



# Lucerna

A PUBLICATION OF THE ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY

VOL 29 ISSUE 1 2024



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2024 academic year commenced with our new College structure, a Middle School (Years 5 to 8) and Senior School (Years 9 to 12). This initiative is designed to cater to the specific learning and development needs of boys through their stages of schooling. We have also developed a bespoke Pastoral Care Period, led by homeroom teachers, to positively influence our students and their relationships with one another.

The Middle School's philosophy is centered on nurturing supportive relationships among peers, parents, teachers, coaches and homeroom teachers; guiding students in shaping their personal identities and characters and empowering each student to thrive academically and in co-curricular activities, thereby developing a deep connection to all facets of College life.

### FEATURES OF OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Customised transition programs upon entry to Year 5 and Year 7, which support students as they adjust and engage in all aspects of College life.
- An experienced, professional and supportive staff team led by the Director of Students (Years 5-8), the Director of Curriculum, the Director of Learning and Innovation, the Head of Curriculum (Stage 3) and the Head of Teaching and Learning (Stage 3) to nurture within the boys a culture of academic excellence.
- Technology-rich classrooms with committed staff delivering inspiring, challenging and accessible learning for 21st-century students.
- Dedicated Makerspace/STEM room for boys in Years 5 and 6 to undertake the practical aspects of the Stage 3 Science and Technology course.
- A professional team dedicated to tracking all students' academic progress and providing intervention support where needs are identified.
- Intervention literacy and numeracy programs for students identified as needing more support.
- A dedicated Primary School Library, 'Westcourt' and a Secondary School Library, 'McGlade Library'.
- A Middle School Canteen which serves breakfast, recess and lunch.
- Residential and camping experiences in each year: Year 5 Orientation, Year 6 Canberra, Year 7 Camping.

The Senior School philosophy aims to guide students on a journey of discovery and exploration, embracing academic and co-curricular opportunities. Through diverse experiences fostering self-responsibility and critical thinking, we nurture confidence and character. We prioritise a sense of community, connecting students with peers and the wider community through our Shining Our Light service program. Placing students at the heart of their 'educational' journey, we equip them with the skills to navigate their senior years and beyond, fostering academic excellence. The HSC is offered through three pathways: Academic ATAR, Blend of ATAR and Vocational, and Non-ATAR Vocational, ensuring that each Year 12 student reaches their potential.

### FEATURES OF OUR SENIOR SCHOOL

- The Vera Wilson Study Centre for Year 12 students.
- A dedicated Senior School Library, 'McGlade' that offers a quiet and productive place to study until 4:45 PM each afternoon.
- Technology-rich classrooms and new, flexible science labs with operable walls to allow team teaching.

- A cafeteria in the new Scientia building, which serves breakfast, recess and lunch.
- The Robson Auditorium, a 200-seat lecture theatre, for meetings and seminars.
- Interstate and International excursion and immersion experiences.

Since the last edition of Lucerna, we hosted the blessing and opening of the Scientia building. It was a wonderful occasion with Fr Jack Evans blessing our building and Professor John Mattick ('67) officially opening the building and dedicating its plaque. John Mattick, a renowned scientist, graduated as Dux of the College and was our 2014 Luceat Award winner. He is one of three brothers who attended the College, all having received the Order of Australia: Peter Mattick ('69) for philanthropy and business, John Mattick ('67) for his work in molecular biology, genetics and biotechnology and Richard Mattick ('73) for drug and alcohol research and medical service.

Another of our illustrious Old Boys, the late Brian Walsh ('73), was our Luceat Award winner in 2023. A towering figure in Australian screen entertainment, Brian helped shape our cultural identity globally. And as another of our eminent Old Boys, Federal Arts Minister Tony Burke ('87), has said, "countless Australian stories had been told and careers forged because of Brian's vision." He exemplified our theme of last year's Speech Night, 'Shine', perfectly, not just by letting his own light shine brightly but by illuminating the path of so many others. The award was accepted by Brian's youngest sister, Bernadette and her son and Brian's godson, Harrison, along with some of his classmates from 1973.

In March, I attended the Old Boys luncheon at the Mercantile Hotel in The Rocks, where I had the pleasure of reconnecting with a diverse group of Old Boys spanning from the 1940s to more recent graduates. During the event, I introduced a fundraising campaign for a new state-of-the-art LCD scoreboard to be erected on the Fraser Street side of Breen Oval and re-named the 'Br Berg Scoreboard'. The versatility of this modern addition will not only enhance our sporting events but allow various activities such as ceremonies and outdoor screenings to take place on the oval. With over \$13,000 raised already, every donation counts and is tax-deductible. Your contribution will be commemorated on a plaque near Breen Oval. Please consider donating through the following link: <https://asf.org.au/projects/st-patricks-college-strathfield/br-berg-lcd-scoreboard-breen-oval> or scan the QR code on page 15, and stay updated on our progress.

I am very proud of the strong start that our staff and students have made to this school year. At St Patrick's, we have the ability to reflect, plan and act with purpose, tailoring experiences to equip each boy to navigate challenges and seize opportunities. With a focus on relational learning, boys form connections with their teachers before their subjects, driving our commitment to fostering an engaged College community through ongoing program development.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

**Dr Vittoria Lavorato**  
Principal



*Dr Lavorato with her Year 10 Mathematics Class.*



*Members of the official party during the blessing and opening of the Scientia building.*

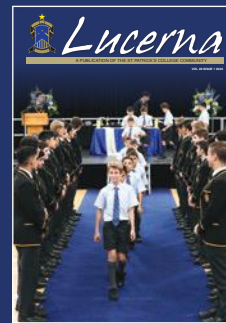


*Dr Lavorato with Harrison, nephew of our 2023 posthumous Luceat Award recipient Brian Walsh ('73), and Brian's sister Bernadette, at Speech Night.*



*Dr Lavorato enjoying the camaraderie at the Old Boys' Luncheon.*

## COVER PHOTOGRAPH



*Luca Westerman from 5 White, leads his class through a Year 12 Berg House guard of honour at the Opening College Mass.*

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# SCIENTIA EST POTENTIA – KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Despite the rain leading to a modified ceremony, the Blessing and Opening of the Scientia building on Friday 24 November 2023, was a wonderful celebration. Our distinguished guest, Old Boy and 2014 Luceat Award recipient, Professor John Mattick AO ('67), inaugurated our state-of-the-art science and hospitality facility.

Professor Mattick earned his PhD from Monash University in 1978 and later led groundbreaking research at Baylor College of Medicine and CSIRO, pioneering early genetically engineered vaccines. He has held esteemed roles, including Director of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, and is renowned for debunking the idea that much of the human genome is 'junk,' revealing its crucial role in cell division and differentiation. With over 300 scientific publications and accolades like the Order of Australia, his global contributions to genomics are unparalleled.

During his speech, Professor Mattick highlighted our students' privilege in having advanced labs and inspired them to pursue careers in science. He served as an exemplary role model for our boys on this significant occasion.

Dr Lavorato expressed her enthusiasm for the new addition and acknowledged former Principal, Dr Wattam's vision for the building. She outlined how it will enrich our students' learning experiences and how the plaza will serve as a central gathering place, uniting our College community for future events.

Reflecting on the building's name, Scientia est Potentia, Dr Lavorato emphasised, "this magnificent facility reminds us that knowledge is power. As an EREA school, a Liberating Education is at the heart of what we aim to do. A strong education can change your life and open up a myriad of opportunities".

