



# KINAWAH

VOLUME 2016

WINTER EDITION

## Warwick Reunion: across the years...

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Everyone gravitated to their old school year groups and wasted no time catching up on friendships and lost time at the AGM and school reunion weekend at the Slade Campus in Warwick June 11 and 12...so hard to believe it was longer ago than yesterday: old friends chatting and reminiscing in the communal dining area and enjoying a feast the likes of which

we never experienced in those long ago boarding school days. Representing the years 1970 - 1975, **Allan Stone**, *Charters Towers*, and **Jim Wiseman**, *Mt. Jukes near Mackay*, travelled furthest. They were joined by **Trevor Roy**, **John Fordham**, **Vicki Schroder**, (Lyons), **Rick Wiseman** and their wives sharing plenty of laughs and memories to go with WCC Campus

Coordinator, Kel's fabulous food.

- All together in the same place for the first time since leaving school in 1978, **Cris Roy**, **Nigel Faulkner**, **Chris Shaw** and **John Farquhar** left made the most of the occasion. Chris came up from Tamworth and the boys had plenty to talk about!
- **Ranald Morrison** was present, for the AGM as always but drove home to Inglewood afterwards and did not attend the dinner.
- Ever young, **Madeline Blyth**, far left, 1942 - 1944, discussed common recollections of boarding school during World War 2 with **Max Imhoff** and **Denise Busk**, left, 1950 - 1952, brought her old school photos to share with everyone.
- **Jenny Schonfisch**, 1959 - 1960, was glad to get together again with **Pat Spies** and **Carol Hinz**, below. Pat and Jenny have stayed in touch over the years and the girls plan to meet up again soon. Other year groups represented were **Peter Ramsay** whose school years, 1959 - 1964, overlapped those when **Steve Cooke** and **John Bayliss** were at Slade, 1963 - 1968. **Helen Moloney** (Robb), **Margaret Melton** (Stabler), **Margaret Stewart** (Ree), **Jacque Baxter** and **Joan White** (Clothier) also flew the flag for St. Catharine's, 1962 - 1969.
- **Jacque**, **Joan**, and her husband, **Peter**, took WCC up on its offer of accommodation in Roberts House. They found it comfortable, were well looked after and agreed the location was 100% convenient! It would certainly be worth considering for groups of past students to stay in the dorms at a future reunion.

*Families and friendships are very much like quilts: pieced together with memories, bound with love...*

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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  
**2016 or**  
**2017?**

The girls in the classes whose Senior Year would have been 1970 and 1971 have the wheels in motion NOW for their own reunion. Don't let the grass grow under your feet. Why not get together and catch up while you still can!



## Editor's Notes...

**FIRST KINAWAH SINCE THE AGM** and it is my pleasure, to rekindle a few old memories for you: The end product of our interview with **Madeline Blyth** in February, is ready for you to pore over and ponder the things endured by those of us who had to cope with school in wartime. I dare you not to laugh when you get to the part where "they didn't have a knife so they cut it up with a compass!" A word of explanation for those who grew up metricated and might be mystified by the appearance of the d in Madeline's story: 'd' was the correct abbreviation that we used for the old Imperial penny or pence! We look forward to reading more stories and shared history in coming months. An interview with Susan Armbruster is already in the can to put into story form for a future Kinawah so stay posted! We're also looking for someone to fly the flag for the boys so...how about it fellas?

- My personal reflection, **Remembering Angela CSF formerly SSA**, marks the passing of someone who touched many of us in different ways. It was a bittersweet pleasure to revisit some of the instances where her influence shaped us. I didn't set out to write a formal obituary but instead tried to piece together a tribute that all of us can relate to and to help us remember her personally. It is clear from my communications with the Community of St Francis in Birmingham she was every bit as well loved and respected there as she was here but that will be no surprise to us!
- Another of the sisters, also known to us, and listed in the vale notices, is **Sister Julian**. Many of us will remember her quite well. The sisters exerted a far more wide reaching influence than most people are even aware of or appreciate. Even if we didn't agree 100% with how everything was run at school, we have to admit they did their best to educate girls at a time when such a thing was not the norm or an expectation—especially in the first half of last century. (Seems so long ago when put like that!)
- My thanks again to Ted Ross. The information he sent in which was the kernel of **Links in the Chain** shows what he can come up with when he has a nose for a lead and the motivation to find it...again!
- Don't miss **Variety - the stuff of life** featuring none other than our intrepid treasurer, **Nigel Faulkner**. If you are a petrol head and venturing to places you've never been before is your thing, then this one's for you. You'll be able to get all the inside information on it from Nigel on October 15 at the Breakfast Creek Reunion too! If you can help him out, he'd love to hear from you.
- I'm also reprinting a letter sent in by **Jane Morse**. This ran a few years ago but Jane, who is the granddaughter of **William Ball Slade**, was kind enough to send in some wonderful old photos last month and I felt her letter was the perfect companion to them. Those new to Kinawah won't have seen her letter before and Jane's words will have more meaning with some illustration. Life was hard during the war but the years immediately after weren't always easy either with waiting lists for many commodities that are everyday items to us.

*Until next time...enjoy the read! Joan (Clothier) White*

## LOST AND FOUND

I am happy to report some action following this column in last Kinawah.

Thanks to some help from **Cris Roy, Nigel Faulkner and Barry Riddiford** we are now **back in touch with**

**Howard Poole**  
**Christopher Shaw**  
**Bob McGregor**  
**Tony Streeten**  
**William Gorringe**  
**Helen Gorringe**  
**Alice Gorringe and**  
**Michael Darke.**

Unfortunately we no longer have contact details for

**Peter Beddow**  
**Phil Dowling**  
**Sandra Marriot**  
**Raymond Hammond**  
**Eric Graham and**  
**Richard Francis.**

This issue I am going to start publishing in each newsletter names of 12 people for whom we are currently unable to confirm details.

In the A's and B's this time:

<b>John R Allen</b>	<b>1954-1959</b>
<b>Graham Anderson</b>	<b>1936-1938</b>
<b>Joy Bannerman</b>	<b>1933-1936</b>
<b>Peter Barnes</b>	<b>1941-1948</b>
<b>Carmellia Barrett</b>	<b>1995-1996</b>
<b>Tiffany Barrett</b>	<b>1995-1996</b>
<b>Victor Barwick</b>	<b>1954-1962</b>
<b>Betty Beal</b>	<b>1944-1948</b>
<b>Helen Bedford</b>	
<b>Robyn Begus</b>	<b>1961-1961</b>
<b>Marion Bell</b>	<b>1953-1954</b>
<b>Owen Bell</b>	<b>1955-1959</b>

If you know any of these who may have died we need to know. If you can otherwise help find the missing contact I would be glad to hear from you.

