

OLD SCHOLARS

newsletter

Issue 2 December 2020



**ST MARK'S
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Our staff Old Scholars' on the final day of school

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

Your old school has managed well even with the uncertainty and disruption of a microscopic virus. Things had to change a little. People had to make accommodations. Gatherings were newly managed. The daily life of the place was somewhat disrupted. Overall, we managed well. There were lessons, prayers, some assemblies, House spirit and mostly happy and healthy students.

Our great disappointment is that community events were cancelled and one of those was sharing with you your deep and precious memories of St Mark's. The returning group reunions from 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010 had to be postponed. A momentum had built and we were expecting a large number to enjoy the Old Scholars event. It is always our delight to welcome back alumni. They bring stories that make us laugh and hold memories that are treasured. It had to be cancelled. The precautions had to be taken even if we very much wanted our old scholars to return and see the developments, talk to their old teachers and ask the question: 'What really happened back then?' 'Where has the time gone?' 'What was your name again?'

The College is very committed to its history and we share that with anniversary groups. We see them as the people who create the enduring St Mark's narrative. Their story has to be remembered and retold every ten years or so. The energy they bring to a gathering keeps alive what is so important about the school. Our commitment is to keep what is precious and Covid stopped that momentarily. However, the stories remain and there are plans for those groups to return early in the year and the 1s – 71, 81, 91, 2001, 2011 will be here at the usual October time.

Our Old Scholars' Newsletter celebrates the lives of many wonderful people. I trust that you will enjoy the images and a few of the stories. The lives of old scholars sometimes delight and always surprise. Our school is enriched by many old scholars who have chosen to come back to work here. You'll see a few of them pictured. They keep the spirit alive and your return to say 'hello' will as well.

Stay well.

Warm regards

Greg Hay

Principal, St Mark's College



Wishing you, our Old Scholars' community, a blessed Christmas season!

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Principal Greg Hay with
our 2021 College Captains,
Flynn Hayes
(son of Martin Hayes,
1990) and
Quinn Lane



**ST MARK'S
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Around the College



CLASS OF 2020: Our Year 12s celebrated the end of their schooling with a presentation in the St Mark's Sports Centre



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



CAROLS: Benedict brought the Christmas spirit to the College with it's first ever carols night' for students and their families. Pictured are Fraser (son of Sonya Walsh, 1997), Mia (daughter of Katiana Saracino, 2000) and Harry (son of Chantelle Smale, 1999)



READY, SET, GO: Our Little Lions are ready and excited to start school.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

In edition 1, 2020 of our Old Scholars' newsletter we featured photos and names of students from the Class of 2019 who were celebrated at the Dux Assembly.

In this write up we missed acknowledging Louise Arthur, who achieved an outstanding ATAR of 96.65. This was an accidental error and we are truly sorry for making this mistake.

We wish Louise all the best and also congratulate her on winning the Sixth Collegians Award at St Ann's College this year.

Around the College



YEAR 6 FAREWELL: Our Year 6s celebrated the end of their time at primary school. Pictured are Lawson (son of Sarah Manners, 1997), Mitchell (son of Melissa Clarke, 2000), Jack (son of Chris Ranafelli, 1985) and Jackson (son of Michael Raftery, 1985)



INSIGNIS: Lillian was named the Insignis (best all round student) at Bosco Presentation Night, Lillian is the daughter of Jack Keain, 1979 and Pia Keain (Camerlengo) who has taught at the College from 1985



BOOK WEEK: A WILD dress-up day was held in place of the annual Book Week Parade, pictured is Nate (son of Carolyn Camporeale, 1997)



SPORTS DAY: McNally took out the win at Benedict Sports Day 2020



RESULTS: 51.43% of Year 12s achieved a grade in the A band (A+, A or A-) in this years Research Project with 7 students achieving the ultimate A+ result!



MEDIA: We loved welcoming Old Scholar Katrina Muhsin, Class of 2016 back to the College as a journalist for The Recorder. Katrina is now working as a TV Journalist for Southern Cross News in Port Augusta.

