

The Shamrock

VOLUME 02 EDITION 01
APRIL 2003

St Patrick's College
1431 Sturt Street
BALLARAT VIC 3350
Phone (03) 5331 1688
www.stpatsblrt.vic.edu.au



Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of *The Shamrock* for 2003.

We particularly extend a warm welcome to all of the new families that have joined the St Patrick's College community in 2003. We have had an influx of new students into most year levels at the College, highlighting the confidence the general community has in the direction that the College is currently taking.

Our boarding houses are full which is particularly pleasing given that over two-thirds of our boarding students in 2002 were in Year 12. This certainly augurs well for the future of boarding and reflects well on the new model for boarding developed by the College in conjunction with the Shamrock Boarding Association.

In addition the College is at full capacity from Year 7 to 11. With the commencement of building works for the new senior school on February 17, our increased numbers will pose some minor challenges for our hard-working timetabler, Mr John Christie, but the excitement surrounding the building of 28 new teaching rooms in 2003 should more than compensate for any minor inconvenience incurred by staff and students during the year.

Whilst it is hard not to be swept away by the excitement surrounding another school year it is also important to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2002. The performances of co-duces Chris McBrearty and Mason Clarke-Jones were outstanding and highlight that through commitment to study and through working in partnership with teachers, all boys are provided with an opportunity to realise their full potential at St Patrick's College. Clearly this is also the case for other areas of endeavour such as art, performing arts, music, sport, public speaking and technology.



The Premier of Victoria Steve Bracks with Headmaster Dr Peter Casey and Mrs Anna Casey.

In 2003 we look forward to sharing with you the wonderful achievements of our students, staff and Old Boys in our quarterly publication, *The Shamrock* and its OCA companion: Green, White and Blue.

From the Headmaster

Welcome to St Patrick's College 2003. More than 200 students and 20 staff are new to the school and this demonstrates visibly why each year in the life of a school is radically different from those that have gone before it. On Census Day we recorded that our rollcall for 2003 is 922 students, 68 teaching staff, 42 non-teaching staff and many volunteers who contribute their services. Particularly I note the 180 Year 7 students who have swelled our numbers on Day One.

The start to the year has been marked by enthusiasm and confidence: many of the reasons for these sentiments are reported in this *Shamrock* and include structural changes, physical changes, teaching and learning teams, pastoral initiatives, well-attended information evenings, the excellent Legends Dinner, and a welcoming Commencement Mass to cite a few.

Featured Inside

- Celebrating the class of 2002
- New Staff for 2003
- *Fitzy* to join SPC
- Green White & Blue

Change brings dislocation, uncharted waters, and sometimes a nervous, dismissive response because of fear of the unknown. In such times it is good to reflect on the reason for our being as a Catholic school for boys in the Edmund Rice tradition. It was brought home to me in the recent Gospel reading which told of Jesus as a teenager going down to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph. There he grew in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men (Luke 2:51).

It is so simply put and yet so profound. This growth in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and with men is at the heart of our work as parents and teachers. What a huge responsibility we accept when we take on parenthood and when we take on teaching, especially in a school where we are challenged to live by the values of Jesus!

The reason we are making deliberate change at St Patrick's College is to improve the possibilities for our boys to gain wisdom more readily, to be fitter in stature, and to relate better to themselves, each other and our God. Please remember us each time you gather to pray, for the task we share is noble but demanding on all who accept the call to be involved. It is God's work.



Headmaster's Grace for the Legends Dinner

I would like to call to mind our Creator God and give thanks for the many blessings each of us has, but especially to recall the blessings we share in our children, our students, our young people. We pray for their wellbeing: more than safety, we pray that they are free to reach out and embrace life in all its richness, free from the fear of war, free from images of oppression and injustice, conscious of the transient nature of trinkets and the betrayal of false hope. We pray that they have worthy models in their elders, in their family and in their nation, men and women that we would be proud to claim as our Legends. Amen.

