

OLD SCHOLARS

newsletter

Issue 1 July 2020



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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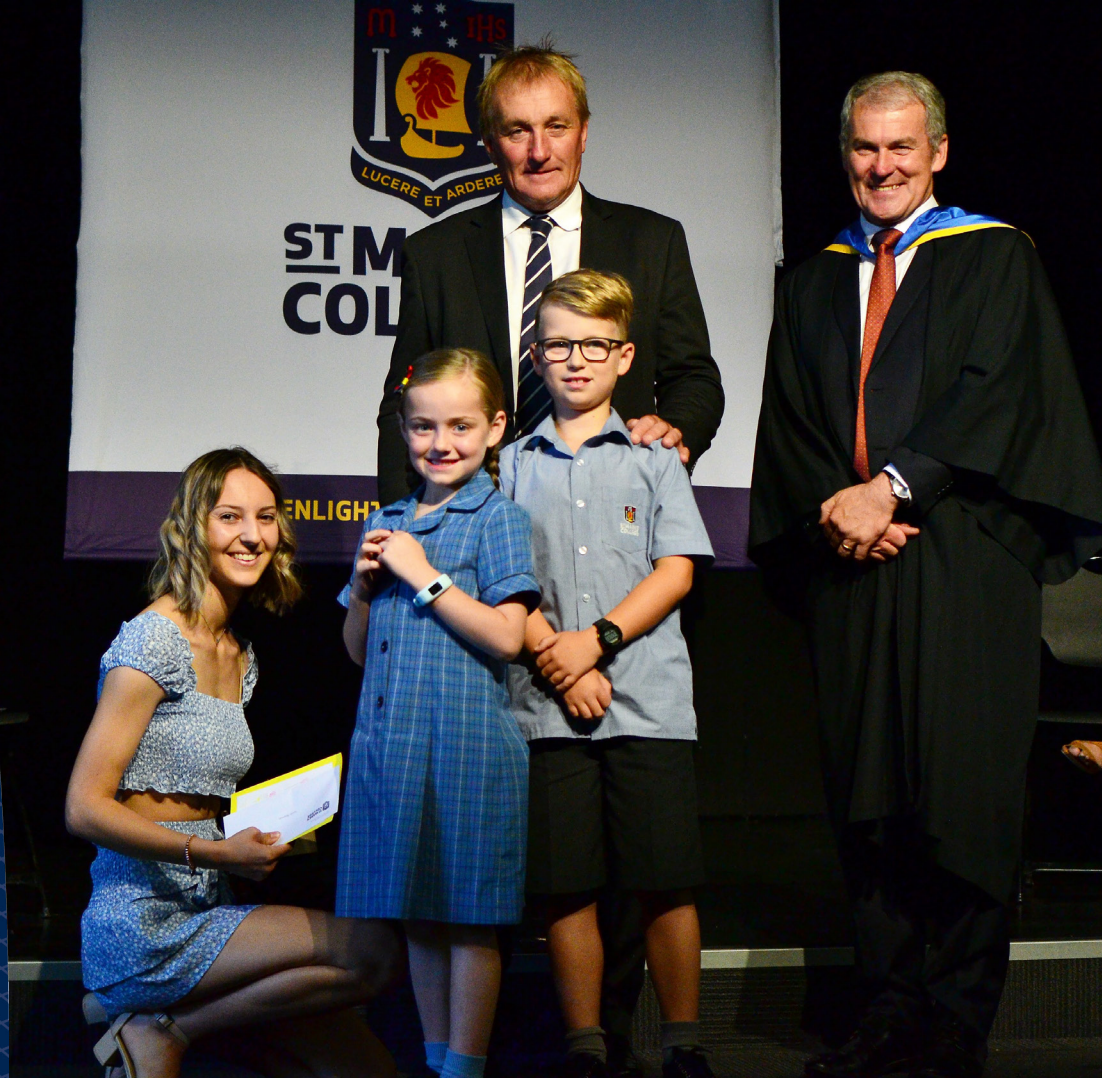
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Old Scholar and Dux of St Mark's College in 2019 Sarah Newman is congratulated at the Dux Assembly. Sarah (left) is photographed with Year 2 students Georgia and Parker, special guest Brenton Vanstone and Principal Greg Hay

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

When we think of old scholars we always smile. We reminisce about the characters, the larrikins, the quiet and the studious, the courageous and the determined. They do make us laugh and make the work of teachers so exciting. In a newsletter like this, that memory of old scholars fills our heart, and then we are surprised to see an image of you. You have grown and we love to hear that you are doing well. Your lives, your stories, your journey as Old Scholars is very important to us. We think of you as school students and always remember the innocence and the charm, the efforts and growth. But you have grown and so much has happened.

I welcome you to our Newsletter and to the memories of St Mark's. I am always keen to make contact and to say that this is still a good place. I hope that you know that this community remains caring, studious and energetic and that it is just like it was when you were here. I want you to know that what made us important in students' lives when you were here has not changed. The things like fun and learning and the strength of community remain the same. The traditional Salesian priority to honour and welcome remains. There are a couple of new buildings that have found their place here but it is still St Mark's just like you knew it.

