

News from St Bernard's College

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Principal's Message



Celebrating Progress and Community at St Bernard's College.

As I reflect on the first two terms of 2024, I am filled with a profound sense of pride and accomplishment. This year marks a significant milestone for our entire College community, with many of our long-term plans coming to fruition, unprecedented student engagement, and strengthened connections with old collegians and community groups.

One of the most satisfying aspects of this year has been witnessing the vibrant participation of our students in sports, drama, music, and cultural activities. Our first teams have clinched premierships in cricket, tennis, and lawn bowls, setting a new benchmark for excellence in our athletic programs. These achievements are a testament to the dedication and hard work of our students and the unwavering support from our coaches and staff. The energy and enthusiasm displayed on the fields and courts have been truly inspiring.

A significant focus this year has been the planning and development of the Tobin Building and the central piazza area as part of the "Quays Project." This ambitious initiative aims to transform the heart of our campus into a vibrant and inviting space for students, staff, and visitors. The proposed facilities in the Tobin Building are designed to support innovative teaching and learning practices, providing state-of-the-art classrooms and collaborative spaces. Additionally, the project includes plans for a university-style cafeteria, where students can gather before school starts and well after it finishes to work collaboratively with each other, staff, and old collegians. This space will foster a sense of community and provide opportunities for meaningful interaction and collaboration.

One of the extraordinary successes this year has been the implementation and growth of the Able and Ambitious

programs. The academic classes designed for our most able and ambitious scholars from Years 7-10 have been embraced with enthusiasm by both students and teachers. High expectations are being set, and our students are rising to the challenge magnificently, demonstrating exceptional academic performance and a deep commitment to their studies. In the realm of sports, our academies have seen remarkable growth. The golf and basketball programs are already up and running, providing specialised training and development opportunities.

Football and soccer academies are set to commence in Term 3, with even more programs to be announced soon. These initiatives are not only fostering talent but also promoting a culture of excellence and ambition across the college.

Furthermore, the Year 9 campus, Resurrection House, is now in its second year and has continued to exceed our expectations. Our Year 9 students have embraced this unique opportunity to develop their leadership skills, engage culturally, and explore a broad range of academic offerings. The innovative approaches to learning implemented at Resurrection House have ignited a passion for knowledge and personal growth among our students. They have taken their responsibilities seriously, emerging as role models and leaders within our college community.

The Margaret Tierney Centre, our dedicated senior building, has been instrumental in driving academic achievement. This facility has provided our senior students with a conducive environment for study and collaboration, allowing them to be at the College before and after school. The extended access to resources and support has been a critical factor in their academic success. The centre's impact on our students' learning experiences and outcomes is evident in their outstanding results and continued dedication to excellence.

Our commitment to Direct Instruction as the overarching pedagogical approach for our young men continues to yield significant rewards. This method, which emphasises clear, explicit teaching, has proven effective in fostering strong foundational skills and academic success. Notably, Direct Instruction is gaining renewed recognition in educational discourse as the preferred methodology for students across the state. At St Bernard's College, we are proud to be at the forefront of this educational approach, consistently demonstrating its positive impact on student learning and achievement.

In addition to our academic and extracurricular successes, we have made significant strides in reconnecting with old collegians and community groups. This renewed engagement has brought immense value to our College, providing our current students with valuable mentorship opportunities and fostering a sense of continuity and tradition. The support from our extended community has been instrumental in enhancing our programs and facilities, ensuring that we continue to provide an enriching and supportive environment for our students.

Principal's Message





The journey of this year has been marked by growth, resilience, and a shared commitment to excellence. Our collective efforts have set the stage for exciting developments with the Quays Project, enhancing our campus for generations to come.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to making 2024 such a great year. Your ongoing support, dedication, and enthusiasm are the bedrock of our success. If you haven't yet had the chance to get involved, I encourage you to do so. There are numerous opportunities to contribute through the Friends of Sport, Friends of Music, Friends of Drama, the Welcoming Community Group, the Social Justice Network, and the School Advisory Subcommittees. Additionally, you can engage with the Old Collegians Association, the College Foundation, and the myriad of Old Collegians sporting associations, including football, cricket, hockey, basketball, and athletics. Your participation in these groups can make a significant impact and further strengthen our community.

My best wishes to you all and enjoy reading this edition of The Stand.

Dr Michael Davies

Principal







ACC Success!



ACC Senior Cricket



ACC Senior Tennis





ACC Open Bowls

ACC Division 2 Open Debating -Champions

Empowering Year 9 Students: Careers Panel



Last week, St Bernard's College hosted an insightful event for the Year 9 students - the Q&A Careers Panel (Part 1). The panel featured successful old collegians who are excelling in various fields such as research science, digital marketing, and IT engineering.