Celebrating the Achievements of the Class of 2002

At the 2003 Academic Assembly, the College was delighted to welcome back the College Duces for 2002 along with students who gained an ENTER score of greater than 90 and those who were awarded Year 12 academic prizes. Mason Clarke-Jones and Christopher McBrearty were announced as co-duces of the College for 2002 both obtaining an ENTER score of 99.50.



Christopher McBrearty and Mason Clarke-Jones, both achieved an ENTER score of 99.50.

Their names will now appear on the honour board in the College Board Room. Both students are studying at Melbourne University, with Mason undertaking an Arts/Science degree and Chris undertaking an Engineering/Science degree.

The College also formally recognised the following students for academic excellence in achieving an ENTER score in excess of 90:

- James Madden (98.65)
- Stefan Heemann (98.30)
- Julian Alban (98.05)
- Brendan Annear (97.65)
- Ryan Conroy (96.30)
- Benjamin Trusler (95.90)
- Andrew Francis (95.80)
- Damian Hamm (95.10)
- Daniel Dwyer (93.15)
- Anthony Winter (92.70)
- Mark McKinnon (91.95)
- Matthew Moran (91.10)
- Xiang Lin (90.55)
- Matthew Richardson (90.05).

The Year 12 academic prizes for 2002 were awarded to the following students who achieved the highest study score in the subject, provided it exceeded 40 after taking into consideration the effects of scaling.

Subject	Name
Accounting	James Madden
Biology	Brendan Annear
Chemistry	Mason Clarke-Jones
Economics	Matthew Moran
English	Christopher McBrearty
Food Technology	Shaun Finlayson
French	Christopher McBrearty
Further Mathematics	James Madden
History	Julian Alban Brendan Annear
Information Technology	Benjamin Trusler
Japanese	James Madden
Literature	Mason Clarke-Jones

Mathematics Methods Daniel Dwyer

Physics Christopher McBrearty

Specialist Mathematics Mason Clarke-Jones

The results were a significant improvement on the previous year and vindicate the College's decision to review all teaching and learning practices and implement changes that will ensure the development of a strong culture of excellence amongst all students.

This will be supported by changes to curriculum and an emphasis on first class teaching and learning practices and facilities, enabling boys to achieve personal excellence in a wide range of subject areas. All members of the College community congratulate the Class of 2002 upon their results and eagerly look forward to the strengthening of the culture of excellence in the College.

Halls of History -Dinner with the Legends 2003

On Saturday February 22 the O'Malley Sports Centre was magically transformed for the Foundation's second annual *Dinner with the Legends*. Over 300 people were in attendance to hear from a variety of College legends and to catch up with friends from all parts of the College community.

The keynote speaker on the evening was Premier Steve Bracks (SPC 1968-71) who spoke fondly of his time at the College and the role that gifted educators such as Peter Farley had played in shaping his interest in public life and his skills as a polished orator. All in attendance greatly enjoyed the opportunity to hear the Premier and would be hoping that his frenetic schedule allows him to fulfill his promise to return to the College on a more regular basis.



St Patrick's College Legends: Christian Ryan, Peter Walsh, Murray Byrne, The Premier of Victoria Steve Bracks, John Fitzgerald, Tony Joyce and Jan Murrhiy.

The Premier was supported by a diverse range of SPC legends who were interviewed skillfully by the irrepressible duo of Dennis Foley and Michael Kearney. In the case of Murray Byrne it was the case of 'never give a politician an open microphone' as Murray put on his own show that truly delighted the crowd in attendance. Other legends interviewed included John Fitzgerald, Jan Murrhiy, Christian Ryan, Peter Walsh and Tony Joyce. Unfortunately Mario Bortolotto was a late withdrawal due to a serious illness in the family.

The Legends Dinner is fast becoming one of the most highly anticipated dates on the College calendar. Planning is already underway for 2004 and we look forward to bringing you details in the next editions of *The Shamrock*. Photos of the dinner are contained in this edition's Photo Gallery.

College Leadership 2003

Lachlan Keen is the College Captain for 2003. Already he has impressed all students and staff with his inclusive style of leadership and his commitment to be a positive role model for the College. Lachlan has kindly taken the time to provide some of his thoughts on his leadership goals for 2003 and some of the aspirations he has for St Patrick's College and its students.



