

# THE ASHGROVIAN



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**The Official Publication of  
Marist College Ashgrove  
Old Boys Association Inc.**

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

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Friday 17 August 2018

Vintage Blue and Gold Lunch for classes from 1940 to 1978

### Friday 28 September 2018

Reunion Evening Function at the Cyprian Pavilion

**Check the Old Boys website at**

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

**for further details.**

### FRONT COVER: ICONIC STATUE RETURNED TO FORMER GLORY

One of the most famous statues in the Marist World, the statue of the Sacred Heart at the front of the Tower, has recently been carefully cleaned after a number of decades by using highly specialised equipment to minimise damage. The centrepiece has come up magnificently and will be a major attraction which all Old Boys can visit on their return once the Tower renovations are complete.

### 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) has just been launched!

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

# IMPORTANT REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM PRESIDENT AND HEADMASTER

**Dear Old Boys,**

The 2018 year has started strongly for the College and the Old Boys. There has already been much success on the sporting, cultural and academic stage. The Old Boys have, as always, been actively involved in supporting College initiatives. The Old Boys Sports Day on 26 May 2018 against St Laurences was a huge success. The Old Boys have now also launched a bigger and better website to keep you up to date in addition to its very successful Facebook page.

However, on this particular occasion, we write jointly with two very important messages.

## **Tower Appeal**

Renovations to the Tower have commenced. We want to return our great Icon, which carries so much history, to her former glory. That includes an area specifically dedicated to the history of the College and exhibiting memorabilia and historical items. However, in the modern era, the costs of renovation are enormous. There is a massive shortfall. We have no public funding. The College has thus reached out to the community, including its Old Boys, to help fund the renovations and the memorabilia museum. We need all the support we can get to make it happen.

If you are able to provide any assistance whatsoever, we ask you to do so. Please contact the College Foundation Manager and Vice President of the Old Boys, Mr Peter Casey, on [caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:caseyp@marash.qld.edu.au) or (07) 3858 4584 if you are able to assist (except school holidays).

## **Historical Items and Memorabilia**

When the renovations to the Tower are complete, the building will contain certain areas which have been allocated to display the history of the College. This will include items of historical significance and memorabilia

We know that vast amounts of memorabilia have been held by Old Boys and their families over the decades. If you or your family have any memorabilia you would like to have displayed either by way of donation or loan would you please contact the College Archivist, Mr Dave Cameron, on [camerond@marash.qld.edu.au](mailto:camerond@marash.qld.edu.au) or 07 3858 4591 from Wednesday to Friday inclusive (except school holidays).

Our thanks in Mary and St Marcellin Champagnat,

**Peter McLoughlin**  
Headmaster

**Brad Butten**  
President



Headmaster Peter McLoughlin and Old Boys President Brad Butten at the top of The Tower overseeing renovations.



Just a few pieces of the memorabilia already collected.

**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)



# ASHGROVE CONTINUES TO EXCEL IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

## Aaron Brandis (Dux 1999) receives space age award of the highest order.

We bring some very special news for Old Boys in this edition of the Ashgrovian.

It is hard to measure achievement in the scientific world. OB Aaron Brandis (Dux 1999) is a Senior Research Scientist and lead investigator for shock layer radiation in the Entry System Modelling Project at the NASA Aames Research Centre in Silicon Valley California. In sensational news that will make Old Boys proud, in January this year, Aaron became one of the youngest members ever to be inducted and recognised as an Associate Fellow of the high profile American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). The induction ceremony in Florida was held in front of a packed audience. The AIAA acknowledged that Aaron was inducted for: *"exemplifying extraordinary accomplishments and leadership in the global aerospace community and demonstrating a remarkable commitment to furthering the advancement of aerospace and technology and having performed important work which the AIAA is proud to recognise"*.



Aaron's honours since leaving Ashgrove could fill an entire Ashgrovian. He has been co-author of over 70 publications, has received a PhD from the prestigious Ecole Centrale in Paris and UQ and has been a post-doctorate research fellow at both Stanford University and UQ. He has partaken of many prestigious projects with NASA including ground-breaking work as part of the aerothermal working group on the "Mars 2020 Project".

Aaron's induction and recognition by the AIAA obviously represents one of the most prestigious honours ever bestowed upon a graduate of the College. The College and the Old Boys Association have sent their congratulations to Aaron and his family. Still humble as the day he left Ashgrove, Aaron remains a true inspiration to the boys who are following him into the sciences. We look forward to his return to the College.

## THE BRILLIANCE OF PROFESSOR JOHN MCGRATH

Professor John McGrath (1974) has a very special connection with Ashgrove - being not only an Old Boy but the proud son of a foundation student, Brian McGrath (1940-41). John is one of Ashgrove's most brilliant graduates and is a renowned psychiatrist having graduated from the University of Queensland medical school in 1985. He was awarded the AM for services to medicine in the field of schizophrenia research and psychiatric education, a Smithsonian fellowship to Harvard, a Premier's Award and a Centenary Medal from the Australian Government. He is also the head of epidemiology and developmental neurobiology at the Queensland Brain Institute. Not only is John one of Australia's most highly regarded mental health researchers, he was also recognised by the Danish National Research Foundation in 2016 with a Niels Bohr Professorship and in 2017 awarded the prestigious Erik Stromgren medal at a ceremony in Denmark.

The Old Boys congratulate John on his superb achievements. There are many other landmarks in John's career and more information will be available on the Old Boy's website at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au).



# COMMONWEALTH GAMES SUCCESS FOR OLD BOYS

The recent Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast saw the introduction on to the world stage of Old Boy Tom Cicchini (2013) who made his way through to the quarter-finals in the 57-kilogram freestyle wrestling division. Tom was only stopped by the eventual gold medal winner. It was a sensational debut by Tom and we look forward to seeing him in action in Tokyo 2020.

Legendary Old Boy Coach Michael Bohl (1979) also put the Ashgrove stamp on the Games with members of his swimming squad winning six gold, one silver and five bronze (including a world record in the relay!). A particular note is made of Michael's daughter, Georgia (Ashgrovia by descent), who won a gold (400-metre medley relay) and a bronze (100-metre breaststroke). Tony Lacaze's (1973) daughter, Genevieve, put in a magnificent effort against the African nations in the tough 3,000-metre steeplechase to come in 5th.

A sensational effort all round.



Tom Cicchini

## ASHGROVE CONTINUES TO MAKE JUDICIAL HISTORY

The ongoing influence on Ashgrove on the legal profession and the judiciary continued with the historical appointment of Nathan Jarro (1994) as a Judge of the District Court of Queensland. Nathan also became Queensland's first indigenous judge. Nathan joined the bench after a distinguished career as a barrister and long-standing tribunal member of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal and Mental Health Review Tribunal. Nathan, who attended the College with both of his brothers, also had a strong involvement in the community as a board director for the Queensland Theatre Company, Chair of the QUT Indigenous Education and Employment Consultative Committee and board director of the National Indigenous Television Ltd (NITV).

The welcoming ceremony was presided over by none other than the Chief Judge of the District Court of Queensland and Old Boy, Kerry O'Brien (1967). Kerry, who has been a judge since 1989 and Chief Judge since 2014, continues to give distinguished service to Queensland. The District Court achieves levels of efficiency which are the envy of Courts throughout Australia. The Old Boys express their pride in the contribution both men have made to the community and wish His Honour Judge Jarro all the best in the years ahead. Queensland will be well served.



# OLD BOYS SPORTS DAY - MAY 26, 2018

The Headmaster, Peter McLoughlin, the MCA OBA and the College Community were delighted to welcome back members of the Ashgrove and St. Laurence's 1st XVs from 1948, 1958, 1968 and 1978.

Members of the Ashgrove 1948 "1st XIII" were also remembered. While the great majority of that undefeated premiership have passed on, it was a great honour that some surviving members were able to attend.

The 1948 1st XV & 1st XIII:

Team: A. O'Connor (Captain), F. Melit, V. Evert, J. Morrissey, B. Colleton, B. Carmichael, R. Lester, B. Casey, N. Tanzer, D. Dwyer, J. Fenton, P. O'Brien, A. Taylor, J. Mines, R. Clancy, J. Bauer, B. Kassulke, G. Davies, L. Baker, R. Agostinelli, A. Hammond and J. Behan.

Following the Headmaster's welcome and lunch for the teams, they were presented with medallions and acknowledged by the large crowd present. They then stayed on to watch the exciting AIC 1st XV match, with the 2018 MCA 1st XV defeating SLC, 57-5.

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

## 1958 1st XV – Joint Premiers with SLC

The highlights of the season were the preseason wins over I.G.S (9-3), BBC (6-3), BSHS (18-16) and the curtain raiser to the Test against Nudgee, which the GPS Runners-up won 14-6, despite the halftime score 3-all.

The TAS fixtures were held at home and away with SLC winning 14-3 on their very wet and muddy home ground. In an incredibly exciting display, Ashgrove had the edge at home, winning the return 25-11. 6 Ashgrove players were chosen in the TAS 1st XV to play GPS.

