedure, with intuition and problem solving skills.

My degree at Campion has been invaluable for both of these roles. Through my Campion education, I have learned to reason, be critical of evidence in front of me and consider alternative options, solutions and viewpoints that might not ordinarily be largely accepted or considered. This, combined with the opportunity to develop rhetoric, argumentative and oral skills, enabled me to be successful and influential in my roles, which is incredibly fulfilling.

Meeting my wife at Campion and starting a family with her was a big bonus as well!

President Dr Paul Morrissey.



Archbishop Julian Porteous with Mr Joe de Bruyn.



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Graduation Valedictory Address

Campion College Student Association's President Miss Erin Meese, delivers the Valedictory Speech at Graduation.

It is with a very heavy heart that I, on behalf of the graduating class of 2018, say goodbye to what has been our home for the last three years. Not only a place where we gained knowledge, thrived and prospered, but a place we have, and always will, call home. These past years have been nothing less than thrilling, mind-blowing and enlightening. We came here as young people, ready and excited to learn and full of energy, to a place that would change our lives forever.

It began in 2016, where 25 of us gathered as strangers, we all had one thing in common, we were united in our search for truth. And who knew these strangers would become such faithful, like-minded and beautiful friends. These fine young men and women in front of you today would not be here without the help of the lecturers and staff. The lecturers and tutors of Campion College undoubtedly assist students in their pursuit of a truly Liberal education, and endeavour to help students to ascend to the great categories of human meaning – the True, the Good and the Beautiful – in order to cultivate what Cicero called the “good life”.

Our class has had the privilege and honour of being taught by some of the best minds Australia has to offer. Our three year journey began with the brilliance of Fr Luke, Dr Boschiero, Dr Islam and Dr McInerney. Whilst Fr Luke gave us a glimpse into the vault of the seemingly endless treasury that is our faith, causing even the most fervent among us to realise how little we knew, Dr Islam made us question if we even existed or if we were being controlled by an evil scientist. If this was not enough to make one question whether Campion was truly for them, Dr McInerney set us Homer's *The Odyssey* and *The Illiad* as a “warm up” for what was to come in the following two years. The path of history was laid out for us by Dr Boschiero whose engaging classes taught us to critically analyse texts and steered us through the history of western civilisation.

In the following years we were graced with the expertise of Dr Morrissey, Dr Bell, Dr Dray, Dr Debergue, Dr Chavura, Mr Flynn and Fr Peter who all contributed to our formation as young students. It is

certainly true that at Campion you are not treated as a number, each student is treated as a person and this is expressed through the lecturers' continuous support, and ongoing interaction with the students.

To the administrative staff, the chaplaincy team, members of the board and benefactors, thank you. Your endless and ongoing support to the students and to the College is very much appreciated and no words can truly thank you all enough for this tremendous and beautiful opportunity.

To all the families, especially to my parents and all the parents of all those graduating today, thank you. From the very beginning you have been there, for those 2.00am meltdowns, for the emergency money transfers, and to encourage us to persevere throughout the degree, especially during those times when we've felt like giving up. We will forever be indebted to you for all the love you have for us.

Below: CCSA President Erin Meese delivers the Valedictory Address at the 2018 Graduation.



To my fellow classmates, thank you for everything over the past three years. I could not imagine a more diverse, dynamic yet brilliant group of people to have completed this degree with. The loving and generous attitude our class has toward each other has made Campion a home away from home. The zeal and ferocity you have brought to every class and tutorial incited our passion for learning and the constant and persistent spiritual advancement you've demonstrated, as you've taken ownership of the faith and actively made yourselves witnesses to the truth, is awe inspiring.

Although we are leaving the treasure that is Campion behind, better things are ahead. We have the freedom and the ability to pursue and achieve the good since our whole personhood has been shaped. I wish you all every blessing and success in all of your future endeavours.

Rod Dreher

We are extremely excited to announce that Campion College will be hosting Mr Rod Dreher. He will arrive in Australia Wednesday 15 May 2019. He will be hosting several events during that time. The events will be announced on our website.

Mr Rod Dreher is an American writer and author. He has written and edited for the *New York Post*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *National Review*, the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, the *Washington Times*, and the *Baton Rouge Advocate*. Rod's commentary has been published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Commentary*, the *Weekly Standard*, among other publications, and he has appeared on NPR, ABC News, CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, and the BBC. He lives in St. Francisville, Louisiana, with his wife Julie and their three children. He has also written four books, *The Little Way of Ruthie Leming*, *Crunchy Cons*, *How Dante Can Save Your Life*, and *The Benedict Option*.

For enquiries contact: Yvette Nehme
02 9896 9318 / y.nehme@campion.edu.au

Summer Program

From 7 - 11 January, 30 high school students and young adults came to Campion for a week of fun and games, dancing, trivia, sport, movie nights and excursions, including a good dose of the college's Liberal Arts degree.

Over the Summer Program, the group formed close bonds while living on campus, sharing meals and attending lectures and film nights presented by Campion's lecturers. They explored theological and philosophical elements in the thriller "A Quiet Place", looked at the influence of Darwinism and examined the death of Sherlock Holmes, among other topics.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with several students choosing to study at Campion College in 2019.

