

OLD CONCORDIANS' Connect

Welcome to 2025

Greetings to all Old Concordians and friends of the college from the Old Concordians Association Committee, we hope you enjoy this edition of Old Concordians' Connect and take the opportunity to stay in touch through the reunions and events on offer in 2025.

Special thanks to those Old Concordians who volunteered in 2024 to mentor current students, help with events or assist in the Heritage Centre, your support is truly valued.

We always love hearing from our Old Concordian community, so please keep in touch with any news, updates or changes in contact details, please email information to:

alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au

Recent Reunions

1. **30 Year Reunion, Class of 1994**
Friday 16 August 2024, The Suaviter
2. **Year 12 Old Concordians' Association Breakfast**
Wednesday 18 September 2024, Atrium Courtyard
3. **60+ Lunch, Class of 1964 and prior**
Thursday 19 September 2024, The Suaviter
4. **Class of 1980 Reunion**
Saturday 12 October 2024, Art Courtyard
5. **Canberra Reunion**
Friday 25 October 2024, Rooftop Bar, Rex Hotel
6. **20 Year Reunion, Class of 2004**
Friday 1 November 2024, Art Courtyard
7. **10 Year Reunion, Class of 2014**
Friday 15 November 2024, Cremorne Garden Courtyard
8. **5 Year Reunion, Class of 2019**
Friday 29 November 2024, Cremorne Garden Courtyard



Spotlight on an Old Concordian

Q&A with **Angus McFarlane** Class of 1996

We caught up with Old Concordian Angus McFarlane for a Q&A.



You have a complex job, can you tell us a bit about it and how you got involved?

As the Operations Manager at Polair, I was lucky to work with a team that made a real difference in how SAPOL make safe communities throughout South Australia. Being able to jump into a plane or a helicopter everyday was a real privilege. When I joined SAPOL, I had no experience working with aircraft but I was offered a part time role as a helicopter tactical flight officer (TFO). 10 years later I was fortunate to win the position of Operations manager and see the unit expand to using helicopters and planes. Some of the most satisfying memories are from conducting Search and Rescue Operations - rescuing people from overturned boats off Kangaroo Island through to vehicle break downs in the Simpson Desert.

Would you recommend your career path to current students?

I would recommend a career in the South Australia Police to anyone. It is a job that offers incredible variety and flexibility. In my 20 years as a Police Officer I have been in General Duties as a patrol officer, Criminal Investigation Branch as a Detective, Tactical Operator in the Special Tasks and Rescue Group, Manager of Polair and now, a senior manager at Police Headquarters. The great thing about SAPOL is the variety of jobs available and the ability to move between careers whilst having the security of remaining in the one organisation. I have made lifelong friends in the police and have grown as a person by being exposed to the reality of life in Australia, seeing both the best and worst.

What are your fondest/ funniest memories of Concordia?

I think my funniest memory of Concordia was playing football in the quadrangle and an 'un-named' student kicked the ball through the principal's office window! My fondest memory would be the musicals. The friendships formed during rehearsals and the performances and for Concordia giving me the fleeting idea that I had some singing ability.

How has Concordia helped shape your life?

Concordia College provided me with a safe space to grow as a young adult and gave me the confidence to tackle all of life's challenges. Not always successfully but with enough resilience and reflection to learn from my failures and benefit from the experience. I still have great friends from school that I can rely on if needed.

Is there any advice would you give to students?

Work hard at school (nothing worth achieving is easy) but don't stress if things don't go to plan. Life isn't perfect and things will happen that are unexpected. It is how we deal with the unexpected things that affect how much we enjoy life (ie don't worry yourself about things you can't change). And lastly, don't compare yourself to others. We are all different. Find what works for you.



Old Concordians Blazing a Trail

Kelsey Bright Class of 2016

Kelsey had set herself an incredible task in 2025, we asked her to tell us about it!



Where has life taken you since CC?

When I finished school in 2016, I was pretty unwell (with endometriosis) so I took year off to have surgery and to try and get better before starting uni the following year. I studied Occupational Therapy, and I now live and work in London with my partner Ollie (Class of 2013). We have spent the last 12 months working in the NHS and travelling Europe which has been a long-time dream of ours.

Tell us about The End to End for Endometriosis

In August/ September of 2025 I am going to be walking from the top of Scotland to the bottom of England to raise money for Endometriosis Australia. It will be about 1600km and we are calling it the End to End for Endometriosis! We have the goal of raising further awareness for endometriosis (and \$50k!), an illness that has had a big impact on mine and my family's life as well as many others.