STAFF OLD SCHOLARS' :

1976	Gayle Dunning (Brown)
1977	Angela Jordan (Madigan)
1980	Marg Fantinel (McMahon)
1983	Paul Cagney
1984	Jane Dickeson (Waters)
1985	Simone Atkinson
1987	Darren Giancaspro
1987	Tina Pansini
1988	Fiona Clarke
1989	Melissa Gadaleta
1991	Louise Richards (Gauci)
1992	Toni Freer
1995	Janita DeGioia (Tridente)
1995	Katie Pole (Keane)
1996	Erin Arnold (Young)
1996	Megan Congdon (Griffin)
1996	Lisa Manners (Mezzino)
1999	Bret Swensson
1999	Catherine Caspers (Willson)
2000	Teresa Gadaleta
2000	Katiana Saler (Saracino)
2002	Hannah Lavis (Harris)
2002	Jenna George (Howell)
2003	Kayla Hastings (Siviour)
2004	Annie Olsen (Richter)
2005	Kirby Symons (Howell)
2005	Jess Byerlee (Oxford)
2008	Elizabeth Munday
2010	Elke Adams (Holze)
2010	Nikki Edwards (Caputo)
2010	Mae Camporeale
2010	Briony Pole (Foley)
2011	Elizabeth Boston
2011	Sophie Porcelli
2011	Liz Clarke (Boston)
2012	Abbey Arbon
2012	Matthew Munday
2012	Kris Sjostrom
2013	Caleb Brown
2014	Eliza Fromm
2015	Vyanah Lethbridge



Year 7 students set out to interview our Staff Old Scholars' intrigued to find out their favourite school memories and to ask what is great about coming back to school for work!

What was your best memory from school?:

Meeting my husband!

- Megan, 1996



*Sports Day
is still the
BEST DAY
of the year!*

- Greg, Jess, Mae and Kirby

What is the best thing about St Mark's today?:

*Bringing my kids
up where I
grew up!*

- Kirby, 2005



When teaching at
St Mark's is
genetic...

- Peter, Jane, Matt and Liz
Munday



Book Week
dress-up's
are still fun!

- Sophie, Angela, Vyanah and Nikki

What was your best memory
from school?:

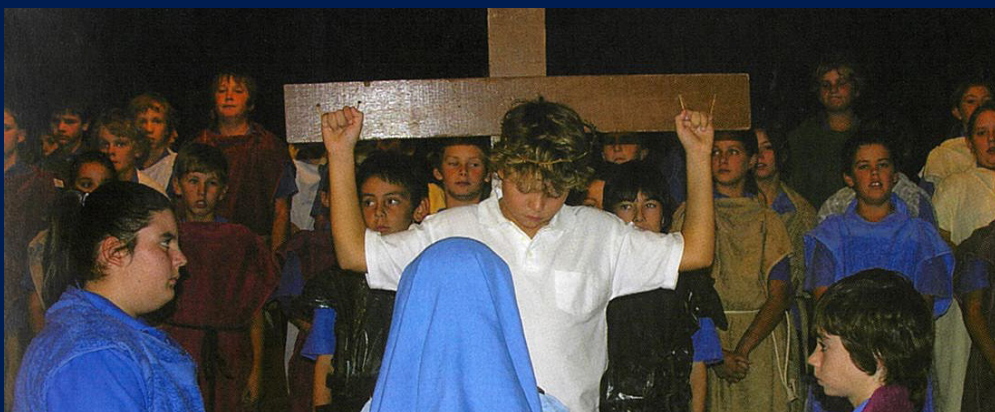
Riding your bike to
swimming lessons with
the whole class.

- Toni, 1992

What was your best memory
from school?:

Playing Jesus
in the Year 6
Easter Reenactment.

- Kris, 2012



Who was your favourite teacher?:

My caregroup teacher
Miss Twiss
(now Mrs Murphy)!

- Erin, 1996

Karen and Erin are now teaching
colleagues at Benedict.



Who was your favourite teacher?:

Mrs Brown because
she let her Reception
students take their
shoes off!

- Katiana, 2000



Friends from
Reception to today!

- Mae and Elke, 2010

Mae and Elke are now teaching
colleagues at Bosco.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Chris Hedges, Class of
2004 married Aeshah at
Glacier Point, Yosemite
National Park, California



**ST MARK'S
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Old Scholar Achievements



JOHN SEINDANIS,

Class of 2015

John (as Apollo Blue) has recently released his debut single Moonchild, which has flown to #1 on the Triple J Unearthed Rock Charts!

Straight out of high school I moved from Port Pirie to Melbourne as I was accepted to study at The Australian College of The Arts as a Singer/Songwriter. I didn't know anyone in Melbourne and it was a big change but I knew it was a necessary step to follow my dreams. I completed my Bachelor of Music Performance in 2018. The course helped me strengthen my skills as a musician and learn to arrange for all instruments. I then launched my solo project, Apollo Blue, and have been gigging and recording as an artist ever since.

