



the Shamrock

Volume 19 Edition 2 | DECEMBER 2020





the Shamrock

Thankfully, we have reached the end of 2020 – one of the most transformative, turbulent, traumatic and testing years in memory.

The troubles foisted upon the College this year have challenged us all and have caused much disruption and much dismay.

Traditional annual events were cancelled. Sports weren't played. Songs weren't sung. Stages, and often classrooms, remained empty.

Yet, despite the gloom it has also been a time of great innovation and experimentation. In many ways the technological advancements we have been forced to trial in 2020, have the College much more well-placed for the future.

It has also been a time when we have learnt to really value the worth of our wonderful community. Absence truly can make the heart grow fonder and we learnt this in Terms 2 and 3 when we could not welcome staff and students through our front doors.

And while it was fantastic to have those members of our community back in Term 4, we still missed the joy of having parents and Old Collegians involved in on-site activities.

We really look forward to a time – hopefully in 2021, when we can all gather again.

For the time being however, we hope you enjoy reading this edition of The Shamrock magazine and we wish all in our community a safe and merry Christmas and a wonderful new year. ♣

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Cover: Graduation ceremonies looked vastly different due to COVID-19 restrictions however we were thankful that our Year 12 Class of 2020 was able to enjoy a Thanksgiving Liturgy in the College Chapel to mark their final day of school. Photo: Jeremy Bannister.

This page: Some of the high academic achievers from the Class of 2020 gathered on their final day of school, ahead of their exams, to commemorate their years at St Patrick's College.





Principal's Column

► Mr Stephen Hill | Acting Principal

While much has been written about the significant events that have come to shape and form St Patrick's in 2020, now is the time to reflect on what we learnt from this almost unbelievable year – for students, parents and staff members alike.

A school's capacity to successfully respond to any unexpected change in leadership says much about the organisational health of the school. John Crowley's move from Principal of St Patrick's to Acting Headmaster of St Kevin's College could never have been anticipated nor planned for. Just as COVID-19 forced a rapid 're-setting' of our approach to curriculum delivery, so did John's departure require a speedy response from all who collectively form the community of St Patrick's – a task which I believe was done exceptionally well thanks to combined efforts of the St Patrick's College staff.

This was achieved because of the work done in the weeks and months before John's departure. St Patrick's previously committed significant time and effort into developing and actioning its 2019-2021 Strategic Directions plan. This document has become the blueprint for our teaching and learning; faith, life and culture; wellbeing and master plan development. The College Advisory Council, the Leadership Team and each member of the St Patrick's College staff is dedicated to the implementation and delivery of the goals stated in this document.

The importance of strategic planning comes to the fore when events such as a change in leadership occur. While John's leaving has inevitably impacted St Patrick's, and his loss is duly noted, this has been minimised because we have a well-established and well understood strategic plan.

2020 has shown us that our capacity to face significant challenges, personal and organisational, and to then adapt to the changed situation far extends what we previously thought. The incredible speed with which we changed from traditional



classroom-based teaching to Microsoft Teams-based virtual and remote learning is unprecedented in education. No other single event has caused such a rapid change in how we prepare, deliver and assess learning.

So much had to occur so quickly for the highly successful St Patrick's virtual and remote learning to take place. The complexity of this task can neither be overlooked or dismissed! Be it through the leadership and guidance of our ICT Executive, the dedication of the staff in the IT Hub or the commitment of our teaching staff to so quickly learn and implement Microsoft Teams, the staff of St Patrick's College showed a level of professionalism that any school leader could be truly proud of.

Equally impressive was the capacity of our boys and their parents to adapt to remote learning. For week after week, the vast majority of students made the very best of a mode of learning which suited relatively few. I would like to recognise and thank the boys for the commitment they made to make the very best out of a situation that was a long way away from what they thought 2020 would be.

And finally, a word to our parents. What a year you have experienced and endured! No doubt, the conversations that took place around the kitchen table in 2020 would have been full of doubt, concern and questioning and yet, despite all of this, you have remained true and committed to a St Patrick's College education. Your faith in us has been truly commendable and I hope that we have been highly successful in supporting you as the primary educators of your son.

Just as my time as Acting Principal of St Patrick's has concluded and my 14 years at the College has come to an end, so too will all that has been in 2020 come to pass. My hope for a positive and successful future for St Patrick's College lies in the assurances we make to the community - a continued commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the boys, a plan for the growth and renewal of all aspects of the school, a commitment to St Patrick's being a leader in the education of boys and St Patrick's continuing to be a place of welcome to all who form the community of this great College.

Season's greetings to all members of the St Patrick's community and may you all have a very happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year!

Regards and farewell, Stephen 🍀



- ← 1: School life looked very different at St Patrick's College in 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic requiring the wearing of masks in the classroom.
- ← 2: Acting Principal Stephen Hill writes his final column before he leaves the College after 14 years of service.
- ↑ 3: The commitment of our teaching staff and students to quickly learn and implement Microsoft Teams was a major highlight of 2020.
- ↑ 4: "My hope for a positive and successful future for St Patrick's College lies in the assurances we make to the community - a continued commitment to the safety and wellbeing of the boys and a plan for the growth and renewal of all aspects of the school."
- ← 5: John Crowley's move from Principal of St Patrick's to Acting Headmaster of St Kevin's College could never have been anticipated nor planned for. He is pictured here with 2020 Student Council leaders, from left, Max Waller, Will Rothe and Finn Lappin.

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College purchases property

St Patrick's College is excited to announce it has purchased the residence at 1435 Sturt St.

For decades, the privately-owned property was surrounded on three fences by College-owned land.

The 2,195-square-metre block was the only land bounded by Sturt, Wanliss, Russell, Alfred and Eyre Sts that was not College-owned.

"The purchase historically completes the final piece of the puzzle which the Christian Brothers commenced in 1893 with what then was known as Holy Ghost College and represents a significant historic opportunity to control the entire block in perpetuity," Acting Principal Mr Stephen Hill said.

The property is a single storey, brick residential five-bedroom home built in 1890 with a detached garage and a substantial yard positioned between the College's Chapel to the east and our new Boarding Precinct to the west.

With this most recent purchase the College now owns over 11 hectares of land in the heart of Ballarat.

The College's Business Manager, Mr Andrew Ballesty, noted that "St Patrick's has long desired the opportunity to acquire this historic building which had been owned by the same well-respected Ballarat family for many decades."

"This truly was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the College to expand its footprint and we could not allow that chance to pass," Mr Ballesty said.

Mr Hill said the purchase had the full support of the College's governing body, Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) and had also been approved by the College's School Advisory Council and Finance Committee.

"Importantly, thanks to sustained strong financial management, this purchase will not impact our already adopted Master Plan and our plans to construct a new [Multi-Purpose Facility](#) on site in the coming years continue," Mr Hill said.

"It really is an incredibly exciting time to be involved with St Patrick's College with so many amazing new developments set to occur in the coming years."

The purchase of the property came soon after the demolition of another College-owned house which had stood since the 1950s.

The building, which was known as Wanliss House, was located on the eastern boundary of the school, behind McCann House.

Originally built in 1952, the building was acquired by the College in 1974.

At that time the building was used as the accommodation for the resident matron and as "an improved infirmary for the boarders".

The two-storey double fronted hipped roofed dwelling was later renamed as Wanliss House after the Hon T D Wanliss and was used as the house for the resident Director of Boarding.

The College required the demolition of the house as it contained a significant amount of asbestos. It is yet to determine what will be built on the now vacant site. ❀



- ↑ 1: The College has purchased the house at 1435 Sturt St which had remained in the ownership of one family for nine decades.
- ← 2: The former Wanliss House was demolished in mid-August.

Sunday
21-02-2021

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Introducing Steven O'Connor

Incoming College Principal Mr Steven O'Connor has had to wait much longer than expected to be able to re-introduce himself to our community.

Despite his appointment being announced in May, state border closures brought about by COVID, meant Mr O'Connor was unable to visit Ballarat from his Sydney base until the final week of November.

As such, to introduce him to our community, the College recorded an interview in Term 4 which is available on the [podcasts page on the College website](#).

Following is an edited transcript of that interview.

Q: Tell us about your experience at the College in 2007-08 and what aspects of that time still resonate strongly with you.

I was two years there as Deputy Head. Look, I remember most clearly an enormous sense of pride that so many people had in St Pat's and, in particular, the boys. There was a genuine appreciation, I think, of the really significant history of the College and the massive contribution that past students and staff have made to the broader community by their professional roles and all sorts of other pursuits. That sense of community, joy and purpose was really strong. On top of that I guess it is important to state from the outset that I have always sought a significant leadership role in an all-boys' school. I've worked in all boys' schools for 18 years out of my 31 years working in education and am very much looking forward to returning to that all boys' setting at St Pat's.

Q: What is it about an all boys' school that has such an allure for you?

I just think the sheer enthusiasm, energy, the sense of fun, the sense of joy, the diversity that I think is very much part of an all boys' school and that very much plays out I think in the really broad range of opportunities that are offered to the young men at St Pat's. I think all of those elements are things that I find really exciting and rewarding.

Q: What first inspired you to apply for the position as Principal at St Patrick's College when it became available earlier this year?

Certainly a really genuine desire to come back to such a wonderful community and the opportunity and the prospect of contributing to the story of St Pat's and contributing to the community in the senior leadership role was very enticing and exciting. I feel like I have been

preparing for this role for my entire life and really see it as a lifetime opportunity. It is certainly my hope to be Principal at St Patrick's College for a long time and to contribute to the community via the role well into the future.

Q: What is your dream vision for the College and what will be your priorities when you arrive here at the start of 2021?

I am very conscious of the fact St Pat's really does enjoy a well-earned and terrific reputation across Victoria and across the nation certainly through the EREA network as a fantastic school, and certainly as Ballarat's only single-sex boys' school, in the Edmund Rice tradition. Of course, there are very few schools that can boast the number of community leaders in the form of past students who have gone on to really important roles and great success in their chosen fields – so, the contribution St Pat's has made to the community through its 127 years is really immense.

My priority when I arrive will be to get to know as many people in the St Pat's community as quickly as I can. I will plan to meet with and walk alongside as many boys as possible as they go about their journeys at the College. That might be in the form of dropping by in the classrooms, being in the classrooms with them, being on the sidelines at sporting games, watching them perform in music and drama ensembles or even just working with them in student leadership groups.

