

# THE UTOPIAN

2022 EDITION



St Thomas More College  
CRAWLEY WESTERN AUSTRALIA



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## Acknowledgements

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# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF COLLEGE

The last three years seem to have flown by despite the pandemic. In 2019, the College completed an updated Infectious Diseases Protocol which immediately swung into action in 2020. This year the protocol became critical as the reality of reopening our borders saw two distinct waves of Omicron – at the start of Semester 1 and again at the start of Semester 2. Peaking at 50 residents in isolation earlier in the year, I could not have been more impressed or more proud of our staff and students for the manner in which they worked together to minimise risk and adjust to new ways of operating in such a large community and within a pandemic paradigm.

After the second wave was through in early Semester 2, life at the College thankfully started to take on a sense of normality.

It is pleasing to announce that 2023 sees the College at full capacity with 400 residents. The only other time that the College reached 400 was in the early part of 2020... then COVID hit and within two weeks we had lost some 20% of our residents.

Two new house keeping staff (Su and Sum) have joined the team recently along with a new member of staff in our grounds and maintenance (Kelvin). The housekeeping staff are replacing two staff members that departed. The grounds and maintenance staff member is also a welcomed addition, as the College has grown and the "new" apartments start to require more attention.

Cassandra Sarjit has replaced Bonnie Meacock as the Manager of Marketing and Alumni Relations and is doing an excellent job. Her proactivity and attention to detail are welcome attributes along with her collegial demeanour.

Mim Jones, who joined us in May as the new Deputy Head of College, has been remarkable. Her experience, calmness and wise discernment have enabled the College's return to normalcy after the resignation of Bec Wood. Bec is now the Dean at the new St Catherine's College at Curtin University and we wish her well in that role. Bec was an amazing Deputy Head of College for the best part of nine years.

Fr Peter has been on sabbatical for the last 5 months and he will return to STMC in 2023. We are very much looking forward to his gentle presence permeating College life again.

Janienne Wood, commenced a well-deserved period of Long Service Leave at the start of November and we look forward to her return in early February 2023.

This year saw the employment of a College Row Wellbeing Advisor. This new role has fast-tracked the access of College students to the range of University support structures, including medical, counselling, academic and support through Respect Now Always. There is also an education brief for the position along with acting as a disclosure officer.

This initiative has been an absolute success and the Wellbeing Advisor has been a great support for Mim as a new Deputy Head of College. In fact, three colleges have new deputies so the timing could not have been better in terms of the support to new staff.

Collegians and Ex-Collegians will be well-aware that Outreach has become a major pillar of who we are here at Tommy More. The outreach waters have run long and deep in the history of the College. It is one of the avenues provided to students to become "More than a Degree". Some 33% of Collegians volunteered their time and energy to make a difference this year.

There was a surprisingly strong interest shown by current residents in visiting the children we support in Cambodia in November/December this year. Although the 11 students who visited is well down on the 23 who went in 2019, it is well up on what I had anticipated in the wake of COVID. We have recently returned and the rekindling of relationships and the genuine appreciation of our support were heart warming to say the least.

*Tom Mitchell*  
Head of College



Head of College  
Tom Mitchell



# Word from the Deputy

Residential colleges have always been a special place for me. I was the first in my family to move away from home in a small country town to study at university. On-campus accommodation provided the perfect amount of support in transitioning to independence, whilst still being in a supportive and structured social environment. I immersed myself fully in the College experience by holding positions as Secretary on the Student Club, Community Service & Environment Coordinator, Academic Program Coordinator, and Resident Advisor over the six years I was there. Yes, that's right, I loved the experience so much that I found it hard to leave! Of most significance though, it's where I met my husband, Brieland, whilst he was on exchange from the United States. We now have a six-year-old son, Henry, and two Boston Terriers, Nora and Sydney. It was the global nature of our relationship that ultimately took us to many parts of the world to experience new and wonderful things.

Prior to this role, I held teaching positions in high schools, as well as worked at the University of Michigan's Gerlad R. Ford School of Public Policy in various capacities, including global engagement, scholarships and fellowships, and academic advising. Being part of what's affectionately known as a "Big 10" institution was a life-changing experience, both personally and professionally. It was through this network I worked with the Peace Corps and USAID in Liberia, West Africa, as well as founded an after-school program in Detroit for low-SES elementary students to engage in STEM disciplines. The knowledge and skills I obtained through these experiences inform much of the work I do today #goblue.

My time in residential colleges and tertiary education institutions has seen firsthand the lifelong friendships that are forged. Living in college during the important years of learning how to be an adult, together with the highs and lows of what life can bring, was made much easier surrounded by like-minded individuals. Not to mention, the value-added experience provided the ultimate foundation for my career post-graduation. It's been a such pleasure witnessing the beginnings of this for Tommy residents since commencing my role eight months ago.

I would like to take some time to acknowledge our Head of College, Tom Mitchell, and the entire 2022 Residential Advisor Team who have assisted me with the transition into my role this year; your support and encouragement has been invaluable. And, finally, to the entire Tommy community, a sincere thank you for being so welcoming of my family and I. What an honour to be offered the position of Deputy Head for St Thomas More College!

I am very much looking forward to continuing this role into 2023 and beyond.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

*Mim Jones*  
**Deputy Head of College**



# Faith & Spirituality

## I am a Special Child of God. "We are exactly what He wants us to be"

On the morning of 26 October 2022, we were asked to concentrate on the Prayer of Focus that normally will take place during the fourth dwelling place, or the fourth mansion, according to St. Teresa.

The extract from our Sabbatical class' notes reads: The fourth dwelling place begins a moment of natural rhythm and a deepening relationship in partnership with God. This deeper level of friendship has become more intense and leads us to a profound sense of otherness. The fourth dwelling place becomes a sanctuary for silence, solitude and contemplation. This comes from "In His Image: A Journey with St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila" which was given to us.

Please allow me to extract a paragraph from our class notes that talks about the Prayer of Focus. *Within this stage, a person can discipline the senses and faculties. The person is able to create empty space within their thoughts and feelings and welcome God's personal visits. Here a person focuses on the object of prayer. By focusing on something particular, e.g., a candle, a crucifix, or the Blessed Sacrament, a person is able to achieve great peace and stillness and welcome inspiration and enlightenment. Prayer of Focus includes: Here and now – keep eyes open "Let all creatures speak of their Maker" and how does this focus speak of its Maker (God)?*

As a result, I was asked to focus on an object, such as an icon, a religious painting, a statue of our Lady or Jesus, or even a sculpture. So, I went into our living room where a lot of these items are beautifully displayed. I looked around in search of the object I wanted to focus on for my prayer time. I finally decided on a sculpture that has an image of a father who allows his child to lay on his bosom and the child sleeps in peace without any fear or anxiety. I would like to invite you to have a look at the photo that I took from the living room, before sharing with you my reflection as it occurred to me.

