



The **ACES** Club

Our Monthly Newsletter: June 2022

President's Report

Dear friends and subscribers,

First of all, I hope that this email finds each one of you well. In the last few weeks more Australians have emailed ACES seeking information about its mission and its goals. I will begin answering this question in this edition and over the next few editions.



One of the goals of ACES is to establish classical schools in every state and territory in Australia. In order for this to occur, teachers and parents particularly need to be convinced why this is the type of education that their child deserves to receive. Thus, ACES seeks to establish regional networks in each capital city i.e. a Melbourne network group, Sydney network group etc. These state-based network groups will comprise local teachers and parents who wish to learn more about classical schools and eventually create these schools. These network groups when established will organise events in their states, such as, parent information evenings, conferences, teacher training professional development days, and book clubs. Each state and territory will begin with a core group and slowly grow in numbers. ACES will support each group by promoting any events via our website and social media.

During the month of May, a Melbourne network group meeting occurred for the very first time. I'm hoping that a network group meeting can happen online in the next few

months in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth. If any person in any particular state and territory is interested in being part of these networks please send an email to contact@classicaleducation.org.au, stating your name and the state or territory where you reside.

ACES ideally wishes to create new brick and mortar classical schools over the next few decades. However, we also realise that there are already established schools that are wishing to transition to becoming liberal arts colleges. Thus, we are very keen to create and share resources with college principals who are interested in their school becoming classical. These resources will include units of work, college policies, and pedagogical tools that are all concerned with classical education, and aligned as closely as possible to particular curriculum and ACARA guidelines. The degree of flexibility varies in each state and territory and ACES will seek to support such initiatives.

One other goal of ACES is to offer professional development to teachers who aspire to work in a classical school. In order for this to occur teachers in Australia first need to be trained in the fundamentals of classical education. These teachers will then train other teachers or act as mentors. Let's be honest, the majority of us have not been classically trained! I'm hoping to approach the leaders in the classical school renewal in America (like CiRCE) to consider organising and running professional live training sessions at appropriate times for Australians. Initially, we need to learn from the Americans who are well-established in classical education and offer many courses for teachers. Once a core group of teachers in Australia have been trained then we can expand on this.

A third goal of ACES is to create and offer a YouTube series of videos and podcasts where we can interview principals, teachers, parents who are involved in the classical school renewal here in Australia. These videos will seek to create further awareness about classical education along with this newsletter.

As you can see there is an enormous amount of work to be done and there are very few labourers. I'm certain that every person who receives and reads this newsletter has many talents and strengths that we at ACES are not even aware of. Whether it be writing a unit of work, producing a podcast, organising an information session for parents, writing an article for the newsletter, creating promotional brochures that can be distributed to parents, or having a casual chat with a teacher or principal, we would like to hear from you. We need you!

If you are interested in joining some of our focus groups or simply have an enquiry, please contact us at contact@classicaleducation.org.au. I hope you enjoy reading the articles in this edition and enjoy watching the videos and/or listening to deeply inspiring conversations.

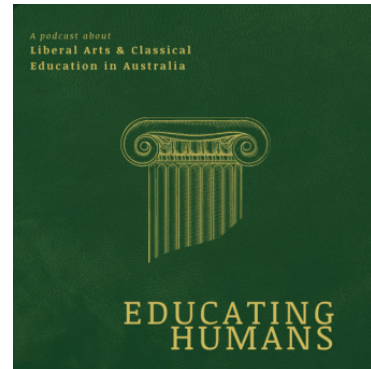
Yours sincerely,

Kon Bouzikos
President of ACES

Articles of Interest

EDUCATING HUMANS PODCAST

A new podcast called *Educating Humans* has been launched by Diff Crowther and James Treweeke. In this first episode they both discuss the purpose of education. Is it primarily about "getting a job"? Or should it be something more than that? On the premise that every pedagogy (way of teaching) stems from an anthropology (understanding of what it means to be human), Diff and James pull apart these assumptions, and point to the importance of keeping humanity front and centre in the educational journey.



Find the podcast [here](#).

CLASSICAL EDUCATION AND THE HUMANITIES

Andrew Zwerneman, who is the President of [Cana Academy](#), has written a brilliant article where he spells out very succinctly the importance of a classically liberal humanities education. In the piece he focuses on how one would teach history, literature, art and scriptures. Worth reading! Read the article [here](#).

FIVE CORE HABITS



How do you train your mind to think and learn classically? In this article, Cheree Harvey discusses methods Classical Conversations have taken to promote and teach children (and oneself!) a classical style of learning based on five core habits: naming, attending, memorising, expressing, and storytelling. These skills are particularly relevant to the Grammar stage of a person's education and, sadly, much neglected in contemporary schooling. Empower your

child and yourself! Read the article [here](#).

