



**Editor**

Helen (Robb) Moloney

**Contact:**

The Editor, Kinawah  
1 Fourth Avenue  
TOOWOOMBA, Q  
4350

**Phone:** 07 46350573

[hmoloney@aapt.net.au](mailto:hmoloney@aapt.net.au)

**Website**

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

**Email**

[info@sspsa.com.au](mailto:info@sspsa.com.au)

**Inside this issue:**

President's Report	1
Eulogy	2
Interview with Bishop Adrian Charles	3
Slade Campus	6
Museum Report	7
Letters	7
Vale	10
Picture Wall	10
Reunion Forms	11

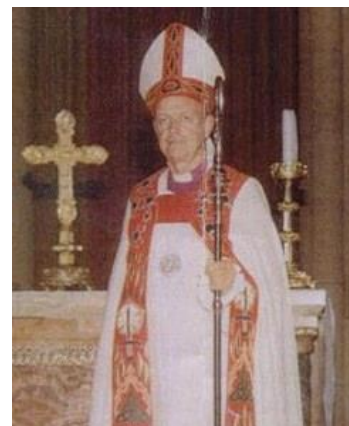
## Farewell to our Patron and Friend



**The school boy**



**The man**



**The Bishop**

### **A REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.... tinged with sadness and with anticipation**



This report is fairly brief, but covers two important occurrences in the history of the Past Students' Association.

Firstly, the passing of our Patron, Bishop Adrian, which has saddened us all. I first met Adrian when he was the Dean of St. James' Cathedral here in Townsville. He and his family were much loved and admired during his stay until he left us to become an Assistant Bishop (I think) in the South East corner. After that I lost contact for some time until meeting him again at Past Students' Functions. He will be

I would love to have seen Adrian some time more recently, and to have attended the funeral, but this is just one of the problems of having a president "a thousand miles away". However, I know Steve and Peter and other Association members represented us well. There is a report by Steve elsewhere within this publication.

Second, the first ever reunion and AGM to be held at St. George (well, I presume it is) is nearly upon us. Unfortunately my stay in the town will be very brief as I have family and other commitments to attend to during the brief period I will be in the south. I encourage everyone to come out to the mid/far-west and sample St George hospitality.

I am happy to say that I will be coming down in October for Richard "Harry" Cleal's 60's reunion at the Breakfast Creek Hotel and I will have a little more time to enjoy this function and hopefully get out to Warwick to see the school and perhaps meet the Warwick Christian College's Principal and other staff.

Anyway, it is so close I can almost smell it - off to St. George! See you there.

*Ray Dickson*  
President SSPSA

## Eulogy – Adrian Owen Charles

April 15, 2013

My father, Adrian Owen Charles was to me, and most probably to many of you, an exceptional man who lived his life exceptionally well. Dad would be most uncomfortable with this statement as he was a man of great humility who loved simple things in life – like sitting in his squatters chair with his dog beside him, quietly observing life. However his life was filled with many wonderful achievements through his work and his care of people.

Born on 31 July 1926, to Robert and Alice Charles in Warwick, life began in humble surroundings but to a very loving and caring family. As the youngest child Dad talked of growing up on a small farm, often on his own, as he is much loved older brother Gordon, 10 years his senior, was often away and very few people lived nearby. He would spend holidays with aunts and uncles on properties at Omanama and Inglewood and it was there, that he developed his great love and respect of the bush and the people who lived there.

Throughout his life, the bush featured in many of these activities – whether as a bush brother or as Bishop of the Western region or more importantly his marriage to Leonie in Surat, his true love in life.

He loved attending the “Malgowie Muster” each year talking with the TSS old boys, many of whom were from the land.

His parents strongly encouraged Dad, in his education, from his attendance at St Catherine's Anglican Girls School in Warwick at age five – he loved the fact that he was an old girl, to Slade School which offered him many opportunities to excel, as school captain and particularly in sport. It was here during the war years, 1942 to 1944, that he developed and honed his sporting prowess in Rugby, Cricket and Athletics, being in the first XI and first XV, in each of those three years - ***In true legend style, his Grandchildren are well aware of the day he scored three tries from full-back.*** He seemed to be a natural athlete as training programs and special equipment were almost non-existent, yet he remained the State Champion for 200 yards hurdles for many years.

Sport played a large part in his life, especially cricket, both as a participant and as a spectator- ***we grew up with ‘St Donald Bradman’ as part of our lives.*** He played for West's in Brisbane while he attended St Francis Theological College and was invited to train with the Queensland Sheffield Shield team but declined due to his commitment to his life's work.

