



**CONCORDIA**  
**COLLEGE**

*'Firm in Principle, Gentle in Manner'*

*Celebrating*  
**125**  
*years*



YEARS OF OUTSTANDING  
**125**  
est. 1890  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



**CONCORDIA**  
**COLLEGE**

*'Firm in Principle, Gentle in Manner'*

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## *Foreword*

The Concordia of 1890 or 1950 or even 1980 was a very different place from what it is today.

Initially set up as a boys-only college with the intention of educating the future teachers, pastors and leaders of the Lutheran Church, over time Concordia has become a dynamic co-educational school serving people from a range of backgrounds and for a multiplicity of futures.

Yet each generation builds on the legacy left by the previous generation and so we owe a debt of gratitude to those who came before us. Understanding the past puts the present into perspective.

Even though it is difficult to encapsulate 125 years in a few pages it is important that we, the Concordia College community of 2015, are sufficiently aware of the background of Concordia that we can truly appreciate what we have today. A more definitive history of the first century of the College can be found in the book written by Rev Dr Elmore Leske. This booklet, however, serves to provide a concise snapshot of key events in the different decades of the existence of the College.

Concordia has not always experienced calm waters. There were difficulties during the world wars for instance, as well as competition for enrolments from other schools. However, as Dr Leske notes in the preface to his book *Concordia 100 years: Murtoa to Adelaide*, 'the struggles of Concordia over the years have always been related to the desire to educate according to the will of God, for the good of the church and for the benefit of the whole community.' May it long continue thus.

I wish to record my thanks to Jenni van Wageningen (Concordia Archivist) for her research for this publication, Maree Svanborg (Publications Officer) for the graphic design work, and Helen Karapandzic (Director of Community Relations) who helped bring this publication to fruition in our 125th year.

May it be a source of information, not only for the present but also for the future.

**Lester Saegenschnitter**

Principal

## *Acknowledgements*

**Research and editing** : Jenni van Wageningen

**Design** : Maree Svanborg



# 1890s

*Concordia's beginnings at Murtoa in the Victorian Wimmera district were quite modest. In 1890 just two young men, both prospective teachers, were enrolled. Over the next 6 years student numbers increased to thirty and the curriculum had expanded to include courses for those wishing to become Lutheran pastors.*

## 1890-1901 Founding Director

Pastor Peters began his ministry in Murtoa in 1879. Firmly convinced of the value of Lutheran schools, he grew concerned that there was no institution in the Lutheran Church dedicated to the training of teachers. He initiated an educational program, but came to realise that this training school needed to be a college in its own right. As a result, he donated land and persuaded

members of his parish to fund a school building project. Over the next decade Pastor Peters juggled his responsibilities as Concordia's director, his duties as a parish pastor and his role within the wider Lutheran Church.

## 1890

The first student, Friedrich Wilhelm Hoffmann, was examined and enrolled, and a few months later he was joined by Richard Hanckel.

## 1891 Some school rules

Students shall not at any time smoke in the classrooms or dormitories.

Students shall not expectorate on the floors.

Every student shall appear in school as tidy as possible. His clothes should be neatly arranged and his boots polished. Attention should also be paid to the hair, teeth and fingernails.

Students shall not go into any saloon, play cards or have any fire-arms.

Any objectionable literature in the possession of students will be at once destroyed.



Students and Synod representatives

1890

1895

Pastor Peters



Friedrich Wilhelm Hoffmann



Concordia College, Murtoa Victoria



## SA in the 1890s

### 1890

220 deaths from diphtheria

Population 315,212

### 1892

Free compulsory primary school education

### 1896

Severe drought

The State Bank of South Australia opens

First screening of moving pictures in Adelaide

Women vote for the first time in elections

### 1898

140 deaths from typhoid fever

### 1899

First SA volunteer soldiers leave for the Boer War



Murtoa Professor J Kunstmann and Family

## 1891

Enrolments grew to six during the year.

## 1892

The local newspaper, the *Dunmunkle Standard*, announced the curriculum of the Lutheran Seminary for teachers: English, Latin, German, Arithmetic, Geometry, Natural History, Physics, Universal History, Bookkeeping, Gymnastics and Drill. The tuition fee was two guineas per quarter and the boarding fee 6 guineas per quarter.

## 1893

The Rev J Kunstmann, a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St Louis, USA, arrived to begin duties as Professor of the Theological Seminary.

## 1894

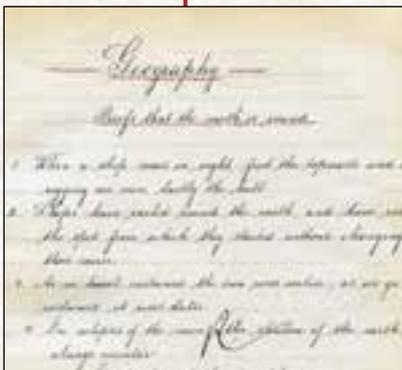
A second classroom was dedicated, and the name Concordia College was officially adopted.

## 1899

A boating fatality occurred in Lake Marma opposite the College. Two students, Andreas Hirthe, 21, and Oscar Luy, 20, were drowned. Both were about to graduate as teachers for service in Lutheran schools.

1895

Ben Tepper's workbook



1899

Founders of Concordia



# 1900s

The first years of the 20th century were challenging for the fledgling college at Murtoa. Staffing problems, together with the resignation of Director Peters and a key professor, threatened to undermine enrolments and stability. However, a new era dawned in 1905 with a newly appointed director and the opening of Concordia College in Adelaide.

