

REUNIONS 2009

Class of 1999 Reunion

Congratulations to the Class of 1999 for their successful reunion at the Switch and Grill Bar at Knox Ozone on October 18th. It was organised by Hamish Cramer and his committee – Damien Burger and Matt Stewart. A group of 30 people enjoyed a night together at the bar. Hamish and his committee did a lot of reconnecting with members of the class of 1999 using Facebook.

This was an important occasion as it the first time a successful 10 year reunion has taken place in recent times. Let's hope the Class of 2000 can start to think about planning their reunion for next year.

1999 Reunion



Class of 1965 Reunion

The Form II Class of 1965 also had a most successful reunion at the Valdocco Campus at St Joseph's College on Saturday afternoon October 24th. This was organised by Mark Drew and Dermot Herdwick. Twenty people turned up for a barbeque and enjoyed an afternoon renewing friendships as many had not seen one another for many years. Several people came from interstate for the occasion.

Plenty of stories were told of those early days at the College, and the staff who had taught them. It was great to see this group getting together after so many years.

1965 Reunion



Reunions 2010

Our number of reunions is growing every year as year groups realise the value of getting together to renew friendships. All planning can be done using mobiles, emails and now 'Facebook.'

The Class of 1989 and the Form III Class 1965 are planning to have their reunions early in 2010. Planning is well under way for these reunions.

In 2010 we would like to plan for 10, 20, 30, year reunions. That is, the Year 12 Class of 2000, 1990, 1980.

If anyone from the 2000 (Year 12), 1990 (Year 12), 1980 (Year 12) class groups is interested in helping to organize a reunion, please contact Peter Naughtin at the College and he will assist with your planning. Experience has shown that successful reunions occur when they are organized by people from those years.

Contact Peter Naughtin at 9758 2000, (mobile 0400 120 319) or email (pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au)

Remembrance Mass



Remembrance Mass, November 12th 2009

On November 12th, the Annual Mass for Deceased Past Students and Staff was held in the College Chapel. The Mass was celebrated by the College Rector, Fr Joe Binh Dinh, as the College especially remembered those who died in 2009: Mr Jack Turner; Ben Ranaudo and Oliver Goodrich (Oliver's death, as a result of a motor bike accident, occurred just two days before the Mass). A large number of Oliver's friends from the Class of 2006 came to remember and pray for Oliver. One highlight of the evening was when families and friends were asked to bring a red rose and place it at the altar to remember and pray for their loved one during the Mass.

Recently, past students paid for plaques to be placed on the memorial wall outside the Chapel for their departed colleagues. Any class group that wants to have a plaque made for a deceased class member, please contact Peter Naughtin at the College.



News on Past Students and Staff

If you would like to send your profile or have any past student news - marriages, births, deaths that you want published in the newsletter, please send your news item, photo, or profile to St Joseph's College (5 Brenock Park Drive, Ferntree Gully) or email to the College website, www.stjosephs.com.au/our community/past students

Update Contact Details

If you change your contact details, please let the Past Students Network know. Send change of address, mobile, e-mail to Peter Naughtin (Past Student Coordinator) at the College-pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au

Christmas Wishes

We wish all past students a happy and holy Christmas and God's blessings for the New Year. Vincent J Feeney (Principal) Fr Joe Bihn Dinh (Rector)

