



**Old Boys' Assoc.**  
First established in 1964

# Paduans' Newsletter

Padua College Old Boys' Assoc.  
PO Box 111  
KEDRON QLD 4031

**Spring 2010**



## *Feast of St Francis of Assisi*

*4 October*

### Peace Prayer



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be  
consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

### **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*

# PADUA COLLEGE OLD BOYS' INVITATION

Old Boys' Weekend at Amaroo  
22nd to 24th October 2010

## INVITATION/REMINDER

The weekend of Friday 22nd October to Sunday 24th October 2010 is the Old Boys' Weekend at Amaroo, Pomona. (If anyone is interested in establishing an advance set up party on Thursday, separate arrangements need to be made directly with the School.)



**Theme:** Casual - basically a time to relax, catch up and enjoy yourself.

**Format:** You are welcome to come for part or the whole of the weekend.  
Property gates will generally be unlocked all weekend (unless everyone goes for a swim or drive). Day visitors are welcome.  
Buildings will be open from about 3:00pm Friday.  
Main gathering will be a Saturday night barbecue (communal meal)  
Optional - Sunday Mass (after breakfast).

**In Attendance :** Fr Paul Rout who is out from England has agreed to fill in for Fr Barry Kirby (who will try to attend subject to health).

**What to Bring:** BYO food, drinks and nibbles.  
Bottle of Red for sharing on Saturday night around fireplace.  
Pillow and bed linen or sleeping bag.

**About Amaroo:** The Padua Outdoor Education Centre is a fully equipped retreat centre complete with bunk houses, separate staff huts, toilet blocks and commercial kitchen, capable of sleeping up to 60 with camping facilities able to accommodate more. Shops are available approximately 8 kilometres away for daily fresh bread, paper etc. The Centre has hinterland mountain views & overlooks Lake Cootharaba

**Activities:** To be agreed; past activities have included famous 500 cards competition, Fishing, Counter lunch at Historical Hotel, Rain forest walk, 4wheel drive to Double Island Point, Tewantin River Boat hire, Kin Kin visit, etc.

**Cost:** A small donation of \$25 per person will assist in defraying expenses.

If you would like to attend, please contact Barry Keegan at Padua College on (07) 3857 9999 or email [bkeegan@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:bkeegan@padua.qld.edu.au) no later than Friday 15 October 2010.

Again this year, you are encouraged to carpool (leaving after Mass and clean up at approximately 10:30am).

See you there!

*Please use the response form below. Tick as appropriate.*

✂-----

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I am coming on Friday evening (approximate Est. Time of Arrival .....)
- ☐ I will arrive Saturday ☐ I will call in Saturday/Sunday
- ☐ I will be at the main meal on Saturday evening
- ☐ I am interested in car pooling if it can be organised

**Internet:** <http://www.paduaoldboys.asn.au>  
**Phone:** +61 (07) 3857 9999  
**Fax:** +61 (07) 3857 9988  
**Email:** [info@paduaoldboys.asn.au](mailto:info@paduaoldboys.asn.au)

**Address:** 80 Turner Road, Kedron QLD 4031, Australia  
**Postal Address:** P O Box 111, Kedron QLD 4031, Australia

# Old Boys News

**James Sullivan** (College Captain '99)

**2010 American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship  
awarded to top scholar  
American Australian Association  
APSA Congressional Fellowship Scholar**

The American Australian Association announces the award of the 2010 American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship. The APSA Fellowship elicited keen interest from a highly competitive pool of researchers from top Australian universities.

James Sullivan studied Law and International Relations at the University of Queensland and has since worked in a number of positions in the law, politics and government. He has had a long interest in public policy and Australia's political system, including as a Campaign Director for a federal seat in the 2007 election and as an Advisor to Federal Ministers in Canberra after the 2007 election. James is currently the Senior Policy Advisor to the Queensland Deputy Premier and Minister for Health. He has also been involved in a number of community organisations in Brisbane.

Founded in 1953, the APSA Congressional Fellowship Program is the nation's oldest and most prestigious congressional fellowship. APSA Congressional Fellowship supports individuals from a broad range of expertise who seek to gain an understanding of the US legislative process through working on Capitol Hill Congressional staff. Candidates include political journalists, early-to-mid-career academics, and experts from the fields of foreign policy, economics, migration, environment, science, and social issues.