This year the Covid-19 may have tried to divide us and the rich activities of the school are a bit more subdued but we are going well. I hope that you can drop in some day. We will get to hear the stories. We want to hear about the journey into adulthood and share in your accomplishment. Enjoy the Newsletter and know that you are always welcome back.

Warm regards

Greg Hay

Principal, St Mark's College

Dux Assembly

At this years Assembly, we celebrated our Dux, Sarah Newman, Louise Arthur, Bethany Castle and Scarlette Thoman who achieved an ATAR of 90+ and Year 11 students Sophie Millard and Sophie Hall who achieved Merit Awards for their Research Projects.



Celebrating success- Melissa Gadaleta, Katie Pole, Bethany Castle, Sarah Newman, Toni Freer, special guest Brenton Vanstone, Sophie Millard, Greg Hay, Sophie Hall, Jo Court and Briony Forster



Bethany Castle with special guest Brenton Vanstone



Scarlette Thoman's mum, Sandi, accepted her award as she was in the USA



Old Scholars Clem Stanley and Emily Gonsalves returned to celebrate with our Dux, Sarah



Around the College



The tradition of the Year 12 Athletics Day dress-up continues, as does the winning streak for Gallagher! First to Gallagher, closely followed by Bosco, with McNally and Polding in third and fourth position.



The 2020 commemorative jumper for our Year 12s



Our Year 6 leaders were commissioned in Term 1.



A new generation of sportspeople are rising at St Mark's with the introduction of ESports at the secondary campus.



COVID-19 created many changes at the College, in particular for school drop off (luckily our Year 6s love helping!)

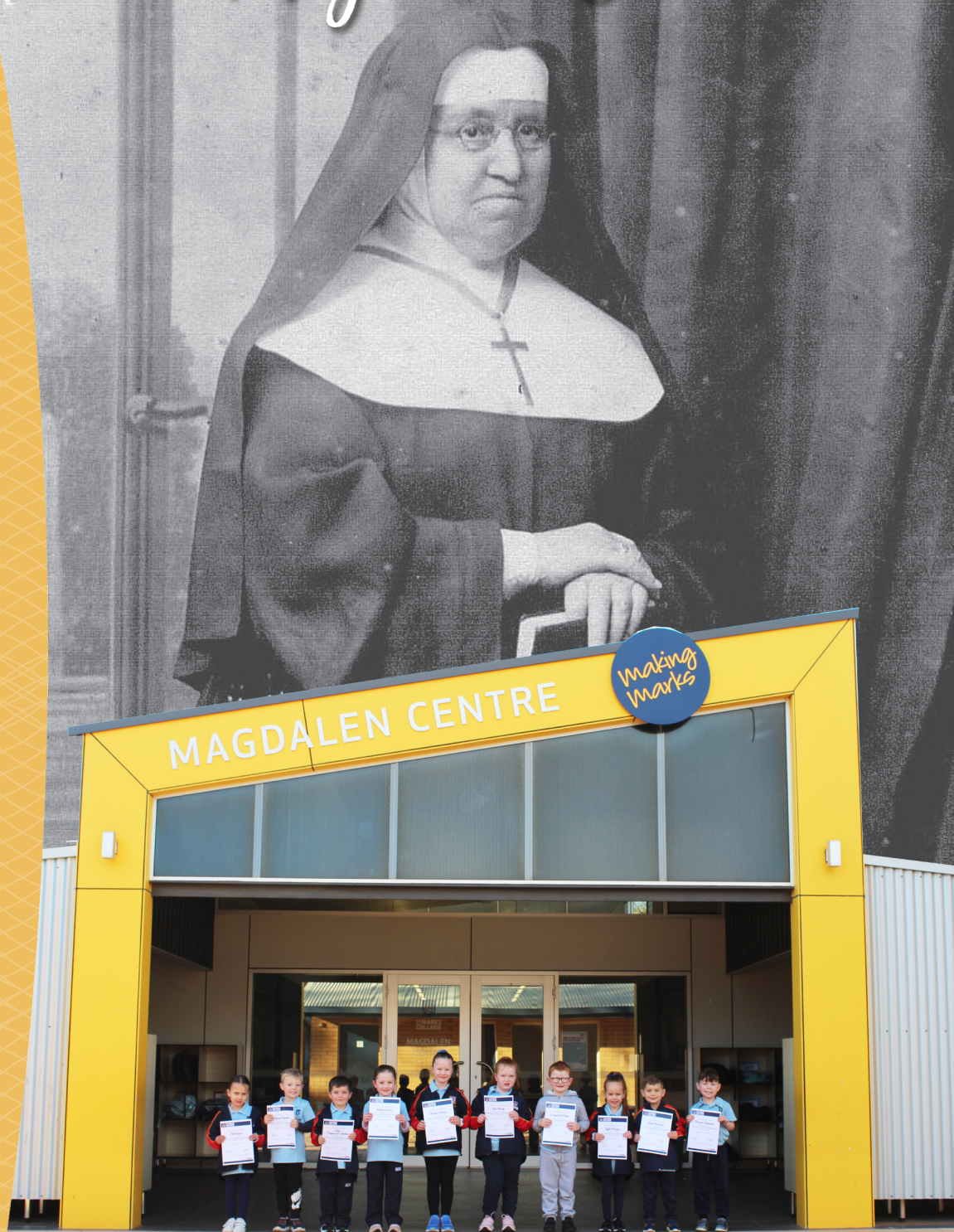
A reflection with Old Scholar, Emma Fradd



