

OLD SCHOLARS newsletter

Issue 1 July 2022



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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Celebrating the opening of the new Valdocco Centre (for Year 3 and 4 students) at Benedict were Mrs Nichii Mardon (Director- Catholic Education, Diocese of Port Pirie), Bishop Karol Kulczycki SDS, Professor Denis Ralph (Chair, South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools), Dr Sandra Hewson and Benedict Campus School Captains Lewis and Sloan

It is a pleasure to introduce myself in my first Old Scholars newsletter as Principal of St Mark's College. In my schooling in the UK, in the dim and distant past, graduations and reunions were not part of school culture and sadly I've lost touch with friends I went through school with, which is a shame as connection is so important, now more than ever.

A prayer by St Teresa of Avila, a 16th century Carmelite Sister, helps guide me as a person and my work as Principal in a Catholic school. I hope that your experience as a student at St Mark's means that this resonates with you.

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to
do good,*

*Yours are the hands, with which he
blesses all the world.*

Christ Has No Body

By St Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

I thought I might take this opportunity to share a little of my story so that, hopefully, you are reassured that St Mark's College is in safe hands! I began my teaching career in the UK and have had the wonderful opportunity to live and work in three countries, the UK, the Netherlands and Australia. I have a painting in my house of a Venetian door. It reminds me that doors are there to be opened and opportunities taken, rather than living life guessing what might have

been on the other side of the door.

My passion for teaching and learning gradually became a passion for leadership and I have been very fortunate to teach and lead in various capacities in Catholic schools in South Australia and in the Catholic Education Office as a consultant. After six years of study, I became a Doctor of Education and then completed a master's degree in Educational Leadership. Committed to life-long learning, some would call it being nerdy, I'm now studying a master's degree in Theological Studies.

Whilst Principal at St Joseph's School in Port Lincoln I came to fully appreciate the strengths and challenges of schooling in a country community. I became absolutely committed to ensuring that students in regional and remote schools have the best educational opportunities and a range of pathways to meet their needs and goals. Malcolm and I moved from Port Lincoln to Port Pirie at the end of 2020 so I could take up a position as Regional Schools Performance Leader supporting our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Port Pirie. It is through this work that I came to know and be drawn to St Mark's College, so I am thrilled to now be here as Principal. I look forward to building on strong foundations as we develop a new Strategic Plan and Master Plan to take St Mark's from strength to strength.

Warm regards

Sandra Hewson

Principal, St Mark's College

AROUND THE COLLEGE

The start of the year was an unusual one with a mixture of face-to-face and home learning.

Pictured are Eddy and Clarry, son's of Jenna (Gale- 2005) and Heath Tiller (2001)



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



Around the College



SPORTS DAY: And it's a win to Gallagher again for our 2022 Bosco Athletics Day, pictured are our Gallagher Class of 2022



LEADERSHIP: Our student leaders from Reception - Year 12 were commissioned at the first College celebration for the year, pictured is Dr Sandra Hewson with 2022 Captains Issy Bray and Thomas Hunter



LITTLE LIONS: Our Little Lions graduated ready to start school in Term 3, pictured is Amelia with her Dad, Nick Hutchison, (2005)



EASTER: The tradition of the annual Easter Reenactment continues with Year 5s successfully sharing the Easter story with our school community, pictured is Harry (son of Melissa Clarke, 2000) as Jesus, meeting his mother as he carried the cross



OUTREACH: Year 11 students and Bosco staff raised an incredible \$11,827.80 for Vinnies SA as part of the Vinnies School Sleep Out



FEAST DAY: The College paused in prayer and for a sausage to celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians

Around the College



NAIDOC WEEK: A group of our Indigenous students joined with the community to celebrate the opening of NAIDOC Week



CAREERS: Benedict Campus celebrated their first National Careers Week with students dressing up as their future career! Pictured are aspiring teachers, Mia (daughter of Katiana Saracino, 2000), Ivy, Lottie and Indiana (daughter of Erica Bartlett, 2002)



WINTER APPEAL: 2015 VS 2022! Mr Ford was delighted with the 103 donated blankets by Bosco students and staff for the Vinnies Winter Appeal. They were set the challenge to meet the extraordinary number of 115 blankets donated in 2015... So close!