Dad looked forward each year to the Clergy versus Tattersall's cricket match which involved, I believe, a great deal of hilarity and storytelling. Dad said he could remember only once the Clergy

winning, so every other year the clergy would go off to a day to the Tattersall's Race day. ***I know Mum was always pleased the clergy lost!***

As a member of the Qld Cricketers club for many years, he loved nothing better than attending Test matches and meeting up with old cricketing friends - ***heaven help anyone who dared to sit on the seats they had occupied for the past 50 or so seasons.*** He was a keen observer of the game, his commentary was insightful, and he seemed to be able to predict what various captains were going to do, before it happened. Dad was a cricket purist and although he watched the one-day games, he did not feel that they were the true game of cricket.

Dad also became a keen golfer and was quite adept with using irons, although even he would admit his shots off the tee sometimes let him down ***as they often bore a strong resemblance to a magnificent Greg Chapell like cover drive where the ball never left the ground.***

Education was a great passion of Dad's and schools featured throughout his life. His days as chaplain of TSS and House Master of Delprat House, when Mum and Dad were first married, were the happiest times. He had many fond memories of the staff and boys, many of whom maintained contact with him throughout his life.

He loved going into classes to deliver RE lessons or to talk with young people about their aspirations in life. His Chaplaincies at Christchurch Grammar School in Perth and St Aidan's Girls School were enjoyable parts of his life.

Through his interest in education, he was asked to be a member of a number of school councils, including TSS, St Hilda's, Churchie, St Aidan's, St Margaret's, St Ann's in Townsville and Ipswich Grammar School, a role he thoroughly enjoyed. I believe his ability to provide quiet and wise counsel to a number of School Principals was well received and Dad always had enormous respect for these Heads, who are required to manage so many difficult situations. He liked to hear about my day at ***“the old School house”***, as he would say, and he often helped me with understanding situations I was experiencing. His capacity to know about and explain such things to myself and others, who sought his help, will be greatly missed.

His care and compassion for people was clearly evidently throughout his life and although he moved a number of times to different parishes and positions, Mum and dad maintained many lifelong friendships from the various places in which they lived.

A highlight of his time in St Lucia was the building of Christ Church and he always commented on how important the community of St Lucia was in this process. It was the people, not the building, which was the focus.

Travelling to St Augustine's in Canterbury, in England in 1964 provided an enormous opportunity for him. Here we lived with many

people from different nations around the world and through his studies and interactions with fellow colleagues; Dad developed his understanding of, and passion for, world religions. He was chosen as the Head Senior Student, by his peers and he was very proud of this acknowledgement.

Dad's time at St Paul's in Ipswich, St David's Chelmer and as Dean of St James's in Townsville, all held special highlights for both he and Mum. His appointment as Assistant Bishop of Brisbane from 1983 heralded another significant change in his life and one he took up with great energy, as Pastor to many people in the Southern & Western regions. Dad quietly celebrated in hospital recently, 30 years of his consecration, on St David's Day 1<sup>st</sup> March.

The Defence Forces have always played a significant role in his life, from the Cadets at Slade School, to his appointment as the Anglican Bishop of the Australian Defence Forces, from 1988 until his retirement in 1994. This role, in particular, was one he relished and when I sit in his office at home, I'm surrounded by many photos and memorabilia of that time. He truly felt deep respect and support for the many people who belong to the Services, both past and present.

In April 1990, he was afforded the privilege of taking the 75<sup>th</sup> Anzac service at the Cenotaph and at Westminster Abbey, attended by the Queen. Following the service, Dad and Mum were invited to lunch with the Queen and a small group of others. Dad was particularly pleased to talk to Desmond Tutu and Bryce Courtenay during the lunch and ***I recall mum saying she had a nice chat with the Queen about flowers.*** This time was a great highlight for Dad and Mum and one he thought of often.

Dad had an exceptional life in many ways. While he was many things to many people, it was his care and gentle way with all people, no matter what station of life they held or their particular circumstances at the time. In this regard, I am reminded of a quote from Winston Churchill who said "***We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.***"

Of all the things Dad was, he was mostly a great observer of life and a storyteller. He was a joy to travel with and who would watch everyone and everything around him, and later make insightful, often humorous comments about his observations. Many of these were evident in the sermons he preached.

