

# The Patrician

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## A Celebratory 2018 Year for Your Association

2017 was a productive year in which SPOCA again provided fellowship for alumni, custodianship of SPC history and support for Jesuit Province works. In 2018, 50 years since our school closed, it is time to celebrate our good fortune in being educated at Saint Patrick's College (SPC) East Melbourne.

Our celebratory program includes:

- St Pat's/Jesuit tour of Ireland (completed)
- Anzac Day Mass (completed)
- Reinvigoration of the website (ongoing) ([stpats.xavier.vic.edu.au](http://stpats.xavier.vic.edu.au))
- Annual Dinner (book now for the 10th August)
- 1968 Classmates Reunion (1<sup>st</sup> September)
- Working with ACU to sponsor a scholarship at the Saint Patrick's Campus (current)
- End of Year Celebration at the Tower and Cathedral Hall (24<sup>th</sup> November)
- Patrician Notables proposal (ongoing)
- Continuing work to support Jesuit missions and Jesuit Partner Schools (ongoing)

## SPOCA Scholarship at ACU

The high quality and faith filled classic education we received from the Jesuit Fathers has engendered a fondness for our school days as well as gratitude for the life opportunities it has provided. To recognise this legacy SPOCA has been working with the Saint Patrick's Campus of Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Fitzroy to establish an endowment which would allow the awarding of 'SPOCA Scholarships' in teaching at ACU, with the objective of promoting teaching excellence of a kind we experienced. SPOCA has signed an MOU with ACU and has held a 'Thinking Lunch' to get the ball rolling. The attachment provides more detail and asks for your comment and feedback on a range of important questions.

## 2018 SPC Tour of Ireland

The Tour was a great success under the leadership of Jim Smith with many highlights including lunch and tour at Clongowes Wood Jesuit College near Dublin. Visit the website to view some great pics and learn more about it.

## 2018 Anzac Day Mass

The mass at Xavier College Chapel was very moving, prefaced by a reading by Pat Cahir of an uncensored letter from Gallipoli written by his father Frank. The letter was disturbingly honest and accurate, as well as inspiring in its account of human sacrifice and heroism.

## SPOCA Room at ACU

John Ballard, Head of ACU Saint Patrick's Campus, has kindly offered SPOCA a room at the front of Cathedral Hall for our exclusive use. The room is in period style, can accommodate around 10-15 people and once fitted out will become a suitable 'home' (after couch surfing for 50 years) for our meetings and other suitable activities. More later.

## SPOCA Memorabilia to Xavier Archives

The 150 items of important SPC / SPOCA memorabilia that we own will be in the professional care of the Xavier College Archives under a Deed of Gift to be signed at the annual dinner on 10 August. Memorabilia will still be available for SPOCA events, loans and support for Jesuit initiatives. Catherine Hall the Xavier archivist will propose the toast at the annual dinner.

## ACU Campus & 50 Year Closure Event for SPOCA Families

Excellent support has been offered by ACU-St Patrick's Campus for events to recognise the 50 years since SPC closure. Please mark Saturday 24 November 2018 in your diary for a family event including speakers, a photo at the Tower, refreshments and tours of Cathedral Hall, the SPC School Yard, the ACU Campus and other facilities of early Melbourne's Eastern Hill Education Precinct. More later.

## Recent Alumni Obituaries

We remember with sadness the following SPC alumni who have died since the previous Newsletter of Feb 2018, or not previously included:

- On 5 Jun 2017 Daniel Meskill Bourke 29-30
- On 2 Feb 2018 Desmond Randall 37-40
- On 20 Jun 2018 Joseph Raymond O'Shea 40-43
- On 10 Jul 2018 Laurence Guest 33-38

## SPOCA Mass & AGM: SPOCA Committee

The 2018 Annual Mass, Breakfast and AGM were held on Sunday 18 March at Newman College.

SPOCA office holders and committee members are now Murray Cullinan (President), Vin Martin (Vice President), Kevin Lane (Vice President), Michael Head SJ (Secretary), Gavin Wayland (Treasurer), Paul Buttigieg (Webmaster), Michael Nolan, Peter Rogan and Jim Smith.

Your Committee would welcome any suggestions, proposals or feedback (to the emails above) to build on the work of the past few years.