I will be very keen to meet with every member of staff and to talk with them so I can get to know who they are, what their role is at the College and how they contribute to the life and success of the College.

And, of course, I look forward to every opportunity to meet parents and, of course, Old Collegians as I understand how important these people are to the community – that they have such a strong connection to the College and their contribution to the College is really, really important.

Q: While we're on the topic of community and leadership - from afar, you would have taken a keen interest in the College's response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and the steps it has taken towards healing with victims and survivors, including the decision to remove honours previously bestowed upon people historically associated with the College. How have you judged the College's response during this period and what future do you envisage for the College in this area?

Look, I am very aware that the College faced significant challenges via the Royal Commission. Certainly, from a distance, the strong and decisive leadership of Mr Crowley as the Principal at that time was really significant

in leading the College through all of that. For this I absolutely acknowledge and thank Mr Crowley for his leadership and for his clear position of standing with the victims of abuse. I can only imagine how challenging it was for everyone associated with the St Pat's community and I am very keen to assure everyone in the community from the outset that it is my ambition and intention to lead the College in that vein – to make sure that we are being just in our stance and being there to support and to stand beside any victims of abuse.

Q: At St Patrick's College we are proud of our mission to "raise fine boys to the status of great men". What is your definition of what it means to be a great man?

Yeah, that's a really good question and the mission statement is so strong and it is such a powerful statement and it has really stood the test of time which is terrific. I have always been a great supporter of a genuinely holistic education and a strong believer that the best schools educate the whole person – body and heart, mind and soul. And St Pat's, I think, certainly has a great history of providing a rich and diverse education along these lines to its boys and, in turn, that has certainly helped to shape them as great men. For me, I think there are numerous characteristics of being a great man. In my view great men are men of character. They have a strong and a genuine sense of compassion. They display courage appropriately. They are creative. They are also great communicators and they are committed to any worthwhile activity or cause. So, great men, to me, have a strong moral compass and certainly, I think, one which is grounded in the Gospel values and, in the context of St Pat's, espoused in the touchstones of the Edmund Rice tradition.

But it is important to make a small, but important, distinction in this context because I believe, and I hope, that the young men who graduate from St Patrick's College into the future are not merely, for example, doing social justice but rather are living a just life. So that small but significant distinction is really important about the value that they take away with them – the values that helped to form them as values-based great men.

Q: In what is an increasingly secular society, what do you see as the role of a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition in leading our young people towards a faith-filled life?

The role that a place like St Pat's is playing in this context is vital. Certainly, all the evidence suggests that the role that a Catholic school, like St Pat's is playing in providing opportunities for students to consider faith relation and opportunities to dive into that and to embrace that is really, really important. So, the connection to Church – we are certainly conscious that for many students coming to a school like St Pat's is probably their only connection to church. That is a reality of the 21st century that, as people who work in the mission of the Catholic school, we certainly need to be

open to and embrace. So, those opportunities for faith development really highlight the importance of Religious Education and other opportunities along the way for that faith formation to be central, to play important roles and to provide the opportunities for our young men as they make their way through the years at St Pat's.

Q: At the end of a working day, or on the weekends, what activities do you engage in to help you relax and forget about work for a while?

I enjoy maintaining a regular exercise routine so I like going cycling. I like walking and I am looking forward to doing both of those things around the lake and other parts. I also like swimming too so, you know, getting in and doing a couple of k's of laps if I can. I also love cooking. I love to cook for family and friends. I just find that really relaxing – the prospect of producing a meal that is really appreciated and nice to eat is something I find really rewarding and very enjoyable. I also really enjoy listening to music. I have got a real love of music and I love listening to music at every opportunity. As well as that I enjoy playing the piano when I have the time to do that and I will be bringing my piano down and am looking forward to being able to play the piano and relax through that.

Q: What message would you like to convey to our students, our staff and our parents about what they should expect when you commence at St Patrick's College in 2021?

I want everyone at St Patrick's College to know how honoured and excited I am that I have been appointed as Principal from 2021. I absolutely appreciate that there have been some tough times for the St Pat's community in recent years and I am really looking forward to taking up the role, getting to know the community and walking with and leading the community well into the future. St Pat's is a wonderful school with a rich history but it is important that we all remember that it has got a really exciting future. I see that it is really well placed in terms of its resources and I am really excited to hear the news of the new capital developments which will hopefully commence next year and the news of capital grants to assist in recent days. I think that the St Pat's community should expect someone who is going to be very keen to get to know people individually and collectively to get to know the community and to be there for a long period of time. ❀



← 1: Mr O'Connor will commence 2021 as the new Principal of St Patrick's College.
← 2: A photo from 2008 shows Mr O'Connor addressing a College Assembly while in his role as Deputy Headmaster.

2021 Student leaders

St Patrick's College is excited to announce its new student leaders who will fill the crucial roles on the Student Council for 2021.

Deputy Principal Mrs Elizabeth Ryan said she was incredibly impressed by the qualities of candidates who applied for a role as a student leader.

"Following a lengthy selection involving student voting, staff feedback, written applications and interviews it gives me great pleasure to introduce the College community to the 2021 Student Council," Mrs Ryan said.



To lead the Council will be our College Captain elect, Darcy Williams.

He will be ably supported by Vice Captains elect, Daniel Lalor and Jack Sheehan.

Darcy is a day student from Ballarat who joined the College in 2016 in Year 7 after completing his primary school years at Lumen Christi Primary School in Delacombe.

An exceptional triathlete and academic performer, Darcy has also been heavily involved in many aspects of College life such as public speaking, debating and chess. Darcy's father Damien also attended St Patrick's College from 1979-1983.

Darcy said he was delighted when informed that he would become the 128th College Captain of the school.

In his written application for the College Captain position Darcy said he wanted his tenure to be "all about making an impact".

"I want to make an impact on someone else or an impact on the school, which truly inspires and motivates me to wanting to become a leader," Darcy wrote.

Darcy spoke glowingly on the impact previous College Captains had made on him when he was a younger student and how a fire burns inside him to have the same effect on the Year 7 and 8 students in 2021.

"I say this in reference to myself, to the 12-year-old Darcy Williams that walked through the school gates on his very first day of high school.

"Sitting in assembly thinking, 'wow, he's amazing' to every leader that walked up on stage.

"This admiration for people who lead and succeeded has only grown throughout my time at St Pat's.

"It started off with the Dux when I was in Year 7, Patrick Collier, who received not only an outstanding ATAR score, but also an impressive average of 91% throughout his time at St Pat's.

"Right then and there I had a tangible goal (and) I was motivated to try my hardest and be the best version of myself."

Daniel Lalor also joined the College as a Year 7 student in 2016 as a day student from St Bernard's Primary School in Bacchus Marsh.

Daniel is the younger brother of Old Collegian Jack (SPC 2012-17) and the older brother of Archie who is in Year 8 and was last year named the captain of the Under 17 Victorian Country Cricket team which competed at the National Championships.

Jack Sheehan arrived at St Patrick's College in 2016 as a Year 7 student from St Thomas More Primary School, Alfredton. His father Mick attended St Patrick's College in 1985 and 1986.

Jack is a keen soccer player and a leader in his local club. As a leading academic performer, Jack represented the College in the Mindshop Excellence Program in 2019.

Mrs Ryan also announced the team of House captains and vice captains who will form next year's Student Council.

In 2021 the College houses will be led by the following:

Nunan House

Captain Elect: Kade Towk.

Vice Captains Elect: Jeremy Spedding and Nathan Sutton.

Galvin House

Captain Elect: Samuel Butler.

Supported by Darcy Williams and Charlie Delaney.

Ryan House

Captain Elect: Hugh Ollerenshaw.

Vice Captains Elect: Spencer Jenks and Nicholas Hodgson.

Keniry House

Captain Elect: Padraic Simpson.

Vice Captains Elect: Jack Richards and Benjamin Nash

Boarding

Captain Elect: Charlie Delaney

Vice Captain Elect: Nicholas Hodgson.

"On behalf of the College I would like to congratulate these boys on their appointment and pray the gifts of the Holy Spirit will empower and influence them in their model of leadership and decision making," Mrs Ryan said. ✿

← 1: The 2021 student leaders are, from left, Vice Captain Jack Sheehan, College Captain Darcy Williams and Vice Captain Daniel Lalor.



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College Captain Leave Taking Speech

In the COVID-enforced absence of a Valedictory Dinner for 2020, outgoing College Captain Will Rothe delivered his farewell speech at a Leave Taking Ceremony which was held in the OCA Pavilion on Thursday, October 29.

“My brothers of the clover, although today marks the end of our time together at school, it provides us all with a chance to reflect on the journey we have been through as a cohort.

We, the class of 2020, have experienced one of the most difficult years anyone could have ever imagined, but in saying that, I am so proud of each and every one of you. Your resilience and determination to still be here today is a credit to you all and is something that you should be proud of.

Although this year has not been what we had hoped for, it has still provided us some great memories. We only have to cast our minds back through the last six years to recall other memorable moments. Camps, retreats, guest speakers, life conversations with Howie, Melbourne experience, music and sporting trips, productions, debating competitions, sporting events, work experience, or simply the fierce downball competitions. Finally, who can forget the all-in brawl on Hill Oval in Year 10.

Along our journey we have learnt so much about each other. You only have to look at how far we have come from our younger years, to the great times of Boat Race where we cheered and celebrated as one -feeling a love and appreciation for the College we attend each day.

As I look around, I see in every one of you, a friend. Whether it be the mates sitting next to you or the mates you have grown with in the classroom, it is these relationships that have created the many memories and made the countless hours here at school all worthwhile.

Our College has provided us a broad education, a sense of community with the awareness of social justice and the importance of good mental health as men going forward. It has allowed us all to establish unforgettable friendships and an opportunity for these relationships to foster and extend long beyond the College gates you will leave this afternoon.



We have shared frustration and disappointment this year, but also embraced the time we have had together which I can honestly say has been full of happiness and laughter and I thank you all for this.

