# Second Edition 2020 Volume 58 - No 2 The Official Publication of **Marist College Ashgrove** Old Boys Association Inc. www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au

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# DATES TO REMEMBER

#### **Tuesday 2 February**

AGM, 7:00pm at the College

#### Friday 15 May

Ashgrove Golf Day

## Saturday 29 May

Old Boys Sports Day (v Iona)

**Super Reunion Weekend - Friday 11 June**Champagnat Sports Lunch at the College

**Super Reunion Weekend - Saturday 12 June**Old Boys Reunion Day at the College (v St Pat's)

Check the Old Boys website at www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au or our Facebook page for further details.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear fellow Old Boys,

Welcome to the second edition of The Ashgrovian for 2020. It certainly has been a challenging year for so many and our thoughts and prayers are with any Old Boys and their families who have been disadvantaged during this time.

Whilst it has been unfortunate that we have not been able to hold any of our traditional events this year, your Committee has been working hard to improve many aspects of the Association and preparing for what will hopefully be a bumper 2021! Of particular note is the attention which has been given to improving our communications with all Old Boys and the liaison between the Association, the College and the broader Marist College Ashgrove family. In conjunction with the College, we have been working on updating the Old Boys database, website, Facebook and Instagram channels. The new LinkedIn page is also set to launch soon so, please make sure you have a look at all our outlets and join/follow where applicable.



There has also been much work done on establishing the brilliant "Careers Link" program. This coordination of resources between the Old Boys Association and College aims to provide a link between the young men preparing to graduate from the College and University and the established Old Boys in their particular career choice. You will see more on this initiative as we head into next year.

There has also been significant time put into the formulation of a strategic plan for the Old Boys Association and our role in the wider Marist College Ashgrove family. This will be tabled at the AGM at the start of next year and will serve as a guide for the years ahead.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Executive and Committee for all their work on the aforementioned projects this vear.

The fabulous book "Passing the Baton" has now been released and has been well received by Old Boys and indeed the broader local community. Congratulations and thanks again to John O'Hare and Dave Cameron for compiling this brilliant publication. If you haven't already bought your copy, they are still available and would serve as a tremendous Christmas present.

A reminder to lock away the dates for the Super Reunion Weekend in what should be a fantastic couple of days next June. The Champagnat Sports Lunch is on Friday 11 June and the Reunion Day will be held on Saturday 12 June when the College hosts St Patricks in rugby and football.

Sadly, our Headmaster of 12 years, Mr Peter McLoughlin, leaves us at the end of this year. There is a great interview with Peter and his lovely wife, Paula, inside this edition where they reflect on their time at Ashgrove. The Old Boys Association wishes to pass on its utmost thanks to Peter for his leadership of the College during these important years. Peter has been a wonderful ally to the Association and will be greatly missed. It was my great honour to present Peter with honorary life membership of the OBA in October as part of his farewell celebrations. We also look forward to welcoming our new Headmaster, Mr Michael Newman, who joins us at the start of next year. The OBA wishes him all the best for his tenure in that most important role.

We were also saddened to learn of the passing of two of the great men in our College's history.

Our sixth and youngest Headmaster, Brother Valerius (Mr Les Brogan) recently passed away aged 90. A review of Valerius' magnificent contribution to Ashgrove is included in this edition. We also recognise the legendary Father Paul Jackson who passed away on 5 July 2020. One of the great religious scholars of the world, we pay a special tribute to this man who dedicated his life to building bridges between the religions.

On the retirement front, we acknowledge the contribution of two men who possess similar credentials as leaders but who guided Queensland in different ways: Bishop James Foley (1966) and Chief Judge of the District Court, Kerry O'Brien (1967).

Looking forward to 2021, we would like to congratulate the College Captain for next year, Henry Thomassen who emulates his older brother, Will (2011).

We would also like to welcome our newest members, the graduating class of 2020. All members salute this special cohort of young men who confronted and conquered a year filled with enormous difficulties. We can only wish our newest members every happiness and success in the future as the latest Marist Ashgrove men to make their way in the world.

Finally, just a reminder that the OBA meet on the first Tuesday of every school month. You are all more than welcome to attend any of these meetings. In particular, the AGM will be held in February next year and we would love to see as many Old Boys as possible at that meeting.

VIRILITER AGE

Steve McAuliffe President

## FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dear Proud Members of the Old Boys' Association,

October 28, 1816, was a providential day in our Marist history. Fr Champagnat had been summoned to a hamlet to hear a sick boy's confession. The hamlet? Les Palais. The boy? Jean-Baptiste Montagne. Sick? He was dying. Br Sean Sammon, Superior-General of the Marist Brothers 2001-2009 in his book 'A Heart That Knew No Bounds', wrote:

"The lad was entirely ignorant of matters of faith. Marcellin instructed him, heard his confession and prepared him for death... Marcellin's encounter with this adolescent boy transformed him. Jean-Baptiste's lack of knowledge about Jesus confirmed his belief that God was calling him to found a congregation of brothers to evangelize the young, particularly the most neglected. Walking back to the parish house in La Valla, Marcellin decided to put his plan into action; he would ask Jean-Marie Granjon to become the first member of his community of teaching brothers." (page 32).



The rest, as we know, is history. Marcellin's petits freres de Marie (Little Brothers of Mary) became known as the Marist Brothers of the Schools in 1863. Some 77 years later, our great College was founded.

Our congratulations to our latest Old Boys, the class of 2020. Like St Marcellin, they have encountered, and dealt with turbulent times but have remained resilient to the challenges that have been thrust upon them. We pray that they continue to have 'strong minds and gentle hearts'.

Congratulations to the student leaders of 2020.

College Captain, James Clarke has been a wonderful example of the three violets (simplicity, modesty, humility) to the College family. Vice Captains, Tom Collier, Tom Doyle, Lucas Kozlovkis and Dominic Malt have been excellent in their support of James and the College family.

We pray that the class of 2020 will always remember their Marist education with great affection and always have as their motto: Viriliter Age: Act Courageously

My special thanks to the Committee of the Old Boys' Association for all the generous support and commitment they give.

Sincere thanks to Shane Harkin, Sean Harkin, Jim Gardiner, John O'Hare, Dom Melrose, Brad Butten and Steve McAuliffe ... the Presidents of the Association during my time at Ashgrove as Headmaster. The award of Honorary Life Member of the Association is one I will cherish.

God Bless

Peter McLoughlin Headmaster

On October 24, 2020, the Old Boys' Association awarded Honorary Life Membership to the Headmaster for his support of the Marist Brothers and the way of Champagnat, his outstanding leadership of the College and for strengthing the bonds between the College and its Old Boys.

#### **SUPER REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 11-12, 2021**

All Old Boys are reminded of the Super Reunion Weekend commencing Friday 11 June 2021 at Queensland's Premier event – the Champagnat Sports Lunch at the Convention Centre. Drinks will be held that night at a venue to be announced, followed by a return to the College on Saturday 12 June, 2021 to watch the 1st XV and 1st XI in action. This will be followed by the individual group reunions to be held that evening. Get your year group organised for a huge weekend

# THE END OF AN ERA - AN INTERVIEW WITH PETER AND PAULA MCLOUGHLIN

In 2009, the tectonic plates which had underpinned Marist Ashgrove for 69 years moved decisively and symbolically with the appointment of the College's first lay Headmaster. Whilst that shift had long arrived for many other Marist educational facilities in Australia, Ashgrove was in Queensland, very traditional and always considered itself 'special'. In addition, the Marist Ashgrove Community had a great love for its Headmasters many of whom had been elevated to legend status. It was thus going to be extremely difficult for the first person to assume that crucial role in a lay capacity. So many children and families relying on them. The keys were handed to Mr Peter McLoughlin and his wife Paula. They had four children, the youngest (Will) who was also to spend five years as a student at Ashgrove.

Paula was not only an active participant in all areas of College life but also occupied a very important place in the CLE unit of the College which is specifically designed to assist those who may have learning difficulties. A natural and compassionate fit.

Now that the McLoughlin era has come to an end, the Old Boys decided to ask Peter and Paula for their views looking back and what they see for the future.

Question: Peter, the Ashgrovian is published to a diverse range of Old Boys spanning eight decades each of whom have their own recollections of the Headmasters who guided the College. What may not be known by many of our older members is that you were not a 'new arrival' at Ashgrove in 2009 but had actually taught for a year in 1992 under Brother Terry Heinrich. Can you briefly inform us as to how that occurred, why only a year and what influence that short time had on your decision in accepting the leadership role 17 years later?

Peter: I started work at the College in 1992 having been introduced to Br Terence by the then Br Richard Sidorko. I taught Mathematics, Religious Education and Physical Education. I also was a boarding supervisor in Year 10 and coached 3rd XI cricket and Under 15 football. I loved it!

The love the boys had for the College was infectious. But I had applied for the Deputy Principal position at my previous school for 1993 and was successful. The school is Trinity Catholic College Lismore and I was the first lay person to be Deputy there. I vividly remember speaking with Br Terence in what is now my office. I was quite emotional and told him that I hoped I could return to Ashgrove one day. During my ten years as Deputy in Lismore, I worked with three Marist Brothers who were the Principal. Two of them, Br Kenneth Moreland and Br Neville Solomon have been Headmasters here at Ashgrove!

