

The Jane Magazine

Libertas 2024



JANE
FRANKLIN HALL

December 2024

VOL 34 #1



The Jane Magazine

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Cover

Jane students Oliver Buck and Isaac Close entering the Jane dining hall, with the River Derwent in the background.

Photos

Thank you to everyone who provided imagery for this year's Libertas.

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From the Principal

and Chair of Council

Reduced university enrolments locally and nationally, the increased cost of living, and broader regulatory challenges, alongside the daily need to ensure that the lived student experience aligns with the professed benefits of residential college living, all have combined to make 2024 another challenging year for Jane Franklin Hall.

Addressing that final factor first, we can unequivocally verify that the efforts of staff and the Student Club have ensured that no student is left behind, and that every resident has been given the opportunity to draw fully on the academic, social, and sporting benefits of being a Raider. In particular, Student Club initiatives continue to shape the College environment and to extend the Jane vibe across other student accommodation at this university and into fellow institutions across Australia.

Our residents remain the best advertisement for Jane Franklin Hall now and into the future, and their individual and social media advocacy represents positive marketing beyond any dollar value. We would like to thank our Jane residents for their energy, initiative, and good humour. We also encourage them to maintain these in the future, preferably as continuing residents, but also as alumni as they move on from us.

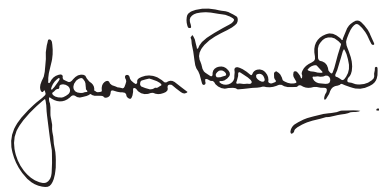
On the broader, strategic front, this year has seen the College start to reorient itself to future planning in a more austere environment. The foundation for this has been the solid work ensuring that procedures and policies align with regulations and social and political expectations. There is no doubt that the regulatory environment is stricter and more vigilant than ten years ago. Importantly, we cannot view such constraints as impositions but rather we must respond proactively to validate the quality of student learning, safety, and security in our institution. Once again, whilst we might have policies to respond to challenges such as gender-based violence, the individual and collective positivity of our residents is what keeps those policies on the shelf as a last resort.

No longer can we just await enrolments based on student attendance at the University of Tasmania campus in Hobart. Expanded courses on the northern campuses and enhanced use of online learning post-Covid, mean that the college must consider alternative sources of income

to offset a probably smaller student cohort. At the same time, we need to maintain all that is Jane and, indeed, demonstrate the clear advantages of the residential college model.

The first steps in this direction are already in place. The Deans of Students and Academic Studies offer direct access to support that is enviable for the average student and mitigate the challenges of the transition to university learning. Our apartments now host a diverse range of post-graduate students and their families, and we regularly cater for short-term visitor groups throughout the year. Meanwhile, we are developing the capacity for analysis and implementation of measures to improve resident living and maintain the hard assets of the College.

The years ahead for Jane will continue to provide challenges, but they also foreshadow opportunities. What such opportunities might be, we cannot currently predict, but a key characteristic of the college will need to be flexibility and positive self-criticism focused on student needs as the locus of decision making. The Jane of the future might look different on the surface, but the core will remain a student university experience that develops happy, well-grounded, and optimistic adults ready to take their places in society and future decision-making.



Ms Joanna Rosewell
Principal



Dr John Kertesz
Chair, College Council



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Creating a space to make a difference

Asha Bowen's path to healing and advocacy

Jane Alumna, Dr Asha Bowen, was recognised in the King's Birthday Honours this year, receiving the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her service to medicine in the field of clinical diseases.

In the heart of a bustling hospital, Dr Asha Bowen moves with purpose through the corridors, her mind focussed on her young patients.

The weight of responsibility is palpable: when a child's diagnosis is too complex and challenging for other doctors, Asha is the one they come to.

As a paediatric infectious disease specialist, Asha is on a mission that goes far beyond medicine—she is an advocate for children's rights and wellbeing, particularly for those from marginalised communities.

Her journey from the serene landscapes of Tasmania to the forefront of paediatric healthcare is one marked by passion and the relentless pursuit of change.

Asha's story begins in Hobart, where she was awarded a national undergraduate scholarship to attend the University of Tasmania and pursue a bachelor's degree in geography and environmental studies.

"I was at Jane from '95 to '97, and it feels like a lifetime ago," she reminisces.

"I absolutely loved Hobart, living at Jane and the content of the study."

"I think it was a formative piece and I'm forever grateful that I had that opportunity to come and to experience Jane and Tasmania and make so many great friends."

Although her initial path veered away from medicine, the pull of healthcare was undeniable.

Every year during her undergraduate degree, Asha reapplied (and was accepted) to medical school in Sydney. But every year, when that letter of offer arrived, she found herself choosing to stay in Tasmania.

Asha ultimately stayed until she completed her undergraduate degree, before making her way to the University of Sydney. There she pursued a rigorous medical education and an impressive 20 years of university study.

That takes commitment. Something Asha has in spades.

"I think I probably always had a strong passion towards community service and making a difference," she says.

"In my teen years I looked at all the different career options and thought healthcare seemed like you could help individuals. That guided my career choice into paediatrics.

"I think I probably didn't have the words for it at the time, but more so had an understanding of core purpose and wanting to be involved in meaningful work, and this is where I have invested my energies."

Asha's current role at the Perth Children's Hospital is high stakes. She cares for children with complex cases, carefully piecing together the puzzle to develop a treatment plan.

And this is where she thrives.

"I absolutely love the ability to work with individual children, and also their families. They're a dyad and you can't separate one from the other. So, you have to be able to deal with that complexity and that's the bit I love," she says.



“That’s been a big driver – the ability to make a difference and to realise that impact quite quickly.

“You do see daily on the wards, the impact of your decision making. Kids get sick fast, but they also get better quickly if you get the diagnosis and the treatment right.”

Research and clinical trials

Asha’s work does not stop at the bedside. She is equally passionate about her ongoing medical research projects.

Her research focuses on the skin health of Aboriginal children, and she has worked hard on ways to reduce their heavy burden of skin infections.

Asha also leads global clinical trials to answer questions about how to more effectively treat Staph bloodstream infections. One of the most common bloodstream infections in childhood.

“We see about 450 Australian children in a hospital across the country every year with a Staph blood stream infection. But since the use of antibiotics commenced in the 1940s, there’s only been 300 children who ever participated in a clinical trial to find out how best to use them for Staph blood stream infection,” Asha explains.

Once this gap was identified, Asha and her team designed a trial called SNAP to help answer key questions about Staph bloodstream infections and improve the health outcomes for more kids.

