

St Paul's College 9 City Road, Camperdown NSW 2050 ABN 62 627 137 646

May 2024

Dear supporter of the College,

The work of the St Paul's College Foundation is essential for the ongoing success and strength of the College. Thank you to all those who continue to support the Foundation and, through it, the opportunities that are provided to those who would not otherwise be able to live and study at St Paul's.

This year will be remembered as an incredibly significant and sad one for the Foundation as our co-founder and longtime Chairman, Robert Albert, died on 7 February. Perhaps no Pauline has had a greater impact on the development and flourishing of this College than Robert. Since his time as a student in the 1950s, Robert worked tirelessly to serve the College through the Union, the Foundation and as a Fellow and Bursar. He gave generously to support the restoration and improvement of facilities, as well as for scholarships. There are now hundreds of Paulines who owe their time at College to the generosity of Robert and his family. He led by example in his giving and thereby serves as a model for each of us. His Foundation appeal letters were also legendary. One example of his warm encouragement at the end of those letters was: "So open those cheque books and discover you can get a warm inner feeling other than rum or whisky." Robert will be deeply missed by all who knew him, and our deepest sympathies are with Libby, Kirsty, Dave, and Janie.

The College has also honoured the other co-founder of the Foundation, Lloyd Waddy, with the development of the Waddy Performance Centre. Lloyd was also a student in the 1950s and served on the Union Committee and as a Fellow for no less than 48 years, including a period as Chairman of Council. Lloyd was the founder of Victoriana! which, as a uniquely Pauline annual event, has entertained the Pauline community for sixty years. The new centre was opened on 4 May with a range of theatrical, musical and choral performances, along with suitable formalities appropriate for such an occasion. Included in the development is a 250-seat state-of-the-art performance auditorium with foyer and bar.

The Waddy Performance Centre also includes individual music practice rooms and an ensemble/band room which doubles as a green room for performances. There has been an expansion of the gymnasium to include a dedicated air-conditioned cardio room and dance/Pilates/yoga studio. These additions mean that the facilities at St Paul's are second to none among colleges in Australia and they will continue to enhance the student experience.

There is still opportunity to give to the fundraising effort for the Waddy Performance Centre. The College currently sits a few hundred thousand dollars short of its target. So, if you would like to contribute to this project, which both honours one of our most selfless and dedicated Paulines and provides incredible new facilities for future Paulines, you can do so by pressing the "Donate" button on the website.

St Paul's is currently enjoying a wave of popularity and there were an unprecedented number of applications (over 800) for places in 2024. The exam results from Semester 2, 2023 across the College were impressive with 129 undergraduates achieving an average grade of High Distinction or Distinction. The tutorial programme is flourishing and the research being produced by our graduate students is impressive. On top of all this, the sporting, spiritual and social life of the College are all thriving. A particular highlight was winning the men's, women's, and mixed rowing races at this year's regatta.

The Foundation's investments continue to be well managed, and this enables the Foundation to support scholarships and bursaries and improvements to facilities. This year the Foundation is granting \$825,000 to the College, which is supporting 93 students on scholarships and bursaries. Without this support, arising from the generosity of Paulines, the opportunity to come to St Paul's would not be possible for these students.

We remain very grateful to those Paulines who have remembered their alma mater in their Wills. Over the last year there have been a number of significant bequests which have contributed to the scholarship support and facilities improvement the College is able to offer. If you would like to speak to someone at St Paul's about making a gift through a pledge or planning a gift in your Will please reach out to our Development Associate, Sarah Siegloff (sarah.siegloff@stpauls.edu.au) for advice. Also, Richard Morgan (community@stpauls.edu.au) continues to serve our alumni as Director of Community Engagement and is always available to engage with the wider Pauline community.

The opportunities to have a significant impact on the next generation of Paulines are manifold. The Foundation depends on the generosity of those who appreciated the importance of their own experience at St Paul's and wish to make a life changing difference for those who come after them. As the end of financial year approaches, we encourage you to give generously to this special place and its important work.

All the best,

Geoff Lovell

FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN

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