LATIN FOR LITTLE ONES

Miriam Thompson discusses some much needed Latin resources for young children. In particular, she explores a new course developed by the University of Dallas: Latin Through Stories, which seeks to provide an immerse and natural language learning experience. To learn more, please see her article [here](#).



From "What's the best kind of life for a human?" to "How should governments be arranged?", the great classics tackle some of the most enduring questions that have resisted the attempts of science and the ages to solve. In this video, Yale University Philosophy lecturer Jeffrey Brenzel argues persuasively that having intimate conversations with these great works will not only build your intellectual muscle but will also help you to grapple with the big questions in your life and improve your judgement.

ROBERT MENZIES INSTITUTE SPEECH COMPETITION

**Robert
Menzies**
INSTITUTE

The Robert Menzies Institute is organising a competition that encourages students to hone their oratory skills in a speech relating to the legacy of Australia's longest serving Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies. Known for his exceptional speechmaking, Menzies spoke often of the importance of ongoing and general education. Good education, he claimed, was integral to not only one's career but one's character. As we all know rhetoric is one of the seven liberal arts and this competition offers the opportunity for our students to prepare and deliver a good speech. Please visit the competition website [here](#).

BRINGING BEAUTY TO EDUCATION

Has our modern system of education become obsessed with the practical and technical to the detriment of a contemplative view of education? Can we help students find awe, curiosity, contemplation - and most important of all - meaning? Listen [here](#) to the panel as they discuss the role of beauty in education and show how a liberal arts education can form us as integral persons, mind, body and soul.

ANIMA EDUCATION COURSES

Anima Education are running four courses aimed at building a foundation of education for adult Catholics. These cover: Introduction to Philosophy, Scripture, Church History, and Theology. These courses would suit Christian teachers, parents and homeschoolers. For more information, visit the website [here](#).



NEWS FROM THE CHRISTOPHER DAWSON CENTRE



THE CHRISTOPHER DAWSON CENTRE FOR CULTURAL STUDIES

The Christopher Dawson Centre is an independent, not-for-profit think tank, founded in Hobart under the patronage of Archbishop Julian Porteous in 2013. Their focus is to preserve

and promote the intellectual traditions of the West, for example, the rule of law and representative democracy. Specific research areas include the study of Christianity, the defence and promotion of Christian culture as a central component of education in Australia, and democracy and freedom in the West.

The Dawson Centre annual colloquium is a conversation rather than a multi-stream conference. The emphasis is on the flow of ideas and speakers are encouraged to attend all papers. This year, the theme will be "Freedom of Speech and Religion: the Essence of Western Civilisation". Speakers are encouraged not only to identify key issues they see in society today relating to freedoms under attack but to also propose solutions.

The colloquium is a unique opportunity, against the backdrop of Hobart mountain scenery and mid-winter, to meet with other sincere minds to discuss, to listen and to be heard.

Bookings can be made [here](#). Additionally, you can subscribe to the Dawson Centre newsletter [here](#), or email Dr David Daintree for more information: director@dawsoncentre.org.

NEWS FROM THE AUGUSTINE ACADEMY



Augustine Academy offers a one year course in the liberal arts to students aged 16-19. After a comprehensive study in

theology, philosophy, history, literature, drama, grammar, logic and rhetoric, students graduate with a certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation. The campus is situated on a farm half an hour from Tumut, where students have daily opportunities for involvement in the agricultural projects and recreational activities like swimming, archery, mountaineering, and kayaking.

Augustine Academy is hosting a "come and see week" from the 11th-15th July. Prospective

students will have the opportunity to sit in on all lectures, see the campus, and meet the students and staff. There is no registration cost, and meals and accommodation are fully provided for the week.

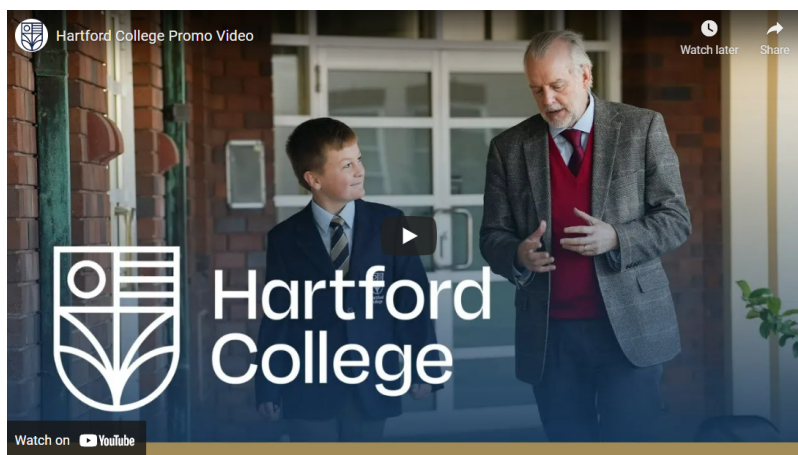
Additionally, Augustine Academy will be offering classes in the liberal arts in Sydney for students 14-16 years old. The classes will be held one day per week, starting mid-August. The classes will be interactive with dynamic teachers making the material relatable and engaging.

