

OLD SCHOLARS

newsletter

Issue 2 January 2024



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The Class of 2003 celebrating their 20 year reunion

As we start a new year, I take pleasure in updating you on the highlights of 2023.

We started the year with two themes to shape spiritual growth. St John Bosco taught his Salesians that love is the foundation of effective teaching and learning. This year the Salesian Strenna aligned well with the Call to Community as we were entreated to be as yeast in our community, fulfilling our capacity to grow, to change and to be more. We do not have to look for extraordinary ways to be good people but should just do ordinary things in an extraordinary way, with humility and generosity. Don Bosco called on us to 'Accept what the day brings', do it well and offer it as a prayer. As we reflect on 2023, we feel at once humble yet proud of all that has been achieved this year.

We have enjoyed Sports Days, competed with great success in sports carnivals, enjoyed whole school liturgies and Masses, camps and retreats, music and art exhibitions, our bi-ennial Musical extravaganza School of Rock, and continued with the day-to-day business of teaching and learning that has enabled students to flourish and achieve success. We also reminisced with our Old Scholars' from the Classes of 1983, 1993, 2003 and 2013 as they came back to school to celebrate their reunion.

Schools are dynamic places and we continue to be responsive to the needs of students and seek improvement in all that we offer. Guided by tradition but not constrained by it we have introduced

our WRAP Program to support students with wellbeing, relationships, agency and personal responsibility. Through this, we have seen growing confidence, participation and a greater sense of belonging. New subjects like Crime and Punishment, Women's Studies, Society and Culture and Sport Science have provided opportunities for students to excel in their interests and pursue a range of possible career pathways.

As always, several staff left during the year to pursue different pathways or enjoy a well-earned retirement. Of the long serving staff probably most remembered by you, we farewelled Mr Robert Cronin (Sir), Ms Toni Freer, Mrs Louise Richards, Mrs Lyn Howell and Mr Bret Swensson.

With the approval of a new Master Plan, we are very excited about the forthcoming development of a new boarding facility which will begin in the new year. This is reflective of the importance of boarding in our mission and our tradition here at St Mark's.

Just as a new year is a time of hope and new beginnings, so it is a time for all of us to give thanks for God's goodness and to commit to learning and growing every day into better, kinder and more loving people. I thank you for your ongoing interest and connection with St Mark's College.

Sandra Hewson

Principal, St Mark's College

AROUND THE COLLEGE

Year 6s were officially
farewelled at the End of
Year Liturgy. Pictured is
Zara Haskett, daughter
of Lia (Lagoudis- 2005)
and Ali Haskett (2001).



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



End of Year Celebrations



CLASS OF 2023: Our Year 12s celebrated the end of their schooling with Graduation and 100% SACE Completion.



PRESENTATION NIGHT: Congratulations to our students who were awarded at Bosco Presentation Night, including Jerylee Brown (Teacher's Award), Brodie McKerlie (Service to the College), Taia Moss (Salesian Award) and Sophie Tattoli (Insignis Award).



CAPTAINS: Our student leaders for 2024 include Madison Burford and Braxton Camporeale (centre) as School Captains, and Vice-Captains, Anna Frkic and Archie Reddaway.



CAPTAINS: Our student leaders for 2024 include Adam Smith and Zara Bowman as College Captains, and Vice-Captains, Blake Nicolson and Isabella Martlew.



BENEDICT AWARDS: Our Salesian Award winners were Noah Saler and Curtis Ramsay and our Good Samaritan Award winner was Ivy Goode.

Community



OUR MURAL: Local artist Judy Crosby designed and painted a mural in the breezeway at Benedict. The mural encompasses parts of our school, region, and people- in particular, the Nukunu people. So much of what is important to us is captured in this creative piece.



CONCERT: Benedict students shared the joy of Christmas at an end of year concert.



MISSION DAY: The Benedict Campus Mission Gala Day raised over \$3000 for Catholic Missions! Year 5 and 6 students (along with individual classes) ran their own 'small businesses' offering a range of fun activities all to raise money for those in need.