Child health during COVID

Asha’s advocacy work has become a defining aspect of her career. As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded, she emerged as a vocal advocate for children’s needs, urging policymakers to consider the long-term impacts of school closures.

“Child health matters. They are our future, and every school day does matter,” she says.

“I don’t think in retrospect or even at the time, the right decisions were made, but it was hard for that voice to be heard above the fear and concerns about the impact on hospitals and risks.”

Her advocacy during this crisis highlighted a critical gap in healthcare: the need for a dedicated voice for children in policy discussions. Thanks to this work, the COVID-19 Response Enquiry Report has now recommended establishing the role of a Chief Paediatrician in the future.

Lasting impact

Asha’s story is an inspiration to the medical students at Jane and beyond and she offers this advice for them:

“You don’t have to follow a particular route to make a difference. You have to have that desire and then use your passions, your intellect and your energies to create the space where you can make a difference.”



Right at home at sea:

Neve Clippingdale

Earlier this year Jane student and Senior Resident, Neve Clippingdale, traded the view from her room at Jane for a porthole view aboard the CSIRO research vessel (RV) *Investigator*.

Neve was one of 11 lucky Marine and Antarctic studies students from the University of Tasmania to take part in the voyage from Fremantle to Hobart.

"In all honesty I still can't quite believe I had the opportunity to go on a voyage on the RV *Investigator*. It is something I have always wanted to do," Neve says.

Neve's passion for marine science is contagious. When you ask her about it, her face lights up, and she shares her excitement with such energy that it's impossible not to get excited alongside her.

When Neve boarded the ship, she found herself surrounded by others with the same level of passion, making her feel right at home.

"As someone who has always loved marine science it was very special to be exceptionally enthusiastic and have everyone around you mirror the same enthusiasm for what they were doing," she says.

"I particularly liked how open everyone on the ship was about what they were studying or what they were doing at a particular point in time.

"I had expected that as an undergraduate student on the ship I would be in the way more often than not and have to mostly watch, but this most definitely was not the case."

The students were taught how to do nearly every sample collection process on the ship, including how to take dissolved oxygen, salt and nutrient samples from a Conductivity, Temperature, and Depth (CTD) device, how to label rock samples and how to interpret the output from the sonar and magnetometer when mapping the seafloor and looking for shipwrecks.

"I didn't realise that the process of sample collection and analysis is actually very similar aboard a ship compared to on land, as I had assumed most of the analysis occurred when the voyage was completed," Neve says.

"I also didn't realise how much I had taken for granted being able to walk in a straight line or go up and down staircases normally, she laughs.

"You start going down a wave and going down the stairs is the easiest thing ever; you are completely weightless! Then suddenly you are going up a wave, and it feels like you weigh four times your body weight!"

When Neve looks back on the voyage, the experience and the people she says it is difficult to select one favourite moment.

"A cool thing about being on the RV *Investigator* was how friendly the crew were. They were very welcoming to all of us students and scientists and were always willing to have a chat or explain how something worked. They even played some very serious games of Catan, backgammon, table tennis, Mario Kart, and darts with us."

"I loved seeing dolphins, albatross, and seals, attending science talks every day by the scientists on board, and meeting former Jane Fellow, George Creswell (who named the Leeuwin Current) and beating him in backgammon!"

"There was a sense that we were all in it together. When we successfully collected a tricky rock sample on the second dredge everyone cheered when it was brought onto the ship."

Neve says having the opportunity to go on a voyage in the final year of her undergraduate degree has confirmed for her that she is pursuing the right degree.

"I cannot even begin to express how grateful I am to our Unit Coordinator, Pier van der Merwe, for organising our participation in this voyage and making it possible for us to have an adventure of a lifetime.

"Being on a voyage has really opened my eyes to the number of opportunities in marine science, if you are brave enough to chase them!"

Next year, Neve plans to continue her studies and complete an Honours year in marine science and she's off to Antarctica in February, taking her sea-faring legs on another scientific voyage.

The quiet achiever of college culture

It's a Thursday in October. A small group of people sits around the conference table in Barrett.

From the outside it looks like an odd mix of ages and interests: there's the Student Club President, a member of the College Council, a Senior Resident, the Dean of Students, the Student Club Equity Rep and the Principal.

Laptops and papers are open in front of them. It's clearly a meeting in progress.

Attendees are asked by the meeting Chair and Member of Council, Professor Michael Stoddart, to reflect on 2024.

Student Club President, Charlie Townsend, talks about the very different feel of 2024 to 2023. He is buoyant and upbeat, nominating positive changes in the catering, formal dinners, sport culture and international student engagement as highlights.

"The culture has improved so much," he says "The floor culture, SLT [Senior Leadership Team] and a better culture around alcohol has really helped in greater inclusivity and community spirit."

Meeting participants agree, nodding and adding their thoughts along the way, including ways activities can improve even further in 2025. Everyone seems committed and serious.

This is a meeting of the Culture Committee, an advisory sub-committee of Jane's governing body, the College Council.

Founded in 2018, the Committee focusses on the enhancement of a positive collegiate environment and involves all layers of leadership within Jane: Council, Management and students.



Back Row (L-R): 2024 SCC President Charlie Townsend and S
Front Row (L-R): 2025 SCC Equity Rep Sam O'Neil, Principal J
Absent: Chair and Member of Council Prof Michael Stoddart,

"Culture Committee is a uniquely Jane response to the pre-Covid turmoil about poor behaviour at Australian residential Colleges," explains College Principal, Joanna Rosewell.

"We adopted some of the recommendations from a report on Sydney University Colleges, done by former anti-discrimination commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick."

"Those recommendations were all around the governance layer of the College, working with the students and staff to champion cultural reform."

For Professor Stoddart, the value of the committee is immense.



Senior Resident Caragh Lawson,
Joanna Rosewell, Dean of Students Sarah Hopkins,
2024 SCC Equity Rep Kate Deane and 2024 SCC Secretary Meg Castles.

“We at Council could, from on high, direct our staff to direct our students to behave a certain way. Instead, we all work together to bring the College values to life.”

“It’s a far more powerful way, and a tremendous learning experience for all of us, to work collaboratively and ensure we are all on the same journey.”

So far, just in 2024, the committee has tackled a range of meaty issues, including exploring appropriate Aboriginal Cultural safety training and responding to an external review around old boy/old girl practices at the College. It has also developed its blueprint for ongoing cultural development, the Jane Accord.

“We know we have to be vigilant about our positive culture,” says Ms Rosewell.

“The Culture Committee and the Jane Accord are crucial to that ongoing monitoring and improvement.”

For Student Club Equity Rep, Sam O’Neil, the Committee is hugely important to shaping our culture.

