From the Registrar
Dear GCC Past Students,
I’m sure it just seems like yesterday you were celebrating your Valedictory service—who would have known what lay ahead for most in the year before them.
This is the first of the “Class of” Newsletters which we hope will be updated every year and distributed at the yearly get-togethers.
In this edition there are a few articles from Past Student members, many of whom have finished their first, second or third year of their degrees or are simply older and wiser.
Please feel free to email articles and pics during the year to either myself or the wonderful person who is going to volunteer to take over this task. Any volunteers?
Also in this edition and all other “Class of” Newsletters is an update on the Colleges progress and events.
Wishing you all the best for the Christmas vacation and the New Year.

Lynn Swanson
(previously Mrs Pat)
Email: registrar@genesis.qld.edu.au
PS for those many students who have known me as Mrs Pat for many years, I recently became Mrs Swanson. I have also celebrated my 10th year of service at Genesis—so I’ve been around for most of the development of the College and seen many a student grow up through the College and go on to great things.

From the Principal
Mrs Lynne Doneley
Dear Past Students of Genesis Christian College,

Each year it is with anticipation and excitement that we watch new students enter GCC, many at the beginning of their education, some in the middle and some towards the end.
At the end of each year it is with heavy hearts that we farewell our Graduating classes and departing students and families. This year we farewell our fourth cohort to graduation their senior education at GCC.

Over the years we have had students stay for the life time of their education - (13 years) and also students who stay for only a year of two. All these students however, make an impact on the College and build the College character.

It was particularly exciting to witness a new generation of Genesis students enter the College to begin a lifetime of happy memories within the College family. Young Hayden Meirs, son of founding student Mellite Meirs entered Genesis at the beginning of 2005 to begin a new chapter in the Genesis yearbooks.

There is certainly something different about a Genesis student. Time and time again members of the public comment on the outstanding attitude and manner of the Genesis student. Public opinion on the College is fostered not by a glossy Prospectus or Billboard advertising but by the genuine article, the quality students the College produces.

My sincere hope and prayers for each of you, who have touched our hearts and lives, is for a Blessed Christmas and a wonderfully bright and joyful 2006. I look forward to keeping in touch with your lives and meeting up through the years.
For Christ and Genesis Christian College,
Principal Lynne Doneley
Second Generation Enrolment
The start of school this year was a homecoming and new era for one mum and son. Melitta Miers was one of the first 35 students to attend Genesis in 1991. Melitta attended Genesis until the end of the Year 7. (Genesis at the time being only Preschool to Year 7). Melitta cherished her time at Genesis even though the College was very small with few facilities. Melitta said that the friends she made so long ago she is still close to and that it was the teachers that made a marked impact on her life. Melitta enrolled her son Hayden to commence in the Transition program commencing 2005. Hayden’s teacher, Mrs Debbie Hey was also one of the first teachers at Genesis and is now teaching the second generation of Genesis students.

New Library
(A real big one!)
Those who have been at Genesis for many years will remember the Library being located in variety of strange and often small places.
Librarian, Alanna Weeks has lost count of the library relocations, from church building to demountable to Primary Classrooms to Middle School Classrooms, the Genesis library will soon have a home of its own.
The new library with a total cost of around $2million will be located in the centre of the College and will provide a modern technologically advanced resource centre for Kindergarteners to Senior Students, Staff and parents of the College.
Work commences in 2006.

Kindergarten
Genesis Christian College is about to be expanded again but not in the high school direction but the opposite end of the curriculum scale—Kindergarten commences at Genesis for the first time in 2006 with 20 young 3-4 year olds ready to take up their crayons and begin their schooling at Genesis. Long serving teacher Mrs Jane Eyles (formally Miss Nyhouse) will be taking on this new challenge and is “ready for anything”. This will be a highlight in Jane’s teaching career where she has taught multiple grades across the Genesis streams originally commencing as one of the first teachers at Genesis in 1991.
**Chris Cayzer**
An update—Chris has returned to his hometown in the Philippines to pursue his singing career—who knows, we may see Chris on **Philippines Idol** soon. He is hoping to buy a music store and make it rich.

**Brent Kriel**
Hey, I’ve almost finished my Diploma of Building Design and Technology and am hoping to Graduate in December this year. I’m then planning to go and look for full-time work next year. I have also enjoyed learning to surf in my spare time.

**Israel Vogel**
Israel is currently doing an Electrical Apprenticeship which he is really enjoying. Israel is currently a Scripture Union leader and is currently on the Sunshine Coast on Schoolies camp.
Israel and Brent recently flew to Sydney to go to the NRL grand final.