On behalf of the class of 2020, I would also like to express my gratitude to all staff who have supported us through our journey, most importantly to Murph and Chamo. You have both been so understanding in your roles as Year 12 coordinators and have been there for us especially during online when we needed you most. To all our Year 12 teachers, we thank you for your patience and guidance throughout this year. Adapting to new ways of learning has not been easy for any of us, and we appreciate your efforts to ensure we are in the best position for our upcoming exams.

We thank you all for the wonderful friendship and support that you have offered, whilst directing us down the path of becoming great men. We also acknowledge all the teachers and staff who have supported us through our time at St Pat's. Thank you for your dedication and encouragement.

This school has helped shape us over the last six years preparing us for what is to come, and in turn we have helped shape it. Leaving it a better place. We have left our mark in the history of this great College, one that will shine brightly for many years to come. St Pat's will continue in its ways next year, giving young men opportunities to do whatever their hearts desire. The only difference is that we won't be here. So, as we say goodbye today, we do it with knowledge and trust that St Pat's has instilled in us, the values of excellence, tradition, faith and relationships leading us on the path to become great men.

Thank you and Ecka Dora.” ❁



- ↑ 1: In the absence of a Valedictory Dinner, Year 12 students were at least able to gather for a Leave Taking Ceremony in the OCA Pavilion.
- ← 2: 2020 College Captain Will Rothe delivers his farewell address.
- ↑ 3: Graduating student Charlie Molan was full of smiles during the Leave Taking Ceremony.

2020 College Awards

The presentation of major College awards for 2020 certainly took place in a different format this year.

Due to COVID restrictions, the usual practice of acknowledging the award winners during the Transfer of Leadership Assembly in the final weeks of Term 3 was not possible.

Rather award winners were invited to join a special closed ceremony in the College's new black box theatre where an award ceremony was filmed and then shared with the broader community. The ceremony can be viewed at this link: <https://youtu.be/wXqmEa7fUQ>

These pages list the winners of the 2020 College Awards. 🍀



Traditionally, the College Principal presents this award to the College Captain in recognition of his leadership of the College community.



First presented in 1955, this award is the gift of the Howard Family in gratitude for all that St Patrick's College did for the four sons who attended SPC from 1923 through to 1937. It is given for all round excellence, character, leadership, participation, academic pursuits and culture or sports

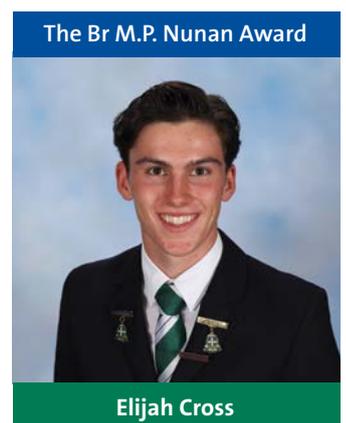
Chris Nolan Distinction Award

The Chris Nolan Distinction recognises the outstanding academic achievement of students who have received a Chris Nolan Award in each semester of their six years at St Patrick's College. A Chris Nolan Award is presented to students who, based on their end of semester results across all subjects, finish in the top 15% of their Year level.



House Awards

An award for a senior student who has displayed an outstanding attitude towards and has made a significant contribution to academic, sporting and social justice activities.



Little Family Award for School Spirit



Finn Lappin

This award is presented in honour of the Little Family whose five sons attended SPC between 1904 and 1924. It is presented to a senior student who has displayed and developed school spirit among the students through his dedication and general service to the College.

Edmund Rice Award for Ministry



Bailey McCabe

This award recognises a student who has embodied the spirit of Edmund Rice through his involvement in justice, action and reflective practice within the College, the community and the Edmund Rice Network.

St Vincent de Paul Award



William van Es

This award recognises a student who has embodied the ethos of the St Vincent de Paul through his involvement in service to his local community.

George Devine Treloar Award for Community Service



Bailey McCabe

George Devine Treloar Award for Community Service: Presented in honour of Old Collegian George Treloar - a Military Cross winner honoured for bravery under heavy fire in World War I. He then became a representative of the League of Nations High Commissariat for Refugees in northern Greece and between 1922 and 1926 was engaged in the resettlement of 108,000 refugees. George Treloar is now hailed as a national hero of the Pontian Greeks, descendants of whom honour his legacy by providing an annual award to a current St Patrick's College student. The award is granted to a student deemed to have acted in the greater good on a significant, philanthropic, community project in the school year.

ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award



Jack Sampi

The ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award provides a fitting tribute to the Long Tan veterans by encouraging and recognising in a Year 12 student the values demonstrated at Long Tan - determination, mateship, teamwork, tenacity, compassion and leadership.

Dorothy Irene Ellis-Thomas Scholarship



Kai O'Keeffe

This scholarship is awarded each year to a hardworking, conscientious and worthy student who has shown an overall endeavour to pursue excellence in all areas of his school life and who wishes to continue to do the same in the future.

University of Melbourne - Nomination for Principals' Scholarship



Kai O'Keeffe

The St Patrick's College nomination for the University of Melbourne - Principals' Scholarship is awarded to a student in recognition of their excellent academic achievement and contribution to their school or wider community.

ADF Future Innovators Award



Thomas Barry

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) Future Innovators Award has been designed to recognise recipients' science and mathematics abilities while highlighting the value the Navy, Army and Air Force place on STEM skills and STEM career opportunities within Defence. Participation in the awards program is open to all Australian schools with students enrolled in Year 10 and/or Year 12. Participation is of course voluntary and at the discretion of individual school principals. The program supports the presentation of up to two awards to successful students each year from participating schools - one from Year 10 and another from Year 12.

St Vincent de Paul Tertiary Education Sponsorship Award



Jake Leahy

The St Vincent de Paul Tertiary Education Sponsorship recognises the difficulty students from regional schools face in leaving home to study and begin a career. The sponsorship is designed to encourage and financially support a student to meet this significant challenge.

Australian Olympic Change-Maker Award



Elijah Cross

This award recognises a student who demonstrates consistent participation and commendable sporting behaviour in line with the Olympic ideals of participation.

In Civitatem Award



Benedict Howard

This award recognises a Boarding student who has selflessly given for the greater good to all living within the Boarding Community. The Boarding student has consistently acted in such a way to improve the Boarding experience of all.

1

A solar future for SPC

St Patrick's College is moving towards becoming a more sustainable school with the recent installation of solar panels and additional LED lighting at the College.

St Patrick's College has now installed approximately 306 solar panels at the College, which enhances the energy efficiency of the school.

Approximately 274 solar panels were installed on the roof of the Senior School's Wilding Wing and 32 solar panels installed on the roof of the College's Boarding Precinct by Middys Electrical in September.

The College also expanded the use of energy efficient LED lighting with approximately 246 LED lights installed in the Wilding Wing.

The College's use of LED lighting is saving over 100 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. LED lighting now represents 45 per cent of all light fittings used by the College with a number of key areas around the College also utilising 100 per cent LED lighting, including the Boarding Precinct, Whelan Food Centre, Year 12 Study Centre, the Waterford Wing, Chapel and O'Malley Gym.



3

St Patrick's College Business Manager, Mr Andrew Ballesty, said a recent Energy Efficiency Review, conducted by the College and supported by Edmund Rice Education Australia, identified simple efficient measures that could reduce its environmental footprint.

"We are thrilled to deliver on our commitment to sustainable design and efficiency. The installation of solar panels and expanded use of LED lighting, not only reduces the College's energy costs, but more importantly contributes positively to the environment by reducing energy use and carbon emissions," Mr Ballesty said.

St Patrick's College plans to continue rolling out environmentally friendly initiatives with a commitment to sustainable design in future projects, including the College's new planned Multi-Purpose Centre, which will feature solar panels and LED lighting. ♣



2

- ↑ 1: An aerial view shows the huge scale of the solar panels which have been installed on the Wilding Wing and on the Boarding Precinct.
- ← 2: Workers install some of the new LED lighting in the Wilding Wing.
- ↑ 3: More than 300 solar panels have been installed on the two buildings.



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Funding boost for new building

St Patrick's College was excited to learn in October that the Victorian Government will provide a large funding injection to help in the construction of a new \$13.2m Multi-Purpose Centre.

Member for Wendouree Juliana Addison announced the College would receive \$2 million as one of the more than 50 projects under the Non-Government Schools Capital Fund.

"Catholic and independent education plays a vital role in the schooling of Ballarat students. We are proud to support the teachers, students and school community at St Patrick's College to build their new Multi-Purpose Centre," Ms Addison said.

"This \$2 million investment is a boost for the local economy and will create and sustain jobs here in Ballarat"

Acting Principal Mr Stephen Hill said the College was excited to hear that its funding application had been successful.

"St Patrick's College is extremely grateful for the generous support of the State Government as we look to construct a new Multi-Purpose Centre for our 1400 students in the next two years," Mr Hill said.

"This building will become a spiritual heart of the College and will be home to our acclaimed music and performing arts students as well as providing an ideal space for our community to gather for large assemblies and events.

"The centre will further build upon our 127-year involvement in music and performing arts and will form a huge part of our ongoing commitment to providing a broad, engaging and diverse education for boys from Ballarat and beyond."



The College has appointed renowned Melbourne firm John Wardle Architects to design the building which will aim to host all large-scale College events such as assemblies and Masses, Valedictory Dinner and Mother's Day Mass and Breakfast.

Concept plans for the new multi-purpose centre include an assembly hall, a permanent stage, flexible learning spaces, performing rooms, music tutorial rooms and associated storage areas. The facility will also include the creation of a new amenities area for

the students and provide a new, safe, and welcoming forecourt for the Wanliss Street entry.

The development will include provision for car parking, soft landscaping and covered play spaces for students to protect them from wet and extreme weather. Sustainability will be considered in the design with further extensions of the College's solar and LED lighting systems.

Pleasingly, one of the lead architects from John Wardle is Old Collegian Luke Jarvis who attended the College from 1993-98 and was most recently one of the lead designers for the Ballarat GovHub which is nearing completion at the corner of Mair and Armstrong St.



The College is now calling on other members of the community to be part of this exciting new chapter of building development.

Old Collegians or current parents with relevant consulting and trade experience, are warmly invited to express their interest to be involved in the design and construction of a new multi-purpose centre on the Wanliss St side of the College.