## 1900

Thirty-six students were enrolled. There were three seminarians, three pre-seminary students, nine teacher-students and twenty-one enrolled for a general education. Twenty-seven were boarders.

## 1901

Pastor Peters resigned from the directorship as his many parish duties prevented him from devoting the necessary time and attention to the role. Professor Kunstmann also resigned.

## 1903

The Rev C F Graebner was called to become the second director of Concordia College.

## 1904

The official closing ceremony for Concordia College at Murtoa took place on 15 December.



Murtoa staff and students



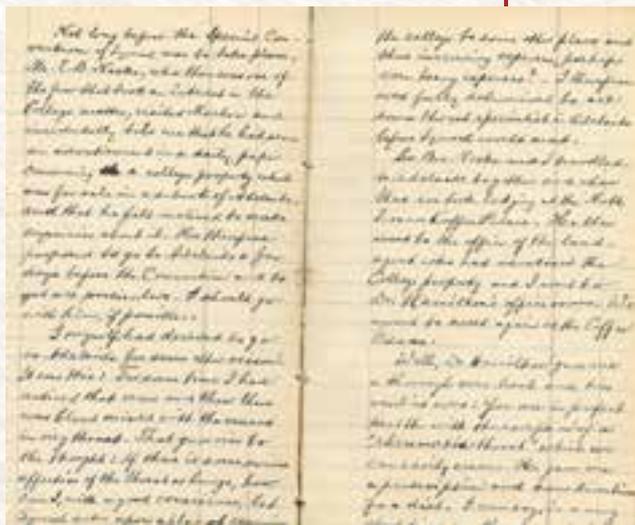
Students and professors

1900

1904

1905

Dr Graebner's notebook



Dedication of Concordia College, Malvern



## SA in the 1900s

### 1900

Electric street lights installed in the city of Adelaide

### 1901

Duke and Duchess of York visit SA for Commonwealth celebrations

Population 358,346

### 1904

Flag of South Australia officially adopted

### 1906

Statue of Colonel Light unveiled in Victoria Square

Military cadet system commenced

First state in Australia to issue driving licenses

### 1908

Outer Harbour opened

Founding of first state high school, Adelaide High

Secondary School Education Bill

### 1909

Electric street lights begin to replace gas and kerosene in the Unley area

## 1905

Concordia College, Malvern was opened on 22 February 1905. The day was filled with special celebrations, from a dedication service in the morning, attended by 500 people, to a festival service in the evening at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Flinders Street.

The curriculum included Catechism, Bible History, English (Reading, Grammar and Composition), Latin, Greek, Geography, German, Algebra, Arithmetic, History, Penmanship and Elocution.

## 1906

Thirty students were enrolled and each of the two classes was made up of two streams. There were those preparing for service as pastors, and others intending to become teachers or wanting a general higher education.

## 1908

Pastor M T Winkler joined Director C F Graebner and Professor G C Koch as the third professor.

The first telephone was installed at the College.

## 1909

Music instruction was made compulsory for all theological students. Those studying to become teachers learnt to play both the piano and violin.



*Pastor M T Winkler,  
Professor C F Graebner  
and Professor G C Koch*

1906

1908

1909

Students



Tennis team



# 1910s

The college experienced many dark days during this decade. Legislation during World War I threatened the very existence of Lutheran schools; two students died in 1916; and the Spanish influenza epidemic severely disrupted schooling for a large part of 1918. However, there were still many reasons to celebrate, in particular the graduation of twelve theological students in 1912.

## 1910

The prospect of rising enrolments made extra teaching and living space an urgent issue, so the Eastern Wing was a welcome addition. It included a staffroom, three classrooms, a library, four bedrooms and several studies for the theological students.

## 1912

The first class of theological students graduated on 12 December 1912 – the twelfth day of the twelfth month – and the twelve young men became known as the ‘Twelve Apostles.’

## 1913

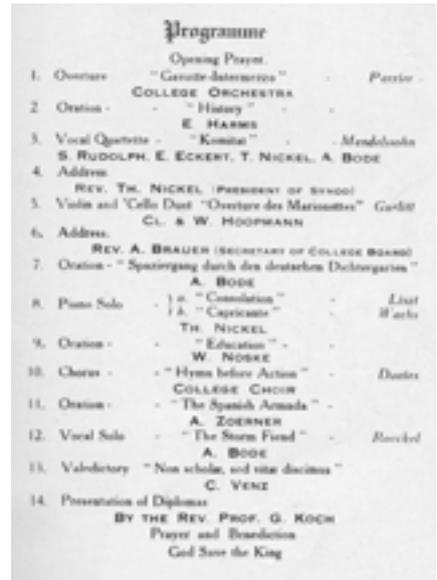
The total enrolment was 60 with a first year class of 33.

## 1914

With the introduction of compulsory military training a Cadet Corps was formed.



Concordia Seminary graduates - The 'Twelve Apostles'



Valedictory programme

1910

1912

1912

1913

Classroom



Orchestra



## SA in the 1910s

### 1914

School leaving age raised to 14 years

First troops leave for Europe to fight in World War I

Adelaide / Melbourne telephone line opens

Torrens Island Internment Camp established. More than 350 'enemy aliens', mainly of German or Austro-Hungarian background are interned

### 1915

Legislation enforcing full time primary school education

Opal found at Coober Pedy

### 1916

National conscription referendum: 57.6 per cent of South Australians are opposed

### 1917

The Kingswood tram line was opened with trams running down Duthy Street

Lutheran Primary schools closed by government legislation

### 1918

End of World War 1: 6400 SA soldiers killed

German place and district names in SA (69 in total) changed under provisions of Nomenclature Act, 1917

## 1916

There was an official announcement that theology students who had already begun preaching were exempted from military service.

