

Port Lincoln Clontarf Academy

Clontarf Newsletter

Term 3, 2023



clontarf
foundation



ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The Port Lincoln Clontarf Academy was founded in 2019 and operates out of Port Lincoln High School. It caters for students in Years 7 to 12 and currently has 63 boys engaged in the programme.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and by doing so equips them to participate meaningfully in society.

SCHOOL DETAILS

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STAFF CONTACTS

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Message from the Director

The Port Lincoln Clontarf Academy has had a successful, fun, and engaging Term 3 both inside and outside the classroom. This term has seen us engage an incredible 63 fellas in the program from Years 7-12. Since the end of 2021, the academy has more than doubled its enrollments, which is a fantastic result for all involved.

As an academy, we had 63 young men engaged over the term, with an average attendance of 82%. This is a tremendous effort by these young men and a reflection of their hard work across Term 3.

The academy, in partnership with Port Lincoln High School, works with students to ensure retention until the end of Year 12 and then into employment. Using supportive relationships, a welcoming environment, and a diverse range of activities, the young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men in our program develop improved self-esteem and confidence,

which assists them to participate in education, employment, and society in a positive way.

A quick look across our Term 3 planner shows that our boys have been engaged in a variety of activities that have resulted in positive outcomes, including Worksite Visits, 28 Contact-Time sessions, 13 Morning Trainings, 16 Afterschool Activities, as well as camps in Adelaide, Thuruna, and a Big Day out to Elliston. My personal highlight of the term was our Employment Forum in Adelaide. It was great to see 100% engagement from Year 11 & 12. As we approach Term 4, we are excited about what we have planned for academy members, particularly our State of Origin Series in Melbourne.

Please feel encouraged to get on board with our Morning Training sessions, Afterschool Activities, and Good Bloke Lunches, as all activities are a great way to strengthen your relationship with our Academy members.

Jack Yeoman.



Employment Forum

Week 3 marked our annual Employment Forum for all of our Year 11 and 12 students around South Australia. This year, the forum was again held in Adelaide at the West Lakes Resort. It was great to see all 12 Year 11 and 12 students commit to the week-long camp.

The first day was packed with activities at the Port Adelaide Football Club, including a Financial Literacy session, Mock Interviews, and Port Adelaide star Willie Rioli from the Port Adelaide Football Club joining us to have a chat with the boys. He spoke about his schooling and Clontarf journey up until his AFL career, highlighting how important education and finishing Year 12 is. Following our sessions at PAFC, we split off into groups for worksite visits at Flinders Port Holding, Australia Post – Startrack, Fulton Hogan, and Bunnings Warehouse.

On Thursday morning, over 20 different Clontarf Partners joined us for breakfast and the Employment Forum at The Lakes Resort Hotel. Ethan Taylor, who is a Clontarf Alumni, was the Master of Ceremonies for the event and was one of three guest speakers to be interviewed by Ocean View Academy Director Peter Rolfe. The other two guest speakers were former GWS Giant and Adelaide Crows player Curtley Hampton and Whyalla Alumni Terrelle Colson.

Upon completion of the forum, we headed to the Glenelg Football Club for the official State of Origin trial match. All players were competing for a spot on the State of Origin SA Team, which would head to Melbourne in Term 4. It was amazing to see our young men from Port Lincoln step out of their comfort zone and engage with partners in a respectful manner, listening to the opportunities that may lie ahead within the businesses and even handing out resumes and business cards to those who sparked an interest.



Year 7-8 Thuruna Camp

Week 8 marked our Year 7-8 Camp to Thuruna on our Term Planner, and after a long term for our junior fellas, they were very excited to get away to one of the Lower EP's hidden gems. Unfortunately, the weather did not want to join the party on Thursday with 60 km/h winds making it tough to get outside. But in true Clontarf spirit, the fellas did not let it get them down and we adjusted the day to include some fun games and leadership activities indoors.

At 5.00pm, the wind dropped out and it turned into a magical afternoon. All 18 young men were very keen to try catch some fish for dinner. It's fair to say it was a good night to be a fish, with the fellas not having too much luck... however, it was an unbelievable evening with many laughs and smiles.

Friday morning was a pearler, with all 18 fellas up for their 7.00am beach training, followed by a delicious cooked brekkie. Following brekkie, it was on to the clean-up, which was followed by beach games, swimming, fishing, and a big beach clean of the Thuruna stretch. **Blake Wells** was awarded MVP for camp, putting in an unbelievable performance from the moment we picked him up, showing fantastic leadership, initiative, and Clontarf Spirit across the entire camp.





Bunnings Project

Over two Afterschool Activities in Term 3, our Port Lincoln Clontarf boys engaged in a project with our local Bunnings to design and make a guitar rack for the guitars we have in the Academy Room that were without a home.

The first session we headed off to Bunnings, where the boys had to work their way through the store collecting all of the necessary materials as per their individual lists. They were then split into groups and had to measure out all of the PVC pipe they collected to the required measurements.

