



St Peter's College
ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

Winter 2023

Saints



Navigating the AI Journey

Fostering Empathy

Building Connections

Saints

Winter 2023

Sancti Petri Schola Collegiata | SPSC | The Collegiate School of St Peter



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St Peter's College acknowledges that we learn on the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains, where the walls and fields of our School now stand. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging and recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land that are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

Saints was first published in 1974 to highlight school activities for parents and old scholars. The Winter 2023 edition is the 142nd publication.

To uphold the School's strategic priority of good stewardship and environmental management, Saints is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

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 St Peter's College

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For God and Country



This year sees our strategic plan refreshed and updated, guiding our community into the future. Our strategic intent is firmly rooted upon our strong Anglican heritage and values which drive our aspirations and outlook.

Before the commencement of the 20th century, our motto Pro De et Patria, 'For God and Country', would have been clearly understood and interpreted by the entire SPSC community and beyond. That is, in having devout Christian beliefs, one would act on those beliefs and serve one's country patriotically. This service is no more profoundly demonstrated by those who gave their lives in the great wars, now recognised through the gift of Memorial Hall and recorded in its halls and in the Arch of Remembrance in Big Quad. To a certain degree in the last 30 years the words 'God' and 'Country' have been hijacked by the fringes of our society. 'God' is a word that is frequently used by some to discriminate against people, so too the word 'Country' when deciding who belongs or is accepted as a citizen of our nation. Despite these narratives that come from

the changing demographic and structure of our society, at SPSC we must hold on to the tenet that being for God means we are for truth, and being for Country means we are for the service of others in our community. It is from our motto that our two core values emanate – being for God = being for Truth and being for Country = being for the Service of others. We connect the pursuit of truth and the service of others through relationships, thus, our third value is respect. There it is, truth, respect and service, the call each of us are challenged to meet through our intersections in the SPSC community and beyond. Underpinning our strategic intent, this is the unbreakable contract we all share and take responsibility in upholding through our partnership in raising our young men.

This year has seen a return of relative normality in the School and wider community. National and international tours are being planned and actioned and horizons extended. Many of these activities have a long history, such as our Cricket and Soccer tours of the UK and the Tech Tour of the USA. The uncertainty of

the last three years is giving way to excitement and the broadening of horizons as St Peter's College seeks to raise young men as great contributors to their community. Although there is much of the year to complete, I want to draw attention to the efforts of our Captains, Thomas Hamilton-Smith and Aidan Hua. As a perpetual institution, culture trumps strategy every day of the week and our Captains have been placing enormous emphasis on shaping our culture this year. Our mission challenges each of us to take an interest in others, to share experiences, to take the time to understand collective endeavour and to be present in our community. Noticeable changes in the appreciation of peer pursuits are occurring at SPSC and I thank Thomas and Aidan for taking the lead on this legacy issue. We are all elevated when we take the time to honour another with our presence, with our support and when necessary, with our consolation. Above all, it reminds us that we are nothing as an individual, and share meaning and purpose when we belong to something far greater than ourselves.

Tim Browning | Headmaster



Our Way Forward

Our Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027 sets out St Peter's College's strategic intentions. The plan was endorsed by our Governors at a Council Planning Day in August. It was a productive gathering, with a shared focus on serving St Peter's College and, most importantly our students.

Students lie at the heart of all we do at St Peter's College and have done for the past 176 years. At the foundation of the School it was intended that SPSC adhere to the principles of the "advancement of Christian Knowledge and useful learning." Implicit in this statement by Bishop Augustus Short, enunciated in the Ceremony of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of Old School House (24 May 1849), was the intention that students of St Peter's College would be provided a sound and liberal education of the highest standard.

Education is valued both for its intrinsic value in forming the minds of the students in our care, as well as preparing them for a life of uncompromising commitment to public service. We aspire for every boy to have the confidence and capacity to thrive beyond the School gates and live with meaning and purpose in all corners of the globe.

Our Strategic Plan, developed through consultation with all staff and stakeholder groups, has been formulated in response to the evolving global landscape and recent Anglican Identity Audit and builds on St Peter's College's vision to be an exceptional community of learning. It will serve as a reference point for our staff, providing them with a clear direction and purpose to guide ongoing decision making and planning.

Welcome new Deputy Headmaster

On behalf of the entire School community, I would like to welcome David Nolan as our Deputy Headmaster/Head of Senior School. David impressed the interview panel with his experience and passion. Having held executive leadership positions, including Head of Middle Years and Deputy Principal in complex educational environments for the last ten years, David brings a depth of experience to the role.

David joins us during Term 3 and we look forward to him working constructively within the Senior Leadership Team.

Again, on behalf of the entire School community, I would like to thank Mr Nick Carter and Mr Barnaby Eaton for their outstanding efforts over the last year, as well as all those staff who stepped up during the inter-regnum period.

Mark Balnaves | Chairman of Council

Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027

**Our vision
is to be an
exceptional
community
of learning**

**Pro Deo
et Patria**

For God and
Country

Our Motto

Anglican Foundation

Raise understanding of our Anglican heritage, teach the Christian faith and commend a life of Christian discipleship while respecting the religious diversity of our community. Provide authentic and relational service learning programs that promote personal growth and benefit the wider community.

Our Values

• TRUTH •

We pursue truth that we might live lives of integrity; we are led by truth to engage with God, the world and others with courage and kindness.

• RESPECT •

We value each person and their place in the rich web of life.

• SERVICE •

We understand that the world is a community in which order and wisdom must prevail in order to serve life for all beings in a sustainable way;

St Peter's College seeks to serve the needs of our wider community.

Our Strategic Pillars

Learning

- Practise evidence-based pedagogy in order to maintain the highest possible standards and inspire excellence in a global context.
- Connect all learners to engaging, meaningful and challenging learning experiences both in and beyond the classroom.
- Foster and celebrate growth alongside achievement for students and staff.

Wellbeing

- Cultivate a culture which respects diversity, promotes inclusion and enhances wellbeing.
- Ensure a culture that encourages students and staff to flourish and act in ways which secures their own and others' wellbeing.
- Foster an environment of growth, confidence and trust, in which all members of the School community are connected and valued.

People

- Attract, develop and retain exceptional staff.
- Endeavour to provide meaningful learning pathways for all members of the School community.
- Foster a culture of innovation and creativity.

Partnerships

- Ensure our relationships with stakeholders and the wider community are built on openness, trust and mutual benefit.
- Continue to develop tertiary, industry, government and community partnerships to facilitate opportunities and growth for students and staff.
- Enhance our Indigenous education programs through strengthened partnerships.

Stewardship

- Advance the School's facilities and infrastructure while preserving existing character and heritage.
- Realise the maximum educational benefit from every initiative and project embarked on and build financial strength.
- Continuously pursue and improve practices that promote and facilitate environmental sustainability.



Hope and Beauty

About five years ago one of my adult sons, Alasdair, went with a mate to Tasmania on a hiking adventure.

It was a four-day wilderness hike in the Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park. His mate took him off the usual hiking trail and onto a much less frequently used one. In other words, he took him on a much wilder path. They climbed up paths and reached peaks, which only a handful of people do each summer. In fact, Alasdair was saying afterwards, that if one of them had sprained an ankle or had a fall, it probably would have been at least three days before anyone else was likely to come up the same track! I was glad I didn't know that before they went.

There is no doubt that it is some of the most spectacular, beautiful country on Earth. It is untamed wilderness.

Mainstream scholars agree that, some time between 587 and 537 BC, some of the Jewish priests of the day wrote down an account of creation, found in the first chapter of Genesis. I believe (as do many others) that they were inspired by God to write it. They probably wove it together from existing stories of creation, which the people of Israel had told in their homes and in the Temple for centuries.

This creation story was not written to be a scientific account: a critical point to note, given the fascinating information about evolution that has been discovered much more recently. It is a statement of faith and a beautiful piece of literature, rather than science.

More importantly, though, this account of creation was not written with blind optimism. The people of Israel knew that life in God's creation could be tough. This account of

creation was written, while the people were enslaved in the city of Babylon. In the midst of total loss, these ancient Jewish priests could say, "God's creation is good."

They wanted to capture something of the goodness and the beauty of the creation they saw around them. They wanted to give the people of Israel hope: hope that God, who created the world and everything in it, also cared deeply about them.

Hope and an appreciation of beauty both inspire action. If we are full of hope and truly appreciate what is beautiful, we will be led to action: to create a peaceful society so that we and our neighbours can live in safety, and, as we are increasingly aware, to care for the environment. It is crucial we do so.

The Reverend Dr Theo McCall | School Chaplain

Navigating the AI Journey in Education

Digital proficiency is wide-spread and celebrated at St Peter's College. Our commitment to meaningful engagement with the digital world sees us embracing Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our educational journey.

SPSC teachers continue to consider the growing significance of AI in the classroom, having already gained much from our student and staff working groups and other professional development opportunities.