Expressions of interest are now being sought for consideration from those with relevant trade and building experience, including engineers, town planning, plumbers, electricians, builders, plasterers, concreters etc.

Mr Hill said the College was looking forward to the opportunity to work with the College's talented community to help bring this exciting new vision to reality.

Members of the community interested in contributing to the project are warmly invited to email the College's Business Manager Andrew Ballesty at aballesty@stpats.vic.edu.au if they would like their business to receive further information about the project. ♣

- ↑ 1: Some of the College's music and performing arts students welcome the announcement of \$2m from the State Government to help fund the construction of a new Multi-Purpose Centre at St Patrick's College.
- ← 2: Member for Wendouree Juliana Addison makes the funding announcement.
- ↑ 3: Old Collegian Luke Jarvis, from John Wardle Architects, is one of the lead designers on the massive project.



Winter wonderland

Under normal circumstances, Friday September 25, 2020 would have been a public holiday, in the middle of the school holidays, on the day before the AFL Grand Final.

Of course, as we all know 2020 has a habit of throwing forward unexpected occurrences which take us all by surprise and this day was no different.

Yes, it was a cold, miserable, grey, late winter day in Ballarat. The sort of day which happens a dozen or so times each winter and helps to give Ballarat its unwanted reputation as having some of the bleakest weather in Australia.

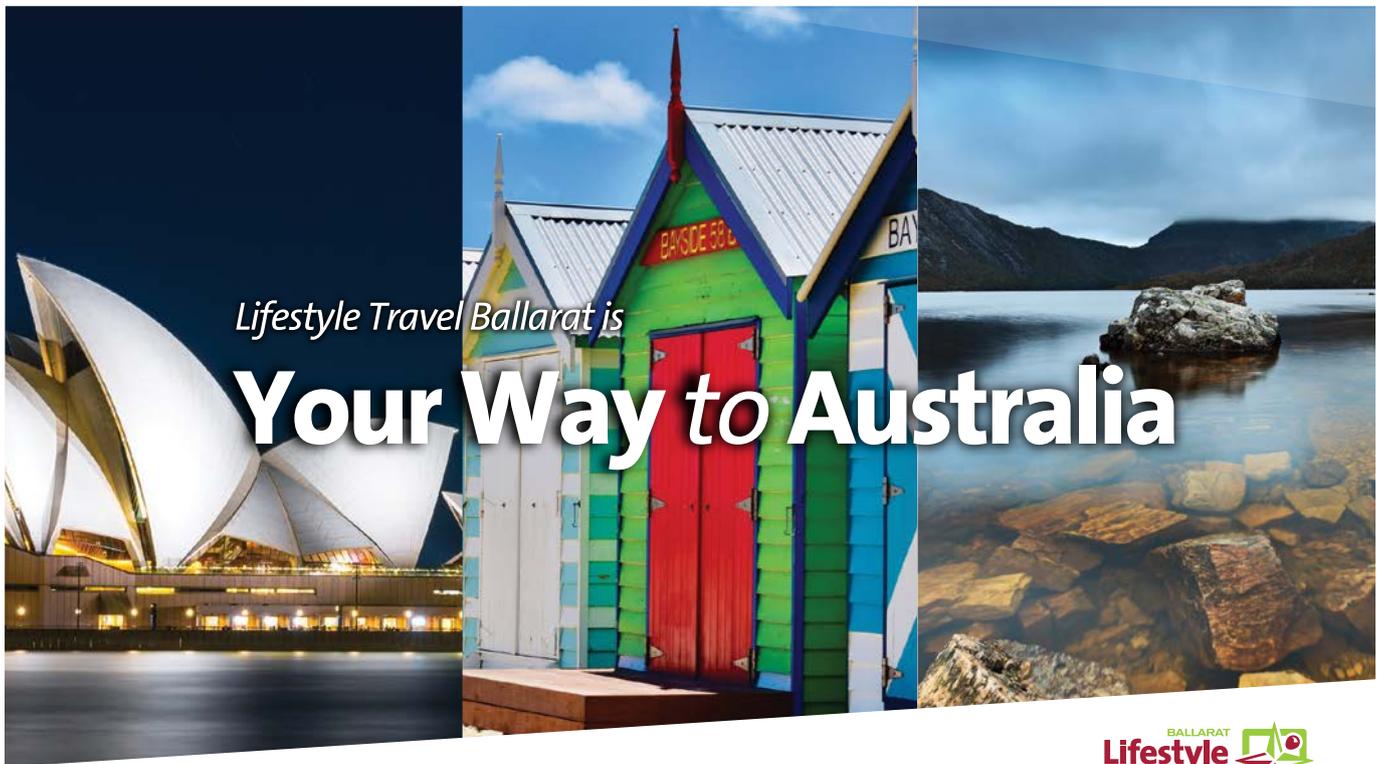
No-one was really expecting the deluge of snow which started at about 12.30pm and continued for more than an hour, turning the city into a white wonderland.

The College grounds, which are spectacular at the worst of times, were quickly blanketed in a clean, bright covering of snow which lasted for some hours.

Our only regret is that there were few staff members and no students on site to enjoy the scenery.

We hope though that all can enjoy these photos taken on the day. ❀





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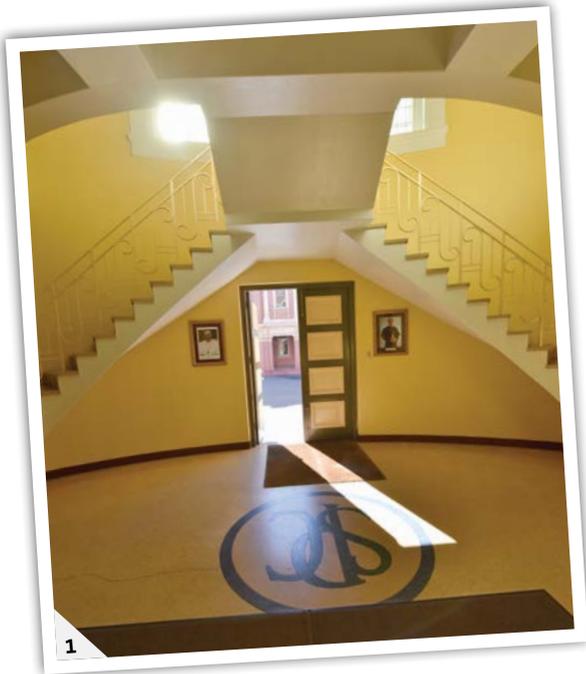
Certare Bursary announced

St Patrick's College is excited to announce the creation of a new annual bursary which will acknowledge great achievements by Year 10 students.

A generous donation from a man with close familial connections to St Patrick's College has enabled the creation of the ongoing Certare Bursary, being offered to at least one Year 10 student each year.

"Certare", pronounced ker-TAH-ray, is a Latin verb meaning "to strive" and was chosen by the benefactor to highlight the importance of effort and perseverance in a boy's development.

The purpose of the Certare Bursary is to support selected students from families of relatively modest means to complete Years 11 and 12 in a way that "fosters their own development and contributes markedly to furthering a positive College environment".



The bursary will be administered by the St Patrick's College Foundation with recipients to be selected by the College Principal in consultation with senior staff.

The bursary will be awarded towards the end of the recipient's Year 10 studies and will take the form of a partial remission of College tuition fees of at least 50%. The bursary will apply for the recipient in both Years 11 and Year 12. A current Year 10 student will be the first beneficiary of the Certare Bursary in 2021.

The Certare Bursary aligns strongly with the College mission to "raise fine boys to the status of great men".

Director of Community Development Mr Paul Nolan said the new bursary has been designed to help Year 10 students for decades to come.

"The Certare Bursary has been designed to recognise and help foster the qualities of boys who have demonstrated a better than average level of aptitude and dedication in areas likely to further both their own development and a positive College environment," Mr Nolan said.

"It is anticipated that the boys will come from families of relatively modest means and must be a current student of St Patrick's College."

Mr Nolan thanked the donor for initiating contact and then working closely with the College to ensure the bursary would reflect both his desires and the College's aim to recognise excellence.

"We anticipate that with prudent management of this generous donation, the College, through the SPC Foundation, will be able to ensure the Certare Bursary remains in place for decades to come," Mr Nolan said.

"We are truly grateful that someone who thinks so much of the College has presented us with such an incredible gift."

The Bursary will not be open to applications but will be determined annually by the College.

In determining the recipients the Principal is required to take into consideration a student's co-curricular and academic achievements, his leadership capabilities, his attendance and behavioural records, his commitment to enhancing the College culture and his willingness to show respect and care for others.

In keeping with the theme of "to strive", the Principal may also consider the likelihood of any potential recipient continuing with tertiary education upon successful completion of the Victorian Certificate of Education.

Successful recipients must not be a beneficiary of any other College scholarship or bursary program.

All enquiries about the Certare Bursary should be directed to the College's Development Office, and in particular the Director of Community Development Mr Paul Nolan at (03) 5322 4450 or at pnolan@stpats.vic.edu.au

Similarly, anyone wishing to make a contribution to the SPC Foundation is urged to contact Mr Nolan.

Additional information about other scholarships and bursaries available at St Patrick's College is available at stpats.vic.edu.au 🍀

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↑ 1: A generous gift by an anonymous donor with close familial ties to the College has enabled the creation of the Certare Bursary which will last for decades to come.

Historic Chronicles published online

Editions of former St Patrick's College periodical "The Chronicle" are, for the first time, available on the College website for research and reminiscing.

Just as in earlier years Brother Kenny had sparked off in many of his pupils an ardour for writing, so Brother Purton, in the 'thirties, fostered this same spirit amongst his boys. And so, in 1935 the 'College Chronicle—St Patrick's College, Ballarat' was born.

This monthly magazine was destined to last for a full 20 years, during which time it was regularly given prominence in the prospectus as a special feature of the College.

In commenting on its introduction in the school after its first full year of publication, Brother Purton said, in his 1935 Report:

"Besides the College Annual, an elaborate illustrated review, issued each year during the Christmas vacation, we have published this year a monthly journal, the 'College Chronicle'. This is not merely a record of College activities in study and sport during the month; it is the articulate expression of the College spirit on all matters of importance. We advise parents to become subscribers to this Journal. It costs 3/- per year, post free, and it will keep them closely in touch with every phase of College life. Old Boys may also become subscribers."