A fortnight later, Bunnings came to the Port Lincoln Academy Room for the second session of the project. We set up the Academy Room with some makeshift work benches before the PVC pipe was cut up, fittings glued into place and the finishing touches added to the guitar rack.

This was a great hands-on project for our young boys that provided them with a variety of new skills while also growing their relationship with our local Bunnings team. This project also resulted in Year 10 student Lyzell Gadd handing in his resume to the Bunnings team and is eagerly awaiting an interview during their next intake.





Year 9, 10 & 11 Big Day Out

Big Day Out is always a big-ticket day, a day we have been looking forward to throughout Term 3. The boys were welcomed to a cooked breakfast of pancakes in the Academy Room. We had 18 of our Year 9, 10, and 11 fellas make tracks down to Elliston where we would meet up with the Ceduna Clontarf lads for a game of footy, Clontarf spirit style.

It felt like a 40-degree day, with the sun blazing and no feel of wind at all. Some fellas had not pulled on the boots in a few weeks, but in true Clontarf fashion, the fellas ripped in and showcased some quality football skills. While we don't take a big interest in wins and losses, I think we should acknowledge the goal-kicking of the Ceduna lads, putting the ball through the big sticks a few times more than the Port Lincoln boys. Special mention to our 6ft plus Academy Member Jaxon Miller, with clean hands below his knees. It's a long way down for young Jacko. Tristan Edwards always has a highlight, displaying some dash and speed along the wings. Wesley Bilney.

After a hot and contested game, our Port Lincoln fellas shared lunch and yarns with their Ceduna brothers before stopping at Sheringa Beach for a well-deserved dip to bring the body temp down just a fraction.

The lads came with a great attitude, played the match in the way a Clontarf Football Game needs to be played, "Clontarf Spirit," and conducted themselves the way young men should—happy, respectful, and positive.





Term 3 Contact Time

Term 3 was another significant term of contact-time sessions. Activities included cooking, public speaking, the impacts of smoking/vaping, leadership activities, academy culture, health sessions, and highly competitive Spikeball tournaments.

A highlight session of the term was our "Sugar Impacts" session, in which the fellas had a hands-on experience of guessing the amount of sugar in various drinks, including coke, juice, Red Bull, chocolate milk, and Powerade. It is fair to say that our young men had an eye-opener after seeing the actual amount of sugar in these popular drinks. Since then, it has been great to see them making positive changes with their drink choices.

Our practical session on the impact of smoking/vaping was also enjoyable. The fellas were asked to complete a sequence of physical challenges while breathing through straws. They were really taken aback by the impact of reduced oxygen availability, which allowed us to have encouraging conversations about how to say no to these pressures.



Morning Training

Morning training has continued to be a big highlight this year, with average numbers ranging from the low to mid 20s.

The sport of choice this term has been NFL, with many sessions held both indoors and outdoors, preparing our participants for their 6:30 am pickups.

It has been great to experience a pleasant change in the weather after enduring freezing mornings for two consecutive terms.

In addition to NFL, we also offered sessions in AFL, basketball, Gaelic football, soccer, and dodgeball.



Parent Testimonial

Parent Testimonial: Tegan Bullock

How lucky are we to have such a fabulous initiative like Clontarf available to our boys here in Port Lincoln? As a parent, my favourite things have to be the morning pickups and afternoon drop-offs, which help in keeping the boys attending and engaged in school.

The work they do not only gets the boys work-ready but often helps land them a job too. I also appreciate the extra support I receive from Jack, Derick, and the other Clontarf staff in helping steer them in the right direction.

My boys love the Morning Trainings and Afternoon Activities, where they get to try new things, engage with the community, create new relationships, all while hanging out with their mates. They also love the camps, of course!

Finally, when there isn't anyone, there's always Jack and Derick. I am beyond grateful that the boys chose to enrol. I couldn't imagine where the boys would be without the support of not only Jack and Derick but other Clontarf Academy members too.

I look forward to watching our boys smash some more goals.



Health Checks

Week 5 focused on Health Checks for our Port Lincoln Academy. From Wednesday to Friday morning, we had consecutive appointments at Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service.

After a tiring couple of days filled with games of UNO, Connect 4, and "places that start with," we successfully completed over 40 Health Checks and follow-ups. We are excited to continue these checks in Term 4 and finish the remaining 23.

This is a fantastic outcome for our program and the broader Port Lincoln community. We look forward to building on this event next year.



Alumni Good News Story

I wanted to share with you all a good news story of 2022 graduate, Charles Clements. After successfully completing his studies last year, Charlie has been working at the Port Lincoln City Council in the IT department while going through the lengthy and demanding process of applying to the ADF.

After a six-month period of interviews and paperwork, Charlie has officially commenced his role with the Navy and will be stationed in Cairns for the next six months.

I believe Charlie's story highlights the challenges that Year 12 can present for our students and reinforces the importance of providing them with the necessary support until the very end, ensuring they successfully transition into a bright future.