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# Cookie's Corner

**YOU WILL ALREADY BE AWARE** this Kinawah won't be full of AGM reports and meeting minutes. They have been distributed separately which leaves these pages free for the stories, updates and newsy bits that we all like to keep up with. An invitation and membership application form will follow shortly. We look forward to your early response!

**Are you soon to retire or move somewhere else?** We have said before that keeping contact details current is a big ask. I know there are lots of important details to attend to when you change your address or Internet Service Provider but **PLEASE PASS ON YOUR CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS TO US.**

**If you have siblings who attended Slade or St Catharine's** we would also like to hear about them and re-establish contact. As we touch base with more past students we are finding that many thought the Association had ceased to exist. They are very pleased to find us again and a few reunions are already being planned.

**Are you aware of any past students who have been lost to us and not mentioned in our vale notices?** We do our best to acknowledge those of us who have died but are mostly dependent upon information that is passed on to us to do this. This time the vale notices are greatly reduced and it goes without saying that this is a trend we would like to see continue!

**Are you an old Slade Boy who has noticed that the Kinawah seems to feature more about the girls than the boys?** We would dearly love to remedy this but can only do so with some input from you! Don't be shy. You can email your stories to Joan at [kinawah.editor@gmail.com](mailto:kinawah.editor@gmail.com) or post your written contributions to her at 28 Teesdale Avenue, Toowoomba QLD 4350.

**Mentoring Liaison on the 2016/2017 Committee:** If you have read your meeting minutes and AGM Reports you will realise that this is a position not mentioned in the election of office bearers at the AGM. The Association is preparing to assist the Warwick Christian College in a mentoring capacity and Jacque Baxter, as a newly retired school principal, is ideally equipped to oversee this. Jacque has been Secretary of the Association at various times in the past and is also the sister of one of our past Presidents, the late Paul Baxter, known to many of us as Burro. Stay posted for more about this and other initiatives in the future.

**The Association is re-energised. Good things are happening. Great things are planned. The Management Committee needs your support to make it happen...**

**Direction is more important than speed: many are going nowhere fast!**



2016

**Past Students  
GET TOGETHER  
Saturday October 15  
Breakfast Creek Hotel  
2 Kingsford Smith Drive  
11.00 am for lunch**

**Meet up with old friends  
Stay late if you like!**



## What's on at WCC . . .

Our vision is to become all God wants us to be and our values are **CLEAR**  
 ✦ **CHRISTLIKENESS** ✦ **LEARNING** ✦ **EXCELLENCE** ✦ **ATTITUDE** ✦ **RESPECT**  
 Each of these values is reinforced in the classroom.



**SCHOOLS ARE BUSY PLACES;** there are times I want to hide for just a few minutes to reflect on what a great school and campus we have or to reflect on how many lives we touch and change every day. Believe it or not, in just a few weeks, I will have been here for almost an entire year; I feel like I've just arrived and still getting to know the staff, students and parents.

**At the end of last term,** we took our Year 10 students to Brisbane to visit different universities and learn how to navigate via public transport. Boys and girls were hosted by two generous families in Brisbane—who wants eight girls sleeping in the living room?. Students were challenged to find their own way to some destinations and at first they were very hesitant but by the end they had taken to it and thoroughly enjoyed the 2-day experience. Staff were amused while watching the students in Yamanto Woolworths negotiate how to spend their "allowance". Who knew that deciding whether to eat 2-minute noodles or more fruit could be so complex? One student declared that they had already learned that they were not a people person. I was particularly pleased with the behaviour and attitudes of the students and was pleased to be part of this school.

**DATES TO BOOK:**

◆ Athletics days are Tuesday and Wednesday (26/27<sup>th</sup> July) and past

students are very welcome to attend.

- ◆ **Barn Dance fundraiser** hosted in Slade Hall on the 27<sup>th</sup> August. Tickets are \$15 and bookings close on the 15<sup>th</sup> August.
- ◆ **School trip to Canberra and Kosciusko 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November.** We need about 10 volunteers to accompany the staff and students, so if you're wanting a trip with some lovely high school students, contact the school office.



Planning for 2017 is well under-way. We are looking forward to launching Year 11. The Science room should have a few upgrades by then which should make Science Week a really fun week. Subject selection night is next week.

As always, past students are welcome anytime.

Blessings in Christ,  
 Michael Freudigmann  
 Principal

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PAST STUDENTS TO MENTOR WITH PRESENT STUDENTS**  
 Watch this space for the Nomination Form seeking Past Students to register. A Training Program will be offered.  
**BLUE CARDS ARE NECESSARY . . . Jacque Baxter Mentoring Officer SCPSA**

# The way we were: Madeline remembers

The bottle Madeline is holding shows the special edition wine label from the 2001 reunion which marked 75 years since Slade was founded in 1926

**FLASHBACK TO 1942:** Australia is on a wartime footing. U.S. troops are billeted all over Brisbane and every family has someone closely related, or known to it, serving in the Australian Imperial Forces. Nightly blackouts of the cities are in effect so as to present less of a target to enemy bombers. Incoming news is intermittent and heavily censored. Darwin, Townsville and Broome have been bombed, the Battle of the Coral Sea has been fought and passed by mostly unremarked. Details are sketchy but governments are in full defence mode.

● The decision is made to evacuate coastal schools to safety in the country. This is where **Madeline Eagar**, day girl at St Margaret's Brisbane, becomes part of the story. She, along with other St Margaret's girls are shipped off to sister school, St Catharine's, Warwick and so begins an enduring and vibrant connection shared now with all of us.

● **Madeline Blyth**, as we know her now, was fourteen when these circumstances found her at boarding school. She remembers her time at St Catharine's as the only good thing that happened to her during the war. Her sister had recently married and left home and her two brothers, one in the navy and one in the air force had been killed in action although it was not revealed until after the war that the **HMAS Sydney**, with Madeline's brother aboard had been sunk off Western Australia.