**NORTH-WEST NEWS, Wednesday, September 8, 2010**

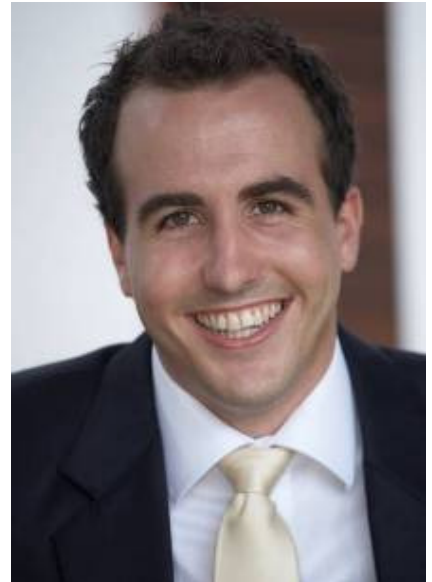
## **US scholarship winner**

A FORMER Padua College school captain's passion for history and international relations has propelled him towards a prestigious American posting.

James Sullivan travelled to America last week to start a 12 month program with an American Political Science Association Congressional

Fellowship. The former Stafford resident will experience the US legislative process by joining Capitol Hill Congressional staff after the November elections.

Mr Sullivan graduated from Padua College in 1999 and credited teacher Deb Matthews with sparking his interest in history.



-----

**Greg Lawrence** (College Captain '78) – *Requiescat in pace*

After the last Newsletter had been distributed, word was received of Greg's death on 29 August. A number of you would remember Greg because of his involvement in the College, particularly his Captaincy.

Please keep Greg in your prayers, and his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

# In the Habit

*In keeping you up-to-date with the happenings of the friars, this Newsletter brings you information about an Old Boy friar.*

**Name**

**Mario Debattista**

## ***Something about me people might not know***

The thought of being a missionary in Africa first came to my mind while I was in Year 12 at Padua and I really never thought it would ever come true. But it did 16yrs later, so it just goes to show – be careful what you daydream about!

## ***What I did before I became a friar***

After finishing school at Padua, I studied Civil Engineering at QIT (now QUT) which I completed in 1980. Then for the whole of 1981, I worked in the Brisbane office of John Connell & Associates, an engineering consulting firm.

## ***What drew me to the Franciscans***

Over my years at Padua, I became particularly inspired by the life and spirit of St Francis, but not just theoretically. I was particularly struck by the example of some fine friars who taught me and accompanied me as a young man, and who introduced me to Franciscan spirituality and the practical service of the poor such as at the St Vincent de Paul hostel for men.

## ***Years I was at Padua as a student.***

1972-1976

## ***The first thing I remember about the Padua community***

Coming from the relatively small primary school of Holy Cross, Woolloowin, run by the Mercy Sisters, I recall feeling struck by the size of Padua College and that impressive looking and mysterious old friary filled with what seemed like so many habited friars!

## ***My most unforgettable memory of Padua***

In year 11, I joined the ACS (Active Christian Society) with Friar Rod Payne as its chaplain. We used to go camping as a group over several days or just a weekend which were wonderful experiences. I will always remember the camp at O'Reilly's in the Lamington National Park which was totally washed out and we spent an "exciting" night in a soaking tent trying to keep warm and the water out by digging a moat around the tent.

## ***The question I'm most often asked about Padua***

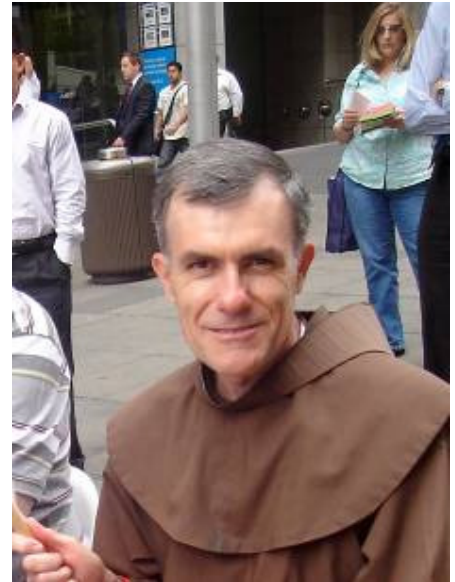
I haven't lived in Brisbane since I entered the Friars in 1982 so I can't honestly say I am asked anything about Padua since where I have lived, I doubt many would have ever heard of Padua College (sorry!).