The 1958 1st XV:

Bernie Knapp (captain), Alf Madsen, George Paff, Terry Ryan, Mick Barros, Julius Chan, Tony Anderson, Dan Currier, Trevor Pollock, Ken Craven, Don Kaese, Allan Barber,



Luke O'Reilly, Brian Wilson, A (Tino). Babao, Phil Callaghan. Coach: Br. Francis McMahon.

## 1968 1st XV – TAS Co-Premiers with SPLC, DLS

In the vital last game of the season against the previously undefeated St. Peters, Ashgrove rose to the challenge magnificently and turned in its best performance of the season to win 12-8, thus ensuring the shared premiership.

1968 1st XV:

Brian Gallagher (Captain), Dan Flynn (Vice-Captain), John Connolly, Al Borle, Gary Anderson, Laurie Rigano, Peter Howes, Bill Andrade, Peter Fleming, Edward Houston, Bill Klink, Michael Talbot, Peter Spence, Neil Condon, Joe Van Hecke, Michael Batch, Kevin Vandeleur, Paul Martin. Coach: Br. Terence Curley.

## 1978 1st XV – TAS Premiers

Early trial matches saw Ashgrove defeat BGS 18-0 and register narrow losses to BSHS and St. Joseph's

Hunters Hill (9-14). The highlight of the season though was the second last match, away to Villanova at Tingalpa. The atmosphere was electric and with every player giving a 100% effort, this resulted in disciplined and exciting rugby to secure the premiership with a 10-0 win.

1978 1st XV: John Stower (Captain – Breakaway), Denis Frisby (Vice-Captain - 5/8), Mark Bygott (Right Wing), Nigel Kassulke (Outside Centre), Michael Pike (Breakaway), Michael Cook (Hooker), Chris Clair (Halfback), Peter Selwood (Fullback), Stephen Healy (Inside centre), Daryl O'Brien (Left wing), Wayne Gesch (2nd Row), Michael Simpson (Tight-head prop), David Osborne (Loose-head prop), Mark Donaldson (No. 8), Anthony Ryan (left wing), Tom McDonnell (2nd Row), Christopher Harris (2nd Row). Coach: Barry Honan.



# OLD BOYS SPORTS DAY - MAY 26, 2018



## 1948 1ST XV TEAM

Left to Right: Alan Taylor, Bryan Kassulke, Joseph Fenton, Bryan Carmichael, John Mines



## 1958 1ST XV TEAM

Back Row: Don Kaese (MCA), Alan Barber (MCA), Terry O'Sullivan (Rosalie), Henry Barros (representing Mick Barros (SLC), Trevor Pollock (MCA), Terry Crammer (SLC), William Wilcox (SLC capt), John Dickie (SLC), Tino Babao (MCA)  
Front Row: Barry Brown (Rosalie), Bernie Knapp (MCA Captain), Sir Julius Chan (MCA), Alf Madsen (MCA)

# OLD BOYS SPORTS DAY - MAY 26, 2018



## 1968 1ST XV TEAM

Back Row: William Andrade, Noel Saunders (Reserve)

Front Row: Br. Alexis (Assistant Coach), Paul Martin, Brian Gallagher (Captain), Michael Talbot



## 1978 1ST XV TEAM

Front Row: Denis Frisby (Vice-Captain), Mark Bygott, Nigel Kassulke, Michael Pike, John Stower (Captain), Michael Cook

Back Row: Steve Healy, Daryl O'Brien, Wayne Gesch, Michael Simpson, Tom McDonnell, Barry Honan (Coach)



# NEWS FROM THE CLASS OF 1998



Peter Kilroy, class of 98, returned from Sydney after four years as Marketing Manager for Chugg entertainment. He is the front man for well known Brisbane band "Hey Geronimo" who has been featured on Triple J and played at major festivals including Big Day Out, Splendour in the Grass, Pete's Ridge, Woodford, Red Deer & have supported some of the worlds biggest music acts. Hey Geronimo is about to release its second studio album in May.

David Mapleston - class of 1998, who played two seasons for Brisbane Lions, 2002/2003, has returned to Brisbane after living interstate for 15 years. Has commenced as a secondary school teacher at A.T.C. as English teacher. He is also a PE teacher. David bought a house in Ashgrove in 2017 with his wife Sonja and has a 1-year-old daughter, Freja. Freja is a very cute girl & will be featuring in the David Jones Winter Kids Catalogue 2018.



Oliver Talbot (1998) has started his own firm in Brisbane City and employs over 20 people. Oliver advises on public and private mergers and acquisitions as well as capital raising and corporate governance matters.

He is listed as a leading Queensland corporate lawyer in the 2017 Doyle's guide to the Australian legal profession.



Sean (1998) & Trent (2000) Carthew, started restaurant chain, Burger Urge, ten years ago and have grown to 27 venues throughout Qld and NSW. The chain turns over 30 million annually in sales and has over 400 staff.



Adam Jones founded Black Bear Developments – (boutique residential construction company) in 2008 and has successfully completed \$50 million of residential projects over the last decade.

He's a very busy guy – he has five kids between ages of 6 months and 18 years of age. Wife Bernadette is a Mount Alvernia College graduate, class of 98.

# AIDAN CAMPBELL REACHES NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

The Old Boys wish to express their congratulations on the achievements of Aidan Campbell (2011) who was part of the Australian Indoor Hockey Team which competed in the 5th Indoor Hockey World Cup in Berlin from the Feb 7-11, 2018. In a highly competitive environment, the team was able to manage an excellent fourth after being defeated in the bronze medal match.

"Playing for Australia is an honour. There's a bit of pride knowing I'm following in the footsteps of my old man," Aidan said.

Aidan's father John Campbell represented Australia in hockey between 1986 and 1991.

The Old Boys express their pride in Aidan's achievement and wish him the very best as his future progresses.



Aidan Campbell on the attack

## GOLF DAY - 1 JUNE 2018

We have in the past years been looked after by a higher authority, and I am not talking about my wife, with weather conditions and this year was no different, blue skies, a slight chill in the air and a magnificently prepared course. 71 healthy souls teed off and were again well looked after by the staff at the Keperra Country Golf Club, and I thank them for this.

I would also like to thank all those that attended and helped us raise some funds for our Old Boy Bursaries especially Stuart Roebig from Retail Logic, John Gullo from Continental Cabinets, Iain McLean from Your Physio and Bill Andrews with Logan Law who were Hole Sponsors.

My thanks, as always, go out to Michael Dash and his great team for another faultless round, cold beer and friendly ambience at Keperra. Winners on the day were James Arundel, Jack Connor, Matt Currie and Luke Chaplin with a net 51.5 Nearest the Pins were Dick Thurgood and Mark Cururuto and Longest Drive went to Dave Adams.



Winning Four: Jack Connor (2010), James Arundel (2010), Matt Currie (2008), Luke Chaplin



Headmaster Peter McLoughlin presenting Tony Hogarth (1976) with his prize.

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE 1968 SENIOR AND 1966 JUNIOR YEARS

The huge 50 year reunion lunch is on Friday 17 August 2018 at the College.

If you are from those years or know someone, please ask them to contact John Hollamby ASAP on 0418 244 523 or [johnhollamby@iinet.net.au](mailto:johnhollamby@iinet.net.au) or visit the website at [www.ashgroveclassof1968.com.au](http://www.ashgroveclassof1968.com.au)





# MCA OLD BOYS ARE OPPOSING CAPTAINS IN CLUB CRICKET FIRST GRADE GRAND FINAL!

Ashgrove Old Boys made cricket history this year when two teammates from the 2009 1st XI were opposing captains in the first-grade grand final: James McPherson (2009) and Lachlan Thompson (2011).

Many other Ashgrove Old Boys also made their mark in QCA Cricket over the 2017/2018 season. Not since Matthew Hayden (1988) who at various stages captained Qld, Valley, Northants (UK) and Hampshire (UK) has MCA been so well represented. This year Sandgate-Redcliffe under Lachlan Thompson's captaincy was after a 3-peat of titles. S-R inflicted grand final misery on Wests in the T20 final and then the pain returned for Wests in the 50 over decider with S-R recording a six-wicket win.

Sandgate finished second on the ladder to first placed Norths who were captained by James McPherson (2009) in the two-day fixture competition. Thus S-R was required to win the grand final (played over four days on March 17/18 and 24/25) to secure the Club premiership. With time running out, Norths who were chasing a victory target of 242 on the final day, ended up at 3/121, the draw resulting in James McPherson's Norths club, being crowned 2018 First Grade Champions.

Both first-grade captains Lachlan Thompson (2011) and James McPherson (2009) had outstanding seasons with the bat, and both had the distinction of captaining their MCA 1st XI cricket teams to premierships, James in 2009 and Lachlan in 2010 and 2011. Their sportsmanship and respect for their opponents and the spirit of cricket was a credit to them and evident throughout their first seasons as Captains of First grade.

Other Ashgrovians have also performed well. Daniel Cranitch (2014) spearheaded Toombul's pace attack into the A grade semi-final (first v fourth) where they failed to overcome minor premiers, Norths. Dan Maroske (2000) was again a prolific wicket-taker for Wests in second grade, while Nick Sale (2007-2010) pummelled opposing attacks all season to steer University into the second-grade grand final.