Throughout history, technology in education has provoked uncertainty and discomfort. One can find photographs of teachers picketing the 1986 National Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference as a protest against the use of calculators, and modern students may come across scholarly articles from the 1990s detailing the latest ways to address 'internet time delay anxiety' for 'novice internet students.' Concerns around educational innovations stretch back into the ancient world, too; Plato's *Phaedrus* presents us with a dialogue between the Egyptian gods Theuth and Thamus, bemoaning the invention of writing. "This invention," Thamus warns us, "will produce forgetfulness in the minds of those who learn to use it, because they will not practise their memory."

Despite this, we believe good teachers, in partnership with parents and other stakeholders, have a duty to guide learners wisely through the exciting possibilities and potential risks of emerging technologies. The opportunities are varied; AI has the capacity to supercharge and democratise instruction and feedback in ways that were unimaginable a generation ago, and teachers face the invigorating possibility of algorithms that can

streamline their burgeoning administrative duties, leaving them free to plan even more exciting lessons and dedicate more attention to individual students. The risks have been well-documented, from students trusting erroneous data produced by 'AI Hallucinations' to learners attempting to outsource skills essential for cognitive development. A continued, open dialogue in the classroom and thoughtful assessment design helps mitigate some of the risks, but there is no denying the uncertainties of our rapidly shifting cybersphere.

We have taken time over the first semester to develop an understanding of the ways tools like ChatGPT are being used by students and have addressed potential concerns around assessment integrity. Based on this understanding, our position on Artificial Intelligence is articulated below:

1. Despite the risks associated with AI, this technology is here to stay and we should embrace the myriad ways it can support learning.
2. SPSC students have meaningful, beautiful and original things to say in their assessments; outsourcing creativity and intellectualism fails to honour our humanity and stymies growth.

3. Where appropriate, teachers should work with students as they prepare for and reflect upon their tasks; good assessment remains a process, not a product.

4. One size rarely fits all in education; different academic teams will often need to determine the best ways to exploit and mitigate the risks of AI in their domains.

5. Our Senior School Academic Honesty Policy has not changed; if students present work as their own when it is not, that is plagiarism. Students should reference their use of AI just as they reference other sources. Beyond this, the School will follow the rules set down by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, the South Australian Certificate of Education and International Baccalaureate in relation to AI use.

SPSC is committed to embracing the remarkable opportunities presented by AI to foster creativity, analysis and organisation whilst ensuring we are developing and measuring young men's understanding of the universe, not an algorithm's.

Nick Carter | Acting Deputy Headmaster



Fostering Empathy and Community Engagement

Aligning with our School's core values of truth, respect and service, an array of Service Learning opportunities are embedded in our curriculum. With a focus on providing authentic and relational activities that promote personal growth and benefit the needs of the wider community, this year the School has established 'Buddy Up', an after-school respite program.

The objectives of the Buddy Up Program are threefold: to support parents in our greater community who have a child living with a disability by giving them a well-deserved break, to provide a safe and friendly environment where children living with a disability can participate in engaging activities, and to provide our students with an authentic opportunity to learn from individuals with unique life situations.

The children who join us are supported by our senior students (their buddies), parents and staff at the School in an environment that meets their needs. Together, they engage in a variety of activities including crafts, cooking, treasure hunts, reading and games. The children enjoy afternoon tea and dinner with their buddies before they are collected by their parents at 7.00pm.

The Term 1 pilot was a wonderful success with positive feedback received from participating families and the student and parent volunteers

involved. Through supporting their buddies, our students developed valuable critical thinking skills and empathy and all involved found the experience both rewarding and humbling.

Here are some testimonials from program participants that reflect the positive impact of Buddy Up:

"It was the highlight of William's week, every time." **Danielle, mother of William (age 10)**

"I thoroughly enjoyed the experience provided by this program. It took me out of my comfort zone, as it was challenging and not something we do every day. Seeing the benefits, including making a new friend, and providing respite for their parents was a rewarding and humbling experience. I would recommend this program to any students or parents who love a challenge and experiencing something new."

Zig (Year 11 student)

"I was so amazed by the genuine kindness and support and welcome I felt from your parents and students. It not only allowed me a couple of hours to myself, I had a lovely time engaging with the parents – something I don't often get to do being a full time working single mum of a child with additional needs. Charlotte had an absolute ball and chatted non-stop about her experience on the way home."

Julie, mother of Charlotte (age 10)

"It is difficult to be empathetic of other people's everyday challenges when you have no direct experience. The respite care helps break down barriers and any ignorance of our young SPSC men." **Andrew (SPSC parent volunteer)**

In Term 2, we hosted seven children on a fortnightly basis, with 14 students serving as buddies. We look forward to continuing to grow the Buddy Up program to provide respite to more families and involve more student volunteers.

Thank you to our Years 11 and 12 student volunteers for your incredible efforts this semester, to our staff volunteers, and to our Year 11 parents who volunteered alongside your sons. Thank you also to the Mission Guild for your generous support of the program in Semester 1 2023.

If you would like to learn more about Buddy Up or share information about similar programs, please email ServiceLearning@stpeters.sa.edu.au. We are always open to new opportunities that positively impact our wider community.

Ashleigh Day | Service Learning Coordinator



1 Sam Lacy (Year 11) with Buddy Up guest



2 Tim Browning, Edward Weeks (Year 11) and guest shooting hoops

3 Harrison Sheridan (Year 11) and Buddy Up guest chasing bubbles



..."our students developed valuable critical thinking skills and empathy."



“We firmly believe that learning from and connecting with individuals from diverse backgrounds is crucial for fostering a balanced and inclusive culture.”





From the Captains

As we embark on Term 3, we take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements we have accomplished this year.

Our journey has been filled with organising and facilitating the 12th National Student Leadership Summit, participating in meaningful services, and being a positive presence within the broader School community. We have also taken the initiative to further improve House culture and have implemented projects that foster co-curricular spirit here at St Peter's College.

As School Captains, we hold the responsibility of bridging the gap between staff and students, granting us a uniquely holistic perspective of the School. Unlike regular Year 12 students, we can dedicate more time to student-driven initiatives, allowing us to make a profound impact on the student experience both within and beyond these walls and fields. Returning to St Peter's College in this role has enabled us to serve the wider community in ways we could never have imagined while safely navigating the adult world and growing as young adults.

Our primary focus this year has been on improving the culture within the co-curricular and House communities. We successfully implemented an additional social media page that enables us to reach a broader scope of the School's community. Through this platform, we showcase student achievements and increase visibility for both sports and the arts, nurturing growth in all aspects of SPSC's co-curricular life.

Furthermore, we have dedicated our efforts to enhance the House system by revamping the Sir George Murray Shield. Previously, the annual competition remained largely behind-the-scenes, with only a few announcements throughout the year. However, with our new system, we have introduced live rankings, increasing engagement in the competition and recognising Houses for their accomplishments. The response has been overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to further refining it in the future.

While our journey thus far has been immensely beneficial for our personal growth and the wider community, we acknowledge that our perspective is more retrospective rather than prospective. We can only rely on our own experiences. That is why we have prioritised building strong relationships with students from all corners of the School. We firmly believe that learning from and connecting with individuals from diverse backgrounds is crucial for fostering a balanced and inclusive culture. Consequently, we have formed friendships with students from all year levels and various interests, which has been enlightening and incredibly fulfilling.

Approaching our final term, we are excited to continue managing the annual Blue and White formal, attend the numerous Winter Intercol fixtures, and participate in as many events as possible. The journey thus far has been nothing short of fantastic, and we eagerly anticipate the future, where we will continue to promote the individual strengths of every student and enhance our culture to the best of our abilities.

Thomas Hamilton-Smith and Aidan Hua | School Captains



- 1 Senior School Captains Aidan Hua and Thomas Hamilton-Smith with Junior School Captains Tyler Gao and Felix Siow
- 2 Aidan Hua, Thomas Hamilton-Smith with Sam Benveniste (MAC 2000)
- 3 Students supporting the Water Polo Open A in Summer Intercol

Building on our Legacy of Service and Giving

St Peter's College was established in 1847 and built strongly on a sense of service, often demonstrated with selfless, purposeful giving.

It is a legacy we treasure and respect. We know that much is made of this history. There is no doubt that the value of giving to the School has been immense. However, it is a legacy that has given rise to deep-seated urban myths that have evolved about our School, such as the School's 'overwhelming wealth'.

The truth is that from 1847, a series of grants, bequests and endowments enabled the School to acquire land, erect school buildings and subsidise fees.

These many selfless, near timeless gifts have created and sustained the magnificent grounds on which the School is located. They have provided for the series of heritage buildings and spaces that create the School's skyline today.

This philosophy of service and selfless giving remains in place today.

The St Peter's College Foundation was created in 1985, when Memorial Hall was effectively reconstructed. The entire School community joined together to raise the money to rebuild this remarkable School landmark. Since 1985, the SPSC Foundation has gifted over \$26.3M to SPSC.

In 2019 the community again united to raise money to upgrade one of the central education and landmark precincts of the School, Big Quad. This giving saw the School enhance not only its heritage spaces, but also expand our educational resources, installing a Year 12 College – a fit-for-purpose facility for Year 12 students.

