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Paduans' Newsletter

Summer 2007

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Old Boys' Assoc.

A Prayer for the Intentions of Padua

(The College, its students, past pupils, parents, and teachers)

Lord, fill our hearts with your grace, that we may understand and support young people, as we would like them to understand and support us.

St Anthony of Padua, patron of our School – Pray for us

St Clare of Assisi, model for praising God – Pray for us

St Francis of Assisi, model of Gospel living – Pray for us

Blessed Mary MacKillop, compassionate educator of the poor and disadvantaged – Pray for us

Our Lady Help of Christians, patroness of Australia – Pray for us

Holy God, source of all goodness we place before you the needs of Padua College. May it continue nourishing the spiritual, physical and educational needs of the boys it serves.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



*A happy and holy Christmas
& the best of health and
happiness for 2008.*

Padua Old Boys Association 2007 Wrap Up

2007 has been another successful year for the College and the Old Boys Association, even with one of our most supported events, the Padua Race Day having to be cancelled due to the Equine Influenza outbreak in Queensland and the rain reducing the number of playing fields for the cricket day.

We have strongly focused this year on increasing our database of old boys and more specifically collecting that all important email address for our members to ensure we are able to send out up-to-date information about upcoming events. This year also saw Chris Fitzpatrick return as editor of the Old Boys Newsletter who has done a fantastic job in producing the newsletter on a regular basis. I would like to especially thank Chris for his efforts in keeping Old Boys up-to-date about the Association and the recent happenings at the College. Thanks must also go to Robyn Alexander for circulating the newsletter to Old Boys via email.

Our other events were well supported as usual, however we had a change of venue for the Anthony O'Brien Memorial Day and touch football competition which led to numbers being a little smaller than expected. We have decided to bring the event back to the College oval for next year.

2007 also marked 20 years since graduation for the class of 1987 who celebrated their reunion at the College which included a tour of school grounds to see what had changed since their departure. Around 30 Old Boys attended the night which was a great success.

A special welcome to the newest Old Boys – the Class of '07. We hope that you'll be a part of the Old Boy activities that happen and keep in mind that, in the words of Fr Alban, "There is no such thing as an ex-Paduan!"

Just a reminder that if your details are not on the old boys database or if you know of any Old Boys who are not in contact with the Association please send an email to info@paduaoldboys.asn.au. The Old Boys website also contains information on upcoming events, so visit us at <http://www.paduaoldboys.asn.au> and stay up-to-date.

Thanks to those who have contributed to the successful events in 2007 and I look forward to seeing you all next year!

All the best to you and your families for Christmas and the New Year

Clayton Hill
Old Boys Chairman

Pool and Assembly Hall/Sports Complex



The plan



The pool
(The oval is visible beyond)

The hall
(The original building, including music rooms, is just visible behind)



2008 Events

Mark them in your diary and calendars!

February 24 2008	Old Boys Cricket Day – Banyo
March 29 2008	Anthony O'Brien Day – Padua – Kedron
May 9 2008	Sportsmans Dinner
August 29-31 2008	Old Boys Weekend - Amaroo
October 17 2008	Foundation Corporate Lunch
November 1 2008	Foundation Race Day (<i>Derby Day</i>)



Old Boy Provincial

At the Provincial Chapter of the Franciscans, held in late September, Fr Paul Smith ofm (Class of '72) was elected Provincial Minister of the Holy Spirit Province (Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia). He had been Vicar Provincial and Secretary of the Province for a number of years. He is now the first Paduan old boy to become the Provincial. Congratulations Fr Paul!

Fr Peter Clifford ofm (a former parish priest of the Little Flower) will assist Fr Paul as the Vicar Provincial. The Definitory (Provincial Council) members are Jordan Warburton ofm, Philip Miscamble ofm, Peter Cantwell ofm and Paul Ghanem ofm (Chaplain at Padua from 2001-2003).

A Reply to Mylton Burns' Challenge

(from the Autumn Newsletter)

Have you been informed of a group of seniors that joined the police? I am reliably informed that there were 11 of them from a late 1980's year. On the topic of police officers as old boys, I do not know if there is a larger number from ANY school in ANY profession. It is at least 50 and could even be a lot higher than that, perhaps closer to 100. As for all their names, well, that's a little difficult! Teaching may give the police a run for their money, though.