I took time to look at the object and I was focusing all my attention on the image, after a while, the sculpture began to speak to me and revealed its meaning as I could understand. It seemed that God was speaking to me and helping me understand the significant meanings of this sculpture. So here was what I received:

- The child was the focus of this sculpture. He was sleeping peacefully, and it seemed that he/she has no fear or anxiety
- At a closer look, the child is like a baby lying in the womb before it is born. This suggests that God is not only a father figure, but he is also a mother, who is able to carry each one of us in God's womb
- The father gazes lovingly at the child which has his utmost attention and concern. Perhaps his whole focus is on the child as he looks at him. It seems to me that the father's only concerns are about the child and nothing else
- His two hands are supporting him and the child. He does not hold the child but let him to be free, that could mean God wants him to be himself. As I was gazing on this sculpture, I felt that God has been my refuge and my shield. He will protect me, since I am his child, and will care for me. God's only concerns are about my well-being and safety. I also believe this applies to all of us.



Image by Fr Peter Hung

I was extremely happy and felt deeply grateful to God who has revealed this amazing insight to me, so I can be closer to Him, who is my Creator and loves me unconditionally as his loving child.

I find it difficult to put into words what I experienced this morning as I was gazing on the beautiful sculpture. I just wanted to treasure it in my heart and will continue to reflect and meditate on it.

*Rev. Dr. Peter Hung Tran*  
**College Chaplain**



# SRA & RA's

2022 welcomed a fresh-faced RA team and an excited Tom Mitchell, eager to open the college gates and greet our new and returning residents for the year ahead. Throughout a semester riddled with close contacts, isolation periods and RAT tests, College was able to maintain its buzzing social life and spirited atmosphere. A big thank you to Bonnie Meacock for supporting the RA and SCC team through P week and O week, managing covid cases and answering our weird and wonderful questions.

In April we were fortunate to be joined by Mim Jones as Deputy Head of College and her lovely family Brie and Henry, just in time to welcome back international residents and our first round of exchange students since 2020 as state borders reopened for Semester 2. With a full college, the RA's were in full swing assisting residents, supporting the SCC events, and helping college life run smoothly.

In recognition of all their work over the semester, an ode to the 2022 RA floor partners.

Firstly our specialty RA's - Ashleigh Kennedy the Social Outreach and Justice RA and spreadsheet queen, who ran the outreach program like clockwork, organizing volunteering opportunities for our residents and raising funds for various charities.

Nicolas Italiano, the Health and Wellbeing RA fueled resident engagement with intertwining comps, pod coffee catch ups and Sunday yoga sessions.

Our veteran RA Haochen Zhao of A Building kept careful watch over the young guns on the team.

Front Wing & UG RA's, Eva Carolan and Ben Cole, champions of not only Battle of the Bands and IC sports, but the winners of the 2022 Inter-wing competition.

RA's of Back Wing, Johane Swanpole and Charles Reddin, kept watch over the Mitchell Household and protected freshers from the ranger on Park Ave.

Middle Wing's Ulani Hayter Otaola and Daniel Ralph, our young-spirited Broome representatives, kept the balance between the standard blocks.

Kurt Crudeli and Sophie Lynch, the dynamic duo truly fulfilled the roles of Frodo and Sam in the Fellowship of First Floor.

Our 2021 Sports reps, James Forkin and Kalira Docherty, took on another year of partnership as Second Floor RA's with the same enthusiasm shown on the sporting field.

Kyle Borlini and Darcie Bowden, our third floor RA's remained cool, calm and collected throughout the year, with the occasional cheeky Wednesday night to let their hair down.

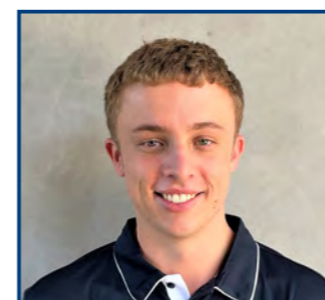
And finally, the fourth and fifth floor, covered by Max Leblanc and myself, winners of the 2022 Wooden Spoon and the peoples hearts.

Over a year of Moron's publications, Pubs rep Ruby Gilroy captured the RA's traits, personas, and character alignments. From this we have determined that a range of personalities is essential in making up a great RA team to serve and reflect the cohort here at college.

To quote Tom at the Christmas in July formal dinner, *'This is truly the best RA team I have ever worked with'* Yep. Good call. To the RA's, thank you from Charles and myself, for all you have contributed to the community, culture and the residents of Tommy More. You truly made the year possible, and we are so grateful to have shared it with you. Best of luck to the 2023 RA team; make it a year you won't soon forget!

*Vivienne Noonan. SRA*

# YOUR 2022 RA'S



**BEN COLE**  
GROUND FLOOR



**EVA CAROLAN**  
FRONT WING



**ULANI HAYTER OTAOLA**  
MIDDLE WING



**JOHANE SWANEPOEL**  
BACK WING



**KURT CRUDELI**  
1ST FLOOR



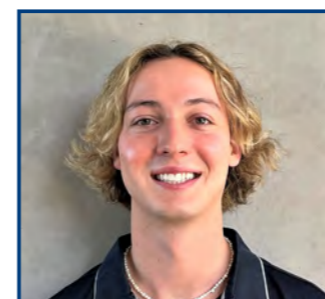
**SOPHIE LYNCH**  
1ST FLOOR



**JAMES FORKIN**  
2ND FLOOR



**KALIRA DOCHERTY**  
2ND FLOOR



**KYLE BORLINI**  
3RD FLOOR



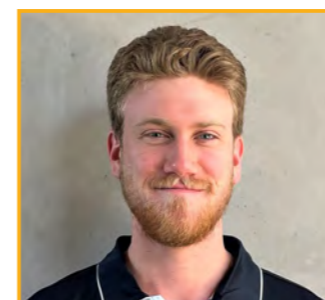
**DARCIE BOWDEN**  
3RD FLOOR



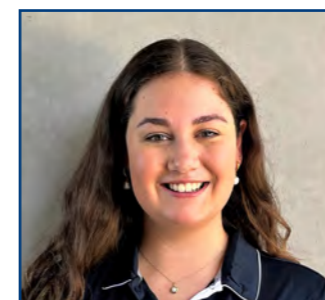
**MAX LEBLANC**  
4TH FLOOR



**HAOCHEN ZHAO**  
A BLOCK



**NICK ITALIANO**  
HEALTH AND WELLBEING



**ASHLEIGH KENNEDY**  
OUTREACH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE



**VIVIENNE NOONAN**  
5TH FLOOR - SRA



**CHARLES REDDIN**  
BACK WING - SRA





# YOUR 2022 STUDENT CLUB



The STMC Student Club Committee has organised and run eight successful events across this year, with several standouts including two orientation weeks, the Tommy Ball and a river cruise. The team consisted of Tahlia Inkster, Sophia Spence, Camden LeFevre, Molly Bowles, Josh Pearce, Ruby Hodges, Ruby Gilroy, Mia Holben, Winnie Zhang, Gavin Reddin, Aaron Santos, and myself, all of which contributed massive individual efforts throughout the year.

