



the Cornerstone

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION MAGAZINE ISSUE 25 | AUTUMN/WINTER 2019

Grandsons show off their new College

April's Grandparents' Day gave Year 9 students the opportunity to show off their new school to family members, including several Old Boys educated at the Cambridge Terrace site. About 80 grandparents plus their grandsons attended the annual event.

The morning began with a welcome by Rector Neal Swindells, Development Manager Louise McKenzie and Head Prefect William Georgeson.

Mr Swindells said the roll was just below 800, including fee-paying international students. The roll is a wide ethnic mix and includes some New Zealand-born Samoan students whose fathers are Old Boys.

The College focus is on developing the whole person with an emphasis on serving the community, Mr Swindells said.

The biggest challenge for the College was keeping families connected to the Church, he said.

"It's something that grandparents can help us with."

Tours of the College followed, led by the grandsons, and included visits to classes, College facilities and viewing of memorabilia from the old College.

Jake Richmond and Caleb Fenwick gave insights into their first few months as young Patricians. Both said how welcomed they felt from the beginning.

"St Pat's has a vibe to it that means you instantly feel at home and welcome, and all of the other students will always give you help when you need it," Jake said.

Caleb, whose ethnic mix is English, Scottish and Peruvian, said he is the first boy in his family to come here "which is an exciting experience. Most of my friends are here, as well as making some new ones. The College always makes you feel welcome because of the brotherhood that this College has."

Year 9 students, supported by the choir, Con Anima, sang the College song, *Sectare Fidem*.

Grandparents present included Old Boys Simon Taylor, John Barber and John Greening.



Grandparents Bryan and Norah Fraser and grandson Jacob Bailey with an Anzac Day display in the College library. With an older grandson also at the College, it was the Frasers' second Grandparents' Day visit.



Above left: Anne Hudson travelled from Mount Maunganui to visit the College attended by twin grandsons Isaac, left, and Eddie Hudson. Their uncle Hamish Riddell is an Old Boy. Mrs Hudson has served on a college board of governors on the Kapiti Coast and was impressed with her morning at St Pat's. Right: Year 9 student Daniel Barber with grandparents John (Old Boy 1955-1957) and Maureen Barber.



Class Years Reunion 1975-1980

If you started in the third form at St Patrick's College in 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979 or 1980 (or indeed attended at any level during these years) we would love to welcome you back to the College in September to celebrate, reminisce and reconnect.

The class years reunion will be held on Friday, September 20, 2019.

This group of years captures the last students to attend St Pat's in Cambridge Terrace, and the very first group of third formers at the current Kilbirnie site on Evans Bay Parade.

Left: St Pat's boys carry the College banner from Cambridge Terrace to Kilbirnie on Wednesday, August 8, 1979, ahead of their first day in the new buildings the following Monday.

Indeed many of these students will have been involved in the historic walk carrying the banner from the old site to the new.

If you would like more information about the reunion and haven't received a registration brochure, please email:

development@stpats.school.nz.

Boys teach English in Thailand

In January a group of senior students spent some of their holidays teaching English to Burmese students at the Marist Mission in Ranong, Thailand.

Ranong is on the border of Thailand and Myanmar and is a place where people cross illegally into Thailand.

For the St Pat's students it was an eye-opener to how teens live in another part of the world and also how much they value education.

Aleks returns from PM's Scholarship month in China

Old Boy Aleks Noble-Campbell recently returned from a month-long internship with a Chinese private equity firm after winning a Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia.

As part of the application process he had to pitch the programme he hoped to receive funding for and outline how he would benefit. The programme he sought was a one-month internship with Ming Feng Capital, a Chinese private equity firm specialising in investment within the medical, pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors within China and globally.

"This internship saw me working in a full-time capacity with the firm as an investment analyst," Aleks (2009-2013) says.