Today, St Peter's College educates young minds, hearts and spirits in old buildings.

These old buildings need to be maintained to modern standards of structure, safety and functionality. They need to be enhanced and kept relevant to the educational needs of today. Now, more than ever, we must turn our attention to the future.

The SPSC Foundation supports the essential work needed to assist in transforming the student landscape.

A scholarship is a wonderful gift. It can change lives and transform families for generations. A St Peter's College education is a privilege. When combined, you create a lifetime of opportunity.

Over the past 176 years the School has earned a significant social license by sharing its facilities and educational standards with the wider community. The most obvious aspect of this commitment has been the offering of means tested scholarships for students who would not otherwise have access to a St Peter's College education. The SPSC Foundation supports, promotes and funds the School's growing scholarship program.

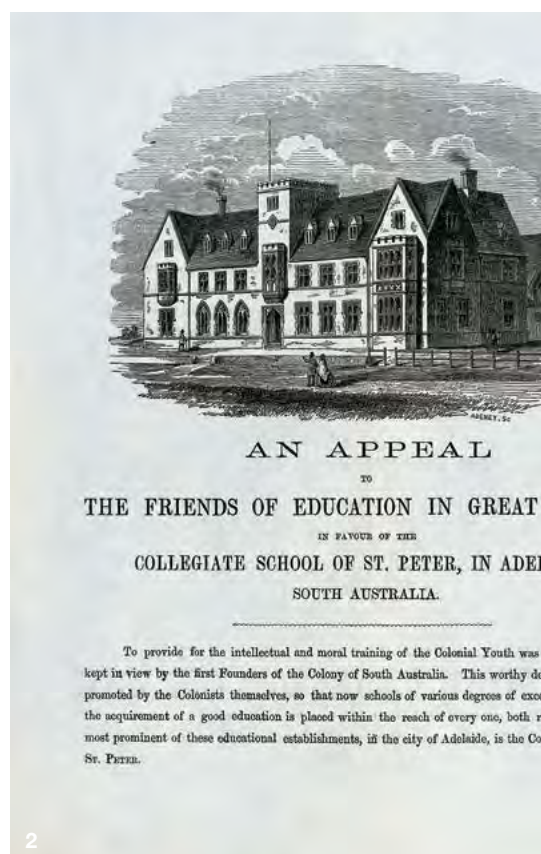
These two central tenets – the students and the School – are why the SPSC Foundation exists.

- To enhance the teaching of young minds by supporting the School's plan for contemporary educational facilities and resources.
- To preserve and enhance the heritage and contemporary structures that reside within the extraordinary physical environment of the School.

St Peter's College is a unique institution. We are committed to its future. Over the next 12 months, the School will further develop the Master Plan that will focus on the educational and pastoral needs of our students for the next 50 years. The plans will be ambitious and the SPSC Foundation will be there to assist the School realise these ambitions. Our community will have the opportunity to be involved.

I would encourage you to join the SPSC Foundation and share in the experience of uniting the entire SPSC community in creating the future.

**Rick Sawers AM (ATH 1966) |
Chair SPSC Foundation**



1 Year 12 College in the redeveloped Big Quad
(Photo credit: Aaron Citti)

2 The front cover of an 1858 fundraising pamphlet

3 Big School Room (Photo credit: Aaron Citti)



BRITAIN,
LAIDE,

an object constantly
design was afterwards
allence abound; and
rich and poor. The
LLIBRIATE SCHOOL OF

The Transformative Power of a Musical



- 1 Joey Fitzgerald (Year 10) as Jesus
- 2 Henry Sawers (Year 12) as Caiaphas
- 3 Will Lawrence (Year 12) as Herod



1



2



3



Some 30 years since I first saw *Jesus Christ Superstar*, I was honoured with the incredible opportunity of directing the joint musical production of St Peter's College and Walford Anglican School for Girls. The question of "which musical" was easily answered; my only reservation was whether we had the talent to pull off such a technically challenging show. It turns out that, yes, we did!

Unlike other musicals, *Jesus Christ Superstar* is a continuous score with no breaks; the musicians and performers were on a non-stop exhilarating ride - as was the audience. Our students gave their all. They are such an extraordinary group of young people who did justice to songs that would make many professionals quake in their boots.

While it may be customary in such an article to single out individuals and praise the talents of lead performers, I am not going to do so. Yes, there were stunningly impressive moments by individuals, however, it was the students work as a collective that left the most significant impression. Watching the cast, across different year levels and different schools, take such care with each other was truly inspirational. They were each other's champions, always supporting and cheering each other on, whilst making sure everyone was empowered to do their very best.

Our young musicians who played alongside high-calibre professionals in the band also deserve recognition. The confidence gained in succeeding at such a difficult show will remain with these students for years to come.

The benefits for students participating in a musical extend far beyond the stage. The dedication and hard work required to make the musical a success meant countless hours of behind-the-scenes effort by the cast, musicians, and crew. This commitment often extended to their families, who supported them wholeheartedly. A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this production - your efforts made the season both joyful and triumphant.

Speaking with families after the performances reinforced the true value of this experience for the students. They felt valued, seen, and justifiably proud of their accomplishments. They formed new friendships and close connections with students across year levels and felt a sense of belonging and connectedness. This musical journey has left an indelible mark on their lives, instilling confidence and self-assurance that will shape their futures.

Staging a school musical, especially one as technically intricate as *Jesus Christ Superstar*, was a transformative experience for everyone involved. It showcased the remarkable talent and dedication of our students, fostered camaraderie and support within our team, and left a lasting impression on all those who witnessed the performance. The benefits of such endeavours are immeasurable, and we applaud these young performers for their incredible achievements. Bravo to all!

Jacqueline Cook |
Acting Drama Coordinator

“Sometimes you never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.” Dr Seuss





Building Connections and Cherishing Memories

What is a memory? A cherished coral necklace gifted from a father to daughter. A photograph of a dearly missed husband in his heyday.

A tandem tricycle shared with a sister on Christmas day. A special bell to remember a grandmother. Recounting the Mem Fox book 'Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge', Prep boys respond 'A memory is something warm, something as precious as gold, something that makes you laugh, something that makes you cry, something from long long ago. A memory is something you remember.'

What began with a scone and a cup of tea, an initiative to serve and connect with our local community, has blossomed over the past six months into rich reciprocal relationships between the Prep boys and residents of Vailima Gardens Retirement Community. Mirroring the story line of 'Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge' by Mem Fox, the Prep boys have visited the residents just 'next door' and found points of connection between their lives establishing new unlikely friendships. A love of drawing, a name, a sense of humour and a love of stories has dissolved an 80-year age gap and made room for new friends.

Recently, Prep students were joined by some Vailima Garden residents on an excursion to

DreamBIG Festival's performance of 'Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge' performed with members of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. The performance was a celebration of the friendship between Wilfrid, a young boy, and a retirement home resident, Miss Nancy. The striking parallels between the book and performance with the Prep students and Vailima residents brought tears to our eyes and was a poignant reminder of the joy young children bring to the lives of those around them. The performance also sparked conversations about memories. In response, the Vailima residents visited the Prep boys in their classroom to share their own memories. The boys listened with intrigue and investigated each item with curiosity. Thus a collection of memories shared by members of our community, students, staff and residents, is growing in the Prep room to honour the moments in our lives that are precious like gold, moments that make us laugh and moments that make us cry, moments from long ago and not so long ago.

As we reflect on memories today, we are simultaneously creating memories through the Vailima and Prep relationships, memories that we hope our four year olds will look back on and remember fondly.

Stephanie Cabot | Prep Teacher



- 1 Walter Welch with Joan
- 2 Henry Zhu with Audrey
- 3 Clifford Michell with Margaret
- 4 Back row: Angie Storer, Bear Douglas, Cathy. Middle row: Charlie Smith, Henry Gunasekera, Hamish Reid, Walter Welch, Abbott Feng, Audrey B, Audrey V, Henry Zhu, Hilary. Front row: Ryan Fowler, Alexander Penglis, Stephanie Cabot



Building Cultural Knowledge Through HPE Curriculum

Parndo, an original football-style game played by the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains with a possum skin ball, has been introduced to the School's Health and Physical Education curriculum.

Developed in collaboration with Flinders University, the seven-week course aims to deepen students' understanding of indigenous ways of knowing through the lens of sport and physical activity.

Rather than adopt a typical skills-first approach to teaching the new sport, the Health and Physical Education department has prioritised teaching the core essence of the game, including its significance within Aboriginal culture. This approach encompasses the 'Eight Ways' of Indigenous learning, developed by writer and academic Tyson Yunkaporta. Through hands on, experiential learning students develop an understanding of non-linear learning styles, story sharing, land links, symbols and images and the process of deconstructing and reconstructing.

Since its introduction three years ago, Parndo has received a highly positive response. Not only has Aboriginal culture been integrated into the Year 7 Health and Physical Education curriculum, but students also have the opportunity to celebrate and build awareness of the diversity among Australia's First Nations Peoples and Place. The involvement of teaching staff in designing and implementing this new teaching method and subject unit has empowered them to shape innovative approaches to student learning.

