

Prince Alfred College (also referred to as PAC, Princes, or in sporting circles, The Reds)[3][4][5] is a private, independent, day and boarding school for boys, located on Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town – near the centre of Adelaide, South Australia. Prince Alfred College was established in 1869 by the Methodist Church of Australasia, which amalgamated with other Protestant churches in 1977 to form the Uniting Church in Australia.

The school has enrolment of some 1,100 students from reception and educational year groups one to twelve (ages 2 to 18),[1] including some 140 boarders from years seven to twelve.[2] Prince Alfred College launched its own kindergarten, Little Princes, in 1999, which was renamed Princes ELC in 2009.[6]

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School performance[edit]

Academic[edit]

Senior students study to achieve the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE),[7] or the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma programme. In 2016, PAC ranked equal 9th in South Australia and 524th nationally for academic achievement (including NAPLAN, ATAR, IBD).[8][9] In the same year PAC was close to average in all NAPLAN scores for Year 9 when compared to similar schools. When compared to all Australian schools it was substantially above average in reading and numeracy, above average for grammar and punctuation, and average for spelling.[10] PAC has 112 teaching staff and 117 non-teaching staff.[11]

Demographic[edit]

Of the 1102 students attending the school in 2016, 68% of students have parents in the top quarter of Australian society in socio-economic terms, while 1% come from the bottom quarter. 1% of students have indigenous heritage, while 18% have a non-English speaking background.[11]

Financial[edit]

According to the Australian Government's MySchool website, in 2015 PAC recorded a net income of \$28m, 72% of which came from student fees (\$26k from each student), 16% from the Australian Government and 6% from private sources.[12]

History[edit]

Prince Alfred College was named after Prince Alfred during his visit to Adelaide in 1867. Alfred was one of the four sons of Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert. The school has attracted many royal visitors since its foundation, including Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip in 1954.

The founders of PAC were determined that the religious traditions of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, should be indoctrinated in the school. Young Methodist men of the colony and PAC were encouraged to live disciplined, hard working and predominantly Christian lives, even though they were mocked facing society's temptations.

The only female student to attend the school was Lilian Staple Mead, daughter of Baptist minister Silas Mead, in 1883-1884, in order to matriculate and enter University at a time when few schools were available for girls to do so.[13][14][15]

At one time, Princes was the only college in Adelaide to offer the IB Diploma at all three stages; the PYP and MYP are compulsory units of work for Preparatory and Middle school students, enabling its students to continue to complete the Diploma in year 11 and 12, or to be recognised nationally with the SACE.[16][17][18]

On Wednesday 18 April 2018, Elizabeth II's son, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, visited Prince Alfred College, and participated in an unveiling a stone to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the College.[19]

List of headmasters[edit]

1869–1870 Samuel Fiddian

1871–1875 John Hartley

1876–1914 Frederic Chapple

1915–1929 W. R. Bayly

1930–1948 Fred Ward[20]

1949–1969 John Dunning

1970–1987 Geoffrey Bean

1988–1999 Brian Webber

2000–2004 Dr. Stephen Codrington[21]

2004–2014 Kevin Tutt

2014–current Bradley Fenner

Campuses[edit]

The original school campus is in the Adelaide suburb of Kent Town. The school also owns two other campuses, one for outdoor education in Scott's Creek, and the other in Point Turton named 'Wambana', developed specifically for boys to spend extended periods of time away from home to experience all of the responsibilities adults have to face like; cooking, cleaning, time management and food shopping.[22]

Kent Town[edit]

The original and main campus is located in Kent Town, approximately 2 km east of the Adelaide city centre. The land, originally leased by Dr Benjamin Archer Kent from 1840 to 1859, then bought by Charles Robin,[23] was bought at auction from Charles Robin for £2750 on 18 September 1865.[citation needed] However, it was not until 22 June 1969 that the college celebrated its inauguration, two years after the laying of the foundation stone by H.R.H. Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh.[24][25]

