

Community

Spring 2023 | Issue 77

extraordinary

    ConcordiaCollegeAdelaide  OldConcordiansAssociation



CONCORDIA
COLLEGE





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LAUNCHPAD



2023



A showcase of student
creativity and learning.



Thursday
16 November

All Welcome



你好!



Fortiter

ELC - Year 12 Gymnasium



extraordinary

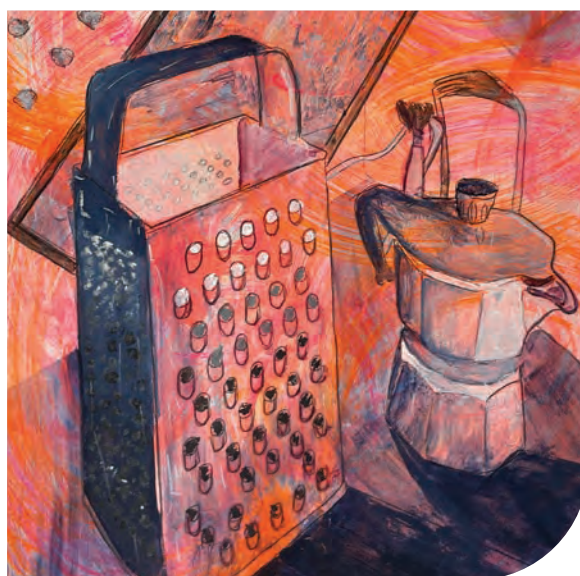


Contents

- 01 From the Head of College
- 03 Principals' Report
- 05 Ministry
- 06 Enrichment and Extended Learning
- 07 Student Learning
- 09 New Building Opening Celebration
- 11 Book Week
- 13 ELC and Primary School Highlights
- 17 Middle School Highlights
- 21 Senior School Highlights
- 27 Service Learning
- 28 Sports Highlights
- 29 Music Highlights
- 31 Community Events
- 33 Staff Profiles
- 36 Heritage Centre
- 37 Old Concordians' Association



Scarlett (Year 9) - 'Passing Time'



Luca (Year 9) - 'Sub Optimal'

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SUBMISSIONS

To make a submission in the next edition please forward details to community@concordia.sa.edu.au

Community is published biannually in Autumn and Spring.

The reverse side of the mailing sheet can be used for changes of address and opportunities to be involved in the College.

COVER PICTURE

Stage 1 Chemistry student Victoria performing an acid-base titration experiment.

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From the Head of College

Concordia College Master Plan Building Program: A Beacon of Contemporary Education

Concordia College - always endeavouring to be at the forefront of educational innovation - will soon mark the completion of its Master Plan Building Program. A journey inspired by educational research, focusing on flexible learning spaces and student voice, has now culminated in an environment that fosters academic excellence and ensures the development of values-driven and compassionate individuals.

A New Chapter

The journey started with unveiling Ngarturna Trruku, our stunning new Early Learning Centre (ELC), designed to inspire our youngest learners. The attention to detail in our ELC reflects the commitment to creating environments where every child is known, cared for and equipped for the journey.

The rebuilding and refurbishment of St John's Campus classrooms followed, enhancing the learning experiences for all students at the campus. Known affectionately as The Treehouse, the new middle and senior primary classroom building stimulates curiosity and creativity, shaping students who are better at life and empowered to face the challenges of the modern world.



Spaces for Growth

Wirrkuta (the Kurna name for activity) Trruku is a multifunctional activity and worship centre, which will become the spiritual centre of St John's Campus, providing a space where faith and community come together. Here, students learn to be relational and compassionate, embracing the values that are at the core of Concordia College.

Fortiter, our new state-of-the-art ELC-12 Gymnasium, symbolises strength and perseverance. It is more than a venue for physical activities; it is a symbol of the values we hold dear at Concordia College.

Library Refurbishments: Knowledge Meets Innovation

The rebuilding and significant refurbishment of all three campus libraries have transformed them into hubs of information and collaboration. These spaces foster a love for learning, equipping students with the tools to explore the world beyond textbooks. The increased patronage of these library spaces is a testament to the importance of having students directly involved in the design process.

Unique and Authentic Learning Experiences

Concordia can rightly claim to provide a unique and authentic educational journey. Through our building program, we have redefined what it means to be a student at Concordia College. Every child who passes through our gates can expect to emerge better equipped for life, with a Christian values-driven approach that will guide them.

Our College is more than a place of learning; it is a community where students and incredible opportunities connect. A consistent theme for the building program was providing spaces where students and staff could collaborate and learn.



Looking Forward

As we complete one Master Plan, our attention has already turned to the next. This planning will be a few years in the making. We are consolidating our developments to ensure the facilities we have so thoughtfully conceived house learning activities that align with our new strategic plan, which is firmly focused on maximum engagement of students. During the interim, the attention will be on upgrading learning spaces across the College, focusing on our St Peters Campus.

A Time to Celebrate

With heartfelt gratitude, we thank God for the blessings He has brought to the Concordia College community through our building development, which is clearly designed to enhance student outcomes.

We also thank all those who joined us on Friday 15 September as we celebrated the culmination of this transformative building program - a joyful reflection of our shared achievements as we look forward to a bright future.

Paul Weinert

Head of College



Connecting • Empowering • Challenging
Learners Learners Learners

Principals' Report

The new strategic plan has given the College an inspirational framework that ensures our students are at the very heart of all that we do at Concordia. As the strategic intents are realised, we are seeing the three pillars of **connecting**, **challenging** and **empowering** learners in action across the three campuses.

Connection across the College is a priority and we are using every opportunity to connect our learners. The recent cross-campus Reception Inquiry Day involved the St John's Reception classes visiting the St Peters Campus to explore art and nature. The students naturally formed connections with each other and the new environment. The Primary School Sports Day earlier this year, involving all Primary students and the House Leaders from the Senior School, was a wonderful example of meaningful connection as the students competed for their respective Houses in mixed teams. The inaugural Band Program in the Primary School has been a creative way for the Year 4s across

the College to connect with the Arts curriculum and to learn more about music through instrumental lessons. Both Primary campuses have also had the wonderful opportunity of having the Student Leaders deliver Chapel services.

In addition, we look to connect learners to their learning by applying the learning in real-life situations and connecting students to others outside the College. Significant points of connection have included:

- + Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) and those in the wider community and abroad that are in need through Walk My Way
- + Living Choice Retirement Village residents through music concerts at the College and at Living Choice
- + Week-long trips to Canberra for our Year 6 students, significantly impacting their relationships and their connection to the structures and important places of Government in our country's capital.

Aside from the **challenging** nature of the curriculum posed by teachers of all subjects within classrooms each day, the following are examples of opportunities that have been offered this year for students to challenge themselves externally, against students from schools across South Australia or nationally:

- + Interschool sports program
- + 'Have-A-Go junior primary sports programs
- + Sapsasa involvement for upper primary students
- + Participation in the Australian Band and Orchestra Directors' Association (ABODA) music competition
- + Interschool chess competition
- + Interschool debating competition
- + Australian Mathematics Competition
- + Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) Chemical Titration Competition
- + SA Young Theatremakers' Award
- + Sailing competitions
- + Pedal Prix
- + Generations in Jazz
- + SA Teen Parliament
- + Unley Council 'Fish Tank' entrepreneurial competition
- + da Vinci Decathlon
- + Rostrum Voice of Youth competition
- + Ethics Olympiad
- + Australian Brain Bee Challenge

Students across the College are given a voice to support outcomes that reflect their experiences and context, **empowering** them to make a difference. This is experienced in weekly Student Representative Council meetings, Student Forums and whole-school meetings that give our students the opportunity to discuss ways to improve school life and make the College a better place. Regular surveys relating to school life - including curriculum reviews and significant events - also help to empower our students to become partners in their learning, giving them a sense of control and ownership.

Michael Paech

Principal – St John's Campus

Bronwyn Wilson

Principal – St Peters Campus

Dennis Mulherin

Principal – Concordia Campus



Ministry

Our relationships with other people may well be the most valuable things we have in this life. We are all born into a family and raised by people who have a special relationship with us. From here, we develop further relationships with extended family, friends, neighbours and classmates or colleagues.

There is also the possibility that we will meet one special person with whom we will have a unique and exclusive relationship through marriage. From this partnership of incredible trust, connection, reliance and intimacy, we can even bring another person – and another relationship – into the world, with the birth of a child. Becoming a parent is one of the most wonderful things a person can experience, and it also begins the cycle again as another person starts to form those first, special relationships.

In Scripture, God reveals to us that although we 'have' these relationships, they are not actually something we *possess*. Rather, all of our relationships are a *gift* from God, including our primary relationship, the relationship we have

with God through Jesus. It is *God's* gifts of love, forgiveness, kindness, generosity, patience, goodness and faithfulness towards us that are to shape our lives, so that we, in turn, become a blessing to others in our relationships with them, reflecting these same divine virtues.

Lutheran Education Australia has its own lifelong values for living in community, which are shared by all schools across our system. These include:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| + Love | + Humility |
| + Justice | + Courage |
| + Compassion | + Hope |
| + Forgiveness | + Excellence |
| + Service | + Appreciation |

We hope and pray that God continues to reveal the great blessing it is to be connected in so many wonderful ways to the people around us. We also ask that his Spirit will daily cultivate in us his divine virtues, so that we are a blessing to the people he has placed in our lives.

Dale Gosden
College Pastor

Thank you

Farewell Pastor Andrew Brook



With both sadness and gratitude, we bid farewell to Pastor Andrew Brook in Term 3. Andrew served as pastor at St John's Lutheran Church in Unley for the last six and a half years and was recently called to the position of Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Australia's SA/NT District. During his time in our community, Pastor Andrew's kindness, sensitivity, care, authenticity, pastoral heart and spiritual leadership were greatly appreciated. In a ministry capacity, Andrew was involved in the spiritual life of staff and students, particularly at the St John's Campus,

through leading devotions and Chapel services. He also helped to steer the direction of our school as a consultant to the College Board, promoting the importance of the Christian faith at Concordia.

We give thanks to God for Andrew and for the wonderful service he offered to our school during his time at St John's. We look forward to seeing him in a different role in the future and hope he can remain connected with our community as he serves the wider church.

Enrichment and Extended Learning

Celebrating 10 years of Academy Learning conferences at Concordia College

In 2023, we celebrated 10 years of hosting Junior and Senior Academy Learning conferences as part of our commitment to high-quality academic enrichment and extension opportunities. These world-class “thinking days” for highly able students stimulate thought beyond the constraints of the curriculum. They are facilitated by Julie Arliss - a well-known international educator of gifted students. Julie is on the examining team for Cambridge International Examinations and is a Farmington Scholar from the University of Oxford. This year, over 300 students and staff from Concordia and other schools explored topics including:

- + Epistemology
- + The Science of Happiness
- + Social Physics - the relationship between Big Data and AI and Nanoscience.

Both conferences offered an incredible day of learning for our students – big ideas for curious minds!



More Extraordinary Extension Opportunities

While there are too many extraordinary extension opportunities to list exhaustively, here are some of the recent experiences from Terms 2 and 3:

- + Our team of 12 students from Years 9 to 11 received Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards in Round 1 of The Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO)
- + Year 8 student Lily competed in the State Final of the Legacy Public Speaking competition
- + Year 7 student Rory placed second in the City of Unley's Fish Tank entrepreneurial competition
- + Two teams represented Concordia at the Senior Ethics Olympiad, receiving Honourable Mentions.

Emma Rieger

Enrichment and Extended Learning



Student Learning

Our core purpose at Concordia is to support our young people to be prepared for life, both now and into the future. As adults, we know that life is changing and adapting at a rate we have never experienced before, with many factors changing the way we work, learn and interact. Our students are experiencing this as well.

What does this mean for our young people at Concordia College?

As an ELC to 12 College, we are uniquely placed to support every young person to develop the specific skills and dispositions that we believe will 'prepare them for life', whatever their future may look like.



Collaboration and Communication

As a College with over 1,400 students and 250 staff spread across three campuses, the opportunities for our students to develop collaboration and communication skills is unlimited. In many ways, Concordia reflects a contemporary workplace. In all dimensions of school life, a Concordia student is constantly in connection with others, developing these important skills.

Emotional Intelligence

We also recognise that collaborating, learning and communicating with people can be challenging at times, especially emotionally. To build emotional intelligence, we explicitly teach the brain science behind emotions and the signs of emotional dysregulation. This approach is consistently applied across the early and middle years. It provides students with the understanding, language and strategies to support their own emotional intelligence – a much-needed skill for learning and for their futures.

Creativity and Entrepreneurship

Whether to effect social change, solve a problem or generate an income, the capacity for our students to be able to turn an idea into reality is critical. After all, this is something that machines and artificial intelligence cannot do – think creatively! Through our International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes – particularly the Year 6 Exhibition and Year 10 Personal Project – students take a ‘deep dive’ into a personal area of passion. They are empowered to further develop and use their creativity to devise a product or solution that has personal meaning and benefits others. These opportunities are expanded through our Senior School, where many of our subjects are deliberately centred around the application of creativity and entrepreneurial skills within the contexts of industry and wider community groups.



Leadership

At Concordia, we believe that leadership is an act of service. The community service heart of the College means that every student has the responsibility to develop and apply their leadership skills in supporting and bringing out the best in others. Whether it is supporting the transition of new students, having Old Concordians return to coach and mentor current students, or leading initiatives that positively impact the lives of others, we are developing leaders who lead with their hearts.

The development of these skills is essential to enable every learner at Concordia to be challenged, connected and empowered. We are strongly committed to continue this course of action and focus, and I personally look forward to strengthening our learning community in my new role as Principal at our St John's Campus from 2024.

Paul Bannister

Director of Learning and Innovation



new building opening *Celebration*

Our Opening Celebration was a true spectacle. It was a momentous occasion that brought our community together across three campuses to celebrate a remarkable achievement. The event recognised a culmination of hard work and vision for our extraordinary future. Fortiter (ELC to Year 12 Gymnasium) and Wirrkuta Trrukku (St John's Campus Activity Hall) were officially opened by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, with more than 1,200 attendees. This was followed by hours of entertainment with music by Concordia students, amusements, food trucks and the excitement of wandering through our new buildings. The joy, laughter and coming together was a true reflection of our community's spirit. We sincerely appreciate the many staff and volunteers who dedicated countless hours to bring this event to life.



extraordinary





There are many to acknowledge who made these buildings possible. Thank you to Brown Falconer, Sarah Constructions, Rider Levitt Bucknall, Wax Design, Proprius Advisory and the City of Unley. Additionally, funding by Lutheran Laypeople's League (LLL) and South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA) loans ensured we were able to complete the builds in a timely manner to cater for our students ELC to Year 12 and broader community.

To our incredible philanthropic donors across all of our new buildings and the continued support of Lutheran Education SA, NT and WA (LESNW) – we thank you. Our Finance and Property Committees show such capability and strategy which is exemplary. So many people have ensured these magnificent buildings are now open for learning, joy and boundless possibilities.

Jodie Escott

Director of Community Relations

Book Week

Book Week 2023 was full of festivities related to reading and the theme of 'Read Grow Inspire' provided a perfect platform for reflecting on the importance of reading for life, learning and leisure.

Activities varied at each campus, with a range of opportunities to celebrate Book Week including:

- + Lunchtime craft activities, enabling students to 'grow' by learning a new skill such as Kalocsai embroidery
- + A Book Fair for students to browse and purchase new books
- + An informal Book Buffet discussion (similar to a Book Club) complete with hot chocolates and marshmallows
- + Book Tasting sessions
- + An author visit from best-selling children's author Katrina Germein
- + Dress-up days and Book Week parades at our Primary School campuses.

Deborah Abela,
Author-in-Residence

With Book Week completed, we turned the page and began a new week with our Author-in-Residence, Deborah Abela, joining us to work with students across three campuses. Deborah had a wealth of knowledge and strategies to share with students, assisting with their creative writing. To have her working with us for a week was an extraordinary opportunity!

Inspired by the 2023 Book Week theme, we asked several students how reading has shaped them, providing a source of growth and inspiration.



Paolo – Year 2

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I love reading chapter books like 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' and 'Hotdog'. They are longer so they entertain me more.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + Reading helps me with my writing. When I write it is good to get words right.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + A book about Dylan Alcott because it's about a tennis player and I like to play tennis. It talks about tennis skills and I want to get better at playing tennis.



Tilly – Year 5

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I like fantasy and adventure ones because they are more interesting than other genres. I really like the 'Wings of Fire' series.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + When I write stories, I think of more interesting words to use in my writing. This makes my writing more interesting to read. I am currently writing a story mixed with 'The Inheritance' series and other books.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + I was inspired by the 'Wings of Fire' series because I wanted to read to the very end, to find out what happened. The book 'Sunny Rolls the Dice' has inspired me to write a book like that, which I am still in the process of doing.



Deborah Abela



Katrina Germein



Mila – Year 7

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I love reading fantasy and a little bit of romance.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + It's teaching me lessons and showing me what different emotions can feel like.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + 'Something a Little Different' is a book that has inspired me by showing me different points of view of characters and how their thoughts affect the plot.



Elise – Year 3

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I like Imagination Station, Jetty Jumping and Clementine Rose. Clementine Rose goes on adventures and she has an Aunt Violet who is an interesting character.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + Reading helps you learn about life. There are a lot of life lessons in books.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + I liked meeting Deb Abela when she visited our school. She inspired me to read her books because they are interesting. I got her book 'The Book of Wondrous Possibilities' for my birthday and am looking forward to reading it.



William – Year 5

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I like reading action-packed books, war novels and war diaries. I read books from the Mature Reader's section because they have twists and turns and are themes and topics I'm interested in.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + Reading helps you to learn new vocabulary and words and things that have happened in the past.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + Books that inspire me are books about the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC). They have famous war heroes in them and have impacted my reading interests.



Terenzo – Year 11

What kinds of books do you love to read?

- + I am a big fan of sci-fi and fantasy.

How has reading helped you to grow?

- + Reading expands your vocabulary and gives you stories in a format that you can't find anywhere else.

What book has inspired you the most and why?

- + 'Catcher in the Rye' inspired me to never write a story like that! I use 'The Hobbit' all the time for inspiration.

ELC and Primary School Highlights

Year 5 Adventure Camp

To begin Term 2, the St John's Campus Year 5 students headed off on their Adventure Camp at Mylor in the Adelaide Hills. Through a series of fun yet challenging activities they developed their thinking, social, self-management and communication skills... and had a wonderful time! The action-packed program included canoeing, raft-making, archery, bridge building, the flying fox and a low ropes course. It was fantastic to see students building friendships while learning new skills – a sensational start to the term.



Year 6 Canberra Trip

Following in the footsteps of our St Peter's Campus Year 5/6 students, who returned from their Canberra Trip late in Term 1, our St John's Campus Year 6s made a similar journey to our nation's capital in Term 2, exploring Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. Standout experiences included role-playing the passing of a bill in the House of Representatives at Parliament House, observing future champion athletes training at the Australian Institute of Sport and pressing their own coins at the Royal Australian Mint. With so much to do and see, the trip was a wonderfully worthwhile whirlwind tour which enriched students' inquiry into 'How We Organise Ourselves'.





Restless Dance Theatre

St John's Campus Year 4 students had an opportunity to learn from two expert facilitators from Restless Dance Theatre, Larissa McGowan and Old Concordian Zoe Gay (2014), who led a workshop in Term 2 designed to help students devise movement. Students engaged in choreographic devices, creative body-based movement and imagery techniques, learning to express themselves physically with motion and sharing their creativity with their peers.



Musical Inspiration

High-energy music, engaging props and interactive tunes had students mesmerised when the JAM (Just Add Music) band visited St Peters Campus. Playing a blend of old classics and current hits, they captured our students' attention and had them dancing, clapping and singing along. At St John's Campus, a visit from Kaboom Percussion produced a similar result, with performers Nathan and Laura using a range of objects to create catchy beats in an entertaining and interactive drumming show. Both occasions were opportunities for students to be inspired musically by talented musicians and we thank both groups for visiting.





St Peters Campus Little Saints Transition Programme

At the end of Term 2, our Little Saints – a group of St Peters Campus ELC students entering Reception mid-year – completed their transition programme with an award ceremony in the Reception classroom. The programme gave children a fantastic firsthand taste of school life through involvement in learning activities, practising of fine motor skills, playing games and hearing stories. The students also had the opportunity to join the Receptions for their morning break time, learning to navigate the outdoor play space and exploring their surroundings. We wish these new Receptions and their classmates all the very best for their school journey!



SAPOL visits our ELC

St John's Campus ELC students had an unforgettable visit from SAPOL in Term 3, with an array of police vehicles parked on the College Oval. A group of police officers imparted important information, focusing on safely crossing roads and the significance of the emergency phone number (000). The children were excited to have the opportunity to sit on police motorbikes and inside patrol cars, with the lights and sirens a particular highlight of the visit! They also loved meeting two friendly police dogs named Zeus and Reggie.



Sharing the Planet Inquiry

Provocation boxes from Nature Ed filled with items to see, touch and explore gave our Year 1 and 2 students at St Peters Campus a perfect introduction to their 'Sharing the Planet' unit of inquiry, sparking curiosity and prompting insightful questions. When Animals Anonymous visited, they brought cute and cuddly creatures for a memorable hands-on learning experience. Seeing some amazing animals up close, students learned about animal needs, behaviours, adaptations and habitats - a memorable reminder of our shared responsibility to respect and care for living creatures. Later, students explored the impacts of plastic pollution and went on a virtual reality journey to explore the Great Barrier Reef and Daintree Rainforest, which inspired ideas for sustainable alternatives to plastic.

St John's Campus ELC Teddy Bear's Picnic

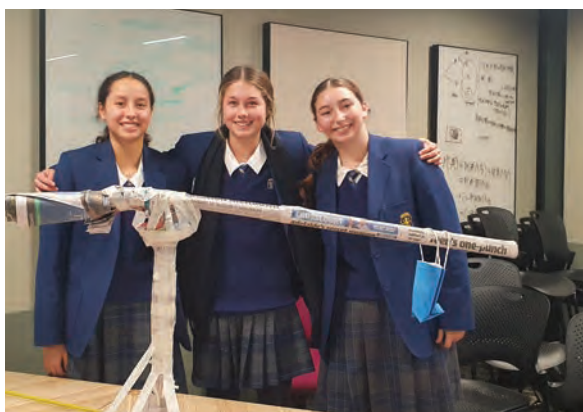
The sun was shining and spring was well and truly in the air as our three-year-old children from the St John's Campus ELC enjoyed a walk across the Oval to the Concordia Campus Memorial Garden for a special Teddy Bear's Picnic event in Term 3. There were books, games, food - some of which had been made by students and educators the day before - and, of course, teddy bears aplenty. It was a lovely way for the children to see the Middle and Senior School campus in a relaxed environment and we look forward to more opportunities for our youngest learners to experience some of the amazing spaces at the 'big school'.



Middle School Highlights

Young Women in STEM

A group of Year 10 girls attended the Young Women in STEM event at the University of Adelaide, applying their problem solving, communication and collaboration skills to a variety of activities. In a challenge set by the Engineering department called Cantilevers in Action, they built cranes to set specifications and tested their load capacity. They also learned about robotics and created a structure to free a Mars rover that was stuck in a crater. A third challenge involved assembling a DC motor with copper wire, a magnet and a battery. Additionally, the event provided a wonderful opportunity to hear from women in STEM fields. This was a valuable source of inspiration for our students who may be considering future career pathways in this exciting industry.



Capabilities in Action Exhibition

This year, our Year 10 Exhibition was the culmination of both the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme Personal Project and the students' journey through their SACE Stage 1 Exploring Identities and Futures studies. Across Terms 1 and 2, students explored their own connections and passions to identify a project of personal interest. The Exhibition of their work, titled 'Capabilities in Action' saw surfboards, skim boards, sustainable fashion, sushi, soccer goals, skate ramps, songs and more on display – a testament to the variety of student interests represented and to the hard work, commitment and creativity of our students.





Backflips Against Bullying

As part of their Pastoral Care program, our Year 7s and 8s witnessed a daring display exploring bullying behaviours taught through parkour and flips. The presentation by visiting presenters from Action Education covered topics such as power dynamics and resilience, cyberbullying and the consequences of such negative behaviours in the real world - a valuable learning opportunity presented in a highly engaging way.



Year 8 Normanville Camp

Normanville was the location of this year's annual camp for our Year 8s. The program was packed with activities such as hiking, kayaking, snorkelling and team-building challenges. The students visited other stunning Fleurieu Peninsula locations from their base in Normanville, including Second Valley and Deep Creek Conservation Park. They also had the opportunity to cook their own food on Trangia stoves and sleep in tents while learning about the local environment and wildlife. Following their time away, Year 8 student Adele commented,

"Overall, the Year 8 Camp was an unforgettable experience. It was so much fun, and I learned a lot too. I am grateful to the teachers who organised it and made it possible. I can't wait for our next adventure!"



Year 9 Concordia - The Rite Journey: The Adventure Camp

After a 6am Departure Ceremony, with gratitude letters exchanged and TRJ2023 beanies presented, The Adventure began as our Year 9s headed for the Flinders Ranges, a pivotal experience within the Concordia - The Rite Journey Pastoral Care program. Personal growth and the forging of friendships were witnessed by staff across the four-day camp as students worked together to face challenges in a supportive environment. While trying new things and seeing some sensational scenery, the boys' and girls' camps both focused on how working through challenges helps form identity, resilience and (when experienced together) community. The Adventure Camp was simultaneously formative, fun and full of lessons and memories that students will carry with them into the future.





Year 10 Service Activities

Serving others in response to the love of God is one of our College values and it was wonderful to see two of our Year 10 classes immersing themselves in activities to help others in Term 3. One class began turning over the Concordia Community Garden to prepare for seasonal planting. They then worked with Old Concordians to learn more about maintaining the garden. Meanwhile, another class completed a range of tasks such as weeding, lawn mowing, cleaning equipment, washing cars and creating centrepieces for an awareness event for non-profit organisation 'Puddle Jumpers'. Well done to all involved!



Senior School Highlights

Year 12 Formal

Friday 14 April - InterContinental Adelaide

The 2023 Year 12 Formal was both a rite of passage and an extraordinary night of celebration for our students as they completed the first term of their final year at Concordia. Immaculately dressed and conducting themselves with class and sophistication, our students enjoyed their dinner and danced the night away - an unforgettable milestone event for the Class of 2023.



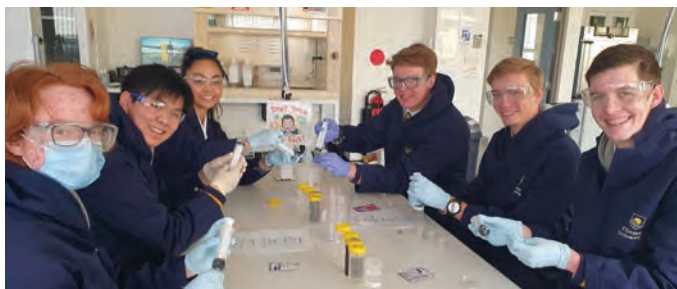




Year 12 Analytical Chemistry and Titration Competition

Our Stage 2 Chemistry students travelled to Flinders University in Term 2 for an Analytical Chemistry workshop. To complement their studies on how complex mixtures can be separated using chromatography, the excursion connected theory with practical application. Students saw how to separate the components of Kool-Aid using column chromatography. They also discovered how to separate and combine the ingredients that make the 'glow' in glow sticks. Their final investigation looked at some of the chemical components of wine using a gas chromatogram and they witnessed a demonstration of the applications of atomic absorption spectroscopy. Later in the term, students had the opportunity to participate in the National Titration Competition, honing the precision of their practical skills to try to achieve the best possible titration.

Two of our teams had a combined error of less than two percent in the school phase, which saw them progress to the State round at the University of South Australia. Both teams performed well and one advanced to the National competition. At this stage they were classed as an 'Excellent Team' with a combined error of less than one percent, and they finished the competition ranked in the top 10 in the nation.



Year 11 'Steps to Success Day'

The 'Steps to Success Day' is designed to help Year 11 students navigate their first year of Senior School, supporting them to learn to study effectively while leading a balanced life. Sam Ghamrawi from Sekseed Projects presented sessions on setting up for success, organisation and time management. Several Old Concordians spoke about their experiences in the Senior School and the pathways they have taken since finishing at Concordia, offering their tips for success. The afternoon saw students taking a change of pace, engaging in relaxing activities such as walking and mindful colouring, or participating in volleyball, cooking and karaoke. Overall, the day presented a wonderful chance for students to learn new study strategies, switch off from their daily routine, try new activities and relax with their peers.

Legal Studies Learning Opportunities

A group of 13 Year 12 Legal Studies students spent a portion of their autumn holiday break on an educational tour of Canberra, learning about Australia's legal system, history, culture, heritage and democracy. Visits to sites such as Parliament House, the National Gallery, Old Parliament House and the High Court of Australia were particularly beneficial, relating to three topics within their SACE course: Sources of Law, Dispute Resolution and the Constitution. In addition to this trip, our students have had a range of other engaging learning opportunities, including attending a Just Lawful podcast presentation at the University of Adelaide, hearing from numerous guest speakers and competing in the SA Law Society Mock Trial Competition.

The Concordia College Law and Justice Society's annual Themis Dinner returned after a pandemic-induced hiatus, with over 75 students, Old Concordians and guests from the legal profession attending. Tania Leiman, Professor and Dean of Law at Flinders University, presented the keynote speech 'Facing the Future, What's law got to do with it?'. The question time that followed proved very helpful for students considering a Law pathway.