The greater majority of MCA Old Boys play at Valley where 1st and 2nd grade finished just out of the top four. Jack Beath (2015) and Josh Neil (2014) were prominent in A grade while enhancing their reputations in second grade were Michael Toolis (2011), Michael Wing (2012), Mitchell Stubbings (2011), Bill Kruip (2014), Oliver West (2014), Liam Petersen (2015) and Brock (2014) and Dylan (2016) McLaughlan. Valley were represented in the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th-grade grand finals, where Patrick Cotter (2016) and Harry Collier (2015) gained valuable experience. Credit must go to the MCA Sports Department where Ashgrove since 2009 has won 7 AIC Premierships, 2 Runners-Up and 1 Third place over the past decade in 1st XI. Current 1st XI coach Ben Maddox who took over in the second half of 2009 has a record which is unsurpassed! Long may MCA's production line continue!



Headmaster Peter McLoughlin was in attendance to wish both Old Boy captains well and watch the toss.

## 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).

# 50 YEARS OF WALKATHON - 1968-2018

50 Years of Walkathons is an astonishing achievement. For 50 consecutive years, Ashgrove boys accompanied by parents, little brothers and sisters, friends and well-wishers have toiled mile after mile (then kilometre after kilometre) to complete the course.

Over the years, walkers cheerful and hearty and rigged out in a myriad of attire, have made it to the far away locations of Jollys Lookout, Ferny Grove, Bunya Park, Aspley, Brookfield and Downey Park. For the past decade, the challenge of the nearby Enoggera Army Camp has sufficed.

A spirited atmosphere has always prevailed at the starting point. This year to celebrate the monumental 50-year achievement on May 20, old boys were invited by the P&F to participate and the 1968 "Originals", i.e. our 1968 leadership group, given the honour of special guest starters. They comprised Chris Muir ('68 School Captain), Noel Saunders and Paul Martin. In a preliminary to the annual Battle of the Bands, Noel added to the carnival atmosphere by "pumping up" the stirring multitude with his inspirational Bagpipes!

Once again, for the 50th year straight, young and old, pupils and staff were cheered across the Finish Line by excited parents and fellow walkers. Of course, the memorable 28-mile effort of that first Walkathon to Jollys Lookout and back by the 1968 MCA cohort remains in folklore. It set the stage as the forerunner for all that have followed and which magnificently bonds our entire MCA community so uniquely.





# 50 YEARS OF WALKATHON - 1968-2018



## A LITTLE BIT OF WALKATHON TRIVIA FROM TOM TRESTON (1947)

50 years since the first Walkathon is a reminder of a little-known fact. Neil Beattie was in Year 5. His father Jim was a very prominent Bookmaker. There must have been some discussion at the races about the Walkathon as some of Jim's colleagues challenged him to participate and promised sponsorship of £1,000 if he completed the course. He took up the challenge!

That was a "real" walkathon, to and from Jollys Lookout, a distance of about 40km. Of course, the entire journey was on bitumen roads.

To support and encourage him, Arthur Apelt (father of Tim), Vince Frisby (father of Gerard) and Tom Treston (father of Tony) walked with Jim. Those boys were all in Neil's class. Now Jim could hardly have been called a very athletic and fit man; however, believe it or not, he did complete the Walkathon. There is no record of how all the other walkers pulled up, but Jeannine Treston recalls that Tom had to wear slippers to work for the next week.

The equivalent of £1,000 in 1968 is now around \$12,500! Surely there has never been sponsorship like this since that year.

## 2018 TAKE 1ST XI CRICKET AND 1ST XV RUGBY DOUBLE

After the 1st XI had picked up the 7th premiership for the College in the last ten years, all eyes turned to the Rugby season. As the last game approached, the First XV needed a victory over a Villanova team in good form to secure a joint premiership.

John Eales (1987) spoke some inspirational words of encouragement when presenting the jerseys to the entire 1st XV. Ashgrove rose to the occasion and secured the premiership with a magnificent 69-12 win. So did the seconds, winning outright, defeating their Villanova opponents, previously undefeated, by 25-10. Congratulations to all players, coaches and all connected with MCA sport.

There were five sons of Old Boys, all pictured at the jersey presentation with John Eales, who represented the "Firsts" against Villa.



Left to Right: David Miles (1992) (Coach), Jacob Heinke (son of John, 1977), Ben Geraghty (Captain) (son of Steve, 1979), John Eales, Josh Radford (son of David, 1984), Lachlan Tenison-Woods (son of David, 1976), Gus Rosanowski (son of John, School Capt. 1986), Brendan Kiernan (1984) (Coach).

# THE DUDGEON EXCELLENCE CONTINUES THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

The Dudgeon family name is synonymous with three things; cricket, excellence and Ashgrove.

Keith and his wife, Lyn, have been selfless contributors to the College and the Community generally for generations. Lyn stands with some of our great Ashgrove mothers (we love them all so much) as one who dedicated thousands of hours to the College. Lyn was instrumental for so many years in respect of the Mothers' Committee and the P&F.

Since 1982, when the first 'Keith Dudgeon Cricket Specialist' store started under Keith's stewardship, the three boys, Tony (1990), Michael (1991) and Andrew (2003) all became integral parts of the store's success and growth. The supply of top quality sporting clothing and equipment, but in particular cricket (a true passion of all Dudgeons) continues to this day. As Michael, now the business director, says "we live and breathe cricket in our family, it is in our blood". Keith was an outstanding middle-order batsman for Queensland in the 70s. Tony and Michael were in the MCA 1st XI in their senior years and prominent at Valleys for two decades after school. But cricket was not enough. Tony is also a leading tennis coach, heading Tony Dudgeon Tennis coaching. The much younger Andrew also found the lure of cricket contagious and was prominent in MCA 2nd XI 2003 undefeated season.

Michael started working part-time in the store after school and then commenced full-time after finishing in 1991. He has been there ever since. Keith remains a director and Lyn senior and Michael's wife, another Lyn, also continue to work in the business. Excellence guaranteed.

Old Boys can take heart that the connection with Marist College Ashgrove will remain for generations to come.



Directors Keith Dudgeon and Michael Dudgeon (1991)



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Clinton Mohr Lawyers proudly supporting the Marist College Ashgrove Old Boys Association.





**A Local Business Established in 1990**

**Owner:** David Stower

**Marist College Ashgrove – 1973-1981**

**Marist College Ashgrove Old Boys Association – Member since 1981**

**Son, Jacob Stower, current Marist College Ashgrove student: 2008 – 2016**

Success built on combating nature's elements has seen David develop his business into an employer of 20 staff members.

This former Marist College Ashgrove student has been operating his electrical and air conditioning business in Ashgrove for over 28 years, providing all aspects of commercial and domestic electrical, solar and air conditioning services.

The office is based in Brisbane and staff pride themselves on providing expert advice to help you make the right decision for all your cooling, heating and electrical needs

The business offers quality workmanship and any problems are attended to promptly to ensure full customer satisfaction.

#### **AIR CONDITIONING**

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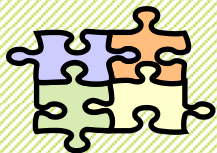
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# "VINTAGE BLUE & GOLD" OLD BOYS LUNCH

FOR CLASSES 1940 – 1978

**CYPRIAN PAVILION - FRIDAY 17 AUGUST 2018**

12 noon for lunch and conclusion at 3.00 pm

For those who would like to do so, there will be a  
Mass in the College Chapel at 10.30am

**PARTNERS WELCOME**

Entry via Frasers Road and parking available as directed

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

**RSVP:** 10 August 2017

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## "VINTAGE BLUE & GOLD OLD BOYS LUNCH" FRIDAY 17 AUGUST 2018

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# MARIST COLLEGE ASHGROVE OLD BOYS' PRESENCE FELT IN TIMOR-LESTE

Australians and Brazilians are working in partnership for a new school in Timor-Leste, soon to be established by the Australian Marists.

Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) is the aid and development agency of the Australian Marists throughout Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Timor-Leste is one of the least developed countries in the world and the poorest in Asia. During the 1999 post-referendum violence, 80% of school buildings and infrastructure were destroyed, a further 18% were badly damaged leaving only 2% of the schools in working order. With over 40% of the country's population below the age of fourteen and the majority of Timorese teachers poorly educated and untrained, the current school system faces enormous challenges.

In 2002, the Australian Marists established a teachers training college in Baucau. It is the only tertiary institution outside of the capital Dili, and only one of two providers of quality pre-service basic education teacher training in the country. The Marist-run college has enabled its students to become leaders in the field of primary education and leaders within their own local community as well. AMS was at the forefront for raising funds for the construction of the college.

The Australian Marists and the Bishop of the Diocese of Baucau, Bishop Basilio do Nascimento, have been in discussions for some time about the location of a Marist school in Timor-Leste. More recently, AMS with the Catholic education office of the Baucau Diocese, identified and prioritised schools in need of redevelopment. The first Marist school will fit within these priorities.

