

## **St Peter's Alumni Association Chair's Report for AGM 2023**

*From Nitin Khare, Acting Chair.*

It is my pleasure to present this report as we enter an exciting new chapter in our Alumni history. I want to take the opportunity to first thank our committee members who have given up their time in their busy lives over the last 12 months to work towards a common goal of serving our members and the school. A special mention to our Alumni and Advancement office manager, Josephine Gallagher who has worked tirelessly to coordinate the various initiatives set out by the committee to engage with our members.

We are building on the hard work and commitment of Alumni Committees over many years, with a renewed energy and focus, but with the same aim: re-connecting and engaging with Alumni across all years, in a meaningful and valuable way.

At this meeting we intend to pass an updated constitution, which will put in place a solid and relevant platform for what we wish to achieve in the next five years and beyond.

We are pleased to welcome new members to our committee, spanning across decades, while still retaining the experience of current members. We have a new representative on the School Trust Board in Julia Foxley. We also acknowledge the Board's appointment of Head of School Marcus Blackburn and congratulate him on his appointment. We are looking forward to working with Marcus, particularly in his capacity as our new Patron.

Moving on to some of the highlights of our past year. We continue to provide an Alumni Bursary to support a student with alumni connections, who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend St Peter's. It was great for us to re-connect with alumni at a series of events, which had not been possible due to Covid.

- We hosted a pre-production cocktail evening and guests to the School of Rock senior production. An amazing show as always.
- The Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner – we were able to recognise the 2021 recipients at a well-attended evening at the Sir Don Rowlands Centre, Karapiro.
- At our annual Alumni Sports Day – we marked 20 years of alumni sports clashes against school teams with football and basketball matches last year.
- A 20-year reunion was hosted in Tauranga for 2002 school leavers supported by the committee as part of our renewed reunion focus.
- Followed by a dinner reunion of the 1980s cohort which was held in Cambridge.
- We had our Alumni vs school cricket match – a great occasion held earlier this month which brought together people from across the St Peter's community.

As the committee looks to pursue its aspirational goals, we would like to thank the members of our committee who have stepped down over the past year. We acknowledge the service of the following people:

- Philip Coles, for 14 years of service including seven as chair.
- Rebecca Jenkins, for three years of service.
- Megan Glenn; for service to the committee over the past year.
- Brenton Joubert, for service as our Patron over the last year.

Finally, we want to acknowledge all alumni and their families who for some have had a tough few months and years with the historical abuse and the subsequent apology by the school in November 2021. A listening service has been set up by the school for our members to access. Also, the recent weather events such as Cyclone Gabrielle has affected our members and we hope they are recovering well. We are here to support all of you. We recognize you for being at the heart of all we do. Please continue to engage with us and your peers. We are here to be guided by you and we encourage your input.

Thank you.