A feature of the college is the Main Building, which was built in three sections. The central section was ready for use in 1869 and housed offices, teaching areas, a residence for the Headmaster, and accommodation for boarders, who have been an important aspect of the College's history. The Waterhouse Wing (south) was added in 1877, and increased the boarding accommodation, as well as providing an assembly room, and a science laboratory. The Cotton Wing (north), added in 1881, further expanded boarding space and teaching areas. The science hall was opened in 1891, and the Main Building was completed in 1889. The cast-iron fence and railings around the front of the grounds were erected by 1905 by the NCP.[who?] The former residence of Alexander Dowie became the preparatory school in 1911.[24][25]

The school campus is divided by the main building, with the preparatory school on the Flinders Street (south) side of the school, and the middle and Senior schools on the Capper Street (north) side. Some of the facilities within the Kent Town Campus include:[26]

Accommodation for approximately 140 boarding students

Classrooms

Computer Rooms

Science Laboratories

Frederic Chapple Library

The Preparatory Library

The Gerard Theatre

The Eric Freak Memorial Chapel

ANZAC Hall

Piper Pavilion

The John Dunning Sports Centre

RED Centre (Sports and Health Centre)

Eric Freak Memorial Chapel

Eric Freak Memorial Chapel (34°55'23.73"S 138°37'9.92"E) was built in 1972 as a memorial to Eric Freak (1916–34, PAC 1929–33), an outstanding tennis player who succeeded in schoolboy championships and promised a brilliant career in the game before his premature death. The Chapel contains a number of instruments including a grand piano and an organ.[27]

ANZAC Hall

ANZAC Hall (34°55'20.29"S 138°37'4.59"E) was relaunched in September 2010 after renovation works which turned it into a fully equipped theatre facility with audio and lighting capabilities. The building provides extensive facilities for music, drama, workshops, seminars and associated events. ANZAC Hall seats up to 800 people.[28] The hall is currently being redone and is due to open for the start of term 2.

Piper Pavilion

The Piper Pavilion (34°55'21.07"S 138°37'5.45"E), adjacent to ANZAC Hall, is a venue for exhibitions, trade shows, seminars, conferences, cocktail receptions and flow on events from ANZAC Hall.[29]

The John Dunning Sports Centre

The John Dunning Sports Centre (34°55'25.03"S 138°37'11.27"E) is a facility for the preparatory school's students. It seats approximately 700 people, and can also be used for hosting theatrical performances, art shows, luncheons, alumni events and presentation evenings.[30]

Sports Centre (RED Centre)

The Sports Centre (34°55'16.68"S 138°37'8.68"E) is a flexible multi-purpose sporting and health facility, including a two court basketball stadium, an indoor swimming pool, change room facilities, squash courts, and a number of multi-purpose teaching and function spaces. It was redeveloped, and was completed in early 2013. It also houses a health and fitness studio.[31]

Scotts Creek Campus[edit]

Scotts Creek campus (34° 5'30.81"S 139°40'2.70"E) is the college's Murray River retreat. The Scotts Creek Outdoor Centre is located near Morgan, approximately 165 km from Adelaide. It provides a mix of environmental education, adventure and personal development activities.[32]

Wambana Campus[edit]

Wambana Campus (34°57'5.58"S 137°21'45.77"E) is an off school ground recreational camp. The primary purpose of Wambana is to foster growth by helping adolescent boys better manage the transition to adulthood through immersion in community, academic, spiritual and outdoor adventures.[22]

Wambana is a six-acre (approx. 2.5 hectares) property situated on the coast of southern Yorke Peninsula, bordering the township of Point Turton and rural farming land. Students and staff live in a small village in which residential accommodation and a classroom are clustered around a central meeting facility. The property consists of six accommodation buildings known as "Wardlis" (aboriginal word meaning "dwelling"). Wambana

accommodates up to 32 students for five-week periods.[22]

Houses[edit]

Since its inception, the college has used a "House" system – all students belong to a House. It is the school's aim that activities that are part of the House system continue to build the strong community feel that the founding fathers envisaged in 1869.

Over the course of each year, students participate in inter-house competitions for the Wesley Cup – competitions include swimming, athletics, rowing, chess, debating, music and drama performances, and year level lunchtime sports. The "Academic Effort" grades earned by students also contribute to the House points tally.