The panelists included Will De Nardo, a research scientist at the University of Melbourne; Anthony Crocitti, a Client Solutions Manager with Meta; and Jake Leombruni, a Site Reliability Engineer Core Networking at Cisco.

These kinds of events are incredibly valuable for our students. They provide a rare opportunity for students to gain insights into different career paths and the real-world experiences of our successful alumni. It's not just about hearing success stories, but also about learning from the challenges and experiences of those who were once in the same place as our students. Such events can help students make more informed decisions about their own career paths and provide inspiration for their future endeavors.

During the event, the Year 9 students had the opportunity to ask the panelists about their experiences in post-school study, the biggest challenges they face in their roles, what they enjoy about what they do, their highlights at St Bernard's College, and what advice they would give their younger selves in Year 9. It was inspiring to see our old collegians sharing their insights and wisdom with the current students.

We are grateful to Jo Miles for her excellent coordination and facilitation of the event. Her efforts contributed to making the event a great success.

The panel discussion was a testament to the strong connections and support within the St Bernard's College community. It's truly heartening to witness our alumni returning to support and guide the current generation of students. This exemplifies the strength of our community and the culture of giving back and paying it forward.

We are excited about Part 2 of the Q&A Careers Panel scheduled for July and look forward to more insightful discussions and learning opportunities for our students. This event is a wonderful example of how great it is to have a community like ours at St Bernard's College, where students, staff, and old collegians come together to support each other and foster growth and learning.







Every Bean Counts - Michael Zammit (SBOC 08')



Michael Zammit (SBOC 08') is a fantastic example of an Old Collegian who is thriving within our community, he has had a storied journey from the world of banking to more recent projects in the hospitality industry that have allowed him to explore his creativity and passions.

Our College and Community measure success not by comparing one to another, but by comparing oneself to the person they were yesterday, Michael is a great example of this as he continues day on day to grow, both personally and professionally.

Can you outline your journey from St Bernard's College to your current career?

My journey from the College to today has spanned multiple industries. After graduating, I pursued a bachelor's degree in information technology at Swinburne University, where I delved into a curriculum that combined high-level strategic concepts with the intricate details of application programming.

The course's practical component, through two 6 month industry placements, was particularly formative, allowing me to apply academic theories to real-world challenges. These placements paved the way for a career in process improvement and systems development across diverse sectors, including institutional banking at NAB, retail at Target and The Reject Shop, and even local government.

The common goal in all these roles was making data and information accessible, accurate, and useful to the right people at the right times.

I've always felt a pull towards the hospitality industry, a legacy from my family and their ventures. It began with helping dad with his coffee cart on weekends, to undertaking a Cert II from TAFE during my senior years at the College, then onto café development with the Wild Timor Coffee group (including a full tour of East Timor from border to coast in 2014), culminating in the creation of my own venture, Grind Zealot, initially specialising in coffee and tea equipment and accessories for caffeine enthusiasts and myself alike.

Favourite memory or experience during your time at SBC?

SBC is a treasure trove of fond memories. Like many former students, my most vivid recollections are from our time at the Santa Monica campus. That month of coastal immersion offered a stark and refreshing contrast to urban life. Some of the most humorous moments came from our surfing and camping experiences, memories that still bring a chuckle when reminisced. On the academic side, an unexpected but memorable experience was when Mr. Kendjer led us out of the classroom, bypassing

theoretical maths for an impromptu lesson in dynamics by watching a soccer game on the fields, which was a welcome change in approach.

Participating in the accelerated Discere Blue program in Year 7 was incredibly beneficial, both at the time and in the years that followed.

How did SBC help shape you as a person, and get you to where you are now?

The breadth of education I received at SBC laid the foundation for my academic pursuits, teaching me critical thinking, adaptability, and perseverance. On a broader scale, SBC played a pivotal role in shaping my values and work ethic, in alignment with the school motto 'Discere Et Agere'. The importance of continuous learning and the proactive application of that knowledge has been a driving force in my personal and professional growth.

When I first considered venturing into the hospitality industry, it was important to find a company that aligned with the values instilled in me at the College. The Wild Timor Coffee Co appealed to me greatly because of their strong focus on social justice and charitable work in East Timor.

What are some of your career achievements?

Reflecting on my career to date, it's clear that each industry has added to my skill set in its unique way. One standout achievement was coordinating and executing a product reclassification at The Reject Shop for everything sold since 2009, realigning systemwise operations with merchandise buying and how customers shop in-store. Another key achievement is the launch of Grind Zealot were landing the first few sales was a humble but genuine nod of approval, confirming that what I had created holds real worth.

What does the future hold for you?

