



HMPNGS Ted Diro sets sail KINAWAH

VOLUME 2019

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH EDITION

Retired Brigadier General honoured

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PROUD PNG / SLADE SCHOOL CONNECTIONS SAT FRONT AND CENTRE 1 FEBRUARY

when brand new, Guardian Class patrol boat, HMPNGS Ted Diro was commissioned under the Pacific Maritime Security Program. This West Australian built vessel was named in honour of Slade old boy, Ted Diro. Born 14 December, 1943, in Boku village, Edward Ramu (Ted) Diro attended Kila Kila High School, Port Moresby, Slade 1962 then Officer Cadet School, Portsea 1963-64. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the Australian Army, Ted was promoted to captain in 1967 and major in 1971 becoming the first Papua New Guinean major in the Royal Pacific Islands Regiment and first Commander of PNG Defence Force from PNG independence in 1975, serving until 1981. He was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 1977 Birthday Honours. Following his military service, Ted Diro was elected to the National Parliament of PNG at the 1982 election winning the Central Provincial seat. While in public office Ted served as Minister for Forests, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for State, Minister for Agriculture and Deputy Prime Minister. The first of four such vessels, HMPNGS Ted Diro is capable of a maximum speed of 20 knots replacing the recently decommissioned HMPNGS Rabaul. The new class features a stern ramp for launching and boarding vessels. Much was made of the ties between Australia and PNG at the handover of HMPNGS Ted Diro but, with so many PNG past students having attended both Slade and St Catharine's, we feel this link more closely than most. Ted's son, also Edward Diro, attended Slade 1982-84 and Ted Senior has been honoured with a primary school named after him.



Lunch time catch up at South Bank's Ship Inn

Carlien Ramsay, Jenny Schonfisch, Sherree Dwyer, Joan Austin, Joan Campbell, Beth Calcino, Gloria Coombe and Madeline Blyth look over old photos and share memories.



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IMPORTANT
Are the contact details we have for you current or about to change? Don't forget us when you change your address or email service provider.

IS
YOUR CLASS
celebrating a
MILESTONE in
2019 or
2020?

CAST YOUR
NET WIDER
FOR LOST
CONTACTS
AND
ADVERTISE
HERE!

Editor's Notes...



A duo of delightful rendezvous involving past students distinguished dates for me in recent days. The first was a visit to beautiful Jimbour House, near Bell, north of Dalby with Helen Moloney at the invitation of Jocelyn Martin. On route to the venue, the benefits of recent very welcome rain were plain to see. The countryside had a bright, fresh, if slightly soggy, appearance and a few shiny puddles adorned the table drains. We also came upon a large mob of cattle destined for sale in Dalby with their attendant drovers on the last leg of their long journey from Julia Creek. The Sunday afternoon concert was simply sensational and, as reported on page 5, we met up with Jocelyn and Desley Bassingthwaite (Schwenneresen) for the occasion.

Then, barely a week later, Jenny Schonfisch and I had the pleasure of joining a group of ladies from the 1940s era at the Ship Inn in South Brisbane for lunch where we examined and exclaimed over a large collection of photographs (see picture on page 1). Inabilities to attend were put in by Chelmer Roots, Joan Waldon, Betty McKenzie and Betty Burley. Nevertheless, a thoroughly pleasant time was enjoyed by all who were able to be there.

Our cover story about Slade old boy, Ted Diro CBE, is the first of three separate reports in this Kinawah about past students who have shown themselves to be trailblazers in their respective fields. Go to page 8 for more on this...

Many thanks to all those who have supplied news and articles for this edition of Kinawah. You will notice there are some items that are requiring a prompt response. We await your feedback...

Till next time, Joan White

*A failure is a man who has blundered,
but is not able to cash in on the
experience.*

Elbert Hubbard

LOST AND FOUND

*A sunken chest
on the ocean ground
to never be found
was where he found me.*

*There he stirred
my every thought
my every word
so gently, so profoundly.*

*Now I am kept
from dreams I dreamt
when once I slept
so soundly.*

Lang Leav

2018/2019 Committee

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Cookie's Corner

FIRST KINAWAH FOR 2019 SEES A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES ON THE DRAWING BOARD BUT MORE ABOUT THAT TO FOLLOW...

