Turning 75 is a significant achievement and the College certainly celebrated in style last year. Following the success of our 75th Anniversary Dinner in June, we followed up with two more impressive and well-attended 75th anniversary functions.

The College gathered at St Patrick’s Cathedral on August 21st to celebrate St. Bernard’s Day with Mass. From the steps, it was a wonderful sight to see over 1400 boys in St. Bernard’s uniforms emerge from Parliament station and converge on the Cathedral. Principal celebrant, Bishop Terry Curtin, was joined by Old Collegian priests and our most recently ordained priest Deacon Joel Peart. The College musicians were wonderful and all present will long remember the day.

I had the privilege of welcoming everyone to the Cathedral. My welcome address included the following:

“On 20 August 1940, the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill delivered one of the most memorable lines of the 20th century; ‘Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.’ Churchill was referring, of course, to the Battle of Britain, the epic repulsion of the German air force by the fighter pilots of the British Empire, many of them Australians.

That day, 75 years ago, was also the feast day of St. Bernard of Clairvaux. On that same day, 224 boys in years 7 to 11 carried their desks from St. Monica’s across the Park to a new school on The Strand in Moonee Ponds. Four Christian Brothers, under the leadership of Brother Cregan, began classes and St. Bernard’s College was born. We believe it was named St. Bernard’s as a result of the day classes commenced. I am certain that St. Bernard’s is the great College that it has become today, in no small part, because of the efforts of these four Christian Brothers.”

It is probable that neither the Brothers, nor the students and their families, understood that what they had started would grow to what we now know as St. Bernard’s. But we do know, or can make educated guesses about some of what this small community of teachers, students and families understood.

We can be sure they understood their small part in the 2000-year story of Jesus Christ and the Church, and that they saw themselves as part of the Church, it’s story, and saw God as having a central place in their lives.

Equally, we can be certain they understood the particular robust variety of Catholicism of the Irish Christian Brothers order and the commitment to providing young men with an education that equipped them to succeed temporally and spiritually.

We know they understood the importance of high standards and the privilege and significance of being Catholic. In the School report at the end of that first year on Nov 24 1940, Br. Cregan wrote “the boys in the newly erected College are a splendid type, are very keen on their work and show that refinement and culture worthy of a great school and worthy of their splendid Catholic forbears.”

I feel sure that they understood the importance of community (parish and school!) and they certainly understood the importance of hard work and ambition and how to leave a legacy. And we are the inheritors of that legacy.

Today we gather 900 years since St. Bernard founded the Abbey at Clairvaux and 75 years after the Christian Brothers founded St Bernard’s College. Now a much larger school and community, we share the same understandings of our founders.

As we look back on 75 years of learning and doing, the faith-filled catholic learning community of St. Bernard’s College that we proudly belong to, we might echo the same sentiments as Churchill... How much we owe to those who helped create what we have today.

I wish you all a wonderful celebration of St. Bernard’s Day.

A fleet of coaches delivered the students back to West Essendon after Mass, where lunch was provided prior to a concert (‘St. Bernard’s got talent’) in the Gym.

The final 75th anniversary event was an ‘Open Day’ held on Sunday October 25. The focus of the Open Day was on inviting Old Collegians and members of the extended school community to view the College facilities. Highlights of the day included the Annual Art Show, the opportunity to taste the cuisine prepared by food technology students and the opportunity to browse an extensive display of photos and material from the archives.

The Open Day was well-attended and proved a fitting finale to our year of celebration. Happy Birthday St. Bernard’s!

Tony Paatsch, Principal
As this is my first official article as president of SBOCA, I would like to take this opportunity to thank its previous president, Bert Werden, for all his efforts and hard work. Under his tenure, the organisation has developed significantly and I hope I can continue on this legacy.

Well, what a year it has been for the College and its community of Old Collegians. 2015 marked 75 years since the first students were enrolled into St. Bernard’s College in Moonee Ponds. To mark this significant milestone, the College, in conjunction with SBOCA, organised a variety of commemorative events. The pinnacle of this was the Gala dinner held at Flemington Racecourse. This night attracted over 500 attendees and was graced with a depth and variety of wonderful guest speakers and performers, all of whom were Old Boys. Each, leaders in their respective fields, reflected on how St. Bernard’s played a pivotal role in their lives and still holds a special place in their heart. I would like to congratulate Professor Mark Rose (’73), who was inducted into the St. Bernard’s Hall of Fame on the night.