RITE JOURNEY: Congratulations to our Year 9 Rite Journey students and staff who have supported Share the Dignity by donating 63 bags full of essentials which will be gifted to local women in need.



PAGEANT: Reception and Year 6 students, along with members of staff spread Christmas cheer at the Port Pirie Christmas pageant.

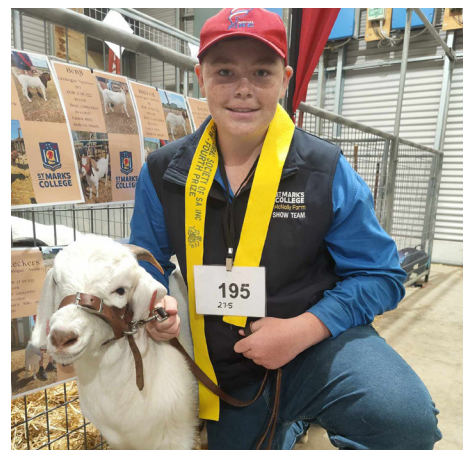


RU OK? DAY: Students across the College engaged in a range of activities promoting wellbeing.

Learning and Engagement



EXCELLENCE: We were excited to welcome Dr Lyn Sharratt, an education practitioner and researcher based in Canada, who works internationally to inspire and support school and system improvement. She is supporting us in our pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning. Dr Sharratt was impressed with the way that both students and staff are embracing high-impact practices and implementing them in the classroom and learning environments.



SHOW: Agriculture students competed at the 2023 Adelaide and Kadina Show's this year.



GOVERNOR: We were delighted to welcome Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC Governor of South Australia to our College. Her Excellency was very interested in the opportunities at St Mark's, the value of student voice, and the work we are doing to continually improve.



MUSICAL: The tradition of the bi-ennial College Musical continues, this year with School of Rock hitting the stage. Directed by Old Scholar Ebony Bennier (2017) the shows were an absolute success!



TEXTILES: Twenty-four of our Textiles students (from Years 7-10) submitted unique pieces in the Junior Textiles competition at the Royal Adelaide Show. With the combined effort, St Mark's College was awarded The Home Economics Institute of Australia (SA) Most Successful School in Junior Textiles!



SCIENCE WEEK: Year 6s entertained our primary students with a range of explosive experiments during Science Week.

Old Scholars' Reunion



CLASS OF 2013:

(Back) Skye Wade, Kelli Dunkley, Sarah Murphy, Amber Steff, Annie Hannaford (Johnson), Scout Burt (Remphrey), Ashleigh Schrader, Marie Introna and Emily Southam (Podger)
(Front) Nat Ervin, Georgia Eades, Lewis Gould, Daniel Footner, Steve Athanasos, Haakon Christensen, Kate Hancock and Dayna O'Brien



Photo from the front cover, Class of 2003

(Back) Abby Zubrinich, Nicole Gordon (van de Water), Ashleigh Bateson (Scollin), Amy Cooper, Megan O'Shaughnessy (Beyer), Krista Young, Clare Fantinel, Rachel May (Kitto), Leoni Deed (Pellegrini) and Joshua Annese

(Front) Emily Parker, Belinda Jackson (Palmer), Carly Sullivan, William Valimitis, Joanna McMahon, Antony Introna and Kellie Irving (Hurst)



CLASS OF 1983:

(Back) Alison Turner, Paul McMahon, Jamie Keane and Rebecca La Forgia
(Front) Sal Caputo, Filomena Caputo (Campanella) and Vicky Growden

Old Scholars' Reunion



CLASS OF 1993:

(Back) Scott Everett, Damon Lemm, Greg Hackett, Ben Dunbar, Neal Conder, Matthew Green, Michael Flower, Natasha Shannon (May), Letitia Rattley and Michaela Hobby

(Middle) Carmel-Ann Gaudio (Annese), Sarah Eatts (Crouch), Michelle Dennis (Quin), Marsha Kerin, Kelly Wegner (Marsh), Anita Hurst (Balacco) and Hayley Connolly (Chandler)

(Front) Vinny DeGioia, Jacqui Merkel (Cooke), Lenny Gadaleta, Kate Millard (Hoffmann) and Dale Allison



CLASS OF 1993: Cathing up with Mr Paul Matthews were Letitia Rattley, Dale Allison and Michael Flower

If you were a student from the
Classes of 1974, 1984, 1994,
2004 and 2014...

