

InProfile^{PIUS}

Spring 2020

College Leaders working
together during a
challenging year



ST PIUS X COLLEGE
CHATSWOOD

ST PIUS X COLLEGE



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA

STRENGTH
THROUGH
SUPPORT

PURSUE YOUR PASSION!

College Captain Lachlan Mathie and Principal Mr John Couani,
as school returns to face-to-face lessons during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Year 12 Graduation

September 2020



Year 12, 2020 Graduation entry



Father Jim McKeon addresses the group at the Year 12, 2020 Graduation



Year 12, 2020 Academic Award Winners



Year 12 2020 Major Award recipients



Year 12, 2020 Gold Academic Colour Awardees



Year 12, 2020 Academic Excellence Awardees

PRINCIPAL'S *Welcome*

Welcome to the Spring 2020 edition of *Pius in Profile*.

This edition provides a snapshot of school life over a truly remarkable period in our history. My heart goes out to all who may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated problems around the community. It has been a challenging year and we have been better placed than many to handle what has transpired.

The College has come together as a truly inclusive community to support those in need. In these testing times, our major focus has been the ongoing wellbeing of all members of our community.

The Student Leaders for 2020 have done a wonderful job in providing a great example to the College. It is fitting that the Year 12s' be highlighted in this edition. Also, I am pleased to introduce our new student leaders for 2021. Each year has its own character and I am confident that the future is safe in their capable hands.

The student leaders and their peers, as well as the College staff, adapted well to the opportunities of Online Learning, streamed assemblies, new sporting opportunities and online meetings. These new methods of delivery have been a virtue out of necessity, but many work so well they may remain well into the future.

An overview of the College's experiences with COVID-19 is provided here. The College will continue to review and invest in new platforms to support teaching, learning and general communications including the introduction of social media in Term 4 of this year.



Our current P&F President - Braelen Zwart will be retiring at the end of 2020. Braelen has been a vital member of the P&F for 8 years and President for the last 3 years. We thank Braelen for her contribution to supporting and growing our inclusive SPX community. We look forward to welcoming new members and Committee members at the November AGM.

The College is conscious of, and interested in, its extended community. This edition features a number of friends and families of the College – the Pegus and Elliss families, as well as the legacy of the 1960s cadet band personified by ex-students Patrick Bollen and Dave Nesbitt.

During these difficult times a number of people have expressed interest in donating to the College - whether through supporting scholarships, our Building Fund or for other purposes. Such donations are always welcome and further details are on the back page of this publication. It is a simple reality that in the current climate schools can enhance their learning opportunities through additional funding. Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss options.

I look forward to our community coming together in person once again when this can be done safely.

John Couani
PRINCIPAL

fide et labore,
THROUGH FAITH AND HARD WORK



Year 12, 2020 Students with St Pius X year candles



Year 12, 2020 Students at the Graduation

COVID-19 and the St Pius X Community

2020 will be remembered as the COVID-19 global pandemic that changed our lives. February 2020 heralded news of this grave new virus but it wasn't until March that the College was seriously impacted. On Friday 13 March, as we were in the final hours preparing our long planned Open Day, the situation became critical. Events across the country were cancelled. We made the difficult but responsible decision to cancel the Open Day. It was the beginning of a dramatic change in the operation of the College.

Overseas tours, sporting competitions, music performances, debating, excursions, visits by guest speakers, professional development for teachers, public speaking events and our much-valued liturgies had to be cancelled. The loss of these events placed great strain on staff, students and parents who had been looking forward to them and devoted many planning hours in anticipation.

The constant updates from the State and Federal Governments created a challenge simply in keeping the College community informed as to what was happening. It was a difficult time on many levels. People were rightly concerned about their health,



Year 5 social distancing in class

the schooling of their sons and the safety of society in general. The College worked hard to establish protocols and plans for the many possible scenarios including emergency evacuations and the isolation of suspected cases of COVID-19.

On 23 March, as the College continued with normal classes, the first major change was evident as assemblies were then conducted via the loudspeaker to students in their Home Room. There have been no more whole school assemblies since that date. It was the beginning of major changes to daily campus life. Students were constantly reminded to socially distance and be particularly diligent in maintaining hygiene. On Thursday 26 March Online



Regular hand sanitising

Learning began in earnest. There were a few students in attendance at the College under special supervision but all work was conducted online.