Other events included the College Open Day in October, which saw the doors of the College thrown open and past students encouraged to take a look around. All were encouraged by the many new buildings providing leading education facilities, not only in the standard fields, but in areas such as Food Technology and the Visual Arts. The College also held a photographic competition, with entrants encouraged to capture what St Bernard’s meant them, we hope to be able to share some of the fantastic entries with you soon!

2015 saw the second awarding of SBOCA’s ‘Leadership in the Community Grant’. The grant aims to both recognise some of the fantastic projects that past students are involved in and to provide some financial support to help them continue and grow. This year’s winner was Andrew Gurrisi (’08) who will be running a cultural emersion program to East Africa on behalf of Amberley Edmund Rice Centre in 2016. Applications for the 2016 grant will open around mid-2016, so stay tuned!! Also in 2016, SBOCA, in conjunction with the careers department, is pleased to announce its ‘Global Gateway Grant’. The grant aims to encourage students to act, think and engage as global citizens through facilitating opportunities abroad. It will provide both recognition and financial aid to past students who involve themselves in a formal international experience such as tertiary, industry and volunteer programs. Keep an eye out for more details in the New Year!

SBOCA’s series of Business Breakfasts in 2015 continued to deliver an outstanding selection of leading and highly-regarded speakers. The events provide a great opportunity to hear some of the best minds speak on their respective fields, while catching up with fellow past students over a relaxed breakfast. I would encourage all to consider attending a breakfast in 2016. In combination with breakfast, SBOCA runs a mentoring program. The program aims to provide mentoring for past students and is always looking for both new mentors and mentees. Please contact Bernie Cronin at bcronin@sbc.vic.edu.au if you would like to be involved. Supporting SBOCA’s goals of mentoring and career support in 2016 will be the further development of our ‘Linkedin’ page, which was originally developed by Old Boy Michael Dalic (’06). Find the link on our website to sign on.

I would like wish you all the best for 2016 and encourage you to keep in touch! We can be found on most social media, just visit our website for more details at www.sboca.org.au

Before closing, I would like to thank our outgoing Development Officer, Cameron Evans, on his dedication and effort towards the Old Collegians over the 6 and a half years he has been at the College, and wish him the best for the future!

Lachlan Yourn, President
Well, what a year it was! As the 75th year of this great College draws to a close, there is little doubt that it has been an outstanding success and reaffirmed just how much the College still means to those who have attended over those 75 years. You can read about many of the various celebrations in this edition but, for now, we are already looking ahead to 2016 and all it holds.

Friday April 22 sees the return of the St. Bernard’s College Foundation Hall of Fame Dinner with the induction of two more members, Justin Madden (‘78) is an icon of the Carlton Football Club, playing 287 games for one of the AFL’s most popular franchises (after playing 45 with Essendon). He captured two premierships (1987 and 1995), won two John Nicholls medals (1985 and 1991), was second in the 1985 Brownlow medal and won All-Australian selection in 1995. Following his amazing AFL journey, he entered politics and, over a 15-year career in Victorian State Parliament, held seven Ministerial portfolios within successive Victorian Labor Governments across 11 years including Minister for Youth Affairs, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Planning.

Frank FitzGerald was Principal of SBC from 1996 -2008. During this time, the College’s profile and enrolment numbers skyrocketed as the College went from strength to strength under his inspired leadership. Academically, marks rose across the board as learning opportunities increased significantly, whilst discipline was raised to a new level both inside and outside the classroom. An extensive building program, the likes of which the College had ever seen changed the physical face of the College, including the construction of an auditorium, swimming pool, pavilion and hockey/tennis courts. Much of what we love and enjoy at St. Bernard’s today is due to Frank’s vision and leadership.

Look out for booking details to the College’s night of nights early in the new year.

