As the dust settles on our 75th year celebrations, life in this remarkable educational institution and community continues.

The 75th celebrations caused me to reflect on aspects of the College that have changed and things that have remained the same decades on.

The buildings and grounds are an obvious change, as is the change from Brothers to lay staff.

Unchanged is the extraordinary connection that current and former students feel for the College and their pride in identifying with their ‘alma mater’.

Many readers of The Strand attended St Bernard’s when most classes were conducted by Christian Brothers who also held most positions of leadership. The Brothers understood the vision of Edmund Rice and passed it on to students. The Edmund Rice ‘flavour’ of Catholicism is a robust interpretation of the Gospel message with an emphasis on ‘good works’ as an expression of faith and a strong Marian devotion.

Today there are no Brothers on staff and the governance of St Bernard’s and over 50 other schools in Australia has been handed to Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).

St Bernard’s and other EREA Colleges remain faithful to the vision of the Brothers and articulate this with our four touchstones: ‘Liberating Education’, ‘Gospel Spirituality’, ‘Inclusive Community’ and ‘Justice and Solidarity’.

These touchstones can be seen in the day to day life of the College and aim to ensure that today’s students receive the same faith filled, ‘other centred’ education that Old Boys received when a Brother led their class and their College.

The curriculum is much broader today than in the past with more specialist subjects, including food technology. Senior students have the opportunity to prepare for a career in a trade with VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) offered at Year 11 and 12 and a range of VET subjects from ‘signwriting’ to ‘fitness’ offered offsite.

Unchanged is the faith dimension of the College with Mass celebrated regularly. Among the significant occasions celebrated with Mass are the Opening of the school year and Year 12 Graduation. At the Welcoming Mass each Year 12 student hands a note of welcome to each Year 7 boy and in return is handed his Year 12 tie.

After Mass on Edmund Rice Day (celebrated in the past as Founders Day) the students complete a sponsored walkathon. This year it raised $65,000 to support Br Beausang school in Kenya, a lovely example of ‘other centredness’ and our commitment to justice and solidarity.

Sport features strongly in the school memories of many and current students are making their own. Our 1st XVIII finished on top of the ACC ladder this year but were beaten in the semi final by Parade. Soccer and Hockey are our most successful team sports this year and our cross country team will defend their title in term three.

We know that Old Collegians identify strongly with the College and functions like the Foundation Hall of Fame Dinner (at which Justin Madden and Frank FitzGerald were inducted), Reunions and Business Breakfasts are well attended.

Similarly, current students identify strongly with the College and many not only attend school here but are involved in Old Collegians clubs outside school time. This identification and sense of belonging has not changed over time.

On the subject of change, ‘The Strand’ has been published in the same format since its inception. From the next edition readers will notice an updated format that I believe will make it easier to read without any reduction in the content. Since its inception ‘The Strand’ has been posted in hardcopy to all Old Collegians. With recent postage cost increases we are encouraging readers to receive an electronic version of the magazine.

If you would like to only receive an electronic copy please email your request to development@sbc.vic.edu.au.

There have also been changes to the staff of the Development Office at the College with the departure of Cameron Evans and Bernie Cronin. Cameron’s role as Assistant Development Officer has been replaced by the role of Communications and Development Officer to which David Wall has been appointed.

Bernie Cronin has retired from the Director of Development role and has been replaced by David Formosa. I thank Cameron and Bernie for their contribution to the College and look forward to both Davids getting to know the Old Collegians community better.

I would also like to inform the community that after eight years at St Bernard’s I have accepted the position of Principal at St Joseph’s College Geelong to commence in 2017.

Leaving this wonderful community will be difficult but I keep reminding myself of the adage that “It is better to leave a bit too soon than stay a bit too long”. While there will be a change of Principal there will be no change in the special community that each St Bernard’s student becomes part of.

Tony Paatsch, Principal
FAREWELL

I am finishing my role as Director of Development after three and a bit years having taken the reins from Michael Perrett and now handing over to David Formosa and David Wall.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the College, the Foundation and the Old Collegians and have many ongoing friendships with the St Bernard’s community.

Bernie Cronin

PAT COMERFORD

Patrick Comerford (‘13) was fortunate to be granted a Vice Chancellor’s Scholarship to LaTrobe in 2014 to study Journalism. Part of his award was the opportunity to study overseas for six months.