The College was fortunate in the transition to Online Learning in that a well-developed IT system via the Portal was already familiar to us. This platform was further strengthened by the use of *Microsoft Teams* which provided a valuable interactive medium



Year 12 distancing at Assembly on their first day back to face-to-face teaching



Percussion Ensemble 2020 T2

Percussion Ensemble Video

for classes. Online Education proved to be a rapid learning curve for students as they had to take more responsibility for managing their learning programs; and for parents having to manage the new family and learning dynamics in the home environment. Teachers also addressed the great range of student engagement in an unfamiliar environment.

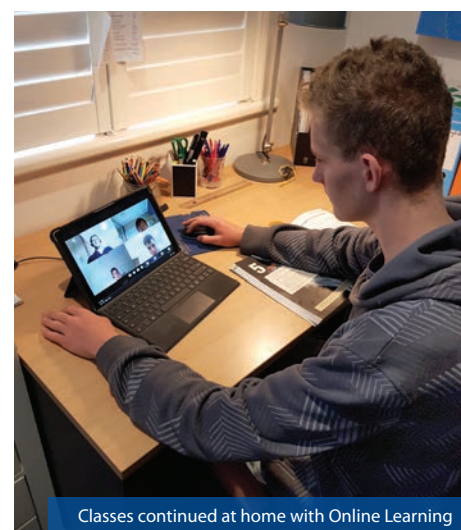
By the end of Term One the online assemblies proved so successful they have now become a feature of College life. Students went on holidays aware of the possibility that Term Two would be conducted completely via Online Learning. This was not to be. As we were told, we had to be agile in our response.

The New South Wales Government announced that schools would soon be operational again in Term Two. Mid-May saw the College return to face-to-face teaching but in a changed environment. Schools were open, but with new protocols. People carried hand sanitiser to class. There were hand sanitiser stations around the College. A cough or a sneeze from any individual led to COVID-19 testing and their isolation until the results came through. Assemblies, as well as staff, Board and the P&F meetings moved online. College tours changed to virtual platforms and by the end of the term



parent teacher interviews were also online. Schooling had changed.

Term Three commenced with some sense of normality. There was a limited return to inter-school sport and debating. But not for long. On Monday 17 August the Principal was forced to make the unwelcome announcement that all inter-school sport and all further ceremonies had to be cancelled. Debating could continue via the online platform, Zoom, but the vast majority of other activities were suspended. While the premature end to inter-school sport was indeed disappointing, the College was prepared for such an unexpected turn of events and has been able to introduce alternate sporting programs and weekly training sessions as part of a new intra-school competition. Face-to-face learning has continued and where possible the College has moved quickly and seamlessly in utilising online tools to support student learning and wellbeing, and to ensure the continuation of normalcy of College life and an inclusive community.



As Term Three concluded the Year 12 cohort embraced their live streamed graduation ceremonies and showcased their HSC major works 'Splinters Splashes Stage and Sounds' in innovative online forums. Finally, the cohort were buoyed by the news that the tradition of the College Formal could proceed, in a restricted format.

There is no doubt this has been a challenging year for all, and the College has endeavoured to ensure the physical and emotional atmosphere of the school has remained consistent despite the many setbacks. On a positive note, we are proud of how our vibrant and inclusive College community has come together to respond to this remarkably difficult and unusual period in history.

Tony Cunneen



LEADERS AND ACHIEVERS

Celebration of Learning Academic Awards

The Academic Awards were presented to students in the College gymnasium during the term with ceremonies for each Year Group from Years 7 to 10. The presentations were live streamed as part of the morning assembly and made available to parents and carers through the College portal.

The following Awards were presented to students:

Fide et Labore Awards

**156 students received Fide et Labore Awards –
30 Year 7, 35 Year 8, 50 Year 9 and 41 Year 10**

These Awards are presented for:

- » Gold for first place in a course
- » Silver for students in the top 5% in a course
- » Blue for significant effort leading to improvement



Fide et Labore Award medal

Growth in Learning Awards

**59 students received Growth in Learning Awards
(Years 8 – 10)**

These Awards are presented to students who through hard work have shown significant increase in their Grades.

