



Remembrance Day

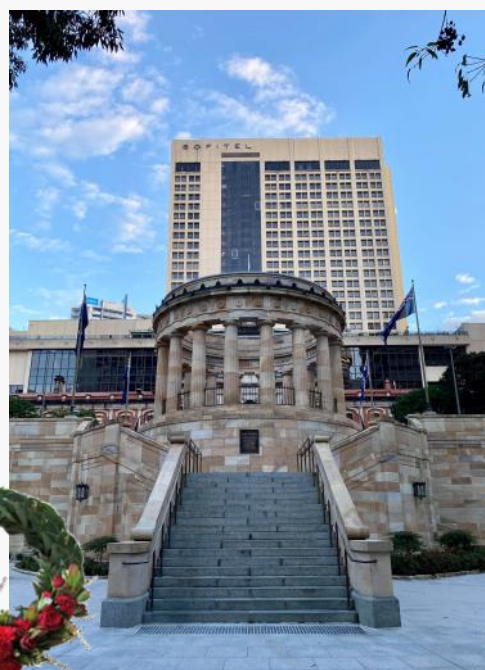
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AS OUR NATION EVOLVES, THE MEANING OF COMMEMORATIVE OCCASIONS, like Remembrance Day is often lost among the youth of today. As a younger person in present times, it can be easy to feel disconnected from the original meaning of Remembrance Day. Thankfully we can visit memorials and galleries that have preserved this history to continue honouring the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our nation. As I write this, and I reflect on the last two emotional years we have had and look at all the trials we have faced together as a country, I've come to realise that the front-line workers who have worked endless hours are the modern-day representation of the heroes who came before us, sacrificing their lives for our nation. I am incredibly grateful for the example that the men and women who fought for our nation have set for us. Their work ethic, humility and perseverance are something that each of us can learn from and for that, I can never say thank you enough.

Grace Quach

To illustrate her story, Grace went into Brisbane city and took the pictures below in Anzac Square which is also the site of the Boer War Memorial. This Memorial, known as **The Scout** has connections for us by way of the worldwide scouting movement and John Deshon whose Grandfather, Arthur Popham Deshon, was one of the 100 Queenslanders at the relief of Mafeking. "Although not of great strategic importance, this played a huge part in boosting morale and is remembered fondly for the courage and determination of Baden-Powell and his troops. They were outnumbered four to one and were besieged for 216 days. This is also where the Scout movement began. Lieutenant General Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell, OM, GCMG, GCVO, KCB, KStJ, DL, recruited a garrison of boys to act as messengers and orderlies, thereby releasing men to fight. He also devised other clever strategies to call the enemy's bluff. These included making imitation forts to draw enemy fire, and loudly shouting orders to non-existent attack troops." *John Deshon AM (Slade 1952-58 ~ Queen's Scout, 1958)*



"Wreaths placed with rosemary: solemn reminders of un-retuned servicemen."



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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
2021, 2022 or
2023?

CAST YOUR
NET WIDER
FOR LOST
CONTACTS
AND
ADVERTISE
HERE!

Editor's Notes...



While putting together this Remembrance Day edition of Kinawah, I have been thinking about the shared history that we all have in common. A lot of that history, each of us as individuals is mostly quite unaware of but, if we could assemble all the knowledge that we collectively have, think what a treasure trove it would be! There is always more to learn and if each one of us contributes what we know, there is even more the rest of us could discover...and appreciate.

A recent trip to Glenarbron, near Texas and Yelarbron revealed the country looking an absolute picture. After the rain earlier this year, the crops are looking spectacular and clear evidence of the bumper season that we are being told to expect. Next...access to those crops for harvesting! More than one contract harvester is based in NSW. We can only hope lockdown restrictions allow all concerned to reap some rewards after so many challenging seasons.

This issue we bring you the follow up story, as promised, about Maxine Hicks. Get ready to be surprised and inspired!

Thank you to all those who responded to my request for input about the Bunya Pine in front of Slade House. Sadly it had to be removed this year but your memories make for great reading.

A big thank you to George Hannaford and his family for a peek into his father's personal correspondence from the battlefields of WWI. With his permission we share two letters that he wrote home the day the Armistice was declared—perfect for Remembrance Day!

Our thanks to Ed Wickham for his reminder of the devastating 1951 eruption of Mt Lamington (the year I was born so of course this went unnoticed by me). Some years later, in August 1967, another volcanic eruption near Rabaul saw our own (late) Bishop Bevin Meredith's home and personal belongings covered in volcanic ash. Closeted away in boarding school, I didn't know anything about that either. Perhaps you, like Ed, have family or friends lost in one of these disasters. Our PNG brothers and sisters have coped with a great deal over many years and now Covid. Our thoughts and prayers are very much with them and all those enduring the present trials.

Lots of WWII related content for you to discover this issue...

Until next time, enjoy the read Joan White

P.S. Huge congratulations to Grace who is the newly appointed President of the QLD Pharmacy Students' Association for 2022 and Communications Officer for 'Towards Rural and Outback Health Professionals in Queensland' Club aka TROHPIQ—feeling proud...



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

“Never
let the things
you want
make you forget
the things
you have”

Sanchita Pandey



2021/2022 Committee

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Johnno's Corner

REMEMBRANCE DAY WILL SOON BE ON US AGAIN AND ONCE AGAIN JOAN HAS EXCEEDED HER PAST EFFORTS IN DIGGING UP PIECES OF INTERESTING HISTORY OF THOSE PAST STUDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED THEIR COUNTRY WITH SOME PAYING THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

■ As usual these people are mostly average Australians being called upon to do extraordinary things to sort out a mess not of their own creation.

■ This year we are able to celebrate the end of 20 years of conflict to end the 'War on Terror' where the most high tech and advanced nations on earth triumphantly and proudly handed back the management of Afghanistan to the Afghani people. Now that went well didn't it !!! 41 Australians dead, cost of training per soldier about \$2M and we go up from there.

■ The thing that always upsets me with these occasions is it is our political leaders the world over that create conflict and then it is up to 'the little people' to sacrifice their lives in sorting out the mess while being told we are fighting for freedom, meanwhile armaments manufacturers and associated defence contractors make billions.

■ On a more positive note, it has been great to see some rain about along with the elevated commodity prices that the Agriculture sector is enjoying. I hope you are getting your fair share.

■ With a bit of luck the Covid restrictions will be getting less and travel will be less restricting. If anyone is having difficulty with Covid related issues or any other, please reach out to the Association and we will do our best to help.