Portuguese has equal status with Tetum as the official language of Timor-Leste and so it is essential to have Portuguese-speaking staff to operate the new school. Portuguese is the national language of Brazil and the Australian Marists have been fortunate in forming a partnership with several of the Brazilian Marist Provinces to provide Brothers for the school. Two Brazilian Brothers – Brothers Manoel Soares da Silva and João Batista Pereira - have already been appointed with a third to be chosen within the next few months. As English is also vital for the success of the project the Brazilian Brothers have arrived in Australia for their English lessons in preparation for the establishment and operation of the new school.

AMS CEO, Allen Sherry, confirmed that "this new school would provide young people, particularly those from vulnerable groups, with access to quality education."

To support Australian Marist Solidarity's work in Timor-Leste, please visit: <http://www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au/project/first-marist-school/>.





# PRAYERS PLEASE

Please pray for the following who have deceased recently.

- Peter Gerard Crawshaw (1964) late of Gaythorne, passed away suddenly on 4 December 2017, aged 70 years. Brother and Brother-in-law of Jim and Trish. Uncle of Catherine, Tim (1985) and Matthew Crawshaw (1989)
- Peter Cramb (1972), late of Sydney, formerly Kauri Road, Ashgrove passed away suddenly on the 23 September 2017. Peter was eldest brother of Joanne, Gabriel, Michael (1975) and Patrick Cramb (1983) and uncle of Paul (1986) and Alexander Mitchell (1989).
- Stan Pilecki, late of Jindalee, passed away on the 20 December 2017, aged 70 years. Stan was a Marist Rosalie (1964) ex-student and great supporter of the Marist Old Boy network who regularly supported and attended MCA functions. Stan was also an active member of Western Districts Rugby Club (formerly Maristonians), Qld Reds and Australian Wallabies. His funeral was held at St. Stephen's Cathedral on the 3 January 2018.
- Craig Anthony Greber (1983) of Beaudesert, passed away peacefully on the 30 January 2018 aged 51 years. Husband of Janelle, and father of Josh (2017), Amy and Felicity.
- Justin Francis O'Sullivan (1940-43). Foundation student and late of Brisbane, formerly Dalby, passed away on the 6 February 2018 aged 89 years. Husband of Rita and father of Ann-Marie, Margaret, Justin, Frank (dec'd), Rita, Therese and Maria and Grandad and Great Grandad to their families.
- James John (Jim) Gardiner, late of Broadbeach formerly Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on 8th February 2018, aged 81 years. Husband of Paula and father of Jim (1980), Terence (1981), Clare, Anna, Catherine, Elizabeth and Margaret. Adored Pop to all his Grandchildren (inc. Jack (2005), Tom (2007), Joseph (2010) Gardiner, James (2009), Michael (2016), Benjamin (2016) Gardiner, Bill (2014) and Peter (2017) Kruip, Harry (2015) and Tom (Year 10 Ignatius) Collier, Patrick Cotter (2016), Charlie Best (2016), Mark (1999) and Matthew (2006) Beauchamp and Great-grandchildren. Brother of Betty Mullins, and Don Gardiner. Granduncle of James (2011) and Thomas (2012) Copley. Jim was also an Affiliate of the Marist Brothers
- William Bernard (Bernie) Mead, late of Brookfield, formerly Emu Park and Miles, passed away on the 12 February 2018 aged 86 years. Husband of Shirley and Father of Jill, Shane (1975), Brett (1977), Scott (1980), Bart (1982), Craig (1984) and Janice married to Michael Burke (1984) and Grandfather to 20 (inc. Sam (2013), Patrick (2017), Oscar (2017) Mead and Amelia and Eliza Burke) and Great-Grandfather to their respective families. Also Brother of Leo (1954) and uncle of Patrick (1985), Matthew (1990), and Joseph (1991) Mead.
- Darren Burton (1983), formerly of Grevillea Road, Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on 8 February 2018. Darren was the Son of Jack (dec'd) and Monica and youngest Brother of John, (1974, dec'd) and Dennis (1975, dec'd).
- John Forbes Sheehan, formerly of Mt Isa, passed away suddenly on May 9, 2018, aged 89 years. John was Husband of Janice (dec'd) and Father and Father-in-law of Terry (1972) and Erica, Craig (1973) and Hagar, Peter (1976) and Tracey and adored Grandad and Great-Grandad.
- Phillip Eviston (1975) late of Ashgrove and formerly Newcastle passed away on 25 December 2017 aged 58 years. Son of Betty and Paul (dec'd). Loving father of Paul and Stephen. Brother of Tony (1972), Libby and Jane. Uncle of Gerard (1996), David (1999), Tim (2002) and Alex (2006).
- Jack Ingram, late of Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on 13th January 2018, aged 93 years. Husband of Marie, and Father of Pauline (dec'd), Ken (1972), Trish, Greg (1979) and Laurie (1981). Poppa of 5 granddaughters and one grandson Jack (Year 10 Ridley)
- Samuel Privitera passed away suddenly on Jan 6, 2017. Beloved son of Michael (1972) and Sylvia. Brothers of Leanna (dec'd), Joe and 90's MCA Old boys, Peter and Ben. Sam was the husband of Jasmine and father of Giovanni (2 years) and Sienna (4½ months).
- Bishop John Gerry (1/6/1927 – 13/12/2017). Bishop Gerry was one of 9 children and as an ex-student of Marist Rosalie always maintained the Marist ethos especially with his support of social welfare and desire to serve the poor on a national scale. He was ordained a priest in 1950 and appointed Bishop of Brisbane on June 5, 1975. Peter Selwood (1978), Centacare executive director credits Bishop Gerry as the "Architect of Centacare, who built the foundations of the organisation, which serves more than 150,000 in Brisbane, and the care we provide will always be Bishop John's legacy."
- Lachlan McLeod (1985) passed away on June 10, 2018. Lachlan was son of Ross and Margaret (both deceased), Husband of Lisa and Father of Connor and Brodie. Lachlan was also Brother and Brother-in-law of Shara and Clinton Mohr (1983).

# PRAYERS PLEASE

- Shelagh Monica Colley, late of The Gap, formerly Mareeba Road Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on the 6 December 2017, aged 91. Wife of Bob (dec'd), Mother and Mother-in-law of Maureen and Tom Quain (1965), Marjorie and Ron Goward, Cate and David Mapstone, Rosemary and Michael Paramor, Frank (1973) and Janice Colley, Robert (1981) and Jackie Colley. Adored grandma and Great-ma to their children, including Patrick (1990), Terry (1996), Nicholas (2002), Peter (2004) Quain, Dominic (1992) and Gerard Mapstone (1998) and Matthew (1998) and James Paramor (2000).
- Ronald Michael Rynders, late of Chermside West, formerly of The Gap, passed away peacefully on the 3 January 2018. Husband of Irene, Father of Kathleen and Graham (1975) and Grandfather of Tom (2004), Patrick (2007) and Chris (2003).
- Alfia Torneben, late of Chermside, formerly Hendra and Woolloowin passed away peacefully on the 2nd January 2018, aged 97 years. Mother of Vera (dec'd) and Sam (Salvatore) (1965). Proud Grandmother of 6 and Great-Grandmother to 8.
- Cyril Ball passed away peacefully on the 26 January 2018. Father of Martin Ball (1976). Cyril's funeral was from St. Michaels Catholic Church, Banks St. Alderley
- James Joseph ("Jim-Cec") Sheil, formerly Br. Cecil, MCA Member of Staff (Junior Physics Teacher) and Providor, 1966-1974. Husband of Josie and father of Jason, Patrick and Brendan and they resided in Gympie, where Jim passed away on 1 February 2018.
- Maureen Bernadette Thorpe, late of Mitchelton, formerly Oleander Drive, Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on 31/12/2017 aged 83 years. Wife of Robert (47, dec'd) and Mother of Gerard (1978), Michael (1979), Louise and Kathryn and loved Grandmother of 10.
- John Moffat, late of The Gap, passed away 10 February 2018, aged 77 years. Husband of Pat and father of Kate (dec'd) and Anne. Long-term TAS (The Associated Schools) Secretary 60s-70s who was a great friend of MCA and inspiration to generations of St. Paul's and St. Laurence's families, where he taught.
- Melville Bann attended MCA lower secondary for a short time in 1967 and following that performed two tours of duty to Vietnam in 1969 and 1971 with the 6th Battalion RAR. Mel then worked as a Prison Officer for over 25 years where Bill Enkera (1975) worked with him. Sadly Mel passed away earlier this year.
- Michele Henselien of The Gap passed away peacefully in March 2018. Michele was Wife of Dean (1989) and Mother of James (Year 8 Ephrem).
- Monica Frances Creevey, late of Clayfield, formerly Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on the 23 March 2018, aged 82 years. Monica was Wife of Noel (dec'd), and Mother of Catherine, Daniel(75), Loretta, Clare and Jenine and Grandmother of 9.
- Katherine Bridget McVeigh, late of Dalby, formerly Allora, passed away peacefully on the 3 May 2018, aged 88 years. Wife of Patrick and Mother and Mother-in-law of Bridget and James Hogarth and Patrick (1977) and Nicala McVeigh. Nanny to Alexander (2008), Samuel (2010) and Sarah Hogarth and Patrick (2012), Timothy (2015), and William (2018) McVeigh
- Fr. Brian Cunneen, MSC, passed away on April 11, 2018, aged 87 years. Brian was Brother and Brother-in-law of Claire and Laurie Hayden (1940, dec'd).
- Charles Philip Cullen, AM, passed away at Tweed Heads on March 27, 2018, aged 90 years. "Phil" was Husband of Edna, and Father of Phil (1972), Ben, Michele and Andrew. A memorial service for Phil was held at St Mary's Catholic Church, Ipswich on April 12.
- Bernice Valerie Malone, late of Kallangur and formerly Enoggera, passed away on May 8, 2018, aged 85 years. Bernice was Wife of Jim (dec'd) and Mother and Mother-in-law of Paul (1971) and Carol, Peter (1972) and Leoni, Michael (1976) and Claire and much loved Nan of seven Grandchildren.
- Anne-Marie Stent passed away suddenly on May 22, 2018. Loved Wife of Paul and Mother of Emma and Mitchell (2014, Gilroy House).