And finally, on a personal note, this will be my 14th and final edition of The Strand as I step down from my role at the College. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past 6 and half years, especially the interaction I’ve had with many of you during that time. The role was a highly challenging but unbelievably rewarding one and I’m grateful for the opportunity to have experienced this wonderful institution from the other side of the desk. I look forward to remaining a part of the St. Bernard’s community and watching the College go from strength to strength in the future.

Cameron Evans
Cameron Evans, Editor
The thank yous flowing from such a great year are both many and very special. Often than not, see’s that organisation succeed in its endeavors. A large organisation plays their role, it becomes a powerful force that, more than anything, makes the club what it is and why we all love it. The club says thank you very much. When everyone in the club, on and off the field, played their role, and a coaching and playing group lead superbly by Coach Anthony Rock and Captain Tom Caven, who all loved and breathed their motto of “Never Give In!”

Later, further expansion: The spacious 32-acre property should be able to more than adequately facilitate future expansions at St. Bernard’s. Already, two new ovals are taking shape under the constant vigilance of Br. Monagle and further improvements are planned for 1970.

It was a success story built on the back of everyone involved at the club playing their role, and a coaching and playing group lead superbly by Coach Anthony Rock and Captain Tom Caven, who all loved and breathed their motto of “Never Give In!”

The club has always been strong and had a very proud history, with multiple Premierships as we moved from lower divisions to A-Grade, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to all the players, coaches, administrators and volunteers who served the club so well over five decades. From this tremendous base, the club, in recent years, stepped up planning and communication and invited the community to “Get on Board”. The community has responded very positively, with initiatives like the Ladies Network, The Diamond Dogs Coterie Group and the Football Academy, going from strength to strength. From Auskick, through the Junior Club and into the Seniors, all levels of the club have worked hard and smart, and the results have been evident for all to see.

Auskickers had a lot of fun and built on their skills and fitness, the Junior Club always welcomes players of all abilities and, at the same time, the majority of teams made finals, highlighted by the U16 As winning the flag for the first time in seven years. Meanwhile, in the senior club, our strong football development focus and programs continued to improve players as individuals and lead to some outstanding team results. Two of the three U19 teams played finals, with defending premiers, U19 Prem, again making the grand final. Two of the three senior teams played finals, with the Seniors bouncing back from a nail biting semifinal defeat, with an 11-goal premiership player and captain, committeeman and School Board Vice Chair, Matt Mulkearns. All involved at the club have very much enjoyed the very positive start to the next chapter in the St. Bernards Football Club story.

This all happened because everyone at the club, on and off the field, played their role, for which the clubs say thank you very much. When everyone in a large organisation plays their role, it becomes a powerful force that, more often than not, sees that organisation succeed in its endeavors.

The thank yous flowing from such a great year are both many and very special. Firstly, to Principal Tony Platsch and his team at the school, your support and co-operation continues to be exemplary and much appreciated. To all our generous sponsors, lead by Major Sponsor the Moonee Ponds Club, Platinum Sponsors Nelson Alexander, Bendigo Bank – Community Branch Strathmore, John Fawkner Hospital and all the others listed on stbernardsfcs.com.au, thank you for your terrific support. We again urge all at the club to support those great community-minded firms that support the football club.

To all our hundreds of volunteers and special support groups, like the Ladies Network, Diamond Dogs, Past Players Club, Junior & Senior Parents and friends, you played your role magnificently.

To our Football Department, including all Coaches, Players, Team Managers, Medical & Training Staff, Logistics and operational support, win, lose or draw you were first class.

We would like to thank Senior Coach Anthony Rock on a job very expertly done. Anthony was critical in elevating the club to the level required to succeed. We wish Anthony all the best in his new and exciting role in the AFL with Fremantle FC and we extend a warm welcome to Mark Riley (ex Carlton/ Melbo/Suns AFL assistant) as our new senior coach for 2016.

I would personally like to thank both the Junior and Senior Club Committees for their outstanding work, keeping our very large and busy club hurtling along in the right direction. Very well done.

The club’s history was captured two years ago in our award winning book, “Forever Strong” a publication managed and produced expertly by former premiership player and captain, committeeman and School Board Vice Chair, Matt Mulkearns. All involved at the club have very much enjoyed the very positive start to the next chapter in the St. Bernards Football Club story.

