

# THE ASHGROVIAN



*Brother Terence Heinrich fms (RIP)*  
*Headmaster*  
*Marist College Ashgrove (1991 – 1996)*

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[www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au)



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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Friday 16 August 2019

Marist Vintage Lunch for classes from 1940 to 1979.

### Sunday 8 September 2019

Back to Marist Day. A day of reflection and return to Marist values - led by past Headmaster Brother Robert O'Connor.

**Check the Old Boys' website at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au) for further details.**

### ARMED FORCES SERVICE

Do you know of any Old Boy of Marist College Ashgrove or Marist College Rosalie who has served in the Armed Forces at any time? If so, please email [military@ashgroveoldboys.com.au](mailto:military@ashgroveoldboys.com.au).

### NEW OLD BOYS' WEBSITE LAUNCHED

It is bigger and better than ever. Packed with our history and the latest up to date information.

The new Old Boys' website at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au) is now up and running!

We are continuing to add information but please make it one of your favourites and visit regularly to see what is happening both at the College and in the world of the Old Boys.

### PLEASE HELP US COMPLETE THE RENOVATIONS TO THE TOWER AND BUILD A MUSEUM WORTHY OF ALL OLD BOYS

Visit [www.thetowerappeal.com](http://www.thetowerappeal.com) or contact Foundation Manager, Peter Casey (07) 3858 4584 or [caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Old Boys,

I welcome you with some sadness to the 2019 mid-year edition of the Ashgrovia given the passing late last year of our beloved former Headmaster, Brother Terence Heinrich.

Brother Terry was the Headmaster at Ashgrove from 1991 to 1996 and was revered by all who knew him. He introduced the house system at Ashgrove which survives to this day, and his subsequent establishment of the Salla La Valla School in Cambodia is now part of the fabric of Marist history. A school only for those with disabilities. It reflects Terry's compassion, kindness, determination and innovation. There will never be another like him. He will, forever, hold a special place for Old Boys particularly those who were beneficiaries of this guidance.

As the passing of a Headmaster is a momentous event and given the special place Brother Terry holds in the Marist community, we have dedicated several pages of this edition to his memory. We have also included an extract from the eulogy of Ashgrove Old Boy and Provincial, Brother Peter Carroll (1976). The full version can be found on the Old Boys' website.

Otherwise, I am pleased to announce that many of our initiatives continue. At the time of writing, we have held the Golf Day, Old Boys' Sports Day, the initial Reunion Day (now held at the College in conjunction with a 1st XV match) and have plans in place for more activities. The first-ever Reunion Day on 15 June was a huge success. Old Boys returned as one from across the decades to celebrate and watch the 1st XV win an undefeated premiership. We have also launched in conjunction with the College the 'Careers Link' program which is designed to link Old Boys with our younger graduates to provide opportunities in the profession and the trades. If you can assist our young men with career opportunities please email the Careers Link Officer, Mrs Tara Franklin, on [franklint@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:franklint@marash.qld.edu.au) or telephone Tara directly on 07 3858 4686 from 16 July 2019.

Ashgrove has provided our assistance, where requested, to the rejuvenated Rosalie Old Boys. They now have over 800 names on their new database. Whilst Rosa may have closed in 2008, the spirit lives on. Rosa recently celebrated its 90th anniversary. There were enormous numbers in attendance at the celebration and some of the photos have been included in this edition. The Rosa Old Boys are welcome guests at many of our functions and we look forward to our relationship strengthening over the years.

The latest innovation, inspired by Ashgrove legend Alby Taylor (1949), is the "Back to Marist Day" which is intended to be a day of reflection and an opportunity for all Old Boys to revisit those Marist values we treasure so much. We are particularly proud to announce that the day will be led by former Headmaster Brother Robert O'Connor. Please see the advertisement in this edition.

Many of you will be thrilled to know that a new publication "Passing the Baton" is currently being prepared. It will be a 250-page masterpiece of Ashgrove's Athletics history. All proceeds will assist the College Foundation. As it will be a limited edition publication, I would urge you to register your interest as soon as possible.

Finally, can I thank those of you who have donated to the establishment of the memorabilia room in the newly renovated Tower block. We have a long way to go to preserve our College history. The Tower has now been open for some seven months and looks magnificent. I would encourage all Old Boys to return to the College whenever you can so as to visit this magnificent structure.

Again, if you are able to assist us in the allocation of funds to complete the dream of the historical museum, we would be eternally grateful. All donations are fully tax deductible and you simply need to contact Peter Casey as noted in the Ashgrovia.

Otherwise, we look forward to seeing many of you at the Vintage Lunch on 16 August 2019. Our soon to be ordained Thomas Duncan (2011) will be co-celebrating. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is any information you require.

With thanks,

**Bradley Butten, President**



## FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Members of the Old Boys' Association,

I write this message to you on 7 June, the day after Champagnat Day. Old Boy, Peter Selwood (1978), is the recipient of the community Champagnat Day Award for 2019.

Peter has been a wonderful contributor to life at the College. He and his wife Ann-Maree have two sons, Patrick (2008) and Joseph (2010), who are Old Boys. Peter has been the Chair of the Finance Advisory committee here at the college for over 10 years. Peter is a fine Marist man and a great example of someone who has given back to his old college – AND SOME!

It is good to reflect on our Marist beginning. Please find below the words that remind us all of our humble beginnings in France in the early nineteenth century. It comes from Water from the Rock, the Book of Marist Spirituality:

10. Marcellin was responding with dedication and in effective practical ways to the needs that he saw around him. But his response to the needs of his time was also formed by the Project shared by the first Marists who dreamed of a renewed way of being Church, to which they pledged themselves at Fourviere. With Jean-Claude Colin, Jeanne-Marie Chavoïn and the other 'founding Marists', Marcellin shared the conviction that Mary was calling them together to respond to the needs of post-Revolutionary France.
11. The Marists understood their Project to be a sharing in Mary's work of bringing Christ-life to birth and being with the Church as it came to be born. It was a work which they hoped would touch every diocese of the world, and would be structured like a multi-branched tree by including lay people, priests, sisters and brothers.

I hope you feel very much connected with this Project. This is our work with the boys here at Ashgrove.

Yours in Jesus, Mary and St Marcellin.

**Peter McLoughlin**  
Headmaster



The Old Boys' Association wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of Mr Gary Reen of Lismore and his enthusiastic support of the Marist Brothers by permitting his wonderful portrait of Brother Terry to be used on the front cover of this Ashgrovian.

### ADVERTISING IN THE ASHGROVIAN

Members will note that advertising has been included in the Ashgrovian. It has proved necessary because of the huge costs now associated with producing and distributing such a high quality publication. However, the advertising is both limited and selective. It has also been restricted to not only those who have a close association with the College but also have a service which is attractive to Old Boys. The OBA acknowledges their support and asks members to make use of their services wherever possible.

# BROTHER TERENCE GREGORY HEINRICH

In November 2018, just before publication of *The Ashgrovian*, the Marist community was shocked to learn of the sudden passing of one of our past headmasters, Brother Terry Heinrich.

Brother Terry was much loved by all who met him. He was headmaster at Ashgrove from 1991 to 1996 and was revered by all staff and boys. Brother Terry is probably best known for starting the magnificent Salla Lavalla School outside Phnom Penh in Cambodia. Students at the school were poor and disadvantaged and all had a disability which meant they were a rejected class of person under Cambodian culture. But all were loved equally and respected under Terry's guidance. Many student immersions from Ashgrove and other schools followed to experience the beautiful world Terry had created. As our photos show, he was equally loved and respected in that foreign land. There is a memorial at Salla Lavalla in his honour.

A wonderful Eulogy was given at Terry's funeral at St Joseph's College Hunter's Hill by the Provincial and Marist Ashgrove Old Boy (1976), Brother Peter Carroll. It is a beautiful reflection on Terry's life and contribution. We have reproduced the Eulogy in part, but the full text can be found on the Old Boys' website.