“I think it’s the quite achiever of our College. We just get on with it and make intentional decisions for the better of Jane.”

The Jane Accord can be found at:
jane.edu.au/residents/downloads



Behind the numbers:

The impact of Academic Mentors at Jane

2024 has been an exciting year for the academic program at Jane. Our Dean of Academic Studies, Dr Nicholas Brodie shares an update.

Two years into our revamped academic development program, attendance data tells a remarkable story: on any given week, an average of between a third and a half of Jane's residents join an academic mentoring session.

In fact, well over three quarters of the College opts into academic mentoring at some point during the university year. Once we exclude postgraduate and other senior students, the proportions get bigger. Who knew study could be so popular?

The most important factors here, of course, are the Academic Mentors (AMs) themselves. Champions of the art of study, occasional masters of the strategic Tim-Tam bribe, our fabulous AMs know what's needed because they're so close to the study experience.

Besides biscuits, our AMs bring to the academic field tremendous insights and sympathy. They know which Law lecturer takes a hard line on extension requests, what Marine and Antarctic Science assignment cannot be done in an evening, what the hardest week in Medicine really feels like, and how to get those History footnotes or Science references formatted just right.

Most importantly, they get to know their mentees.

After two years of overseeing this program, I've learned that the critical point isn't what students know. It turns out that being known is often the most valuable thing a student needs.

Which is why I had individual conversations with our students this year to check in on their academic journeys. From these talks I've learned that more students study in their rooms than we suspected. I've discovered that some students prefer studying in cosy spaces with friends while others seek studious companionship in more open environments. Some like to study alone, others crave company to keep themselves accountable. These chats are literally informing how we develop our study spaces, as well as attending to individual needs.

Happily, most of our students report being satisfied with the degree course they're on. So, as we roll into another iteration of the academic development program, taking what we've learned and trying to improve it further, we're excited to turn our attention to rolling out a new career development program as well!

Q&A: Meet Mark Cutler

Mark Cutler joined Jane Franklin Hall in 2023 as one of our dedicated bus drivers. You may recognise him from his work as an actor, ABC broadcast presenter or as a member of the Rockwiz 'brains trust'! We asked him to answer a few questions about his life and Jane.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself

A: I travelled for a few years after completing school and came home to Melbourne to train as a teacher. While training, I took a job at The Last Laugh theatre restaurant, which was home to the new comedy boom. After graduating and teaching for a couple of years, I started acting full time and broadcasting sport with the ABC on the side. From there a career (of sorts) was born.

Q: What led you to working at Jane?

A: I came to Tasmania to work full time with the ABC, in the late 1980s, but left to return to Melbourne after a couple of years. However, the Tasmanian spark was lit, plus I had met a local girl at the ABC who was to play a big role in getting me to move back here permanently. Eventually she became a University of Tasmania lecturer and I was heading for retirement when we saw the Jane bus driver job, and I thought "why not"?

Q: What's your favourite thing about your role at Jane?

A: I love the relationship we have as staff, but particularly the relationship we have with the students. It's a privilege to share their educational journey.

Q: How does your background in broadcasting influence your interactions with passengers?

A: I think my teaching background colours my interactions with the Jane students as much as my media/acting work. But truthfully it all adds up and my interactions with the youngies is also as much a product of being a father to three boys.

Q: How does your love of music fit into your daily life as a bus driver?

A: My love of music, and having worked as a music journalist, gives me a deep appreciation of the role music plays in a rounded education. We have plenty of chats on the bus about different artists and types of music. I'm actually thinking of creating one day a week on the bus where I feature an artist. I'm open for discussions...

Q: Can you share a standout moment or interaction you've had while driving?

A: Every day is a highlight working at Jane. I have had wonderful interactions with lots of students and merely being a small part of their life is an honour and a joy.







A Raider for life

Alex McKenzie reflects on his time at Jane

Alex McKenzie is a Director at a law firm on Tasmania's beautiful North-West coast. Before this, he had a stint as a cellar hand at a winery in Switzerland. Yet, he insists that no view compares to the one he had of the Derwent River from his room at Jane Franklin Hall.

Alex lived at Jane in 2009 and 2010, but his connection to the college began before he even set foot on campus. His older brother Simon, who also lived at Jane, laid the groundwork for what living on campus could offer.

"Simon's experience was a major factor in my decision to come to Jane," Alex says.

"As a 17-year-old it seemed amazing. The freedom, but also the support, sport and social activities."

Alex distinctly remembers the excitement of arriving at Jane for the first time and says he was immediately struck by the picturesque grounds.

"The lawns and leafy ivy on the red brick buildings fit my vision of campus life," he says.

The on-campus energy and intercollegiate activities fostered a strong sense of community, setting Jane apart from other colleges.

"I loved the vibrancy of what felt like the Jane sense of itself," Alex says.

"It was the feeling of being part of something formative for all of us."

Alex's time at Jane had a significant impact on him and he strongly encourages anyone going to university to live on campus to get the most out of the experience.

"It sets you up for not just studies, but for life. It is particularly valuable to have a cohort of people around you who are studying a range of things."

"I wore it like a badge of honour," he says of his friendships with fellow Jane students.



"I felt so strengthened by the fact I had friends in a range of faculties. Especially because law can be quite cliquey."

"I had my Jane friends to provide a bit of a reality check. They are the ones that know you well enough to call you out and check in properly."

Alex says when he catches up with his friends from Jane now, they often shake their heads at the antics they got up to back in the day.

"I met friends and felt comfortable in my space very quickly — some would say too comfortable, he laughs.

"That being said, it always felt like I was surrounded by a caring, genuine cohort of people that made the transition from home to adult life easier."

Alex describes his closest friends as those he lived with at Jane.

"Being at Jane provides the foundation for a very genuine kind of friendship," he says.



"They are the friends that know me well enough to properly check in. It is their opinions on my choices or problems that I put a lot of weight in.

"They know the complete picture of you, not one you just portray to the rest of the world.

"Third year was a particularly challenging year for me personally and it was my friends from Jane that got around me and helped me see things weren't right.

"They reminded me of the things that helped me feel good."

Alex fondly recalls many feel-good moments, including coaching the college's winning rugby team.

Despite the game being more 13 years ago, Alex, clearly still a Raider through and through, is quick to recall the details of the win.

"I am confident it was against Christ," he says without hesitation.

"I played in two losing teams, and it felt so important. To coach the win in the third year with two others I had been at Jane with was very special. I remember feeling how exciting it was to bring the win home for Jane.

"I think Jane is one of those places where you get out what you put in. It really coloured my university experience."

