



KINAWAH

VOLUME 2018

AUGUST SEPTEMBER EDITION

The old and the new...

As the oldest past student present at this year's AGM stood side by side with the youngest in the Founders Room, the contrasts between the representatives of the two different eras were remarkable and this, in no way, related to appearances. Holly Clifford had just confidently addressed us referring to the notes she had prepared on her mobile phone and I couldn't help thinking that when most of us were just a couple of years out of school, mobile phones hadn't even been thought of yet, let alone invented. When Madeline Blyth, then Eagar, was fresh out of school, World War II was not long over, ordinary household commodities were still in short supply following wartime rationing and this was the era that the baby boomers were born into. Nevertheless, here both past students stood, celebrating all those things they held in common. We look forward to welcoming Holly's past Warwick Christian College friends and fellows into the Association in the coming months and years.

Just a few short weeks now until many of us will enjoy the privilege of peeling back the years as we come together for our long awaited St Catharine's Centennial celebrations in our old school Assembly Hall, which was given a new address at the Slade Campus in 1977. This is a whole story in and of itself and is covered in the souvenir booklet which is being produced for the occasion. A sizeable, much anticipated Papua New Guinea contingent is attending and we are grateful for the support of the College which is helping create a smooth transfer for them from Brisbane's International Airport to Warwick. No doubt the girls will notice lots of changes from the years when they ventured far away from their homes to live and study in a place which must often have been quite unfamiliar and challenging for them.

The AGM weekend also saw the presentation of the seat below just outside Barnes House in appreciation of Kel Williamson and his long standing support of SCPSA. Kel is pictured below with College principal, Carmelo Rubio. The table decorations for the dinner, below, were...just WOW!

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Cris Roy, Madeline Blyth, Holly Clifford and Nigel Faulkner



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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
2018 or
2019?

CAST YOUR
NET WIDER
FOR LOST
CONTACTS
AND
ADVERTISE
HERE!



Editor's Notes...

LAST KINAWAH I HELD OVER A STORY ON OLD SLADE BOY TED DIRO. Our archivist, Ted Ross, had picked up on a reference to Ted in an earlier Kinawah and knew that here was an item of tremendous interest for us. Ted's life and times since he left Slade make for interesting reading and his story appears on page 6. Ted's contributions to PNG have been honoured this year in a most monumentally maritime manner but you'll have to read all about it on pages 6 and 10 to find out how...

THIS KINAWAH also includes an account of a return visit to PNG for one of St Catharine's Teacher/Sisters of the late 1960s/early 1970s. Many of our past students have PNG connections and I'm sure the rest of us have little more than a fuzzy concept of the country our fellow students left to spend the academic year with us in Warwick. We are all looking forward to meeting up again with Sister Pip, now Revd Philippa Wetherell, in October. No doubt she will have a wealth of interesting experiences to share with us...

Marion Mackenzie (Knowles) and I have been working on the special souvenir booklet that will be available at the October 20/21 event. Titled "Gone but Not Forgotten" it details much of the intricate saga tied up in the Anglican education of the girls between all four of our schools. The book is expected to sell for just \$10 and we are now asking those of you who would like one to pre-order your copy so we know how many to get printed. I feel sure this will be a keep-sake you will be happy to read, unearth some long lost memories and to read again. Some of the beautiful old photos which have been supplied from a range of different sources are amazing and several have not been seen by most of us before now.

I am looking forward to hearing from you... Joan White

Till next time I leave you with this thought

If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them and half as much money. *Abigail Van Buren*

2018/2019 Committee

EXECUTIVE

President	Steve Cooke	0418 403 733
Vice President/Membership	John Bayliss	0418 987 900
Secretary	Jenny Schonfisch	07 3279 8197
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Assistant Archivist	Helen Moloney	07 4635 0573
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Area Reps	Ray Dickson	0419 702 657
	Paul Masson	07 4623 5307
	Peter Ramsay	07 3245 4706
	Irene Woods	07 4655 3078

LOST AND FOUND

'Cast your bread upon the waters and it will return in many days'...

All help is greatly appreciated with keeping contact details current. Back at the start of the alphabet again enlisting your aid to track down lost contacts...

Graham L Andersen
Ross James Andrews
Shirleen Winifred Andrews
Verna Fay Andrews
Beryl Gaiba Aniba
Murphy Aniba
Gilbert Larry Asela
Rebecca Esther Babia
Sibia Babia
Barbara Bandicootcha
Dorothy Banks
Joy N Bannerman
Peter B Barnes
Carmella J Barrett
Tiffany A Barrett
Victor N Barwick
William Arnold Barwick

If you know any of the above who may have died we need to know. Can you otherwise help put us in touch with a missing contact? Please let us know. We especially value the find of an email address when it comes out of cyberspace as this is the most cost effective means by far of communicating with our large group. Contact details for us appear below...

steve.cooke37@bigpond.com
johnbzz@bigpond.com
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nigel.faulkner@hotmail.com
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Cookie's Corner

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT BACK RE ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AGM. As has been the practice in recent years the full AGM Reports and minutes will be dispatched as a totally separate communication which leaves this Kinawah to be free of most of the meeting details and filled with the newsy content that you all look forward to.

Walking around the Slade Campus on the August 4 weekend, it is clear that some great things are happening at the school. I would like to express here again our collective gratitude for all those who worked so tirelessly to keep the momentum going in the long-fought "Save our Slade" campaign. The fruits of your labour are on display for all to see! It would be heartbreaking to see another campus connected to us stripped of its history and filled with private housing. The new-look Warwick Christian College Prep on the ground floor of Roberts House looks modern, cheery, inviting and everything that we would like to think such a facility should be. The dormitory quarters upstairs in the building are also being painted and freshened up and will be looking great by the time the girls move in for the long awaited Centenary celebrations in October.