## EULOGY GIVEN BY BR PETER CARROLL

### CHAPEL OF ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, HUNTERS HILL

*"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centres of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance"* – Robert F. Kennedy

*Good morning.*

*Let us now pause, and bring to minds and hearts our personal memories of Terry.*

#### *Introduction*

*The particulars of Terry Heinrich's life are straightforward.*

*He was born on the 12 December 1945 to Adella and Frederick Heinrich; the youngest of 4 children*

*– Berneice, Vincent and Edward. He was Baptised at St Francis' Moree on 4 January 1946. His father was a publican and the family home was the Exchange Hotel at Binnaway. In fact, the home phone number was simply Binnaway 11.*

*Terry followed his brothers to St Joseph's College Hunters Hill where he boarded from Year 7 until completing his Leaving Certificate in December 1962. At school he was a gifted sportsman - swimmer, athlete, rugby player, holder of the Under 16 GPS shot put record. His senior debating team won the 1962 GPS championship. He was in the College Air Cadets, and since he and a fellow CUO, Geoff Schwagger, had surnames of German origin – the unit was dubbed by the boys, the Luftwaffe! In his final year he received the award for Conduct and Leadership.*

*On graduation he entered the Marist Brothers and took First Vows on 2nd July 1964. After a short period of study he taught in a number of schools. He professed perpetual vows on 21st December 1969, and at age 29 was appointed Principal of Marcellin College Enoggera. This was followed by appointments as Principal of Mt Maria College, Marist College Canberra and Marist College Ashgrove. In all of these places he was respected and admired. For ten years he served on the Council of the Sydney Province, and was elected as a delegate to the Institute's 1985 General Chapter. In 1997 he moved to Cambodia to investigate how best to serve the needs of young people there. He founded the Lavalla School outside Phnom Penh and remained there, more or less continually, from that time. He returned to Sydney at the end of October this year for health reasons, and died unexpectedly on November 20 at Randwick.*





# BROTHER TERENCE GREGORY HEINRICH

*That is Terry's life. However such basic facts don't do justice to his extraordinary gifts, outstanding character and deep spirituality.*

*Like so many, I feel a profound sense of loss at Terry's death; an intense sadness; an acute awareness of the tragedy that has unfolded. I was with Terry at Ashgrove for the full six years of his leadership of that fine College. I observed him, learned from him; came to respect and admire him. He had a significant influence on me - and when I became a Principal, one of the questions I would ask myself was 'what would Terry do in this situation'? He was a true example and guide.*

*In recent years commentators on Religious Life, and indeed our own Marist Leaders, have called on sisters, priests and brothers to reclaim two characteristics that were at the heart of the early forms of religious life: being Prophet and Mystic: that is taking prophetic action and living contemplatively. Terry didn't need to reclaim these virtues - because that's who and what he was.*

## *Prophetic*

*Prophets are called to announce God's message, to present a divine vision. They make judgements and provide hope. Terry's vision was grounded in the Gospel of Jesus. Throughout his life he did what he could to bring about the Kingdom in whatever situation he found himself.*

*As a teacher he encouraged each student to be his best; to excel. One of Terry's students at St Joseph's, Br Michael Green, provides evidence of this: "His Fourth Form class of 1970 for whom he was class master, English and R.E. teacher, he took on as a special project. The records show that 4A of that year was especially gifted - winning more Commonwealth scholarships than any class before or after it... No doubt their success was helped considerably by their innovative and gifted teacher. He pushed them and developed them, even challenging them all to take on the study of an extra subject at night - Indonesian - which he taught himself. But they also pushed and challenged him, pulling more than one practical joke. He in turn urged them to grow in maturity - a doggedly repeated mantra that earned him the nickname 'Victor' - after veteran American actor Victor Mature. Perhaps they did get it, after all".*

*As a school leader he wanted what was best for the community. He was an innovator and reformer. His interventions led to the establishment of Mt Maria co-educational senior College at Mitchelton. He brought a new structure of pastoral care, the House System, to Canberra and Ashgrove. He introduced a radically different modular curriculum to Ashgrove. He improved the living conditions of boarders. Over twenty years there was a myriad of innovations and initiatives - all aimed at improving the educative, pastoral, and spiritual experience of students.*

*A prophet has presence and articulates a vision. That was Terry. Wherever he was, and with whomever he met, Terry brought gravitas. His was an extraordinary presence. More than just dignity and style - which were always there in generous measure - it was sourced more in what he had to say. Wisdom, clarity, incisiveness and principle always marked his words; as did creativity and imagination. He was an excellent orator, a clear and thoughtful writer; someone who could convey a most convincing vision through his words. As a leader he continually brought a hope for something greater, something better, something more worthy of who the teachers and students were. So impressive were Terry's newsletter editorials, that as he was leaving Ashgrove the Parents and Friends published a collection of them.*

*A prophet is dedicated; consistent, reliable. In fact, Terry pursued doggedly what he believed in. He gave himself unreservedly. I observed this at Ashgrove. He led a complex school - primary, secondary, boarding. He visited boarders' families in outback Queensland. He taught Religious Education and English classes. He coached athletics and shot-put. He would interview each of the Year 7 boarders and then send a handwritten card to their parents assuring them their sons were settling in. He prepared the boarders Sunday Masses and led the weekly singing practices. He directed and produced a play. When one of the Boarding Masters resigned unexpectedly he moved into the Dormitory and supervised. His capacity for work and commitment was extraordinary. He was - maybe to his own personal detriment - unrelenting.*



# BROTHER TERENCE GREGORY HEINRICH

*A prophet disturbs and makes an impact. We all know that's what Terry did. In one of his most significant writings, the 1975 Evangelii Nuntiandi (Evangelisation in the Modern World) Pope Paul VI said this: "modern people listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it's because they are witnesses".*

*In today's world, the appeal of selfless service is more powerful than in the past – both inside and outside the church – rightly or wrongly people mistrust religious institutions, which are seen as self-protective, and their leaders, who seem to demand that followers do as they say, not as they do. This was never Terry's way. He would never ask anyone to do anything that he wouldn't do. He was true to his word, witnessed to his beliefs and lived his vision. He was a person of integrity and truth. This was the essence of Terry's prophetic action. This is what people detected in him. This is what many have commented on in their tributes over the last ten days. Particularly in his passion for justice and his commitment to the vulnerable, he was our conscience.*

## Contemplative

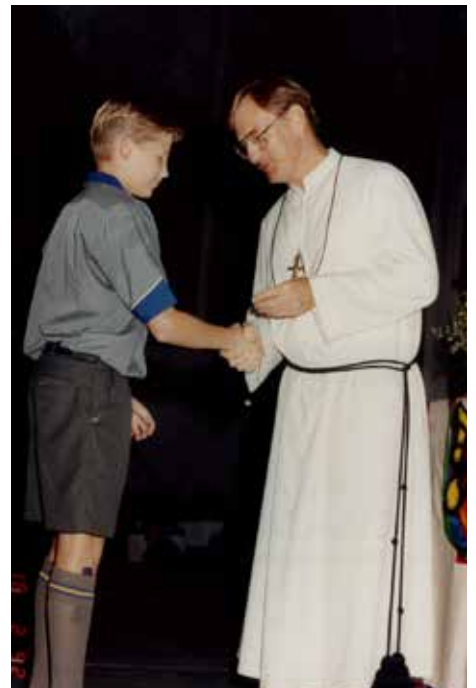
*The second dimension so well exemplified by Terry was the contemplative. Terry had a rich interior life and a deep spirituality. Br Marty Connell recently recalled Terry's morning ritual: he would sit "on the veranda corner of his room at Lavalla one hour before we would rise. He meditated there, and when the light grew brighter he would read the day's gospel. Then he took a quick swim before a shower and we said morning prayers together. He was a wonderful example of regularity, even to an old guy like me. I had him near the top of my list of Marist Saints". In fact the last time I met with Terry, a little over a fortnight ago, I found him pacing in his room with rosary beads slipping through his fingers. He was a prayerful and faithful man. Clearly it was his desire to live by the message of the Gospel which motivated him to do the wonderful things he did. Contemplation isn't just related to religious devotion. It's also expressed in the way one approaches the world. Terry pondered, he considered, he reflected. He didn't rush. He was deliberate and purposeful in everything. This capacity helped shape his vision and gave him the direction he required.*

*I've always thought of Terry as a great admirer of, and advocate for beauty. He was never interested in the cheap or crass, nor the extravagant or excessive, but only in the true, dignified beauty found in simple things. This was an innate part of his contemplative reverence for creation, music, art and particularly human creation. It certainly helped shape his approach to young people. He could look through and into someone. A colleague remembers witnessing Terry questioning a student about his anti-social behaviour. "Can you explain why you did that"? asked Terry. The student looked away, mumbling that he couldn't. "Will you come and tell me when you can?" replied Terry. "Yes" he replied looking at Terry gratefully. He exerted himself to communicate self-belief to young people, even when their human frailty was in evidence. Terry saw the inner beauty, or the possibility of it.*

## Cambodia

*These two dimensions, the prophetic and contemplative, reached their clearest and most intense expression in his life in Cambodia. Despite his significant achievements in leading large and complex Australian schools, there was a sense that none of this, important as it was, satisfied some of Terry's deepest hopes. Sometime in the 1970's, possibly under the influence of Br Charles Howard, Terry had realised the plight of the vulnerable, especially in the developing world. He longed for something that really engaged him with the poor and disadvantaged; he felt dissatisfied with the comfortable life lived in Australia. This accounts for the two years, 1989 and 1990, he spent working with the dispossessed in a Thai Refugee Camp at Phanat Nikhom. It is also the reason he requested to go to Cambodia in 1997.*