After Father Jack Evans blessed the building and Professor Mattick unveiled the plaque, attendees toured the facilities and enjoyed refreshments.

The Scientia building symbolises our dedication to meeting both current and future learning requirements of our students.

**Nikki Fochesato**  
Community Liaison Officer / Archivist



*Dr Lavorato articulates how the new building will enrich the educational experience for our boys.*



*Prof. Mattick ('67) makes his address.*



*Our Year 12 students absorb Prof. Mattick's wise words.*



*Father Jack Evans blesses the gathering.*



*The Scientia building provides shelter from the rain.*



*Prof Mattick ('67) unveils the plaque.*



*Former Chemistry teacher Br Berg ('48), with Professors Richard ('73) & John Mattick ('67).*



*Dallas McInerney (CEO Catholic Schools NSW), Rob Rush (Director Sports Services, Catholic Schools NSW), Sam Hardjono (EREA NSW Colleges Ltd Board Chair), Dr Lavorato (College Principal) & Maura Manning (Director of NSW Colleges & CEO EREA NSW Colleges Ltd).*



*The Scientia building in all its glory!*



The whole College community gathers together to celebrate our faith.



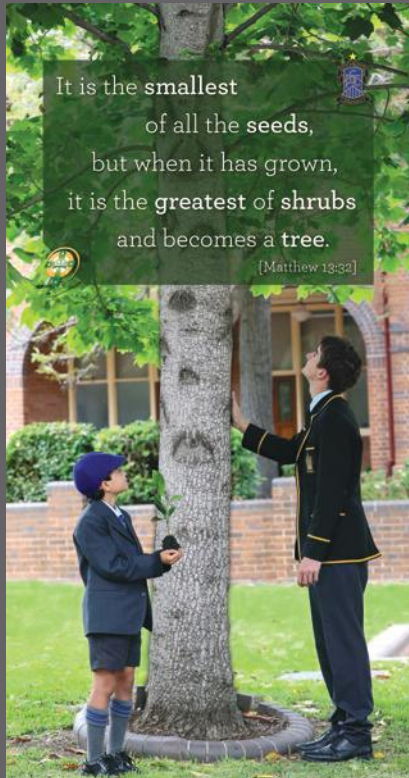
Julian De Nobrega (Year 5) leads the way through the Year 12 guard of honour.



Fathers Ronald Maree ('10) & Jack Evans concelebrated the Mass.



Blessing one another as we commence the year in unity.



The 2024 scriptural theme, chosen by our Year 12 student leaders.

# HERALDING A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

On Friday 9 February, the whole College community came together to celebrate the start of a new school year through an expression of faith, at a new venue, the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre in the Ken Rosewall Arena. The light shone through the dome on all of us, symbolising that we are called to go and let our light shine for all to see.

At the beginning of proceedings, our new Year 5 students were welcomed to the College by their Year 12 House Prefect, before passing through a guard of honour formed by their Year 12 House members. We shared something of the brothers for whom the houses are named by reciting the House prayers as one, reflecting the values we all aspire to.

College Captain, Michael Sakr, introduced this year's scriptural theme chosen by the student leaders: "It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown, it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree." [Matthew 13:32], and much of the celebration centred on this.

Our College Chaplain, Father Jack Evans, concelebrated the Mass with Old Boy Father Ronald Maree ('10) who delivered a homily on the mustard seed and its potential for growth just like each of the students present, thanks to the mercy and glory of God. He talked about how sometimes we feel small and insignificant but when Jesus is in our hearts, we have the potential to grow and achieve many wonderful things.

The focus EREA Touchstone for 2024 is 'Liberating Education'. Throughout the Mass we looked at what this means and connected it to the mustard seed. All that we learn and the opportunities we receive must be used to make life better for others, not kept to ourselves. This is a liberating education which was highlighted through its alignment with the qualities of our 'Ideal Graduate.'

The readings, prayers and hymns all looked at how we can grow and in turn be Christ's light in the world. They spoke of us being part of God's creation and how we aim to be the best we can be. The College Orchestral Ensemble and Choir lead the music for the Mass beautifully, as always.

Then, following Mass, the whole community celebrated the academic achievements of the Class of 2023; the whole day bringing together our two great missions – faith and education.

**Gillian Daley**  
Director of Identity



A proud Dr Lavorato with Angus Reen (Proxime Accessit), James Bellamy (Dux) & Rob Cadisal (Third Place).



Dr Lavorato with our Year 11 McGlade Scholars: Andreas Blatsos, Jules Renel, Christopher Costa, Isaac Tannous & George Lahoud.

# CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2023

Marking the beginning of a new academic year, we celebrated the scholarly success achieved by members of the Class of 2023 at the annual High Achievers Assembly. As a community, we welcomed back graduates who had all achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 90 and above. Each was presented with their Academic Excellence Award for Distinguished Achievement in the State. In all, a total of thirty-four students or 22% of the cohort achieved an ATAR above 90; these young men represent the top echelon of HSC candidates in the State.

In particular, we congratulated James Bellamy who was named College Dux for 2023. He achieved an ATAR of 99.25, and Angus Reen as Proxime Accessit with an ATAR of 98.65. This year, we were proud to announce that fourteen students of the Class of 2023, had achieved an ATAR above 95. In addition, three students were placed on the State's All-Round Achievers' List, James Bellamy, Angus Reen and Matthew Younan. Two students, James Bellamy and Lachlan Macher were placed on the Top

Achievers' List having received a State Ranking for Modern History and Information and Digital Technology respectively.

During the celebration, we also announced the 2024 Br McGlade Scholarship recipients: Christopher Costa and Isaac Tannous were granted the McGlade Organ Scholarships, while Andreas Blatsos, George Lahoud and Jules Renel received the McGlade Academic Scholarships.

These young men have done themselves, their College and their families proud by their outstanding achievements. We share in their pride and congratulate each and every one of them for their hard work and determination in their academic pursuits.

A comprehensive publication of the HSC Class of 2023 High Achievers is available on the College's website.

**Michael Cutrupi**  
Director of Curriculum



*Valentino Mirarchi, Marco Grace & Cameron Smith receive an SPC welcome!*



*Mr Cooper's group soak up the breathtaking Blue Mountains.*



*Liam Guinan, Luke Consiglio, Charles Delpech, James Ballesty, Jacob Sanmiquel & Jacob Elias cook up some damper.*



*Max Sallway with his father, Old Boy David Sallway ('97).*



*Dominic Tan, Kristian Kayrouz & Isaiah Bechara at the Welcome Dinner.*



*Thaleson Dominis (Year 10) takes Aston Martinovic under his wing.*



*Year 10 students Pablo Doherty & William Ters lead a group discussion.*



*A fun game of footy! Anthony Hanna (Year 10) tries to make a break.*

## FROM LITTLE THINGS, GROW GENTLEMEN

Our College theme of the year, 'The Parable of the Mustard Seed', aligns perfectly for our Year 5 students who are at that 'little' stage in their SPC journey. Events like the Year 5 Camp, Welcome Mass and Dinner and Peer Support Program have served as a great introduction to College life, while also helping to create a sense of belonging within the cohort. These, along with co-curricular trials and games, parent information night and NAPLAN, have added to a whirlwind start to the year.