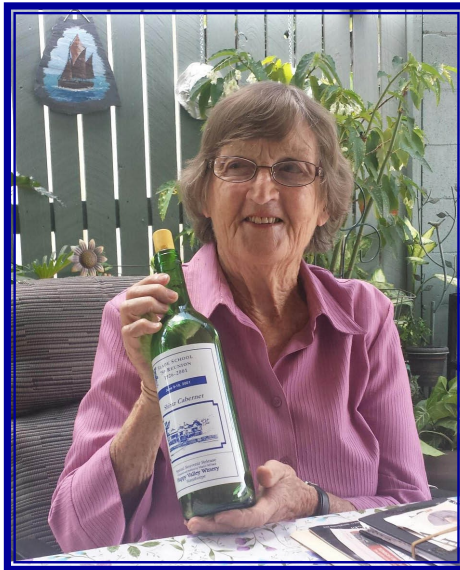
● **St Catharine's campus**, at the southern end of Palmerin Street in 1942 consisted of White House, the old assembly hall, the music block and a large, cold building with bare concrete floors. These were connected by a lane down which the girls walked to the dining room and Mytton House, where Madeline was housed.

● **Sister Margaret was in charge** and strict wartime rationing was in force. There was no heating. Blankets, school blazers and pullovers were hard to get. Access to the toilets was downstairs and outside. The taps were often frozen and it was too cold to study especially getting up at 6 a.m. in winter. Madeline does, however, recall that at PGC, the girls were allowed the luxury of hot water bottles! Despite this, after the atmosphere of loss, grief and uncertainty at home, Madeline loved being around girls her own age. The other St Margaret's transplants, though, were not so enamoured of life in the country and wasted no time in returning to Brisbane when it was safe to do. They said their goodbyes to "Madeline, le Martyr" who had elected to stay in Warwick and never looked back.

● Madeline made lasting friendships during her time at boarding school. There's nothing like all that time spent together washing up, standing dozens of dripping plates in the wooden overhead racks to dry to spark plenty of shared conversation! Some of those who were at school with her were **Betty Thompson**, now McKenzie, **Joan Beckinsale**, who married a Slade old boy, **John Austin** and **Joan Hinton**, wife of another Slade old boy **Bruce Campbell**.

● Although no exams were able to be sat for in war time, the subjects Madeline studied were **English, Latin, French, Physiology, Maths and Geometry. Shorthand, Typing and Bookkeeping** were also offered and many girls were involved with **Music or Speech and Drama** in some shape or form. Some relief from the austerity of the war could be found in staging events like the **New Girls Concert**. A performance with an Army/Air Force/Navy theme was put together for the whole school and was enjoyed by all.

● As was routine at the time, a **slit trench** had been dug in the school grounds and the whole school was drilled in air raid practice. Everyone was issued with a name tag and a



“ They didn't have a knife so they cut it up with a compass

“ The taps were often frozen and it was too cold to study...”

wooden peg to bite on in the event of being bombed. The war was never far from anyone's mind and spare-time activities reflected this. Those who knew how to knit made balaclavas and socks for the troops.

● **Sport** played at school was limited but included **Netball, Swimming and Athletics**. Madeline took part in **Diving** but was not allowed to display her body on the springboard in Speedos. Instead, cumbersome heavy-duty woollen swimming costumes were the order of the day. **Fay Sheridan** and Madeline played as much sport as they could, becoming well acquainted with cold showers and feeling hungry after all their exertions. The girls remember boarding school food as *almost* filling them up so they weren't hungry, chiefly because of the mounds of bread and bog—that is to say, treacle—that was eaten. Meat, tea and butter was rationed (a lot of Australian butter was sent to England for the war effort) and while a few puny curls of butter were put on the tables at each meal there was never enough. Fay and Madeline made a pact to save their butter until the last slice so as to savour the small pleasure of spreading all of it

on top to finish off the meal in luxury.

● There was a **school bandanna for sports** and the girls wore the same navy uniforms with the white collar—only available at McDonnell and East in Brisbane—that most of us remember and the mandatory white uniform for church with gloves, inside which the threepenny offering for the collection plate was carefully tucked. **Tom Laidlaw's** father was, at that time, one of the sidesmen at St Mark's and on the one occasion that Madeline somehow lost her 3d while walking to church and had nothing to put in the plate, was heard to say to her pointedly, "What can you get at Stidolph's [the local milk bar] for 3d?" 3d could buy an ice cream or a packet of peanuts from a vending machine but many other ordinary things were unavailable to anyone at the time—for any price.

● The only kind of jam able to be bought was melon and lemon and Madeline clearly remembers a few of the girls enjoying a forbidden midnight feast of this jam spread on arrowroot biscuits. If the girls were lucky enough to find any jelly crystals, they stood the made up jelly in cups out on the tank stand in the cold to set.

● **Madeline was in Crothers House** and the Mrs Crothers used to send a cake every year on her birthday. This was a special treat indeed but the entire school enjoyed the **Ascension Day Picnic** and the **church fete** when everyone was given 3d to spend. One of her most favourite special memories is of four of the girls pooling their threepences and buying a gorgeous chocolate cake which they squirreled back to school. They didn't have a knife so they cut it up with a compass and enjoyed every bite. Necessity is surely the mother of invention!

● **If punishment** was to be meted out, a favourite method was to enforce eating in silence at mealtimes. Madeline must have been a bit of a stirrer because she and a friend managed to object to this on one occasion by instigating the whole dining room to **NOT SO SILENTLY** stir their cups of tea with their tea spoons!

● **Just about the most excitement** to be had at St Catharine's was the annual school dance. Competition was keen to have the first and last dance booked ahead of time so a fairly advanced system of passing notes and letters to and fro between the boys and girls was made possible via those boys who were permitted to visit their sisters at school on Sunday afternoons. Another avenue was via notes passed in pray-

er books at Sunday night evensong which Slade attended.

It was compulsory to write home every Saturday afternoon and news was almost impossible to get—and even more stressful when a loved one was missing in action. In the outside world, everybody dreaded the telegram boy coming to the front door because he rarely brought good news.


The army had commandeered many of the trains and getting to and from school was not for the faint hearted. Madeline vividly remembers being dropped off at

Warwick Railway Station at 3.30 a.m. in her cotton uniform to catch the **Wallangarra Mail** which took her on the long trip back to Roma Street through Toowoomba and down the range through the tunnels—a rather chilly affair in winter time.

**When peace was declared** Madeline left school and was accepted to train as a kindergarten teacher. Until then the training college had been full of U.S. soldiers.

**She also made camouflage nets** for the army and helped her mother with volunteer work for the Red Cross when

she was home on school holidays.

**FAST FORWARD TO 2016** and our push-button world: Madeline thinks back on the experiences she and her fellows have in common and notes the numerous differences in communication. She made good friends at school and agrees that a special bond still exists between them because of the hardships they shared. It bred resilience and taught them to cope with adversity. “Everyone was going through it together, learnt to take life’s knocks and just got on with it” she says. 