- Firstly, we are keen to further engage our membership in the activities of the Association in 2019. As we reconnect with lost contacts and make new ones, 2019 is already a quarter expended. There is always more to do but we remain undeterred as we press on.
- Plans are well under way for our AGM and reunion celebrations in Warwick, August 3 and 4. We look forward to seeing you there. This year, are doing our best to schedule a bus trip to the Stanthorpe area on Sunday August 4. With this in mind we need to know if you are willing to support this. See page 4 and separate communications for RSVP details.
- The annual Brekky Creek lunch is on again November 2. As enjoyable as this always is, we expect it to be well attended so ink in the dates now so as not to miss out.
- As per the "Expression of Interest" query below, we are also canvassing the membership for a possible 95 year celebration of the founding of Slade. As the girls have urged us, plenty of time needs to be allowed to plan a function such as this so let me know NOW if you are willing to support this initiative.
- No doubt, you, like me, are feeling for those who have suffered through the hardship of prolonged drought, then flood and massive stock losses, and in still other areas, bushfires. Our country is certainly an environment that serves us up extremes! With this in mind I direct you to the **Year of Outback Tourism** detailed on pages 6, 7 and 9. Many of us are of an age when we are enjoying the "grey nomad" dream which contributes an enormous difference to remote areas. Any support you might lend in this way is greatly appreciated.

Until next time...

PLEASE NOTE
DOMAIN NAME NOW
for old website:
www.scpsawarwick.com

WHAT'S ON in 2019

April 24
Anzac Day Observance WCC

July 18 - 28
Jumpers and Jazz in Warwick

August 3
AGM Slade Campus WCC

November 2
Brekky Creek Lunch

November 11
Remembrance Day

What we know is a drop, what we don't know is an



Membership

The momentum of recent reunion activity and renewed connections has seen a corresponding increase in currently paid up memberships which now stands at upwards of 151. Membership renewals will shortly be sent out. We are appreciative of your support and look forward to its continuation in the future. If you have any questions about reconnecting with the school and the Past Students please contact me via the membership email at: scpsa.membership1@bigpond.com or call me on 0418 987 900 to facilitate your membership.

John Bayliss

2021 Slade Celebrations: are you on board?



Consideration is currently being given to celebrations marking 95 years since the foundation of Slade School in Warwick in 1926.

Your expression of interest is urgently sought for a possible September/October date in 2021.

RSVP Steve NOW so we are able to plan accordingly.



WARWICK
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
Christ Community Character

2019 and Beyond...

ANOTHER GREAT YEAR WITH LOTS
OF CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS AS
WE LOOK AHEAD TO THE FUTURE!

As members of the Warwick Christian Community, we aren't just here to do a job. We are here to serve the living God of the Universe. What a privilege! In doing this we serve with all our heart, mind, soul and spirit. This is done in the context of other things God has also called us to do in our families, churches and elsewhere.

This year we have set three main goals for the College:

- To enhance our academic program by providing a wider range of primary activities and secondary subjects to ensure student success at every level. These include more music, sport, life education and interest-based activities.
- To develop and foster a rich Christian culture in the College.
- To create new and better learning spaces for the students and staff by utilising and enhancing existing buildings and by employing a carpenter to make the improvements.



We look forward to working in service for the Lord together.
Blessings in Christ

God bless you
Carmelo Rubio Principal

Gone But Not Forgotten...

PRESERVE THE MEMORIES ✓ ORDER NOW ✓ PURCHASE DETAILS BELOW ✓

Almost every old girl present at the Centenary Celebrations in Warwick wasted no time in purchasing her own special commemorative souvenir book produced for the occasion. Much of the founding history of the three Anglican schools established in Warwick is shared by both male and female past students and of common interest to all of us. We already have several copies pre-ordered and need only purchaser's name, postal address and payment to dispatch to anyone else who would like one.

\$15 covers cost of the book plus postage and handling (within Australia).

INTERNET BANKING TRANSFER INFORMATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

BSB 124001 Account No 90641027 Account Name SCPSA
Reference 100 yr Book plus YOUR NAME

PAYMENT VIA AUSTRALIA POST

Cheques or money orders payable to **SCPSA Inc** Post to **The Treasurer SCPSA, PO Box 1145, Archerfield QLD 4108**

DIGITAL IMAGES PROJECTED IN THE HALL DURING THE CELEBRATIONS PLUS SELECTED PHOTOS TAKEN ON THE DAY

Complete set @ **\$12** each may also be ordered and pre-paid by contacting Helen Moloney: hmoloney@aapt.net.au (07 46 4635 0573)

BSB 514179 Account Name Mrs Helen L Moloney Account Number 1214350
Reference 100 yr Pics plus YOUR NAME



Four schools, multiple generations, a myriad of memories...