*In establishing a new mission in Cambodia Terry was faced with enormous challenges: the local language was alien, education was limited, care for the disabled was virtually non-existent, government regulation was confusing and funding was always in short supply. However, having discerned the real need, Terry brought his full dedication, energy, resilience and patience to the task.*





# BROTHER TERENCE GREGORY HEINRICH

*In response he founded of the Lavalla school for the disabled, a rejected class in society. (Initially many were victims of land mines from the War). Terry shaped its course and nurtured its development. He selected the symbol for the school – the three violets that represent the Marist virtues of modesty, simplicity and humility. They can be seen throughout the Mass book. This choice reflected Terry's own character: even though he was blessed with extraordinary gifts he didn't seek attention; though he achieved much, he never promoted himself. He was satisfied with the simple and found praise difficult to accept. He selected disabled women and men to teach the disabled students – so that they could see real role models. Terry was a man of enormous heart. Visitors in particular were always made welcome and at ease. The many who visited him at Salla Lavalla could amply attest to this.*

*Throughout his 21 years in Cambodia his focus was always on the young people and the staff. He truly believed in the gifts of each person and he personally worked to improve their lives and enhance their future. But he also wanted them to keep their own culture. He took a keen interest in their music and purchased local music instruments for them. Even though mostly Buddhists he made Champagnat Day and Christmas a special time for the children. The children loved all the singing and the dressing up for the dramas. Terry's heart was open to them all. You will see this clearly evidenced in photos of Terry with them.*

*A story told by Brother Barry Lamb tells so much: Terry urged staff, particularly teachers, to keep an eye out for children who might be suitable candidates as students for the Lavalla School. When one of the drivers was visiting a market in Phnom Penh he noticed a boy, suffering from cerebral palsy, begging. He asked the boy if he attended school. No, he did not attend school. Would he like to attend school? Yes, he would like to attend school. It turned out that the boy was in the care of a step-father who was agreeable to learning about La Valla and what it might be able to offer his step-son. This led to the boy being accepted. Terry recalls that the boy had only one filthy t-shirt and pair of shorts. He provided the boy with new clothing and gave him a thorough bath. The boy went on to complete his schooling and find a job.*

*The students and staff of Lavalla referred to Terry – and the other Brothers – as 'Bong Proh' – meaning respected, older brother. However Terry was also regarded by many as their 'Father' – because he had given so many the love and care that is synonymous with parenting, which they had not experienced previously.*

*In the Cambodian culture when a father dies his children shave their heads as an external sign of profound loss and grief. When I spoke with Br Brian Kinsella last Friday he told me that a number of staff and students had shaved their heads because of Terry's death. He really was father to them – and to others. He was for them, and for many of us, a prophet of hope.*

## Brother Peter Carroll FMS

The full text of the eulogy can be found at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au)

## BACK TO MARIST DAY FOR OLD BOYS

A SERIES OF LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS ON  
LIFE'S CHALLENGES IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

A DAY OF REFLECTION AND THOUGHT AND HOW  
YOUR MARIST VALUES AND SPIRITUALITY CAN BE  
USED TO MEET EVERYDAY LIFE  
CHALLENGES AND 'LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE'.

STARTING WITH LUNCH AT MIDDAY AND  
CONCLUDING WITH MASS WITH THE BOARDERS.

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Tony Haling at [tonyhaling@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tonyhaling@optusnet.com.au)*

*Live  
your best  
life!*

SUNDAY  
8 SEPTEMBER  
2019

*Led by past  
Headmaster  
Brother Robert  
O'Connor  
and  
special guest*



# OLD BOYS' SPORTS DAY - MAY 25, 2019

The Headmaster, Peter McLoughlin, the MCA OBA and the College Community on May 25, 2019 were delighted to welcome back members of the Ashgrove and Rosalie 1st XVs from 1949, 1959, 1969 and 1979.

Members of the Ashgrove 1949 "1st XIII" were also remembered. While the great majority of that undefeated premiership team have passed on, it was a great honour that some surviving members were able to attend.

## **1949 1st XV + 1st XIII**

A. "Wally" Hammond (Captain), F. Melit (Vice-captain), B. Kassulke, V. Evert, W. Boyle, D. Wing, R. Galway, L. Williams, B. Casey, J. Tehan, G. Davies, B. Healion, J. Bauer, W. Mulholland, J. Joyce, A. Taylor, N. Scott, D. McKee.

Following the Headmasters welcome and lunch for the teams, all members were presented with medallions and acknowledged by the large crowd present. The teams then stayed on to watch the AIC 1st XV match, with the 2019 MCA 1st XV proving too good for a gallant St. Edmund's College, Ipswich.

Some memories of those brilliant MCA 1st XVs that all recorded TAS premierships.

## **1959 1st XV – TAS Undefeated Premiers**

The 1959 1st XV was one of the best combinations ever produced at the College. The GPS trial games resulted in losses to Nudgee and Churchie, but wins were recorded against BBC (10-9) and IGS (9-5).

The highlight of the TAS season was the 11-3 defeat of St. Laurence's which was played as a curtain raiser for the British Lions vs Queensland match. Ashgrove defeated St. Peters 19-11 to clinch the premiership. Six Ashgrove players were chosen in the TAS 1st XV to play GPS.

1959 1st XV: R. Grcman (Captain), J. Lucey, T. Pollock, D. Kaese, A. Madsen, R. Henzell, P. Chan, F. Lane, P. Callaghan, S. O'Reilly, T. Rodgers, M. Barros, C. Craven, W. Currie and M. Barry. Coach: Br. Francis McMahon.

## **1969 1st XV TAS Co-Premiers with SPLC and Villanova**

The 1969 1st XV made history when 22 players toured NZ for the first time prior to the TAS season. Four matches were played in Auckland (9-11), Rotorua (14-3), Napier (0-19) and Christchurch (11-8) for a squared ledger.

The 1969 1st XV recorded a TAS Co-Premiership after being defeated by St. Peters (27-18) in their penultimate match.

The 1969 1st XV: Michael Talbot (Captain), Kevin Vandeleur (Vice-Captain), Wayne Cass, Pat Laughren, Bill Andrade, Terry Burkett, Robert Sinclair, David Walter, Peter Fleming, Danny Flynn, Al Borle, Charlie Barbagallo, Joe Van Hecke, Peter Musgrove, Paddy Batch, Laurie Rigano, Ken Jarvis, Sam Lizzio. Coach: Br. Terrence Curley.

## **1979 1st XV – TAS Undefeated Premiers**

After impressive victories against BGS (20-0), BSHS (25-0) and Nudgee College (33-0) in early trial matches, the MCA 1979 1st XV then became undefeated TAS premiers. Ashgrove scored a record 263 points in eight games, including 51 tries, while conceding only 25 points. Ashgrove then went on to win all four of their matches during their memorable tour of NZ. Matches were played in Bay of Islands (32-0), Mt. Albert Grammar, Auckland (8-7), Tauranga (22-14) and Hamilton (13-3). Six from Ashgrove's 1st XV were chosen in the State Schoolboys team.

The 1979 1st XV: Kevin Meehan (Captain), Stephen Healy (Vice-Captain), Brett Newsham, Michael Cook, Colin Chan, Paul Lindsay, Mark McDonnell, Robert Simpson, Gregory McKeon, Paul Johnston, Glenn Robinson, Denis Frisby, David Dwan, Scott Sheahan, Tim Dwyer. Reserves – John Edwards, Dom O'Sullivan, Bill Donnelly, Greg Kennish. Coach – Barry Honan.



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# OLD BOYS' SPORTS DAY - MAY 25, 2019



## 1959 1ST XV TEAM

Front Row: Alf Madsen, Trevor Pollock, Cyril Craven, Jim Lucey



## 1969 1ST XV TEAM

Back Row: Ken Jarvis, Terry Burkett, Billy Andrade, Peter Fleming, Danny Flynn, David Walter, Pat Batch  
 Front Row: Peter Musgrove, Kev Vandeleur (Vice Captain), Laurie Rigano, Br Alexis Turton, Michael Talbot (Captain), Charlie Barbagallo, Sam Lizzio  
 Absent: John Connolly



# OLD BOYS' SPORTS DAY - MAY 25, 2019



## 1979 1ST XV TEAM

Front Row: Glen Robinson, Colin Chan, Michael Cook, Kevin Meehan, Scott Sheahan, Denis Frisby, Paul Johnston  
Back Row: Barry Honan [Coach], David Dwan, Rob Simpson, Mark McDonnell, Paul Lindsay, Stephen Healy, Tim Dwyer, Brett Newsham, Greg McKeon, John Edwards, Dominic O'Sullivan

COMING IN EARLY 2020

# PASSING THE BATON

- 80 Years of Ashgrove Athletics
- The Complete History of MCA Track & Field to 2020
- Our Performances, Our Rivals and Our Memories!

This 250 page piece of history will be limited edition and will be sold out.