Looking ahead with a 5-year time frame, I'm aiming to achieve a sense of mastery in my craft, as technology inevitably becomes more integrated into our daily lives, from micro levels to the ultramacro. I see myself using this to further develop hospitality-themed ventures with my family, enjoying the process and associated challenges. Additionally, I plan to expand Grind Zealot's product offerings and market reach encompassing more of my interests - whether it's brewing the perfect coffee, the nostalgic thrill of a classic game, or helping people tackle the general grind of life in a similar way that I saw during my time with Wild Timor Coffee Co, giving back in large to a community in need.



Be sure to check out Michael's latest venture by scanning the QR Code below.





I know many of us love our coffee, why not take it to the next level with a Grind Zealot accessory and support an Old Collegian at the same time!

Forging A Career Together



At Nelson Alexander, we are proud to count among our team five distinguished alumni of St. Bernards College, widely recognised as the 'Old Boys'.

Spread across our Flemington, Ascot Vale, and Essendon teams, these Old Collegians include Jayson Watts (Partner and Office Manager), Jon McKenna (Partner and Office Manager), Patrick Tilli (Property Consultant), Simon Vella (Head of Property Management), and Toby Nathan (Sales Consultant). While their graduation years may vary—the enduring values of community that were nurtured during their formative years at St. Bernards undeniably drive their collaborative synergy in the workplace.

Similarly, Nelson Alexander consistently fosters this concept between our staff and customers, a practice which has led to the development of strong relationships within the broader local community.

This deeply ingrained community ethos empowers our team to express gratitude by giving back for the invaluable years of education, companionship, and sportsmanship St. Bernards provided them.

We had the privilege of engaging in a conversation with Jayson Watts, allowing them to reflect upon their journey at St. Bernards and the unwavering values learnt, that now consistently guide their professional endeavours.

How have the values you learnt whilst at St Bernard's assisted you during your career and in life overall?

The friendships I developed at St Bernard's have been lifelong, we support each other, look out for one another, and have each other's back.

What has your professional journey been like, stemming from your time at St Bernard's to your current position at Nelson Alexander?

I had a humbling beginning in real estate starting out as a personal assistant to the owner of a business called Martson Cook when I was 19-year-old, long hours, hard work and being loyal to my customers allowed me to be in a position 12 years later to purchase that business and merge it with Nelson Alexander. This was life changing for me, going to a large business, becoming an owner of the business, and having business partners that share different skills sets is exciting and very rewarding.

What are your professional and personal achievements to date? How do you think St Bernard's assisted in creating a foundation for these achievements?

I have personally been recognised in the top 10 agents in Victoria and top 100 in Australia and have developed some exceptional young people to become standalone agents and business partners. This gives me the greatest professional joy, seeing someone start a new career, train, nurture, and mentor to become the best version of themselves is incredibly rewarding.

What was your most memorable moment whilst attending St Bernard's?

I played a great deal of sport growing up and the football team we had at St Bernard's was phenomenal, we were all best mates, played incredibly well together and had each other's back. They were my fondest memories at school.

Where do you see your career heading in the future?

I'd like to continue to grow our business, train and develop young people for the next generation of real estate agents in property management and sales in the city of Moonee of Moonee Valley. We focus on being a human being first and a salesperson second. Real estate agents usually get a bad name, however the service we strive to provide ensures it's a rewarding experience for all involved.

Would you recommend the real estate sector as a career path for current St Bernard's students? Why/why not?

I would certainly encourage anyone who is a people person, organised and hard working to explore an opportunity in Real Estate. We have 6 St Bernard's Old Collegians in our 3 offices in the City of Moone Valley, we all have a network within the area, many played sports within the local community and we all have a passion to help people achieve their goals.

Nelson Alexander

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A Journey Abroad



Old Collegian Simon Vitelli was one of the St Bernard's Old Collegian Association grant recipients for 2023, we had an opportunity to reconnect with him after his travels and document the impact of his experience abroad, the below is a reflective piece written by

"At the completion of my final year of high school in 2019, I embarked upon my university journey, studying a degree in Electrical and

Electrical Engineering at Swinburne University of Technology at the beginning of 2020. While the initial two weeks of my university experience happened under relatively normal circumstances, the on-set of COVID 19 lockdowns marked the commencement of remote study. Like many of my peers, I encountered considerable challenges in adapting to remote learning, particularly in terms of maintaining satisfaction and engagement with my coursework. Still, my determination to become an electrical engineer remained, although I craved inperson interaction with my tutors and peers.

In 2022, I found renewed purpose in my academic endeavours by undertaking a 12-month internship at the Department of Defence Land Engineering Agency. The experience I gained from joining the workforce was invaluable and collaborating with industry professionals provided me a new sense of direction in my career.

As I prepared to resume my studies in 2023, an exciting opportunity to study a semester abroad was presented by Swinburne. During my time at St Bernard's, I had the privilege of participating in the immersion program, which took me to





the Philippines. The life lessons I gained from the international experience continue to resonate with me to this day, and so the possibility of studying abroad certainly captured my attention. I chose to complete my semester at the University of Surrey in England, a country that I have always wanted to live in due to the appeal of their culture and rich history.