The committee's events were positively received by the Tommy community, providing many opportunities to forge new friendships and make lasting fond memories of College life. While COVID threw spanners into the works for several events, the dedication from the entire committee and RA team upheld the continuation of Tommy spirit despite the uncertainty.

One new event that was integrated into the Tommy calendar this year was a karaoke party held on the front quad, where residents wore outfits starting with the same letter as their first name and enjoyed a night under the stars. The social distancing requirements across WA at the time inspired the committee to think creatively to both remain within the appropriate restrictions, as well as provide the traditional Tommy culture and atmosphere.

Overall, the year was extremely successful in regard to committee events, and I trust that next year will be no different. Our current collegians have voted in next year's committees, with the executive team consisting of Riley York, Amy Wilton, Josh Henningheim and Louis Stratico. It has been an honour and a privilege to represent St Thomas More College as the 2022 President, and the memories and experiences I have gained will be invaluable as I move forward, beyond College life.

*Will Ewart  
President*



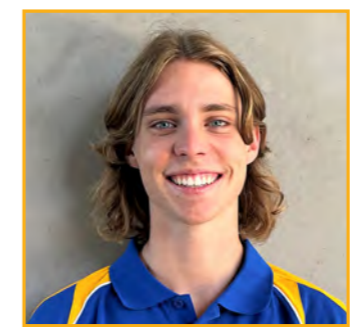
WILL EWART  
PRESIDENT



TAHLIA INKSTER  
VICE PRESIDENT



SOPHIA SPENCE  
SECRETARY



CAMDEN LEFEVRE  
TREASURER



MOLLY BOWLES  
SOCIAL REP



GAVIN REDDIN  
COMMUNITY REP



MIA HOLBEN  
INTER-COLLEGE REP



JOSH PEARCE  
MALE SPORTS REP



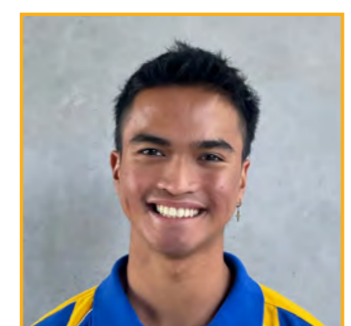
RUBY HODGES  
FEMALE SPORTS REP



RUBY GILROY  
PUBLICATIONS REP



WINNIE ZHANG  
INTERNATIONAL REP



AARON SANTOS  
FRESHER REP





## Fresh Perspective

To say the least, my experience in Tommy More far surpassed my expectation of what living in college is like. I was excited for a fresh start and to meet new peers up here in Perth after taking a gap year back home in Bunbury. O-Week will definitely be one of my highlights, within 10 minutes of moving my belongings from the car to my room I made new friends and made many more as the activities within O-Week from being called out in the Fresher Dance to hopping in party buses to the casino as well as to having a bonding experience with the boys shouting out the Tommy chant whilst fearing for our lives on the rides of Adventure World.

This year I was blessed to be elected as the Fresher Rep. I was surprised as to how many Student Club Committee events were run throughout the year and it was more than an enjoyable and fun experience to take part. I would have never expected there to be an event where we would be on two boats joined together with DJs blasting tunes as well as to having a mock wedding which was followed by a cheeky pub crawl.

The second semester of Tommy kicked off with leading the 2.0 Week alongside the international rep, Winnie. With the majority of the semester 2 freshers being international students from study-abroad or exchange, we made sure to kick-start their stay down here with the Aussie experience where we also introduced them to the bogan and eshay culture. One thing I will never forget is the excitement from everyone's face when they first laid their eyes on all the Australian animals when we took them to Caversham Wildlife Park. Creating friendships with the internationals and going on fun outings with them was one of the coolest experiences I have had and, in my opinion, it's a nice way to secure a free Contiki for wherever I go.

Other bits of fun that comes with living in Tommy is the formal dinners and the Ball which is always a treat, inter-college sports competition which can get serious against other colleges and of course, the RSD events such as the tav shows and the beloved Battle of the Bands.

I look forward to what Tommy holds for next year and for all that I know, it's going to be another good one.

**Aaron Santos, Bunbury**  
Fresher Rep 2022

I moved away from my hometown and moved into College to start my University journey while I was 17. I was extremely nervous to move away from my familiar environment and start a new life in Perth at such a young age, but at the same time I was excited to begin a new chapter in my life and meet other like-minded people to establish new friendships with.

O'Week at Tommy allowed me to meet so many incredible people from a huge variety of places across the world and lots of lifelong friends. The Student Club Committee, Residential Advisors, and everyone else behind the scenes were extremely welcoming and made O'Week very enjoyable for the Freshers, while also helping myself and others relax into our new home away from home.

Before I moved to Tommy, I struggled to try things I wasn't used to doing. However, living at College has encouraged me and motivated me to push myself out of my comfort zone and try new things. Tommy has also provided me with endless opportunities to grow as a person and become the best version of myself as well as giving me various opportunities to give back to others.

Looking back on the person I was before I moved to Tommy versus the person I am today after living at College for a year, I can see such a change within all aspects of myself. My mental health has improved significantly, and I am a happier and more confident version of myself.

I've achieved so much in such a short period of time here at Tommy and I'm very excited to continue my time living at college for the remainder of my degree.

**Shanayah Eastough, Albany**

At Tommy, I was able to have a quiet personal self-study space and connect with people from different cultural backgrounds. Living in Tommy is a great choice. If I wanted to have some quiet study time, there is a study room available or I can take a 10 minutes walk to the closest uni library. When I want to do some workout, the gym is just next to my block. When I am looking to have some fun, there are always fun events that happen during the semester. Most importantly, Tommy always takes care of my tummy and never lets it down.

**Jay Zhang, China**



welcome!

# 2022 Outreach Events

By Ashleigh Kennedy, Outreach and Social Justice Resident Advisor

## Ronald McDonald Big Breakfasts

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we were only able to attend in semester 2 but managed 4 visits. We did the Big Breakfast events where we attended the House and did a massive cook up for the kids and their families. We also brought some face painting and colouring ins to the House and played with the kids. Each time, we are given a tour to show the new team members the facilities of the charity we invest part of our program in. These events are the most popular in the annual Outreach calendar, with the spots filled up in minutes of being opened.

## Wheelchairs for Kids

Wheelchairs for Kids is an organisation whose mission is to manufacture wheelchairs and distribute them to children in developing countries who require assistance with mobility. Through mobility, the vulnerable children, when given their wheelchair, are granted freedom and independence beyond a livelihood in which they are confined to the ground or bed. To create wheelchairs, the company accepts the ring pull tops of cans to use as material in constructing the wheelchair. This initiative at College is implemented as an inter-wing/floor competition with a prize for the floor that collected the most pull tops by weight. Not only does this help children in need of mobility assistance, but it also contributes to local recycling initiatives and minimises the waste that goes to landfills. It also pairs nicely with the Containers for Cambodia project.