Primarily he was involved with leading transaction proposals with overseas investment banks alongside analysis of companies operating within the scope of Ming Feng's expertise.

"Specifically, regenerative medical and aesthetic platforms, minimally invasive clinical solutions, biotherapeutic autoimmune utilisation and cosmetic skincare portfolios.

"Outside of my work with Ming Feng Capital, I additionally undertook Mandarin lessons with a Chinese language school alongside various facilitated cultural activities during my programme.

"The scholarship gave me the opportunity to gain new perspectives and a greater

awareness of the opportunities China provides for multiple aspects of New Zealand and global business. It provided an appreciation of an entirely new culture and an immersive experience allowing for the application of a greater range of analytical thinking moving forward, while also providing networks to access future opportunities.

"During my time in Chengdu I also naturally joined the city's rugby club (the Chengdu Pandas) which was a fantastic experience enabling me to meet new people (including a large community of expats from across the world) and allowing me to travel outside of Chengdu for a weekend tournament. I made friends there that I still keep in touch with day-to-day. Amongst such exploration, I was also able to climb Mount Qingcheng (one of the birthplaces of Taoism) and visit the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding."

Since returning to New Zealand Aleks has started as an investment banking analyst with Macquarie Capital in Auckland.

He says the range of people he met at St Pat's helped him prepare for working life "as the professional environment is not so drastically different".

"Through St Pat's I was able to meet and work with a wide range of people, from differing cultural backgrounds, experiences, levels of ability and seniority – I was given



Aleks in the International Finance Square during his orientation in Chengdu, China.

responsibility and I had problems to solve. "This is all part and parcel of working professionally. Being amongst such a diverse group of people throughout my years at the school has prepared me for success in a multitude of environments," he says.

30-year celebration for Class of 1988

A group of Old Boys marked 30 years since they left St Pat's with a reunion last Labour Weekend.

Greg Keenan was the catalyst for the Class of 1988 gathering. Students were tracked through Facebook or the Facebook accounts of their wives and partners. Fourteen Old Boys attended.

"A big thanks must go to Brother Matt Morris who organised a tour of the school with the current Rector Mr Swindells. Thank you to the school for opening its doors to us on a long weekend and for Mr Swindells giving up his precious time for us to show us around. Many memories resurfaced as we walked the corridors of our youth, we even spotted a few photos of our younger slimmer selves that helped with the banter," says Greg.

"The reunion moved on to the teacher-friendly Realm bar in Hataitai where more students were able to join us later in the evening. The night was appropriately spent talking about old friendships and the shenanigans of youth, we couldn't tell you what each of us did for a job or what cars we drove, it was all about the catch up. A tip for other Old Boys wanting to organise a reunion - bring a copy of your year's Patrician magazine, it will help put names to faces and speed up the conversations for sure.

"A big shout-out to the boys who organized their own reunion in the UK - Neill Torbit, Marty Clark, Gus Boldarin, Damian Taylor and Elliot Davis, to the lads who sent their best wishes from the UK and the States - Tim Henry, Matt Johnson, Simon Read, Simon Buck and Sean Darroch who made the flight from New



A reunion photo at The Realm: Back row, from left, Noel McCabe, J J Bell, Warren Jarvis, Rene Kunz and Greg Keenan. Middle row, Jon Skogstad, Paul Muollo, Luigi Muollo, Jose Henriquez and John Tritsarolis. Front row, Dom O'Neil, Sean Darroch and Damian Smith.

York, Sectare Fidem, and finally to the boys nearer to home in the Islands and Australia and around Aotearoa, Kolose Fe'aunati, Tim Sepule, Phil Cody, Blair Inglis, Rhys Johnston, Chris Ablett, Lauitiiti To'omata, Geoff Mettrick and Jason Mansfield, kia kaha, I know you would have loved to come if you could, we miss you all and hope to see you again someday. Ka Kite ano."

