



Beda Bulletin

2022 December Edition



Contents



Presidents Welcome	4
A Word from the Principal	6
Reunions	11
Old Collegians News	14
By Right Paths	17
Tie Swapping Ceremony	19
Golf Day	20
Military Honour Roll	21
Archives	22
Finian Foundation	23
In Memoriam	25
Connect with us	28

President's Welcome



As we approach the end of 2022, and welcome another Graduating Class as the newest life members of The St Bedes Old Collegians Association (SBOCA), as President I am extremely pleased to say the Association has had a great year. Just to mention a few highlights.

As always, our reunions remain the bedrock on which the Association builds community and fellowship between the graduates and the College. This year they have again proven to be extremely popular and well attended (photos are available on the SBOCA website), and we took the opportunity to combine some class years that would have otherwise missed out on their scheduled reunion due to COVID restrictions in the last couple of years.



Feedback from many attendees confirmed they were all very successful events, and the warm and friendly atmosphere was always palpable. We were very appreciative that College Principal, Deborah Frizza, was able to attend the events, welcoming the alumni, giving some very entertaining speeches, outlining recent changes at the College, and encouraging the attendees to keep in touch with the College in the future. To those alumni who have not been able to attend a reunion recently, I would strongly encourage you to come along in future, enjoy the opportunity to reconnect with old classmates, and see how the College has grown over the years.



Another very important initiative this year was the unveiling of the SBOCA Military Roll of Honour Boards at the Mentone College on 28 October. The Committee wanted a means of tangibly identifying and honouring all the Old Colls who had served in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in a way that could be experienced by previous, current, and future students of St Bede's. An Honour Roll naming all those Old Colls who have served in the ADF seemed the ideal solution, and with the support and tireless efforts of Geoff Hatherley (Class of 1963) and the College, the Committee has turned the idea into reality this year. I know I speak for the entire SBOCA community when I say a sincere and heartfelt "thank you for your service" to all Old Colls who have served in the ADF.



I also had the honour of representing the SBOCA at the 2022 College Graduation Mass on 18 October. I had the privilege of speaking briefly to the graduating class and their families, and welcoming the graduates to the Association through the symbolic 'tie-swapping' ceremony. Always the absolute highlight of the President's events calendar, in my opinion.



And let's not forget the major fund raising event for the Finian Foundation, the Annual Golf Day, held this year at Keysborough Golf Course on 27 October. Proceeds from the Golf Day support the not-for-profit to assist families and students of the College experiencing financial difficulties with educational expenses. This year's event was the most successful to date, and supported by a cross-section of Old Colls and friends. Although the wet weather was challenging, guest speaker Daniel Bull (Class of 1998) made the lunch event something quite exceptional. And we are, of course, indebted to all the sponsors who so generously supported the event; without them the Golf Day would just not be possible. A special thanks to Tony Quint (Class of 1969) and Lucy Turner (Community Relations Officer) for all their efforts organising and delivering the event; it wouldn't have happened without them.



There are of course a number of other initiatives in development that, for reasons of space I'll have to mention in the next Bulletin. Suffice to say, the SBOCA Committee remains active in seeking and developing relevant activities as, on your behalf, we jointly strive to build an Old Collegians' community in service of the College, in the true Lasallian tradition.

Always remember it is your Association, so please stay involved. The Committee will always welcome thoughts, suggestions, or active involvement from all Old Colls. Get in touch anytime.

In closing, I must sincerely thank Principal, Deborah Frizza, the College Board, the College Leadership Team and all College staff for their ongoing confidence in the Association and their continued support. I must also sincerely thank my fellow volunteer Committee members for their invaluable contributions and efforts. In particular I am sincerely indebted to the Association Vice Presidents Tim Honey and Darragh Tate; Tony Quint and Lucy Turner who serve on the Executive; Dominic Langdon our Treasurer; David Cracknell our College representative; John Noonan, Jordy Schellebeck and Shaun Napier who diligently represent the Affiliated Cricket, Hockey, and Football clubs, respectively; and Tony Ferruccio, Andrew Dowling, David Bristow and Geoff Hatherley who have each provided valuable advice and assistance to the Association throughout the year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the activities of your Association, and on behalf of the Committee I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Per Vias Rectas

Dr Jason Smythe
SBOCA President

A Word from the Principal



St Bede's College is certainly a very busy and active educational institution. There is never a dull day. After the past two years, it is a pleasure to report that almost a full calendar of College activities was possible in 2022. Our students are ever ready to participate in these activities and give so much to their school community. In turn, we are fortunate to have so many staff who are happy to give of their time and effort in supporting the boys in these extra-curricular offerings, and they also have the support of their parents.

Our current student enrolment is approximately 1900 across our two campuses. We seek to be a place for all, where a high-end academic course; an apprenticeship; part- or full-time work; a gap year or a combination of all of these, is accessible to all our students. Everyone should feel valued, safe and given the tools to prepare for a life of purpose upon leaving the College.

Victoria's Senior Secondary Education is Changing

From 2023, the new VCE Vocational Major will replace Intermediate and Senior VCAL. This means the VCE will recognise different students equally. While we do not offer it at St Bede's College at this stage, the new Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) will replace Foundation VCAL. Students will have more education choices, a higher-quality curriculum and better workplace experiences – preparing them for further study, training at TAFE or work. From 2023, more students will be regarded as VCE students. That is, because the VCE will include the Vocational Major; a 2-year program that sits within the VCE. There will also be the Victorian Pathways Certificate for those who need flexibility in their learning. The changes are a result of the Review into Vocational and Applied Learning Pathways in Senior Secondary Schooling (The Firth Review). The Review found we needed to improve vocational learning in schools. St Bede's College will switch to the VCE Vocational Major from 2023.

Students will have greater access to high-quality, relevant vocational education and applied learning opportunities.

Senior Years and Middle Years Hubs, commencing 2023

These proposed changes to VCE have provided the impetus for an alteration to the structure of the College. From 2023, Middle Years' Hubs (Years 7-9) will be established at each of the Bentleigh East and Mentone Campuses with a Senior Years' Hub (Years 10-12) at the Mentone Campus. This is a further step in the amalgamation of St James and St Bede's. All students of the College will have equal access to all of the subject offerings available at the College. We look forward to welcoming all Year 10 St Bede's College students to the Mentone Campus and to the establishment and development of our two Middle Years Hubs.