We are all amazed at the effort the New Guinea girls have made in order to attend. From the earliest communication that went out they have been looking forward to the weekend and planning meticulously for it. The latest news is that a group of 17 will be making the trip from over the Strait. They will be joined in Brisbane by another who lives in Townsville and still others who now make their home here on Australian shores will also be attending. What a wonderful response and encouragement for the organisers of the event!

The Association is still pursuing avenues for carrying out some maintenance work on the Old Boys War Memorial Science Block. The money to build this was raised from our Old Boys and some of our number clearly remember this and participating in planting the Silky Oak trees in the grounds. Adam Clark from Taroom, School Captain 1951, remembers planting one of these for the brother that was lost to his family and us in World War II.

Lots of shared history to celebrate and care for and we look forward to being part of it in the coming months and years.

Until next time...

PLEASE NOTE

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

WHAT'S ON for SCPSA:

- **October 20-21, 2018**
CEGS Centennial Celebrations
- **1 November, 2018**
Awards Evening WCC
- **3 November, 2018**
Breakfast Creek Get Together
- **15 November, 2018**
Remembrance Day Observance WCC

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



Membership

Our new memberships are increasing which is very pleasing to say the least. We had five new members join at the AGM which is a wonderful show of support for what the Association is trying to achieve. We would encourage those of you who have been thinking about reconnecting with the school and the Past Students to contact me via the membership email at: scpsa.membership1@bigpond.com or call me on **0418 987 900** to facilitate your membership.

John Bayliss



Saturday, November 3
11.00 AM FOR LUNCH

NEW DATE

Breakfast Creek Reunion
2018 ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER
Slade/St Catharine's Past Students
2 Kingsford Smith Drive - Breakfast Creek. 4020

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

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



A Farmer's Lament was published in the August 1991 edition of Kinawah. It is a sure bet that today's farmers as well as the founding fathers, all named in Slade's School song at left, and themselves men of the land, would have felt a certain affinity with the sentiments attributed to a much later landholder below:

Slade School Song



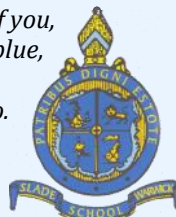
Our school on the Hill stands out clear,
It is there for our eyes to behold,
For its fame and honour we shall care,
For its colours of saxe-blue and gold.

Chorus

*Slade, Slade, Slade, we all are proud of you,
Proud of your colours, gold and saxe-blue,
Slade, Slade, Slade, we all honour you,
Honour our motto, our forefathers too.*



Our school on the hill stands on a rock,
Its foundations are surely laid,
It is named from the pioneer stock,
From Macansh; from Barnes; and from Slade.



Chorus

Our school on the hill will remain,
Other interests our lives may enfold,
But our memories, we will retain,
We'll remember Slade's blue and gold.



Chorus

A Farmer's Lament

"It all started back in 66
when they changed from
pounds to dollars. Me bloody
overdraft doubled. Then they
brought in kilograms instead
of pounds. Me bloody wool
clip dropped by half.
Then they changed rain to
millimetres and we haven't
had an inch of rain since. No
wonder me bloody wheat
wouldn't grow. Then they
changed acres to hectares
and I end up with half of the
bloody land I had.
By this time I'd had it and
decided to sell out. I just got
the place in the agent's hands
when they changed from
miles to kilometres.
Now I'm too far out of town
for anyone to buy the
bloody place!"

If you could turn back time ...

IT MAY AT FIRST GLANCE SEEM LIKE AN UNLIKELY PLACE

from which to launch a church campaign but the historic Royal Bull's Head, 59 Brisbane Street, Drayton, performed just this function 170 years ago when the "Apostle of the Downs", Benjamin Glennie, conducted the first Anglican Church service on the Darling Downs there in 1848. Over the years the inn has seen some major restoration but still stands proudly for all to visit and experience it almost as it was back in Steele Rudd's day.

As was outlined in the last Kinawah, Glennie, a tireless worker, was instrumental in establishing congregations, collecting funds, buying strategic sites and building churches. He also had a great concern for education as was shown by his setting up of a Schools Endowment Fund by collecting money and selling vegetables and fruit from his own garden when the National School in Drayton closed in 1855 for lack of a teacher. By 1882, four years before he retired, Reverend Glennie had amassed £627 which the diocese used to purchase "a magnificent site of 12½ acres in Herries Street", the future site of the Glennie School. After his death in 1900, the fund became known as the Glennie Memorial Fund.

Organised by the National Trust of Australia Toowoomba Branch, August 18 saw parishioners and Reverend Bill Watson and Archdeacon of the Downs, Mark Carlyon, both dressed as Benjamin Glennie, re-enact walking to the inn just as the original settlers would have done so many years ago.



Benjamin Glennie's relatives, Henry, Joy, Doug, Anne and Mal Glennie, part of the historic celebrations at the Royal Bull's Head Inn August 18

Pittsworth pride...

P IS FOR PITTSWORTH, FOR POSTLE and pride. P is also for past students and several were on hand August 19 when the brand new sculpture and plinth commemorating Pittsworth's famous son, **Arthur Benjamin Postle**, styled the **Crimson Flash**, was unveiled in the town's Court House grounds. We learned at school about Pittsworth's world famous cheese but many local sons and daughters from the area were part of our schools' history too. Family names such as Aldridge, Bailey, Bridges, Chalk, Cue, De Vene, Holmes, Holzberger, Lindenberg, Lock, Ranger, Saal, Stevens and Warfield plus the name of the hour, Postle, were all well represented between our schools. Pittsworth's cheese factory, like so many other district cheese factories of yesteryear, is no longer producing its famous product but the family names live on. Generations of Postles descended on Pittsworth from all over Australia for the August event and gathered for a huge family reunion after formal ceremonies were over.