However the story certainly doesn’t stop here, because “2016 Starts Now”. We kicked off preseason training on November 16th, as we stay very focused on creating the best possible environment we can for our players and their families.

So finally, we invite everyone to join us again in 2016 and to tell your friends they are welcome to “Get on Board”, for another exciting and rewarding year of football, fun and friendship at St. Bernards FC.
View ‘Collegians of Old’ on the College website: www.sbc.vic.edu.au

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Towards the end of 2014, St. Bernard’s were planning celebrations for the College’s 75th Anniversary, which inspired the Old Collegians Association of St. Bernard’s (SBOCA) to produce a web series featuring people of St. Bernard’s to commemorate the College’s 75th Anniversary in 2015. Our aim for ‘The Collegians of Old’ was to not only document the College’s illustrious history through the compelling journeys of its alumni but more importantly, to provide inspiration to the current and future generations of St. Bernard’s.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks & sincere appreciation to the following people who made The Collegians of Old possible through their unwavering support & endearing contribution:

All Episode Guests & Participants: Tobin Brothers Funerals (Sponsor), Handy Kartika (Hands on Productions), Tony Paatsch (St. Bernard’s College Principal), 2015 College Captains (Narration), Ross Pulo (Narration), Bernard Cronin and Cameron Evans (Development at St. Bernard’s College), Maureen Kavanagh and Julie Johnston (St. Bernard’s College Archivists), The Ladies Auxiliary (President Jenny Goring), The Old Collegians Association (President Lachlan Yourn), and The Old Collegians Football Club (President Patrick Crabb).

THE FUTURE

On a personal note, producing The Collegians of Old was such a rewarding and gratifying journey, which I will cherish forever. I am immensely proud of St. Bernard’s development since I graduated in 2007. This is by no means a conclusion of honouring the College’s history - it’s the beginning of many initiatives to commend and learn from its indelible impact on generations of the St. Bernard’s community (students, staff, families and volunteers) who continue to exemplify the College motto: Discere et Agere (To Learn and To Do).

NOTABLE QUOTES

“It’s not the facilities, the sporting achievements or the buildings that have made St. Bernard’s College – IT’S THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE ST. BERNARD’S COLLEGE.”
TONY WATERS, Teacher

“The more I reflect on it, To Learn and To Do is a great motto for a College such as St. Bernard’s. That’s one of the great things that I’ve learnt in life.”

“I have nothing but great memories of my student years at St. Bernard’s. When I made my debut with The Essendon Football Club during Year 12, the staff at the College gave me a tremendous amount of support which I’ll always be grateful for.”
MATTHEW LLOYD, Student (1990-1995), AFL Legend.

“To be Captain of the College’s first ACC Football Premiership side in 1963 was a wonderful thrill, which I’ve carried right through my life and it’s now an ever greater thrill as I look forward to my grandsons attending the College.”

“Whensoever former staff members are asked about their time at St. Bernard’s, they always mention that they regretted leaving the staff they were working with.”
CAROL IANNAZZO, Staff Member & ACC Swimming Coach (1994-2013).

“When I think of my time as St. Bernard’s, I always think of a sense of community and family – that’s what I remember the most.”
SUZIE BRADMORE, Staff Member & Performing Arts Co-ordinator (2001-2013).

“The Ladies Auxiliary has always been an important aspect of St. Bernard’s because it establishes important friendships amongst the mothers of the students which resonate throughout the College community.”
INA MAHONEY, Inaugural Member of The Ladies Auxiliary.

“I’ve been fortunate in life and for that I thank the wonderful influence of the Christian Brothers and I’m proud at how St. Bernard’s has shaped the lives of so many students.”
NOEL O’BRIEN, Student (1942-1946), Founder of ‘O’Brien Catering’.

“I was very fortunate to have a great education at St. Bernard’s, which provided me with wonderful opportunities in life.”

“Throughout my years at St. Bernard’s as a student and staff member, I learnt creativity, resilience and lateral thought – attributes which gave me terrific opportunities in business.”
RON GAUCI, Student (1972-1977), Staff Member (1982-1985).