It was a fun-packed three days for the boys during their Year 5 Camp in Katoomba. On arrival, the boys were fascinated at being high enough to be in the clouds as a deep fog set in around us. The group became more comfortable and settled into the range of activities on offer. There were great cheers as boys scaled the rock climbing wall to sound the buzzer or tried their arm at archery. Others were supported and encouraged to overcome their fears and inhibitions. As dawn broke on Thursday there came the realisation for some, "Are we going home today? It's like we just got here!" Through this time away, the cohort came together as a community, and we look forward to building on this with them as the year progresses.

We appreciate all our Year 5 parents/carers and students who joined us for what was a very special evening at the Welcome Mass and Dinner. Coming into Year 5 can often be a daunting experience, but the welcome isn't just a formality, we invest time and energy into this

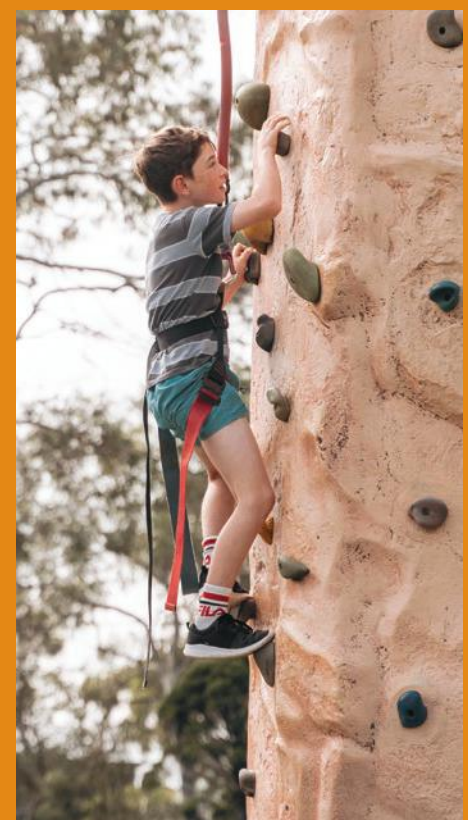
because the role of the family in partnership with the school is paramount, it is an eight-year journey together. It was a night full of beautiful food, many laughs, meeting new families and sharing in College experiences thus far. However, the night wasn't possible without our wonderful staff and we also thank Mrs Elena Ierardo and our P&F Executive for putting on the spread.

The first day in an unfamiliar environment can be intimidating for any student, particularly for those aged 9-10. Luckily our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders were on hand to make them feel welcome. Over a few weeks in Term 1, it's been a time of building strong friendships and mentorship networks. Having time in the classroom and on the sporting field playing games has been invaluable and it was evident how much the younger boys appreciated having the Year 10 students around to guide them.

Our Year 5 students have had many new experiences, like catching a bus for the first time, moving classrooms and learning new faces. There have been challenges as well, most notably socks up, shirts in, ties done up and caps on. But they have come a long way in short period of time. Thank you to parents for putting your trust in the College and to the teachers in getting to know them as individuals and helping them to overcome challenges. From the many little things, with nurturing we will see growth to fine young men.

**Mr Stephen Cooper**  
Year 5 Coordinator

**Mr Alexandros Sinadinos**  
Director of Middle School



*Luca White scales the rock-climbing wall.*



Fathers & sons writing and sharing affirmations.



Receiving God's blessing.

## WHAT KIND OF A MAN WILL I BE?

On Tuesday 26 March, an interesting evening was held in our College Hall, the annual Year 11 Father and Son evening. Our Year 11 cohort were invited with our dads to an evening where we ate a good meal and were able to sit and enjoy our dad's company.

The theme of the night was, 'What kind of man will he be?', a question that parents often ponder, and as a young man I too often reflect on. We would all like to think that we will be strong and successful men. However, the reality is that we really need to focus on being men of honour. We think this will just happen, yet rarely get the opportunity to speak on important factors that will make us good men. We have extremely busy lives, which often limits our chance to speak to our dads on anything beyond the superficial. We talk about sport and schoolwork but don't often get the chance to really unpack beyond that.

This night allowed us to embrace our views on issues including marriage, relationships and feelings. We had the opportunity to hear from our dads and hear their views and their hopes for our future. It reminded all of us of how influential fathers can be in their son's choices and the way we form relationships. We learn most from those around us, and our dads are typically who we want to emulate the most. It was great to hear my dad speak about relevant issues as well as hear about his belief system and values. These conversations made me proud to be his son, and I am sure others felt the same about their fathers.

**Benjamin Busetto**  
Year 11 Student



Gianluca Lombardo (Year 6) takes aim at some intrepid staff and students!



Students pay for the privilege of taking on Grandmaster Anthony Karnaout (Year 12) in chess.



Ms Lonard, Mason Coscarella, Jack Scullion, Brandon Flammia, Mr Dokumcu, Hunter Patterson, Harry Walsh & William Malone from Year 7, sell their wares.



Wearing green in honour of our patron: Joshua Simon, Sean Burke, Lucas Martin, Anton Caruana & Alexander Reid during our Lenten Mufti Day.



Thomas Coorey (Social Justice Prefect), Mr Richard Manchee (Chalmers Road School), Daniel De Pasquale (Sustainability Prefect), Ms Wendy Du Plessis (Lucas Gardens School), Mr Bryne (Deputy Principal), Ms Daley (Director of Identity), Michael Sakr (College Captain) & Charbel Francis (College Vice Captain).

## MAKING EVERY DOLLAR COUNT!

The Lenten season prepares us as Christians for the resurrection of Christ at Easter. It is a time of fasting, prayer and almsgiving, through which we experience a true inner transformation of the heart.

This year, over the Lenten period, our staff and students participated in the annual Lenten Appeal as part of the almsgiving focus. Our partners on this occasion are close to home: Lucas Gardens School and Chalmers Road School. These institutions provide specialised care and education for children with a wide range of physical and intellectual disabilities, ensuring they have the opportunity to learn and thrive. Many senior students have engaged with students from these schools through Social Justice Service and other programs, meaning this Lent offered an opportunity to strengthen these existing bonds between our communities.

Every student was encouraged to get involved in the fundraising. This took many forms, including homeroom fundraising stalls, collections, Lenten Dances and the Junior School Fun Run. Most boys approached these activities with enthusiasm and a willingness to serve. Ultimately, this spirit of giving time and energy formed the cornerstone of our Lenten endeavours. Each contribution, no matter the size, added to the overall fundraising efforts.

In all, we raised just over \$70,000 for our Lenten partners this year. At an assembly, the whole school had the opportunity to be able to hear from Mr Richard Manchee and Ms Wendy Du Plessis from Chalmers Road and Lucas Gardens respectively. Mr Manchee explained that a portion of the funds would be put towards a speech pathologist to ensure all students are able to express themselves with confidence. Ms Du Plessis revealed that some of the money would also go towards the Mini Fit sports program and developing spaces for students to play and develop physical skills. In addition, some of this total will also be donated to the College's other social justice partners. Their gratitude towards our community serves as a reminder of the profound impact these contributions will have on the lives of those we seek to support.

I'd like to thank Ms Daley and the Social Justice Action Group for all the work they put in to making this fundraising possible, as well as all the boys and staff who volunteered for, organised and ran fundraisers. This spirit of charity and compassion is what truly makes a difference for others.