## Containers for Cambodia

This year, we have continued the work of the 'Containers for Cambodia' program, which utilises the 'Containers for Change' program in WA. The College collects suitable eligible containers through student donations and the collection of these containers at formal events. The outreach committee and I then take these to the Shenton Park depot and the proceeds are donated to our Cambodia Collaboration. **This year we were able to raise over \$2,000.**

## Order of Malta

### Supporting Perth's Homeless

This program was a new one this year, and one that I think was highly successful. Most Mondays, we went to a homeless facility and distributed much needed supplies, such as winter coats and toiletries. This was an eye-opening experience, and for many of us a large reality check of the basics that we take for granted. The program was run primarily by Andrew, who represented the Order, as well as myself and Tom. There was a pleasingly consistent student turnout and overall, the program was a great opportunity for our residents to broaden their horizons.

## Blood Drives

This program was created this year, and involved getting residents into the Red Cross facility in the city to donate blood. We were able to get over 30 people to donate blood, with many people making multiple donations, over 3 trips. The event was pioneered and captained by Jordan Brown, who ran it exceptionally.

## World's Greatest Shave

This event kick started our year. Participants cut their hair and waxed their legs for the Leukemia Foundation. This event left me feeling so excited for the program that was to come due to the amazing atmosphere at the event and support I received. **Overall, we raised around \$2,500 which exceeded my highest expectations.**

## Cambodia Kings Park Half Marathon

The third annual Cambodia Run took place in May, with over 120 students, staff and alumni participating. Tom Mitchell organised the courses for different participatory distances, and a group of volunteers stepped up to help marshal and coordinate the event. **As a result of the day, we raised over \$1000 for the Cambodia Collaboration.** This event by far has the most student participation, and so even though it was started in replacement of the Cambodia trip it will continue to be an incredible event for the Outreach program.







### Perkins' Walk for Women's Cancer

The Walk for Women's Cancer is a 42km walk around Perth to benefit WA women's cancer research at the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research. A team of students spent the day volunteering at this event across stations on Mounts Bay Rd and in Claremont. Our students embraced it, cheering on walkers, supplying food, water, and boogieing away to inspire walkers to continue. It was a major success and will likely be carried forth as an event in the coming years.

### Outreach Awards and Celebration Evening

The Outreach Formal Dinner was a great success. The grazing style meal and the wonderful addition of special music guest William Ewart contributed to a lovely final celebration of the program. It was a very special night to thank all those for their unique contributions to the Outreach Program and award those who went above and beyond and made significant contributions to many of the program's events. The night was a true display of the community's commitment to, investment in, and belief in the program's enriching experiences in their time with the College.



### Step Up to Breast Cancer

Step Up to Breast Cancer required us to step up and complete 10,000 steps a day to raise money for Breast Cancer. **We as a collective team raised \$417, exceeding our original goal of \$300.** This is our third year implementing this event, and I am very proud of all those who participated.

### The 2022 Outreach Committee

I would like to acknowledge some important people who contributed significantly to the Outreach program in 2022. The following people made up the Outreach Committee in 2022:

- Beth Schilling, Bridie Bowden, Carmel Italiano
- Carys Butler, Chelsea White, Darci Bellis
- Holly Bishop, Jordan Brown, Katy Anderson
- Molly Hudson, Oliver Hutcheson, Phoebe Coulthard
- Riley York, Taylor Woodvine, Teigan Clark, Zeke Medling

### Relay for Life

Relay for Life is an event run at different locations across WA, where participants run/walk a track for 24 hours. We had a team of over 50 Collegians sign up for the event, which was a massive effort and the largest team at the UWA Relay. A few members camped out overnight, which facilitated a great team bonding and community experience. **It was a very successful and grounding event, and the College team raised almost \$10,000 for the Cancer Council (WA), placing us second in the entire event. I would like to highlight the immense support from Darcie and Bridie Bowden, whose fundraising totalled over \$3,500.** The team were able to pause and reflect on the prevalence of cancer, their experiences with it and the effect that it has on collegians.

In 2022, there were 29 applicants for the committee, with each applicant showing incredible promise for the future of Outreach at STMC. They, as a collective, are a massive support to the Outreach RA role, and thus, they must be credited with the success of the program. They were a wonderful group of motivated young adults in the College community whose ideas and voices have been warmly welcomed into the program. I am very proud of what we have collectively achieved this year.



### Telethon

We were lucky enough to have residents selected to volunteer at the Telethon Call Centre and the Telethon Family Festival. I cannot express how rewarding this experience was for all involved, especially considering that it was a last-minute phone call asking them to attend for many. We got to interact with the wider WA community, be on TV, chat to Olympians, Perth Wildcats, West Coast Eagles, Fremantle Dockers and Australian Cricketers. The Telethon Kid's Institute provides opportunities to volunteer all year round, and it would be very rewarding to expand the Outreach program into this amazing foundation.

**The role of OSJRA has been both an incredibly rewarding and challenging experience, but is one that I will cherish for the rest of my life. We have exceeded every goal and expectation that I had for the program this year, and I continue to be blown away by the incredible displays of spirit, compassion, and generosity by Collegians. The Outreach program has expanded in 2022 and is extremely diverse in both the event types that we offer as well as the charities that we support. I appreciate the continual support that I have had from the College leadership and administration teams, as this has been integral in the success of the program. I have no doubt that Sophia Spence will lead the program sensationally as the incoming Outreach and Social Justice Resident Advisor, and I cannot wait to see what she achieves.**



By Ashleigh Kennedy



# Cambodia



# Cambodia Collaboration Community Market Day



We were fortunate enough to have one of our biggest fundraisers for Cambodia, The Tommy More Market Day, in conjunction with the UWA Open Day. The event was immensely supported by our community, including the local residents, outreach committee, current and ex-Collegians, the chapel and future students and their families.

I would like to highlight the help of Casandra Sarjit for her amazing work, especially given this was her first major project, and Mim Jones for taking it on.

We were able to raise awareness for our Cambodia Collaboration and were able to raise almost \$5,500. While this is an incredible result, the thing that stood out to me most was the incredible display of Tommy spirit and genuine support of the Outreach program by the whole College and its entire extended leadership teams.

*Ashleigh Kennedy,  
Outreach and Social Justice Resident Advisor*

The moment I touched down in Phenom Penh, reality struck. It was nothing like home. Visiting the villages, meeting the kids and being amongst their learning environment were the highlights of my trip. It wasn't until I took a moment to think about their everyday life, I realised how lucky and privileged I am back in Australia. Their smiles could light up the darkest room and their excitement to see us got bigger by the day. I have never felt so content by children. Their lives consist of the bare minimum and very few essentials, something so little to us is everything the them, and they are still the happiest humans, which really defined our culture types.

Quoted by another student on a previous trip, "I came over to Cambodia expecting to change the lives of others, but they have changed the life of me" and I truly agree.

I recommend this amazing trip to every student at Tommy if you have the opportunity. It really put life into perspective for me and was very touching and emotional listening to everyone's stories. Each kid is different and I can say Tom was right when he said "all the kids want to do is to be held and thrown up into the air".

Cambodia has really shown me how much I take for granted and has made me start to appreciate the smaller things in life.