The College had a visit from Old Scholar Emma Fradd (2007). Our staff gathered to reflect with Emma about her journey since leaving school. She offered a reflection on the unfolding spirituality of her life and we had gathered to listen to her story, then looked at a piece of scripture and shared a song. Emma is now a musician and a youth worker. She lives in Brisbane and has an expertise in young people and spirituality. She is young herself and many on staff remembered her at school which made her presentation so much more powerful. Emma entered the College with the excitement of return and the vulnerability of seeing many of her past teachers. She began her presentation humbly and spoke with a beautiful sincerity about search and faith. It became a moment of insight and real wisdom. She spoke with great reverence and dignity and I suspect that a few teachers didn't quite expect to see or hear that message. Emma has a gift in voice and music and that beauty touched hearts as we prayed together. I will remember her simple message of the importance of openness to the presence of God in our lives. We were grateful for her reminder.

SMC FAMILY

Old Scholar Stories from our Magdalen Centre



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

In 1890, at the invitation of Bishop John O'Reilly of Port Augusta, a pioneering group of seven sisters and three lay women teachers arrived in Port Pirie. Sr Magdalen was a Good Samaritan Sister and the first superior of the community. She is pictured here looking a little more severe than the present day Reception teachers. Our Reception Centre is named in her honour.

Magdalen Centre Old Scholars'



Within the four walls of our Magdalen Centre, sits four classrooms, sixty students and six teachers who are all Old Scholars' of our College.



KATIANA SALER (Saracino), Class of 2000

Can you remember a Year 12 moment?

The Year 12 moments I remember fondly are my Year 12 Retreat and Graduation. These memories I'll always treasure, and it was these moments that made me realise that I was really going to miss my peers as my schooling years were ending.

What is a great memory of school?

My first school memory is of my Reception teacher Mrs Brown who used to hose down our feet to cool us off on hot days at Fatima. My greatest school memory is of being a Bosco House Captain in Year 7 and winning Sports Day. Holding the shield and making that winning speech will be something I'll never forget.

What was it like returning as a teacher?

It was always a dream of mine to be able to return to St Mark's to teach. Returning as a teacher felt like I was returning home and also

felt like I had never left. It felt strange at first to be working alongside teachers who had taught me, like Donny DePalma and John Celotto, and being allowed to call them by their first name!

What is the best thing about teaching here?

The best thing is working with and being a part of an amazing team of colleagues. I believe it to be an honour to teach at the school that I grew up in, and to now have my own children making memories here is special.

Do you still see any old scholars socially?

Yes, I still see some old scholars socially. I also see many at St Mark's each day as I have taught, and currently teach several children of those I went to school with. It is also great to work alongside Teresa Gadaleta who is a friend that I went through school and graduated with many years ago. I am looking forward to seeing many old scholars at our 20-year reunion this year!



Katiana, with her daughter Mia, in Reception



NIKKI CAPUTO, Class of 2010

Who were your best friends in Year 12?

Rebecca Capurso, Alyse Lynch, Terese Annese, Ebony Spadavecchia, Jessie Hammond, Hayley Combe, Emma Barrett, Brittany Aitchison. I would still class all of these girls as my best friends! Even though we are all at such different stages in our lives, when we see each other, we can just pick up from where we left off! They are the best kind of friends. We have a school group chat where we speak to each other regularly. Three of the girls (Bec, Alyse and Terese are my Maids of Honour in my wedding).

What is a great memory of school?

Sports Day is a great memory! I also LOVED drama. I remember being involved in the 2 hour play 'Secret Bridesmaids Business'. My character was a stressed out over the top mother of the bride which is quite funny to reflect on considering now I am about to embark on my own wedding and I also have had a lot to do with

teaching performing arts at the school. Seriously, where has that time gone?!

What was it like returning as a teacher?

I always said I never wanted to come back to St Mark's College to teach... Not because I didn't love my school but because I was a bit hesitant to work with people who knew me as a young girl. When I moved away to study and become a teacher I learnt a lot about myself and about life as you do. I had grown into an adult and I didn't want to be viewed as the same child who had come through school. When I received my degree and applied for the position at St Mark's I was pleasantly surprised how easy it was to fit in and to be treated as an adult and work colleague. It's a really rewarding and special feeling to have completed my schooling here and to now work here alongside teachers who taught me. I LOVE telling my Receptions that I went to St Mark's too and Mrs Jordan was my teacher in Reception.



Nikki with Reception student, Luke, son of Annette Mudge (Lorusso), Class of 2001

Magdalen Centre Old Scholars'



TERESA GADALETA, Class of 2000

What is a great memory of school?

I have a lot of great memories of school. I remember great teachers, great friendships and a very close Year 12 group. I remember my first day of school at St Mark's after my family moved back to Pirie from Adelaide. I walked into the grassed quad area at school, past the tree that is still there and into my Year 5 classroom. I was introduced to Marcella Doyle and Paige Smith, was sat in between them on one of the old brown desks and our friendship began. My friendship with Katiana Saler, my very close teaching colleague and Daniel Ganley, my partner also began that year. One of my early memories from school is when Daniel 'accidentally' tripped me over on the oval in Year 5 and I went home with a broken arm and a plaster. Our teacher, Mrs Brown, had him carrying around my books and school work for the next 6 weeks. Now he carries my shopping.

