



65

To bring in the new year we are starting off with more exciting works in the Education sector. We wish you a prosperous 2017.



St Andrews ELC

It's always a bit of a rush finishing off a project as the deadline approaches. So many things to sort out, so little time. Inevitably it becomes all about the detail and awareness of the higher purpose is lost.

How refreshing it was on a mild overcast day early this year to see the students at St Andrews ELC delightedly exploring the playground that's part of their new ELC.

All these elements that had previously been technical issues to solve were suddenly bringing the joy and excitement that was always their purpose.

Children were clustered around the water pump, digging in the sandpit, skipping from log to log, clambering over rocks, slipping down the slide...

It was an interval of pure delight for the whole team – a refreshing reminder of what we had all been striving for. St Andrews has a long standing commitment to the Reggio Emilia approach to education which underpins the design.

Under the Reggio approach, children are seen as fundamentally competent beings, building their understanding of the world through a continuing process of investigation, hypotheication and testing. The environment itself is considered a teacher along with the adults, whose challenge is to understand and facilitate the children's process.

It has been a privilege collaborating with the talented and committed ELC team to create an environment to support this profoundly effective way of working with children.



Northern Lights,
Iceland



Office News

Another year bites the dust! The 2016 SPA work year ended with a festive night at the Pizza E Mozzarella Bar on Pirie Street. The pizzas were delicious and Nick Grbin was lucky enough to take out the Golden Swanny for 2016, we don't think he will ever live this one down.....

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome back two of our staff members from maternity leave; Felicity Swanbury and Zoe Avon. We hope that you aren't missing your beautiful babies too much! Also welcome aboard to our new staff member Bettina Koch (Graduate of Architecture) who has joined our expanding team within the past three months.

Over the break our Landscape Architect extraordinaire Lana Greer embarked on a journey to Iceland where she spent a week in Reykjavik over New Years, followed by a week on a road trip of the Ring Road, a full loop of the country. Highlights were Jökulsárlón Lagoon, Svinafellsjökull Glacier, Mýrdalssandur Beach, Myvatn, Akureyri, and the myriad of waterfalls and other worldly landscapes. Check out those northern lights!

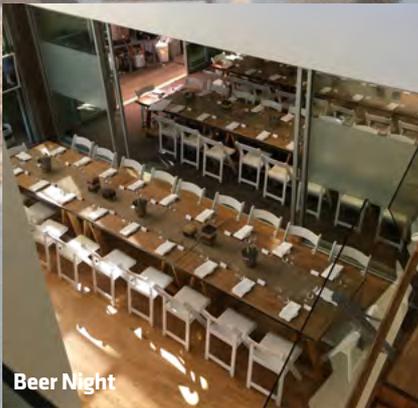
February was an eventful month with another one of our SPA Family BBQs. Most of the office and their families came across to the park to enjoy some tasty hamburgers in the nice warm weather. What a perfect way to end a busy working week!

We also had our first ever Swanbury Penglase beer night and squeezed over 50 people into our office foyer turning it into a giant beer hall! With a live brew, many beers from all over the world to taste and delicious food the night was a huge success!

Family BBQ



Beer Night



Christmas Party



Staff Notes



Name: Ted Bourchier

Position: Graduate of Architecture

Current projects: St Peter's Girls' Middle School and Resource centre, St Peter's Girls' ELC Extension, UniSA HIB, various apartments and terrace house facades.

Who/what inspires you? People who are passionate about what they do/make

Design Idol: John Wardle, Carlo Scarpa, David Chipperfield, OMA

Design you wish you could take credit for: The iPod or Eames lounge chair

Favourite Building: Sagrada Família by Antoni Gaudí

Pencil vs Computer: Computer

Favourite Eatery: Sosta Argentinian Kitchen

Best thing about living in Adelaide: The growing vibrant night life, there are so many great hidden gems to get a drink or bite to eat around the city

Fantasy (or next) holiday destination: Hopefully I will get be back to the Greek Islands and Spain in the next couple of years.

First favourite song as a kid: Freestyler by Bomfunk MC's

Currently Listening to: Mr Kim's Essentials playlist on Spotify or Defected In The House podcasts

Motto in life: Get comfortable being uncomfortable

Superpower (if you could have one): Being able to fly

Growing up you thought you would be? An Architect or Tower Crane Operator

Memorable SPA (by this I mean Swanbury Penglase) moment: Watching the hilarious Swanny nominations each year at the Christmas party.