Patrick applied to take up this offer at the University Of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri and was lucky to be one of only nine internationals and the only Australian to be accepted at the highly regarded “J School” in the first half of 2016.

This program is the oldest journalism school in the English speaking world and considered to be one of the top three of its type in the USA. Whilst in Missouri Patrick was able to complete a number of subjects in Broadcast Journalism but was unable to participate in his two real passions, football and cricket, but focused on his other love, Clay Target Shooting.

He performed well enough to make the University’s 12 member male team and competed throughout the mid-west over a number of months against a range of other university teams.

Patrick’s experience culminated in April with a trip to the Collegiate Nationals in San Antonio, Texas where the Missouri team finished inside the top 20 from a field of 75 universities from all over the USA.

OLD COLLEGIANS BUSINESS BREAKFAST

St Bernard’s Old Collegians Business Breakfast

On Thursday 10 March, approximately 30 St Bernard’s professionals attended the SBOCA Business Breakfast held at the Moonee Ponds Club.

The morning was highlighted by guest speaker, AFL and St Bernard’s Hall of Fame member Simon Madden. Simon discussed his belief that a fundamental foundation of leadership is improving and empowering your employees. This is particularly pertinent at this time as Simon is a member of the Essendon FC Board, who are attempting to rebuild a sustainable and productive culture.

The Business Breakfast is a fantastic opportunity for professional networking and mentoring.

The breakfast allows a platform for cross-pollination between industries and generations in order to grow business connections and opportunities or to simply stay connected to St Bernard’s.

SBOCA has developed a framework in order to assist and partner Old Collegians in order to professionally develop their business acumen or employment opportunities through a Mentor Program.

OLD COLLEGIANS HOCKEY CLUB

St Bernard’s Hockey Club celebrated quite a successful 2015 season. Our first year U14 team quickly learnt the game and skills, working hard to make it through to the Semi Finals, and the return of the HV U18 competition saw our U18’s team make it through to the Grand Final, persistently giving it their all against a very tough opposition and finishing runners up. All our Senior teams had various degrees of success in 2015. Our Metro teams just missed out on finals, while our Vic League 3 & Vic League 3 Reserves both made it through.

All our VL3 and the VL3R’s players definitely showed us their skill and determination throughout the finals with VL3R making it to the Semi’s and VL3 playing a very tough Grand Final. As a result of our Seniors hard work last year, we have seen their promotion to Vic League 2 this year. The 2016 season so far has our Junior teams enjoying reasonable success, with each in the top 4 for their division, while our Seniors are experiencing mixed results while finding their place in their new competitions.

This year we are very excited to announce the upgrade and installation of our new lights. This will ensure we continue to provide a safe, well lit pitch and meet the Hockey Victoria regulatory standards. We’re all looking forward to enjoying the game under the new lights for the rest of the season.

The SBHC Committee wish all our teams the best for the rest of the 2016 season and look forward to them all learning and striving for the best in their respective teams and competitions.

Bernadette Franklin

Bernadette Franklin, President
Class of ‘64

‘The Class of ’64 has formed its own reunion party and the guys now meet twice a year over dinner. Our numbers have now grown to over 20 in 18 months but there are many more of you who would be most welcome.

We also had Michael Sherry, (Vice Captain of the College in ’64) attend our last function and we welcome any others who did a second year Matric in ’64. There is a good mix of characters and any newcomers would be most welcome to join us. You don’t need to have been an academic genius or a sporting jock. Just remember – they were young when you were young.

Even if you live interstate or overseas, let us know and we will maintain contact with you as you may get the opportunity to join up at some stage.

Contact Ian Mac (Macdonald) 0407 240 236 or ianmmac47@gmail.com

St Bernard’s 40th School Reunion

Just a reminder, for those of the Class of 1976, who have yet to reply, but still wish to attend our 40th Reunion, that it is not too late.

Please forward your payment, as directed on your Invite, which will highlight & confirm to us, your attendance.

The night, at Windy Hill (which includes a Cocktail Food Menu) promises to be special & will only get better, with you being there.

I, along with the other members of the Organising Committee, look forward to catching up with you, on the 19th of August.