By incorporating the traditional game of Parndo into our curriculum, SPSC students and teachers are provided an opportunity to engage in meaningful cultural experiences and all involved are richer for the experience.

The ABC's Behind the News program filmed our students and staff playing and speaking about the learning experience of the unit in Term 1 of this year.

Matthew French | Head of Faculty – HPE



Scan the QR code to view the Behind the News article

- 1 Year 8 Parndo team
- 2 Year 8 Parndo team. Back row: Mr Joab Mead, Hudson Kerr, Jordy Brown, Krishn Arora, Charlie Crawford, Cruz Leon, Oscar Kleinig, Divith Kodali, Zac Di Buccianico, Mr Matthew French. Front row: Xavier Caroscio, Ryan Weinert, Zack Czeglik, Henry Lehman, Daniel Spyrou
- 3 Behind the News interviewing students



1

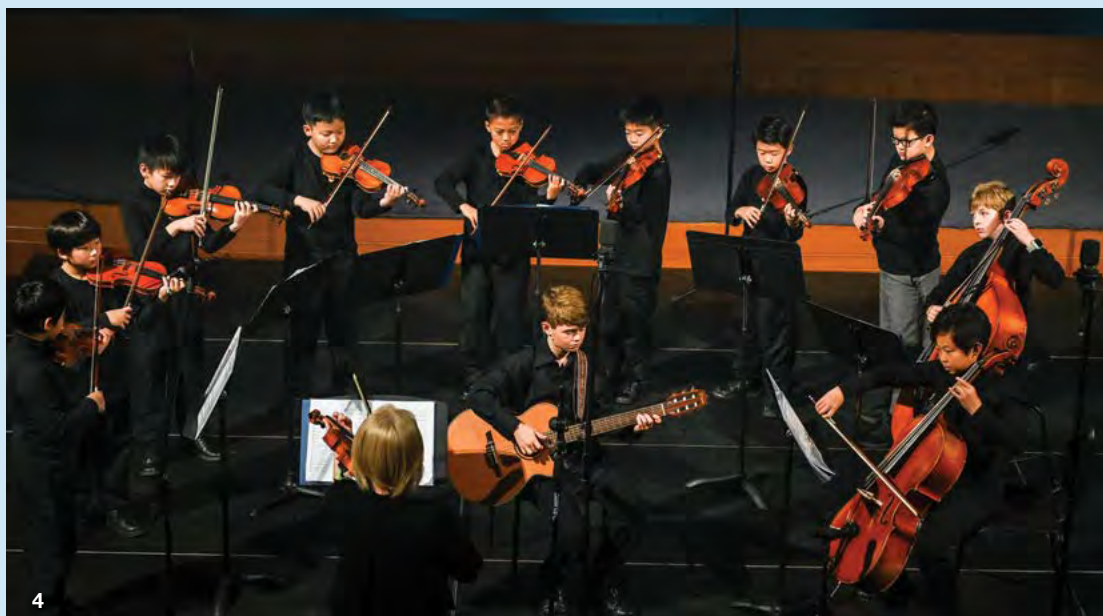


2



3

- 1 2023 Voices of St Peter's Concert, combined Senior and Junior Choir
- 2 2022 String and Orchestra Concert, Palm House Strings
- 3 2022 Music Festival, 200-piece Festival Orchestra
- 4 Years 5 and 6 Concert, Chamber Strings
- 5 Years 1 and 2 Concert
- 6 Gig @ the Gov



4

The SPSC Performance Journey

The St Peter's College Music Department is dedicated to nurturing students' artistic talents and fostering a deep appreciation for music.

Throughout the academic year, a diverse range of captivating performances from the Early Years to Year 12 showcase the growth, passion and achievements of our student musicians.

Our performance calendar encompasses a variety of concerts targeting both curricular and co-curricular areas. Year level concerts for students in Years 1 to 8 provide valuable opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning in curricular courses within those year levels. Our category concerts bring together Junior and Senior co-curricular ensembles, such as the Voices of St Peter's Concert, Concert Bands Showcase, String and Orchestra Concert and Gig @ the Gov, highlighting the stunning achievements of the students within the co-curricular music program. Additionally, we present a range of other concerts, such as the outdoor Alfresco Concert, chamber concerts, chamber recitals, Cabaret, Christmas Nativity, and Christmas Carols. Furthermore, our students actively participate in various competitions, such as

the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association (ABODA) SA Band and Orchestra Festival, Adelaide Eisteddfod, and Generations in Jazz. This wide array of performance opportunities ensures our students have ample room to flourish, and we continuously refine our performance program each year.

The major highlight in the Junior School is the spectacular annual Years 5 and 6 Concert. This dazzling concert showcases all that the Years 5 and 6 students learn in their curriculum, as well as the most senior of the Junior School co-curricular ensembles. This concert becomes a cherished memory for students and audiences alike, as it celebrates their musical achievements at such a young age and sets them up for the variety of performance options available as they continue music into the Senior School.

The major highlight in the Senior School is the Music Festival, involving students who have continued music at a co-curricular level from our concert bands, orchestras and choirs. From these core ensembles, we form a near 200-piece festival orchestra and choir, performing a variety of entertaining music through this grandiose format.

The Music Festival is a testament to the power of collective performance, and also serves as a farewell concert for our Year 12 students as they conclude their performance journey within the School.

The success of these performances hinges on the strong partnership between students, parents/guardians, and staff. As a Music Faculty, we express our gratitude to all those who support Music at St Peter's College for each event. What audiences experience at a performance is just the tip of the iceberg, with learning occurring through weekly rehearsals and classes months in advance.

Students who engage in Music grow skills in social awareness, critical thinking, problem solving, and teamwork – skills that will serve them well in other academic areas and beyond the walls and fields of the School. However, their significance extends beyond these skills, as they create lasting memories that evoke fondness and pride in their musical journey at St Peter's College.

Brad Turner | Director of Music
Simon Varga | Junior School Music Coordinator



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Tony is the living embodiment of the School's motto, "Pro Deo et Patria."



1 Tony entertaining students and staff at a School House Dinner 1984

2 Tony with Bob 'Trunk' Vollugi

Five Decades of Service

After an incredible 47-year journey serving on the St Peter's Old Collegians Committee, Tony Keynes OAM (SCH 1970) will retire in 2023. Tony's long-standing commitment to the committee, including 14 consecutive years as President, twice as Chairman, is a record unlikely to be surpassed.

Tony first arrived at St Peter's College in 1964 at the age of 12, boarding in the Shinkfield Building in the Prep School (now Junior School). Originally from the small township of Keyneton in the Eden Valley, Tony was following in the footsteps of his father, Bill Keynes (SCH 1945) and was the oldest of three brothers (Tim Keynes (SCH 1971) and Robert Keynes (MAC 1974)) to attend the School. Tony's early achievements, documented in the 1964 Magazine, showcase his athletic prowess, and leadership skills.

Throughout his years at St Peter's College, Tony continued to excel as a leader and athletically. He captained the School House Junior Athletics Team in 1967 and won the Under 16 880 yards event at the School's Athletics Carnival in 1968. In 1969, he held the positions of Vice Captain of School House, Sub-Prefect, and Vice Captain of Athletics. His accomplishments included multiple victories in running events and impressive placements in cross-country races.

In his final year at St Peter's College, Tony served as Vice Captain of the School and Captain of School House. Reverend JSC Miller, Headmaster at the time, praised Tony's collaborative efforts with School Captain Adam Pedlar in his 1970 Speech Day Address noting "the day boy-boarder understanding brought great strength and unity to the School." Tony also played Football (captain of the 2nd XVIII team) and showcased his musical talent as a drummer in the School House Band, "Venturi Inserts."

Reflecting on their friendship, Dr Adam Pedlar (MAC 1970), Tony's long-time friend, shared fond memories of their time together at SPSC. They were best mates from Grade 7 and shared a love of music and athletics. Memorable experiences include the 'best relay change ever,' and action-packed visits to the Keynes family farm.

On completing his schooling, Tony embarked on a four-year machinist apprenticeship. He won the Australian Apprentice of the Year Award which saw him undertake a two-year study tour across the globe. He subsequently established his own business, Tafair Pty Ltd, specialising in engineering sales, specialised services, and contracting, which he ran for 32 years.

Despite his professional pursuits, Tony maintained a deep connection to St Peter's College. He served on the Council of Governors for 14 years and played an instrumental role in establishing the St Peter's College Foundation in 1985. He dedicated his time to various roles, including President of SPOC and President/Captain of the Saints Athletics Club. Tony continues to provide coaching to young athletes and remains an active contributor to scholarships and philanthropic initiatives at the School.

Tony is the living embodiment of the School's motto, "Pro Deo et Patria", and in recognition of his outstanding and meritorious service has been awarded both the Foundation Medal (2021) and the Collegians' Award (1995). He received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2019 for his services to athletics, a well-deserved recognition.