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

## **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'.



# VALE DAN TUFUI (1954)

In memory of Dan Tufui (1954).

The legendary Old Boy Tufui Taniela Hukoila (Dan), formally Lord Tufui of Talaheu, Kingdom of Tonga, and beloved husband of Kerry James Tufui passed away peacefully on the 19 April 2016. Ashgrove was a fundamental part of Dan's life, preparing him for the day he returned to his native Tonga to lead his people. He was one of the pioneers of the boys who came from the Pacific to make a lasting impact on that area's politics and sports. Dan was one of the first four Law Lords appointed to form a new judicial committee of the Tonga Privy Council in September 2008.

Br. Roger Burke (53):

*"I remember Dan Tufui well at Ashgrove, mainly from playing with him in the First XV. It was clear from the outset that Dan had played Rugby before, and that he was gifted at it. Quietly spoken then and a thorough gentleman in the making, Dan went about playing Rugby with a purpose and insight into the game that brought results. I always imagined that the way he played his Rugby was typical of the way he treated others and respected himself and planned his future. I knew that he went on to study Law at UQ, and it certainly did not surprise me when years later I heard that he held a prominent position in the Judiciary in his home country. Our Rugby coach in 1953 was Br Justinian, who often excitedly related the incident when years later, after deciding to leave the Brothers and visiting Tonga with his family, he ran into Dan Tufui who certainly welcomed him like a long-lost friend."*



A detailed story on Dan's life, a proud Ashgrovian, can be found on the new Old Boys website at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au).

# AL BORLE (1970)

One of the faces who was missing at the 1968 1st XV reunion was the magnificent Aloysius 'Al' Borle (RIP). Al was a boarder at the College from 1965-1970 and his great friend, Robin 'Pop' Cooney provided this tribute for the Ashgrovian:

*It was with great sadness I learnt of Al's passing. I am sure that most of us who knew him in his time at Ashgrove would agree that Al had a great love of life, and was a 'peoples' man and a gentleman.*

*Al had great attributes. He was a scholar, an entrepreneur and a great rugby player. I can always remember Al when he was in the 1st XV putting his body on the line to try and win games for the school. He had a terrific style when playing the game. The Coach of the 1st XV the late Terry Curley always commented on Al's brilliant style of play. Al got the College out of trouble time and time again.*

*But perhaps his greatest attribute was his love of people. Al always regarded his time at Ashgrove as being with Family. Even after he left school, he was a great patron of Ballymore. I don't know how many times I ran into Al there and we would have a yarn and a beer.*

*As previously mentioned Al was a gentleman and the whole time I knew him never had a bad word to say about anyone. He always liked to catch up with old school mates and took an interest in what they were up too.*

*And finally I would like to offer our sympathy and condolences to Al's Family. I am sure that they will know their father, husband and family was so highly regarded when we were all together at Ashgrove. Al was always a respected member of the School community.*

POP, Bob Cooney (1969)



## VALE PETER CRAWSHAW (1965)

The Old Boys and the College were saddened to learn of the passing of Peter Crawshaw on the 4 December 2017. A true Ashgrovian, Peter was educated at the College as a day boy from 1962 until 1965. His career pursuits were many and varied as he mastered a number of vocations before settling on a career with "Diamonds International." Peter continued to provide ongoing support for others in the community. His was always of the Marist way. Simplicity. Modesty. Humility. More can be read about Peter's life on the Old Boy's website in the Vale section at [www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au](http://www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au).



## JUSTIN O'SULLIVAN (1940-1942)

Justin O'Sullivan as a resident of Ashgrove attended St Finbarr's prior to starting as a first-day student at St Mary's College in 1940. Justin remained a dayboy in 1941 in his Scholarship year. He then became a boarder in 1942 when the College was relocated to Eagle Heights during WWII.

Justin founded the family law firm in Dalby in 1952, where he and his wife Rita raised their seven children. A man known for his utter integrity and one of the great rural solicitors in Queensland, Justin in 1994-1995 had the rare honour of being appointed as the President of the Queensland Law Society, a position in which he served with great distinction. Justin was very proud that his family, continued his fine legacy and are still proudly involved in carrying on his great work in rural Queensland. Justin passed away in February 2018, aged 89 years.

The Association salutes our great Old Boy and passes on its condolences to Justin's family.



### 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

### 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.



# PETER HOLDZWORTH (1959) MEMORIES

Peter Holdzworth (1959) was a Boarder from Yarraman who attended MCA from 1956-59. Peter was Dux of Ashgrove in 1959, Captain of Tennis and winner of the "Most Efficient Cadet" Award. His quality poem "Eccentrics" published in the 1959 Blue and Gold under the pseudonym, YORICK (Senior) showed his renown in the scholastic field. Many years later, Peter took a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English and History.

In Peter's memoirs as a boarder, "Boarder Skirmishes," Peter considered this as four "rich years of my life" and "the Brothers were fine men, good men at heart to whom I shall ever be grateful." It covers many topics and unfortunately space restraints permits an excerpt from only one. Below is Peter's account of GIRLS and DANCE LESSONS, as it seemed then!

## Miss Lightfoot's Class

Girls did not figure largely in our lives. Food and sport were more important. Still, there were times when we did see girls and even more rarely when we came close and 'sort of' talked to them. I say 'sort of' because we never knew what to say, or at least I didn't. I'm talking school or college dances here.

Dances if they were at Brigidine Convent for example or Soirees, the more upmarket term, if they were at All Hallows. Dancing does not come easily to teenage boys whose legs are conditioned to kicking stones, rugby balls or each other. So with quite unnatural insight the Brothers said they would arrange a few dancing lessons for us. We were transported, if not with delight, then by bus to a dance hall of sorts. We were greeted by a large-bosomed woman with legs like house stumps.

'I'm Felicity Lightfoot,' she said without a trace of irony. 'I'm here today to teach you to dance. We'll all learn the Waltz, the Gipsy Tap and the Pride of Erin, won't we boys?' ..... 'Yes, Miss Lightfoot.'

She beamed at us. We looked around for the girls to dance with. They should be here any minute. No girls that day. We had to dance with each other. I got Fatty Malone. He of the cold damp skin and a breath straight from the lard rendering vats at the Brisbane abattoirs. That pitiful afternoon we all lead each other round and round the rough wooden floor of the dusty old hall in a grotesque pantomime of real dance. All at arms length, hobbling, sweating, farting and stepping on feet.

'No, no, boys. One, two, three one, two, three. Watch my steps please. And, one, two, three.' We never got past one.

## Gaining the Advantage

We learnt enough at the dancing classes to make only minor spectacles of ourselves, not complete idiots. Then off to the dances.

The first hurdle in this navel engagement was the selection of partners. This could take one of two forms.

The best one was the unplanned 'go for it' method. When the dance was announced the boys, as usual on one side of the room, made a rush to get the prettiest girl on the other side. There was a crucial 'two seconds' period as you got close to your original choice. This occurred immediately after the moment that you realised she was not as pretty as you had thought and in fact had three eyes and a face full of pimples. You had those precious 'two seconds' to do a rapid inventory of the three girls on either side without moving your head and alerting the original girl's attention that it was she whom you were rejecting. Two seconds is not a very long time and the boys near you were doing the same. With the mind racing wildly, you made your selection and said:

'May I have the next dance please.'

'Sorry, I don't dance.'

You knew she was lying because you saw her dancing with that fat creep, Malone during the last dance and you also knew that you, the selector, had also been rejected. Touché. Frantically now, with time running out you picked the girl next to her, either on her left or on her right, depending on whether you were left handed or right handed and providing the option didn't include your original choice. Ambidextrous boys had a slight advantage here.

On the floor at last, arms discreetly at a distance and lightly clasping her around the waist lest the black army of 'crows' stationed at vantage points around the room on the lookout for any deviant behaviour see you and 'call you out' for gross misconduct, you made your first inane comment of the evening.

'Do you come here often?' instantly realising that she lived there, in the convent school for God's sake, you bloody fool. This is a convent dance. In that instant you also realised that she was either as terrified as you were or was a deaf mute because she didn't respond at all.

It was no consolation however and you both staggered and reeled over the floor desperately waiting for the dance to stop and the blessed moment of escape to come.

The second method, the 'queue jump', was simpler but fraught with danger for the mathematically inept and/or those with poor eyesight. Boys and girls queued and were paired off for the evening. Abject terror. The lines of both genders were not parallel but opposite each other with a Brother and a Sister in the middle doing the pairing and the introductions.

