

OLD SCHOLARS

Issue 2 December 2017

newsletter



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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Attending our recent reunion celebrations were Old Scholars from the Class of 1997 Kate Wandel (McCormack), Matt Flannery, Alexandra Mitchell (Button), Kelly Leask (Simpson), Kerri Waldhuter and Ben Ward.

Greetings to our alumni, you are remembered and always welcome.

We have been very excited to meet old scholars on a number of occasions this year. The return of the Salesian College men of the 50s and 60s was a quite profound moment of treasuring memory and confirming the special spirit of the place. Our formal 77s to 2007 Old Scholars gathering was a sparkling success. Having Graham Ford on the microphone welcome and teasing made it so special. We have old scholars returning to enrol their children and that moment becomes very special. I delight in confidence and stories during an interview. And when the old scholars come back and apply for jobs we see in them the power of the St Mark's traditions. They identify a special spirit. They want to sustain it.

What our visitors discover when they return is that much about Port Pirie, and what makes it so precious, remains. We still have the gossip about the smelter and how it is going. We still have the golf course needing more water or the discussion about the Council and what they should be doing. We still have the rivalry of Savoy and Virtus but they don't play each other any more. We have the community commitment to sporting clubs and all over town people wear T Shirts announcing a football team or a netball premiership. There are hockey shirts with lists of premiership players and funny slogans about the players' trip. We still have that sporting cohesion and family spirit. We have the heat of the north wind but no more sulphur smell nor playing games sliding down slag heaps. We have the intimacy of a rural population and the sophistication of a growing community. We are a maturing city and St Mark's is responding as well. But visitors discover much remains that keeps us together.

It was a wonderful evening when we launched our Salesian Old Scholar's reunion this year. There was a tour of the place and some gasps of recognition and funny stories told. They remembered some of the bricks and mortar and yet, of course, so much has changed. They connected with each other as they shared a journey of memory and a walk around an ever changing school. What our visitors found is that the Salesian commitment to excellence and welcome and laughter remains. They connect quickly with the Good Samaritan spirit that is sustained through our compassion and care. The school is changing but the foundations that supported its uniqueness remain.

We always look forward to a visit from an old scholar.

Warm regards

Greg Hay

Principal, St Mark's College



Old Scholars Lindy Clarke (Cooke), Katie Pole (Keane) and Melissa Gadaleta at the recent reunion.

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Around the College



In Term 3 we introduced our Little Lions transition-to-school program, Miller Smith is one of our 'Little Lions', son of Old Scholar from the Class of 1999 Vicki-Anne Mezzino.



In Term 4 we farewelled long-serving staff members Julie van de Water and Peter Munday who are photographed with Fr Francis, Fr Harold and Fr Arno at the Cathedral.



Sports Day returned to Benedict Oval and Polding were victorious for the second year in a row.



Our new 2018 College Captains were announced! Congratulations Riley Hayes and Ellie Combe pictured with Principal Greg Hay and 2017 Captains Jayden Gonsalves and Ebony Bennier.



Our Class of 2017 celebrated their graduation at the Northern Festival Centre.



**ST MARK'S
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Around the College



IMMERSION: Our Philippines Immersion group raised over \$10,000 for underprivileged schools and communities.



SHEARING: TAFE SA were onsite to teach students the skill of shearing.



BOOK WEEK: Our Year 6 and 7 School Captains officially opened the annual Book Week Parade.



AWARDED: We celebrated College sports and awarded our outstanding athletes.



ADELAIDE SHOW: Over 40 students represented the College and 'showed' our McNally Farm steer and goats.



STARRING: Aislynn and Jack starred as Nancy and Fagin in the College production of Oliver!



EXHIBITION: We recognised the talents of our Visual Arts students with the Bosco Prize.



LEADERSHIP: We announced our new Deputy at Bosco- Marc Forster.



CANDLE: As a College we farewelled our Year 12s at the traditional candle Mass.



FAREWELL: For the first time, we farewelled both our Year 6s and 7s for secondary school.



COLOUR BURST: Over 600 people bursted with colour as we raised \$4400 for local organisations.

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Reunion for 1977, 1987, 1997 and 2007 Classes



CLASS OF 1997: Back, Hayley Kotaras (Harris), Christie Simpson (Harris), Helen Brown (Farinola), Susan Turley, Sarah Wauchope (Manners), Front, Gail Reid and Megan McWaters (Davidson).



CLASS OF 2007: Rachael Wilson (Sheridan), Carly Ramsay and Jordan Meaney (Clemow).