**OUR GRATEFUL THANKS TO MADELINE FOR SHARING THIS LONG-AGO CHAPTER IN OUR SCHOOL’S HISTORY.**

**Links in the Chain**



Above Left to Right: **Gloria Elizabeth Yates** (nee Aldridge), **Violet May Day** (nee Willson), **Marjorie Evelyn Hill** (nee Knight)

Below: **Judy Hartley** posted on Facebook: “I had lunch with three St.Catharine’s classmates yesterday. We were all at school in the early 1960’s. From left, sisters **Jan** and **Pam Aldridge** originally from Pittsworth, **Heather Brown** from Roma, and me, **Judy Donovan** originally from west of Goondiwindi. It was great to catch up. We were at the North Burleigh Surf Club on the Gold Coast.”



**THOMAS JAMES ALDRIDGE** was born November 17, 1919, in Charters Towers, Queensland. His father, John, was 31 and his mother, Lillian, 35. He had one brother and two sisters. He died April 2, 2005, in Pittsworth, QLD, at the age of 85. With a nod to old school ties, Slade past student, **Malcolm Twine** officiated at his funeral.

Thomas’ daughters, **Janet Grace Aldridge**, now Doyle, ‘63—‘65, and **Pamela Joyce Aldridge**, now Christopher, ‘64—‘66 (above) both attended St Catharine’s CEGS Warwick.


**1997 GATHERING OF ST CATHARINE’S STANTHORPE GIRLS**  
**This photo found on Ancestry is captioned St Catharine’s Friends from 1936.** This gathering was in 1997. Sadly all have now passed on. Brief details of each follow. We have no information as to when they attended the school in Stanthorpe but it seems that they were all there in 1936 the final year of the School in Stanthorpe .

**GLORIA ELIZABETH ALDRIDGE:** When Gloria was born about 1921, in QLD, her father, John, was 33 and her mother, Lillian, was 37. She had two brothers and one sister. She died December 12, 2012, Beaudesert, QLD, aged 91. Gloria attended both St Catharine’s Stanthorpe and Warwick. Gloria’s brother **Thomas James Aldridge** attended Slade from 1933 to 1935. Her daughter **June Gemmell** (nee Yates) attended St Catharine’s Warwick from 1962 to 1965

**VIOLET MAY WILLSON:** Violet was born October 10, 1922, in Brisbane to her father, John, 44 and her mother, May, 34, married Arthur Allan Day April 12, 1947, in Beaudesert, QLD. They had two children. She died June 20, 2008, in Beaudesert, aged 85, and was buried in Woodhill, QLD. Violet attended St Catharine’s Stanthorpe and Warwick. Actual date of leaving Warwick, not known.

**MARJORIE EVELYN KNIGHT:** (1928-36) Marjorie was born November 24, 1921, Stanthorpe, QLD, of Edwin and Annie Frances, married Roy Alfred George Hill February 20, 1946, in her hometown. They had three children. She died December 9, 2012, in Brisbane, QLD, aged 91. From information supplied to the Association in June 1993, it is clear Marjorie had a wonderful memory as many of the St Catharine’s Stanthorpe students names listed in our data base came from information supplied by Marjorie.

**Those of us who were at school with her** will certainly remember Gloria’s daughter, **June Yates**, now Gemmell, as a gifted musician. She provided piano accompaniment to many school choral performances, sat on the organist’s bench most of the time at chapel and even played now and again at St Mark’s. She lives in Brisbane and has been a long time Specialist Music Teacher. Since leaving school June has, among other things, leaned towards directing musical theatre.

June is on the social committee for the U3A and tells us with a twinkle in her eye that she has a PHD in Retail Therapy! 



# VARIETY ... THE STUFF OF LIFE

No need to sneak into a telephone booth at exactly the right moment to see some super qualities unmasked from behind the everyday glasses and mild mannered exterior that we are used to seeing when we look at Nigel Faulkner. Our long standing treasurer and numbers man has a soft centre when it comes to kids who are sick or in need. He will be setting off yet again in September to raise funds for them when his team and fellow participants start their engines and embark upon this year's Variety Bash. I knew we'd all like to hear about his long standing connection with Variety Bash and here he tells it like it is. Of course it helps that he also has a not-so-secret passion for classic cars!

A "Bash" was always high on Nigel's bucket list and when he found his first Bash Car—a 1970 XY Falcon—on eBay, the journey began. His first Bash was 2010 and he has done all six since then. This year will be No 7—We were told that you either do one Bash and get it out of your system, or it gets under your skin! he says.

Any particular trip that was the most memorable?

2013 we started at Emerald and went to Normanton via Winton Boulia and Mt Isa, finishing the Bash at Mission Beach. Had not been on any of those roads before.

WHERE is the next one going to be?

The 2016 Bash leaves Warwick 30<sup>th</sup> September and ends up at Bathurst October 8<sup>th</sup> (via Narrandera), for the "Big Race" of course!

Do you have a standout moment or special memory?

Watching the opening of a "Variety Liberty Swing" and seeing a child in a wheel chair experience the sensation of a Swing for the very first time. A "Basher" once wrote that if you want to see a bunch of grown men weep, come to the opening of a Liberty Swing.

We are extremely proud to be able to say that we have raised over \$145,000 for Kids in need. I also have to add that driving a 30 year old car over dirt country roads with your best mates is a very satisfying reward for all the hours that go into fundraising—oh, and did I mention a few cold beers on the way?

How does the fundraising process work?

To enter a bash a team has to raise \$8,500. You have to pay to get your car on the road and for your provisions and fuel from your own pocket—those cannot come from raised funds. You can raise funds any way you can. We have many corporate sponsors, and also run meat trays and raffles. This year we also hosted our first Charity Golf Day at which we raised over \$14,000.

If we would like to support you how would we go about it?

Tax Deductible Donations can be made at the following web site, or phone me and I can assist.

<https://2016varietybash.everydayhero.com/au/queenslanders-2016-car-1718>

Your thoughts about this article being in Kinawah?

We do not participate in this Charity Event for a pat on the back. We are always looking for ways to spread the "Variety" word to those that have heard about it but not exactly sure what it does.

Thanks for the opportunity to do just that.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER HOBBIES OR SPECIAL INTERESTS OUT THERE AMONGST THE BLOKES? ... IF SO, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT THEM!



