2012 has once again seen tremendous growth across all areas of the College. In the physical sense, another seven classrooms were added to the upper primary precinct, including two state of the art technology laboratories.

The Sports and Aquatic centres have taken shape with covers erected over three ball courts and two swimming pools constructed. Completion of these projects was in late September and the official opening was a grand event with 96.5 FM and Channel 7’s weatherman, John Schluter, in attendance. While the Years 1 to 12 students were keenly involved in the proceedings, the Prep students found the Channel 7 helicopter much more interesting.

These new facilities have been a welcome addition to the College and students from most year levels have already used them extensively.

All staff members at Genesis have worked extremely hard throughout the year to provide our students with wonderful opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom.

The Secondary School musical, "Wonder in Aliceland", was an outstanding success and much acclaimed by the whole school community. On the district, regional and state sports fields, Genesis students also recorded top performances. The quality of the growing co- and extra-curricular programs has seen our students excel at all levels.

On the academic front, our staff members have embraced the demands of the Australian Curriculum and we have transitioned into full implementation earlier than legislated by the Queensland Studies Authority.

While we are proud of the successes and achievements of our students, we know that schools are about much more. As you browse through this newsletter please take the time to reflect on all the characteristics and elements that come together to form a learning community such as ours, for this generation and the next.

Mr Brian Barker

QUT Scholarship Recipient Jack Hilton

Jack Hilton (class of 2012) was amongst a limited number of students to be awarded a QUT Vice Chancellors Award. Jack was honoured to receive the Award which includes a study scholarship and is studying a Bachelor of Engineering at QUT.

Students are a part of a select group of first-year students to receive the scholarship from QUT’s Vice Chancellor Peter Coaldrake. Students win the scholarship by achieving an OP score of 1 or 2 and excelling in leadership, community service and extracurricular activities.
Where are you now?

Sarah Chaney (2002) I purchased Mystique Hair Salon in October 2012, located across the road from Chermside Westfield!

Ellen Bowen nee Holt (2003) In 2012 I was a foundation staff member for the new Mango Hill State School. I built my first home and rescued a dog from the outback who now thinks she is a city dog and entitled to beds in each room and playdates at the dog park. I still ride dirtbikes although only socially these days! My netball club now trains at Genesis and when walking to the courts I saw how big the school has become - it certainly has grown since I graduated in 2003!

Liz Pulo nee Christie (2003) My husband and I purchased the business The Virtual Assistant in December 2012. I am told this is similar to having a baby, except it can’t talk back. These days I am based in beautiful Hobart, Tasmania and I work in my home office with my husband Jarod. We own and run the business The Virtual Assistant. We provide remote administration assistance to small businesses around Australia. While I manage the day to day running of the business, interactions with the licencees and the generation and conversion of leads, I also have clients of my own. Depending on the day I could be: helping produce a radio show in Sydney, debt collecting for a web development business, copywriting for a start-up mining company in Brisbane, organising a 400 person conference on the Gold Coast; or even project managing the implementation of a new system for a small team in Melbourne.


Jared Newport (2005) I have owned and operated my own Personal Training Studio in Newstead for the last 4 years now with a business partner. We have a team of 5 trainers and the two of us have just been accepted to study for the next 12 months alongside one of the leaders in the industry. 30 Fitness Professionals nationwide were accepted and both of us were included.

Sarah Fitzgerald (2006) I moved to New York in 2010 to study film and T.V. at the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts which I graduated from in May of 2012. Since graduating I have worked on the sets of Smash, a pilot, and two films which are still currently in production. I spend my free time working at House Casting which gives me the opportunity to audition for commercials and meet people within the industry. This job also allowed me to work with the Milk Studios events team for New York Fashion Week. It has been a busy and exhilarating couple of years.

Miriam Berham nee Scouler (2008) - My husband and I have recently moved to the UK. We will be here for about 2 years, doing some charity/volunteer work for a Christian book company (CLC). We have survived our first winter and Christmas here, and it was a lot different than a Christmas in Aus.


Megan Dale (2010) In June last year I made the best decision of my life! I left the comforts of home and travelled overseas. I spent the summer holidays in Madrid with 3 beautiful Spanish children. I then spent some time living in the centre of Paris for 6 months, although you wouldn’t tell by my French. I’ve learnt so much in the past 9 months; some Spanish and French, how to ski and the complexity of the Paris metro system. I’ve learnt to appreciate my family, my independence and Australian weather. I’ve learnt that challenging yourself can create bad memories and extraordinary ones. But above all I’ve learnt that it’s not where you are, but the people you’re with that matter most. This experience and the people I’ve met along the way will stay with me forever.

Sarah Chaney (2002) I purchased Mystique Hair Salon in October 2012, located across the road from Chermside Westfield!