STATE OF ORIGIN - 2023

I am extremely proud and excited to announce that the Port Lincoln Clontarf Academy has had six students make the final South Australian team for our 2023 Clontarf State of Origin Series in Melbourne in Term 4. Over 75 young men from around the state tried out for the team, so it is a massive achievement to make the final squad of 25.

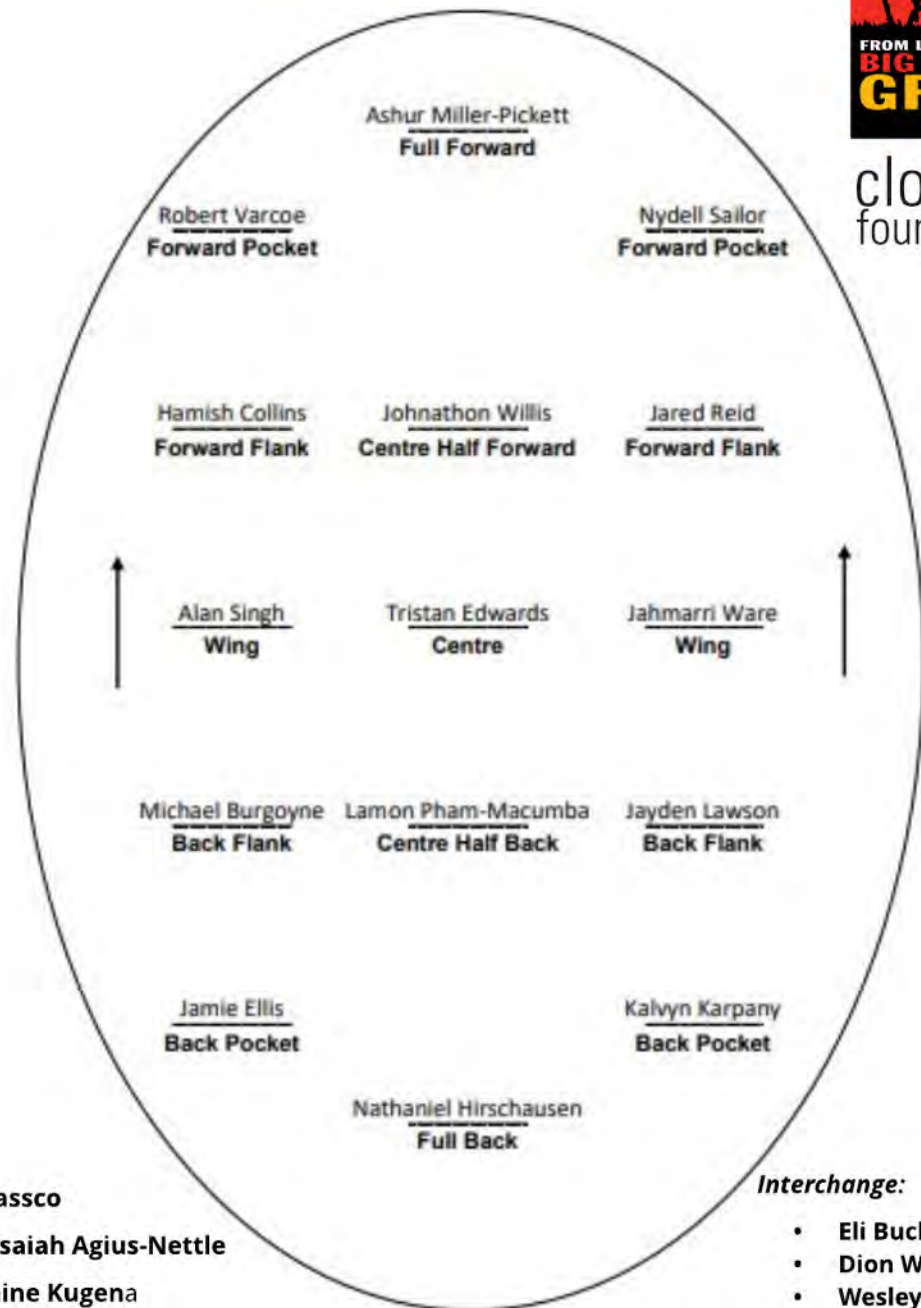
Please congratulate the following young men:

- Michael Burgoyne
- Wesley Bilney Jnr
- Tristan Edwards
- Nathaniel Hirschausen-Burk
- Ashur Miller-Pickett
- Dre Vlassco

2023 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATE OF ORIGIN TEAM 2023



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Ruck: Dre Vlassco

Ruck Rover: Isaiah Agius-Nettle

Rover: Tremaine Kugena

Interchange:

- Eli Buckskin
- Dion Walker-Murphy
- Wesley Bilney
- Jayzell Scott
- Jeremiah Kelly
- Robert May
- Zechariah Amos

Emergencies: Jason Lebois, Riley Taylor, Riley Richards-Hart, Coheyn Patrick, Benny Waye-Hill, Isaiah Lovegrove, Melville Sumner



Photos from Term 3