College Board

The College Board continues its active and supporting role to myself and the Leadership Team by ensuring quality governance of our College. It is appropriate to acknowledge the contribution of Anthony Brinkley who has stepped down as Chair of the Board. Anthony has been a member of the College Board for 11 years, and Chair of the Board for the past 8 years.

During this time, he has led and been part of a team that has:

- Guided the College through a world-wide pandemic.
- Led the College through a process that saw the amalgamation of St Bede's College with St James College to form St Bede's College – Mentone and Bentleigh East.
- Maintained very strong enrolments across the College.
- Ensured that the College is in a strong financial position.

- Been part of discussions around a change in governance structure.

- Regularly attended St Bede's College community events.

We welcome Keiren Tilbrook as the incoming Chair of the Board. Keiren has been a member of the College Board since the beginning of 2021 and has represented the Board on the Risk and Compliance Committee since 2016. Keiren is a long-time resident of the Bayside area and has four sons, two of whom attended St Bede's College. Keiren has worked in the ICT industry for most of his working life, with a recent focus on business analysis and strategic planning. Keiren's professional skills and experience have brought an invaluable contribution to the College's governance. He is strategically focused while being very process driven and intent on ensuring meetings and Committees deliver the required results.

It is my pleasure to introduce the new Directors of the College Board as follows:

Rebecca Kotow - Head of Operations of Community Hubs Australia.

Allison Tippett - Manufacturing Director with GSK

Tim Honey - former student of the College; Barrister and Solicitor

John Csorgo - former student of the College; Solutions Consultant; Chair of Outer East Foodshare

VCE High Achievers Enrichment Day

In August St Bede's College hosted the inaugural High Achievers Enrichment Day. Fifteen Year 12 students were selected to participate in an intensive presentation designed by the Educational Consultant Company 'Success Integrated'. The Guest Speaker, Himal Pillay, encouraged the High Achievers to strive to achieve their best with the great opportunities they have. Himal presented some unique strategies that have helped many high achievers across other Colleges to excel in all aspects of life.

Students then participated in an individually designed guided tour of Monash University (Clayton Campus). The Campus was buzzing. There were pop-up displays, recruitment drives, and music blaring outside the famous Menzies Building. Students were quickly introduced to the exciting sights and smells of campus life.

A visit to the main Campus library allowed students

to journey through the hundreds of studying students and experience what it might be like to be a university student. The next presentation gave a detailed outline of the countless career pathways offered by Monash.

A tour of the campus followed, with visits to the Law, Science and Health areas. Excitingly, the students also received an impromptu tour of the inside of a robotics engineering lab from St Bede's alumni, Mr Phil Pawlowski, who recognised the blue blazers and was kind enough to show us around his workshop. Phil is the senior technician at Monash University and we were able to enter the student restricted areas to see these amazing technological designs in action.

Careers Week

Year 10 students of St Bede's College completed a Careers Week in the middle of the year to help provide information in the lead up to their subject selection process. As a new initiative, it was a great success, with all our Year 10 students gathering on the Mentone Campus for the week as well as paying a visit to some of our tertiary institutions.

Events for the week included;

- Guest Speakers presented on the future of work, apprenticeships, Defence Force Careers and University options
- A panel of former students spoke of their work/life experiences and provided advice on pathway choices
- Virtual Work Experience was completed online
- Tertiary visits to the Chisholm Institute, University of Melbourne, RMIT, Deakin University, ACU and Swinburne University

Thank you to our Careers Team for this initiative.



Habits Rubric

Earlier this year, the College implemented the use of the Habits Rubric across all classes at St Bede's College. It has been used by all teachers to assess behaviours displayed by students that have a clear relationship with learning. Early feedback from parents, teachers and students suggested the need for simplification as well as a clearer delineation between the different standards of the rubric.

We use the rubric as a means of monitoring progress throughout a student's time at the College. High achievement in such habits - mostly 'Commendable' and 'Excellent' results for all four criteria - is recognised and lower achievement - particularly 'Unacceptable' and 'Below Expectations' - signals a cause for intervention.

At St Bede's College, we are committed to providing an environment where students are encouraged to achieve their best and the means by which to get there is explicit. We believe the habits rubric will support this and, as such, recognise its value to all students.

Child Safety

From July 1, 2022, Ministerial Order 1359 replaced Ministerial Order 870 of 2016 in relation to Child Safety Standards. All schools must have updated their child safety strategies, policies, and practices by July 1, 2022 to comply with the new standards.

Experience since 2016 has suggested that there are particular "marginalised" groups who continue to be at greater risk than other children. In partnership with our legal firm, Moore Australia, St Bede's College has been working on updating all strategies, policies and practices. A number of groups within the College have undertaken training to allow for an understanding of the changes.

I am extremely grateful to the many parents, students, especially our senior students, and staff who recognise that we are attempting a task that so many other schools have successfully completed. The most heart-warming comments of support have come from Old Collegians.

Luurnpa Catholic School - Balgo, WA

Luurnpa Catholic School is part of the Wirrimanu Community located in Balgo Hills, Western Australia - a remote community with vibrant Indigenous language and culture. There has been a strong connection between St Bede's College and Luurnpa Catholic School for many years with a number of

Old Collegians serving as Lasallian Volunteers in the community. James Wills (2021) is currently volunteering and former staff member, Brother Rick Gaffney, is the Religious Education Coordinator. Earlier this year, a very generous donation of football gear was made to Luurnpa Catholic School by St Peter's Football Club through parent, Leanne Moser. The following was received from the school:

"In Balgo, AFL is something that gets all families particularly excited. Babies, small children and adults can be seen regularly moving about the community representing their teams. That's why the recent gift of football shorts and socks from St Peter's Football Club was so well received by students at Luurnpa Catholic School, Balgo - also part of the Lasallian network of schools."

Next year we plan to resume our connection with Balgo by resuming our student immersion programs with the school.