This statement was a good indicator of the reality. For the next 20 years 'The Chronicle' was an integral part of St Patrick's; and it did manifest the spirit of the school.

It was crisp in style, topical in its material, certainly of great interest to its readers and quite simply but unashamedly redolent of the ethos of the College.

Religion was part of this; so was academic excellence; so too was a keen and competitive interest in all sporting activities.

The present was the focus of the magazine, but this did not preclude an appreciation of the past or a deep interest in the careers of students of earlier years.

The magazine was clearly a vital part of St Patrick's College and breathed its spirit on every page.

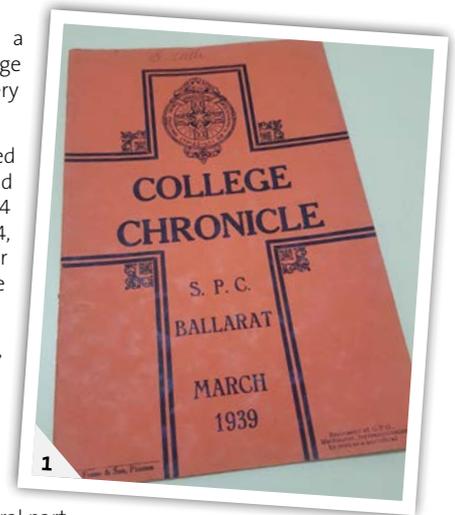
The Chronicle was suspended during both 1941 and 1942. A combined 1943-44 Annual came out in 1944, and this managed to cover 1942 as well. The Chronicle reappeared in June 1943.

As in so many other things, time brings changes and this magazine ultimately ceased publication.

But the set of copies preserved in the school archives remains as an integral part of the history of St Patrick's College and all have now been scanned in and published online in a searchable format.

The College is missing editions of the Chronicles from 1935 to 1938, if you locate any publications please contact the College Archivist. ♣

The publications can be found at <https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/st-patricks-college/publications/chronicles/>



↑ 1: Historic editions of former College magazine "The Chronicle" have been scanned and published in a searchable format on the College website.

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Treasured item donated

A treasured piece of College memorabilia has been donated to the school and will now forever hang proudly in our esteemed corridors.

Earlier this year Old Collegian and inducted Legend Steve Moneghetti (SPC 1975-80) was cleaning out some cupboards in his Ballarat home when he stumbled across his old St Patrick's College running singlet which he would wear when carving out record after record in cross country and Lap of the Lake events while representing the green, white and blue.

Precisely 40 years after he was pictured in the 1980 College Annual wearing the singlet, the famous marathon man ran around to the College one day in August this year to donate his singlet back.

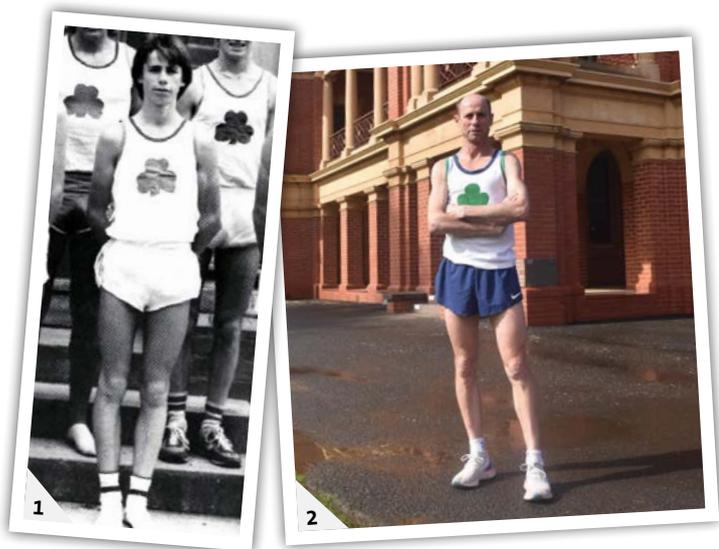
College archivist Halina Sztynka has since organised to have the singlet framed and hung in the College corridors as yet another addition to our amazing archival collection. It will remain for generations to come.

Not coincidentally, the day that 'Mona' donated his singlet also happened to be the same day that our Student Council had arranged a fun recording of a fashion parade, showcasing various pieces of the St Patrick's College uniform from throughout the years.

Current students were happy to be filmed modelling the old uniforms including some items which dated back more than 70 years.

Being the good sport he is, Moneghetti was happy to make a cameo appearance in the video and provided a pleasant surprise to the current students who had no idea he would be involved.

You can watch the fashion parade video at this link:
https://youtu.be/kWhYOG_LHnM 



- ← 1: Steve Moneghetti is pictured wearing the singlet in the 1980 College Annual.
- ← 2: Some 40 years after finishing Year 12, Steve Moneghetti still fits into the athletics singlet he wore while still a student.
- ↑ 3: On the same day as 'Mona' donated his singlet, students were involved in filming a fashion parade while wearing pieces of College clothing from throughout the years.

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A unique jumper for a unique year

St Patrick’s College has presented a unique, specially-designed football jumper to many of its senior students in place of a traditional 1st XVIII guernsey for 2020.

The cancellation of both the Ballarat Associated Schools football competition and the Herald-Sun Shield competition due to COVID-19 restrictions, meant our top footballers could only represent the College on one occasion in 2020 – a pre-season game against Assumption College in March.

This, in effect, robbed students of the opportunity to earn the right to keep a traditional 1st XVIII jumper, as they were unable to play enough matches.

“We felt, though, that the boys should not go home empty handed because of circumstances well outside their control,” Director of Football Mr Howard Clark said.

“So, some of the students worked together to design a unique commemorative jumper which features aspects of the modern, traditional 1st XVIII guernsey while also incorporating features which were prominent 100 years ago, such as the SPC monogram on the front. The end result was spectacular.

“Senior staff then met to determine which students had earned the right to keep one of the jumpers, largely based on their ability and their commitment to the St Patrick’s College football program during their time at the College.”

The final design proved so popular that many Old Collegians contacted the College wishing to buy one of the jumpers. While the College’s position is that this design should remain unique to the Class of 2020, a similar jumper will be made in 2021 and will be made available for sale to all in the community.

The provision of a new jumper was not the only new innovation introduced in 2020.



Due to the bans on playing inter-school sport, the College organised an inaugural intra-school senior football match between a team of non-Indigenous day students versus a team of Indigenous and/or boarding students.

The match was played on the Main Oval on Wednesday, July 22 with teams competing for the Taatee Shield.

The word “Taatee” hails from the Wathaurong language and means friendship. The match was played in this spirit and will now become an annual feature at the College.

The Indigenous/Boarding team was known as the Pumarali Dreamers. Again, the word “pumarali” hails from the Indigenous language and means “lightning and thunder” – a very appropriate term for a hybrid team.

The day students triumphed on this occasion, but the Dreamers will no doubt be seeking revenge in 2021.

Final scores: All Stars 7.5 (47) d Dreamers 3.2 (20).

Best on ground: All Stars - Sam Butler; Pumarali Dreamers - Jordi Cossar. ♣



- ↑ 1: A team of Indigenous and/or boarding students challenged a “best-of-the-rest” team on the College’s Main Oval for the first time.
- ← 2: Students designed the special jumper, of which only 32 were made.
- ← 3: Recipients of the commemorative jumper gathered for a team photo in the College’s front gardens on Wednesday, November 25.
- ↑ 4: The day student All Stars won the first ever Taatee Shield match.



Sports report

In a year like no other we asked Head of Sport Ms Tina Benoit to reflect on 2020.

Unfortunately, Sport in 2020 was highly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which led to great disappointment with students missing out on playing sport for both St Patrick's College and their community clubs.

Event cancellations also resulted in devastated boys and staff who missed out on sport trips to the UK (Soccer), Darwin (Football) and Sydney (Rowing). In addition to tours we also saw the cancellation of the Rowing Dinner, BAS Athletics, BAS Golf, AGSV Golf, Basketball tournaments, Cross Country events, the Victorian Schools Touch Rugby Tournament, the Herald Sun Shield, Clay Target Shooting events as well as the cancellation of Term 2 & 3 BAS Sport.

The end of Term 1 saw many sports premierships being unable to be decided leaving many joint premierships awarded.

Weekly Sport Challenges – Remote Learning

During remote learning we introduced weekly sport challenges to boost morale and give students a fun challenge to attempt, allowing them to get outside in the fresh air and have a break from their devices. Admittedly I think I had just as much fun creating and practising the challenges as the students did. Many people in the SPC community enjoyed watching the videos on the Old Collegians Facebook page each week which highlighted the skills of our students and allowed people to have a laugh and smile during a difficult time. Well done to everyone that participated in the weekly sport challenges and sent video entries in.

Activity Afternoons

The cancellation of BAS Sport allowed us to get creative and introduce a new initiative with afternoon activities for students in Years 7-10. Our students had spent a long time away from school and their friends and subsequently wellbeing was made the focus and activities were introduced to lift spirits. Students were given the opportunity to choose an activity each week to participate in from 1.55-3.25pm. The activities on offer were:

- Basketball
- Boardgames
- Cricket
- Downball / Spikeball
- Esports
- Football
- Movie
- Rowing
- Soccer
- Table Tennis

The laughter and excitement could be heard around the College and smiles were seen on many faces as the boys got to reconnect with friends after a long time away from school. After the success of these activities we are hoping to implement them as more regular events in the calendar.

The introduction of Esports was a big hit with the students and we thank Ian Fernee for all his work organising the activities with the assistance of the ICT team.

Upon reflecting on 2020 what struck me the most was the resilience of our students and staff and the level of participation, and the enjoyment had by all when opportunities were available. It was a tough year for many, but the boys took to the sporting arena with such enthusiasm which certainly makes all the administration tasks worthwhile. I would like to congratulate all the students who took to the field, court, track, pool and pitch.



