

St Marks College Old Collegians Association Inc.
46 Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide SA 5006
P. 08 8334 5600 F. 08 82674694

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the
St Mark's Old Collegians' Association Inc.
To be held on Friday 26th August 2022 at 6:00pm
In the Junior Common Room,
St Mark's College, North Adelaide & via Zoom (Link in the email)

1. **Open.** 1810

2. **Attendees:**

- a) Michael van Dissel (President), Lachlan Flynn (Secretary), Riley Glynn, Sophie Ludbrook, Lucy Bunge, Nicholas Marzhol, Will Dufty, Prof Don Markwell (Head of College), Haydn Farr, Jessica Ball, Alex Shepherd, Tristan Sudholz, Kathy Radoslovich, John Bouilly, Greg Shepherd, Finn McGown, William McLachlan, David Rowe, David Ellis, Libby Ellis, Maddy Taylor, Linden Jones.

3. **Apologies:**

- a) Hon. Dan Cregan MP, Hon. Bruce Debelle, Peter Edgar, Raphaela Oest, Rick Ferguson, Angela Evans, Ant Simpson, Dr Tony Shinkfield, Charles Hawker, Dirk van Dissel, Derry Geber, John Bowers (Treasurer), Ben Massey, Bronte Phillips, Evie De Jager, Taylor Glover, Craig Williams, Christian Winterfield, Bronte Evans, Alex Hadden, Sally Silz.

4. **Minutes from the 2021 AGM, attached:**

- a) MOTION: That the Minutes from the 2021 AGM be accepted as a true & correct record of the meeting.*

Moved: Michael van Dissel

Seconded: Tristan Sudholz

CARRIED

*corrected the spelling of Tristan Sudholz's name.

5. **Business arising from minutes:**

- a) Nil

6. **Correspondence:**

- a) Nil

7. **Presidents Report – Michael van Dissel:**

- a) **Welcome:** Michael welcomes the Head of College, Prof Don Markwell, Old Collegians and friends to the Association's 2022 AGM. He thanks those in attendance, whether at home or in person. The past year has been less about Covid and more about getting back to normal. The Association has tried really hard to re-engage with our Members, particularly recent Leavers' of the College.

b) **Events of the last 12 months:**

i Sadly, due to Covid A Taste of Mark's 2021 and Old Collegians' Tennis 2022 were cancelled.

ii Over the last 12 months, the Association has held the following events:

- 1 St Mark's Cricket Club
- 2 Leavers' Drinks
- 3 Welcome drinks for Leavers' of 2021
- 4 Old Collegians' Football
- 5 The Annual Dinner (tonight)

iii Additionally, I and other committee members attended Final Dinner, the Commencement Service, Gala Ball to celebrate 40 years of coeducation at St Mark's and the Founders Day Service.

iv It's pleasing to report that our events have been well supported by the Members and broader College community. Events that are planned in the lead up to Christmas:

- 1 A Taste of Mark's
- 2 Cocktail event celebrating 40 years of coeducation
- 3 St Mark's Cricket Club