Currently, the PAC Houses are Taylor (Green), Cotton (Blue), Watsford (Orange) and Waterhouse (Yellow). At the time of the school's centenary (1969), the houses were Bayly (Red), Cotton (Blue), Waterhouse (Yellow) and "School"; at that time all boarders were members of School House.

The houses play in competitions to see who wins the house cup (Wesley cup) and the spirit cup.

Sport[edit]

Prince Alfred College is a member of the Sports Association for Adelaide Schools (SAAS).

Rowing[edit]

Rowing began at PAC in 1883 and has played an important part in the school's sporting culture since that time. The school has two boat houses, at West Lakes and by the Torrens Lake in the City of Adelaide's parklands. The school employs a full-time Director of Rowing, (currently Mr. Will Maling). Although competition in local and national regattas forms an integral part of the rowing programme, the main event for each year is the Head of the River. The school won the Head of the River in 2012, 2013 and 2014, captained by Jack Kelly (2012), Nicholas Parletta (2013) & William Burfield (2014). These years marked the first time the college has won three consecutive titles at the event.

Intercol[edit]

Each sports team at Princes has an annual fixture against traditional longtime rivals Saint Peter's College, known as the "Intercol" (Inter-collegiate). These are considered by the two colleges to be the most important games of the seasons, and the fiercely fought matches of the more popular sports draw big crowds of students and old scholars from both schools.[33] The Intercols have been played for over 100 years. At one time, the Australian rules football and the Cricket intercols were both played on Adelaide Oval. The Cricket Intercollegiate match has been competed since 1878. According to Richard Sproull[who?] this is "the oldest unbroken annual contest in the history of cricket" (Weekend Australian 5/6 December 1992).

Outdoor education[edit]

The Prince Alfred College Outdoor Education programme provides a variety of integrated activities designed to allow boys to face challenges beyond those possible in a suburban day school. Current activities are focused on the Scotts Creek Outdoor Centre at Morgan on the River Murray.

In 2008, the college opened its Wambana Campus at Point Turton on the Yorke Peninsula. Year 9 students spend 5 weeks at the new facility, learning field science and mathematics

along with other subjects and life skills as well as community service.

Year 11 students undertake practical leadership training and are encouraged to nominate for trips to Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Kangaroo Island.

Notable alumni[edit]

See People educated at Prince Alfred College

Notable old scholars of Princes include:

Rhodes Scholars[edit]

The Rhodes Scholarship is a postgraduate scholarship for study at Oxford University. South Australian recipients[34] who attended PAC include:

Rhodes Scholar Year

awarded College at Oxford Ref

William Douglas Allen (1914–2008) 1937 New College

Henry Brose (1890–1965) 1913 Christ Church

Garry Leslie Brown 1964 Magdalen [35]

Theodor Siegfried Dorsch 1933 Christ Church [36]

David Wyke Evans 1957 New College

Henry Fry (1886–1959) 1909 Balliol

Sir Brian Hone (1907–1978) 1930 New College

Stanford Howard 1919 Christ Church

Norman Jolly (1882–1954) 1904 Balliol

Cecil Madigan (1889–1947) 1911 Magdalen

Ryan Paul Manuel 2006 Merton

Roger Gilbert Opie (1927–1998) 1951 Christ Church [37]

Renfrey Potts (1925–2005) 1948 Queen's

Howard Rayner (1896–1975) 1916 Balliol

David Alexander Robertson 1983 Magdalen

Peter Lindsay Rogers 1963 New College

Michael Ewers Smyth 1960 Exeter

Mahesh Umapathysivam 2014 St Peters College

Stephen Kidman Wilkinson 1982 New College

Academia, medicine and science[edit]

Herbert Basedow (1881–1933), Anthropologist, geologist, explorer, politician

Roger Brissenden (1962–) Deputy Director, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Henry Brose (1890–1965), Physicist, translator, pathologist, biochemist, academic, Rhodes Scholar

Sir Raphael Cilento, medical practitioner and public health administrator

Sir John Burton Cleland, CBE (1878–1971), Naturalist, microbiologist, mycologist, ornithologist, Professor of Pathology