There appears to be a gene passed down through generations of the Charles family which allows life to be viewed with a humorous and often irreverent way and then for that person to tell enormous stories about such observations – such stories grew even bigger each time they were told. Dad certainly was imbued with this gene and one, I think, that gave him such an interesting perspective on life. There was not a day went by when Dad would not find something funny going

on around him or the ability to relate a story of time gone by that had some humorous connection. He liked nothing better than to watch reruns of Dad's Army or the movie, Blazing Saddles, from which he coached his grandson, Christopher, in many of the finer parts of the dialogue – ***unfortunately!***

His greatest love though, was for his family. He and Mum shared a deep loving partnership of 47 years until Mum passed away in 2002. His grandchildren have played a huge part in his life and, as Gags & Da, he was a significant and wonderful influence, sharing in many of their activities. He loved nothing more than sitting down and chatting with them about what they had been doing and learning about their life and discussing how different it was from his when he was growing up.

Dad would say he was very fortunate to have seen and done all he was able to do in life. But I would say how fortunate we have all been, to have had this exceptional man in our lives. He achieved much, devoting his life to the church and touching many lives along the way, from the highest office in the land to people from many parts of the world. But above all else, he was to John and me, our Dad, and a more loving father could not be had. We will miss him every day, but I thank God that such a person lived his 86 years with such integrity, compassion, loyalty and love, to make our world a better place.

So today, I think Dad would want his family and friends to celebrate his life and each of us remember him in our own way and perhaps, this is expressed by a Hebrew proverb which says "***Say not in grief he is no more, but live in thankfulness that he Was***"

### **Extracts from an Interview between Bishop Adrian Charles and the Editor of Kinawah in 2009**

I was influenced by a good number of people, but particularly James Housden who was the rector of St Marks at the time. He was an influence most certainly, as were the clergy at Slade, Canon Edwards and "Boss" Roberts, of course. I remember one Sunday morning as I was busily cleaning up things after the ten o'clock service at St Marks, Canon Edwards said to me, as he was sitting on the edge of a table in the vestry, "Have you ever thought of joining the ministry, Adrian?" and I said, "No", busily going about my work because I wanted to get away, but with the advantage of hindsight, I think **that** probably was the catalyst. It made me say to myself, well you said "no" but "why" and that was the beginning I think; and there was the continuing influence that I was talking about. It was a big factor in the decision to do it. It was 1945 and the war was

over. My intention was to go into the army to serve in the defence force. Of course, they weren't really keen on recruits in 1945 so that didn't come about.

*So you had some training as a teacher?*

No, I didn't, not at all. You'd call me a teacher's aide now. It was in the primary school where the Head of the Primary School was a man named Shelcross who came from a Teacher's Training College. Because the Teacher's Training College itself was in a fairly chaotic situation due to so many ex-servicemen going into teaching, I became a sort of external student under the tutelage of Mr. Shelcross while assisting in Slade School Primary.

I enjoyed teaching very much. One of the many debates you have with yourself like making a decision to join the ministry. The debate was, well you enjoy teaching and it seems to be going all right, why do you want to do anything else? And the answer to that question was, well if you're ordained, what are you doing but teaching? Except that on top of the teaching there is that other aspect of ministry that goes with it. You didn't lose teaching by becoming a priest.

I had been selected to train, in other words, preliminary interviews and discussions and whatnot had taken place and at the appropriate time I was going to be admitted as a student at St Francis Theological College in Brisbane. Three years you are there and I was ordained a Deacon in 1950.

*You were awarded the Order of Australia, but it's a bit of a mystery to most of us around the ridges as to what led to that award. Can you fill in the gaps for us?*

I can't answer that because it's all pretty secret. You get nominated for **an** award, then there's a committee, which is chaired by the Governor General, if I'm not mistaken - who determines what will be the decoration, which you might well receive. Opinions are sought from various people after they have determined what in fact might be the cause you might get awarded for, such as service to the Defence Force, service to the Church, service to the bush – an accumulation for all those things.

'For Service to the Australian Defence Force and the Church', I think it said on the piece of paper.

For about twenty years I've been a member of the **Scouts'** Executive Committee which doesn't mean very much at all except that you become a sort of a panel of people who have particular expertise who are drawn in from time to time as required to give advice or guidance about some aspect of scouting,

My mother was a member of **Mothers' Union**, which was my first connection. In most places where I've served, there has been a branch of the Mothers' Union, which I've welcomed and encouraged greatly. As far as my personal

connection, I've taken a couple of Retreats for Executive Office Bearers in the Mothers' Union over the years. I've never been a member personally, but from time to time members of the MU individually and corporately have spoken with me about certain matters which need a bit of guidance and support.

