

# ST. PETER'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Connecting Old Boys, families and friends to the past, present and future of our college.

[www.spcoldboys.co.nz](http://www.spcoldboys.co.nz)

Newsletter No.8, September 2016.

## Contents

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- **Chairman's Message**
- **Rio Olympic Games 2016 - Stephen Jones**
- **The importance of the Old Boy's Association - James Bentley**
- **St Peter's College Sports Report - Nicky Cattermoul**
- **Former SPC 1<sup>st</sup> XI Stars Firing on All Fronts - Jakub Kalinowski**
- **Important Dates**
- **Bereavements**
- **Do you have any news for us?**
- **SPCOB website advertising**

## Chairman's Message - Dave Bernard

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Talofa Lava Brothers

You may have recently read about the passing of Brother Jim Duffy who was an old boy of St Peters College and part of the Christian Brothers which we are all very familiar with. Brother Duffy had a long association with St Peters from 1943 as a student and from the sixties to the nineties as a teacher. He was a past player for Marist Rugby League, First Fifteen Captain and the St Peters heavyweight boxing champion. I attended his funeral which was held at his home borough of Onehunga at The Church of Assumption. What stuck with me at his

funeral was his selfless life dedicated to Christ. Brother Duffy wanted no eulogy and it was a very short mass with no fuss. This is typical of the Christian Brothers who were very humble men and did everything they could to help prepare us for the commercial world. Another thing that stood out on the day was the number of proud old boys in their sixties and seventies with their school commemoration ties on. The pride and brotherhood the old boys have for St Peters never dies. Long may this last.

Recently the Board of Trustee's commissioned a research company to help plan for a strategic overview for St Peters. A large cross section of the school was interviewed including BOT members, teachers and parents. It's still very early days however I understand the initial findings are that the school is in very good shape and that the founding principles of Edmund Rice, founder of the Christian Brothers, are to remain ingrained into the fabric of St Peters. What also was apparent was a strong commitment from the community that expressed the wish for St Peters to not become an elitist school. I'll give you more of an update later on once the report is finally completed.

Headmaster James Bentley has told me we have many families within the school who are old boys of St Peters. There are also a number of old boys who are teaching at St Peters. This is fantastic as the spirit of Edmund Rice will continue to flow through the school. The Association could always do with more help. If you would like to help and get involved then please private message us on St Peters College Old Boys Association Face Book page or through our website [www.spcoldboys.co.nz](http://www.spcoldboys.co.nz) . We meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7pm during the school term in the Library.

To Love and to Serve.

May our Lord bless you all.

Dave Bernard - St Peters Old Boys Association Chairman

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## Rio Olympic Games 2016 – Stephen Jones (2010)



The Olympic Games, biggest sporting event in the World. This year in Rio was my first experience of the Olympics, and it was a crazy one.

About 2 minutes after getting off the plane the Olympic experience began, meeting Usain Bolt, who had actually been on our flight with us, little known to us as he was sitting up in First Class. From there it was onto the Rio busses across town to the Village. This was a real eye opener, as we drove past thousands of slums and run down houses, a real insight into the poverty of Brazil.

Being overseas for two months before getting to Rio, all we had heard in the media was how unorganized, unclean, and unsafe the entire city was. To be fair when we arrived it was not up to the same level as Switzerland, where we had come from, in any of the factors.

Once we had arrived at the Village it was vigorous security checks, which continued throughout the games every time you arrived or left the village, this involved Airport like bag scanners and metal detectors, all manned by the Army that had been called in to beef up security. A very different experience to New Zealand, as every 50m there was an Army person with an assault Rifle. The plus side of this was that it did actually make you feel very safe, and our team didn't have any sort of security incidents.

Our first night in the village was a crazy experience, the food hall that was the biggest open room I had ever been in, about twice the size of the cloud on Auckland waterfront. Also seeing famous athletes just walking around; Phelps, Serena Williams, Nadal, to name a few. In most cases they were more than happy to take a photo with us, although they were starting to get sick of it after a few days.

Our first day out at the Lagoa was a bit crazy, with it being so close to the coastline it ended up being quite windy and made for a few days being called off, both in racing and training. In terms of venue setup it was nothing like what we had ever experienced, with such a huge number of camera and media, and also more Army in boats on the water, complete with rifles, and guns mounted on the front of the boats.

Racing for us was a bit of a disappointment, we were really hoping for a medal, and felt that we had done the hard work to deserve one. But as is the nature of sport you can have your best race and still not be up to scratch, and we did not have our best race, so ended up being further back the field that we would have liked. Nothing can quite explain the feeling of having worked hard for 4 years, to realize that to even try again you have to wait another 4 years. Needless to say there was a fair amount of soul searching among the lads after finishing 6<sup>th</sup>.

One of the great things about Rowing at the Olympics, is that racing is all finished in the first week. So after racing was finished it was time to enjoy the Olympics experience. The city was well set up for all countries, with each country having a dedicated "party house". The New Zealand house was in the Sheraton hotel, and this is where most post race/competition interviews were done with the NZ media. As all athletes would congregate here after racing it made it quite a hotspot for athletes, family, and supporters.

Other countries also had their own houses, which most athletes were welcome at for a door charge, the Dutch had a rooftop bar and pool with a huge projector to watch events, and the Swiss had a lake side club room, which turned into a 3 story party most days.

One morning my partner Anna and I woke up early and went to see Christ the Redeemer, up on the hill, something I have always wanted to do since I first saw pictures of it when I was still at school. We arrived at opening time and managed to be one of the first people up there, which meant we avoided the hours of waiting in line, and also got some amazing pictures.

Over the next few days Anna and I managed to get around a few different sports, seeing our triathletes compete on Copacabana Beach, Lisa Carrington win two medals, and watching the, Hockey girls in their Bronze medal final.

All in all the Olympics was a pretty crazy experience with highs and lows. It would have been amazing to win a medal but it was just not meant to be, in 4 more years we will be coming back fitter, stronger, and more determined.

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## Headmaster's Message – James Bentley

A strong community is one of the major characteristics of St Peter' College. Boys and families form friendships and bonds that will last them a lifetime. SPCOBA supports the College in fostering those connections and ensuring that our past students and families remain linked to SPC.

Whether it be the organisation of functions or their support of projects and events, SPCOBA is invaluable to the life of SPC.

## 2016 SPC Sports Report – Nicky Cattermoul

### Basketball

One of the best seasons in SPC history with our top age group teams all reaching the finals of their respective central zone grades, and in turn all qualifying for the College Sport Greater Auckland Basketball Championships. The 1<sup>st</sup> V's focus for next year will be qualifying for the Auckland Premier Competition.

#### U15 Gold

Winners U15 Central Zone Competition

Runners up U15 Greater Auckland Championships

#### U17 Gold

Runners up U17 Central Zone Competition

Semi-finalist U17 Greater Auckland Championships

#### 1<sup>st</sup> V

Winners Open Grade Central Zone competition

Winners Open Grade Greater Auckland Championships



### Football

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI had a challenging year in the Premier Division but have done enough to avoid the automatic relegation spot and will be playing Kings College in the promotion relegation match in Term 1. The 13 A team coached by Chris Milicich has been strong all season, placing 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Sacred Heart College in the A grade and reaching the knock out cup semi-final. The U14 A team also competed in their A grade. The depth and talent in the College is looking good for the next few years.

### Hockey

The U15 team won their Central West grade final in a dominate 7 – 0 performance over Auckland Grammar, the 1<sup>st</sup> XI were due to play their A grade reserve final against Kelston Boys high last Wednesday night but the torrential rain made the turf unplayable with the referee calling the game of 25 minutes into the first half. This game will be rescheduled for after winter tournament week.