Sir Bryan Williams guest speaker at Benefit Dinner

All Blacks great Sir Bryan Williams will be guest speaker at this year's annual Benefit Dinner and Auction in August. You are warmly invited to join Old Boys, parents (past and current), staff and friends of the College to one of the highlights of our social events calendar. The SPC Wellington Foundation will host the event on Saturday, August 24.

The event is a little later this year to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the opening of the College on our Kilbirnie site.

This special occasion will once again be a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends from the community and support our fundraising efforts.

We are hoping to take the opportunity to launch plans for a future significant building project that will mark the next era for the College.

The ticket price of \$80 per person includes a glass of bubbles on arrival, a three course dinner with table wine, and a night of great live entertainment. Book

tables for groups of 10. Individuals and smaller groups can be accommodated.

We are currently seeking donations for the Auction. This fast-paced section of the evening is not to be missed, and we have experienced auctioneer extraordinaire Mick Robbers back at the helm this year. We would be incredibly grateful if you are able to donate an item or experience that might assist us in raising funds. Our grateful thanks to the 2019 sponsors. As we go to print nine of our previous sponsors have committed their support once again this year. This event would not be possible without their assistance and that they do so without hesitation means a great deal. We still have an



This year's Benefit Dinner and Auction, featuring Sir Bryan Williams as guest speaker, will be a little later in the year to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the College on our Kilbirnie site. Photo: 1 NEWS

opportunity for two more partner sponsors, if your business would like to support in this way.

For further information about the event or supporting with sponsorship, to donate an item to the Auction, or to book your ticket(s) please email: development@stpat.s.school.nz

Thank you to our 2019 Foundation Benefit Dinner and Auction Sponsors

Principal Sponsor



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MAHONY BURROWES HORNER
LAWYERS

Old Boy scholar's new biography of Marist founder

The founder of the Society of Mary – the order that brought the first Catholic priests to New Zealand and later established St Pat's College – is the subject of an extensive new biography written by respected Biblical scholar and Old Boy Fr Justin Taylor.

Fr Justin SM (1956-1959) was asked by the society to research and write the book about its founder, Fr Jean-Claude Colin.

The foreword, written in 2017 by Fr John Hannan who was at the time the Society of Mary's Superior-General, says the book "is especially interesting for its clarity with regard to the development of the Catholic Church in Oceania. It presents the panoramic expansion of the wider missionary endeavour of the Catholic Church in the Pacific of the nineteenth century".

Fr Justin graduated Ph D and later Doctor of Divinity from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom.

He took leave from his work at the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem at personal cost to write the book titled *Jean-Claude Colin - Reluctant Founder*.

The author of several books, Fr Justin is currently senior scholar in residence at Good Shepherd Theological College in Auckland.

Jean-Claude Colin was born in France in 1790. The French Revolution, around the time Colin was born, led to many challenges including persecution of the

Catholic Church in France and the loss of property and status.

But the new era presented new possibilities and aroused new vitality that included renewed fervour and devotional practice and missions abroad, the book says.

New religious congregations, typically initiated by a new class of men and women, trying new approaches, began. Among these new groups was the Society of Mary, formed by Colin and fellow seminarians studying for the priesthood.

Begun in the 1820s, it was to be modelled on the early church of Acts, based on unity.

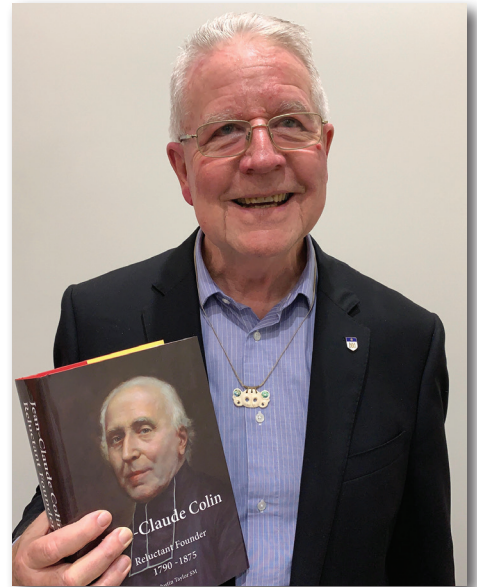
Following Papal approval of the order (with Colin as head), and the first professions, Bishop Pompallier and Marist priests and brothers departed for the new Marist mission territory of Oceania (south-western Pacific).

