President’s Report

At the conclusion of my first year as President of the Collegians I look back and think we’ve done quite well.

This year we’ve had two mentoring dinners (Wining and Mining, and Law and International Studies), we’ve published two newsletters and have had a strategic planning session with several great positive outcomes. Unfortunately our financial position has taken a setback with the global financial crisis, wiping out strong gains we’ve made over past years. We’re still in a good financial position and I’m sure we’ll remade the losses in the years to come.

The Collegians are looking at implementing 20-year reunion dinners. Watch this space to find out more (if you were a student in 1989 and would like to help organise one this year, please get in contact with us).

I’d like to thank the committee for all the time, effort and enthusiasm they have put into their roles this year. Without their generous help we wouldn’t be able to publish these nice, glossy newsletters. I’d also like to welcome to the committee Matt Ormsby who further bolsters our ranks.

Mark Jacobs
President

Australia Day 2009
No. 39

2008 Committee and friends
Dr Brooks with some of the 17 medical graduates from St Ann’s in this ceremony, what a formidable contribution!
Shannon Nankivell (04-5) medallist, with her fiancé Michael and parents

Dr Jenna Chiu (03-5) medallist, with her Mum and Dad

Jay Reid (06-8) medallist, with the Chancellor, the Hon Justice John von Doussa

Eri Takahashi (06-8) medallist, with her fiancé Michael and parents

Gemma Brunckhorst (05) embarking on her career in education

Nicole Rendell (06-8), a St Ann’s medallist as well

Ross McConnell (04-7), Prem Sankaran (05-) and Collegian of the Year Trent Simcock (05-), all medallists

Dr Wei How Lim (02-3) with his sister and parents

Graduations December 2008
The Vision Myanmar Program (VMP) is a primary eye health care program that is coordinated by a partnership between the South Australian Institute of Ophthalmology and the Ministry of Health in Myanmar.

It has always been the vision of the program, and its preceptors, not to provide a fly-in, fly-out service, but to train, empower and encourage local ophthalmologists so that eye health care can be delivered in a sustainable way into the future without a reliance on external support.

The prevalence of blindness in Myanmar has been found to be over 10%, this is higher than the level previously reported in Northern India and Indonesia, and more than 20 times higher than the prevalence that has been reported in New South Wales and Victorian studies. The majority of this burden is accounted for by cataract (over 60%), followed distantly by glaucoma (10%), and trachoma (3%).

The College Club, College students and the Principal (Dr Brooks) have been very generous in their efforts to raise money to contribute to the cost of cataract surgery by purchasing intra-ocular lenses ($US7 each). This has been facilitated by Amy Sobels.

Pictured is Prof. Mya Aung and me in theatre in a secondary eye centre in Myeik where the donation of the lenses will help to reduce the burden of blindness for the people in this southern coastal region of Myanmar.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to the Vision Myanmar Program through the Royal Adelaide Hospital Research Fund on North Terrace.

Shane Durkin
Vice-President

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Shane Durkin
Vice-President

ANY NEWS?
Email us:
sstevens@tne.net.au

2008 Ball

A peculiar thing happened at St Ann’s College on 30 August. In contrast to tradition a green carpet was rolled out to meet guests. ‘Was this some sort of new-age environmentalism?’ I hear you ask. Not this time! It was to greet the guests at the annual St Ann’s Ball. This year’s theme was the Secret Garden, and while the green carpet may have been imaginary the elaborate decorations and festivities certainly weren’t.

The distance the ball convenors go to organise the ball is staggering. The dining room was covered with all sorts of greenery and organic matter. The students were decked out in their finest attire and everybody had a smile on their dial a mile wide. The meal was as you would expect from a five-star restaurant.

Congratulations and thanks to the ball convenors and the College for allowing me to attend such a beautiful and memorable event.

Mark Jacobs
President
Since the last newsletter a lot has changed in the financial world, but I am happy to report that the Collegians Association remains in a strong financial position. Throughout the year we have paid all bills as they have come due and also paid off all outstanding money which was owed.

We also made a small donation to the College Club, enabling them to purchase a tarpaulin for use at outdoor events.

The only negative from the financial perspective is the crisis throughout the world economy and the effect it has had on the stock market. This means the value of our share holdings has decreased, although because of our conservative investment strategy, they have not fallen by as much as the overall market.

Once again I am pleased to state that the Collegians Association has a strong balance sheet and remains cash-flow positive, which is an excellent position to be in.

Shaun Vanderkaap
Treasurer

Hi. My name is Nora De Bono. I am a second-year student at St Ann’s and the inaugural elected student representative on the Collegians Association. In this role I communicate between the current students and the Collegians committee members. Some of the events that the Collegians Association do that incorporate the students include twice yearly mentoring dinners for students. The committee also helps charitable organisations and donates to St Ann’s through scholarships and other prizes.

The mentoring dinners are a fantastic opportunity for students to listen to various guest speakers, to hear about how they have got to their position of employment and to give the students a look into possible career paths and other opportunities. All guest speakers are very inspiring and it is an event greatly appreciated by the students.

This year the Collegians Association has also been a part of the charity for the Vision Myanmar project in Burma. Dr Shane Durkin (Vice President of the Collegians Association and an eye surgeon) is a volunteer for the project, and he frequently travels to Myanmar (Burma) to perform cataract operations with lens implants. The implants are expensive and the charity helps to raise money. Amy Sobels organised for Shane Durkin to speak at a formal dinner at St Ann’s, which was an interesting and inspiring evening. Amy then went on to organise two fundraisers for the project including a chocolate drive, which was very successful, being held during SWATVAC at college. A number of students also ran 12km in the City to Bay run to raise money for the project. Overall St Ann’s raised around $600 for the project so 60 lenses were able to be purchased for people in Myanmar.