Waterford Awards

**42 students received
Waterford Awards**

These Awards are presented to acknowledge students who have continued to strive to achieve their own personal best.



Waterford Award medal

Academic Colour Awards

**3 students received Blue Academic Colour Awards and
2 students received Silver**

These Awards are presented to students in Years 9 and 10 who have been consistent academic role models and shown leadership in their studies.

Congratulations to all the Award recipients. Year 11 will be presented their Awards in Term Four.



Congratulations

Year 12, 2021 Student Leaders



COLLEGE CAPTAIN: Liam Chang
COLLEGE VICE-CAPTAIN: Alec Ramsbottom
COLLEGE VICE-CAPTAIN: Nicholas Ward

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Barron: Patrick Moore **Rice:** Benjamin Ferguson
Purton: Frederick Braddock **Treacy:** Dominic Panozzo

PREFECTS

Mission & Identity Prefects

Douglas Daniels
 Matthew Felice
 Lachlan Onslow

Well-Being Prefects

Benjamin Giles
 Matthew Brannan
 Jacob Glass

Cultural Prefects

James Baldock
 Liam Kinna
 Ashley Johnson
 Charlie Hamill

Academic Prefects

Angelo Fernando
 Aidan Lorking
 Charlie Jackson

Farewell and Good Luck

FROM THE 2020
 COLLEGE CAPTAIN
 - LACHLAN MATHIE



What a year it has been! Whilst the circumstances have been against us, with the bushfires and the effects of COVID-19, the Year 12 cohort have continued to persevere with their studies and commitments.

We are proud that our slogan "Strength through Support" has well and truly been fulfilled this year. The College has rallied together despite the many setbacks, showing us how privileged we are to be at St Pius X. I would like to congratulate the 2020 Student Leadership Team for their efforts throughout these uncertain times and for continuing to emulate the qualities and leadership needed to keep students filled with positivity and hope.

One piece of advice I offer to all students and the incoming Student Leadership Team is to put your hand up for any opportunity that arises. This year has been a lesson in many respects for Year 12, as we have come to learn the importance of a work-life balance and to not discard any opportunity thrown our way.

Good Luck to the incoming Student Leadership Team led by Liam Chang. The school is in great hands for 2021 and I am excited to hear of the many great things yet to come. *Fide et Labore.*



Year 12, 2021 Student Leaders

MISSION AND IDENTITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE

Justice and Solidarity



Reconciliation Action Plan Committee Meeting

Reconciliation Action Plan

St Pius X College is recognised nationally for the quality of its Narragunnawali Reconciliation Action Plan. (RAP) This plan outlines the College's vision for acknowledging our First Nations People in the classroom, across the school and in the wider community.

Our RAP working team includes staff and students of the College, some of whom identify as Aboriginal. All are contributing to enhancing the inclusive nature of the College through action. Our team is well supported by Aboriginal leaders and prominent individuals with both local and/or organisational connections to culture and country.

Some of the key initiatives to support the vision include: Immersions to remote communities; inclusion of Aboriginal Cultural, Spiritual and Historical perspectives; Aboriginal Education; Acknowledgements of Country at appropriate opportunities; respectful inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at our school and associated events; celebration of Reconciliation and NAIDOC week as well as promoting conversations as Ambassadors for Reconciliation.

The 2020 College Student Diary includes the student RAP team's written

acknowledgement of Country, and the EREA Aboriginal Touchstones as symbols of our commitment to Reconciliation.

Online Messages of support to Willowood Aged Care Residents

Each week students from St Pius X College's Edmund Rice Society normally visit the Willowood Aged Care Centre in Chatswood. Despite this activity being cancelled the students created a sing along video and sent messages of support to their elderly friends at Willowood.



Waltzing Matilda, waltzing Matilda

Willowood video

Our Vision for Reconciliation

St Pius X College is an inclusive community which seeks to connect with cultures, heritages, histories and spirituality of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, who have walked on, and cared for this Land for over 60,000 years. We promote actions which reconcile non-indigenous Australians with the Traditional Custodians of this Land in a way which encourages respectful relationships. We encourage all of our community members to be "ambassadors" for reconciliation, and to consider the viewpoint of all Australians, in an open, informed and considerate manner. St Pius X College looks for opportunities to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in the daily life, learning, and operation of our school community.