Ellen Bowen nee Holt (2003) In 2012 I was a foundation staff member for the new Mango Hill State School. I built my first home and rescued a dog from the outback who now thinks she is a city dog and entitled to beds in each room and playdates at the dog park. I still ride dirtbikes although only socially these days! My netball club now trains at Genesis and when walking to the courts I saw how big the school has become - it certainly has grown since I graduated in 2003!

Liz Pulo nee Christie (2003) My husband and I purchased the business The Virtual Assistant in December 2012. I am told this is similar to having a baby, except it can’t talk back. These days I am based in beautiful Hobart, Tasmania and I work in my home office with my husband Jarod. We own and run the business The Virtual Assistant. We provide remote administration assistance to small businesses around Australia. While I manage the day to day running of the business, interactions with the licencees and the generation and conversion of leads, I also have clients of my own. Depending on the day I could be: helping produce a radio show in Sydney, debt collecting for a web development business, copywriting for a start-up mining company in Brisbane, organising a 400 person conference on the Gold Coast; or even project managing the implementation of a new system for a small team in Melbourne.

Find old friends and new on the Genesis Alumni Facebook Group.

This group has been set up specifically for Genesis Christian College Alumni. We are continually trying to improve and sustain contact with our Alumni and have found many of you would like us to bridge the generation gap and use the internet.

It will allow us to be able to give you up-to-date information and inform you about upcoming events. This will also give you the opportunity to maintain contact with Genesis Christian College, informing us of important milestones or changes of address. This group will allow you to stay in contact with your peers long after you have left school.

“Another year has flown by and what a successful year it has been”.

God continues to bless us richly and 2012 was another year with many milestones to be very thankful for. As an educational college, the interests of our students, their education and nurture is always our highest priority and 2012 was no exception. From the youngest in Little Genesis to the graduating Year 12s we have seen some amazing things and we can be proud of them all.

Farewell Year 12s of 2012
I have had the pleasure of attending a number of award and graduation functions for the 2012 Year 12 cohort. We can be very proud of them as they have provided the rest of the College an example of leadership and I am sure they will acquit themselves very well into the future. It was very encouraging to see the excellent academic results which should give them a good start for the future in whatever path they decide to follow.

Pool and Sports Centre
A huge highlight of 2012 was the construction and official opening of the Genesis Aquatic Centre and the covered ball courts. The event was marked by visits from the Channel 7 weather chopper and live radio coverage, compliments of 96.5FM, and this was celebrated by all students and many parents. The huge excitement on the day for me exceeded all other opening events as we stood beside the wonderful new pool. As a Board, we are blessed to have such a supportive parent body, including the Genesis Parents and Friends Association, which has helped make the new pool a reality.

On behalf of the Board, I thank you for your continued association with Genesis Christian College

Mr Rob Schoenmaker
Board Chairman

Adult Aquatic Programs
Our Adult Squad helps individuals achieve their own specific goals, such as stroke correction, fitness, weight loss, master swimming or triathlon training with qualified coaches.

Before work: 6:00am—7:00am Tues & Thurs
After work: 6:45pm—7:45pm Tues, Thurs & Fri
Cost $9.00 per session or 20 visit pass for $160

Former Paralympic Head Coach & new Aquatic Centre Head Coach - Brendan Keogh

Future Alumni newsletters will be provided electronically. Please update your email address with Genesis by emailing, contacting us via Facebook or at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZCGDGNS
“How did it get so late so soon? It’s night before it’s afternoon; December is here before it’s June; My goodness how the time has flown! How did it get so late so soon?” These words from Dr Seuss really demonstrate how quickly the year has passed as we reflect on 2012… We would like to commend the 2012 seniors on the way you have participated, stepped up and exceeded expectations. Together, you have created many significant memories. Many students took Dr Seuss’ words, “You’ll miss the best things if you keep your eyes shut” to heart and extended the College’s positive impact on the community by involving themselves in an ever expanding number of opportunities to do good deeds and make a difference.

To all the staff, we would like to acknowledge you with the words of Dr Seuss, “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” Thank you for always going out of your way to make things better for us… Genesis students, you are the heart and soul of our College community. Each contributes a different splash of colour that makes up the overall work of art that represents our student body... We’d say to you all, keep striving for excellence and in the words of Dr Seuss, “Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”

To our fellow Year 12 students: we’ve made it! It has been our privilege to be a part of the 2012 family and we will cherish every memory. Seeing each of us blossom into unique identities has been a rewarding experience that will remain in our hearts forever. As you journey out into the world, we’d just like to wish you all God’s richest blessings on your lives. Make the most of every opportunity that comes your way and follow your heart wherever it leads you.