Studying Music and Drama in high school was my first real taste of performing and once I started, I knew it was something I wanted to do for the rest of my life. Drama especially helped me gain a lot of confidence. Trying on different characters, playing in new personalities, traits and costumes allowed me to discover my identity; the person I wanted to become.

Performing in the St Mark's College production of High School Musical Onstage at the Northern Festival Centre was a big highlight for me and helped me fall in love with performing. I was lucky enough to play the lead role of Troy Bolton and it was actually my first musical. It allowed me to get to know so many students of all ages and we really built a beautiful, diverse theatre family.

There were so many influential teachers at St Mark's. Ms McComish, Ms Clarke and Miss Lee were incredible teachers and mentors that really fostered my creativity and believed in me. Ms McComish was my English Studies teacher and taught me so much about writing and poetry. I still use a lot of these literary devices in my songwriting! Ms Clarke was my care group teacher and music teacher. She really helped me continually push myself and grow as a singer. Miss Lee was my drama teacher, Director of High School Musical onstage and I'd like to say friend too! We shared a passion for acting and absurdism which inspired me to create my own unique characters through songwriting.



Nowadays, I'm based in Melbourne and loving it here. Melbourne is such a diverse melting pot of different cultures, a safe haven for the Queer community and such an artistic city.

Since I was a shy 12 year old kid I had this dream of becoming an artist and empowering people through my music. Music has helped me get through some really difficult times, so to see my music reach people all over the world and connect with them has been really special. I feel incredibly proud that I followed through with my dream.

I still keep in touch with some of my best friends from high school, Emily Noonan and Aleisha Thomas who are two of the most intelligent and kind humans you'll ever meet. My twin sister Erini is my best friend in the world. Erini is currently

living in Adelaide and has just graduated a double degree of Law and International Studies. She is already working as a Law Clerk/Paralegal and has a passion for human rights and protecting vulnerable people.

Mark my words, she'll be championing the UN soon, she's incredible.

When I think about the future, I hope to empower and inspire people through my art. Whether it's through songwriting, singing, poetry or film, I want to be creating art that reflects our world and helps push it forward.

You can check out Apollo Blue's debut single, Moonchild, here: <https://bit.ly/32PAYv1>



John starring as Troy Boulton in High School Musical, performed by St Mark's College students in 2015



John with his sister Erini

Old Scholar Achievements



SHAYA LEWIS-DERMODY,

Class of 1996

*Lawyer and business owner Shaya, is a finalist in the 2020 Women in Law Awards. She has also released her first book *Separate Ways* which is a Amazon #1 best seller.*

After finishing Year 12, I moved to Adelaide to obtain my law degree. Straight out of uni, I was fortunate to return to Port Pirie to work at a local law firm for 3 years. Throughout my legal career I have worked in Adelaide, Auckland, Sydney and Perth. I also spent a huge amount of time (and money!) on many overseas adventures.

I am the Principal Solicitor of The Family Law Project. Practising in the area of Family Law for around 17 years, I became frustrated at the lack of quality and accessible Family Law services in both SA and interstate.

I regularly saw clients who were unable to access legal services due to restrictive fees and Legal Aid clients who were discriminated against and receiving "second rate" services because they were not paying their solicitor privately. The Family Law Project aims to make specialist Family Law service as accessible as possible. Being socially responsible is at the core of our values. We are environmentally friendly (we run a paperless office), support products such as Oxfam Fair Trade, Thankyou Water and Who Gives A Crap toilet paper! We also donate a percentage of your fees to our partner charities.

I am currently living in Perth. My work usually takes me between Perth and Adelaide regularly however COVID-19 has put a bit of a stop to that, particularly with the hard WA border closures! I am married to Shane Dermody who grew up in the Jamestown area. We do not have any children however have a bit of a soft spot for our pug dogs.

When I think back on my school days, I fondly remember Mrs Caddy for always being so kind. Father Ray was also great because he allowed us to cheat at times in our maths classes! At school I had a really nice small circle of friends which I am thankful for. I still catch up with Miranda Good when I'm in Queensland and keep in regular contact with Chanelle and Kimberly Freer and also Carolyn Mardell.