“All of the valuable leadership lessons that I learnt as College Vice-Captain, I’ve applied in business.”
ANDREW MORELLO, Student (1998-2003), Head of Business Development at Yellow Brick Road (2009-Present).

Anthony Lastrina
Anthony Lastrina, St. Bernard’s College Vice Captain (2007), Secretary of the St. Bernard’s Old Collegians Association (2015).
Friday August 21 was a wonderful day of celebration for the College as over 1400 students, 100 staff members and several prominent Old Collegians gathered at St Patrick’s Cathedral to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the College.

The principal celebrant was Bishop Terry Curtin and 8 Old Collegian priests (Kerry Cronan, Gerard Diamond, Gerard Dowling, Barry Hughes, Vel Maglica, Frank Moloney, Ray Scanlon and the recently ordained Joel Peart), as well as College Chaplain Nhan Le, joined him as concelebrants on this most wonderful occasion.
St. Bernard’s welcomes David Wall (’10) to the position of Development and Communications Officer. David replaces Cameron Evans who resigned at the end of 2015 to advance his career. Cameron will be well known to readers as the editor of ‘The Strand’ and for his nearly seven years service to the College. The College wishes Cameron well in his future endeavours.

David comes to us from his role as Project Development and Information Management Officer for the Christian Brothers Oceania Province. David attended St. Bernard’s completing VCE in 2010 and has completed a Bachelor of Media and Communications. David is a keen sportsperson having played AFL with Calder Cannons, Casey Scorpions and St. Bernard’s Old Collegians. Amongst other duties, David will now be the editor of ‘The Strand’.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE STAFF

St. Bernard’s Development Office staff: Bernie Cronin, Director of Development and David Wall, Development and Communications Officer.

ST BERNARD’S COLLEGE FOUNDATION DINNER

Friday 22 April, 2016, 7.00pm

The Australian Club

110 William Street. Melbourne

The Foundation is proud to announce the 2016 inductees are:

Mr. Frank Fitzgerald, Principal of the College from 1996 to 2008. An inspiring leader who left a colossal legacy of educational, cultural and facility growth.

Mr. Justin Madden, An AFL great who played 287 games for Carlton and 45 with Essendon. An All-Australian with two Premierships to be proud of, Justin served 15 years in State Parliament holding seven Ministerial portfolios.

Bookings through TRYBOOKING opening 1 March, closing 15 April.

Ticket price: $130 per head.

http://www.trybooking.com/GTKC

For further information contact Bernie Cronin on 9289 1106 or at bcronin@sbc.vic.edu.au

YOUR APPRECIATION TO ST BERNARD’S COLLEGE CAN LIVE FOREVER
The College’s 75th Anniversary ‘Open Day’ was held under sunny skies on Sunday October 25. The focus of the Open Day was on inviting Old Collegians and members of the extended school community to view the College facilities and, as the slogan suggested, take a glance at the past, a look at the present and see the vision for the future. Highlights of the day included the Annual Art Show, Vin Tuck Speaking Competition and Twisted Broadway Production, as well the opportunity to taste the cuisine prepared by food technology students, have a hit of hockey or simply browse an extensive display of photos and material from the archives. There was also a small afternoon tea for the Class of 1965 students who marvelled at just how much the place had changed over the last 50 years.

Also present on the day was Mr John Tighe, an 87-year-old ex-student who attended the College from 1940 to 1944. John finished at the old ‘Leaving’ level and recalled the very first class and the fact that he, along with his classmates of the time, had to carry his desk across Hutcheson street from St Monica’s to The Strand. What he learnt, however, held him in good stead, as he would go on to study Pharmacy before opening his own Pharmacy business in Melville Road, Coburg.
Families, friends and loved ones of deceased Old Collegians gathered for the annual mass on Saturday 7 November. The mass is a wonderful celebration of the lives of Old Collegians and former staff who have passed on.

Fr. Gerard Dowling (‘48) has celebrated every mass for 53 years! Fr Dowling has made a marvellous contribution to the College community, here pictured with his sister Mary and Tony Paatsch.