This approach now extends beyond his time at Jane and into his family and career.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws with Honours in 2013, Alex embarked on a successful legal career and in 2022 became a Director at McLean, McKenzie & Topfer.

Now back on the North-West Coast, he has roles on various community boards, including the Tasmanian Council of Social Service, the Tasmanian Community Fund and RACT Group. He also enjoys cycling, sailing, and spending time with his wife, Samantha, and daughter, Lexie.



Making community

by Eugén Bacon

Eugén Bacon is an African Australian author. She's a British Fantasy Award winner, a twice World Fantasy Award finalist, and a finalist in the Shirley Jackson, Philip K. Dick and Victorian Premier's Literary Award (for her novel *Serengotti*). *Danged Black Thing* made the Otherwise Award Honour List as a 'sharp collection of Afro-Surrealist work'. She was the 2024 University of Tasmania Hedberg Writer-in-Residence, an honour which included residency at Jane.

We were delighted to host award-winning speculative fiction author Eugen Bacon at Jane this year.

Eugen was the 2024 University of Tasmania Hedberg Writer-in-Residence, which consisted of a three-month stay at Jane writing, working with students and taking part in community conversations.

We asked Eugen to share her insights on the topic 'what is community?' and she wrote the following piece.

I was born in the East African country of Tanzania, which, upon independence, fostered the term 'Ujamaa'—a form of African socialism that is ideally transcendent in its pure form of equality. It did not work because it was idealist and human nature sometimes compels others to selfishness or to feel more equal than others.

But one thing that stayed in Tanzania is a sense of community. Togetherness. Despite over 122 linguistic tribes in the country, there is a sense of oneness. We are one people. I could run next door to my neighbour and ask for salt. You will not find tribal divisions as you might find in other African countries like Kenya or Rwanda—the genocide, remember?

This is sounding like a really dark piece, but please stay with me. There is goodness coming. Maybe not. In a recent chapter essay for an upcoming book titled *You're Not Alone in the Dark*, edited by Eugene Johnson and Eric J. Guignard, I write about aloneness, in which I say:

What Is Aloneness?

I am more of an introvert than an extrovert and enjoy my own company. This is not the type of aloneness I'm talking about. I am in touch with myself. What I am talking about is how, you know, sometimes, even in a crowd, you feel alone?

Aloneness need not be the physical state of being alone, removed from others. It's an overwhelming sense of solitude, isolation, loneliness, detachment . . . It's a sense of alienation that feeds into a mental health issue.

There is a lot of aloneness in our world today, because we are consumed with our devices and our socials and our friends and everything we're familiar with, and sometimes we don't notice that person who is alone in a crowd.



Eugen with Jane students.

Community is not a tangible thing. It's not speaking the same language or living in the same place or having similar frames of reference, such as linkage to the same history or college.

Community is making others, especially newcomers, feel that they belong in whichever space, albeit brief. It's helping them see that they are present, and you're present, and it's okay because they're welcome, you're welcome, we're welcome, zie is welcome, fey is welcome.

It doesn't have to start big—how about the lecture room? The common dining hall? That newbie sitting alone, feeling lost in a crowd... help them feel that, even for one brief moment of reading or dining together, you are, we are, they are community.

Cultivating creativity

Not only was Jane an integral part of hosting the UTAS Hedberg Writer-in-Residence, the College also sponsored the 2024 Young Tasmanian Writers' Prize.

Open to all Tasmanians in Years 7-12, the short fiction competition gives students a platform to showcase their creative skills.

The Jane Franklin Hall Prose Award, judged by our talented Fellow, Lucy Christopher, was awarded to Stella Wesseldine from The Friends' School in Hobart.





Steve the cat:

The unofficial resident at Jane



First-year Jane resident Amalie Cox is studying a Bachelor of Media and Communication. As part of her studies, she wrote this piece on a unique resident at Jane, Steve the cat.

The curious feline, a cat by the name of Steve navigates his way through the lawns of the student accommodation, charming residents with his playful antics.

Steve has roamed around the Hobart college accommodation Jane Franklin Hall for years.

Neve Clippingdale, one of the Senior Residents at Jane has lived at the student accommodation for three years and still recalls Steve in her first year. "When I first arrived at Jane we actually had three resident cats called Edward, Steve, and a tabby one, but Steve was always best known," Neve says.

Jane Franklin Hall is a residential college for University of Tasmania students and was founded in 1950 for girls only and then became co-educational in 1973.

The college has great support systems for students which includes helping with educational and emotional needs. With a Dean of Academic Studies and Dean of Students being a part of the staff at Jane, what else do you need? A cat like Steve. He does a lot more than just exploring the campus and causing ruckus. He provides comfort for students who may be going through a tough time or just need a cuddle.

This year, as Jane Franklin Hall welcomed new and old students to the accommodation, Steve was introduced as the 'Presidents' cat'- as in belonging to the President. The story was that this year's president, Charlie Townsend picked Steve up on the side of the road. After, Charlie took care of him, and Steve would live in his room.

The freshers (Jane first years) were surprised after finding out that this whole story was fake, and it was a part of the fresher week pranks. Since that first week, all students have become infatuated Steve like he was an official resident at Jane Franklin Hall. With fresher student Sophie Lamb saying, "He helps with homesickness and missing my own pets, as he's so loving and acts like your own."

The true story of Steve was revealed after a letter was left at the Jane office from Steve's true owners. To find out that he has a brother named Charlie and that they are complete opposites was an extremely cute discovery. All

residents at Jane are so pleased to learn about Steve's true story, and to find out he loves to go on adventures all around Sandy Bay.

At Jane Franklin Hall Steve is known to be running around trying to get affection from students. As nicknamed by the Dean of Academic Studies as an 'attention seeking pest', he knows how to receive pats and cuddles.

When asking around many stories were told about Steve the cat, and what kind of mischief he has been up to. There have been many instances where he was found in people's rooms after jumping through windows and being found in common rooms.

Neve describes Steve as a 'major doofus' as she talks about his adventures around Jane. "I have seen him being chased out of the dining hall during a formal dinner by the kitchen staff, I have also seen him frequently get locked in the ridge bottom bathrooms. This is particularly funny because he sounds like a crying child, and it always freaks out the office staff until they go to investigate and just find a very grumpy cat."