CLASS OF 1967: Roseanne Tee (Fricker) and Lina Brentson (Pepe).



CLASS OF 2007: Jarrad Brevi, Nicholas Connolly, and Matt Wilson with John Gibson.



CLASS OF 2007: Kristen Thomson, Alexandra Scollin, Jess Hill (Dunkley), Natalie McMahon and Dani Kirchner.



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

Collective Memories from the Class of 1977



Annette Hedges shared a collection of special memories from students of the Class of 1977.

We have many fond and wonderful memories of a safe school that helped us form lasting friendships that span across 40 - 52 years starting from Reception at St Anthony's. A group of us have kept in touch for many years and the conversations flow easily reminiscing the good old days at St Mark's.

- Our high school years weren't always co-education. In 1973, Year 8 was all girls at Wandearah Road (Benedict). In 1974, when we were in Year 9 we went co-ed and moved to The Terrace (Bosco). We then returned to Benedict Campus for Year 10 and 11 (1975 / 76).
- When we think of teachers, Fr Ray Cau is at the top of our list. He was always taking photos telling funny stories, jokes and comments (some probably inappropriate these days). His cricket bat was a discipline tool, mainly for the boys in the first year of co-education to settle the raging hormones. He had a fair amount of patience to a certain point.

Our first day of co-ed, the girls standing on the opposite side of the yard too afraid to venture in the classroom. Out comes Fr Ray with a booming voice that we weren't at all used to "get to class".

He was also very kind and gentle. During one very hot summer day in Italian class, he asked who wanted a 'Kelvy' from the beach kiosk. The small class of 7 squeezed into his little white car, he drove us to the beach, bought us each a Kelvy and had us back at school just before the next lesson without anyone knowing. He also gave us the opportunity to come in on a Sunday to prepare for Year 11 exams, and playing tennis with Fr Ray at lunch times was fun. He was a guiding light and mentor to many of us and his legacy lives on forever.

- Flora Rumbelow was one of our English teachers. Her stern glare was all she needed to quieten the class even though it took a week before she got the message across. She was a breath of fresh air to us girls given we were so used to seeing only black and white (the nuns). Her outfits were highly talked about every day. She stimulated our minds to a bigger world.
- John Mullin was a fondly remembered Science teacher. His stories about the impending school trips always shortened the lessons but most of all, his interest in our lives and his gentle nature will never be forgotten.
- Meryl Reichelt was our P.E. teacher. She had a calming voice and patience with the girls who weren't so keen on P.E., mainly Spud.

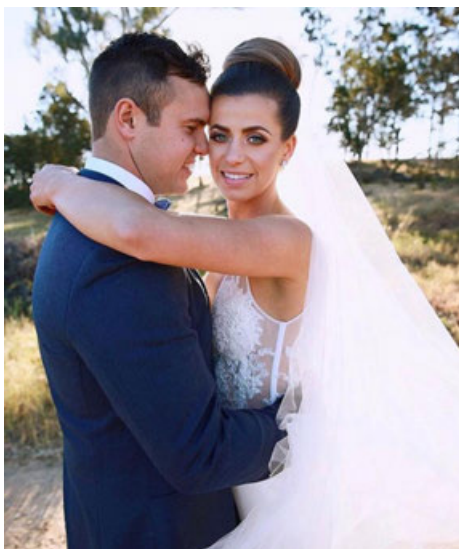
- Mrs Chilvers was also one of our English teachers. I know when you're young, everyone older seems really old, but Mrs Chilvers was really really, old like in her 70's. When she died during the term, the school arranged for a mini bus to take our class to Adelaide for her cremation. At the time we were told we caused her death as her heart couldn't take the constant antics from the boys.
- Betty Prest taught us typing and shorthand. She used to place a tea towel over our hands during typing lessons so we couldn't look at the keys on the typewriter (and it paid off, thanks Betty).
- Sr Felicitus (aka Flip) or Sr Moya as she was later known. Whilst teaching sex education to Year 8 girls, she drew the male anatomy on the chalk board. That was a surprise coming from a nun which left us questioning ourselves as to how would she know?
- We had regular uniform checks by the nuns to make sure our summer uniform length was less than 4 inches above the knee. And if it was more than this, we were in the bad books.
- We wore light blue box pleat netball uniforms with the white twisted belt and tassle. We truly loved these.
- George the school dog lived somewhere on Wandearah Road, was always around to eat our scraps and was ready for a pat.
- The many school trips to Melbourne visiting the MCG, Mt Gambier, Ballarat, Sovereign Hill and Mt Buffalo in the snow. The boys had to stay in a separate hotel 30 mins away in another town to make sure nobody got up to mischief during the night.