Variety Bash Team – Car 1718



Team Members

Nigel Faulkner, Neil Brown, Garry  
McFarlane

## THE VARIETY BASH...

THE VARIETY BASH started in 1985 when adventurer **Dick Smith** took a group of intrepid motorists from Bourke to Burketown in old cars, travelling outback roads and raising money for charity along the way. All of the money raised went to the 'Variety Club of Australia' to further its support of sick, disabled or disadvantaged children. Since then the event has grown tremendously, with a Variety Bash staged **IN EVERY STATE IN AUSTRALIA.**

The spirit of Dick Smith's original idea survives – every entrant has to raise money for Variety – the Children's Charity: Vehicles must be at least 30 years old at the time of entry and cannot be performance modified. It's not about how fast you go – the single most significant rule of the Bash is to relax and enjoy the event, while seeing and experiencing the splendour of the Australian outback – all the while **HELPING KIDS IN NEED.**

2016 will be the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Variety Bash event in Queensland. Since that time, an incredible \$19 million has been raised through the Queensland event alone **TO ASSIST KIDS ACROSS THE STATE WHO NEED OUR SUPPORT.**



## Breakfast Creek Reunion

### 2016 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 welcome
- No speeches or formal proceedings
- Catch up with old class mates in a relaxed atmosphere

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

## William Ball Slade: Family Connection

This is a reprint of a letter that was published in a September 2013 Kinawah. It is being recycled now by way of explanation for two photos, one—shown below, and the other on Page 11 in Old and Interesting—that Jane (Slade) Morse recently sent in.

**I ALWAYS ENJOY READING KINAWAH WHEN IT COMES.** How times have changed for the kids of today and I seem to remember more clearly my time at St Catharine's during the '50s. I was only 5½ when I went in to board there, my mother having to have a long spell in hospital and I didn't think my dad was up to cooking stewed apple and blancmange which were my favourite foods at the time. Dad had never had to do more than make the early morning cup of tea.

**My sister, Helen,** was at St Cath's and Sister Kathleen offered to have me for the time Mum was away. I was delighted as I loved having company. In retrospect if I had known what was on the menu at school I may have preferred Dad's offerings but at the time the prospect of other children to play with won the day!

**It was October 1950** and the little ones were housed in White House. I don't remember much about that time but when Mum was well again I chose to go back to school the next year.

**We were in Mytton House.** I remember well my first bed on the verandah in an alcove about three along from Sister's door. Therefore there must have been a couple of younger girls that year. We had twins whose parents worked the sideshows at country shows. They had lots of enviable toys and at times lollypops!!

**Helen kept an eye on me.** She used to wrap my hair ribbons round the iron bed head to keep them pressed. Not sure how I managed to do my hair...maybe she did it for me! We progressed into Bub's Dorm and then along the northern verandah. While in Bub's we had Sister Rachel in charge of us and we loved her.

**In Kindergarten Miss Telford taught us.** I have a picture of the Kindy kids with her in 1950. Little boys and girls together!

**My Grade 3 teacher was Miss Brown** who I loved. She used to read Enid Blyton stories to us and we all hung on every word.

**I had Piano lessons with Miss Gladwell ...** terrifying!! Don't think I was a good pupil as have no ear for music!

**Art of speech with June Thomasson.** Lots of A.A.Milne poems learnt by heart.

**The food** was the same each week and some of the things we were given were almost unpalatable

but we all had to eat everything and if not finished by end of meal time we sat down again till it was gone. Boiled onions and large slabs of cabbage, turnip, tripe, liver boiled till it was green and to me, worst of all, bread and butter custard which I can't swallow to this day!! However we all survived and were healthy!

**One vivid memory for me is of Easter and the lead up to it. Palm Sunday** with the palm crosses we made before that day. **Good Friday** when we were not allowed to speak till 3pm when we were given green cordial and hot cross buns after walking the **Stations of the Cross** around the front drive often on the hottest day imaginable and then on **Easter Sunday** standing by the little garden outside the chapel to see the empty tomb!!

**Easter eggs at breakfast then on Easter Monday being taken by bus to the Washpool for a picnic!!** No one ever went home!!

**After Grade 6** I moved on to NEGS in Armidale where I completed my schooling but the memories of those formative years are still with me.

**I am happy that Slade lives again** with children once again learning there. My grandfather would be happy that his dream is continuing there.

Yours sincerely  
Jane Morse (Slade)



# We remember Angela, CSF formerly SSA

*A personal reflection on the life of a giving and gracious lady ... Joan Clothier White.*

## A dedicated and well loved teacher with a forté for Speech and Drama...

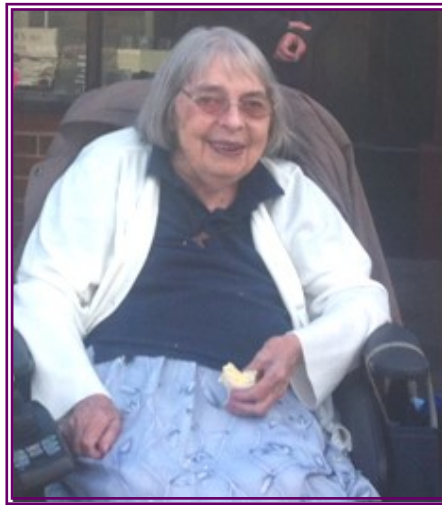
**S**ister Angela became known to many of us as new Sister in Charge at St Catharine's in Term 3, 1967 after Sister Lois was named Reverend Mother of the Society of the Sacred Advent (SSA) and moved away to Community House at Albion in Brisbane.

Angela Patricia Daniels was born in Sydney, 19 August, 1933, the eldest of three children to missionary parents, Canon Walter J.A. Daniels, and Elfleda (nee Prior), shortly before World War II. Her father enlisted serving as Chaplain with the rank of Lieutenant. The family moved afterwards to Hughenden in central northern Queensland. Angela subsequently began her long association with education overseen by the SSA when she attended St Gabriel's in Charters Towers. A glimpse of her talents and future potential became evident when she was made senior prefect in her final year.

Her clear spiritual focus was plainly seen when she took her vows as a young woman with the SSA on August 24, 1956 and she never lost it. From its foundation in 1892 by Mother Caroline Amy, the order was one that served by teaching girls in Queensland. It should be acknowledged that this was in an era when it was not a priority for girls to be well educated or to occupy a place in the community outside of the home. As Virginia Woolf once famously observed, *For much of history, Anonymous was a woman.*

Angela was a dedicated and well loved teacher in several schools overseen by the Sisters, with a forté for Speech and Drama. This was something that St Catharine's was already well known for in Warwick. The school entered in the annual eisteddfod in various categories including individual and group presentations for verse speaking, dramatic improvisations and musical performances regularly winning many accolades and first places. There were other important skills too, that we learned in the process of preparing for these endeavours: namely how (*and more especially, how NOT!*) to stand, moving on and off the stage tidily and unobtrusively, acceptable stage etiquette and working together cooperatively as a team.