**Liz Christie**
Hi everyone! I’m working over at the airport for DHL. They are an excellent company to work for and I’m enjoying the training in international freight etc. I’m still doing a bit of amateur photography—check out my website at www.flickr.com/photos/sillykitty
Melinda Woolston
Hello to all!
I am currently studying in the Sterilisation field and should be completed by Jan-Feb 2006. At the moment I am doing my Prac work at Redcliffe hospital.
I am engaged and planning our wedding which will take place in September 2006. Pictures is my fiancé, Dean and myself upon our Engagement. Hope to see you all soon!
Melinda.
# GCC Class of 2004

## Steven Van der Ros

"It has been an exciting year of big changes and big decisions for me, a year in which I have moved from Brisbane to Canberra and back again, seen most of Australia, survived boot camp, made some great new friendships, and had some awesome experiences.

After heading down to ADFA in January with about 280 other people from all over Australia, I realized my summer holidays were well and truly over when we were marched straight off the bus to a barber for the shortest haircut in my life. After 6 weeks of intensive training, I had somehow learnt to march, make my bed immaculately, iron, clean, polish brass, and see my reflection in my shoes.

I completed a semester of aeronautical engineering at ADFA, but after lots of consideration I decided engineering just wasn’t what I wanted to be doing as a career. As much as I loved being in the Air Force, I could not change degrees, and so I had to either stay for 9 years or resign before completing a whole year. During these 7 intense and challenging months, I learnt and matured quite rapidly, and although I had very little freedom or sleep, it was such a worthwhile experience, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to do it.

I am now back in Brisbane living at home, working part time for a small IT company in Carseldine, and next year plan to study IT/secondary education at QUT. It is really nice to be home and able to catch up with friends again, and I look forward to the years ahead here in sunny Brisbane."

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## Adam Schoenmaker

`Hi Everyone,Currently I’m studying a Bachelor of Business with a major in Accounting at QUT Gardens Point. I have completed my first of three years successfully and hope to gain work in an accountancy or business advisory firm next year. I’m also actively involved in my local church playing the drums and organizing youth service and activities.`

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## Study

How do you study — is there anything else to life at the moment? Hopefully! With the first year of my Bachelor of Nursing over it's now PARTY PARTY PARTY... and NO study, reading or research for 4 whole months! Yah!

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## Jes Patterson

(Australian Catholic University)

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## Luke Schoenmaker

This year I have basically been enjoying the cruisy lifestyle of a university student and living for the weekend. I am currently doing a dual degree in Business and I.T. at QUT in the city. I’ve had it pretty good this year, only having to go into uni 2 or 3 days a week. On my days off I have just been working (still @ Abbott’s Bakery) and taking it easy. Have just finished uni for the year and I don’t go back until March ‘06. So in the meantime, I plan on partying, camping, going to Melbourne for New Years, and basically just enjoying myself throughout my 4 month holiday!
Anthony Muhling

Hey! How are you all? I have finally finished my first year of 4 in civil engineering at QUT Garden’s Point. I now know that engineering is hard work with 5 days at uni a week. I’m looking forward to catching up with people now I have about 3 1/2 months of holidays to enjoy.

Anthony is one of three GCC Class of 2004 students studying at QUT Garden’s Point. When asked if he saw any of the other students Anthony says, it’s a big place with a lot of people—so seeing another student particularly with everyone doing different degrees, is rare.

Bianca Grimsey

Hey guys, what am I doing now? I’m currently studying Physical Education Teaching (secondary) at Kelvin Grove campus QUT. Next year I’m thinking about transferring to a double degree—Teaching/Human Movement. I’m still swimming (and training ridiculous hours), and currently have my goals set on a 25km race at open nationals! If there’s one thing I could say to those still at school, it would be "Enjoy school my friends, when they say it’s the best part of your life they really mean it, and I’d do anything to be back there!". Missing everyone so much. God Bless, Bianca. ;)

At Mr & Mrs Swanson’s (the former Mrs Patterson’s) wedding with Jes. My Laser was in the Wedding car procession—very shiny!

Sam Corrie

I’m currently studying a Certificate IV in Youth Ministry with Christian City Church. I’m off to Thailand on 25th for 2 weeks with the CCC Ministry team. I’m a leader at RAW revolution youth group with CCC and that keeps me pretty busy.

Maree Hartridge

I’m working at Complete Joinery Solutions in Brendale, its a cabinet and kitchen making place. I’m doing a Traineeship in the office, so that includes doing Tafe. I really like it there. I work with 30 Guys and one other girl who is 19. The people are so lovely and it’s only 5 minutes from my home. I am so happy at the moment.