Upon my return home, I can confidently say that my time at Surrey stands as one of the most enriching experiences of my life. Unlike my first two years of university at home, I was finally given the opportunity to experience campus life, an enthralling experience that allowed me to not only properly enjoy my classes but meet people from all around the world.

During high school, we often heard the phrase "Essendon Bubble" to describe our inward-looking environment, which couldn't be closer to the truth. Engaging in conversations with people from various countries highlighted the diversity that characterises our world. It became evident that even seemingly simple aspects, such as the process of obtaining our driver's license or the sports we play, can vary significantly across countries (most notably AFL remains a complete mystery to those outside of Australia). To say now that I have lifelong friendships with people from the U.S, U.K, Sweden and Canada (just to name a few) is a very special thing. Additionally, my time in England offered the advantage of easy access to travel opportunities within Europe. Over the course of 6 months abroad, I was able to explore countries such as France, Italy, Greece and Portugal, immersing myself deeply in their respective cultures. On a personal note, I was able to reconnect with my Italian heritage, sharing cherished moments with my great aunt in the hills of Campania.

Although this was an extraordinary experience, it was not without its associated costs. Despite entering the semester with a full understanding of the financial commitments, the substantial rent fees and general living expenses did put pressure on participating in extracurricular activities such as travelling. This is where the support provided by the SBOCA through their Global Getaway Grant proved invaluable. Not only did it alleviate the financial pressure associated with this experience, enabling me to seize every opportunity that came my way, but also served as an encouraging reminder of St Bernard's ongoing commitment to assisting its alumni.

After returning to Australia, I am determined to continue my degree and eventually pursue a career in the industry. Following the enriching and unforgettable experiences I gained during my time abroad, I am eager to embrace future opportunities overseas."

The SBOCA Grant Programs runs yearly, keep an eye on our socials for 2025 submissions!

2023 Foundation Cox Plate Lunch



The St Bernard's Foundation this year ran its inaugural Cox Plate Lunch, a racing lunch with our usual SBC twist!

Supported by a superstar line-up of racing royalty, it was an amazing day all about racing!

Our guests included:

Charlotte Mills

Head of Racing at Moonee Valley Racing Club.

Andrew 'Hos' Bensley

RSN Host and Program Director.

Matthew Hill

The Voice of Racing in Victoria, Race Caller.

Steven King

Caulfield Cup, Cox Plate & Melbourne Cup winning Jockey now trainer.

Will Hayes

Part of the legendary Hayes Training Partnership.

Daniel Moor

Ridden over 1000 winners, multiple group winners.

Shane Templeton

Racing Journalist and Form Guide.

Special mentions must be made of Joe Pignataro - Our MC for the day who did a wonderful job and Bernard Saundry, for all his work ensuring the event's success and Jim Hogan for his support of the event.

We hope everyone who attended enjoyed the day, all in the name of a good cause for the SBC Foundation, we are looking forward to the 2024 event!













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2023 SBOCA Grand Final Lunch



The St Bernard's Old Collegians Association Grand Final Luncheon was held on Friday, 29 September at the Moonee Ponds Club. a classic on the calendar!

This year, the association was able to elevate the event to new heights with fantastic guest speakers, namely Collingwood great and Old Collegian, Dane Swan, who spoke tremendously and provided his unique insights into the 2023 Grand Final with first-hand experience of what it takes to win a Grand Final.

Old Collegian and current AFL player Lachlan Sholl was another great addition, sharing his experience of AFL in the modern era, and his journey from Essendon across to the Adelaide Crows.

David King provided a masterclass in analytics to the crowd, treating us to a breakdown of footage and key players to watch in the 2023 Grand Final, shedding light on the tactics both teams would employ during the big dance.

Tony Leonard rounded out our guest speakers, with an array of entertaining stories and anecdotes in his unique style!

A hugely successful event, thank you to all our guest speakers who contributed on the day, special mentions to Paul Madden who was our MC, and Milo Rasinac our guest auctioneer.

Well done to current president Jasper Brettell and the St Bernard's Old Collegian Association board for all the behind the scenes' work to make the day such a success.

See you in 2024!









2023 SBOCA Golf Day - Chris Lane Cup



On Friday, 20 October, the St Bernard's Old Collegian Association enjoyed their annual Golf Day, with the Chris Lane Cup back on the line! Picture perfect weather saw our players head out to the greens at Medway Golf Club to battle it out!

It's great to see the continued sense of community throughout the event, with many Old Collegians seizing the opportunity to catch up with one another.

Our \$10,000 Hole-In-One competition was back this year, with some extremely close calls, but no winners.