To guarantee your copy please register with Foundation Manager and Old Boy Peter Casey at [caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au).



JOHN MINES - LONG JUMP 1945

LIMITED EDITION AND WILL SELL OUT

# FOUNDATION STUDENT BRIAN MCGRATH RECEIVES MAGNIFICENT HONOUR

JUBILEE PARK, BARDON NOW THE PERMANENT HOME TO THE BRIAN MCGRATH PLAYGROUND

Old Boys were thrilled at the news that one of our Foundation Students, Brian McGrath OAM, has been honoured permanently by the dedication of the 'Brian McGrath Playground' at Jubilee Park, Bardon.

Brian's has been a lifetime of dedicated service in the Marist tradition. Simplicity. Modesty. Humility. He was an absolute tower of strength to the thousands who suffered during the 1974 floods and such has been his service to the community, he was admitted as a member of the Lions Foundation Hall of Fame.

The dedication of the McGrath Family to the Marist canons of hard work and family is without peer. Brian's dedicated wife, Betty McGrath OAM, is also an affiliate of the Marist Brothers. All Old Boys pass on their congratulation to Brian and Betty and to their children, Ann, John, Mary and Paul.

Truly, one of our greatest Ashgrovians. Viriliter Age.



## OB HENRY RODGERS (2018)

And the brilliance of our young Old Boys is starting to show. Henry Rodgers (2018) currently has a magnificent piece of art on display in the Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane as part of the Creative Generation Excellence in Visual Art awards.

Those prestigious awards showcase the very best artworks from Senior students from around the state. Henry's work was one of only 38 artworks selected from the 448 entries in 2018. The Old Boys' Association are very proud of Henry's dedication and hard work. He is a product of the Marist spirit. Old Boys will be keen to add Henry's works to their private collections we feel in the years to come. Please note Old Boys the exhibition at the GMA is on until 25 August 2019.





# DAVE AND DEREK CAMERON OBA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

There have been no greater contributors to the fabric of Ashgrove than the magnificent Derek and Dave Cameron. On 15 June 2019, they were honoured with Honorary Life Membership of the Old Boys' Association.

Dave Meehan spoke on June 15:

I feel quite humbled to be asked by the Old Boys' Association to say a few words about Derek And Dave Cameron because I know my few words won't do justice to the impact that both men have had on the lives of so many Marist Ashgrove Old Boys. I know Derek & Dave wouldn't want a fuss made either, so that works well for me.

A little background –

I will start with Derek as Dave tells me that he is the eldest.

- Derek arrived at the College in 1974 to teach Economics but his main teaching areas were History and Legal Studies. At various times he was Subject Master of History and Legal Studies and he co-authored a popular Legal Studies textbook that I am sure many of you would have used. With regard to his teaching - An old mate of mine from the 70's made the comment that "Derek actually made you feel that you wanted to know the stuff not just get it down for the exam." Derek retired from Ashgrove in 2015.
- Cameron, the younger, that is Dave – born 30 minutes after Derek and who claims to have been trying to catch those 30 minutes up all his life – arrived at the College in 1983 as an English teacher. He says he finally escaped English and moved into History in 1987 when he also started his Teacher/Librarian training. He remained as a Teacher/Librarian until 2008 when appointed to a position which should be dear to all Old Boys, and that is, College Archivist. And Dave is still working in that position currently.

We all know that Derek & Dave's commitment to the co-curricular program at the College has been extraordinary.

- You don't get an oval named after you because you turned up to training for a few seasons. In fact, Derek basically took sports teams all year round. He loved the "Guts Men" sports of swimming, rugby, cross-country & athletics and coached with calmness and inspired determination. Many will remember speeches given by Derek prior to events where he extolled the virtues of basically laying down your life for the school in your best attempt to win glory, "Braveheart" style. And of course, to make sure we do the right thing and perform with dignity, grace under pressure and true sportsmanship. And because we are Ashgrove we will clean up after the massacre and bury the bodies before we leave.
- On the other hand, Dave's service to sport was almost equal to Derek and probably beyond everyone else except Derek. Dave took cricket, rugby and athletics every year for 32 years. Always one to downplay his role, Dave described himself to me unassumingly as "an accidental coach" and that "it was lucky that the boys had



# DAVE AND DEREK CAMERON OBA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

talent". However, one of his former 2nd XI players put it this way: "His quiet demeanour camouflaged a very competitive spirit. For those who paused to listen, Dave was genuinely one of the funniest blokes at Ashgrove. And for those lucky enough to listen to him at cricket training, Dave taught us how to play competitively, to the best of our ability, in the right spirit of the game and most importantly he made it fun."

And while on sport the 3rds v 4ths or 4ths v 5ths rugby matches, otherwise known as Cameron v Cameron often on Cameron, were always highlights of the rugby season.

And while Derek has an oval named after him today I'd like to present Dave with his own unofficial plaque, the Cameron Archive Cave.

I'm sure many of you would remember the story about the great female tennis player Martina Navratilova. When she was asked what separated her from the rest of the women involved in world tennis. She replied, "I'm committed to being the best."

The reporter said – "Surely everyone involved is committed."

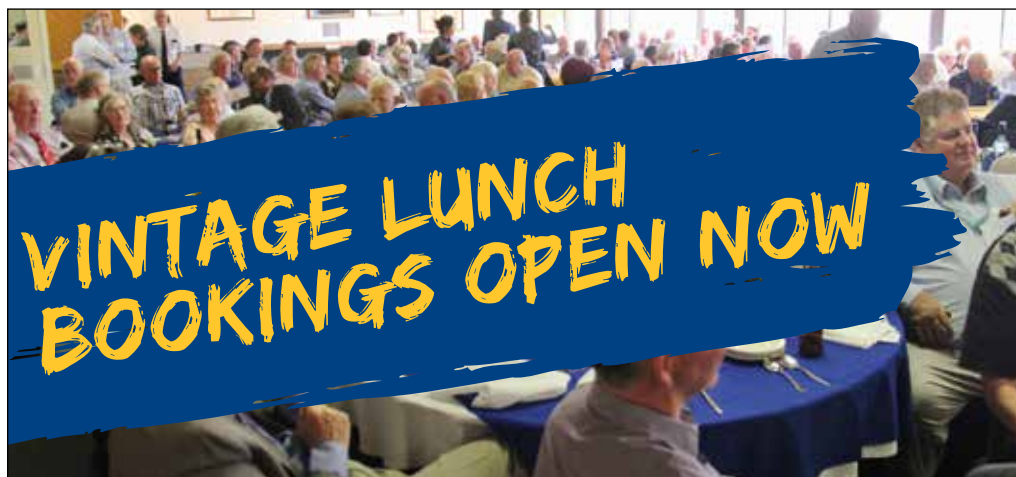
Martina explained that there was a difference between involved and committed. She used the analogy of bacon and eggs for breakfast. As she put it - the chicken is involved in the process but the pig is committed.

I think that analogy sums up the Cameron brothers. Whilst they have always looked like greyhounds what we have here are a pair of prize-winning Berkshire Porks.

Their commitment to the College and particularly the boys of the College over such a long period has been, quite simply, outstanding. And a true selfless gift.

All the research into boy's education will tell you, that to get the best out of boys one of the most important things a teacher can do is form good relationships with their students. So, for over a combined 3/4's of a century that is what Derek and Dave have done.

So as someone who received coaching as a student, through to being a colleague who has been inspired by their commitment, it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Old Boys' Association to present these Life Memberships to Derek and Dave Cameron and to formally welcome them to the Marist Ashgrove Old Boys' Association.



Members are reminded that the Vintage Lunch and Mass will be held on Friday 16 August 2019.

There is huge interest this year and, as always, it will be a complete sell-out.

Please see the advertisement in the Ashgrovian and book as soon as possible.



# ROSALIE ANNIVERSARY FUNCTION

In 1929, Marist Brother's College, Rosalie opened its doors to take in students to educate those boys in the traditions laid down in 1817 by Marcellin Champagnat. College fees for the school were set at a level the Brothers knew families could meet. In 2008, a momentous and often debated decision led to the closure of the school.

Whilst Ashgrove and Rosalie had ferocious battles in the sporting arena, they were all Marist men. They both shared the Marist spirit and the ideals of Cyprian. Much hard work over recent years, with the assistance of Marist College Ashgrove and its Old Boys and the intervention of Brother Neville Solomon, led to the creation of an email database and the re-energising of the Rosa Old Boys. The spirit had never died. A newsletter was developed in December 2018 and at present, there are over 800 names on the database. The recent celebration on 8 June 2019 of the 90th anniversary saw well over 300 in attendance with many Marist Brothers, former staff and Old Boys, including 16 past School Captains, and 5 school duces.

The Rosa spirit continues to burn and the Marist Family grows.



Jim Murphy, Ray Pearson, John Galligan



Rosa Duces



Boys from 2006 - near to last year before closure.  
Proud Rosa boys to the end!