It was to be the mission that also brought Catholicism to New Zealand.

Over time a rift grew between Colin, based in France, and Pompallier in New Zealand.

Resulting decisions included dividing New Zealand into the diocese of Auckland under Pompallier and Port Nicholson (Wellington, which included the South Island) under Bishop Philippe Viard.

Retired Massey University Professor Peter Lineham says Colin deserves to be as well-known a name as Samuel Marsden to New Zealand history "for his guidance



Fr Justin and his new book on Society of Mary founder Fr Jean-Claude Colin.

delivered from a distance shaped the Catholic mission to New Zealand, and stabilised it in the face of many challenges".

"Justin Taylor, a Marist himself, and a New Testament scholar, has explored this and many other dimensions of the founder of the Marist Order and shown himself both a scholar, a historian, and that more elusive challenge, a biographer, who breathes life into his subject."

Fr Taylor's book is 1100 pages and was published by ATF Theology in Australia.

Foundation members stepping down

We would like to thank Mark McGuinness and Charlie Graham who recently stood down as Trustees on the Foundation's Board. They have had a long association with the College and have been involved with the Foundation since its inception in 2009 and Mark was serving as Chair of the Board until his resignation.

They have both given generously of their time and expertise to support our fundraising efforts and to manage the Foundation for the benefit of the College. We would not have achieved what we have without them. We thank you both.

The current Board of the Foundation is: Neal Swindells (Rector), Joe Gehrig (SPC Business Manager, Trustees' Treasurer), John Campbell (BoT Chair), Tom Mahony (Old Boy), Paul Berry (past parent), Quintin Tahau (Old Boy) and Nic Fitismanu (Old Boy). We are very grateful for the time committed to the Foundation by these men.

Festive gathering for Auckland Old Boys

Old Boys, largely from the class of 1960, met in Auckland in December to celebrate Christmas and the Old Boys spirit.

Their gathering, at the Northern Steamship Co Bar on December 13, was organised by Paul Reid.

Most were from the class of 1960, but the oldest present started at St Pat's in 1940 and the youngest left in 1978.

Judging by the enthusiastic discussions and laughs engendered by the gathering it is expected this Christmas function will become an annual event, Paul says.

Cambridge Terrace artefacts sought

Recent years have seen the return of stained glass windows and a holy water font from the old Cambridge Terrace building to us.

We know not all the items of historic value were able to come across to our Evans Bay site 40 years ago and many Old Boys claimed a piece of the old college before it was demolished.

If you have items you would now like to pass onto us, please contact our archivist, Rosemary McLennan.

Email: rosemary.mclennan@stpat's.school.nz

Help us locate these Old Boys

We've lost contact with a number of Old Boys because their Cornerstones have been returned to us and other attempts to make contact have been unsuccessful. If you are in contact with the following Old Boys please ask them to email rosemary.mclennan@stpat's.school.nz or phone her on (04) 939 3070 extension 212 to update our records and add them to our mailing list.

1970s: Grant Joseph Quin.

2000s: Jack Mulvey, Jack Tovey, Mason Vili, Chapman Vili, Kelvin Tay, Ben Carlyle, Ninb Esho, Anatoliy Komarov, Jesse Jardine, Charlton Skelton, Nenos Ishaya, Daniel Wrenn, Tana Craven, Yousif Toma, Thomas Frauenstein, Numi Mika, Edward Brown, Francis Vega, Mathew Reid, Carlos Caine.