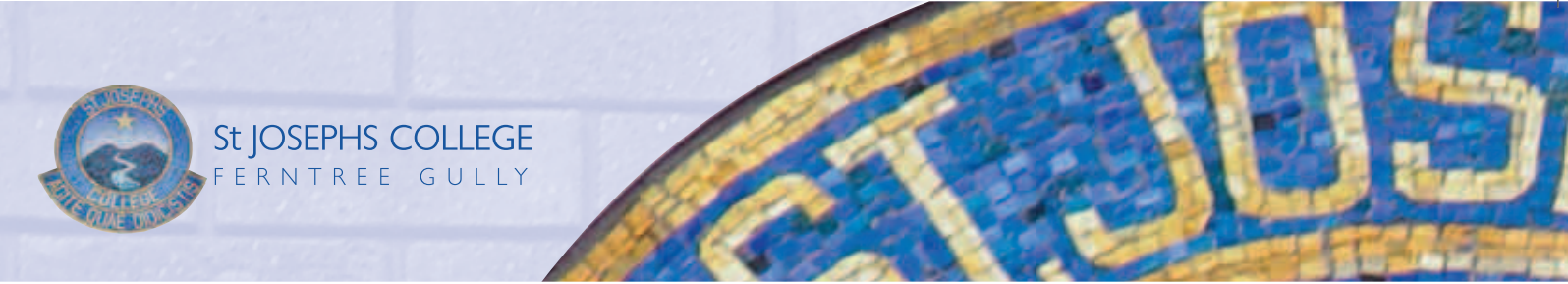


Advertising Your Business

If you are interested in advertising in the Past Students' Newsletter, please send your business card, or details of your business, and this will be scanned and placed in the back section of the newsletter.

NO ADVERTISING COSTS. Our request is that you make a small donation (\$20-\$50) to the Salesian Missions. For further details, please contact Peter Naughtin on 758 2000, pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au

Advertisement for Ray White Works. It features the company name, tagline 'Experience, insight, results', and contact information for Justin Eadie, Sales Consultant. A small photo of a man in a suit is also included.



Message from the Principal

Just the other week we had our annual Thanksgiving Mass and Awards Night. During the night we presented a new Commerce Study Award in honour of a past pupil, Michael Mathews, who died in the 90's. It was instituted by his family at the instigation of his sister. It was a beautiful tribute to have his father, sister and daughter in attendance.

During my address I reminded the boys, all high achievers and diligent workers to aspire to enter University. Now, it can be a risk saying these sorts of things for many of the parents in the audience have not been to university themselves. Lots of past pupils reading this won't have either. I had no wish to offend.

But, the world is changing. The globalised competition graduates of St Joseph's and other schools face today cares not about our fate. They want what we have and are prepared to take it from us by being smarter or better trained to compete in the world. So, we must prepare our boys for such a future.

In the past there was the chance to be self made. There may be such opportunities in the future, but experts are telling us there will be fewer such opportunities. And, as a Salesian school that is obligated by our charter to prepare young people for life, we must give them the best start, the best advice and the best chance of success in a world that will be so different in this century compared to the last.

I was so proud of our boys on that night. Not just because some of them were lucky enough to be born smart. I was proud because they were all receiving awards because they had worked hard.

It is good to see the next wave of St Joseph's boys who recognise that effort brings it own rewards.

Vin Feeney
PRINCIPAL



College Captains Ryan Newman, Cain Hill with Mr Vincent J Feeney

News Around the College

News on Past Principals of the College



Fr Bill Edwards presently resides at the Sherbrooke Nursing Home, 18 Tarana Avenue Upper Ferntree Gully. Although he is in poor health, he is able to receive visitors.



Fr Michael Ledda recently celebrated his 50 years as a Salesian Priest. He was Principal of the College from 1977 - 82.



Fr Dan O'Sullivan has celebrated his 90th birthday and now lives in Bairnsdale in a nursing home. Many people from the early days of the College will remember Fr Dan as he was Principal from 1967 - 72.

Upgrades of the School

The construction of the new Administration Wing extension at the front of the College is progressing and will be completed in Term I, in 2010.



Graduating Class 2009

Congratulations to the Class of 2009 who recently celebrated their graduation. We welcome them into the Past Students Network.



2009 Year 12 Farewell at College Assembly Graduation Mass 2009

What our past students are doing



Martin Kendrick (1998)

Since completing Year 12 at St Joseph's in 1998, Martin has taken on a number of education, travel and work opportunities. First, he completed a Commerce / Science double degree at Monash University during the final year of his studies, and was able to do a semester abroad in Vancouver, Canada. It was fantastic for him to experience University in another country where he also learned to ski and scuba dive. He highly recommends skiing in Canada but scuba diving during the Canadian winter really was a bad idea in hindsight! The waters of the Great Barrier Reef are a lot more comfortable, he said.