Lasallian Youth Gathering

The Lasallian Youth Gathering (LYG) was held over four days in Sydney, during the second week of the July school holidays. Four students from Years 10 and 11 attended - Liam Casey, Tom Gregory, Sam Harris and Cathal Brookes, along with Miss Connolly and two Youth Leaders. There were over 120 students from Lasallian schools across Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne, but unfortunately COVID restrictions kept Perth students away, and visa issues prevented Pakistani and Papua New Guinean students from attending.



The days and evenings were filled with activities related to our Lasallian identity, participating in self-improvement workshops, making new friends from other schools, sharing life experiences, listening to key note speakers, and planning ways to further enrich our own schools with Lasallian service. Students also participated a sports tournament which enabled them to join forces in teams with students from other schools.

Fortunately, Br Lewis Harwood was in Sydney at this time, and he gave a very powerful talk about his life journey, and how he became a Brother. The CEO of Kids helpline, Tracy Adams, gave a very powerful speech on the importance of access to quality help for young people facing mental health difficulties. On the final day of the gathering, St Bede's College was given the privilege of leading the closing prayer. This was a great opportunity for us to show our Bede Spirit and what it means to us to walk 'by right paths' as young people in 2022.

Community Service Program 2022

One of St John Baptist de La Salle's greatest sayings was: "lead by the example you give to others". In other words, walk the walk and inspire others through your actions - actions speak louder than words. In 2022 the College has embarked on a program to inspire Year 7 and 8 students to create a culture of giving back and undertaking "community service" throughout the year. All Year 7 and 8 students cross-campus have been invited to take part in the mission to serve our fellow sisters and brothers by completing service hours and random acts of kindness. The College aims to introduce the community service program across the whole College in 2023. Students are invited to take time to engage in community service around their families, extended families, local clubs they are involved with and take up community service opportunities at school.

Our inclusion as part of the Council of International Schools promotes our global citizenship, whilst also aiming to boost our commitment to local citizenship.

The Catholic Social Teachings principles of working for the common good, participation, solidarity and working for human dignity reminds us all of the importance community service. Students will also benefit from community service as employers regard such experience as vital and life-giving.

Welcome Evening (P&F)

We welcomed parents of students from Year 7,

9 and 12 to our "Welcome Evening", hosted by the Parents and Friends Association. Given the restriction of a pandemic, for some of our Year 9 families, this was the first or second event they have been able to attend at the College since beginning in 2020. For our Year 7 parents, it was their first event at the College, for others it was the first event at the College for a particular child. Our Year 12 parents, of course, have been part of our community for a while now, and very much welcome in their final year at the College.

Catholic schools have always honoured the role of parents as the first and ongoing nurturers and educators of their children. Families and teachers are mentors and partners in their child's learning journey and we play complimentary roles in the spiritual, emotional, social and learning development of our students.



I would like to quote three statements from the St Bede's College, Strategic Plan, 2020-2024.

- We provide a place of brotherhood and sisterhood where all feel a sense of belonging and identity.
- We connect people together to contribute to the common good.
- We are inclusive and welcome diversity.

Each of these statements is aspirational. They are what we want to be and they are what we know we should be.

From quite early in its history, St Bede's has been recognised in educational circles as a very strong community school—students and families are strongly connected during their time at school and many retaining strong relationships into their adult lives. I have very much sensed this community connection through my involvement with the College Board, the College's connection with some community sporting clubs, the Old Collegians Association and with the Parents & Friends Association.

Reunions

Bushfire Furniture Appeal

During 2020 and 2021, Mr Barry Wood worked with his Year 10 Materials Technology students and students in the Applied Learning Class to construct furniture for the families in the communities that had been ravaged by bushfires through Gippsland in 2020. The students produced furniture including coffee tables, occasional tables, bedside units, cabinets and desks. Many students completed these as projects during the lockdown periods of the last two years. Around 30 items of furniture were made. The furniture items were transported to the St Vincent de Paul Society in Bairnsdale for distribution. Thank you to Mr Barry Wood for initiating this project, to the students in Year 10 during 2020 and 2021 and to Mr Glenn Johnson (Materials Technician) for transporting the items.



Open Days

During the second half of 2022, the College completed some very successful Open Mornings. The level of interest in our College is very high and we are grateful to all in our community who so consistently encourage others to experience an onsite visit. The Mentone and Bentleigh East Campus Open Days were both strongly attended. Additional sessions were created to meet the demand for both. The student Tour Guides on both campuses were excellent ambassadors and were keenly questioned by prospective parents. These young men are very proud of their College and speak with candour about their own experiences. This sense of authenticity is well appreciated by prospective families.



Best wishes to Old Collegians from all at St Bede's College for a holy, restful and enjoyable Christmas and holiday season. Thank you for your continued interest and support of your College.

Deborah Frizza
St Bede's College Principal

ACC Events

The Associated Catholic Colleges competition encompasses a broad range of activities. These include music, materials and food technology, public speaking, chess and an extensive sporting program. There are 12 schools across Melbourne who make up the ACC Colleges.

We were able to conduct a full ACC Interschool Sports Competition 2022, and it proved to be quite a successful year for St Bede's College. In Term 1, the College won the Division One premierships in Senior Cricket and Tennis and won the Swimming Carnival; we were fourth in the Athletics. Term 2 saw us win Premierships in: Year 7 Division 3 Football; Year 8 Division 1 Football; Year 10 Division 2 Soccer; Senior Division 3 Football; Year 10 Division 3 Football (Bentleigh East); Year 10 Division 3 Soccer (Bentleigh East). Term 3 concluded with us winning the Year 9 Hockey; Year 10B Division 1 Basketball and Senior Hockey.

Congratulations to all of our teams, irrespective of result.

Class of 2000, 2001, 2002 Reunion

St Bede's College hosted 52 past students from the Class of 2000, 2001, 2002 on 29 July 2022. There were many jokes being thrown around and a strong debate on whether the St Bede's Function Room had been an oval or building when they were at school. The Old Collegians can confirm that it was an oval in the year 2000.

The event concluded with a school tour, with many of the guests impressed with the recording studio; many of them quickly playing the drums or strumming the guitar as they walked through the Music Department.



