The timing of this Newsletter coincides with the recently held Xavier Foundation AGM. For those of you who did not attend, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have contributed to this year’s success and also to paint a picture of what we need to achieve for the future.

The financial results of this year have seen the introduction of over $1 million worth of newly-funded Foundation Bursaries. Without these Bursaries, it is likely that the families of these students would not have been able to proceed with enrolment at Xavier. This also enables the Foundation to extend to a wider number, the benefits of a Jesuit education which by its nature seeks to be inclusive.

In achieving this year’s financial end of year results, thanks is extended to:

- Our generous donors and supporters
- Dr Chris Hayes and Libby Crosthwaite as Executive Director and her staff
- Mr Peter Walsh, Trustee of a number of Trusts including the Eldon Hogan Trust
- The Investment Committee members who have managed Foundation funds so successfully, achieving an annual growth of 13% ($2.5milion)
- Chris Ketsakidis, the Foundation’s lawyer
- Ted Hummerston, who devoted many hours working with us in reviewing our mission and goals thus giving us our points of focus and direction
- Our Foundation Board and newly appointed Advancement Committee which will be charged with building relations with key members of the Xavier family and creating opportunities for people to be involved with the Foundation Scholarship and Bursary Program
- Libby Crosthwaite as Executive Director and her staff
- Mr Frank Peck as Chairman of the Xavier Council, Dr Chris Hayes and Fr. Chris Middleton SJ, for the help and support they have given to the Foundation over the last twelve months

Key achievements since the new 2013 Foundation Constitution was adopted:

- A review of the Foundation structure through Deloitte Private
- Induction of a new Foundation Board
- A Foundation Brand Review and introduction of a Foundation Newsletter
- Review of the Foundation investment strategies for each Fund
- Introduction of Foundation policies and procedures and strategic review
- In 2015 a commitment to fund $1 million for Bursaries over the next five years was made
- An additional distribution of approximately $1.1 million for buildings

The challenge for the future.

Financial realities and pressures remain on our families and on the College. The work of the Foundation continues to be vital in securing the College’s vision and I do invite ongoing and ever widening support from the College community.

I thank all involved for the Foundation’s work and success over the past year and invite all members of the Xavier Community to join us, as together we journey to the towering peaks ahead. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Tony Nunan
Chairman Xavier College Foundation Ltd

Since the restructure of the Xavier College Foundation two years ago it has utilised the greater flexibility it has in raising and distributing funds to the College for approved activities. In 2015 approximately $1.5 million was distributed to the College to fund Bursaries and Scholarships, the provision of IT hardware and associated software packages and for infrastructure projects at the Senior Campus and the Kostka Hall Campus.

The Foundation has committed to provide $1.2m from the Ignatian Education Fund to fund half the costs of Bursaries and Scholarships in 2016. In addition the Foundation has agreed to increase its contribution to this funding over the next four years so that by 2020 it will fully fund Bursaries and Scholarships at the College. At present 6% of students at the College receive financial assistance and the Council’s aim is to increase this to 10% in the next few years in accordance with a request from the Jesuit Provincial Fr B. McCoy SJ. These Scholarships and Bursaries will enable access to students who are unable at present to take advantage of the excellent educational, faith formation, co-curricular and service programs provided at the College.

The Foundation’s commitment to College funding has enabled the annual increase in tuition fees over the past three years to be held at 5.5%, despite the education price index rising at more than 6% over those years. In the future, as a result of this commitment from the Foundation, the Council is confident it can reduce the annual increase in tuition fees.

At present the College Council is determining infrastructure priorities and timelines for the next decade, from the master plans at the three campuses. The sources of funds for these projects will be provided from the Foundation from trusts, bequests, capital contributions from parents, the distribution of earnings from the Foundation’s very successful investment strategy, as well as borrowings by the College. Therefore the Foundation has a very significant and strategic role to play in funding of the activities of the College and its role will become even greater in the years ahead.

The Foundation Chair, Mr Tony Nunan, his fellow Trustees and Foundation staff, led by the Executive Director, Libby Crosthwaite, are to be commended for their excellent work in establishing such a successful structure for the Foundation and the financial results they have already achieved.

The College Council urges all members of the Xavier Community to support generously the work of the Foundation in its vital role of fundraising, to guarantee that the excellent Xavier education we take for granted will continue to be provided for young Catholic leaders in the future.

As the 2015 academic year draws to a close, may I take this opportunity to wish all members of the Xavier family the blessings of the Christmas season.

Frank Peck
Chair of the College Council
Xavier Boys
Travel to First World War Battlefields

Story by John Fox

Thomas Whitley Year 10

Eighteen Xavier students (and their teachers) were indeed fortunate during the mid-year break to travel to Turkey, France and Belgium for a sixteen day trip visiting a number of World War I battlefields. The costs of this trip were subsidised by the generous support of the Eldon Hogan Trust, for which our student travellers are grateful, particularly to the Trustee of the Eldon Hogan Trust, Mr Peter Walsh.