Despite his international fame, the **Crimson Flash**, also hailed as "the fastest man on earth", was remembered as a humble man who never forgot his country roots. Arthur held numerous sprinting records in distances ranging from 75 to 200 yards.

The following, from his autobiography, *The Crimson Flash*, was first published in weekly instalments in *The Sporting Globe*, a Melbourne newspaper in the 1930s and the drought aspect of Arthur's tale is topical in 2018.

"Born on March 8, 1881, at Pittsworth on the Darling Downs, Queensland, my first recollection of anything at all is a dismal outlook of drought, sunburnt fields and starving stock in the district where I lived.

"My parents used to speak of rain, but I had never seen rain that I could remember. All of our horses and cattle died during that wretched drought, and I remember that Dad had to take the sheep many miles away to find grass for them. Meanwhile we were left alone with our mother—four of us, mere youngsters at the time—in what must have been then the wildest and most desolate place on earth."

Arthur's natural wont to compete was exemplified thus: Wishing to run in the Caledonian Sports at Toowoomba on New Years Day 1895, he got up early to walk the seven miles to the station to catch the only train to Toowoomba. Unfortunately this was not early enough and he just missed the train. Determined to take part anyway he set off to walk the 26 miles to Toowoomba:



Aged just 13, Arthur entered the under 15 championship. Stiff and sore after his long walk he struggled at the start of the race but *"made a wonderful recovery nearing the line, and hurling myself at the tape was beaten only by inches."*

Two years after his epic hike to Toowoomba, Arthur once again competed in the Caledonian Society games but this time travelled by buggy and now competed in the Caledonian Grand Handicap against full grown men including champion sprinter Jim McGarrigal. Given a generous handicap due to his age, he won the race. He went on to compete in Victoria and big events at Toowoomba and Charters Towers but made his name in a series of events in the Western Australian gold-fields in 1905. It was here that he acquired his nickname: *The Crimson Flash – watch that streak of red – he flashes along the track like a meteor through space* the posters read. Postle raced all around the world including against whippets, horses and men on bicycles. He took on class runners starting from yards behind as the handicapping in professional running requires. In England he defeated English champion sprinter Bill Growcott in an epic race in the rain at Manchester.

He built up a rivalry with another Australian sprinter, Jack Donaldson, known as the Blue Streak. Donaldson was a top sprinter and had got the better of Postle on several occasions. In 1912 both men went to New Zealand for a contest that was to be the highlight of the St Patricks Day Sports in Auckland, to meet in three races over 75, 150 and 200 yards. Postle won all three races in world record time finishing off with a blistering 200 yards in 19 seconds. Arthur ran a few more races but retired to Queensland, maintaining an interest in running for the rest of his life. He died in 1965. Until his death he was a familiar sight in the Wynnum Memorial Park, giving advice to youngsters who attended his regular coaching sessions. Perhaps the most famous athlete that he mentored was Norma Croker who won the gold medal in the 4 x 100 metres relay with Shirley Strickland, Fleur Mellor and Betty Cuthbert at the 1956 Summer Olympic Games in Melbourne.

<http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/jol/2012/07/30/the-crimson-flash-arthur-postle-from-pittsworth/>



Teeing off at Tenterfield and Twin Waters...

President **Steve Cooke** and Vice President **John Bayliss** made their way to Tenterfield following the AGM weekend in Warwick in order to fulfil a long-held desire to stay overnight at the Tenterfield Golf Course and to play a round. Reporting back, they can safely assure us that the reception and facilities there are fantastic and a most enjoyable time was had.

Making a proper trip of it, they then journeyed on to catch up with another couple of Slade Old Boys on the Sunshine Coast for a challenge match at Twin Waters Golf club. Steve Cooke and **Michael McDade**, obviously the young guns from 1968 challenged the old masters, **Peter Ramsay** and John Bayliss, to a two ball Ambrose. Much to the disappointment and Bravado of the young bulls the old bulls prevailed with a very comfortable win.



Calling All Old Girls

After lunch the Old Girls went to Slade School, where mixed tennis was played until 4.30pm after which the Old Girls and Boys were the guests of Mr and Mrs Olsen in the grounds of their home.

On Sunday night the Old Girls and Boys in a body attended evensong in St Mark's Church, which was filled for the service. Fitting hymns for the occasion were sung. After church both Associations were invited to supper in the Parish Hall, where the Rector, the Reverend Canon Hoog publicly welcomed them.

This year the Corporate Communion of St Catharine's was held in the School Chapel and it was an inspiring sight to see the past pupils joining with the present pupils in worship. The Rev Canon Hoog celebrated holy communion, including in the service, special prayers for members of the Association.

The OGA were guests of the school for breakfast and afterwards went on a tour of inspection to see improvements during the past year. Centre of attraction was Parkinson House, recently purchased by the school and turned into modern dormitories. This building adjoins Mytton House and is a credit to the school.

The annual meeting was held at White House, at 9.30am when keen interest was shown in the workings of the Association.

Election of officers resulted: President, Sister Kathleen, Sister-in-charge; secretary, Miss June Stidolph; treasurer, Miss Alice Cant; committee, Miss Edna Thompson, Miss HJ Gardner, Miss Belle McNickle; Brisbane Representative, Miss Joan Beckinsale.