■ On a final note, remember to get in touch with your old school mates, don't wait for them to pick up the phone...you do it, it may just make their day.

Until next time, take care.

Johnno.

P.S. Comments expressed here are my personal views and are in no way to be interpreted as those of the SCPSA.

DOMAIN NAME NOW FOR OUR GO TO WEBSITE:

www.scpsawarwick.com

WHAT'S ON *

October 1-31
First Ever Queensland Seniors' month

November Thursday 11
Remembrance Day

November Saturday 13
Brekki Creek Lunch

November Thursday 18
WCC Secondary Awards Night

* All of the above events are of course, Covid permitting



You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. C.S. Lewis



2021 DATE

Saturday, November 13
11.00 AM FOR LUNCH

Breakfast Creek Reunion

2021 ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER

Slade/St Catharine's/WCC 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

Charleville Catchup 2022: It's on!

A cracking good reason to head west

Private function room Charleville RSL
Easter Weekend: April 15-18, 2022.
Pencil it in and book your accommodation.
Let's put the word out now and make this another occasion to remember!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

WATCH THIS SPACE



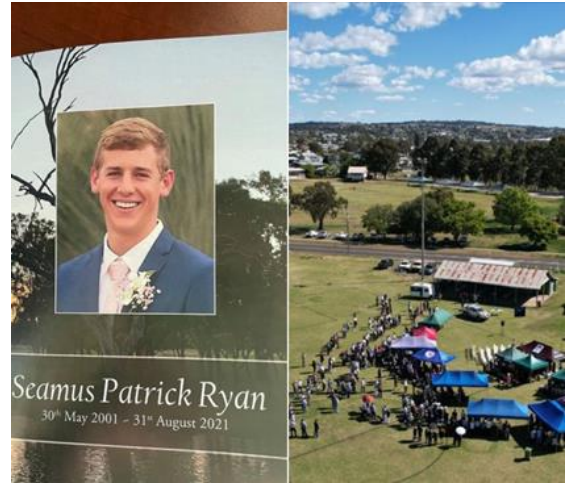
Remembrance Thoughts From the Principal's desk...

As we enter a season of remembrance of those who fought and died for our country, and other lives that leave us with a lasting legacy, we want to celebrate the life of Seamus Ryan.

Seamus was a student at Warwick Christian College for the first nine years of his schooling. We will miss his cheeky grin and know with great assurance that he is with his Saviour in heaven. What a life, what a boy, what a man, what a friend, what a fantastic person for all those that got to know him. Love and blessings to the Ryan family at this time and the years ahead.

Seamus made an impact on us all and has left an amazing legacy. We have honoured him by presenting the Seamus Ryan Sportsmanship Award annually to one Primary and one Secondary student.

Many blessings to you and yours in this remembrance season.



Regards,
Sean Greenacre | Principal



The Story ~ Joan Clothier White 02/09/2021



The fabric of a shared history,
Is a multi-dimensional quilt,
Patterns, cultures, and colours
Stitched together at random,
Woven loosely but closely,
Darkly and brightly impromptu.

The quilt warms and invites,
Questions, cheers, and ignites,
Charms, arms, and excites.
Threads unravel and fray,
Come undone, wear and fade,
But still belong and are part of the story.

Where are they now?



Abigail Grosskopf, pictured here in her cadet uniform, Anzac Day 2018 after the dawn service with Carmelo Rubio (immediate past Principal of Warwick Christian College) Abigail's sister Elizabeth and her father, Noel, whose own service in the RAAF provided the inspiration for Abigail to join cadets. Since leaving school, Abigail has been working at Akooramak aged care facility in Warwick in order to further her future career in nursing.



A trip to St George with Maxine

AS WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN IN THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER KINAWAH, MAXINE HICKS proved beyond all doubt that she was an outstanding Track and Field Athlete during the three years she was at Slade 1977-79. She is also unlikely to forget that long ago day of the 1979 inter-school athletics carnival when she badly lacerated her heel in the triple-jump warm-up or the excruciating pain of this injury that we also mentioned and which was written up in the Warwick Daily News, October 19 and subsequently, the Slade Magazine of that year. In her own words, Maxine relates for us the final event for the day, the 4x100m relay.

“One of my fondest memories of Slade was of my 4x100m track team. On the day I ripped open my heel I was the last runner and I didn't think we would win because of my foot. Diane Andrews was third runner on our team, and back then we were already being talked about by the other schools as a team to watch out for. So on the day I tore my heel open, Di Andrews, as third runner, received the baton well behind the two lead runners and she passed one of them but we were still behind Warwick High School when I got the baton. I had to give everything I had in the petrol tank to catch that girl as she was Warwick High's top open girl runner. The last thing I can remember was Di telling me to GO GO, and the next minute it was all over, we won and I think we broke the meet record. At the end of that year Di gave me a Xmas card at the end of 1979 quoting Best Open girl's relay team eva. So I do have that one special memory from Slade.”

Maxine may have arrived at Slade from far southwestern Queensland, but her star was soon to shine much farther afield as ensuing events would shortly reveal.

She may have presented as slight in stature but her ability as an all-round athlete had not gone unnoticed and while she may have emerged from modest country origins it soon became apparent she was destined for a greatly expanded playing field.

So it was that, shortly after leaving Slade, Maxine, who had come to the attention of a roaming talent scout, was identified as a likely prospect to be part of an athlete development program through a Melbourne athletic club. In order to be selected for this, she needed to demonstrate that she could run 100 metres in under 13 seconds. This she managed to do comfortably and so she was off to the big city, but she always felt those inextricable ties with her old school which she never forgot.

From her home now in St George, Maxine recalls that Eddie Prince kept a father like eye on her during her years at school and continued to keep up with her progress long after she left Slade. It is worth remembering that this was the lead up period before Brisbane's Commonwealth Games in 1982 and Maxine was about to become a part of it.

The competitive talent of our top national female sprinters at this time was exceptional and Maxine narrowly missed being one of the final front runners for the Australian Women's relay team, but was selected, still a young teenager, as a reserve. Here she was running and training in elite company indeed. This national team was highly competitive on the world stage as the 1982 Brisbane Games results show:

The 4 x 100 team comprised of (in order of running, Jenny Flaherty, Denise Boyd, Colleen Pekin and Helen Davey) came in fourth place with a time of 43.84 with England (Games Record 43.15) Canada (43.66) and Jamaica (43.69) ahead of them.