As part of their preparation for the trip, students had to research the life of a World War 1 digger and Thomas Whitley of Year 10 chose Benjamin “Bandy” Turner, whose great niece Coralie Hall was a family friend. History is a favourite subject for Thomas and he did enjoy the research he undertook into Bandy Turner’s life, who hailed from the Perth suburb of Midland. In fact Bandy was very well known as a young man, he was State Heavy Weight Boxing Champion and known as the “Western Giant”. In his book “Game to the Last”, author James Hurst describes Bandy as “having a big punch and a big heart…he loved a drink, a fight and women, but more than anything, he loved his younger brothers”.

Being a fighter, ‘Bandy’ at twenty three years of age was first in line to defend the Empire and he sailed off to war on 2 September 1914 on the troop ship “Ascanius” from Fremantle. His younger brother Thomas, called “Stormy”, watched with envy as Bandy had marched off to basic training at Blackboy Hill, but Stormy’s time was to come. Bandy was among the first Australians to land at Anzac Cove where he was wounded. Thomas Whitley has prepared a detailed and absorbing account of all of the battles Bandy took part in. Upon his recovery after a few months of hospitalisation and then being moved to the Western Front, Bandy was more seriously wounded at Pozieres. And ultimately, also suffering from ‘trench foot’, he was shipped back home. No doubt drawing on his own war experiences, he had earlier written to his mother entreating her not to let his younger brother Stormy enlist. He was quite dismayed when he landed at Fremantle to be told that his brother had already enlisted and embarked. His recovery took several months, but once recovered he re-enlisted and went in search of Stormy whom he found in France in mid-1917 and they fought alongside each other in

One can only feel grateful that Xavier students have such opportunities and more so, that the Eldon Hogan Trust through the Xavier Foundation, see it as a priority to support such possibilities for the students at Xavier College.
The gift of philanthropy is at its heart the gift of self.

Patrick Loftus-Hills (OX 1984)
The gift of philanthropy is at its heart the gift of self. I have been inspired by what the school gave to me and my family and I wanted others to feel the same.  

Patrick Loftus-Hills (OX 1984)

We recently welcomed back to Xavier College Mr Patrick Loftus-Hills, a member of the Class of 1984, who has lived in New York City for some time. He has however maintained his links with Xavier over the years and has indeed offered hospitality in his home to Old Xaverians and Xavier music students and staff when they have been touring the United States.

Xavier College – A Family of Families

The name ‘Loftus-Hills’ is one which appears frequently in the pages of The Xaverian, the school annual. Three generations have attended Xavier:

- Kelvin (OX 1926), whose sons attended Xavier.
- Kelvin’s brother, Geoffrey Dean Senior (OX 1926) whose sons attended Xavier, one of whom was Geoffrey Dean Junior (OX 1958).
- Geoffrey Dean Junior had four sons and four daughters and the four boys attended Xavier:
  - Patrick (OX 1984), Michael (OX 1989), Christopher (OX 1993) and David (OX 1995).
In this Foundation publication, we acknowledge in particular the contribution
of Patrick Loftus-Hills, who was recently presented with the Ignatian Circle
Medallion by the Xavier College Foundation, at a special luncheon which his
parents also attended. Patrick was welcomed by the Chair of the Foundation
Mr Tony Nunan, the Chair of the Xavier School Council, Mr Frank Peck,
The Principal Dr Hayes and the Rector Father Middleton SJ.

Patrick has been a particularly generous benefactor to the Foundation.
He has donated funds which have been directed towards the provision of
scholarships for four boys from Year 9 through to Year 12 to study Music
at Xavier. Several grateful recipients of these Loftus-Hills Family Music
Scholarships were present at the luncheon with members of their families
and Patrick welcomed the opportunity to speak with them.

At its heart, the generosity of Patrick Loftus-Hills is also in a sense a gift
of self, far beyond the generously provided funds. He did speak at the
luncheon of his wish "to thank the school… I have been inspired by what
the school gave me which has encouraged me over the past thirty years.”

Therefore this represents a giving back to his alma mater in gratitude for his
own education, but additionally in the hope that other young men may also
join the Xavier Family who otherwise might not be able to do so, drawing
on that educational ethos which fosters excellence, but also seeks to create
‘Men for others’. He conveyed more of his motivation when reflecting on
the music students he met:

"The music students embody
 everything I was hoping for in a
 scholarship student. Exceptional
 music ability, wholehearted
 involvement, leadership and a
 well-rounded approach.”

The day of his visit was a very busy one for Patrick, it included a tour of the
College Archives for his parents Geoffrey (OX 1958) and Angela and brother
Michael (OX 1989) and meeting students interested in a career in Finance.
(Patrick is the Managing Director at Moelis and Company, he has over twenty
five years’ experience in the metals and mining field). Later in the day he
travelled to Monash University where he was also awarded a Fellowship.

We acknowledge in gratitude the generosity of Xavier alumnus Patrick
Loftus-Hills. His contributions to scholarships and particularly to Music at
Xavier have been a direct contribution to an enriching school dynamic.
Through their music making, boys bring great scholarship, application, team
building, but above all great beauty and refinement to school life. We do
thank Patrick and his family for this gift which has made so much possible.
In the true spirit of philanthropy, it is ultimately a gift of self, for which this
College community is extremely grateful.