I was invited to become a member of **The Sovereign Order of St John of Jerusalem** in 1983. It is all very complicated. It goes back to the Middle Ages in the days of the crusades - the great defence of the city of Jerusalem, which was in the hands of the Saracens. When the knights from various parts of the world got there, it became pretty obvious that there was a need, not to keep fighting necessarily, but to care for all the people who were wounded and in desperate circumstances so they formed a hospital. They became the first Hospitallers. So that's the Hospitaller bit, which is part of the creed. The John bit comes from the patron of the order who is St John the Baptist. The knights themselves moved away to find homes in various parts of Europe until they finally settled in Malta for a long time. The Grand Master of the Order was a man called Valetta. The capital city of Malta was named after him.

Whether you're called a Deacon, Priest, Bishop or Knight of the Order of St John or a Chaplain in the Defence Force, the one thing you're about is care, **pastoral care**, so that when you have an association with people over a number of years as you do, thank God, through things like our Past Students' Association, then any care and support that you are able to give just automatically flows. You don't have to go around looking for it.

Buildings don't make a school, of course as we know full well. We are still a good school, thank you very much, though we don't have buildings. The whole ethos of a school is the students who belong to it. They're the school and, as the school transforms itself into past students as time goes on, the school just takes on the same role in a new capacity. It's not only the life of the school; it's a very essential part of the life of the community in which school members may be as well.

A **Patron**, first of all is somebody who doesn't interfere. That's the idea of being a Patron like John the Baptist in the Order of St John. In that, it is his life, which is the patronage that he gives to those who choose to call him Patron. In other words, you're not there to rule the roost, you're there to be a source, a means of support, which is not inflicted on people, but which is called upon – brought to his notice from time to time so a necessary response can be made. I think that's what a Patron is supposed to be by definition of the word itself.

Sadly it happens that you assist others to leave this life as well as to assist them **in** this life. But that's a privilege. I wouldn't put that at all under

the list of duties. Whenever you are allowed to become part of people's lives, the privilege is yours, not theirs. Whatever you may be able to do on such occasions are welcomed really. Not because of the nature of the cause, just welcomed because it is an opportunity to give to somebody something that they may need at the time. It's the attitude of the giving which is important. In my case it's always a privilege.

It's fifty-seven years since I became a priest. Over that period of time you have had to keep a very careful balance, on the one hand keeping the essentials in place, the structure, the things that keep it possible for you and others to continue to proclaim the gospel and have something to say, something on which to stand and at the same time not to become so rooted in the past and maybe in traditions manufactured in the past that they make it very difficult for you to say things which seem to be relevant to the mind and to the eyes of those in other ages in which you speak. You've got to maintain, for example, the creed, which is held in common by everybody. It's a binding thing – allegiance to a creed and the practice, say, of the sacraments in the same way in what was called "common order". If those things are lost, then it's very difficult to put in place something, which will take their place other than just statements, which seem to and act in a contrary way to what has always been.

In the course of the history of the church, dogma has had the effect of getting in the way for a variety of reasons not the least of which is power.

*How do you reconcile educational responsibility with the role the Anglican Church plays in promoting educational enterprises?*

Whether you're talking about students attending "a Church School" or you are talking about students just being educated, growing in their understanding by being helped and guided intellectually, I don't think it matters very much. The responsibility of the church is the same in either direction.

In terms of the church itself being responsible for educational institutions, as in Slade School Warwick, is slightly different in that it can very easily become something which is an enterprise that can effect greatly the time and the full purpose of the work of the church in any diocese. I think if the church loses an opportunity to be what it is supposed to be, particularly in the role of education and religion, it's to be deplored. However, in terms of the Brotherhood being responsible for Slade School, there were a number of huge advantages that weren't there before. You see a good number of the kids that were at Slade in those days came from the west. That's where the Bush Brothers were, so it was really visiting your own families in another place. It's very important, I think, to keep that link going; otherwise what you learn at school has got nothing to do with what happens at home. You see the same people in both places. That

provides a link, which broadens the concept of religion in life. In the same sort of vein too, Paul, I've always said that in my contact with young people through schools I reckon I've probably taught as much about religion in life with a cricket bat in my hand as I did with a bible in my hand because of the broader concept which needs to be part of the particular, otherwise it will all fall to the ground.