Paula: At the time we had three very young children James (7), Hamish (4) and Sarah (3) one of our children required specialist support which was not available in regional areas. The Lismore Marist Brothers encouraged Peter to apply to MCA as a HPE teacher and boarding supervisor so that we could access the services we needed.



PETER, WILL (2013) AND PAULA MCLOUGHLIN ON GRADUATION DAY

Question: Just for our readers' information, as at 2020, what were the enrolment and staff numbers at the College?

A: 1664 boys in Years 5 to 12. 164 boarders and 135 teachers.

Question: The transition in 2009 from the traditional Marist Brother to a lay Headmaster was a massive change for the College both practically and symbolically. Looking back, can you and Paula describe your thoughts and expectations on taking on that huge role?

Peter: We both felt a need to be involved. As we had both worked with the Marist Brothers in Lismore, we really felt drawn to the family spirit that is such a prevalent feature of Marist schools. We both felt really strong support from the Brothers Community here at Ashgrove. Particularly Br Ray Mulvogue, the superior of the Brothers community 2008-2013. Ray was just brilliant in his support of us. He passed away in 2018, a great loss. Also, the support we have received from the subsequent Brother superiors Brs Brendan Neily (2014-2019) and Jeff Barrington (2020) has been wonderful. We saw the opportunity in 2009 as a chance to be a part of this Marist family and we tried to be involved in everything.

# THE END OF AN ERA - AN INTERVIEW WITH PETER AND PAULA MCLOUGHLIN

Paula: We felt pride, excitement and very honoured by the gift of coming back to a Marist community.

Question: Each generation confronts its own difficulties. One which readily comes to mind during your tenure is the explosion in social media activity. One assumes it brought both benefits and challenges for you as a Headmaster. Are you able to tell us some of your observations about the changes and challenges in education you have seen over the last 12 years?

Peter: There were certainly many changes involving social media. Mobile devices have become an extra "add on" to most young people. I have often reflected on the challenges associated with the constant presence of social media. For example, if I had a disagreement when I was a boy at school, unless you heard from them via a phone call to a landline, then you didn't hear from them until you saw them at school the next day. Social media now means that you are rarely out of contact with people.

Paula: Sadly, social media seems to have made all our lives busier and robbed us of many opportunities to quieten our minds and feel content. While social media has given us instant 24/7 access to information and communication, the constant barrage of 'insta -mercials' has made many feel less satisfied with what they have and to sadly believe that happiness comes from having more 'stuff'

Question: Paula, both young Old Boys and parents are familiar with your extremely active role in all aspects of College life from teaching and special learning to running those fabulous Blue and Gold Balls to serving quality coffee from dawn to dusk on Saturday sports days. Ashgrove never previously had a 'first lady' (or at least we hope not!). For the benefit of our Old Boys, could just speak about what your role has been over the years and how you have found the experience? What have been some of your most treasured memories?

Paula: The opportunity to be part of the Marist family is a treasured gift and as with all family experiences, you get back what you put in. The friends, fun and opportunities to stretch my creativity have been a blessing. It has been wonderful to be part of creating experiences where the community have come together to share laughter, friendship and memories. Some may recall the Bollywood, the Masquerade and, of course, the 70's ball where the gym sparkled with colour, music, smiles and dancing. Life is about collecting wonderful memories, spreading joy and taking time to wait for those who need a little more time and patience. I have been so very lucky to be able to be part of a team in CLE who are blessed that our work personifies the Marist concept of caring for the marginalised. So to answer your question, the most treasured memories are filled with friendship, love, laughter, fun, creativity and most importantly the successes of students who needed a little more time, care and love.

Question: Peter and Paula, you have four children, of whom the youngest, Will, attended the College and graduated in 2013. How did the children go (even as young adults) with the changes and the demands the College made on your roles?

Peter: Our children have been very accepting of my requirement to be present at school. I suppose that's something they have grown up with. I must admit to being worried by the song Cats in the Cradle by Harry Chapin! Our four children have spent some of our 12 years here at Ashgrove living with us, so I hope that there hasn't been anything too detrimental for them. Now we have three grandchildren, that has been an awesome experience for us!

Paula: Our children and now our grandchildren have loved being part of the College. It is our home. The College family embraced our children as part of the Marist family and given each of them opportunities for growth, connection, support, encouragement, care and love, all of which we are eternally grateful. Peter has been very happily busy with all things MCA for the past 12 years but his unwavering commitment to the College has taught our children lessons about giving without an expectation of reward, tenacity, responsibility and the power of presence. Besides the opportunity to have lots of 'where's dad' jokes around our kitchen table, our children have witnessed the perfect example of what it is to live simply with a consistent commitment to always doing what is right.

Question: Peter, from the perspective of the Old Boys Association, one of the hallmarks of your leadership has been your wonderful support by attending Old Boys meetings and Old Boys events. It can be safely argued that no man should have to listen to so many war stories. As a corollary, the OBA has always prided itself on its very close relationship and absolute support for the College. How have you found the 'Old Boys experience' over the years?

Peter: I go to many meetings. Without doubt, the Old Boys meetings are great fun! I love the stories and that genuine love of the College and the connectedness the members of the Committee feel. The visits to Papua New Guinea with the Old Boys have been memorable as has the fantastic hospitality we have received there.

# THE END OF AN ERA - AN INTERVIEW WITH PETER AND PAULA MCLOUGHLIN

Question: You depart at an amazing time in education having led the College through the CoVid 19 crisis and the transition from the OP system of assessment to that of ATAR. What challenges do you perceive will confront educators over the next decade?

Peter: I think the pandemic has asked many questions of us as human beings with regard to what's really important. I believe relationships are important as is faith. I believe Catholic schools need to be faithful to their mission of providing a faith-based education. In our Marist world, that's making Jesus known and loved. Education will evolve, it always has. I believe what sets Catholic schools apart is that there is more than just the curriculum... the focus is on the holistic education of each individual, mind, body and spirit.

Paula: The next decade holds hope and promise as educators embrace innovation while still staying very committed to respecting each student for their individuality and unique gifts. As all schools work toward strong academic outcomes, it is important to remember that academic excellence is not the only feature of successful, contented, happy and generous adults. MCA is a perfect example of valuing the individual, encouraging a strong family spirit in an environment that has a considered lack of pretence.

Question: Many Old Boys will tell you that our most special feature is the absolute camaraderie that lasts a lifetime. It is the magic of Ashgrove. It is perhaps a subjective assessment, but you take the time each year to interview all Seniors on their departure. Going forward, does that special Marist Ashgrove culture still exist for our young Old Boys of today?

Peter: Having just concluded exit interviews with this year's seniors, by far the common response to my question, "What has been positive for you in your time here at Marist?" has been the boys, my mates, the community, the brotherhood, the sense of family. This would be a response in 98% of interviews. They talk about having formed lifelong friendships. That's what makes Ashgrove so special, that sense of brotherhood.

Question: We will ask each of you this (no collaborating please) but are you able to identity what are your absolute highlights both personally and professionally over the last 12 years.

Peter: Boys who are willing to listen to advice; Boys who treat other people how they would like to be treated; Nearly every mass; The boarding visits to the country to meet with wonderful families; Sunday night mass with the boarders and their singing; The 2019 choir who sang the Salve Regina at the Feast of the Assumption Mass; Graduation every year; The night at the Gabba in 2019 where 650+ members of the College family turned up to support Charlie Cameron (2011) and the Brisbane Lions. Not to mention the Hawthorn supporters who complained to the Police at half time that the boys cheering was too loud; The chance to meet so many people through the Champagnat Trust Sports Lunches and the recipients of the Trust who value the opportunity they have been given; Sport on a Saturday and the boys who are proud to represent no matter what level; People who are willing to forgive my shortcomings; The great people I have worked with.

To sum up, my time here has been the highlight of my professional life. I am grateful to the Old Boys who have been very supportive of the College and what we try to do here to enable each boy to achieve his personal best. This College will always hold a special place in my heart.

Paula: There has been so many highlights, in fact every day there is something that lifts my spirits and makes me feel so very grateful for this place. A random selection of memorable moments includes - Wheel chair basketball; Seeing a struggling student graduate and come back to visit to tell us about his new job; Watching Molly, our dog escape to the dorm only to find her dressed in a MCA uniform watching the football with the year 12's; Hearing a group of senior students teaching a younger student how to play cards; Reading the honesty in some of the responses to the senior English task, 'Masculinity'; Bollywood dancing at the Blue and Gold Ball; Ball preparation; the Jazz Wine and Wallabies evening; The Marist cricket carnivals; CLE Christmas lunches; The first Mothers Christmas lunch when Sebas (one of our East Timorese boarders) spoke about his Mum and reduced us all to tears; Graduation and Inaugural masses; Rugby Saturdays; Boarding visits... The list is boundless, but to be very honest it has been the sheer generosity of the MCA family who have embraced, supported, celebrated and grieved with our family that has touched my heart most of all.

The OBA expresses its great thanks to Peter and Paula for sharing their time with us. We give our particular thanks from our 2009-2020 members. The strength which the Old Boys now has is only as a result of the support of the McLoughlins. We wish them the very best in the years ahead.

## ALL THE HEADMASTER'S MEN

It was a sign of the great respect the Old Boys' Association holds for the departing Headmaster, Mr Peter McLoughlin, that every single one of the Presidents of the Association during Peter's tenure returned to take part in a historic photo.