Reconciliation Day activities

*Inclusive Community***R U OK? Day**

The College participated in R U OK? Day on Friday 13 September with an online Assembly that included guest appearances and messages of support from a good number of celebrities, including the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison. Students and staff wore jerseys and donated to R U OK? in support of positive mental health initiatives. A great day and a timely reminder to all of the need to stay positive and check in with others during these difficult times.

Winter Appeal

Whilst we could not participate in many of our social outreach programs the young men of St Pius X have worked tirelessly to provide donations in aid of the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal and the Jesuit Refugee Service. Year 9 students organised the collection of goods from homeroom classes. Warm clothing and blankets were provided for St Vincent de Paul and non-perishable food items were provided for the foodbank run by Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). Our support of JRS was in conjunction with the parish of Our Lady of Dolours (OLD). Parishioners of OLD kindly provided the transport



R U OK? Day

of our food items to JRS, while Mr Balboa and Mr Mulheron drove our warm clothing and blankets to the Brookvale depot of St Vincent de Paul.

Many people at this time have found difficulty in meeting the basic needs required to lead a dignified life and we are thankful for all the generous donations. This work once again helps us as a community to live by the touchstones that we hold dear and that characterise us as an EREA school.



R U OK? Day



Year 9 Winter Appeal 2020

P&F Update

The P&F is an integral part of the College community, supporting many activities, initiatives and capital works that benefit students throughout the year such as Boxercise, Robotics, PAPA and Sporting Clubs, Science Competitions, Snowy Mountain & Kokoda Treks, Air-conditioning in C Wing, new seating at Oxford Falls, Canteen upgrades ... to name a few. At the upcoming November AGM all positions, as per the Constitution, are vacated and any member may be nominated for a position, including someone who has previously held the role. There are currently nine positions within the P&F: President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Social Coordinators x 2, Communication

Coordinators x 2, Class Parent Co-ordinator and NSW Parents Council Representative.

We welcome parents and carers to join the P&F and help us to create a great environment for students and the whole St Pius X College community. Please email your interest or questions to president@pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au

P&F President to retire

The current P&F President Braelen Zwart will be retiring at the end of 2020. Braelen has been a vital member of the P&F for 8 years being the President for the last 3 years. We thank Braelen for her contribution to supporting and growing our inclusive SPX community.



Braelen Zwart

TEACHING AND LEARNING

A Century of Service

2020 will see the end of over 101 combined years of teaching service at the College. Three of our most respected and valued teachers are retiring after long and successful teaching careers at St Pius X College and elsewhere.

Terry Patterson will retire at the end of the 2020 after 43 years of teaching and service at the College. Since 1978 Mr Patterson has been well loved by students, ex-students, parents and his teaching colleagues both past and present. He is one of the College's longest serving staff members and many ex-students visit the school to see Mr Patterson. All remark on his great teaching as a storyteller, poetry reader and extraordinary teacher. His passion

for teaching and the students in his care is testimony to his dedication and commitment to the teaching profession for over 40 years.

Ross Masters is also truly part of the DNA of the College. He was an Old Boy of the Class of 1974. His First Year of teaching service at the College was in 1979 and he has taught History, English and Religion.

Ross was for many years the Coordinator of Years 11 and 12. He was also appointed as the School Resources Coordinator. A highlight of his career was when he oversaw the school building renovations at the College's Chatswood Campus and the Oxford Falls Treacy Centre. He was a key member of the School Building Committee during this time. Outside of the classroom Ross was

a dedicated Rugby Coach but also took on many other roles. He has made a wonderful contribution to education at the College, often done in collaboration with friend and long time colleague Tony Cunneen.

Bernard Batchelor's first year of teaching Service at the College was in 2002 when he arrived as English Coordinator. He has taught History, English and Religion. Bernard was for many years a teacher and coordinator at St Patrick's College Strathfield.

He has been the Years 11 and 12 Coordinator at St Pius X as well as the Senior Studies Coordinator. Outside of the classroom Bernard was a Rugby Coach and made a great contribution to staff morale as a member of the Staff Association Committee at the College.