As you move forward, don’t be afraid to look back on the great times we’ve shared. Just like all great Dr Seuss books, our story has a moral. It is perfectly summed up by his words: “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.”
Seniors of 2012, this is it! Pinch yourselves and parents you are not dreaming - no more yearly, weekly or hourly count-downs, we are now on the homeward run. We are a tightly knit cohort who has worked perfectly together to form an amazing team and group of genuine friends. Through thick and thin, seemingly never-ending assignments, exams, QCS tests and whatever else we have been involved with, we have always still had time for each other and have been there to help the other out.

The times of paying attention to classes, receiving lectures and studying tirelessly to achieve our goals has passed; the biggest year of our lives has been accomplished and we are now ready for life to begin in the big bad world. I know that everyone of us is ready for it, even behind some teary eyes. As we’ve grown up and matured, we have shared some amazing memories.

Camps were always the highlight of each year. The Year 11 camp to Emu Gully, and this year’s camp to Caloundra, just emphasised how much we all cared about one another and how easily we were able to have an amazing time without the pressures of the four walls of a classroom.

Year 12 has also brought many pleasures and good times, like the common room - that was so exciting, that is, for like a term until we figured out that it’s not actually that much fun sitting by ourselves and having to entertain ourselves, which we did of course with jousting, scooter jumping, crowd surfing and poker tournaments!

I have to say of course though, that some of our greatest cherished memories would be attributed to our tough-loving teachers who always were there for even the most difficult ones among us.

Ms Senes, our Year Level Coordinator, for the second time, is a glutton for punishment and has always been able to tell us we are in trouble in the nicest way possible, even making it humorous at times. She has also always been on our side and supported us as a grade. It is of course impossible to mention all our teachers, but it goes without saying, that all have made a huge impact, and have cared enough to persist, even when we have been little rebels.

We have all finally arrived at the finish line of our 52 term marathon event, and our memories, achievements and the support we have given and received, have led us to this day of celebration. As we move from the comfort of our school routines, words cannot express my confidence for each one of your lives; you will all go on to take your place in the world and make a difference. My prayer for each person here is that you continue to hold Him close, no matter where life takes you. To all in our cohort, you have been the best friends anyone could hope for, and I love you all, and will always remember the good times we created together.

“A tightly knit cohort who has worked perfectly together to form an amazing team and group of genuine friends”
Congratulations!

Engagements
Stephanie Heymann (2004) & Michael Creedon
Josh Briigmann (2007) & Sandy Brookes
Anna Stevens (2008) & Matthew Window
Andrew Moss (2005) & Laura Howell
Zoe Clarke (2007) & Sean Dowling
Amy Ross (2009) & Joel Keats
Malcolm Macqueen (2004) & Gini Eversen

New Additions
Amanda Cathcart nee James (2002) – A baby girl Tilly Cathcart
Chris Lang (2005) – A baby girl Imogen Paige Lang

Weddings
Jacyln Schoenmaker (2002) & John Carr
Jesse Hunter (2009) & Cheri Minnie

Graduations
Andrew Moss (2005) – Diploma in Management
Desirae Sciasci (2008) - Bachelor of Primary Education, Majoring in HPE
Kala Bailey (2007) – Bachelor of Fine Arts, majoring in Interactive & Visual Design
Joel Revie (2009) - Bachelor of Business (Major of Accounting)
Jamie Sadlier (2009) - Diploma of Horticulture
Krystal Young (2008) - Bachelor Of Education (Primary)
Keeley Sutherland (2008) - Business Admin Course, Cert Bar & Gaming and Cert 3 Hospitality
Jonathan McDougall (2005) - Bachelor of Science Majoring in Zoology and Marine Biology with Honours in Marine Parasitology
Chloe Simmons (2009) - Bachelor of Nursing

ALUMNI MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES
Each year we invite past students speak to our current Year 12 cohort about their own journey through Year 12 and beyond. This provides guidance for new graduates and a reassurance that life and study can be flexible after school. If you would like to come speak as one of our past students please email Mrs Mandy Bullock mandyb@genesis.qld.edu.au
It is a pleasure to provide the 2012 issue of the Genesis Alumni newsletter.

At the end of 2012 we celebrated the graduation of the 11th cohort of seniors from Genesis Christian College. We have been witness to 535 young men and women graduate and continue their journey. Our graduating students are increasingly making an impact on a local, national and global scale.

Personally I am very proud to have been associated with the College for 20 years and have seen the College grow from 70 students at the start of my involvement in 1994 to 1300 at the end of 2012 with over 3400 students who have attended Genesis at different stages since 1991.

The College remains in a fortunate position to be still growing with waiting lists on all year levels. It is encouraging indeed to see so many of our past students now with families of their own, sending their children to Genesis.