Shane Harkin (2008-9), Sean Harkin (2010-11), Jim Gardiner (2012-13), John O'Hare (2014-15), Dom Melrose (2016-17), Brad Butten (2018-19) and our current President, Mr Steve McAuliffe, each personally thanked the Headmaster for his wonderful support of the OBA over the last 12 years. The Headmaster, in turn, presented each President with a memento of the College.

On 24 October 2020, the OBA awarded Peter our highest honour, Honorary Life Membership of the Association.



# OLD BOYS CELEBRATE THE CAREER OF CHIEF JUDGE KERRY O'BRIEN (1967)

The Old Boys Association was particularly proud to be part of the celebrations of the brilliant career of Kerry O'Brien (1967) who retired as Chief Judge of the District Court of Queensland in August, 2020.

As at his retirement, Kerry was Australia's longest presently serving judicial officer (31 years). In addition to being Chief Judge, Kerry sat as an acting Supreme Court Judge, a former President of the Children's Court and a former President of the Mental Health Court. It was no secret in judicial and legal circles throughout the Commonwealth that Queensland's District Court was, during Kerry's tenure, unmatched for efficiency, courtesy and camaraderie. Under Kerry's guidance, the Court continued to function efficiently through the Co-Vid 19 crisis by utilising modern technology. At Kerry's farewell function in the ceremonial Banco Court in Brisbane, the many tributes from the legal profession and judiciary reflected the respect and reverence with which Kerry was held. The numbers in attendance overflowed into three courts and to many more around the State on video link.

Kerry remained living in Ashgrove and also served for a number of years on the College Foundation. All Old Boys, young and old, join with Donna, Matthew (2006), Michael (2007) Amelia and Emily in congratulating Kerry on his retirement and his contribution to the administration of justice in Queensland.



**KERRY O'BRIEN** 

In our next edition, we will feature an interview with Kerry where we reflect on his time at Ashgrove and the influences which guided him throughout his legal and judicial career.

# THE PASSING OF BROTHER VALERIUS (LENSLEY) BROGAN - ASHGROVE'S SIXTH HEADMASTER (1959-1962)

The Old Boys' Association was greatly saddened to learn of the passing, aged 90, of Lensley ('Les') Brogan - better known to Old Boys as Brother Valerius - who served as Ashgrove's sixth Headmaster from 1959 to 1962.

Remarkably, Valerius was aged only 29 when entrusted to guide Ashgrove into its third decade. Notwithstanding his youth, Valerius possessed an enormous teaching arsenal including english, modern and ancient history, maths, physics and geography. In addition, he had been gifted a great love of music with the four-part harmony and the Gregorian Chant being a special interest. He was described as an 'absolute natural' in the classroom.

Valerius was lauded as gregarious, charming, a good listener, of quick intellect and instilled with that inherent Marist capacity for endless hard work. He was surrounded by great men like Brothers Peter Carrick, Regis Daly and Francis McMahon. Wise beyond his years, Valerius had the foresight to make use of the collective wisdom available to him.

Valerius built on the existing teamwork between the Brothers and the students and the College continued to prosper. An advocate of the theory "if it ain't broke, don't try to fix it", years later, he would joke that the only building actually constructed at Ashgrove during his tenure was that of the famous toilet blocks – which ultimately stood for over 50 years until their famous demolition in 2014.



**BROTHER VALERIUS** 

Valerius was far more energised by the culture of hard work and community as opposed to a building program. He was a born diplomat and saw himself as the figurehead of a very dynamic staff. Notwithstanding, during his tenure, the College Masterplan was developed – laying the bedrock for the decades ahead.

It was ultimately a decision for Sydney as to how long a brilliant, but conservative, young man would stay in the role. After four years, Valerius was replaced, in theory to inject 'new blood and progressive ideas' into the Ashgrove community. A man of great dignity, Valerius understood the change and the reasons for it and "accepted the reality of the situation with equanimity".

Still very young, many leading roles over the decades in the Marist Brothers great educational facilities followed for Valerius. He served the order with great distinction.

An Ashgrove Old Boy taught by Valerius, John Ferris PhD (1962), would later write that Valerius brought to Ashgrove a 'culture of learning'. John recalled Valerius as a master in the art of learning who encouraged debate and discovery learning. At the time, John nominated Valerius as a 'living legend' who directed those students from the early 60's on a life of learning and discovery. There could be no greater compliment for an educator.

After 42 years (far too long), Valerius returned to visit with then Headmaster Brother Neville Solomon. They had taught together at Maitland much earlier in Neville's career. What satisfaction must Valerius have felt not only seeing the great masterplan come to fruition but that the very spirit he had fostered remained the essesnce of the College.

Les Brogan retired from the order to his family home in Wallsend where he was a revered and cherished member of the St Patrick's parish. The "Canvas of Dreams" remained a treasured possession until his passing.

Our youngest Headmaster now retains his own special place in the history of this great College. The Old Boys express our thanks and salute the wonderful Lensley "Les" (Brother Valerius) Brogan. The OBA send their very best to his siblings Claude (dec'd), Ray (dec'd), Ron (dec'd), Keith, Laurie, Kathleen, and Carol.

A faithful servant always of Champagnat. May our Mother Mary welcome Valerius home. May perpetual light shine upon him.

#### APPOINTMENT OF NEW HEAD OF PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Old Boys welcomed the appointment of Mr Liam Beatty (OB 2008) as the new Head of the Primary school. Given the changes to the education system in Queensland in the last few years, the primary school now consists of Years 5 and 6. Liam will have the great privilege of leading one of the most experienced and dynamic primary staffs in Australia with a reputation for absolute excellence. The OBA look forward to supporting Liam to his new role.

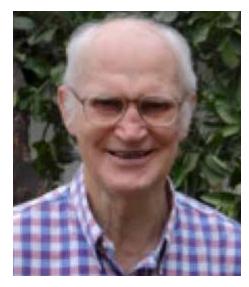
# **FATHER PAUL JACKSON (1955)**

This College has produced some extraordinary men. Some great men of God. Bridge builders. Educators. Peacemakers.

None greater, nor more humble, than the wonderful Father Paul Frederick Joseph Jackson who passed away peacefully in his beloved Patna, India on 5th July 2020. His accomplishments, his love of his fellow man, his passion for life and his unmatched role in the building of relationships between the great religions of Islam and Christianity will remain the stuff of legend. So much so a great Islamic scholar dubbed him 'the Catholic Sufi'.

When at Ashgrove, Father Paul's accomplishments were outstanding both academically and in the sporting arena. He won the McDonnell Medal in the scholarship examination of 1951 for the highest marks in the Catholic school system in Queensland. At 6'2" he played in the second row for the 1st XV for four years 1952 to 1955. And, of course, they were premiers every year. A legbreak bowler of the highest calibre, he was dominant in the 1st XI in his final year (1955).

Despite winning a Commonwealth scholarship in 1956 to attend University, Paul declined and joined the Jesuit Novitiate at Loyola College, Watsonia. He first travelled to India in 1960 and, after further studies in Theology (1965-69), was ordained a priest. He was missioned to teach in Jesuit high schools.



**FATHER PAUL JACKSON** 

Father Paul later recognised "doing something for Muslims" as his personal vocation.

Following his dream, Fr Jackson moved to Delhi to study History at the Jamia Millia Islamia. While he was a student there, he happened to attend an international conference on the Sufi saint, Baba Farid. He concluded in his heart that Sufis bring people together and thus he would study a Sufi as a way of entering into the lives of the Muslims of Bihar. He studied Persian in Shiraz (1974-75) and wrote a thesis on the Sufi saint Sharafuddin Maneri, for which the Patna University awarded him with a PhD (1976-80). Over the years, Fr Jackson translated and commented upon the spiritual letters of Sharafuddin Maneri which brought that Muslim saint to the English speaking world.

Father Paul maintained there was no doubt that Jews, Christians and Muslims worship the one and the same God. Father once told the Ashgrovian "I believe my own faith has been deepened and refined by my cumulative experience and have come to appreciate it for the incomparably precious gift that it is"

Fr Jackson was a founding member in 1979 (and then served as President) of the Islamic Studies Association (ISA) and was the editor of Salaam for several years. He dedicated his life to educating the poor in India and always, always was building those bridges. A truly great Jesuit.

The Old Boys give thanks for the life of Father Paul and his magnificent contribution to the lives of so many. One of the great sons of Ashgrove. May perpetual light shine upon him. The OBA extends its special thanks also to Dr William Renton-Power (1955) for your kind words about Paul.

# 1990 - REUNION GOES AHEAD

Notwithstanding the ravages of COVID-19, the 1990 year rose to the occasion by getting together with those who were able to attend, notwithstanding all the difficult travel restrictions. Later in the year they could celebrate that one of their number, Mick Heenan, had coached University first grade to its eighth grand final while under his control. Mick has won a total of 5 premierships during his time as coach and the first of his sons is soon to attend Ashgrove. The Old Boys congratulate the 1990 year group in celebrating their 30th anniversary in such difficult times. We look forward to seeing them at the Super Reunion Weekend on 11 and 12 June 2021 and their sons enrolling at Ashgrove in the years to come.