SAVE the DATE

Saturday 2 November 2024
OLD SCHOLAR'S REUNION

See the back page for more information!

New Development



In 2025 St Mark's College will open its new, modern Boarding Facility.
Take a look at the projected designs for the new facility!

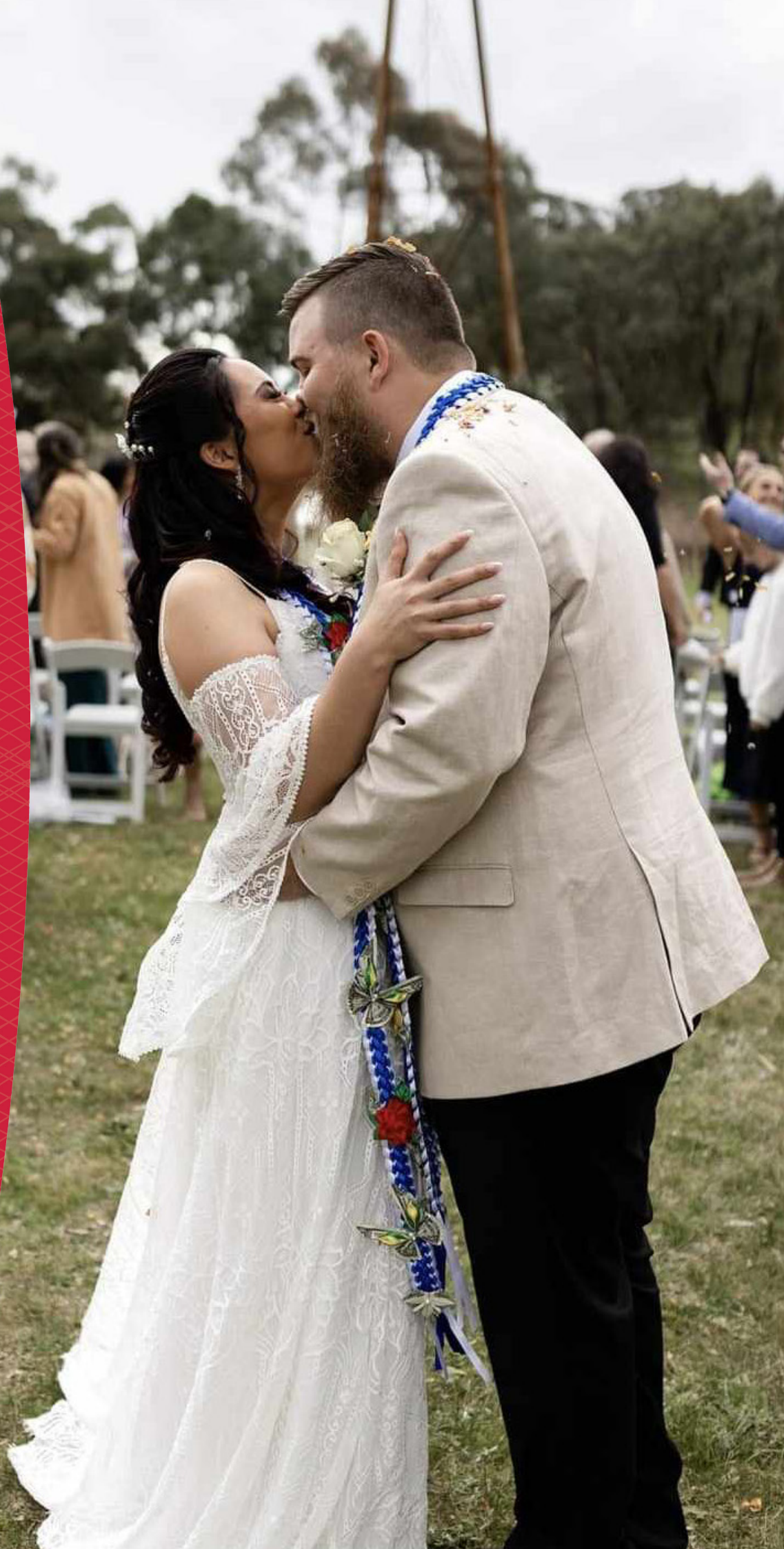


WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Carmen Amos (2009)
and Joshua Searle
(2010) were married
at the Curly Goose in
Sevenhill on
12 August 2023.
The couple live in
Port Pirie.