Jim OBrien
Class of '84

PS Apologies to Jim for not including this information in earlier Newsletters - he sent it in July!

(From the pages of "*News from around the Province*", September 2007)

Padua College Jubilee Sculpture

Provincial Minister Stephen Bliss blessed a new sculpture of St Francis in the forecourt of St Francis Hall, Kedron, Brisbane (formerly the friary) on 17 September. The sculpture is a gift from the province to the college in recognition of all friars (teachers and others) who have been associated with Padua since 1956. The sculpture is a slightly larger than life-size image of St Francis made of brass plate 10cm thick. The double-edged etching is visible from the road and also from the college. It is set in context with a mosaic which symbolises water, environment and movement. Francis' admonition 'Where there is love and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance' features prominently, as does the dedication: 'Dedicated with gratitude to all Franciscan Friars who have served at Padua College since 1956'.

Padua College Friars 1956-2006

(For those of you who want to take a trip down memory lane, and in reference to the earlier article about the Friars' gift to Padua, below is the list of Friars who were at the College, as listed in 'On a Cragged Hill'.)

Br Francis (Anselm) Aischer ofm
Fr Iose Ale ofm
Fr Alexis Barlow ofm
Fr Isidore Beirne ofm
Br Anthony Boughton ofm
Fr Hugolin Bourke ofm
Fr John Boyd-Boland ofm
Fr Ken Cafe ofm
Fr Maurice Carmody ofm
Fr Benignus Clowes ofm
Fr Eugene Cornock ofm
Br Sam Cutijar ofm
Fr Cletus Davis ofm
Br Tom Davison ofm
Fr Peter Dillon ofm
Br Justin Drew ofm
Br Francis (Adrian) Erni ofm
Fr Odoric Fathers ofm
Fr Noel Fauth ofm
Br James Fitzgerald ofm
Br Donald Flynn ofm
Fr Paul Ghanem ofm
Br Solanus Goodwin ofm
Br Michael Grecco ofm
Fr Leo (Michael) Grigg ofm
Fr Anthony Healy ofm

Br Patrick Henigan ofm
Br Matthew Hufer ofm
Fr Charles Joyce ofm
Br Clement Kain ofm
Br Andrew Kennelly ofm
Fr Barry (Keenan) Kirby ofm
Br Kevin Lawlor ofm
Fr Declan Madden ofm
Fr Anthony Malone ofm
Fr Alban Mitchell ofm
Fr Claud Murphy ofm
Fr Thomas Murtagh ofm
Fr Cormac Nagle ofm
Fr Edwin Nally ofm
Fr Noel O'Brien ofm
Fr Angelo O'Hagan ofm
Fr Roderick Payne ofm
Fr John Pickering ofm
Fr Norbert Pittorino ofm
Fr Geoffrey Plant ofm
Fr Paul Rout ofm
Fr Carl Schafer ofm
Br Robert Stewart ofm
Fr Fidelis Stinson ofm
Fr Leopold Walsh ofm

College News

SPECIAL AWARDS TO SENIOR CLASS 2007

Professor Simonds Memorial Prize for Year 12 Mathematics – Rhys Young

Legislative Assembly Members Community Service Award – Matthew Gee

The Peter Lincoln Memorial Shield for Contribution to the Senior Class – James Trebbin

Caltex Best All Rounder Award – Christopher Vickers

Board of Directors' Franciscan Spirit Award – Patrick Jensen

The Provincial Minister's Award for the exercise of leadership in the College – Rhys Young

Parents & Friends' Association Award to 2007 Dux of College – Christopher Williams

The College leaders for 2008 have been announced. They will be:

Joshua Skyring – College Captain
David De Bortoli – College Vice Captain
Dwayne Monteiro – Beirne Captain
Alexander Arnold – Beirne Vice Captain
Gerhard Fourie – Grigg Captain
Christopher Hurley – Grigg Vice Captain
Tom Gurowski – Mitchell Captain
Robert Yeo – Mitchell Vice Captain
Christian Kennedy – Odoric Captain
Alistair Murray – Odoric Vice Captain