*What happened in Warwick with the demise of Slade and all of the Anglican Schools in the surrounding area?*

Well, you're really asking the wrong bloke, because when all that was going on, I wasn't here. I was away in Western Australia and Northern Queensland. Therefore, I wasn't party to particular details, but I think there were a number of factors in a general way that you could probably pinpoint. In the bush, for example, one of the things which is both good and bad is the putting in of a bitumen road from a small country town to bigger country town. It has a poor impact upon the life of the smaller community because people drive to the bigger place, to bigger shops. Commercially they end up spending more time in the bigger place. In the case of Warwick, I suppose to many people, they thought what's the difference, if you're going to go to Warwick, why wouldn't you go further on to a bigger school, an older school? I'm thinking of places like The Southport School, which I think probably benefited from the closure and disappearance of smaller schools in other places.

But then there's another one as well too, I think, which probably has been a factor. That is the whole question of how much of the Church's activity can afford to be related to a particular place where a particularly large amount of money may be needed in order to maintain that position. So I suppose the mix of all that is that you've got to come to some very difficult decisions about particular parts about what you intend to do to make some sort of priority about the places and the way you are going to extend your ability to do things.

*Do you think the Church has failed, in broadening its base in terms of being a pastoral care organisation, that it has narrowed its focus too much and perhaps it should have taken on more of an administrative function by putting the right people in the right places to help in that process?*

I think we've begun to do that, but it's been a bit late. In the Anglican Church at last, such things as the School's Commission, which is equivalent to Cath Ed, and the whole question of social welfare is under the head or control of the Spiritus, which is a separate organisation.

But when all those things are confused, and I think they have been in the past you're bound to lose the chance to get people with the right expertise in the right areas, or you're going to have a good deal of confusion about what needs to be done first and what can be left out.

*Do you think this was part of the reason Slade, as an educational institution, failed within the framework of the Church?*

I think it was a factor in the thinking. This establishment that I was talking about is pretty new. It's almost post-Slade. I think it certainly was a factor, indeed. A number of Arch Bishops that I can think of always saw Slade School as being a bit of a burden.

*(If you wish to read the entire interview with Bishop Adrian Charles please refer to the Kinawah 2009: Issues 1, 2 and 3)*

### **Our Memories of Bishop Adrian Charles**

After my first interview with Adrian Charles, we had an off the record chat about the church and its relevance today and I soon realised how narrow my line of questioning had been at the time. As a man who has lived the bulk of his life within the disciplines of the Anglican Church with its rather set parameters (well to my mind anyway as a practicing atheist), it soon became obvious to me that Adrian's experiences has provided him with abroad outlook and a strong belief that his purpose on earth is to help his fellowman in any way he can and that he would never allow dogma or fundamental beliefs get in the way of that primary function. I felt I was dealing with a true Christian, someone who follows the Christian ethic to the best of his ability and that this above all else has guided his life. With this in mind, I thought it might be informative to all if I should engage in a line of questioning that I hoped would help to elicit those perspectives. In this interview I tried to find out what his beliefs and thoughts were on various topics rather than what he has done, which was touched on in previously.

*Paul Holland*

I recall Adrian in an Interschool rugby match about 1943 taking a catch at full-back in his own 25 and running around the entire field to score at the other end.

*Graham Macdonald 1939-1945*

Adrian Charles was a wonderful school friend and a wonderful person.

*John Barr*

**Annual General Meeting and  
Reunion of SSPSA  
St. George, Q'ld - 8th, 9th &  
10<sup>th</sup> June, 2013**

[WWW.SSPSA.COM.AU](http://WWW.SSPSA.COM.AU)

Log on to view history, news, photos, coming events and much more.

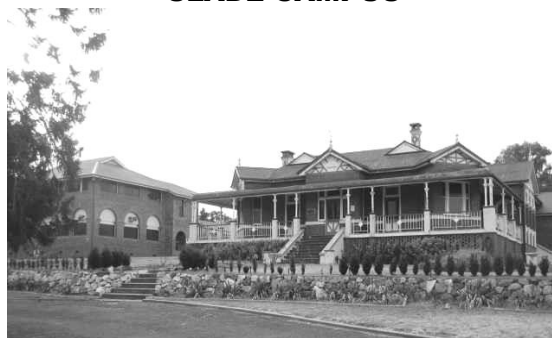
If you aren't on the internet you could visit a library or a friend to see what has been happening. Beware of Bobby Fulton 'look-alikes' and a man wearing a kilt!

Enjoy!

IF YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS WHICH WE DON'T HAVE, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO WE CAN ADVISE YOU WHEN THE NEXT KINAWAH IS AVAILABLE TO BE VIEWED ON THE WEBSITE.