*Molly Hudson*

A friend once told me that she travelled to Cambodia expecting to change the lives of its children. In reality, these children were the ones who changed her life. Her words couldn't ring more true as I reflect on my Cambodian experience.

For me, this trip was three years in the making, thanks to the dreaded C word. However, the anticipation was worth it as I could not think of a better way to conclude my time at Tommy than in Cambodia. The children's profound happiness, even in poor living conditions, was humbling, and I now appreciate even more how lucky I am in my life. The time the staff and volunteers selflessly dedicate to the children is admirable and will inspire me in my future outreach pursuits.

To anyone thinking of being a part of the Cambodia Collaboration, I cannot express how incredible and life-changing the experience was. For that, I recommend it without hesitation and with the promise that it will change your life for the better.

*Dancie Bowden*





# 2.0 Week



## Fresh Perspective

I still remember the day when I first arrived in Tommy. As soon as I arrived, I got a warm welcome from the student RA's and was introduced to 2.0-week. To be honest, I was so surprised by the number of events because I used to live in similar accommodations when I was doing my undergraduate in Sydney, but they did not have this much of activities.

2.0 Week events are all well-structured and more than enough to make new friends. Sometimes people find it difficult to make new friends in new environments, but you do not need to worry about it. You will find your best mates.

I will share my favourite event from 2.0 week, the "Paint party". All the freshers gathered around and started painting and splashing water at each other. It was something that I cannot experience back home. At the end of the "Paint Party", wrapping around each other's shoulders and we sang Tommy More songs to the midnight sky. It is an unforgettable moment from 2.0 Week.

2.0 Week is the closest way to finding your new community and lifetime friends.

**Kotaro Ogura, Japan**

St. Thomas More College prides itself in its efforts to form a strong community amongst its residents and staff, and nowhere is this most evident than during 2.0 Week.

This pride is not unwarranted, as I, along with my fellow international friends, were very quickly welcomed by all of the staff, 2.0 leaders, and RA's.

2.0 Week saw us quickly thrust into fun games and events that helped to dispel any nerves as well as to get to know the rest of the Tommy community. Moving across the world is a daunting thing, but Tommy and its many warm spirited residents made it much easier.

**Grant Stansbury, United States of America**



# Health & Wellbeing

This year, the Health and Wellbeing Program has continued to build upon the great work from previous years. The College community benefited from new initiatives along with improving pre-existing events. This year's program was successful and facilitated a true display of College spirit, but as most programs can also see some adjustments. This program established itself as a respected and leading characteristic, of what makes Tommy stand out from the crowd.

## Inter-Wing Competition

This event was involved weekly sports competitions between different sections of College broken into "wings". The purpose of this event is to get people out of their rooms and allows for a social opportunity where those who struggled to mix with the group in O-week, can interact and hopefully blend into the College community. I believe that this was very successful as there were a number of instances where I witnessed people who were normally very introverted, socialising and having fun with others. The highlight of this event was the Grand Final. I organised a Netball competition over at the UWA Netball courts and ran a knockout competition with over 40 people attending.

## Quad-Coffee Catch-up

This event was the 2nd weekly event that this program ran this year. Continuing on from last year, with the goals of increasing opportunities for everyone to interact with each other and socialise, along with allowing for residents to relax and practice some self-care. This event was very popular and saw a steady 20-25 people attending each week. I believe it was successful in achieving its goals, however, with room for fine tuning and improvements.

## RUOK? Day

This event was one of the most significant events for the program this year. I hosted an event in the Singleton Recreation Room, with the intention of highlighting the message of the national event, along with educating everyone of what they can do to help improve and respond to issues that others can have with their mental health. I ordered around 150 Dare Iced coffees with the RUOK? branding, which I gave out to people attending. In addition to this morning tea was provided along with a card stall for people to write thank you notes to friends if they wished.

## ADHD Awareness Month

This was another new event run this year. Ex-Resident Advisor Shae Richardson ran this event and did an incredible job. We ran a presentation where Shae talked about her experience. This event was great at educating people about autism and helped to shed the stigma about ADHD in our College community.

## Inter-Wing Quizzes

This was a new event run this year that took place in between Inter-Wing sports, with the aim of appealing to people who do not feel comfortable or interested in the sports. This was reasonably successful throughout the year with approximately 10-15 people each time. This could be a really successful event in future with further development.

## Yoga on the Quad

This was another new event that began in semester two of this year, allowing students to have a nearby, convenient, and efficient way to participate in Yoga classes that promote physical health, meditation and improving mental health. This event was very popular at the launch with the first class being full with 28 sign ups.

## Health and Wellbeing Award

### Bridie Bowden (1st year)

Bridie consistently went above and beyond to contribute to the Health and Wellbeing program in 2022. She was one of, if not the most, frequent face at all Health and Wellbeing events this year, along with being the only non-committee member or RA member to attend all of the Health and Wellbeing talks.

## Mick Italiano

### Health & Wellbeing Resident Advisor



NAIDOC Week 2022 at STMC turned out to be just as fun and educational as I had hoped. The week started off with a paint and music night in the rec room where students were able to take a break from their studies and enjoy some music by indigenous artist while at the same time picking up on a few symbols used in indigenous art. Tuesday we had the pleasure of having Barry Winmar perform a smoking ceremony followed by a lesson on Noongar Language by Jayden Boundry, as well as some hands on learning about some indigenous tools. Wednesday Night was movie night, where we watched the moving story about Adam Goodes in "The Australian Dream" about his heartbreaking experience with racism. Thursday night we finished the week strong with a quiz night where teams of students went face to face to test what they learned from the week with meal vouchers, washing tokens and chocolates up for grabs to the winning teams.

With some luck, NAIDOC week 2023 will be just as great, if not better, and I hope to see you all there. Having asked students who have attended NAIDOC week in the past I can say that everyone walks away having learned something interesting and better appreciating Noongar and Indigenous Australian culture.

*Blake Griffiths*





# International Formal Dinner

Winnie,  
International  
Representative

Hello fellow Tommy Morons,

I am Winnie and I had the privilege to be the STMC International Rep for 2022.

2022 marks the first year since 2020 where we had a massive population of 183 international students from over 25 different countries. This made 2022 so much more meaningful for me and fellow international students around me as we celebrated each other's cultural festivals and experience the International Formal Dinner together.

I had the honour of planning and executing the International Formal Dinner as well as 2.O week this year and I am glad the turnout has well exceeded my expectations. The residents really enjoyed the diverse cuisines of food provided and the live band performances from our very own college residents as well as performances from the mariachi and the lion dance company. The second semester 2.O-week was also another big milestone for me and STMC. With many exchange students and international students finally arriving after having the borders closed for nearly 2.5 years, we never had such a huge influx of new residents that were so eager to mingle and immerse themselves in the Tommy culture.

That being said, I am very grateful for how 2022 turned out and am sure the new international rep, SCC and RA's will only get better going forward.

Thank you!