The walk is representative of all the women who show up each day despite experiencing debilitating symptoms.



How can our community support you?

Any support that the community feels able to give is hugely appreciated. If you aren't in a position to donate, then just starting a conversation about endometriosis or providing support to someone that may be struggling with the illness can go a long way.

We would love to hear from anyone in the community that is passionate about the cause and you can follow us on Instagram @End.to.end.for.endometriosis. We are also hosting a launch event on the 22nd of February 2025 and would love you to join us.

More details can be found at Fundraiser Event | End to End for Endometriosis Tickets, Sat 22/02/2025 at 5:00 pm | Eventbrite

What motivates you?

This idea was created on a day when my Granny was in hospital with endometriosis complications in Australia, and I was in Scotland and stuck in bed because of the same. I am motivated by all the days of pain, nausea and fatigue that impact quality of life for so many women. This walk is our way of fighting for a better future for women living with endo, which can't be done without increasing awareness, compassion and resources.

What advice would you give to students?

I think my advice would be something that I keep trying to remind myself of... which is to not be afraid of discomfort and doing hard things! It can apply to when you aren't sure if you want to keep persisting to get an assignment handed up on time, or if you are nervous about going to that party. If you are thinking that maybe you won't try out for that team, in case you don't get in or want to stop playing music because of that solo performance. The determination you show in these moments to do something despite it being uncomfortable, hard or scary, will support you in all the years to come.

Lifelong Connections

OCA Sporting Clubs

The OCA sports clubs are an easy and fun way to connect with other Old Concordians, meet new friends and maybe even get some exercise! The Old Concordians financially support setup and running costs, so please email alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au for information about joining or starting a club of any sort.

OCA Basketball

Our Concordia Basketball Club players are halfway through the summer season. Our three teams are having enjoyable seasons with our SACBA Women's A team currently in second and our Men's B and C Teams currently in second and third. Thanks to team managers George Smith, Josh Gordon, and Chelsea Gilbertson keeping these teams Old Concordians Teams going so well.

We are looking to grow the club in 2025 and invite players of all abilities, especially female participation. We invite sponsors to get behind a club which provides friendly, inclusive and community connection.

Please contact tristan.prentice.work@gmail.com if you'd like to be involved in our preparation for the next season in Winter 2025 (May-Sep).

OCA Cricket



The Old Concordians' Cricket Club has started 2024/25 season well. With over half of the season played, our B3 and LO5 both sit top of the table in their respective grades. While our LO6 team currently sits 4th. With finals not far away if the teams continue on their winning path, we could see all three teams playing finals. New members are welcome, for more information, please see our website or contact the Club President at troypincin@internode.on.net.

OCA Netball

The Old Concordians' Netball Club will soon be finishing up what has been a fantastic summer season for all 4 of our open teams.

Later this year, we'll be excited to start up again for the 2025/2026 summer season playing in the SAUCNA competition on Wednesday nights. Old Concordians' of any age or playing abilities are welcome to join an existing team or get some friends together and start your own team. Registrations open around August - be sure to keep an eye out on our Old Concordians' social pages for information closer to season start.

In the meantime, for any further information, please feel free to contact Chrissy Barnard at cbarnard@concordia.sa.edu.au.



OCA Soccer



The Old Concordians are in preparation for the 2025 season back in the top division of the Collegiate Soccer League.

After a dominant 2024 which saw the club claim both the division 2A and division 2b league titles in addition to a cup semi-final, the club looks to carry this form into division 1.

Pre-season is underway, and all new and interested players are encouraged to come and try. If you are interested, please contact club President Cameron Basnec (class of 2015) at cbasnec@gmail.com.

Pedal Prix

The 2024 pedal prix racing team had an end of year celebration dinner late last year where they thanked Team Manager, Derek Harris for his incredible commitment, starting and guiding this racing team 5 years ago with his off-sider Kent Olsen.

It was a great night to reflect on where we started and how far we have come in 5 years.

Angus Harper has now taken the role of team coordinator. The team has had their first meeting for 2025 and welcomed new members. Now all are busy getting the trikes ready for this year's racing season and keeping fit.

New riders are welcome, if you are interested in joining the Old Concordians pedal prix team we would love to hear from you, please get in contact with Angus Harper at oldcracing@gmail.com



Lifelong Connections

Honorary Old Concordians

The Old Concordians Association took the opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of both Vera White and Kate Wood on their retirement at the end of 2024 by making them Honorary Old Concordians. Vera began at Concordia in 2001 and has held many roles, including Director of staff since 2012. St. Johns opened their ELC in 2007, and Kate was the first teacher there, and has served as Director of ELC since 2007. Old Concordian Peter Leske, Class of 1973 also retired after teaching at Concordia for an incredible 39 years and was presented with a gift from the Old Concordians for his faithful service to the college.