This is Elizabeth O'Reilly,' Sister would say. 'Meet Bernard Doherty, Elizabeth,' Brother would reply. Elizabeth would politely smile; Bernard would stare with open mouth or grin like a foolish sheepdog that'd been out mustering in the sun too long.



Peter Holdzworth A-Grade  
Tennis Captain (1959)

# PETER HOLDZWORTH (1959) MEMORIES

While all this was going on, the observant and discerning boys were desperately trying to spot the 'good sorts', (good looking girls were always called 'good sorts'), doing countbacks and adjusting their places in the queue. Other boys were also doing this, so great care was needed to grab and keep the numerical advantage.

Once paired off you sat down with the beautiful creature and thought of something witty and sophisticated to say to her. Something that would make her smile and blush prettily or throw her head back and gaily laugh at your razor wit. So you said:

'What's yer name again?'.....'Lucy'

'That's right, Lucy. Lucy? Juicy Lucy. Ar, ar ar, ar ar ar.'.....'What?'

'Nothing. Sorry. Uh uh uh.'

Silence. An ice age came and went.

'Are you a boarder?'.....'No, I'm a day girl,'

'Ah.'

Time moved glacially.

'Jer want a drink or something.'.....'No thanks.'

Then the lightning bolt! That James Bond rapier wit Yes. What would 007 say in a situation like this? He wouldn't be in a situation like this! Never mind. What if he was? What would he say to her? You shot your cuffs and with a cool sardonic smile you leaned forward and asked:

'Which end of the bathtub do you sit in? The plug end or the other end?'

## THE GHOST IN THE TOWER

**Dave Cameron is now the archivist at the College and vigorously perusing the recovery of memorabilia for the upcoming opening of the new historical area of the Tower block. The Old Boys are proud to have secured a number of entertaining and informative stories from Dave which will appear in upcoming editions of the Ashgrovian..**

**We start in this addition with a small teaser about the Ghost in the Tower – known as “Claire”.**

From time to time boarders (or people who have had occasion to stay in the building overnight) have claimed to have seen a “ghostly presence” in the Tower Block. One such claim followed the death of a non-Marist student in a tragic drowning accident involving the diving board at the swimming pool, in October 1962. The body of the boy was laid out on a boarder's bed: later that night, the boarder (Tom Murray from Prairie) claimed he saw a ghost, which he took to be the boy's spirit, on a visit to the darkened Chapel. Not surprisingly, there was an increase in the “sightings” in the months that followed the death of the boy.

Other claims have been made for the origins of the “ghost in the Tower.” There were rumours of a serviceman dying in the Tower during the “Army Occupation” of the College from 1942 to late 1944, though no concrete details of this can be established. Certainly, in the days of Walter Cain's Seminary from 1931 to 1938, a nun did die in the Tower Block. She was Sister Marie Therese Wells, and her passing took place on 14th August 1935. This was recorded in the diaries of Mother Margaret Claire, the Mother Superior of the female side of the Missionary order.

Most often, when individuals have claimed to have seen the “ghost”, it has appeared in the recognisable form of a nun. A “typical” sighting is described by Mr Dave Meehan, a student at the College from 1969 to 1977, and a teacher since 1987.

Dave was taking part in the First XV Rugby camp of 1977, a weekend affair in which the boys slept in the Tower Block on the Saturday night. Dave was in the second room in the bottom floor of the Eastern wing of the Tower. He had been sound asleep and had no notion of what time it was, but felt a chill as he suddenly awoke. He was facing towards the open door of the room, and in the doorway saw a figure which he describes as “ghostly Madonna-like” and “almost like a statue”. Dave couldn't discern any facial features on this figure, though he felt it was a nun. His immediate reaction was totally understandable – he pulled the sheet up over his head! He thinks he must have gone back to sleep instantly, but remembered the experience vividly next morning. His First Fifteen mates listened to his story with varying degrees of incredulity and scepticism. The problem, of course, was corroboration by another individual who saw the same thing – and nobody did.

If any reader has experienced such an incident, or knows the story of someone who has, the College would enjoy hearing from you. Part of our tradition is the story of “The Ghost in the Tower”, and it would be good to add to the story.

# BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY

**BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY: B.Ed., B.A., MEd, Hon. Doc (ACU), FACE, FACEL  
HEADMASTER MCA 1965 to 1970**

Brother Phelan Joy became Headmaster of the College in 1965, the first Queensland born Brother in the position. As his article reveals, he doubted (completely wrongly) the wisdom of his appointment. What made the position of Headmaster so much harder by 1965 was that the “Youth Revolution” of the sixties had taken firm hold: the only constant, it seemed to the “Older Generation”, was change.

It was against this background of youth questioning authority in all its forms that Brother Phelan became Headmaster at MCA. It is to his credit that he rode the tidal wave of change with a firm yet responsive hand. Academically, the College took giant strides, with notable successes in both Junior and Senior Public examinations, as well as Science and Mathematics competitions. The school grew from 770 in Phelan's first year of 1965 to over 1,000 by 1970, a recognition that St Mary's College Ashgrove was now an indispensable part of Catholic education in Brisbane. Infrastructure improvements also continued apace, including a new kitchen, boarders' dining room and laundry complex (1966), a second major classroom block (1966), a Chemistry laboratory (1967), living quarters for female staff (1968), a new library and administration block (1970), and a second boarding dormitory (1970). Undoubtedly the highlight of Brother Phelan's era, however, was the construction of a magnificent grandstand at the Main Oval, largely the result of volunteer effort and labour. Brother Phelan proved himself a dynamic organiser, able to win others over by his common-sense reasoning. He was instrumental in giving the P&F Association a large role in both raising finances and in the actual building of the grandstand through the Works Committee. The wonderful volunteer work that resulted in the grandstand complex would have gladdened the hearts of giants of the past like Ignatius and Cyprian: enormous communal effort had resulted in enormous communal benefit.



Brother Alexis Turton, successor to Brother Phelan in 1971, reflected that, “With Phelan, you had total confidence that when he took on a task, it would be well organised, resources would be there, you'd have to work hard, but you'd have a great thing at the end of it.” The great thing, the grandstand, still serves the College today, and is symbolic of the enthusiasm, dedication, determination, and people-skills Brother Phelan brought to his period as Headmaster.

The MCA OBA committee invited me to write something ‘about your interesting life and times’. I am not sure how interesting it will be to Ashgrove Old Boys, but I know I have had a very fortunate life and I thank God daily for it.

So, here goes!

It is 55 years since I joined the staff of the then named St Mary's College, Ashgrove in January 1963.

At the end of 1962 I went home to Innisfail for the first time as a Marist Brother. I had been teaching for 6 1/2 years and hadn't seen my mother in those years.

Towards the end of the two weeks at home I received a telegram from a confrere saying simply ‘Appointed to Ashgrove.’

I was not fazed by this news even though I knew very little about St Mary's College. But I did know it had boarders and this pleased me, as I felt it would be one way of repaying the debt for the good fortune I had of boarding at St Augustine's College, Cairns in Years 11 & 12 in 1952-1953.

Let me explain. I am the seventh of seven children born to Maurice Joy and his wife Mary Anne Power. My father had emigrated to Australia in 1907 (aged 24) from a family of 10 in County Kerry, Ireland. My mother emigrated in 1909 (aged 19) from Waterford city, Ireland. (Sadly neither was to ever set foot in Ireland again).

They married in 1919 and took up residence in a house owned by the South Johnstone sugar mill at Japoonvale, some 30km south of Innisfail. Dad was a ganger on the two-foot wide railway tracks on which cane was transported to the sugar mill, drawn by small steam locomotives.

As was common in the bush in those days we did not enjoy the benefits of electricity, telephone, sewer system (nor a car).

Shortly after moving to Japoonvale, Mum & Dad were involved in an accident on the mill rail line. On a bend, amid the tall cane, a motorised rail ambulance collided head-on with a ‘push & pull’ on which my parents were travelling.

Both of Mum's legs were severely smashed and despite the good efforts of the doctor in Innisfail, Mum's leg bones never set properly. Even though Mum was eventually able to walk with the support of special high-sided boots, the Doctor advised that carrying babies would be too great a strain on her damaged legs. Fortunately the Doctor underestimated Mum's desire to have a family. As the seventh of seven, my very fortunate life started in 1936.

My father died of cancer when I was four years old. In the months before he died, he was in hospital in Innisfail. When my mother went to see him, I would accompany my siblings to the local two teacher State Primary School – bare feet, naturally.

The death of Dad meant no mill house, so the family moved to Innisfail in mid 1940, with Mum on an invalid pension.

The war in Europe had started in 1939. Then the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941.

The wars added to the dislocation of our family as my two oldest brothers (aged 20 and 18) enlisted in the RAAF in 1942. They were discharged early in 1946 having spent most of their service in New Guinea.

I have memories of the war years in Far North Queensland – slit trenches in the school yard; regular practice air raids; food and petrol rationing; black-out curtains; some families moving south (there were rumours of the Brisbane line of defence); American truck convoys from the Townsville wharves to their airbase at Mareeba; US Vulture Vengeance dive bombers practising out to sea off Innisfail; and sometimes letters from my brothers in New Guinea – with censored lines cut out.