## 1917

When all Lutheran primary schools were closed by an act of the SA Parliament, Concordia discontinued the training of teachers.

## 1919

The school year opened in March, several weeks later than usual because of the influenza epidemic. Some students arrived only many months later. During the first week of August there was a widespread outbreak of influenza in the boarding house, and the Board of Health imposed quarantine regulations on the College.



College platoon

1915



Dr C F Graebner  
Concordia's Director

1916

1917

Chess game



# 1920s

*This decade saw a number of significant developments. Student numbers were steadily increasing, particularly as the three-yearly enrolment system gave way to annual enrolments, and girls entered the college for the first time. More teaching staff were appointed, including the influential Pastor Dr H P A Hamann, and several essential building projects were completed.*

## 1923

### *First Woman Teacher*

With a first class honours degree in both classics and mathematics, Mrs Agnes Dorsch came with an outstanding academic background. During 1923 to 1925, and then from 1927 to 1943, she taught both secondary and seminary students in subjects ranging from English, German, Latin, Greek and French to Physiology and Mathematics.

*Headmaster's Residence*



## 1923

### *Headmaster's Residence*

Until a spacious nine-roomed bungalow was opened and dedicated in December, Director Graebner and his family had occupied rather cramped quarters at the western end of the main college building.

This residence became a music centre in 1975, and in 1989 it was demolished to make way for a new chapel and music complex.

## 1924

### *First issue of the Brown and Gold*

Concordia's first annual magazine was the work of the students, with nearly all of them helping in some way. The 64 pages included photos of classes and teams, sports reports, poems, cartoons and photo collages, jokes and riddles.

## 1924

### *Gramophone*

An interest in music was rekindled when Professor Koch generously donated a 'phonograph.'

## 1926

### *Fifth Professor*

Rev Dr H P A Hamann began a memorable teaching and administrative career at Concordia College. He taught all languages in the curriculum – Greek, Latin, Hebrew and German – and was also an astute historian and a master of English literature. His genuine concern for the welfare of students and his leadership in promoting the education of girls left a lasting legacy.

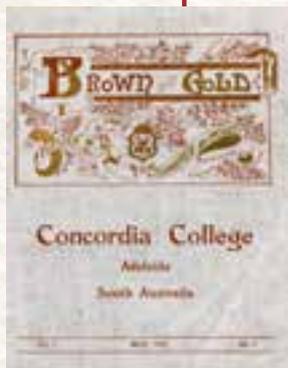
1923

1924

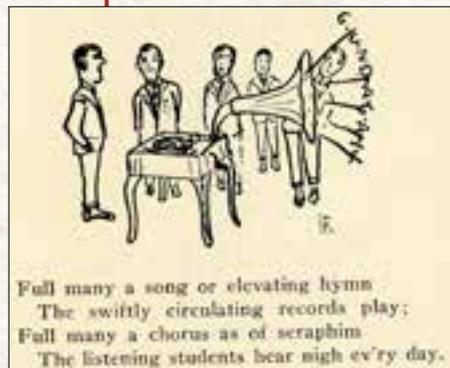
1924

1926

Agnes Dorsch



Phonograph cartoon



Rev Dr H P A Hamann, here in his 90s



## SA in the 1920s

### 1920

Balfour's iconic 'frog cakes' introduced

Correspondence School opened

### 1921

South Australia's population reaches 500,000

### 1923

Afternoon paper The News launched

*Green and Gold* cook book published

Vegetemite launched

Weetbix comes on the market

### 1924

Radio stations 5DN and 5CL begin broadcasting

Airmail service begins between Adelaide and Sydney

James Stobie invents the steel and concrete 'stobie pole'

### 1925

Wayville Showgrounds opened

### 1927

Parafield Airport opened

### 1928

Adelaide Railway Station building completed

### 1929

Railway link between Adelaide and Alice Springs completed

## 1926

### Gymnasium

After this long-awaited building was opened, gymnastics classes took place twice a week. The program included marching, running, breathing exercises, swinging high on the rings, turning on the bars and using other equipment such as the trapeze or springboard.

## 1927

### The beginning of Co-education

The first girls, just 19 in the first cohort, were enrolled at Concordia College. Fifteen boarders filled the Girls Hostel in Cheltenham Street to capacity.



Girls in Sunday Dress

1927

Lecture Hall opening



## 1927

### Lecture Hall

For many years this building catered for teaching at all nine year levels from first year (Sexta) to the final theological class. The lower floor contained four classrooms and a library for the staff, and the upper level had two smaller classrooms and a chapel with seating for 250 worshippers.

# 1930s

Although student numbers remained fairly stable during the Great Depression, falling from 90 in 1930 to a low point of 76 in 1935, fewer girls were enrolled. It also became necessary to reduce staff salaries to balance the budget, teachers shared extra work loads, and there were no new appointments.

Yet there were also numerous celebrations in the college community. These included the Centenary of South Australia, the Centenary of the arrival of the first Lutherans in Australia, and the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of Dr C F Graebner.

## Sport

The newly-formed Concordia College Amateur Athletic Club held the first annual Sports Day in 1930. Two years later, when the club was amalgamated with the Concordia College Games Association, all sports were managed by this student-controlled association.

In 1934 the athletics team won the A grade premiership in the SA Inter-Club competition, and in 1937 and 1938 the First XVIII were undefeated premiers of the Students Football Association.

## Music

In 1931 Mr J Schmidt, father of Mr Peter Schmidt, who was to be Head of Music at Concordia from 1969-2004, donated sixteen 78 rpm gramophone records to the College. When students purchased an imposing nine-valve wireless set in 1938 from the proceeds of a concert tour, this stimulated interest in classical music for many years to come.