Who were your best friends in Year 12?

We had a very close group of friends all through

high school. In Year 12 some of my closest friendships were with Melissa (Clarke) Taylor, Leah (Hindmarsh) Wardle, Carla (Bellifemini) Shaw, Amy (Quinn) Williams and Rebecca (Hall) Wright, however, we had a huge circle of friends who still are all very special to me.

What was it like returning as a teacher?

My first year teaching I returned to St Mark's to teach my first class of Year 5s. It was quite special to return to such a familiar environment to begin my teaching career. Mr DePalma and Mrs Keain, who were my primary school teachers, were in the staff room and I had to learn to call them Donny and Pia which was an adjustment! Last year the tables turned when one of the students from my first Year 5 class walked in the staff room door as a teacher and then I realised it had somehow been 15 years and I was now one of the 'oldies'. I feel very lucky to still be teaching in the same place, to watch the school grow and evolve and to see all of the students and my friends' children come through the gates.



Teresa, with Little Lions student, Harry, son of Chantelle Kendall (Smale), Class of 1999



SOPHIE PORCELLI, Class of 2011

Can you remember a Year 12 moment?

Retreat was a special memory from Year 12. It was an experience which I felt brought our Year level even closer. It was a time of coming together, forming new bonds with different peers, reminiscing school memories and even making amends with old friendships.

Who were your best friends in Year 12? Do you see any old scholars socially?

Alexa Simmons (Johnson) and Emma Hayes were my best friends in Year 12. I do still catch up with some of my school friends for coffee dates and dinners. I often bump into peers from my year level at events such as weddings, engagement parties, community sport and even around the town. Whenever I cross paths with old scholars, we always converse "hellos", stop for a chat or sometimes go for a trip down memory lane.

What was it like returning as a teacher?

Admittedly, I was quite nervous to be returning to St Mark's and working with many of the

teachers that once taught me. I thought it would be strange calling the teachers by their first name or chatting with them as colleagues at social functions. However, it didn't take me long to settle in and feel welcomed as a teacher at St Mark's.

What is the best thing about teaching here?

There are lots of reasons why I love working at St Mark's. There is a sense of welcome and community at our school which is evident between the staff and the students. I always feel so supported by my colleagues and love being able to work so collaboratively with my teaching team. The students at our school are another reason why I love my job! Our students are well mannered and speak so highly about our school. I love how proud they are to be a part of our school community. We have beautiful school grounds and wonderful facilities. I am so blessed to teach in an amazing centre and classroom where I can create nurturing, calming and collaborative learning spaces for my students.



Sophie with Reception student, Finlay, daughter of Ryan Saracino, Class of 2004

Magdalen Centre Old Scholars'



ANGELA JORDAN (Madigan), Class of 1977

What are your memories of Year 12?

We had a class of 9 or 10 in Year 12. Our year level in general from Year 8 were a close group. Most gained employment before Year 12. The ladies (around 20 of us) still catch up once or twice a year. We also support each other through social media. Great memories of school were the opportunities to spread our wings on school excursions. We went to the snow, visited Ballarat and even went to Melbourne where we watched an AFL match at the MCG!

My favourite high school memory was travelling to Melbourne by bus for a Salesian carnival. We were the first girls to go and participate in the netball carnival against other teams. We won the carnival which was very exciting! The boys also went and they played football. We also took a debating team. We were billeted out to families.

What was it like returning as a teacher?

Teaching at St Mark's is very different to when I was at school. There is new pedagogy, new

curriculum, new facilities and new subjects.

St Mark's still has the same underlying theme of 'welcome'. It is a school that ensures a high standard of teaching, a caring bond between students and staff and an attitude of respect for all. The ethos from the Salesians and the Good Samaritan Sisters has really been explored and developed over the years. It is what distinguishes St Mark's from other schools. Many, many times teachers who have left our school to teach elsewhere have continually said... "the kids and the staff are just not the same as at St Mark's...."

The facilities at St Mark's now are amazing and the students and teachers are so very lucky but if I were to be honest my favourite development at the school has been the improvement to our grounds. I just love how we have been able to beautify our school environment. The new improved grounds bring pride, beauty, joy and a warmth that reflects what our school is all about.



Angela with Reception student, Fraser, son of Sonya Mieglich (Walsh) Class of 1997



VYANAH LETHBRIDGE, Class of 2015

Can you remember a Year 12 moment?

There are countless Year 12 moments that I can remember, from the casual lunchtime banter, to Child Studies on a Friday afternoon where we attempted to learn the dance moves to 'The Hoedown Throwdown' and sung 'Friends are like Flowers'. Significant events including Aquatics Camp, Retreat and Graduation are key Year 12 experiences that formed many friendships and memories.

Who were your best friends in Year 12?

Do you see any old scholars socially?