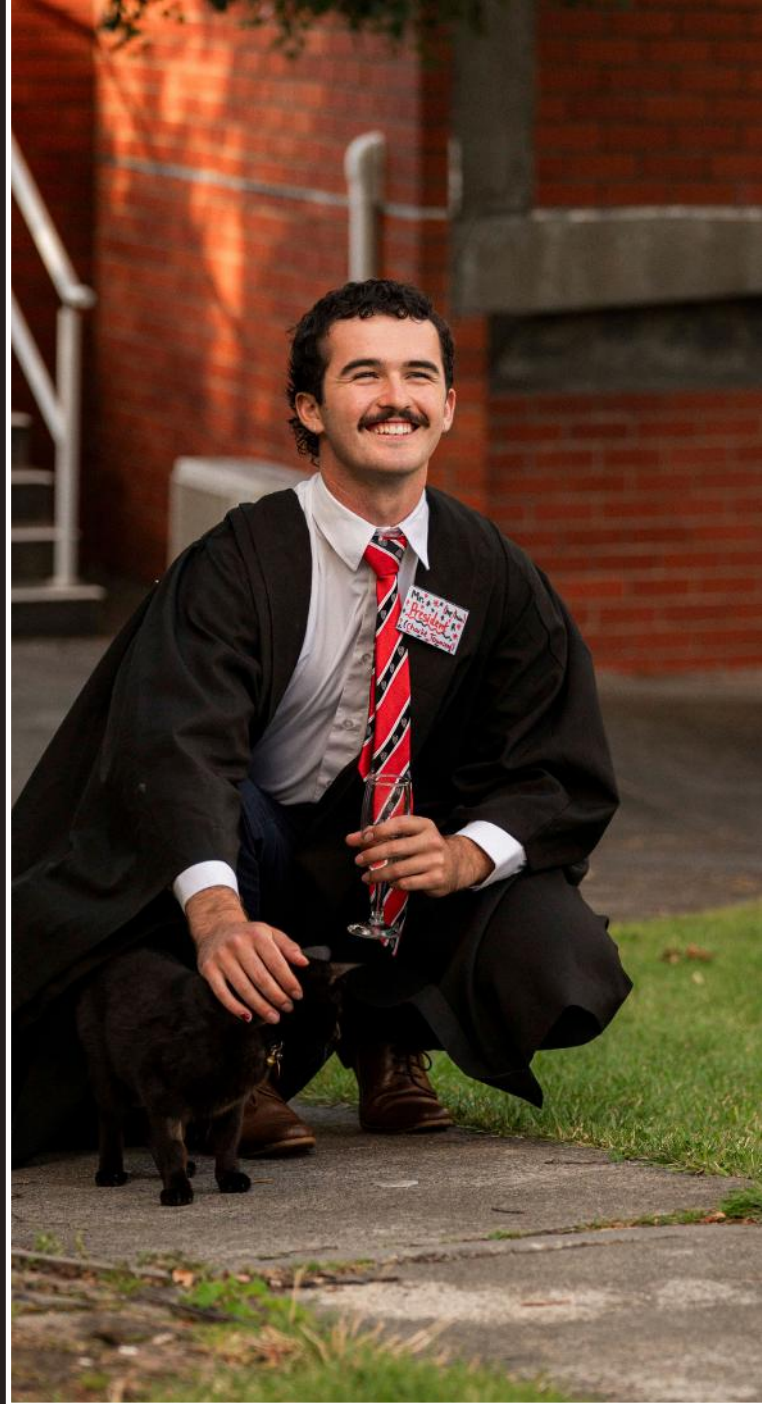
After living at Jane for three years, Neve has seen plenty of Steve. Sophie Lamb says she is one of Steve's biggest fans, she adds on to Neve's stories by saying: "My favourite moment with Steve was when I was studying in my room, and he was meowing at my window. When I came outside to find him, he had already jumped through my window and onto my bed."

According to the Higher Education Statistics, about 1.4 million students were enrolled in Australian Universities in 2015 and three in five students are aged 15-24 years old, and at least one in four will face mental health challenges each year.

Factors like financial stress, sleep deprivation, poor diet, living independently may worsen mental health issues among university students says Youth Mental Health Australia. Many students choose not to share or seek help for their mental wellbeing while at university. This reluctance is often because of the stigma surrounding mental health issues at university.

Engaging with animals, such as owning a pet, is often highlighted in the media for its positive effects on physical health and wellbeing. These benefits include increased physical activity, improved social interactions, and reduced blood pressure. Research has also pointed out the psychological advantages of pet ownership. Studies have proved that pet owners experience higher life satisfaction, increased self-esteem, decreased loneliness and anxiety, heightened ambition and more positive moods.

Steve the cat has become the pet for everyone at Jane Franklin Hall. With residents spending time with him constantly to reduce stress, provide emotional support, create a sense of companionship and offer a comforting presence for those who suffer from anxiety.



Sophie Lamb and many other students really appreciate having him around for de-stressing. "I'm generally a bit of an anxious person and seeing Steve in the middle of a busy study day always helps to relieve stress and makes uni feel not quite so overwhelming."

Steve's presence has contributed to a calming environment at Jane, and helps residents relax after a gruelling day at university. These positive effects contribute to improved mental well-being and overall student happiness. Steve has welcomed many students in this time and will continue to do so. He will be a part of everyone's college memories at Jane Franklin Hall.

Neve Clippingdale says "It is hard not to appreciate a very happy and friendly cat saying hello after a very long day of uni."

Regular giving, lasting impact



Julie Hamilton's time at Jane from 1983 to 1985 was more than a key part of her education.

"Jane is where I grew up," she says, reflecting on the friendships and experiences that shaped her.

Now, as a dedicated monthly donor, Julie is ensuring that future generations of students can enjoy the same vibrant, welcoming environment that once felt like home.

"I think a big part is nostalgia. It keeps me connected to Jane," Julie says on her support of Jane.

"When I open my magazine and see the fresh faces, who have everything ahead of them, I want to contribute so those people can be at Jane."

Looking back on her time at Jane, Julie has an abundance of beautiful memories. Starting out in Horton, she was thrilled to move to Vines in her second year because it was seen as hipper.

"I was part of a little group in Vines that got into beer brewing, she recalls.

"In the box room we found a banner from the Wilderness Society and cut it up to make cloth labels with vine leaves on them, which was fitting because we were in Vines."

"It was a riff on Moorilla (now MONA) that was setup by a textile manufacturer with cloth labels. It was representative of the time."

Now as a mother, with children starting university during lockdowns, Julie says she values the in-person college experience even more.

"Being at Jane was such a great starting point for university. I knew that I had people to go to. If we got lost meandering through Fitzroy Gardens (which I think actually did happen!), there were people who would help us find our way back. It was a really friendly environment and a good base."

Julie studied a Bachelor of Arts with honours in English literature but says being at Jane exposed her to many different people with different interests.