Lachlan Keen and The Premier of Victoria, Steve Bracks at the Halls of History - Dinner with the Legends.

Lachlan writes:

"As Captain of St Patrick's College this year, my main leadership goal is to do what I can to improve student self-confidence and enjoyment. If St Pat's remains a safe and comfortable learning environment, where students are at liberty to grow in their own particular way I believe we will see this goal achieved.

"I have had the opportunity to immerse myself in the St Patrick's way of life. My hope is that all students have this same opportunity and that everyone feels secure here at St Patrick's. Every student has the right to feel safe and free of ridicule, and that is foremost in our thinking.

"Leadership is a learned thing. We are guided by the adults around us until such time as we feel safe to apply our own rules and judgements that best work for us.

"Like so many other spheres of learning it grows with us as a skill. In other words, it is not just a senior school phenomenon. We want to emphasise the importance of leadership roles regardless of age, regardless of year level. This is being addressed through a small reward system, started by the Student Council that recognises and rewards those students who show exemplary behaviour in their dealings with others in College life.

"The Student Council believes that this approach can only lead to a positive outcome for the whole school. We have, I believe, a vision for meaningful student participation in the shaping of the school, not only this year, but into the future. That is one reason why leadership should be encouraged throughout the entire student body. Without doubt the Student Leaders are very excited about making a difference in the coming year, a difference to which we may all contribute."

New Staff 2003

As noted in the welcome to this edition of *The Shamrock*, the College is going through an immense period of change. This also applies to the staff at the College. A number of new staff have joined St Patrick's College in 2003 and all are firmly committed to enhancing the teaching and learning culture that pervades all parts of the College. We warmly welcome the following staff members to the St Pat's community:

Mr David Baxter, B.Ed. M.Ed., is Head of Junior School. David has been with the Catholic Education Office in recent years, having previously been Deputy Principal at Macauley College, Dooboobetic.



Andrew Forbes in action in the tyre race at the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports



Halls of History Dinner 2003 - SPC Legend Jan Murrhly is interviewed by Michael Kearney



Halls of History Dinner 2003 - SPC Legend Christian Ryan



Year 11 and 12 boys enjoying the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports



Campbell Marsden in action in the tyre race at the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports



Christian Ryan with 2003 College Captain, Lachlan Keen



Year 10 student Mark Brown with SPC Sport Trainee Matthew Richardson



Halls of History Dinner 2003 - Gianni Ranieri and musician John Finch



Joshua Wright, Chris Banwell, Leith Pellisier and Brendon Gilbert at the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports



Year 10 students with Mr Ian McKail at the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports



Chris Garland in the 50m Breaststroke at the 2003 SPC House Swimming Sports

PHOTO GALLERY

Mr Kieran Baxter, B.A.(Hons), Grad.Dip.Ed., returns to St Patrick's College after a stint as Deputy Principal at St Joseph's College, Katherine, NT.

Mr Shayne Black, Dip.Fine Arts, Dip.Ed., joins the Technology Faculty.

Mrs Tracey Brennan - Tracey joins the staff as part of the College's Integration team.

Ms Bernadette Brouwers, B.A., Dip.Ed., M.A., returns to the College as Director of Studies, having been the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority's coordinator of Language Studies.

Ms Jane Butler, B.Ed., B.Applied Science, will teach Food Technology and SOSE.

Mr Geoff Crawford, B.A., Dip.Ed., will teach senior English after a year teaching in the UK. Prior to this appointment, Geoff was at Bacchus Marsh Grammar.

Mr Michael Edgoose, B.A., Dip. Ed., joins SPC from Haileybury College and will teach in the SOSE and English faculties.

Ms Fiona Johnston, B.Ed. (PE), joins SPC from Sebastopol College and is the Year 10 Coordinator. Fiona will teach senior Physical Education and Health.