It is really fantastic to be named a finalist in the



2020 Women in Law Awards. I was also a finalist in 2019 but didn't bring home the award. The Women in Law Awards is highly regarded in the legal industry across all areas of law so it is a huge accolade to be named a finalist.

My book 'Separate Ways' has been named a finalist in the Australian Business Book of the Year Awards. I am incredibly proud of that as it is judged by a panel of professional book writers and publishers. *Separate Ways* was written over a couple of years and is designed to help people who have separated. There is a real focus on the concept of grief and loss in the context of separation. My writing started and was really inspired when my dad died and then my writing cemented when my mum died last year. I know my parents would be incredibly proud of the book's success however the irony is that I would never have written it if they were still alive!

Looking to the future, I will continue to grow The Family Law Project to make a real difference in the family law space to help clients through their separation journey. In the meantime, I would love to win the Women in Law Awards announced next week!



Fellow Old Scholar Aleesha Degiglio works with Shaya as a Specialist Family Lawyer at The Family Law Project

Our Newest Arrivals



ANDREW WATERS, Class of 1999

Andrew and Amelia Waters, along with big brothers Fred and Eddie, welcomed George Donald on 18 June 2020. The Waters family live in Adelaide where Andrew is the Centre Manager of the Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre.



KENDRA RAMSAY, Class of 2005

Kendra and Marcus Kouimtzis, along with big brother Kaiden welcomed Oliver Jack on 24 July. The family live in Port Pirie where Kendra is a barista.



JENNA HOWELL, Class of 2002

Jenna and Simon George, along with big brother Alfie, welcomed Lilah Dorothy and Maeve Brooklyn on 29 July. The family live in Port Pirie where Jenna is a teacher at Benedict Campus.



KAYLA SIVIOUR, Class of 2003

Kayla and Daniel Hastings, along with big sister Ascha welcomed Maddie Grace on 11 September. The family live in Port Pirie where Kayla is a primary school teacher.



CHELSEA DAVIES, Class of 2012

Chelsea and Ben Harmer, along with big sister Andie, welcomed Jedd Paul on 23 September. The Harmer family live in Port Pirie where Chelsea is a Registered Nurse.



AMBER THOMAN, Class of 2002

Amber Thoman and Josh Denney welcomed Mia Ann on 19 October. The family live in Adelaide where Amber is a Team Leader at Big 4 West Beach Caravan Park.

Our Newest Arrivals



LEONIE PELLEGRINI, Class of 2003

Leonie and Anthony Deed, along with siblings Spencer and Avery welcomed Dawson Miller on 4 June. The family live in Port Pirie where Leonie is an Enrolled Nurse.



MARCUS AMATO, Class of 2000

Marcus and Samantha, along with big brother Connor welcomed Will Joseph on 18 August. The family live in Port Pirie where Marcus is a self employed tiler.



SARAH MCPHERSON, Class of 2005

Sarah and Daniel Kemp, along with big brothers Ryan and Hayden welcomed Georgia Maeve on 17 September. The family live in Port Pirie where Sarah is a Foster Care Support Worker with Uniting Country SA.



COURTNEY CONNOLLE, Class of 2004

Courtney Connole and Brad Searle welcomed their son Levi Anthony on 22 September. The family live in Adelaide where Courtney is the Human Resources Coordinator at Norman Waterhouse Lawyers.



ABBIE WILLIAMS AND SHANE ARBON, CLASS OF 2000 and CLASS OF 1996

Abbie and Shane Arbon along with big sisters Georgie and Adele welcomed Patrick Francis on 24 July. Shane is a teacher at St Joseph's School, Gladstone and Abbie works for AusIndustry. The family live in Crystal Brook.

Tying the Knot



HELEN PREECE,

Class of 2007

Helen and Ben Schober were married by Fr Paul Bourke on 13 June at Ben's family farm near Loxton. Helen and Ben live along the Murray River, just out of Loxton, they are expecting their first child in May 2021.

All six of the Preece children attended St Mark's College. John started Reception in 1992 and Katherine in 1993 before the family moved to Jamestown. They moved back to Port Pirie in 2007 after some time in Renmark. Helen graduated from St Mark's College in 2007, Esther in 2009, Andrew in 2012 and Mark in 2013.

Today, Michael and Tracey still live in Port Pirie. John works as a builder in Adelaide. Katherine is a teacher at St Mary MacKillop School, Wallaroo and is studying Psychology. Helen is working as a psychologist for SA Health in Berri. Esther is a paramedic and nurse, working as School Nurse at St Columba College in Adelaide. Andrew works as a paramedic in Sydney. Mark is completing Mechatronic Engineering and Computer Science at Adelaide University.