Throughout my schooling at St Mark's College I was lucky to have developed life-long, supportive friendships with a large group of girls. Their names are: Erini Seindanis, Maddison Richardson, Georgia Afford, Ellen Bowley, Gen Bray, Stephanie Dix and Brittany Yarrow. Although we all went down different career paths at University, we all moved to Adelaide and continue to be a constant support to one another. We still catch up regularly!

What is it like returning as a teacher?

Returning to St Mark's College in 2020 as a Graduate Teacher was daunting but also very exciting! As it was my first-year teaching, I had mixed emotions about starting my teaching career. I was nervous, excited, happy, overwhelmed and motivated. After meeting my students, speaking to teachers (new and old) and all the parents, I felt a sense of relief and all my nerves and worries about the year were gone.

St Mark's College is a school with a great sense of community, where students, staff and parents are able to form close relationships and demonstrate values of love, respect and empathy. The best thing about working in the St Mark's College community is the supportive teaching staff who are always happy to help one another and offer support and guidance. The students in my class all have their own unique personalities that bring joy and laughter into every school day.



Vyana with Year 1 student, Lily, daughter of Teresa Gadaleta, Class of 2000

Starting School



CHRISTIE ROROS (Capurso), Class of 2005



What is your best memory from school?

I have great memories from attending junior primary at Fatima and in the Performing Arts in the BGC at Bosco.

Who do you keep in contact with from school?

I have stayed in contact with Amanda Millington (Caputo) and Emily Lowe (Zubrunich).

What are you and your siblings doing now?

I am a hairdresser at Image By Micaela and a Hairdressing Lecturer at TAFE SA. I have two children, Luca and Eden. My sister Rebecca (Class of 2010) is married and is a Graphic Designer at Flinders Uni. My brother Mitchell (Class of 2015) is also a Graphic Designer who lives in Adelaide.

What is it like returning as a parent?

It's lovely returning to the school to see how much it has grown and evolved over the years. At the same time the College has still held onto its values and morals that it taught me and will now teach my children.



(Left) Christie with her daughter Eden, (Right) The Capurso siblings, Mitchell, Rebecca and Christie

CHANTELLE KENDALL (Smale), Class of 1999



What is your best memory from school?

My best memory from school is definitely the friendships I made over the years.

Who do you keep in contact with from school?

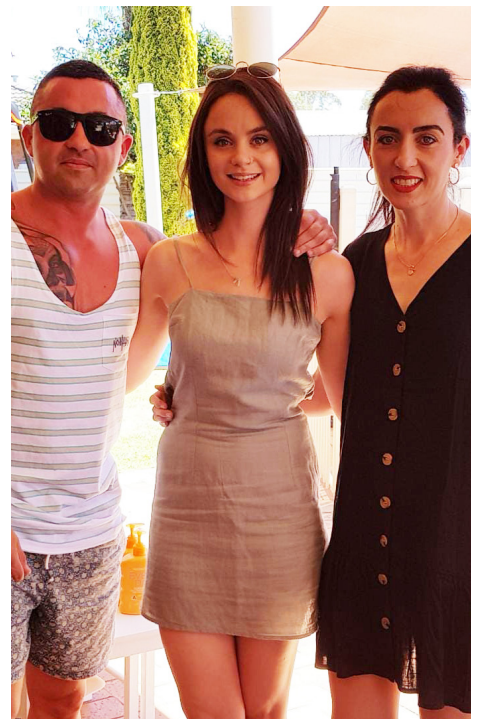
I still keep in contact with Catherine Caspers (Willson), Liz DeGiglio (Randall), Stephanie Spilsbury (Maas) and Esther Seery.

What are you and your siblings doing now?

I own my own business and have worked in beauty therapy for 20 years now. After managing and running salons in Adelaide I am now back in Port Pirie and own Pearl of Beauty. My brother, Chris (Class of 2001) is the Director of Toll company for all four states and my sister Brittany (Class of 2009, left in Year 4) manages the marketing of a nursing home in Adelaide.

What is it like returning as a parent?

Returning as a parent is great, seeing still familiar faces and seeing all the great changes that the school has implemented.



(Left) Chantelle with her son Harry, (Right) The Smale siblings, Chris, Brittany and Chantelle

Starting School



DANIEL BOWMAN, Class of 2001



What is your best memory from school?

While I did not overly enjoy school, my best memories were at Bosco Sports Days, Interschool Sports Day and the ongoing 'City vs Country' sporting rivalry throughout our high school years. I know it isn't politically correct but there were numerous sporting events that were titled 'Bumpkins vs Lead heads' which created quite a strong rivalry.

Who do you keep in contact with from School?

After school I left the region for a number of years due to employment which meant I lost touch with a number of school friends. I see people from time to time that I went to school with (from my class, older and younger). We say

'hi' and have a chat in general and I work with many Old Scholars' now.

What are you and you sibling doing now?

I am also a Police Officer (CIB) in Port Pirie. My oldest brother Scott (Class of 1996) is also a Police Officer (traffic) in Port Pirie. My other brother Bradley (Class of 1998) is a school teacher in Ceduna.

What is it like returning as a parent?

I can't help but feel a sense of déjà vu. I never would have imagined being in this position. However I feel it may offer somewhat of a smoother transition being able to explain to Rory that I also went to St Marks and it provides a sense of familiarity.