Ms Deborah Jordan, B.Sc, B.Ed, Grad.Cert (Japanese), has worked for many years with Ballarat and Clarendon College and Catholic primary schools teaching Japanese.

Ms Romina Lanaro, B.A., Grad.Dip.Ed., is taking English and Religious Education

Ms Jenny Leviston, B.A., Grad.Cert.Ed., will join the Kelty Resource Centre Staff one day per week as a teacher librarian.

Mrs Julie Swinton, B.Sc., Grad Cert Education, will take senior Science and Mathematics.

Mrs Karen Lukin, B.A.(Hons), Dip.Ed., is from Western Australia via Monivae College, Hamilton, and is our new Head of the Language Faculty which embraces English, French, Japanese and Linguistics.

Mrs Adele Maher B.Sc., Grad Dip.Ed., Grad.Dip.Ed.RE, will join the Religious Education faculty having taught at SPC in the late 80s.

Mr Anthony Meehan, B.A., Grad Dip. Ed. (Rehabilitation Studies), Dip.Ed., Grad.Cert.R.E., is taking on the new role of Transition/Careers Officer, joining SPC from Highview College in Maryborough.

Mr Martin Montgomery, B.Information Technology, is a graduate from the University of Ballarat and will take senior IT.

Ms Amanda Mooney, B.Applied Science, Grad.Dip.Ed., returns from twelve months' travel overseas and is Head of the Sport, Health and Physical Education faculty.

Mr Chris Radcliffe, B.Mining Technology, Grad.Dip.Ed., will teach in the area of System Technology.

Mr Robert Richards, better known as an Olympic medallist rower, is the new Director of Rowing.

Mr Matthew Richardson, SPC Year 12 2002, is this year's AFL Sports Trainee. Matt is deferring his studies in Health Sciences at La Trobe University, Bundoora.

Ms Jessie Stewart, B.A., will work five mornings a week in the Kelty Resource Centre.

Mr Graham Swinton, B.Sc.(Hons.), M.Sc., Grad. Cert. Education, is the Year 12 Coordinator with recent experiences in Kenya and Geraldton.

Ms Emma White is our Information Technology Trainee.

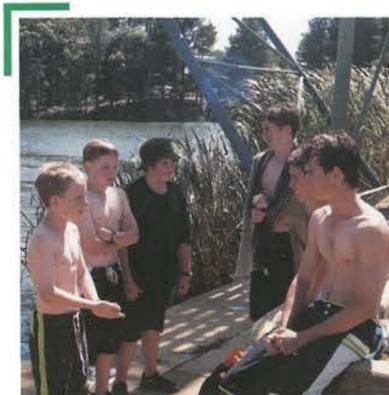


SPC 2003 Director of Football - Gerard FitzGerald Photo courtesy of *The Courier*.

Fitzy to Join Staff of SPC

2002 VFL Coach Gerard FitzGerald (SPC 1973) has joined the staff as the College's inaugural Director of Football. Gerard has coached and played at elite level having played for Geelong and coached the North Ballarat Roosters to successive Grand Finals in 1999 and 2000. He is a Level 3 Australian Rules coach and has been honoured as the VFL Coach of the Year. Gerard is also an experienced Physical Education teacher and has founded his coaching philosophies on best practice scientific and educative practices.

After a comprehensive review of coaching practices and philosophies in 2002 the College has decided to appoint Directors of Cricket, Basketball, Football and Rowing to ensure that all coaching is conducted in an integrated manner that encourages and promotes participation, fun, skill development, safety, school spirit and sportsmanship. The focus of the school sport programme is on educative processes - we are confident that by adhering to best practice coaching processes that the scoreboard will well and truly look after itself.

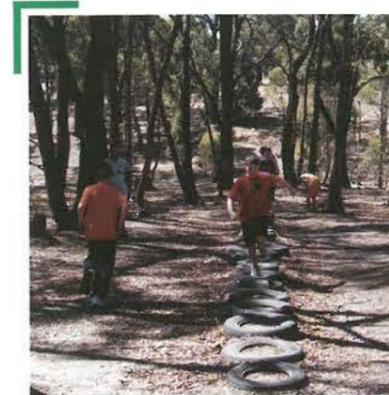


Tyson Brennan, Patrick Smardon, Teddy Powlett, (Year 7) with Jordan Molloy, Anthony Torpy and David Ronan (Year 10) discussing the meaning of life and the SPC war cry at the Year 7 camp at Creswick!