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



Celebrating Love



JESS ALLISON

Class of 2002

Jess married Chris Harvey at Bungaree Station in Clare on 6 May 2023. Jess, Chris and their daughters Emerson and Madison live in Port Pirie, where Jess is currently a stay at home Mum.



Jess' bridesmaids included Lessie Gillett, Emma Richards (Hindmarsh- 2002), Romanna Harvey and Sonali Bishop (2002).



SHAKIRA RAMKE

Class of 2019

Shakira (Kira) married Blake Nagel on 17 September 2023 in Wallaroo. The couple live in Port Pirie, where Kira is a Customer Advisor at NAB and Accountants Assistant at Future Accounting.



Celebrating Love



PETA MADLEY AND CAMERON TRENOWDEN

Class of 2012

Peta and Cameron were married at Simon Hackett Winery near McLaren Vale on 10 November 2023.

Peta and Cameron live in Seaford, where Peta is a Physiotherapist and Cameron is a Counsellor.



Good friend Matt Munday, also from the Class of 2012, was the celebrant at the wedding of Peta and Cameron.



LIANA BELLIFEMINI

Class of 2008

Liana married David Monahan-Newton on 7 October 2023 at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens.

The couple live in Adelaide, where Liana is a Senior Prevention Project Officer with the Cancer Council SA.



Liana with her mum, Maria, and sister Antonia Makkar (Class of 2004).



Our Newest Arrivals



CLAIRE (HARVEY) DEMARCO, Class of 2011

Claire and Jordan Demarco, along with big brothers Archie and Harry, welcomed Rosie in September. The Demarco family live in Port Pirie where Claire is on leave from Northern Caravans and Outdoor Centre.



ELLIE HARMER, Class of 2009

Ellie and James Fleming welcomed Millie Piper in June. The family live in Adelaide where Ellie is a cancer nurse.



CAITLIN (BROOK) MUDGE, Class of 2014

Caitlin and Brodie Mudge along with Connor and Hallie welcomed Braxton during November. The Mudge family at their farm in Telowie.



KAYLA (SIVOUR) HASTINGS, Class of 2003

Kayla and Daniel Hastings, along with big sisters Ascha and Maddie welcomed Lucas James in August. The family live in Port Broughton.

Our Newest Arrivals



LACHLAN WHITE, Class of 2013

Lachlan and Emily welcomed Alayna Rose in August. The family live in Port Pirie, where Lachlan is a Plant Operator at Nyrstar.



ALEESHA (DEGIGLIO) KRAWCZYK, Class of 2011

Aleesha and Brady Krawczyk welcomed Elyzia Ivy in June. The family live in Adelaide, where Aleesha works as a lawyer.



DANIELLE KIRCHNER, Class of 2007

Dani and Matt Adams and big sister Ivy welcomed Ollie Stephen and Noah Roger in October 2023. The family live in Port Pirie where Dani is a radiographer.

New baby?
Just tied the knot?
Maybe you have
graduated from Uni?
Or 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!

Out and About



CLASS OF 1976: Old Scholars' Cathy Rutjens (Madigan), Tony Spadavecchia, Cathy Parker (Hunter), Ann Spadavecchia (O'Connor) and Therese Hicks (Lauritsen) along with Craig Rutjens and Daryl Parker all met in Italy recently and attended the Blessing of the Fleet in Molfetta.

Cathy, Ann, Therese and Cathy have been friends for over 50 years starting school together. Tony joined them later in high school when St Mark's joined and became co-ed.