Regards, Greg Natoli

Reunion Dates:

10 Years: October 7- Perrett Pavilion
20 Years: October 14- Perrett Pavilion
30 Years: August 19- Essendon FC, Legends Room
40 Years: August 19- Emerald Hotel South Melbourne
45 Years: October 28 - Perrett Pavilion
50 Years: August 19- Mass and Lunch

2016 ROLLS ON AND ITS GAME ON!!

The season was kicked off with a lot of excitement and enthusiasm, across all levels of the club, from Auskick, through Juniors, Under 19’s and the Senior Teams. Former Premiership player, and life member Ben Hogan, stepped up as Auskick co-ordinator and the community has responded by very nearly taking Auskick numbers up an impressive 10%. The ovals are buzzing with 165 happy and excited youngsters, it has been great to see many parents gladly volunteer to assist Ben and his team of first class coaches.

At Junior Level, new President Adrian Fuller, Football Director Luke Gollant, Secretary Ross Di Lizio and their committee and volunteers, have started off very positively. The club is very fortunate to have such a hard working group guiding our Junior Club. Strong player numbers and additional games back at St Bernard’s, have been a couple of early highlights this year. We encourage families to watch the club website and Junior Club Team App for updates, fixtures and social events.

Meanwhile in the Senior Club, New Senior Coach Mark Riley settled in very quickly and professionally, while also managing a number of changes to the playing list. Marks skills and experience from many years at multiple AFL clubs, as an assistant and development coach, makes him very well suited to work with our young and developing playing group. Early setbacks and injuries have been taken as a challenge by all in football department and the club, to work harder, stay focussed and positive.

Off field the club continues to manage numerous social events to both help finance the club, but to most importantly entertain the club community, so all involved have an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Events so far have included the 170 strong Gary McAllister Lunch and game vs Xavier. This annual event honours past premiership player and former teacher Gary McAllister.

The ANZAC Week Lunch was another feature, which included a pregame ceremony lead by Lieutenant Colonel Paul Nathan reading the soldiers ode, and the playing of the last post, as players from both St Bernards and Trinity formed a guard of honour. The club has a long history of female involvement and support, again this year the Ladies Network did an amazing job holding a sell out 220+ Mothers and Ladies Dinner on may 6th.

The event expertly organised by Angela McGuire and her dynamic team included, raffles, auctions, guest speakers and a David Jones Fashion Parade! As the year rolls on please watch the club facebook, website and twitter for further updates as we travel through a big calendar of on and off field action. Exciting games at all levels every week plus events still to come including, the Graduation Lunch for all players and families moving up from the junior club and u/19’s to the Seniors.

We also have the Ladies Charity Lunch and we finish the year with a blockbuster Legends Day and $10,000 Raffle on Saturday august 20th. We extend an open and cordial invitation to all in the St Bernard’s community. Finally some special thanks as the club only operates due to the support and co-operation of many people and groups. Firstly to all of our volunteers, you do an outstanding job and you should feel very proud of your important contribution.

To Principal Tony Paatsch and his team at the school, we thank you, it’s a pleasure working with you to provide the best facilities and environment we can for all involved at the club. To all our coaches and players, we thank you for working so hard this season.

To all our financial backers, including the Vinnie McGuire lead Diamond Dogs Coterie Group, and very importantly all our sponsors. Over 50 local business’s kindly donate services and funds to keep the club running strongly. Lead by Major Sponsor The Moonee Ponds Club, Platinum Sponsors – Nelson Alexander Real Estate, John Fawkner Hospital and Strathmore Community Branch Bendigo Bank. We strongly encourage all in the community to support all of these sponsors, who so generously give back to the football club.

So as 2016 rolls on its Game On!!

Thanks and Regards

Patrick Crabb

Patrick Crabb, President on behalf of St BernardsFC
HALL OF FAME DINNER

St Bernard’s College Foundation Hall of Fame Dinner

On the evening of Friday, 22 April the St Bernard’s College Foundation Hall of Fame dinner once again was held at the Australian Club with 120 people in attendance.

On what a fantastic night in celebrating the exponential growth of the College, along with the people that have become synonymous with St Bernard’s, the Foundation inducted two new members to the Hall of Fame.

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.

Frank throughout his speech reflected upon some of the great people that allowed him to further initiate and grow a wide-ranging building program along with expanding areas such as arts, sports and special education.