A FINE TRADITION, MASS FOR DECEASED OLD COLLEGIANS

Pictured left: John Tighe, an 87-year-old ex-student who attended 1940-1944. He recalls the first class he attended, carrying his desk across Hutcheson St. to the Strand. Pictured with Principal Tony Paatsch.
Unlike the ACC Athletics carnival that was first held in 1910 the first ACC Cross Country was not run until 1971. On that day, at the Coburg course, St. Joseph's North Melbourne took out the inaugural competition and they backed this up with another two titles wins in 1972 and 1973. Since then, a number of schools have won consecutive titles, with the most notable being St. Bede's, who won six and seven titles respectively between 1976 and 1981 and then from 1983 to 1989.

St. Bernard's is the current holder of the CC Aggregate Cup, which we first won in 2005. Since that day, the team has only been beaten once in the ACC Cross Country Championships and, this year, they won their tenth title in eleven years. To commemorate this remarkable effort, in conjunction with St. Bernard's 75th-year celebrations, Coach Gerard Brown is putting together a list of all past and current St. Bernard's athletes, who have won an ACC Cross Country event. Unfortunately, the College Cross Country records only go back as far as 1980, so there are no results for the first ten ACC Cross Country events. Some of the early eighties records are also a little thin and there may be event winners missing. If you can help with any information on cross country results for those years, you can contact me via email at gbrown@sbc.vic.edu.au

Below is a list of past winners compiled so far:

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2015 got off to a great start. We had our highest intake of U14 first-year players in recent years, a real positive for the future growth of the club. We also saw the re-introduction of the U18 age group into the Hockey Victoria competition and, as a result, we welcomed back several junior players that we’d missed for a year or so.

Season results this year were mixed for our Junior teams. Our first-year U14s district team had a fantastic year and made it through to the Semi-finals and our U18s put in a solid successful season and made it through to the Grand final. We congratulate them on their hard work and success. As with all teams and clubs, there are good seasons and not so good seasons but we’re looking forward to all our Junior teams using this season’s experiences to give them the drive and motivation to take their hockey to the next level in 2016. They all showed tremendous improvement and growth this year. Although player and team successes are fantastic and celebrated, our main objective is for all our juniors to enjoy their hockey experience and keep coming back year after year to St. Bernard’s Hockey Club.

Our seniors this year saw the return of several past players, as well as a few new faces for our senior teams. All our Senior teams had degrees of success. Our Metro A and B teams both did really well for most of the season, but unfortunately both just missed out on finals. This year again, both these teams gave our juniors great opportunities to participate and experience hockey at a senior level and will hopefully continue to do so into 2016.

Our VL3 & VL3 reserves senior teams had a very successful year for various reasons. The returning players and new faces made a big difference, along with the teams commitment and drive to regain their place in the VL2 competition in 2016. Both teams did exceptionally well throughout the season, culminating with VL3R getting all the way to the Semi-Final and VL3 earning a spot in the Grand Final. Both worked hard and put up a fantastic fight in their respective games and made the club very proud.

The committee would like to congratulate all the teams and players this year for everything they achieved and their commitment through the good weeks, as well as the tough ones. We’re looking forward to a seeing everyone again for a great 2016.
Whilst many of our teams have won medals and some have represented Victoria/Australia this year, it is the contribution and participation of each player that deserves congratulations. The boys have competed in many tournaments and represented us well on all fronts.

Thanks to the boys for their positive attitudes and trying their best, and to the coaches who support and encourage them bringing out their best. We are also very lucky to have very supportive parents, who help out in many ways and make it possible for the boys to participate.

**VICTORIAN/AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION**

**BEACH VOLLEYBALL:**
- U/13s Alex Bye (most improved) and Marcus Arena
- U/19s Matthew Arena

**INDOOR:**
- Mackenzie Lowe (Year 11): Australian Representation
  Mackenzie was selected to represent Australia in the U/21 Australian Junior Men’s team in Thailand in April, (being the only Victorian selected and the youngest). He has also been selected for the Australian representative squad for the 2015 Asian Men’s Volleyball Championships in August.

**VOLLEYBALL CLUB**

**Tournaments:** Throughout the year, the boys competed at the Moonee Valley Championships, Bendigo Dragon Junior Championships, Western Region Championships and more.