After finishing University, he worked in Melbourne with a large company for 18 months before being bitten by the travel bug again - this time, Japan was his destination. He spent 18 months living and working in Japan as an English Teacher. While he was there he fell in love with the food, language, people and culture. He also had an opportunity to visit quite a few other Asian countries and do some volunteer work in Vietnam. The photo below shows his meeting with a Tiger in Thailand. The next trip was to Colorado in the United States, where he spent the winter working at a ski resort (no scuba diving this time!)



Martin meets a friendly tiger on his travels

Upon returning to Australia he commenced a teaching career at Salesian College, Chadstone. He enjoys teaching because it is challenging, dynamic and offers a lot of variety. His advice to Year 12 students is to keep their options open and make the most of their opportunities. "It is a fascinating world out there that is waiting to be explored," says Martin.



Robert Altamore OAM (1973)

Robert attended St Joseph's from 1969 to 1973. After leaving the College, he went to university and graduated with Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law and completed Articles with the Melbourne law firm, Corr & Corr. In 1981 he moved to Canberra to take up employment in the Australian Public Service. He worked in various legal, policy and program administration positions and is currently a Senior Legal Office with responsibility for the maintenance of a database of Government legal opinions. He met his wife Wendy, in Canberra in 1982 and they were married in 1985. From their first meeting until today, Wendy has shared in all that Robert has achieved.

They have supported each other in their common interests in blindness organisations and in East Timor. They have travelled overseas twice: in 1987 to China, Hongkong, Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore and in 1992 to New Caledonia.

Robert has always been active in organisations for people who are blind and vision impaired, or people with disabilities. Robert's main activities have been with Blind Citizens Australia, the National peak organisation for people who are blind and vision impaired. He has been a member of the ACT Branch, Committee since 1983 and at the national level since 1986, serving as National President from 2000 to 2007. He was also a member of Australian delegations to international conferences in 1987, 2000, 2003 and 2007.

Robert was a committee member of the Canberra Radio for the Print Handicapped organisations since 1983 and is currently President of this organisation which uses radio to make printed information available to people who are blind or unable to read print.

Robert and Wendy share a desire to support the young nation of East Timor and its people. They have worked together on committees that have raised over \$80,000 for East Timor charities, in particular for the Ryder-Cheshire home in Dili, which cares for hospital recoveries and people with disabilities. Canberra Friends of Dili, where Robert is secretary, have provided money for scholarships for students to be educated at the Don Bosco Technical College in Fatamaka in East Timor.

Robert has always been interested in sport, particularly as a supporter of Carlton in the AFL and Australia in cricket. He has participated in several sports with sighted people including rowing and jogging. He has completed 3 half marathons and is currently a member of the ACT blind cricket team which will participate in the 2010 National Championships in Sydney.

In 2003, Robert was awarded an Australian Centenary Medal. In June 2009, he was privileged to be awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to people who are blind and vision impaired in various advocacy roles and for services to organisations supporting East Timor.

He is grateful to many people in his life who have helped him achieve the things he has been able to accomplish. He stated: "I am particularly grateful for the encouragement and support I received from the teachers and my fellow students at St Joseph's during those important years of my secondary education and teen and young adult life."



First past student of St Joseph's College to die in the service of his country

Private, Australian Army



Benjamin Ranaudo (2004) RIP (1987 - 2009)

Private Benjamin Ranaudo, 22, from the Townsville-based 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, was killed by an anti-personnel explosive device. He was on his first tour of Afghanistan and the 11th Australian soldier to be killed in the Afghanistan conflict on July 18th, 2009.



Ben on service in East Timor

Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Darren Murch, described Private Ranaudo as a fine soldier. He said, "He was a highly skilled infantryman and always put his mates first. He was a pleasure to be around and displayed true qualities of the Australian soldier".

His family described him as a proud soldier who believed in what he did. In a statement, the family said, "He was a son, a brother, a comrade, a life partner.

His smile could light up the darkest of days. Ben touched the lives of so many with his warm heart.

His strong spirit carried his family and friends through his absence and it will carry them through their loss. Please let's not let Benjamin's death, and the death of the other 10 soldiers, be in vain."