Student Leadership

I would like to acknowledge and thank the list of boys below who were given leadership roles for their respective sports in 2020. These gentlemen have shown commitment to sport at St Patrick's over their time at the College and this is fitting recognition for the work they have done. Our students proudly wear their badges on their suitcoats and the younger boys certainly look up to them. ♣

TERM ONE SPORT	NAME
Lawn Bowls Captain	Joshua Chandler
Lawn Bowls Vice-Captain	James Molloy
Cricket Captain 2019-20	James Doherty
Cricket Vice-Captain 2019-20	Daniel Lalor
Captain of Boats 2019-20	Nicholas Gittings
Vice-Captains of Boats 2019-20	Connor Smith & William Gilbert
Tennis Captain	Max Olver
Tennis Vice-Captain	Joseph Freeman
Volleyball Captain	Connor Madigan
Volleyball Vice-Captain	Xavier Cross
Swimming Captain 2019-20	Liam Wright
Swimming Vice-Captain 2019-20	Blake Scott
Golf Captain	Kacey Kirwan-Hamilton

TERM TWO SPORT	NAME
Athletics Captain	Not awarded in 2020 due to the cancellation of Term 2 Sport.
Athletics Vice-Captains	
Badminton Captain	
Badminton Vice-Captain	
Basketball Captain	
Basketball Vice-Captain	
Football Captain	
Football Vice-Captains	
Hockey Captain	
Hockey Vice-Captain	

TERM THREE SPORT	NAME
Squash & Racquetball Captain	Not awarded in 2020 due to the cancellation of Term 3 Sport.
Squash & Racquetball Vice-Captain	
Table Tennis Captain	
Cycling Captain	
Shooting Captain	
Cross-Country Captain	
Cross-Country Vice-Captains	
Soccer Captain	
Soccer Vice-Captain	

TERM FOUR SPORT	NAME
Croquet Captain	Not awarded in 2020
Cricket Captain 2020-21	Daniel Lalor
Cricket Vice-Captains 2020-21	Spence Jenks
Captain of Boats 2020-21	Austin Reinehr
Vice-Captains of Boats 2020-21	Jake Polkinghorne & Joshua Phillips
Swimming Captain 2020-21	Will be awarded in Term 1, 2021
Swimming Vice-Captains 2020-21	Will be awarded in Term 1, 2021



- ← **1:** After all school sport was cancelled in Terms 2 and 3, it was great to see our cricketers back in action in Term 4 in this match against Ballarat Clarendon College.
- ← **2:** As a summer sport, rowing is one of the few which has been largely unaffected by the pandemic, a fact members of our 1st VIII crew relished when they hit the water for training in October.
- ← **3:** Several intra-school games in sports such as soccer, basketball and football were organised in Terms 2 and 3 when interschool sport was cancelled due to COVID-19.

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OCA President's Column

► Mr Allan McKinnon | President – St Patrick's College Old Collegians Association

What a year! The 2020 OCA year was completely blindsided by COVID 19. However, that did not stop the OCA from continuing and delivering some really important initiatives during this COVID year.

I would like to acknowledge on behalf of all Old Boys, all people connected to the College for the way they have managed this year. Every part of the College has had to adapt to what has been a year like no other. We congratulate Mr Stephen Hill for the magnificent job he has done in his role as Acting Principal. We congratulate all other members of the leadership and administrative team of the College. We congratulate all teachers who have had to adapt to online learning and develop a style of teaching that was unheard of 12 months ago. Finally, we would like to congratulate the students, especially the Year 12s. This has no doubt been the most difficult year of your school life. So many milestone events during your final year of school have been missed.

We, as Old Boys, cannot comprehend what it must have been like to go to school this year. I was encouraged by the smiles on the OCA Facebook site as you celebrated your last day of classes. The 2020 Year 12 class will be a very special group of students. You have all shared a very unique experience.

As far as the OCA was concerned the first effect of the COVID crisis was the cancellation of the St Patrick's Day lunch. All reunions that were to be held at the College were also cancelled one by one. All regional reunions were cancelled as well. The quarterly Emerald gatherings became a victim to COVID too. The OCA monthly meetings reverted to online meetings.

The COVID crisis did not stop the OCA from carrying out some really good initiatives that I believe have enhanced the standing of the OCA. One of the first things the OCA did was to donate to the College \$50,000 to be used in two ways. \$40,000 was to be used to assist with fee relief for parents whose employment was impacted by COVID. \$10,000 was given to the SPC

Pastoral Care Program to assist Old Boys whose lives were being impacted by COVID or who were generally going through a tough time. There has been a tremendous amount of positive feedback received concerning these gestures.

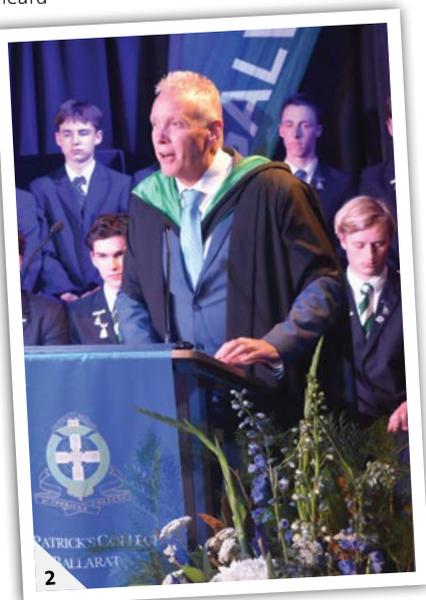
The OCA connected with the boarders during the lockdowns, especially the second lockdown. Many of them could not travel home and therefore were confined to the boarding house at SPC. On one occasion the OCA "shouted" the boys to a special dinner, on another occasion we had an online zoom hook-up with the boarders. The boarders appreciated the connection with the OCA. I am sure it has encouraged many of them to connect with the College as Old Boys when they leave school.

Perhaps one of the initiatives that our committee have got a tremendous amount of pleasure from this year was developing and then establishing an OCA scholarship fund. This scholarship is for two boys in Year 11 and covers 50% of their Year 12 fee. OCA committee members Kieran Murnane and Chris Torpy spent a lot of time during the second half of the year developing guidelines around the scholarship. It is something we as an Old Boy group can feel very proud of. The first two recipients will take up the scholarship in 2021.

One of our OCA committee members Stephen McMahon (SPC 1986-1989) has had a career change. He had two stints teaching at SPC (1995-1996). He taught again at SPC from 2010-2015. In 2016 he enrolled at Notre Dame University Australia to do the Graduate Doctor of Medicine program. Earlier this year Stephen graduated as Doctor Stephen McMahon. He is currently based at Ballarat Health Services. Our congratulations are extended to Stephen.

I would like to acknowledge all who were on the 2020 committee. This is especially so for the new members. Unfortunately, the absence of face to face meetings meant that we never got to meet formally. I am sure it will be different next year. Whilst we did not have our traditional face to face reunions and other gatherings what we achieved this year I feel has been wonderful.

I also thank Mr Paul Nolan our executive officer and his team of Rachel Bryant and Lorrie Liston. They are so obliging and helpful and the amount of work they do on behalf of the OCA is phenomenal. On behalf of the committee, I thank you. As president, I have especially appreciated all you have done. 🍀



↑ 1: "The 2020 Year 12 class will be a very special group of students. You have all shared a very unique experience."

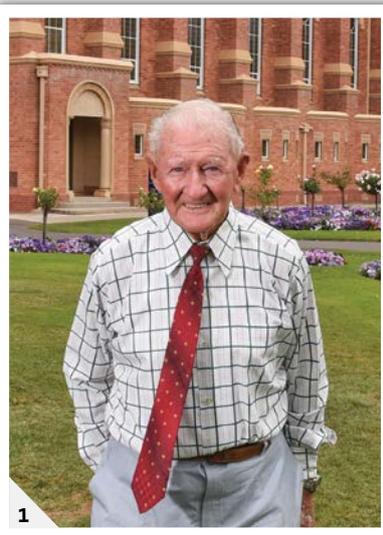
← 2: The OCA would like to thank and congratulate Mr Stephen Hill for all he has achieved in his time as Acting Principal in 2020.

Old Boy Obituaries

All obituaries are published in full on the College website at this link - stpats.vic.edu.au/news/obituaries/

- ▶ Old Collegian **Jim Mather (SPC 1999-2002)** and his wife, Sabine, were killed in a car accident in October on the Bussell Highway near Capel in Western Australia. They had been in Margaret River to celebrate their seventh wedding anniversary. The couple leave behind a family of four children, two older girls and two little boys. Sadly, Jethro, aged 7, and Isaac, aged 5, are now orphaned, and Jim's older daughters Ella-Jade, 13, and Sofia, 15, have lost their father.

- ▶ Old Collegian **John Colbert (SPC 1944-47)** died peacefully on October 27, aged 90.



1

- ▶ Old Collegian **Gavan Connell (SPC 1961-68)**, aged 70, died of a heart attack on October 9 in Mexico, where Gavan has lived with his wife Lorenna in Merida, Yucatan, for the last 20 years.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Damian van der Linden (SPC 1978-82)** died on September 10.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Laurence (Laurie) James Erwin (SPC 1949-53)** died on August 8, aged 85 years.

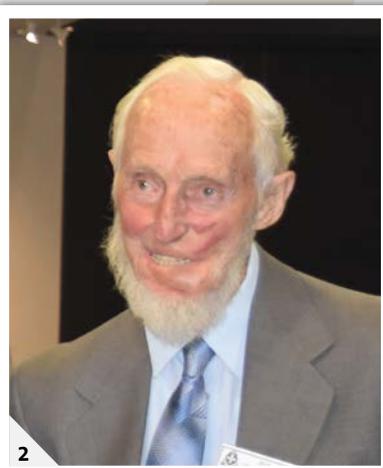
- ▶ **Michael Purcell (SPC 1955-56)** died peacefully on St Patrick's Day (March 17), aged 76 years, in Maryborough after a short illness surrounded by his family.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Bill Cushing (SPC 1954-57)** died just shy of his 80th birthday on August 19. His career as a senior public servant and his later retirement years have been fondly remembered as epitomising the values that underpin a strong public service.

- ▶ We are very saddened to announce the passing of **Br John Wayne De Bock**, who was a respected member of the St Patrick's College staff between 1986-2006. Br De Bock died on Wednesday, September 2 at the Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne, aged 80.

- ▶ We are very sad to hear of the passing of one of our wonderful SPC supporters, **Jim Farrell (SPC 1941-44)**.