**Victorian Schools Volleyball Cup**
- 24th – 26th July held at the State Volleyball Centre.
  This was a highly competitive tournament, with all teams performing well with the U/17s winning Silver and the U/16s claiming Gold. Some of the boys caught the eye of the Scouts and they will be checking in on them at Nationals later in the year.

**Victorian Representation:**
- U/19 Blue team in the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships, Victorian Volleyball League (VVL) Premier Men’s Division and was selected for the Australian Volleyball League (AVL).
  It is no surprise that Mackenzie was offered a scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport where he would study and train every day. For now, Mackenzie is not accepting the scholarship and will complete his education at St. Bernard’s.

**OLD BOYS:**
- Trent O’Dea (‘12)
  Trent was selected for the U/23 Men’s Australian team. Trent spent the past season playing for Linkoping Volleyball Club in Sweden where they won the premiership. Upon Trent’s return in May, he played with the U/23 Men’s Australian team at the 2015 Asian Men’s U/23 Volleyball Championship in Myanmar. After a brief visit home Trent will move on again during Australia’s ‘off season’. Trent has accepted an international contract to yet another arctic destination: this season he will be playing for a club in Finland! Trent is more than happy to coach the boys when he returns home for visits. We greatly appreciate Trent’s support and look forward to following his journey.

**Australian Volleyball League**
- The Premier Volleyball competition in Australia with home and away rounds across Australia.

This year, teams from Auckland have been introduced. Congratulations to our Old Boys that were selected and are competing.

**Anthony Williams (‘12), Thomas Swallow (‘10) and Michael Cirillo (‘10).**

**AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL SCHOOLS CUP:**
- December 6th – 11th held at the State Volleyball Centre, MSAC and the State Hockey/Netball Centre.
  Good luck to the boys and coaches for this huge tournament where they will compete against the best from each State.

We also wish all of the Old Collegians Clubs the very best for the coming year.

The Volleyball Club is open to St. Bernard’s boys from years 7 - 12. If you have any queries or are interested in joining please don’t hesitate in contacting me at danielleandco@optusnet.com.au

**Danielle Fletcher**
- Danielle Fletcher, President
St. Bernard’s Old Collegians Cricket Club has commenced its 48th season in its Club history. This season has seen changes in its management structure with Brendan Davey (’05) taking over as President from Jason Bourke, who is taking a well-earned rest from committee duties and Alex Turner takes over as Secretary from Tom Isaacs. The Club is once again in Senior Division, the top level of cricket in the VCCA, and has resumed playing on the redeveloped Murphy Oval (Oval No. 1).

The Club has appointed Chris Davis (’95) as the new Club Coach and he heads a Coaching Panel consisting of Gary McIntyre (Batting), Dean Solomon (Bowling), Tristan Kassis (Fielding) and our English import Simon Lambert (Junior Development). The Club’s overseas player from last season, Jack Sterland, has returned to the Club and, as a qualified Cricket Coach, is again conducting group and 1-on-1 coaching sessions with junior players.

The Club is fielding 4 senior turf teams and 1 junior team with three U/10, three U/12, three U/14 and two U/16 teams. In addition to our senior and junior teams, the Milo In2Cricket program is being conducted again this year with boys and girls participating in the program held at St. Bernard’s on every 2nd Friday night.

Our on-field performances have been reasonable so far, with the 2nd and 4th XIs being in the four and 3rd and 1st XIs a game outside the four with a washout. The Junior teams have had mixed results but it is pleasing to see the Club being represented in the A-Grade competition of each age group.

The start of the season has seen two games milestones achieved. Firstly, Jason Bourke played 250 games, with his list of achievements being 2nd highest club run scorer, 4 times premiership player (twice as Capt), 4 Batting Average Awards & 20 + years on the Committee. Secondly, Michael Vallence (Thom) has just played 200 consecutive games (an amazing achievement). Michael played in 2nd XI premierships and was, until this season, captain of the 2nd XI. He has played many fine innings in the top order, as well as keeping wickets in the 2nd XI together with quite a few games in the 1st XI. Congratulations to Jason and Michael on their fantastic careers to date. Hopefully both can continue to contribute to the Snowdogs’ quest for success.