*Winnie Zhang, Student Club International Representative*

# Who even needs shoes to play sport on to coach?



This year saw a very successful 2022 Inter-college sports season. Despite a fair share of sporting injuries, needing many last minute and unprepared fill-ins, and getting poured on by the lovely Perth winter weather, we were a force to be reckoned with. The Tommy Morons exceeded our expectation for inter-college sport this year. They participated and spectated while demonstrating sportsmanship, comradery, energy and the Tommy spirit. We couldn't be prouder.

The year started off slow with a touch of covid after O-week decreasing the number of our lovely loud crowds. Many people in isolation meant our athletes couldn't participate and were sick. However, this didn't stop us. We got immune and with immunity came strength. Athletics ran for the first time ever, it was a wonderful event despite the post-covid lungs. The Tommy Morecocks are a speedy bunch!

We ditched the land and dove into the pool. Maddy McGrinder's Rottnest Channel Swim experience shone in the pool. We didn't end up winning but Tommy still tried their best and word on the street is you could hear Tommy from under the water. Dodgeball was where we started winning flags, and it felt great. The girls won the grand final and the boys fell just short in their final, losing to St Cats.

Our tennis teams had potential, the girls were showed off their skills. Michael and Aaron were a force to be reckoned with. The trio of Bec Darlow, Tahlia Inkster and Maddy Eggleston were hitting fast balls. It was a pity Perth poured or we would've won for sure! Last was volleyball, Daniel Cosh was a machine at the net with his unruly spikes.

Semester two saw more success, with the internationals arriving it meant some new talent for us to scout out. The first sport back was netball, something quite foreign for the Americans. Instead of being sick with covid our teams had white line fever. The games were intense until the storm rolled in. Despite the wet and slippery courts, our mixed and men's team dominated with two easy wins. The girls fell short, placing a decent third.

At rowing, the Tommy athletes were lacking one sport rep but this didn't stop them from giving it their all. Vivienne Noonan brought her rowing skills out to show everyone up. They came home with sore biceps and a men's flag in hand. Basketball was a bit more hectic, the boys lost the grand final by a couple of points once again. The girls had enthusiasm and tenacity but it just wasn't enough, placing third again.

Soccer, or should I say football, was VERY competitive. The players put their bodies on the line despite our Tommy ball taking place the next evening. The internationals made it very clear that it's actually called football and you actually play with cleats not footy boots. With 30 boys at trials, the men's team fronted up with 100% experience. The girls had not so much but it didn't stop them from whipping up some speed and skills coming third once again. Soccer saw a ridiculous crowd and many sore throats from all the cheering.



The other type of football was next, AFL. The girls went into the finals with a four-peat hanging over their heads, if it wasn't for their three injuries; my concussion, Cate McDonald's fractured wrist and Ulani Hayter Otaola's sprained ankle, they could've won another flag. The men's however were able to bring it home, giving the best fight on the field to come first, even with a card from Kade Szyszka. The margin was tight, but the Tommy boy's skills shone through. The male sports rep, Josh Pearce, even booted up, putting the dogs away to play some games.

The football boots/cleats were put on for the last time this IC sport season at touch rugby. Both teams were fit with the speediest and most skilled Tommy Morons. Although they were amazing to watch, they weren't able to bring it home with the girls losing the grandy by a couple of points. We then went inside for badminton, where the girls redeemed themselves with another flag. Claire Delbridge and Ten Xing were a duo to be reckoned. The boys and mixed teams had skill but it wasn't enough against the other colleges. Another big turn out from the crowd which helped get some wins.

Hockey was next and Denmark's finest, Andy Pam, kitted up for the first time and put all the experienced goalies to shame. The girls played astoundingly but guess what? They came third. Josie Allen was a wicked defender in the backline, stopping everyone that came at her. The boys jelled together, their experience and skill were amazing to watch. Matthew Keogan and Kurt Crudeli ate it up on the turf and absolutely killed it. They brought another flag home, winning against Trinity by a nail-biting score of 2-1.

The last sport for the year was frisbee. Sunday sport meant some people were a tad tired but the girls didn't care. It didn't stop their skills or their bare feet from adding another flag to the wall. The boys weren't as skilful, but they still came a happy fourth and cheered the girls on to victory.

Overall, Tommy brought home 8 flags collectively from the mens and womens inter-college sports. Placing second overall, second in the mens and second in the womens (by one point). Our sportsmanship didn't go unnoticed, Tommy won the IC Sport Spirit award. This is awarded to the college that the umpires and officials think has the most sportsmanship, the loudest and most respectful crowd, gets around the sports and treats the players and staff with respect. To win this award is an amazing effort so please pat yourselves on the back.

The IC season ended with the best night of the year, Brownlow. A night that celebrates the camaraderie between the Tommy Sports-morons and express gratitude to those that participated in IC sport. Although we congratulate all participants and MVP's, there were a few special awards given on the night.

These awards and the winners are listed below:

**Rookie of the year** - Cate McDonald and Chad Myors

**Tommy Try Hards** - Kalira Docherty, Maddy Eggleston, Ben Cole and Aaron Santos

**Tommy All Stars** - Kalira Docherty, Claire Delbridge, Cate McDonald, Darcie Bowden, Phoebe Coulthard, Tahlia Inkster, Sophie Lynch, Ben Cole, Gavin Reddin, James Forkin, Kade Szyszka and Harry Moulds

**Most Lippy Award** - Tom Whitehead for being the most heard on and off the field

**Tommy Cheerleaders** - Eva Carolan and Angus Appanah for being very loud (always)

**Best-First Timers** - Mathilde Azam and Rachel Tavernier (the Frenchies) who learnt AFL at 2pm then played at 3pm and absolutely killed it!

**Tommy Speed Demons** - Omar Saleh and Ulani Hayter Otaola for being super-fast!

**Flukiest Goal** - Elijah Burrows for having never played hockey and getting a one hit wonder goal

**Sportswoman of the year** - Vivienne Noonan

**Sportsman of the year** - Kade Szyszka

Thank you to all the athletes, spectators, coaches, the Student Club Committee and Mim Jones for all your support this year. We congratulate Cate McDonald and Chad Myors who will be taking over next year, they may not be as good as us but they can try. Just kidding, these two will dominate with their amazing coaching skills and fun-loving energy. We couldn't be more excited for them and the year to come!



Josh Pearce and Ruby Hodges. 2022 IC Sports Representatives over and out.





# Tommy Ball



# Graduate Association Catch-up

The Graduate Association at St Thomas More College, aims to up skill and provide opportunities for senior students to bridge the gap between their university studies and the professional world. This year's catch-up session was an informal evening to discuss career readiness, senior student life, and life in the outside world.





# Inter-College Events



The night after my final Inter-College (IC) event for 2022, the infamous Battle of the Bands (BOTB) was an emotional one, as to me, it signified the end of my competitive approach to IC Rep, and there were no more events that would contribute points to the IC Culture Cup. It was that adrenaline-filled night that sealed the deal on everything the incredibly talented band and myself had worked towards, when we took out the well-deserved 1st place, as well as taking home, 'the Cup'.



