

What our past students are doing (continued)



Joseph Zonneveldt (1967)

Joseph 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 Bayswater High School to complete his secondary education. The highlights of his years at St Joseph's were the tremendous friendships forged with all the students, teachers, Priests & Brothers and Father Edwards (Eddie) in particular. He recalls they were always welcomed visitors of the Lysterfield Farm and he never forgot the bike ride from Ferntree Gully to Dromana and the adventures at the Salesians camp. In his opinion, the Salesian Order had the right recipe in providing a well balanced education in academia, sports, personal development and life skills. Joseph owes them all a great amount of gratitude for providing him the best foundation skills possible.

As his academic bent was in the Maths and Accounting area, Joseph pursued a career working in various accounting roles in the mining, concrete manufacturing and cosmetics industries. After 9 years this work ceased to stimulate his interest so he pursued a career in industrial engineering working in the cosmetic and motor manufacturing industries and returned to part time study at Swinburne for the next 6 years. He was fortunate to travel to Japan for study tours with Nissan which was the start of his real life passion, travel!

His sporting bent was basketball. He vividly recalls the countless games he enjoyed on the outside court at St Joseph's. He pursued this sport passionately after leaving school and was a late recruit for the Croydon Pacemakers team, started up by Br Terry Hurley from the Sacred Heart Monastery in Croydon.

During this period he married a remarkable woman, Kathleen and they have 3 incredible adult children and now have 3 equally awesome grandchildren, ranging from 3 to 8 years of age.

With the decline in demand for Industrial Engineers, he was offered a career change in the Training & Development field with Nissan, culminating in managing their Shop Floor Management Program in their Australian operations. This also meant returning to night school for another 6 years to successfully attain a Bachelor in Training & Development at Melbourne University.

He says life has presented him with all kinds of challenges. His work changed with the withdrawal of Nissan from manufacturing in Australia and so he explored another career change in the Vocational Education sector for the Building & Construction Industry National Training Board. He learnt much about the new industry, the workings of Government plus the new world of Industrial relations! He enjoyed travelling extensively throughout Australia plus a private trip to Namibia, Africa in 1997.

After successfully overcoming a health challenge in 2000, Joseph decided on a complete 'sea change' and moved to Brisbane continuing to work in Training & Development but completely re-thinking his life direction and life style. He was again very fortunate to have the opportunity to work in India in 2002 and enjoy a private trip resulting in forging some new and endearing friendships.

One endearing friendship was re-ignited by a former St Joseph's school colleague, Herman Beuvink who had returned to the Netherlands in 1969. After 35 years he found Joseph in Mt. Martha and they reinvigorated their friendship, resulting in Joseph travelling to visit Herman and his wife in Europe in 2004, 2007 and again in June 2010.

Last year was the year of Reunions for him and he immensely enjoyed the St Joseph's Class of 1965 Reunion in October plus the memorable Pacemakers basketball Reunion in August. He looks forward to meeting with those great guys in the class of 1965 again and hopefully continue to do so on a regular basis.

Apart from work and enjoying, cycling, swimming and some tennis, Joseph is currently busy building a mud brick dwelling for his retirement on a community property in northern NSW. He is also heavily involved in assisting in establishing a holistic foster care facility in Victoria for Salem Australia and together with his voluntary involvement with Youth In Service (Qld) and his family and friends, his time is pretty well spent.

Reunions 2010

Our number of reunions is growing every year as year groups realise the value of getting together to renew friendships.

In 2010 we hope to have 10, 20, 30, 40 year reunions. That is, the Year 12 Class of 2000, 1990, 1980 and the Year 7 Class of the 1970.

If anyone from the 2000 Year 12, 1990 Year 12, 1980 Year 12, 1970 Year 7 groups is interested in joining an organising committee for a reunion, please contact the College. Several groups have already started organising the reunion and would appreciate any assistance in the planning. Experience has shown that successful reunions occur when they are organised by people from those years.

Contact: Peter Naughtin at 9758 2000 or email pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au

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 item of news, 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 Student Network know. Send change of address, mobile, e-mail to Peter Naughtin (Past Student Coordinator) at the College pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au or on the College website: www.stjosephs.com.au/our-community/past-students.

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 9758 2000, pnaughtin@stjosephs.com.au



St JOSEPHS COLLEGE
FERNTREE GULLY

St Joseph's College Past Students Newsletter

June 2010

Message from the Principal

Recently the College has lost two men of significance.

Photos from 1965 show a young Fr Bill Edwards welcoming the boys to the newly opened Don Bosco High School, later to be named St Joseph's College. It is clear from the photo that here was priest of the people or in this case, the students. He was at the College for only two years in that first stint but is spoken of in terms that defy the brevity of his tenure. He would return in the 90s for a second stint, this time as Rector but not Principal.

Fr Jim Carroll was Business Manager at a time when the College struggled most financially. His astute acumen and tireless work to steward the resources played a significant role in our recovery and the return to where we are today.