Many Old Scholars' would remember the Preece family, including Mr Preece who was the Deputy Principal at Benedict Campus during the 90's.



John Preece and his son Oscar, Michael Preece, Tracy Preece with Veronica Stringer, Ben Schober, Helen Preece, Katherine Stringer with her son Joseph, Esther Preece, Jasmine Duncan and Mark Preece. Andrew Preece was unable to attend.



BRITTANY AITCHISON,

Class of 2010

Brittany married Luke Hamdorf on 29 August at Kangaroo Point in Brisbane. Brittany and Luke live in Brisbane, where Brittany is a Paramedic with Queensland Ambulance Service.



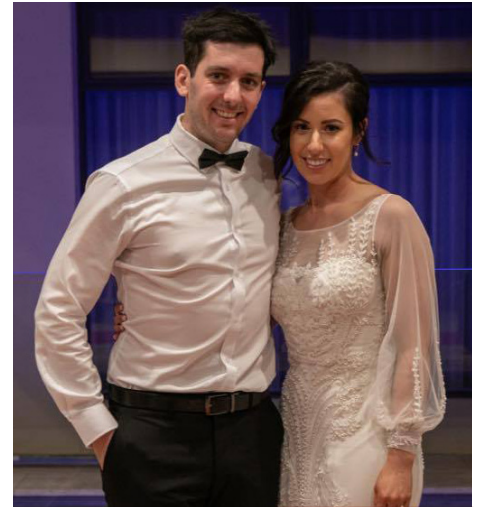
Brittany with her siblings, Olivia McBain (Aitchison) from the Class of 2003 and Brodie Aitchison from the Class of 2006

Tying the Knot



PAIGE LOBASSO, Class of 2008

Paige married Luke Bailey in an intimate ceremony at her parent in-law's home in Glenelg East on 4 September. Paige and Luke live in Adelaide, where they own a property development company, Fourtier Property Group.



Paige with her brother Vincent from the Class of 2006

CHRIS HADGES, Class of 2004

Chris married Aeshah on 25 October at Glacier Point, Yosemite National Park, California. Chris and Aeshah live in San Francisco, where Chris is an Field Account Executive in Marketing Automation with Adobe.

Family and friends celebrated with Chris and Aeshah via Zoom, the couple plan to visit Australia for a second celebration of their marriage after the pandemic ends.



Chris' parents Annette and George toast the happy couple via Zoom



Tying the Knot



NIKKI CAPUTO,

Class of 2010

Nikki married Tim Edwards at the family farm near Port Broughton on 10 October. Nikki and Tim live in Port Broughton. Nikki is a primary teacher at our Benedict Campus.



Nikki with Old Scholars' (and teaching colleagues) Sophie Porcelli, 2011 and Kylie McMillan (Capurso), 2009

JOSHUA BELL,

Class of 2012

Josh married Hollie Schrader at Mount Lofty House on 7 November. Josh and Hollie live in Port Pirie with their daughters Tatum, Memphis and Raegan. Josh works at SA Power Networks.



Josh, with his parents, Ray and Meredyn, and Hollie. Many Old Scholars' would fondly remember "Mrs Bell" from Benedict Campus



Out and About



Old Scholars' celebrating Josh and Hollie Bell's wedding Matt Condon (2013), Josh (2012) and Sam Condon (2018)



Class of 2018 Old Scholars' at St Ann's College Ball- Bria Vanstone, Meg Fuchs, Georgia Tiller, Jessie LaForgia and Ellie Combe. After school, the girls started studying the following qualifications: Bria- Bachelor of Sport Health, Physical Activity (Outdoor Education); Meg- Bachelor of Nursing; Georgia- Bachelor of Marine Biology, Conservation and Biodiversity; Jessie- Bachelor of Pharmacy; and Ellie- Bachelor of Physiotherapy



Clayton Agnew who was a Boarder last year came back for a quick visit to Salesian House, he is pictured with current Boarders Ted, Patrick, TJ, Harry and Mackenzie



Angela Carll (Pappagello), Maria Turci (Fetherstonhaugh), Dominic Scaincalepore and Kylie Nelson from the Class of 1984 at the Year 12 Thanksgiving Mass to celebrate their children Ben, Rhianna, Joel and Lara