Henry Fry, DSO (1886–1959), Physician, anthropologist, Rhodes Scholar

Bill Griggs, AM, ASM, doctor

Brian Kenneth Hobbs (1937–2004), doctor

Lyell McEwin (1897–1987), politician

Howard Rayner (1896–1975), doctor

Con Stough – Professor of Psychology – Swinburne University

John Burnard West (1928–), respiratory physiologist

Lionel Logue, speech therapist to King George VI, depicted in Oscar-winning film The King's Speech

Business[edit]

Tim Cooper (1955–), CEO of Coopers Brewery[38]

Glenn Cooper (1952–), Executive Chairman of Coopers Brewery[39]

Robert Gerard, businessman, previously Chairman of Gerard Industries

Sir Edward Holden (1885–1947), Founder of Holden, vehicle manufacturer

Greg Siegele, Co-founder of Ratbag Games Pty Ltd

Education[edit]

William Bayly, Headmaster – Geelong College Vic and Prince Alfred College SA

Sir Brian Hone OBE FACE (1907–1978), Headmaster – Cranbrook School NSW and

Melbourne Grammar School Vic

Entertainment, media and the arts[edit]

Sir John Ashton, OBE, ROI (1881–1963), Painter and Director of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales

Charles Baeyertz (1866–1943), publisher of The Triad, critic and broadcaster

Chris Bailey (1950–2013), bass guitarist with ARIA award-winning Australian Bands 'The Angels' and 'GANGgajang'[40]

David Basheer, Association Football commentator and analyst on SBS

John Henry Chinner (1865–1933), caricaturist and PAC board member

Bob Francis (1939–2016), radio presenter, FIVEaa

Robert Hannaford, AM (1944–), portrait painter and sculptor

Ivor Hele (1912–1993), war artist and prolific portraitist

Sir Robert Helpmann, CBE (1909–1986), Ballet dancer, actor, director and choreographer

Graham Jenkin, poet, composer and historian

Hayley Lever (1876–1958), painter

Adam Liaw (1978–), lawyer and winner of 2010 MasterChef Australia

Rex Heading (1929–2010), the creator of Humphrey B. Bear whose show won two Logies; former managing director of Channel Nine[41]

Exploration[edit]

Duncan Chessell (1970–), Mountaineer

Cecil Madigan (1889–1947), explorer, Geologist, Rhodes Scholar, University Lecturer

Andrew Martin (1951–), Marathon swimmer, first recorded solo crossing of the treacherous Backstairs Passage between Cape Jervis and Kangaroo Island.[42]

Military and defence[edit]

Major-General Sir Newton Moore KCMG (1870–1936), eighth Premier of Western Australia, World War I general, member of the UK House of Commons

John Alexander Raws, journalist and WW1 diarist, killed in action 23 August 1916 at Pozieres – no known grave[43]

Lieutenant Leonard Taplin, DFC, World War fighter ace, pioneer aerial photographer and aerial cartographer