The team which ran the 4 x 400 final was made up of such high profile athletes as Leanne Evans, Denise Boyd, Debbie Flintoff and Raelene Boyle and won the silver medal October 9 at QEII stadium with a time of 3.27.72. The Canadian gold medallists won with a Games Record of 3.27.70 and the Scottish team came third with a time of 3.32.92.

Sadly, as is a refrain all too familiar to those of us with a rural background, there was a severe drought setting in and not long after this Maxine needed to return home to help her father out back on the land so this was the end of the higher profile part of her running career. She did keep up with her running for some time but was unable to put in the time and effort that a dedicated athlete is required to invest in order to seriously pursue such a demanding discipline. She worked for some years as a jillaroo but still kept in touch with well known breast cancer survivor, Raelene Boyle who regularly made the annual trip out to St George for Pink Ribbon Day until recently. Maxine is currently the principal of a small photography business with a strong leaning towards subjects close to her heart in the country. She is also photographer for the Lismore Koori Mail and has put together two coffee table books and a 2021 calendar showcasing her work with another calendar in the works for 2022. Maxine has kept in touch with a few of her old Slade school friends and was very happy to chat about old times when we were put in touch. She is now on our contact list to receive Kinawah. I, for one, am proud to acknowledge her as one of us—a past student of our shared Slade Campus. Above is one of her aerial photos of St George with a cameo picture of Maxine as she is today inset. Maxine, you're still a winner!



BONUS ST GEORGE 'MUST SEE' DESTINATION IS THE MANI TRIBES GALLERY IN VICTORIA STREET.

The gallery features a range of talented artists in residence. At left is a small selection of the many stunning examples able to be viewed on their Facebook page.

The Mani Tribes Artist in Residence Program is supported by the Queensland Government Creative To Go Program.

Remembering Slade's iconic Bunya Pine

WE FAREWELL A LIVING FOSSIL 1921-2021

THE TOWERING BUNYA PINE THAT later became such a familiar part of the landscape of the Slade Campus was no more than a hardy sapling at the time the school opened in 1926 although shortly afterwards, as early photos clearly reveal, it was already firmly established.

In the later years of the Great Depression just prior to the outbreak of World War II in 1939, the grounds of Slade School were given a makeover at government expense as part of an initiative to provide employment for a group of 12 or so workmen, referred to as "the Relief Workers". This was the time when the white picket fence prominent in early photos of the original "Eastmont" was removed and the rose bushes and terracing in front of Slade House was constructed adding an imposing new front entrance.

By this time the tree was well and truly taller than the building it was designed to grace and an established part of the campus.

Sadly for many of us, due to current school and Education Department guidelines the tree was deemed unsafe and was subsequently removed this year. When we glance through the following recollections from some of our past students perhaps we can understand why...

☞ I recall many a time the enormous pods of nuts dropping and some fellow students dodging [them] with hands on head. Incidentally, I recall (no idea in which year it happened) that Bevan Meredith (Pineapple) actually boiled some of the bunya nuts and offered them around to several boys to sample. Either "Pineapple" was a lousy cook or he used the wrong liquid as they were awful. He should have roasted them. **George Martin 1947-1954**

☞ Was walking down from Barnes House one day when one cone came down...you would not have survived a hit. Tasted one of the nuts cooked, it was dreadful. **David Herbert 1965-1967**

☞ I doubt that anyone unlucky enough to be hit with a nut from a Bunya Pine would still be around—Those things were bloody big—I can't recall any near-misses either. One thing about boarding at Slade was that you were always hungry—and any form of extra sustenance was always welcome. Most of the time, we were in Class when the nuts fell—everyone would be looking out the classroom windows and waiting for the bell that ended the lesson...then there was a mad rush that rivalled a Rugby Scrum. Some of us didn't like them—most of us did—We ate them raw—The Nut itself had lots of smaller "nuts" inside—(similar to a small Pine cone)—that had to be opened with a pocket knife (or your teeth) The white flesh had a floury taste with plenty of crunch. The nuts usually landed on the lawn beneath the tree—a lawn that we were not supposed to walk on—so retrieving them risked getting yelled at by a



Prefect or a Detention if seen by the Teaching Staff...but it was worth it... **Raymond Hammond 1962-1969**

☞ I remember cooking them in a billy full of water in the boiler room at Atkinson House. Those in the know warned us to take out the 'core' at the top of the nut as it was supposedly poisonous. Of course we deluded ourselves that the smell of burning wood masked the smell of burning tobacco which was another risky behaviour some of us participated in while cooking the nuts.

Tony Roy 1969-1972

☞ We would get up early in the mornings and have a quick look to see if any had fallen during the night. If they had we would quickly gather them up and put them in the boiler room and boil them up. When they were considered cooked we would de-husk the nuts and eat them with salt we got from the mess. Can still taste them now as I remember doing it. They were very nice.

David Brown 1967-1973

☞ One memorable recollection although not epicurean in nature, was of the antics played by some of the rather more high spirited lads. They would short-sheet someone's bed, add a "bouquet" of prickly Bunya Pine foliage under the covers and await with fiendish glee the howls of discomfort after lights out and quiet was required!

Ted Ross 1951-1955

☞ My only recollection was roasting a couple down by the rocks. I was not impressed by the taste. My years at Slade were 51/52 I think or 50/51 I started work in the National Bank when I was 17 I also won the State 100yards Championship in 57 and 59

Mervyn (Bob) Zeller 1950-1951

Also called Bunya or the Bunya Bunya, the Bunya Pine (botanical name: *Araucaria bidwillii*) is known for its pleasingly symmetrical dome shape and, as a living fossil, belongs to a family of flora, the *Araucariaceae*, which grew across the world in the Jurassic period, many of its "cousins" now being extinct. This family also includes the *Wollemi pine* (*Wollemia nobilis*). However, *Araucaria bidwillii* is not a pine tree (of the genus *Pinus*). It belongs to the same genus as the monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) and is sometimes referred to as the "false monkey puzzle tree". Bynyas also produce highly valued timber, which is used for musical instruments. It is particularly valued as "tonewood" for producing stringed instruments' sound boards. Saw logs for Bynyas come from plantations only, as they are protected in their national park wild habitat. The cultural connection of the Bunya pine to First Nations Australians is very powerful. The Bunya Mountains in southeast Queensland used to host massive gatherings of Aboriginal groups. People came to visit the Bunya pines and feasted on the nuts in their abundant cones which are able to reach the size of soccer balls weighing up to 10 kilograms. Some Aboriginal Australians are known to have travelled from hundreds of kilometres away, and traditional hostilities were dropped to allow access. The seed in the Bunya cone is a famous and celebrated example of Australian bush tucker. Today some trees remain marked with hand and foot holes that Aborigines made in the trunks of older Bynyas. The climbers must have been brave and agile to harvest the cones from such heights. Sadly, the last of the Aboriginal Bunya festivals was held in about 1900, as European loggers came to the area for its many timber resources. But even those European timber pioneers realised the significance of the Bunya Mountains area. The Bunya Mountains National Park was declared in 1908, creating Queensland's second national park. This information is selected from <https://theconversation.com> and <https://en.wikipedia.org>