Angela's discerning eye on the Speech and Drama Department of the school and her tireless coaching also resulted in some outstanding performances in school stage productions like J. M. Barrie's *The Admirable Crichton*. Members of the cast of this play were given the memorable experience of taking the second act to what is now the Twelfth Night Theatre in Brisbane to enter in the 1968 Jean Trundle Competition. It turned in what was roundly acclaimed as a polished



**“**her understanding and compassion for the wellbeing of those under her care was an object lesson for anyone who cared enough to see it.

performance. Everyone who took part in these artistic pursuits made irreplaceable memories and learned many other valuable lessons for life while doing it.

One other unique opportunity became available to us through her connections while Angela was Sister in Charge. This all came about in April 1968 when Angela's brother, Nigel, who, if memory serves me correctly, was in the Queensland team at that time for the Modern Pentathlon discipline of Fencing, visited St Catharine's to run an introductory workshop in this skill. I recall photographs of us being a Warwick Daily News front page item all kitted out in proper protective gear "en garde" with épées.

Angela's tenure as Sister in Charge of St Catharine's sadly finished at the end of 1968 at which time she transferred to Brisbane as Sister in Charge of the SSA run Tufnell Home, Nundah. I had the privilege of seeing her in this role when I went to stay there during the May school holidays in 1969. Her strengths and future pathway in social work were clearly signalled here. Her understanding and compassion for the wellbeing of those under her care was an object lesson for anyone who cared enough to see it.

The many displaced young children at Tufnell, a great big eye-opener to me, were beginning to be accommodated in separate households of much smaller groups with children of different ages overseen by a house mother so as to more closely mirror a traditional family dynamic as possible. This was Angela's innovation and worked very well as a sensible and sensitive response to what could be a challenging and sometimes

overwhelming situation. I know this was an impressionable time for me but my admiration for her grew immeasurably then and there. I never forgot this side of her which until that time had been quite unknown to me.

The next time I met up with Angela was during my teacher training in Brisbane in 1971. By then she had obtained a dispensation from her vows, having always felt called to work amongst children. She had applied to the Health Department, obtaining a scholarship to study for her degree in Social Work at Queensland University and was living nearby working as a live-in carer for a family of children while she did this. It was a bit surprising to see her as a civilian but she had lost none of her personal warmth or wonderful caring qualities. I never saw her again but with the arrogance of youth always imagined there would be plenty of time to do all of those things that we mean to do and never seem to get around to doing.

Obtaining her degree in Social Work with First Class Honours at the top of her final year with her *Thesis on Child Care*, Angela went on to pursue a distinguished career in this field both in Queensland and Tasmania, later becoming a lecturer in Social Work at James Cook University in Townsville 1978 - 1984.

In all of her secular career she never lost sight of her vocation of service to others or her spiritual focus, moving to England and becoming professed as Angela Helen in The Community of St Francis in 1987, working in Compton, Durville, Somerset mostly from 1984 - 1997 and Birmingham from 1997.

Angela lived with Multiple Sclerosis for 25 plus years, most of that time in a community house, courageously continuing with various ministries, particularly that of spiritual direction in which she was very highly regarded. More recently she spent several of her final years in supported care taking a full part in the life and activities of the care home. She also continued to attend Birmingham Cathedral on Sundays and periodically, a ministry and disability group with the help of various friends and using her motorised wheelchair. Latterly Angela also lived with dementia and underwent surgery for cancer, an unforgiving end to a life given in service to others. Any way you cut it this is a tough way to bow out but I am certain she would have seen it through to the end with characteristic grace and patient endurance.


Angela knew all about suffering, at various times finding inspiration in the figure of St Francis. She endured serious illness for more than a quarter of her life continuing to exercise a ministry and be as involved as she could in community life, always interested in the concerns of her sisters and many found her to be a wise and encouraging listener. In very recent years

when Angela was becoming frailer, she could still be relied upon to join in enthusiastically with activities at Albion Court where she was a resident and her participation was greatly appreciated by both staff and residents.

✂ The Community of St Francis reminds us of what we already know: "Angela was a lovely person," adding, they are sure we will appreciate she is greatly missed. Amen to that!

✂ It seems fitting to conclude here with her mother's words, inscribed on a plaque that Elfreda affixed to the front door of the family home. It read:

*'Home—  
Where each lives for the other  
And all live for God'*



**Editor's Note:** Information for the above is from old school magazines, Angela's brother, Rod Daniels (published in a previous Kinawah), the English Church Times, dated 9 October, 2015, other research courtesy of Kristine (Clothier) Myers and The Community of St Francis. It also draws on my own personal recollections. Sadly, Angela's brother, Rod predeceased her 12<sup>th</sup> April 2015. His funeral service was held at All Saints Anglican Church, Cambooya, QLD on April 15.

## By the bye...

While they lived and worked at St Catharine's, those sisters who were not acting as dormitory supervisors lived together in the house beside Glover, known as Le Fanu, named after Bishop Henry Frewen Le Fanu, one of the first three Wardens of the Society of the Sacred Advent. He and his wife, Mary, were firm supporters of the school with Mrs Le Fanu declaring, in 1914

"The highest education consists in a true development of body, mind and spirit".

In researching details for my reflection on Angela's life I was reminded of the other schools besides St Catharine's that the SSA were associated with, an impressive number indeed for a relatively small religious order.

They include **St Margaret's**, Albion and **St Aidan's**, Corinda (both still running successfully as leading schools with the same school colours and formal dress uniforms that we were used to!) The others included:

**St Anne's**, Townsville, **St Mary's**, Herberton, **St Gabriel's**, Charters Towers, **St Faith's**, Yeppoon) and **St Michael's**, Clayfield). Of those schools outside of the Brisbane metropolitan area, two have moved on in amalgamated co-educational form:

St Gabriel's was joined with All Souls' in Charters Towers and is now known as **All Souls' St Gabriel's**, while St Anne's has become a co-educational North Queensland Diocesan School, now known as **The Cathedral School** (of St Anne and St James).

# Australia All Over - Keith Stevenson

Many of us at school in the late '60s will recall Keith Stevenson who, at that time, was Assistant Curate at St Mark's and Slade School Chaplain. The following, written by Keith, appears in a 1992 publication, *Australia All Over*, full of snippets from the iconic Sunday morning ABC Radio programme bearing the same name and compered by Ian McNamara...