Frank noted that none of the achievements could’ve been made possible without the consistent warmth and passion that the St Bernard’s community relayed throughout his years at the College.

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 six Ministerial Portfolios.

Justin conveyed to the audience the lessons that he learned over his time at the College that allowed him to succeed in many different occupations. Whether it was throughout his illustrious career in the VFL/AFL where he won two Premierships, his 15 years in Politics or in the Private Sector, Justin made it known that he has always lived by the lessons that were ingrained in him as a ‘Bernard’s Boy.’

Both men remember fondly their time at St Bernard’s and the fantastic memories both still have of their time, in Justin’s case as a student and in Frank’s case a leader of staff at the College.

Congratulations to MC and Director Bernie Cronin on his fantastic hosting and organisation of such a great night on the St Bernard’s calendar.

MADDEN BEDFORD SHIELD

Bernard’s overrun Parade to take home the Shield!

On Wednesday, 13 April the 2016 edition of the Madden-Bedford Shield between St Bernard’s and Parade College once again took place.

Parents, supporters and esteemed guests from either side were treated to lunch prior to the match in which St Bernard’s Principal Tony Paatsch welcomed all guests, in what has become a fantastic annual tradition and rivalry on both school’s sporting calendar. Simon Madden then led the program up to the bounce by thoroughly entertaining the crowd with interviews from both Captains and Coaches.

Once the game was underway, with both sides at full strength, St Bernard’s grabbed the early ascendency and kicked away to an early lead at quarter time by 18 points.

Although with what has been a feature of the last six Madden-Bedford games, Parade responded in the second term gaining back some momentum and booting 4 goals to 3 to make it an 11 point deficit at the long break.

An arm-wrestle ensued in the 3rd quarter with both sides trying desperately to give themselves a buffer heading into the final change, although with some missed chances from both side, the door was left ajar for either of them to take home the Shield with St Bernard’s holding sway by 4 points at the final break.

In an extremely physical beginning to the final term, St Bernard’s got on top around the contest which led to some good finishing in front of goal in order to seal a well-deserved, hard fought St Bernard’s victory by 25 points.

Many onlookers, including name bearer Simon Madden, were extremely impressed with the quality and commitment from both sides and are looking forward to seeing the 8th installment of the Madden-Bedford Shield in 2017 at Parade.

Final Scores:

St Bernard’s 13.11.89 def Parade 9.10.64

BASKETBALL CLUB

St Bernard’s Old Collegians Basketball Club continues to consolidate the ethos of ‘everyone enjoying basketball’.

Forty one teams are playing in the Keilor Basketball domestic competition on a Saturday and continues to grow from strength to strength.

Success continues to be gauged primarily by the number of children and youth who are playing basketball, no matter what the skill of the individual. This is one of the benefits of basketball that anyone can play and be actively involved.

In addition to the participants we are also nurturing boys to participate in other ways in including playing and refereeing. At present we have no less than nine students putting back into basketball through coaching teams that not only supports others to play basketball but also develops them as community minded individuals.

We are also well supported by Old Collegians with a number of ex students carrying out the coaching role also. We are always on the lookout for any student or ex student who would like to support us in these roles. It is important to acknowledge St Bernard’s College for their ongoing support.

With the refurbishment of the basketball courts and the new COLA court, the investment put in place by the School is inmeasurable. Any one interested in their child playing or coaching please contact Phil Thorpe on Ph: 0430744783.
ST BERNARD’S OLD COLLEGIAN’S CRICKET CLUB

St Bernard’s Old Collegians Cricket Club completed its 48th season in its Club history and off-season preparations are well underway for season 2016/2017. The Club has just received an invitation to join the Victorian Sub District Cricket Association (VSDCA). Our entry is subject to acceptance of the recommendation of the VSDCA Executive by the member clubs as well as formalisation by the St Bernard’s O.C. Cricket Club members at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 29 June 2016.

Last season saw the Club appoint a Coaching Panel focussing on individual expertise devoted to each aspect of the game – Batting, Bowling, Fielding and Junior Development for season 2015/16. Chris Davis was Club Coach, Dean Solomon- Bowling Coach, Gary McIntyre-Batting Coach, Tristan Kassis-Fielding Coach and our overseas player, Simon Lambert – Junior Development Coach. With the exception of Simon Lambert, it is highly likely that the remaining Coaching Panel members will be back on board this upcoming season.