Class of 1990, 1991, 1992 Reunion

On Friday 26 August 2022, St Bede's College hosted the 30 year reunion for Classes 1990, 1991 and 1992. Around 50 past students and boarders joined us for food, drink and an interesting tour of the school. Memories were shared regarding the location of the old pool, stories of living onsite, and the staff this group had the pleasure of being led by.

This was one of those special times where current staff were able to laugh and learn about St Bede's College in the 1990's. Thank you to all those who attended, and for all the stories that you shared. It is with great pride that the College sees how far you have come since walking through our gates all those years ago.



Class of 1981, 1982 Reunion

Thank you to the 46 Old Collegians for joining us on Friday 11 November for their 40-year reunion.

After a presentation from Principal Deborah Frizza and President Jason Smythe, long serving staff member, David Cracknell, excitedly presented his personal photos from the 1981 graduating class. Various purple and green corduroy suits were on display and photos began to be recreated with the night's attendees.

Guests shared fond memories with each other, ensuing large amounts of laughter. Particular humour was seen when a teacher could be remembered from a single sentence, for example, 'the paddle pop lion'.



News from Old Collegians

Dave Sweeney (1980)

A tribute to Dave Sweeney, by Paul Foxworthy.

"I remember Dave Sweeney in the debating team, advancing the argument "that it is the singer, not the song" by reminding everyone that Christie Allen was in love with a man with a "cardiac arresting stare". I recall another debate ["that we should disarm"] up in the Humanities Room, where our St Bede's team was arguing the affirmative and lost. I'm pretty sure Dave wasn't on our panel that night.

Dave has been making the case against nuclear weapons, uranium mining and the entire nuclear industry since the time we knew him. He works at the Australian Conservation Foundation, and was described by Matthew Stephens of the Australian Financial Review as "one of the nation's hardest working anti-nuke campaigners."

He was a founder of the ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (icanw.org). The idea [emerged from the medical community] for a campaign modelled on the successful International Campaign to Ban Landmines (you may remember Princess Diana's advocacy for that cause). In 2005 and 2006, a small team -including Dave - did much of the groundwork, and the first ICAN staff member was hired, with an office opening in Carlton mid-2006.

The formal launch was in April 2007 at the Victorian Parliament House. Former PM Malcolm Fraser became founding patron and supported ICAN for the rest of his life.

ICAN now has hundreds of partner organisations internationally, and a secretariat in Geneva. To date, 66 countries have ratified the treaty. In 2017, the campaign was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize; the first for any organisation founded in Australia. Dave continues to serve on the board of ICAN Australia.

My award for "most Nobel Prizes" goes to Dave."



Mark Hardy (1980)

A tribute by Paul Foxworthy.

Mark Hardy was a forecaster at the Bureau of Meteorology who couldn't see himself as a public servant all his life. He worked for a few years for a Japan-based commercial weather company.

In the late 90s, he was approached to run a weather service for Pay TV. Their idea was to do it all manually. Mark said "No, no you don't want to do that! I can automate it all for you!". This evolved into 'Weatherzone'; a weather forecasting business built from the beginning to integrate data from the Bureau and other sources, and publish to the Web [with, indeed, plenty of automation].

At the time the BOM's was, big time. Weatherzone attracted many commercial customers and weather geeks who were willing to pay a subscription for weather done a better way. One of those geeks was my (Paul Foxworthy's) wife - we were Weatherzone subscribers before we found out that Mark was the instigator.

In 2008, 75% of Weatherzone was sold to Fairfax, now part of Channel 9, and that stake is now owned by DTN; a US company also in the weather data business.



Artistidis Tsoulakos (2019)

On Saturday 8 October, The VMC was excited to launch its Multicultural Youth Network at Parliament House. After a state-wide search, 20 people, aged between 16 and 25, were selected to represent their region of Victoria and formally advise the VMC on issues and challenges impacting young multicultural Victorians.

Past student, Artistidis, was one of the 20 people selected to be a representative.

All participants have multicultural backgrounds, some have lived-experience as a refugee or person seeking asylum, and all of them are equal parts enthusiastic and inspiring!

Hosted by our Youth Commissioner Luna Folly and Community Representative Commissioner Abi Akinbiyi, we were joined by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs the Hon. Ros Spence, VMC Chairperson Viv Nguyen, Deputy Chairperson Bwe Thay, Commissioners, parents and stakeholders.



By Right Paths

Tom Ivey (2001)

Tom kindly provided the Old Collegians with an insight into what it is like to produce a radio show... and not just any radio show, Fitzy & Wippa on Nova, Sydney!

A general idea of your day-to-day jobs

I'm the Executive Producer of Fitzy & Wippa on Nova 96.9 in Sydney. We broadcast in Sydney every morning from 6 to 9am and then the best bits get replayed on Nova 100 in Melbourne each night. I'm responsible for putting the show together by organising the celebrity guests, planning topics to discuss with our listeners, and making sure the show runs smoothly. I get up at 3:50am every morning and I go to bed at 9pm each night.

How you got into the industry

While at Uni (I was studying a Bachelor of Health Science – Paramedics), I started doing community radio at SYN FM at RMIT with a mate. It gave me a good introduction to radio, then I started volunteering at Fox FM, and annoyed them enough that they hired me as a casual panel operator. After that I worked in Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane and Sydney producing various breakfast radio shows for Southern Cross Austereo & Nova.



We did our show from London for the wedding of Kate & Wills and Meghan & Harry, we've launched things into space, catapulted cars into the air and broken many world records.

Your favourite famous person you have worked with

Ed Sheeran is always lots of fun when he comes to town. We made Ed a life-sized birthday cake of his head – but when he bit off the nose of the cake, there was a large metal spike holding the nose together, which nearly went straight into the roof of his mouth.



Russell Crowe, Jim Carrey, Hugh Jackman, Harry Styles, and Lizzo are always great interviews when we have them on.

How St Bede's shaped where you are now

I did Media Studies in Year 12. My final assessment piece was a 10 minute audio documentary. I loved piecing it together with all the various elements to make it interesting to listen to. That got me excited about media, and whilst I got accepted into Health Science, radio and media remained a passion.