Daniel with his son Rory who starts school in Term 3



Lauren Cadd (McDonald, Class of 1999) with her son Fraser who started Reception this year



Jenna (Gale, Class of 2005) and Heath Tiller (Class of 2001) with their son Henry who is in Reception Blue



Shilo Pavlich (Murphy, Class of 2005) with her daughter Lahnee who is in Reception Green



Leoni Deed (Pellegrini, Class of 2003) with her son Spencer who is in Reception Green



Catherine Caspers (Willson, Class of 1999) with her daughter Ela who is in Reception Red

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

In Memory



MR JOHN MULLIN

Our College has been saddened by the news that former Deputy Principal John Mullin has gently passed away. He had a 50 year association with the College and we share with so many in the St Mark's community the deepest sense of sorrow. John was held closely in generations of St Mark's hearts. He was loved and we have rich memories of his loyalty and service and the dignity he brought to teaching and to the lives of young people.

In our sadness we think of a grand old school master, the chemist who became a teacher and who worked in the erudite tradition of scholarship and simply loved a subject. John taught with stability and consistency. He was

an administrator who simply worked hard to make things work. He was a dear friend to the Good Samaritan Sisters and shared their sense of vocation to education. He journeyed with many Salesian priests to share the spirit of Don Bosco and the joy of community. People will remember the teacher who had a profound sense of the preciousness of students. Others will remember the storyteller. Others will remember his graciousness. We all will remember the beautiful John Mullin.

John honoured God and had a deep connection to the traditions of scholarship within St Mark's. He had an immeasurable impact on so many lives. He is now at peace.



JOSHUA HAYES

Many of us have lost a friend. There were people who spoke of a beautiful larrikin and others who remembered his powerful cohesive quality. There were mates who talked of the unity of his class group and others who remembered coaching him, teaching him, the cheeky optimism. They remembered laughter, mischief and the strength of his friendship. We think of him as someone with the biggest of hearts, the class clown, and the time that Josh had for everyone. It just made it all sadder. We keep his family, Brian, Nathalie, Bianca, Rachael and Jacob in our prayers.



These memorials are shared with consent from the families. If you would like us to include the memorial of an Old Scholar in an upcoming edition, please contact the College via email: info@smc.catholic.edu.au

Old Scholar Achievements



PAUL CLAPTON-CAPUTO

Class of 1986

Paul Clapton-Caputo has been awarded the inaugural ACCE President's Medal. This national award recognises the contributions of national leaders in systemic or research fields who influence the quality of the Digital Technologies curriculum in keeping with the goals and mission of the Australian Council for Computers in Education.



TOM PORTA

Class of 2010

Tom was officially recognised as a 'Highly Accomplished' teacher by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) in December 2019. Tom currently works at Seymour College in Adelaide as the Head of Special Education and VET.



BENJAMIN BURGESS

Class of 2017

Ben graduated from the South Australian Police Force on 4 March 2020. He is now living and working in Whyalla as a Probationary Constable.



CRAIG KEANE

Class of 1987

Squadron Leader Craig Keane was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross in the 2020 Australia Day Awards. His award recognised Craig's outstanding devotion to duty in AP-3C aircraft electronic warfare capability development for the Australian Defence Force. He is pictured with his children Millie and Ben.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Celebrating Love



BRIONY FOLEY AND LACHLAN POLE

Class of 2010

Briony and Lachie were married in a surprise wedding on 18 January 2020 at the Pole Farm in Telowie. Briony, Lachie and their twins Leo and Jack live in Port Germein, Briony is a teacher at our Bosco Campus and Lachie is a diesel mechanic at Kent's Garage.



EMMA BARRATT AND ADAM KUPSCH

Class of 2010 and 2012

Emma and Adam were married on 26 March 2020 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Crystal Brook. Emma and Adam eloped in the brink of the COVID-19 restrictions:

"Empty pews... but not really, they were full of spirits, our loved ones passed, all the angels and saints... the church was full. Love is all around us... we may have eloped... but we were not alone."

Emma, Adam and their son Oscar live in Crystal Brook, Emma is a midwife with the Port Pirie Regional Health Service and Adam works at Nyrstar.

Celebrating Love



RACHAEL HAYES

Class of 2003

Rachael married Bradley Eagle on 24 January 2020 at St Patrick's Church, Adelaide by Deacon Paul Crowe. The couple live in Adelaide where Rachael is a Community Development Coordinator for the Department of Human Services.



The Hayes family celebrating the wedding of Rachael and Brad Eagle (centre), Bianca (1999), parents Brian and Nathalie, Joshua (2005) and Jacob (2009)

HANNAH CLARKE

Class of 2008

Hannah married Brett Woodards on 15 February 2020 at Lanzarec Country Estate, Barossa Valley. The couple live in Nuriootpa where Hannah is the owner / operator at Blush Beauty Boutique.



Celebrating the wedding of Hannah Woodards (Clarke) were Kylan Reddaway (Oxford- 2007), Jess Byerlee (Oxford- 2005), Elke Adams (Holze), Lauren Proctor (2012), Tayla Stevens (2012), Mae Camporeale (2010) and Hannah Horsnell (2012)



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Out and About



Celebrating Emma Kupsch's (Barratt's) Hens Day were Terese Annese, Jessie Hammond, Alyse Edwards (Lynch), Emma, Hayley Combe, Nikki Caputo and Rebecca Kirk (Capurso) from the Class of 2010



Hannah Clinton, Paddy Williams and Hannah Osborn from the Class of 2016.