- c) **Engagement with Leavers':** The Association has held Leavers' drinks in Oct for over 20 years where we introduce ourselves to the Leavers' and in the hope the engage with the Association heading forward. We thought we could do more. To that comment, we have introduced a "Leavers'" baseball cap and welcome drinks at the beginning of the year. It was our attention to encourage Leavers' to engage with this cap which could only be collected at our events. Please to report that this has been as success and we intend to do it again for the 2022 Leavers'
- d) **40 Years of Coeducation at St Mark's:** As we all know, this year marks 40 years of women being admitted to St Mark's College, and then becoming members of the association as well. The College held a Gala Dinner earlier in the year to celebrate where Dr Angela Evans AM spoke. The evening was most enjoyable and provided a great opportunity for the College to reflect on coeducation milestone of 1982. In the lead up to the anniversary, the Committee considered ways that it might be able to celebrate the milestone. It was decided that on 28th Oct 2022, the Association will hold an event to celebrate. Furthermore, the Committee has decided to commission a piece of public art in celebration to be prominently displayed at College. A sub-committee has been appointed to make the arrangements. This sub-committee has already met and will shortly be engaging with artists.
- e) **A Taste of Mark's:** Another big event, which many people have missed, is back on. To be held Sat 10th September. A Taste of Mark's is an Old Colls event where we invite several wineries to the College where we can sample their wares, eat food, enjoy the entertainment whilst sharing it with former collegians, family and friends. Tickets on sale now, don't miss out.
- f) **Retiring members of the Committee:** An AGM has two parts, reflecting on the year that was and appointing a new committee to take the Association forward for the next year. Michael to finish the report by reflecting on the former and leave the later to the agenda. Covid, with all the stress, shutdowns and disruptions makes you pause and causes you to re-evaluate your priorities. This is something that a number of Committee members have done of the past few years. Michael takes a moment to thank the service of Liam Hay and Alex Hadden who resigned from the Committee during the year. In particular a big thank you to Alex, who was a former President and a 10 plus year member on the Committee. He did so much work behind the scenes, that only with him gone, do you miss all that he did. He thanks current members of the committee who are retiring at the AGM: Evie De Jager, Bronte Phillips and Taylor Glover. Moves onto thanking two retiring office bearers of the Association: our Secretary, Lachlan Flynn and our Treasurer, John Bowers. Lachie has been a very able Secretary and 2-1-C in the running of the Association. John has been on and off the committee over the last 10 years or so and been our Treasurer for the last where he offered advice on managing our money along with the other obligations of the position. The two roles are often thankless and unacknowledged but vital to the smooth running of any organisation. Big thanks to Lachy and John to your dedicated service and all the best heading forward.
- g) **General Update:** Things are now much better, for both the College and the Association. Over the past years, we have farewelled our former Master Rose Alwyn and welcomed our Head of College Professor Don Markwell. New words have been learned like

coronavirus and Covid-19 and discovered the true meaning of isolation. Even a couple of years ago, if talked about shutting large sections of the country and economy for months at a time, we would have thought the whole discussion was quite mad. The last 2 years or so years have been particularly hard for the Association. Planned events, only to cancel them. Some committee members retired during this time. These issues only pale into insignificance compared to the stress and uncertainty the College faced. Universities effectively shutdown and classes were online. Outbreaks required large amounts of isolation and cleaning, so imagine that happening at College. There was even the risk that the College might have to shutdown until the pandemic passes. The leader of St Mark's who steered the ship through the storm was Professor Don Markwell. His boundless energy and hard work have ensured the College made it safely through the pandemic and has come out the other side. The College is better now than it was at the start, an impressive effort. Remarkable achievement. On behalf of the Association, Michael says thank you to Don.

h) **My Retirement:** Tonight marks the end of Michaels 3 years as President and 9 months as acting-President of the Association. Time to hand the batten onto a fresh person for the next leg. Michael mentions he has been well served by his office bearers and Committee members. Thanks to all. It's been frustrating planning events but looks forward to next years full calendar. Michael came to office when the College was in quite some turmoil and the Association had been cut out of the governance of the College. From Don's first day as Head of College he has made it a point to engage with the Association on all sorts of matters, as well as including us in life at College. Michael doesn't recall where the relationship between the Association and College has been so good. Michael has enjoyed working with Don and thanks him. He hope that in the not too distant future the Board may re-visit the Association's role in the governance and Leadership of the College. Thanks all the members for the privilege of leading your Association.

i) **Questions:** There were none.

MOTION: That the President's report be accepted.

Moved: Michael van Dissel

Seconded: Riley Glynn

CARRIED

8. Treasurer's Report – John Bowers (unable to attend):

- a) Michael spoke on the behalf of John Bowers, who is currently in London. Financial statements were attached for the Association for the financial year ending 30 June 2022.
- b) A quick inspection shows that the Association is in robust health with a small surplus for the year and next assets in excess of \$170,000. Financial statements show:
 - i Associations income is largely from membership receipts and about 10% dividends, which are down due to the economy.
 - ii No income from events, due to cancellations.
 - iii Due to the concentrated efforts from the Association to re-engage with Leavers' and broader community, it incurred expense of approximately 25% of its income on engagement and events expenses.
 - iv Other major expense, representing about 35% of its income, was in paying the Old Collegians' Bursary.
 - v There was an erroneous charge made to the Association's account held with the College. Error identified and reversal will be seen in next years financial statement.
 - vi Due to volatility in the economy, the Associations shares lost about 2%.
- c) A frustrating issue for the Association, is what to do with its \$120,000 odd in cash. With interest rates having been so low, interest on the account is negligible.
- d) Suggestions that the money be professionally managed until it is sufficient to properly endow an Old Collegians' Bursary. John's experience that this is an expensive

way to manage money. John encourages the next Committee to consider investing a significant amount in a balanced fund so that the Association does not miss out on the ongoing growth of Australian equities.