Morning tea was then served and afterwards basketball matches were played against the A and B teams. The present girls had a decisive win over the Old Girls.

Monday morning was a free afternoon, and most of the Old Girls went up to Slade School to see the Old Boys v Present Boys football match. At night, although a number of girls had to leave in order to be home for work on Tuesday morning, a good representation of the Association attended the Slade Old Boys Dance in the Soldiers' Club. The night was an outstanding success.

It is hoped the reunion was a forerunner of an even bigger and better reunion on May 5, 1951.

The following was printed in St Catharine's 1950 school magazine and now seems like a the perfect time to recycle it! Some familiar names and memories here... Our October function will obviously be unable to exactly duplicate the format for this occasion but much of the feeling and sentiment clearly remains the same.

OLD GIRLS REUNION

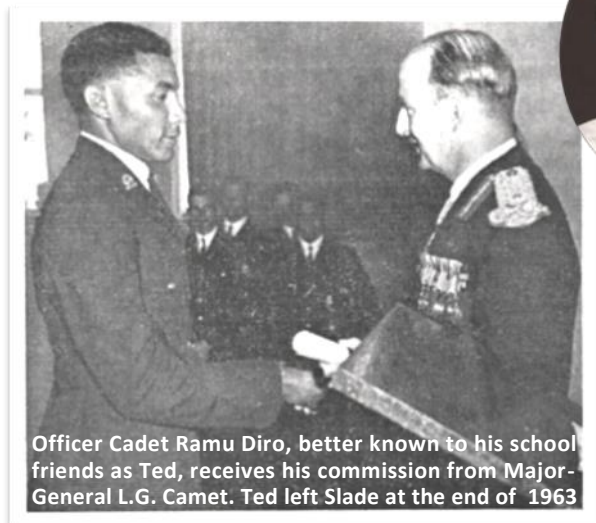
A VERY HAPPY TIME was spent by St Catharine's Old Girls' at the annual reunion held over the May-Day weekend. Old Girls came from far and near back to their school to renew old friendships and to make new ones. The weather was perfect for the three days.

On Saturday afternoon the Old Girls met at White House and during the afternoon tea the Sister-in-charge, Sister Kathleen, welcomed them back and said she hoped that weekend would be a happy one.

The reunion dinner was held at the Grand Hotel and toasts honoured during the evening were "The King" (proposed by Miss June Stidolph), "Our Association" (proposed by Mrs Shooter, response by Miss Dell Warrener), "Kindred Associations" (proposed by Miss Jennifer Smith, response by Miss Dulcie Jensen, PGCPA, and Miss Val Wormald, WHSPSA), "Visiting Old Girls" (proposed by Mrs HJ Gardner, response by Miss Dorothy Hoog, Brisbane), "Present Girls" (proposed by Miss June Stidolph, response by Miss Shirley Morrish, present girl).

On Sunday tennis matches were arranged by Mrs Gardner between past and present girls, the past girls giving a fine display of tennis and winning the matches by a good majority of games.

More PNG connections...



Officer Cadet Ramu Diro, better known to his school friends as Ted, receives his commission from Major-General L.G. Camet. Ted left Slade at the end of 1963

Edward (Ted) Ramu Diro (1943-): soldier, politician and businessman, born in Boku village, CD, and educated at Boku mission school, Kila Kila High School, Sogeri High School and **Slade School, Warwick, in Queensland, Australia**. In 1963 he entered the Officer Cadet School in Australia from which he graduated as a 2nd lieutenant in the Australian Army. Diro



served as a commissioned officer in the Royal Australian Regiment and the Pacific Islands Regiment. In 1967 he became a captain, and in 1971 was the first Papua New Guinean to attain the rank of major. In 1972 he commanded the C Company, 1st Pacific Islands Regiment, and in 1975 he became a Brigadier-General and Commander of the PNG Defence Force. Diro resigned his commission in 1981 and formed the PNG Independent Group (actually a Papuan bloc) to contest the 1982 House of Assembly elections. Elected in 1982, he took his Independent Group into the National Party of which he was the leader

for a period in 1982-83. Diro defected from the National Party in 1986 and his group became the basis of the People's Action Party (PAP). In 1987 he was the parliamentary leader of the PAP. In 1987, a Forestry Enquiry found that Diro had been party to a range of fraudulent activities while Minister for Forests (November 1985-December 1986). The Enquiry also found that, when Foreign Minister (December 1986-August 1987), Diro had received substantial funds from the Vanuatu government and an Indonesian army commander for his election campaign. In November 1987 he was charged with perjury and resigned from the cabinet. In January 1988 the perjury charges were dismissed. He was Minister for Internal Affairs (April-June 1988) and Minister for State, May 1989. In 1991 the Leadership Tribunal found Diro guilty of 81 counts of misconduct. Diro was not a candidate in the 1992 national election because under the Constitution those found guilty by the Leadership Tribunal are ineligible to stand for election for three years. In January 2017, he unsuccessfully sought the role of Governor-General of Papua New Guinea, with the term of incumbent Michael Ogio about to expire.

On July 9, 2018, Loop announced that Papua-New Guinea's first Guardian class patrol vessel would be named HMPNGS Ted Diro (140). Australia launched the vessel in June, and its sea trials are expected to finish by October. *See page 10...*

Information from online sources, Tok Pisin, Revolvly. and Wikipedia.

Pilgrimage to Dogura, Alotau and Popondetta...