# **RETIREMENT OF BISHOP JAMES FOLEY (1966)**

The Old Boys wish to salute, on his impending retirement, the life of service by Bishop James Foley (1966). As a young priest, Bishop Foley was sent by the Queensland Bishops to Louvain University in Belgium in 1976. After five and half year's study, he received his Licentiate and Doctorate in Philosophy. While at Louvain he also worked as chaplain on United States and British bases in West Germany, working with soldiers and families, and spent some months at the cathedral parish of St John New Brunswick, Canada.

Returning home in 1982, Bishop Foley began teaching philosophy at Banyo Seminary. He also lectured part-time in philosophy at the Brisbane College of Theology, the Australian Catholic University and University of Queensland. He was spiritual director to students from 1985-92.

He was ordained Bishop of the Archdiocese of Cairns on August 21, 1992 at St Monica's Cathedral, Cairns. Bishop Foley has been a member of various international and national bodies including the International Catechetical Commission, Rome; International Committee for English in the Liturgy; and The Company, Senate and Queensland Chapter of Australian Catholic Universities.

Bishop Foley has been farewelled by colleagues as he attended the recent plenary meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in Melbourne.

The Old Boys wish Bishop Foley the very best on his impending retirement and look forward to seeing him at Old Boys functions in the future.

# 1980 - STILL SOMETHING SPECIAL

There is no doubting the diverse characters who make up that mercurial 1980 year. A year group that sits famously in the folklore of the College. Despite the passage of four decades, the memories have not dimmed and the annual get together this year was something very special because it was not only 40 years on but they had to overcome the barriers of the pandemic. Those lads who could make it gathered at the Breakfast Creek Hotel to relive some of the many memories and to tell stories only they would understand. For those from 1980 who are not yet connected, there is a Facebook page where you can catch up called 'Ashgrove Blokes You Know'.

The Old Boys congratulate the 1980 year for being the guardians of that incredible Ashgrove spirit.



#### BEN O'TOOLE (2006) CONTINUES WITH SENSATIONAL ACTING CAREER

Old Boys are invited to join the millions watching Halifax: Retribution - a top-class detective mini-series in which OB Ben O'Toole plays the role of Jarrod. This role only adds to Ben's impressive resume in which he has appeared in such classics as Hacksaw Ridge, Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales and Love Child. We will be watching Ben's career closely. And the Oscar goes to ... Stay tuned Old Boys.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN HOLLAMBY (1968)**

The OBA sends it congratulations to John Hollamby 1968, who was elected President of the Western Diocesan Central Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

#### APPOINTMENT OF NEW HEADMASTER

Upon the departure of Mr McLoughlin after 12 years, the College will be led by Mr Michael Newman who joins us from St Mary's in Toowoomba. Mr Newman, a product of St Joseph's College Hunters Hill (forgiveness please), was previously a Marist Brother for 17 years. Michael is now married with three beautiful children and will take on the new role in January 2021. The next edition of the Ashgrovian will provide an update on Michael and how he is finding Ashgrove. Michael will, of course, have the absolute support of the Old Boys.

# RECORD NUMBER OF SONS OF OLD BOYS GRADUATE IN 2020

The Tradition continues.

The 2014 year had held the record but this year a massive 38 sons of Old Boys will graduate to become life members of the Old Boys' Association.

The Old Boys pays its very special tribute to great John Mines (1948), a very proud Ashgrovian who, as always, led from the front for this pre-Covid photo. There were also some traditional Ashgrove names in there. We spotted a Hammond, a Lucey and a Thorpe - all proudly of the third generation. We are not sure if there was some collaboration amongst the 1985, 1986 and 1989 years but they have proved thoroughbreds in the breeding stakes. Great work boys.

These young men of 2020 have proved exceptional in a year like no other. True Ashgrovians.

And congratulations to all the 236 graduates who now become members the closest of Old Boy families. Like the great men over the last 80 years - bonds which will last for life.



**Back Rows:** Mark (1988) and Zachary Kierpal; Dominic (1992) and Cooper and Hamish Melrose; Chris (1989) and Nicholas Shay; Timothy (1990) and Alec Oostenbroek; Nicholas (1986) and Henry Weinert; Timothy (1986) and Ethan Lucey; Langton (1986) and James Clarke; James (1986) and Thomas Collier.

**Middle Rows:** Nathan (1989) and Joshua Edwards; Luke (1985) and Christian Quinlivan; Angus (1988) and John Spencer; Peter (1976) and Neasan Sheehan; Anthony (1989) and Jack Holland; Damien (1989) and Clancy Kuiters; Michael (1985) and Thomas Doyle; Michael (1979) and Thomas Thorpe; Gerard (1987) and Charles Ryan; Timothy (1980) and Tyler Galligan; David (1975) and James Love; Mark (1983) and Rhonan Jensen; Brett (1982) and Macgregor Leavy; Jason (1989) and Isaiah Locke; Justin (1986) and Joseph and Harry Clarke.

**Front Rows:** Joseph (1969) and Nicholas Nucifora; Bill (1988) and Darcy Hammond; Anthony (1990) and Harry Lyons; Paul (1986) and Harrison Downs; Anthony (1980) and Thomas and William O'Connor; Matt (1984) and Liam Dempsey; Andrew (1989) and Francis Sevil.

Out The Front: John (1948), Anthony (1985) and Angus Mines.

**Absent, but there in spirit:** Christopher (1995) and Jackson Ford; Matthew (1984) and Adam Green; Phillip (1985) and Josh Billing; Christopher (1987) and Christian Strathearn.

In Memorium: Con Lucey (1949), Alan Hammond (1949) and Robert Thorpe (1948).

# **CLASS OF 2020**

Connor Armstrong, E Floyd Aubrey, G \* Knox Austin, F Liam Bacon, E Nicholas Baker, D Thomas Barlow, E Jackson Barrick, R Isaac Barwick, E Hilton Bidgood, D \* Josh Billing, D \* Brendan Blaker, I Dane Blansjaar, E \* Nicholas Blazely, E Josh Booth, I Daniel Borbor, F Tyler Borham, H Shea Bowden, G Declan Bowes-McKee, E Jack Brassington, H Riley Brown, G Ryan Bull, H Joel Burgin, F Hamiltyn Burns, D Ryan Burns, R Joseph Bussa, S Cooper Cabot, F Ryan Campbell, H Thomas Cartwright, H Tyrone Chapman, D \* Jordy Chugg, H Harry Clarke, G James Clarke, H \* Joseph Clarke, G Thomas Collier, I Ziggy Cooney, E Dylan Cope, S Alexander Corbett, G Lachlan Cowan, F Carlin Cristaudo, F Jack Croker, E Joshua Crook, F William Cruickshank, F Max Curnow, I \* Jack Dale, I Samuel Dalton, G Tom Dargusch, H Aymar de Roquefeuil, H Liam Dempsev. D Jack Denman, E Will Donoghoe, H Harry Downs, S Max Doyle, S Tom Doyle, S Hunter Dreghorn, G Bayden Drought, S Gabe Duimovic, E Angus Dwyer, G \* Thomas Easingwood, S Daniel Eddy, D

Jack Eldridge, R Ryan Ellis, D \* Edward Evans, H Tobin Everett, H Nicholas Fisher, H \* Jackson Ford, F Xavier Foxon, I Thomas Francis, H Max Fryar, I Charlie Fuller, E Flynn Fuller, E Tait Fuller, E Tyler Galligan, E Rhonan Gibson, I Thomas Goncalves, G Seamus Gordon, I \* Riley Grace, D Lewis Grebenshikoff, I \* Adam Green, F7 Xander Griffiths, D Joshua Gronbach, R Dominic Grundy, S Jackson Gudgeon, F William Gullo, F Oliver Haddad, H \* Darcy Hammond, R Nathan Harding, E Will Harding, H7 Henry Harris, S Finn Harrison, R \* Benjamin Harry, R Hayden Hastie, R Tyler Hastie, G Finniss Hendrikse, F \* Dominic Heron, D Freddy Higgins, F Ben Hjort, S Davis Hobson, G \* Noah Hodge, F Jack Holland, F Ben Holliday, D Harry Hull, E Sam Hull, E Harry Hunter, I Max Hutchinson, S Blake lacopetta, E William Jenkins, H \* Rhonan Jensen, I Jacob Johnson, I ' Rory Johnstone, F Dominic Jones, R James Kay, R \* Fynnigan Keaveney-Jones, S Jack Kelly, S Liam Kellv. D Michael Kidd, F Zachary Kierpal, R

Clancy Kuiters, R Lachlan Laffer, F ' Connor Larkin, S \* Finley Latimer, D Macgregor Leavy, I Harrison Lee, D William Lee, G Isaiah Locke, F James Love, F Ethan Lucey, E Harry Lyons, D Thomas Lyons, I \* Chris Mahony, E \* Lachlan Mainev. G Dominic Malt, H Rhys Manoa, I Brandon Marchant, H Johnathon Martin, S Luca Masotti, D Noah McCann, S Sean McCarthy, G Joel McClure, S Oscar McDonnell, S \* Harry McGauley, D Lachlan McHugh, G Jack McIntosh, G Campbell McKinlay, E Tom McKinlay, S \* Declan Mead, D Cooper Melrose, H Hamish Melrose, H Simon Mendieta Beltran, S Simon Mifsud, S Archie Miller, E \* Liam Mills, R Angus Mines, R Matthew Mitchell, F Tom Mitchell, E Elih Morgan, R \* Lewis Morgan, I Jacob Mortensen, I Hugo Moutou, G Tom Muirhead, R \* Pascal Mulders, H Will Mulvenna, E Tyler Newell, D Angus Nicholls, I Rilev Nolan, R Nicholas Nucifora, R Riley O'Brien, S William O'Brien, R Tom O'Connor, G \* William O'Connor, D Jack O'Flaherty, R Alec Oostenbroek, G Sam O'Rourke, I Lochie O'Sullivan, D