## ***Something about Padua that still makes me laugh***

Strangely enough, I sometimes think the name of the school catches people's attention as when I have said I went to Padua, I have had people ask me when I was in Italy. And that brings a laugh!

## ***My advice to current Paduans***

I have learnt over the years of the wonderful efforts by current Paduans to reach out to others in need both near and far. So I would really encourage you to aim to make this spirit a deep part of who you are as persons because when school days are long over, and you have gone on to follow your various careers, it is really those core values that you absorb while at school that will remain with you – more than perhaps you can ever imagine at present.





## ***My advice to Old Boys***

As a graduate of 1976, I probably now count as one of the “old Old Boys,” but I honestly do not feel all that old! So, my fellow “Old Boys,” may we never grow old in mind, heart or spirit but be ever willing “to begin again” as St Francis said to his friars close to his own death.

## ***What am I up to now***

Currently, I live in Paddington, Sydney where I am the Formation Director for the Postulants who are those men in their first year with the Order. I am also an assistant priest on the parishes of St Francis and St Joseph (after having just had a year as parish priest), and I work two days a week as a counsellor with CatholicCare (formerly known as Centacare) with Sydney Archdiocese. I also try to keep up some contact with homeless people in inner Sydney by helping at an overnight accommodation house.

## ***Final comment***

My years at Padua College have clearly had a lasting impact on me as a person, obvious by my decision to enter the Franciscan Friars in 1982. But even had I not done that, I know in my heart that the spirit of the friars and the school as I experienced it during my years there would have remained with me and impacted on my attitudes and lifestyle. I pray that the same will be true for our current Paduans and wish for them that they be a force for good in whatever direction God leads them.



**David Shillington** (Grigg House Captain '00) & **Greg Thomson** (College Captain '05)



There was a sense of irony on the night of Thursday 9 September – two Old Boys from different years appearing in the same television program with one being interviewed by the other!

David Shillington, from the Canberra Raiders, was the NRL guest on *Odds On* hosted by Greg Thomson and ‘Dr Turf’. The sports show, broadcast by *Southern Cross Media*, was seen on regional television across the eastern states.



**Michael McGarry** (attended '62-'65) has set up a website that is well worth visiting. Go to <http://www.secularfranciscansoceania.com.au/> to find many things Franciscan. The site is well worth investigating.

*(The Secular Franciscan Order (SFO) is a community of Catholic men and women in the world who seek to pattern their lives after Christ in the spirit of St Francis of Assisi. The Secular Franciscans, or members of the Third Order of St Francis, was founded by St Francis 800 years ago.)*



## ***Around the College*** **(from the College Bulletins)**

### **Padua Reaches Out!**

During the year there are a number of opportunities for Paduans to be part of the Outreach program. Year 12 students join the Rosies Street Van crew eight times a year. Year 11 students join me (Michael O'Brien, *Vice Rector-Formation*) every fortnight in serving dinner at the Ozcare Men's Hostel at South Brisbane. Recently a number of classes in the Primary School raised both awareness and money for projects associated with the deforestation of parts of South East Asia. All of these activities remind us of the mission Jesus gave us. St Francis, inspired by Jesus, inspires us through our outreach by the example he showed to the ‘minores’ of his time.

Thank you Padua for constant generosity of heart and action!

# In the Habit

(Keeping you informed of what the *Padua Past Friars* are up to.)

## ***Name***

### **Fr Barry Kirby**

(You might also know him by his religious name Fr Kenan, which he used for the first few years he taught at Padua.)

"I had the initials KK on my briefcase which gave me the nickname Killer Kirby".

## ***Something about me people might not know***

With assistance from Fr Rod Payne, John Gorringer and a number of Old Boys I was responsible for the purchase of what is now known as Amaraoo in Pomona. It took ten years of searching to find.

## ***What I did before I became a friar***

I joined the friars immediately after finishing the Higher School Certificate at Saint Anthony's Robertson. Saint Anthony's was a college for students interested in the Franciscan way of life.