THE REV. PHILIPPA WETHERELL, as a member of the Society of the Sacred Advent, taught Speech and Drama and English at St Catharine's 1967-1971. She graduated from the United Faculty of Theology, Melbourne 1990, and then taught for eight years in Papua New Guinea, the last four as a partner in mission with the Anglican Board of Mission at Newton Theological College in Popondetta. She was ordained priest in 2003 in the Diocese of Willochra on the Eyre Peninsula of South Australia with a passion for mission in developing countries, the cause of refugees, social justice and for theatre, opera and classical music. She will be attending our special celebrations in October as a guest speaker.

In my 80th year and drawn to revisit my PNG connections, I planned my last trip as a kind of pilgrimage. Dogura, in Milne Bay Province, is the place where the Community of the Holy Name had set up a branch house in 1951, followed shortly afterwards by Holy Name School in 1955. This secondary school for girls flourishes to this day. The Sisters were true pioneers and I felt their story should be better known in the wider Anglican Church. I also planned to return to the Community of the Visitation just outside Popondetta in Oro Province. This Religious Community for PNG women was another result of the work of the Community of the Holy Name and the Holy Name School in Dogura. From Port Moresby I flew to Alotau, the capital of Milne Bay Province. There I met many former Holy Name students and heard appreciation and pride for the Sisters, the school and the teaching they received.

Next day, at 6.30 a.m. I set out for Dogura. The 1½ hour rugged trip through the mountains and down the coast to Taupota brought me to a waiting dinghy. I greatly enjoyed the spectacle of mountains, a succession of dark green cones split by ravines, waterfalls tumbling into the sea and the much anticipated outline of the Cathedral upon rounding Giramua Point before arriving at Wedau beach, the landing place for Dogura.

I was helped over the slippery stones covering the black sand and up the track to Wedau Guest House where I was warmly welcomed for the week by Nita Kibikibi and her sister, Cindy. In this isolated, but beautiful, tropical part of the world, life is simple with few resources, no running water and solar generated electricity for only a short time in the early evening. My little torch became my most treasured possession! Four years at Newton Theological College had accustomed me to PNG food, so I enjoyed rice, greens and noodles, sometimes with a little meat or fish, and of course kau kau, sweet potato. Small sweet bananas with scones or pancakes cooked on the fire, were my breakfast and a biscuit with peanut butter and honey was all I needed in the midday heat.

The Cathedral atop the plateau was quite awe inspiring to climb up to: majestic, starkly white, red roofed and gabled. I had been warned about some damage—it was being eaten by termites, “so don't touch the fabric”. Only the central piece of a triptych, richly painted, still stood above the High Altar, but the grandness and sense of history remains. A little way away, still standing but now decrepit and unused, stood Dogura House where the first three Sisters once lived with several mission girls. There the missionaries had come for conferences, Sr Gracemary wrestled with a stove unlike any she had known before, and she and Sr Sara struggled to teach village girls how to sew and do laundry.



Also at Dogura was St Paul's Primary School established in 1898, (only seven years after the arrival of the first missionaries), the first buildings of Holy Name School, dormitories and classrooms of recent years, with a few earlier ones (the work of local bola bola builders during the time of the Sisters). The original Chapel of Papuan materials is still standing although a large modern chapel now accommodates the more than 600 students including about 200 boys. The present Principal, Mrs Ethel Siramba, is herself a former student, and today's students look happy and healthy in their maroon shirts and dark skirts and trousers. I was invited to speak to the Cathedral congregation at the conclusion of the Trinity Eucharist and began by telling them that I was an Oblate* of the Community of the Holy Name at which the students applauded loudly.

The beautiful Dogura plateau, about 45 hectares in size, is flanked by mountains on three sides, Bartle Bay on the other and Giramua point to the right. My favourite place, at the far end of the plateau, looks over a succession

of cone shaped peaks rising upwards to Mt. Pasi Pasi down to the Daru River winding through the mountains. The Bishop of Dogura concedes it is beautiful, but lack of money and resources inhibit the Church's ministry which lacks any vehicle or sea-worthy vessels.

It was touching to again hear the stories of the older Wedau women who had been early students of Holy Name School during the time of the Sisters. Among them, Patricia is now the last survivor of those who were brought as Mission girls under the tutelage of the first Sisters in 1951. Patricia was a mountain girl from Didia, and when I mentioned that Sr Penelope wrote of some mountain girls running away, she laughed, saying she was one of them. She both adored, and was in awe of, Sr Gracemary. All spoke of how much they valued the Sisters' teaching, guidance and the chance to be educated. Nita told of how, in 1963, with only one year's training as a teacher at St Aidan's College, she taught primary classes at St Paul's. She and others had afternoon classes with Sisters Claire Christine and Margaret Anne, “even in the Christmas holidays”! Cindy graduated from Holy Name to the Papuan Medical College, gaining first place in both general nursing and midwifery, and returned to be Sister in Charge at St Barnabas Hospital. The women told of the many achievements of former Holy Name students.

My plans to spend a week with the Community of the Visitation, saw me arriving from Alotau to board a Dash 8 for the 25-minute flight over the Owen Stanley Ranges to Popondetta. From there, speeding along the highway with the Guardian, Sr Beverly, and her Franciscan driver, Br Jerry, we passed over Girua Bridge and pressed on past the familiar sign at the entrance to Newton College and the extremely rutted road that leads past the Friary and to the Sisters' Convent where we were met by a welcoming group of Sisters and Novices.

At present, the six professed Sisters and three Novices begin each day with a rising bell at 5.15am and occupy themselves with manual work simply to provide for themselves and to care for the extensive grounds. A celebration feast of market vegetables and fruit supplemented by the gift of chicken was held. Such an occasion always includes dancing and in their cultural finery the Sisters and Novices, with help from a couple of villagers and guitars, entered vigorously into a display of West New Britain dances.