- ▶ We extend our sincere condolences to wife Mary and family on the sad passing of Old Collegian **Roger Howard (SPC 1954-63)** on August 12.



2

- ▶ We extend our sympathy to Old Boy Robert Re (SPC 1955-63) on the passing of his brother **Anthony (Tony) Re (SPC 1954-61)** on August 5.

- ▶ We were notified recently of the passing of **Joseph (Joe) Marlow (SPC 1943-45)** on December 6, 2019, three days shy of his 92nd birthday.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Kevin Francis Walsh (SPC 1961-67)** died on August 3. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Margaret, children Reagan (SPC 1993-98), Alexander (SPC 1997-02) and Justine.

- ▶ Old Boy **Brian Miller (SPC 1943-50)** died on August 27, 2018.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Leon Borelli (SPC 1965-68)** died on July 14, after a brief illness, aged 69 years. Leon was a boarder with his brother John (SPC 1964-65), from Huntingdale, a suburb of Melbourne.

- ▶ Old Boy **Peter Hackwill (SPC 1945-52)** died in Canberra on July 14, aged 84 years. Peter attended St Patrick's in the late 40s and early 50s along with his brothers Gavan (SPC 1945-51) (dec), Brendon (SPC 1953-54, PY1956) (dec) and Harry (SPC 1947-1953, PY1955).

- ▶ Old Collegian **Warren McGenniss (SPC 1948-57, PY1958)** died on his 58th wedding anniversary on July 7, aged 79 years.

- ▶ **Brian Joseph Hetherington (SPC 1946-48)** died on July 9 and a Requiem Mass was held at St Andrew's Catholic Church in Malabar, NSW on July 17.

- ▶ **John Tenison-Woods (SPC 1962-64)** died on January 3, this year, aged 74 years.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Doug Murphy (SPC 1950-51, PY1952)** has died and is survived by his wife Elaine.

- ▶ Old Collegian **David Michael (Mick) Darman (SPC 1980-85)** died earlier this year. Mick was the loving son of Ivan (dec) and Maud and brother of Dominic (SPC 1978-83), Alain (SPC 1981-84, PY1986) and Gerard (SPC 1987-90).

- ▶ Old Collegian and retired teacher **Barry Nunn (SPC 1956-62)** passed away peacefully on May 12, aged 75 years.

- ▶ **Peter McDonald (SPC 1962-64 and former staff member)** died on June 12 surrounded by his loving family.

- ▶ Old Collegian **Paul Gross (1976-80, PY1981)** died on June 11 from a heart attack.

- ▶ We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Shaun Firman (SPC 2002-07)** who passed away peacefully after a year-long battle with cancer on June 5, surrounded by his beautiful partner Emma Hoffman, family and friends.

- ▶ **Barry Pomeroy (SPC 1953-55, PY1957)** died on May 7.

- ▶ The College extends its sympathy to the family of **James (Jim) Patrick Murrhly (SPC 1959-63)** who died on June 1 after a battle with cancer. Jim is survived by wife Audrey, children Cherie and Martin and was an adored grandfather to four. Jim was also uncle to Damian Murrhly (SPC 1985-90), Daniel (SPC 1991-96), Kieran (SPC 1986-91) and Sean (SPC 2000-05).

- ▶ **Trevor Cann (SPC 1961-64)** died on May 30, aged 71. Trevor and his younger brother Graham (SPC 1963-67) were day students at SPC as was their father Frank Guilano (SPC 1913-16).

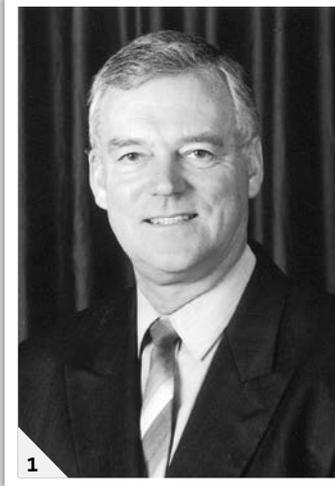
← 1: John Colbert, died in October, aged 90. His last visit to the College was on St Patrick's Day in 2018.

← 2: Jim Farrell lived a remarkable life and was a wonderful supporter of St Patrick's College.

Old Boys in the News

Following are some highlights of Old Collegians featuring in news reports recently. More comprehensive lists of “Old Boys in the News” [can be found on the College website](#).

- Congratulations to **Don Grant (SPC1943-50, PY1951)** who was presented with his Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service to surveying recently at an investiture ceremony in Sydney, which had been postponed earlier in the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Don, who lives in Bathurst, was appointed an AO for his role in establishing Australia’s first combined public sector mapping agency in 1992. Don served as chairman of PSMA Australia until 2000 and during that tenure, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1994.



1

- **David Loader (SPC SPC 1982-85, PY1987)** is returning as the new coach for the boys’ and girls’ restructured Greater Western Victoria Rebels programs for next season. David was part of the Rebels program for nine years up to 2015 and returns after a five-year stint at North Melbourne where he was a development coach and coached the club’s VFL side.
- **David Canny (SPC 1980-85)** continued to feature prominently in the media lobbying for the easing of COVID rules in regional Victoria in his role as state president of the Australian Hotels Association and publican of Ballarat’s Red Lion Hotel.
- Great to see **Brendan McCartney** appointed as the senior coach of the North Ballarat FC for the next three years. Brendan is the son of Old Collegian **Graeme McCartney (SPC 1947-48, PY1950)** and was involved in the AFL system for two decades, including three years as Western Bulldogs head coach and most recently, as coach of the Geelong Falcons in the NAB League U18 competition this year.
- Great effort by **Shane Darroch (SPC 1985-90)** to help Ballarat’s cancer wellness programs with his bid for a world record in a line of coins. The bid, which hit hurdle after hurdle, including the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, saw many of the planned charity events cancelled, however he still managed to raise a “substantial” pile of gold coins to help cancer wellness programs.
- We wish **Michael Pierce (SPC 1983-88)** all the very best with his recovery after a particularly nasty bike accident recently saw him fracture his leg in four places. We know Michael will be doing everything he can to be back out on the bike and fully recovered and his skillset as a sports physiotherapist and director of Lake Health Group will certainly help.
- Congratulations to **Paul Tatchell (SPC 1974, PY1979)**, who has been re-elected for his third term in the Moorabool Shire Council in the central ward.

- Congratulations are in order for Old Collegian **Jason Barnett (SPC 2000-05)** who pocketed \$50,000 for winning the 2020 Herald Sun Supercoach competition! Jason claimed Super Coach victory in front of 170,000 other teams recently.



2

- Congratulations to former boarder **Daniel Rioli (SPC 2012-15)** on winning his third AFL premiership with Richmond recently, having triumphed in the premiership team in 2019 and 2017 as well. What a great achievement, well done Dan!
- Old Collegian **Michael Whitehead’s (SPC 1968-71)** extraordinary restoration of Ballarat’s former Baptist Church in Dawson Street South was showcased on the popular TV show Restoration Australia in November. The bluestone landmark was built in the 1860s and served as a church, a nightclub and restaurant, before falling into disrepair until Michael seized the opportunity to bring it back to life.



3

- Great to hear recently from Old Boy **Ben Kavenagh (SPC 1990)**, who is the Adelaide 36ers CEO. Ben was appointed CEO of the Adelaide 36ers in 2018.
- Great to hear from **Tony Scally (SPC 1972-75, PY1977)** who is combining his work as a part-time teacher with his passion as a successful racehorse trainer in Geraldton, Western Australia. Tony has 125 career wins to his name since taking up training in the mid-90s.
- Congratulations to **Anthony Edwards (SPC 1985-90)** who has moved on from his role at the Cancer Council in Tasmania to take on a rowing sports position with The Friends school in Hobart, Tasmania. ♣

- ↑ 1: Old Collegian Don Grant was presented with his Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service to surveying.
- 2: Former boarder Dan Rioli is now a three-time AFL premiership player after Richmond again triumphed in 2020.
- 3: The restoration of this famous Ballarat building by Old Collegian Michael Whitehead featured on a national tv show.

Where are they now?

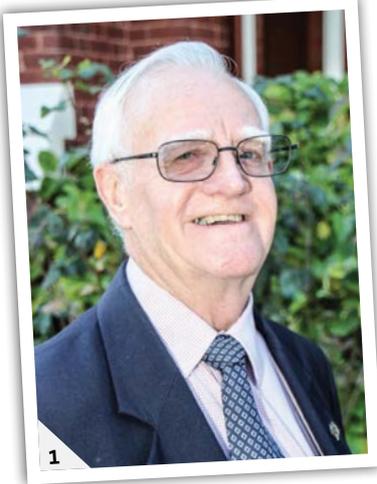
The College recently reconnected with Br Kevin Buckley, who was Principal of St Patrick's College between 1989-91. Br Buckley shares many memories of his time at SPC and where life took him after leaving St Patrick's.

Did you have any connections with St Patrick's College before your arrival as Principal in 1989?

My only direct connections with the College before 1989 were occasional visits as a Christian Brother or for a meeting or public function. But I did have a family history of connection with Ballarat. My grandfather migrated from Ireland in 1870 as a young man, settled in Ballarat, married and raised his family there – and was driver of the horse-drawn Sebastopol tram. Dad was born in Ballarat and was a pupil at the first-established school of the Christian Brothers in Ballarat (Skipton Street) before the family moved to Melbourne in 1912. So I did have some sense of “belonging” as I arrived at St Patrick's College.

What are your fondest memories of your time at St Patrick's College?

I recall with fondness the identification that the students proudly held and proclaimed, of “being a St Pat's boy”. I recall often meeting past students of all ages as they returned with family members and walked the corridors, finding and pointing out a class or team photo of themselves and their mates and recalling their life at the College in earlier times. And how could I not remember Boat Race Day – especially in 1990, my second year at the College, when we won the Head of the Lake for the first time in 29 years!



Where has life taken you since leaving SPC?