Joe Philp, H \* Tomas Philp, R \* Joshua Pinsker, S Fergus Post, R Lyndon Potts, H Pranav Praveen, G Nat Purcell, G Christian Quinlivan, D\* Abe Rees, F Marco Reggi, D Mack Rennick, H Edward Renwick, R Fraser Rigby, H Ethan Roberts, F Benjamin Roden-Cohen, H Mimi Ruiz, I Tom Russell, S Charles Ryan, F Lawrence Sangster, R Harry Searle, D Tom Searle, D Francis Sevil, I' Nicholas Shay, E Neasan Sheehan, E Dominik Sikavica, G Mack Sing, E Harry Skinner, D Josh Small, F Joshua Smith, R Mitchell Smyth, D Nicholas Snow, F Robbie Sparksman, I John Spencer, H Declan Stevens, G Christian Strathearn, G Campbell Stuen-Parker, I Alex Surtees, I Max Taylor, H Tom Thorpe, H Mason Tong, S Eli Townsend, S Nick Tucker, D Ned Urguhart, G Olivier Vlug, R Jari Walpo, G<sup>3</sup> Jacob Webster, I Henry Weinert, R Harrison Whitten, R Charlie Wilkinson, F Tom Wilkinson, G Adam Wilson, G Jack Wilson, S Lee Witzerman, I Wilson Wong, F \* Matthew Wood, I Jack Wright, E Wilfred Wu, E \*

#### **Key for Name List**

Josh Edwards, D

Letter beside name indicates House, e.g. D=Ridley, E=Ephrem, F=Foley, G=Gilroy, H=Harold, I=Ignatius, R=Rush and S=Slattery

Zak Payne, S

Patrick Pearce, R

George Perrers, D

Daniel Klein, I

Shaun Klette, G

Lucas Kozlovskis, I

Geordan Wyborn, F

<sup>\*</sup> beside name indicates boarder.



Front Row: Lochie O'Sullivan, Finley Latimer, Luca Masotti, Dominic Heron, Christian Quinlivan, Ben Holliday, Mitchell Smyth, Harry Skinner, Harry McGauley, Harry Lyons, Marco Reggi

Second Row: Josh Edwards, Riley Grace, Harry Searle, Tom Searle, William O'Connor, George Perrers, Josh Billing, Xander Griffiths, Nick Tucker, Harrison Lee

Third Row: Hamiltyn Burns, Liam Kelly, Nicholas Baker, Tyrone Chapman, Daniel Eddy, Liam Dempsey, Ryan Ellis, Hilton Bidgood Absent: Declan Mead, Tyler Newell

Pastoral Leaders: Mr David Meehan



Front Row: Nathan Harding, Harry Hull, Campbell McKinlay, Dane Blansjaar, Isaac Barwick, Connor Armstrong, Mack Sing, Will Mulvenna, Sam Hull, Blake Iacopetta

Second Row: Thomas Barlow, Jack Wright, Jack Denman, Tait Fuller, Chris Mahony, Flynn Fuller, Tyler Galligan, Nicholas Shay, Jack Croker Third Row: Ziggy Cooney, Charlie Fuller, Archie Miller, Neasan Sheehan, Ethan Lucey, Tom Mitchell, Nicholas Blazely, Gabe Dujmovic, Liam Bacon Absent: Declan Bowes-McKee

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Tony Byrne



Front Row: Josh Small, Noah Hodge, Freddy Higgins, Geordan Wyborn, Isaiah Locke, William Cruickshank, Wilson Wong, Ethan Roberts, Jackson Gudgeon, Matthew Mitchell

Second Row: Abe Rees, Nicholas Snow, Adam Green, Joel Burgin, Michael Kidd, Finniss Hendrikse, Carlin Cristaudo, Jack Holland, Joshua Crook Third Row: William Gullo, James Love, Rory Johnstone, Lachlan Laffer, Lachlan Cowan, Jackson Ford, Charles Ryan Absent: Knox Austin, Daniel Borbor, Cooper Cabot, Charlie Wilkinson

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Stan Kosiek



Front Row: Christian Strathearn, Tom Wilkinson, Alexander Corbett, Hunter Dreghorn, Shea Bowden, Tyler Hastie, Jari Walpo, Adam Wilson, Pranav Praveen, Samuel Dalton

Second Row: William Lee, Joseph Clarke, Alec Oostenbroek, Floyd Aubrey, Thomas Goncalves, Harry Clarke, Riley Brown, Angus Dwyer, Dominik Sikavica, Ned Urquhart

Third Row: Hugo Moutou, Sean McCarthy, Jack McIntosh, Lachlan McHugh, Shaun Klette, Nat Purcell, Tom O'Connor Absent: Davis Hobson, Lachlan Mainey, Declan Stevens

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Brett Gillett

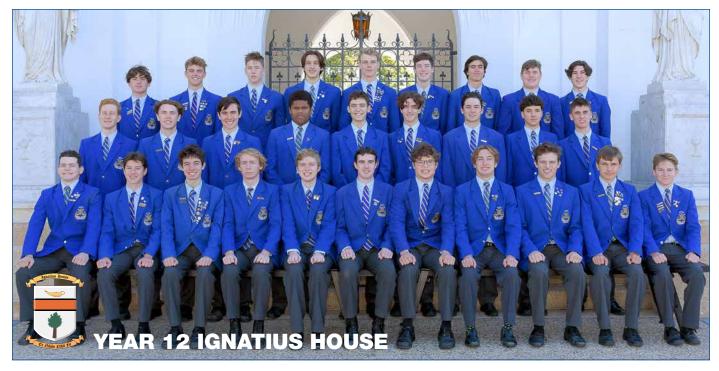


Front Row: Tyler Borham, Tom Dargusch, Lyndon Potts, Pascal Mulders, Mack Rennick, Oliver Haddad, Thomas Francis, Tobin Everett, Fraser Rigby, Aymar de Roquefeuil

Second Row: Edward Evans, Joe Philp, James Clarke, Nicholas Fisher, William Jenkins, Benjamin Roden-Cohen, Ryan Campbell, Cooper Melrose, Jordy Chugg

Third Row: Hamish Melrose, Dominic Malt, Max Taylor, Will Donoghoe, Jack Brassington, Tom Thorpe, John Spencer, Thomas Cartwright Absent: Ryan Bull, Will Harding, Brandon Marchant, Luke Nadredre

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Brendan Kiernan



Front Row: Daniel Klein, Thomas Lyons, Mimi Ruiz, Lee Witzerman, Jacob Webster, Jacob Johnson, Macgregor Leavy, Max Fryar, Josh Booth, Harry Hunter, Francis Sevil

Second Row: Matthew Wood, Brendan Blaker, Angus Nicholls, Rhys Manoa, Xavier Foxon, Jack Dale, Lewis Morgan, Campbell Stuen-Parker, Robbie Sparksman

Third Row: Lewis Grebenshikoff, Thomas Collier, Jacob Mortensen, Sam O'Rourke, Lucas Kozlovskis, Alex Surtees, Seamus Gordon, Max Curnow, Rhonan Gibson

Absent: Rhonan Jensen

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Terry Quain



Front Row: Jack O'Flaherty, Joshua Smith, Hayden Hastie, Ryan Burns, Harrison Whitten, Jackson Barrick, Lawrence Sangster, Riley Nolan, Liam Mills, Nicholas Nucifora

Second Row: Olivier Vlug, Dominic Jones, Angus Mines, Tom Muirhead, Finn Harrison, Elih Morgan, Clancy Kuiters, James Kay, Joshua Gronbach Third Row: Jack Eldridge, Patrick Pearce, Darcy Hammond, Edward Renwick, Zachary Kierpal

Absent: Benjamin Harry, William O'Brien, Tomas Philp, Fergus Post, Henry Weinert

Pastoral Leaders: Mr Adam Knight



Front Row: Joseph Bussa, Simon Mendieta Beltran, Ben Hjort, Dominic Grundy, Dylan Cope, Johnathon Martin, Joshua Pinsker, Harry Downs, Bayden Drought

Second Row: Fynnigan Keaveney-Jones, Tom Doyle, Tom Russell, Max Hutchinson, Thomas Easingwood, Riley O'Brien, Eli Townsend, Simon Mifsud, Jack Wilson, Joel McClure

Third Row: Oscar McDonnell, Noah McCann, Connor Larkin, Zak Payne, Jack Kelly, Tom McKinlay, Henry Harris, Max Doyle, Mason Tong

Pastoral Leaders: Ms Megan Wandell

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# OLD BOYS SALUTE THE WIZARD OF THE CHEMISTRY LABS - ROD JARRETT RETIRES AFTER DECADES OF SERVICE

The OBA wishes to pay very special tribute this year to the outstanding contribution of Mr Rod Jarrett who retires after decades of dedicated service to the education of so many old boys - particularly in the Chemistry Labs.