## ***What drew me to the Franciscans***

Part of my early education was with St Patricks Strathfield (Sydney NSW). One day my mother had asked me what I wanted to become, when I replied that I would like to be a teacher like the Brothers she replied that if I wanted to be a brother then I might as well be a priest – and so I joined a group that was both!

## ***Years I was at Padua***

From 1967 for 7 years

Followed by 4 years as the Vocation Director

From 1978 for 12 years, 6 as Vice Rector and 6 as Rector

## ***The first thing I remember about the Padua community***

In 1967 (as Fr Kenan) life was very busy and 'primitive' – there was school work and my priestly duties to attend to. People say that teachers have far too much work to attend to now; we had far too much back then!

## ***My most unforgettable memory of Padua***

When I first got there I thought I had made a big mistake. I arrived with Roderick Payne in mid January and as I left the air conditioned train it felt as though I had been thrown into a sauna! My bedroom had no flyscreen and my first room was next to the gas hot water system. By the middle of each day my habit was dripping wet.

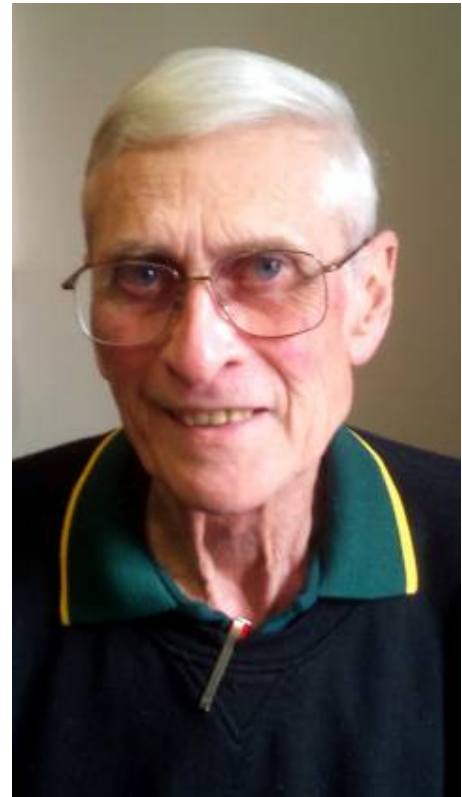
## ***The question I'm most often asked about Padua***

Why is it called Padua?

- The first Franciscans arrived at Kedron on the vigil of the Feast of St Anthony.

- The name St Anthony's was taken by the primary school and we wanted to keep Anthony in the picture - so we named it Padua College.

Editor's note: St Anthony was also the first teacher to be accepted into the Order by St Francis himself.



### ***Something about Padua that still makes me laugh***

The funniest time I remember occurred when I became Vice Rector and the school was growing in numbers but lacked classrooms and building space. I believed we could extend by building above the original building - but everyone said it couldn't be done! It was an assumption I wanted to challenge and so I employed a structural engineer (a local dad) who said, after surveying the 27 piers that supported the building, it could be done by the provision of additional support to just 3 piers.

The roof was removed in the monsoonal period. Down came the rains and there was water running down blackboards and through classrooms. My job became wandering up and down the corridor offering bemused teachers umbrellas as water cascaded down the blackboards on which they were trying to write.

### ***My advice to current Paduans.***

I would emphasise how fortunate they are to be in the supportive and enriching environment that is Padua.

### ***My advice to Old Boys***

Continue to support the school by being members of the Foundation and be involved as much as you can.

### ***What am I up to now***

"I am trying to stay alive".

(For those who are not aware Fr Barry is recovering from bowel cancer that was quickly followed by an aneurism that has left him with damage to the nerves controlling the lower part of the body.

He is currently living in Sydney and is on the mend.)

### ***Final comment***

At this time I am in the prayers of many people who have been part of my Padua journey – for that I am very grateful.