The Club had mixed results last season with the First XI finishing 5th, the Second XI finishing on top but losing the semi final and the 3rd and 4th XIs finishing in the middle of the ladder. We fielded 9 junior teams in the U/10, U/12, U/14 and U/16 age groups + the Milton2 Cricket program. The Club congratulated the Under 12 (1) team which won the premiership in the top grade of their age group. The major Senior Awards were: The Beau Redmond Club Champion & Batting Award – Arosh Janoda and First XI Bowling-Luke Davis. Chris Spinella was named as the Wicket Keeper in the VTCA Senior Division Team of the Year, whilst the Terry Davis Junior Champion was won by Connor McGuire who played in the Senior First and Second XI as well junior representative games. Season 2015/16 saw the retirement from First XI cricket of multi Beau Redmond Medal winner and Club Captain, Craig Osborne, a magnificent all round career always leading from the front. Life Membership was bestowed upon Duncan Heeter, a long time player, captain of the Third & Fourth XIs and Junior Co-ordinator & administrator. Duncan is still playing and has often played in the same teams as his sons, Sean and Adam.

Pre Season training will commence shortly with fitness sessions each week through Invigorate Personal Training and indoor net training will commence in August. Prospective players, senior and junior, should visit our website www.stbernardsofcc.com.

The Club is 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, 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. Anyone wishing to participate or support the Club through playing or sponsorship, can find information about the St Bernard’s Old Collegians Cricket Club on our website www.stbernardsofcc.com or contact Club President, Brendan Davey as above.

Terry Davis, Treasurer

FROM NIDDRIE TO DUBAI

The obvious challenge for any school is to encourage and maintain a student’s focus on the here and now – the classroom conversation or that piece of assessment due tomorrow.

Yet at the same time, we also need to foster a broader conversation about what might lie beyond graduation. One of the great attributes of St Bernard’s College is that sense of genuine community, and not unrelated to this, a strong commitment to pastoral care. However, we need to be alert to the risk that this drive to ‘draw in’ to our local community, does not come at the expense of being too insular.

How do we manage such a balance? Certainly the ongoing profile of our social justice program is one obvious indicator that our boys are seeking to engage in bigger issues, real problems that can extend across the globe and their immediate curriculum.

Further, we offer students many opportunities to take themselves out of their comfort zone for an international experience, whether through the long-running Japan and Italy trips, The Western Front Tour, or through immersion programs such as the Kakoda Trail, The Philippines or in Kenya.

The benefits of such opportunities are numerous, not the least of which is developing a sense of positive global citizenship. But from my own narrow perspective as a careers advisor, I see another significant upside. Increasingly, our colleagues are competing globally for job opportunities. The fact is that technology, especially in the digital space, continues to make our world smaller, more immediate. That Swedish graduate will have just as good a chance in securing a marketing role based in Seattle (or Melbourne or Sydney for that matter) as will one of our young Collegians, living in Niddrie or Greensville.

The great majority of our students who head into tertiary learning, they will find many ways to blend their qualification with a two week study tour in Vietnam, a voluntary stint at a Cambodian school or a semester exchange in Michigan. Further, for some of our athletes such as Julian Bartucca from 2014, they can pursue a degree at a US college through a sporting scholarship. For all, there is a bounty of Gap Year programs involving volunteering overseas.

These opportunities should be celebrated and highlighted now - so our boys will fully embrace such programs when they head into their tertiary studies. Featured below is Kirk Thompson from the class of 2011. The reason for his smile? He is standing on top of one the largest construction projects in Dubai – The Address Boulevard, built by Brookfield Multiplex.

Studying Construction Management at RMIT, earlier this year he jumped at the chance to apply for a two-week study tour in Dubai and London. “The exposure to the industry through witnessing a diversity of construction practices and networking opportunities couldn’t be spoken of highly enough. As a result from a two-week trip I have eight direct contacts within Dubai and the UK”.

And the other smiling young man, also badly in need of a shave, is Michael Marinelli (class of 2013). In his first two years at RMIT studying International Studies, he has had the opportunity as part of his degree to travel through Hong Kong, China, The Netherlands, Bosnia and Myanmar.