Mum's greatest worry was for those two oldest sons in New Guinea, as she cared for the other five of us at home. (A million Australians enlisted in



# BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY

the armed forces in World War II from a population of seven million. 27,000 were killed, 23,000 were wounded in action).

When I think of Mum, as I do often, I am reminded of the lines from the poem of John O'Brien (Fr Patrick Hartigan) called 'The Little Irish Mother.'

'beaten down to rise again  
and the brave bush wives the toil and silence share,  
where the nation is a-building in the hearts of splendid men  
There's a little Irish mother always there.'

My schooling in Innisfail was with the Good Samaritan Sisters and the Marist Brothers to Junior (Year 10). After a traumatic first day when I baulked at the school gates (my two sisters had to send for my mother), I enjoyed school, especially the sport. By age 15 this resulted in my playing in mens' competitions in cricket and tennis on weekend.

It was a full life (despite no pocket money) and included the Religious exercises of Mass, Benediction, rosaries, class prayers and learning slabs of the Green Catechism by rote. Certainly, the Church and Catholic schools of the 1950s stressed religious practices, original sin, commandments, sin, purgatory, heaven and hell. God was distant and portrayed as sometimes angry. Nevertheless, my memory is of many, many Christians in the Catholic tradition in the Innisfail parish, which was not only a religious hub but also a social and sporting one. Devotion to Our Lady was championed beautifully.

With the advantages of another 60 years and access to biblical studies, especially the New Testament, I resonate with the statement of Pope Benedict XVI that in the 1950s: 'Intimate friendship with Jesus, on which everything depends, was in danger of clutching at thin air.'

The primary aim of the Church, namely to teach the revelation of God's love as revealed in the birth, life, teaching, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, might in any age be deflected off target by a bureaucracy serving with a billion diverse members.

There were in Innisfail, of course, the occasional cyclones, and 300 inches of rain one year.

Neither the State School nor the Catholic Schools (separate boys and girls) offered Years 11 & 12. Students from Innisfail had to go to boarding schools for these senior years. So even though I was keen to continue my schooling after Year 10, going away to a boarding school seemed a financial impossibility.

Enter Brother Gildas (Robert Goodwin), an Old Boy of Rosalie. He was the young Principal (aged 30 in 1951) of St Augustine's College, Cairns.

He visited our home and was fulsome about the advantages of completing secondary education to the senior level and the subsequent possibility of University education. He further explained that the Queensland Government offered a Living Away from Home Allowance to students with a required pass in the Junior public exams, in areas with no Years 11 & 12 classes. The allowance was 96 pounds for Year 11 and 104 pounds for Year 12. As the St Augustine's College boarding and tuition fees were 100 pounds per year, these fees, at least, would be covered by the Government grants.

So to St Augustine's I went – the only one of the five boys in the family to have the opportunity to complete Years 11 & 12.

I had thought that my life at school, weekend sport and home activities in Innisfail made for a busy life. Life as a boarder at St Augustine's was two or three times as dynamic.

The abiding memory of my two years at St Augustine's is one of exciting, purposeful and rewarding activities, in and out of the classrooms, with a friendly group of country boarders and Cairns day boys, led by a small group of remarkable Marist Brothers. They seemed to be always on deck teaching, responsible for boarding duties, coaching sporting teams and debating teams, etc, while attending to their religious practices.

I cannot think what my life might have been without the opportunity of Senior Secondary schooling in such a stimulating and Christian culture that I experienced at St. Augustine's in 1952-1953.

When the results of the Senior Public Examination were published I had won a Commonwealth University Scholarship, but deferred it, as I had decided to go to the Training Centre of the Marist Brothers at Mittagong NSW to become a Marist Brother.

The final deciding factor was my admiration of the Brothers in Cairns.

So post Queensland Senior, I spent two and a half years in the Marist Brothers Training Centre at Mittagong (a huge change in climate for a Far North Queenslander).

It was a wonderfully spiritual and reflective experience punctuated with work on a dairy farm, piggery and vegetable gardens. There were no radios or newspapers and TV hadn't yet reached Australia. We had a short course of teaching training.

In July 1956, I was posted to Lismore to take on the classes of the Principal and some of the acting Principal. The Principal had sustained a back injury playing cricket, and the Doctor's advice was he was hors de combat for six weeks. As events turned out the Principal remained hors de combat until after the Year 12 public exams started.

It was a real challenge to teach three Year 12 subjects. Fortunately the classes were small and had been well taught. All passed. One highlight was to be selected to play cricket for Lismore.

The annual appointments of the over 300 Marist Brothers were read out by the Provincial each year in mid-January in Sydney. As the list of schools was alphabetical by town or suburb, I had to wait until Randwick to know my fate for 1957.

In those far off days with no 'State-Aid', the Catholic school survived financially on the 'contributed services' of the Religious, the fees paid by the parents and the energetic fund-raising by parents and parishes.

As the Australian population increased rapidly in the post war years, from 7 million in 1945 to 11 million in 1965, there was a huge increase in the demand for enrolments in Catholic schools. National aggregate stats on enrolments in Catholic school were not collected until 1963 when 451,000 students were enrolled.

As the supply of Religious in the Teaching Orders was not keeping pace with the enrolment increases, many of the young Religious were posted to full time teaching with minimum teacher training. I was one of these.

We had to learn quickly 'on the job', and gain tertiary qualifications as evening students at Universities or by correspondence courses, plus full time residential courses during some school vacation times.

# BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY

In 1957 the student enrolment of Marcellin College, Randwick was 905, with a teaching staff of 13 Brothers and 3 lay staff (no secretary nor other support staff). Yes, an average pupil-teacher ratio of 57 from Year 4 to Leaving Certificate.

My first homeroom Year 7 class numbered 64 – that was the capacity of the long bench desks in the room.

All the teachers except the Principal taught all 40x40 minute periods per week. The Principal's teaching load was a miniscule 20 periods each week!

I will always be in awe of the prodigious work performed by the Principal, Br Anselm Saunders. He was a man of great faith, extraordinary energy, drive and determination and a wonderful ability to energise others – staff, students, parents, and old boys. He did 24 years straight as Director/Headmaster of four large schools. As well, he was a Provincial Councillor and Vice Provincial for many years while still leading schools. He died in harness (cancer) aged 56.

My teaching experiences at Lismore and Randwick were expansive. Besides Religious Education I taught (and I hope the students did learn) Maths, Physics, and Modern History. I had coached teams in Rugby League, Cricket and Athletics; been Sportsmaster; 2IC of the Cadet Unit; had the fearsome title of 'Master of Discipline' for the last three years at Randwick, and hopefully did some praying – talking with God.

The daily timetable was exacting, starting with morning prayers at 5.50am, half-hour meditation and Mass. After a full day teaching, sports coaching or cadets, university lectures / lab work occurred four nights a week. It was a go-go life. With the advantage of hindsight some of the demands were so massive as to be unreasonable.

Fortunately, by and large, the students were earnest, energetic and co-operative and the support of the parents was fantastic.

By 1962 the enrolment was 1070 with a staff of 17 Brothers and 4 lay teachers and a part-time secretary. The pupil/teacher ratio was a mere 51. There was still no State-Aid, but the accepted orthodoxy that granting government funds to non-government schools was political suicide was being questioned. The Goulburn Catholic Schools Strike of 1962 had put the plight of funding of Catholic Schools on the front pages of newspapers across the Nation. (All six Catholic schools in Goulburn closed in protest at the failure of the State Government to recognise the justice of the claims of Catholics to a fair share of the public purse for its schools. Only 640 of Goulburn's 2070 Catholic pupils were able to be enrolled in the State schools. The 'strike', intended for six weeks, was called off after a week. It had achieved its aim at least in terms of publicising the crisis of funding of Catholic schools).

In the 1963 election campaign Prime Minister Menzies promised Science Grants (\$5 million nationally) for non-government schools. He increased his two seat majority to 22 seats. There were, of course, many other issues in the election campaign besides State-Aid, but the political suicide myth had become history. The Science grants were the start of the Commonwealth Government's involvement in direct school funding.

I can truly say that I had enjoyed my six years at Randwick, as I had been so involved and learnt so much, and have further enjoyed Golden Jubilee and beyond reunions of students of those years.

Then in 1963, it was back to Queensland after an absence of nine years. (I had no idea then that I would spend 16 years working in boarding schools).

I recollect that my first impressions of St Mary's College, Ashgrove were the size of the property (over 40 acres), the imposing Tower building, the impressive three storey classroom block, a beautiful oval with its white picket fence and a swimming pool.

There were also a number of wooden buildings that seemed the worse for wear. Much of the property was covered by natural bushland.

Over time, I learnt of the history of the site prior to the Marist Brothers beginning a school there in 1940 with 83 day boys and 43 boarders.

I heard of the herculean efforts of the first Director, Br Ignatius O'Connor and others such as Br Harold, Br Cyprian, Br Peter Carrick and Fr Francis McMahon, Arch Ferrier, Lou Boothby and many more.