***Amaroo***  
***Pomono***

1990



1999

# **Things Franciscan**

## **An Introduction to**

# **FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY**

**Drawn from the life and writings of**

**St Francis of Assisi**

**by**

**Campion Murray OFM**

### **3. A spirituality of poverty**

What thoughts went through Francis' mind as he remembered his meeting with the leper? Firstly, he felt a sharp embarrassment. In the leper he had experienced the presence of the Lord who is sinless, who is all perfect and is God. Yet in the leper the Lord appeared ugly, deformed and repulsive. Francis, on the other hand, was embarrassed that he, a sinful human being, was well dressed, highly regarded, popular and ambitious. Should he not then live and dress in a way that reflects more clearly how he felt before the leper? Later, Francis would say that we are what we are in the eyes of God and no more. In this way Francis began to translate his meeting with the leper into an ideal or spirituality of poverty.

Secondly, he realized that since the Lord met him in the person of a leper, it was clear the Lord did not attach any importance to social status for its own sake. The leper had no social status and was not allowed to enter a town. Francis was a prominent young citizen of Assisi with an attractive future ahead of him. Francis began to feel that he should live as a person who is unimportant to society and so he gave up his position in society and took this second step towards a life of poverty.

Thirdly, Francis had found where he would find true sweetness in life: 'What before had seemed bitter to me was turned into sweetness of soul and body'<sup>1</sup> (I, 124). With St Paul, Francis learnt to *regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord* [Phil 3:8]. This was Francis' third step toward Lady Poverty.

<sup>1</sup> *Francis of Assisi: Early Documents*, 3 vols. I, 124 = vol. 1, page 124.

### **6. Finding God in creation**

Francis recognized the presence of Jesus in the sacrifice and sacrament of the Eucharist. But he also found God and the Lord in other people, in the world and in animals. This is a significant element of Franciscan spirituality and it is the reason why Francis has been declared the patron saint of ecology, of the care of the earth.

Francis met the Lord in a special and personal way when, standing before the leper, he realized that how he reacted to the leper indicated how he reacted to the Lord. He found the sight of lepers quite sickening just as all people feel about embracing the cross of the Lord. But when Francis generously kissed the leper and so responded to the Lord in the leper, he found that what had seemed bitter to him was turned into sweetness of soul and body for him. After this experience he began his religious vocation and retreated from his usual pattern of life.

In a remarkable way he also found images of God in fire, water, the sun and the moon and in the whole world that God has given us. He also found a peace with wild animals. On one occasion Francis was able to tame a wolf that had been attacking the people of the town of Gubbio. This showed that within his lifetime Francis had come close to becoming one with Christ. He was marked with the stigmata, the marks of the passion of our Lord to show that he had carried his cross to his Calvary; he showed that he had reached a state of peace in the kingdom of God. Long before in history, the prophet Isaiah had foretold this peace, namely, that the lion would lie down with the calf in the kingdom of God [Isa 11:6].



# Where we've come...

## Amaroo

(From *The Paduan* 1990 article by John Gorringer)

In the overall development of the College it was envisaged that Padua, at some stage, would acquire its own Outdoor Education and Retreat Centre.

It was becoming increasingly difficult to book established retreat and camp sites and to enable students to go on retreats and excursions at times convenient to the College. It became a necessity to have our own facilities. Despite a number of attempts in the past to acquire a property, it was not until 1988 that a concerted effort was made to achieve this aim.

The task was taken in hand by Fr Barry Kirby and it was due to his persistence that a suitable property was located. After countless journeys looking at different properties, most of South East Queensland and parts of Northern New South Wales had been covered in an effort to locate a property suitable to our needs. It was quite some time before a property which met our established criteria was found.

The property which the College eventually purchased is on Louis Bazzo Drive, Pomona, midway between Pomona and Boreen Point. The property consists of 62 hectares of undulating and lightly timbered land, with a small creek running through the property which is bordered by an established rain forest area. The property is surrounded on three sides by a state forest, is close to Lake Cootharaba and has extensive views to Mt Cooroora.

...the first stage of the complex ...consisted of a dining hall and kitchen, teachers' accommodation, a dormitory to accommodate thirty-two students and amenities block. ...Despite some wet weather during the course of the construction, the project was completed on time in July 1990.

We are indebted to all the people who were involved with the project, particularly Fr Barry for his enthusiasm and perseverance in getting the project started, Mr Peter McCabe [Architect and Old Boy ('73)] for his imaginative design of the buildings and Mr Greg McLean [Project Manager and Old Boy (College Captain '73)] for his expertise in overseeing the construction.



