



OSA Committee update.

Dear Old Scholars and friends,

Welcome to the **March 2023** edition of the Old Scholars Newsletter.

Over the last few months, the committee have met several times to discuss various initiatives for 2023.

Some of these include:

- The Maureen Cassidy Dux of School Award
- The Old Scholars AGM
- An OSA social gathering later in 2023
- Our OSA Paver project (still active, just delayed due to building delays).

We're looking forward to sharing more information in the near future.

Special thanks to Old Scholar, Gabrielle Kelly who graciously shared her Dominican journey and special memories in our profile feature. An inspirational South Australian trailblazer, coupled with a life of service to the community. We're so proud to call her our own.

We were delighted to see so many Old Scholars attend the OSA Mass. A heartfelt thank you to Jo Vandeppeer presenting her fascinating story regarding Mother Rose Columba Adams and the pioneering Dominican community. The opportunity to view the restored Cope was greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to the Sisters of St Dominic's who opened the Chapel Museum, home to many valued and historical artefacts of the Dominican Sisters of North Adelaide.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful Easter.

OSA Committee (Elena, Sr Jill, Jo, Briony and Annie)

Paying it forward.

Old scholars helping current scholars.

Principal Helen Steele recently reached out to the OSA committee and asked if our members could help some of the school families finding it tough in 2023. With the cost of living soaring, affordability to purchase essential school items, such as uniforms, text books and stationery items is becoming increasingly difficult.

We, (the committee) jumped at the chance to rally our members in helping families within the school community.

In the spirit of our founding Sisters, who established St Dominic's to educate and care for the wider South Australian community; we're asking if you're in a position to donate towards helping some of our most vulnerable students to attend school, supplied with a full uniform and books.

Please donate what you can, via the Old Scholars account:

BSB: 065-000 (CBA)

Account #: 0090 2787

Name: St Dominic's Old Scholars

****Please include your name and code-word HELP.**

We can then send you a tax receipt.

We thank you and appreciate your generosity.



*Strengthening connections and lifelong friendships,
honouring the Dominican traditions*



Old Scholar feature article.

Introducing Gabrielle Kelly A.M.

Gabrielle Kelly A.M., daughter of Frank and Margaret Kelly (**nee TRIBE**), is the most recently honoured Old Scholar recipient of the A.M. medal for her service within the Australian community.

Enjoy reading her most-recent achievements, followed by her own recollections of school days in the 60's and teaching at St. Dominic's during the 70's.

Gabrielle Kelly has been working on human behaviour and systems change throughout her career, as an international film-maker, producing films on climate change for the ABC/BBC and UN; as a tech innovator and a social entrepreneur.



She was the founding Director of the *SAHMRI Wellbeing and Resilience Centre* in 2014-19 and Senior Vice President of the *New York Health Accord (2000)*, before being appointed as Director of the *Adelaide Thinkers in Residence* program 2009-13.

This work contributed to significant systematic advances in city design, advanced manufacturing, early childhood education, ageing and psychological health in Australia.

Gabrielle was an inaugural Board Member of *Screen Australia*, Australia's film funding agency and founded the successful *Australian International Documentary Conference* in 1987.

She has her own consultancy www.gabriellekelly.com.au speaking and writing on *wellbeing for people and planet* and was recently Chief Advisor for Climate Action to *Green Industries South Australia*.

She is currently producing film on how South Australia became the world's leading renewable energy producer from 2001 to 2021.

Named Adelaide City, Citizen of the Year in 2020, Gabrielle has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) 2022, a prestigious, national award recognising her work, leadership and contribution.



Old Scholar feature article.

GABRIELLE KELLY *Recollections from the 70s.*

I was a teacher at St Dominic's, teaching History, French, Maths, and Drama after finishing my Arts Degree. I remember swishing up the school stairs, in full length retro, from one year 8 class to Year 11s. I was very happy. A 70s girl, in a feminist mode, I was younger than many of the other teachers, but they were generous to me. The kids were terrific, especially year 10s, for whom I was class teacher. Fifteen-year old girls had and still always have such a spark of possibility. I worked hard to interest them in learning and excite them with the promise of "full metal jacket" engagement in life. I expected a lot from them. They delivered.

Arts and Music in the DNA.

A second-generation St Dominic's girl, I knew that the arts and music were in the DNA of the school. From elocution classes in primary school, to the "everyone has a go" in the masses and assemblies, the notion of shared and sacred ritual and performance for spirituality, celebration, shared values and making meaning of life was always there. Something musical, sacred or theatrical was on offer if you were interested. I was.

The day I first sang *Ave Maria* in Grade 2 is still a powerful memory. Wow, I thought! What is this? Sacred music of the most complex and beautiful for 7 year olds! I adored being in the choir later, and the day we sang *Hallelujah Chorus* in the Town Hall had me swooning. No surprise to see the great choir still in full flight in the late 70s. Sr Jill was such a champion of ancient and evolving sacred music through the fabric of school life and learning. I loved it all.



The best of times...