"You got a sense of other degrees. If the bus was going to pick me up from Stanley Burbury and I knew my college mate had a lecture, I would go and sit in on the end of the lecture rather than waiting the 10 minutes in the cold, draughty foyer," she said.

"I know people are very stretched these days. We were in the golden era with no HECS to pay for study.

"I was privileged that I didn't have to pay for higher education in my time. If I can help to improve someone's access to higher education and give them the type of experience I had, that's part of the reason I do it.

"It is about doing something which is not about yourself, your own kids or relatives. Putting money towards something that is going to have a lasting impact into the future."

Julie retired this year from 37 years in the APS in government communications. She is now busy volunteering, primarily as a guide at the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra, and in community groups focused on climate action, the environment and politics.

Interested in giving to Jane?

Contact our Advancement Manager, Gaye French at gaye.french@jane.edu.au or (03) 6210 0100.

Scholarships and prize

recipients in 2024

Awarded at Commencement

The Marcus Freeman Scholarship in Business

Awarded to: Grace Robertson

Offered to a commencing university student who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, undertaking a Bachelor of Business at the University of Tasmania and entering Jane in Semester 1, 2024. The scholarship was awarded based on financial need and a willingness to contribute positively to the Jane community. Donated by alumnus of the College, Marcus Freeman.

Scholarship in Health Sciences

Awarded to: Emily Quinlan

Offered to a commencing university student, who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, undertaking any Bachelor degree through the University of Tasmania's College of Health and Medicine and entering Jane in Semester 1, 2024. The scholarship was awarded based on academic potential, financial need and the capacity and willingness to contribute positively to the Jane community. The scholarship is made possible through the donation of an anonymous benefactor.

Dr Karla Fenton OAM Scholarship in Medicine

Awarded to: Cameron Cook

Offered to a commencing university student who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, undertaking a Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine at the University of Tasmania College of Health and Medicine and entering Jane in Semester 1, 2024. The scholarship was awarded based on academic and leadership potential within the field of medicine and the capacity and willingness to contribute positively to the Jane community. Funded by Dr Douglas Fenton-Lee in honour of his mother, Dr Karla Fenton OAM, Fellow Emerita of the College.

The Jane Community Scholarships

Awarded to: Sophie Lamb, Daneika Lovell and Samuel O'Neil

Offered to Tasmanian students, who are entering University. While applicants must have received sound academic results from Year 11, the most important criteria for this scholarship are about demonstrating good character and the potential to contribute positively to the College community.

Jill and Wayne Habner Scholarship

Awarded to: Amalie Cox

For a student commencing a Bachelor degree in any subject and who has completed their school studies at Launceston College, achieving outstanding academic results. In awarding the scholarship, financial need was also considered. The scholarship was founded by Jane Franklin Hall and Launceston College alumnus, Mark Habner, and is named in honour of his parents. We also acknowledge Mark's cousin and Jane alumnus, Justin Habner and his partner Simon Baptist, who have also contributed to the scholarship fund.

The Kate Gilder Scholarship

Awarded to: Catherine Bean

Offered for one year to a returning female resident enrolled in any Bachelor program who shows leadership, encourages others and has made a significant contribution to College life. Satisfactory academic achievement is important but the concept of "having a go" and achieving a balance in life between study, the outdoors and community participation is considered more important with this award. Endowed by Rosey and Sarah Gilder in memory of their sister, Kate.



In the picture above

Back row (L-R): Cassandra Ridding (Fellows' Scholarship), Daneika Lovell (Jane Community Scholarship), Mackenzie Grant (Hilary and Alan Wallace Scholarship), Isaac Close (Damon Courtenay Memorial Scholarship), Emily Quinlan (Scholarship in Health Sciences), Liam Fassett (2023 Jane Community Scholarship), Trinity Shires (James Fenton Memorial Scholarship).

Front row (L-R): Neve Clippingdale (2022 James Fenton Memorial Scholarship), Grace Robertson (Marcus Freeman Scholarship in Business), Kelsey Anderson (2022 Jane Community Scholarship), Catherine Bean (Kate Gilder Scholarship), Cameron Cook (Dr Karla Fenton OAM Scholarship in Medicine), Amalie Cox (Jill and Wayne Habner Scholarship), Samuel O'Neil (Jane Community Scholarship).

The Hilary and Alan Wallace Scholarship

Awarded to: Mackenzie Grant

Available to a commencing student undertaking a Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine who is educated in the north or north-west of Tasmania and who will need financial assistance to move away from home to undertake study. Donated by Dr Hilary Wallace and the late Dr Alan Wallace.

The James Fenton Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Trinity Shires

Offered to commencing students from the north-west of Tasmania enrolled in any faculty. The scholarship was awarded based on financial need and academic potential. Endowed by the late Hon Charles and Mrs Flora Fenton, in honour of Mr Fenton's great-grandfather, James, the first European to settle west of the Mersey River.

The Fellows' Scholarship

Awarded to: Cassandra Ridding

Offered to a returning student enrolled in any Bachelor degree, the scholarship is awarded based on academic success and service to the College. Donated by the Fellows of Jane Franklin Hall.

The Damon Courtenay Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Isaac Close

For a first-year student studying a Bachelor degree in any subject. The scholarship was awarded based on financial need and academic potential. Endowed by author, the late Bryce Courtenay in memory of his son, Damon.

The Jane Foundation Law Scholarship

Awarded to: Minnatullah Binte Muhammad Saiful Alam Shah

Donated by the Jane Franklin Hall Foundation, the law scholarship is given to the returning student who has achieved the highest marks in the subject Foundations of Law and is continuing studies in law.

The Dr Karla Fenton OAM and Dr Douglas Fenton-Lee Prize

Awarded to: Minnatullah Binte Muhammad Saiful Alam Shah

This is donated by Dr Karla Fenton in her own and her son's name to honour the memory of a friend, Dr Andrew Gibson. The prize is for the returning international student with the highest aggregate results from the previous academic year.

The Jane Franklin Hall Distinguished Scholars Awards

Each year we honour Jane students who achieved outstanding University results in the previous academic year. They become known as our Distinguished Scholars. All students who were residents at Jane in the previous academic year and who received a High Distinction average when totalling their percentage results across all their subjects, become Distinguished Scholars of Jane. The list of Distinguished Scholars is displayed in a book in the Senior Common Room.