Rod was revered for his passion for the sciences, his support of volleyball and his never-ending enthusiasm for impressing on young minds, through experiments (and the odd explosion) of the wonders of chemistry. All carried out with the greatest of respect and good humour. A man loved by both the staff and the boys. We will not see the like of him again.

All Old Boys express their very best wishes to Rod and his lovely wife for the years ahead.

# MICHAEL 'BOGGY' SMITH - YET ANOTHER PART OF ASHGROVE'S BRILLIANT MILITARY HISTORY

As the accumulation of the history of the many old boys who have served the nation with great honour and dignity continues to grow, the OBA would note the amazing contribution of Michael 'Boggy' Smith who had an outstanding career in the RAAF.

Wing Commander Michael G. "Boggy" Smith was born and raised in Papua New Guinea. Boggy studied at Ashgrove before joining the RAAF in 1976 as an aircrew cadet. After completing the navigation course, he was posted to fly Canberra bombers with 2 Squadron. In 1979, Boggy began flying F-111s with 6 Squadron, then was posted to Scotland in 1985 to fly Buccaneers with the Royal Air Force

In 1990, Boggy returned to 6 Squadron for F-111 flying as executive officer. Promoted to Wing Commander, he was posted to the Australian Embassy in Washington D.C. he was deployed to Iraq in 2004, and then served as representative in the Joint Strike Fighter Program Office in Arlington, VA. Group Captain Smith retired from the RAAF in 2011 with more than 3,000 hours in jets, including 78 hours in F-111C A8-130.

# FATHER TOM MALONEY AWARD – 2ND XI CRICKET

One of the most impressive trophies on offer is the Father Tom Maloney trophy for the Best and Fairest in 2nd XI Cricket.

A legend in his lifetime, Father Tom was not only College Chaplain but the iconic 2nd XI coach who retains a sensational record unmatched anywhere in the old TAS or modern day AIC. The Old Boys Association proudly recognised Father Tom's contribution by commissioning a magnificent trophy.

This year the award goes to Riley Grace who has been nominated by the cricket coaching staff for his outstanding achievements and approach to the game. The Old Boys Association sends its congratulations to Riley on this most prestigious and deserved award.

Father Tom believed passionately in the pursuit of excellence and would be very proud of the approach to the game and the success which Riley had.



**RILEY GRACE** 

# **MEMORIES OF SPORTSCENE**

No matter what sports shows are produced in the modern era, none but absolutely none can come close to the magnificent Sportscene which dominated the Brisbane airwaves in the 1970's and 80's. Absolutely compulsory viewing on a Sunday for all sports fans, the success of Sportscene was due in no small measure to the encyclopaedic knowledge and razor-sharp wit of Old Boy, George Doniger (1956). George attended the College in sub-junior and junior and attributes so much to the great teachers and coaches, Brother Francis McMahon and Brother Peter Carrick who taught him the self-discipline to last a lifetime.

We have obtained a few photos to assist Old Boys' in reliving the memories. George remains a frequent attendee at Old Boys events and of course hosted the now legendary trivia night "Qld Rugby League in "70's" held at the College in 2006.

For those Old Boys who wish to read a magnificent article by Steve Ricketts on Sportscene and George go to www.stevericketts.com.au.















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# PRAYERS PLEASE

Please pray for the following who have deceased recently.

- Br Kevin Ryan FMS (who taught at Ashgrove in 1973), formerly Br Baylon, passed away peacefully on August 4, 2020, aged 84 years. Br Kevin was a member of the Marist Brothers for 66 years and a treasured member of the Community at Ashgrove for the past 39 years. Br Kevin was the much loved son of James and Janet (both dec'd) and brother of Patrick, Thomas and Peter (all dec'd). Br Kevin's funeral was held on August 12, 2020 at the Community Chapel followed by a guard of honour from staff and students.
- Christopher Gorman (1981), father of Mia and brother of Troy (1982) of The Gap passed away peacefully in October, 2020 after a short illness.
- Damien John Robertson (1985), late of Mitchelton, formerly Maroochydore, passed away peacefully on July 8, 2020, aged 52 years. Damien was the dearly loved son of Ken and Cath, loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle of Paul (1978), Terry (1981), Majella, Denise, Matthew (1992) and their respective families.
- Denis Donovan (1957), originally from Childers, passed away unexpectedly in Bundaberg on February 21. Denis was farewelled from the Holy Rosary Church, Bundaberg on 2 March, 2020 by a large gathering, including a number of Old Boys. Denis will be sadly missed by his beloved wife Beth and by sons Peter and Mark, daughters Kathy, Mary and Anne, seven grandchildren and his extended family.
- Alan Salotti (1957), passed away just prior to September, 2020. Alan was at Eagle Heights in 1953 and then attended MCA as a boarder from Wooloowin from 1954 to 1957.
- Bryan Diezmann (1973) passed away on July 24, 2020, aged 62 years after a long battle with cancer. Bryan was the beloved husband of Joan and dearly loved father and father in law of Jay & Rachel, Teena & Jye and Kara & Nathan and adored Grandfather of Connor, Sophie, Mia, Grace, Ellie, Doug and Frankie. Bryan is the son of Wal & Marie Diezmann (Wal a Rosalie Old Boy & President of Ashgrove P&F 1969-70) and brother of Peter (1970), Michael (1972), Kerry (1978) and Donna (Mt St Michaels).
- David Walters (1969), cousin of Doug Harvey, passed away on August 23, 2020
- Patricia "Pat" Mellor, late of Bardon, passed away peacefully on July 3, 2020, aged 87 years. Pat was the dearly loved wife of Ron (dec'd) and much loved mother of Lorraine, Katherine, Stephen, Rhonda, Phillip (1983) and Andrew (1985).
- Bernard James "BJ" Laing, late of Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on October 2, 2020, aged 91 years.
   Bernard was the much loved husband of Maureen, father of Brian (1971), Peter (1973), Graeme (1974),
   Rosemary, Stuart (1978 past president OBA) and father in law, grandfather, and great grandfather of their families.
- Roslyn Carmel "Tippy" Nicholson. Mother of Alex (2010) and Patrick (2012), late of Charleville, passed away peacefully on July 25, 2020, aged 60. Much loved mother of Alex (2010) and Patrick (2012).
- Irene Crockett, late of Holland Park, formerly of Ashgrove, passed away peacefully on September 29 2020, aged 96 years. Beloved wife of Maurice (dec'd) and mother of Murray (1965), Nanette, and Peter (1971) and their families.

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

### **REMEMBERING JOSH TAM (2013)**

The OBA remembers the tragic passing of our young brother, Josh Tam (2013), in late 2018.

For those who wish to support the wonderful legacy of Josh, please visit the website set up by his parents, John (1981) and Julie.

www.justmossin.com.au

There are great times ahead for young Ashgrovians, but please take care. Look after each other.

#### **VALE SECTION ON THE NEW OLD BOYS' WEBSITE**

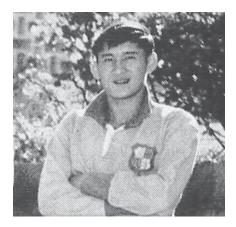
The new updated website will have a special 'Vale' section where eulogies and memories of Old Boys can be recorded. Please visit www.ashgroveoldboys.com.au and click on 'Vale'.

# **WAYNE GOLDING (1966) CBE OBE**

The 1966 senior class remembers the wonderful Wayne Golding (1966) as an effervescent, open-spirited character, who genuinely cared about spreading kindness, fun and friendship.

Wayne and his brother Mel had come from Hong Kong as boarders for nine years at Eagle Heights and then Ashgrove. Wayne played in the 1966 1st XV. Wayne was later to have a distinguished business career in PNG and had been recognised with an OBE and then a CBE for his services to public life and to the business community of PNG.

Active in the areas of banking investment from 2018, Wayne was on the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) when PNG hosted APEC in Port Moresby in 2018. Wayne was an original founding member of ABAC, its longest serving member, and showed indefatigable commitment during his tenure. Wayne forged and engaged business and marketing relationships with international and world leaders during ABAC meetings.



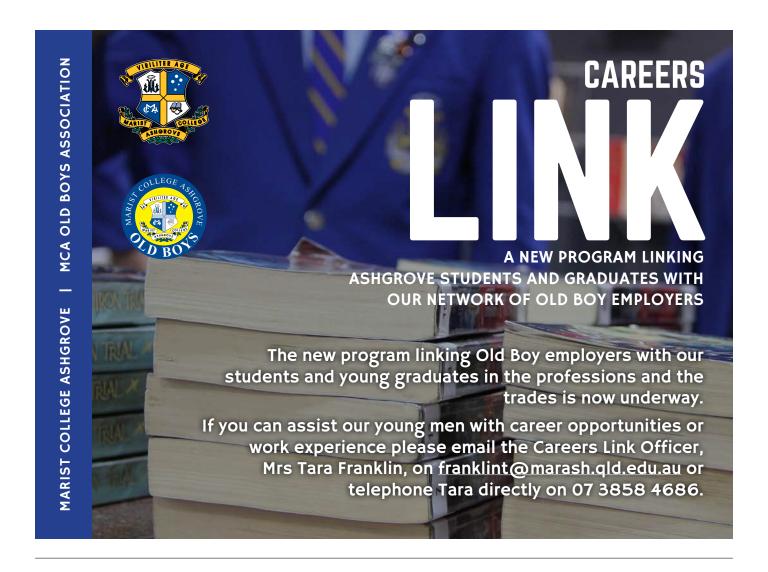
**WAYNE GOLDING** 

Wayne would fly into Brisbane, open his home for celebration and memorable social gatherings and cook garlic and chilli mussels surpassed by none, all the while regaling his Ashgrove comrades with stories about travels to worldwide destinations, leaders of countries and international affairs.