e) Apologises for not being able to attend in person and that his time with the Old Collegians' Association Committee has come to an end this evening. Enjoyed serving on the Committee and more recently as Treasurer. Work to keep him in the UK for his foreseeable future. Wishes the Association and the College well.

f) Questions: There were none.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Moved: John Bowers

Seconded: Lachlan Flynn

CARRIED

9. Head of College Report – Professor Don Markwell:

a) **Thank you and Congratulations:** Don gives a thank you to all. Mentions it's been a pleasure working with Michael as the President of the association and thanks his service to the College. Thanks to the others leaving the committee as well and those to be elected tonight. Thanks to the Association for the "Head of College" baseball cap as well. During the Annual dinner Don will speak about his vision and the Board's vision for the College's future as we head towards the centenary in 2025.

b) The last 12 months:

Introduction: This year we are marking the 40th anniversary of coeducation at St Mark's and we had about 140 people at the Gala Dinner in April. We are publishing 40 profiles of outstanding women of the College throughout the year, 18 have been posted online so far. Little bit behind schedule, but there will be 40 published profiles online of some of the many remarkable women connected to the College. Looks forward to the Association's drinks in October and the public artwork to be commissioned that will celebrate the 40 year anniversary. The year began on a sad note with the death of Malcolm McKenzie, the third Master of the College from 1968-1977 and prior to that for three years he was also the Chaplain of the College. Detailed tribute on the College website, Rest in Peace.

Covid: Covid impact was great to begin 2022, mask requirements and social distancing made for a strange beginning to the year. March/April, 80+ students in isolation due to Covid, but pretty much back to normal with life at College. Covid has left some legacies, so good and some bad. Covid has played a part in effecting the mental health of young people and the College continues to improve the support that is offered for all students in this respect with the appointment of the Director of Wellbeing. Pandemic has affected the development of study skills, so Don is glad that the College has the ability to provide strong academic support for students. New Director of Learning added to the expanding administration staff of the College.

Covid has given us some positives though:

- i Given fresh meaning to words like community. With social isolation and anxiety, people have realised the importance of human connection in community. Proud of student leaders helping provide connection through the darkest days of Covid. A survey of student showed that the word "community" is most associated word with the College.
- ii Believes this recognition of connection and community is behind high numbers of enrolments and applications to the College. Stronger than have been in past years. Rising tide for College's around the country, which is very pleasing.
- iii Enrolments are so strong, the College is looking at the options to possibly slightly increase the number of students that live here. Graduate students are a focus, but also retaining later year students in College.

Academia: Academic results are very strong. Stellar results show it's possible to do very well at College, whilst taking advantage of everything else College can offer you whilst

living here. Learning and Wellbeing discussions are currently underway with students.

Sport: We remain on ahead in the High Table Cup, 6 points up on Aquinas. 1st in Tennis, 1st in Swimming, 2nd in Women's netball, 3rd in Men's netball, 2nd in Debating, 2nd in women's football, 3rd in Men's football, 3rd in women's hockey, 1st in men's hockey (moderate celebration!), 1st in women's basketball (first time since 2012), 4th in Men's basketball. Volleyball this coming Sunday, then three more sports to finish before our victory in the High Table Cup.

Marksenfest: First time in three years, Marksenfest returns. 30th Anniversary. Sunday 9th Oct, the Cathedral plays host to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Hence it's move to Saturday 8th Oct.

Community Service: Don gave thanks to those who helped in the restoration of the Gas Truck late in 2021 and the students efforts in community service through the year, particularly through the Charitable Foundation. Several thousand dollars raised at the Quiz night held Thursday 25th 2022 in the Dining Room. Thanks to the students that put in much time to many charities in Adelaide. Medal is now given to recognise selfless service given to the community, the Lillias Neadham Medal for Service. She gave a selfless gift, allowing the College to buy Hawker House. Service will be the theme of this years Bannan Oration, 18th Oct 2022, details to come – "Volunteer for the ages". Hard copies of last years Bannan Oration will arrive shortly. Made mention to the help Alex Hadden gives in respect to the Audio and Visual backing during the Bannan Orations.

Faculty events and evenings, Port and Talks. Larger events at the College over the last year people such as Steven Marshall, Christopher Pyne, Sarah Hansen Young and Governor Frances Adams have spoken to students.