YEAR 7: Our Year 7s keenly settled into Bosco Campus, pictured is Zachary, son of Shane Budd (1994)



YEAR 12: The Class of 2022 with their commemorative 'Seniors' jumpers

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Old Scholars
Kara Footner and
Kane Turner both from
the Class of 2011 were
married in Tanunda
during March 2022.



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**





HUGH JACKSON, Class of 2020

Hugh had his eye set on an AFL career from a young age, now he is proudly donning the black, white and teal and taking to the field with Port Adelaide.

My football career started in the juniors, playing both for the school and for my club at Crystal Brook. Weekends were early starts with matches on both days, but I loved every minute. My fondest memory of my junior footy is our St Mark's team winning the U13s grand final – we had a pretty strong team that year.

Playing AFL obviously looks a little different to my days in the juniors. During the week I arrive at the club around 7.30am, have a team meeting with all the players and coaches. We train for about 2 hours doing skills and fundamentals. We follow that with recovery and lunch, which is usually something healthy.

After lunch we review some part of our skillset we want to improve, whether it's from training or a game. The last hour is connection through gym or activities with the playing group. Then we all head home.

I was thrilled to be drafted to Port Adelaide. I had been a club member since

birth and have supported the club my whole life – it couldn't have worked out any better for me and I'm really thankful.

My family was really pleased for me. The Jackson side were obviously already massive Port Adelaide fans, so they were all thrilled. The Tiller side are all Crows fans, but they were still stoked for me. Mum got Gran and Gramps their first Port Adelaide membership for Christmas, so they're slowly coming around.

My football hero is Robbie Gray from Port Adelaide – I always liked him as a player prior to being drafted and now I've become mates with him I have even more respect.

Throughout my football career I have been fortunate to play with several old scholars. Leo Coates and I played together at St Mark's, Crystal Brook and North Adelaide, Kallis Freer and Jamison Murphy also played at North Adelaide with us. The four of us were also part of the school's Year 10 St Mark's College school knock-out competition winning team in 2018.

My advice for anyone looking to play sport at a professional level- no-one can make it happen for you. You have to do it



yourself. Keep focused, look after your body and surround yourself with people who support and encourage you to push to the next level.



The 2018 Knockout Open Boys Team, with Hugh, top row, second from right



Hugh celebrating with his family when the draft was announced, pictured are Kendall (Tiller- 1994), Violet (student), Peggy (2019), Lee (1993) and Myles (student)



RHIANNON (JENKINS) PEARCE, **Class of 2006**

Inspired by community, Rhiannon is the newly elected State Member for King. Growing up in Telowie and completing her schooling at St Mark's helped to prepare her for a life of service to others.

Growing up, my father worked on the wharf in Port Pirie. I saw how he and his mates banded together to help a colleague – a single Dad – after he was injured at work.

He was facing the real probability that he wouldn't be able to work again. Fortunately, his friends, family, and the community banded behind him to get back up on his feet.

It was that moment that instilled in me the importance of looking out for those doing it tough in our community, the importance of community justice and the importance of pushing for progressive change.

Now as a mother myself, I want to help build a future that's full of opportunity for our children – giving them the best opportunities to thrive.



Rhiannon with her husband Todd and children Nylah and Ike

A normal workday is hard for me to describe as every day can be different from the last, but essentially it is spent engaging with my local community, making myself as accessible as possible, and then reflecting the views and priorities of my community in State Parliament.

I have dedicated my life to helping others in need and when the opportunity arose to represent my community in State Parliament, I knew it was an opportunity I didn't want to shy away from.

I was really fortunate to have a great group of friends during my time at St Mark's – many of whom I am still in regular contact with. Penny and Matt, I have known since early years and continue to have a strong friendship, and Ash, Shelby and Kate as well, to name a few. We have all grown in our own directions, but our friendship remains strong.