**I** am an Anglican priest. I have left the regular parish ministry in order to live in the Bulloo Shire which covers 73 000 square kilometres (28 000 sq miles) of SW Queensland. I came with one change of clothes, no money, no car and no house—just as the Bible says clergymen should.

I have never been so content, so fulfilled, so rich or so free. Each evening I go bush walking down the banks of the Bulloo River, disturbing the abundant animal life. There must be dozens of places like this around the interior of Australia that have never had a resident minister of any church. And they are just waiting to make other clergy as content as I am.

Hope you enjoy the poem I wrote—careful as you read it, the speed changes suddenly and deliberately!

PS. Would you believe I see every family in this vast area each couple of months. I go with the police and with the mail trucks. And my church notes go out to every family with the school newsletter. This must be the only parish run on zero dollars, just for the love of it!

*In the morning, in the bushland  
In the sunshine oven heat  
See the opal cutter searching  
In the rocks beneath his feet.  
Raise the arm and raise the hammer  
Pitting strength against the stone  
Feels the jarring, feels the stopping  
Feels his flesh against the bone.*

*Raised the eyebrows  
Raised the forehead  
Matted hair against the hat  
See the emus walking slowly  
Silent, haughty like a cat.*

*Comes a whirling  
Shaking bushland  
See the leaves on moving trees  
'Send it here, Lord' whispers cutter  
'I can take its cooling breeze.'*

*In the morning, in the noonday,  
Through the evening's angled rays  
Works the cutter. Tiring shoulders,  
Blurring stone before him plays  
Slinging eyes with salty moisture  
Fuzz the sight he strains to see  
Then he glimpses smoky opal  
Holds it in his hand to muse...*

## Mailbag

Julie Hornibrook wrote in after the last Kinawah ...

Hi Joan, Thanks for sending out Kinawah and your great work on editing the newsletter. I was sorry to see Neil Keilar died – I think he was the first boy who asked me to dance at a school social (not that I have seen him since then!)

Also – how amazing there was a wine cellar under Glover – would have been fun to know about that earlier!

Do you know date of [Breakfast Creek] reunion this year? I hope to get to it and that it's before I go to Perth in Oct. \*\*\*

Barry Riddiford, '71 - '75, had this to say

Hello, Folks. Firstly thanks for the work you all do... much appreciated from me. My apologies for the forthcoming meeting as I will be out on the edge of the Simpson Desert at that time. Hope it all goes well for you.

Noel Mapes

Just a correction re the school photo. Where you have Noel Mapes it should be Kent Mapes, my brother - just for the record! Kinawah again an informative read.

Michael Darke, '55 - '62

Great to read Kinawah again!

Kathryn Smith (Beech)

I have lived in Perth for nearly 39 years now. My 93 year old parents are still living in their own home here in Perth. Thanks for the wonderful job you are doing.

Gordon Shirley Slade '56 - '61

Thanks for the on-line magazine. I will be at this address 'til I shuffle of this mortal coil— or pushed !! Gordon Shirley

Rob Vickers '51- '54.

Thankyou for the Kinawah and all the time you obviously contribute . I am sending this reply to acknowledge my receiving it . Best Wishes .

Jonathan Nantes

...my apologies for the AGM as I will be in Hobart at a Masonic meeting and I also will need my winter woollies! I hope that you all have a great weekend. Kind regards

Andy Bode '59 - '62

Thanks Joan. Well done, a good read and your time and effort are appreciated. Best wishes

and Jeanette Grant-Thomson

Thanks Joan. You're doing a great job. Blessings Jeanette

\*\*\* 2016 Breakfast Creek Reunion Oct 15

### LIDDELL, Barbara Olive (Sister Julian) 1923 - 2014

LIDDELL, Barbara Olive (Sister Julian), late of Iona Centre, Brookfield, passed away 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, aged 90 years. Family and friends gathered to celebrate the life of Sister Julian, at the Sisters Chapel at St Margaret's AGS, Lapraik Street, Albion, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

Sister Julian, who many of us will recall as living a full and productive life with the condition, Oculocutaneous *albinism*, was professed 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1956. She spent some years with us at St Catharine's in charge of the Senior Girls dorm, Glover House, and went on to take up the position of Sister-in-Charge of St Aidan's from 1973 to 1980.

These were years when great changes were taking place in education in Queensland – the external Senior Examination had just been replaced by internal assessment in line with the Radford Report. Sister Julian led St Aidan's through these challenging years, a period of educational innovation and structural change in her own quiet way and in her own common sense approach to administration. She was well liked by the whole School Community – students, teachers and parents. Her forthright views and values were gently expressed and she always led by example.

Paul Holland recalls that she took care of Sister Lois until the former Reverend Mother passed away in 1986, then lived next door to his grandmother in Cartwright Street, Windsor for many years and was good friends with his mother.



### DANIELS, Angela (Sister Angela) 1933 - 2015

DANIELS, Angela Patricia, CSF formerly a member of the SSA, passed away 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015, in Birmingham, England, aged 82, after a long illness. A full Funeral Eucharist was held in celebration of her life 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015 at St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham. To read more about Angela as we will always think of her see *We remember*

*Angela ... page 6.*

### BUCKNELL, Diane (nee Beckinsale) 1934 - 2016

BUCKNELL, Diane nee Beckinsale passed away 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016 at Wesley Hospital after a heart operation. Diane attended St Catharine's 1944 to 1945, leaving in her second year after contracting Rheumatic Fever. She finished her schooling at St Margaret's, married a Scots College boy, Ian Bucknell in 1953. Together they had four children, seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Diane is sadly missed by her loving family.



A post from Koi Patty Rima (Gavera) on the St Catharine's Slade Past Students Facebook Page: Just looking through the photos and came across Sally Bagita's photo—Sad to say, Sally has

passed on to glory. So have Odi Lebasi and Margaret Tabua.

\* **Editor's Note:** With no other information, little more than these names can be listed here. I would be glad to hear from anyone who can give us more details to publish in a future Kinawah.

### BAGITA Sally LEBASI Odi TABUA Margaret

Many of us remember Koi and her cousin, Mabel Willie Gavera. Both came to us in Grade 7, 1964 and were exceptional netball players. All of our Papua New Guinea sisters were blessed with beautiful singing voices and utterly charmed all of us with their traditional dancing in grass skirts at school concerts. Although we lived closely with them during our school years, most of us had next to no understanding of the epic change of life for them when they left PNG for an entire academic year each January. The 1965 St Catharine's school magazine included this original contribution from Koi and Mabel titled **OUR VILLAGE**. It gives us a small glimpse into a different world...