Annette, Angela Jordan (Madigan) and Graham Ford at the reunion.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Wedding Bells



ALYSE LYNCH, Class of 2010

Alyse married Travis Edwards on 14 October on the family property at Laura. The couple live in Laura and Alyse works at CAMHS in Port Pirie.



NATASHA GADALETA, Class of 2006

Tash married Khord Koppu on 14 October at the Adelaide Sailing Club. The couple live in Adelaide where Tash is an Occupational Therapist for Guide Dogs SA.



TARA-MARIE SARACINO, Class of 2007

Tara-Marie married Shane Walshe on 11 November 2017 at Middleton Beach Huts. The couple live in Adelaide and Tara-Marie is a primary school teacher.



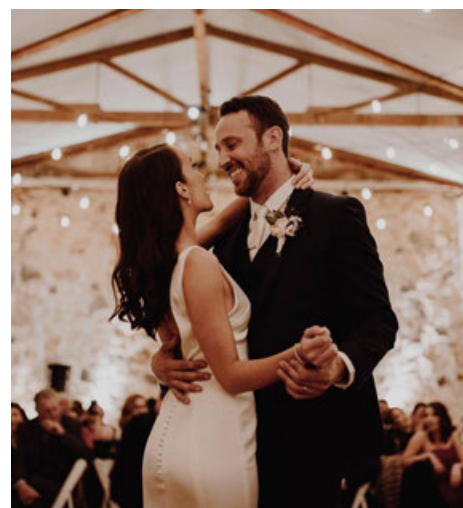
JESSLYN OXFORD, Class of 2005

Jess married Tim Byerlee on 11 November at Eldredge Wines in Clare. The couple live in Port Pirie and Jess is the Year 8 Coordinator at St Mark's.



JOEL HANLON, Class of 2002

Joel married Tessa on 21 October at Port Phillip Estate on the Mornington Peninsula. The couple live in Melbourne where Joel works for New Balance Australia.



ANDREW PALUMBO, Class of 2002

Andrew married Monique on 4 November at the Goldings Winery. The couple live in Adelaide where Andrew works for Investigator College at Victor Harbor.



**ST MARK'S
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Social Snaps



Jane Langston, Kaylene Willson (Hanlon), Nic Keain, Jane Dickeson (Waters), Kylie Nelson and Jacqui Nelson (Sayner) celebrated Jacqui's 50th.



Old Scholars celebrating the Palumbo wedding were Jon-Louis Bellifemini, Daniel Palumbo, Andrew Palumbo, James Hellmanns and Dillon Malcolm.



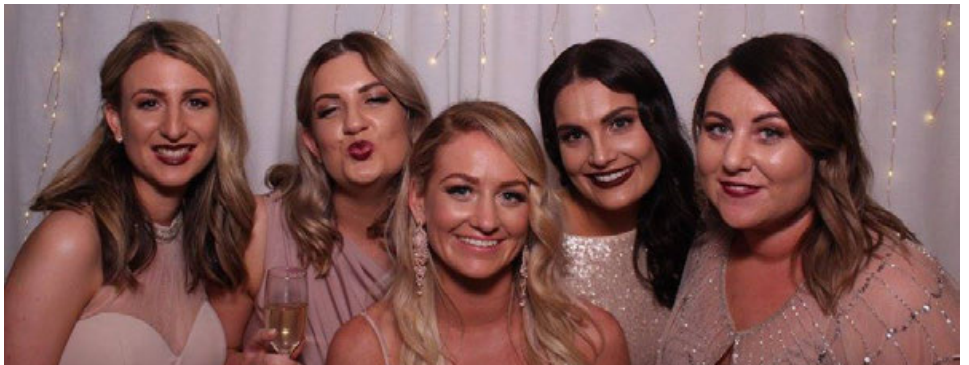
Celebrating the Edwards wedding were Emma Barratt, Terese Annese, Hayley Combe, Jessie Hammond, Alyse Edwards (Lynch), Ebony Spadavecchia, Bec Capurso and Nikki Caputo.



Janita DeGioia (Tridente), Martine Wright (Amato), Maria Silvestri (Mezzino) and Tania Rafanelli celebrating Maria's 40th.