The Old Boys of 1966 and the Association salute Wayne as one of the good guys. A force of nature. His colleagues tell us Wayne lived large. Those who met him were honoured Wayne made a space in his world for his friends. Rest in peace. Memories of Wayne's loyalty, his love of family, his generosity, his appetite for life will live long into the future.

Wayne leaves behind his three children Renee, Michelle and Stephen and his long-term partner Kathryn.

The Old Boys express their great thanks to Pat Nicholls (1966) for his wonderful contribution about Wayne.



# **2020 MCA SPORT RESULTS**

Cricket	Volleyball	Swimming	Rugby	Football	Cross Country	Chess	Basketball	Rugby League	AFL	Tennis	Track & Field
1st XI Equal 4th	1st VI Equal 4th	Opens 3rd	1st XV Co- Premiers	1st XI Co- Premiers	Open 2nd	1st IV Equal 3rd	1st V 6th	Open Cancelled	Open 3rd	1st IV 7th	Opens Champions
2nd XI Premiers	2nd VI Premiers	16 years 2nd	2nd XV Co- Premiers	2nd XI Co- Premiers	16 years Champions	Senior A Equal 3rd	2nd V 8th	Year 10 Cancelled	Year 8/9 Equal 5th	2nd IV 7th	16 years Champions
3rd XI Equal 2nd	3rd VI Equal 2nd	15 years 3rd	3rd XV Co- Premiers	3rd XI Co- Premiers	15 years 4th	Senior B Co- Premiers	3rd V 7th	Year 9 Cancelled	Year 7 Equal 4th	3rd IV 4th	15 years Champions
4th XI 3rd	11A Equal 2nd	14 years Champions	4th XV Co- Premiers	4th XI Equal 5th	14 years 3rd	Inter A Co- Premiers	11A Premiers	Year 8 Cancelled		11A 3rd	14 years Champions
10A 4th	10A Co- Premiers	13 years Champions	10A Co- Premiers	10A Equal 3rd	13 years Champions	Inter B Co- Premiers	10A 7th	Year 7 Cancelled		11B 3rd	13 years 2nd
10B 4th	10B Co- Premiers	12 years 2nd	10B Co- Premiers	10B Co- Premiers	12 years 7th	Junior A Equal 3rd	10B 2nd			10A 3rd	12 years 4th
9A 8th	9A Equal 3rd		9A Co- Premiers	10C Co- Premiers		Junior B Equal 5th	9A 6th			10B 2nd	
9B Equal 2nd	9B Equal 2nd		9B Co- Premiers	9A Co- Premiers			9B 6th			9A 2nd	
8A Premiers	8A Equal 2nd		8A Co- Premiers	9B Equal 5th			8A 5th			9B 2nd	
8B Premiers	8B Equal 3rd		8B Co- Premiers	8A Co- Premiers			8B Premiers			8A Premiers	
7A Equal 6th	7A Equal 2nd		8C Co- Premiers	8B Co- Premiers			7A 6th			8B 2nd	
7B Equal 5th	7B Co- Premiers		7A Equal 3rd	7A Co- Premiers			7B 7th			7A Premiers	
			7B Co- Premiers	7B Co- Premiers						7B 2nd	
Aggregate Result											
2nd	3rd	2nd	No Result	No Result	1st	No Result	No Result	No Result	5th	No Result	1st

# THE TOWER BLOCK

## College Archivist, Dave Cameron concludes his series about the iconic MCA "Tower Block"

#### IN THE EARLY MARIST YEARS

The Marists plan to use the Seminary, which they rename the Tower Block, for dormitories to house up to 90 boarders. This means that the small cells of the nuns on the top floor will have to be torn down to create the necessary space – simple, until it is realised that the cells' walls are structural and support the roof. Trussed beams will have to be inserted to support the roof, an unforeseen expense. Much of the original furniture of the Tower Block – to which the Brothers have the right – is also mysteriously missing, though most is later recovered.

The downstairs area of the Tower Block, the west wing of which had been the Chapel in the Seminary days, is retained for the same purpose.

Then comes the sudden Japanese entry into the Pacific war, and with the fall of Singapore in February 1942, Australia is itself directly threatened. With the possibility of Japanese invasion imminent, and given its dangerous proximity to the Enoggera Army base, St Mary's College Ashgrove has no choice but to follow official orders and to "exile" itself to Eagle Heights, Mount Tamborine.

The Army, like the Catholic Church ever mindful of the importance of "taking the high ground," is delighted with the evacuation of the College, because it will be able to move into well established and secure buildings within a stone's throw of Army property. The next boots in the Tower Block will belong not to boarding students but to the "rapacious and licentious soldiery" of the 2nd A. I. F.

The Army will use the Tower Block for its own purposes between 1942 and late 1944, including as a Staff School, and more famously the formation of the Headquarters Staff of the 5th Australian Division. Partitions are restored to the second floor of the Tower Block to delineate space for officers and "brass."

By late 1944, the emergency has receded, the defeat of the Axis powers is imminent, and the secondary students can return to the Ashgrove property in 1945. They find the Tower Block virtually empty, but with marks of the military occupiers everywhere, literally. The Chapel has been used as an officers' mess and the altar as a bar: there are beer stains and cigarette burns in glorious profusion. Similarly the pounding of military boots has damaged silky oak staircases. The College quickly puts in a claim for damages against the Army, which is (at least partly) met. Beds and other necessary items of furniture for boarders roll in from Eagle Heights, and Brother Chanel Stenz ingeniously hoists them up to the top floor with a self-constructed crane. The partitions the Army has installed are removed and boarding resumes on the second floor. The Chapel is restored in the lower Western wing, and the lower Eastern wing is used for offices and administration.

In 1946, close to 6th June, an imposing statue of the Marist founder, Father Champagnat, is erected by the Brothers in the quadrangle on the northern side of the Tower Block. It will remain there until the opening of the new Chapel and Religious Education Centre in 1978, when it will be moved to its present position.

#### **SINCE 1946**

Increasing school population in the 1950s forces the construction of a new boarding dormitory which is opened in 1964 (now Brother Othmar House), and a second dormitory will be opened in 1969 (now Brother Geoffrey House). All except the Year 12 boarders move to the new locations, and the Tower Block assumes an importance of status for those who reside in it. When they board in the Tower Block in their final year of schooling, the Year 12 boarders are conscious of having "made it." It is the "pinnacle" of boarding life.

When the new Chapel and Religious Education Centre is opened in 1978, the old Chapel in the Tower Block is converted into a boarders' recreation area.

During a storm at Christmas 1980, the Tower Block is struck by lightning just to the right of the western side of the Tower itself. The damage is not serious and is swiftly restored.

Little is done in terms of infrastructure for the Tower Block beyond coats of paint and basic maintenance for many years. Former Headmaster (1983 to 1990) Brother Christopher Wade comments in 1991 that "its accommodation is now out of date, being a modern conversion of a 1930 building." He elaborates, "I think the aim should be to remove boarders from the Tower Block whenever possible, and to have it as the administrative centre of the College.....the Tower is THE symbol of the place and should be taking a more central role than providing housing for boarders."

Brother Christopher's advice is acted on with the construction of the present Year 12 boarding dormitory in 1994. In Term 4, 1994, the Year 12 boarders leave the Tower Block for their new luxurious accommodation.

However boarding numbers dictate that the Tower Block must still be utilised, so as the Year 12 boarders move out, their Year 11 counterparts move in. Year 11 boarders will continue to inhabit the Tower Block until the end of 2003.

# THE TOWER BLOCK

At the end of 2003, it is judged that the Tower Block is "unsuitable for boarding". As Director of Boarding in 2004 Mr Rob Corboy states: "It didn't meet the requirements for a residential facility (e.g. plumbing, electricity and wiring for fire alarms, exit signs, etc.) and the cost to ensure it would be compliant was very expensive. A decision was made to decommission it as a residential facility."

Since then, the bottom eastern wing of the Tower Block and beneath the Tower itself has been utilised as office space. The downstairs western wing has been used as a storage centre for duplicate material from the Archives, and for many items of furniture and clothing, etc no longer utilised by the College; in effect a dumping ground. The upstairs western wing is utilised as a classroom; the upstairs eastern wing is not occupied.

In summary, the Tower Block is utilised as a boarding dormitory from 1940 to 1942, 1945 to 1964, 1965 to 1994 (Year 12 boarders), and 1995 to 2003 (Year 11 boarders).

A proposal in 1998 to renovate the Tower Block and convert it to an administrative centre is estimated to cost \$3,455,798; the only substantial renovation accomplished is the reroofing of early 2013.

Towards the end of MCA Headmaster, Mr Peter McLoughlin's tenure, the magnificent restoration of the Tower Block would be completed. It exceeded all expectations!