Something I find fantastic is the amount of people who are from Port Pirie that live in the area I represent now. It is fantastic bumping into familiar faces and reigniting a friendship with them all.

My fondest memory of the College was the way we all connected. Whether you lived in town, just out of town, or were boarding – we were a tightly knitted group both during school, out of hours, and during extracurricular activities such as music and sport. We knew each other by name, and we supported one another in our goals and aspirations.

When I finished high school, I made the move to Adelaide to go to university – like so many from our hometown do. I studied Economics because I wanted to better understand how our country works, and what needs to be done to make it fairer for all.



Rhiannon with her children after delivering her maiden speech to Parliament

I married a boy I had known from back home, and Todd and I are proudly raising our two kids, Ike and Nylah in the northeast. We chose this community as it reminded us of all the qualities we cherished from home.

I am still an avid netballer. On Monday nights you'll find me on the courts playing for the Northeast Zodiacs, and on weekends you'll usually spot me ferrying the kids to footy or walking the trails of Cobbler Creek.

A lot of our family still lives in Pirie, so we get back as often as we can. The kids especially love spending time with their grandparents during school holidays – fishing in summer and getting out to the fantastic open spaces in Telowie and Nelshaby in winter.



SAMANTHA SIMPSON, **Class of 2017**

Samantha has been boxing for almost 10 years, starting the sport at only 13 years old. Now with two state titles under her belt, Samantha is in training to compete again for the title of 2022 South Australia State Champion.

Boxing has been a huge part of my life. I started boxing while I was at high school and at 22, I still enjoy the challenge and excitement of the sport. And now, I have made it my career.

I currently work at One Two Boxing in Klemzig, Adelaide. This is the first ever fitness boxing studio in Adelaide, and I am grateful to have worked here since the day it opened. I currently work as a trainer taking classes and as a personal trainer. I can see great opportunity ahead to become a manager at the studio.

I have recently started an online course at a Social Media Academy as I love to create content. I am looking to develop a professional business on social media through my boxing and personal training.

I have worked hard to achieve two state titles during my career. These are an absolute career highlight. The first title



Samantha and her fiancé Josh are both competitive boxers



was in 2016 (while I was still at school) in the 48kg division and the second in 2020 for the 54kg division. I am currently training for competition and aiming to go for SA State Titles again this year.

I currently live in Adelaide with my fiancé Joshua Patterson who I met at a boxing gym in Port Pirie. We are building a house together and are super excited for the next chapter of our lives.

My favourite memories from school

centre around Caregroup and my teacher Mr Matt Ryan. He always made our mornings fun and interactive, like playing R&B music on Fridays. Caregroup definitely made a great start to the morning and really set us up for the day.

I am still very close to my Year 12 friends, in particular Jessica, Natasha and Eloise. I see some of our classmates around Adelaide (it is such a small world) and its lovely to still keep in contact online.



Old Scholars from the Class of 2017 Natasha, Jessica and Eloise celebrating with Samantha at her engagement party

Old Scholar Achievements



NICOLA TURCI Class of 2017

Nicola has graduated with a Bachelor of Speech Pathology from Flinders University in May 2022.

Nicola lives in Adelaide and works at Flinders Medical Centre.



HANNAH MEZZINO Class of 2017

Hannah has graduated with a Bachelor of Primary Education from the University of South Australia in April 2022.

Hannah lives in Jamestown and is a Year 2/3 teacher at Laura Primary School.



ASHLEE FUCHS Class of 2017

Ashlee has recently graduated with a Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics (Honours) from Flinders University. Ashlee completed an honours project with CSIRO, exploring the effectiveness of goal setting and making dietary changes.

Ashlee lives in Adelaide and works at a private practice clinic, Innovative Dietitian.



EBONY BENNIER Class of 2017

Ebony has recently graduated with a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) and Bachelor of Arts from Flinders University. Ebony lives in Port Pirie and is a teacher at our Bosco Campus. She is pictured at Graduation with Jayden Gonsalves. Ebony and Jayden were College Captains in 2017.