What you said: hearing back from our readers



Bob Cotton: the article on the Sydney Olympics was particularly interesting

Philippa Wetherell: another amazing edition of Kinawah. I read one article, then another and another, and then find myself going back to re-read the first or look again at a photograph... you manage to sort out so much diverse material, put together related historical anecdotes, and slip in individual photos belonging to distinct eras which some one may identify as recording a significant occasion. I did enjoy reading of the struggles of the two schools during the Depression and of the war and post war years. I loved that photo of the St Catharine's junior school in 1948. I do hope there will be responses from women who recognise themselves or a family member or friend in that photo, but then I realise it is 73 years since that photo was taken, and I remind myself that I will be 83 years old next month!

Because of growing up in the Anglican Church in Brisbane from birth, I found the story of the Rev'd Mr Mell, an early headmaster of Slade, extremely interesting, thinking of his truly sacrificial service, and knowing that the early Sisters who took over St Catharine's in 1937 and steered it through the war years, would have lived frugal and sacrificial lives.

The battle to retain staff in a small boarding school persisted into the sixties, as well I know, in both Slade and St Catharine's.

I very much enjoyed your perceptive and compassionate account of your role in the Paralympics of 2000, very timely as we marvel at the achievements of Tokyo 2021... who knows, it may inspire some present students of Warwick Christian College. I really applaud the maintenance of this important relationship, and appreciated hearing of recent graduates and their achievements.

Lynne Johnson: I particularly appreciated the Monikers, Metamorphoses and More page. It fills in some bits of our school's history I have sometimes wondered about. The "Use it up. Wear it out. Make do. Do Without" bit particularly resonated with Mum's experience at St Mary's CEGS Herberton from 1932 to 1937. I had asked her once about her learning to sew and knit. Here's part of her reply. I've highlighted the parts that your page in Kinawah brought to mind. Some of our old girls who were at St C's in the 1950s might remember Sisters Margaret and Dorothea I think they would have been much younger women when they were at St Mary's with Mum. Miss Cant was there too - also a much younger woman...

"SEWING. My first memory of my sewing was when Mum offered to teach sewing to the girls at the Port Moresby State school. No special favours for me – I was just another pupil.

"We did the usual sampler stitches and then the finale for the year we had to take a doll to school – we were shown how to measure them, then cut a paper pattern. The dresses were simple – round neck, circular skirt & circular sleeves. And to finish off a small embroidery design on the front of the bodice.

"Then in 1932 aged 11, I was sent to go to school, St Marys' in Herberton, Nth Qld. I don't know how Mum got the navy trobalco needed for 3 uniforms and pants; chocolate brown box pleated to a square sleeveless yoke, with two white blouses for sports outfit; white Sunday uniform dress; new jamas, dressing gown, summer dresses and a couple of winter frocks. I almost forgot – there had to be winter jamas and dressing gown as Herberton really did get cold at night in winter. I sewed all the seams of the pants and threaded all the elastic. I can remember Mum inspecting all the joining seams of the elastic to make sure they would not come apart (at an embarrassing moment?). Mum must have had to send to Australia for all the material as B.P.'s would not have had anything like that in stock – with boats 3 weeks apart she must have had to send a telegram perhaps to Mc Donnell & Easts in Brisbane!

"At school we had stocking inspection every Saturday morning. We would find our own stockings in the large baskets – oh yes I also had to sew on all the Cash's names- which must also have had to come from Mac & E's. If you thought your stockings or socks did not need mending you still had to have them inspected by Sister Dorothea. If there was a

thin spot that YOU thought would last another wear Sister would soon put you right by poking her finger through the weak area. I very soon became a good darning as she also inspected the finished article and if it was not up to her high standard it had to be pulled out and done again. I also became a good patcher as later on elbows were wont to become thin and needed patching. One of our more robust senior girls had patches on the front of her blouses. Clothes that needed mending were put in another basket by the laundress and your name entered in a book. When your clothes and stockings/socks had been passed your name got a tick beside it. Strangely enough we did not learn embroidery or sewing at school – domestic science was not offered as a subject. "KNITTING. As I could not go home to Port Moresby except at Christmas, (boat schedules and holidays did not coincide.) Sister Margaret arranged for me to spend my first mid-winter holidays with another boarder in my class, Joan King. Like me, Joan was an only child (yes, I did have a little brother of 6 months but he wasn't born until I was 11 years old) Joe and Louisa King were living with Louisa's mother, Mrs S.A. Mason and Joe was working the cane farm for her. They were very kind to me and treated me as one of the family. Just as I needed a home Joan needed a companion and we were great friends. All their large family of aunts, uncles and cousins suddenly became mine too!

"Grandma Mason was appalled that I did not know how to knit so the first time we went to Cairns – the farm was at Redlynch 10/15 miles away and they had an open tourer car – we went to Mazlins drapery to choose the wool – a pale blue and fawn, 4 ply marle and the needles. I was to make a long sleeved sweater for my baby brother. It was done without a pattern, just by tape measure and Mrs Mason's "knowhow". It was only stocking stitch with garter stitch for the borders. I was very proud because I did it all under her guidance. Took to knitting like a duck to water I did. Years later when we went to England I was making sweaters for my great nieces and nephews because Eric's nieces could not knit – in those cold winters in England – I was dumbfounded."



Kath Ree: I remember someone saying if you didn't take the core [out of the bunya nut] (not sure if there was one) they would be poisonous and you would die if you ate one. So you can imagine why I was never game to try one!!!!

Bev Nelson: An elderly man, known as "Lift your feet" used to walk past the School carrying a sugar bag over his shoulder. Older girls told me, not to go near the Bunya Pine Trees [because] if "Lift your feet", [who used to grab little girls and put them in his sugar bag], happened to walk past he might grab you. At about six years old, I was collecting bunya nuts when I saw him walking past [and] tried to get away, [but] I became frozen [and] my legs just would not move. It was a horrible feeling. Anyway he didn't enter the School grounds and I am still here to tell the tale. I wonder how many other students had been told the same story from older students.