2019 SCPSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held in the Founders' Room

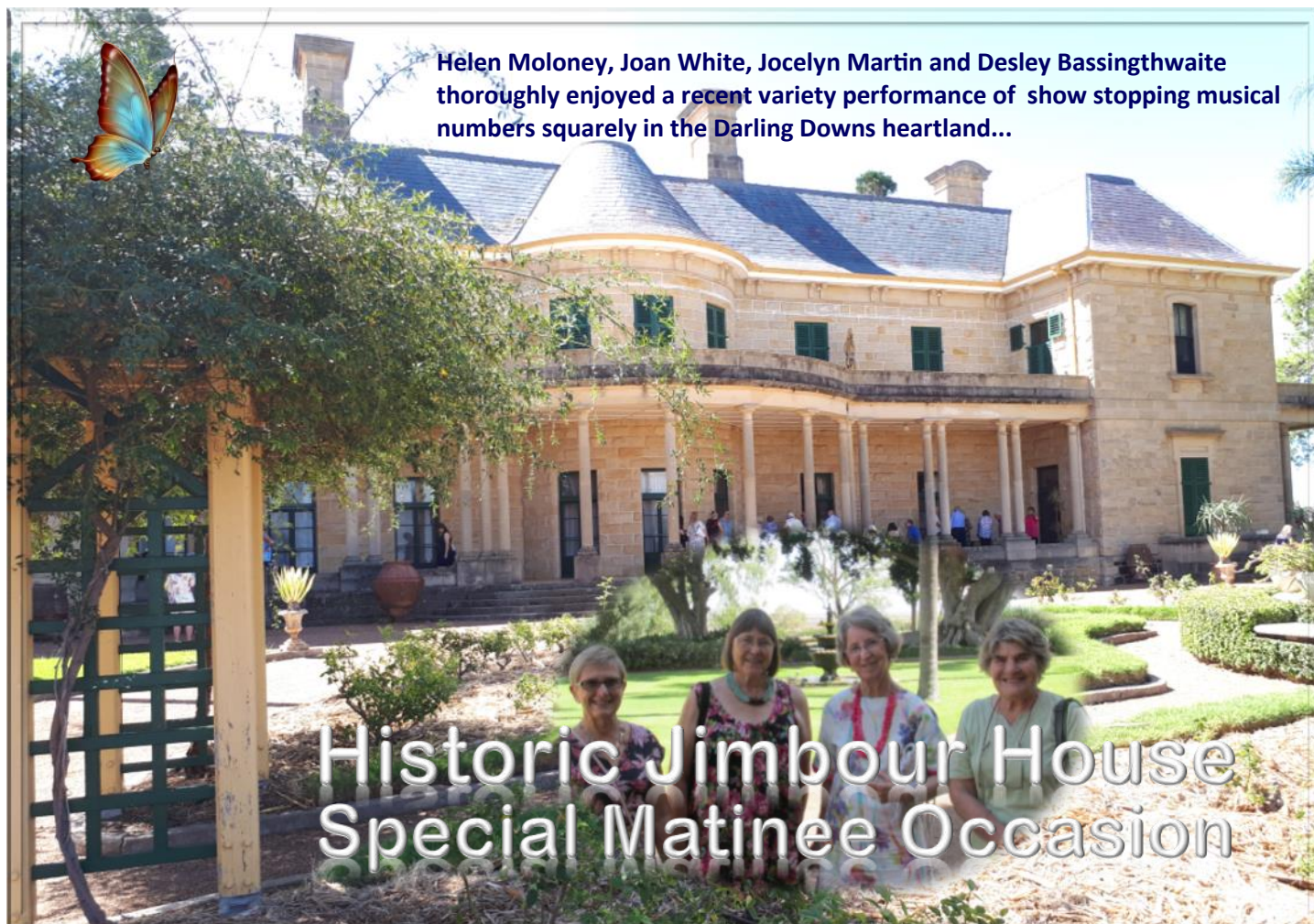
at the Slade Campus of Warwick Christian College

SATURDAY, 3rd AUGUST 2019 AT 2.00 PM followed by

afternoon tea. **ALL WELCOME**

RSVP July 19.