Old Scholars' celebrating Josh and Hollie Bell's wedding included Jenna Warren (Bell- 2006), Hollie, Darcie and Tahlia Fitzsimmons (2018)



Old Scholars' from the Class of 2010 at Nikki Edwards' (Caputo) wedding- Jessie Hammond, Alyse Edwards (Lynch), Hayley Combe, Nikki, Bec Kirk (Capurso), Terese Annese and Ebony Spadavecchia

OUR ST MARK'S FAMILY

Luisa Fetherstonhaugh
(Keane) Class of 1999
with her son Ted who
starts school in 2021



**ST MARK'S
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Farewell to our retiring staff



We bid farewell to Jane Munday, Des McKeough and Annie Keane

JANE MUNDAY, 1983; DES MCKEOUGH, 1999 and ANNIE KEANE, 2001

Three of the great Benedict teachers will retire this year. Annie Keane, Des McKeough and Jane Munday will set about on new journeys and new lifestyles. They have decided it is time and they leave behind memories of having taught thousands of children and sharing this wonderful school with hundreds of colleagues. When they leave us, we will always remember an enormous contribution and a deep commitment to this place. These three are people who have cared sincerely about the community in the Benedict campus. They are people who have responded to Good Samaritan and Salesian spirit. They have been staff members who cared for their neighbour and about learning and growing. There has been no more beautiful expression of this culture than by Jane Munday, Des McKeough and Annie Keane. Their time at St Mark's was an extraordinary expression of loyalty, reverence and belief in the potential of young people. They are finishing after an enormous contribution and we thank them. They leave a legacy of generosity, creativity and reverence. They remained committed and loyal. However, it is the friendships and the shared vocation that seems so important as they leave. They have been wonderful colleagues and friends and have been a force for our best traditions at St Mark's. They became a strength for the teachers, a constant for the students and a deeply respected leader for our parents. They are much loved by the community. They have been at the heart of the school and zealously protected that heart. We wish them all the very best in retirement.



JOHN BEATTIE, 2004

John Beattie leaves the Bosco community after 17 years of service. He is an English and Business Studies teacher with a charming Scottish accent and must have read thousands and thousands of words as young minds tried to create an argument or retell a point of view or analyse the meaning of life. John likes words and brings a dash of 18th century romantic poet combined with a rich 1970's rocker into the classroom. John has worked at the Bosco campus and welcomed hundreds of children into the McNally House. The students always responded to his humour and his love of the round ball world game. They love how the fascinating background of his childhood in Rhodesia, his broad travels and life as journalist enrich the classroom.

Celebrating our Graduates



Old Scholar Kate Millard (Hoffmann, 1993) with her daughter Sophie



Old Scholars from the Class of 1996, Adam Tee and Evelyn Dumoi with their children Ariel, Caitlin and Cohen



Old Scholar Daniel Harris (1990) with his children Eliza and Dylan



Old Scholar Nickie Mead (Lang-1991) with her son Harry and husband Matt, who teaches at Benedict Campus



Old Scholars' Darren Giancaspro (1987) and Ros Giancaspro (DeGioia-1991) with their children Anton and Mya



Old Scholars from the Class of 1998, Lauren Kerin and Matt Coates with their children Morrie, Leo and Isabelle (2017)



Old Scholars Simone Atkinson (1985) and Susie Smart (Atkinson, 1989) with Susie's daughter, Amelia

Celebrating our Graduates



KYLIE NELSON,

Class of 1984

Kylie, who finished school at St Mark's in 1984, has proudly watched her daughter Lara Evans finish Year 12 this year- a year like no other. Kylie takes us on a walk down memory lane as we reflected on life at school, 1984 vs 2020.

After finishing primary school at Airdale Primary, I followed the same pathway as my older cousins and headed to St Mark's for high school. I spent 5 years at the College, forming lifelong friendships and creating memories that are cherished to this very day.

The Class of 1984 is special. We formed a close bond at school, one that has seen us remain friends 26 years later. Today, we stay connected on group chats and gather socially when we can – a far cry from our days at school where we had one computer and a diary full of social events.

High school was full of happy memories. End of term 'socials' were the absolute highlight of our 3-term year. Each had a unique theme, 'bad taste' and 'pink, punk and plastic' were two of our favourites. Just imagine the loud fashions of the 80's matching in with these themes. Socials were held in the hall at school (now the Bishop Gallagher Centre, or BGC at Bosco) which was filled with dancing, disco music and excitement. The dance floor was in the centre of the hall and chairs bordered the walls, where the girls sat waiting to be asked to dance. The rules must have loosened by the 80's, we were even allowed to 'slow dance' with the boys!