THE STORY	THE TAKEAWAY
<p>"Make it do!"</p> <p>Depression-era survivors were known for keeping a small handful of outfits and mending them until they were down to tatters.</p>  <p><small>Artist Unknown (The National Archives of the United Kingdom)</small></p>	<p>Repair what you have.</p> <p>If you absolutely can't fix it, use old clothing as scraps for other sewing projects, tear off and keep buttons, or create other articles of clothing.</p>  <p><small>Artist Unknown (National Archives and Records Administration)</small></p>

SKY IS THE LIMIT Regional Roundup

A SLICE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING ROUND THE DOWNS

All those many RAAF former servicemen and women amongst us might be interested in the news items immediately following as several of the snippets have a distinctly aeronautical slant.

Wagners and Wellcamp winning for the West

IN 2014, BWWA—BRISBANE WEST WELLCAMP AIRPORT Pty Ltd —became Australia's first greenfield public airport to be built in 48 years when it opened in November of that year. The opening also marked a world first - the largest modern geopolymer concrete project containing absolutely NO Portland cement.

For this, Wagners "Earth Friendly Concrete" (EFC) was used for the construction of all heavy duty pavements in the aircraft turning areas and other building and civil works on the project. To find further information about this project and more go to <https://www.wagner.com.au/main/our-projects/toowoomba-wellcamp>

The implementation of this international standard facility means that now a weekly Cathay Pacific 747 8F flight out of Wellcamp freights a load of Australian and Darling Downs fresh produce overnight to Hong Kong. A few Virgin airliners are also parked at Wellcamp because of reduced international flights due to Covid. Although not so far mentioned here, Wellcamp is also fully equipped to fly international passengers into and out of the facility and Qantas have already flown several corporate charters.



IN YET ANOTHER BUSINESS COUP announced in late September, the Boeing Defence Australia's new drone assembly plant will also be built in the coming months at the Wellcamp Industrial Park bringing new industries to the region. With a flight range of about 3700km, the Loyal Wingman drone has been designed in Australia to fly alongside manned aircraft carrying bombs or helping to identify and track targets. When the plant is complete it will produce its drones for the Australian Defence Force and for export to allied countries. The Wellcamp facility will also be a strategic link in the planned multi billion inland rail project and the Wagner family is currently in the process of constructing the long awaited Wellcamp Quarantine Hub which will be completed ahead of the previously announced facility to be sited at Pinkenba on defence land in Brisbane and which is expected to be ready

next March. The purpose built Wellcamp quarantine Hub will be owned by the Wagner family, who as landlords, will lease it to the Queensland Government. The hub will be modelled after the already successful Howard Springs facility in the Northern Territory and will take some of the pressure off the quarantining in hotels. Work is well advanced and is planned to be operational in time for Christmas despite stonewalling and lack of support from the Federal Government and a well funded campaign by a few well heeled and exceptionally well connected ultra conservative interests in the Toowoomba community. Instead, in the interests of controlling Covid, common-sense has prevailed and the Queensland Government is going it alone with the support and cooperation of the Wagner family who most certainly have the runs on the board when it comes to getting things accomplished ultra efficiently and quickly.

Bombers prepared for bushfire season

WE ARE ASSURED THE CAVALRY HAS ARRIVED: Two AirTractor AT-802 Fixed Wing Bombers, two Bell 214B Rotary Wing Helitak bombers and two surveillance aircraft arrived at the Toowoomba Airport (not BWWA) in early September ready for the start of the 2021 bushfire season, providing a boost to existing firefighting resources. The Rural Fire Service is anticipating fast moving grassfires as summer approaches. With the current high fuel load quickly drying off, landholders have been asked to clean up their properties, removing excess combustible material and to revisit their bushfire safety plans.

Cecil Plains wows with exclusive dining

HOTEL VICTORY IN CECIL PLAINS, managed to entice its share of discerning diners visiting the Darling Downs for this year's Spring Carnival to take in all that the region has to offer. Reportedly a delicious plate of grilled barramundi cooked in butter, lemon and chilli flakes, topped with prawns drew diners from all over the south west during September's carnival month. This was part of the #trEATS campaign now in its second year of encouraging regional hospitality business owners to create an exclusive meal available for the month of September only. The hotel team said they had sold over 70-80 serves in the first weeks alone and that, after the recent lockdown mandates it was hugely rewarding to see so many people making the trip to their humble hotel. Good on you Cecil Plains!

Goondiwindi an early winner in QLD Covid race

IN SEPTEMBER, Goondiwindi Regional Council was a clear winner re vaccination rates against Covid: 76% of those 15 years and over had received a 1st dose and 55.7% their 2nd; in 2nd place was Hinchinbrook with 63.2% and 44.1%. Only 3 other local government areas, Southern Downs, Maranoa and Noosa, registered in the 60% range for 1st shots. While populations for all of these centres except Noosa are small and rural, we anticipate official figures will have improved dramatically since that time but well done Goondiwindi and District!

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11/11: A Personal Hannaford Remembrance



Stanley Devine Hannaford was the son of Samuel and Isabella Jane Hannaford (nee Devine) who lived at a property, "Utopia" 48 miles (77km) south west of Stanthorpe. Stanley, born in Warwick 1895, was one of only 20 students enrolled at the Queensland Pastoral College in 1914 and in the fullness of time, with his wife, Florence, became the father of George (at Slade 1943-1945 and who married Ethne in St Margaret's Chapel 1952) and grand-father of Jeffrey (Slade 1963-1965) and Ian (Slade 1963-1965).

The following letters home to each of Stanley's mother and father, both dated November 11th, 1918 give us a personal insight into the mind of George's father and Jeffrey and Ian's grandfather along with news of the momentous occasion, (Armistice Day), which prompted him to write. These letters bring sharply into focus a time when almost all personal communication was by means of hand written correspondence only and, back in those fledgeling days of aviation, a time when air mail was not in routine use as we are accustomed to today. Sadly, as we now know, the cessation of this military engagement was not "the war to end all wars" and following WWII, Armistice Day, November 11, was retitled Remembrance Day a date when we stop for a minute's silence each year at the 11th hour on the 11th month along with other official observances.

We thank George and his family for the privilege of this glimpse into his family archives, exactly as it was originally written.