# DR WILLIAM FREDERICK TAYLOR

In this article, Lindy Sugars of the Ashgrove Historical Society discusses the life and career of Doctor William Frederick Taylor, an eminent figure in the Queensland medical world in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Of particular interest to Old Boys is Lindy's description of a house Dr Taylor had constructed on a property at Ashgrove: it was named Rolyat (his name spelt in reverse), and was a substantial building of eleven rooms.

On Doctor Taylor's death in 1927, the house and land were offered for sale and purchased by Father Walter Cain in 1928, with the specific purpose being the setting up of a Catholic missionary order on the property – The Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist. Cain had a wondrous building constructed as a Mother House for his order, (St Jude's Seminary, a.k.a. the Tower Block), but also utilised Rolyat during his sojourn at Ashgrove.

After the Vatican suppressed and disbanded Cain's missionary order in 1938, the property was purchased by the Marist Brothers in 1939, the purpose this time being, of course, the setting up of a school for boys in line with Marist educational practices; it was here that Rolyat was to play a vital role.

Starved for funds, and denied government aid of any kind, the Marists were forced to convert Dr Taylor's home into classrooms for various year levels from primary classes through to Senior: Rolyat would be the centre of education at

St Mary's College Ashgrove from its beginnings in 1940 until 1958, when the modern Carrick Wing was constructed, an expensive and daring expansion virtually forced upon the College by ever increasing student numbers. Known as the Classroom Block, Rolyat was thus a vital seed in the evolution to the mighty tree that education at Ashgrove would become.

## Dr William Frederick Taylor MD MLC (1840-1927)

The land on which Marist College Ashgrove is located was once owned by William Frederick Taylor, a highly respected physician and Member of the Legislative Council. Dr Taylor purchased the land (Portions 364, 365 and 366 in the Parish of Enoggera) in June 1889. A house was built there and named Rolyat (Taylor spelt backwards). The house was available for lease in 1896 and 1899 and was described thus:

TO Let, Rolyat, country residence of eleven rooms, close to city, Fraser Road, on Enoggera Creek; high elevation, and nicely situated near the residence of A. Stewart, Esq.; stables, man's room, cow-shed, and other outbuildings; never failing supply of water; tanks and creek; about 44 acres of land, partly cultivated; kitchen and fruit gardens; low rental to good tenant. Apply T. S. Hawkins, Land, Estate, and Financial Agent, Town Hall.



DR WILLIAM FREDERICK TAYLOR

# DR WILLIAM FREDERICK TAYLOR

[The residence of 'A. Stewart, Esq' was situated on 200 acres across Enoggera Creek, on a hill to the south of Rolyat. Alexander Stewart, a Scottish businessman, built his substantial home there in 1877. Glenlyon Drive was originally the carriageway to the house from Waterworks Road.]

William Frederick Taylor was born in England in 1840 and moved to Ontario, Canada with his parents when he was a toddler. His father was an engineer and may have been involved in the building of the canal network in Ontario. William showed an inclination for the medical profession at an early age and studied medicine at Queen's College in Kingston, Ontario. After graduating, he went to England, completed further study and became a member of the Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries (LSA).

In 1863 he migrated to Australia. He worked in New South Wales until 1866, when he returned to London. He entered the famous Guy's Hospital and also worked and studied in Hôtel-Dieu in Paris. He obtained the diploma of Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England (MRCSE) in 1867. Upon his return to Australia he worked in private practice and held various hospital positions in Victoria.

He registered in Queensland in 1870 and moved to Clermont, 320km west of Rockhampton, and was surgeon-superintendent at Peak Downs Hospital for five years. On 1 October 1873, Dr Taylor (33) married Isabella Eva Graham (18) of Clermont. Circa 1875, the couple moved to Warwick where they built a beautiful home, Guy House. The house can be found at 31 Guy Street and currently operates as a bed & breakfast business. It is built from local bricks with cedar doors and architraves and has five internal fireplaces. There are solid cedar dividing doors in the main room. The original shingles are perfectly preserved under the steep galvanised iron roof. Guy House served as a doctor's surgery and residence for 75 years.

As well as having his private practice, Dr Taylor was a visiting medical officer at the Warwick Hospital. His relationship with the committee of that institution was acrimonious. He wrote letters to the editors of the local press detailing such issues as the need for surgical instruments, the filthy conditions of the wards and finances not being spent on sanitation. He resigned from visiting the hospital in February 1881. During his time in Warwick, he was active in public life, being a local alderman, chairman of the Warwick Turf Club, and a shareholder in the Pikedale Gold Mining Company.

Dr Taylor and his family moved to Brisbane at the end of 1881. In his farewell speech (indicating a wry sense of humour) he listed his reasons for leaving Warwick. 1. "After twelve years of country practice he felt that if he did not take a little rest he should be prematurely incapacitated" (he was aged 42 at this time); 2. He needed to update his medical knowledge as he had "no desire to degenerate into a respectable medical fossil"; and 3. He had promised his wife when they married that he would take her on a trip to Europe when he "could get enough money together." The promise had been made nine years ago and "such promises had to be kept, if only for the sake of domestic peace."

Dr Taylor's arrival in Brisbane was recorded in the Brisbane Courier in February 1882. That year also saw the establishment of the Medical Society of Queensland, which advocated for medical qualifications and standards through legislation. Dr Taylor was one of the 27 inaugural members.

In April 1883, the family, which now included two young daughters, set sail for England, where Dr Taylor completed further study to gain special skills and knowledge as an ophthalmologist and ENT surgeon. At the request of premier, Samuel Griffith, he also studied the latest sanitation practices being used in Britain. He returned to Brisbane at the end of the year having gained a Diploma of Public Health and was a member of the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain. The Queensland government asked him to prepare a report on the best means of sanitation for Brisbane. Typhoid fever was rampant and Dr Taylor's report was extensive. However, the government's focus was on the development of roads and railways, not drainage and sewerage, and it was many years before his recommendations were acted upon.

Dr Taylor held a number of positions, including Honorary Physician and Honorary Ophthalmologist at the Brisbane Hospital, Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Mater Hospital, and was a Member of the Legislative Council until its abolition in 1922. He advocated for better working conditions in shops, factories and workshops, more hygienic practices with food, and for the establishment of a university in Queensland. He supported new advances in science and medicine and also cremation, introducing the Cremation Bill to the Legislative Council in 1912. He was a Freemason and member of the Theosophical Society. He enjoyed the health benefits of bicycle riding and was president of the Brisbane Safety Bicycle Club for a number of years.

Dr Taylor's wife, Isabella, was a well-known figure in the social life of Brisbane. In her obituary she was described as "an extremely handsome woman in her youth who was greatly beloved particularly in her family circle. She accomplished in a quiet way a lot of unselfish work in the interest of others. During WW1 she assisted with several patriotic efforts and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Red Cross Society". She kept 'open house' where friends

# DR WILLIAM FREDERICK TAYLOR

and family were always welcome to visit and supported her husband in his many endeavours.

The Taylors had five children – Florence (b. 1878), Amy (b.1882), Waldon (b.1887), Pauline (b.1889), and Harold (b. 1890). The family lived in the city in a residence named Bankasia, situated on the corner of Wharf and Queen Streets. It is unknown how much time the family spent at Rolyat at Ashgrove, as there is little mention of the house in the newspapers other than when it was advertised for lease.

In 1899, Florence (21) married Harry McNeile from Cowley Station near Quilpie at All Saints Church, Wickham Terrace. Four years later, Amy (21), an accomplished musician, married George Sampson (42) in St John's Procathedral in 1903. Sir Samuel Griffith and his wife, Mary, were among the guests. George was a well-known organist and musician who dominated the music scene in Brisbane for three decades. Pauline was also 21 when she married Ernest Bell of Coochin Coochin Station, Boonah, in 1910 at All Saints Church. Ernest became Member for Fassifern shortly afterwards and was a Member of the Legislative Assembly 1913-1930. The three weddings were described in great detail in the local press.

At the beginning of WW1, Waldon (27) enlisted with the 2nd Light Horse Brigade. His occupation was listed as 'wool expert' and he was single at that time. He was wounded in 1915 but did not return to Australia till 1918. Harold travelled to England to enlist in the Border Regiment where he became a 2nd lieutenant in the 6th Battalion. He was killed accidentally in 1916 on the Somme whilst acting as a Regimental Transport Officer. He was 26 years old. His name is on the University of Queensland's Roll of Honour. He matriculated from the university in March 1912 in Engineering.

Florence & Harry McNiele had at least one child, Cecil; Amy and George Sampson had three (George, Neaera and Robert) and Pauline and Ernest Bell had four children – Patsie (Dame Patricia Bell), James, (Bill), Elizabeth (Betty) and Cecil Gertrude (Bubbles). Waldon & Lucy Taylor appear to have had one child, Peter.

Dr Taylor and his wife died within months of each other in 1927 - Isabella on 16 February aged 72. Her funeral was held at St John's Cathedral and she was buried at Toowong Cemetery. William's funeral service was conducted by Rev. Harold Osborn at Rolyat where he had died on 19 June. The cortege left from his country retreat and proceeded to Toowong Cemetery where Bishop Le Fanu officiated at the graveside.

by Lindy Sugars - President, Ashgrove Historical Society Inc.

Most of the information in this article has been gleaned from newspapers of the time using the National Library of Australia's digital archive, Trove and other online resources. I acknowledge there may be errors and I'm happy to hear from anyone who has more accurate information. Please email me at: lsugars@optusnet.com.au.







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