I loved the opportunities I was given at St Bede's. I learnt many values which I hold with me today, including the importance of community, and a strong social conscience. I loved my time at St Bede's and I feel so lucky to have had access to great facilities and teachers. I did my best to get as much out of the school as I could while I was there, there were many different learning opportunities that were outside of the classroom. I wasn't the smartest student, but I felt as long as I tried my best, got involved, and made others feel accepted, then I was still a high achiever at St Bede's."

Throughout the year, we began to receive more and more stories regarding Old Collegians and where they were now. This is when we had the idea of created a social media segment called 'By Right Paths', which details how past students had been successful following their time at St Bede's College.

In case you missed it, here are the some of their stories.

Dan Atkins (2005)

"Hi St Bede's Community. I wanted to share a little insight into my current work life. Being an Old Collegian has no doubt shaped where I am today. I've been at Sportsbet, within Marketing for over 8 years now.

Starting out behind the camera in the Video team, today I am lucky enough to Head up our Production team. We're responsible for producing all of our video assets across all channels. Whether that be videos on social media, major TV ads or half time market updates at the footy; you name it, we make it. Creating video content for a mass audience has been an exciting career journey to date.

St Bede's focus on sport definitely helped drive that area of passion which now forms a big part of my work life."



Kurt Krelsheim (2001)

"I have worked on the build and operation of the NBN for around 12 years, and I lead the relationships that NBN has with the 15 electrical distributors around the country. It mostly requires technical involvement or linking SMEs to try and improve the quality and safety of the network. I studied engineering at Monash University and upon completion I moved to WA. When visiting home for Christmas, I happened to get a random offer from an electrical engineering firm and decided to pursue the opportunity. Yes; it really was that out of the blue.

I'm very proud to say that I went to St Bede's and I think it provided a great foundation for academic and sports skills. My son will likely go to St Bede's, so that bodes well wouldn't you say?!"

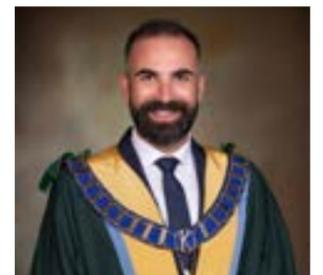
Dylan O'Keeffe (2016)

"From St Bede's to Supercars ...

Since graduating from St Bede's in 2016, I have focused on pursuing my dream of a full-time career in the motorsport industry. My current occupation is working for Garry Rogers Motorsport; one of the biggest racing teams in Australia. During the week, I manage purchasing for the team, and on weekends, I race a Peugeot 308 in the TCR Australia Series.

I also drive a Porsche 911 in the Carrera Cup Australia Championship, so I get to race for 14 weekends of the year. I've been fortunate enough to drive Supercars in Australia's most famous race - the Bathurst 1000 - the last two years, finishing 11th on my debut in 2020 aboard a Ford Mustang.

There's no doubt that my time at St Bede's helped me get to where I am today. The school's culture kept me disciplined and shaped my morals and values."



Steve Staikos (2001)

"For the past 14 years, I've represented my community as a Councillor at the City of Kingston. I've been elected for four consecutive terms, and I'm currently serving my fourth term as Mayor leading an organisation of 1500 staff, with an annual budget of \$257 million. In this time, I have worked on key priorities for my community, including protecting Kingston's Green Wedge, and delivering on our Sandbelt Open Space - Chain of Parks strategy which has been a defining project of my tenure.

The Lasallian values that were impressed on me as a student at St Bede's and St James - in particular social justice, respect and inclusivity, have stayed with me for the past 21 years, and continue to form part of my values framework in Council and in life."

Tie Swapping Ceremony

Jake Lynch (2021)

Jake is heading to New York, USA after receiving an incredible opportunity to play basketball for Molloy University!

Jake started developing his basketball skills as young as 10 years old. He continued to grow and master his talents in the sport during his time at St Bede's College. All his hard work has now paid off with a full scholarship to the university beginning in September 2022.

The Old Collegians wish you the best of luck with this next chapter in your life and as always, we encourage you to continue to work hard!



Liam Murphy (2009)

After graduating from St Bede's in 2009, Liam returned to the College as a CRT and spent several terms working with Darren Strom facilitating school camps. Outside of work, Liam is passionate about mental health, in particular removing the stigma attached to men discussing this aspect of their wellbeing.

Liam co-hosts the 'Men of Words' Podcast, alongside fellow Old Collegian Michael Mumford (2009). This podcast is a platform for conversation with a range of successful individuals - sportsmen, musicians, actors etc - starting an important conversation around men's mental health.

If you haven't already, tune in to hear more via the link below. Liam and Michael are looking to turn this 'passion project' into a valuable resource for men of all ages, and are currently seeking the funding to do so. If you are looking for a way to make an impact in the mental health sector, at a grass-roots level, this may well be it. Please reach out to Liam via email menofwordspodcast@gmail.com

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/men-of-words-podcast/id1488692257>

Inder Pal Singh Takhtar (2016)

In October, former St Bede's College student, Inder, presented a speech at the Queensland Government TMR headquarters regarding the importance of providing a safer road environment for all Queenslanders. This presentation also included the plan for building roads by means of more sustainable methods, using recycled and environmentally friendly materials.

Inder is giving back to the community in his role as a Civil Servant (Graduate Officer) selected from over 8000 applicants in the 2021 Batch! The St Bede's community is very proud of Inder's work, and for his commitment to improving the roads of Queensland.



Jack Richter (2006)

Currently Jack is working on a sports radio show called "The Sport" on Melbourne's outer Eastern community radio station 99.1, in the Yarra Valley FM. He works each Wednesday evening between 5 to 7pm with friend, Warren Lechner, AKA Waz.

Jack has always had an interest in media, particularly the sports commentary side. His journey started at St Bede's College, with mornings spent at 88.3 Southern FM. A highlight has been working at SEN 1116 for a number of years as producer, panel operator and occasionally presenter. The producing side really piqued Jack's interest & passion.

Now with his show on Yarra Valley FM, he uses all three skills and has interviewed some of Australia's biggest sporting champions; Steven Bradbury, Adam Gilchrist, Andrew Gaze, Damien Oliver, Michael Klim, Malcolm Blight and Dennis Cometti to name a few, which has been a huge thrill.