**Thomas Coorey**  
Social Justice Prefect

# STELLAR SUMMER SEASON OF SPORT

## BASEBALL

The Baseball season provided an opportunity for developing new skills and practicing teamwork, especially for those new to the sport or with little experience. Everyone worked hard to become members of a cohesive team and showed significant improvements.

Captain of Baseball Samuel Avvenevole, demonstrated outstanding leadership all season. Unfortunately, none of our teams made the semifinals but they all had their fair share of development and results to be proud of. The First IX had four wins and two draws, the U 16 team won four games and the U 14 team managed to win one game. Hopefully all the boys involved will continue to develop and learn from the experience of representing the College in Baseball.

## BASKETBALL

There was a real buzz around Basketball this season, with the opening of the Scientia upper and lower courts allowing for more teams to be training on site, rather than traveling to external locations. It was great to see the commitment and hard work from all involved.

The First V team was coached by two Old Boys, Hayden Serrao ('19) and Stefan Slosu ('14), who brought passion, enthusiasm and rich Basketball knowledge to every training session and game. This, combined with the leadership of Basketball Captain Matthew Boys, saw the First V represent the College all the way through to the semi-finals where they unfortunately went down to St Augustine's. Congratulations to Year 12 students, Hamish Britten and Nathan Devine, for making ISA Representative Basketball teams. Best of luck to Hamish as he trials for the NSW CIS team.

Congratulations to the 17 B, 17 C, 17 D, 15 B, 14 B, 14 C, 13 A, 13 C and 13 D for making the semi-finals also. The 17 B, 17 D and 13 D teams all won their semi-final, and each team went on to win their finals and claim ISA Basketball Premierhips. What a fantastic achievement and experience for all boys involved!

## CRICKET

The 2023/24 season saw an incredible amount of school passion and pride, combine with the development of a variety of skills. Our First XI and Second XI teams played in the ISA, six teams competed in the Northern Districts Thunder competition and five Year 7 teams competed in the Crichton Cup.

Jack Roberts demonstrated outstanding leadership as the First XI Captain, with his team going undefeated through the regular season before losing with only 2 balls remaining in the semi-final. The 16 Black, 16 Gold, 13 Black and 13 Gold teams all went through to their semi-finals, with 16 Gold going through to the

Grand Final. Unfortunately, they were beaten but the experience gained by all teams made it a successful season.

Demonstrating the large amounts of talented cricketers here at the College, five players from the First XI went on to represent the ISA Opens team: Jack Roberts, William Allen, Alexander Au-Yeung, Matthew Plunkett and Charlie Gray. William Allen also gained selection to the CIS Opens team. A huge congratulations to all involved.

## GOLF

Our talented golfers: Anthony del Popolo (Year 11), Lucas Daher (Year 11), Joe Doran (Year 10), Luke Bromfield (Year 12) and Tadhg Murphy (Year 12) all represented the College with pride, passion and etiquette. Playing in a tournament with Knox, Barker, St Aloysius', Scots, St Joseph's, St Ignatius and Newington, our boys went into the final round hoping for 4th or even 3rd place. Unfortunately, things did not go as planned and they ended up in 5th place. While they would have liked to place higher on the ladder overall, it was a great experience for those involved.

## SWIMMING

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Jane Kent who stepped in at the beginning of the year to fill the vacant Swimming Coach position. Term 1 saw our Swimming squad take out the Senior Shield at the Combined Christian Brother's Carnival. College pride was on display with boys cheering on their peers as they chased the black line, it was a highlight of the swimming season.

Jack Taylor (Year 11) had another successful year in the pool, setting two new records at the SPC House Carnival in Freestyle and Butterfly, broke a Combined Christian Brother's Carnival record for Freestyle and equalled a record in Butterfly at the ISA Carnival. Jack, as well as Nicholas Macher (Year 11) were both invited to take part in the 2024 Australian Age Swimming Championship on the Gold Coast, a fantastic achievement!

## TOUCH FOOTBALL

Touch Football has taken off at the College, with a senior's team as well as two junior teams competing on Saturdays throughout summer. Many of the juniors did not come from Touch Football backgrounds and learnt a lot about the game through training and competing week in, week out. The Seniors had a bit more experience and took out the ISA Division 3 Premiership after an undefeated season. Additionally, Bryan Nade (Year 11), Liam Fitzgerald (Year 11) and Matthew Boumelhern (Year 8) represented the College at the ISA Touch Football trials.

**Samuel Boggs**  
Head of Sport



*Year 11 supporters cheer on our swimmers during the ISA Swimming Carnival.*



*John Aoun (Year 8) pitches for the third strike.*



*First V player, Hamish Britten (Year 12) in action.*



*Members of our Senior Swimming squad: Ethan Harb, Christian Afonso, Jaiken Poon, Declan Trainor & Yun Yi.*



*Declan Fletcher (Year 12) storming in to capture a wicket!*



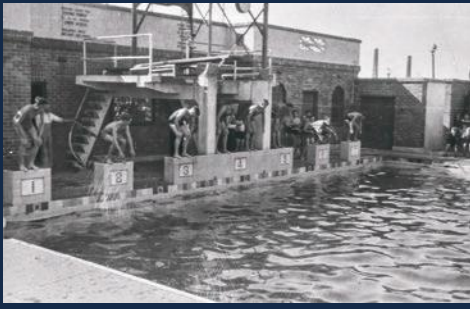
*Future Golf Pros: Tadhg Murphy, Luke Bromfield, Joe Doran & Lucas Daher.*



*Member of our Swimming squad, Sebastian Meesanga Natalegawa (Year 7) is all smiles!*



c.1930s, boys line up in their colour teams at St Luke's Oval, Concord.



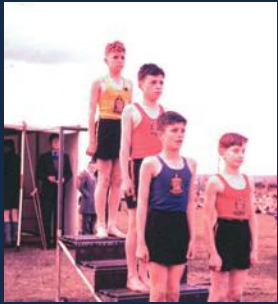
1944: The first Swimming Carnival is held at Enfield Swimming Baths.



Sack racing! The first Athletics Carnival is held on the newly completed oval in 1941.



Members of the College's Athletics team, competing in the early 1950s.



c.1960s: Boys on the podium wearing their respective house coloured singlets.



Keeping score in 1981, when Hanrahan and Crichton Houses were battling it out for top spot!



And the winner is... Br Crichton presents Peter Hudson ('83) of Crichton House, with the trophy in 1981.



A scene from the 1982 Junior Swimming Carnival held at the College Pool.



Power House get into the spirit in 1995, a year before the name change to Rice House.



2006: Berg House Captain, Alex Fox ('06) receives the winning shield from House Patron, Br Berg.



2009: From Breen Oval to SOPAC, boys take off at the Senior House Athletics Carnival in the old house coloured shirts.



Old Boy house representatives and house crest stakeholders, unveil the new crests during the 2013 Founder's Day Mass. BACK: Anthony Neville ('00), Steven Fochesato ('84), Paul Donnellan ('74), Albert Basha ('09) (Designer), Mark Newbury ('82), Mitchell Kearsley ('00), Brad O'Young ('95) FRONT: Michael Ilott (Year 12 Coordinator) & Nicholas Phillipson (Creative Director).



2014: Junior House Captains don the new crested house shirts: Seamus Meaker, Joshua Lee, Sean Costa, Andrew Aller, Lachlan Bortolussi & William Gibbs.



Rice House scoops the pool! The 2017 Junior House Swimming Carnival was held at the College for the last time.