Year 7 Camps

Over the past month Year 7 students have been participating in orientation camps at Log Cabin Lodge, Creswick. Each Homeroom group attends camp separately to provide an opportunity for boys to get to know each other and their Homeroom Teacher. Students from the Class of 2002 and current students of the College also attend the camp to pass on important College traditions such as the war cry and school song - as well as a range of other advice about life at SPC.

Boys are involved in a wide range of outdoor activities with the highlight for many being the *leap of faith* from the Creswick Swimming Towers. Another highlight of the camp is the food, thanks to the many parents who visit camp to help with the preparation of meals. The family BBQ is also an enjoyable part of camp and provides an excellent forum for staff to meet families and for new families to get to know each other over a sausage or two.



Michael Rix powers through the obstacle course on the Year 7 camp at Creswick

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the following boys for their outstanding achievements in recent times:

- Congratulations to Ethan O'Brien who participated in the first All-Australian Schools Thailand Water Project during January. The project was conducted in the hillside region of Omkoi in North West Thailand. Leaders of the project have commended Ethan for his outstanding work throughout the course of the project.
- Ryan Waight won the prestigious McNeil Cup in tennis, defeating his opponent from Ballarat Grammar School 7-6, 4-6, 6-4.
- Leigh Weber, Nathan Waight, Rorey James and Jeremy Wirges broke long standing swimming records at the House Swimming Carnival. Leigh broke a record of Julian Murphy (SPC 1986-91) in the Year 9 freestyle that had stood for 16 years.

- Luke Arandt has been selected to represent Victoria in the Under 16 Baseball team. Twin brother Travis was also selected to play in the Under 16 team, a wonderful achievement for the family.

- Jeremy Wirges won the Under 15, 400 metres freestyle event at the 2003 Victorian State Swimming Championships breaking the State record previously held by Dominic Murphy (SPC 1986-91)

- Cameron Brown, Leigh Weber and Jeremy Wirges won gold medals at the 2003 Victorian Country Swimming Championships

- Nathan Waight, Simon Ward and Grant Bell won bronze medals at the 2003 Victorian Country Swimming Championships.

- Congratulations to Colm Trusler, James Driscoll and Josh Kannourakis winners of the Lions Youth of the Year Quests at Haddon, Wendouree and Ballarat Lions Clubs, respectively. St Patrick's College fielded six entrants at various venues around Ballarat. Michael Tolhurst, Tom Andrews and Richard Coghlan also ably represented the College.



2002 Outstanding VCE Achievers, Christopher McBrearty, Julian Alban, James Madden, Stefan Heemann and Mason Clarke-Jones

Green White & Blue

St Patrick's College Old Collegians Association Inc.



GREEN, WHITE & BLUE

Official Publication of the OCA

Welcome to the first edition of Green, White and Blue for 2003. This edition is packed with old boy news from around the globe as well as information about a host of Old Collegians' events in 2003. A special welcome to the class of 2002, our latest Old Collegians.

Almost 95% of the Class of 2002 have become life members of the OCA. This is especially pleasing as it allows us to keep in touch with them and ensure they receive their SPC news four times a year. A reminder to all Old Boys to please notify the office if you have changed address or have any news you would like to share with the St Patrick's College community. If you are receiving Green, White and Blue second or third hand, please consider taking out OCA membership – it is the only way we can keep you informed and ensure you get an invite to your reunion functions.

From the President

Welcome to 2003 and another busy year for the OCA. Some of the key events for the year include:

- The "Old" Old Boys Luncheon, otherwise known as the 1920-69 Reunion. This was held on Wednesday March 12 at the College from 12 noon. These lunches have proved to be extremely popular with increasing numbers attending each year. So don't forget if you attended St Pat's any time up to 1969, you are now part of an illustrious group of "old" Old Boys and you have a great opportunity to get together with your mates on the Wednesday after Labour Day each year.