If you would like to support our scholarship or bursary fund please call our
Executive Director Libby Crosthwaite on (03 9854 5465)
The Scanlon family has had a long association with Xavier College. Over this time the family has supported a number of enhancements to the College facilities and to the school’s cultural life. In the mid 2000s the family contributed to the building of the new science laboratory wing at the Senior campus and then in 2008 they made an additional contribution to the installation of interactive whiteboards into classrooms and general teaching spaces at Kostka Hall. This donation was made after seeing the benefits that were achieved through the use of technology in classrooms overseas and wanting Xavier also to have the advantages of this new technology.

In 2014 as part of the Xavier College “Hearts on Fire” Gala, the Scanlon Foundation supported the “Honour Project” at Kostka Hall. The project was designed to inspire Kostka Hall students to achieve their best. This has seen the creation of the “Men for Others” display made up of a collection of photos and citations of prominent Kostka Hall graduates, including businessmen, philanthropists, politicians and surgeons. The project has also funded a number of honour boards in Manresa Hall, acknowledging the achievements of recipients of awards and also to encourage students to strive for excellence.

In 2015 the Scanlon Foundation made a further donation to support the Kostka Hall Community Garden project. This project which is still in its infancy, saw the first planting in custom made self-watering garden beds beginning in mid-September. Fruit trees and citrus have also been planted. The garden was launched in early Term 4 of the 2015 school year and saw the Kostka Hall Mothers’ and Fathers’ Associations working in partnership with the school to create a wonderful addition to the education program at Kostka Hall. The environmental captains from both the Early Years and Middle Years are working with a committee of parents and teachers to put in place recycling programs and other activities to involve all year levels in the life cycle of the garden.

The Xavier Foundation acknowledges with gratitude, the support of the Scanlon Foundation.
the trenches. Tragically, Stormy was soon by his brother's side after Bandy took a direct shell hit, losing both legs and then an arm amputated in the field – all alas to no avail, as he died of his wounds: “Stormy helped the Doc carry Bandy to the aid post. Despite being ordered to return to his post Stormy faithfully remained with his brother, until a few agonising hours later, Bandy Turner, fighter, lover and larrikin, passed away”.

It was indeed moving to listen to our student Thomas Whitley as he related this sad story, one he had delivered by Bandy Turner's graveside in Belgium and which was recorded and replayed for Bandy's great niece Coralie Hall.

It was also interesting in interviewing Thomas to gain an insight into the effect on him of his travels to the World War I battlefields. With little prompting he recalled this impact: he recalled the words of Professor Scates who accompanied the group, who in looking at the neat graveyard headstones where thousands had died, talked of the “Taming of the Trauma Scape”. Also the words of Xavier teacher Nick Hughes who reflected with the boys that “War brings out the best and the worst in humanity”. It is clear that this experience has left an imprint on Thomas.

Thomas conveyed that he felt the strongest connection in reading the epitaphs on the tombstones. For example the inscription over graves on the Western Front where a recovered body could not be identified: “A soldier of the Great War”. If a body was never recovered the inscription read: “Their glory should not be blotted out”. He talked about the differing sentiments expressed in the epitaphs, some took comfort in deaths that were “For Freedom”, “For Democracy”, while one more strongly and despairingly on a grave at Villers Bretonneux said: “Another life lost. Hearts broken, for what?” And on yet another, a very Australian voice echoed through the simple epitaph: “A good old mate”.

We acknowledge that the Foundation’s subsidy of this trip enabled a partnership with Monash University. Professor Bruce Scates (National Director of the Centre for Australian Studies) and Professor Rae Frances (Dean of Arts at Monash), generously led the teaching of our students over the five days at Gallipoli and we are most grateful to them and to Monash University.

In listening to Thomas Whitley reflect on his trip to Europe which had such a profound effect on him, one is thankful for the quality of his response.

One is also thankful to the Xavier College Foundation for providing educational opportunities for our students. In turn we invite your support of the Foundation through your donation, so that many more enriching experiences may be provided for many more students like Thomas in the years ahead.

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**Ways to Support**

**A Christmas Gift**

Share in the Joy of Christmas this year and add special meaning to your celebration by inviting family and loved ones to give a donation to the Xavier College Foundation, in lieu of a Christmas gift. You will receive an attractive card acknowledging a gift has been made to the Foundation on your behalf (the amount is not cited). Your family or loved ones will also receive a ‘thank you’ card, acknowledging they have donated to the Foundation on your behalf.

Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation on someone else’s behalf in lieu of a Christmas gift, the Foundation will send them a card acknowledging a gift has been donated in their name (the actual amount is not cited) and the Foundation will send you a ‘thank you’ card, acknowledging your donation. Christmas Gifts in this way make meaningful presents.

(please note that such gifts are tax deductible)

If you would like more information, please contact Heather Murphy at the Foundation.

Phone 03 9815 4542 or Email: foundation@xavier.vic.edu.au

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