While with the Visitation Community I ventured into Popondetta town, still much as I remembered it, and to the market where I always try to find the best greens, largest pumpkin and of course, the sweetest red Papaya! I was also able to visit not only Newton Theological College where I had been a staff member for four years, but one of my former students, now a priest ministering to eleven congregations from a nearby centre. It was a joy to meet him again with three of his four children and be welcomed with typical Melanesian hospitality. Newton College is struggling to operate without a vehicle at present, but Bishop Driver, formerly of Adelaide, has wrought improvements through the help of highly qualified Australian visitors assisting a newly appointed maintenance person.

Two of the Sisters, supported by the whole Community, are developing a poultry project, aiming to raise chickens for sale, and put the money towards a guest house. This small but valiant Anglican expression of Religious Life in PNG has persevered for 54 years now, and I am sure that with God and the love and prayers of the Community of the Holy Name, its Oblates and Associates, it will continue to thrive.

The last day of my PNG visit I was privileged to spend with eight of my former St Catharine's students in Port Moresby. While I was still in Popondetta with the Papuan Sisters of the Visitation, Vailli, one of the students, sent texts asking what time they would be able to meet me. They are bound and determined to be at the Centenary celebrations in October and I am impressed and delighted about that.

It was just lovely to be met by Catherine, Cathy (formerly Gongi) and Petronella (When she said “I'm P——” I said “Petronella Akuru from Wanigela!” I remembered them so vividly though it was 47 years since we last saw each other! Cathy drives a very smart utility so Vailli asked her to pick me up and she drove to the home where the others were waiting in the garden. It was such a thrill to see Vailli, Koi, Ueri (now Carolyn) and later Emily and Ioa, Theresa still. Hearing their stories was wonderful—all with such fulfilling lives, careers, and happy families. Fancy Vailli being a great grandmother! I was so proud of them.

We went to Jackson's Restaurant which is part of Coral Sea Hotel chain and we shared a lovely meal together. To see and hear how much they valued the opportunity to be educated at St Catharine's was a very special experience for me. A school is the community of teachers and students who live and grow together sharing its ethos more than its buildings and that is surely validation for holding a celebration for one that no longer exists. It is also important to honour the history of those who struggled to keep the vision alive through challenging times.

* An oblate is an individual, either layperson or clergy, normally living in general society, who, while not a permanently professed monk or nun, has individually affiliated herself or himself with a chosen monastic community.

St Catharine's Assembly Hall 1954-2018



ON THE 20 MARCH, 1954 St Catharine's Assembly Hall was officially opened with a special performance of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Ernest*.

The hall was home to much of the cultural focus of the school with New Girls' Concerts, inter-house plays, inter-house singing, verse speaking, old style reel-to-reel movie screenings, such as *Macbeth* and *Hamlet*, socials, ballroom dancing lessons, daily assembly and parade complete with inspection of nails and shoes, Warwick-wide Junior and Senior Public Exams, and Speech Days all part of its history. Participants practised diligently there each year for Eisteddfod performances and were rewarded with more than their fair share of success and enhanced self confidence as a result.

On those occasions when visiting missionaries were guest speakers, the school would gather in the hall to hear about their endeavours in places that sounded foreign and far away.