Hannah Woodard (Clarke), centre, with her bridesmaids Natina Clarke (Pisani-2006) and Elizabeth Elliot (Pisani-2008)

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:
info@smc.catholic.edu.au
and we will include it in the
next newsletter!



On her travels to the USA recently, Paige Cross (Smallacombe) from the Class of 1999 caught up with her classmate Cortney Hatch (Williams) in Las Vegas



**ST MARK'S
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Our Newest Arrivals



CAITLIN BROOK, Class of 2014

Caitlin and Brodie Mudge, along with big brother Connor, welcomed Hallie Ada Mae on 1 June 2018. The family live on a property in Telowie where Caitlin loves being a Mum.



NIKITA PORCELLI, Class of 2009

Nikita and Nick Saunders, along with big sister Nancy, welcomed Gus Kenneth on 13 December 2019. The family live in Port Pirie where Nikita is self-employed at The Beauty Room.



KYLIE WILLIAMSON, Class of 1999

Kylie and Andrew Winterfield, along with big brothers Hudson and Miller, welcomed Livia Grace on 23 December 2019. The Winterfield family live in Adelaide where Kylie divides her time being a Mum and working as a health ambassador.



DANIEL HARRIS, Class of 1990

Daniel and Agi, along with siblings Dylan and Eliza, welcomed Bowie Daniel on 25 December 2019. The family live in Adelaide where Daniel is a Business Development Manager at Fotobase Group.



JESSLYN OXFORD, Class of 2005

Jess and Tim Byerlee welcomed Stella June on 5 January 2020. The Byerlee family live in Port Pirie where Jess is a secondary teacher at our Bosco Campus.



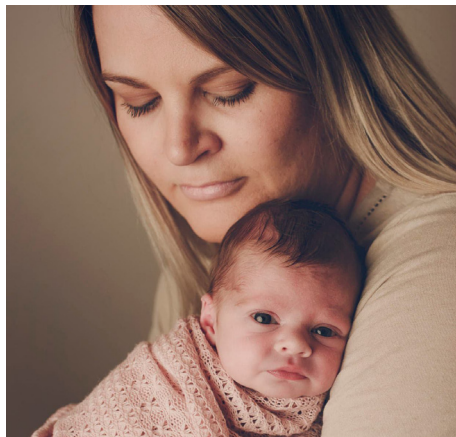
JESS DUNKLEY, Class of 2007

Jess and Daniel Hill, along with big brother Parker welcomed Tanner Jack on 7 February 2020. The Hill family live in Port Pirie where Jess is on maternity leave from ANZ.



BRETT REID, Class of 2000

Brett Reid and Ebony Hudson welcomed their first child Luna Tru on 7 February 2020. The family live in Wandearah where Brett is a farmer.



JESS ALLISON, Class of 2002

Jess and Chris Harvey welcomed their first child Emerson Grace on 11 February. The family live in Port Pirie, where Jess is a Youth Worker at Uniting Countries SA and continues with her jewellery design.



ANNE WILLSON AND SIMON HAYES, Class of 2005 and 2003

Anne and Simon, along with siblings Brodie and Isabel welcomed Samuel Leo on 21 February 2020. The Hayes family live in Crystal Brook, with Simon working on the family farm and Anne is a stay at home mum.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Our Newest Arrivals



AMY PARKER, Class of 2001

Amy and Tim Moss, along with big brother Hunter, welcomed Jude Paker and Maeve Catherine on 25 March 2020. The Moss family live in Adelaide where Amy is a teacher at St Joseph's Memorial School.



MAURIE MEZZINO, Class of 2002

Maurie and Tarryn, along with big brothers Declan and Archie welcomed Skyler Jane on 8 March 2020. The Mezzino family live in Port Pirie where Maurie works in the family business SD Caputo & Sons.



MYKAYLA PORCELLI, Class of 2011

Mykayla Porcelli and Cameron Demarco welcomed Penny Rose on 12 May 2020. The family live in Port Pirie where Mykayla is a preschool teacher.



ELIZABETH PISANI, Class of 2008

Elizabeth and Russel Elliot welcomed Fox Elliot on 16 May. The family live in Adelaide, where Elizabeth is a hairdresser.



BRIDGET CASTLE, Class of 2009

Bridget and Ben McInnes, along with big sister Nellie, welcomed Patrick William on 25 May 2020. The family live in Port Augusta, where Bridget is a teacher at Caritas College.



**ST MARK'S
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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The Coffey Family

Thank you to Anne who sent in this wonderful write up about the Coffey Family, who would be remembered by many of our Old Scholars!

Our large family attended St Mark's over the twenty-five years from 1986 until 2011. Mark attended Sacred Heart Boarding House when it opened at Crystal Brook in 1986. Our family was the first from our surrounding townships to send children to St Mark's. At the time, this was a brave decision by our parents that was driven by their passionate belief in the value of education. They made significant sacrifices to give us access to the opportunities that St Mark's provided and we have all benefited enormously.