Our boys could do a lot worse than seek inspiration from the likes of Michael and Kirk. We invite students to consider the global programs the school has to offer now and challenge them to seek out further opportunities once they leave us.

In the words of Michael: “I think you have to ask the question: where do you see yourself and Australia’s place in the world as we go forward into the future. We’ve reached the point of no return; everyone is globalized, so you may as well embrace it and enjoy it! You may even make a living out of it.”

David Rosel
Careers Practitioner
ECHOES FROM THE ARCHIVE

From Clairvaux Vol 1 No 2, 1955.

The Opening of the Extensions to St Bernard’s College, (The Strand Moonee Ponds)

Two dates must forever stand preeminent in the archives of St Bernard’s. Firstly, 1st July 1940, when the College was officially opened and blessed by Most Reverend D. Mannix, Archbishop of Melbourne. On that day the Brothers looked to the future with hope.

Secondly, the 8th May, 1955, fourteen years later, when the Official Blessing and Opening of the first extensions of the Monastery and School were performed by the Right Reverend Monsignor J. Hannan. Then the Brothers could look to the past with pride and to the future with confidence.

To welcome Monsignor Hannan, a Guard of Honour was formed by the students of the College under the guidance of the prefects. It stretched from Mt Alexander Road to the entrance of the College.

The Prelate’s car slowly drove between rows of saluting boys standing respectfully with their caps on their chests. Then followed the simple dignified ceremony of the Blessing. In Monsignor Hannan’s speech he mentioned that the requirements for all Catholic buildings are “Grace, Grit and Greenbacks” each of which must be contributed in part by all.

Maureen Kavanagh
Archivist

OLD COLLEGIAN’S VOLLEYBALL CLUB

The boys recently completed the Victorian Schools Volleyball Cup with the U17’s winning Silver and the U16’s claiming Gold. All other teams performed very well in their divisions. The boys have already competed in the Western Region Championships and have the Latrobe Valley, Bendigo and Moonee Valley Championships ahead of them along with their Friday night tournament (Western Region Volleyball). The Australian Volleyball Schools Cup is the highlight of the year and will be played in December.

Before the indoor season started some of the boys played Beach Volleyball representing Victoria.

Congratulations to Marcus Arena (played for Bronze) and Alex Bye (Most improved) in the U15 age group. Also to Matt Arena who played in the quarter finals in U19’s.

Victorian/Australian Representation

Mackenzie Lowe (Year 11):

Australian Representation: Mackenzie was selected to represent Australia in the U21 Australian Junior Men’s team in Thailand in April, 2015 (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.

Vicotorian Representation: U19 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) the premier volleyball competition in Australia with home and away rounds across Australia. And of course a team member for St Bernard’s Volleyball Clubs Open Men’s team.

It is no surprise that Mackenzie was offered a scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport where he would study and train every day however at this point Mackenzie is choosing to complete his education at St Bernard’s.

Old Boy: Trent O’Dea (’12)

Trent was selected for the U23 Men’s Australian team. Trent spent the past season playing for Linkoping Volleyball Club in Sweden where they won the premiership which was a great achievement and experience for Trent. Upon Trent’s return in May he played with the U23 Men’s Australian team at the 2015 Asian Men’s U23 Volleyball Championship in Myanmar. Trent has now returned home for a brief stay before moving on again during Australia’s ‘off season’.

Trent has accepted an international contract to yet another arctic destination, this season playing for a club in Finland!

During Trent’s brief visit home, he happily coached one of our junior teams at a tournament (with minimal notice). We greatly appreciate Trent’s support and look forward to following his journey throughout 2015.

Danielle Fletcher
President
Exciting. Busy. Grateful. These are the words that describe SBOCA in 2016!! In only six months we have welcomed new faces, said thanks and goodbye to old ones, introduced new and innovative programs and look with great anticipation to the future.

I would like to welcome the two new members of the Development Office, David Wall and David Formosa. David Wall ('10) commenced his role as Development and Communications Officer at the start of 2016. A graduate from La Trobe university, David delivers both skill and youthful energy to the role.