Students presented several concerts in the Adelaide Town Hall. In 1930 the choir and orchestra performed at the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession.

By the following year there were too few girls to form a balanced mixed choir, so a male choir of forty voices performed under the baton of Captain Hugh King.

## Class System

For many years the College consisted of two departments. The Classical Department offered a course of up to six years, and study in the Theological Department spanned three years. The entry level class was known as Sexta (Latin for sixth). Each year it climbed one class higher, from Sexta to Quinta (Fifth), then to Quarta (fourth), Tertia (Third) and Secunda (Second). In the sixth year students entered Prima (First), and those who passed the final examinations were eligible to enter the Theological Department or seminary.

When a three-year Intermediate course was adopted, a class known as Septima (Seventh) was added in 1947.

1930

Cheltenham Street  
Girls Hostel



1933

Captain Hugh  
King



1935

Female Students



1938





1934 Secunda Class

## SA in the 1930s

### 1930

State government pays 'dole' to the 'deserving poor' and issues sustenance rations

### 1931

Adelaide's National War Memorial on North Tce unveiled

Rail link between Port Augusta and Alice Springs completed

The 'world's greatest gramophone personality', Adelaide-born bass baritone Peter Dawson tours Australia

### 1933

First John Martin's Christmas Pageant in November

### 1935

Nomenclature Act restores a selection of German place names which had been altered in 1918

First Popeye boat carries passengers along River Torrens

### 1936

Centenary of foundation of South Australia celebrated

### 1937

Mount Bold Reservoir in Adelaide Hills opens - Adelaide's water storage capacity is almost doubled

### 1939

New Parliament House opened

## 1932

A new hot water system was installed and the stoking of the furnace became an additional chore for the boy boarders.

## 1933

The new uniform for girls was a dress of navy fuji-silk with elbow length sleeves and a cream collar and cream cuffs.

## 1936

The Centenary Gates were installed at the main entrance in Cheltenham Street. They were a gift from the Bethlehem Congregation, Flinders Street, Adelaide, to mark the centenary celebrations of South Australia.

## 1937

Twenty male students, accompanied by three staff members, set off on a concert tour of South Australia. The program included choir selections, humorous items and gymnastics displays with clown acts.

## 1938

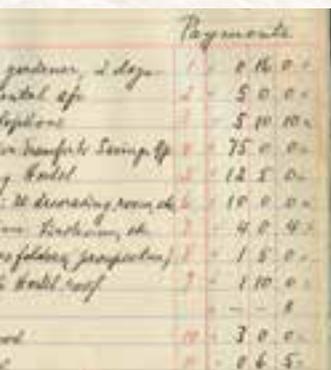
A polio epidemic delayed the opening of the school year by three weeks. The Board of Health advised all schools to defer commencement until March.

## 1939

Dr Graebner relinquished his role as headmaster, but continued as President of Concordia Seminary. Dr H P A Hamann was appointed headmaster of the college.

## 1938

Girls Hostel accounts Concert tour - Minyip



## 1939

The Sailors Hornpipe performed at the Farewell Concert in December



# 1940s

*During the early years of the decade enrolments suffered because of World War II and the drought conditions experienced through much of Australia. However, in 1944 there was a record enrolment of more than 120 students and this trend continued until the end of the decade.*

*The army takeover of Concordia's campus, the temporary but inconvenient move to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Flinders Street, and other emergency measures made for unforgettable times. The war also brought sobering news to members of the college community as they learnt of the deaths in action of a number of old collegians.*



1941 Students

## 1940

The house system began with the creation of just two houses – Brown and Gold.

Girl boarders spent part of each Saturday evening knitting for the soldiers in a Red Cross Society at the Hostel.

## 1941

Girls in the A Basketball (Netball) team won all their matches, including the semi-final and final.

1940

1941

1942

1942

First XI Cricket Premiership team



Evacuation to Flinders Street



Mr Phil Oster in vegetable garden



## SA in the 1940s

### 1940

German naval raiders lay mines at the entrances to Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf. Serious damage caused to the Federal Line steamer Hertford in Spencer Gulf

### 1942

Daylight saving of one hour introduced for almost three months as a wartime measure

Leigh Creek coalfield first mined using open-cut methods

### 1944

F H Faulding becomes first commercial manufacturer of penicillin in Australia

### 1945

Adelaide's Lance Hill designs the Hills Hoist

### 1947

First refugees from Europe arrive in SA

### 1948

Severe storms in April cause widespread damage including the destruction of the Glenelg jetty

### 1949

First missile launched from Woomera

## 1942

Dr H P A Hamann was now principal of both Concordia College and the Seminary.

In April the army took possession of Concordia's grounds and buildings for use as a convalescent depot. Teaching resumed in Excelsior Hall behind Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Flinders Street, until the campus was handed back to the college late in June.

## 1944

The boys A tennis team completed the season of fourteen matches as undefeated premiers of the Students Association.

## 1945

The hostel for girls at 176 Wattle Street was officially opened and dedicated.

A thanksgiving service was held in the chapel to mark the end of the war.

The First XI won the Students Grade cricket championship for the fourth year in a row.

## 1946

Chemistry was added to the curriculum with the appointment of Mr H L Newton.

## 1948

Couch grass slowly began to cover much of the oval despite twice being eaten away by plagues of grasshoppers during the summer. In May the annual sports day was held on the newly-turfed oval.