Although he is very happy with his work, Jack still holds a desire to return to the commercial radio industry. If you would like to hear more about the show or would like to be involved, please follow @TheSportFM on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram!

On Tuesday 18 October, The Old Collegian's Association invited the 84th graduating class of St Bede's College to join SBOCA in 2023. President Jason Smythe spoke to the families and students regarding the benefits of The Old Collegians, and continuing their association with the school.

All students were asked to stand and remove their St Bede's College tie; a tie that for many of the students, they had worn for six years. A parent or carer was then asked to stand and place the new, Old Collegians tie, around their child's neck.

Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, grandparents... all stood in the Hall and helped us welcome the 2022 Graduating class into The Old Collegians Association.

To all of our newest members - Welcome! We are thrilled to have you join our network.



Finian Foundation Golf Day

The Finian Foundation was established as a registered charity by St Bede's Old Collegians Association in 2005. Since its inception, the charity has a proud history of raising funds that give aid to families who are undergoing significant economic hardship. On Thursday 27 October, approximately 120 Old Collegians braved the weather to attend the Finian Foundation Charity Golf Day.

This day was only made possible with the help from a group of truly incredible people and their associated business. We are thrilled to announce that this event has raised a record breaking \$42,762.08! This money will ensure that 14 of our most in-need St Bede's students can continue their studies with the College, allowing them the stability and support that each young person deserves from their education.

We would like to thank our incredible sponsors for the day; City of Kingston, Community Bank Parkdale, Abacus Visuals, Carringvale Construction Management, Master Flooring Solutions, McMullan Solicitors, Melbourne Property Rejuvenation, Powerbands, Cerulean Wealth, PSA Project Management, Property & Strata Group, BJS Insurance Brokers, RBK Accountants & Business Advisors, Former teacher – Bill Healy, Hon Mark Dreyfus, MP for Isaacs & Attorney General, Government of Australia, ASUS Business, Boardriders (Prizes). Lastly, a special thank you to guest speaker Daniel Bull. Your story is one that must be heard. Thank you for donating your time to inspire the attendees for the day.

On behalf of the Old Collegians Association and Finian Foundation, thank you everyone for your generosity and involvement.



Military Honour Roll

On Friday 28 October 2022, St Bede's College, Mentone Campus, hosted the long-anticipated Military Honour Roll unveiling. This event was three years in the making, with Old Collegian - Geoff Hatherley (1963) - finding, contacting and researching hundreds of fellow Old Collegians to collate stories of time served, and arranging for all Honourees and their guests to attend the unveiling.

The event was MC'd by Tony Quint, with the new addition to the Hall being officially unveiled by Principal, Deb Frizza, Old Collegians President, Jason Smythe, and Geoff Hatherley. Honoured guests included Navy Vice Admiral J. Mead, Army Private R. Addison, and Airforce Aircraftsman C. Ryan. We were also honoured to welcome Mr Michael Maddon - Recipient of the Victorian Cross and author of "The Victoria Cross, Australia Remembers" - spoke about his journey to discover the one-hundred Australians who have been awarded the Victorian Cross.

The Old Collegians Association would like to extend a very sincere 'Thank-You' to Geoff Hatherley for all his hard work in making the event a success, and to all those who gave their time to attend the days proceedings.