Few people in the history of St Peter's College have shown such genuine affection for, and an active desire to serve, our School for over five decades after leaving. Tony's boundless energy, infectious enthusiasm, and unwavering loyalty make him a cherished and respected member of the St Peter's Old Collegians Association. His immense contributions to the School have left an indelible mark on our community and will always be remembered and appreciated.

David Docwra | Former Staff Member and SPOC Honorary Member

*Tony will remain on the Foundation Board and will maintain his connection to the Saints Athletics Club.

Lifting One's Horizon

To look beyond one's horizon of St Peter's College, our state and nation is a constant mission for every SPSC student. This endeavour reflects our shared ambition for all graduates to embrace the challenges of the wider world with confidence and success. Over the past six months there have been numerous examples of students experiencing success on the national and international stage in a range of academic and co-curricular pursuits.

Congratulations to the following students – they are wonderful role models and have set inspiring examples of where our students' horizons should be set.

Athletics: Andrew Maenda (Year 11) (24) represented Australia in the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. Competing in the Under 18 category as a 16 year old, Andrew was successful in qualifying for the semi final and only narrowly missed the final by 0.01s. At the National Track and Field Championships Andrew won silver in the 100m, bronze in the 200m and silver in the 4 x 100m Relay. At the SSSSA Track and Field Championships Andrew set new records in the 16 Year Boys 100m (10.96s), 200m (22.60s) and was a member of the record setting Open 4x100m Relay Team (42.69s).

The students below represented South Australia at the Australia National Track and Field Championships in the following events:

- Ethan Allison (Year 10) (31) - Triple and Long Jump
- Stephen Lacroix-Sneyd (Year 10) (30) - fourth in both 3000m and 1500m
- Orlando Grantham (Year 7) (1) – fourth in Hammer Throw and fifth in 3000m Walk
- Jonathan Harris (Year 12) (15) - fourth in both the 1500m and 3000m. At the SSSSA Track and Field Championships Jonathon set a new record in the Open Boys 800m (1:56.60s). Jonathon was awarded the 2023 Athletics South Australia Men's Under 18 Out of Stadium Athlete of the Year Award.
- Gman Paye (Year 11) (13) 400m - 4th place, 4 x 100m Relay - silver, 4 x 400m Relay 6th place). At the SSSSA Track and Field Championships Gman was a member of the record setting Open 4x100m Relay Team (42.69s).
- Sandro Purugganan (Year 10) (2) - Triple and Long Jump

Basketball: Harvey White (Year 12) (29) has been signed by the Adelaide36ers as one of their four Development Players for the NBL24 season.

Cross Country: At the SSSSA Cross Country Championships Jonathan Harris won gold in Open category and Stephen Lacroix-Sneyd silver in the 16 Year category.

Cricket: Matthew Harris (Year 7) (4) captained the Under 12 State Cricket Team in Darwin in June.

Debating: Year 11 student Alexander Koh (19) participated in the South Australian Schools' State Debating Squad that won their first National Championship in 26 years.

Economics: Joe Xu (Year 12) (33) has been shortlisted for the prestigious John Locke Institute Global Essay Prize in the Economics category. Joe will attend Oxford in September to attend an invitation-only academic conference and prize giving ceremony.

Figure Skating: James Lin (Year 10) (5) has been competing in the Ice Skating Australia National Squad since 2018. He represented Australia in the South-East Asian Open Trophy in Singapore and the Asian Open Trophy in Jakarta, achieving third and fourth place respectively. He is currently training and competing in a Pair to qualify for the Winter Youth Olympic Games to be held in Paris in January 2024.

Football: Jim Kelly (Year 11) and Jeff Rozenbilds (Year 10) (36) represented SA in the AFL Under 16 National Championships, Ethan Herbert (Year 9) (28) the 15 Under State Team and Alexander Darcey (Year 7) (18) the 12 and Under State Team.

Hockey: Bryce Hammond (Year 11) (14), Coell Williams (Year 12) and Rhun Williams (Year 11) (22) represented SA at the Hockey Australia U18 Championships in Hobart in July. The boys capped off a successful tournament claiming the bronze medal. Bryce has been named in the Men's Australian Futures (U18) Squad.

Ice Hockey: Yongen Song (Year 9) (34) competed in the Australian All Stars Team at the Ice Dragon's Classic, Ice Hockey tournament in Singapore in February.

Mathematics: the following students secured a top three place in the South Australian Hamann School Mathematics Competition - Carbon Li (Year 8) (3) first place Junior, Daniel Cao (Year 8) (6) equal second Junior, William Wang (Year 10) (8) first place Intermediate, Darren Nguyen (Year 12) (12) third place Senior.

Music: Joey Yan (Year 11) (21) was awarded the Theory of Music Grade 5 Prize at the AMEB SA & NT Awards Ceremony in April. Johnny Turner (Year 11) (32) was the joint winner of Future Finalist Award at the Generations in Jazz competition and recipient of the Don Burrows Memorial Award for the Best Emerging Improviser.

Rowing: Xavier van Oijen (Year 12) represented South Australian in the Interstate Men's Youth VIII at Nationals in Perth (photo 9 number 4 seat – sixth from left) and Jesse Parsons (Year 11) (16) was selected to represent South Australia in the Pathway VIII.

Soccer: Bailey O'Neil (Year 12) (20) represented Australia in Joey's squad who competed in the Under 17 Asian Cup and was selected for Adelaide United's A League squad to contest the Australia Cup.

Swimming: Max Hewitt (Year 9) (27), Alden Au (Year 9) (27), Jack Bell (Year 10) (10), Lachlan Bell (Year 12) (26) and Isaac Au (Year 12) (7) participated in the Australian Age Championships held on the Gold Coast in April. Max and Alden represented SA at the School Sport Australia Championships in Sydney in August.

Table Tennis: Steven So (Year 7) (35) and Peter Zhang (Year 10) (17) represented SA in the National Table Tennis Championships in Sydney in July. Both were successful in winning gold in the Under 13 and Under 15 categories respectively.

Tennis: Jude Gale (Year 12) (37) was selected Captain and Number 1 of the Under 18 SA State Tennis Team that competed in the prestigious Pizzey Cup in May in Canberra.

Visual Arts: Year 12 student Jacob Foster (23) won the People's Choice Award in the Adelaide Parklands Association Art competition with his outstanding piece; Family Gathering.

Volunteering: Year 11 student Archie Young (11) was a nominee of the South Australian Young Volunteer Award. Archie was recognised for his significant contributions to Puddle Jumpers and the St Peter's Cathedral.

Water Polo: Harvey Bryant (Year 8) (25) represented the 14 and Under South Australian team at the Australian Water Polo Youth Championships in Perth.

* Details up to date at time of publishing and as made known to the School.



Further images over page >



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Embracing One's Body

At the end of Term 1, St Peter's College held a special movie screening in Memorial Hall for Years 3 to 6 students.

Our screening of *Embrace Kids*, the documentary created by Australian of the Year Taryn Brumfitt, provided a wonderful opportunity for reflection on a broad number of issues facing the young people of today. Taryn's movie has given us the perfect platform on which our students have cast a critical eye over the messages they are hearing from others, from social media and even from themselves. *Embrace Kids* shares stories of experiences with body image, bullying, gender identity, advocacy, representation and more. The children are encouraged to celebrate their uniqueness and individuality and this is an important message for our students to hear.

Throughout the movie our students heard powerful messages of self-acceptance, compassion and respect from a wide number of positive role models. These role models are actively challenging the negative narratives that children encounter through various media platforms. Notably, many of these role models in the documentary are children themselves, of similar age to our students. By listening to the experiences of both children and adults who have faced issues such as bullying, identity struggles and negative body image, our students have been empowered to change their self-perception and better understand who they can turn to for support.

On the same day we held a screening for the broader community and it was wonderful to see families from across the School come together and share in this event.

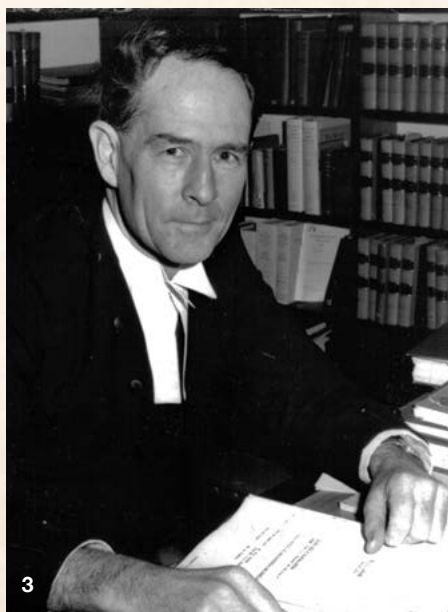
These screenings and the ongoing conversations have given rise to a shared goal within our community: to effect positive change for our young people. We are now asking ourselves some important questions. How can we alter the harmful messages our students are hearing from various sources? How do we change the messages of toxic masculinity into messages of positive masculinity? What would this transformation entail? How much change is necessary? And what does it mean for our boys to embody the words 'strong and lovely' as expressed in our School Prayer?