Concordia Students Study at Top UK Universities

Leading into the three-week mid-year break, we congratulated and farewelled Year 11 students Sienna and Macy, who were heading to England to study two-week courses in areas of interest at two leading universities:

- + Sienna attended the University of Cambridge to study 'Medicine and the Brain', focusing on the speciality of neuroscience while learning about cognitive psychology, neuroanatomy and clinical methods and practices.
- + Macy attended a residential course in Film Studies at the University of Oxford, exploring film theory, film history, screenwriting, practical filmmaking and editing.



Science Week

The 2023 National Science Week theme of 'Innovation: Powering Future Industries' was expansive and engaging, prompting students to consider how creativity and innovation in the sciences have shaped our present and will continue to shape the future. During the week, Stage 1 students ran Showcase lessons for Year 7 and Year 8 students, sharing their learning in Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Psychology. Many of the Showcase exhibits were interactive, while others provided interesting information and demonstrations. It was wonderful to see the Year 11 students developing their leadership skills by becoming the teachers and communicating their knowledge to their Middle School counterparts through these lessons.

A special lunchtime session also provided interested students with an opportunity to hear from Old Concordian Dr Lauren Thurgood (2000), who lectures in medicine and public health and works as a research associate in molecular medicine and genetics at Flinders University. For those starting to explore possible pathways into the medical field, this was an invaluable experience!

Reflecting on this year's theme, Dr Catherine O'Halloran (Science Coordinator) said,

"National Science Week's theme of 'Innovation: Powering Future Industries' resonates deeply with our educational journey at Concordia. It underscores the profound role that creativity and innovative thinking play in shaping our world. Fostering these qualities isn't just about amassing facts, but about cultivating the ability to navigate the uncharted waters of progress with ingenuity and imagination."

Service Learning

At Concordia College, we partner with two Lutheran Church service agencies, Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) and Lutheran Care.

In Term 1, over 60 Year 7 to 12 students were willing walkers for the ALWS Walk My Way challenge, travelling 19km from Bridgewater to Beaumont on the Pioneer Women's Trail. Students raised approximately \$18,000 to assist with the Türkiye earthquake appeal - an extraordinary effort!

Our Term 2 focus turned more local, supporting Lutheran Care's winter appeal for people doing it tough in South Australia. We held our 'Wear Winter Woollies' day with students donating an item of warm clothing or a blanket. Many items were donated as students rugged up in their winter woolly outfits and the Middle and Senior School students enjoyed a sausage sizzle, raising over \$2,500.

We were pleased to support the Red Shield Appeal again in Term 3. Middle and Senior School students were invited to seek sponsorships and sleep rough in their backyards for a night. For every \$500 raised, a staff member was doused with icy water. A friendly competition between the Middle and Senior School Student Leaders also saw the senior leaders on the receiving end. St John's Campus students enjoyed a Pyjama Day with gold coin donations adding to our fundraising. We raised approximately \$10,000 towards this cause.

These events are strongly supported by members of the College community and we are grateful for the generosity and kindness of all. Thank you to everyone involved.

Mark Rathjen

College Chaplain





Sports Highlights

From a basketball premiership to an athletics championship and some outstanding results from our netball teams, we have enjoyed many sporting highlights in recent months.

- + Our Middle A boys' basketball team won the SAAS Premiership Shield for the second consecutive year.
- + Year 5/6 boys' and girls' basketball teams were undefeated at the School Sport SA statewide carnival, earning a place in the State Finals. Our St John's Campus Year 5/6 girls' team finished as runner-up in a nail-biter of a grand final game.
- + Year 9/10 Knockout boys' basketball team progressed to the second round.
- + Year 7/8 Knockout girls' basketball team made it through to the finals, finishing fourth.
- + Our Middle A IGSSA basketball team made it to the grand final, finishing as runner-up.
- + Middle boys' cross country team finished the season in second place while the Senior boys and Middle girls finished their seasons in third place.
- + St Peters Campus competed at the District Cross Country Carnival with all students completing the challenging course in wet and slippery conditions.
- + Seven netball teams finished their seasons in first, second or third place. Our Year 8A IGSSA team made it to the grand final match and finished as runner-up.
- + Year 7/8 Statewide Knockout netball team finished with a silver medal out of 31 teams.
- + Our girls' team finished fourth in the Honours division of the Volleyball Schools Cup.
- + St Peters Campus and St John's Campus teams competed in soccer carnivals in Terms 2 and 3. St John's Campus Year 5/6s won all three games in Round 2 of the School Sport SA Statewide Soccer competition, advancing to the finals where they finished with a silver medal.
- + Concordia Racing Pedal Prix has welcomed our St Peters Campus team, riding in our 'Blue Saint' trike, with teams showing great resilience and determination across the season. At the end of the season, three of our six teams finished in the top 10 in their categories for the series.
- + St John's Campus won the Large Schools competition at the School Sport SA Adelaide South East District Athletics Day.
- + A group of 10 Concordia students competed for the Adelaide South East Sapsasa District at the School Sport SA State Championships, with some excellent performances helping the district finish in third place.
- + Our boys' athletics team comprehensively won the B Grade competition at this year's Achilles Cup Day - a magnificent effort and result. The camaraderie we have often labelled as 'Concordia spirit' was a highlight! Finishing the day with a 424-point lead, we are looking forward to returning to the A Grade competition in 2024.



Music Highlights

The 2023 Music program has seen students performing in a range of settings to a variety of audiences, and it's not finished yet! Here are some highlights from Terms 2 and 3.

- + **Generations in Jazz** – Concordia was represented by two big bands and three choirs at this year's national stage band and jazz choir competitions held in Mount Gambier for the first time in four years. Having worked extremely hard to prepare, all ensembles performed exceptionally well, with our own Mattson Jazz choir gaining second place in Division 1 (Large) – a significant result.
- + **Harmony in the Chapel** – Students performed a lunchtime concert to a highly appreciative audience, which included a number of Old Concordians who stayed afterwards for a 70+ Reunion afternoon tea. Among them were members of the Class of 1953, who started at Concordia 70 years ago – the newest members of our '70+' group.
- + **Strings Soiree** – Concordia has the reputation as having the most impressive strings program of any school in Adelaide. This special concert was held in our Chapel during Term 2 featuring all of our string ensembles and was a testament to our reputation.
- + **Senior Vocal Cabaret** – Held at iconic venue 'The Gov' in Hindmarsh for the first time, this entertaining evening of music highlighted some of our talented Senior School vocalists. Joining them on the program were Big Band 1, Senior Choir and Year 9 Choir.
- + **ABODA Music Festival** – This year, Concordia entered eight ensembles into the statewide competition. For the eighth consecutive year, our String Ensemble won the Advanced String Ensemble section. Our Orchestra and Concert Band also won their respective Advanced sections – an incredible result for both groups! Additionally, our St John's Campus Concert Band, our Wind Ensemble, Chamber Strings, Big Band 1 and Big Band 2 were all awarded Silver awards.
- + **UKARIA Chamber Music Concert** – The world-renowned UKARIA Cultural Centre again hosted Concordia's Chamber Music concert in August. Involving our small ensembles, this was a delightful and diverse program of high-quality music performed in a most beautiful setting. This was the first time Concordia was represented by all three campuses on stage.