From the Archives - 1992

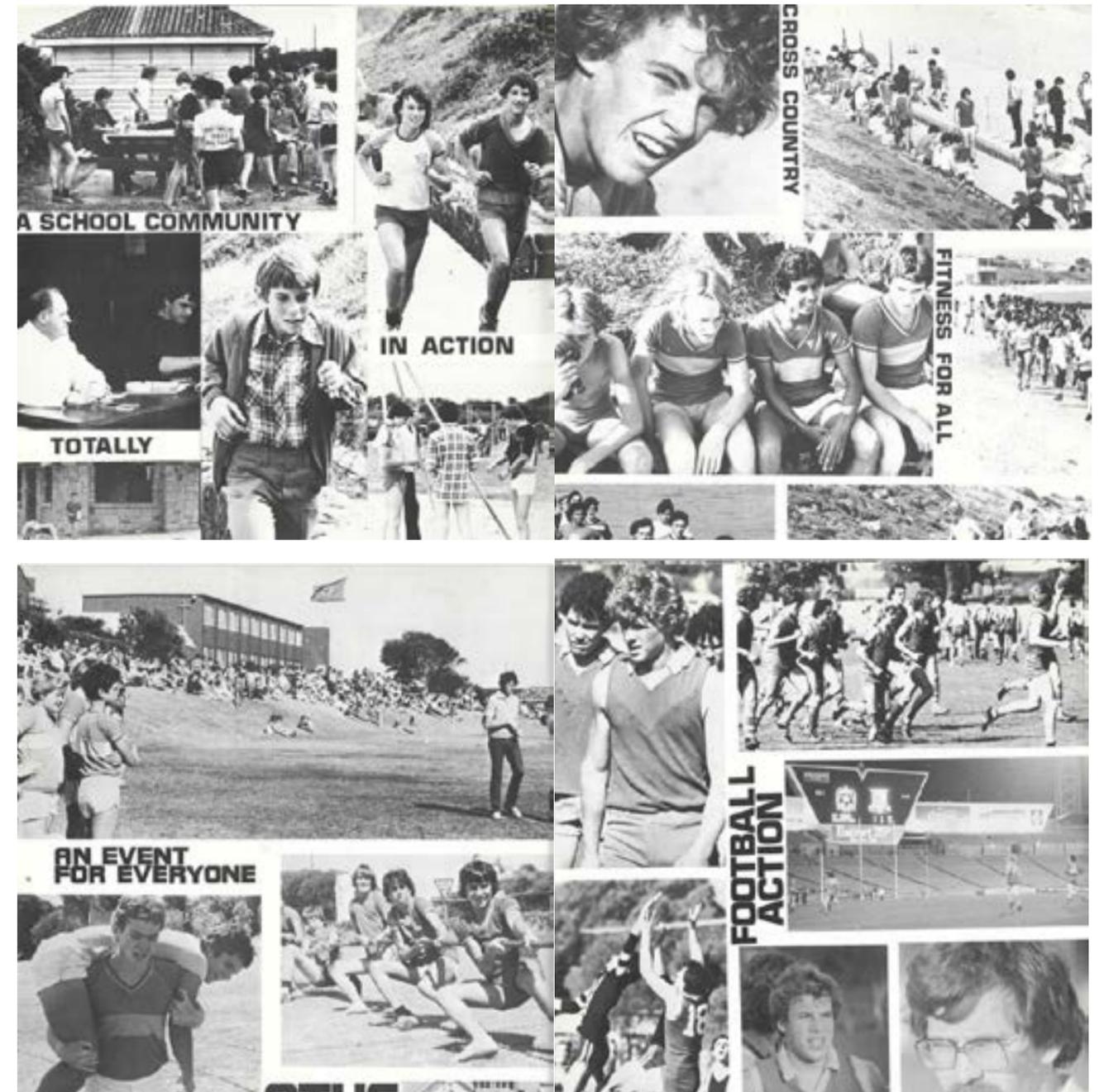
Class of 1992

This page is devoted to images from graduates of 1992.
This year was their 30 year reunion!



Class of 1982

This page is devoted to images from graduates of 1982.
This year was their 40 year reunion!



The Finian Foundation



Established by the St Bede's Old Collegians Association in 2004, the Finian Foundation was named in honour of Brother Finian Allman, who spent more than fifty years of his life within the St Bede's College community. This foundation recognises the importance of fostering the Lasallian tradition of providing quality education to all.

In honour of a person who has dedicated his life to this tradition, it was deemed most appropriate to name the Foundation after Brother Finian.

Since its inception, the charity has a proud history of raising funds that give aid to families who are undergoing significant economic hardship. These families simply cannot afford a number of the fundamentals associated with delivering an education. In extreme situations, this has led to parents needing to remove their children from the College. To the Old Collegians, displacing a child, for reasons beyond their control was simply not acceptable. As such, the Finian Foundation funds are used to provide current students with uniforms, laptops, school travel, additional tutoring, excursion/camp costs, and in some circumstances, partial school fee assistance.

No matter how large or small, your gift will make a difference to current and future St Bede's College students.

If you wish to make a donation to this worthy cause, please transfer to the SBOCA account below.

Direct Debit - Bendigo Bank

EFT: BSB 633 000 Account: 153 375 787

Or alternately, complete the form on the following page and email or mail to address below:

The Finian Foundation

C/o St Bede's Old Collegians Association,
2 Mentone Parade, Mentone, 3194

For further details, please contact Community Relations Officer, Lucy Turner

Phone: 9582 5953

Email: oldcolls@stbedes.catholic.edu.au

Donor(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone no _____

Please circle amount:	\$100	\$250	\$500	\$1000
Other amount:	\$			

Payment Method	Visa	Mastercard	Cheque
----------------	------	------------	--------

Card number: _____

Expiry date: ___ ___ / ___ ___

Cardholder's Name: _____

Signature: _____

In Memoriam

Leonie Lowe

Mother of Gerard, mother in law of Kristen, grandmother of Jack Lowe passed away in June.

Paul Dear

Father of Calsher, passed away following a battle with pancreatic cancer in June.

Betty Ross

Mother to Beverly, passed away over the June holidays.

Joan Murphy

Sister of Loreta, passed away in July after a battle with cancer.

Bartola Valastro

Mother to Guy, mother in law to Sharon, Nonna to Jamie and Andrew, passed away in July.

Maree Velten

Wife to Tom - Affiliated member of the Brothers passed away in July.

Brian Merrick (1960)

Father of three and grandfather to nine children, passed away after a battle with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia on 15 July 2022

Peter Buck (1961)

Brother of Ian and Brendan, uncle of Adrian (1990's). Peter attended St Bedes College in 1961.

Michael King (1981)

Michael is one of four King brothers who passed through the school from 1976 to 1982.

Jim English (1962)

Brother of Bill (dux of St. Bedes's 1959). Jim attended St. Bede's College in the 1960s

Tom Velten (1996)

On Sunday evening, 11 September, Tom Velten died peacefully in Homesglen Hospital with his loved family at his bedside.

Tom was a refined, gracious gentleman and a committed family man. He and Maree were firm advocates of St Bede's which their three sons — Michael, Paul and David — attended. From the mid-1970's until the mid-1990's, Tom served as our very astute and meticulous Business Manager. The highest honour the Brothers can pay a person for being committed to Gospel and Lasallian ideals is to be made an Affiliated Member which was conferred on Tom on his retirement.

May his generous soul Rest In Peace.

Father Eric Hodgens (1952)

Fr. Eric Hodgens was ordained on 24 July 1960. He completed an Arts Degree and Diploma of Criminology, then obtained an MA in 1972; the title of his thesis being 'The Discipline of Priestly Life'. Eric was given the task of building a parish community, with 9 acres of vacant land. The parish centre was opened officially in November 1977. After his retirement in 2007, he continued to read widely and write regularly on contemporary issues. Eric was a loving brother, brother in law, uncle and great uncle in his own family. Farewell, Eric, faithful servant of God, as priest, pastor and friend.

Father Michael Mulcahy (1962)

Fr. Michael served the church for over 52 years. Fr. Michael was appointed temporarily as Chaplain to the Repatriation General Hospital after his ordination at St Patrick's Cathedral in 1969. Fr. Michael served as Assistant Priest at South Melbourne Parish in 1980 and Flemington Parish in 1981, before becoming Parish Priest of Lilydale in 1983. Father Michael was a shoofie to qualify for entry to the seminary.

Matthew Collins (1998)

Matthew passed in late October in South Africa. Over recent years, he had led group tours throughout South Africa. Matthew was the son of Dale and Mona (deceased) and brother of Shaun (1994) and Brett (2002) who are also ex-students.

May Matthew Rest In Peace.

In Memoriam - Neil Noonan



Neil Noonan

Loving father of Old Collegians John, David, Peter and Michael Noonan.