# KEEPING THE SPIRIT ALIVE

So far this year we have held three of our four House Carnivals, the Senior House Swimming and Athletic Carnivals and the Junior House Swimming Carnival, with the Junior House Athletics Carnival scheduled for later in June. These events have become a time-honoured tradition at SPC, promoting a sense of identity, competition, participation, achievement and most importantly, school spirit among our boys.

What makes these events so special is that everyone can contribute, whether it's cheering from the stands or competing on the track or in the pool. For our Year 12 students, it's an opportunity to lead by example, as they encourage younger boys to join in and 'give it a go' for their house. Many embrace the occasion by donning creative costumes, adding a dose of fun and colour to the day as they support each other.

Our Christian Brother forefathers understood the importance of fostering belonging through spirited competition all too well. In fact, after only a year in operation, with the school's population standing at a modest 120 boys, Br Crowle initiated our first 'Sports Day' which took place at St Luke's Oval in Concord. As the College began to make a name for itself and enrolments increased, so too did the excitement and anticipation of this event.

In 1936, under Br Coghlan's leadership, colour competition was introduced, with boys being split into Red, Blue, Green and Gold teams. Each team would be overseen by a 'Brother in charge' who typically remained until they transferred to a different school. For example, in the 1940s Br McGlade looked after the Gold team which, despite a good track record, had a rather unimaginative war cry: "Gold on top, gold on top, champion team that can't be stopped!" in comparison to Br Marzorini's Red team's: "Rum sticka bubble on a zip bang colleywobble!"

From 1941, the College Sports' Day was held annually on the newly completed oval, usually on the last Saturday of November. It attracted a significant crowd of parents and Old Boy supporters. The atmosphere resembled a traditional carnival or 'picnic day,' featuring competitive races alongside entertaining novelty events like sack racing and three-legged races. A notable highlight was the 'march past', where the boys paraded behind their banner around the oval, followed by the 'All-Age Relay,' involving two participants from each age group. These events, along with the 'College v Old Boys Relay,' were crowd favourites and added to the day's festivities.

In 1944, the first College Swimming Carnival made its way into the College calendar. Busloads of boys were transported to Enfield Swimming Baths and again grouped into colour teams. The victorious team received the Devery Cup and enjoyed a 'picture night' at the College the following week. Again, novelty events were popular, particularly with the younger boys who would participate in wading races in the shallow pool where, as noted in the 1944 Lumen, they would discover "half-pennies from heaven".

During the early years, the expanding population and insufficient facilities were constant

challenges in organising these carnivals. However, the Brothers remained undeterred. The completion of our own sporting oval in 1941 proved extremely beneficial, and for the next sixty-eight years, we were able to host the Athletics Carnival on home turf. It wasn't until 2009, due to logistical constraints like providing adequate seating for the boys, that the senior event was relocated to the Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre.

Despite the completion of our swimming pool in 1961 its awkward length of 33 1/3 m, combined with a lack of space around the pool, made it unsuitable for hosting the Senior Swimming Carnival. Consequently, during the 1960s, this event was held at North Sydney Olympic Pool before moving to Auburn Olympic Pool in the 1970s and then the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre in the early 2000s. Similarly, the Junior Swimming Carnival was relocated from the College pool to an outside venue in 2018.

A significant step to enhance sporting competition and our overall identity came in the mid 1970s. It was decided that six coloured houses would be initiated, each named after an influential figure in the College's development. And so, Berg (white), Coghlan (gold), Crichton (purple), Hanrahan (red), Hickey (green) and Power (blue) houses were born. In 1996, upon the beatification of the College's Founder Blessed Edmund Rice, Power House (which had been named after the Parish Priest at St Martha's), was changed to Rice house. The other change occurred sometime in the 1980s when the Crichton House colour changed from purple to black.

For many years the House Cup was awarded to the house which had accumulated the most points across the four carnivals. However, in 2012, it was decided that positive contributions to all aspects of College life should be recognised and so the House Cup was renamed the College Cup, and the competition expanded to include academic achievements, sportsmanship, leadership and social justice initiatives. Points from these areas, combined with carnival results, determine the overall winner. The winning house enjoys a rewards day, fostering camaraderie and motivating students to excel. College Cup standings are regularly announced, further bolstering friendly rivalry among the boys.

In 2013, following the House Cup competition rebrand, a significant addition to the house system followed. During Founder's Day, the student leadership team, alongside staff house representatives, introduced shields and mottos representing each of the College's six house patrons. These crests and mottos were aimed to embody their namesakes' identity and values, thus emphasising their role in our history. They are displayed at vantage points around the College and are proudly worn by the boys on their house shirts.

Wherever possible, sons of Old Boys are assigned to their father's, and in some cases, grandfather's houses, which further perpetuates their sense of belonging. Like many traditions which are woven into College life, our House

competition assumes a central role in our commitment to provide an holistic education. After all, providing our boys with incentives and pathways for success is immensely valuable and perfectly resonates with our motto, "let your light shine."

**Nikki Fochesato**  
**College Archivist/  
Community Liaison Officer**



## CAN YOU HELP?

Calling all Crichton House Old Boys from the 1970s and 1980s!

If you have a vintage purple Crichton House tee tucked away, please reach out to Nikki Fochesato at [nikki.fochesato@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:nikki.fochesato@spc.nsw.edu.au).



*Colourful characters on parade at the 2024 Senior House Swimming Carnival.*

## COLLEGE CUP – CHAMPION HOUSE

Since its establishment in 2012, the College Cup has been claimed by the following Houses.

It's important to clarify that these victories don't necessarily correlate with the winners of the Athletics or Swimming Carnival in those respective years, as the competition now celebrates various aspects of College life.

2012 BERG	2018 CRICHTON
2013 COGHLAN	2019 BERG
2014 HICKEY	2020 COGHLAN
2015 HICKEY	2021 HICKEY
2016 HICKEY	2022 BERG
2017 COGHLAN	2023 HICKEY



*Our wonderful P&F Committee members.*

*BACK: Diane Fague, Nicola Chatfield, Jason Arnold-Auland, Lynette Trainor, Marian Parnaby*

*FRONT: Alison Arnold-Auland, Belinda Barakat, Elena lerardo, Nerida Shipley, Evangeline Hagios & Caroline Chahin.*

*(Absent: Lina Bartorilla & Kathy Jeitani)*

## FOSTERING COMMUNITY

We are thrilled to report that we have had a fantastic start to the new year. The energy and enthusiasm within our College community have been palpable from day one, and we couldn't be more excited about the upcoming months.

The year kicked off with two events, the annual Year 5 Welcome Morning Tea, followed by the Year 5 Welcome Dinner. It was wonderful to see so many parents coming together to extend a warm welcome to our new families. Your presence and support made these events special, and we are grateful for your involvement.

Following the morning tea, we were overwhelmed by the response to our School Fee Raffle. We are delighted to announce that one lucky family from Year 5 were the winners of having their school fees paid for the year. Congratulations to the winning family and thank you to everyone who participated in making this initiative a success.

Our year group social functions have also kicked off with great enthusiasm, with Year 12 leading the charge. Their first event, a parents get together, was held in early February with many more to follow.

This year, we decided to try something new by hosting Basketball barbeques. These gatherings have been a fantastic way to wrap up the summer sport season, with sizzling bacon and egg rolls adding to the enjoyment of Saturday mornings. As we transition into the Winter sport season, we are pleased to announce that our Rugby and Football barbeques will soon commence.