Red Cross knitting circle



1943

Mowing the oval



1944

Boys tennis



1945

Wattle Street Girls Hostel



# 1950s

Until the 1950s nearly all students were boarders. The few day students were generally the sons and daughters of teachers or from families living in the area. However, the student population began to change with the influx of immigrant and refugee families to Australia. Included in the enrolment of 158 in 1950 were students born in Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Ukraine. There was also a significant increase in the number of girls.

## 1950

A grey melange suit for best wear only was adopted as the uniform for boys up to Leaving level.

## 1952

A chess team participated for the first time in the Inter-School competitions. Concordia College defeated Norwood High in the challenge final.

## 1953

Seventy-one of the 85 girls were boarders and there were only seventeen day students.

The Peace Memorial Wing was opened and dedicated. It included a science classroom, a laboratory, general classrooms and a library.

When Dr H P A Hamann retired, continuing only as president of the seminary, Dr F J H Blaess was inducted as the new Concordia College headmaster.



Whole school photo



Dr F J H Blaess

1950

1951

1951

1953

First Concordia students from Queensland



Gymnastics



Girl Boarders



## SA in the 1950s

### 1951

The School of the Air begins broadcasting for children in isolated areas

Free milk distribution to school children is introduced

### 1952

Xerography (Photocopying) is perfected

### 1953

Forced removal of Aboriginal people from their traditional homelands at Maralinga

Tetanus injections introduced

### 1954

Yalata Aboriginal Reserve – managed by the Lutheran Church – is proclaimed

### 1955

'Black Sunday' bushfires in Adelaide Hills

Buses replace trams on the Duthy Street route

Adelaide Airport opens at West Beach

'Bodgies' and 'widgies' cause concern among parents of teenagers

### 1956

The City of Unley celebrates its 50th anniversary

A polio epidemic leads to more than 600 cases

## 1954

A severe earthquake shook Adelaide in the early hours of 1 March, waking sleeping students with a roaring noise and falling plaster. Most rooms were damaged and the chapel building suffered cracking.

Students lined Gouger Street to view the royal progress of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip when they visited Adelaide in March. Concordia students took part in one of the massed displays at the Wayville Showgrounds.

## 1956

The first-year class of 71 students included a girl from Koonibba.

Concordia College Parents and Friends Association was formally constituted at a meeting during General Synod.

## 1957

All students lined up for polio vaccinations as precautions were still considered very necessary.

Martin Freund was the SA Schools champion in gymnastics for the third year in a row.

## 1958

Concordia College began a new school year as a secondary school only, separate from the seminary. The new Concordia Seminary at the western end of the campus was formally dedicated.

A Leaving Honours class was established for the first time.

A Visiting Day was organised, with classrooms open for inspection, football matches for old collegians, and an evening concert before a packed audience in the gymnasium.

The Rev Elmore Leske accepted the call to become headmaster and was inducted at a special service in December. He was the first of the five heads from 1890 to 1959 to have been born in Australia.

1953

Students visit Port Lincoln



1954

Queen's visit



1956

Concordia cricket team



1957

Chess



# 1960s

*During these years the College was emerging as a secondary school independent from the Seminary. For the first time since the enrolment of girl students in 1927, all students were under the one administrative body, the Board of Management of Concordia College.*

*The curriculum was broadened for the first three year levels so that students were offered courses to suit individual abilities. Girls increasingly shared the same opportunities as the boys in a growing number of areas such as the production of the Brown and Gold and the use of the oval for sports practices.*

## 1960

A new uniform for girls was now in the college colours of brown and gold rather than navy blue.

Music appreciation classes were introduced for all students, and all those in first year learnt the recorder.

The first swimming carnival was held at the City Baths.

At the combined Schools Athletics meeting on Adelaide Oval, Ken Bartel won both the Junior and Senior 880 yards, an exceptional achievement.

## 1961

Enrolments continued to rise, with 127 girls and 126 boys.

## 1962

Anna Tan from Malaysia was the first Asian student to enrol as a boarding student at the college.

## 1963

Two students from Papua New Guinea were enrolled, another 'first'.

The Concordia Old Collegians Association was formed, replacing the Old Boys and Old Girls Associations.

Concordia students sat for public examinations in November at the college itself, and no longer at Centennial Hall.

The first 'Leavers Tea' was held, organised by COCA with the aim of interesting students in becoming members of the association.

## 1964

A television set for educational purposes was purchased by the Parents and Friends Association.

## 1965

The office of bell-ringer became obsolete when an automatic system was installed.

The new dining hall and domestic wing was officially opened and dedicated.

1960

Exams in the former Chapel



1963

Mothercraft



1964

A Hockey team



## SA in the 1960s

### 1960

First Adelaide Festival of Arts held in March

### 1961

Compulsory driving tests introduced

Sturt's Desert Pea declared as SA's official floral emblem

### 1963

School leaving age raised to 15 years

SA's population exceeds 1 million

### 1964.

One-third of Adelaide's population—around 300,000 people—welcome the Beatles to Adelaide along the route from Adelaide Airport to the city

### 1966

Flinders University of South Australia officially opens

Australia changes over to decimal currency

## 1966

Errol Noack, a former student, was the first Australian conscript to be killed in the Vietnam War.

The first interstate trip for sporting competitions and social activities with Luther College in Melbourne was organised.

## 1967

The new science block laboratories and two first-floor classrooms was opened and dedicated.

## 1968

The whole school travelled to Outer Harbour to farewell Pastor Elmore Leske and family as they embarked to sail to England where he became Principal of Westfield House, Cambridge.

Pastor Tom Reuther was installed as Concordia's sixth headmaster in August.