The inaugural winner of the Ivan Shearer Scholarship was given out to Rebecca Keeley, heading off to Oxford to study. Small ceremony where the scholarship was presented in the presence of Ivan's sister and other members of his family. Emphasising how important scholarships for residents of the College are, to enable students to be here. Gave thanks to the many people who give generously to the College. Significant scholarship to be announce soon. Annual Giving each year gives very real support to students that wish to continue to live here, we are very grateful.

Student Leadership remains excellent and four of our leaders are indigenous. One area of focus of theirs is promoting respectful relationships, gender equity and the real sense of community. Student Leadership retreat was held in July, focusing on what leadership is and how they can all contribute making College even better.

The College did go through a turbulent period prior to Covid, but things are getting stronger and stronger over the last few years, particularly in the response to sexual harassment allegations.

December of this year, our Archival Clerk, Monica Smith (who has served the College for 23 years), will retire and June of next year, Pirio Rainierm our Librarian for the last 34 years will retire. Next week appointment to be announced for Archives.

Hopes everyone enjoys reading the updates from the College through the e-newsletters sent out every few months. Please send the College any worthwhile news to be included. Few newsworthy points:

- 1) Dr James Muecke AM appointed as Lieutenant Governor of SA.
- 2) At the state election earlier this year, four Old Collegians were voted into state parliament.

Final Notes: The Board adopted a new strategic plan, the College is preparing for the Centenary celebrations, Historians have been appointed. Please mark in your diary Saturday 19th March 2025, a great celebration to come.

Don ends in thanking the Association, Michael and the other office bearers and all the members for their support.

10. **Election of Office Bearers for 2022/2023:**

- a) **President:** Michael van Dissel retires and cannot be re-elected. Riley Glynn seeks election
 - i No other nominations for the position: Riley Glynn is ELECTED President of the Association.
- b) **Secretary:** Lachlan Flynn retires and does not seek re-election. Michael van Dissel seeks election.
 - i No other nominations for the position: Michael van Dissel is ELECTED Secretary of the Association.
- c) **Treasurer:** John Bowers retires and does not seek re-election. Ben Jenner seeks election.
 - i No other nominations for the position: Ben Jenner is ELECTED Treasurer of the Association.
- d) **Immediate Past President** –Michael van Dissel now replaces Craig Williams as Immediate Past President.
- e) **General Committee Members:**
 - i Current members: Bree Downs-Woolley, Will Dufty, Lucy Bunge, Liam Hay, Alex Shepherd, Bronte Phillips, Riley Glynn, Nicholas Marzhol, Derry Geber, Riley Glynn, Ben Massey, Evie de Jager, Sophie Ludbrook and Taylor Glover.
 - ii Bree Downs-Woolley, Will Dufty, Lucy Bunge, Alex Shepherd, Nicholas Marzhol, Derry Geber, Ben Massey and Sophie Ludbrook seek re-election.
 - iii **New members encouraged to nominate.** Noted new nominations:
 - 1 Charlotte Fox
 - 2 James Delegat
 - 3 Maddie Taylor
 - 4 William McLachlan
 - iv No other nominations for the position: Bree Downs-Woolley, Will Dufty, Lucy Bunge, Alex Shepherd, Nicholas Marzhol, Derry Geber, Ben Massey, Sophie Ludbrook, Charlotte Fox, James Delegat, Maddie Taylor and William McLachlan are ELECTED to the Committee of the Association.
- f) **Representatives on College Foundation:** Old Collegians' Association is represented by two members, currently Michael van Dissel and Lachlan Flynn. Michael van Dissel seeks re-election, Lachlan Flynn does not seek re-election and Riley Glynn seeks election.
 - i No other nominations for the position: Riley Glynn and Michael van Dissel are APPOINTED representatives to the Foundation.
- g) **Public Officer appointment:** "That the Association's President will continue as the Association's Public Officer". Moved: Michael van Dissel, Seconded: Lachlan Flynn. CARRIED.

11. **Other Business:**

- a) The outgoing President thanked:
 - i the College and Don, as well as Lorraine and Carol in setting up and arranging everything for this evening.

- ii Sarah Whyte for providing the Zoom audio and visual for the evening
- b) The incoming President introduced himself to the Association, gave thanks to Michael for his three years as President and to the College for their support.

12. **Close:** 1904



MICHAEL van DISSEL
PRESIDENT

St Mark's Old Collegians Association Inc.

APOLOGIES FOR AGM CAN BE DIRECTED TO: oldcolls@stmarkscollege.com.au