Of course, we can't forget our much-anticipated annual social event, the Blue, Black and Gold Dinner. This year, we are taking things to a new venue at Le Montage. Get ready for an unforgettable evening filled with great food, music from DJ Rosso and the comedic talents of Rob Shehadie as our MC.

**Elena lerardo**  
P&F President



*We thanks all of our wonderful Old Boys who supported the evening.*



*Year 11 student Thomas Mastroianni with his father Daniel Mastroianni ('95), Ms Cupac & Dr John O'Byrne.*



*Liam Gibson ('12) & Luke Barry-Donnellan ('08) are all smiles.*

## OLD BOYS' CAREERS INFORMATION EVENING

On 18 March, 380 students from Years 11 and 12 attended the Old Boys' Careers Information Evening at the College. This event provided the boys with the opportunity to be inspired as they listened to the education and career pathways of the Old Boys of St Patrick's College.

On this evening, each boy attended three career presentations on the career field of their choice. Building on feedback from previous years, we featured a more diverse range of career fields, with 50 Old Boys generously volunteering their time to share insights on different professions.

The Old Boys shed light on their career development, discussing job responsibilities, educational prerequisites, career opportunities, and their personal experiences and paths. A consistent message from the speakers was the ever-evolving nature of the world of work and the importance of lifelong learning.

The evening embodied the genuine community spirit of St Patrick's College, as reflected in our touchstone Inclusive Community. The Old Boys remain dedicated to contributing to the greater good by guiding our boys to become inclusive and adaptive individuals in this ever-changing world.

We would like to thank the Old Boys who participated in the evening, for graciously giving their time and expertise.

**Joanne Cupac**  
Head of Vocational Education & Careers



*The Pecora brothers, Marco ('16) & Gianluca ('20) catch up with Oliver Guerreiro ('19).*



*Anthony Georges ('09), Dr Anthony Cutrupi ('09) & Anthony Badalato ('11).*



*Dr Sean McCrystal ('81), Joseph Bejjani ('16) & Dr Julian Leto ('12) talk to the boys about a career in the fields of medicine and dentistry.*



*Dr Lavorato catches up with Luke Phillips ('00), Anthony Leto ('09), Adrian Musico ('09) & Adam Quinlan ('93).*



*Peter Khoury, David Simon & Jonathan Moses from the Class of 1993.*



*Some of our Old Boy fathers share in the laughter and shenanigans for the sixth year in a row!*



*Class of 1991 representatives: Wayne Taranto, David Turley, Justin Burt, Sean Kearns, Paul Fitzgerald, Edward O'Beid, Peter Foley, Adam Luxton & Nick Shehadie.*



*Brian Roach ('61), Brian Fague ('61) & Jack McDonald ('61) are all smiles!*



*The two Pauls catch up! Paul Donovan ('72) & Paul Donnellan ('74).*



*Daniel Fochesato and Andrew Hurley reminisce about their antics from 1993!*



*Members from the Class of 1997 enjoy the day: David Sallway, Ray Travers, Matthew Tooher, Adam Trent, Luke Wiblin, Chris Bittar, Todd Anderson, Simon Barnes & Jonathan Mattock.*



## DECADES OF OLD BOYS RECONNECT

The historic Rocks precinct echoed with camaraderie and nostalgia as our Old Boys converged at the 'Merc', Australia's oldest Irish pub, for the Old Boys' Annual Lunch. Owned by the Whelan family since the 1980s, the Mercantile Hotel holds a special place in the hearts of many of our Old Boys, making it a perfect venue to celebrate their bond, especially close to St Patrick's Day. John Whelan ('86) and Steve Whelan ('93) graced their respective tables and we thank them for their warm hospitality.

Amongst our guests were three distinguished Luceat Laureates: John Brogden ('86), former NSW Liberal Leader turned mental health advocate; Ray Travers ('97) and Br Brian Berg ('48). Furthermore, the gathering saw four former College Captains: Rick Russo ('73),

Ben Rochester ('89), Michael Garnett ('93) and Ray Travers ('97).

The event showcased a rich tapestry of SPC history with representatives from each decade since the 1940s. We had Old Boys from the 1950s, 1960s, with the Class of 1961 led by Brian Roach making a notable presence, and the 1970s. The 1980s were well-represented with tables from the Classes of 1981, 1986, 1987 and 1989 reconnecting and sharing stories.

The 1990s boasted the largest representation with nearly sixty Old Boys present, hailing from the Classes of 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1997. Among the younger Old Boys representing the 2000s was Adrian Musico ('09), former Captain of the Western Sydney Two Blues team and Ken

Catchpole Medal awardee. Other Rugby legends John Ballesty ('61), Charlie Burford ('61) and Matthew Tooher ('97) were also present.

The strong bond between SPC and its Old Boys was evident as many attendees have chosen to send their sons and grandsons to be educated at the College. This was recognised by Dr Lavorato who addressed the Old Boys and reflected on the enduring legacy and community spirit of St Patrick's College.

As always, the day was a mix of colourful characters from various backgrounds and age groups, united by one shared bond: their connection as St Pat's Old Boys.

**Greg Dening ('81)**  
Old Boys' Executive Officer

## BACK TO BREEN DAY

We look forward to welcoming all our Old Boys to the Back to Breen Day celebrations on Saturday 17 August 2024.



# WHEN THE STUDENT BECOMES THE TEACHER

For many, the idea of never leaving school sounds like a dream. However, for these dedicated Old Boys, it is a reality as they help to educate today's students. Captured at the beginning of the year during a staff development day, these former students continue to impart their knowledge and passion within the classrooms of SPC, illuminating the path for the next generation.



*John McCarthy ('11) Junior School Teacher, Anthony Calavassy ('07) Director of Co-curricular & TAS Teacher, Alex Fox ('06) Year 9 Coordinator & PDHPE Teacher, Andrew Viney ('81) Head of TAS, Matthew Herro ('09) Year 12 Coordinator & TAS Teacher, Brett Davidson ('12) Assistant Head of Sport & TAS Teacher, Lorenzo Fontana ('10) TAS Teacher, Robert Luciani ('13) TAS Teacher, Sean English ('15) TAS Teacher, Jake Costa ('21) TAS Assistant, John Locke ('95) Head of Co-curricular Stage 3, Joshua Youssef ('15) Religious Education & Football MIC, George Sacco ('11) Head of HSIE B, Thomas Mullen ('16) HSIE B Teacher & Steven Fochesato ('84) Mathematics Teacher.*



*Engineers from the Class of 2020: Laurence Calandra, Adam Muratore, Mathieu Guerreiro & Tomas Mihalic share their wisdom with our Year 12 Engineering students.*

## GREASING THE WHEELS OF SUCCESS

At the conclusion of Term 1, four Old Boys from the Class of 2020: Laurence Calandra, Adam Muratore, Mathieu Guerreiro and Tomas Mihalic, visited the College to catch up with their former Engineering Studies teacher and Head of TAS, Mr Viney. In addition to this, they engaged with our current Year 12 Engineering Studies students and their teacher Ms Benham, sharing insights into pursuing Engineering at university, where each of them is currently in their fourth year of studies.

Our Year 12 students found the session highly beneficial, posing relevant questions about their experiences and strategies for achieving academic success. We thank these Old Boys for generously sharing their time with us and wish them continued success in their future endeavours.