Wartime documents lead to book

Family documents that revealed an Irishman's refusal to fight for New Zealand during World War II have led to a book on the wider subject.

Written by journalist Peter Burke (1959-62), *True to Ireland* is about Irishmen who left their native Eire in the 1930s to come to New Zealand for a better life.

But with WWII came the introduction of conscription. The men refused to betray their neutral Ireland and fight for New Zealand and, by default, Britain.

The book documents their struggles with officials and some politicians and how 155 of the men, including Peter's father Matthias, faced deportation to Ireland unless they fought. Eventually they won the right to stay and work in New Zealand and not wear a British uniform, which was a complete anathema to them.

Peter says that the men were eventually allowed to stay in New Zealand owes much to the very special personal relationship that Labour Party wartime Prime Minister Peter Fraser developed with the Irish Prime Minister at the time, Eamon de Valera.

Fraser formed a strong bond with the Irish Catholic community in Wellington and in 1942 made a special case to the British government to allow the Irishmen to stay in New Zealand, to which the UK government agreed.

Fraser and de Valera met each other on four occasions – 1935, 1941 and twice in 1948.

The book features a foreword by Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland, endorsing Peter's research.

He commends Peter for not only recovering the memories of his father and comrades but "deepening our understanding of the shared history of Ireland and of New Zealand".

The book was jointly launched by the Ambassador of Ireland, Peter Ryan, and Minister of Agriculture Damien O'Connor.

Ambassador Ryan described the book as a "story that had to be told" and said it must have been traumatic for the men after the lives they had fled from in Ireland.



Old Boy and author Peter Burke, left, with Fr Eamon Aylward at the book's launch in Wellington on March 13. Fr Aylward travelled from Dublin for the launch and was a major contributor to the book, supplying material on his uncle Maurice Leo Aylward who was among the Irishmen who refused to take up arms for New Zealand.

The seven pages of family material that Peter Burke found contained 2000 words. After 10 years on the project they had grown into a 94,000 word manuscript, including appendices, glossary, bibliography, footnotes and biographies of the main individuals featured in the story.

He discovered some of the men destined for deportation included fathers of his fellow St Pat's College students in the 1950s and 1960s.

Peter set up a special room in his house which enabled him to focus on writing the book when he went in there.

"This is an untold story and adds another dimension to the Irish New Zealand history. It also gives a unique insight into the political skills and acumen of Peter Fraser and his love of the Irish," the book's promotional material says.

The book has been published by Cuba Press in Wellington.

www.true-to-ireland.com

French exploration of the Pacific focus of new book

Old Boy and former Auckland Regional Council chairman Mike Lee (1963-1965) has written a book on French exploration of New Zealand and the South Pacific.

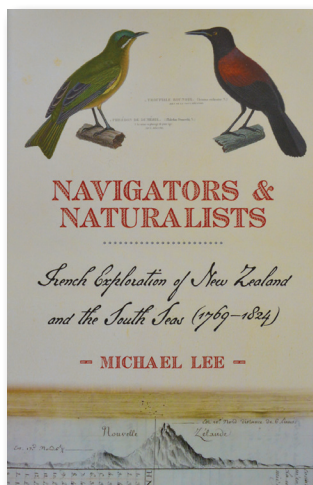
Navigators & Naturalists – French exploration of New Zealand and the South Seas 1769-1824 is published by Bateman Books and attempts to redress the balance between French exploration and the over-emphasis on the British Captain James Cook.

The focus is on what the French found during their voyages around the South Pacific.

Mike is a former merchant navy officer. He has long been active in island conservation, especially in the Hauraki Gulf, but is best known for his many years in local government.

He first came across the journals of Dumont d'Urville's 1827 Astrolabe voyage in 1996 when writing his thesis for a University of Auckland Master of Sciences degree in biological science. This sparked his interest in the largely unappreciated role of French navigators and naturalists in the scientific discovery of New Zealand, the Pacific and Southern Ocean, and he has been researching and writing about this aspect of New Zealand's natural history ever since.