The Collegians Association was kind enough to donate a tarpaulin to St Ann’s. Each year the Collegians Association attempts to donate something useful to the College. Already the tarp has been put to good use at the St Ann’s Ball and sports. It will be great to keep the rain, wind and sun at bay at many College events, including sporting events.

On behalf of all students at St Ann’s College, a big thank you to the Collegians Association for everything you have done and making 2008 a success.

Nora De Bono
2008 Student Rep.
Community News

James (Jimmy) Lenon (91-3) got married!!!!!!!!!!! to the wonderfully brave Katie.

Ben Hartley (94-7) and Angela Matthews (95-6) are the proud parents of Sebastian Alexander Cameron Hartley, born 24 January, welcome and why not let your parents get some sleep!

Tegan Forder (04-5) is now editor and senior journo for the Katherine Times, not bad in your first year out.

Hayden Plunkett (95-9) was married to Melissa on October 4 at Camelot Castle in the hills. Many Collegians present included Jacinta (Plunkett 99-00) Clark’s two children as page boy and flower girl, so cute. Then off to Thailand. And the Bride wore red!

Professor and Mrs Feather’s son Mark and Jo Feather with their baby, Tom, are now living in London.

Kosha Jhalla (02-6), Australian Citizen, Lake Bonney, Barmera, Aussie Day 26 January 2009—bring on the lamingtons!

Congratulations to the winners of the Community Ideas Competition for the redesign of Victoria Square, Adelaide—Heath Jobson (99-02) and Ian Nickolls (01-5) in the Existing Square Design Category.

Sarah Cutbush (85-7) is the general manager marketing & member experience, Savings & Loans. With exciting new developments in the credit union RediATM ATM network, she is looking forward to seeing bold and bright new rediATM machines popping up all over this State and the next!

Snickers, Borax and Tooley pretending to be grown up

Russell Lee (86-7, 89-90) celebrated his marriage to Angela on 18 October at Mona Estate in Braidwood. Tara (Simpson 86-7) & Dr Anthony Wong (86-7, 89) and Liz (Harnett 90) Thomas and husband Rob attended.
Strategic Planning

A Strategic Planning session was held on Wednesday 12 November in the Paul Crawford Room for the Collegians Association Committee.

Strategic Planning is held every 3 years to assess how the Collegians Committee is going, what can be improved and what needs to be changed.

Dr Bronwyn Halliday from the College Council was our adviser; she chaired the evening prompting the committee about every topic. It was an hour-long session using a SWOT model (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats). All these headings were discussed with a big emphasis on future endeavours of the Collegians Committee.

We really want to do more to assist not only the current students of St Ann’s but also past Collegians. Many ideas were discussed including decisions about reunions and the updating of the St Ann’s website and database. We have taken on board what was discussed and have already implemented plans and delegated committee members to fulfill them.

Overall it was a very successful evening and we have a very enthusiastic team and a strong vision for the future.

We encourage anyone interested in joining the Collegians Committee to attend the Annual General Meeting on 18 February.

Kirsty Price

Year of the Ox!
The Collegians Association greets the Year of the Ox in Good Heart!

If you are an international member and want to continue to receive the newsletter, send your email address to info@stannscollege.edu.au

Law and International Studies

The St Ann’s Collegians Association continued what has been a successful event by hosting another mentoring dinner for the students of St Ann’s College. The topic for this occasion was Law and International Studies.

Numbers of students wishing to attend were up proving the success of these efforts. We were lucky enough to have a very knowledgeable and diverse group of speakers to offer information and advice on their experiences and times in their chosen professions. The speakers were for the night were:

Mr Brian Hayes QC speaking as the South Australian Special Envoy to India, a post previously held by Darren Lehmann.

Mr Ben Hartley (94-7) Senior Associate at Piper Alderman commenting on corporate law. Mr Hartley is a former president of the College Club, Collegians Association and SAAUCC and one of the first Collegians of the Year.

Mr Adrian Cartland taxation lawyer with Piper Alderman by day and The Taxinator by night. Mr Cartland was the winner of the 2007 National Golden Gavel award making him officially Australia’s funniest lawyer. Mr Cartland informed students on the efforts that it can take to find employment and that persistence is the key.

Ms Kae Martin a member of the St Ann’s Council who offered a very interesting insights into law and its applications within the South Australian health system.

The Collegians Association thanks the speakers for attending and imparting some of their knowledge and experiences to the students.

Matthew Ormsby
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NOTICE OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF ST ANN’S COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION INC
TO BE HELD AT THE COLLEGE IN THE TUTORIAL ROOMS ON
Wednesday February 18th 2009 AT 7.00 PM

AGENDA
1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2008 AGM and matters arising therefrom
3. Treasurer’s report
4. President’s report
5. Election of committee and office bearers
   President
   Vice-President
   Secretary
   Treasurer
   Committee Members (5)
   Representatives to the:
   College Council
   Education Committee
   Public Officer
   Auditor
6. Correspondence
7. Program for 2009
8. Any other business

Pre-dinner drinks in the Tutorial rooms transformed into an art gallery showcased students’ masterpieces. The range of art was impressive from photos, drawings and paintings to leather-work. The festivities continued in the dining room for a big sit-down community dinner with all the students and special guests. The room was full, the company superb, food delicious and the atmosphere homely.

With our bellies full we headed to the Common room to see the students show their hidden talents. The students showcased their prowess with the piano, voice and violin. The performances were great and enjoyed by all especially the big magic trick finale (a first to my knowledge).

Everyone was left spellbound and pondering how it was done. Certainly an unforgettable day and our thanks go to ALL the students and staff for making it just brilliant!

Chloë Wanklyn
General Rep.