Distinguished scholars from the cohort of 2023, awarded in 2024:

Antonia Anderson Black

Catherine Bean

Neve Clippingdale

Anna Fitzpatrick

Euan Hamdorf

Thomas Jewell

Peizhe Ma

Ella Matson

Victoria Monson

Ellen O'Brien

Meenakshi Sandhu

Annabel van der Heide

Dylan Welsford-Brink

Awarded at Valedictory

The Fellows' Prize

Awarded to: Isaac Close and Grace Robertson

The Fellows' Prize is donated by the Fellows of the College and is awarded for the most outstanding contribution by a first-year student or students to the overall life of the College.

The Southern Auxiliary Prize

Awarded to: Luke Campbell and Holly Scott

The Southern Auxiliary Prize is awarded to the student who has displayed unobtrusive concern for the College and its students.

The Principal's Prize

Awarded to: Patrick Boland and Amalie Cox

The Principal's Prize is awarded to the student or students who have most demonstrated commitment to living and supporting the Jane values.

Service Awards

These awards recognise students who, over the course of their residency, have gone above and beyond, willingly serving and enhancing the College community through their ongoing, positive contributions to Jane.

Kelsey Anderson

Ben Marshall

Jamie Nash

Luke Scolyer

Charlie Townsend

Annabel Van Der Heide

Christian Wyett

Alumni news

Alistair Beaton **(Resident 2003 – 2004)**

After graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in 2006, I spent a couple of years working in Hobart before the travel bug inspired me to move abroad. Following some time exploring Europe, I decided to make the move to Edinburgh in 2009, drawn by its reputation as a financial hub in the UK and some existing family connections in Scotland.

Shortly after arriving, I secured a position at State Street Bank. From there, I transitioned to a rapidly growing fintech startup called FNZ. During my time at FNZ, I have been part of the delivery team, where my role has centred on developing and implementing our products, working closely with both internal teams and clients.

The company's growth has offered me the opportunity to travel extensively. I've had the privilege of working with teams across Spain, Czechia, Germany, and Sweden.

On a personal note, I met my wife, Gillian, during those early years in Edinburgh. We now have two children, Sophie (9) and Lauchie (6), who proudly embrace their Australian heritage and love visiting Tasmania whenever we can.

William Castley **(Resident 2001 – 2004)**

After graduating in engineering, William worked in the US, Victoria and Hobart before returning to the North-West Coast where he is a field engineer for the NBN. He is married to Jen and has one son, Leo.

The brothers Cronin **Stephen Cronin** **(Resident 2015 – 2020)**

Stephen came to Jane as a Fresher in 2015 and left in 2020 after some four years as a Senior Resident.

Stephen has fond memories of his time at Jane, where he directed and produced several Jane Plays, debated, and assisted with cultural reform at College.

Stephen graduated in 2020 with a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts (Politics and Policy). After three years of working in criminal defence, family law and civil litigation in Launceston and Hobart, Stephen moved to Canberra earlier this year where he serves as a Prosecutor for the ACT Director of Public Prosecutions.

Nick Cronin **(Resident 2022 – 2023)**

Like his brother, Nick also spearheaded cultural reform and arts projects at Jane. Nick won the election for 2023 Student Club President and committed his term to improving the Committee's governance. He also formed the Music, Art, Drama and Dance ("MADD") Committee, for which he won a Jane Service Award.

Nick is studying for a Bachelor of Business (Managing People and Organisations), and now works as a Parliamentary Adviser to Senator Helen Polley in both Launceston and Canberra.

Stephen and Nick regularly spend time together in Canberra, catching shows or perhaps indulging in antipasto, and reminiscing on their great days at College!

Sarah Fitch (nee Milbrandt) **(Resident 1994)**

Sarah studied philosophy and political science as an undergraduate. She lives in Minnesota. After working for the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice and later for the Minnesota Department of Human Rights as an investigator, Sarah retrained as a nurse and now works in outpatient care. She and Gioia Massa met at Jane while on exchange at UTAS and continue to be best friends.

Matthew Greenhill **(Resident 1987–1988)**

Matthew graduated with a Bachelor of Agriculture. He lives in Devonport with his wife and has three children. Matthew is General Manager, Agriculture for Botanical Resources Australia, a company which produces a large share of the world's pyrethrum, a natural insecticide. Reflecting on his career, Matthew jokes, "I've spent a lot of time looking at flowers that look very similar to daisies."

Matthew is keen on outdoor activities and is about to embark on a gap year!

Michael Hart
(Resident 1974 – 1977)

Michael was one of Jane's first male residents and spent four years at Jane. He met his wife Stephanie at Jane and two of his children, Erin and Andrew have come to Jane. Michael completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Science at the University of Tasmania. In 2013 he retired after having various roles in agriculture in Tasmania, including working for the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture and spending a decade researching essential oils.

Jenny Knowles
(Resident 1984–1986)

Jenny is a Deputy Principal at Indooroopilly State High School. She lives in Brisbane and enjoys spending time with her family and travelling. Her daughter, Alice, works for the Federal Government in Canberra.

Liz Lester (née Jorgenson)
(Resident 1980 - 1981)
and David Lester
(Resident 1978 -1980)

David graduated from the University of Tasmania with a Bsc in Physics, Liz with a BA in Psychology. Sadly (because they loved Tassie), they moved to Canberra in the mid-eighties to take up careers in IT consultancy and Early Childhood Specialist teaching. Proudly a Jane Franklin couple, David and Liz have two children and recently two grandchildren. They are now living in Murrumbateman NSW.

Gioia Massa
(Resident 1994)

Gioia has a Bachelor in Science from Cornell University (with a wonderful semester at University of Tasmania in 1994), a PhD in Plant Biology from Penn State, and postdoctoral research from Purdue University. She now lives in Florida where she is a plant production scientist for NASA, working on projects to grow vegetables in space. The tomatoes failed at the international space station but lettuces did ok. She and Sarah Fitch (nee Milbrandt) visited Jane in December 2023.

Dr Elodie Moreau
(Resident 2011–2013)
and Ashby Cooper
(Resident 2012–2014)

Elodie studied Medicine at the University of Tasmania while Ashby studied Science. They met at Jane. They are now living in Sydney with their beautiful bundle of joy Theodore Etienne Cooper born on 18 October 2024. "Theodore wouldn't be here without Jane Franklin Hall," Elodie said.

Dr Kunal Verma
(Resident 2007)

I am a cardiologist and geneticist. Progenics.com.au is my private practice and I work at two public hospitals in Victoria. I'm one of two people in the AUS/NZ who do this job. We try to prevent sudden death in families from dangerous heart conditions.

Norma Walker
(Resident 1958 - 1959)

Norma completed a commerce degree, majoring in Accounting and Commercial Law. She was the only female in the class after the first year. During her Dip. Ed. year in 1961, Norma started teaching at Ogilvie High School in New Town; still only 20. Transferred to New Norfolk High in 1962. Married Barkley Walker in 1963, and then both taught at New Norfolk until the end of 1966.