He says that unusually the book is not about James Cook but about the lesser-known explorers who were Cook's contemporaries or came after him. Most were French and their contribution has been over-shadowed by Cook's.



Old Boy Mike Lee

Mike attended the 1960-64 reunion in October last year and has recently given a copy of his book to the college library.

He says his interest in French history, language and culture can "certainly be traced back to the Marists and my days at St Pat's (Father Maurie Bourke in particular)".

Former Judge Sir John Jeffries dies

Old Boy and former High Court Judge Hon Sir John Jeffries died in January, aged 89.

From 1941 to 1945 Sir John attended the college where he struggled to gain academic success. He passed School Certificate on his third attempt.

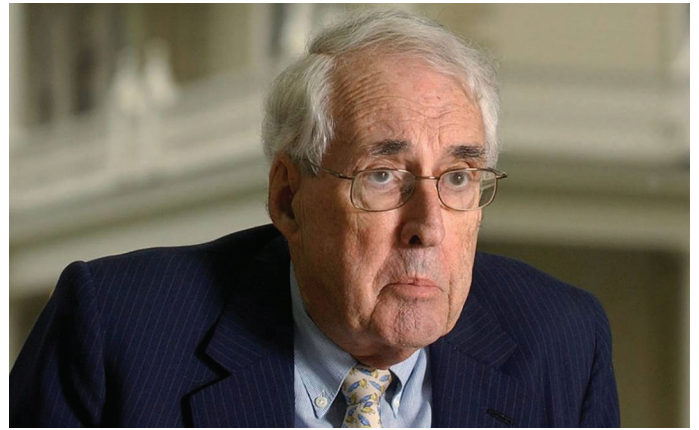
Mourners at his funeral were told the college Rector wrote in his reference that the young Jeffries should not be given any job that required study. It was a reference that Jeffries took humour from for the rest of his life.

His first job was as an insurance clerk but it was cut short when he contracted TB.

He took up teaching before graduating from Victoria University College with a BA and later a law degree. He was admitted to the bar in 1961.

He became a partner in Scott, Hardie Boys, Morris and Jeffries and was later president of the New Zealand Law Society.

In 1968 he was elected to Wellington City Council and later became deputy mayor.



Sir John Jeffries in 2002, on his reappointment as chairman of the Press Council. Photo: MAARTEN HOLL/STUFF

In 1976 he was appointed to the High Court as a Judge and served there until his retirement in 1992. In 1993 he was made a Knight Bachelor for his services to the legal system.

His retirement years included heading the Police Complaints Authority and the New Zealand Press Council.

His funeral service was held at Our Lady's Home of Compassion in Island Bay.

Famed Filmmaker a St Pat's Old Boy

Acclaimed New Zealand filmmaker Geoff Murphy, who died in December, was an Old Boy of St Pat's.

He attended the college from 1952 until 1956.

In his autobiography he remembered "Colditz Castle" more for its forbidding look and the strict discipline, including the cane, "greatly reinforcing my negative attitudes towards authority".

In the years that followed he discovered film making and is best remembered as the director of 1980s Kiwi classics *Goodbye Pork Pie*, *The Quiet Earth* and *Utu*. He also spent a decade in Hollywood helming big budget sequels like *Young Guns 2* and *Under Siege 2*.

Murphy was also a popular choice as second-unit director with Roger Donaldson employing him on 1990s disaster movie *Dante's Peak* and Peter Jackson using his skills for *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy.



Film-maker Geoff Murphy has died at the age of 80. Photo: DAVID WHITE

The recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2013 Moa NZ Film awards, Murphy was also named as one of New Zealand's 20 greatest living artists by the Arts Foundation and made an NZOM in the 2014 New Year Honours.