Leaving Honours class

1964

1965

1966

House Captains



Lunchtime



School bus



# 1970s

*There were several significant developments during the 1970s, with changes to both the community and the campus. Commonwealth Government grants enabled the college to proceed with building a much-needed library as well as a Mathematics Centre.*

*Although enrolments were steadily rising, boarder numbers were dwindling and the need for boarding facilities was changing.*

## 1970

The Georg Memorial Library was opened on 26 July, and in September Concordia's first Open Day was held.

## 1971

Student enrolments rose to 343.

## 1972

Forum replaced the prefect system with the aim of fostering communication between staff and students.

Restrictions on the length of boys' hair were relaxed.

## 1973

Concordia's own closed circuit TV studio was officially opened with a six-hour telecast.

The first Concordia Carnival was held.

Mr Peter Schmidt took the first steps to form a college orchestra.



Georg Memorial Library

1970



Prefects

1970

1970

1971

After a hockey game



A Basketball team



Prefects





1971 First XVIII Football

## 1975

The first Orientation Day was held for all Year 8 students and their parents.

The last Lutheran Teachers College students moved from the former seminary building to North Adelaide, and boy boarders moved from the original building (later known as the Hamann Wing) to the building vacated by LTC.

Staff and students presented performances of *Godspell* at the Scott Theatre.

## 1976

In a total enrolment of 420 students only 77 were boarders.

## 1977

The College purchased the Kingswood Hospital property in Cheltenham Street for use as a hostel for girls. One of the two buildings acquired (now number 59) was the original girls hostel from 1927 to 1944.

## 1978

Girls now boarded at the hostel in Cheltenham Street and ate meals in the college dining hall.

Boys no longer boarded at the Concordia campus.

## 1979

The new Mathematics Centre was officially opened and dedicated by the principal, the Rev Tom Reuther.

## SA in the 1970s

### 1970

The hairy-nosed or plain wombat is adopted as state's faunal emblem

### 1971

Age of majority reduced from 21 to 18

Daylight saving introduced in SA for the first time since World War II

Wearing of seat belts made compulsory

### 1974

Come Out, Australia's first youth arts festival, is launched in Adelaide

### 1975

Colour television transmitted

### 1977

Late night shopping begins in Adelaide city and suburbs

1973

Orchestral ensemble



1975

Godspell cast



1975

Matriculation Class



# 1980s

*Students from this decade have fond memories of the lively musicals performed to packed and appreciative audiences in the Scott Theatre. Others will remember that the close of the decade marked the end of a long-standing tradition of boarding for both boys and girls.*

## 1980

The History and Home Economics Centre was opened at the annual Art and Craft Exhibition in October. The Home Economics Centre was created by remodelling the kitchen and the ground floor rooms of the domestic block built during 1964 and 1965, and the History Centre was created from the first floor rooms of the domestic block.

## 1981

The musical *Can You Imagine?* was performed in the Scott Theatre with a cast of around 80 students. What made this production unique was that the script and much of the music was written by talented teachers Peter Schmidt and Peter Westhorp.

## 1982

The principal, the Rev Tom Reuther, accepted the call from the Lutheran Church of Australia to become the first National Director of Lutheran Schools.

John Zweck, a former Concordia student as well as a member of the teaching staff, accepted the call to become principal from the beginning of 1983. He was to become the first lay principal of Concordia.

## 1983

When devastating bushfires swept through the Adelaide Hills on Ash Wednesday 16 February, students living in that area were unable to reach home because of road closures. They were billeted for the night with college families.

Students and staff performed *The Mikado* in the Arts Theatre, and Peter Schmidt broke new ground with the formation of a twelve-piece orchestra.

## 1984

A network of computers was installed to enable students in Years 8 and 9 to study and practise computing skills.

The College Council resolved to name the whole of the remodelled teaching area the Hamann Wing in honour of this former headmaster and his distinguished service to Concordia College from 1926 to 1953, and after that to Concordia Seminary.

## 1986

Student enrolments reached 501.

The Klemzig Memorial Garden, site of the cemetery of the early Lutheran immigrants to SA, was officially opened. Concordia's choir, conducted by Peter Schmidt, played a prominent role.

1980

Year 8 Drama –  
*Noah's Deluge*



1981

*Can You Imagine?* cast



1984

Maths class



## SA in the 1980s

### 1980

The Slogan 'The Festival State' introduced for SA vehicle number plates

The Kiss rock group plays at the Adelaide Oval in November

### 1982

International air services commence through Adelaide Airport at West Beach

### 1983

Major 'Ash Wednesday' bushfires in South Australia and Victoria cause loss of 75 lives and destroy more than 2,500 buildings

### 1984

SA's Coat of Arms granted by Queen Elizabeth II; features State badge (with piping shrike) and crest (with Sturt's Desert Pea) above state colours (red, blue and gold). Replaces the Arms granted by King Edward VIII in 1936.

### 1985

First Australian Formula One Grand Prix held in Adelaide

### 1986

Jubilee celebrations commemorate 150th anniversary of European settlement in SA

## 1987

The three-house system with Brown, Gold and Blue was replaced with a new system of four houses – Malvern, Cheltenham, Winchester and Highgate.

At the end of the year the 62 year tradition of boarding for girls drew to a close when the last group of ten boarders, living in 57 and 59 Cheltenham Street, were given a farewell luncheon.

## 1988

When the house at 1 Winchester Street, used to house a small number of boys, was closed, it brought to an end a 98 year tradition of boarding which stretched back to Murtoa.

## 1989

Mr John Brew-Bevan was inducted as principal.

All 497 students were day students.