The Tommy spirit this year shown by freshers, returners, the Student Club Committee (SCC), Resident Advisors (RA's) and admin was invaluable, and I could not be more grateful for everyone's efforts, whether it was:

- Last minute sign-ups for IC Debating, IC Chess, Residential Students Department (RSD) Got Talent (which was in fact cancelled, as other colleges weren't able to recruit participants - so that's some idea of just 1. how desperate I was and, 2. how happy I was to see freshers and returners excited to be involved & observe how stronger relationships have blossomed, primarily because a sizeable number of Inter-College events are performance-based [+ are all recorded]).
- Helping me with choreography for the Fresher Dance (and music) and the great friends that acted as my personal, emotional support team, as I struggled to teach ~90 freshers in 40 degree heat, even after being there, by my side, through the unforgettable experience of having to teach the RA's and SCC members. I am proud to say that my child (the Fresher Dance) smashed it in O-Week and performed a 1st place routine for the 2nd year in a row, securing the start of Tommy More's winning streak (2023 #3peat).
- The RA's Eva Carolan and Sophie Lynch, and the other brilliant humans that dedicated their time to help organise, direct, and film the Tommy More 2022 Lip Dub video, whilst I spent my time in isolation for COVID-19. The thoughtful team fabricated a Lip Dub worthy of 2nd Place, which heavily contributed to the overall prize of the IC Culture Cup.

- The whole experience of BOTB was surreal; in all honesty, it was a huge learning experience as the IC Rep on the RSD committee - it taught me a great deal on how important it is for students to stick to their guns and work hard to make professional connections with experienced people who treat you like adults. This year I got to experience just a fragment of the effort and excitement that the immediate members of the Tommy Band, and it was an absolute privilege. Every single member of the band is irreplaceable; their talent is unmatched, and I won't ever forget the look on everyone's faces, on and off the stage, when 1st place was announced.

From a young age, I was habitually taught that social connections and interpersonal relations was the most imperative part of making your way through the adult world; this reminder was often simplified with the phrase, "it's not what you know, it's who you know." Now, as I reflect on this turbulent year as Tommy's 2022 IC Rep, I think I finally am starting to understand just how much a position on the SCC and RSD gave me the leg-up to adopt that phrase, and become more engaged myself.

I am undoubtedly grateful, and I feel very privileged for the opportunities that Tommy More has granted me, as I have grown exponentially as not only a leader, but as a woman who had some form of a platform to foster positive engagement in IC events, and witness the life-long relationships that evolved and thrived in 2022.

Mia Holben.  
Inter-College Rep







# Valedictory Dinner

## Chris Wong's speech @ Valeté

My name is Chris and I am a third-year resident from Singapore. Thank you Mim for giving me this opportunity to share about my experience as an international student in Tommy More for the last three years. And to express my gratitude to those from this college that have made the last three years so special.

The last three years have been a very humbling experience for me to say the least. My struggle with my university studies and living alone in a foreign country has made me aware of my limitations and how in need I am of God and of others for help. Though the studying has proven to be an absolute purgatory for me, I would do it all over again if given another chance. Because it was accompanied with several other memorable experiences. From being able to see the beautiful Australian landscapes found nowhere else on earth to learning to drive (If you know, you know). And above all, the friendships I was privileged to forge.

There are three groups of friends I'll like to thank. First of all, the good staff of Tommy More. They have always gone out of their call of duty to help the residents. And I do mean it. When I speak to my friends from other colleges, what they describe about the quality of their staff does not come close to ours. I'll like to pay tribute to a few. Fr Peter, my spiritual sensei who's unable to be here tonight. Jannine, the Tommy mommy. And Gary, the English dad I never had.

Second, my international friends. One of the perks of staying in College was that I got to meet and befriend people from all around the world. This has helped broaden my perspective to cultures I ordinarily won't get the chance to interact with. Shout out to Hao Chen and Han Wen. I would also like to make a special mention to my brothers Ramesh, Priyanshu and Ethan.

Third, my Aussie friends. Y'all are the warmest, most well-meaning and relaxed people I have ever met. I will remember fondly the Aussieisms I have learnt. Aussieisms like 'Smoko', 'Good on you!' and my favourite one, undoubtedly, 'Get your head out of the gutter'.

A special shout to my binyadi gang, Dave and Shanelle. And the 2021 Student Committee whom I've had the pleasure of working with as the International Rep. To the RAs, Charles Reddin or Bonnie Prince Charlie. And my dear brother who graduated last year, Andrew Italiano. Who can forget good old Andrew? I would also like to thank Trinity Manganò and her family for all the love and hospitality that they have showered me with.

**I'll like to conclude with two ideals I've identified the college of St Thomas More to have. Two ideals that I credit my positive experience here to. Two ideals that distinguish itself from the other colleges.**

**One, inclusivity. Not the empty, contemporary, 'woke' inclusivity. But a genuine inclusivity borne out of the Catholic worldview that we are all fellow children of God, made in his image and likeness, regardless of language, colour or creed. And that we all should be accommodating to one another in as much as our circumstances allow.**

**Two, social justice and service. That we live our lives not just for ourselves but for others. And whatever riches we have been fortunate to receive, be it material or spiritual, we are called to share it with those who are less fortunate. 'To those whom more have been given, more is expected.'**

**It is my hope that this College can continue to be a champion of these ideals. And to produce year after year not just outstanding scholars. But all-rounded, moral individuals of service to God and humanity.**

Thank you and good night!

Chris





# Social Experience for the year

Molly, Social Rep

Hi! My name is Molly, and I was the social representative for the student club committee this year, as well as female Collegian of the year. My role as Social Rep was to organise and run the social events at Tommy, however, being on committee has taught me that my role was so much more than what I had thought. Being a part of the Student Club Committee allows you to get to know all your peers, get out of your comfort zone and create a positive culture around College.

Despite covid setbacks earlier in the semester, we were able to set things off with a bang, starting with the Great Escape. Nineteen teams dressed up in different themes and set off early afternoon for a day of games, racing and challenges along the way. This event could not have been done without the help of my committee, who so kindly ran all the challenge stations whilst I stayed home, counting points and setting up for the underground car park party which was happening later that night. From proposing to strangers at the Matilda Bay boat shed, to getting Tommy tattoos, the videos posted on to the event page were incredible entertainment for the whole College to see.

After tallying the points, the 'Snobs' had taken out the lead. However, following an angry letter and the removal of a challenge due to unfair "stealing" of chooks cans from Josh Pearce's room, the overall scores were modified. Leaving the veterans 'Mr Worldwide' to take out the flag, followed by 'Mean Girls' and then finally the 'Snobs'. Special mention goes out to Mean Girls for their incredible dance skills, as well as to White girls wasted for their incredible costume design.

Everyone had an amazing time, and the energy was carried into the night, with the underground car park party being an incredible success. Highlights included covering everyone in paint, dancing in front of the DJ booth and admiring Nick Italiano's dance skills.

We set sail mid second semester for the annual River Cruise. This year's theme was movies and TV shows, encouraging a large group of minions, as well as Mr Maker with his many shapes. We spent the night drinking, eating pizza and listening to music by our very own DJ Cam.