Both men were fine priests, outstanding Salesians and wonderful witnesses to the vision of Don Bosco's work with young people.

They will be missed by a school community that remembers their great contributions.

Vincent J. Feeney
PRINCIPAL

News Around the College

Fr Bill Edwards sdb (RIP 1928 - 2010)



the life Fr Bill had led and the impact this humble man had on so many people.



News Around the College (continued)

Fr Bill was ordained in 1956 and after a time as Prefect of Studies at Salesian College in Chadstone, he was appointed as first Principal of St Joseph's College, Ferntree Gully. Sadly for the College, he was asked to take on the position of Novice Master, at the end of 1967 and was responsible for the training of the young Salesians. He returned to the College for several years in the 1990's as Rector. The great quality that Fr Bill showed in his life was the way he lived in the true spirit of Don Bosco, taking care of young people placed in his care. He lived out Don Bosco's "Reason, Religion and Kindness" every day of his life.

Past students from his time as Principal still remember his concern for them. Fr Bill worked to establish the College under very difficult circumstances when no Government finance was available to Catholic schools. Fortunately, the College had the chance to thank him for his great contribution to the College at the 40th anniversary celebrations with a special presentation.



Fr Bill Edwards opens the doors on the first day of classes Feb 5, 1965



Fr Bill Edwards' burial at Rupertswood

Fr Jim Carroll sdb (RIP 1924-2010)



Fr Jim Carroll sdb, one of the oldest and prominent members of the Salesians of Don Bosco in Australia, died on Saturday, 15 May after being admitted to William Angliss Hospital in Upper Ferntree Gully with pneumonia.

Fr Jim joined the staff of St Joseph's College in 1994 as College Bursar, steering the College through a

difficult financial period. He is well remembered for many roles in his long stay at the College: Chaplain; College Bursar; carpenter; handyman; mentor to staff and member of the Salesian Community. Fr Jim spent many Christmas holidays working in the College workshop mending, repairing or rebuilding equipment and College furnishings. He continued to play an active role in the life of the College until last year. Being a very social man who loved company and food, Fr Jim always joined staff to celebrate someone's, anyone's, birthday.

Prior to his service at St Joseph's College, Fr Jim spent many years at Rupertswood in Sunbury, working with boarders and managing the farm. He also spent many years as Provincial Economist, supervising the financial and administrative interests of the Salesian Province.

News Around the College (continued)

Graduates 2009

Almost all (95 %) of the graduates of 2009 received tertiary offers which was an outstanding result. Our careers counsellors and teachers at St Joseph's encourage students to consider pathways and options that are specifically engineered to each individual's interests and skill. The breakdown is : 60% received university offers; 34% received TAFE offers and 5 % entered the work force.

We congratulate the class of 2009 on their results and wish all the best for their future educational and career paths.

The Administration Wing

The new administration wing will be completed and ready for use for the commencement of Term 3.



What our past students are doing



Richard with daughter Lily

Richard Brown (1987)

Richard completed his secondary education at St Joseph's between 1984-87 and moved to Sydney with his family where he completed his education at De La Salle Oakhill. Though he did not finish Year 12 at St Joseph's, he kept in contact with many friends at the College.

After finishing school, Richard worked at many jobs until he found his feet at the brewery Lion Nathan where he settled down, eventually moving to Unilever 8 years ago, where he currently works as a National Customer Manager and travels the country with his work.

In 1992 he met Tamishca and married in 1995. He now lives in Seven Hills in NSW with 3 children, Caleb 6, Jasmine 3 and Lily 2. Without doubt he has the easy job as Tamishca is a stay at home mum!

Reflecting on his time at St Joseph's, Richard says he misses the school athletic carnivals the most, but his journey has been an interesting one. Now that he is a parent himself he can see the value in a Catholic school education and the values you gain. His eldest is now at a Catholic Primary school.

"I'm an extremely lucky man" quotes Richard "to be blessed with a beautiful wife and 3 children that mean the world to me."

Michael Milligan (1989)



Michael was College Captain in 1989 and then studied at Monash University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with Honors. During his time at Monash he worked for the then Victorian Minister for Labour, Neil Pope and later for Simon Crean, eventually moving to Canberra to work as an advisor for Simon Crean in his role as Federal Minister for

Primary Industries and Energy.

After the change of Government in 1996, Michael worked for the Australian Seafood Industry Council and the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association. He also continued his studies, completing a Graduate Diploma in Natural Resources Law and then a Bachelor of Laws at the ANU.

In 2000 Michael moved to Belgium as the Secretary General of the Mobile Manufacturers Forum (MMF), a newly established international trade association representing the wireless communications industry. In this role he represented the industry to governments around the world. In 2006 he moved to Hong Kong to expand the association's role in Asia where most of the new regulatory challenges are being faced.

Michael never lost his contact with Australia. He completed his Master of Laws at the ANU and was admitted to the ACT Supreme Court while still living in Belgium. He returns to Australia regularly with work and he and his wife have a home just outside Canberra where they return as often as they can with their two children.