The last reunion of the Genesis Alumni and Past Students was held November 2012 in the new Auditorium facility. If you missed this opportunity the College will be endeavouring to schedule biennial reunions usually following the last day of Year 12. If you missed last year some highlights are available on our Facebook page.

Please keep us up to date with your achievements and milestones. It is an honour to celebrate with you on your life journey.

Lynn Swanson—Enrolments Registrar
Enrolments Registrar

Mitch McCarron
Class of 2009

Metro State College Basketball, Denver USA Position: Guard
Height: 6’3” Weight: 215lbs
Class: Junior
Hometown: Brisbane, Australia
Member of the Australia U-19 team also played in Queensland open school boys and Australia open school boys teams. Averaged 31 points with Genesis Christian College; also competed in touch football and track & field.

Personal: Born June 30, 1992, in Alice Springs, Australia. Son of Don and Louise McCarron, younger brother, Curtis, and a younger sister, Georgia.

Study: Majoring in sports industry operations.


2013 Division II Academic Achievement Award
2013 Spring Semester Athletic Director’s Honour Roll
2012-13 NCAA Elite Eight all-tournament
2012-13 NCAA South Central Region all-tournament
2012-13 first team all-RMAC
2012-13 first team Academic All-District
2012-13 RMAC academic player of the year
2012-13 first team academic all-RMAC
2012-13 RMAC offensive player of the week
2012-13 preseason all-RMAC
2012 Fall Semester Athletic Director’s Honour Roll
2012 Spring Semester Athletic Director’s Honour Roll
2011 Fall Semester Athletic Director’s Honour Roll

2012 Reunion

Taro Dodd (2003)
Jan Kamst, Lily Farmer & Marilyn Thompson
World Team Challenge

Three Countries. 28 Days. One adventure of a lifetime! No one could have imagined the incredible experience they were in for when they signed up for the first Genesis World Challenge trip to Vietnam and Cambodia (via Malaysia)! 2011 saw Grace and Riley Lye, Zac Sertori and Devin Wilson join Mr Mills for 28 amazing days abroad.

Over one jam-packed month, students were challenged in the following ways; leading their peers; decision-making with minimal input from adults; lack of sleep; living with friends 24/7; using different currencies; and arranging transport, accommodation and buying food without knowing the local language! Amidst all of these challenges was the humbling experience of being immersed in two vastly different cultures and receiving the generous hospitality of the local people.

The trip began with an eight hour flight to Kuala Lumpur (where navigating customs was a challenge!) before a short connecting flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Here the team was mesmerised by the hoards of mopeds filling the streets and met with a dizzying array of sights and smells. A short stay in Ho Chi Minh City allowed for a day trip to see the infamous Cu Chi tunnels made famous by the American war in Vietnam. A significant part of the trip involved two challenging treks in Vietnam.

River crossings, steep ascents and descents and night-time camping and bonfires were set against the backdrop of a beautiful mountain landscape. Swimming at waterfalls, meeting local villagers and riding elephants were just some of the highlights along the way! Having finished trekking it was time to cross the border into Cambodia.

Arriving in Phnom Penh, the team had the sobering opportunity to visit S-21 and The Killing Fields to reflect on the genocide in Cambodia. The friendly hospitality of the local Cambodian people seemed at odds with this country’s dark past. Also in Phnom Penh was a week-long community project where the team put in some hard work to assist with a school’s farming project, whilst also having the chance to both teach and learn from the local children.

The team finished with some well earned rest and recreation by putting their newly found bartering skills to good use buying souvenirs and gifts. Lastly, a trip to the stunning Angkor Wat temples proved a fitting conclusion to an incredible adventure. After such an amazing experience it will not be a surprise to see future Genesis students lining up for their opportunity to undertake a World Challenge trip!

Rohan Mills—Team Coordinator

Special guest
Nick Vujicic

It was inspirational and challenging time for students to engage with world renowned speaker Nick Vujicic.

I would encourage students and others to read his book “No Arms, No Legs, No Limits”.

The visit from Nick Vujicic challenged everyone on some level.

Despite all the ‘excuses’ Nick could have used in life for not succeeding, let alone not having any friends, he has overcome many fears physically, mentally and spiritually. Like anything in life, we may hear different people talk and challenge us about something, or even coach us to push harder in training - but at the end of the day, it is up to each individual to do it!

For more of his inspirational messages, I also encourage you to search for him on Youtube

Trend Raddatz
Head of Faith and Learning

The Musical production “Wonder in Aliceland” performed over three nights and one matinee provided the school community with a brilliant opportunity to sight the wonderful talents of approximately 106 students, dancers, performers and choristers alike. With more than 50 staff and 23 volunteer parents involved with the production in one way or another, the Producer and Directors brought together a marvellous production and we were all amazed with the colour, lighting, background sets and of course the acting and musical components.