1989 Pastor Bob Kempe, Rev Dr E Leske, Rev T T Reuther and Mr John Brew-Bevan

1985

Debating team



1986

Choir at Klemzig



1988

Science competition winners



# 1990s

*At the beginning of the decade both past and present members of the whole college community attended celebrations and special events to mark Concordia's centenary.*

*The opening and dedication of the Chapel and Music Centre was undoubtedly the most significant.*

*The history of the College, Concordia – 100 Years, written by old collegian and former student and headmaster, the Rev Dr Elmore Leske, was launched at the Centenary Dinner and Ball in September.*

## 1990

A peer support programme was introduced. It aimed to help Year 8s settle into the school, to establish bonds between Year 8s and their Year 11 peer leaders, and to provide the senior students with valuable leadership training.

Bursar Nelson Zweck resigned after 29 years of outstanding service.

## 1991

An era drew to a close with the retirement of Ron Krieg after 40 years of service. Ron commenced as a student in 1941 and became a full time teacher of science and maths in 1953.

*Annie Get Your Gun* was performed in the Norwood Concert Hall.

## 1992

The first edition of *Concordia Community* was produced to provide information for the college community and to further develop bonds between the school and old collegians.

The inaugural Grandparents Day was attended by over 100 grandparents and friends of Year 8 students. They enjoyed poetry reading, public speaking, a concert and a tour around the College.

## 1994

When Concordia hosted the Tournament of Minds, more than 5000 parents, friends and supporters gathered on the campus.

## 1995

Ken Bartel, a former student and teacher at Concordia, was installed as principal.

School hats became compulsory for Terms 1 and 4.

For the first time, Concordia entered the Pedal Prix with two teams competing at the Adelaide International Raceway in Virginia.

The first ever combined St Johns and Concordia College fair, the 'Springfest Spectacular,' with many kinds of stalls and music playing all day, was a great success.

## 1996

Indonesian, the first ever Asian language at Concordia, was introduced at Year 8 level.

1991

Ron Krieg



1991

Technical studies



1994

Tournament Of Minds presentation ceremony



## SA in the 1990s

### 1990

Police introduce speed cameras

### 1991

University of South Australia established

The Adelaide Crows enter the AFL

Discrimination based on age made unlawful

### 1992

South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) introduced

The Heysen Trail, Australia's longest dedicated walking trail (1500km) is completed

One and two cent coins begin to be withdrawn from circulation

### 1995

Maralinga people resettle on traditional land; Oak Valley Community established

### 1996

Yalata Reserve proclaimed an Indigenous Protected Area

### 1997

Southern Expressway opened

Port Power enters the AFL

### 1998

John Martin's department store closes

### 1999

First Adelaide Festival of Ideas

First Clipsal 500 Adelaide

## 1997

The year began with a record enrolment of 522 students.

## 1998

Concordia was once again the top school fundraiser for World Vision's 40 Hour Famine.

Since 1991 more than \$50,000 had been raised.

## 1999

Four hundred parents, students and friends witnessed the opening and dedication of the Sports and Recreation Centre. This long-awaited project had been a dream of the College community for many years and gave a boost to the sports program.



1999 Staff

1995

Home Economics



1995

Installation of Ken Bartel as principal



1996

Science



# 2000s

*During the last 15 years there has been a growing emphasis on the integration of information and communication technologies in teaching and learning across all areas of the curriculum. Other significant developments have been the restructuring of the College to form a Middle School and a Senior School and a growing collaboration with St John's Lutheran Primary School.*

*Learning continues to expand beyond the classroom with camps, retreats, many different service learning ventures and the growth of student exchange programs.*

## 2000

Virtually every room in the school was 'wired' to become part of a new computer network infrastructure. Concordia's first website and intranet were launched.

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme was adopted as the curriculum framework for the Middle School.

Thirteen students took part in a trip to Indonesia, another 'first' for Concordia.

## 2001

After 76 years of the Brown and Gold, the annual College magazine was renamed Review.

The former gymnasium, opened in 1926, was transformed into a Drama Centre with seating.

Once again Concordia dominated the SA Young Film Makers Festival. Twenty of the 40 entries received awards.

Land was purchased from Julia Farr Services.

## 2002

Principal Ken Bartel was farewelled in a valedictory service on 11 April.

## 2003

The year opened with a new principal – Julian Denholm.

The newly developed oval and eight tennis courts were opened during the annual Twilight Tea in March.

The chapel stained glass windows, designed by artist-in-residence Ms Jan Aspinall together with Middle School students, were dedicated in October.

## 2005

Concordia's Centenary at Malvern was celebrated with many different events. The culmination involved the transformation of the quadrangle into a grand ballroom. Over 300 people enjoyed a three-course dinner and danced the night away.

Concordia welcomed the first Year 7 students.

A combined Council with St John's Lutheran Primary School was a significant step.

## 2006

Lester Saegenschneider was inducted as principal.

Yangadlitya, the new resource centre was opened after several years of planning.

2003

Introduction of tablet computers



2003

Making stained glass windows for the Chapel



2005

Principal Julian Denholm



## SA in the 2000s

### 2000

Adelaide-Crafers Highway opened

### 2004

Port Power wins its first AFL premiership

The first Ghan passenger train from Adelaide to Darwin sets off on its three-day journey

### 2006

Microsoft releases the Xbox 360 games console in Australia

Water restrictions introduced because of severe drought conditions

### 2008

In March Adelaide experiences a national record heat wave for an Australian capital city, recording over ten straight days of temperatures over 35 degrees

### 2010

The Max Fatchen Expressway, previously known as the Northern Expressway, is opened

A tornado hits the town of Penola

### 2012

Completion of desalination plant at Lonsdale

### 2015

In January bushfires in the Adelaide Hills and the outer Adelaide metropolitan area destroy 32 houses

Concordia students participated in the Kalahari Experience for the first time, with the primary aim of preparing Year 12 students in the Moshaweng Valley for their final exams.