Old Scholar Achievements



AMELIA SMART Class of 2020

Amelia was awarded the Dux of 2021 along with a Faculty Award (Arts) at the annual Aquinas College Collegiate Dinner and Academic Awards evening.

Amelia is pictured with Archbishop Patrick O'Reagan.



LUCY O'DEA Class of 2020

Lucy was awarded a Faculty Award (Medicine) at the annual Aquinas College Collegiate Dinner and Academic Awards evening.

Lucy is pictured with Rector, Br Michael Green.



LUCIA ALVAREZ Class of 2020

Old Scholar, Lucia Alvarez, has been awarded one of the prestigious scholarships by the Playford Trust which will support her studies- a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Honours) and a Bachelor of Finance and Banking through the University of Adelaide.

When I found out I was a recipient of the scholarship, firstly I was excited to be rewarded for all the years of hard work in and out of school but I also felt extremely proud of myself. It's very encouraging for your efforts be recognised at such a highly competitive level. It gave me motivation and reassurance, that despite university being such a big jump from school, I am just as capable of not only getting through but achieving highly in my future endeavours.

I chose to apply for the scholarship because I saw it as an opportunity to potentially earn some support for my studies. Even if there was only a slight chance I would get it, I believed it was still worth giving it a go. I will definitely apply for other Playford Trust scholarships in the future as it's also a great opportunity to be recognised by important figures in the industry.

Celebrating Love



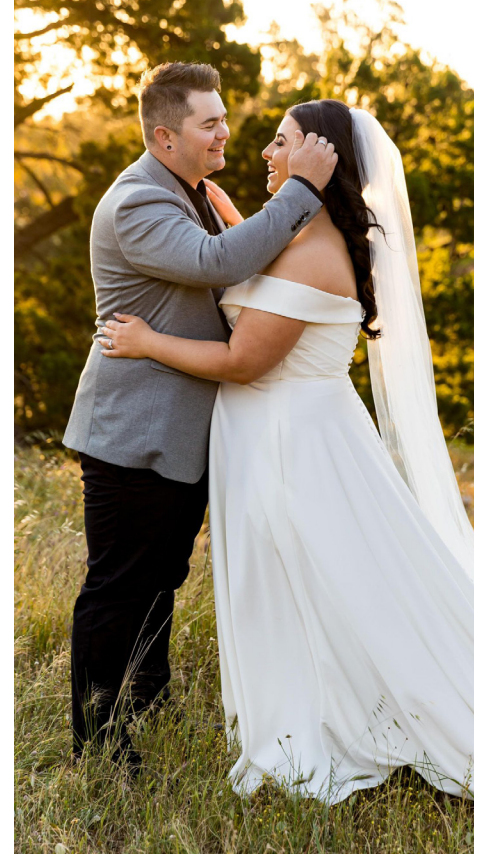
ANNIE JOHNSON

Class of 2013

Annie married Jayden Hannaford on 25 September 2021 at the Northern Festival Centre in Port Pirie. Annie and Jayden live in Port Pirie, where Annie is a Registered Nurse at the Port Pirie Hospital.



Annie with her bridesmaids and fellow Old Scholars Millie Johnson (2016), Esther Cappelletto (2013), Annie, Scout Burt (Remphrey- 2013) and Ashleigh Schrader (2013)