**HANUABADA IS THE NAME OF OUR VILLAGE** and it is situated over the waters. It is the biggest settlement in the vicinity of Port Moresby. We, the people of Hanuabada are members of a proud race and make up a thriving community.

About a hundred years ago life was different from what it is today. Fighting with other villagers—mostly over minor matters, was common. There was bloodshed and bitterness, and foreigners who visited the shores of Hanuabada were regarded with hostility.

These customs were changed by the missionaries of the London Missionary Society (L.M.S.), and towards the end of the last century, Europeans went to Port Moresby in increasing numbers. They have continued to do so right up to the present time.

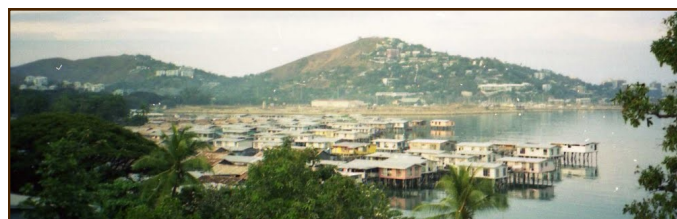
During World War II, the village was destroyed by bombing and the people went to live on the other side of the harbour. When the war was over, they returned to their homes to find them in ruins. For a time they had no canoes until the government assumed responsibility for rebuilding the village over the water, and there, government homes still stand with people living in them. Most of the homes have been modernised with electricity and water supplied to them.

The customs, songs and dances of the Hanuabadans are all different from those of the people of neighbouring villages. In days gone by, everyone took part in sing-songs and dances in which they wore mainly grass skirts of various colours. There are a great variety of things they wear. The most famous dance was "The Dance of the Lakatois" and now and then they still perform it.

Life today is greatly different from that of the early days, because villagers mostly copy the European ways of life, even in dancing. Most of the older people still perform the traditional dances, but as for the young ones, we jive, twist and rock and roll.

Schooling is provided by the administration and some local students, like the New Guinea girls here, come to Australia to further our education so that we may take back to our country what we have learnt and teach and show them there.

Life has certainly changed in our village but not many changes have occurred in the neighbouring villages though they are gradually



worthy of their forebears

# Old and Interesting



PIGOTT & CO WARWICK, established by M.D. Pigott in 1905 and closed in 1990, and the place where our school uniforms were once able to be purchased.

From early on, mail order was a cornerstone of Pigotts' business, allowing the store to service country customers throughout Queensland. Pigotts catalogues were known as 'The Economic Messenger', and their promise was to "deliver your goods two days ahead of Brisbane". They also referred to themselves as 'The City Emporiums.'



*Glengallan House*

Glengallan House, circa 1875, once occupied by owner/partner, William Ball Slade



View from the upper cloisters of Slade, Church of England Grammar School, Warwick, Summer 1932



St Catharine's Kindergarten class with teacher, Miss Telford 1950.

William Ball Slade's granddaughter, Jane Morse supplied this photo. She was a member of the class that year.

Miss Telford was the aunt of Beverley Nelson, nee Telford.



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



The Facebook page for our past students created by Kathryn Inman Fabila 6 July 2014 now has 207 members. Remember it is a closed group so to join, you will need to ask permission. Here's Kathryn's initial posts and a peek at some of the more recent ones from others...

### Kathryn Inman Fabila July 6, 2014

Hi everyone I have created this group so we can get together and share our stories and photos. If you can introduce yourself firstly and tell us briefly when you attended, where you came from, any memories you have!! No swearing please!! ☺ The aim is to get everyone connected again...To share our stories...Our families...And continue friendships from where we left off many decades ago!! I had an older sister Diana. It used to take us two days to travel to

Warwick from Alotau PNG; 2 plane trips, overnight at a The Canberra Hotel in Ann St in the city and then Skennars bus up to Warwick! I was 11 when we started !! I don't think one could get away with it today!! No wonder my mum always fretted when we left home!! Met lots of nice people along the way and hopefully we can pick up where we left off almost Four decades ago!!

### Janie Cruikshank July 10, 2014

Have just been connected to this page via [Kathryn Inman Fabila](#) and am absolutely blown out to see the names of so many old friends I've held close to my heart for all these years!!! Wow!! Really hope we can get together soon!! Jx

**Lily-Rose Temple Dec 2015** Hi everyone I went to this school in 1991-1992 any school photos

from those 2years..

### Tanya Ruska Martin Sept 23

Hello everyone any old 80s Slade people here I went to Slade 80-84

### Colin MurghaSalt Costello

**Cedric June 4** Anyone have any photos from 1984 - 1985?

### Ray Dickson May 28

Sorry, first year in about 6 that I can't make the AGM. Have fun.

### David Brown June 13

Great to see i have pencilled in next year . Would have loved to have got this year but just got a new knee . I am going to try and get some of the class of 1972 together as well ! ☺

### Charles Noon June 4

I was at Slade from 1963 to 1972 4th form. First stayed in High-fields house Chapel house then over near the golf course and

finally Barns

### Trevor Campbell July 3

I was at Slade '50 - '56.

### Carol Hinz July 2

Sister Angela was a very kind person, I admired her a lot. I even had to wear one of her nighties after getting home from a concert late that my Aunt Sylvia took me to.

### Flora Clark July 2

It was Sister Angela who tucked her habit in her knickers and played tennis with us once... was probably reprimanded because she never did it again!

### Margie Thorsborne July 2

She was one of the nicest of the nuns!

## Still more Humour with byte

live *laugh* love

☺ Now that the metric system is so widely so used, we can see why Americans have never adopted it:

- 1) A miss is as good as 1.6 kilometres.
- 2) Put your best 0.3 of a metre forward.
- 3) Spare the 5.03 meters and spoil the child.
- 4) Twenty-eight grams of prevention is worth 453.6 grams of cure.
- 5) Give a man 2.5 centimetres and he'll take 1.6 kilometres.
- 6) Peter Piper picked 8.8 litres of pickled peppers.

☺ "The female sleeping quarters are out-of-bounds for all males, and the male dormitory to the females. Anybody caught breaking this rule will be fined \$20 the first time, \$60 the second time and \$80 for a third time. Are there any questions?" Straightaway an older gentleman stands up and inquires, "How much for a season pass???"

☺ I was having trouble with my computer so I called Eric, the 11 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control and asked him to come over. Eric clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, "So, what was wrong?" He replied, "It was an ID ten T error." I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, "An, ID ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again." Eric grinned... "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?" "No," I replied. "Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out." So I wrote it down: I D I O T. I used to like Eric...