## *Those who led*

### **1960 Junior Class** (the leaders of the College in that era)



**Front Row:** T Robinson, P Cross, L Boyd, M Stark, V van der Heide, K Ryan  
**Second Row:** R Walters, J O'Connell, S Boegheim, L Jones  
**Back Row:** P Cregan, P Hopkins, P Cosgrove  
(**Absent:** J van der Maat)

### **1970 Student Representative Council**



**Front Row:** P Cross, D Burke, B Bracken, M Sullivan, P Goddard, D Brown, M McGrane  
**Back Row:** M Garozzo, E Davis, G Wolff, C Offenhauser, P Lewis, C West



## 1980 Prefects



**Front Row:** Peter Porcellini, Stephen Greatrex, Michael Crowther (Captain), Fr Benignus Clowes, Tim Conlon (Vice-Captain), Mark Hassall, John Ghezzi  
**Back Row:** David Porter, Peter McCarthy, Rod Hickey, Gehan Jayawardhana

## 1990 Prefects



**Front Row:** Peter Lavercombe, Robert Fioravanti, Damien Searle (Vice-Captain), Fr John Boyd-Boland, Stephen Jenkins (Captain), Malcolm Grice, Scott Callaghan  
**Back Row** James Stark, Darren Wright, Lee Hughes, Liam Thompson, Dominic Smith, Glynn Fraser  
(**Absent:** Steven Giacomontonio)

## 2000 Student Leaders



**Front Row:** Robert DiSipio, Damen Coleman (Vice-Captain), Fr John Boyd-Boland, Paul Berghofer (Captain), David Shillington  
**Back Row:** Alister Jones, Justin Out, Shaun Nodwell, Luke Emlyn-Jones

## 2000 – Rectors Past and Present at a farewell to Fr John



(left to right) Frs Barry Kirby, Tom Murtagh, Alban Mitchell, Hugolin Burke, Stephen Bliss (Provincial Minister), Benignus Clowes, John Boyd-Boland, Paul Smith (Vicar Provincial)



# Date Claimers



## 22-24 October Old Boys Weekend

Amaroo, Pomona

Fr Paul Rout, Old Boy ('66) and former Teacher, will be in attendance. (See details elsewhere in this Newsletter.)



**SOLD OUT!**

*Make sure you get in early next year.*

## 30 October Padua College Race Day Doomben Racecourse

### Dates to Note

- |        |                                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 19 Oct | James Morrison (Fundraising Concert) |
| 22 Oct | FCIP Senior Showcase Performance     |
| 31 Oct | FCIP Family Concert                  |



Are you in the process of looking to get some work done? Why not consult the **FOTH Online Community Business Directory**? There is a variety in the 76 businesses advertised. Each business has a relationship with Padua, St Anthony's and/or Mt Alvernia. There are also a number of Old Boy businesses included, which can be searched separately.

The **Business Directory** can be located through the College website, [www.padua.qld.edu.au](http://www.padua.qld.edu.au).

Mention you got their contact details through the **FOTH Online Community Business Directory**. You never know, you may even get a discount...

**Do you know of anyone not receiving the Newsletter? Encourage them, and every other Old Boy, to get their email address to Susan Skoien at the College.**

## **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.

*The Newsletter is 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 – and what you would like to see in the Newsletter.*

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

*Chris Fitzpatrick (Class of '83) – Editor*

## **Contacts**

- [www.paduaoldboys.asn.au](http://www.paduaoldboys.asn.au)
- Clayton Hill – President [clayton@paduaoldboys.asn.au](mailto:clayton@paduaoldboys.asn.au)
- Simon Stower – Vice-Rector – Administration (07) 3857 9999
- Barry Keegan – Padua Administration (07) 3857 9999
- Susan Skoien – Padua Administration [sskoien@padua.qld.edu.au](mailto:sskoien@padua.qld.edu.au)
- Chris Fitzpatrick – Newsletter Editor [paduafitz@hotmail.com](mailto:paduafitz@hotmail.com)
- Padua College – 3857 9999 (phone), 3857 9988 (fax)
- [www.padua.qld.edu.au](http://www.padua.qld.edu.au) (Newsletters are available through the College website.)