Anne Coffey, Class of 1994

Mark, Class of 1990

Mark trained as an Electrician at the BHP steelworks in Whyalla. He has completed further training as a High Voltage Switching Officer, Hazardous Areas Inspector, Project Manager and Contract Controller. He spent 14 years at the steelworks then 14 years as a business owner and contractor. These skills have taken him from Barton on the trans-Australian Railway to the Sembawang Shipyards in Singapore. He is now working as a Mechanical Contract Controller back in the steelworks where he started his career. He is the Senior Vice President of the Whyalla Show Society. He is married and lives and works in Whyalla.

Moir, Class of 1991

Moir completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Geology with Honours at the University of South Australia. She initially worked in mining exploration for a number of years with Rio Tinto throughout Australia as well as South America and South Africa. She completed study tours in France, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Her subsequent career has included roles in Business Analysis, Procurement, Quality Management, the establishment of Uni Hub Port Pirie and most recently Interior Design. Her daughters, Claire and Emily are the next generation of our family to attend St Mark's.



Moir Coffey, Class of 1991, with her daughters Emily and Claire



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

The Coffey Family



Anne, Class of 1994, Dux

Anne completed Bachelor degrees in Medicine and Surgery with the University of Adelaide and subsequently trained as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. She has also completed a Masters degree in Reproductive Medicine. Anne achieved the Gold Medal for outstanding achievement in the specialist examinations for Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2009. She is a Fertility Specialist located in Cairns and the Director of a service providing care to couples and women over a broad area of rural and remote Northern Australia that is equivalent in size to the state of Victoria. She lives with her husband and daughter in Cairns.

Neil, Class of 1997

Neil completed a Bachelor degree in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering with the University of South Australia. He has worked in the field of shipbuilding and defence since graduation. He has worked in Adelaide and Melbourne and spent two years working in Northern Spain. He was the ship manager for the recently commissioned destroyer HMAS Brisbane. He is currently the Head of Infrastructure for the new Hunter Class Destroyer Program. He lives in Adelaide with his family.

Ian, Class of 1999

Ian is a Squadron Leader with the Royal Australian Air Force and has worked throughout

Australia during his career. He has served overseas on a number of operations in the Middle East. He works in a strategic planning role in Air Force Headquarters. He has completed training exercises and courses in Canada, USA, UK, Poland, New Caledonia and the Marianas. He has completed a Bachelor degree in Business Management with a Major in International Business and in this year has completed a Bachelor of Laws. He lives with his family in Canberra. In 2021, Ian will be studying Indonesian at the Australian Defence Force School of Languages before commencing a role studying at the Indonesian Air Force Command and Staff College in Bandung.

Kieran, Class of 2003

Kieran trained as an Agricultural Diesel Mechanic in Crystal Brook and has worked throughout rural South Australia and Western Australia. He has a special interest in the application of digital technologies and utilisation of liquid fertiliser in modern agriculture. He currently resides in the United States and is working in the oil and gas and agricultural industries. He is married with two children and a third is on the way.

Catherine, Class of 2011

Catherine has worked as a Sign Writer and Graphic Designer since completing school. She has established her own brand management and graphic design business. She has provided services to businesses primarily in the



Ian Coffey, Class of 1999

agricultural sector both interstate and overseas. She is currently completing a Bachelor degree in Business and Marketing. She lives in Adelaide with her fiancée.

Our family is spread so far and wide these days it is now rare that we are all able to be together. When we do gather the tribe, we bring together a large crowd including siblings, partners, children and of course their proud grandparents. These events are wonderful. Our family story is proof of the value of education. It has brought us countless adventures and opportunities. We can thank St Mark's for its part in this story.



Neil Coffey, Class of 1997, and his family in front of the HMAS Brisbane

UPCOMING EVENTS



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



You are invited to a
SCHOOL REUNION
Saturday 17 October 2020

Celebrating Anniversaries for Graduating Classes of
1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010.

- 4.00pm** Tour of the College
- 5.00pm** Drinks and nibbles in the
Bishop Gallagher Centre
- 7.00pm** Celebrations end

RSVP to the College on 8633 8800 or info@smc.catholic.edu.au

St Mark's and Aquinas- a long standing tradition

Both St Mark's 2019 College Captains have moved down to Aquinas College in Adelaide this year, in a long tradition of old scholars to become Aquinians.

Jack Dickeson and Millie Tubb are both attending UniSA, with Jack studying a double degree in Human Movement/ Psychological Science and Millie studying Human Movement leading to Honours in Secondary Teaching.

Jack and Millie report that they are loving the whole collegiate experience at Aquinas. They are especially appreciative that the College has stayed open right through the Coronavirus pandemic, and that it has considerably expanded its on-campus academic and pastoral support to its undergraduates as they have moved to online learning.

Millie, when asked her thoughts about the two colleges said, "Aquinas and St Mark's share some amazing qualities, but in particular, the sense of belonging and calling such beautiful places my second home are the qualities that stand out to me the most. St Mark's made me feel so special for 13 years and I am so fortunate that I now have Aquinas to continue to make me feel this way".



2019 College Captains Millie Tubb and Jack Dickeson at Aquinas College

Image and article supplied by Aquinas College.



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**