David Formosa took up the role of Director of Development in June. David brings with him a wealth of knowledge and passion from his experiences at St Joseph’s Geelong and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Bentleigh. We look forward working with both Davids. I would also like to welcome our two new committee members Derek Bendall ('96) and David Lancashire ('02). Both have been very valuable additions to the committee. We always welcome those that have the passion to grow SBOCA.

In this same period there were some departures. After 3 very productive years, Bernie Cronin ('71) stepped down as the Director of Development. Bernie has made a significant contribution to the both SBOCA and the Foundation. Also, SBOCA secretary and creator, director and producer of the wonderful Collegians of Old series Anthony Lastrina left the committee to pursue work commitments interstate. I would like to thank both of them for all their efforts and energy over this period.

One of the most exciting events of 2016 was the awarding of our inaugural Global Gateways Grant. The grant encourages students to act, think and engaged as global citizens through supporting opportunities aboard. It will provide both recognition and financial aid to past students who involved themselves in a formal international experience such as tertiary, industry and volunteer programs.

This year we were very pleased to award the grant to Nic Cameron ('15) who will be studying at Nordjylland’s Idrætshøjskole (North Jutland Sports School aka NIH) in Denmark for a period of 19 weeks. We look forward to up-dating you on his progress.

Special thanks must be made to David Rosel who put much time and energy in making this initiative a reality. SBOCA will be taking applications again soon, please follow us for more details or contacts us to register your interest.

Once again SBOCA will be recognizing, rewarding and supporting those who make a contribution to the community and society through the Leadership in the Community grant. The grants are designed help facilitate projects, training, and travel expense associated with activities aimed at improving communities either here in Australia or overseas. Applications are now open. Please visit our website for more details.

During the first half of the year SBOCA was proud to support a number of St Bernard user bodies. We were excited to contributed to Keilor St Bernard’s Athletic Club’s 50 year commemorative book. The book traces the social history of KSB from its beginnings on Oval on in 1965 to its current role as one of the largest clubs in Victoria.

Congratulations to the club and founding father and current head coach Ron Stobus on this achievement. The organisation was also pleased to be able to jointly fund new wicket covers for the football and cricket clubs. These will help protect the ovals year round.

This year’s golf day will be on 21 October. Proceeds of the day will go to support the construction of a new baseball pitch in memory of Chris Lane. With such a worthy cause there has never been a better time to get together a team together and enter this year’s event.

There is always plenty happening so please stay in touch! We can be found on facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, on our website www.sboca.org.au, or at development@sbc.vic.edu.au

Lachy Yourn
Lachy Yourn, President

St Bernard’s Old Collegians Association

Golf Day
Friday 21 October 2016

Supporting the Chris Lane Memorial Baseball Field

Funds raised will go towards supporting the Lane Family in their efforts to construct a Little League Baseball Field in honor of their son and Old Collegian Chris Lane.
The Senior men’s team finished the year strongly winning the Yellow zone premiership and the State Shield Premiership beating the top 10 other teams in the State and gaining immense satisfaction from the result after losing by a point the previous season.

Under 18 men also won the yellow zone premiership and finished 3rd of the 11 teams in the shield final.

The men’s 40 plus team finished runners up in the Yellow zone as did the 40 plus women and under 16 and under 18 women. The following results were achieved by the teams in the 11 team State Shield final, 40 plus men 5th, 40 plus women 5th, under 18 women 5th under 16 women 6th.

Judith Robinson is having a great year in the US running for Minesota 5th, 40 plus women 5th, under 18 women 5th, under 16 women 6th.

The Cross Country season is now under way however the loss of David Ireland to Perth, injury to Andrew Comley and Sean Stevens restricted competition due to his position of surgical registrar at the Austin Hospital has seriously weakened our top team. The women are also suffering from injuries but we hope things will turn around by mid season. Early May saw two of our coaches flown to Alice Springs to organize on behalf of Red Dust an athletic carnival for around 300 Indigenous children from all over the Northern Territory.

They had to brief a number of Corporate volunteers who were there to assist them with the conduct of the carnival. The day was a great success.

Ron Stobaus, President

The matriarch of the Mahoney family, Ina passed away peacefully on 16 June at the wonderful age of 98.

She was the mother of Brian `61, Michael `65, Kevin `68 and Gerard `71, and grandmother of 17 and great nan to 14 lovely children. Her caring and compassionate nature will be missed by all.

Ron Stobaus