*Darcy Prout (Year 6) with his grandfather, Peter Skrzynecki OAM ('62).*

## TAKING THE RIGHT-HAND TURN INTO EDGAR STREET

It was lovely to welcome back distinguished poet and author, Old Boy Peter Skrzynecki OAM ('62), who recently visited the College accompanied by his grandson, Year 6 student Darcy Prout.

Of Polish-Ukrainian heritage, Mr Skrzynecki's family migrated to Australia when he was only four years old. His immigrant experiences are vividly depicted in works such as 'Immigrant Chronicle,' a text that featured prominently on the NSW Higher School Certificate curriculum for many years.

Nearly seven decades ago, Mr Skrzynecki roamed the halls of SPC wearing similar grey shorts and blue hat. His first day and subsequent eight years at the College have been immortalised in his poem 'St Patrick's College,' albeit portraying a somewhat conflicting picture of his time here. Despite this however, today he is delighted and proud as his grandson follows in his footsteps at his alma mater. Adding to his joy, Darcy has been assigned to Berg House whose patron, Br Brian Berg was Mr Skrzynecki's former teacher.



Old Boy Dan White ('71), shows his granddaughters his photo in the College's Hall of Fame.

## DR DANIEL WHITE ('71) TAKES A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

It was a delight to welcome back to the College one of our esteemed Old Boys, Dr Daniel White ('71), former Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools. Dr White, who began his schooling here in Year 5, reminisced about his time as a student and his subsequent pursuit of his passion for education. Accompanied by two of his granddaughters, he shared fond memories of the campus, his Headmaster Br Casey and his love for Science, particularly Geology. The Scientia Building, with its state-of-the-art science labs was of particular interest.

Dr White also shared memories of Br Crichton, while visiting the building dedicated to him. It was a stroll down memory lane for Dr White as he viewed his photo in our Hall of Fame and visited the Chapel where he and his wife Sue, exchanged vows nearly 50 years ago.



Members of our Swimming squad have a photo with Olympian, Se-Bom Lee ('18). Ethan Harb, Nicholas Macher, Christian Afonso, Se-Bom Lee, Declan Trainor & Jack Taylor.

## OLD BOY OLYMPIAN CONTINUES TO MAKE A SPLASH

During the Senior House Swimming Carnival earlier in the year, members of the College's Swimming squad had the opportunity to be photographed with Old Boy swimming sensation, Se-Bom Lee ('18).

Se-Bom, a member of the Sydney Olympic Park Swim team, had just wrapped up one of his intense morning training sessions when our senior boys arrived at SOPAC. Having competed in the Tokyo Summer Olympics in 2021, Se-Bom now has his sights set on Paris and is currently gearing up for the trials scheduled to commence in June.

We are very proud of Se-Bom and wish him all the best in his upcoming swimming pursuits.



Old Boy John Brown ('48), with good mates Bob Hawke & Paul Hogan.



At the launch: Matt Fehon ('87) (President of the Old Boys' Association), John Brown ('48), Dr Lavorato (College Principal) & Elijah Brown (Year 12 student and grandson).

## 'BROWNIE'S' BOOK LAUNCH

In December last year, College Principal Dr Lavorato, had the pleasure of accepting an invitation to attend former Labor Minister and Old Boy, John Brown's ('48) book launch. Following his schooling at Christian Brothers' Burwood, John Brown came to St Patrick's College in 1947, which, amongst other things, is documented in his book 'Brownie, the Minister for Good Times.'

As the title suggests, the book delves into John's distinguished tenure as a Minister in the Hawke administration,

highlighting his significant contributions to the sports and tourism sectors among other accomplishments. In 1993, John Brown was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for "service to the Australian parliament, tourism and sport and recreation".

John Brown's grandson, Elijah Brown, a current student in Year 12 at the College, also attended the launch along with other notable attendees including current Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese and actor Paul Hogan.



As a student in 1941: John Ferris, Neil McNevin, Dennis Mahoney & Laurence Toohey.



## OLD BOY JUSTLY RECOGNISED

Congratulations to distinguished Old Boy, the Honourable Justice Dennis Mahoney ('41) AO QC, who was awarded the Papal Knighthood of St Gregory the Great KCSC at a ceremony conducted by Archbishop Fisher in December of last year.

Justice Mahoney came to St Patrick's in 1938, ten years after the College's Foundation. During his time here he not only excelled scholastically, but was also a champion athlete, setting records and winning the Open Athletics Cup in his final year. After graduating, he achieved the title of College Dux and pursued a highly accomplished career in law,

eventually attaining the rank of Queen's Counsel in 1961. From 1972 onwards, he served as a Judge of the Court of Appeal Supreme Court NSW for 22 years until his retirement in 1996. At 99 years of age, Justice Mahoney could also be our eldest Old Boy!

Justice Mahoney is celebrated for his remarkable contributions as a faithful Catholic layman in civic life. He has served as both a judicial officer and philanthropist, offering his legal expertise voluntarily to a number of institutions and continues to be a generous advocate for charitable causes.

## ACCOLADE FOR A WORLD RENOWNED DEMOGRAPHER



Professor McDonald, a leading demographer, received the award for his distinguished service to demographic research, policy development

and professional associations. Academically, he is best known for a series of highly cited articles of gender equity theory applied to fertility. During his career, he has provided vital demographic insights to governments and his roles with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population furthered demography's scientific discipline.

We extend our congratulations to Professor McDonald, a most worthy recipient of this prestigious award.



The 'originals' Over 35s team are all set for success!

## SET TO FILL THE TROPHY CABINET

Based on our tremendous success last year, we have high expectations for the 2024 Football season. Our goal is to return home with even more silverware across all age groups and teams.

Our Premier League First and Reserve grade teams have kicked off with promising results which will elevate us through the 2024 season. Marco Gidaro ('06) has been appointed as the coach of our First-Grade squad, while Dave Carozza will serve as our Reserve Grade coach. This reflects our ongoing commitment to enhance the performance of our playing squads.

This year, our All-age Men's team has advanced to Division 2, marking a significant elevation in competition level. Despite this challenge, we've welcomed several new players alongside a wealth of seasoned expertise, led by Tom Felizzi and supported by Kane Foreman and John Neville ('02). Additionally, we've introduced a new Over 35s team to the Club, currently maintaining an unbeaten record. Their performance shows promising signs of fulfilling our ambition to secure silverware this season.

The Over 35s Division 4 team has started with great promise as we set our sights on clinching the Grand Final victory that narrowly slipped through our grasp last year in a heartbreaking penalty shootout. Many of the team's founding members, affectionately dubbed the 'originals,' continue to contribute as we embark on our 9th season together. Representing the Club on this journey are esteemed Old Boys Matty Nigro ('96), Ivan Kokotovic ('96), Marc Dovico ('00), Luca Marinello, Adam McCarron ('03) and Frank Parisi ('88).

The Under 16s, honoured as last year's SPFC 'team of the year' for their flawless season and Grand Final triumph, have progressed to Under 18s Division 2. Remaining unbeaten this year, they continue to exhibit promising potential for further accomplishments in 2024. The Club is actively guiding the younger players in the Under 18s, laying the groundwork for their seamless transition into our Premier League squads in the coming years.