Organising the River Cruise can be very overwhelming, but thankfully I was able to share much of the load with my committee. **The leadership team this year at Tommy has been incredible and have always helped me out where needed. Being on the committee is so much more than just your role, it is a team effort. Having the committees support behind me made a massive difference, and I am so grateful for my team this year.**

My final event for the year, and many peoples favourite, The Wedding. Unfortunately there was only one video entered for the proposal competition. However, I can still call it a cinematic masterpiece. Starring in the video was Maddie Eggleston and Sam Kirke, who made a beautiful bride and groom. The ceremony was held in the beautiful recreation room, where we listened to speeches from the wedding party and were entertained by the Tommy band. After the girls were given keys, and the boys were given locks, we hopped into party buses and lived happily ever after in Northbridge.

In the end the stress of writing EMP's, selling tickets and organising everything was all worth it. I absolutely loved being able to help people become a part of the College and its culture here at Tommy. A big thank you to Mim and Tom for helping me to run these events, as well as everyone who came to everything, it really meant a lot. **This was my second, and last year at Tommy, and I couldn't be more thankful for the friends, experiences, and memories I have made here. Tommy will always have a special place in my heart.** I am super excited for Bridie Bowden to be taking over my role as Social Rep next year, I think she is going to do an amazing job and I know she will try her best to keep up the positive culture our committee helped maintain this year.

*Molly Bowles  
Social Representative &  
Collegian of the Year 2022*



## Save the Date

**12 March 2023**

**Cambodia Collaboration Community Market Day**

To all our Alumni and wider Tommy More community, join us at our annual Market Day where we will have lots of activities, entertainment and stalls for you to buy from! Please help us support a great cause as funds raised from the event will go directly to the Arrupe Centre and Lidy House in Cambodia (a partner institution of St Thomas More College) that provides care, education and life skills to children who are disabled, often as a result of landmine accidents or live in vulnerable family situations.

**17 November 2023**

**Alumni Sundowner**

All Alumni are invited to this event, and we hope to see many of you return to our grounds in 2023 to celebrate the year it was!





# Alumni Sundowners



It was that time of year again when all our ex-Collegians were invited back to Tommy for our annual Alumni Sundowner. It was a great evening of connection and conversation with over 70 of Tommy More Alumni. The Dining Room was filled with laughs and stories of their College days.

This year, we gave each Alumni a little bag filled with information on how they can be a mentor, be a guest speaker and even let us know of any internship opportunities at their workplace for our students. It is always great to stay connected so if you feel like you are up for the challenge - to be a mentor or a guest speaker to inspire our current residents, email us at [alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au).

We had a fantastic turnout from our Alumni and we hope to see you at the next one in 2023!



St Thomas More College is often approached by Alumni who are keen to contribute towards scholarships for students who require financial assistance to study at Tommy More. Additionally, a number of our neighbouring Colleges are already running well-established funds. In short, in order to remain competitive, we must develop our offerings. To find out more, email [alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au)

## Condolences

May I take this opportunity to wish the family and friends of Kevin Hammond our heartfelt condolences and prayers upon his recent passing to God. He was in the first intake of residents at St Thomas More College. Over decades, Kevin supported the College through his service on Council and as a guest speaker and mentor to our students. His life of service and dedication is immeasurable.

- Tom Mitchell, Head of College

## Alumni Special Feature

We caught up with Kelvin Chou, a fellow Tommy Alumni to check out what he has been up to recently since leaving Tommy!

Kelvin is currently overseas, living in Hong Kong and working as an IT Manager for Nanyang Commercial Bank. He lived at Tommy from 2017 to 2019.

### Tell us about your experience while at Tommy More

Staying at Tommy for around 2.5 years is one of the most unforgettable moments of my life. Where I made my lifelong friends, passed my driver's and marine licenses, as well as finished my first degree here. I had left Tommy for almost 3.5 years till now. I really do miss those joyful moments that happened there (especially getting caught when parking at the front carpark, haha).

### What led you to a career in your field?

I haven't continued to pursue my career because of what I studied at university. Since I quit my first job (big4-risk consulting), I have jumped into IT projects as a field referee through a job hunter, which was very challenging when I was a newbie. After working in this field for a few months, I found it to be not only challenging but rewarding. Not mentioning the packages as a PM. It does come with lots of knowledge that you can't get from the lectures, like how to deal with different counterparts to encourage (or threaten, lol) them to get those jobs done on time.

### Any words of encouragement for our Tommy More residents?

Nothing is impossible. Just follow your dream and you will find your way!

## Are you available to be a career mentor?

The Tommy Mentoring Program allows our Alumni to retain a connection to the College, widen their professional network and share valuable industry knowledge with students to help them progress in their careers. We have a number of ways (webinars, panel sessions, and in-person connections) in which we aim to provide mentoring and industry knowledge to our students. Email [alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au) if you are interested in being part of this program.

## Share your news!

We love sharing the news of our Alumni and keeping in touch - your articles and updates are a great source of interest to our past, current and future students. Wedding photos, career updates, achievements - we want to know!

Send us a photograph and your news to [alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au) and let us know if you're happy for your news to be published in an upcoming edition of The Utopian.

## Do we have your details?

Don't miss out on news, networking events and reunion invitations for Tommy More! Make sure you keep us in the loop with your latest contact details - you can update them on our website or call us on 9386 0111.



Kelvin Chou



Throwback to 2017 at IFD

Join our  
Facebook Groups  
and receive updated information!

## Student

Please join the groups that are relevant to you.



STMC Students 2023



STMC Graduate  
Association 2023



Tommy International  
Students

## Alumni



St Thomas More  
College Alumni

*Here is a 'rap' up of this year,  
beautifully crafted by your sports neps  
Josh Peance and Ruby Hodges:*

Sport 2022

Thanks to everyone for getting around it  
We got a few flags, there was no doubt about it  
Started off with aths, it was a good carnival  
The Morecock rocket was remarkable.  
Next was swimmin, we didn't end up winnin  
Covid was spread, cheers molly, nuff said  
Dodgeball got the guns out,  
Girls finally ended the flag drought.  
Coulda won tennis but the weather was a menace  
Got rained out, woulda won no doubt.  
Volleyball saw Dig set spike,  
Our teams were god like.  
At netball we were unstoppable,  
more flags than Fremantle  
Only had one injury,  
Riley's ankle was a misery.  
Tommy got screaming at rowing,  
The other colleges were slowing.  
The boys ate it up at bball,  
No one taller than Riley Hall.  
Soccer, no sorry it's called football init,  
The exchangers really gave it their all to win it.  
AFL saw some fists thrown,  
But the Tommy boys brought it bloody home.  
Girls were dropping like flies,  
Cheers to cats for making us die.  
Hockey was last,  
Our teams were so fast.  
Thanks for a great IC sport season,  
Your efforts have been super pleasin.  
You all rock,  
Now cheers to the Tommy Morecocks!

TOMMY TOMMY TOMMY! OI OI OI!





## Would you prefer a printed version?

Printed versions are available on request. To request a printed version, please email us at [alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au](mailto:alumni@stmc.uwa.edu.au).



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