The former quarter for nurses was purchased from Julia Farr Services and was renamed Highgate Lodge to become a boarding facility for international tertiary students.

## 2009

On the first service trip to the bushfire devastated Flowerdale in Victoria our students donated musical instruments and assisted with revegetation by planting trees and gardening.

## 2010

Murtoa building was dedicated and opened. This purpose-built facility for middle schooling, media and music in an ICT – rich environment was Concordia's largest ever building project.

The funeral of Dr Adrienne Jericho was held at Concordia College on 7 September. He was the Executive Director of Lutheran Education Australia for 16 years and an old collegian from the class of 1960.

The Concert Band and the Big Band

combined to tour a variety of venues in Malaysia. They were accompanied by singer/song writer and old collegian Georgia Germein.

## 2011

The year began with more than 800 students, a record enrolment.

## 2012

The Mathematics Centre was refurbished to provide a study centre for Senior Students, and was renamed The Atrium.

The inaugural Football Outreach Vanuatu was a great success. Besides donating footballs and boots, students established goal posts and began developing an oval.

## 2015

The musical *Godspell* was produced for the third time.

A Heritage Trail of 14 plaques highlighting significant buildings and milestones in the history of the College was dedicated on 3 March.

2005

First Year 7 class



2006

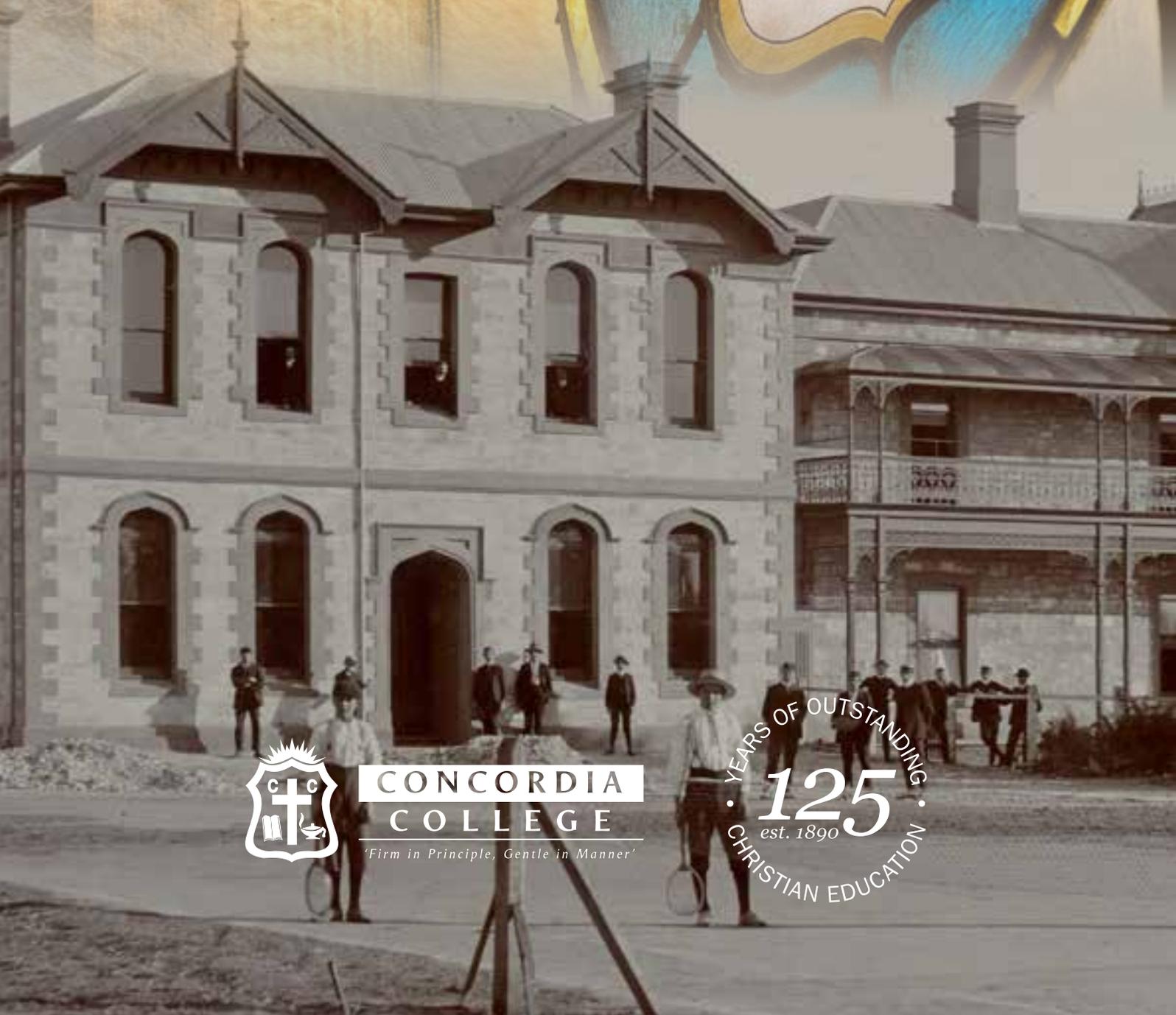
Installation of Principal Lester Saegenschnitter



2006

First trip to Kalahari





**CONCORDIA  
COLLEGE**

*'Firm in Principle, Gentle in Manner'*

• YEARS OF OUTSTANDING •  
**125**  
est. 1890  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION •