

# Mazenod College '00



# MAZENODIAN

A PUBLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY AND  
FRIENDS OF MAZENOD COLLEGE

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## ALUMNI OFFICE

# FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE

The 2023 Mazenod Old Boys calendar concluded with vastly contrasting occasions – our annual Memorial Mass for deceased alumni, and reunions for the Classes of 1973 and 1983. The disparity between these events was starkly evident.

Always a powerfully moving occasion, our Memorial Mass brought tears to my eyes and warmth to my heart. A mother who lost her 27 year old son some six months before the service clearly struggled to cope with her grief while placing a rose behind her son's plaque on the memorial wall. Another mum who had lost her 17 year old son in 2004, crouched alongside, putting her arms around the lady in solace, helping to place the flower. Emanating from the deep love parents have for their children, such grief is a powerful reminder of our humanity, our fragility and our spirituality.

Reuniting class mates long after graduation on the other hand, is a celebratory occasion bringing memories, laughter and tall tales from the past. The success of these reunions results from the organisers who work tirelessly in gathering their ex-classmates. My 'hat goes off' to Frans Brower and Chris Nichols from the Class of '73, and our College Archivist, Maria Pagotto, for gathering 28 attendees from around Australia and overseas for their 50 year reunion. Basil Conti and Sean Marriott, from the 1983 class, had 42 members and six staff attend a joyous reunion, that persisted until the wee small hours. Fantastic work – well done to all participants.

MOBA look forward to sharing some fun times and big announcements in 2024. Stay tuned for an innovative initiative, designed to support our boarding families.

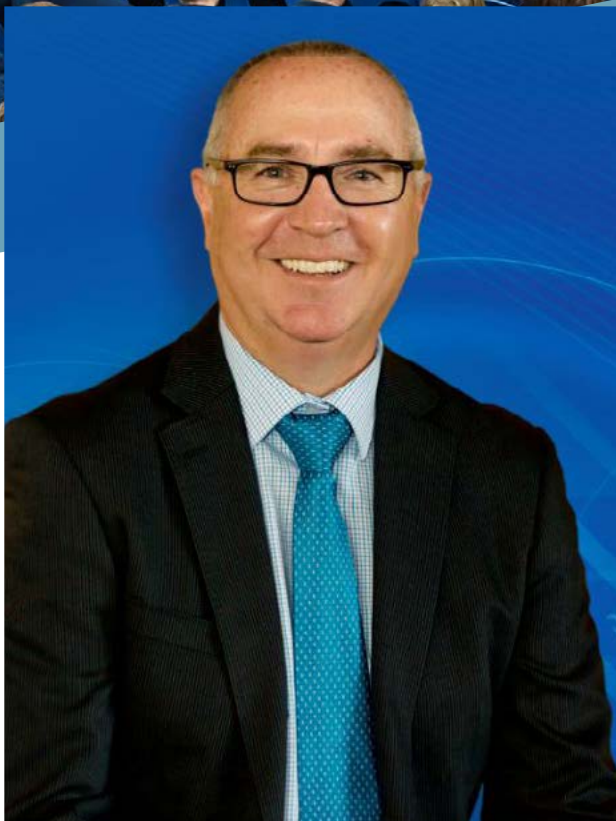
**Jeremy Logan (87)**  
Old Boys Liaison Officer

## PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH

We welcome all former students, parents, friends and staff to renew their association with the College and update their contact details.

Let us know where you are these days and what you are doing in your family and working lives. Please email [info@mobwa.com.au](mailto:info@mobwa.com.au) or if you are an Old Boy and would like to become a member of the MOB go online to [www.mobwa.com.au](http://www.mobwa.com.au) and download the membership form.

Alternatively, you can telephone Jeremy Logan on (08) 9291 1500. Email addresses are very important to us, as most communication is via this method.



One of the great joys of my role as Principal of Mazenod College is to be witness to so many amazing opportunities available to our students. Equally impressive in our community is how much further this extends into a young man's life beyond school. The reach of the Mazenod Old Boys' Association and the efforts by those involved to ensure that the strength of connection and belonging for young men and their families beyond their schooling life is so highly regarded.

This publication is further proof of those efforts, a vibrant display of the many and varied interactions that have become highlights for so many. These interactions are happening amongst our past and present Mazenod College community members over and over again, throughout the local, nation and international world.

The beauty of the Mazenodian publication is that these interactions don't always have to be face-to-face or even a spoken word. I, like many others I'm sure, have that same feeling of positivity and belonging when I read about the exploits and adventures of those students and staff of the past in this wonderful publication.

There are again some wonderful articles to read, including but not limited to, the farewell for Jeff Ronan and Joshua Devaney's incredible collection and foresight to commence with, the immense feelings of sadness but comfort shared in the Memorial Mass, and so much more. It all goes so far to highlighting the people of Mazenod, who are the very fabric of our community past, present and the future.

It is often written, "Memories keep yesterday alive" and so I thank those who have contributed to this edition and to Mr Brett Scarey for his work in piecing our tapestry together, keeping the Mazenod College memories alive.

**Mr Simon Harvey**  
Principal



## BOARDING

The redevelopment of the Junior Boarding House is progressing well with earth works almost complete. We anticipate building will commence in the coming weeks and are excitedly looking forward to watching the progress of the works take shape. With our boarding enrolments on the rise, this is an exciting time for the Cebula community. To accommodate our 87 boys during the build, we settled 23 boys in Mercy House at St Brigid's College and by all accounts they are certainly enjoying the off-campus experience.

During the holiday break Hughes House bedrooms were fitted with doors to match those installed in Daly House in 2023. Lewis House will have doors fitted over the Easter break, meaning we will see the last of the old blue curtains.

The common room, a very well used part of the boarding community, was fitted with air-conditioning making it a far more comfortable place to be on very hot summer days that characterise the start of every school year.

We kicked off 2024 with the Boarding Parents Sundowner on Day One, giving many of our families the opportunity to meet and mingle. Our 31 new boarders have settled well and are enjoying the start of their Mazenod Boarding Journey.

**Annamaria Cream**  
Director of Boarding



# FAREWELL MR RONAN

It is hard to believe the day has come for us to announce the retirement of Mr Jeffrey Ronan. Jeff announced to the College earlier in the year that 2023 would be his final one at the College and Friday 1 December was his final day with the students. A constant of the College for 42 years, with Jeff's retirement, the Payne-Douthie-Ronan era that defined what Mazenod is to so many people in the community comes to a close.

Jeff started as a student in 1970 and proved himself to be an excellent student, talented athlete and gifted footballer. He graduated in 1976 as College Captain and started teaching at Mazenod in 1981. Fr McMahon OMI claims that one of the best decisions he ever made was to employ Jeff. He tells us there wasn't even an interview! Mainly teaching maths, PE and humanities, Jeff coached numerous football and swimming teams, taught photography, was Head of Year, and served as Acting Principal.

In 1995, Jeff was appointed Deputy Principal by Fr Peter Daly OMI, and it is in this role where he really left his mark. He was instrumental in establishing the College's high academic and behavioural expectations, the espousal of its values and the clarity around what it means to be a Mazenod Man. Firm, tough at times, but always fair, Jeff has always had the best interests of the students and College as his first priority. His experience and passion for the College has made him a great mentor to his colleagues (particularly Heads of Year) and a great source of advice and wisdom. He has also ensured that the College retains its own identity through his knowledge of the College's history and traditions.

During his time as Deputy, there has hardly been an event that Jeff was not present at or had a hand in its organisation and running. If there is a photograph of a College event, there is a very high chance it was taken by Jeff, and this is evident by the fact it has been tough to find photos of him from the past 42 years (he's always behind the camera).

Jeff has taught, mentored, disciplined and counselled decades worth of Mazenod Old Boys. He has been instrumental in the formation of young men who graduate from the College with an understanding of accountability, personal values and self-discipline. His dedication to the Mazenod Community is unsurpassable and it is hard to imagine the College without him. JR is an absolute Mazenod legend and is highly respected by staff, students, parents and Old Boys. Mr Ronan, on behalf of the Mazenod Old Boys and the whole College community thank you for your 42 years of service and we wish you a well earned and thoroughly deserved retirement.

**Mr Liam Mallon**  
Mazenod Old Boy





## JOSHUA DEVANEY (94)

What are you studying/your current job title and what does it involve?

I'm currently working as a Warehouse Officer in Cape Preston at Sino Iron Pacific Mining. My daily duties range from transport and logistics duties (truck loading/unloading freight) receipting of goods (data entry and stock control) machine operating (trucks, forklifts of various sizes and capacities) customer service (assisting other companies/contractors on site to locate items for use). I work a 2:1 roster (FIFO). Studying is done internally for level/career progression within.

Any other personal news you would like to share: travels, married/single, kids, currently location, involved with sports/music/art, work/career highlights.

As of Valentine's Day this year, I am engaged to my beautiful fiancée who is also 5 months pregnant with our first child, due in early July 2024. I'm currently living in Belmont and travelled to the USA for the first time in early 2019. I travelled from the east coast of America to the west, stopping in 10 cities - New York, Charlotte, Orlando, Ohio, Chicago, Detroit, Portland, San Francisco, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Whilst travelling I took Michael Jordan's first and rarest figurine to multiple places which Michael Jordan was/is closely associated with.

Can you reflect back at your time as a student at Mazenod and share one thing that you learnt that has had an influence on you and your career?

Looking back 30 years later on my time as a student at Mazenod, I'm filled with gratitude for attending a school that was then, and I imagine still is today, steeped in sports and fostering a relationship with God. My passion for basketball was starting as I entered Year 8, and continued all the way through and hasn't stopped yet! Playing basketball against other students, was not only looked forward to during recess and lunch breaks but also allowed a more competitive and healthy environment for all who participated. It enabled no discrimination nor harm and allowed us to bond and banter. I'm also grateful for the "planting of the religious seed" that I still nurture today as my life and love for Christ continues to grow and I understand my relationship with God too. Mazenod gave me these fundamentals which I still incorporate into my life daily.

Thinking about your time in Mazenod College, is there something you could share with current students that may help them on their journey through secondary school?

I would share this piece of advice or words with today's students that reflect even my time at Mazenod from 30 years ago. Be true to yourself! Don't follow the herd, follow your heart. It's OK to be different. NEVER give up or stop believing



in yourself or your dreams no matter how crazy others might think it to be. Be kind, respectful of others and especially your teachers. Time goes by quickly so make the most of it. Don't deny God into your life and be grateful for your health daily. Tell those you love that YOU do love them. Dream big and be consistent, patient and pleasant. Never forget where you come from so you'll always remember how far you've come. Finally, understand that just like me, it may take decades to find your true calling and destiny, but never, ever quit. If you do, you'll find quitting to be easy and may never experience the joy of winning or your true potential.

[Is there is anything else you would like to include, funny/interesting story,](#)

I'm beyond pleased and proud to be internationally and locally known, not just as the owner of the WORLD'S BIGGEST, BEST AND RAREST MICHAEL JORDAN TOY COLLECTION but also as THE guy who discovered Michael Jordan's first figurine from 1987. I've been featured here on TV in Perth (Today Tonight), been interviewed on radio several times, been featured in The West Australian and Perth Now, been featured in 2 international magazines (Sneaker Freaker Magazine issue #42 and MILK Magazine - Hong Kong), appear on Google searches under both my name "Joshua De Vaney" and "Michael Jordan's rarest toy". I was the first and only fan to be invited by the Perth Wildcats in 30 years, and the NBL to put on a Michael Jordan toy display at the RAC Arena on Mother's Day 2021 during a home game for fans to enjoy. I have had conversations with several people

closely linked to Michael Jordan and shared my collection with them such as Reggie Miller, Marcus Jordan (second son of MJ himself) Howard "H" White (Vice President of The Jordan Brand), Luc Longley (former 3 times championship teammate) as well as several well known Perth Wildcats (Bryce Cotton, Jesse Wagstaff, Damien Martin, Mike Ellis, Coach John Rillie, Shawn Redhage, Eric Watterson) and even Nic Natinui to mention a few. I've done all this single handedly through passion, persistence and dedication to add value to The GOAT'S legacy and in pursuit of meeting MJ himself. This is a huge feat given our remote location and with only having an Instagram account of less than 2.5k followers. In the Michael Jordan collectors world, I managed to break through and remain at the top of my specific interest, his toys, for close to a decade now. There's so much more to share, discuss and divulge, however I'm limited to this interview and my dream (bucket list) item is to come back to Mazenod, with a large number of toys and share more of my unique and interesting stories with current students in order to inspire, educate, uplift and share my passion and collection in the very place that fostered and started my love for basketball 30 years ago.

**Joshua DeVaney (94)**



# GRANDPARENTS MASS

It was wonderful to see such a large turn up of Mazenod grandparents at our annual Mass and morning tea. This is truly a special community event, when our College recognizes the wonderful relationships that exist between many of our boys and their grandparents. Fr Joe Antony OMI celebrated the Mass and reflected on how important grandparents are in our lives, and how he was influenced by his grandparents to become an Oblate priest. Fr Joe recounted the love and special bond that he has with his grandparents, and how this connection has had a large positive impact on his life. He ended the Mass by giving the grandparents and the boys a special blessing:

God our heavenly Father,  
we give You thanks for the gift of our grandparents.

We thank You for their love for us,  
for the time they spend with us and for the times they  
sacrifice themselves for us.

Help us to appreciate how much we can learn from  
their wisdom and experiences of life.

*Dear God,*

*bless our grandparents:  
give them health, happiness and the joy of knowing  
that we love and treasure them.*

AMEN

**Damian Wallis**  
Director of Faith & Mission







## ROY WALLACE (98)

What are you studying/your current job title and what does it involve?

I am currently working for Nomura Research Institute (NRI) Australia as a Principal Consultant in their consulting and advisory services area. Over the past two decades I've had the pleasure of working with a wide range of clients across different industries and governments, both here in Perth and abroad, on solving different problems and delivering better outcomes for companies, shareholders, governments and the wider community. My last major client engagement last year was leading the WA State Government's Cyber Security Risk Remediation and Uplift program of work to improve security controls and manage risk across our State's whole of government platforms.

Also outside of management consulting, I'm the part-owner of an events company that brings unique experiences and festival events to Perth. Next month we have the West Coast Pinball Festival being hosted at Belmont Park ([westcoastpinballfestival.com](http://westcoastpinballfestival.com)). The festival is the largest pinball expo in the southern hemisphere with over 150 pinball machines, and is hosting the 2024 Australian Pinball Championships. Later this year we're also working on bringing some other unique events from the US to Australia for the first time.

Any other personal news you would like to share: travels, married/single, kids, currently location, involved with sports/music/art, work/career highlights.

I'm married with 2 children (3 year old girl - Cleo, and 3 month old boy - Arlo). I was fortunate to travel the world for triathlon 2010-2014 and represented Australia at both the ITU Olympic and Ironman World Championships. These days my sporting days are well behind me.

Can you reflect back at your time as a student at Mazenod and share one thing that you learnt that has had an influence on you and your career? This is not limited to something you learnt in a subject, but it may be the influence of a person, belonging to a team or ensemble, service you did or perhaps something you experienced on a tour or immersion.

Reflecting on my time at Mazenod, the greatest influence on me personally that has helped me both in my career, sport and personal life - the sense of community and belonging to something greater than oneself. As a student at the time it's not something you necessarily realise and obviously take for granted, but it's something that has a lasting impact on your outlook and life. Other students I keep in touch with and have bumped into even from different year groups have said the same thing.

Thinking about your time in Mazenod College, is there something you could share with current students that may help them on their journey through secondary school?

Although it may be very difficult to imagine right now, your time at Mazenod and secondary school goes by very fast. I have young nephews who have been through Mazenod, graduated and are out in the workforce or studying already. Blink and it's gone - so make the most of it. Take advantage of the opportunities in front of you, dedicate yourself to the things you're passionate about (sport etc.) but also focus on bettering yourself in your studies or working towards employment or your chosen career. At this stage in your life, even the smallest improvements and efforts to better yourself do make a real difference down the track - what you practice now and how you apply yourself will shape the person you'll become in the future.

**Roy Wallace (98)**



## MAZENOD OLD BOYS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2023 has once again been a successful year, where we continued to add to our calendar of events.

Our Old Boys group is a special one that is able to claim a special place in the wider Mazenod community. Being a member of the Old Boys holds a special place in many graduates of Mazenod and it is always encouraging to see and hear about the successes of our community.

We all appreciate and treasure the “Mazza Spirit” that was instilled in us at school and it is wonderful to see that in full flight in various ways in the wider community. In particular, not least for those who volunteer to be Old Boy committee members.

As always, we held our annual: Golf Day, Old Boys vs First XVIII, 13th Year event and Year 12 sausage sizzle. Thank you to committee member, Andrew Ross (96), for providing prizes for the footy and golf days.

It was heartening to see approximately 40 attend our 13th Year event – now in its 4th year. This is where the immediate previous cohort are

invited back for pizza and drinks to talk about their successes, challenges and just general reflections from the first six months out of school. This is a fantastic initiative and helps students with their transition from school into ‘normal’ adult life – whatever that is!

This year the College welcomed back Old Boy and former committee member Robert “Bob” Huston from the Class on 1978 to talk to the Year 7s. This is a great example of our strong ties to the College and the desire to create greater links to the first generation of Old Boys from the 1970s and 80s. Similarly, it was impressive to see about 30 members of the Class of 1973 gather in November for their 50th anniversary reunion! Well done to all involved. As always, we encourage all Old Boys to get in touch should they wish to pop in and visit.

Last year I mentioned Dean Munns, Class of 2012 – for his co-captaincy of the West Perth Football club and their flag win earlier this year. It is fantastic to see another Old Boy – Luke English from the class of 2018 also become a WAFL Premiership winning player! I wonder which Old Boy it will be next year...?

In June we held two very successful events.

Firstly, an informal catch up and reunion for all year levels was held at the Lesmurdie Club. This event was chosen to spend some time to watch a top of the table clash for the footy, but I don't think anyone watched the match as everyone was enjoying each others company. With about 80 members in attendance, it was warmly received.

Thank you to committee members Leo, Sean, Jeremy and Liam for organising.

The other event was the re-introduction of the Old Boys v Students Basketball match in memory of Mitchell Delle Coste, from the class of 2014. As Covid had previously interrupted the matches, it was eagerly anticipated. We had over 100 people attend and it was very special to have Mitchell's parents, Kym and Danny, present the trophy. Thank you to Mr Mason and Mr Alexander - both Old Boys for their help in officiating at the event.

Our annual Kalamunda Sunday session was on 26 November, and it is fantastic to see this event become a staple of our calendar year. Thanks to all those who attended!

To our newest members, the class of 2023 - Congratulations - Welcome to the club and becoming a Mazenodian. I look forward to

seeing you at some of our events or taking part in the 13th Year events for 2024.

It was great to see Old Boys Axel Kitscha (11) and Brandon Truss (14) join the Mazenod teaching staff in 2023. This builds on Matt Alexander (15) who joined in 2022 and creates a strong culture of tradition and care for future Old Boys at the College.

Lastly, none of this could take place without the dedication and tireless work of the Mazenod Old Boys committee;

Leo Conti (82) as Vice President, Sean Cameron as Treasurer (82), Liam Mallon as Secretary (06), Jeremy Logan (87) as school Liaison Officer, Keenan Klassen (08) Andrew Ross (96) and Brady Rafferty (21). Your work and dedication is always appreciated, and I thank you for all that you do for the "MOB".

Finally thank you to all the MOB members, supporters and College community for the support of the MOB throughout the year. You have shown great Mazza spirit - thank you.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of our MOB events in 2024.

**Mr John Keogh**  
**MOB President**

## Remembrance Mass

Our eighth Remembrance Mass for deceased Old Boys was held on Saturday 4 November. Since its inception this poignant celebration has become an important feature of our calendar. It holds a special place in the hearts of our community and is very much appreciated by families and friends. Thank you to Fr McMahon OMI and Fr Joe Antony OMI for celebrating and to the Old Boys committee for continuing to organise this special Mass.



# ANNUAL FOOTY MATCH

The annual Mazenod Old Boys vs Students Footy Match was held back in September. After a very close half-time score of 2.2 for students and 2.3 for Old Boys, scoring shots were in short supply. It was a hard fought game with great heroic leads and marks aplenty. In the end, the Old Boys prevailed with the final score being 34 to 21. BoG for the Old Boys was split between Mike Garfield and Nick Caley and for the students was Zach White. It was great to see old boys from years 1982 to 2020 playing, as well as some classic sibling rivalries! Thanks to the Old Boys committee, players and the Mazza staff for organising and creating a great event once again.