Following my service at St Patrick's College, I was Principal at St Joseph's College North Melbourne until 2000. I then engaged in a one-year international program of Christian Brothers outreach, firstly in Namibia, and then in Florida (the latter with mainly Mexican itinerant immigrants, many of whom were “undocumented”). On return to Australia I served initially with Catholic Education Office Ballarat on a School Review Process, and then for four years as a member of the Pastoral Care Team of Melbourne CEO. In 2004 I was appointed Executive Officer for the Christian Brothers Education Commission (Victoria and Tasmania). When the Brothers transferred responsibility for their schools to Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) in 2007, I became EREA Regional Coordinator for Victoria and Tasmania. In 2009 I was appointed Executive Officer for the EREA Governing Council and served in that role until my retirement in April of this year. I am now enjoying a somewhat more relaxed lifestyle of Christian Brothers' life, in suburban Melbourne.

Which staff members from your time at SPC had the greatest impact on you? Why?

I pay tribute to Br Denis Moore, who was Deputy Principal and in many ways “ran” the practical day-to-day life of the College. Denis was also Residential Coordinator (Boarding), supervised a Year 12 Boarding House, had a significant teaching component, and was a leader in the College Cadets. How he managed all this is quite overwhelming!

I was also wonderfully supported by my Secretary Mrs Eileen Sharp. Day by day, Eileen laboured tirelessly, assisting me in so many aspects of communication and organisation, sorting out appointments, ensuring I was in touch with a variety of aspects of College life, and keeping me calm in a crisis!

What do you think the boys would remember most about you?

It's a reality of school life that a Principal is often attending to activities that are not directly engaged with, or seen by, the students. But one thing that many students would, I think, remember is my conducting, with great enthusiasm and energy, of the senior choirs at Speech Night – and the rousing performances of songs that together we gave in those years, from such shows as Les Miserables, Chess, Big River, Showboat and Godspell.

Where was your favourite place in the College?

I had a number of favourite places – the front garden, with its attractive view to our College for all who passed by; the College Oval with its great sporting events; the Staff Room, where I could inter-relate with the wide variety of staff members; and the Brothers' community room, where I could relax in the evening with my fellow Brothers.

What was your favourite College event?

There were so many great events – but here I would highlight Speech Night, as a gathering of the College community – students, staff, families, friends, guests – and as a high-point of the school year, affirming and sharing so many aspects of College life in a public setting.

If you could pass on one message to the students of today, what would it be?

Young men of St Patrick's College, I encourage each one of you to make the most of the opportunities you have at the College to learn well, to relate well with others, to develop your own abilities and skills, and to look for ways to use these gifts for the good of others both now and into the future. ✿



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↑ 1: Former Principal Br Kevin Buckley talks about where life has led him since his time at St Patrick's College.

Reunions rescheduled

Old Boys, do we have some catching up to do!

Following the COVID-enforced cancellation of all Old Collegians Association reunions in 2020, we are now planning to make sure we enjoy a double dose of reunions in 2021.

While planning so far in advance during a pandemic is fraught with difficulties, we can at least ask our Old Collegians to save the following dates in their calendar in the hope that life returns to some normality and that we are once again able to host a fabulous reunion season.

We also encourage you to forward the class reunion schedule on to any other Old Collegians who you think may be interested in attending.

In due course we will be publishing ticketing information for each of these events on the College website and will also be emailing invitations out to Old Collegians for whom we have current contact details.

For the quickest and easiest way to ensure the College has your up-to-date details simply visit stpat.vic.edu.au and look for the "Update Your Details" drop down page under the Old Collegians tab or email oca@stpat.vic.edu.au 🍀



A bumper season of OCA reunions is being planned for 2021 to ensure we catch up on all the functions which were missed in 2020.

2021 dates

- Wednesday, March 17** – St Patrick's Day Old Collegians Mass and Luncheon.
- Saturday, May 1** – Class of 2010 Ten Year Reunion dinner (6pm-10.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Sunday, May 2** – Class of 1990 30 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Friday, May 14** – Class of 2015 Five Year Reunion. External venue to be confirmed (7.30pm start)
- Friday, May 14** – Class of 2016 Five Year Reunion. External venue to be confirmed (7.30pm start)
- Saturday, May 15** – Class of 2011 Ten Year Reunion dinner (6pm-10.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Sunday, May 16** – Class of 1991 30 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Saturday, May 29** – Class of 2001 20 Year Reunion dinner (6pm-10.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Sunday, May 30** – Class of 1981 40 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Saturday, June 12** - Class of 2000 20 Year Reunion dinner (6pm-10.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Sunday, June 13** – Class of 1980 40 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Saturday, August 7** – Possible Annual Celebration Dinner (6pm-11.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Saturday, August 28** – Class of 1970 50 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Sunday, August 29** – Class of 1971 50 Year Reunion lunch (Noon-4.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Friday, October 15** – MENTAL Brekky (7am-8.30am in OCA Pavilion)
- Tuesday, December 7** – Class of 2019 BBQ reunion (6.30pm – 9.30pm in OCA Pavilion)
- Wednesday, December 8** – Class of 2020 BBQ Reunion (6.30pm – 9.30pm in OCA Pavilion)



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Podcasts to capture College history

St Patrick's College and its Old Collegians Association have launched a new series of podcasts which will aim to capture and preserve some of the greatest moments and stories in our proud history.

The series was launched in September with the first subject being Old Collegian and 1957 Brownlow Medallist Brian Gleeson (SPC 1947-52).

Subsequent episodes have featured a discussion around youth mental health, an interview with incoming Principal Steven O'Connor and an interview with Old Collegian and respected pharmacist Les Dickinson (SPC 1955-58).

St Patrick's College Director of Community Development Paul Nolan said the primary aim of the podcast series was to ensure some of the most interesting, inspirational and intriguing stories from the College and its alumni were recorded for generations to come.

"Many members of our community have led incredibly interesting lives and have great stories to tell and valuable lessons to pass on to younger generations," Mr Nolan said.



"We felt it was important to capture some of these great tales in a way which can be accessible for many years to come.

"People like Brian Gleeson and Les Dickinson and countless others hold a very special place in our College's history and the podcasts medium is a wonderful, easy and accessible way for them to tell their life story."

Mr Nolan said another feature of the podcast medium was its ability to capture current events in a different way.

"We had to cancel the 2020 MENTAL Brekky due to COVID restrictions but we didn't have to cancel the important conversation around mental health as the podcast medium enabled us to share some important and valuable information," Mr Nolan said.

"Similarly, when incoming Principal Steven O'Connor was unable to come to Victoria for many months due to border closures, we were able to use the podcast interview as a way of introducing him to our community."

In 2020 podcasts have become the fastest growing entertainment and information medium in Australia.

"We wanted St Patrick's College to be a part of that growth and to harness the power of the spoken word," Mr Nolan.

In years to come, the College will aim to publish at least two podcasts per term, coinciding with the publication of the Green, White and Blue e-newsletter which is emailed to all Old Collegians for whom we have current email addresses.

The podcasts can also be listened to on the College website at <https://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/old-collegians/podcasts/> or can be found on streaming platforms such as [Spotify](#), [Soundcloud](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#). ♣



- ↑ 1: Brownlow Medallist Brian Gleeson was the first interviewee in the podcast series.
- ↑ 2: In the podcast series Brian Gleeson reveals the unlikely way he discovered he had won the 1957 Brownlow Medal.
- ↑ 3: Incoming Principal Steven O'Connor featured in episode three of the new podcast series.
- ↑ 4: Chair of the Chris Yeung Fund Simon Dwyer was one of the participants in a discussion around youth mental health which was aired in a joint partnership between the new podcast series and Radio Ballarat.

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OCA Pastoral Care Program

You never know when you may need a helping hand.

With this clearly in mind, St Patrick's College has established a Pastoral Care Program, which offers assistance to our Old Collegian community in their time of need.

The program was established in 2017 through our Old Collegians Association, to offer a helping hand and provide mainly practical assistance to our former students in their times of genuine need.

This may be needed at a time of illness, injury or loss. It may result from an untimely job loss or tragic event. There can be many and varied reasons.

As a school community, we also remain absolutely committed to the ongoing care of former students, who are victims and survivors of childhood sexual abuse. We have been helping a growing number of victims and survivors through our pastoral care program and hope that we can continue to do more.

The pastoral care program seeks to harness the support of our current school community and alumni (or Old Collegians) network to volunteer their talents and skills to provide real and tangible assistance.

In some cases, it may be as simple as cooking a meal for an Old Boy, or mowing the lawns. It could also involve fixing a leaking tap or some other "handyman" task, collecting the groceries or providing transport to a medical appointment.

At other times, it may be more complex and involved and may include providing professional services such as financial, legal or medical advice and support to Old Collegians in need.

We are experiencing a growing call for pastoral care assistance, and we would absolutely welcome more people to volunteer their time and talent.

We realise our volunteers lead busy lives, and that you may be in the position to help on a regular basis, while others may only be able to help once a year. That's quite okay, whatever time you can spare will certainly make the difference to an Old Collegian in their time of need.

If you are interested in volunteering, would like more information about the program or know an Old Boy who may be in need of assistance, please contact our Alumni and Foundation Officer Lorrie Liston on 5322 4442 or email liston@stpats.vic.edu.au

Alternately, we invite you to consider making a donation to help us to help our Old Collegians in their time of need.

How you can help

All donations will be gratefully received and you can rest assured that every cent pledged will be put towards assisting Old Collegians through our OCA Pastoral Care Program.

Donations can be made by contacting the College's Alumni and Foundation Officer Lorrie Liston on 5322 4442 or email liston@stpats.vic.edu.au

Contributions can also be made via direct bank transfer to the College Building Fund.

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Or by filling in the below details and returning to St Patrick's College by: **Fax (03 5331 8150)** or by posting to: **Locked Bag 31, Ballarat, Vic, 3350** 📧

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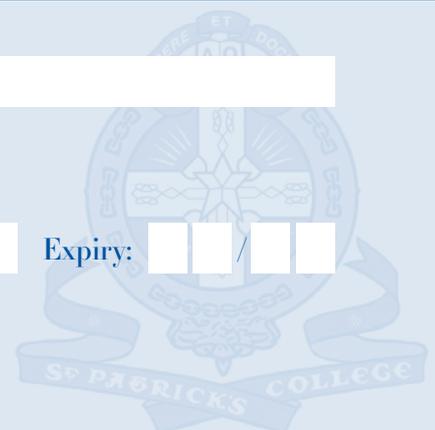
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