November 11th 1918

Dearest Mother

I feel it is my duty to write you all a letter on this the greatest day in the history of mankind, & I'm sure it is due to your daily prayers that I am able to be here, alive and well at this moment. I have passed through an ordeal that I never wish to experience again & hope this world will never be plunged into such bloody strife again. As I sit here tonight writing the bells are ringing in the little village church, & the boys are cooeing like mad throughout the camp. I am now longing to see the dear old Homestead and the dear ones, which many a time during the years of hell, I thought I would never have the pleasure of seeing again. I am going to put in the greater part of the evening in writing letters to different relatives so I hope you will excuse this short letter.

Hoping this finds you well. I remain

Your fond son
Stan Hannaford



Dearest Father

Thank God it is all finished with. We just received the glorious news about 3 o'clock this afternoon, & really I can't realize it is really over, now I am dying to get Home, yes Home sweet Home, I wish it were possible to get a plane to take me back instead of that long journey over the mighty long leagues of ocean. Anyhow, please God I will be back early next year, won't it be grand, just think of it. This war to me, seems now, like a terrible nightmare, there will be millions of jubilant hearts tonight, also millions of sad hearts mourning over their dear ones who have paid the supreme sacrifice. I am sure our prayers have guided me safely through this hell that has just ended, as I had dozens of men smitten to death along side of me & yet I have gone through the lot you may say without hardly a scratch. I have seen the most immoral dirty dens on the face of this earth, but thank God I could say, "old boy don't touch it" & I have never, whereas thousands of others have succumbed to the wily ways of women, & I tell you they are in a sorrowful plight today, what of their children to come? This tour of the three continents have been an education. I can imagine how everyone in dear old Aussie feels tonight, & they are saying, "When will the boys be home?" There is a rumour here now they are going to send them back according to their service abroad, if so I shall not be the last by a long chalk. Tell Mother and Tom to stick plenty of grain into about 1/2 a dozen of those Turkeys as I have not had a feed of fowl since I left Aussie, & feel as if I could eat six right now. Who is that eligible young man sitting on the parapet of the Rocky Creek dam? Well dear dad the best I can wish you is a Merry Xmas & Bright and Prosperous New Year.

From your loving son
Stan Hannaford

November 11th 1918

YMCA: a man + a concept → a foundation + a legacy



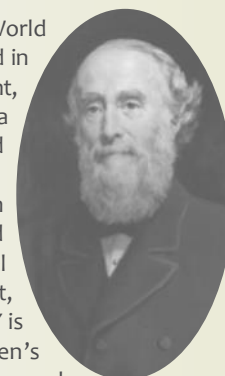
"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Anne Frank

MUCH OF LANCE CORPORAL STANLEY HANNAFORD'S CORRESPONDENCE HOME was hand-written on notepaper supplied by the Australian YMCA. This was also the case with letters written home from our fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers in World War II. The YMCA has now been a supporter in this and other ways for 1¼ centuries. Here is some background regarding how 'the Y' came to be.

The YMCA has a 175-year legacy of supporting young people through events such as the Spanish Flu, World War I, World War II, the great Depression, the Global Financial Crisis and now the COVID-19 global pandemic. The YMCA was founded in 1844 during the Industrial Revolution in England, a time of great despair and poverty. George Williams, a drapery merchant, consequently honoured with the title of 'Sir' decided that something needed to be done. George gathered together a few friends to form a society that met regularly to support each other and gain renewed strength in body, mind and spirit. The group called itself the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).

From its inception, through to the early 1900s, the focus was on the welfare of young men, and related social concerns. In 1851, after first reaching America, the YMCA further spread its wings to Adelaide, Australia, on the back of the gold rush. From the mid-1930s to the early 1960s, the YMCA was forced by depression and world war to revert to the original foundations of social and community concern. The emphasis was on youth work, youth clubs, physical development, leadership training, education, and welfare. YMCA associations and centres can now be found all over the world. The Y is a community not-for-profit and the oldest youth organisation in the world, and services in Australia now include children's services (early learning, kindergarten and OSHC), recreation (swimming, gyms, gymnastics), camping, youth programs and disability services.

This information may be found at <https://ymca.org.au>



South West QLD Recce

**Editor's Note: Other rural towns also experienced a marked military presence in WW2. Our own Archivist and Patron, Ted Ross, clearly remembers that his home town of Tenterfield had many thousands of troops stationed there when he was a boy.*

WESTERN QLD RECONNAISSANCE TURNS UP WW2 PAST

Secret WWII base uncovered in Charleville

During the height of the World War II, 3500 United States Army Air Force personnel called a top secret base near Charleville their home, and now an interactive exhibition centre is telling their story and the role the region played during the conflict.



The air base was part of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's "Brisbane Line", a defence strategy that would have involved large areas of northern Australia surrendered in the event of a Japanese invasion.

The military outpost was home to thousands of soldiers as well as B-17 bombers and P-40 fighter planes, but its true purpose was to test top-secret military hardware used by US bombers.

Griffith Institute for Tourism Associate Professor Brent Moyle was tasked with bringing this history to life by Murweh Shire Council and the new interactive and education WWII Secret Base Exhibition is a culmination of his year's work.

"The Murweh Shire Council developed a tour to showcase the military heritage. However, many of the relics were crumbling away and at risk of being lost forever to other competing development priorities," he said.

Relics including an aircraft hangar, revetments, a building to house the top-secret Norden bombsight, living quarters for soldiers and nurses, kitchen and ablution blocks were built in secret during WWII.

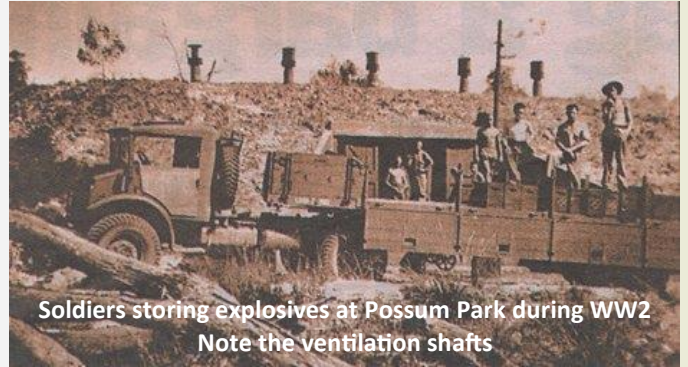
"How many other towns have a secret US air base active during WWII?" Dr Moyle said. *

A three year research and development project used 3D scanning to help tell the story of the base through augmented and virtual reality.

"We try to take visitors back to that point in time when the base was active, so we enlist them into the US military and simulate the journey on the ship from New York to Sydney, around the coast of Brazil and the train ride from Sydney to Charleville," Dr Moyle said.