My Year 8 history classes blew me away. I had *found* History at university and knew that the insight that comes with historical and social context and knowledge was critical to understanding world events. Still and always true. So my classes bellowed World War 1 songs and poems. We were saddened by entries in War Diaries written by teenage soldiers, as very young students learned the causes of World War 1 and 2 easily, swept along by "*Pack Up Your Troubles*". I also taught drama and we won the Thierry Society drama competition with our *Boyfriend* performance. The group of student performers were full of life, capacity and growth from the experience. Me too. I will never forget it.

The might of good, deep education.

Learning how to write, think, add up, do history, science or technology, health and sport are what we expect of a school. Becoming "socialised" – rules, roles, sharing and consequences-also a clear goal. The arts and music though, are the many coloured jewels in the crown that is great education, on which our democracy and evolving society sits. They offer reflection, self-awareness, spiritual insight in the private unfolding of a person, alongside the intellectual and emotional discipline of the educational journey. Every child can find a way- an extra way-through the doors of knowledge, while bathed in story, colour and music and meaning. I am always grateful to St Dominic's for my education and the chance to play my small part in the life of the school.

And don't get me started on marching! That's for another day!!

Gabrielle Kelly AM



Cover Girl 1958
 Featured on the front page of the Sunday Mail (above) for the up and coming Fete and its live lizard attraction.



Gabrielle's journey throughout the years at St Dom's included a student, teacher, parent and old scholar.





A day of riotous reflection and reconnection!

November 19, 2022 double celebrations for the 50 and 10 year class reunions.

Congratulations Class of 1972. Although we didn't locate you all, the photo taken under the Peppercorn Tree shows a wonderful gathering, post 50 years!!

The a.m. Welcoming committee for the 1972ers included our Principal, Dr. Helen Steele, Annie Pfeiffer team leader of the OSA, former Principal, Sr. Jill Havey, parent and supplier of refreshments, Bec Moore, and two generous student ushers who had been playing Saturday morning sport in the Gym.

We all know that without the time given by a persevering member of the class of '72, by the name of Peggy Jones (**nee O'Reilly**), this occasion could not have been so memorable. Special mention must go to Anmarie Uhrig (**nee Obst**) for looking south from her home in Queensland to find out what was happening across the borders.



50 YEAR REUNION
School leavers of '71
& '72, under the
Peppercorn Tree.



The p.m. reunion of the **Class of 2011** with College Principal, School counsellor Georgia Meyer and members of the OSA committee including Elena Tarraran was also truly memorable.

The group were close enough to their year 12 days to appreciate touring the luxury student amenities of the Year 12 Centre. Because of COVID a 10 year reunion had to wait one more year. The giver of time and energy for this occasion was our 2010 Head Prefect, Jacqui Larwood (**nee Mills**). She brought it all together while holding down her busy day job and giving birth to a baby daughter!



10 YEAR REUNION 2011
School leavers gathered in front of the Sisters of St Dominic's Memorial Wall.



Dux of School Award.

Recently OSA committee member, Elena Tarraran presented the OSA Maureen Cassidy Dux of School Award to the 2022 Dux of School, Stephanie Jones.

Maureen Cassidy was a student of St Dom's and herself a Dux of School, graduating in 1947. She was dedicated to her Alma Mater and her legacy continues through this Award.

"Strengthening connection and lifelong friendships, honouring the Dominican traditions".

Your can read about Maureen's school experience in our [October 2022 Newsletter](#).



Pictured: Maureen Cassidy, Sr Mary Anne Holland and Mr Ed Gallio.

SDPCOSA LIFE MEMBERS

JOAN CAHILL
COLLEEN HARRIS
SR JILLIAN HAVEY
MAUREEN CARPENTER
KATH HALLIDAY
HELEN POWER
KAREN TAYLOR
ELENA TARRARAN
DALMA ROMALDI
LEONIE HINES
SANDY LEE
REBECCA HOSKINS BARTLETT



Old Scholar births.

Congratulations to 2nd generation old scholar
Alessandra Francia,
On the birth of Sebastian Robert Hall Westley, born
27/6/2022.

*

Congratulations to Klara Revez on the birth of
Lily Harlow, born 1/3/2022



Old Scholar weddings.

Congratulations to
Jessica Spagnuolo
Who was married on 7th January 2023

*

Claire Ward
Who was married on 11th March 2023

Recently Deceased.

Our thought and prayers are with the Dominican communities and families of Old Scholars whose loved ones have died.

Helen Vickery (nee RITTER) fondly remembered boarder of the 1960's, who passed away peacefully on 5th January 2023, aged 74 years.

*

Dr Marietta Rosetto(nee PAPARELLA) fondly remembered past student of the 1960's, passed away peacefully on 17th July 2022, aged 76 years.

*

Dorothy Kathleen Neate, born to eternal life 15th January 2023.

*

Dorothy was Mother and Mother-in-law of 5 families including the family of John and Tina Neate and Michael and Marguerite Neate. She was grandmother of Old Scholars Beth and Grace Neate. The Dominican Sisters knew her well as the loving and loyal Sister of Sr. M. Teresa Keen.

*

May they rest in peace.





IN BLACK AND WHITE

“ Strengthening connections and lifelong friendships
honouring the Dominican traditions ”