He was 80 when he died on December 3.

In Memoriam

**We remember in our prayers
Old Boys who have passed
away:**



BATTISTON, Sante Anthony 1949-1951
BLATCH, Francis Bernard 1957-1959
BURGOYNE, Roger Maxwell 1959-1961
CHRISTIE, Terence E (Terry) 1951-1955
DESMOND, Joseph John 1945-1949
DUIGNAN, Thomas Spencer 1974-1977
FEENEY, Francis Joseph (Frank) 1975-1977
FITZGERALD, Patrick Leonard (Pat) 1952-1955

FOX, Maurice William Colin 1946-1947
HANSON, Patrick Anthony (Pat) 1948
HOGGARD, Patrick Reginald (Pat) 1939-1942
JEFFRIES, Hon Sir John Francis Kt 1941-1945
KELLY, David James (Dave) 1949-1950
McELIGOTT, Ronald 1948-1951
MEARS, Paul Joseph 1953-1957
MIDDLETON, Hadley James 2007-2008
MUNN, James Douglas (Jim) 1956
MURPHY, Geoffrey Peter 1952-1956
O'CONNOR, Terence Lister 1963-1964
O'SULLIVAN, Gordon Herbert 1942-1944
O'SULLIVAN, Timothy Michael 1961-1964
QUINN, Anthony Brian (Tony) 1975-1979
RODGERS, Anthony William St Clair (Tony) 1941-1945
WEAKLEY, Kenneth Malcombe 1959-1963

Interest in history began at St Pat's

An interest in history that grew during Darryl Burrowes' student years at St Pat's has led to a thesis and published book on the Spanish Civil War.

"My love of history started when I was very young and it was the one subject I really enjoyed studying while at St Patrick's College. I still remember a history teacher I had at school called Archie Naylor. I went on to major in history at Christchurch University and subsequently ended up teaching history at various comprehensive schools in London for 13 years," he says.

Dr Burrowes (1963-1968) has just published *Historians at War*, a revised and updated version of his PhD thesis submitted in 2016. The thesis was the culmination of about four years of research and writing which took him to archives and organisations in San Francisco, Salamanca and Madrid, New York, The Netherlands, England and Scotland.

He wasn't planning to publish the thesis as a book but changed his mind after an invitation from eminent hispanist scholar Professor (Sir) Paul Preston in his role as editor of a series of books on contemporary Spanish history and politics.

"It was a great honour to be asked and it was an offer that I could not refuse.

"So my thesis has ended up published in a Spanish history series that includes works by all the most significant historians of the contemporary Spanish history."

Dr Burrowes says that as an adolescent growing up in New Zealand in the 1960s, "my right of passage was a romantic fixation with John A Lee's *Children of the*

Poor and a belief in the righteousness of the Second Spanish Republic in the Spanish Civil War".

In 2011, after several "gap" decades, he returned to university to complete an honours year in history.

"It was during this year, while researching and writing on General Miguel Primo de Rivera, the dictator of Spain from 1923 to 1930, that my passion for the Spanish Civil War was rekindled. Primo de Rivera's dictatorship spawned Spain's progressive Second Republic in 1931, which in turn ignited the 1936 conservative backlash followed by three years of bitter civil war.

"*Historians at War* is a natural progression of my interests – history and politics. It explores how the Spanish Civil War was represented by key Anglo-American writers and historians during the years of the Cold War. It is axiomatic that historians do not live in a vacuum and that they are influenced by the politics of their time.

"My book explores how Cold War politics impacted on the production of history, with a special focus on how the communists and the Soviet Union were portrayed in the Spanish Civil War. This was an aspect of Spanish Civil War historiography which could be tackled from Adelaide [where he lives] after initially gathering the primary evidence from overseas archives. Moreover, I was intrigued to delve into the activities of the CIA-sponsored Congress for Cultural Freedom and determine the



Dr Darryl Burrowes

role it played in influencing and distorting Anglo-American historiography of the Civil War."