They both went on to teach in London, before returning to Tasmania's northwest coast where Norma taught at Wynyard High School, and Barkley at Burnie High and Hellyer College. From 1975 until 1977, they ran a student hostel at Wynyard for 80 students from the west coast and Circular Head.

After selling their farm at Wiltshire, where they had farmed for 12 years, they moved to Stanley for 10 years and ran a bed and breakfast at home, a craft shop and had two holiday cottages. Ten years in Evandale followed, then seven years in Launceston, and nine years at a retirement village in Norwood, Launceston. They both play and teach bridge.



Top Row (L-R): Alistair Beaton and family / William Castley / Stephen & Nick Cronin at the National Arboretum in Canberra

Second Row (L-R): Sarah Fitch nee Milbrandt and Gioia Massa at Jane / Matthew Greenhill / Advancement Manager Gaye French, Michael Hart and Principal Joanna Rosewell

Third Row (L-R): Jenny Knowles and her daughter Alice Knowles / Liz and David Lester / Elodie Moreau, Ashby Cooper and Theodore Cooper

Bottom Row (L-R): Kunal Verma / Norma Walker

Vale Emeritus

Professor David Elliott,

Emeritus Fellow of Jane Franklin Hall

14 April 1931 to 28 August 2024

David was a native of Devonshire, specifically Plymouth. He was born in April 1931 and completed his early schooling there up until his tertiary studies. He then went to university at University College, London and lodged three years at Clapham. After gaining his Bachelor degree he landed a job at the NPLabs in Twickenham before travelling on a scholarship to Princeton, USA. There he was awarded a higher degree and returned to Sydney and the University of Adelaide until he came to Tasmania for the chair for Applied Mathematics in 1964.

At various times until he retired in 1994, David held the positions of Head of the Mathematics Department, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Chairman of the Professorial Board, Chairman of the Research Higher Degrees, member of the University Council and, for a brief period, was one of the University's Ombudsmen. Upon his retirement his association with the University did not end. Instead, he became Honorary Research Fellow and later a Professor Emeritus. He was a well-known regular of the lunch at the University Club.

David served as the (National) Secretary of the Australian Mathematical Society and an Honorary Research Associate in the School of Mathematics and Physics.

His good friend and colleague, Emeritus Professor Robert Delbourgo recalls:

In the academic sphere, David was as straight as a die. He served as Chair of the Professorial Board for a couple of years during Vice-Chancellor Caro's era. You could count on his judgement and logic whenever it came to a vote on a particular issue. I think he enjoyed that role and nobody complained, which is a rare tribute to his straight talking. He was interested in cosmology and would frequently raise the subject of the early universe and what occurred before the big bang.

David became a recognised expert in numerical analysis and integral equations. He would say to me that people paid little attention to numerical error estimates, "epsilons" as he called them. He knew that epsilons had



the potential to accumulate, especially where computers were involved and he would say: 'if mathematicians don't worry about intrinsic numerical errors who else will?'

David was a much-valued and committed Fellow, donor and friend of Jane Franklin Hall for 38 years. It was through David's efforts that his wife, Dr Karla Fenton OAM became a Fellow of the College. Their joint attachment to the College was further cemented when, after a ceremony in St David's Cathedral, their wedding breakfast was held at Jane. David's contribution to the College was recognised in 2018 when he was made an Emeritus Fellow of the College.

Rest in peace, dear David. You will be sorely missed by Karla, your family, university colleagues, the Jane community and close friends.

Thanks to Karla and to Bob Delbourgo for their support in compiling this tribute to David.

College community

Welcome to new Council Members

Ms Allison Clark, elected to the position of Council member

Dr Louise Grimmer, elected to the position of Council member

Ms Geraldine Harwood, elected to the position of Council member

Mr Jeremy Read, elected to the position of Council member

Welcome to new staff appointments

Phoebe Bobbi appointed to the position of Marketing and Communications Specialist

Trammie Cai appointed to the position of Accountant

Welcome to new Fellows

Dr Lucy Christopher

Dr Mike Guerzoni

Dr Linda Hunt

Associate Professor Jeffrey McGee

Dr Erin Roehrer

Associate Professor Hannah Stark

2025 Student Club Committee Members

Jeremy Southwell as President

Grace Robertson as Vice-President

Lachlan Goldschmied as Treasurer

Ruby Rockcliff as Secretary

Sam O'Neil as Equity Representative

Emelyne Lawson as Women's Sports Representative

Lochie Dean as Men's Sports Representative

Amalie Cox as Publications Representative

Felicity Harris as Social Representative

Joe Hall as Activities Representative

Newly appointed 2025 Senior Residents

Georgia Newman

Minna Saiful

Luke Scolyer

Holly Scott

Emily Sefton

Charlie Townsend

They will join Neve Clippingdale.

Summer Senior Residents

Daneika Lovell

Sam O'Neil

Sasha Sherry

Christian Wyatt

Thank you to 2024 Academic Mentors & Tutors

Academic Mentors

Catherine Bean

Neve Clippingdale

Anne Fitzpatrick

Thomas Jewell

Caragh Lawson

Leah Morrison

Jamie Nash

Abbie Pearce

Shontae Salzman

Luke Scolyer

Fletcher Tait

Annabel van der Heide

Obelia Wycisk

Tutors

Namgay Dorji

Sophie Evans

Victoria Monson

Meth Prathapasinghe

Oliver Pugh

Newly appointed Academic Mentors and Tutors will be announced in early 2025.

Farewell and Thank You

Kelsey Anderson from the position of Senior Resident

Ryan Diprose from the position of Senior Resident

Dean Cooper from the position of Fellow

Tracy Kemash from the position of Finance and Office Administrator

John Kertesz as Chair and Member of College Council

Caragh Lawson from the position of Senior Resident

Ben Marshall from the position of Senior Resident

David Morris as Member of College Council

Abbie Pearce from the position of Senior Resident

Ginna Webster as Chair and Member of College Council





JANE | 75
FRANKLIN HALL | YEARS

Save the date!

Celebrate Jane's 75th Anniversary

5-6 December 2025

Do we have your email address?
jane.edu.au/alumni/stay-in-touch





Ready to join Jane?

Location

Jane Franklin Hall
6 Elboden Street
South Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

Office hours

Monday–Friday
9:00am–5:30pm AEST

Phone

+61 3 6210 0100




Email

office@jane.edu.au

Website

jane.edu.au

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