Jim Griffith, Brother John Currie, Brother Geoff Barrington, and Brother Neville Solomon.



# MARIST VINTAGE LUNCH

FOR CLASSES 1940 – 1979

## CYPRIAN PAVILION - FRIDAY 16 AUGUST 2019

**10:30am Mass at the College Chapel**

**11:30am Visit to the renovated Tower Block**

**12:00pm Lunch in the Cyprian Pavilion**

### **PARTNERS WELCOME**

Entry via Frasers Road and parking  
available as directed

**COST: \$40** (lunch, beer, wine and soft drink)

**RSVP:** ASAP as this event always sells out

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or post a cheque payable to 'Marist College Ashgrove'  
to the Treasurer, 50 Banksia Avenue,  
Ashgrove Q 4060



# OB JON ROUSE (1981)

## Queenslander of the Year

All Old Boys take great pride that the leader of Task Force Argos, Detective Inspector Jon Rouse (1981) who was awarded Queenslander of the Year. Jon is the epitome of the true Ashgrovian – Simplicity, Modesty, Humility - yet carries out one of the most difficult and important of all tasks with dignity and respect. It is through Jon's hard work, dedication and perseverance that children can live in a safer world. An Ashgrove Man always – in his limited spare time, Jon's band regularly brought the dance floor alive at many of those fabulous 'Blue and Gold' Balls.

The Old Boys' Association congratulates Jon on his magnificent achievement. He did so quietly and without fanfare. Jon is a true example of the finest attributes of an Ashgrove Old Boy and a brilliant example to the young men that follow in his footsteps. He has, without doubt, shown what it means to 'Be a man'.

Viriliter Age!



## RECENT REUNIONS - 1985

The Old Boys' Reunion Day on 15 June 2019 saw many Old Boys return to honour Dave and Derek Cameron. It included a group from 1985 who proudly had their photo taken with the 'Great Men'. Derek said "I've never forgotten these guys. They were a fantastic year group and one of the best Ashgrove ever produced. It was an honour to have them here."



### STOP PRESS

All Old Boys are advised that Thomas Duncan (2011) will be ordained as priest at St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba at 5:30pm 18 July 2019. The Headmaster will be in attendance and all Old Boys are invited to celebrate Tom's ordination.

# GOLF DAY - 24 MAY 2019

The 24 May 2019 saw another brilliant Old Boys' Golf Day with many of the Old Boys in attendance to battle it out in the great camaraderie which had grown up over the years. The winners on the day were:



Champions Again - James Arundel (2010), Jackson Evans, Matt Currie (2008) and Luke Chaplin and Peter Casey (Golf Day Convenor)



Andrew Roach (2014) Longest Drive



Lee Roach NTP 8th hole



Stuart Roebig NTP 17th hole

Please see our advertisement for the new "Careers-Link" program if you are an employer or business owner and can provide opportunities please contact Mrs Tara Franklin on 07 3858 4686 or [franklint@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:franklint@marash.qld.edu.au) after 16 July 2019.

## ATTENTION: ALL OLD BOYS FROM THE 1940'S TO 1960'S

THE OBA AND THE COLLEGE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF UPDATING THE DATA BASE IN RESPECT OF ITS OLD BOYS. WE WANT TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH YOU. USING OLD BOYS AS THE SUBJECT ENTRY, WOULD YOU PLEASE EMAIL TO [caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au) THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Name, years at Ashgrove, address, home phone, mobile phone, email

PLEASE PASS THIS MESSAGE ON TO YOUR COLLEAGUES



# CAREERS LINK

A NEW PROGRAM LINKING  
ASHGROVE GRADUATES WITH OUR  
NETWORK OF OLD BOY EMPLOYERS

The new program linking Old Boy employers with our young graduates in the professions and the trades is now underway.

If you can assist our young men with career opportunities please email the Careers Link Officer, Mrs Tara Franklin, on [franklint@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:franklint@marash.qld.edu.au) or telephone Tara directly on 07 3858 4686 from 16 July 2019.



# MCA OLD BOYS VS SLC OLD BOYS

MCA OBA once again accepted the challenge from St. Laurence's College (SLC) to play both Football (Soccer) and Touch Football as curtain raisers to the AIC MCA v SLC "1sts" matches on May 18, 2019, at Runcorn.

The significance of the day was important as the Lauries Old Boys' "Back to Runcorn Day" welcomed Ashgrove Old Boys to a special lunch which also highlighted the matches including both College's 1st XV's of 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979 and 1989. Bryan Kassulke (1949), Jim Lucey (1959), Michael Talbot (Captain-1969), Denis Frisby (1979), Kevin Meehan (Captain-1979), Steve Healy (Vice-Captain-1979) and Colin Chan (1979) who returned from Samoa especially, plus a great contingent from the 1989 1st XV (See Photo), ensured Laurie's commemorative day was such a success.

Soccer was played first and Lauries combined well for an early goal. Shortly after half-time, Ashgrove produced a similar combination of attacking interplay, finished superbly by Sam Skinner (2017) who somehow slid the ball past the despairing keeper. The keeper was impassable after that, as was Ashgrove's. Then, just before full-time, relentless attack from Lauries and good contact with their ace striker and a 2-1 score line resulted to the home team. The crowd spontaneously rose to applaud both teams as they left the field who participated in this entertaining skilful match. Thanks to Terry Quain (1996) who organised the MCA Old Boys selection who included:

Chris Banning (2018), Sam Skinner (2017), Jem Corrish (2018), Fletcher Roebig (2018), Terry Quain Captain (1996), Mark Kierpal Manager (1988), Blair Ferguson (2012), Thomas Duffy (2012), Nicholas Webb (2012), Teva Ramonda-Flaherty (2018), Tom Vosper (2018) and Rohan Baumgart (1999).

The MCA Old Boys' Touch team were victorious in the previous encounters at Runcorn, 2015 (4-1) and 2017 (4-0) and Lauries had revamped their side for 2019. Sweeping attacking play from one end of the field



**1989 1st XV**

**Back Row:** David Dixon, Daniel Herbert, Mark Kumaru, Peter Wells, Richard Graham, Damien Kuiters.

**Front Row:** James Fox, Robin Martin, Richard Laherty, Mark Galligan, Jason Locke.



Lauries and Ashgrove football teams post-match



Lauries attacker is well marked



# MCA OLD BOYS VS SLC OLD BOYS



SLC and MCA touch teams before the match

with desperate last-ditch defence characterised the entire match. Like the soccer, Lauries led 1-0 at half-time but sustained passing and support play by Ashgrove saw Alex Heinke (2010) cross for MCA early in the second half. The remainder of the match was played at a frenetic pace and opportunities to score for both teams were somehow stifled and both teams congratulated each other on their amazing game and the 1-1 result. While Ashgrove managed to maintain their unbeaten touch football record, Lauries are to be congratulated for hosting such an enjoyable day but also on their 3-2 aggregate shield win for the combined competition.



Alex Heinke and Declan McWhirter defending the Lauries charge

The MCA Touch team: John Heinke, Captain (1977), John O'Hare Manager (1972), Ben Webb (1991), Pat Hutchinson (2005), James Lynagh (2005), Daniel Ogden (2005), Michael Lynagh (2007), Tim O'Brien (2009), Alex Heinke (2010), Simon O'Hare (2010), Nick Ryall (2010), James Lancashire (2014), Declan McWhirter (2014), Declan O'Sullivan (2014) and Max Stubbings (2014).



Peter Wendt (SLC OBA President), John Heinke (Ash Captain and former Qld Red), Mark Connors (SLC Old Boy and former Wallaby) and John O'Hare (Ashgrove Manager)

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# keith dudgeon

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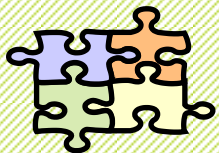
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# PRAYERS PLEASE

Please pray for the following who have deceased recently.