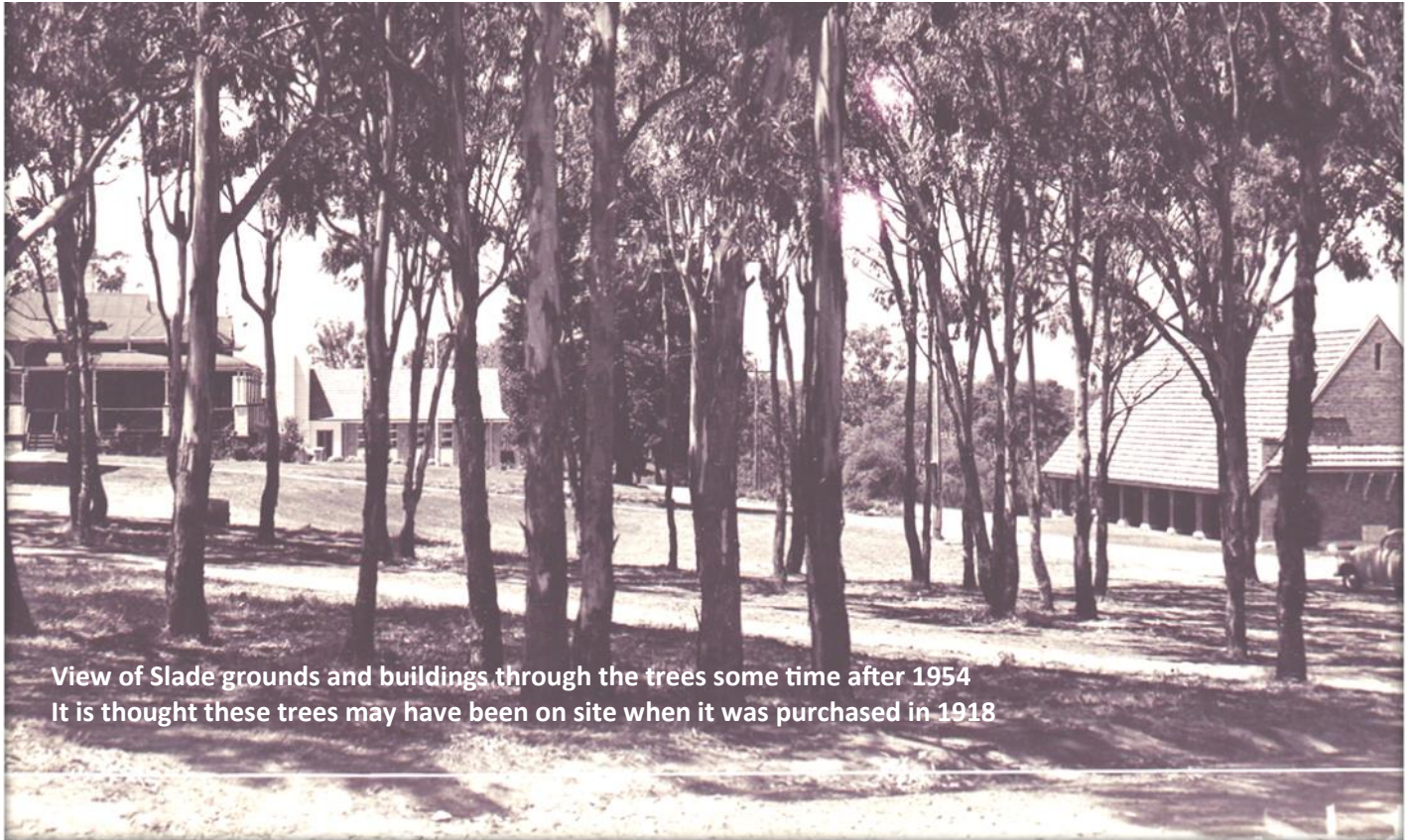


The Admirable Crichton, which explores dealing with the mores and class divisions of English civilised society after shipwreck on a desert island, was presented several times by the Speech and Drama Department. Two different productions are illustrated here. Act 2, below left, was taken on the road to the Twelfth Night Theatre in Brisbane at the 1968 Jean Trundle competition.

In 1977, St Catharine's and Slade were fully co-educational and the hall was divided into sections and removed up to the Slade Campus where it was reassembled and rebranded as Slade Hall.

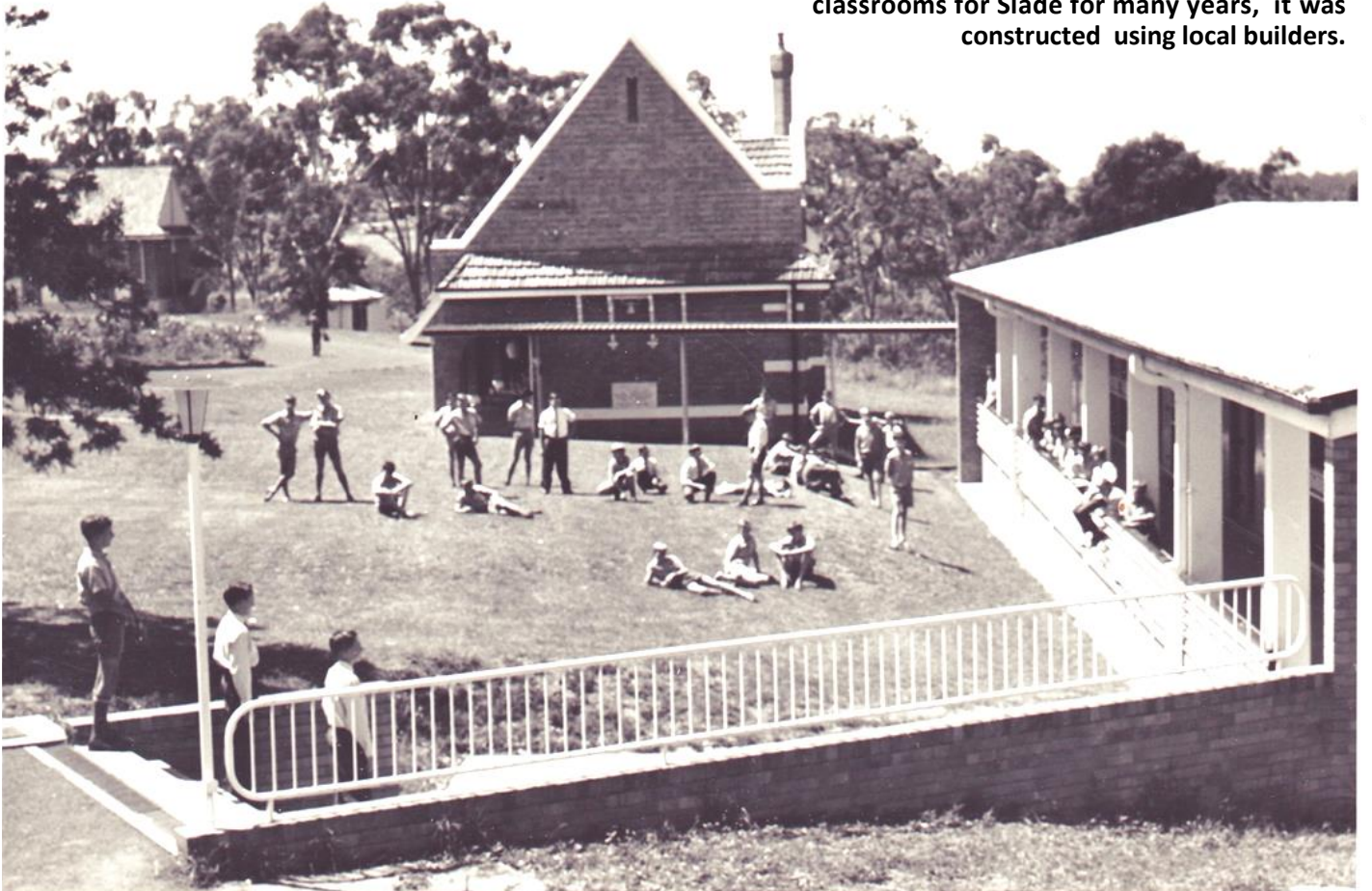
The Hall is the venue for the Centennial celebrations 20-21 October this year when a host of memories will be rekindled.

