

The Patrician

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SPOCA Objectives for 2016

As Patricians, we recognise that we are the beneficiaries of the earliest works of the Irish Jesuits in Australia, the oldest school in the Province and the source of over 250 priests. Our purposes remain fellowship among alumni, custodianship of the memory of the College and support where practical for the works of the Australian Jesuit Province.

In addition to the usual SPOCA programs including the Anzac Day Mass, Annual Dinner and continued financial support for Jesuit Mission, your Committee and Past Presidents have decided to focus in 2016 on the following initiatives:

- **Support for Jesuit Partner Schools** in Geelong and Watsonia (lead by Paul Buttigieg, Simon Clark, Michael Nolan & Bob Solly).
- **Broader recognition of the historical SPC Tower** and the 1800s Eastern Hill education precinct (Kevin Lane).
- **Easier communication with our 350 SPOCA members** via an upgraded website, email lists and via a more accessible digital image library and storage of memorabilia (Paul Buttigieg, Bob Solly, Michael Cavanagh, Michael Delves, Fr Michael Head SJ, Peter Collery & Gavin Wayland).
- **Arranging an enjoyable 50-Year Reunion** for the matriculating class of 1966 (Michael Cavanagh, Damien Hynes & Jim Smith).

Support for Australian Jesuit Province

Jesuit Mission: Thank-you to those members who responded to our request in February with donations of over \$3000 received so far this year for works in India, Timor-Leste, Cambodia, Myanmar and elsewhere. (SPOCA Members have typically donated \$10,000 annually since 2009.) The flier for donations again accompanies this newsletter.

Jesuit Partner Schools and Weikert Cottage, Sevenhill:

The Partner Schools both have over 1000 students today and are seeking to nurture the Jesuit ethos. SPOCA has 160 years of ethos but no current school! Your Committee is therefore arranging interactions at both St Ignatius College Geelong and Loyola College Watsonia. We plan to endow a perpetual SPOCA book prize for students demonstrating Ignatian values, starting in 2016, and have begun a one-time only appeal to raise several thousand dollars for each project. More details on the projects and information on how you can possibly contribute are also on an accompanying flier.

Vale Fr. James Muirhead SJ

Father Jim attended St Pat's for only one year (1933) before his family moved to Sydney but he came back after his ordination to teach and to edit the Patrician from 1962 to 1968 (including a very creditable "closure" edition produced on short notice in 1968). He followed Father Quigley as spiritual adviser to the Association and served us diligently until his transfer to interstate duties when an annual meeting appointed him as Spiritual Adviser Emeritus in view of his long and faithful support of the association both as Editor and as Adviser. RIP

Better SPOCA Communications

To help us communicate more easily with you as SPOCA members and to control increasing postage costs, we would like your assistance by filling in and returning the third flier accompanying this newsletter that seeks the following information from you:

- **Email Addresses:** If you have an email address and are not receiving some SPOCA correspondence through it, please let us know your current address. If a family member or friend with an email could receive and give you SPOCA email correspondence, please let us have their email address to use for you. If you wish to receive hard-copy correspondence, we will of course continue to mail it to you.
- **Jesuit Companions Magazine:** Many of you will be familiar with this magazine, which in its most recent edition had an article on the role of St Patrick's College in the life of the Province. We plan to give your mailing addresses to Jesuit Communications so that they can include you in their mail-outs of magazines similar to the above with no cost to SPOCA. Please advise via the flier if you do NOT want your address included.
- **Alumni who are not Current SPOCA Members:** There are probably 250 fellow alumni (mainly from 1950s and 1960s years) who for a variety of reasons are not on our register as SPOCA members. If you are aware of any of these "missing" classmates, please let us have their details so we can enquire of them if they would like to receive SPOCA correspondence or to participate in our events.
- **Digital Photo Library:** This library currently holds 1600 images of SPC and our school/alumni life sorted by category. We would like to include more of boys in school uniform or on school activities. Please send us any of yours (digitally or hard-copy) and we will include in the library and return originals to you if so wished.

Annual Dinner: Friday 7th October 2016

The Dinner for 2016 will be held at Greenacres Golf Club on Friday, 7th October, 2016 is being arranged by Gavin Wayland and several helpers. Contact your year group and set up a table. Book early as usual to avoid missing out!