- Joshua Gerard "Bobby" Tam (2013) tragically passed away on December 29, 2018, aged 22 years. Adored son of John (1981) and Julie and loved Brother of Dom and Erin. A celebration of Joshua's life was held at the MCA gymnasium (Champagnat Centre) on January 18, 2019. The Old Boys' Association are proud supporters of 'Just Mossin' Charity which was set up by Old Boy John Tam (1981) and his wife Julie to promote awareness and communications after the tragic death of their beloved son, Josh. Old Boys can learn more and contribute by visiting [www.justmossin.com](http://www.justmossin.com).
- Lloyd James "Bags" Atkins (1966), late of Toowoomba formerly of Alderley, passed away in March 2019. Husband of Marlene and beloved husband of Julieann (dec'd). Father of Mary, Bridget and Amelia and Grandfather of seven. Lloyd's memorial service was held at Brothers Rugby Club Albion on April 5. Kevin Casey was a good mate of his at school "Lloyd was a top bloke, great character and at school sometimes referred to himself as 'His Lloydship' RIP."
- Maurice Barry (1953), formerly of Tamborine and Milmerran, brother of Rob (1955) and Michael (1969), passed away, end of June 2017.
- Stephen Higgins (1973), Son of Brian (dec'd) and Pat, who was a hardworking Former P&F Secretary, and brother of Matthew (1977), passed away after a short illness in early April 2018 aged 63. Stephen lived at Loganholme after growing up at Moola Road, Ashgrove.
- Thomas Edgar Houston (1967), passed away in early November 2018. Tom was the husband of Colleen, and late of Bongaree, formerly Chermside. Tom's funeral service was on November 14, 2018. Tom left MCA after completing Grade 10 in 1965.
- Kenneth John Ingram passed away peacefully on April 22, 2019 aged 63 years, 10 months. Ken was Son of Jack (dec'd) and Marie and Brother of Laurie (1981), Greg (1979) and Patricia. Ken resided in Ashgrove and his Service of Thanksgiving was held at St. Finbarr's Church, Ashgrove on April 26, 2019.
- Rodney John Jarro (1992) of Mitchelton tragically passed away on February 14, aged 44 years. Loved Husband of Bianca and devoted Father of Jai. Beloved son of Rodney and Ngaire and cherished elder brother to Nathan (1994) and Brad, "B.J." (1997). Rod's service was held at St. Peter Chanel, The Gap on February 23, 2019.
- Andrew David McGahan (1983) passed away on February 1, 2019, aged 52 years. Andrew was recognised as "a man of strong and beautiful words, of dignity, courage, gentleness and greatness of spirit". Beloved by his partner Liesje and all his family and friends. Andrew and his brother Martin (1981) were boarders from Dalby. Andrew McGahan's masterpiece, "The White Earth" won Australia's top literary award-the Miles Franklin- in 2005. His classic novel "Last Drinks" set in Queensland in the post-Fitzgerald era, examined the dark side of life in the Sunshine State.
- Henry Onsa (1984) from Arawa, PNG passed away at the end of 2018. Henry attended MCA in Year 7 & 8.
- Leo Dominic Dempsey, late of The Gap, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2019. Father and Father-in-law of Anne and Conrad, Matthew (1984) and Tracy, Tim (1988) and Megan. Grandfather of twelve. Leo's Funeral Mass was held at the MCA Chapel on May 21.
- Florence "Claire" Hayden, passed away in her 90th year on December 4, 2018. Claire was the much-loved wife of Laurie (dec'd) (Foundation student, 1940-41). Mother of Mary-Ann and Grandmother. Claire's Funeral Mass was offered at St. Brendan's Church, Shepparton, VIC. on December 8, 2018.
- Margaret Therese Herbert, late of Ashgrove, passed away surrounded by family on November 20, 2018. Margaret is the much-loved Mother of Leanne, Anthony (1983), Karen, Dianne and Daniel (1990). Margaret's Funeral Mass was held at St. Finbarr's, Ashgrove on November 23, 2018.
- Brian David Quain, late of Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on March 8, 2019, aged 89 years. Brian was Father to Robert (1974), Jenny and Peter. Brian's funeral was from St. Ambrose's Church Newmarket on March 18, 2019.

***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.***

- Please also pray for Charles Lilley (2012) who suffered a horrific injury at a work Christmas party in Dec 2018. The MCA Old Boys thoughts and prayers are also with Charlie every day. A special function will be held by the College in the near future to assist Charlie. Old Boys will be informed when a date has been set.



Joshua "Bobby" Tam



Kenneth John Ingram



Andrew David McGahan



Charles Lilley

## VALE SECTION ON THE NEW OLD BOYS' WEBSITE

The new updated website will have a special 'Vale' section where eulogies and memories of Old Boys can be recorded. Please visit [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au) and click on 'Vale'.



# BATCH BROTHERS INTRODUCE THE HISTORY OF ATHLETICS

As the magnificent publication "Passing the Baton" is being prepared for release in time for the 80th anniversary next year, we provide Old Boys with a short excerpt highlighting the sensational achievements of the extraordinary Batch brothers.

Four brothers from the family Batch attended the College from 1967 to 1973: Michael (1967-68); Paddy (1968-69); Terry (1970-71) and Brian (1972-73). They came from the small town of Mundoo in North Queensland, on the Cassowary Coast near Innisfail. All were talented athletes, all played 1st XV Rugby, and all graced Ashgrove senior athletics teams, with some spectacular success. (Paddy would, of course, go on to rugby fame, playing 14 Tests for the Wallabies between 1975 and 1979.)

## Introduction from Brother Alexis Turton

In the mid-60s Pat and Ellen Batch from North Queensland were looking for a suitable place for the education of their boys as they entered the last two of years of secondary school. The boys primary education in the remote and tiny Mundoo school consisted of a considerable amount of what we would call homeschooling. With a headmaster father and a schoolteacher mum this proved a real bonus. In secondary school they became familiar with Marist attending the Catholic school at Innisfail conducted by the Marist Brothers. Pat, being a headmaster recognised a good educational unit when he saw it. So it was that their eldest boy Michael began at Ashgrove in 1967. Those of us at the College were delighted to know that Michael had brothers to follow! So pleased were the parents that Paddy, Terry and Brian were soon to follow for their last two years of secondary.

Their athletic achievements which extended well beyond the formal field of athletics have been well documented here and acknowledged. Each one of them College Open Athletics Champion with successes that ranged over sprints, 800 m, relays, hurdles, shot put, triple jump, long jump and not a few State Titles.

However, the range of their outstanding achievements was not only in sporting activities. It was as much about their commitment and generosity to everything that was part of what might be called College life or Marist family. While it is reasonable to say that the college and its hard-working staff could take some credit for all this, I believe it is also true to say that what the Batch brothers contributed to the life of the College was at least the equal of what they received. They made a very significant impact in areas of leadership, academia and the boarding aspects of College life and what we came to call Marist family. The College was a better place for their having been there! Be it team or family it was a special contribution from the brothers Batch. Viriliter Age!

## Michael Batch (1967-68)

1967: Member of the 4 X 100m Open Relay team (M Batch, M Driscoll, B Enders, G Boyce) which lowered the College record by 2.1 seconds to 43.5 seconds; Won 100 metres and 200 metres sprints Under 17 at the State Schoolboys Titles – lowered the College 100 metres record to 10.8 seconds.

1968: College Open Athletics Champion; Won 100 metres and 400 metres sprints at TAS, setting a new College record of 51.3 seconds in the latter; Placed 2nd in the Open 200 metres at TAS; Member of the 4 X 100 Open Relay team (M Batch, J Van Hecke, L Rigano, P Martin) which placed 2nd at TAS; Won Open 100 metres and 400 metres sprints at the State Schoolboy Titles

## Paddy Batch (1968-69)

1968: College U16 Athletics Champion; Created new College records in U16 Triple Jump (41 feet 4 and one half inches); U16 Shot (46 feet 2 and three quarter inches) and U16 110 metres Hurdles (16.2 seconds); Won TAS U16 Long Jump, U16 Triple Jump, and U16 Shot; 2nd in U16 TAS Hurdles; Member of TAS 4 X 100 metres U16 Relay team, which placed 2nd (P Batch, P Gibson, P Diezmann, B Theaker); Placed 2nd in State Schoolboy Titles in U17 Long Jump

1969: College Open Athletics Champion; Won TAS Triple Jump Open

## Terry Batch (1970-71)

1970: College U16 Athletics Champion; Won TAS U16 100 metres Hurdles; Placed 3rd TAS U16 Long Jump; Created new College record in U16 Hurdles of 15.3 seconds

1971: College Open Athletics Champion; Placed 2nd in TAS Open Long Jump Placed 3rd in Open Relay (Justin Kernan, Peter O'Hare, Mark Cranitch, Terry Batch); Won U17 Long Jump at the State Schoolboy Titles

## Brian Batch (1972-73)

1972: College Open Athletics Champion; Member of Open 4 X 100 metres TAS Relay team, which placed third (B Batch, A McCormack, P Malone, P Power); Placed 4th in TAS Open 800 metres

1973: College Open Athletics Champion; Member of Open 4 X 100 metres TAS Relay team, which placed third (B Batch, M O'Connor, M Waters, J Counsel); Placed 6th TAS Open 200 metres; Placed 6th TAS Open 400 metres

# MIKE BARRY (1969) - SHOT PUTTER

Q. Could you please outline your amazing rise from Year 8 Boarder at MCA to Australian Shot Put Champion in 1974?

A. I commenced boarding at Ashgrove in 1966. Due to a serious accident with an axe on the farm at Tamborine where I grew up, I didn't get to Ashgrove until about four weeks into the term.