Later, when I was Headmaster, I had the unenviable task of informing Br Cyprian that Latin was to be dropped from the College's curriculum. I doubt he ever forgave me.

Later still, when I was supervisor of Marist Schools (1973-1975), I had the good fortune to see Br Francis McMahon in action at Vanga Point in the Western Solomons. (John F Kennedy's motor torpedo boat PT109 was run down by a Japanese destroyer in these waters in 1943).

The Brothers at this isolated Rural Training Centre taught RE, English, Maths, Woodwork and practical agriculture. This work in the gardens was carried out in the less steamy hours each day. Br Frank was in charge.

On my first of three days, Frank handed me a machete and said we needed to cut our way through the jungle to a spring water source, so he could run pipes down the hillside about a half a kilometre to the school vegie gardens. No weight loss program could be more effective than wielding a machete in a tropical jungle with the temperature over 30 degrees C and humidity 99%.

I note Henry Mendra recalled that Br Francis was 'the most masterful of the (cane) swingers, having the fluid grace of a pro golfer.' In the Western Solomons, his swing with a machete was no less masterful and much more destructive.

I settled quickly to the College life at Ashgrove. There was no choice, as I was teaching Senior Maths & Physics, RE, Sportsmaster, Officer of Cadets and coach of various sporting teams as the seasons changed.

I was to spend ten years at Ashgrove – they went far beyond my wildest imaginings.

The 1963 roll call was around 620 of whom 130 were boarders.

There were 15 Brothers and 3 lay teachers. As at Randwick, a formidable task, including boarding duties for so few staff, but a most worthwhile one.

,Perhaps, Pearl S Buck (author of The Good Earth and other novels, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 and Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938) must have had some first-hand experience of schools of the past when she wrote:

'Only the brave. Only the brave should teach.  
Only those who love the young should teach.  
Teaching is a vocation.  
It is as sacred as the priesthood; as innate a desire,

# BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY

as inescapable as the genius which compels a great artist.  
If he has not the concern for humanity,  
the love of living creatures,  
the vision of the priest and the artist,  
he must not teach.  
Only the brave should teach.'

All the same I was a bit anxious when Br Aquin reported that he had been confronted by a snake wound around the shower in his dormitory.

I found the Ashgrove students good humoured, co-operative and purposeful. At first I thought they lacked a little of the positive 'fire' of the Randwick boys. That impression was short lived. I came to admire the spirit of the boys.

Germane to this change was the arrival in March 1963 of Br Othmar as Principal. He held the reins for only 18 months as he was appointed Provincial in October 1964.

Before coming to Ashgrove, Br Othmar had been Headmaster at Kogarah (Sydney), the then largest Marist day school in Australia, and St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, the largest boarding school in Australia.



He had a clear idea of what a good Catholic school should look like in all its aspects – spiritual, scholastic, social, cultural and physically.

He was a veritable change agent with calm determination and highly developed human relations skills.

In his 1964 report he wrote: 'there has been a further improvement in the spirit of study in the College, but I feel a large proportion of our boys from Junior to Senior could work more diligently.'

During his short tenure, a three-storey dormitory/infirmary block was completed and a three storey classroom block begun.

For me, a completely unexpected bombshell exploded in late October, 1964.

After dinner one evening, Br Othmar asked me to take a walk with him. As we walked up and down from the Tower Building to the Moola Road entrance, Brother talked about negotiations with Archbishop Duhig about a new school at Enoggera, about the future of the primary boarding school at Eagle Heights, and other Provincial Council matters outside my every day domain.

I was somewhat bemused.

Then he explained that he was leaving for Sydney in four days as he had been appointed Provincial and I was to take his place as Director at Ashgrove and the contact person as needed, in Brisbane, for the Provincial Council.

I was literally struck dumb. It flashed through my mind that this was a wrong call. At 28, I was the fourth youngest of the 15 Brothers and 3 lay teachers.

Othmar simply talked on, saying the announcement of his being Provincial would be made to the Province the next day, but my appointment would not be made public for three days.

Perhaps the Provincial Council was hedging its bets to see if I would go into meltdown and it needed a Plan B.

The position of Director meant Superior of the Brothers' community and Headmaster of the College. Under Church law the maximum term of office for the Superior was six years. In later times when the two roles were separated, there was no Church law about the length of tenure of the Headmaster.

That night I took stock. I thought there would be little difficulty in relations with the staff as they were wonderfully committed and there was a high level of teamwork. As I wrote earlier I had come to admire the spirit of the students.

But with a third element, that of relating to the parents and the relevant groups beyond the College, I was fearful.

Almost all the parents were older than me and probably more worldly wise. Beyond them were the Old Boys, local politicians, bank managers, architects, builders etc and at the top a 90 year old Archbishop.

I didn't go into meltdown nor did I jump for joy at the coming reality.

The dye was cast.

I needn't have worried about relating to the parents and old boys. They were magnificent.

Like Shakespeare's Mark Antony of old – 'I have neither wit, nor words, nor worth, Action nor utterance, nor the power of speech' – to describe adequately the support for the College of parents and old boys.

I dare not start naming people who contributed so much in so many different ways to the College enterprise, as the list of students, staff, parents, old boys, priests and others would be endless.

The College was a large, warm, purposeful Marist family.



# BROTHER PHELAN (GEOFFREY) JOY

When, in 1971, we changed the name of the College from St Mary's to Marist it seemed a natural thing to do. Plainly, both titles refer to Mary, the Mother of Jesus and certainly the change did not diminish Fr Marcellin Champagnat's advice:

'All to Mary for Jesus  
All to Jesus through Mary'

Just a couple of weeks after my appointment, on behalf of the Provincial Council, I had to attend the Annual Concert and Prize Giving of the Primary Boarding School at Eagle Heights and convey the information that the school was to close at the end of the year. There were 80 boarders there. Nevertheless, with the new dormitory space at the Ashgrove campus and the fact that Eagle Heights had become more difficult to maintain educationally and financially, the decision to close and offer places for Primary boarders at Ashgrove had been taken by the Provincial Council. All the same, many of the Eagle Heights school parents and students and some Brothers were not pleased.

It was my first experience of having to convey corporate bad news.

The war-time boarding expedient at Eagle Heights had lasted 22 years.

For me, the six years I was Headmaster at Ashgrove were certainly busy, sometimes challenging, often joyous and sometimes sad, especially at the deaths of Br Loman, students Kerry Power (cancer), Michael Adamski (car accident) and over 20 parents of students.

Along with all the valued continuing aspects of College life, there was abundant change. This was not surprising. Hadn't the Greek philosopher Heraclitus written 2500 years ago, that in this world 'There is nothing permanent except change.' (Of course, not all changes are progress).

The changes at the College were across the board:

Spiritual	Particularly following Vatican II (1962-1965), Mass in English etc Nine ordinations of students from former years
Enrolments	From 770 in 1965 to 1010 in 1970
Staffing	Increase in lay teachers from 5 to 10. (Today, in the 1700 Catholic schools across the Nation, there are some 750,000 students and 90,000 staff, nearly all of whom are lay, building on the work of Religious of earlier years.
Scholastic	84 Commonwealth University scholarships Librarian appointed Inter-school debating recommenced Drama Club, annual College Eisteddfod started Woodwork introduced.
Sporting	Basketball introduced (The tradition of great participation by Ashgrove boys in the various sports continued. In 1969 there were 51 Rugby teams in Blue & Gold jerseys.)
New Facilities	10 Classrooms, 3 dormitories, kitchen, dining rooms, laundry block, library, 4 playing fields. Besides much kerb and channelling and drainage work, the Mens' Committee's most ambitious project was the main oval Pavilion / Grandstand, funded by the Parents & Friends' Association, the members of which kept coming up with new ideas to build community and raise money. The biggest annual event from 1968 was the Walkathon.

Fund Raising Office Established in 1967. Main activity – six Art Unions a year, each with a first prize of a house on the Gold Coast.

Commonwealth First capital grant - \$18,000 towards a Chemistry Laboratory in 1967.

Government Grants First general recurrent grant in 1970 – a flat rate for all non-government schools of \$35 per primary student and \$50 per secondary student. A start!

For me it had been an exciting, energising and rewarding time. So much so, that I was encouraged to spend a further 34 years in the Mission of Catholic Education.

I later became Headmaster of a Sydney day school (1200 students) and of a Sydney boarding college (850 boarding students, no day boys) and Director in two Archdiocesan schools systems.

In all it was 50 years - 27 as a Marist Brother and 23 as a lay married Catholic with a marvellous wife and wonderful daughter. And now 11 years retired – at least from full-time work.

I have had a very fortunate life.

I thank our loving (and challenging) God, about whom Pope Francis has

Written:

'But God is not some distant stranger.  
He shows us his face in Jesus.  
In what Jesus does and wills, we come to know  
The mind and will of God.'

And I thank the many Marist College Ashgrove folk who helped me in so many ways on the journey.



The grandstand at no. 1 oval was financed by the Parents and Friends and built with voluntary workers. It opened in June 1970. Pictured are Wally Diezmanni (President of the Parents and Friends Association), Brother Geoffrey Joy (Headmaster), Frank O'Hare, Tom Foley and Len Draney.



# 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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