- + **Inaugural Year 4 Band Program** – Involving all Year 4 students from St John's and St Peters campuses, this 10-week intensive instrumental program offers students the opportunity to have expert tuition in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone or percussion. The program created quite a 'buzz' with a significant and positive impact on student learning.
- + **Official Opening Celebration** – A carefully curated music performance program created an audio backdrop to the Official Opening Celebration held on Friday 15 September. A total of 16 Concordia ensembles performed across three and half hours, further enhancing the excitement of the occasion.
- + **Concordia in Cabaret** – As a point of difference, this year Concordia's major music showcase was held in Fortiter (ELC - Year 12 Gymnasium) in cabaret style. This event is a major undertaking, involving 183 students who work all year to create an exceptional evening of entertainment.

Mat Noble

Head of Music Performance ELC-12



Community Events

The Concordia community is truly extraordinary! We have absolutely loved connecting face-to-face this year after a few years in which our program of events had to take a different form. Thanks to all who attended and helped make our events so successful!





Staff Profiles

- Getting to know



Kate O'Halloran

Primary School Performing
Arts Teacher
– St Peters and St John's campuses

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Fun, passionate, kind.

+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

I have always loved working with and empowering young people. I believe they are our future and if I can make a tiny difference then I feel I have done my job. I have done several different teaching roles in my career, but I always seem to come back to the performing arts. This inspires me the most because I see children and young people 'grow' when they take some risks and realise they have achieved. What keeps me motivated or inspired is when students sit up a bit taller or smile proudly when they receive applause or positive feedback from me about their performance.

+ If you had to write a book, of any genre, for publication in mid-2024, what sort of book would you write and why?

I am passionate about youth mental health. I did youth work and also worked as a flexible learning teacher several years ago. During this time, I saw some of the very real struggles facing kids. I would like to collate real stories (with a bright outcome) and put them together to support, motivate and inspire our youth, to remind them that there is always light, even in the darkest of times.



Lisa Smith

Year 2 Teacher
– St Peters Campus

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Passionate, empathetic, dedicated.

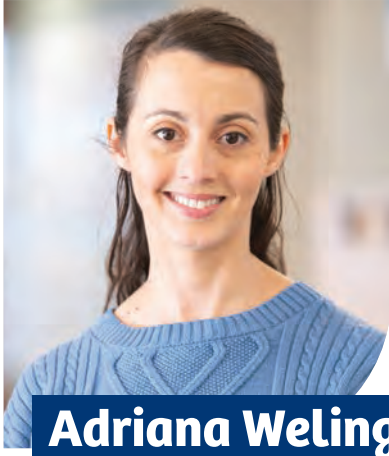
+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

What motivates and inspires me in my role as a teacher is witnessing the spark of curiosity and enthusiasm in my students' eyes. It's that "aha" moment when a concept clicks or a student gains confidence in their abilities. It's these moments, and the privilege of witnessing the progress and self-discovery that comes from cherishing each child as an individual, that reinforces my passion for teaching and learning.

+ If you were asked to compare your personality to a kitchen utensil, which one would you choose and why?

If I were to compare my personality to a kitchen utensil, I would choose a whisk. Just like a whisk blends various ingredients to create a balanced mixture, I strive to blend diverse perspectives, learning styles and backgrounds in my classroom. I believe that each student contributes a unique flavour to our classroom community. My role is to ensure they are all equally valued for their unique 'ingredient' and create a rich learning experience. Much like a whisk, I am also often 'stirring the pot' with friends and family and I frequently find myself stirring and blending various tasks, just as the busy life of a teacher demands!

now you...



Adriana Weling

STEM Teacher
– St John's Campus

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Caring, approachable, organised.

+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

I love to challenge the students to try new things, be resilient and problem solve. That look on their face when they have their “aha” moment is so satisfying. Being there to watch them grow and learn is so enlightening. I am energised by being able to help shape them into future leaders through leadership, conflict resolution and guidance.

+ If you were a Disney character, which one would you be and why?

If I were to be a Disney character it would have to be Simba from The Lion King. My childhood was full of ups and downs, but in the end, with the support of an amazing family, I have come out stronger than ever before. That experience has shaped me into the person I am today. It has moulded my values, beliefs and attitudes towards life and how to navigate the turbulence it can create.



Lauren Humphrys

Early Years Physical
Education Teacher
– St John's Campus

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Determined, creative, kind.

+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

I love helping children find new ways to be active, to get excited about a sport and to want to try something new! It is really rewarding to see children take on something challenging and be brave. I also love when students share their extra-curricular sporting achievements with me.

+ If you had to write a book, of any genre, for publication in mid-2024, what sort of book would you write and why?

If I were to write a book it would be historical fiction, as that is what I am most drawn to when reading. Alternatively, I would also love to write, and maybe illustrate, a picture book. Both working alongside children and having my own, I have come to appreciate the joy and wonder that a good story can elicit.



Staff Profiles



Aldo Longobardi

Drama Coordinator
– Concordia Campus

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Encouraging, generous, creative.

+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

Helping young people learn to lean into their vulnerability and achieve things they didn't think they were capable of motivates me in my role. Everything we do in Drama - and in the Arts generally - takes a huge amount of courage and vulnerability, especially when you are presenting your work to an audience. You open yourself up to criticism and you show sides to yourself that others don't necessarily get to see. In live theatre, there is always the chance that things will go wrong as they often do and that's kind of thrilling. It's a feeling I have experienced so many times myself as an actor and it's wonderful to see students walk off stage with that same thrill and actually feel proud of themselves for having given that performance to an audience. As a teacher and a director, small moments are huge successes and it's a privilege to be part of young people's journeys to experiencing this as artists.

+ If you were asked to compare your personality to a kitchen utensil, which one would you choose and why?

I would say a KitchenAid stand mixer! There are lots of parts to my personality and I can switch speeds and functions depending on what needs to be done. Mostly I like to mix things up, try new things and try to bring people and ideas together and help them blend.



Catherine O'Halloran

Science Coordinator
– Concordia Campus

+ Describe yourself in three words.

Honest, empathetic, persistent.

+ What motivates/inspires you in your role?

I love helping young people on their journey to become the best that they can be. I have worked in scientific research before becoming a teacher, so I hope to inspire people to be curious about the wonders of science, to understand how science works and to understand that Science is not a 'siloe'd' subject, but applicable to most things we do.

+ If you were a Disney character, which one would you be and why?

A number of people suggested Merida from Brave. Perhaps that is because I am independent, a problem solver, sometimes daring, and soft at heart.

- Getting to know you...

Heritage Centre

| Bringing Concordia's History to Life

At Concordia, we are very fortunate to have a wonderful representation of our 133-year history in the archive collection, housed in the College Heritage Centre. Our collection includes photos, uniforms, magazines and books, trophies, maps, drawings and more. Some of our items are over 100 years old! We are thankful to the community members and Old Concordians who have donated so many interesting and varied items to the archives, which greatly enhance the collection – a wealth of historic artefacts that help bring history to life for today's students.

An important function of the Heritage Centre is educating our students about the long and fascinating history of their school. Year 1 and Year 7 classes visit the Heritage Centre each year to discover how Concordia became the school it is today. With this newfound knowledge, they complete history projects and assignments.

Our comprehensive collection of old uniforms, badges and hats receives a lot of attention from students, and it makes them appreciate their own uniform in comparison! Students from other year groups regularly visit the Heritage Centre to find a variety of things or sometimes just out of curiosity. Concordia has many multi-generational families, and students love to find photos, uniforms and workbooks from the days when their parents, grandparents or even great grandparents attended our College.