CLASS OF 1997: Old Scholars' Rachel Trotter (Orvad), Nicoletta Childs (Gaudio), Helen Brown (Farinola), Kristine DePalma (Salvemini) and Marisa Wilkins (Bellifemine) caught up in Melbourne together recently.

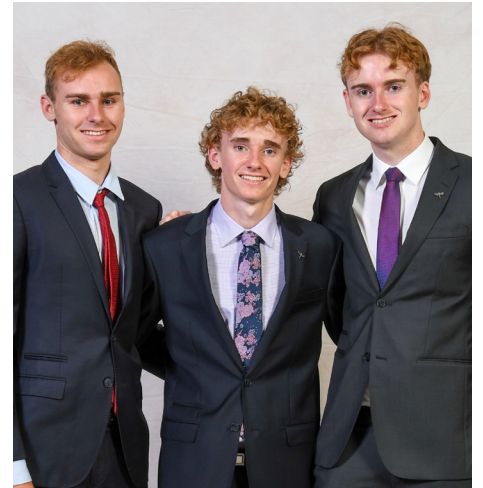


CLASS OF 2010: Old Scholars' from the Class of 2010 celebrating the 'final fling' for Therese Annese (centre), pictured are Alyse Edwards (Lynch), Bec Kirk (Capurso), Marie Introna (Class of 2013), Nikki Edwards (Caputo), Ebony Spadavecchia and Jasmine Mezzino.

Celebrating our Graduates



Graduate Anna Cunningham (second from left) with her sisters Tia (2016), Chloe (2021) and Teekah (2018)



Graduate Thomas McNamara, centre, with his brothers Patrick (2018) and Joseph (2021)



Graduate Kate Burgess with her sister Amy (2019)



Graduate Sanja Laister with her sister Jennah (2021)



Graduate Sophie Tattoli with her sister Grace (2021)



Graduate Amity Lane with her siblings Quinn (2021) and Cooper (2018)



Graduate Sophie Lagoudis (centre) with her siblings Lia Haskett (Lagoudis- 2005), Michael (2009) and Rebekah (2007)

OUR ST MARK'S FAMILY

Melissa Gadaletta
(1989) was awarded
the 2023
Rowan Ramsay Service
to the Community
Award at Bosco
Presentation Night.



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



Farewelling Staff



At the end of 2023 we farewelled many College staff and familiar faces to our Old Scholars' community. We wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives!



Mrs Lyn Howell



Mr Robert Cronin



Mrs Louise Richards



Mr Bret Swensson



Mr Beau Allen

We acknowledge the service of staff leaving St Mark's College in 2023:

- > **Mrs Lyn Howell**, started in 1984 and worked at Fatima and Benedict Campuses
- > **Ms Toni Freer** (Class of 1992), started in 2001 and worked across both campuses
- > **Mr Robert Cronin** (Sir) started in 1977 and worked at Bosco
- > **Mrs Louise Richards** (Gauci- Class of 1991) started in 2012 at Benedict Campus
- > **Mr Bret Swensson** (Class of 1999) started in 2005 at Benedict Campus
- > **Mr Matt Sullivan**, started in 2022 at Bosco
- > **Ms Emily March**, started in 2022 at Bosco
- > **Mr Beau Allen** (Class of 2022) our inaugural trainee at Benedict Campus
- > **Miss Amy Law**, started in 2023 working at Benedict Campus
- > **Miss Danae Holyman**, started in 2022 working across both campuses



Staff member and Old Scholar Toni Freer (1992) pictured with student Jack Jaeschke in the Student Hub. Toni started at the College in 2001.

EVENTS

join us

to celebrate your
SCHOOL REUNION!

Old Scholars' from the Graduating Classes of
1974, 1984, 1994, 2004 and 2014

Saturday 2 November 2024,
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Bosco Campus, The Terrace, Port Pirie

Old Scholars are invited to arrive from 3.30pm

4.00pm Tour of the College

4.45pm Drinks and nibbles in the Bosco Centre

6.00pm College celebrations end

RSVP to the College on 8633 8800 or
smc_reunion2024.eventbrite.com.au



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**