Ben attended St Joseph's College from 1999- 2004. His classmates organized a special memorial Mass at the College to remember their friend. Fr Joe Binh Dinh, College Rector, celebrated the Mass. Mr Guido Piotti, Mr Michael Webbers and Mr Vincent Feeney spoke movingly of their memories of Ben at the College. Ben's classmates gathered after the Mass to remember their mate and paid for a plaque in his memory to be placed on the memorial wall outside the chapel.



Class of 2004 gather with College staff and Rector, Fr Joe Binh Dinh to remember Ben

Jamie Davy (1999)

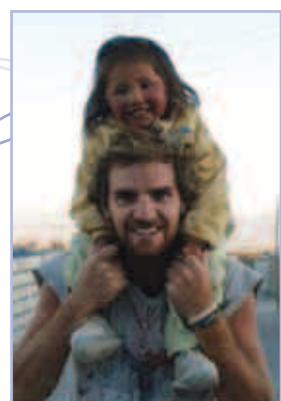


After graduating from St Joseph's in 1999, Jamie began studying for a degree in Aerospace Engineering at RMIT. After his third year of study, he took a year off to gain some work experience. He was lucky enough to find a position in Germany and this allowed him to see the sights of Europe and Morocco. He finally completed the degree in 2004.

After a few months of odd jobs, he managed to organise a job for himself in the Central American country of Honduras, in a small bilingual school on the Caribbean coast. He completed a year of teaching Science and Maths to all high school students at the school. He also commenced the city's only swim school. The country is currently in turmoil following the recent military coup.

Jamie returned to Australia in 2005, and found work with an aerospace company. At the time their main project was the Joint Strike Fighter, on which they were designing and testing various components. However, late in 2008, he decided his time in Central and South America was not complete, so eventually he packed his bags and returned for another year.

This time Jamie's adventures were based primarily in Guatemala, where he spent 6 months roaming the countryside and working in hostels and fixing sail boats.



Apart from wandering around other Central and South American countries, he also spent some time in Peru working in an English School in an extremely poor community at the base of a volcano in the city of Arequipa. "It is an incredible experience to see the way impoverished people approach their lives with so much enthusiasm, happiness, and hope for the future," he said.

His plan now is to make enough money to get over to the USA to live for some time with his American girlfriend, and later travel with her to Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras looking for some more volunteer opportunities. If anyone would like any information, he can be contacted on jimbob_oz@yahoo.com.

Shane Crocker 1979



Shane completed his HSC (Year 12) at St Joseph's in 1979. He entered the workforce in February 1980 as a clerk at Sun Alliance Insurance where he worked in various positions for 3 years. After finishing at Sun Alliance he moved into insurance

broking. Over the next 23 or so years, he gained experience in many facets of the insurance industry, working with both small to medium enterprises and corporate entities.

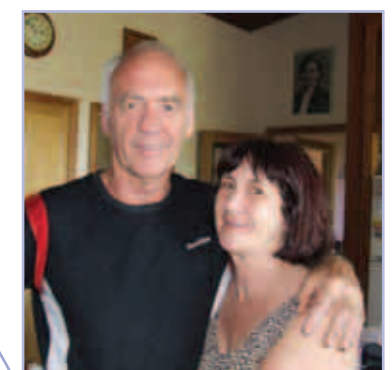
Shane is also a Certified Practicing Risk Manager and now works for an independent insurance and risk advisory firm where he is involved in the technical review of risks confronted by clients, together with the financial and insurance issues which arise from those risks.

He has regularly written articles for industry magazines on aspects of insurance and risk management and considers himself fortunate to have worked with quality clients like Clayton Utz, Ferrier Hodgson, Seven Network, Network Ten, Nylex, DibbsBarker and United Group. Shane is still a local. He lives in Upper Ferntree Gully with his wife Karen, whom he married in 1987. They have a son, Sam who is currently a Year 10 student at the College, and a daughter, Kaitlyn.

Away from work Shane enjoys a round of golf and a surf (on very infrequent occasions these days). He has always loved his Aussie rules football, playing until injury got the better of him in 1989. He follows North Melbourne in the AFL and has coached Upper Ferntree Gully Junior Football Club for the past 4 years.

