



The Ridley Log

Registration Edition 2014

WELCOME TO RIDLEY!

Miriam Dale

Hello all! Welcome to Ridley 2014! What you are currently holding in your hands is this year's first edition of the Ridley student newspaper. In these pages you will find a Welcome from Brian Rosner, our Principal and self-titled "Intrepid Leader". You will also find insider tips on where to get the best parking spots, where to find the best coffee, and who to talk to when you're feeling stressed at College. Other important items include a "Who's Who" of your student council, the names and details of the Registrars (in case you suddenly have second thoughts about taking on that 5th subject), and a thoughtful reflection on the experience of doubt as a theological student. Dear reader and fellow Ridleyite, it is a pleasure to have you here with us; whether you are a first-timer or an old hand, we are very glad to see you! Keep an eye out for the upcoming monthly editions of the Log, and get in touch if you'd like to contribute! Here is to the coming year: Cheers!

A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL....

Dear students, new and old, timid and bold, hot and cold. Welcome to the fold. At this threshold we promise to uphold you in prayer. We aim to remold you into Christ's likeness. We are so glad that you enrolled. Fear not, Ridley Melbourne is pure gold. The challenges and joys of studying here are untold. (Sorry, okay, enough of the cheesy rhyming)

I hope you have had a good break over summer and are looking forward to getting stuck in. I certainly did and am.

I was welcomed to Ridley Melbourne myself only eighteen months ago and, as you might have guessed, in my unbiased opinion, Ridley is great value.

It's certainly a privilege for you students to be studying with us here.

Not just because of the brilliant, erudite, witty, modest faculty and the extra mile, shirt-off-their-backs, warm and cuddly staff, and not just because of the delectable, nutritious, yummy food and the supportive, passionate, selfless student body, but because of the subject matter of your study!

You get to study the true and living God, who made everything and is remaking everything, including you, in Christ by his Spirit!!

"The fear of the Lord is the key to the door.
But if folly you favor, seek knowledge no more"

Proverbs 9 (The Bible in Rhyme)

See you in class, chapel, the dining room, the library, my office, on the tram, across the table tennis table and at Primary!!!

And don't be surprised or offended if I say to you several times during semester one, "great to meet you."

Brian Rosner

Your Intrepid Leader



PEOPLE TO KNOW:

THE RSC

The Ridley Student Council is here to do all we can to support you guys, the students.

We coordinate **Launch Camp**, run **student social events** (including Eurovision nights, debates, Table-Tennis competitions, etc.), buy resources for the **Student Lounge**, organize **prayer-triplets**, take care of the **lockers (ask us if you'd like to rent one)**, produce the **student newspaper**, **advocate** with staff and faculty for student well-being, **pray** for all of you, and much more!

If you have any queries, uncertainties, or just want to have a chat or a rant about your Ridley experience, please come talk to us! Our details are in the Student Directory, or come find us on campus.

OFFICERS:



Chair: Stephen Urmston



Deputy Chair: Ben Soderlund



Secretary: Kirrily Drew

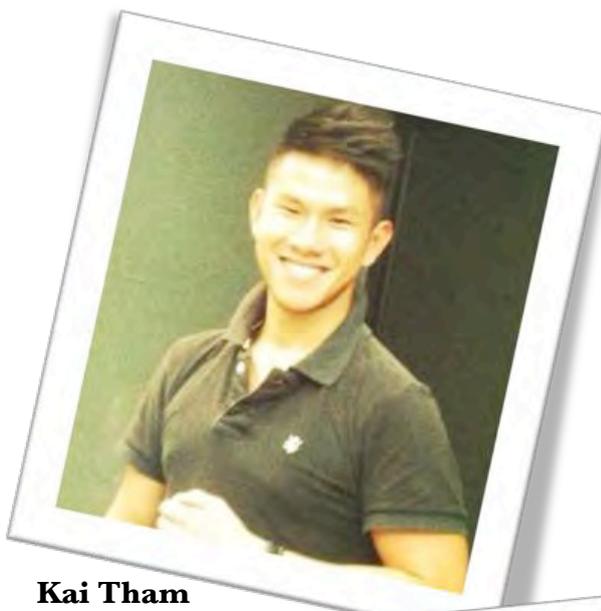


Treasurer: Jeremy Watson

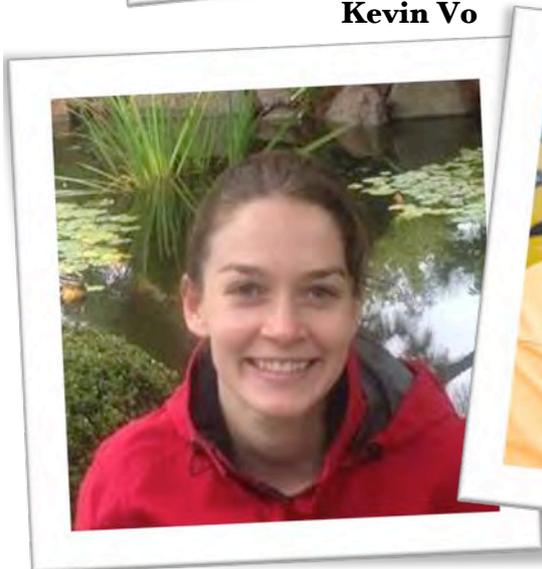
GENERAL MEMBERS:



Kevin Vo



Kai Tham



Mel Endacott



Peter Noble



Miriam Dale

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:



Music Coordinator: Ceridwen Sharpe



Chapel Coordinator: Samuel Crane

STUDENT ADVISOR

Feeling overwhelmed by study? Unsure why you are at Ridley? Stressed by life in general? If you would like someone to talk to about these and more, Ridley has a dedicated Student Advisor who is there to listen and support you! His name is **Don Holmes** and any student can make an appointment with him through **Reception**. Simply drop by the front desk or call them on **9207 4800**.

THE REGISTRARS

Although we don't have pictures, it won't take you long to memorize the beautiful faces of our Registrars. These are the people who will help you to figure out what your life will look like during the school year. They are the people who you will deliver assignments to, and the people whose kind smiles will get you through the long sessions of course-planning. These are our Registrars. They are all contactable at:

<registrar@ridley.edu.au> or on **9207 4800**

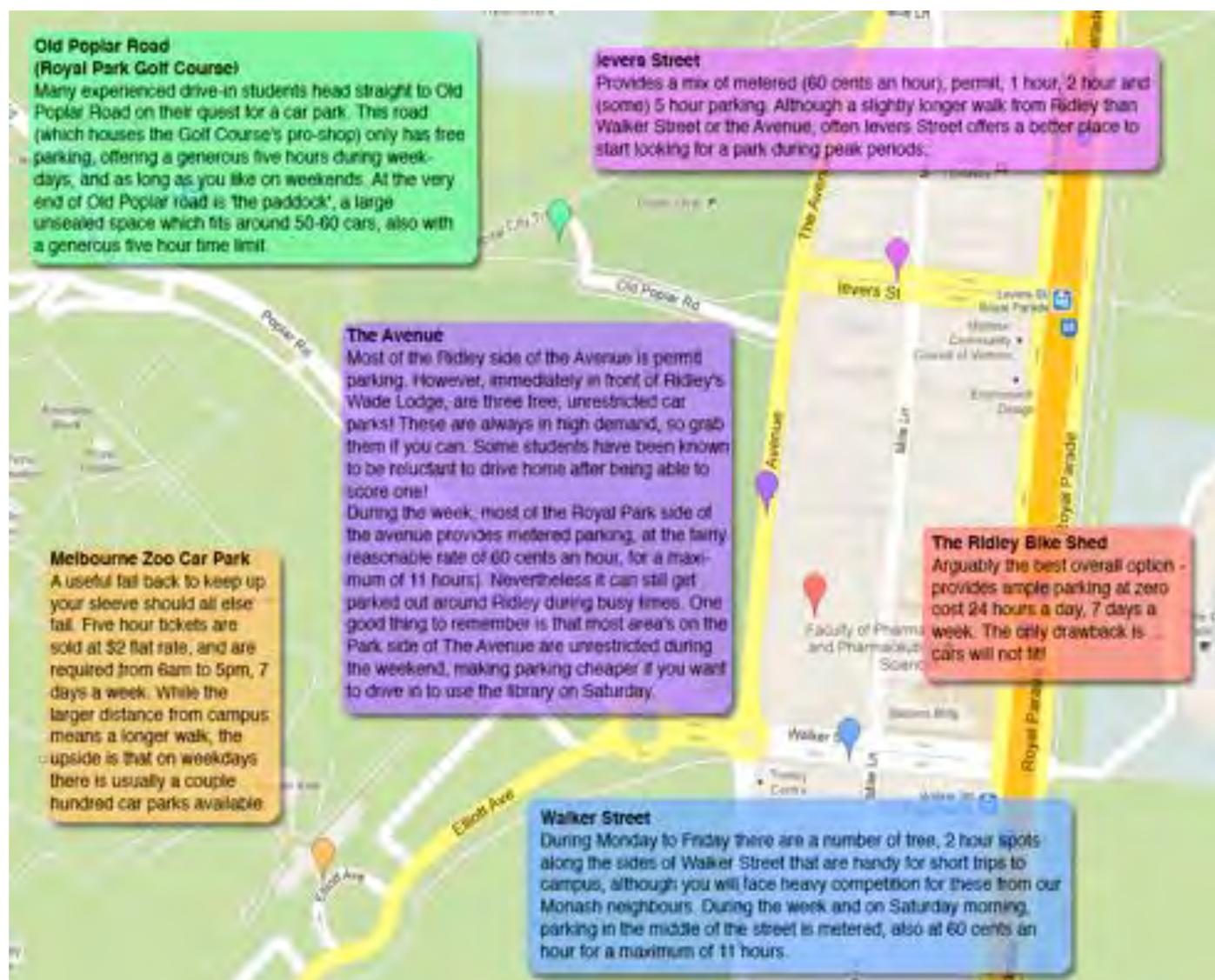
Registrar: Mrs Katrine Bramley

Assistant Registrars: Mrs Alyson Flynn
Ms. Natalie Brough

A GUIDE TO PARKVILLE PARKING:

Ben Soderlund

Did you know that the City of Melbourne estimated in its 2012-13 Budget that it would raise almost \$50 million in parking fines in that financial year alone? Don't become a statistic! Save time and money when driving to Ridley by using our handy-dandy guide to the best parking spots around campus.



ON THE HUNT FOR THE PERFECT CUP?

Chris Porter sacrifices his time and energy to scout out the local coffee joints...

The Ridley Log is here to give you a brief guide to the black gold we all so crave. While there aren't many places to get coffee around college, there are still a number, and this intrepid reporter has visited many of them in the quest for a good brew. Here are several, in order of distance from college.

The Student Lounge

Lying unassumingly in the kitchen of the student lounge is a small Nespresso machine. Sure it doesn't provide the best coffee, but it will get you through those late-night, last-minute, Endnote-dying revision sessions before your essay is due.

The Dining Room

Ok, admittedly this doesn't provide coffee all day long, but at morning tea you can usually get a decent cup of percolated coffee. Same as that Cup of Joe you have always wanted. Best to get in early though before all the bitter tannins get burnt out of the grind.

Primary (<500m)

The first of our offsite cafes is in the front of the Pharmacy building on Royal Parade. Primary do a good trade in coffee from Ridley, and the staff are pretty friendly as well. Coffee is usually decent, although at busy times it can take a while, reasonable flavour and texture but it isn't going to blow your mind. Do note though they have no ATM and credit cards are >\$10 only, so bring cash. Overall a good staple coffee close to college.