Captain Hugo Vivian Hope Throssell, VC (1884–1933), soldier, farmer[44]
 Politics, public service and the law[edit]
 Cory Bernardi (1969–), Senator for South Australia since 2006, also the youngest ever member of the Australian heavyweight rowing squad[citation needed]
 Harold Boas (1883–1980), Perth architect and town planner
 Sir John Lavington Bonython (1875–1960), editor of The Advertiser, Lord Mayor of Adelaide (1927–1930)
 Grant Chapman (1949–), Member for Division of Kingston (1975–1983) and Senator for South Australia (1988–2008)
 David Combe (1943–), National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party from 1973 to 1981.
 John Lancelot Cowan, Member for the District of Southern Districts (1949–1959) in the South Australian Legislative Council
 Charles Glover (1870–1936), first Lord Mayor of the City of Adelaide (1919)
 Lionel Logue, CVO (1880–1953), speech therapist who successfully treated King George VI's stammer
 Major-General Sir Newton Moore KCMG (1870–1936), eighth Premier of Western Australia, World War I general, member of the UK House of Commons
 Sir Geoffrey Reed (1892–1970), judge in the Supreme Court of South Australia, first Director-General of ASIO
 Nick Xenophon (1959–), South Australian Legislative Council member (1997–2008) and Senator for South Australia (2008–2017), leader of the SA-Best party.
 Sport[edit]
 Cricket[edit]
 Greg Blewett (born 1971)
 Greg Chappell, MBE (born 1948), Australian captain 1975–1977, 1979–1983
 Ian Chappell (born 1943), Australian captain 1971–1975
 Trevor Chappell (born 1952)
 Joe Darling, CBE (1870–1946), Australian captain 1899–1902, 1902–1903, 1905
 Rick Darling (born 1957)
 Simon Douglas Fry (umpire 2001–)
 Clem Hill (1877–1945), Australian captain 1910–1912
 Tim May (born 1962)
 Howard Rayner (1896–1975)
 Paul Rofe (born 1981)
 James Smith (born 1988)
 Ashley Woodcock (born 1947)
 Australian rules football[edit]
 Edward Charles Atkins (1873-1966) Norwood (SA Premiers 1894), Sturt, West Perth (WA Premiers 1897), East Fremantle (WA)[45]
 Riley Bonner (1997–), Port Adelaide Football Club
 Peter Darley (1944–) South Adelaide (206 games); premiership winners 1964, captain 1967–1969, 1971. 7 times best and fairest, leading goalkicker 1974
 Rick Davies (1952–) South Australia (20 games, Captain 1980); SANFL: Sturt (317), South

Adelaide (33); VFL: Hawthorn (20)
 Sam Day (1992–), Gold Coast Suns
 Aaron Francis (1997–), Essendon Football Club
 George Hewett (1995–), Sydney Swans Football Club
 Wayne Jackson (1944–), CEO of the AFL (1996–2003)
 Craig Kelly (1966–), Collingwood
 Ed Lower (1987–), North Melbourne Kangaroos[46]
 Nick Lower (1987–), Fremantle Dockers[46]
 Ian McKay (1923–2010), North Adelaide (164 Games, 45 Goals, Captain 1948–1955); South Australia (14 Games, Captain 1950–1951); 1950 Magarey Medalist.
 Rodney Maynard (1966–), Adelaide Crows
 John Mossop (1959), Geelong (1979–1986), North Melbourne (1987–1988)
 Kym Russell (1968–), Collingwood, Magpies
 David Pittman (1969–), Adelaide Crows
 Scott Russell (1970–), Collingwood, Magpies, Sydney Swans
 Luke Tapscott (1991–), Melbourne Demons
 Jack Trengove (1991–), Melbourne Demons, Captain of Melbourne FC (2012–), youngest Captain in VFL/AFL history
 Bernie Vince (1985–), Adelaide Crows, Melbourne Demons (2014–)
 Jack Viney (1994–), Melbourne Demons
 Tim Weatherald (1977–) Sturt and Norwood Football Club (SANFL), Magarey Medallist 2002[47]
 Zac Bailey (1999–) Brisbane Football Club
 Tom Sparrow (2000–) Melbourne Football Club
 Mitch Crowden (1999–) Fremantle Football Club
 Kysaiah Pickett (2001–)- Melbourne Football Club
 Harry Schoenberg (2001–)-Adelaide Football Club
 Association football[edit]
 John Hall (1994–), Western Sydney Wanderers and Olyroos[48]
 Rowing[edit]
 Dr. Matthew Bolt (1986–), former Australian Under 23 Rower, stroke of the 2011 Bronze medal winning South Australian Kings Cup crew, member of 2012 Bronze medal winning Kings Cup crew, former Captain of Adelaide University Boat Club
 Alexander Hill (1993–), Current Australian Rowing Team member, Olympic Silver Medallist (Rio 2016) M4-, World Cup Medallist, Australian Under 23 Rower, 2011/2012 Bronze medal winning Kings Cup crew member, former Under 19 World Champion[citation needed]
 Brian Richardson (1948–), former Olympic Rower, Montreal 1976 and Moscow 1980[citation needed]
 See also[edit]
 List of schools in South Australia
 List of boarding schools