I look forward to continuing to work with members of our community to instil the change that is needed to support our young people.

Ben Storer | Deputy Head of Junior School – Wellbeing and Administration



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Close Now Thine Eyes

The following is an extract of the introduction given by Christopher Wells (HWK 1970) as a preface to the final item of the Voices of St Peter's concert: Close Now Thine Eyes, a setting of a poem by the Elizabethan poet, Francis Quarles.

In 1941, a young man named Andrew Wells (W&A 1937) found himself stationed at Tobruk: living in the frontline trenches, and carrying out his duties as a Signals Sergeant.

Andrew had a rare and hard-earned ability to set poems to music, generally for piano and voice. Our family still has the few dog-eared volumes of poetry he carried with him throughout the war years: at Tobruk, El Alemain and New Guinea.

Somehow he found time while serving at Tobruk to sketch a setting of the poem by Francis Quarles. It was, perhaps, his way of dealing with the stress and uncertainty and sense of loss – even the fear – generated by a war whose outcome, at that stage, was unknown.

Andrew Wells was a man of peace. He was passionately devoted to justice. He loved music, and poetry, and the arts generally. He sent the musical setting back to his old school, St Peter's College, in the hope that it might be performed as part of the 1941 carols service.

Andrew had attended the School between 1933 and 1937 – and was Vice Captain in his last year under the leadership of an exceptional Headmaster, the Reverend Guy Pentreath, who provided inspiration and guidance and support; who was, to my father's way of thinking, the most important of his mentors during the school years and early manhood.

From the Director of Music, Spruhan Kennedy (1936 – 1945), he learnt piano, music theory and composition – and he continued composing songs at Adelaide University, where he was studying for a degree in Law.

In 1940 Andrew Wells won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford – but of course that was postponed because of the war.

And so we arrive back at Tobruk, on the frontline – and the creation of his song, or anthem, Close Now Thine Eyes.

We do not have the original manuscript; it has vanished, but we suspect the setting was originally intended for voice and piano. That would be consistent with Andrew's pre-war interest in the composing of songs for baritone, tenor or soprano voice and piano accompaniment.

Whatever the case, Spruhan Kennedy (who was still SPSC Director of Music) added a fine orchestral accompaniment – and Close Now

Thine Eyes was included in the School's carol service of 1941, in this same Memorial Hall... just as Andrew had hoped for and intended. The entire service was broadcast live by the ABC, via Canberra and short wave radio, to the forces stationed in the Middle East, as a part of a Christmas message from Australia.

Andrew did not hear the historic performance; he was on duty at the time, and chose not to ask one or other Signals colleague to take his place for a few hours. As he explained many years later: suppose a shell landed where he would be sitting for me; all my life I would feel responsible for his death.

And so, eighty two years later, we have the second, equally historic performance of Close Now Thine Eyes – thanks to the Headmaster, Mr Tim Browning; the Director of Music, Mr Brad Turner and his staff; of course, the students, without whom there could be no performance – and the good work of Dr Jeremy Wells, who organized a meeting in which the manuscript, and its associated history, was presented for consideration.

My family has not a doubt that Andrew Wells would be, let us say, quietly satisfied to know that his song of so long ago is to be performed for a second time – and that it has finally found its rightful place in the musical tradition of St Peter's College.

Christopher Wells (HWK 1970)

- 1 Combined Junior School and Senior School choirs and Orchestra perform Close Now Thine Eyes to close the Voices of St Peter's concert
- 2 Andrew enlisted in the Second Australian Imperial Force in 1940 and served until 1944
- 3 The Hon W.A.N. (Andrew) Wells, AO, QC, BCL (Oxon), LL.B. (Adel) scholar, teacher and judge
- 4 Wells Family with Headmaster Tim Browning before the Voices of St Peter's concert



Scan QR code to watch the performance of Close Now Thine Eyes.

Around the Grounds



Sport at St Peter's College started the year with a bang with all nine sports fielding strong numbers across the Senior School programs. Enthusiasm for training and the weekly competitions was evident across the cohort, including a passionate display at Intercol where we welcomed the addition of Volleyball and Sailing to the annual fixture.

Athletics

67 students participated across our four Athletics teams. The Saints Athletics Club enjoyed another outstanding season with fantastic results both domestically and nationally. Our SPSC team won the Achilles Cup, finished third in the SSSSA, A grade Division 1 competition and had great representation at the Athletics Australia National Track and Field Championships held in Brisbane in April (see results page 22).

Badminton

The 2022/2023 season was another extremely successful one for the Badminton program. With over 162 boys across 16 teams, the program continues to be a very popular. Whilst there were many great performances across the season, stand out achievements include the following: 2023 Open A1 SAAS Shield winners, 2023 Open A2 SAAS Shield winners, 2023 Middle A1 SAAS Shield winners, 2023 Intercol winners, 2022 Year 7/8/9 State Knockout Champions and 2022 Open State Knockout Champions. Well done to all Badminton students and staff and thank you for your contribution to the sport.

Cricket

153 boys played cricket this year across 13 teams. It was a very successful year for the Cricket program with SPSC winning the Statewide T20 Knockout and the SAAS Middle A1 T20 tournament. The 1st XI showed considerable improvement during the season, moving from fifth on the ladder halfway through the season to finish runner-up in the SAAS competition.

Rowing

176 boys rowed for the School allowing us to boat 23 crews at the Head of the River. Our 1st VIII set a new record by winning the Gosse

Shield for the eighth consecutive year. James McRae notched up his seventh consecutive win as coach, equalling David Bishop's tally. We also won the 1st IV and 2nd IV, with only six of our crews finishing outside the medals.

At the South Australian Rowing Championships we finished first, second and sixth in the Schoolboy VIIIs; first, second and third in U19 IV+; first and third in U19 2x; and third in men's open VIII.

At the National Rowing Championships fourteen boys raced with ten medalling; Albert Howard (Year 12), Xavier van Oijen (Year 12), Eddie Hetherington (Year 12), William Barone (Year 12), Ryan Fowler (Year 12), Tom Edwardes (Year 12), Hamish Scott-Young (Year 12), Hugh Hazell (Year 11) and Thomas Whiteman (Year 12) won a bronze medal in the Schoolboy VIII, the fourth time the School has medalled in this event. Albert Howard, Xavier van Oijen, Hamish Scott-Young and Tom Edwardes won a bronze medal in the U19 MIV, and a silver medal in a composite crew in U19 MVIII coxed by Philippe Scalzi (Year 12).

Sailing

The 2022/23 Sailing season saw a glowing intake of new sailors, with 32 students across three teams. This season saw the inaugural Intercol contested during the Metro Championships at West Beach, where our finishing Year 12 students were able to take out a spectacular 2-0 win despite the threat of no wind leading into the event. In April, eight students represented SPSC in the annual State Sailing Championships at Goolwa. Over three days, 225 races and every weather system possible the competition was fierce and exhausting. Congratulations to the boys who competed for finishing eighth with 16 wins.

Swimming

It was another action-packed term for the SPSC Swim Team. With over 50 boys participating, we were able to achieve some outstanding results both individually and collectively. The SPSC team was victorious in the SAAS long course Championship held in late February at the Marion Swim Centre. It was a great team effort and a wonderful result. We were also victorious in the final event of the

calendar – the interschool swim final and the much-anticipated Intercol. Well done to the swim team on these outstanding results.

Tennis

Term 1 was incredibly successful with 318 boys competing in our Tennis program from Years 4 to 12. Our Junior School A team remained undefeated for the 12th consecutive year and our Mid A team finished third. For the first time in 22 years our Drive 1 boys won the competition defeating PAC in the final 5-4. Our Drive 2 team defeated Scotch College (1st team) 8-1. This is the first time SPSC have held both shields concurrently. Special mention goes to Jude Gale (Captain) (Year 12) Angus Koeroessy (Co-Vice Captain) (Year 12) Oliver Grieve (Co-Vice Captain) (Year 12), Seb Birdseye (Year 11), Harry Bruce (Year 12), Krish Raju (Year 10), Neil Singh (Year 10) for their outstanding contribution to Tennis. Jude Gale (Year 12) won the McMichael Cup defeating Seb Birdseye (Year 11). Jude also partnered with Angus Koeroessy (Year 12) to win the Bowman Cup (School doubles championship).

Volleyball

This season 70 boys participated across seven teams across Term 1. SPSC won 12 matches overall. The focus of our program was on player development, whilst working in a team environment to develop core skills including skill development, team tactics and positional awareness.

Our 1st VI team won the inaugural Intercol and will compete in the National Volleyball Schools Cup at State and National level later in the season. We are excited by the opportunity for further improvement by all players in the Term 4 competition.

Water Polo

124 students participated in Water Polo across eight teams. 1st Water Polo Team awards went to Oliver Maddern (Year 10) (Best first year player), Harvey George (Year 12) (Best defensive player) and Daniel Spiby (Year 12) (Best offensive player, outstanding service and ability, best player in the 1st team). Nicky Lockie (Year 10) won the SAAS Blue Round award for the player that exemplified outstanding character.