**DATE
CLAIMER**



Helen Moloney, Joan White, Jocelyn Martin and Desley Bassingthwaite thoroughly enjoyed a recent variety performance of show stopping musical numbers squarely in the Darling Downs heartland...

Historic Jimbour House Special Matinee Occasion

For those of us whose upbringing remains firmly rooted in Queensland's Brigalow belt, Jimbour House, the launching point for Ludwig Leichhardt's ground breaking 5,000 km expedition, 1844-1845, to Port Essington has special significance. At the time we were all learning about Australia's early European explorers at school, I, for one, never appreciated how young Leichhardt was when he undertook his two historic expeditions into Australia's unknown. The "dash" between his birth and death dates, 1813 - 1848 indicates he was no older than 35 when he perished while attempting to cross the continent from east to west. For those who might be interested, the journal of his first epic journey of exploration is able to be downloaded online and read in its entirety. It makes for fascinating study and remains one of the great accounts of endurance and persistence in Australia's colonial history.

Born in Prussia, Leichhardt had been in Australia no more than two years when a possible expedition from Sydney to Port Essington – an outpost on the coast of the Northern Territory – was first mooted. This expedition was to be led by Sir Thomas Mitchell but, Governor at the time, Governor Gipps, declared it to be too hazardous and expensive to undertake, without the knowledge and consent of the Colonial Office. Undeterred, Leichhardt organised his own expedition and with a party of six, left Sydney on 13th August 1844. He was eventually joined by another four people in Moreton Bay on his way to Jimbour. To put things in perspective, Jimbour was the last major outpost of European settlement at that time.



At Jimbour, Leichhardt assembled the personnel for his expedition and broke in his horses and bullocks.

The dwelling in which Leichhardt stayed was a primitive slab hut which burnt down in 1867. Two entries in Leichhardt's journal capture a little of the essence of the undertaking at the time

"On the 30th September, at Jimba, where we were to bid farewell to civilization..." and on 1st October, 1844: "After having repaired some harness which had become broken by our refractory bullocks upsetting their loads and after my companions had completed their arrangements in which Mr. Bell kindly assisted, we left Jimba and launched buoyant with hope into the wilderness".

For the next fifteen months, the group traversed western Queensland and the north-eastern section of the Northern Territory eventually reaching Port Essington 17th December 1845, exhausted. People in Sydney thought the party lost so delight at news of its arrival was met with surprise together with acknowledgement of Leichhardt's achievements.

During this time, many of the features that we recognise on today's maps were named by Leichhardt. As a botanist he was interested in the plant life of the country and, with his party of explorers, struggled through the brigalow scrub, the clearing of which was the objective of our government the following century under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme.

Built in 1876, Jimbour House today remains a beautiful and stately private residence, its interior open to the public only for special events. Visitors are able to tour the grounds and magnificent gardens. These are open daily for the price of a donation on entry. This includes the "Living History Walk", an experience of plaques, sights and sounds which bring a rich and colourful heritage to life.

Year of outback Tourism launched...

WANTED: SUPPORT FOR THE BUSH IN 2019



The best of the bush was proudly showcased in March in inner city Brisbane alongside a sausage sizzle, live music and a taste of what Outback Queensland is offering this year: Horses, Camels, a Cobb & Co Coach run, Bushrangers, Warrego Sausages on the Barbie, a Whip Cracking Goanna, Live Band, the Cunnamulla Fella, a Bucking Bull, Dancing Bilby, the Easter Bunny and Racing Loos all captured the attention of city commuters as they walked on their way to work.

THERE WILL BE BUSHRANGERS LOOKING FOR A COACH TO HOLD UP at the Cobb & Co Festival in August as part of 2019's Year of Outback Tourism celebrations.

The Outback came to the city March 7 when this initiative was launched in Reddycliff Place near the Treasury Casino in Brisbane and our Area Rep, Paul Masson, was on hand to record the occasion...

Cunnamulla Fella (Angus) with Karan Hibbs will be trying a different style of transport for the Festival ride from Surat to Yuleba over the weekend of 24 -25 August.