From the Class of 1989, Margherita McAuliffe (Fasciano), Marita Anderson (Caputo), Melissa Gadaleta, Bridget Lange (Bourke), Stephen Pisani, Maria DeVigilio (DeGiglio); Samara Tilbrook (Atkinson), Paul Jamieson, Monica O'Neil (Ryan), Ezra Spolding (Nicholls) and Linda Ho-Mackinnon (Ho).



Celebrating the wedding of Tash and Khord were Alyse Annese (Capurso), Olivia Spadavecchia, Tash Gadaleta, Felicity Brevi and Teresa Gadaleta.



Old Scholars celebrating the wedding of Jesslyn and Tim were Kylan Reddaway (Oxford), Hannah Clarke, Tayla Stevens, Jesslyn Byerlee (Oxford), Hannah Horsnell, Lauren Procter, Elke Holze and Mae Camporeale.



Old Scholars Loren Jones (Eberhard), Catherine Caspers (Willson), Luisa Fetherstonhaugh (Keane) and Paige Cross (Smallcombe).

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Around University

Congratulations to our Old Scholars at St Ann's who have celebrated many achievements this year!

CHLOE BUCHANAN, Class of 2014

- College Medal for more distinctions than any other grade

CAROLI DE VILLIERS, Class of 2014

- College Medal for more distinctions than any other grade
- Daryl Feather Prize
- College Club Visual Arts Award
- Female Collegian of the Year

KELSEY FETHERSTONHAUGH, Class of 2015

- College Medal for more distinctions than any other grade

JANE MURPHY, Class of 2015

- Elizabeth Morris Prize

LACHLAN TURNER, Class of 2013

- Mechanical Engineering College Club Augean Stables Award

LUCY WOOD, Class of 2016

- St Ann's representative at National Association of Australian University Colleges



Caroli de Villiers was named St Ann's Female Collegian of the Year.



Hannah Oborn performed in the musical "Grease" at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre in October.



Congratulations to Old Scholar Courtney Gum from the Class of 1999 who was drafted for the GWS Giants in the WAFL!



**ST MARK'S
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Our Newest Arrivals



CLAIRE PAPARELLA, Class of 2002

Claire and Adam Marshall welcomed Izak Bruce on 10 July. The family live in Port Pirie where Claire's older children Caleb and Alyssa attend St Mark's College.



EMMA BARRATT AND ADAM KUPSCH, Class of 2010 and 2012

Emma and Adam welcomed their first child Oscar Peter on 14 July. The family live in Crystal Brook.



DAVID MONAGHAN, Class of 2001

Dave and Hannah Monaghan welcomed Larni Mae on 16 August. The Monaghan's, including big brother Koby, live in Port Pirie where Dave works at Bentley's Building Supplies.



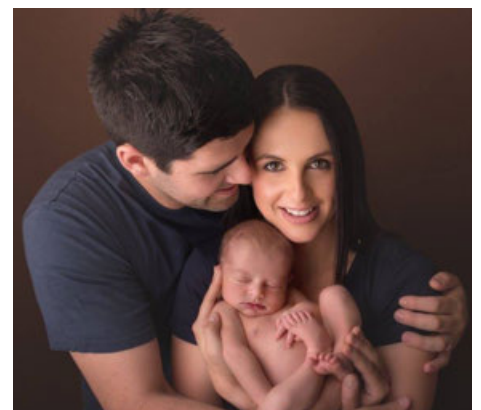
ABBY FISHER, Class of 2002

Abby and Kym George welcomed Hugo Jude on 30 July. The George's, including big brothers Archer and Finn live in Port Pirie where Abby has her own business.



REBECCA KEANE, Class of 1999

Rebecca and Toby Ripley welcomed their first child Bodhi Thomas on 18 September. The family live in Adelaide where Rebecca is a manager at Woolworths.



JESS DUNKLEY, Class of 2007

Jess and Daniel Hill welcomed their first child Parker Jude on 10 October. The Hill's live in Port Pirie where Jess is on maternity leave from ANZ.



AMY PARKER, Class of 2001

Amy and Tim Moss welcomed their first child Hunter Jon on 15 November. The family live in Adelaide where Amy is a primary school teacher at St Joseph's Memorial School. *Many thanks to St Joe's for the great photo of Amy with her Year 7 students.*



GREG WILLSON, Class of 2002

Greg and Amy Willson welcomed their first child Kyla Rose on 18 November. The Willson's live in Port Pirie where Greg works at SA Water.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Tori-Anne Gill



Old Scholar Tori-Anne Gill is making her mark on the fashion world with her label Dark Thorn. Her garments have been invited to grace the runways of Paris Fashion Week next year.