Thank you to Medway Golf Course for their hospitality on the day, and a big thank you to all our sponsors who make this day possible.

MNG Lawyers, Scotchmans Hill, Arthur Reed Photography, Kingston Pools, Moonee Ponds Club, Metro Printing, Winestar, Numurkah Golf and Bowls Club, Ascot Vale Hotel and Ascot Group.

Congratulations to our 2023 Champions, Bernard Saundry, Jack O'Connell, Peter Wood & Paul Sheedy!











2024 SBOCA Bowls Day



On Friday, 5 April, the St Bernard's Old Collegian Association took to the bowling greens at the Aberfeldie Community Bowls Club for their inaugural Bowls Day!

It was great to see many Old Collegians on the day, another great opportunity to catch up amongst our community.

8 teams battled it out throughout the day, the competition was fierce and required an extra end to crown a champion.

Congratulations to;

Adrian McCormack

Tony Miles

Russell Chandler

Our 2024 SBOCA Bowls Champions!

Special mentions to Gerard Mahoney for his tremendous work to make the day a success, we are looking forward to the Bowls Day as an annual event and will keep all Old Collegians posted for next year!



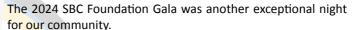




2024 SBC Foundation Gala







This year, we had the pleasure of inducting two outstanding gentlemen, both highly accomplished in their fields, Mr Ben Carroll MP & Mr Don McKenzie

Ben Carroll has had an exceptional legal and political career, with over 20 years' experience in public service and has worked as a lawyer for the Victorian Government, an adviser to former Victorian Premier Steve Bracks and volunteered with a community legal aid service.

Ben was elected to the seat of Niddrie in 2012 and proudly serves his local community in the Victorian Parliament, he has held various ministerial portfolios throughout his political career, most recently being appointed Deputy Premier of Victoria in 2023.

Ben is a man of great integrity, and is highly community minded, always striving to assist those in need and better our community.

Don McKenzie has had an outstanding football career, ranging from playing and coaching in the VFA, through to the VFL/AFL. Don played for Footscray from 1962-1970 as a key forward, playing 137 games and kicking 128 goals. In 1978 he returned to Footscray as head coach and remains the only Old Collegian to coach an AFL/ VFL team, a significant achievement.

We'd be remiss to not mention Don's dedicated wife, Irene McKenzie who has always been Don's biggest supporter, Irene also has a deep connection to the College, working as the executive assistant to the principal for over a decade.

Congratulations to both gentlemen on their ascension to the SBC Hall of Fame!











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GOM 64 - Sixty Years Later and Still Rocking!



Picture Caption From L to R:- (seated) Alan Swanson, Michael Kelly, Michael Sherry, Brian Shanahan (standing), Andrew Moloney (standing), Michael Brignell (seated), Terry McEvoy (standing), John Scally (standing), Robert Crook (standing), John Chrystie (standing), Des Dwyer (standing), Lawrie Moloney, Peter Glynn and Alan Wilson (all seated).

Following the 50th reunion of the class of '64 at the College in 2014, an informal social group was formed to provide the opportunity for regular catchups and to socialise amongst the graduating class of 1964.

Many of the group had not seen each other for nearly 50 years and as can be imagined, there had been lots of changes in the intervening decades — not simply in looks! The group sometimes referred to as the Grumpy Old Men '64 continues to meet several times a year over lunch.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the '64 Class, and we are looking forward to a large turnout at the College for the coming reunion in August on St Bernard's Day.

This Class transferred from the old campus, The Strand to the then new site in Essendon in 1963 where they undertook Year 11, or as termed then, 'Leaving'.

In 1963 all that stood on the Essendon site was the Mitchell Building, and most of the land was covered with thistles and rocks. The Oval was either a quagmire in winter or rock-hard baked clay in summer! The surrounding roads were not sealed in fact Rosehill Road raised a dust storm with every vehicle.

The hill opposite was completely bare and used for motorbike hill-climb activities on weekends as civilization finished at the

College fence line. Buckley Street ended nearby the College and public transport was almost non-existent which is why many of the boys rode bicycles to school. There was a limited bus service which was established solely for transporting the boys to and from Essendon station.

In the early days of the Essendon campus nearly all the teaching staff were Christian Brothers who themselves had to travel - in their VW Kombi Wagon up from The Strand every day as there were no accommodation facilities at that time.

Sporting opportunities were limited. Aside from the Firsts teams, sporting activity for most, such as cricket or football, was held in Fairbairn Park near the Maribyrnong River in Ascot Vale on Wednesday afternoons. This involved a terrifying bus trip each way in an old and overcrowded bus, and no chance or facility to shower afterwards.