For information on how to enrol in a BA or learn more about our upcoming Winter Program, contact 02 9896 9300 study@campion.edu.au

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www.givnow.com.au/campioncollege

Campion's Wish List

Campion opened its doors in 2006, which means our equipment has aged and requires renewing and replacing. We have created a wish list of new items that we are seeking, just to name a few:

Lecture Theatre technology upgrade requires the following equipment:

- Computer with DVD, CD, LAN, USB port – for lectures and presentations
- DVD player with video, laptop and audio inputs for portable equipment

Lecture Theatre refurbishment:

- New seating
- New carpet
- Repainting

Grounds maintenance equipment required:

- Ride on lawn mower

Please consider donating any of the above mentioned items or participate in funding parts of them. They are essential to our work.

For further information on how you can support, or a detailed Wish List, please contact Yvette Nehme, Director of Development 02 9896 9318 y.nehme@campion.edu.au

Campion Schola

On Sunday 14th October, the Campion College Schola had the honour of singing at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney for the 6.00pm Mass of the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time.

The students arrived for a rehearsal with the Assistant Cathedral Organist, Simon Nieminski at 4.00pm. At 5.00pm students attended Vespers and Benediction sung by the cathedral lay-clerks. The bell for 6.00pm Mass then rang out, and the Schola confidently led the music of the liturgy accompanied by the cathedral grand organ.

The music rendered included:
Missa Sancti Joannes de Deo - F.J. Haydn, with Offertory Motet: Exultate justi – L. Viadana and Communion Motet: Ave verum Corpus – W. Byrd.

The experience of singing in such a large and magnificent edifice as St. Mary's was inspiring and daunting at the same time, but the musicianship and discipline of the Schola enabled them to add a glorious musical contribution to the liturgy and worship in the cathedral.

Ad majorem Dei gloriam!

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Campion's Brag is a quarterly newsletter named in honour of the manifesto of St. Edmund Campion's mission of faith. It is edited by Yvette Nehme (Director of Development) and compiled by Teresa Gambino on behalf of the Campion Foundation, a non-profit company which has established Campion College Australia as a tertiary institution of Catholic inspiration.



Schola with music director Mr Bernard Kirkpatrick.

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Where are they Now?



Celeste Burns

Since the start of July 2018, I have been volunteering at a primary school in Malololelei, Samoa. I am a volunteer through the Melbourne based Caligero Project, who sent me to the Divine Mercy Primary School, run by Salesian Sisters. Since my arrival, I have been given charge of Grade 5 which involves me teaching all subjects (not just English). I love my Grade 5 children to bits and thank God for giving them to me. I live with the Salesian Sisters and share (for the most part) the same routine as them. Living in Samoa is completely different to what I anticipated, and is something that is helping me grow in so many ways.

Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize

The Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize was endowed by the late Royston Porthouse in memory of his mother. The 2018 Prize was awarded to Lucy Smith.

If you would like to learn more about how to set up a prize/scholarship for the students contact Yvette Nehme: y.nehme@campion.edu.au / 02 9896 9318.

Below: Winner of the Poetry Prize, Lucy Smith.



The Qualities of Quiet

BY LUCY SMITH

Sometimes, the world is quiet.
It is the moment where you stretch out
And lie down on the grass
In the sunshine, a moment where doubt
Seems shuffled a few steps away,
behind a wall of glass;
To be seen, but left unheard.

The silence doesn't get to me.
On starry nights, I get to be
My own entertainment,
myself my only company.

The morning's earliest hours
have a sweet serenity;
Nothing that is necessarily broken
By the sun; but nothing
That has not faded by midday.

Libraries are the best place
for crowded silence:
All noise muffled by the respect

Harboured by patrons
For the rules
And each other.

The characters and cultures
Caught between pages
Frozen like sculptures;
They speak and move,
And make the silence louder,
Than words could ever be.

There is music in all things,
We are told; in the sun, the stars, the grass;
In the minds and hopes of humanity.
We simply hear it best,
When all the world
Is quiet.

2018 Chesterton Conference

The Australian Chesterton Society held its latest gathering on Saturday, 20 October 2018, on the theme of children and the family in the light of Chesterton's wisdom.

Chesterton had a special love of children and family life, which drew upon the joy of his own childhood. He cherished a lifelong appreciation of playful entertainment, such as toy theatres, and of fairy tales, and recognised the value of these childhood experiences in sustaining a sense of wonder and reality in adult life.

A keynote speaker at the Conference was the American author Nancy Brown, who delivered two papers – one on Chesterton's wife, Frances (of whom she has written a definitive biography), the other on the Father Brown stories (which she has adapted for younger readers) and other works appealing to the imagination of children.

Other speakers were Sophie York and David van Gend, who examined various critical issues affecting children and the family in contemporary Australia.

The papers are available for viewing on the Australian Chesterton website (<http://chestertonaustralia.com/>), or on request, at a cost of \$20.00 (incl. postage), by contacting Campion College on 02 9896 9300.

2019 Chesterton Conference is scheduled for Saturday 19 October, please save the date. For further details contact Mr Karl Schmude: kgschmude@gmail.com / 0407 721 458.

Order Your Entertainment Guide 2019/2020

Support Campion College by purchasing an Entertainment Membership and also enjoy up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for many of the best restaurants, cafés, arts, attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much more.

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