For further information or enquiries, please contact Ben McCabe at benmccabe@augustineacademy.com.au or on 0450 729 077.

NEWS FROM HARTFORD COLLEGE



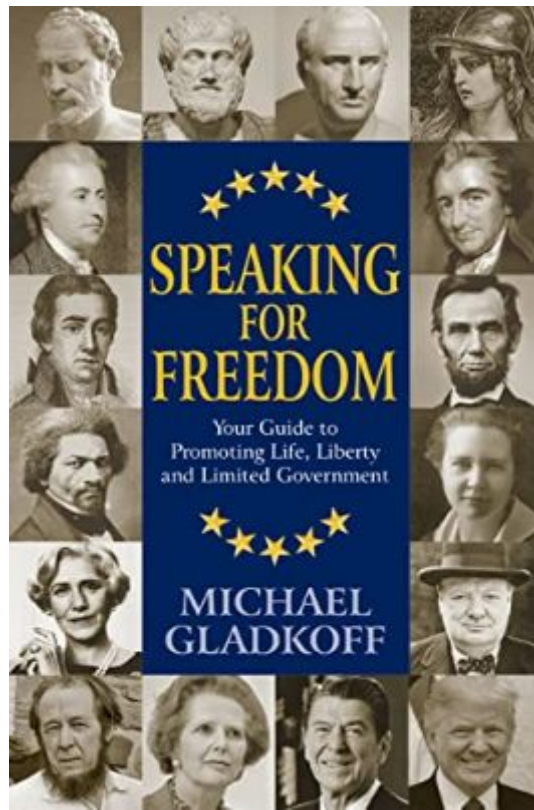
Parents continue to enquire about the unique educational approach at Hartford College. Watch the latest video with Principal, Frank Monagle, where he explains what makes Hartford College different.



As Hartford build a community of families who will be part of their future, the message about their mentoring program and unique Liberal Arts curriculum continues to gain traction.

Please share the above video with friends and encourage anyone who is interested as a parent, teacher or in the topic of education, to come along to their upcoming Parent Information Evenings and Try Hartford Days. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Books of Interest

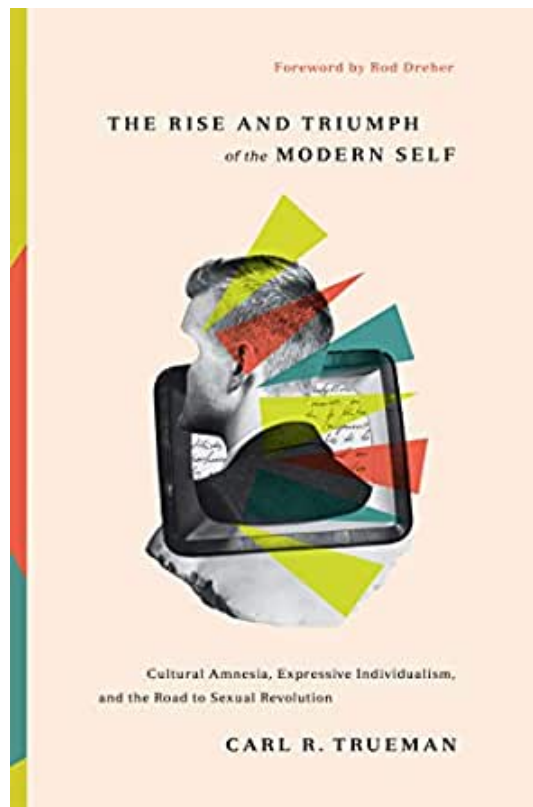


Speaking for Freedom gives you the tools to persuade with power in promoting freedom. Drawing on lessons from great speeches of the past and present from around the globe, you will boost your understanding of the elements of persuasion, including:

- Developing clear messages that are easy to understand and remember.
- Gaining and keeping the attention of your listeners.
- Using compelling stories to influence and inspire.
- Connecting with audiences with humour.
- Creating effective calls to action to change minds and inspire action.
- Applying ancient language "secrets", used by today's top business and government leaders, to ensure your message is remembered, acted upon and shared.

Speaking for Freedom will change the way you lead with more powerful speeches, presentations, videos and other formats, whatever your goal, audience or event.

Visit the author's website [here](#).



During the recent CiRCE and ACES conference, Dr Christopher Perrin encouraged all participants to buy and read a book called *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution*. Since the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges Supreme Court decision in 2015, sexual identity has dominated both public discourse and cultural trends - yet no historical phenomenon is its own cause. This book explores various views and perspectives that have contributed to the modern understanding of the self.

The book can be found [here](#).



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