- Regional Dinners will again be held in 2003. The first one will be held in Terang on April 9. Other dinners this year will be held at Albury, Mildura, Horsham, Deniliquin, Bendigo, Warrnambool and Melbourne. Invitations will be mailed out to OCA members living in the area closer to the date.
- The OCA will be conducting 10, 20, 25 and 30 year reunions at the College this year. The move to conduct the dinners at the College has been very well received. The food has been excellent, the wine magnificent and the fellowship even better. We can't do much about your roll call photo though! The catering at the College has changed and is a far cry from those boarding days! The dinners also provide an excellent opportunity to meet current Headmaster, Dr Peter Casey.

The OCA will be assisting the College in bringing Father Pat Smith down from Queensland to celebrate Mass in the College Chapel. Past students will remember Pat as Brother Pat Smith who taught at the College from 1978-1980. He was ordained Deacon last year and will be ordained to the priesthood in May for the diocese of Toowoomba.

Due to his employment in Nathalia the OCA regretfully accepted the resignation of long serving Secretary, David Walker. David has worked tirelessly for the OCA over the past nine years. We will greatly miss David and wish him well with his new post as Deputy Principal at St Mary's of the Angels College, Nathalia.

Mr Chris Conway
President, OCA

Br Bill Wilding

After twenty-five years of leadership in Christian Brothers' schools, Br Bill Wilding, the very popular Headmaster of St Patrick's College from 1979-84 will retire from Headmastership at the end of 2003. Currently Br Wilding is the Headmaster of St Kevin's College where he has served the school in an outstanding manner for the last 10 years. All members of the St Pat's community wish Br Wilding well and hope that he has a less hectic schedule which will enable him to become a regular visitor to Ballarat.

Pakenham Race Day

A number of Old Boys attended the traditional OCA race day on Sunday January 26 at Pakenham Race Club. The day was organised by racing identity David Bourke. Brother Theo Breach was afforded the honour of presenting the prize to the winner of the O'Malley Welter. Br Breach also felt it fitting to publicly acknowledge the hospitality and generosity of the Bourke family who have looked after Old Boys at the Pakenham Races for over 30 years. David Bourke (SPC 1944-48) has long been a leading figure in Victorian Racing and has only recently stepped down from his position as Chairman of the VRC.



David Bourke invited his old St Patrick's College mates and their wives to a reunion at the Australia Day races at Pakenham on Sunday, 26 January, 2003. Seated from the left: David Bourke, Murray Podbury, Noelle McKenna, John Bourke, Pam Deany, Joan Martin. Standing from the left: Greta and Ron Podbury, Michael Martin, Hughie Bourke, Brian McKenna and John Deany.

Old Boys in the News

As Dr Casey observes at every function: 'All past students of SPC are legends'. Functions such as the *Legends Dinner* celebrate a few famous or notorious old boys, but an old boy wisely noted recently: 'All Old Boys make significant contributions in a variety of ways, many of which are not seen by many others. This may be by being a good father, a priest or serving their community in a charitable way. Like others, I too am proud of the high profile success stories'. "St Pat's, St Pat's always on top!"

Over 150 people attended a Dunnstown Football Club reunion which featured 50th birthday celebrations for Pat Torpy (SPC 1962-69). Pat won the club's best and fairest in 1975. Pat is battling the effects of MS but continues to inspire friends with his cheery disposition and great humour. He lives at P.S. Hobson House in Gillies Street Wendouree and would appreciate any visitors.

Chris Anwyl (SPC 1975-80) and family were recently featured in The Courier's 'Ex-Pat Chat' column where he remarked how much he enjoyed reading news of Old Collegians in The Shamrock. Chris and wife Diana and children James, Jessica and Mitchell work and live in Brunei on the island of Borneo. Both Chris and Diana have been teaching English in the local schools since 1997.