### Rugby

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XV had an impressive season reaching the semi-finals, in one of the more closely contested 1A competitions in recent times. Only dropping two games in the 1A competition both to the eventual championship winners Mt Albert Grammar. Gusty wins over St Kentigern College, Kings College and winning the battle of the Bridge were highlights of a tough season.

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## Former SPC 1<sup>st</sup> XI Stars Firing on all Fronts – Jakub Kalinowski

The recent couple of months have brought several notable successes for former St Peter's 1<sup>st</sup> XI football alumni. Recent graduate Myer Bevan (2014) made a blistering start to his under-20s All Whites career by hitting a hat-trick on debut against the Cook Islands in a World Cup qualifying tournament match. His coach, Darren Bazeley stated that "to score a hat-trick on your international debut is a great achievement, so he'll remember that for a long time". Myer has already gained some notable success by being one of the 11 players selected from around the globe for Nike's London-based Academy (for future football stars under the age of 20). Myer stated that his selection was "like a dream come true". Myer has also had a chance to train with the senior All Whites squad under the tutelage of coach Andrew Hudson. The hopes are that Myer and the 'junior' All Whites win the Oceania qualifying tournament and qualify for the under-20 World Cup being held in South Korea in 2017.

On a domestic scene, the ever hard-working attacking midfielder Ethan Galbraith scored what proved to be the winning goal in the final of New Zealand's premier knockout competition; the Chatham Cup. Having already scored a decisive third goal in Birkenhead United's semi-final win over Mirimar, Ethan went one better and netted the winning goal during extra-time in the final against Waitakere United. Ethan has a knack of rising for the big occasion, having scored a memorable brace in St Peter's victory against Auckland Grammar in Auckland's 'Knock out cup final' in 2009 (the only major trophy won by St Peter's College 1<sup>st</sup> XI). Similarly, to Myer, Ethan has a number of caps at under-20 level for the All Whites. We hope that his rich vein of form catches the eyes of the senior All Whites selectors. As a school and Old Boys community, we are extremely proud of the achievements of our young footballers and wish them even greater successes in the coming future.



## Seen & Heard

- Congratulations to Zac Williams (2013) and Stephen Jones (2010) for their selection to attend the Rio Olympic Games. Zac participated in the Road Race and Stephen was part of the Men's 8's Rowing.
- Congratulations to Joseph Iaruel And Sylvain Worworbu for being selected to play for the Vanuatu under 20 team at the OFC under 20 Championship in their bid to make the under 20 World Cup.
- Congratulations to Harry Plummer and Cameron Suafoa for making the NZ Secondary Schools Rugby Squad for 2016.

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## Important Dates

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Details</u>
12 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Old Boys Association Meeting</b>	St Peter's College Library 7pm
9 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Old Boys Association AGM</b>	St Peter's College Library 7pm

## Bereavements

Des Sayegh – 1946

Teina Terei – 2016 (Son of Pio Terei)

Milan Boromeo Antonievich – 90 years old.

Brother Duffy

## Do you have any news for us?

If you have any news that you would like to share with the Old Boys' community - graduations, business appointments, business successes, awards, bereavements etc. - please contact us via the website so we can include them in future newsletters or as part of our website News items.

## SPC Old Boys' Website Advertising

Next time you're going through your business marketing plan, have a look at what we can offer. We have hundreds of members now and our website home page is viewed over 200 times per week. With print media fast becoming a thing of the past, digital media is where you need to be. Your digital device is probably the most looked at and influential tool in business today. Link your business to [www.spcoldboys.co.nz](http://www.spcoldboys.co.nz). We will also include your logo and acknowledge your support in our newsletters and annual dinner. Call Old Boy and association Chairman **Dave Bernard** on 021 331 243 or simply fill out the registration form online at [www.spcoldboys.co.nz](http://www.spcoldboys.co.nz) and Dave will contact you.

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