My two older brothers Maurice (1953) and Robert (1955) had been boarders at Ashgrove in the early 1950's. My parents sent us to Ashgrove because Monsignor Steele who was the Beaudesert Parish Priest in those days recommended the College to our parents.

We also had a lot to do with the Marist Brothers when they were at Eagle Heights, in particular the legendary Brother Harold. We would occasionally go up to Eagle Heights when the boys had boxing tournaments.

I played cricket at Ashgrove in the 14 A's, 15 A's & then made the 1st XI squad at the end of Year 10 in 1968. Due to drought and the accompanying financial pressure that resulted from it, my parents were going to reluctantly send me to Beenleigh High School for Year 11 in 1969. However, because I made the cricket 1st XI and due to the kindness of the Brothers, I returned for the 1st term of 1969, then sadly left and continued at Beenleigh High School.

At Ashgrove, I wasn't allowed to play Rugby (much to Brother Cyprian's disappointment!) due to the former injury to my knee. I also knew nothing about shot putting at Ashgrove. The TAS Interschool competition for Shot Put only commenced in the U15 Division, but anyway, I was devoted to the team sport of cricket which was really alluring and most enjoyable with such talented and friendly team-mates.

At Beenleigh High in the beginning of Year 12 in 1970, they brought in an activity period on a Wednesday afternoon. You could join drama & singing, or athletics, amongst other things. The only thing that held any interest for me was the athletics, so that's what I joined. However, the first afternoon, the teacher who was running it said we were going on a 3km run. Now, I was never any good at long distance running, so that wasn't attractive to me at all.

As luck would have it, a couple of boys were mucking around doing shot put, so that looked a much better option.

So I started putting the shot. However, as we lived on a farm at Tamborine, the prospect of getting coached wasn't an option because straight after school you had to catch the bus to get home.

I found a suitably sized round stone in the creek at home and that is how I trained & taught myself for some time. It was good enough for me to break the Australian sub-junior (under 17, 10lb shot) record at Lang Park in October 1970.

Nobody had heard of me at all, up until then, but once that happened I joined Southern Suburbs Amateur Athletic Club in Brisbane. Because of distance etc. I still trained alone at home, but the club gave me a proper shot. Dad built a concrete circle on the farm to train on as well.

I won the Australian Junior (under 19 in those days, 12lb shot) T&F Championships in Perth in 1972, throwing 17.38m and held the State record. I then came 3rd in Sydney at 19 in the Australian Open T&F Championships (16lb shot) in 1973 and then won it in March, 1974 when I was 20 as well as holding the Qld State record. I had also won the 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games trials in October 1973, however I wasn't selected because the selectors said that no one was good enough at both the shot & discus!!! How times have changed. The trials were held in October 1973 & the games were held in February 1974, by which time I was throwing far enough to have placed fifth.

Disaster struck in late 1974 when I badly dislocated my right shoulder in a surfing accident. There wasn't the support etc. for athletes back in those days, so my shoulder never recovered sufficiently to carry on.

Our family's long association continued with Ashgrove when our son Philip (2001) boarded from 1997 to 2001. He thoroughly enjoyed his time at the College and excelled academically, in sport (V-C Athletics) & College leadership (V-C). In the future, Liz and my two grandsons will most likely be Ashgrove boys as well. Ashgrove was and continues to be such a wonderful place.

## Shot Put Career Highlight - In perspective

Mike Barry is another one of Marist College Ashgrove's champion quiet achievers. The following is how the experts at the time evaluated his remarkable performances.

It was extraordinary that a self-trained athlete could become the undisputed national shot put King after winning the Australian Title in March, 1974 as a 20 year old.

Barry had thrown the 16lb shot over 57 feet (17.39 metres) with his first throw to demoralise the field. His first throw in bitterly cold conditions was good enough to convincingly win him the title by a large margin (for a national title) of 1.19 metres. If it had not been so cold, there is no doubt Mike Barry would have exceeded 58 feet.

In fact, the newspaper coverage in Melbourne made this prediction: "Barry 20, appears to be installed as the nation's number one shot put exponent for a long period. He is being freely tipped to be the first Australian to exceed 18.28 metres (60 feet).



# MIKE BARRY (1969) - SHOT PUTTER

Malcolm McMillan lamented in the 'Australian' - "sadly no overseas Track and Field team was selected from the National titles."

Mike Barry had earlier (Oct 1973) won the Christchurch, New Zealand Commonwealth Games trials. The Games were to be held in Feb, 1974. The National Press were scathing in his omission as with his expected improvement over the next four months of summer competition, Mike Barry was an outside chance for a Commonwealth Games Bronze medal in Men's Shot Put. For Barry to be expected to perform similarly in Discus, did not make sense! The Australian selectors adopted the most absurd and unfair selection criteria, requiring the Australian representative to perform in discus and shotput!

"You know, it just seems inconceivable that a nation so in need of incentive, especially for throwers, can miss an opportunity to blood someone like the young Queensland giant Mike Barry. God knows he deserves it. Anyone who wins a national title deserves some reward, some further incentive to go on trying to reach international class. So what if Barry can't toss the platter (discus) far enough? Is it unethical to let this fellow go to Christchurch on New Zealand's money and test himself in the shot? If he feels his efforts in the discus will embarrass Australian officialdom then let him retire feigning injury or, much better still, let him try with all his might to show to the world what ranks as Australia's finest Discus exponent. Perhaps, only then will Australian throwers receive the encouragement and assistance necessary to bring them up to scratch. Throwers are unfortunately the forgotten men of Australian athletics."

Michael Barry took all this in his stride, with barely a murmur, never complaining or losing the self-belief and desire to keep competing and improving. This showed in the month after the Christchurch Commonwealth Games with that massive throw to be rewarded with the National Title in those most difficult Melbourne weather conditions.

Mike's magnificent form continued throughout the year, and then an insurmountable setback occurred when Mike was involved in a surf accident in December.

Everard Bartholomeusz reported in the "Courier Mail":

"One of Queensland's most promising athletes, National Shot Put champion, Mike Barry, could be forced out of Athletics. Barry suffered a dislocated shoulder in a surfing accident last weekend and advised Qld State selectors that he would not be able to compete in the annual Queensland-New South Wales athletics match to be held at Lang Park on January 18 and 19."

Mike Barry (1966-69), will not only be proudly remembered as Marist College's Ashgrove's first National Men's Open Athletics Champion (16lb shot) in March 1974, Qld Record holder (16lb shot), holder of the National U17 (Subjunior, 10 lb shot) record as well as National U19 (Junior, 12lb shot) Champion and Qld record holder, but also as a real or ultimate champion who accepted that what happens in life or whatever the circumstances are, act courageously! Mike, in reality, is a true icon of Athletics!



# ST JUDE'S SEMINARY AT ASHGROVE, 1931-1938

Dave Cameron (who was made an honorary life member on 15 June 2019) continues his magnificent series relating to the Tower.

We left Father Walter Cain and his devoted deputy Mother Margaret Claire at the point where St Jude's Seminary, with its wonderful new "Tower" building, had been blessed and opened in 1931. Everything seemed auspicious for the Missionaries and Sisters of the Most Holy Eucharist to grow and develop, and indeed they initially did. Dark clouds, however, were gathering virtually unnoticed by those within the missionary order, and those dark clouds would eventually unleash a catastrophic storm.

By 1936, it appeared that all was well and that Walter Cain would achieve his vision of an Asia where souls were being won everywhere for Christ by Cain's missionaries. This was, however, a flattering picture, for the very apparent successes of Cain's order, were creating waves within the Catholic community in Australia, and the ripples of these waves were to reach as far as Rome and the Vatican.

It must be remembered that this was the time of the Great Depression, a cataclysmic economic event which created massive unemployment, shocked confidence, and caused widespread economic misery and social dislocation. Certainly, there was a real danger that capitalism would collapse, and that extreme political systems, either of the Right or the Left, would fill the vacuum created. Existing social divisions were heightened by the economic uncertainty.

Cain's timing was – as remarked on in the previous instalment – dreadful. Just as the worst of the Depression began to hit Australia in 1932, St Jude's Seminary began its work. Everything about St Jude's Seminary shouted money, and bags of it. The ostentatious building, the bridge and winding road, the Carrara marble statues, the enormous religious paintings, the expensive altar vestments – how were such things possible in a stricken, impoverished Australia? Yet Cain and Margaret Claire caught up in their vision of the missionary order, seemed not to realise that the apparently solid ground beneath their feet could quickly turn to quicksand. It was neither aimed for nor acknowledged, but they were creating a tidal wave of jealousy that would eventually sweep them away. Today we have no problem in recognising "Tall Poppy Syndrome" in Australia – the two religious and their disciples were among its first victims in the 1930s.