You also receive little bulletins between Kinawahs.

### **SLADE CAMPUS**



#### **'Bargains and Busking Day'**

I only saw the museum and the sun shone straight through the doors.

Some of those visiting were very interested (17 signed the visitors book) many more had a quick look and moved on.

Questions came from a director of Christian Colleges (an Engineer) on the old classroom and the east wing which was never completed. He was very happy to be able to take home (to the Gold Coast) the booklet "Ken Mardon Historical Walk", his wife was showing a lot of interest in the other memorabilia. This gentleman is keen to bring a bus from Brisbane/Gold Coast up to Slade Campus (as, I am informed, the school is to be known) and would I, or preferably 'we', be able to meet and talk with them. I will be contacted in advance to arrange a convenient time.

Other questions were about the plaques under the trees around the oval, when the school opened and other land marks around the school. I have been told that the school (Headmaster) may even hold an Anzac Day service at the War Memorial (but this did not come from the horse's mouth) All were very appreciative of our time there from 2.45 pm to 5.45 pm.

Cheers,

*Bruce Mauch*

## MUSEUM REPORT



### **ANZAC SERVICE – W.C.C. (Slade Campus)** (By Peter Ramsay)

Steve Rowan and I arrived at the college around 8am on Tuesday morning and soon caught up with Bruce Mauch and Kel Williamson for coffee and freshly baked Anzac bikkies. We were introduced to the visiting members from the Warwick RSL, the college principal Terrence McCorkell and the college admin. officer Sharron DeCourcy.

The assembly bell was rung at 8.30 am and Students, Staff and visitors collected at the flag pole area in front of the Memorial Block.

The Australian Flag was lowered to half mast and students `Cody and Jessie` commenced the service by inviting the representative from the Warwick RSL to deliver his address. Steve Rowan from the SSPSA then spoke in remembrance of those past students from Slade and St. Catharine's who gave their lives in service to our nation.

Students, Steve Rowan and visitors were then invited to lay their respective wreaths beside the Plaque at the entrance to the Memorial Block. Two tiny tots representing the prep year also joined the service with a wreath fashioned by the Prep Class.

The Ode was read by Jessie and this was followed by the playing of the last post and the observance of 1 minute's silence. The silence was broken by the playing of the Rouse and the raising of the flag.

The service concluded with the playing of the National Anthem, the reading of the poem, `In Flanders Fields` by John McCrae, and closing prayers.

It was solemn and moving service conducted in a very professional manner by all those involved. Well done Warwick Christian College.

"It talks not so much about the occasion of ANZAC Day, but the spirit behind what was done on ANZAC Day and what was continued in subsequent historical events from that point on. I was trying to make the point that there was certain governance, which springs from a beginning like that which was seen on ANZAC Day which takes its place in the ongoing life of a country – of the

nation – of the people. As has been borne out, I might say, well beyond Anzac Day in the trenches of WWI and certainly WWII as well. That is what I would call the spirit of Anzac Day as distinct from the historic event of ANZAC".

*Bishop Adrian Charles - from his interview with the editor.*



## LETTERS

**The integrity of a newspaper is measured by its willing-ness to accept criticism, advice and input from its readers. Letters also reveal the insights of its readers who have been inspired by the newsletter to share their life experiences with other readers. If you become so inspired, I urge you to write to The Editor.**

*The letters I've received this month are mainly on the life and death of Adrian Charles.*

G'day Helen,

I just received a phone call from Steve Rowan to say Adrian Charles passed away this morning. As I mentioned to some of you, a couple of weeks ago, Adrian made the decision not to continue with medication etc. as there was no chance of his regaining his health. Rather than prolong his discomfort, he made the decision to let nature take its course. He died, as he lived with dignity and courage.

Adrian's funeral will be held next Monday at 10:30am at St John's Cathedral in Brisbane.

I guess, if the association wishes to maintain an incorporated and meaningful existence, we should look about for an appropriate replacement Patron to be elected at the next AGM. Adrian will be a hard act to follow.

All the Best to You,

*Paul*

I can't be at the Cathedral on Monday, because I'm attending a memorial service in Toowoomba for our (Rob and me) step-brother's eldest son, who died of a brain tumour last week aged 43, same age as Matthew, my eldest, and Jane, Rob's.