Get on the track Outback!



Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk, here on board with coach driver, Don Ross, Karan Hibbs and Steve Ralph, urged city dwellers to visit the outback in support of our drought and/or flood ravaged communities. Outback community members travelled from far and wide to Brisbane to take part in the launch.

Festival teams from all over Queensland had a wonderful time catching up with other Outback Festival committees. At right, Sam Mac, weather man from Sunrise, meets the Cobb and Co Festival Team including a delightfully dapper, waistcoated Paul Masson and below, Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Graham Quirk, lends his support.



..... **FAMILY FUN**

**TRAVEL IN THE COACH,
RIDE YOUR HORSE, OR
RELAX IN THE BUS...**
but beware the bushrangers!

MAP OF COBB & CO WAY

Total distance: 76 kms
Yuleba to Condamine Hwy: 40kms
Condamine Hwy to Surat via Cobb & Co Way: 36kms

PLEASANT FIELDS (GAEMOND) YULEBA FREE CAMPING
WILDERNESS
WILBAH CHANGING STATION WILBAH CHANGING STATION CORDUROYS
WALLABELLA
WALDEGRAVE
DUFFY'S CAMP (THOMOND)
TINOWON
ROMA / SURAT ROAD CONDMINE
SUNNYBANK
BAINBILLA CHANGING STATION
BERANGA
FROGHOOR
CORDUROYS
FREE CAMPING SURAT

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in Queensland**

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COBB & CO
Festival



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www.cobbandcofestival.com.au

SEE PAGE 9 FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF OTHER YEAR OF THE OUTBACK FESTIVITIES IN QUEENSLAND

PRE FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

17 AUG

..... COBB & CO BALL AT YULEBA MEMORIAL HALL

..... HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE RIDES

..... BULLOCK TEAM AND WAGON

..... BEWARE OF BUSHRANGERS

19-23 AUG

..... OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH NATIONALLY AWARDED ARTIST KATHY ELLEM

..... NEW COBB & CO STORE MUSEUM DISPLAY UNVEILED

..... EQUINE EXHIBITION OPENING AT THE SURAT ON BALONNE GALLERY

..... BULLOCK WAGON VISITING MARANOA TOWNS

**RELIVE A UNIQUE
PIECE OF AUSTRALIA'S
BUSH HISTORY**

Celebrating the anniversary of the last horse-drawn coach service in Australia, the Cobb & Co Festival is a fast-moving, rattling and clattering event showcasing the history and heritage of the Australian bush. It takes place in the small country towns of Surat & Yuleba and along the bush track in between.

23 AUG

..... TANIA KERNAGHAN CONCERT AT WARROO SPORTING COMPLEX

..... CAMP OVEN DINNER & BAR AT WARROO SPORTING COMPLEX

..... REGISTRATION FOR TRAIL RIDE

..... FREE CAMPING IN SURAT

FESTIVAL WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

24 AUG

..... TRAVEL ON THE COACH ON THE LAST MAIL RUN

..... SURAT RIVERSIDE MARKETS

Breakfast, coffee, stalls, bullock team and horse carriage rides, live entertainment.

..... RIDE THE COBB AND CO WAY

CAMP OVEN DINNER UNDER THE STARS
Live entertainment and overnight camping.