I've always loved fashion but never considered it as a serious career option until 2013, when I first began working on my label, Dark Thorn Clothing.

I grew up on a farm just outside of Mundoorra, a small country town approximately two hours North from Adelaide. In 2012, I graduated from St Mark's College where I designed and created my own Graduation dress for my research project. Not knowing I could pursue fashion I moved to Adelaide in 2012 and began a make-up course at Colour Cosmetics Academy. Even though I enjoyed playing with makeup, I knew it wasn't me. I completed the course and decided to move back home.

The idea for Dark Thorn Clothing was born out

of my limited access to exciting, fashionable clothes in country South Australia. I just couldn't find the styles, cuts and garments I was searching for. I started designing clothes in my own back paddock – I created pieces that were classic and versatile; my own wardrobe staples.

In 2015, I officially launched Dark Thorn Clothing. What began as me printing my drawings onto shirts has now evolved into hand-crafted designer pieces, that are sold globally. My designs are inspired by the classic Victorian era, featuring black silk, high necklines, lace trimmings, embroidery and textured fabrics. Dark Thorn Clothing is a representation of myself and my style. My pieces can be moulded to suit any woman's individual style; whether you prefer to dress with sophistication and class or make a grungy statement.

Dark Thorn Clothing designs are unique, sustainable and ethical. These values are important to me and there was no question that they'd play a huge role in Dark Thorn Clothing. I do what I love in a responsible way. I'm also proud to say Dark Thorn Clothing is 100% designed and manufactured here in Australia. This ensures I'm supporting and strengthening the local industry to offer a high-quality product to my customers.

I've been fortunate enough to have some incredible experiences with Dark Thorn Clothing so far; from being invited to The Oxford Fashion Studio founded by Victoria Beckham to hosting my own pop-up boutique in Adelaide's Rundle Mall.

Next year I will be unveiling my new collections at Paris Fashion Week. Being in such a fast-paced industry, I want to keep growing my label and officially launch it on the international stage and it would be an incredible privilege to do so. I think it's really important to stay true to you and what you want to do. Everyone can dream big, even those who are from small country towns!

After being invited into the hallowed halls graced by couture veterans such as Yves Saint Laurent, Stella McCartney and Balmain, I'm one step closer to making my dream of presenting at Fashion Week a reality. I possess a strong vision, unique garments, the skill set and a certain je ne sais quois; but I need assistance with funding to make it happen.

I'm aiming to raise \$30,000 AUD which will help fund runway fees, photography, videography, models and showroom costs. Even the smallest amounts will make a huge difference. You can donate via my GoFundMe page:

www.gofundme.com/dark-thorn-to-paris-fashion-week.

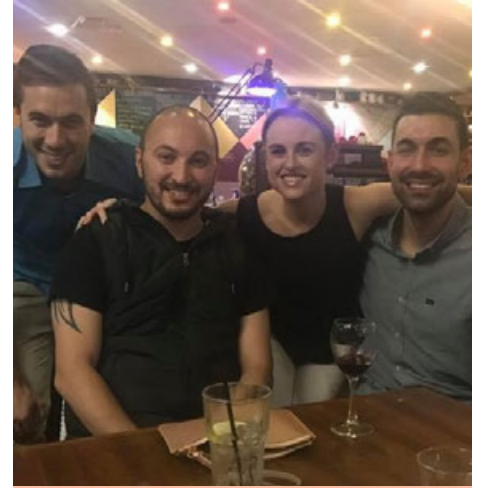


**ST MARK'S
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Mark Giancaspro



Mark on a recent work trip to the United States of America.



Catching up with school mates- Mark with John Mezzini, Kirby Livingstone and Chris Hedges.

University lecturer, practicing lawyer and proud Old Scholar Mark Giancaspro shares his fond memories of his school years at St Mark's College.

I graduated from St Mark's College in 2004. Members of my year level were very affable with one another and so I am fortunate to have enjoyed good friendships with everyone I finished Year 12 with. My closest mates were John Mezzini and Chris Hedges, and also Camron Slessor and Ryan Rodda, who were a couple of years below me. These guys remain my closest mates today.

The end of Year 12 was a busy time for me. I played in a Grand Final for the Northern Demons (State League soccer) and was lucky enough to win. I then applied for university and moved down to Adelaide to live with my older brother, Adam. Thankfully I attained the marks I needed and studied Law at Flinders University whilst working at Coles in the evenings.