Terry Patterson



Ross Masters



Bernard Batchelor



Science Club staff, senior helpers and participants.

Science Club

Science Club has continued with this popular lunchtime activity seeing students involved in fun, hands-on experiments and activities as they discover different branches of science.

Aimed primarily at Year 7 and 8 students it is run during lunchtime on Thursday.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Liberating Education

Young Writers' Awards

Congratulations to Year 10 students Ben Cullen and William Staber who gained Merit Awards in this year's Nan Manefield Young Writers' Award. The Award is an annual writing prize overseen by Stanton Library and North Sydney Council for young people, aged between 11 and 18 years, who submit either a poem or short story of up to 750 words.

William: *'Writing gives me the platform to express myself in a way that can't be replicated anywhere else. It also provides me with the freedom to share complex thoughts and opinions through the universally natural but equally hard-hitting act of storytelling.'*

Ben: *'Writing gives me a creative outlet, especially during this time of social isolation. Simple words on a page can be so powerful.'*

Ben also received recognition from **The Sydney Morning Herald** for his sonnet about the Pandemic, which was



Mr John Couani with William Staber and Ben Cullen

published amidst the lockdown during the Easter break.

Long Tan Awardee

Congratulations to Charles McElvogue Year 12 who was awarded the prestigious Long Tan Award for Leadership from the NSW School of Languages where he has been studying Japanese.



Charles McElvogue

Facilities Update

2020 has seen major upgrades and maintenance work at the College. Recent works include repairs to the Art Rooms, new touch screen TVs installed in all B Wing classrooms, repairs in the main gym at Chatswood, non-slip nosings on the new C Wing stairs, LED lights installed throughout the main staff room areas, Junior School, and the Administration Building. The

remaining areas of D Wing as well as Art, Music and TAS and S Wing are to be done next holidays. These are all part of our College Environmental Plan.

The Sarto Centre parking area has been resurfaced and the garden surrounds have new walls.

A Wing will undergo extensive renovations during the next holidays

bringing these rooms in line with the multi-purpose, flexible, modern, bright and airy classrooms as seen in recent C Wing renovations.

C Wing Success

C Wing renovations have exceeded expectations with students and teachers enjoying the new flexible classroom designs. Results of a staff and student survey conducted during the term showed that 87% of respondents agreed the new space improved learning experiences. With a high rating of 4.3/5 staff and students indicated they enjoyed learning in the new space. The six newly renovated classrooms allow for a flexible pedagogy enabling: space where people gather to learn from a teacher, informal space where peers can share information, and private space where an individual can think and reflect on their learning.



SPORT AND CO-CURRICULAR

Colour Awards Old School Heritage

Much has been said about what we have lost due to COVID-19 and particularly what our Year 12 cohort have missed out on. However, what has been lost on one hand has been gained on the other. During lockdown we lost the opportunity to come to school and be with mates but gained the opportunity to spend time with our families, enjoying the simpler things in life like long walks and card games. In the act of social distancing we lost face-to-face time but now appreciate that simple act and how valuable it is.

Our Year 12 Graduation Ceremonies may lack some of the features of recent years, however, we have gained the opportunity to do things “Old School” – the way it was done “back in the day” before The Concourse was an option. We have traded large-scale for the more intimate setting that is Oxford Falls. There is nothing wrong with Old School and in keeping with tradition, 2020 saw the Colour Awards returning to the sanctuary of the much-loved podium. This is where Colours were awarded “back in the day”.

So we celebrate and congratulate our 2020 Colour Award recipients and recognise the Year 12, 2020 Gold Award Winners for the following:

Cricket: Duncan Dingley,
Stuart Dingley, Tyson McCallum

Basketball: Erec Bacic,
Michael Fakhoury, George Pickering

Debating: Luke McManus

Drama: Taylor Alan, Adam Hawthorne

Football: Oliver Sheather, Jake Cetinic

Music: William Turner

Rugby: Charlie Aylmer, Brynn Mendel

Tennis: Riad Lahoud

New sports shirts

Thanks to the hard work and design initiative of the Year 12 Student Leaders the College has introduced new Sports

shirts. These will be phased in by 2022 and will replace the current House and Sports shirts.