What were the criticisms of St Jude's Seminary? Dark rumours were not long in coming to life. It is important to state that none was ever proven or substantiated, but the old adage about smoke and fire was obviously in play. Walter Cain never seems to have realised, at least until it was too late, that having members of both sexes on the same property was a dangerous practice. To his mind, the Tower was for the Sisters, the main outbuilding for the seminarians, and that was that. Co-habitation was beyond contemplation. Unfortunately, as Mark Farrelly states in 'Canvas of Dreams', "Success bred resentment. Resentment made up its own excuses... the hot gospel press had stories of tunnels and clandestine orgies, even black masses! Few ever read such muck-raking nonsense, but the stories were carried well beyond their source, became rumours, and were not denied." Too late, Cain purchased a block three miles north of the Seminary as a property for the Sisters of the Most Holy Eucharist alone; by then the damage was done. He would grumble later in life, "Calumny attended us from the outset," but a more-worldly mind





# ST JUDE'S SEMINARY AT ASHGROVE, 1931-1938

would have seen the danger from that outset. The obvious closeness between the priest and the Mother Superior must also have played a part: her devotion to him was intense and life-long, as we shall see. The wagging tongues would delight in further scurrilous supposition. (The impact of such factors can be considerable. A modern-day cautionary tale is currently being played out which might well be titled "The Perils of Barnaby.")

Other criticisms were made which may have had some substance to them. Father Cain would often go on lecturing tours for fund-raising purposes within Australia, or to the United States, or to the Philippines, or to Rome. When he wasn't there, who was responsible for training the seminarians and the nuns? Who was running the show? Were the prospective missionaries to be only half or poorly trained? How could they be regarded as qualified to carry out their tasks without Cain's constant supervision? (In the end, only two priests from within the ranks of the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist would ever be ordained. A secret church report in July 1937 found St Jude's teaching standards wanting.)

Next on the list came the means by which the order raised the funds which made its existence and operation possible. As we have seen, Cain produced the phenomenally successful magazine "Filipinas"; it was the mouthpiece by which Cain persuaded the populace in several countries to donate to his order. Rarely would any page of the magazine miss an opportunity to remind the reader of the nobility of Cain's undertaking, nor forsake a chance to mention the wonderful things achieved, and the financial burden willingly borne by members of the order to achieve that success. Magnificent, but oh so costly! Could the readers help, in any way? Cain saw nothing wrong in soliciting donations through the magazine – it was, after all, doing God's work. The wagging tongues saw it differently: in the words of the 1930s, they maintained Cain was offering "salvation for five bob" – that is, putting a monetary price on religious acts and practices. The exhortations in "Filipinas" to contribute to Father Cain's missionary coffers in return for prayers said was dangerously close to the medieval practice of Indulgences.

Somewhat naturally, the Roman Catholic Church was very sensitive to insinuations about Indulgences – they had been, after all, one of the root causes of Luther's agitation, the upheaval of the Reformation, and the splitting asunder of Christendom. So when stories from far-off Australia began to reach the Vatican about a priest in a seminary who was encouraging people to buy votive candles in a magazine he produced, the stories were taken very seriously indeed. Cardinal Fumasoni-Biondi, Prefect of the Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith, a very powerful man in the Vatican hierarchy, began to make up a file on the practices at Ashgrove. In a few short months, such was the volume of complaints reaching him, it was a very thick file indeed. (Who complained? The same people who spread stories and parish priests who saw money they felt should have been their own going to St Jude's.)

Father Cain, indeed, despite constantly crying poor in his magazine, was very astute with his finances: he had, in fact, a small fortune in interest-bearing deposits, and was always prudent in his purchases. He always paid cash for the properties he bought, (with the sole exception of his first Gregory Terrace house, when "Filipinas" was not fully established.) Yet his writings make reference to always needing to put his head "in a financial noose yet again." It simply was not true, and Cain confessed his bewilderment when accused of financial mismanagement that could only be overcome by massive public donations through "Filipinas." He was in fact an excellent businessman, but he was not honest with his readers about the health of the order's finances, always understating them.



# ST JUDE'S SEMINARY AT ASHGROVE, 1931-1938

All this had to end up in flames at some stage, and it happened largely as a result of a well-named place on the Ashgrove property – the Lamps Chapel. It was a double-storey wooden building about where the present Chapel now stands, and the upstairs floor had a much decorated altar before which tray after tray of votive candles – each of which had been paid for with a donation – burned. This was where the donated money was “spent” by members of the order, on rotation watch 24/7 because of the danger of fire, through prayers designated by the donors. The flames were about to ignite.

According to Mark Farrelly's “Canvas of Dreams”, a reliable witness in the Vatican entered the office of Cardinal Fumasoni-Biondi to see the Cardinal reading the latest complaint in the Ashgrove file. The complaint centred on a woman from Laidley who had paid a donation to cover a novena for help for her prized cow, just about to calf. When the Cardinal read that the novena had indeed been performed in the Lamps Chapel, he threw the document from him in a fine display of Latin fury, roaring “The man is a crook! I will see His Holiness at once! I will have him closed down today!” He apparently did just that. (The results for the cow and calf are unrecorded.)

Cain was blithely unaware of the groundswell of discontent against him, nor of the fact that his order had been under official investigation by the Vatican for many months, if not years. He was therefore intensely surprised on 16th January 1938 to receive a sealed note from Dr Thomas McCabe on behalf of the Apostolic Delegate in Sydney, Monsignor John Panico, (of course nicknamed “Panicky Jack.”) The sealed note decreed that the Vatican had suppressed the male side of the order, leaving the title of the order to the Sisters of the Most Holy Eucharist alone. Every one of the male missionaries but Fathers Cain and Ainslie (one of the ordained priests of the order) were to leave the property immediately; Cain and Ainslie were to place their priestly selves at the service of the Brisbane Diocese; further editions of “Filipinas” were banned; the burning of votive candles was forbidden; Cain was to have no contact whatsoever with the Sisters – a visiting priest and two sisters would take over their future supervision.

Cain went to stay at the Marist Fathers' monastery in Glenlyon Drive, in clear view of the Tower. Pathetically, Margaret Claire would climb to the Tower, and they would wave to each other across the intervening distance. Then, fatally, Cain arranged to have his laundry done by the Sisters, and was soon discovered slipping notes into his clothing to be read by Margaret Claire. She was called to Sydney, and on 8 September 1938, was informed that the Sisters' side of the order had also been suppressed. Cain's order no longer had official existence: the dream was over.

Some of the seminarians and nuns returned to “normal” life; others joined existing religious orders to complete their training. Margaret Claire, shattered, knew not where to turn. Cain, equally shattered, was still determined to fight to have his order re-instated. King Canute had more chance of stopping the incoming tide: every attempt to gain a hearing, either written or in person, met with blank refusal and a wall of silence. The decision was final and absolute. St Jude's Seminary and all its wealth and land became the property of the Church, in the person of Apostolic Delegate Panico, though in fact Archbishop Duhig was the immediate custodian of the property. The magnificent building was still there, though its first occupants had been driven out. Duhig was anxious to sell it, but who would the buyer(s) be? The Marist Brothers are about to assume centre stage, though the fate of the central characters in the saga so far also needs consideration. Until next time.

**Dave Cameron**







# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS PROGRAM

“It’s about the older generation of Marist boys coming together to give the same opportunity to those less fortunate.”

## How to sign up

Here at Marist College Ashgrove we believe it takes a community to educate a child. It’s about the older generation of Marist boys coming together to give the same opportunity to future generations.

Thank you once again for supporting The Champagnat Trust and the boys that it benefits through your generosity.

**Step 1:** You and a group of friends or past school mates come together to make a difference.

**Step 2:** Each person pledges a tax deductible donation, yearly for 3 years.

**Step 3:** Your combined donation of either \$12,000 or \$30,000 is a gift that will make a difference in a boys life through his education at Marist College Ashgrove.

**Step 4:** Congratulations you have as a group made a positive change in a young boy’s life.

## Together we provide education for a boy’s future

Sometimes it is difficult to see how, as individuals, we can make a difference to others in our community, however collectively as a group we can.

‘Strength in Numbers’ is a program aimed at providing a Marist education for deserving boys who would otherwise miss out due to family circumstances.

For those who have received a Marist Education, you will know that you have not only gained an education and strong values, but you have also gained a network of friends for life.

The Champagnat Trust’s new collective fundraiser ‘Strength in Numbers’ is an opportunity for groups of Old Boys to come together to maximise the impact of their tax deductible donations, big or small.

## How the program works

Sponsor a day boy or a boarder for their senior years at Marist College Ashgrove with the option to support them through Years 7 to 12.

Individual donors combined with 40 others, such as the ‘Class of ‘81’ will see the impact of a weekly individual donation of just \$15 raise enough to cover a boarding student’s tuition for the year. Or maybe it’s the combination of the 1st XV rugby team of 1975 who could raise funds to cover a day boy’s tuition.

You can truly make a difference as an individual if you come together as a group. So grab your mates from school and give a young man the same opportunity you have had at Marist College Ashgrove.

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