NEIL'S EULOGY - 14 October 2022

"When the time is right I the Lord will make it happen." Isaiah 60:22

Thank you for allowing me to say a few words about what Neil meant to us. The story I'm about to tell you is about a dreamer and a man who made his most cherished dream come true.

I remember with absolute clarity how as a six year old I announced, in rather dramatic fashion, that I would leave South Africa one day and enjoy a better life abroad. We were making our way home from Johannesburg to Pretoria one Sunday afternoon. As the train passed through the outskirts of Germiston, I saw large hills of yellow sand and I asked my mother what they were. She said, "Oh they are the tailings of the gold mines." I asked, "What is gold?" My mother explained that gold is a precious metal and that it was very expensive. I asked, "Who owns the gold mines?" She replied; "The government, the people, rich business people." I replied, "We are the people. Why are we so poor? Why can't we have a fair share in the great wealth of this country?" My mother started to feel uncomfortable. I was just about to ask her another question when she said, "Brian if you ask me another question I'm going to smack you." I retorted, "This is a shit country. One day I'm going to leave this godforsaken country." A man who sat diagonally across us said, "Boy, I believe that one day you will leave South Africa for a better life." I kept that dream alive in my heart. It kept me sane and safe. I was determined that I was not going to raise my children in a police state.

One evening in late March 1971, I met a good Samaritan. I was working part time as a waiter at the Quirinal Hotel in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. A man, who sat in the corner of the lounge, called me over and said, "I'm hungry and thirsty. I was in a business meeting which went overtime and I missed dinner. . Can you recommend a good restaurant nearby?" I replied, "You don't want to go wandering around at night in Johannesburg. It's dangerous." He said, "Just a sandwich will do." I replied, "I'll see what I can do." I went to the chef, who was busy packing up and told him about my predicament. He was eager to go home and I said, "Look I'll give you half a dozen stubbies of beer if you do me this favour." I gave him the beer and he gladly rustled a meal together.

I took the meal and a stubby of imported beer over to Neil. When he finished his meal he called me over, introduced himself, thanked me for the meal and we started chatting. Neil said, "You sound like an intelligent guy, why are you working as a waiter? I told him that I was a high school teacher and supplementing my meagre income by working nights as a waiter.

Neil asked me if I had ever thought about leaving South Africa and starting a new life abroad. I said, "As a matter of fact I'm in the process of finalising my application to go to Canada." Neil said, "don't go to Canada. It is very cold in winter and your wife would hate it there. Why not migrate to Australia? Look, I'm going to Rome on business and after Easter I will write to you from Australia". I went home and told my wife about it. I was excited. But my wife was sceptical. Sure enough, after Easter I received a letter from Neil instructing me what to do. I saw the Australian Trade Commissioner in the city later that same day. He told me that he had earlier received a phone call from Neil enquiring about whether he had heard from me.



The Commissioner made an appointment for us at the Australian Embassy in Pretoria. Neil and I started corresponding with each other. We were overjoyed when we were accepted as migrants.

We left South Africa on the 1st January 1972 with a four month old baby. We were on deck as the ship pulled out of Durban harbour. My heart leapt with joy. We were free! Free from tyranny, oppression and the constant fear of the secret police. For this first time in my life I exhaled completely. On Friday 14 January we arrived in Melbourne. Neil was there to pick us up from the docks. He took us to his home in Parkdale where his late wife Maureen and children warmly welcomed us. Neil found me a job at St Bede's College. The family Noonan helped us settle in.

We must admit that adjusting to a life of freedom was sometimes difficult because we were suffering from homesickness. At times we felt like the ancient Israelites longing for the fleshpots of Egypt.

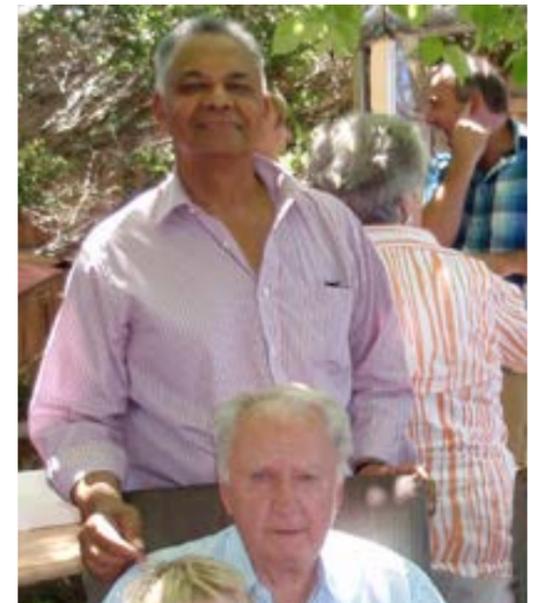
There was another occasion when Neil came to my rescue. This incident occurred when I worked part time in the drive through at the Royal Oak Pub. At the end of my shift, I found a note on my car's windscreen informing me that my car was damaged, by a driver who left the accident scene, along with the offender's licence plate details, and the witness' phone number. When I rang the witness' phone number, to my surprise, Maureen answered the phone. She immediately recognised my voice. I explained the reason for my call. Neil gave me good advice on what to do. The police called on the offender and my car was fixed.

Neil while we mourn your death, we marvel at your generosity of spirit and interventionist compassion. We celebrate your strength, integrity, and courage to this day. We are eternally grateful for all you've done for us. You, Maureen and your offspring will always be a part of our lives. Rest in Peace our Good Samaritan.

Neil Noonan



Brain Strubel



STAY CONNECTED

It is never been easier to stay connected with your fellow Beda's!

Each week, new content is posted to keep all graduating years up to date.

Follow the St Bede's Old Collegians Association NOW

on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn - for access to videos from former and current staff, students and Brothers. You will see announcements regarding Old Collegian Reunions, a 'sneak peak' into our College archives, as well as current College news, and stories from alumni.

Also keep your eye out for competitions on all three of our digital platforms.



Click on the names below to be directed to our social media accounts.

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/stbedesoldcollegians/?hl=en>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Bedes-Old-Collegians-110814951641349>

LinkedIn

https://au.linkedin.com/in/stbedesoldcolls?original_referer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F

FOLLOW US TODAY!