Adrian officiated at our (Gwenyth and my) wedding eight years ago. Eight years before, he had done a locum at St Mark's, Clayfield when Phil Crook (rector) was on long service leave. Gwenyth's husband, Bruce was dying, and said after he had read a lesson that that was the last time he'd do that, and thanked his friends and asked them to wish him well. Adrian was impressed by the man's courage and, when he died (Phil having just returned) insisted on being part of his funeral service. Gwenyth and Adrian have been friends ever since.

We are sorry we will miss the service. It should be a joyous celebration of a full life, well lived.

Regards,

*John*

Dear Helen,

This is indeed sad news. When I went to Slade as an 11 year old in 1943, Adrian was in his senior years and after completing his Senior he came back as a master, so we go back a long way. I'm sure his funeral will be attended by many associated with Adrian over his long and highly illustrious life, all wishing to bid a fond farewell to a dear friend. For those he cannot be present like myself, it will be a time of reflection on a life well spent.

Kind regards

*Brian*

Dear sisters and brothers,

#### **Death of the Right Reverend Adrian Charles AM**

In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life Adrian Owen Charles, Bishop in the Church of God, died peacefully this morning surrounded by the love and prayers of his family.

During his last illness Bishop Adrian was ministered to by Father David Johnstone and other clergy.

Bishop Rob Nolan is extending to the family the love and prayers of the Diocese to the family and will assist in organising the details of Bishop Adrian's funeral liturgy. Details will be sent when these are known.

We give thanks for Bishop Adrian. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Regards,

*Ian*

**(The Reverend Ian Marshall  
Archbishop's Chaplain)**

Hi Helen,

Thank you for the message on Bishop Adrian, have passed it on to others. I think it would be a fitting tribute to him if an obituary is written and

sent to the Courier Mail. Sometimes when reading the paper I feel that there is not enough written about Queenslanders and their achievements in life. Thank you again and God Bless.

*Coolah*

Hi Helen,

A large congregation attended Adrian's Funeral Service at St John's Cathedral in Brisbane. The order of service was termed an order of Thanksgiving for the Life of Adrian Owen Charles. There was a sizable contingent of past students attending from both Slade and St Catharine's.

Adrian's children, Jenny & John, read warm and loving eulogies which dwelt on Adrian as a loving father and family man, though they also highlighted his many appointments and achievements.

Suffice it to say, Adrian Charles was/is a much loved man who lived a full and contributory life, one filled with compassion for and service to others. He has left the world a better place for his being here and that was obvious by the many and varied people who attended his funeral service. The funeral was led by the Archbishop of Brisbane, Dr Phillip Aspinall, with Slade past students, Bishop Bob Nolan, reading a Gospel according to John and Bishop Bevan Meredith being part of the entourage. The Right Reverend Dr Peter Hollingworth also addressed the congregation adding more insights into Adrian's contribution to the Anglican Church, his service to others and his genuine interest and respect for all religions.

Slade and St Cath's faces I saw present were, Andy Bode, Steve Rowan, Peter Ramsay, Peter Moore, Peter Enright, Bruce and Joan Campbell, George Rivers, Gloria Coombs to name a few though I am sure there were many more.

Adrian not only served our past students' association well as our Patron, but his role as our pastoral care representative was also diligently conducted with compassion and unwavering diligence, even through those times when he suffered ill health himself and grief at the loss of "the love of his life", as his children described in their eulogies, his beloved wife, Leonie. Adrian had always put service to others before self and it seemed to come as naturally to him as his athleticism as a young man and his wit and humour in almost every situation. He was a rare and special human being and everyone who came in contact with him took something of value away with them.

You don't have to believe in an afterlife to know Adrian will live on in all of us. His legacy, like the ripples in a pool, will continue forever.

Patribus Digni Estote – Per Volar Sunata

*Paul*

Hi Helen,  
It was a pleasure to have Steve Rowan, Peter Ramsay and Bruce Mauch here today to be part of our Anzac day service. Present and past students laid wreaths as seen here in front of the War Memorial Building. The names of past Slade students who gave their lives in service were read out by Steve. We certainly appreciated their presence today.  
Kindly,  
*Terrence McCorkell*

Thanks, Helen.  
When we were in Longreach last year, I happened to sit next to a lady who both went to/taught at PGC, in Warwick. She played tennis I think at the school in about 1947 - slightly before my time at Slade (from 1955 to 1960), but, in the light of your mention of the St George reunion, it led me to look for her book (which I can't immediately find). Anyway, please say 'hello' to anyone at Slade during those years and who remembers my brother, Ken, and me.  
Regards,  
*Neville MacPherson*

## VALE



**CHARLES, ADRIAN OWEN** (Slade 1942-44) No. 373 on the role, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 10 after several weeks in Wesley Hospital. His funeral was held at St John's Cathedral on Monday, April 15.