The Club is celebrating the 30th Anniversary of its Triple Premiership Year of 1985/86, together with a reunion of all Club Premierships, particularly our most recent successful period from 2002-2008 where 5 flags were won. The function will be held at the College Pavilion on Saturday, 30 January 2016, starting informally from 4.00 pm onwards and formalities with food, drink and guest speakers commencing at 7.00pm. All Premiership Players wishing to attend should visit our website www.stbernardsocc.com or contact Terry Davis on terrydavis11@hotmail.com or phone on 0433 613 621.

The Club is also fast-approaching its 50th year and is putting together a collection of memorabilia and a Club History. Any past players or family members of past players who have information or annual reports etc. relating to the Club or contact details for past players, please contact Brendan Davey on davey.brendan@gmail.com or 0422 174 911, it would be much appreciated.

Terry Davis
Treasurer

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**VALE**

Frank Anile, father of Old Boys Ben (’96) and Mark (’04), passed away suddenly on March 22. He was 61 years old.

Wes Clarke, father of Peter (’81) and John (’79), passed away peacefully on May 18. He was a great supporter of St. Bernard’s for many years, through the generous loan of equipment from his machinery hire business, Niddrie Hire Service.

Frank Sherry passed away on 5 July, aged 93. He was father of past students Michael (’63), John (’65) and Graham (’68).

Old Boy Brian Jackson (’49) passed away peacefully on Friday August 7.

The College’s longest-serving teacher, the extremely popular and well respected Noel Bell passed away on August 30 aged 76. Noel taught at St. Bernard’s for 34 years and, during this time, endeared himself to students and staff alike, all of whom he developed a deep affection for (and vice versa). A quiet, unassuming man who garnered respect by leading by example, Noel never extolled his own virtues, preferring to let his actions speak louder than words. His time at the College saw him teach fathers and sons alike and to this day if you ask any St. Bernard’s boy here over Noel’s tenure they will speak in glowing terms of a man who was quite simply an institution within this institution.

The St. Bernard’s FC community is saddened by the loss of Bridget ‘Bridie’ Meade, after she passed away on Monday August 31 at Arcadia in Essendon. Bridie was the mother of former Premierships player and current Board member Vinnie (’78) and grandmother to current Under 16s player and SBC student Conor. She nurtured 5 children of her own and then, in turn, her 12 grandchildren. Bridie was a kind soul and loved having people into her home and had time for everyone. She will be sadly missed.

Eleanor McGowan passed away peacefully on December 7 at St. Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne, surrounded by her loving family aged 90. She was the mother of Old Boys Des (’68), Bernard (’70) and Greg (’75).

Christina Hamilton (left), mother of David (’62) and John (’67) passed away on September 8 aged 100.

Mary Teresa (Tess) Gulliver passed away on the 19th September 2015 at Trevi Court Essendon aged 97. She was the sister of Kevin (’45), Arthur (’49) and Leo (’52) Adams, and former Junior Campus Principal Brother Bernard Adams and the late Kath Lane. She was also the niece of Brother Oswald Adams, who was principal of the College for a short interim period. In addition, she was the mother of Anthony (’62) and Noel (’68), the grandmother of Luke (’93) and Simon (’97) and granddaughter of Father Bernard (’71), Philip (’72), Peter (’75) and Michael (’80) Lane and Travis Carrick (’98). Tess was also the daughter of the late Mary Agnes Adams who was a member of the inaugural tuckshop auxiliary in 1947 when the school commenced.”

John Jamieson (’49) passed away peacefully at Gandarra, Ballarat on September 29, aged 82.

Brian Meade (’72) passed away on October 2 at the age of 61. His brothers Doug (dec) (’74) and Kevin (’68) also attended the College.

William (Bill) Rowson (’62) passed away peacefully on October 21 at the age of 71.

Kevin O’Rourke, father of Matthew O’Rourke (’95) and grandfather of Patrick (’11) and Xavier Grech (’15) passed away peacefully at John Fawkner hospital on October 19.

Leonard “Simon” Lane (’47) passed away on November 4 on his 87th birthday. Leonard changed his name to Simon when he took up the calling of being a Passionate Priest in 1955 but decided to keep it even after leaving the order in 1968.