The best advice we can give to the Graduating Class of 2005 and other Year 12 graduates is—if you are thinking about University go straight from Year 12—you are in the habit of study and you will be one year down before you know it.

Best of Luck

Tim Van Egmond

Tim managed to get invited to the 2005 Year 12 formal—now, how to work it that I get an invite every year!
Valedictory Speech by Valedictorian Alarna Voigt

As I began to prepare for today I cam to the realization that it is impossible to capture in a five minute speech or even put down in words the memories and spirit that we, the class of 2005 encapsulates. Instead of capturing the grade as a whole I did individuals because everyone in our grade has their own individual style and it isn't just one or two of these personalities that makes our grade unique and special, like no other before ours or like any that will follow. Therefore in summarizing our grade, I summarized each individual as I have seen them:

Jess—I will remember you for your big smile, nice salads and ugg boots
Emma—one thing is you are always tripping over nothing
Robbie—you are good to talk to and good for entertainment
Lindsey—you are our strong shoulder to cry on
Richard—in your won words “you rock”
Tammy—you are our angel sent from above, you keep the peace
Monique—you have great organizational skills, you have a big heart for people and you will be good at what every you put your mind to
Hollands—you’re the good guy, everyone’s mate
Vanessa—you bring the sporting achievements, and guys just freak out
Joseph—you are good at drawing and the guitar
Peter—well, my brother, you are always good for a laugh, remember “the glove”.
Carley—you are my best mate, you are bubbly, hate germs and “just quit it Richard!”
Shayne—I will remember you for your love of Japan and how competitive you are at sports. Oh, plus the fact that you HAVE beaten Mr Dutney at basketball
Chris—you had the parties, sorry the state in which we leave your place.
Danni—you will be remembered for your passion for Thailand and God
Cassie—you have the most contagious laugh, and even when I had a bad day, one giggle out of you always got me laughing
Pom—well you are British, what else can I say, you are “out there”
Jared you will be remembered because you always want to look good and do your best and you always did.
Brooke— your quiet yet confident, you are good to talk to
David—you have amazing leadership qualities and you always have good advice no matter how bad the situation
Emily—you are “Miss Drama” need I say more?
Talia— also known as “Donkey” you will be remembered for your choice of groceries (just joking) you will be remember a the only one who can fall on one side of your body but cut up the other ???
Maggie—Your arm? Your marks would have been better in PE if it weren’t for your arm?
Andres— well we always blame it on “da man”, so everything we ever did was always your fault, (not really) you will be remembered because you are our Grades “cook” you are going to make an awesome chef.

I must thank the people who have helped to get us this far: Our parents and family—without the constant support and motivation of you we couldn’t have made it through this stressful year. Our teachers—for all the things you have taught us, we can’t really comprehend how much you have taught us but thank-you. I would like to thank “Chappy” for all the good directions he has pointed us in. I would like to thank Mrs Cash aka “JC” Thank you for putting up with everything we have done to you. You are more like a friend or should I say a big brother to us. I would like to thank you for your constant supportive works and your understanding and respect. I would like to thank Mrs Doneley—the compassion and support for one another the school body displays is a direct reflection of your own passion and guidance upon us. You are the backbone of this school and on behalf of the Year 12s I would like to thank you. It is almost impossible to imagine what Genesis would be like tin the absence of you, not only our Principal but also a great leader and role model. You truly do lead by example.
Most important the people I have to thank are my grade. I know that we haven’t all always gotten along for whatever reasons but we gave it our best shot, we have been there for each other at the important parts of the year, exam blocks, QCS the formal. I want to thank you guys for your constant support and friendship. Without you guys I wouldn’t have been able to make it
Although as a grade we have experienced a coming together mainly on Year 11 camp, but also this year through eh struggles and stresses of the final year of our schooling. We’ve been far from perfect, and I have to laugh because I feel like only now do I understand what it means to lead, and now I am leaving. Yet I believe we did accomplish much; we cam together in a way I didn’t think possible, we fostered a spirit of respect for authority and we welcomed in everyone, their faults and all, dissolving the individual groups and turning them in to one close knit graduating class.
So go now with this parting message: As this chapter of our lives comes to a close, we have learned something of the past, have seen how things in the world are now and will have to say of how things are in the future. AS young adults we now must learn how to take responsibility for our actions and for the society and world we live in. With the knowledge we have gained here at Genesis we have to decide whether we are satisfied with the way we live in the society today, whether we are going to stand in with the crowd or if we are going to stand out in the crowd and shine. Can I just say that I believe that each and everyone of you sitting in front of me now has the potential to shine, so use the gifts given to you. I encourage you all to set goals and aim high.
Farewell