Adrian was a prefect 1943 – 44; School Capt in 1944; was a Cadet Lieut. and gained colours for athletics, cricket and football.

### **PER VOLAR SONATA – PATRIBUS DIGNI ESTOTE**

*(Born to fly higher - be worthy of our Forebears)*

Many readers know Niel Quirk either through being at school with him, attending past reunions, where he was the life of the party, or through reading his letters to the editor. Unfortunately Niel has not been well and has had a few visits to the hospital over the last few months. I know you would all join with me in sending him 'Get Well' wishes and hopes of a speedy recovery. We hope to see you up and about Niel, writing more letters for us to enjoy.

*(Unfortunately since printing this, Niel as passed away. Details in next issue when I find out more)*

*Birthdays are good for you. Statistics prove that people who have more*



*birthdays live longer.*



## Photo Wall



Seen at the Old Time Movie Theatre in Clifton during a Parish of Drayton outing were St Catharine's past students Helen (Robb), Lois (Puschmann), Wyn (Boatfield), Eleanor (Halter), Margaret Stewart (Ree) and Desley (West). This reminds me of Joan White's poem 'The Picture Show' published in the 2012 Vol 4 edition of Kinawah.

**SLADE-ST CATHARINE'S PAST STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

***Membership Renewal***

PLEASE RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP  
JUNE 2013 - MAY 2014  
OR  
AS A LIFE MEMBER  
PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION

SURNAME: .....

FORMER SURNAME (If Applicable): .....

GIVEN NAMES: .....

POSTAL ADDRESS: .....

.....

HOME PHONE: .....

WORK PHONE: .....

FAX: .....

MOBILE: .....

**Don't forget your email address!!**

EMAIL: .....

YEARS AT SLADE/ST CATHARINE'S: .....

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED MY CHEQUE/MAIL ORDER FOR..... OR

USING NET ACCESS: BSB: 124-001      ACCOUNT NO: 90641027  
ACCOUNT NAME: SLADE-ST CATHARINES PAST STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
REFERENCE: YOUR NAME

**Please Circle your Membership Status**

VIETNAM VETERAN: FREE; ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP: \$40; LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$240;  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: \$20 (non past students only)      DONATION: .....

SIGNED: ..... DATE: .....

Please make cheque payable to **SSPSA Inc** and post to:

**The Treasurer, SSPSA  
PO Box 677  
JIMBOOMBA, Qld 4280**

*PER VOLAR SUNATA - PATRIBUS DIGNI ESTOTE  
Born to Fly Higher - Be Worthy of Your Forefathers*

## AGM and REUNION 2013

**Schedule:**

Date	Event	Location	Time
Saturday 08/06/13	AGM Meeting and refreshments	Merino Motor Inn	2.00pm.
	Walk along the 'River Walk'		5.00pm
	Reunion Dinner	Merino Motor Inn	7:30pm
Sunday 09/06/13	Sandytown River Cruises - an hour long cruise along the Balonne River.	Leave from Merino Motor Inn	8:45am
	<b>Bus Tour.</b> Riversands Winery for morning tea, Unique Egg, Tour of town, Nindigully Pub for lunch.	Leave from Merino Motor Inn	10.00am

**Accommodation:**

You must arrange your own accommodation. Here is a list of motels in St George.

Merino Motor Inn - Ph 1800243111

Jacaranda Country Motel - Ph1800332585

Riverland Motor Inn - Ph 1800001899

### ATTENDANCE FORM – RSVP Friday May 31, 2013

To Margaret Stewart  
Phone 0746307229  
Mobile 0414942497  
248 Hermitage Road  
Toowoomba, 4350  
Email: [bmstew1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bmstew1@bigpond.net.au)

(Note: All past students & guests are welcome.)

**AGM:** Person 1: ..... Person 2: .....

**REUNION DINNER:** Person 1: ..... Person 2: .....  
**Pay as you go**

**RIVER CRUISE:** Person 1..... Person 2.....  
**Cost \$20 – pay directly to Sandytown River Cruises**

**BUS TOUR:** Person 1: ..... Person 2: .....  
**Cost Subsidised by SSPSA; Morning Tea and Lunch pay as you go.**  
**Entry to Unique Egg - \$3**

**You do not need to forward any money with this form. It is a 'pay as you go weekend', so take your money with you to St George.**