We thank Vera, Kate and Peter, wish them well and look forward to seeing them at future college events.



Sporting Flashback

In 1942, Concordia's first two women's basketball teams began playing matches in the United Churches Girls Basketball Association, coached by Mr O Wedding, the mathematics teacher.

It was not until 1970 that the game known as women's basketball in Australia officially became netball.

At the 2024 60+ lunch, five of the 1964 Girls Basketball team were in attendance, and we took a photo of Coral, Val, Ruth, Irene and Shirley under the original team photo on display in the Suaviter photo gallery.



"A" Team (from left): L. Grosser, M. Pietsch, L. Hoopmann, R. Klache, M. Minge, L. Nieswand, B. Hoepner
"B" Team (from left): B. Miegel, K. Heinrich, R. Wedding, O. Altus, P. Heinrich, C. Hermann, D. Zellner



Upcoming Reunions

50 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 1975

Friday 2 May 2025, 6.00-9.00pm
Fortiter Upstairs Room // Tickets: \$40pp
Complimentary drink on arrival, catered meal.
RSVP to Sue Kleinig - 08 8291 9339 or
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CXBLW

70+ HARMONY IN THE CHAPEL

Friday 16 May 2025, 2.00pm
Chapel & Chapel Narthex // Free Event
Concert by Concordia Music students and an
afternoon tea for the Class of 1955 and prior.
RSVP to Sue Kleinig - 08 8291 9339

40 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 1985

Friday 8 August 2025, 6.00-9.00pm
The Suaviter // Tickets: \$40pp
Complimentary drink on arrival, catered meal.
RSVP to Sue Kleinig - 08 8291 9339 or
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CXIBY

30 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 1995

Friday 29 August 2025, 6.00-9.00pm
The Suaviter // Tickets: \$40pp
Complimentary drink on arrival, catered meal.
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CXICG

60+ LUNCH. CLASS OF 1965 AND PRIOR

Thursday 11 September 2025, 12 noon-3.00pm
The Suaviter // Tickets: \$30pp
Complimentary drink on arrival, catered meal.
RSVP to Sue Kleinig - 08 8291 9339 or
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CXIDB

CLASS OF 1960 COLLEGE TOUR AND LUNCH

Friday 12 September 2025, 11.00am - 12 noon (tour)
Followed by lunch at The Earl of Leicester at 12.15pm
RSVP to Sue Kleinig - 08 8291 9339 or
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CYZQV

20 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 2005

Friday 31 October 2025, 6.00-8.00pm
Wirrkuta, St John's Campus // Tickets: \$30pp children free
Drinks, finger food and College tour.
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CXIDW

10 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 2015

Friday 14 November 2025, 6.00pm
Cremorne Garden Courtyard // Tickets: \$25pp
Complimentary drink on arrival and finger food
(subsidised by OCA).
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CYZQI

5 YEAR REUNION, CLASS OF 2020

Friday 28 November 2025, 6.00pm
Cremorne Garden Courtyard // Tickets: \$25pp
Complimentary drink on arrival and finger food
(subsidised by OCA).
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CYZQD

Partners welcome to all events.

We would sincerely like to thank all Old Concordians who generously supported our building projects.

As Old Concordians have done for over 100 years, you have helped us achieve the best possible outcome for students of today and for future generations.



If it's important to you it's important to us!

We love hearing from Old Concordians of all ages, both near and far, so please do get in touch to share stories, milestones and any news, or simply to update your contact details.

To update your details, visit our website (www.concordia.sa.edu.au/community/old-concordians/update-your-details/) or email Alumni Manager alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au

Interested in joining the Old Concordians' Association committee?

We would love to hear from you!
Please contact the Alumni Manager, Sue Kleinig,
for more information - alumni@concordia.sa.edu.au



OldConcordiansAssociation

Keep up to date and like us on Facebook



OldConcordiansAssociation

If you are interested in holding a reunion that is not listed, please get in touch with us, as we would love to assist in any way.

Connect as Alumni on LinkedIn

Did you know our College LinkedIn page now allows Old Concordians to list themselves as alumni by adding Concordia College Adelaide to the 'Education' section of their profile?

We'd love you to stay in touch with the College on LinkedIn, and to wear your connection with Concordia as a digital badge of honour, so please connect with us today!

au.linkedin.com/school/concordia-college-adelaide/