- 1 Badminton Intercol, Justin Dang (Year 12)
- 2 Lachlan Bell (Year 12) and Isaac Au (Year 12) accept SAAS Swimming Championships Cup
- 3 Sean Ran (Year 11)
- 4 Tennis Drive 1 and 2. Back row: Kassra Noushabadi (Year 10), Krish Raju (Year 10), Alex Koeroessy (Year 12), Seb Birdseye (Year 11), Jude Gale (Year 12), Oliver Grieve (12), Neil Singh (Year 10), Mr Todd Perry, Mr John Papazoglou. Front row: Harry Bruce (Year 12), Ethan Bennett (Year 12), Will Davidson (Year 12), Patrick Higgins (Year 12), Ben Francou (Year 10)

- 5 Victorious Achilles Cup Team
- 6 1st XI Cricket Intercol Team. Back row: Mr Tim Browning, Mr Bailey Wightman, Haydn Kamencak (Year 11), Harry Orchard (Year 11), Jacob Hill (Year 11), Alex Cavenett (Year 11), Tom Hodgkison (Year 12), Adam Freeman (Year 12), Mr Jeremy Borgas, Mr Henry Cameron. Front row: Lachlan Estcourt Hughes (Year 10), Felix Polasek (Year 10), Noah Latimer (Year 11), Aadi Mittal (Year 11), Harrison Moule-Hooworth (Year 12), James Hattingh (Year 12)
- 7 Head of the River Senior Squad

- 8 Triumphant inaugural Sailing Intercol team. Back row: Lachy Gallagher (Year 11), Joshua Murray (Year 10), Jesse Sanders (Year 12), Ian Irwin (Year 12), Kevin He (Year 12), Samuel Loftus (Year 12), Ethan Lee (Year 12), Kaiden Smith (Year 10), Mr Jack Tigney, Mr Sam Steele (MAC 2021). Front row: Jackson Li (FRR 2022), Max Au (Year 10), Sunny Zhang (Year 9), Gethin Owen (Year 7) Harrison McClurg (Year 7), Lucas Hu (Year 8), Digby Harvey (Year 8)
- 9 Daniel Spiby (Year 12)



Old Scholars Events and Highlights

In early August, SPOC hosted its inaugural White & Blue Ball in Memorial Hall. This was a wonderful nostalgic night, harking back to Blue & White formals of years gone by.

The event brought together old scholars, their partners, current and past parents and staff. It is so heartening to see just how closely connected the SPOC and School communities remain.

We held our SPOC Annual General Meeting in May, during which we welcomed David Docwra and Paul Hadfield, two long-serving teaching staff, and Joe Thorp, former Chair of the Council of Governors, as Honorary Members. Their recognition was so very deserved and reflects our gratitude for not only their incredible service, but also for the lasting impact they have each had on the broader SPSC community. We also thanked and farewelled

Tony Keynes (SCH 1970), a retiring committee member who had served on the SPOC Committee for 47 years. Tony has been nothing short of an inspiration to us all, and we thank him again for his unwavering and unrivalled service and support over so many years.

In May, James Sarah (DAC 1982) and Tim Sarah (DAC 1985) shared the inspiring story of their family business, Sarah Constructions, at the SPOC Business Lunch. Milestone reunions for the classes of 2013 and 2018 were well attended and the Fleurieu Luncheon, held at the Flying Fish Café in Port Elliot, was a sell-out. We thank Rob Gun (FLL 1963) and Richard Fairweather (HWK 1962) for convening this event.

The Summer Intercols took place earlier this year, with Lawn Bowls, Tennis and Cricket played in great spirit. We thank our convenors, Greg Twelftree (ATH 1968), Will Fitzgerald

(FLL 2022), Nigel Gosse (ATH 1982) and Sam Wheaton (SCH 2002) for their efforts in making these fixtures such a success.

On behalf of all old scholars, I congratulate recent King's Birthday Honours recipient Dr Michael Jay AM (DAC 1964) for this well-deserved honour in recognition of his significant contributions to otolaryngology, head and neck surgery, and professional organisations.

This year marks a significant milestone for many old scholars. The Class of 1963 will gather at the Old Blues Luncheon on Thursday, 12 October, whilst the classes of 1973, 1983, 1993 and 2003 will have a Combined Reunion Dinner on Saturday, 4 November. Please check SPOC Connect – which I again encourage all old scholars to join – for further details on all of our upcoming events.

**Oliver Sheahan (HWK 2007) |
Chairman SPOC**



- 1 Guests at the inaugural White & Blue Ball
- 2 Jan Wheal, Richard Fairweather (HWK 1962), Rob Gun (FLL 1963) and Wendy Gun at the Fleurieu Lunch
- 3 Ray Carter (MAC 1958) with wife Rosemary and grandson William
- 4 Old scholars attended the SPSC Anzac Memorial Service
- 5 SPOC Honorary Members Paul Hadfield, David Docwra and Joe Thorp
- 6 Tim Browning, Headmaster joined old scholars and their partners at the Combined Canberra Chapter Dinner
- 7 Barnaby Pyne (DAC 2018), Lachlan Gitsam (YNG 2021) and Hamish Sarah (DAC 2018) at SPOC Business Lunch
- 8 SPOC Intercol Tennis Team 2023





SPOC reunions, social and sporting events all serve to reconnect old scholars with the School and each other enhancing our strong, engaged community.

Sign up to SPOC Connect for more information.





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- 1 SPOC Intercol Bowls participants
- 2 Sam Wheaton (SCH 2002) holds the Chester Bennett Cup with the 2023 SPOC Intercol Cricket team
- 3 Oren Klemich (DAC 1978), Tom Murrell (MAC 1979) and Tony Keynes (SCH 1970)
- 4 Martin Palmer (MAC 1981), Tim Browning, Headmaster, Don Sarah (DAC 1954) and Wayne Henry at the SPOC Business Lunch
- 5 Ray Carter (MAC 1958), Richard Scott Young (DAC 1954), Philip Marshall (SHT 1964) and David Hamilton (MAC 1952) at the Quarterly Luncheon
- 6 Class of 2013 celebrate their 10 Year Milestone Reunion
- 7 Intercol Bowls participants
- 8 2013 1st XVIII Intercol Football team gather for a 10 Year Reunion
- 9 Intercol Bowls participants
- 10 Class of 2018 | 5 Year Reunion
- 11 Intercol Bowls participants
- 12 SPOC AGM
- 13 Sam Benveniste (MAC 2000), Tony Keynes (SCH 1970), Robert Irving (MAC 1966), Oren Klemich (DAC 1978) and Geoff Frayne (WDK 1974) attend the SPSC Anzac Memorial Service



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Life at Saints



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- 1 Tim Browning with Denzel Jiang (Rec) at Junior School Pet Day
- 2 Cricket 1st XI Captain James Hattingh (Year 12) and Aadi Mittal (Year 11) coaching Junior School students
- 3 A perfect summer's evening for our Welcome Cocktail Evening in February
- 4 CEO-in-Residence and old scholar Hugh Dawson (S&A 2015) with students and Mr Joab Mead, Mrs Ana Christensen and Mr Rob Green
- 5 Gemma Sisia (centre), Founder and Director of the School of St Jude in Tanzania visited as part of the Rex J Lipman Fellows Program
- 6 Year 9 students Seb Dreosti, Adib Ibrahim, Lenny Silvers and Louis Adamson at Community Day







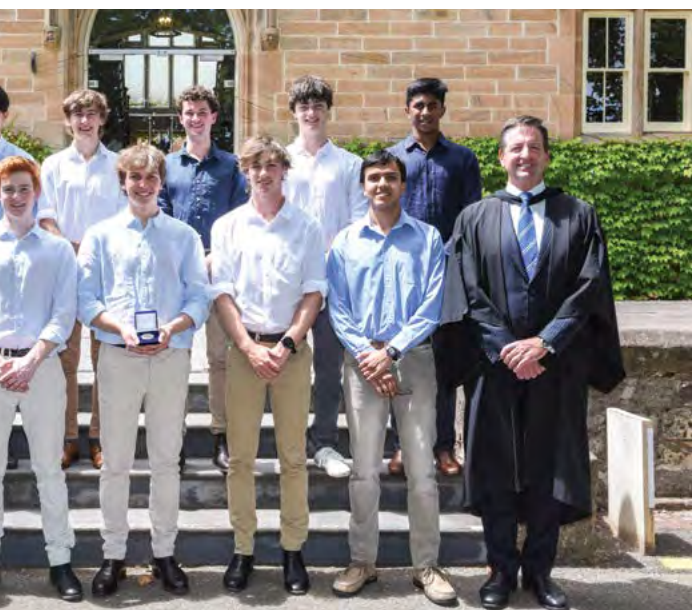
- 1 Senior School students taking part in the World's Greatest Shave raised \$25,940 for Leukemia research
- 2 Junior School Movie Night Patrick Fa (Year 3), Mrs Jasmine Taylor, Xavier Martin (Year 3), Hamilton Ng (Year 3), Solomon Dai (Year 3), Jaden Zeng (Year 3), Fergus Hicks (Year 5), Huey Williams (Year 3) and Archie Handshin (Year 5)
- 3 Celebrating THRASS by dressing as something on the chart. Back row: Emmanuel Natsias, Cody Lai, Aaron Zhao, Louis Chen, Yuze Liu, Rohan Rao
Front row: Jack Cotter, Mrs Jasmine Taylor, Hugo Bouchard, Ahmad Usmani, Aiden Maghsoudi, Liam Bickdeli
- 4 1st XVIII Footballers Ted Newman (Year 12), Henry Maerschel (Year 12), artist Leon Connop (Year 12), Mr Joab Mead and Open A Basketball team members Harvey White (Year 12), Blaise Howes (Year 12) and Harry Bruce (Year 12) receiving their Indigenous Round guernseys
- 5 Year 10 students engaged with career specialists as part of Careers Evening
- 6 SPOC Community Golf Day. Tony Kidman, Con Tsoutouras (SHT 1991), Andrew Dean and Stephen Hill (YNG 1993)
- 7 School Captain Thomas Hamilton-Smith and Vice Captain Aidan Hughes catching up with students at the National Student Leadership Summit