# ANNUAL Golf Day

The annual Mazenod Old Boys Golf Open was held on 21 August at Hillview Golf Course. There was a great spring feel to the day as the 18 groups took part.

The group with the best raw score, off the stick was Butch Worth's team on 70. After the random handicap generator being applied, the following teams got final placings with these scores:

- 1st : Luca Crombie, Cooper Dudfield and Stuart Dudfield - 64**
- 2nd: Tim Grabski, Shaun Harapeet, Brad Harapeet and Tony Warren - 68**
- 3rd: Mike and Harry Fernando Team - 68**

Thank you to the Mazenod Old Boys, Mike and Harry Fernando and Greg Roberts, KP Financial Planning for sponsoring the event. Thanks also to Liam Mallon (O6) and John Keogh (O4) for their assistance and thanks to those who participated.



The following is a list of what the Mazenod Old Boys do in any given year...

- Hardship support for families
- Provide financial annual travel bursaries to assist students reach their goals – National representation in a sport; National representation in an academic competition, etc.
- MOB scholarship bursaries for Old Boys to help advance their education or training.
- Sponsor of junior and senior Sportsman of the Year.
- Sponsor of Craftsman of the Year prize.
- Conduct our Annual MOB Footy tipping competition.
- Provide 3 BBQs to Year 12 students.
- Sporting events - Students vs Old Boys in Basketball, Hockey and Football.
- Present one main significant event a year – Formal dinner/music presentation/Quiz night/etc.
- Sponsorship of major award for each year group at Presentation Evening.
- Hold annual MOB Golf Day.
- Conduct annual MOB Memorial Mass for students who have passed.
- Hold the Sunday Session at the Kalamunda Hotel.
- Provide advice to newly graduated students through the “13th Year” program.
- Dedicated Old Boys boarding event to support networking and friendships.
- Sponsorship of community groups - Kalamunda Cougars, Mazenod Lesmurdie Cricket Club, Mazenod Junior Football Club and Mazenod Basketball Club.
- Provide networking opportunities, support and advice between fellow Old Boys and graduating students.
- Coordination and invitation of Old Boys to speak to Year 10-12 students about career and job opportunities.
- Promote Old Boy accomplishments and successes.

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- MOB/Mazenod/student memorabilia – if people have anything they wish to donate or loan, please get in touch
- If Old Boys want to nominate to be on the committee, please get in touch
- If any Old Boys served in overseas deployment in a defence role, please get in touch – we have an honour board to record names

*We're GOING PLACES!*



# OPENDAY

Wednesday 27 March, 2024

Register Online @ [www.mazenod.wa.edu.au](http://www.mazenod.wa.edu.au)



## CLASS OF 1973 50 YEAR REUNION

Outside the Principal's office is a 2008 photo of Fr Hughes OMI, Phil Pringle (early Maths teacher) and just over 20 fossils. Certain odd coincidences in the first half of 2023 led former students from that photo to realize that it was 50 years since the Mazenod WA Class of 1973 graduated.

By the marvels of modern technology, the detective work of some 15 years ago, and some dogged stalking, it was possible to contact over half of the students of the cohort - the third year to graduate from Mazenod. A reunion date was set at Saturday 4th November.

Many could not be located, some were unable to attend, and a few were reluctant, but the number attending was remarkable. Sadly, at least a dozen have died, some relatively soon after graduation. While the graduating number was 30, over the years, with students coming and going, the total cohort was over 70. That number was reached primarily due to the work of the College's Archivist, Maria Pagotto, who tracked down every class photo and several others besides.

So, we met to tell tall tales, share a drink and catch a photo or two. And the amazing thing is that none of us has changed at all - we all looked our late teenage selves. Well, a couple of minor changes may have occurred, particularly in the follicular department.

It was a long time since our last reunion fifteen years ago. We parted this time with good intentions to meet again a lot sooner.

**Chris Nichols and Frans Brouwer**





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