We had some lovely teachers in our time. Father Murphy was a beautiful man who taught us history and religion, and of course the perennial favorites - Mr Ford, Mr Cronin and the late Mr Nitchke. I also remember Mrs Betty Prest whose constant application of red lipstick became her trademark. Mrs Prest (who was married to one of the son's of the well-known Port Pirie business) taught us to 'type to the beat' and the art of shorthand, skills that are no longer required today. The first computer actually arrived at the school when we were in Year 12. Not that I ever used it, only the 'geek' science teachers and a couple of students were given that privilege!

The standout of our Year 12 year was retreat at Pichi Richi. Retreat didn't feel like school, and there was a strength in just being together. We



Kylie with her family at Lara's Graduation- Julie (Kylie's Mum), Kylie, Lara, David and Jacob (2016)

really did leave Retreat as a closer group, loving the opportunity to get away and just be together.

As we came into exams, we sadly lost one of our classmates and dear friends.. This almost cemented our bond as a group as we realised the absolute value of friendship. As the years passed following our graduation we lost more school friends. I believe this is why our friendship group is so strong and why we keep meeting for catch ups and reunions as the years pass. It is just too important not to.

This year, I watched my youngest child, Lara, live her Year 12 year. A member of the Class of 2020, much of Lara's (and her classmates) year has been different to the usual traditions experienced by St Mark's graduates before her. When we look back on the year together though, the experiences they have had have

been incredibly special. Sports Day was an absolute highlight for Lara, where she and the Gallagher Year 12's dressed-up in bright green Hawaiian-style outfits and took out victory on the day. COVID had a silver lining in the Year 12 Schnitty Night and the different activities (like the Amazing Race or the staff flash mob which turned into a campus dance-party at lunchtime) that were created to raise the vibe early in the year.

Seeing them being able to do things like go on Year 12 Retreat, dress up on their final day (gone are the days of writing all over uniforms like we did!) and of course, celebrate Graduation, was so special. I hope that the challenges that the Class of 2020 have faced this year, keep their bond strong. I would love to see their friendship continue as the years pass and their own families are created- just like I have.



Kylie's Graduation



Class of 1984 last day of school



Jane + Sue at a social

Goodbye and Hello!



As we farewell our Year 6 families from Benedict as they move to Bosco, we welcome back many of our Old Scholars as parents of our Little Lions who will start Reception in 2021!



Old Scholar Jessica Norris (Savage- 2005) and her son Nate who starts school next year



Old Scholar Melissa Taylor (Clarke- 2000) with her husband Andrew and son's Harry and Mitchell, who finished Year 6



Old Scholar Brodie Freer (2005) with his wife Sarah Freer (previously Miss Chadwick, a teacher at Benedict Campus) with their son Cheston who starts school next year



Old Scholar Erin Arnold (Young- 1996) and her son Ryder, who finished Year 6



Old Scholar Kirby Symons (Howell- 2005) and her son Charlie who starts school next year



Old Scholar Lauren Cadd (McDonald- 1999) and her daughter Imogen, who finished Year 6



Old Scholar Abby Zubrinich (2003) and her son Flynn who starts school next year



Old Scholars Marc and Megan Congdon (Griffin, both from Class of 1996) and their son Tyron, who finished Year 6



Old Scholar Christie Simpson (Harris- 1997) and her son Alfie who starts school next year

UPCOMING EVENTS

join us to celebrate your **SCHOOL REUNION!**

**Old Scholars' from the Graduating Classes of
1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010**

Saturday 27 March 2021, 3:30pm - 7:00pm
Bishop Gallagher Centre, Bosco Campus

RSVP by 12 March

~ and ~

**Old Scholars' from the Graduating Classes of
1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011**

Saturday 16 October 2021, 3:30pm - 7:00pm
Bishop Gallagher Centre, Bosco Campus

RSVP by 24 September

Partners are most welcome.

Please confirm your attendance,

P: 08 8633 8800

E: oldscholars@smc.catholic.edu.au

or via Messenger on the St Mark's College Facebook page.

Please follow the event on the St Mark's College Facebook page
for any updates in regards to COVID-19 restrictions that
may effect the event: www.facebook.com/stmarkspirie



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