Joe Higgins – Primary Captain
Samuel Trebbin, Ashley Zhang – Beirne House Leaders
Daniel Best, Connor Ellem – Grigg House Leaders
Jeremy De Bortoli, Matthew Walsh – Mitchell House Leaders
Peter Gerken, James Tilbury – Odoric House Leaders

St Francis and Christmas

THE HISTORY OF THE CRECHE

One Christmas tradition is to set up a crèche during the Advent season. A crèche is a model of the scene at the manger on the first Christmas in the stable at Bethlehem. A crèche can be a small model, set up in the home or a large scene set up at a church or lawn.

The word crèche is from the French word for manger. The French word comes from the Italian word Greccio. Greccio was the town where the first manger scene was set up by St Francis of Assisi in 1223. Before that time many churches had built mangers, but these early mangers were covered with gold, silver, and jewels. They were much fancier than the original manger in which the Christ child was laid.

St Francis and the Christmas Creche

by Fr William Saunders

The story of the origin of the Christmas crèche rests with the very holy man, St. Francis of Assisi.

In the year 1223, St. Francis, a deacon, was visiting the town of Greccio to celebrate Christmas. Greccio was a small town built on a mountainside overlooking a beautiful valley. The people had cultivated the fertile area with vineyards. St Francis realized that the chapel of the Franciscan hermitage would be too small to hold the congregation for Midnight Mass. So he found a niche in the rock near the town square and set up the altar. However, this Midnight Mass would be very special, unlike any other Midnight Mass.

St Bonaventure (d. 1274) in his Life of St Francis of Assisi tells the story the best:

It happened in the third year before his death, that in order to excite the inhabitants of Greccio to commemorate the nativity of the Infant Jesus with great devotion, [St Francis] determined to keep it with all possible solemnity; and lest he should be accused of lightness or novelty, he asked and obtained the permission of the sovereign Pontiff. Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices, and that venerable night was made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise. The man of God [St Francis] stood before the manger, full of devotion and piety, bathed in tears and radiant with joy; the Holy Gospel was chanted by Francis, the Levite of Christ. Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the Babe of Bethlehem. A certain valiant and veracious soldier, Master John of Greccio, who, for the love of Christ, had left the warfare of this world, and become a dear friend of this holy man, affirmed that he beheld an Infant marvellously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, Whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms, as if he would awake Him from sleep. This vision of the devout soldier is credible, not only by reason of the sanctity of him that saw it, but by reason of the miracles which afterwards confirmed its truth. For example of Francis, if it be considered by the world, is doubtless sufficient to excite all hearts which are negligent in the faith of Christ; and the hay of that manger, being preserved by the people, miraculously cured all diseases of cattle, and many other pestilences; God thus in all things glorifying his servant, and witnessing to the great efficacy of his holy prayers by manifest prodigies and miracles.

Although the story is long old, the message is clear for us. Our own Nativity scenes which rest under our Christmas trees are a visible reminder of that night when our Saviour was born. May we never forget to see in our hearts the little Babe of Bethlehem, who came to save us from sin. May we too embrace Him with all of our love as did St Francis.

Privacy Notice

1. Padua College provides personal information to associations connected with the College, concerned with the involvement of old boys in the College, such as the Old Boys' Association, and a prospective College foundation. The primary purpose of collecting and providing this information is to inform you about activities of the College and those associations, and to keep old boys informed about other old boys.
2. The College and those associations need the information referred to, in order to keep you informed about those activities. If you do not want that information provided as described, it is necessary that you inform the College.
3. As you know, from time to time, the College, and the associations engage in fundraising activities to help the College. The information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. If you do not agree to this, please advise the College now.
4. The College and the associations may publish details about you in their publications. If you do not agree to this, please advise the College now.

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The Newsletter will be produced four times a year (Autumn, Winter, Spring & Summer). To make sure that it is interesting and informative there is a need for relevant information to be included. To this end please send along information about yourself and other Old Boys – what you've been up to, where you've bumped into Paduans, what you would like to see in the Newsletter, etc.

Please let me know via email or send information to the College (address on the front page).

Chris Fitzpatrick (Class of '83) – Editor

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