Francis Denton (SPC 1994-99) is completing his honours in Art at the University of Melbourne and has been commissioned to repair and repaint the side altars in the College Chapel. The results of his work are truly spectacular – if visiting the College take time to have a look. The theme of the painting is an exploration of depth and perspective on curved surfaces, incorporating geographic and historical features. Francis has won the People's Prize in 2000-2002 in the Michael Stott Art Awards at Newman College.

The Herald Sun on Saturday, February 1, highlighted the inspirational story of former College Captain Chris Nolan (SPC 1980-85) who was tragically struck down by a mystery virus whilst living in Vietnam as part of an Austrade Fellowship. The story details the loving efforts of his mother Mary who through her daily efforts is campaigning for the rights of young people with acquired brain injuries. The story also highlights the strong bond between boys from St Pat's, with many of Chris' former schoolmates regularly visiting him at Harold McCracken House in North Fitzroy. During February 2003, College Captain Lachlan Keen visited Chris and presented him with an Honorary OCA Life Membership Certificate.

Great to hear from Jim Farelly (SPC 1941-44) who is alive and well in Airport West. We received a letter advising of the passing of Mr J.Farelly of Warrnambool. Subsequently we have received numerous calls advising that Jim is flourishing. Jim is indeed enjoying life and in good health and sends his regards to all his peers.

Patrick Sunter (SPC 1992-97), Dux of the College in 1997 has completed an Honours Degree in Software Engineering at the University of Melbourne. After completing his degree, Patrick enjoyed a backpacking holiday through Ireland and central Europe. Upon his return he will commence employment with the Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing.

The previous edition of Green, White and Blue contained a moving tribute to Dr Timothy McArdle who was tragically killed in a bicycle accident on September 11, 2002. His popularity and commitment to his local community were recognised by the Baw Baw Shire who named him the 2003 Australia Day Citizen of the Year. The Tim McArdle Memorial Fund has also been established to provide an annual scholarship to Gippsland students in need who wish to undertake tertiary studies in health science.

Great to hear from William Watson-Ley (SPC 1946-49) who is currently living in Roseville. William reminisces about great days in Ballarat – "Life was hard; there was the cold, there was hunger and severe discipline. Despite that I remember every boy from my days at St Pat's – that's what boarding school does for you". William obviously took a lot from his days at St Pat's – he has just celebrated his 70th birthday and is still teaching at Wahroonga, a school with strong Christian Brother links and enjoying every day of it!

Ashley Carr (SPC 1989-90) finished teaching at Haileybury College at the end of 2001. He has now moved to Canberra to work in the Office of Trade Negotiation at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Declan Franzman (SPC 1982-85) is living and working in Cobar, NSW with Andrea and children Rachel (5) and Riley (3). He has been working as a Mining Engineer for the past 12 years, a vocation that has taken him to all parts of the country and up a few dry gullies! He is currently Underground Manager of the CSA Copper Mine.

Peter Dale (SPC 1989) has been working at Linfox Australia since 1991. In March 2002 he married Lynne Preston at St Thomas', Langwarrin.

Weddings, Engagements, Births, Bereavements

SPC Weddings

- Faulkner (SPC 1983-88) – Gerard married Nikki McConville on Saturday February 8 at the College Chapel. The service was conducted by Fr Michael Mason (SPC 1951-58).
- McInerney (SPC 1983-88) – Ross married Shay Browning on February 1, 2003.

SPC Engagements

- Anthony McCarty (SPC 1986-91) to Helen Wilson
- Damian Mullaly (SPC 1992-97) to Emma Barnett

SPC Births

- Loader – to David (SPC 1982-85) and Lucy, a son Flynn Patrick. Brother for Olivia and James.
- Molan – to Tom (SPC 1982-87) and Andrea, a son Charlie Michael. Brother for Sophie.
- McCarty – to Shane (SPC 1984-88) and Nicole, a son Fletcher Alan.

SPC Deaths

- Michael Barry Fitzgerald (SPC 1943-49) known as Barry – passed away in August 2002. Barry was a talented sportsman and singer. He was farewelled by many friends from SPC and from his home town of Balranald.