Our archives include copies of “Brown and Gold”, the original school magazine, dating back to the very first edition published in 1924. The book “Concordia - 100 Years, Murtoa - Adelaide” written by Rev Dr Elmore Leske is an invaluable record of College events from 1890-1990, and is often referred to by students and other community members. Old Concordians also regularly visit the Heritage Centre to conduct their own research or browse our photo galleries.

Throughout the College there are reminders of our history, including two gallery walls in The Suaviter and a large mural on the Peace Building breezeway wall. We also have a Heritage Trail, around the Highgate campuses, consisting of 16 plaques, each with information and photos depicting the history of the building or area in which they are located. A Heritage Trail booklet serves a self-guided tour guide, accompanying visitors on their journey around the Trail.

We have been very fortunate to have had the assistance of some wonderful volunteers in our archives over the years. These dedicated people have helped sort through and name old photos, scan documents and complete other general archival tasks, for which we are most thankful. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au

Sue Spry

Alumni Manager



Old Concordians' Association

From the Archives – Concordia Centenary Coins

| Marie (Baum 1959) and Michael Salmon

In the Heritage Centre, we have a few beautifully crafted spoons that were designed and made by Michael and Marie Salmon. The spoons were to celebrate the centenary of Concordia 1890-1990. They are made of 1890 pennies and half pennies from Michael and Marie's collection.

Michael is an exceptional artisan and craftsman who has worked for trophy companies and made exquisite copper vessels, candlesticks, communion ware and vases for the Lutheran church. He designed and oversaw the creation of large stained-glass windows and made the enameled cross at St Peters Lutheran Church, Blackwood. Perhaps his greatest works were made when Michael was chosen to create gifts for the Queen to celebrate the Centenary of Federation in 2001 and for her Golden Jubilee in 1992.

To gain permission to use pennies for the Concordia spoons, Michael and Marie had to apply to John Howard, the then Treasurer of Australia. Permission took 18 months to obtain. Michael shaped the spoons using a

press, engraved the handles with the words "1890-Concordia College Centenary-1990" and twisted the handles using an old addressograph he bought at an APEX auction and modified so it would do the job. The pennies were silver soldered to the handles and then coated with 22-carat gold using an electroplating process first used by the Egyptians 5,000 years ago!

The Salmons made approximately 24 of the spoons and presented them to the College to give as gifts for our 100 Year celebrations, including some with dignitaries' names engraved on them. The College then asked for more to sell to the community. Michael was able to make over 40 more with 1890 pennies he had in his collection. The spoons were presented in brown velvet boxes that had been especially made.

Thanks to Michael and Marie Salmon for this incredible gift to the College.

Sue Spry
Alumni Manager



Centenary Spoons



Marie and Michael Salmon

Generations of Concordians – The Strelan Family

Samuel Strelan (Year 11) is a fourth generation Concordian and his father, Rev John Strelan, helped us piece together the history of Strelans at Concordia.

Sam's great-grandfather, Rev P.G. Strelan was the first in the long line of Strelan Concordians. He was a member of the Class of 1919 and later became a teacher at Concordia College (1964-71).

The generational attendance was more due to happy circumstance than deliberate planning. After graduating from Concordia Seminary in 1927, P.G. Strelan became a parish pastor in country New South Wales and Victoria. In 1953 he took a call to the St John's congregation in Unley. At that time the congregation had no building of their own, so they worshipped in the College Chapel, as they do to this day.

Sam's grandfather, Dr J.G. Strelan (Class of 1948) was a missionary in Papua New Guinea for 25 years. Initially he had no plans to send his children to Concordia, but in the mid-1980s he took a call to Luther Seminary in Adelaide and lived in Malvern, so it made sense for his children to attend Concordia. John started at the end of Year 10 and graduated in 1987.

John also went on to enter the ministry and served in parishes in New South Wales and country South Australia. John reflects that sending his children to Concordia was the last thing he expected to do. However, in 2015 he accepted a call to the St Stephen's congregation in Adelaide, which meant

another generation of Strelans had an opportunity to attend Concordia.

One connection that all generations of Strelans have is their involvement in sport at the College (cricket, tennis, football, athletics and, more recently, soccer and volleyball).

John said, *"What I appreciated most about my time at Concordia was the sense of community that I felt. It was a place where I made lifelong friends. That sense of community is still something that exists at Concordia despite the growth in student population and the building developments that have taken place over the last 40 years. I see the same supportive environment at work today just as much as it was when my father and grandfather attended Concordia."*

Here is a brief list of some of the Strelans who have attended Concordia.

Strelans at Concordia

Current Student	Samuel Strelan	2024
Brother	Lachlan Strelan	2021
Sister	Emma Strelan	2017
Aunt	Luana Strelan	1994
Aunt	Kylie Strelan	1985
Father	Rev John Strelan	1983
Uncle	Dr Peter Strelan	1982
Grandmother	Bronwyn Strelan	1954
Grandfather	Dr J.G. Strelan	1948
Great-grandfather	Rev P.G. Strelan	1919



1924 P.G. Strelan (standing right)



2023 The Strelan Family

Old Concordians Blazing a Trail

We recently caught up with Gillian Stevens (Chapman 1973). Gillian has had an interesting and varied career.

Where has life taken you since Concordia College?

I have had a fantastic career working with developing nations and representing Australia through my role in the Defence Force.

As a student I was challenged with dyslexia, but found confidence through sport. I went on to complete a degree in Accountancy and a master's in health service management. In my early twenties I lived and worked in an Aboriginal community (Indulkana), setting up their computer system. For 16 years I managed Australian Government foreign aid programs, World Bank and Asian Development Bank programs, travelling to countries like Kyrgyzstan, Papua New Guinea and Samoa. From 2000 to 2002 my son and I lived in Indonesia where my role was General Manager of Coffey International. It was a challenging time, with the Bali bombing and attacks on the Australian Embassy and the Australian International School where my son attended.

Sadly, my husband passed away, which precipitated a career change. In 2004 I worked in the Australian Public Service before joining the Army Reserves to continue the international connection.

During 2010, Coffey International offered me a two-year contract in West Timor as Governance Adviser on a maternal neonatal program, overseeing the construction of culturally sensitive maternal neonatal centres and the design and development of a procurement system.

By 2016 my public service role was Executive of Aged Care. By 2020 I had left the public service as I was asked by Defence to deploy to Iraq. I spent three months on pre-deployment training and six months in Iraq as the Finance Adviser. My role involved managing the international agreements for logistics and providing financial advice to two Commanders. I resigned from Defence in 2022 as a Major.

I'm now a self-funded retiree, involved in South Australian Recreation Trails. I've raced the Simpson Desert on a fat bike for the Royal Flying Doctors and ridden twice from Coolangatta to Sydney to raise money for Baptist World Aid. More recently I became an ambassador for the Adelaide Parklands Association and I'm about to head off to cycle Lands-End to John O'Groats in the UK.





Do you have any funny or favourite memories that you would like to share?

I enjoyed hanging out with a small group of friends. We used to turn the hose on each other on 40-degree days. I'm not a good singer, so I could never join the choir, but I did learn guitar. I'm still learning the guitar and I still can't sing but it's fun and social.

Playing sport was my outlet; however, no matter how hard I tried, I could never beat Lyn Schumacher at running! On weekends I played netball with a group of school friends for the local Lutheran Church. We were pretty competitive and won the trophy a few times. I'd kick the footy with the boys, but I was never allowed to play, so I used to watch them on the weekend and hand out water.

In Year 11 we went on an exchange to Alice Springs and also visited Ernabella. We had boarders from Ernabella and I loved their down-to-earth attitude. This experience was a real connection for my time spent working in Indulkana.

What motivates you?