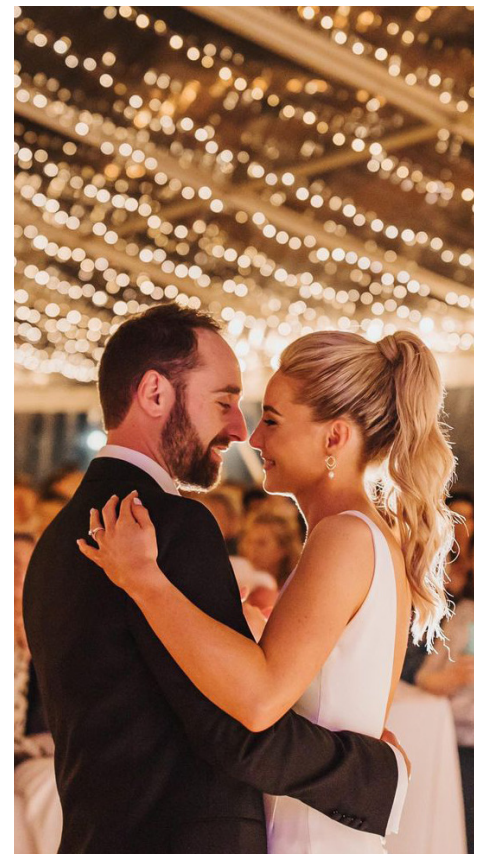
EMMA HAYES

Class of 2011

Emma married Daniel Cox at St Mark's Cathedral in Port Pirie on 20 November 2021. Emma and Daniel live in Port Pirie, where Emma is an Occupational Therapist.



Georgia-Rose Scarman (2015), Jonathon Hayes (2013), Emma, Daniel, Kayla Bearman (2008) and Lindsay Bearman (2006)



Celebrating Love



KAYLA HAYES and LINDSAY BEARMAN

Class of 2008 and 2006

Kayla and Lindsay were married at St Mark's Cathedral in Port Pirie on 22 January 2022. Kayla and Lindsay live in Port Pirie, where Kayla is a Finance Officer at Port Pirie Regional Council and Lindsay owns his own building business LJB Constructions.



Ryley Bateson, Amanda Millington (Caputo- 2005), Zac Siemer (2008), Emma Cox (Hayes- 2011), Kayla, Lindsay, Christie Roros (Capurso- 2005), Brian Bearman (2005), Lauren Ramsay (Lowe- 2008) and Jonathon Hayes (2013)



KARA FOOTNER and KANE TURNER

Class of 2011

Kara and Kane were married at Peter Lehmann Wines in Tanunda on 26 March 2022. Kara and Kane live in Nairne in the Adelaide Hills, Kara is a Paramedic with SA Ambulance and Kane is Principal Surface Drilling at BHP Oak Dam.



Old Scholars' in the bridal party included Joanna Lloyd (2017), Sean Clarke (2011), Liz Clarke (Boston- 2011), Corey Binney, Danni Turner (2008) and Timothy Turner (2015)



Celebrating Love



JAMES HELLMANNS Class of 2002

James married Sara Oehms on 2 April 2022 in the gardens at St Aloysius Church, Sevenhill. James, Sara and their children Ivy and Oscar live in Port Pirie, where James is self employed at Hellmanns Tiling.



James with his sister Anneke from the Class of 1992



DARYLL MONAGHAN Class of 1998

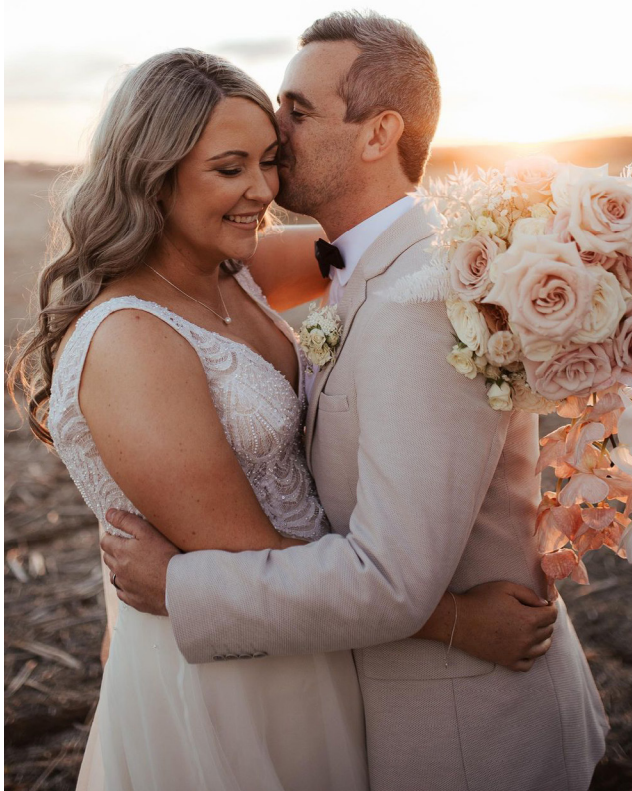
Daryll married Tania Fricker on 4 April 2022 and celebrated with family and friends at Carn Brae. Daryll and Tania live in Port Pirie, where Daryll works at Nyrstar.

