



### GRANDIES' CLUB MORNING TEA

Prince Alfred College threw open the doors of the Boarding House for visiting Grandies and for many this was their first contact with Boarding. Boarding captains Will Charlton (Wangary), Lachie Nolan (Naracoorte) and Will Wheaton (Kangaroo Island), and the Captain of the School, Mitch Searle (Port Augusta), proudly presented Boarding life at PAC to the group.

The highlight of the morning was the scone bake-off between Team Appila and Team Bute.

### THE GREAT SCONE BAKE OFF

**William Wheaton | Year 12**

This year's annual Grandies' Club morning tea was a special event with a difference. Simply because two recipes as old as the hills and as reliable as old friends went head-to-head in a scone baking contest.

The day started off as every other grandies' day has, but changed when I saw a white Toyota pull in. The Mad Bakers From Bute turned up, as did the calm and civilised Catfords from Jamestown, and there was fire in the eyes of the grandmothers and their grandsons.

This was not going to be an easily won contest, with each recipe proving itself time and time again over many years, feeding people right from the best of shearing teams, to hardened farm workers and not to mention the humble, yet hard-working farmers themselves. I repeat, this was not going to be easy.

When the inevitable time came for the competition both teams eagerly got started. Baking with fierce competitiveness with neither giving an inch. As the ingredients were poured into the bowls, fierce competitiveness came straight from the soul. Then as the dough was prepared, an amount of anxiousness filled the air, as we knew in not very long we would know which team would be crowned king of the scone.

### TEAM APPLLA

**Mary Catford**

Participating in the bake-off with Thomas was good fun. He has a quirky sense of humour and entered into the spirit of the cooking competition with enthusiasm and we had a practice together on the ANZAC weekend.

I must say I was rather nervous demonstrating my cooking skills in front of 100 or more people many of



ABOVE (l to r): Thomas Catford, Mary Catford, Meredith Paterson and William Wheaton

whom were, I am sure, great cooks. However, the kitchen staff were very helpful and supportive and the judges went about their role very professionally and tactfully declared a draw. The light and bright dining room was an ideal venue for a Grandies morning tea and it was obvious that everyone was enjoying the occasion thanks to the warm hospitality of the PAC staff.

### Thomas Catford (Year 11)

The cooking veterans Catford and Patterson/Wheaton families faced off in the showdown of the century. The intensity of the scone baking was truly a sight to behold as the two behemoths of the kitchen battled it out in a blur of flour and swinging of scone cutters. With an indecisive ending to the tremendous battle and both parties leaving with chocolate and flowers, I would say that's a victory in my book!

The scones were very closely matched and were definitely a hit with the judges, [Boarding House staff] Pauline Coupe and Mrs Toh. We also had some relics of the kitchen with Mary's home-made scone cutter and Mrs Paterson's antique whisk, which granted an edge for both sides.

Our Grandmas still had the moves executing the mixing and measuring with the precision of a surgeon. Definitely a great day for everyone involved and I can confirm that it lived up to the promise of 'scone a be a good one'!

### TEAM BUTE

**Meredith Paterson**

The bush telegraph was busy! "There was movement at the station for the word had passed around" that there was a Grandies' Club scone bake-off to be held at PAC! The country was coming to the city!

From the moment William and I were invited to compete in the much-anticipated event, I sensed fun times ahead. Win, lose or draw, flour spills, cooking disasters or not, it would be a treasured experience for both of us as Grandmother and Grandson.

Nostalgia reigned! We followed my mother's AGA farmhouse scone recipe with diligence. The day for me personally was a celebration of school, traditions, strong family ties and long-lasting friendships. Things that PAC do so well.

Many a scone has been enjoyed in our family with homemade jam and whipped cream but this overall experience with my Grandson has clearly 'Taken the cake! Or scone!'

So after what seemed a lifetime the white gold dough came out of the ovens. It came down to the wire as two Boarding House staff came to pick which scone they desired. However, as many great teams and oppositions have done in past years, it seems that neither could be beat. In a competition like no other, these scones were as good as each other.



## College Tour

Join us for a campus tour

Wednesday, 9 June at 9.30am

Register at: [pac.edu.au](http://pac.edu.au)