25 AUG

..... DELIVERING THE MAIL TO YULEBA, BEWARE OF BUSHRANGERS,

..... TRAVEL ON THE COACH ON THE LAST MAIL RUN

..... RIDE THE COBB AND CO WAY

..... YULEBA MARKETS

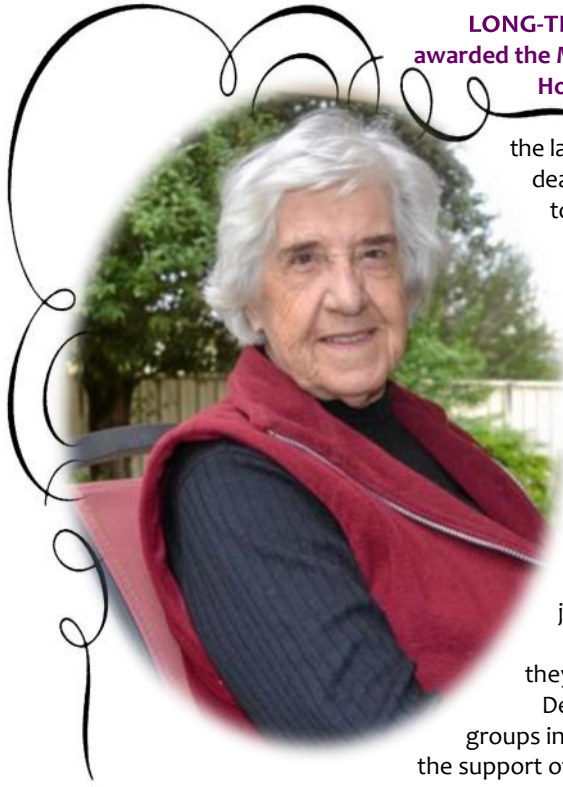
Lunch, coffee, stalls, bullock team and horse carriage rides, live entertainment.

..... FREE CAMPING IN YULEBA

Thoroughly deserved service award for Margaret Edwards



LONG-TIME ROMA VOLUNTEER, MARGARET EDWARDS WAS awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2018 for service to her local community.



Margaret, 87, nee Henning, was at St Catharine's 1945 - 46 and was one of the large, extended family of Hennings who attended our two schools. A sudden death in the family in October last year meant none of the Henning sisters was able to take part in last year's centenary celebrations in Warwick although both Helen and Margaret had planned to attend.

Margaret has been a volunteer in and around the Roma community as long as she can remember, dating as far back as when her mother was also a dedicated volunteer.

"I grew up with a good grounding in volunteer work because any of the things Mum had to cater for, we would help," she recalled when an account of her 2018 award was written up in the Western Star.

"I knew mum did all these things and didn't get paid for it, so I guess it was just instilled into me."

Margaret recalls her shock upon receiving notification of her OAM in the mail, but now accepts the award as the honour it most certainly is.

"When I opened the letter I didn't know whether to laugh or cry because it's just something you don't expect," she said.

"With the response of some people, they nearly had me in tears because they were so happy for me.

Despite dedicating a large part of her life to numerous clubs and community groups in Roma, Margaret says she could never have achieved what she did without the support of her husband, Gordon.

"Anybody who receives one of these medals could not have done it if they didn't have the support of their husband. My father was exactly the same with my mother," she said.

Since moving to Roma in 1948, Margaret's resumé as a volunteer includes involvement in the Bridge Club, the Anglican Church, the Hospital Auxiliary, Anglican Church Deb, Roma Bowls Club, Roma Golf Club, Roma Show Society and recently, she finished with the Big Rig in 2014 after 16 years.

"One day, one of my grandsons said to me, 'Granny do you get paid for this work' and I said no I don't, this is my contribution to my life on this earth. I have a real thing about if people can, they should be involved in voluntary work and I have enjoyed all the things I have been involved in."

Dr Eric Donaldson OAM in the news...

It seems this issue of Kinawah features more than just one or two trailblazers in their respective communities who also happen to be recipients of service awards.

If you have been following the case concerning contamination by the fire-fighting foam, PFAS, or poly-fluoroalkyl, at dozens of military bases across the country since 1970, you will already know that the chemicals affect the soil and groundwater where they are used.

Dr Eric Donaldson OAM, 83, who attended Slade 1950-1953, served in Vietnam, and still pursues a distinguished career in medicine. He is a landowner beside Oakey Creek near the Oakey Army Aviation Base and is one of those whose property has been affected. He has made the news as the first person to reach agreement with the Australian Defence Department. He was quoted as first hearing about PFAS in 2012, saying it has been an anxiety-provoking period, not just for him but the many close neighbours and others who have felt threatened about where the issue is heading.



55th Anniversary of the sinking of the Voyager...

Survivors of the collision between HMAS Voyager and HMAS Melbourne still meet to remember anniversaries of Australia's worst peacetime naval disaster. 82 men lost their lives when the destroyer, Voyager, sank off Jervis Bay on February 10, 1964 after colliding with the aircraft carrier, HMAS Melbourne during a night training exercise off the coast of Jervis Bay. There were 232 survivors. Many of our past students have served in the military over the years and it is our intention to compile more complete records of their service while we still can. There will be more about this in future issues but suffice to say that any help or information you are able to provide will be gratefully accepted.