Remembering back to 1964:

- In the 1964 VFL Grand Final Melbourne defeated Collingwood (the AFL forming much later); it was to be a long time before Melbourne won another Flag
- Robert Menzies was the Prime Minister
- The Vietnam war had only just begun, the Army draft (conscription) was introduced that year for 18-year-olds which inevitably included a number of St Bernard's boys
- Music pop charts were dominated by the Beatles as they took the top six spots with Elvis coming in at #7. It was also the era of the Rolling Stones, the Beach Boys, the Four Seasons and the American girl groups such as the Crystals and the Ronettes and many more

This group from SBC have grown up in a world that has undergone massive social and technological change as is often spoken about in the regular catchups. If you were in the Class of '64, or were in any of the adjacent years we would love for you to join us.

If you would like to join the group, please contact lan Macdonald on ianmmac47@gmail.com

Essendon Education Academy Program



St Bernard's has always had a longstanding connecting with the Essendon Football club, and its great to see that connection is being further developed with some of our most recent Old Collegians enjoying an opportunity to work with Essendon F.C via their EEA Program.

The program was managed by Old Collegian – James

Polkinghorne (SBOC 2006) who has a tremendous wealth of knowledge of the sporting industry, with 100 AFL games under his belt and an MBA, he is highly passionate about ensuring the success of everyone who is involved in the EEA.

Successful applicants undertake a Diploma of Business, Diploma of Leadership and Management in a unique one-year full-time program, delivered by RMIT University, all hosted at The Hangar, Home of Essendon F.C.

The program delivers a great mix of hands-on experience, with the expertise of a diploma, designed to provide a real world stepping stone for students to work in the sporting industry.

We had the opportunity to speak with Luke Matarazzo, Marcus Bocchetti and Oscar Mula about their experiences with the program – all 3 graduated from St Bernard's in 2022.

What appealed to you about the EEA program, what are you wanting to achieve?

Luke: What appealed to me about the EEA program was its comprehensive curriculum offering, and the opportunity to work on real-world projects. The chance to do this via Essendon F.C has been a dream come true, as a passionate bombers fan I have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the day-to-day operation of the club and gaining insight into the business aspect too.

Marcus: Working inside the Essendon Football Club appealed to me as the EEA provides inner access to the club in both football and administration departments, this provides a great opportunity to understand how much work the club does to deliver success.

Oscar: What appealed to me about the EEA program was the 100 hours of work experience we were able to get within the club. As a football fan, it was always a dream of mine to gain an understanding of how the entire operation works, as many of us only see the end result of a game on the weekend.

What's your favourite aspect of the EEA program?

Luke: My favourite aspects of the EEA program include:

- Being involved in a sporting organisation, being surrounded by players, and learning about how the organisation operates
- Placements, being involved in the operational aspects of the club
- Football developments

Marcus: My favourite aspect of the EEA is the placements because you get to see the work that goes into the team being ready for game day, to see and be involved in the training program the players undertake and the commitment required is a unique opportunity.

Oscar: My favourite aspect of the EEA is game day placement and course work. Game day placements have given me a great understanding of the management behind games. The course work is unique as they are related to Essendon Football Club and we get a chance to work on real world projects to help improve the football club.

How did your time at SBC help you to get into the EEA program?

Luke: The careers advisors at the College were instrumental to being accepted into the EEA program, as they work tirelessly to try and match each student to opportunities that would best suit them. I studied Business Management in my senior years at the College which gave me a great base to further my knowledge with the EEA program.

Marcus: Yes, my time at St Bernard's helped to support, and guide me into the EEA program, one big factor was the values instilled in me at the College. While the EEA program is highly focused on higher education and real-world outcomes, Essendon F.C as an organisation have a great sense of social justice, which has been refreshing to see and be a part of.

Oscar: St Bernard's has always had a strong sporting culture, this was a fantastic stepping stone once I graduated as I wanted to find a program that while still academically focused, would allow me to pursue a career in the sporting industry.







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Stranc

Vale

Rev. Monsignor Gerard James Diamond (SBOC 1959)

12/05/1942 - 10/01/2024

He is remembered for his gentle, kind, and unassuming service to the Church of Melbourne for 56 years, and for his intellectual gifts. The only Old Collegian to achieve the title of "Monsignor" Rest In Peace

Brian White (SBOC 1961)

25/1/1944 - 10/9/2023

Dearly loved husband of Judy

Loving father and father-in-law of Andrea and Phillip Barrett, and Susan White

Proud grandfather of Jarryd (SBOC 2013), Connor (SBOC 2016), and Holly Barrett

Forever in our hearts.

Chris McKenna

27/11/1951 - 11/12/2023

Dearly loved and loving husband of Frances for 48 years. Much loved and loving father, Cherished friend, and respected colleague. Passed peacefully, with Frances and Matthew by his side, under the outstanding care of the staff of Caritas Christi Hospice, Kew.