House Cup Winner

1st	Purton House
2nd	Barron House
3rd	Treacy House
4th	Rice House



Purton House Captain Duncan Dingley with the 2020 House Cup



Colour Awards - Gold, Silver & Blue

Athletics	Gold	0	Silver	1	Blue	2
Basketball	Gold	3	Silver	19	Blue	48
Cricket	Gold	3	Silver	19	Blue	12
Debating	Gold	1	Silver	11	Blue	10
Drama	Gold	2	Silver	6	Blue	1
Football	Gold	2	Silver	6	Blue	15
Music	Gold	1	Silver	7	Blue	11
Rugby	Gold	2	Silver	18	Blue	26
Squash	Gold	0	Silver	0	Blue	0
Swimming	Gold	0	Silver	5	Blue	5
Tennis	Gold	1	Silver	3	Blue	5
Total		15		95		135
Total of Gold & Silver		110				
Total of Blue Awards		135				



New Sports Shirts

Sporting Accomplishments

Sadly COVID-19 forced the cancellation of all inter school sport comps GPS, CAS, ISA. And we were doing well too!

The First XI Football team won all six of their competition games and were in the semis of the Independent Schools Cup.

The First XV Rugby played well to defeat St Gregory's; St Patrick's; Redfield and St Aloysius and lost on the bell to Oakhill. The First Tennis Div 1 defeated St Patrick's and Squash came 3rd in Div 1 NSW Pennant.

An internal sports competition was implemented during the remainder of the term keeping students active and involved.

Robotics - First Lego League

Robotics Club is an optional and very popular after school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) activity that provides opportunities including Mechatronics and Coding. These skills assist students with navigating a changing world of artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, drones and modern design and manufacturing techniques.

Fortunately COVID-19 has had minimal impact on this activity. Year 6 students are currently designing and building LEGO robots to compete against each other in the F.L.L. (First Lego League) Challenge. The theme this year is 'Replay'. A focus on how we as a society can convert open spaces into



Junior School Robotics



St Pius X College 1st XV after winning the Ross Fagan and Graeme Shields Memorial Shield over St Aloysius 24-7.

play areas. The core values of all F.L.L. competitions include teamwork, cooperation and gracious professionalism.

"Teams design, build and program a LEGO® robot to complete a series of challenges. The robot has to operate on pre-programmed instructions, and complete as many tasks as possible in only 2 minutes and 30 seconds".

The skills acquired as part of our Year 6 program assist students as they move onto higher levels of planning, programming and construction techniques within the Club.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

Matthew Bradley – Year 12 has been working towards completing his Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award this year despite many of the usual activities being put on hold.

During the July school holidays he volunteered with Blaze Aid in Wauchope NSW helping farmers rebuild fences destroyed during the summer bushfires. The Residential section of the Gold Award requires spending five days and four nights away from home in an unfamiliar environment. Matthew enjoyed learning how to build barbed wire fences and working with the international backpackers and other volunteers for this worthy cause.



Debating team wearing masks whilst travelling on the train

Debating Goes On

The CSDA debating season continued despite many other school events being cancelled. Whilst it was a shorter season it was both difficult and rewarding. Each week saw different 'rules' regarding commencement times, for coin toss as well as different protocols for the running of the debate event. Regardless the debaters remained resilient and positive as they faced the changing and challenging times. Congratulations to all the debaters and special mention to the Year 7 and Year 12 teams who made it to the Semi-Finals undefeated. Well done to Debating Captain, Luke McManus on receiving the prestigious Gold Award and for leading his team to the Semi-Finals undefeated.



Matthew Bradley rebuilding fences at Wauchope

Old Boy, Patrick Bollen

AWARDED OAM IN QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST 2020

Congratulations to College ex-student Patrick Joseph BOLLEN who was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Patrick, nicknamed in Sailing Circles "Ten Pin", graduated from the College in 1967. He was the Drum Major in the excellent Military Cadet Marching Band which included Bill James who went on to considerable success with Top Deck Travel and is a great supporter of the College. The successive Drum Major, Dave Nesbitt, is a professional musician living in Cairns. The band won many competitions including the Cadet State Band Championship in 1967 and led many parades around the North Shore.