The Club is currently in the second year of a five-year plan we've put into action. While there's still a considerable distance to cover in achieving all our outlined goals and objectives, we remain steadfast in our commitment. We are actively inviting Old Boys, friends and families to become part of our club and community, whether as sponsors, players, managers or committee members, to bolster our organisation.

Stay updated on all club activities by following us on social media. We eagerly anticipate further growth and development as we continue to strengthen our esteemed club throughout 2024.

**Frank Parisi ('88)**  
SPFC President



Our 2024 Colts and their coaches, following their victorious match against Petersham.



Back: Anthony Chahin ('22), Lewis Taylor ('21), Adrian Biscotto ('22), James Bale ('21), Ethan Salamanca, Jayden Merhi ('21), Harry Coyne ('21), Luca Mancuso ('21), Ollie Hyde ('22), Paul Donnellan ('74), Tim Murphy ('73), Max Smith ('19)  
Front: Jack Doran ('21), Gio Gionta ('21), Lachlan McCrystal ('22), Bryn Williams ('23), Ben Criss ('21), Zach Bruce ('21), Archie Hyde ('20) and Adam Brooks ('21).



Mark Herro ('19) orchestrates a try.



Anthony Calavassy ('07) proving that age has not wearied him!



Lachlan McCrystal ('23) always on the ball!

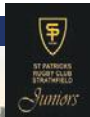
## SPRC GEARS UP!

St Patrick's Rugby Club is gearing up for another exciting season in 2024. Our preseason activities included Rugby Sevens tournaments for both our Men's and Women's teams on the Central Coast, as well as a club-wide trip to Newcastle. We are thrilled to report strong participation, with over 110 players representing SPRC in our Round 1 match against Petersham in April. The Old Boys network remains a vital part of our club's fabric, with multiple generations coming together to uphold St Pat's as one of

Sydney's premier amateur Rugby clubs.

A special acknowledgment goes to Paul Donnellan ('74) and Tim Murphy ('73), who have dedicated 50 years of service to SPRC. Both 'PD' and 'Murph' continue to contribute to the Club in management roles with our U21 Colts team. It is truly great to see these Old Boys working with players from the Class of 2023 in pursuit of championship success!

**Tim Skinner ('13)**  
SPRC Club Secretary



Mark Nawaqanitawase ('18) and Tane Edmed with members of the Junior Rugby Club.



Following a training session, Ryley McLeod (Year 7) catches up with Mark Nawaqanitawase ('18).

## FLEDGLING CLUB CONTINUES TO GROW

In 2013, St Patrick's Rugby Club Juniors commenced its inaugural season. The Junior Rugby Club emerged from a collective effort among a group of parents who shared a desire to provide their children with the opportunity to engage in Rugby, or for some, to delve deeper into the sport. During this inaugural season, the Club fielded teams ranging from Under 6s to Under 15s.

Throughout the subsequent years, numerous boys and girls were afforded the chance to partake in the game, relishing its joys and achieving several premierships. Notably, some even tasted victory at the State Championship level. Additionally, the Club organised some overseas trips,

enriching the experiences of both players and accompanying parents.

St Patrick's Rugby Club has served as a catalyst for the formation of enduring friendships, a tradition it will continue to uphold. Training sessions are held at Hudson Park during the week, while older participants compete in the NSWJRU competition on select Sundays or Friday nights.

Recently, we were most fortunate to have Rugby Waratahs Mark Nawaqanitawase ('18) and Tane Edmed grace us with their presence during a training session, adding to the excitement and inspiration within our club.

**Joe Abraham ('77)**  
SPJRC President

# RECENT REUNIONS

## CLASS OF 1952

Still going strong! Members from the Class of 1952 had a gathering at Burwood RSL. In attendance were Alex Sharah, Fred McDonald, Denis Kearney, Paul Grew, John Donnelly, John Roddy, John Baird and Paul Crittenden.



## CLASS OF 1965

In November, the Class of 1965 enjoyed a wonderful reunion at the Coronation Club in Burwood. It was a great turnout, and a wealth of stories were shared, accompanied by lots of laughter.



## CLASS OF 1973

On a Friday evening in Balmain, the Class of 1973 reunited, joined by their former teachers Br Walsh, Br Berg and Fred Leong. Dr Lavorato was delighted to be part of the gathering which drew over seventy attendees. Fond memories from half a century ago were shared throughout the night.



The following morning, some classmates visited the College, convening in the Chapel to honour those they had lost. They embarked on a tour of the campus, admiring the new Scientia building, before concluding their visit at the Crichton building, where they enjoyed some refreshments while cheering on the boys in the Cricket.

# FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

To stay informed about reunions, please log on to the Old Boys' website: <https://oldboys.spc.nsw.edu.au/> and check out the 'News & Events' section.

## CLASS OF 2014 REUNION – 10 YEAR REUNION

Old Boys are advised to meet at the College at 2:30 PM, with the First XV Rugby match kicking off at 3:15 PM. At the conclusion of the game, Old Boys will be bussed to their venue.

**Date:** BACK TO BREEN DAY  
Saturday 17 August 2024  
**Venue:** Rose of Australia, Erskineville  
**Time:** 6:30 PM  
**Contact:** Nick Abela  
M: 0415 749 429  
E: n.abela96@hotmail.com

## CLASS OF 1999 – 25 YEAR REUNION

Old Boys are advised to meet at the College at 2:30 PM, with the First XV Rugby match kicking off at 3:15 PM. At the conclusion of the game, Old Boys will be bussed to their venue.

**Date:** BACK TO BREEN DAY  
Saturday 17 August 2024  
**Venue:** Bald Rock Hotel, Rozelle  
**Time:** 6:30 PM  
**Contact:** Sam Glass  
E: samrglass@hotmail.com

## CLASS OF 1964 - 60 YEAR REUNION

**Date:** Wednesday 16 October 2024  
**Venue:** Kirribilli Club, Kirribilli  
**Time:** 12:00 PM  
**Contact:** Chris Lennon  
E: farmerchris@bigpond.com

## CLASS OF 1974 - 50 YEAR REUNION

**Date:** Friday 1 November 2024  
**Venue:** Royal Oak Hotel, Balmain  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Contact:** David Byrne  
E: spcclassof74@gmail.com  
M: 0412 575 549

If you need help planning a reunion, please reach out to Old Boys Executive Officer, Greg Dening at: [greg.dening@spc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:greg.dening@spc.nsw.edu.au).

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE

## OUR DREAM FOR BREEN

For more than 80 years, the hallowed ground of Breen Oval has been the foundation for unity, igniting College spirit and embodying the essence of the SPC Community. Our goal is to install a new state-of-the-art electronic scoreboard, a reinstatement of the previous Br Berg Scoreboard, which will enhance the game-day atmosphere for our players and supporters, while proudly showcasing our College pride.

TO SUPPORT THIS DREAM PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR CLICK HERE:  
[BR BERG SCOREBOARD](#)

FOREVER BLUE, BLACK, GOLD!

# VALE

Our thoughts and prayers go to the families and friends of the following Old Boys.

- John Donovan ('42)
- Mervyn Atkins ('44)
- Paul Woodward ('44)
- Paul Star ('51)
- Charles Simpson ('61)
- Dr Barrie Lum ('53)
- John Carbone ('72)
- Anthony White ('74)
- Matthew Bentley ('04)

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

**LUCEAT LUX VESTRA**  
*"Let your light shine"*



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE

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Founded 1928  
A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION  
AUSTRALIA