John Howard Manning

19/07/1931 - 20/03/2024

Aged 92, Loving husband to Anne of 68 years, father to Stephen, Julie and Helen. Father-in-law to Jane, Michael and Greg. Grandfather (Bogey) to Owen, Matthew, Erin, Liam, Patrick, Georgina and Georgia. Great grandfather to Cora.

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our beloved father who lived a full and adventurous life.

He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather whose infectious smile and warm personality touched the lives of all he met.

Adam Szreniawski (SBOC 2006)

10/03/1988 - 01/06/2023

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Adam Leslie Szreniawski (Kyneton, Victoria), who passed away on June 1, 2023, at the age of 35, leaving to mourn family and friends.

He was predeceased by : his grandparents, Ferdinand and Babcia. He is survived by his parents, Les and Liz; his sibling Ryan; his grandparent Zaezilia; and his pet Evie.

Peter Lynch (SBOC 1948)

01/11/1935 - 23/12/2022

Passed away peacefully, after a long illness.

Much loved husband of Isabel Adored step-father to Jen & mate to John Cherished Poppy to Bec, Tori & Tom

Forever in our hearts.

Denis O'Meara (SBOC 1969)

21-06-1951 - Nov 2022

Rest In Peace

Neil Allison (SBOC 1981)

03/05/1964 - 23/08/2023

After a huge fight with Brain cancer his fight ended with his wife Louise and three Children Olivia ,Daniel (2013) and Sophie by his bedside. Dearly loved, sorely missed. Rest Easy.

George Stacewicz (SBOC 1973)

30/11/1950 - 2/09/2023

Cherished partner of Sonya, father to Judy, Adrian, and Thuy, grandfather to Neo.

Sleep peacefully thank you for all the wonderful memories.

John Conlan (SBOC 1961)

05/01/1944 - 5/07/2023

Passed peacefully on 5 July 2023. He was the father of Michael (SBOC '90) and the brother of Gerard, George and Philip – Rest In Peace.

Joe Edmonds (SBOC 1960)

19/03/1942 - 8/11/2023

College Captain 1960 - Rest In Peace.

Antony Maugeri (SBOC 2019)

Tragically passed at the young age of 23, will be sorely missed, a great man taken too soon.

Rest In Peace.

Salvatore (Sal) Pricone (SBOC 1980)

(02/07/1962 - 01/05/2024)

Will be greatly missed, Rest In Peace.

Greg Blake (SBOC 1963)

5/09/1945 - 27/07/2023

Beloved son of William (Bill) and Nancy (both dec.) and wonderful brother of Gary, Desmond, Michael

and Julianne. Rest In Peace.

Robert (Bob) Young (SBOC 1964)

25/09/1945 - 14/08/2023

Aged 77, Bob was a hard-working ruckmen who played many reserve grade games for St Bernard's, and was a great club man. May he Rest In Peace.

Richard Edmonds (SBOC 1957)

13/02/1938 - 02/09/2023

Aged 85 Beloved husband and best friend of Helen Edmonds (dec). Loving father of Matthew, Michael, Julia, Philippa, Gabrielle, Jonathan and Felicity.

 $Cherished\ grand father\ of\ 18.$

A committed and loyal man, known for his kindness. Forever remembered and sadly missed.

Antony Lehane (SBOC 1963)

11/09/1946 - 30/08/2023

Dearly loved by Robyn. Cherished father of Bryan and Lauren. Loving Grandpa of Jack, James and Sophie. It broke our hearts to lose you. Loved and remembered always.

Luke Pearce (SBOC 2000)

3/11/1982 - 12/08/2023

Beloved Son to Graham and Anita, Brother to Lennie and Michael. His kind, gentle soul and his big heart will be missed forever.

Brendan Horne (SBOC 1966)

Rest in Peace.

Neil Smith (SBOC 1973)

20/05/1956 – 23/01/2023

Son of first day student Des Smith (SBOC 1940), Rest In Peace.

John Humble (SBOC 1962)

17/04/1944 - 05/11/2023

Darling husband of Marie. Loving father of Michelle, Mark, Miriam and Naomi.

Poppy/Pop of nine grandchildren and soon to be great grandfather. Your love and kindness will stay with us always.

Kevin Morley (SBOC 1951)

21/02/1935 - 28/01/2024

Kevin was a much loved son, brother, father

He lived a long an adventitious life, bringing laughter to those around him.

He will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved him.

Rest In Peace Kevin .

Harry Templeton (SBOC 1947)

23/10/1930 - 01/03/2024

Forever loved. Always missed.

Never forgotten.

Frank Godden (SBOC 1963)

30.04.1944 - 13/04/2024

Frank will be remembered by his swimming mates as a devoted family man, a friend with the highest levels of integrity and a champion swimmer and swimming coach.