I graduated with my Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice (Honours) in 2009. I went into criminal practice with the firm that trained me before deciding to switch to commercial law. It was hard to find employment at the time due to the global financial crisis but I was lucky enough to be taken in by commercial law firm Fisher Jeffries. I clerked there for some time before deciding to commence postgraduate study at the University of Adelaide. I completed my Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD) majoring in Law in 2013.

Nowadays I am a lecturer in law at the University of Adelaide Law School and a practising lawyer through the Magistrates Court Legal Advice Service (MCLAS). The Service is owned by the School so I am fortunate enough to combine both academic and practice, which I find very fulfilling. My specialist areas are contract law, commercial law, operational (military) commercial law, and sports law. My days are spent teaching, researching, collaborating on projects with industry partners, practising at MCLAS, and general administration as well. I also do a fair bit of travel domestically and internationally, primarily working with the Australian and US Defence Forces in the contracting space.

I have so many fantastic memories of my time at St Mark's. The best thing for me was the amazing camaraderie amongst our year level, and our fun relationship with our teachers. We drove them nuts, but we were always respectful, did what we were told, and knuckled down when we had to. Teachers like Mr Mullen, Mrs Congdon, Ms McKeough, Mr Cronin (Sir), Mr Penfold, Mr Heinrich, Miss Hensing, Mr Boyle and others were always willing to have a joke with us and I am grateful to retain ties with many of these amazing people today. The Year 12 Retreat, final Mass and graduation ceremony were also experiences that will live in my memory forever; emotional and meaningful. The funny DVD

commemorating our graduation was also a highlight – it's still on my shelf!

My eldest brother Darren and his wife and children still live in Port Pirie, and Darren currently works in IT at the College. He keeps me updated on the wonderful progress and growth it is experiencing. My niece Mya and nephew Anton also attend the College, as do many of my younger cousins. Some of my friends even work there as teachers, such as Damien Introna and Nikki Caputo. I am currently in talks with colleagues to undertake a regional town tour to showcase the many wonderful opportunities that exist in legal education and employment. Port Pirie will, of course, be the first place we mark on the map. Stay tuned!



Mark and his nephew Anton who is currently a student at the College.

Fond Farewells



Many Old Scholars would remember the traditions of farewelling our graduating students. From the spectacular Thanksgiving Mass in the Cathedral, to the balloon release at Benedict Campus, to the glamorous graduation celebration and the fondly remembered "Candle Mass" we celebrate the importance of each student's contribution to our College. It is wonderful to see Old Scholars return to celebrate these sacred College moments with their children.



Year 12 Graduate Eliza Lowe with her mum Ann (Salvemini) and her grandmother Joan who all attended St Mark's.



Old Scholar Toni Boulton (Freer) and her son Kye who finished Year 7.



Old Scholar Sally Johns (Waters) with her son Will (centre) who graduated and family Tilly, Ella and Phillip.



Old Scholar Gerard Porta with his daughter Bella who finished Year 6.



Old Scholars Linda Oliphant (Caputo) and Dina Turci (Correri) with their graduating children Anthony and Nicola.



Old Scholar Andrew Ward with his daughter Maggie who graduated this year.



Old Scholar Jane Dickeson (Waters) with her family, including Jack, Will, Bryan, Maggie (who graduated) and Charlie, with Fr Francis.



Old Scholar Ezra Spolding (Nicholls) and her daughter Aslin who finished Year 6.



Old Scholar Kellie Brown with her son Zachary Stephens who graduated this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS



**ATTENTION
ALL PAST STUDENTS**
of
St Mark's College
Port Pirie



You are invited to a
SCHOOL REUNION
Saturday 20 October 2018

Celebrating Anniversaries for Graduating Classes of
1968, 1978, 1988, 1998 and 2008.

- 5pm** Tour of College
- 6pm** Drinks and nibbles in the
Bishop Gallagher Centre

To register your interest please contact
Linda on 8633 8800.

Keep up to date with news and events via Facebook.

We want to hear from YOU!



New baby? Just tied the knot?
Maybe you have graduated from Uni?
Or simply caught up with old school friends.



Send your photos or news to:
oldscholar@smc.catholic.edu.au
and we will include it in the next newsletter!



*Christmas
Blessings
from
St Mark's
College!*

This year's
Benedict Concert
was performed in
Week 9 and 10.



**ST MARK'S
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