Shaun McKeogh (1986)

Shaun McKeogh graduated from St Joseph's in 1986. He fondly remembers the years spent at the College: the friends, characters and stories from the past. Since leaving, he worked with the Salesians for 5 years

while studying primary teaching. He taught around Australia and in Vietnam for 13 years before moving into the Theme Park Industry where he is now an internationally respected Theme Park professional.

Currently Shaun is living in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with his wife and 3 children. He is the Training & Development Manager for Farah Leisure Parks Management, LLC. managing Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, the Middle East's largest water park and the development of a Warner Bros. Theme Park. Ferrari World Abu Dhabi is the world's most anticipated theme park project which will be the world's largest indoor theme park, operating the world's fastest rollercoaster and over 20 unique high tech, thrill experiences.

He also currently serves as an industry representative on the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions Human Resources Committee. For over 6 years, Shaun managed the training at Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World, Wet 'N' Wild Water World and Australian Outback Spectacular in Australia.

His experience has enabled him to create motivating workplaces where the delivery of exceptional service and fun becomes the norm. As a learning and development specialist for the Leisure and Amusement Industry, he is experienced and passionate about delivering extra-ordinary customer service, leadership development and performance management.

He has co-authored an exciting new book "Reasons 2 Reward", which highlights how to improve profits and productivity in businesses through workplace reward and recognition. The book was launched in Las Vegas recently and is about to be launched around Australia. His web site www.reasons2reward.com is a portal for businesses to gain resources, training and consultancy to improve employee and business performance.



Paul McKeogh (1981)

Paul attended St Joseph's between 1977 and 1981. He commenced a carpentry apprenticeship in 1982 with a commercial builder and after completing his apprenticeship he spent the next 18 years

there as a site manager. In 2002 he started his own company 'Schedule Constructions Pty Ltd', which concentrates on school and local government work, and the company is extremely busy.

He is married to Michelle who works part time looking after the company payroll. They have four children: Catherine 18 who is attending ACU studying primary teaching; Hayden 17, completing his VCE at Mazenod College, Mulgrave; Lauren 16 who is in Year 10 at Sacre Coeur Malvern; Kieren 14 who is currently completing Year 9 at Mazenod College. After marrying in 1991 Paul and Michelle lived in Wantirna South until 2003, then moved to Lysterfield into their newly completed home. Between work and the children's numerous sporting events, Paul loves to sneak in 18 holes of golf, although it never seems to be often enough.

He has many fond memories of St Joseph's College with some exceptional teachers, and great students.

Damien McKeogh (RIP)

Damien, brother of Paul and Shaun also attended St. Joseph's from 1983 to 1987 (Year 11) when he moved on to complete an apprenticeship as a Carpenter. Damien died in a tragic car accident in 1991 aged 20. He was a keen footballer and member of the St. Joseph's football team. He was a popular student and mate to many St. Joseph's boys whose friendships he maintained after leaving the College.



Michael Bilston (1990)

Michael left St Joseph's in 1990 to take up a carpentry apprenticeship. A talented footballer, Michael was invited to train with North Melbourne football club, however due to several knee injuries, was not able to embark on a professional career.

Content to play with Belgrave Football Club, in 1999 Michael, Anthony and David were all members of the premiership team. Although currently living in Belgrave, Michael has spent a considerable amount of time travelling around Australia and overseas.

Broome was a favourite location and Michael settled there for a short time, working on the pearl boats and enjoying the fishing! In 2005 Michael ventured overseas and was working in London during the terrorist bombings. Having backpacked through Europe and Asia, Michael, admits that he is keen to undertake more travel.

Anthony Bilston (1997)



Anthony graduated in 1997 and followed in Michael's footsteps by also completing a carpentry apprenticeship. He now operates his own successful business AB Carpentry Concepts. Also a talented footballer, Anthony has only recently retired from playing football with his brothers due to work commitments and injuries. In 2006 Anthony married Leigh Perkins and settled in Ferntree Gully. They are now the proud parents of 18 month old twin daughters Liv and Ava. Life for Anthony is quite hectic at the moment with managing the business, looking after the girls and trying to renovate his own home.



David Bilston (1999)

David graduated in 1999. Before embarking on a physiotherapy degree David took time off to travel the east coast of Australia with a mate. Graduating from La Trobe University in 2006, he worked in private practice both in Australia and overseas. He currently works for The Soft Tissue Centre with colleague

and former St Joseph's student, Matthew Stewart.

In 2008 David, and his fiancé Alana, backpacked around the world for 10 months. In Central and South America they travelled with former students Damien Burger and Jamie Davy. This will be an eventful year for David as not only has he bought a house and is planning a November wedding, but he has also taken up the challenge as Assistant Coach for the South Belgrave Senior Football Club.

Although busy with their individual lives the brothers often spend time together, whether its fishing, a social sporting team or just helping each other renovate. Keen footballers, they spent many years playing for Belgrave Football Club in the same team. Working in similar trades Anthony and Michael regularly work together, and David even lends a hand when needed.