Forever in our Hearts.

Richard (Dick) Byrne (SBOC 1966)

3/05/1947 - 12/03/2024

Passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Dick was a great supporter of the St Bernard's football club, where his sons Dan and Martin played.

Ken McKenzie (SBOC 1960)

22/03/1944 - 15/01/2024

Ken McKenzie passed away peacefully in January, just short of his 80th birthday. Brother of Don '58, Neal and Geoffrey, Uncle of Lachlan '86 and Cameron '91 McKenzie and Campbell Kirkland.

Rest In Peace.

Marie Barrett

04/02/1928 - 04/08/2023

Loved and adored wife of John (Dec) and devoted and loving mother of Peter, Louise, Andrew, Chris, Philip, Marita, Adrian and Tim. Loving Nan to 19 grandchildren and great Nan to 10.

Forever loved and forever in our hearts.

Fleur Arnold

11/01/1975 - 10/10/2023

Daughter of College Hall of Fame member Michael Arnold '60.

Fleur brought joy and laughter to everyone she met. She will be forever missed.

Mary (Pixie) McNamee

09/12/1921 - 29/03/2024

Mother of Stan, Paul (HOF) and Brian(HOF) and Mary McNamee Pixie, taught for over 25 years at St. Columba's College and was dearly loved by both students and colleagues.

Pixie lived well to the fine age of 102 and was always kind, loving, enthusiastic and "switched on" until her death.

Rest In Peace Pixie.

Father Gerard Dowling OAM DE - A Gentlemen and a Scholar



Father Gerard Dowling OAM DE 29/08/1932 -26/11/2023

Reverend Gerard Patrick Dowling OAM DE (SBOC 1948) passed away at Justin Villa, Balwyn, on 26 November 2023. He was aged 91 years.

Gerard was born in Essendon to Jack and Cathy Dowling. He had an older brother and a twin sister, Mary, who was born the day before him and with whom he remained close.

Gerard was an avid North Melbourne supporter, thanks to his father who was raised in North Melbourne and often took the family to Arden Street to watch the Kangaroos play.

Following his ordination at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne, on 27 July 1958, Fr Gerard served temporarily as assistant priest at Healesville (1958) and then was appointed assistant priest at the parishes of Burwood (1959) and Altona (1961). He went on to complete studies at the University of Melbourne in counselling and social work in 1963.

In 1973, Fr Gerard began hosting an on-air radio counselling program, The Family Counsellor, which was broadcast every Sunday between 10pm and midnight on Radio 3UZ (now known as RSN 927). The program, which brought great comfort to many, celebrated its 50th anniversary of continuous broadcasting in September 2023.

In 1985, he was recognised for his social services work by being awarded the Order of Australia Medal.

In 1999, Fr Gerard was appointed Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne an appointment that he held until his retirement in 2003

Fr Gerard was the principal celebrant of our St Bernard's Deceased Old Collegian's mass for over 60 years, always ensuring he was available and delivered a thoughtful and unique service honouring Old Collegians and community members who have passed away.

In 2009, Fr Gerard was inducted into the St Bernard's Hall of Fame in recognition of life-long and on-going service to his community

Fr Gerard Dowling, a wonderful gentleman, selfless and always willing to serve.

You will be greatly missed.

Rest In Peace.

Ron Stobaus OAM - A Titan of Athletics



Ron Stobaus OAM - 18/04/1939 - 30/11/2023

Ron was a devoted and passionate contributor to Athletics in Victoria for nearly 60 years as Coach, President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee Member since cofounding the Keilor St Bernard's Athletics Club in 1964.

Ron's passion for the development of athletics saw his involvement expand to the national level as the Chair of Athletics Victoria Coaching Committee, a manager

of teams, as a registered Official, Coach and team manager for over 30 years. As a member of the Victorian branch of the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association, Ron served with distinction as President, Secretary and Administrator since the 1970's.

Ron has been recognised by Moonee Valley Council and Athletics Victoria with numerous awards, but a crowning achievement was his Order of Australia award.

The Order of Australia award acknowledged Ron's unique career in athletics, from his coaching longevity to his role in introducing innumerable young athletes in Melbourne's northwest to the athletic disciplines of running, walking, jumping, and throwing. A remarkable recognition of his tireless and humble devotion to Athletics, it's community and participants.

Ron's coaching role with Keilor St Bernard's is unmatched in Australian athletics history. Not only did Ron inaugurate the club in 1964 as St Bernard's Old Collegians Amateur Athletics Club, but in an extraordinary unbroken stretch, he was also head coach from that time until his passing.

Ron was an avid supporter of the College, and was extremely proud of his longstanding and deep connection to St Bernard's

Ron passed away on 30 November 2023, Rest In Peace Ron, an exceptional man.

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