David Carroll (1967)

After completing Year 7 at Whitefriars, Dave was one of about 35 students to make up the inaugural class of 1965 at St. Joseph's. He completed Years 8 to 10 before transferring to Upwey High School where commercial studies were on offer for Year 11 and 12. For Dave, academic studies came a distant second to football which was his passion.



He was captain of the school football teams and looks back on this in hindsight as a real privilege. He remembers they had some fantastic football teams and fondly also remembers victories over tough rivals at Rupertswood College in Sunbury.

Like many students at St. Joseph's during this era, the recollections centered on education under Fr Bill Edwards, who was a man who embodied the Spirit of Don Bosco. Not only did he live the passion of Don Bosco, Dave remembers thinking what a striking resemblance there was between the two men. Fr Eddy's (that is what students called him) passion came through in many a powerful and emotional homily where he skillfully delivered his message. Often the theme was focused on giving serious thought to joining the priesthood. He doesn't know about the other boys, but he remembers finding himself fighting against his wishes. How different life would have been if he took up his call!

After Upwey High School, he successfully completed a Degree in Business Studies (Accounting) at Swinburne Institute of Technology, then worked with one of the big accounting firms in Melbourne for three years before heading off to London in 1975

to work and travel Europe in a combi van with old school mates from St Joseph's. They had a great time but he looks back with some regret that he was both ignorant and unappreciative of the history and cultures which abound in England and Europe.

In 1977 he married Lyn - a girl he met at Upwey High School. Their relationship bore three children and they remain married and in love more than ever to this day. In 1979 he entered the TAFE teaching profession and worked for Swinburne until 2006 when he retired from full-time employment to commence a small business auditing real estate trust accounts. His time is also taken up writing a biography on local boy Dave Russell, which he hopes to complete by June of 2010.

Damien Burger (1999)



Damien with daughter Claire

At the recent ten year reunion, Damien recalled the question he was often asked, "How was Nepal?". In early 2000, he set off on a 7 month trip that would change his life. From Nepal he went to Northern India and then Calcutta. He ended up in the home of the late Mother Theresa, and with many volunteers from all over the world, he worked with the poorest of the poor. In this

work, and through the example of the Missionary of Charity Sisters, he found his faith. Since then he has come to know and love the Catholic Church more and more. At the same time he met the girl of his dreams, Tatiana. They weren't sure what the future would hold for them, because he was from Australia and she was from Costa Rica.

During his Engineering degree at RMIT, they were in constant contact. Damien moved to Costa Rica, and married Tatiana in 2006. During his 4 years in Costa Rica he worked for Intel and a Wind Energy Company. Eight months ago their first child, Claire was born. They moved to Melbourne recently, and he is now studying a Masters Degree in Business Administration at Melbourne University Business School.

Oliver Goodrich (2006) RIP (1988-2009)



After graduating from St Joseph's College in 2006, Oliver undertook studies in the environment and was employed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). Oliver also worked as a projectionist at the Cameo Cinema in Belgrave. He had a passion for music and was a talented guitarist in his band 11 Eyes. Oliver's hard work at the DSE paid off when he was appointed to work on the Royal Commission into the Black Saturday bushfires.

Oliver did not have time to explore his dreams or a chance to fully develop his talents. He died on November 10th this year in a motor bike accident. His funeral was held at St Paul's Monbulk where his family and friends paid tribute to a wonderful young man. Friendly and well liked by his peers, Oliver will be sadly missed by the St Joseph's Community and all who knew this talented young man.

At the funeral, Ryan Cassidy, a friend and classmate of Oliver, read this poem that he wrote to celebrate his life. He has given permission for it to be printed. It reflects the thoughts and feelings of many who attended the funeral.

Ollie

A lovely young man who had the world at his feet,
His car, his bike, his room so neat.
Full of life and the drive to success,
Brighten our day with his charm and finesse.
Cheeky in his own way, but love for all,
Fun and enthused we look forward to his call.
His always positive attitude and his bright white smile,
For his friends and family he would go the extra mile.
So many things we can say to describe our mate, our son,
our partner, our brother,
He will be in all of our hearts now and forever.
In a better place now, or so they say,
We will see you again, somewhere, someday.
Miss-you buddy, love from us all,
Keep strong and we will too,
How happy and lucky we all are to have met you.
Flipping love you babe.