

**Introduction of the Premier, the Hon. Steven Marshall MP,
by the Head of St Mark's College, Professor Don Markwell,
in Formal Hall, St Mark's College, Adelaide,
Thursday 2 September 2021**

It's an enormous pleasure to welcome the Premier – who is a great friend of the College – back to St Mark's this evening. We are extremely grateful that Mr Marshall will address us here in dinner, and stay on for a Question and Answer session in the Learning Commons upstairs after dinner – to which everyone is invited.

As an undergraduate, Steven Marshall studied business at what is now the University of South Australia, and later for a Masters of Business Administration at Durham University in England – one of the three old college-based universities in the UK, along with Oxford and Cambridge. So he has experience of life as a college student there, which I know he greatly valued.

Mr Marshall entered Parliament in 2010 after a successful career in business, including – amongst other roles – managing his family's business, Marshall Furniture, which under his leadership received a national award for its commitment to employing people with disabilities.

Apart from business and manufacturing-related roles, Mr Marshall was also active in community organisations such as SCOSA, an organisation to help people with disability; Reconciliation SA; White Ribbon, which works to end violence against women and girls; and – as a keen organic gardener – as founding chairman of Compost for Soils (which I think will be of interest to our Environmental Team).

Having entered State Parliament in 2010, Mr Marshall has been leader of his party since 2013 – making him the longest-serving Liberal leader in Australia – and Premier since 2018.

The Premier is the Member of the House of Assembly for the suburban Adelaide seat of Dunstan – named for one of the two members of this College to become Premier, Don Dunstan. The other member of this College to become Premier, John Bannon, was later Master of the College, and his portrait hangs on the wall behind me.

We are excited and delighted to have Premier Marshall with us tonight.

Would you please join me again in welcoming the Premier, as I call upon him to address us?