PER VOLAR SONATA – PATRIBUS DIGNI ESTOTE: *Born to fly higher – Be worthy of our forefathers*

Valé

“How can the dead be truly dead when they still live in the souls of those who are left behind?”

John Henry Pring

PRING, John Henry, late of Brisbane, died February 25, 2018, in Victoria.
 There is a record of him attending a Buffet Dinner on Friday 19th October, 1962 at the Margate Hotel. We assume this was the Margate near Redcliffe north of Brisbane as he was a member of the Brisbane Committee in 1963
 There is also a mention of him in conjunction with other Warwick Past Students arranging to sell Xmas Trees in December of 1963. This enterprising group raised £10 pounds for their efforts.
 John was a member of the Association Committee 1967 and served as Association President 1974 - 1975. He was Immediate Past President 1976 and 1977 and a Member of the Association Committee in 1978. Our records around this time are incomplete as Kinawah was not produced for a time around the end of 1967 due to Niel Quirk’s work related

transfer to Melbourne. For these reasons, John may have had other involvement that we don’t know about.
 John left Slade after Junior in 1955 to commence Pharmacy training in Warwick in 1957. He is sadly missed by friends and family. In memory of John, his family has requested donations to be made to a charity of your choice.

Valete - Pring, J. H., 1954-5; Junior, 1955.

Brian Stehbens

STEBBENS, Brian Edwin, late of Hervey Bay, died February 17, 2018, aged 72 following a long illness. His funeral was held Monday, February 25 at Ross Funeral Chapel.

Brian attended Slade 1961 - 1962.

“Death is not extinguishing the light. It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come.” Rabindranath Tagore

‘YEAR OF OUTBACK TOURISM’ QUEENSLAND 2019:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>April 12 - 14</u> Julia Creek Dirt and Dust</p> <p><u>April 18 - 22</u> Easter in the Country - Roma</p> <p><u>April 25 - 28</u> Winton Way Out Festival</p> <p><u>July 12 - 13</u> Half Way There Shindig - Charleville</p> <p><u>July 16 - 18</u> Birdsville Big Red Bash</p> | <p><u>July 19 - 21</u> Boulia Camel Races</p> <p><u>Aug 9 - 11</u> Mt Isa Rodeo</p> <p><u>Aug 17 - 25</u> Cobb & Co Festival - Surat to Yuleba</p> <p><u>Aug 30 - Sep 1</u> Cunnamulla Fella Festival</p> <p><u>Sep 24 - 28</u> Winton Outback Festival</p> |
|--|--|



Breakfast Creek Reunion

2019 ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER
Slade/St Catharine’s Past Students
 2 Kingsford Smith Drive - Breakfast Creek. 4020

- There will be an area set aside for us at the front.
- Buy your own drinks and meals
- Partners etc. are more than welcome
- No speeches or formal proceedings
- Catch up with old classmates in a relaxed atmosphere

TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT
 Richard Cleal: (07) 3420 6541 0447 447 236
 rcleal@bigpond.net.au



Members of the Slade Campus Past Students' Association are committed custodians of the history of Slade School and St Catharine's Church of England Girls School, and of the two schools which preceded the formation of St Catharine's Warwick, St Catharine's Church of England Girls High School, Stanthorpe and CEGS Warwick and the Warwick Christian College. Members of the Association may include past students and members of staff of Slade School or of St Catharine's Church of England School, or of the St Catharine's Church of England Girls High School Stanthorpe, or the Church of England Girls School, Warwick or Warwick Christian College and their descendants, past students of any other school, who have attended the campus and members of staff of any other school, who have attended the campus.



St Catharines/Slade School Facebook

Our Facebook page is 298 members strong as of April 04, 2019...



Did you hear the one about the dog...

A man running a little behind schedule arrives at the cinema, goes in to watch the movie that has already started, and as his eyes adjust to the darkness, he is surprised to see a dog sitting beside its master in the row ahead, intently watching the movie.

The dog even seemed to be enjoying the movie: wagging its tail in the happy bits, drooping its ears at the sad bits, and hiding its eyes with its paws at the scary bits.

After the movie, the man approaches the dog's owner, "Wow, your dog really seemed to enjoy the movie. I'm amazed!"

"Yes, I can't believe it myself," came the reply. "He hated the book."



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Ref. J6



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