- 1 Sydney Swans training was hosted on Main Oval as part of the AFL's Gather Round. It was great to welcome back old scholars Matty Roberts (S&A 2021), Will Hayward (FLL 2016) and Dylan Stephens (S&A 2018)
- 2 Team Richie Benaud at the Junior School Friends of Saints DJ Bingo Night
- 3 Year 12 students Oscar Leonow, Jack Lynch, Will Osborn, Joshua McDowell, Joshua Cooper and Edward Shearer with their mothers at the Friends of Saints Mother's Day Breakfast
- 4 2022 Top Achievers Back row: Josip Podreka, Tommy Vo, Xander Grice, William McConnell, Luca Paull, Daniel Jesudason Front row: Mr Nick Carter, Kian Mylankal, Charlie Wells, William Begg, Kyle Miller, Karan Sethi, Mr Tim Browning Absent: Henry Braithwaite, Oscar Chen, Nathan Choi, Nicholas Koh, Matthew Lam, Rajiv Paranavithana, Duc Pham, Anay Pradhan
- 5 Year 5 students enjoy canoeing as part of their camp at Finnis
- 6 Year 1 students Brian Bai, Gilbert Zeng, Hadi Naveed, Sai Tegginamat, Hugo Bouchard, Oliver Willis, Aidan Maghsoudi and Noah Campbell performing the Last Supper Play
- 7 Samuel Higgins (Year 12) and The Rev'd Dr Steven Ogden at Maundy Thursday Eucharist



Know our staff

Jacqueline Cook Teacher Senior School



What is your role at St Peter's College?

My role at SPSC is a teacher of Drama and English and a MacDermott House mentor. I am also currently the acting Drama Subject Co-ordinator and Director of co-curricular productions; this year it was the School Musical, *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

What personal qualities do you most admire in people?

I admire authenticity, kindness, resilience and a willingness to admit when you've made a mistake. Trying to do better next time is what matters to me. The people I surround myself with in my personal life, all strive to be honest with themselves and aren't afraid to challenge me when I get things wrong. And a good sense of humour is important... I love people who make me laugh.

Do you have a mantra or philosophy you try to live by?

"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got"
Henry Ford, American Inventor. This idea

has always resonated with me and I find it empowering. If you want change, you need to try and find a way to do your bit to make the change happen.

Have you always been a teacher?

Before I became a teacher, I was a professional actor. The unpredictable nature of acting work meant I also had to support myself with jobs such as coaching acting and working front of house at the Festival Centre. And of course, many times there was the cliché actor's fall-back of hospitality! My acting career directly feeds into my teaching practice, and I feel incredibly grateful that I can combine two careers that I'm passionate about.

What behaviour or personality trait do you most attribute your success to and why?

My willingness to take a risk, even when things are uncertain and a bit scary has helped in my life. In both my acting and teaching career, there have been times when the future was unknown, and I have had to take a bet on myself. It's paid off every time!

Sally Houston Art Teacher - Junior School



What is your role at St Peter's College?

I coordinate the Junior School Visual Art Program, Artist in Residence Program, art exhibitions and displays, and the art and pottery clubs; all while teaching the amazing world of the visual arts to 460 boys each week, from Years 2 to 6.

Have you always been a teacher?

Before teaching, I was an artist and graphic designer in New York City, working in the fashion district for Vanity Fair, and curating and exhibiting my artwork at galleries in SoHo. It was an amazing experience, and the best part is that I am still an artist, designer and curator.

Who has been your greatest influence on your career/life?

I have been taught by some of the best visual and ceramic artists around the world. They are incredibly talented, and I am in awe of their skill and technique, and the knowledge that they have shared with me. If I was to start at the beginning though, it would be the South Australian artist Jeremy Gordon; I grew up surrounded by his artworks, and decided at the age of three that I was going to be an Art Teacher.

What do you find most rewarding about teaching?

I love being able to impart my knowledge about the visual arts to children, all day, every day, and inspiring boys to create and explore through the visual arts. I create an environment where they can imagine and ignite their curiosity about artists' lives, artworks throughout time, and the art world that permeates around us. My passion incorporates a place where boys can discover and learn about specific techniques, absorb new skills, and uncover new processes of art making. It is rewarding to see a boy's joy and wonder in creating with materials and building artworks, while weaving cultures, science, mathematics, and history throughout his making process. My art room is a magical place, and it is rewarding to see the boys' energy and enthusiasm as they create art every day.

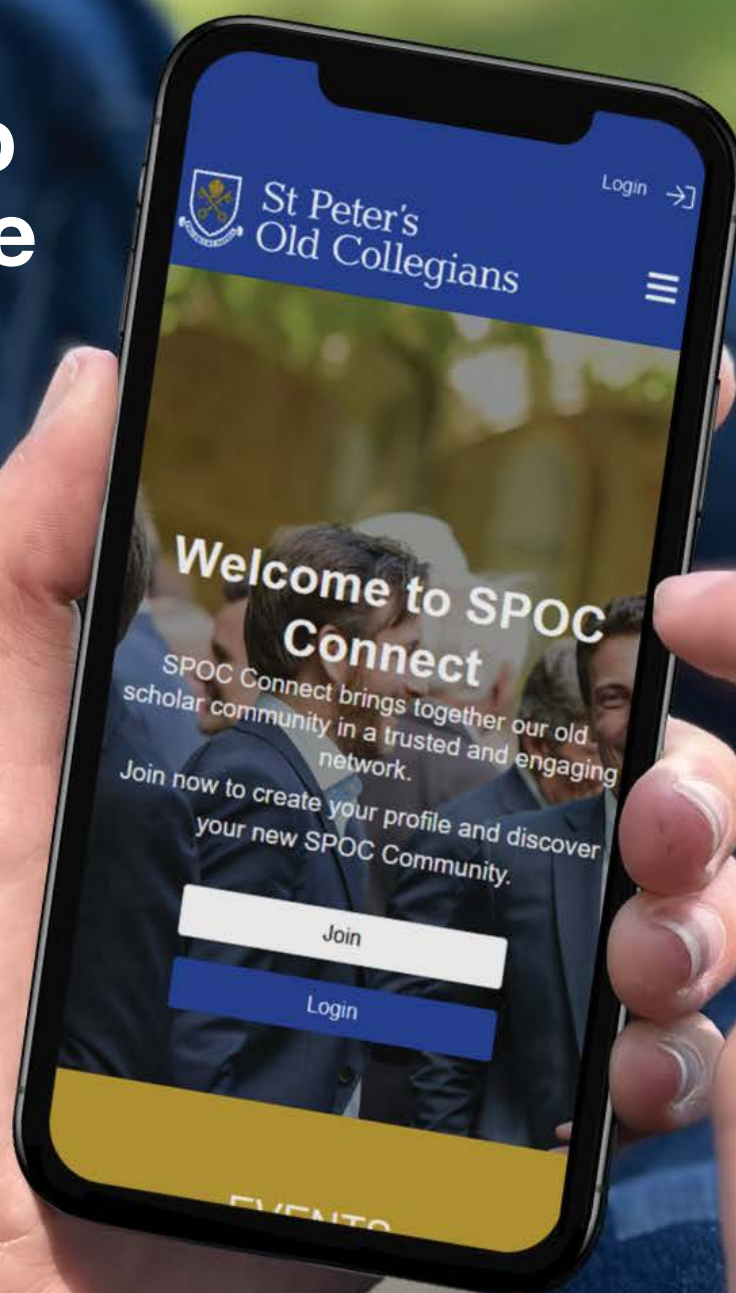
What personal qualities do you most admire in people?

Trust, honesty, and neurodiversity.

What's an interesting fact no one knows about you?

Well, it's no secret that I am obsessed with Japanese ceramics, but I have been studying the Japanese language for eight years, and it will continue to be a lifetime of learning.

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