Celebrating Love



EMMA STANLEY Class of 2009

Emma married Matthew Black on 8 April 2022 at Koonowla Winery in the Clare Valley. Emma and Matthew live in Port Pirie, where Emma is a Developmental Educator (Therapist) at Thrive Health Centre.



Old Scholars from the Class of 2009 Bridget McInnes (Castle), Kimberly Ramsay, Roberta Camporeale, Elise Ganley, Emma, Eliza May, Alana Giles-Lawson, Ottavia Edwards (D'Agostino) and Stine Uldjberg Hansen (who was an exchange student)

LIZZY MUNDAY

Class of 2008

Lizzy married Matthew Dunn on 23 April 2022 at The Treasury 1860 in Adelaide. Lizzy and Matthew live in Adelaide, where Lizzy is the Year 9 Coordinator at St Mary's College.



The Munday family, Jane, Peter, Matt (2012) and Patrick (2006) with Lizzy and Matthew



Celebrating Love



KATE DUNCAN

Class of 1999

Kate and Glenn were married in a ceremony at home on 24 April 2022. The couple live in Middleton, where Kate is a yoga and meditation teacher.



Kate's family includes Old Scholars' Luke Duncan (second from left, 1998) and her sisters Eloise and Brooke (both to the right of Kate, 1994 and 2015)
Corner image- Kate's sister Ebony North (2010) video called on the day from Vancouver



LIANA BELLIFEMINI, Class of 2008

Liana was recently engaged to David Monaghan-Newton while holidaying in the Whitsundays. The couple live in Adelaide, where Liana is a Senior Prevention Project Officer with the Cancer Council SA.



SAMANTHA SIMPSON, Class of 2017

Samantha was engaged to Joshua Patterson on Valentines Day this year. The couple live in Adelaide, where Samantha is a competitive boxer and trainer- you can read more about her story on page 8.

Our Newest Arrivals



CLAIRE (MUDGE) MAGLIULO, Class of 2008

Claire and Marc, along with big brother Harrison, welcomed Flynn Henry in March 2022. The family live in Port Germein and Claire owns her own photography business, Country Made Images.



DANIELLE (HADGES) DEDIC, Class of 2001

Danielle and Sasha, along with big brother Remy, welcomed Aria in January 2022. The family live in Adelaide and Danielle is a teacher at St Joseph's Hindmarsh.



EMILY (ZUBRINICH) LOWE, Class of 2005

Emily and Matt, along with big sister Lily, welcomed Harry James in November 2021. The family live in Port Pirie, where Emily works as an Occupational Therapist at Child Adolescent Mental Health Services.



BELINDA (PALMER) JACKSON, Class of 2003 and WES JACKSON, Class of 1996

Belinda and Wes, along with big brothers Asher and Lucas, welcomed Lara Joan in May 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, with Belinda working as the Communications Executive at the Port Pirie Regional Council and Wes managing Firejack.

Our Newest Arrivals



CASSIDY MANFIELD, Class of 2016

Cassidy and Jordan Fuller welcomed Zoey Ann in March 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, where Cassidy works in Administration at Thrive Health Centre.



HANNAH (CLARKE) WOODARDS, Class of 2008

Hannah and Brett welcomed Florence Faye in March 2022. The family live in Nuriootpa where Hannah is the owner / operator at Blush Beauty Boutique.