Patrick's award was for service to the community, and to sailing in particular. His citation lists the following impressive achievements:

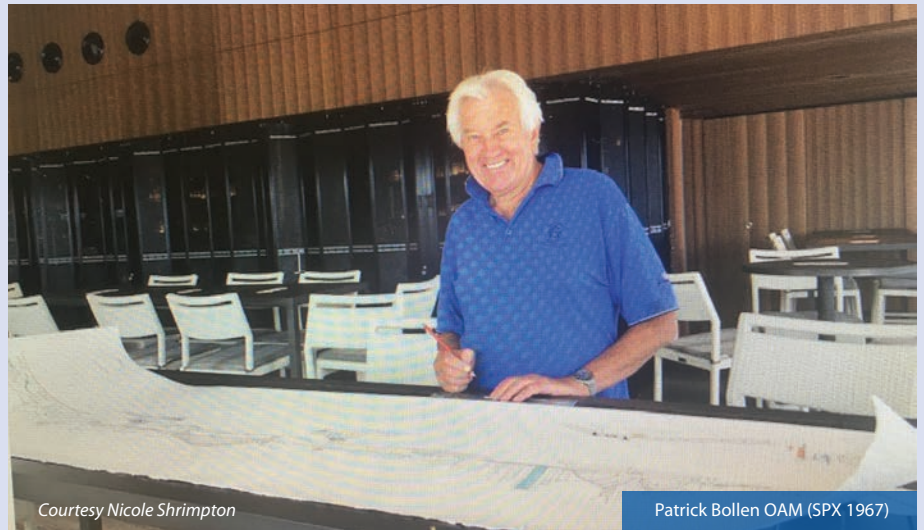
Community

- » Co-Founder and Director, Friends of Sydney Harbour (formed to preserve the natural foreshore), 2012.
- » Co-Founder and Member, Sail for Cancer Research, 1985-2010.
- » Volunteer, Rotary Regatta, Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, current.
- » Member, Australian Society of Marine Artists, current.

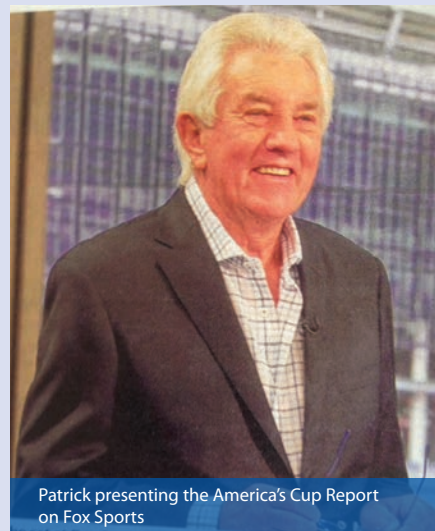
Professional

- » Managing Director, Patrick Bollen Marine.
- » Sailing Broadcaster and Journalist.

Patrick is an accomplished Marine Artist and has painted many famous yachts of the Rolex Sydney to Hobart including *Ichiban*, *Wild Oats*, *Patrice* and *Alive*.



Courtesy Nicole Shrimpton



Patrick presenting the America's Cup Report on Fox Sports



Dave Nesbitt (SPX 1968)



Passing Out Parade October 1967 at Chatswood Oval in front of visiting Colonel McNevin OBE and Captain of Cadets, Brother P J Peart. Drum Major Patrick Bollen leads. Richard Lund is Right Marker Drum front line and Dave Nesbitt Left Marker - Drum front line. It was the last parade appearance of the Championship Drum and Bugle Band.

St Pius X College and a Thredbo connection.

Since 1983, some 1,000 Year 11 students from the College have completed the annual Snowy Mountains hike from Round Mountain to Thredbo. At the end of this 100 kilometre trek the boys are happy to relieve their aching legs and shoulders and take the Kosciusko chair lift down to Thredbo village. There is a memorial plaque at the lift to Chris Pegus who suffered a fatal accident on the mountain in 1989. Chris Pegus was a student at St Pius X College from 1970 until 1977.

The Pegus family has a strong connection to the College. Chris' brothers, Brian, John and Steven, also attended the College. John Pegus' sons, Oliver (Year 10) and Jamison (Year 8) also attend the College. The Chris Pegus Memorial Trophy for Swimming is presented in Chris' honour at the annual Year 12 Graduation. Chris was passionate about sport. He was Captain of the School Swimming Team and Vice-Captain of Barron House - constantly promoting his swimmers at school assemblies. The annual swimming trophy is a fitting memorial to his life.