Walk back through time: School on the Hill



View of Slade grounds and buildings through the trees some time after 1954
It is thought these trees may have been on site when it was purchased in 1918

The brand-new and exceptionally modern for the era (1961) and the old (1926) classrooms: opened by the archbishop of Brisbane, Dr Hudson, the new building was dedicated to the Slade family, the first new classrooms for Slade for many years, it was constructed using local builders.



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

“Lives are like rivers. Eventually they go where they must. Not where we want them to.”

Richard Russer

DREHER, Donald

DREHER, Donald Phillip, late of Ocean Grove, Victoria sadly passed away Saturday 16th June, 2018.

Phillip’s death notice is annotated ‘Released from many years of physical hardship. Now resting in peace.’

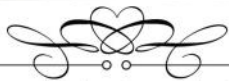
Valete from 1949 Magazine: D. Dreher, 1946 to 1948. Junior 1946; Senior 1948; Football team.

Donald was a Life Member of the Association under the old rules.



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

Rabindranath Tagore



The HMPNGS Ted Diro (401) Story

Following the [United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea](#) extension of maritime nations' [exclusive economic zones](#) to 200 kilometres (108 nmi) Australia agreed to provide twelve of its neighbours with twenty-two Pacific Forum-class patrol vessels, so they could exercise sovereignty over their own territory, using their own resources. The first vessel was delivered in 1987, and in 2015 Australia announced plans to replace the original patrol boats with larger and more capable vessels.

Australian ship builder [Austal](#) won the AUD\$335 million contract for the project, and built the vessels at its Henderson shipyard, in [Cairns](#). Guardian class vessels were designed to use [commercial off-the-shelf](#) components, not cutting edge, military grade equipment, to make them easier to maintain in small isolated shipyards.



Ted Diro was the first Guardian-class vessel to have her [keel laid](#) in April 2017. She was the first to be [launched](#), in May 2018. She began her formal [sea trials](#) on August 9, 2018. The patrol vessel is scheduled to be [commissioned](#) in late October, when her acceptance trials are completed.

The vessels are 39.5 metres (130 ft) long, can travel 3,000 nautical miles (5,600 km) at 12 [knots](#) (22 km/h). Their maximum speed is 20 knots (37 km/h).

HMPNGS Ted Diro (P401) is the first [Guardian-class patrol boat](#) to be completed. Australia designed and provided four [Pacific Forum-class](#) patrol vessels to Papua New Guinea in 1987 and 1988, and in 2015 confirmed she would be replacing those vessels with four larger, and more capable, Guardian-class vessels. *Wikipedia*



Sgt Ben Moide and Retired Brigadier General Ted Diro at the 2008 PNG Remembrance Day Service



worthy of their forefathers

OLD AND INTERESTING...

In February 1918, the Church of England Girls School opened in a house, *Mie Gunyah*, on the corner of Palmerin and Locke Streets, previously the residence of Thomas Macansh, owner of *Canning Downs* Station. In the same year, the site for the boys' school was chosen. Property was purchased from seventeen different owners and consisted of *Eastmont* and part of *Weewondilla* estate. The parish instigated a major fundraising campaign. Slade School opened in 1926.



"Mie-Gunyah" circa 1880



Mei-Gunyah was renamed School House and later, White House. The open verandahs were converted to dormitories, simply enclosed with canvas blinds. Resident staff lived in the upstairs rooms, a chapel and assembly hall were incorporated into the building. Later additions included new classrooms, music rooms, tennis courts and playing fields. In 1918, another private home, *Listowel*, renamed *Mytton House*, was purchased by JHS Barnes and served as additional dormitory accommodation and the refectory.

White House stood proudly beside the new Assembly Hall when it was built and opened in 1954. As the original school building, it was adorned at different times with the school badge and, as such, enjoyed pride of place in countless school photos as preferred backdrop for official photos. When it ceased to be used after the girls moved up to Slade, it was bought by private owners and sadly, burnt to the ground in a house fire in 1983 after some restoration had taken place—surely an ignominious end to its long proud history.



In 2018 we remember White House, grand old lady at the heart of St Catharine's until its sad loss in 1983...



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



St Catharines/Slade School Facebook

Our Facebook page is 282 members strong as of August 23, 2018...



Scholastic linguistic gymnastics?

SOME HARMLESS FUN WITH LANGUAGE

The meaning of opaque is unclear.
 I wasn't going to get a brain transplant but then I changed my mind.
 Have you ever tried to eat a clock? It's very time consuming.
 I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.
 It's a lengthy article about ancient Japanese sword fighters but I can Sumurais it for you.
 So what if I don't know the meaning of the word 'apocalypse'? It's not the end of the world.
 The other day I held the door open for a clown. I thought it was a nice jester...
 Need an ark to save two of every animal? I Noah guy.

THE INCOMPARABLE VALUE OF A GOOD VOCABULARY

I called an old school classmate and asked what he was doing.
 He replied that he was working on "Aqua-thermal treatment of ceramics, aluminium and steel under a constrained environment."
 I was impressed...
 On inquiring further, I learned that he was washing dishes with hot water under his wife's supervision.



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 WHEN YOU'RE
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