KENDALL (PRETTY) NUNAN, Class of 2012

Kendall and Nathan, along with big brother Rory, welcomed Elsie May in January 2022. The family live in Roxby Downs, Kendall is a primary school teacher.



KIRRALEE THOMAS, Class of 2017

Kirralee and Luke Patterson welcomed Aliyah Paige in December 2021. The family live in Port Pirie where Kirralee is an Employment Coach at Workskill, whilst studying registered nursing and early childhood teaching.

Our Newest Arrivals



MOLLY HEAD, Class of 2015

Molly and Adam Combe welcomed Sadie Jean in May 2022. The family live on a farm in Laura, where Molly is an Agriculture Teacher at our Bosco Campus.



MYKAYLA (PORCELLI) DEMARCO, Class of 2008

Mykayla and Cameron, along with big sister Penny, welcomed Addison Grace in February 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, Mykayla is currently enjoying some leave with her family.



TORI-ANNE GILL, Class of 2012

Tori-Anne and Coby Dwyer, along with big sister Abigayle, welcomed Louie Jonathon in November 2021. The family live in Mundoorra, where Tori-Anne is working on her clothing label 'Dark Thorn'.



KAYCEE DAVIES, Class of 2014 and TYLER THORPE, Class of 2010

Kaycee and Tyler welcomed Nate in April 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, where Kaycee works at SA Housing Authority as an Intake Housing Officer and Tyler works at Nyrstar as a Fitter and Turner.

Our Newest Arrivals



AMY COOPER, Class of 2003

Amy and Brad Pitt welcomed Georgia Ann in March 2022. The family live in Adelaide, where Amy works for Holdfast Insurance Brokers.



LAUREN PROCTER, Class of 2012 and LACHLAN MURPHY, Class of 2007

Lauren and Lachlan, along with big sister Isla, welcomed Bailey James in February 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, where Lauren works at the Mid North Education Centre and Lachlan works at Ibedrola Renewable Energy Park.



KIMBERLEY RAMSAY, Class of 2009 and BLAKE SIVIOUR, Class of 2005

Kimberly and Blake, along with big sister Willow, welcomed Larni Jane in January 2022. The family live in Port Broughton, where Kimberly is a Registered Nurse and Blake is an Owner Driver.



COREY BINNEY, Class of 2003

Corey and Sian welcomed Gracen Delilah in March 2022. The family live in Port Pirie, where Corey works for Conveyor System Technician and Boilermaker for Rema Tip Top at Olympic Dam.

Out and About



Old Scholars from the Class of 2013, Scout Burt (Remphrey), Annie Hannaford (Johnson), Amber Steff and Ashleigh Schrader celebrating the wedding of Annie and Jayden



Emma Cox (Hayes) and Alexa Simmons celebrating the wedding of Emma and Daniel



Old Scholars from the Class of 2005, Amanda Millington (Caputo), Ashleigh Lynch (Kupsch), Brian Bearman, Emily Lowe (Zubrinich) and Christie Roros (Capurso) celebrating the wedding of Kayla and Lindsay



With the rescheduling of the reunion, Old Scholars from the Class of 2001, Danielle Bishop, Anita Hoffmann, Priscilla Dycks and Abbie Thomas had a small get together to celebrate.



Celebrating the wedding of Lizzy and Matthew were Matt Munday (2012), Abby Ramsay (2006) and Pat Munday (2006)



Celebrating the wedding of Annie and Jayden were Adina LaForgia (2014) and Toby Johnson (2015)

New baby?
Just tied the knot?
Maybe you have graduated from Uni?
Or simply caught up with old school friends.

Send your photos or news to:
info@smc.catholic.edu.au
and we will include it in the next newsletter!

EVENTS

Join us

to celebrate your
SCHOOL REUNION!

Old Scholars' from the Graduating Classes of
1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011
AND
1972, 1982, 1992, 2002 and 2012

Saturday 22 October 2022,
3:30pm - 7:00pm
Bosco Campus, The Terrace, Port Pirie

Follow the event on:
www.facebook.com/stmarkspirie
to stay up to date with all of the details!



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