For more information about this or to book, simply visit the Experience Charleville website. **STORY BY JARRARD POTTER**

WWII Ammunition Dump at Kowguran transformed to become Possum Park...



According to local tradition, the abandoned RAAF Explosives Reserve between Miles and Wandoan was always known as "the ammunition dump". Fenced off with warning KEEP OUT signs, the place was inspiration for endless curiosity and speculation among youngsters growing up in the area when I was a child. More recently, the State Government tried to turn the site into a toxic waste dump. Unsurprisingly there was loud opposition from the local community and happily, this did not proceed. Our own Andrew Bode was one of those who helped achieve this outcome. The place has now been developed as a tourist retreat known as Possum Park.

Nevertheless, the history of the old ammo dump is a fascinating one and we explore some of the background here.

Kowguran Explosives Depot came into existence as a World War 2 ammunition dump located 20 kilometres north of Miles in Queensland on the Leichhardt Highway. In its heyday many thousand tonnes of bombs etc were stored there in 20 underground concrete bunkers. The bunkers were dispersed around a heavily wooded hill and were linked by a ring road. The bunkers are 60 metres long and are covered by up to four metres of dirt and concrete.

Approval was granted in September 1942 to construct an RAAF Area Explosives Reserve at the locality known as Kowguran near Miles and the Queensland Main Roads Commission built the complex which included a reinforced concrete bomb storage building erected in the side of a hill. A 10 feet wide road was also constructed up to the entrance of this "bunker". A 16 feet wide road was constructed from the depot to the railway line employing 59 men on the project which had a total estimated value of £22,723.

The Area Explosives Reserve was manned by 3 Central Reserve (RAAF) which was formed at Kowguran 18 August 1943. The site is now a tourist accommodation destination.

<https://www.ozatwar.com/ozatwar/possumpark.htm>

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Hostilities declared to have ceased:

THE 1945 ST CATHARINE'S SAGA reported thus:

After six years of war, the news that hostilities had come to an end was difficult to believe. There was a spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm which showed itself in a variety of ways, but deep down in most hearts there was a real sense of gratitude to God for the deliverance of our country. We gratefully remember all who in any way contributed to Victory and pray that we may do our part to be worthy of them, and more particularly of the heroic dead who have laid down their lives for us.

Our girls (and boys) who were at school in 1945 still vividly recall the hard war years and the overwhelming sense of relief and exultation and, of course the celebrations in Warwick that followed. Much had changed in the intervening years and a period of further change and adjustment was to shortly follow. The Headmaster's report, an excerpt of which follows below, in December that year, was prepared in anticipation of this.

THE 1945 SLADE SCHOOL MAGAZINE:

Last year we were looking forward to the cessation of hostilities in Europe. We meet this year with the horrors of actual warfare past, and we are profoundly thankful for the victory that has been achieved, and for all that does, and will mean. One thing that lay heavily on the hearts of all Schoolmasters during the war years was the thought that

so many of those boys they were training were destined for the battle-front and possibly early death. Now, as one looks at those young faces, that thought is not present, and we have relief in, and draw hope from, the thought that they will be able to apply themselves to the task of peace, that they may with some confidence embark on a career, and we can point out to them many paths in which they can find opportunities of service, no less valuable to their country than that performed by their elder brothers in the years of the war. For there are many avenues of service today, and in all of them, as in the whole body politic, there is a need before all else of upright, God-fearing men who value integrity of character before personal gain or party advantage. The war has come to an end so far as the fighting itself is concerned, but it has left in its train many grave problems and the future is very misty and uncertain. There is still need of the high qualities of mind and spirit that were called forth by the war, and in the settlement of our many problems we shall require all the skill and brains, and all the unselfishness and spirit of comradeship that we can command.

The task of the schools is to that extent clear. Combined with education in the more limited sense of the word—the training in the various subjects which will give technical knowledge and skill required in the professions and industries—there is the

paramount need for character development. Whatever decisions may be reached about curricula, leaving age, examination standards and so forth, there is still the further task for the educator in striving to provide the State with citizens who are capable of producing, and worthy of inhabiting, a State where Freedom, Justice and Peace are realities.

There should then be no fear for the future of the Church Schools, since the need for them is so great. The peculiar conditions of the war years have brought increased members to our schools. This must surely have made many people realise the great advantages to be secured, and so we may confidently hope that the schools will be able to continue the work they are doing.

While the Baby Boomers amongst us grew up in the aftermath of war and knew bits and pieces of events parents and grandparents experienced, it is still hard for us to fully grasp what it must have really been like to live through it.

Reading through the **News of Old Boys** in the 1945-1948 Magazines there is a sense of the scope of transitioning and picking up the reins to resume some normality. We have already catalogued in the 2021 Anzac Extra Kinawah those we know of who gave their lives for our country and whose names are on the Roll of Honour for their sacrifice but there were a great many others of us who also served bravely and well. Here are some of them ...



They also served in WW2



The 2020 July August Kinawah included an abbreviated Spreadsheet listing all of those we are aware of who served in Vietnam. The list of Slade Old Boys below is confined to those who served in World War II, and does not include those mentioned in detail in the 2021 Anzac Extra who lost their lives while on active service and whom we are proud to acknowledge as rightfully belonging on our Roll of Honour. The men listed below are here because they are all mentioned in News of Old Boys in Slade Magazines of the year specified, [after the individual notations and in square brackets]. After 1948, News of Old Boys was not included for a time in the Slade magazine. Nevertheless, from the notations made in the 1945-1948 editions, it will be clear that the war impacted on them all in many different ways but it is heartwarming to see how they integrated back into life after their service and how many of them kept in such close contact with their old school, lending their support and focusing on raising money for the Memorial Fund. Ranks held while serving, where known, are included in maroon, and the information in square brackets indicates years they were at school and the year they died if this is known to us. Additional information we have been able to find is also included if available. If you or someone known to you is able to supply further details we would be grateful to hear from you as this will enable us to update our records. We are also doing our best to compile more complete records of service for the Korean War and would be grateful for any details of service for our past students in more recent conflicts.