Dr Burrowes says the book will attract readers interested in the Spanish Civil War and the Cold War per se, as well as those interested in seeing how historians construct their histories and how the writing of history can become politicized.

"The book will also attract readers who enjoy biography, because *Historians at War* delves into hitherto undisclosed details of the lives of four Anglo-Saxon writers, including George Orwell, through four stand-alone biographical chapters. Four writers who contributed to the foundational analysis of the history of the Spanish Civil War."

Dr Burrowes is currently a research fellow at Flinders University in Australia with academic status in history. He is writing a second book, this time on an aspect of Australian history.

Historians at War is available through Amazon, Book Depository and good booksellers.

Students show support for Kilbirnie Mosque

Words of support and compassion in many languages made up a banner that St Pat's students took to the Kilbirnie Mosque.

The College held a special liturgy the Monday following the March 15 Christchurch tragedy. The liturgy centred on the prayer of St Francis of Assisi on which our former Rector and current Bishop of Christchurch Fr Paul Martin SM had focused his response to the tragedy.

The liturgy included singing the National Anthem.

This verse was particularly poignant:

*From dissension, envy, hate,
And corruption guard our state,
Make our country good and great,
God defend New Zealand.*



Year 13 students at the Kilbirnie Mosque present their message of support to the Wellington and wider Muslim community.

1994, 1999 reunions soon

The Class of 1994 is organising an informal reunion to be held the weekend of 14-16 June 2019.

If you were in the Seventh Form class in 1994 please contact

Karl Gill-Michaels (Karl.Gill-Michaels@aeropath.aero) for more details.

An informal reunion is also being planned for the Class of 1999. Email development@stpats.school.nz

1969 third formers mark 50 years on



The Backbencher pub in Molesworth Street was the venue for the 50-year reunion of 1969 third formers.

About 50 of the 1969 intake of third formers met up in Wellington over Easter to mark half a century since they started at St Pat's together.

This year's reunion was organised by 1969 third formers Tony Southall and Ian Manning. Old Boys travelled from London, California and Australia and around New Zealand to attend.

The idea for the reunion followed their first, held in conjunction with the College's 125th anniversary in 2010.

"It took another nine years before we decided to attempt it again quite independently of anything which the College was doing, and this time the enthusiasm and response was immediate," says Ian, who lives in Australia.

"There's no doubt that the facility which Facebook provides these days helped a great deal in getting the ball rolling and we had had about two years of reminiscences, contributions and photos (many of them supplied by the College) to get the guys chatting and finding close friends again.

"We had a two-day programme with golf, a craft brewery tour and a full day at the Backbencher [pub]. The re-connection was instant this time. A big number attended the brewery tour and we walked the streets of Wellington together in a manner very

reminiscent of the 17 year-old boys we had been 45 years ago. That experience must have been as close as you can get in life to taking a trip in a time machine," Ian says.

For some Old Boys they had a shared history predating St Pat's as they had spent their primary years together at Marist Brothers schools.

Ian says there was a lot of support for another get-together in five years' time when the boys will be about 67.

"It was quite obvious that what they say about the development of kids is very true. 'Give me the child of seven and I will show you the adult.'

"Personalities are cast in stone from a very early age and memory retains much more than you might imagine – for some more than others, of course, but if the boys currently attending the College look around at their colleagues, I can safely say that they will find the same young people with the same personalities when they gather again at any time in the future.

"Those boys and their shared experiences will probably be among the strongest connections you will ever have with other people in your life. Cherish them!"



Marist Brothers Newtown boys at the reunion.



Old Boys from St Benedict's School at Khandallah, from left, John Duignan, Geoff Grigg and Peter Byrne.



These Old Boys attended Marist Brothers Thorndon before St Pat's.



These Old Boys had a shared background at Marist Brothers Miramar.