Chris Pegus studied Civil Engineering at Sydney University, later working on such significant sites as the construction of the Tomago Aluminium plant in Newcastle. He loved the mountains, so it was natural he should take the opportunity to move to Thredbo as a Project Engineer for the expansion of the village. While there, he was appointed Chief Project Engineer for the 1989 World Cup.

On Wednesday the 10 May 1989, Chris lead a team from Channel 9 and Telecom to review the setup for the television coverage of the race. Tragically, Chris fell from the platform of the Ramshead ski lift. Poor weather hampered his rescue. He died at 1:50 pm in Jindabyne Surgical Centre: a devastating loss to his family and friends. Chris was just 29 years of age. Over 500 people attended his funeral Our Lady of Dolours Church.

The service was performed by family friends Fathers Tom Knoles and John Kingston. NSW Police Highway Patrol and Motorcycles escorted the funeral procession to Davidson Cemetery. Chris's mates from Thredbo conduct a memorial ski race each year on the first week in September in celebration of his life.

Local Thredbo identity Reggae (John) Elliss knows the Pegus family well. Reggae Elliss graduated from St Pius X with Steven Pegus in 1976. Reggae lives in Thredbo and MCs the Pegus trophy presentation. Reggae's brother, Glen, graduated from the College in 1980, the same year as John Pegus. Another brother Steven Elliss was also at the College and left to take up an apprenticeship after completing Year 10 in 1974. The Pegus and Elliss families were part of the strong Forestville community which centred around Our Lady of Good Counsel church and primary school.

Reggae Elliss has had a long and successful career in surf and ski reporting and publishing. He owns and runs the *Rip Curl* shop in Thredbo and publishes *Chillfactor* magazine. Reggae won the inaugural Pegus downhill himself. Young Oliver Pegus has won the Junior race in 2015 and again in 2019 in memory of his uncle. It is good to know that the connections made in school extend long after the boys have graduated. Many people from the College have worked, hiked and skied in the Snowy Mountains. It is fitting that we remember one of our own community who lost his life in a place that so many of us know and love so well.

RECOGNISING COLLEGE OLD BOYS

Tony Cunneen, Head of Publications at the College, interviewed and recorded these College Old Boy stories. If you are an Old Boy and interested in sharing your story please contact Tony Cunneen at the College:

Email TCunneen@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au
Phone 02 9411 4733



2020 Pegus Memorial Trophy for Swimming awarded to Jack Healey Year 12



Chris Pegus 1977



Brian Pegus, John and Marianne Pegus (parents) and John Pegus (junior) with the Chris Pegus Memorial Trophy in Thredbo



John Elliss 1976



Reggae (John) Elliss reporting at Thredbo



Taylor Alan 'Imitation Limitation'



Louis Wellard 'Eire'



Conor Montgomery Project: Folding Table Chair



Tyson McCallum Project: The Tala Chest and the Workbench



Luke Thompson received nomination for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE for his drama performance, *Reuben Guthrie*



Daniel Halverson received a nomination for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE for his drama performance, *Who is Sylvia?*



Kieran Zucconi received a nomination for possible inclusion in ENCORE for his performance 'Astoria' by Doug De Vries

SPLINTERS SPLASHES SOUNDS AND STAGE

2020 saw the annual HSC major works showcase "Splinters, Splashes, Stage and Sounds" move to a virtual exhibition. These works are the culmination of years of hard work and dedication and are available for viewing through the parent portal.

Congratulations to the following Year 12 students for recognition of their major work.

Drama students Daniel Halverson and Luke Thompson who received nomination for possible inclusion in OnSTAGE, a showcase of outstanding HSC Drama work.

Kieran Zucconi who received a nomination for possible inclusion in ENCORE, a selection of performances and compositions from HSC Music students.



Charles Cullen Project: Queen Bed

INVEST IN THEIR FUTURE

Your donation will support young men to achieve their full potential.

Donations to the Scholarship and Building Funds are tax deductible.

Full details are available at www.spx.nsw.edu.au

Faith Excellence Respect Opportunity



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