3/5 cups

P.S. try the lemon and pepper chips, they are luscious.

Degani (<500m)

The local outlet of this chain operates on the southern side of Walker St, on the corner with Royal Parade. Degani provides a wide selection of baked goods as well as the essential coffee trade. In my experience here the coffee varies wildly, with some days the barista feeling inspired, and others they are merely insipid: both the coffee and barista. With the variance in coffee in mind, it really is a taste-at-your-own-risk adventure.

There is an ATM nearby in the small convenience store next door.

2/5 cups

Wide Open Road (1km)

A gentle 15 minute walk down the tree-lined Royal Parade will get you to this hipster haven on the corner of Barkley Street and Sydney Road. Roasting it's own coffee on site, the smell of coffee beans and good food add to the gentle bustle of this warehouse-chic café. They also sell their roast direct to public, for those of you who want to take your coffee passion to the next level. Grab a coffee here before venturing further North to discover the delights of Sydney Road.

4/5 cups

Miss Marmalade (1.8km)

Further afield to the north lies Miss Marmalade: a charming little café just off the Upfield bike path, and lying in wait on Union St. MM prides themselves on their 2 bean status from the Melbourne Coffee Review, and the coffee lives up to that standard. As well as delicious coffee they serve a wide range of food, and the Bacon and Eggs Benny is heartily recommended.

4/5 cups



Seven Seeds (2.3km)

Further out again lies Seven Seeds, although arguably more convenient if you are heading towards the city. This well-known Melbourne institution is tucked away on Berkeley St in Carlton, and is the regular haunt for most of Melbourne University Law School as well as streams of coffee snobs coming from far and wide to sample their wares. Also roasting on site they offer a full coffee experience, from regular cupping days through to workshops on roasting and brewing. Coffee here is of a high standard, as it should be given their 3 bean rating from MCR. A range of food is offered too, but arguably it plays second fiddle to the coffee.

4.5/5 cups

Auction Rooms (2.5km)

Tucked away in North Melbourne the iconic Auction Rooms café has long been a staple of the coffee aficionados across the region. Similar to Seven Seeds it offers a wide range of coffee based products, and beans locally roasted. It too prides itself on its coffee, again achieving a 3 bean rating from MCR. On the food side their menu is arguably stronger than Seven Seeds, although in a completely different vein. Really a must visit to compare and choose.

4.5/5 cups

Well, there are many more coffee shops and cafes that I could wax lyrical about, from Brother Baba Budan, St. Ali, Sensory Lab, Plantation, Three Bags Full, Dukes, and many more opening up seemingly weekly. But for now these are the closest coffee purveyors to Ridley. If you have any other suggestions, or places that I have missed, please contact us and I will “have” to make the “sacrifice” of testing out more cafés.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

(And other contributions to the Student Newspaper)

The Student Newspaper is made up of letters, articles, poems, photos, essays, cartoons, and much more – all contributed by the Ridley Community or it’s friends. If you have something you would like to write about, an announcement you would like to make, or a picture you would like to draw, please get in touch with Miriam Dale at <miriam.dale@gmail.com> - she would love to hear from you!