The College and Old Collegians Association extend deepest sympathies to all family and friends of departed Old Boys. We ask that you remember these Old Collegians and their families in your prayers.

Stewart Brisbane (SPC 1958-60) is currently living in Thornlie, WA. He joined the RAAF in April 1964, served in Vietnam in 1967 and 68 and married wife Carmel in 1970. They have three children and were overjoyed with the birth of their first grandson, Liam in June 2002 – a SPC boarder for 2017!

Robert Plazzer (SPC 1989-92) is living and working in Horsham as a carpenter in the family building business. He is Captain of the Laharum Football Club in the HDFL.

John Crowe (SPC 1965-67) joined the RAAF in 1971 as a Cadet Air Electronics Officer. Retrained as a pilot and served in the RAAF until 1995 departing as a Wing Commander. John has four children and two grandchildren and lives in Prospect, SA.

Michael Young (SPC 1988-93) went straight from school to the First Armoured Corps in the Australian Army. Michael has two children Jeshia and Amelia and is set to join the French Foreign Legion.

Tom McCormack (SPC 1937-39) is living in Campbell, ACT and writes, "I am enjoying an extended retirement – and long may it continue!"

Darren Gibcus (SPC 1985-86) is now living in Lenora, WA with wife Mirasol and children Kheyana and Mahalia. He has been in Lenora for 18 months and is working as the Manager of the Satellite Open Cut Mine for Gwalia Ltd.

Aaron Noonan (SPC 1994-99) is quickly carving out a name for himself in the world of motorsport. He is currently Assistant Editor of Australian Motorsport News. His job has taken him to Europe where he has taken in famous events such as the Le Mans 24 Hour Race as well as visiting the Porsche factory. He is also a regular race track commentator and looks after PR for up and coming race driver Will Davison.



Justin Graham (SPC 1991-94) is employed as Secretary of the Cricket Section of the Melbourne Cricket Club. He works at the MCG and is also a member of the Melbourne Cricket Club's 1st XI.

John Dow (SPC 1999-2000) was all smiles in the Sunday Age in December as one of the connections of horse Silver Birch. The four year old had just won its ninth race from 15 starts. The Development Office will soon be calling you John!

Edition 3 of The Shamrock contained details of the passing of Bernard Leonard (SPC 1939-44) in November, 2002. Kevin Leonard (SPC 1939-40) has kindly provided the following details of the achievements of Bernard. Bernard was College Captain in 1944, Captain of the 1st XI and 1st XVIII, Captain of Athletics, Ballarat Public Schools Boxing Champion and stroke of the winning second rowing crew in 1944. Bernard was a member of Br O'Malley's top 20 players team and was universally respected by all students who were fortunate enough to be at St Pat's with him. Bernard married Nancy Gallagher from Annuello in the Mallee. They had 12 children, 36 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. A true legend of SPC.

Matthew Hufer (Boarding staff 1996-1999) is now a Franciscan Brother at the St Therese Friary in Kedron, Queensland. He is teaching at Padua College and sends his regards to all members of the SPC community.



Frank Tierney (SPC 1939-42) has had a diverse career which includes a stint in Vietnam and a successful career in Real Estate. Frank and family live and work in Mildura, where he is currently Chairman of the First National Group of Real Estate Agents. First National have their Head Office in Melbourne but have agencies around Australia, in New Zealand and an affiliation with the Prudential Group in the US. Frank's son Luke attended SPC in 1992 and 1993 and is now a builder.

Peter Klopotowski (SPC 1962-66) sent a postcard from some part of the globe with Christmas greetings to all members of the SPC community. It features a great family shot with children perched on the roof bar of a VW Combi – the only problem is that we don't know from what part of the globe it was sent. Hopefully we will get an update of the Klopotowski's holiday for the next edition of The Shamrock!

Next Edition

The deadline for the next edition of The Shamrock is Friday May 30, 2003. All contributions from members of the SPC community are gratefully received.