- + A challenge: Setting a goal and working/training towards it.
- + Nature and getting involved: A few years ago, I moved from the western districts to the city. I've adopted Adelaide Parklands Park 23, which means I regularly go there to clean. The area has several wetlands, which are home to kookaburras, frogs and all types of birdlife.
- + Being thankful: Even when things get me down, I remind myself to be thankful for what I have and to let go of what I don't have.

What advice would you give to students?

1. Life doesn't stop at school. Being dyslexic was difficult, but I had to realise it wasn't about what others were doing. What was important was what I could do with what I was given. I realised it's important to find a small strength or gift and work with it, then build on it.
2. Be forgiving. People don't always respond or react in the way you expect or hope. It is far easier to enjoy what we have been given if we forgive and move on. Bitterness takes us nowhere.



It was great to recently talk to **Rob Lawry (2012)**, who is blazing a trail and excelling in his radio career.

Where has life taken you since Concordia College?

I was part of Concordia's first IB Diploma Programme cohort. When I graduated, I just went with the flow a bit, not knowing what I wanted to do professionally. I originally enrolled in an Arts/Science double degree at the University of Adelaide, but a few weeks before the semester started I realised I wanted to pursue a Media degree.

I had a fine time at university, made some good friends and really found my passion in community radio on Radio Adelaide. I created a comedy show called The Beefcake Hour with Liam Phillips (2012), airing on Thursday nights. I became increasingly involved, serving as the University of Adelaide's Student Radio director in 2016 and producing a few things for the national Community Radio Network.

After my degree, I worked at a film post-production house, which turned into a gig filming SA Parliamentary proceedings, before resuming my radio journey and landing my first commercial radio job in Port Pirie. After two years and the worst of a global pandemic, I moved to the Riverland to host the breakfast show.

I've also been making my own film about Ned Kelly, which I shot out in the bush with my regional radio buddies. I'll finish it eventually...

You were nominated for and won an Australian Commercial Radio Award for Best On-Air Team (Country) for 2022, can you tell us about that?

I'm really proud of the show I do with my co-host, Brooke Humble. We were mashed together as two disparate talents, but we genuinely hit it off. That friendship lent itself to lots of hilarity and adventures, but it also felt like a strong point of difference. I had a great time assembling our highlights reel for the awards and the nomination was a huge moment for us.

I can't tell you much about winning the award, since it all came so fast, but Richard Wilkins read our names out, Brooke gave me a big hug, and the Australian Radio Network bosses were thrilled with the result. It's exciting that we have been nominated for an award again this year.

Do you have any funny or favourite memories that you would like to share?

I was blessed to go on multiple overseas band trips, first to Malaysia in 2010 and then to Hong Kong and China in 2012. The 2012 trip was a logistical nightmare for the staff, but a really great last hurrah at the end of Year 12, sharing a holiday with the dozen or so people I'd been playing music with for my entire schooling.

I had a great time at Concordia. I don't want to be boring, but there are math classes, walks home from school, jokes in the Quad and so on that all count as cherished memories. One of my closest friends from school passed away a few years ago, and those are primarily the memories I have with her. They're very special times.

What advice would you give to students?

I really struggled figuring out what I wanted to do after school and I didn't need to. There are so many pathways to get to where you want - or some other place you didn't know you wanted. Until then, just find something to keep you social and work on having good relationships with others. You can't beat that.



Concordia Hong Kong Trip 2012



Brooke Humble & Rob Lawry

Old Concordians' War Service

If you or an Old Concordian you know have served in any of the following conflicts, please let us know. We will soon update our War Service Honour Board, which is housed in The Suaviter, and would like to include all Old Concordians involved.

- + Korean War, 1950-1953
- + Indonesian Confrontation (Malaya-Borneo War), 1950-1953
- + Gulf War, 1990-1991
- + Afghanistan War, 2001-2021
- + Iraq War, 1990-1991



Sporting Clubs

| Get Involved!

Our Old Concordian sporting clubs are a fun and easy way to get involved in activities with other Old Concordians. For information about joining an Old Concordians' Association sports club, please contact the Alumni Manager, Sue Spry, who will put you in touch with the relevant Club Coordinator listed below:

- + Basketball Club, Tristan Prentice
- + Cricket Club, Tim Kupke
- + Netball Club, Chrissy Barnard
- + Pedal Prix Club, Nelson Harris
- + Soccer Club, Cameron Basnec
- + Volleyball Club, Emma Whyte

The Old Concordians financially support the setup and running costs of our sports clubs. If you are interested in starting a club or special interest group for Old Concordians, we encourage you to email alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au or phone 08 8291 9339 for details about how we can help.



Old Concordians' Netball



Old Concordians' Pedal Prix

Weddings



Jake Lawrence (2012) and Shona Lawrence (Phelps)

on Thursday 23 March 2023

L-R: Dylan Lawrence (2014), Renee Rocca, Jake Lawrence (2012), Shona Lawrence (Phelps), Andrea Phelps and Tom Maple.



Nolene Thiele (Oster/Gehling 1978) and Andrew Thiele

on Sunday 9 April 2023

L-R: Tom Gehling (2013), Sarah Gehling (2011), Nolene Thiele (Oster/Gehling 1978), Andrew Thiele, Madeline Riley and Jessie Wilson.

In Memoriam

Concordia has learnt of the following deaths in our community. We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of these Old Concordians.

White, Elizabeth (Laubsch 1962)

on 30 December 2022

Bennie, Trevor (1955)

on 10 April 2023

McCutcheon, Patricia (Wickes 1949)

on 26 April 2023

Roy, Jennifer (1961)

on 4 June 2023

Rathjen, Eric (1943)

on 6 July 2023

Louend, Kym (1974)

on 21 July 2023

Diary Dates

CLASS OF 2003, 20 YEAR REUNION DINNER

Friday 10 November, 6-8pm

Art Courtyard, Concordia College

Tickets: \$30 per adult, free for children // Drinks, finger food and a College tour

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CFIAS

CLASS OF 2013, 10 YEAR REUNION DINNER

Friday 24 November, 6pm

Cremorne Hotel Garden Courtyard,

207 Unley Road, Unley

Tickets: \$25 // Complimentary drink on arrival and finger food (subsidised by the Old Concordians' Association)

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CFIAZ

CLASS OF 2018, 5 YEAR REUNION DINNER

Friday 1 December, 6pm

Cremorne Hotel Garden Courtyard,

207 Unley Road, Unley

Tickets: \$25 // Complimentary drink on arrival and finger food (subsidised by the Old Concordians' Association)

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CFIBD

Partners welcome to all events.

Latest Reunions and Events



70 + Harmony in the Chapel
Friday 12 May 2023



Class of 1983 - 40 Year Reunion
Friday 30 June 2023



Brisbane Reunion
Friday 19 May 2023



Class of 1993 - 30 Year Reunion
Friday 18 August 2023



Class of 1973 - 50 Year Reunion
Friday 2 June 2023



60+ Brown and Gold Lunch
Thursday 21 September 2023



**If it's important to you,
it's important to us!**

We love hearing from Old Concordians of all ages, both near and far, so please do get in touch to share stories, milestones and any news, or simply to update your contact details.

Visit our website
concordia.sa.edu.au/community/old-concordians/stay-in-touch/
or phone Sue Spry, Alumni Manager, on 08 8291 9339.

Interested in joining the Old Concordians' Association Committee?

We would love to hear from you!
Please contact the Alumni Manager, Sue Spry, for more information - alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au

**Have your contact
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Manager of Enrolment Operations, **Nicole Jones**, on **8272 0444** /
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