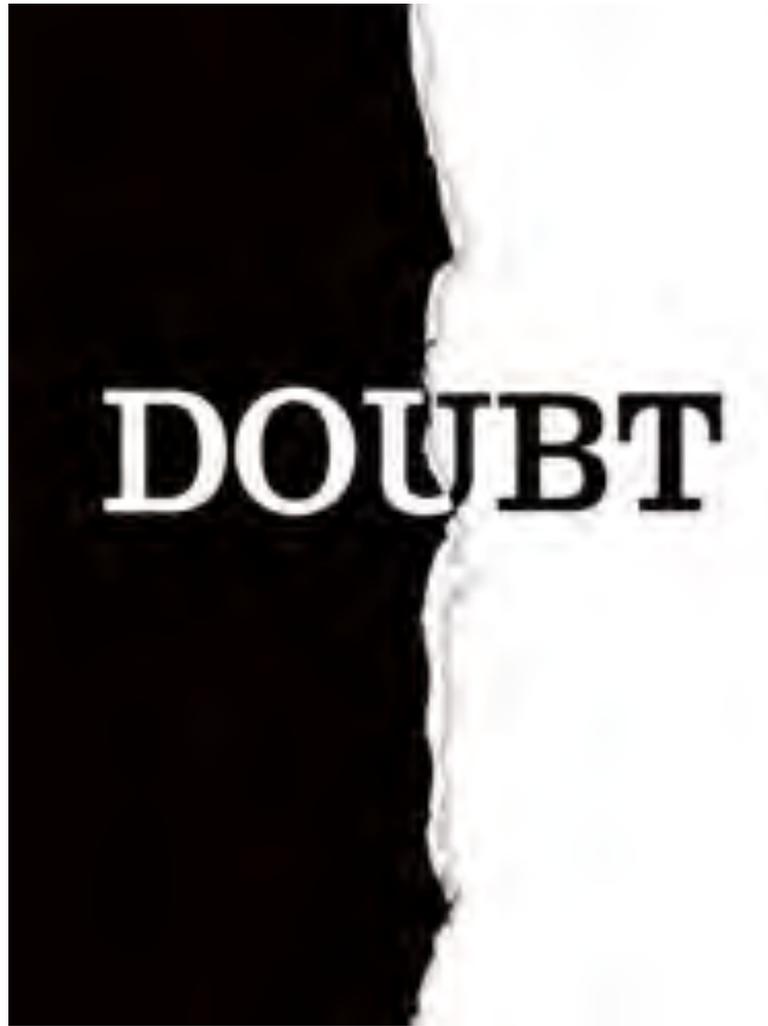
DOUBT...

By Kimmily Drew

Doubt is a taboo topic amongst Christians, especially Christians who are studying at Bible College. Most of us *believe* that doubt is a normal, necessary part of building a mature faith. But our silence on this topic suggests that deep down, we *feel* that it is shameful – even sinful – to experience doubts about God.

During the course of our theological studies, many of us will find our beliefs about God challenged. For some, this will be a minor bump in the road. But for some of us, doubt will infect our whole lives, with the potential to destroy our confidence in Jesus Christ.

I have struggled with intense doubt, and have found it a long, difficult and often solitary road. So, with the hope of encouraging more discussion on the topic, here are some tips on dealing with doubt as a theological student.¹



First, don't ignore your doubts. Admit your questions to yourself, set aside your essay preparation, and apply yourself to investigating possible answers. You are probably not the first person to wrestle with your area of concern!

Second, bring your doubts to God in prayer. Throughout history, God's people have poured out their doubts to him, and he has revealed himself (although without necessarily answering all their questions!). Persevere in prayer, asking God to strengthen your faith in the midst of your doubts (Mark 9:24).

Third, talk to people you trust: your pastor, prayer triplet, close friend, or lecturer. They may not be able to solve your problems, but they can listen, encourage you, and pray for you.

Fourth, persevere in living as a Christian. Don't let your doubts push you to compromise your behaviour in a way that you will be ashamed of later.

Finally, and most importantly, continue to preach the gospel to yourself. Even when it is hard, read your Bible daily.² Listen to the gospel preached in chapel. Hear it proclaimed in song. As the gospel takes root deeply in your heart, you will come to know with certainty that Jesus Christ has died for you and you are irrevocably his, regardless of the size of your faith.

Friends, as you start the year at Ridley, whether you are an old-timer or here for the very first time, let me encourage you not to keep silent about doubt – let's share the burden, pray for one another, and preach the gospel to each other daily!

¹ Many of these tips are 'borrowed' from helpful talks, books, and conversations over the years. There is so much more to be said on this topic than can be printed in this edition of the Log!

² You may find that a 'Bible-in-one-Year'-type resource removes the delaying tactics of 'I don't know which book to read'. I'll let you know how that works out for me!