LAC Donald Charles ADAMS [1941-1942-**Dec'd** 2019] stationed in Melbourne doing an aircraft electrician's course; awarded a Medal (OAM) in the General Division in the Australia Day awards 2011 for services to the aviation industry. [1945]

TPR Thomas James ALDRIDGE [1933-1935-**Dec'd** 2005] after a busy time is back in Beaudesert [1946]

PVT Roger James ARGÆT [1939-1941] is often seen to be speeding around the town on his motor cycle [1947]

FLGOFF Robert Ewan BECKER [1931-1941-**School Captain** 1941-**Dec'd** 2012] is doing Vet Science [1948]

SPR Reginald Norman BELLINGHAM [1936-1938-**Dec'd** 1996] in Caboolture [1946] scored the first try in the Reunion football match [1948]

FLGOFF Eric Ralph "Rusty" BLACKWOOD [1940-1941] (RAAF) has returned from overseas and was in Adelaide recently. [1945]

LAC Cedric Charles BOLDERY [1934-1938-**Dec'd** 1951] still in the Air Force, but doing a job at the University. [1945] went back on the land not far from Warwick. [1946]

LAC William Parker BOTTOMLEY [1940-1944-**Dec'd** 1970] (RAAF) is a Medical Orderly in the RAAF. [1945]



GNR Colin Arthur BRATCHFORD [1935-1936~Dec'd] returned from service in the Islands. [1945] has left Brisbane to take on wheat farming [1948]

CPL Alexander BROWN [1937-1940~Dec'd 2006] home on leave, hopes to be discharged soon. [1945]

LT David Dunlop BROWNSDON [1928-1935~Dec'd] was at the All Schools Swimming. He has just been discharged. [1945]

GNR Edward Robert BROWNSDON [1928-1929~Dec'd 1999] who was a POW has visited the school on several occasions and is an enthusiastic supporter of the Association. [1946]

William Webber BUDD [1941-1944~Dec'd 2012] (RAAF) visited the school recently. He is stationed at Oakey. [1945] Recently married, living in Brisbane and is with an Engineering firm. [1947]

SGT Matthew Hale CAMPBELL [1934-1936~Dec'd 2008] broke his collarbone in the football match against the school last reunion; enjoying himself on a motorbike which he has just purchased. [1946] has taken on the family hatchery at Aspley and finds it a full time job, in season and out. [1948]

SGT Eric CANTOR [1929-1930] has been released from the Army and is living at Ashfield, Sydney. [1945]

FSGT Maurice CLARSON [1940-1941] is still in the Air Force. [1945]

PVT Peter Ivor COLLAS [1936-1937~Dec'd 1993] doing a full time law course in his spare time; engaged to Miss Isobel McIntyre. [1948]

PVT Alexander "Algie" John Sidney COTTON [1941-1942~Dec'd 2019] spent some time on Alexandria Station after his discharge and is now hoping to go to England to take up photography. [1945]

LCDR Thomas Scott CREE DSC [1927-1931~Dec'd 1990] doing radio location work in the navy. (First Slade Old Boy to be decorated in WWII) [1945]

LT Malcolm CREED [1927-1931~School Captain 1931~Dec'd 1983] still on Balikpapan; first old boy to be married in school chapel - 20.5.39. [1945]

AB Richard Manlowe DAWES [1942-1943] entered Flinders Naval College during the war [1945] back with QANTAS after being in the Navy. [1947]

FSGT Cecil Charles DEAN [1926-1931~Dec'd 1982] is back in his old job at Inglewood. [1945]

FLGOFF Gerald Noel DIGHT [1930-1936~Dec'd 2006] home in Warwick recently [1945] on a sheep fattening property near the NSW and Victorian borders. [1947]

GNR Richard Henry "Snick" DONOVAN [1928-1931~Dec'd 2000] has managed to play quite a lot of cricket up in the islands [1945] opened the cricket season out west with a century; must also find time for gardening for we received a case of excellent vegetables from him for the Fair. [1948]

LAC Peter Robert ENRIGHT [1939-1941~Dec'd 2015] now a seasoned auctioneer at the wool sales; his work for the Memorial Fund is greatly appreciated; [1948] also achieved fame as an Australian Cricket Test Match Umpire.

Walter Maxwell FERRIS [1935-1936] has been discharged after service in the Middle East, New Guinea and Borneo. [1945]

George Sheridan FLETCHER [1928~Dec'd C1969] is now helping his uncle at "Glengarry", Mt Tyson, via Oakey. [1945]

CAPT Gordon Campbell FRIEND MBE [1927-1931~Dec'd 1995] proud father of a son. [1945]

CAPT John William FLOWER [1930-1933~Dec'd 1993] in Dalby where he represents the Neptune Oil Co. [1947]

MAJ Kenneth James FRIEND [1928-1932~School Captain 1932~Dec'd 1983] now a surveyor and was with Gordon on Bougainville [1945]

Thomas Wilfred GILLESPIE [1934~Dec'd C1996] a dive bomber in a Lancaster in England; served in both the Army (TPR) and RAAF (WOFF) [1945]

FLGOFF Bathurst Clive GRAYSON [1930-1933~Dec'd 1997] called in at the school recently. He spent about four years in England where he married a Viennese girl. [1945]

FLTLT Thomas Isgar GUNN [1927-1932~Dec'd 1987] has been discharged and is spending a holiday at Bundaberg with his wife and daughter before returning to work on the family property at St George. [1945]

PVT Andrew William HAIG [1939-1940] deserting the west for a property near Allora. [1945]

LAC Geoffrey Walter HAMMOND [1941-1943~Dec'd C1982] (RAAF) visited the school during the year. [1945] still at Dirranbandi [1948]

SQNLDR Staveley Frederick Norton HICKSON [1929-1931~Dec'd 2004] Paid us a visit recently; just been discharged and has taken a job in Sydney. "Jim" was awarded AM for services to Commerce. [1945]

LAC Allan James HOOD [1929-1931~Dec'd 1957] expects to be a fully qualified wood machinist next year and plans to return to Gatton. [1945]

FLGOFF Francis Gilbert HUTTON [1926-1929~School Captain 1929~Dec'd 1993] with Commonwealth Government's Legal Department in Brisbane. [1946]

WOFF Oswald Arthur JOHNSTONE [1937-1942~Dec'd 1989] in England as an Air Navigator Instructor and has become very fond of the Irish Sea by night. [1945]

CFMN Francis John KEENAN [1928-1934~Dec'd 2002] was married and after several years in the army is now back at Dalveen. [1946]

LT William David KILGOUR [1930-1931~Dec'd 1990] recently spent his leave at Caloundra. [1945] An enthusiastic member of the Association and working in Brisbane. [1946]

FLGOFF Robert Bruce KILLE [1940-1941~Dec'd 1983] has been discharged from the RAAF; doing a draftsmanship course with Evans Deakin. [1945] studying hard but has been able to find time to become a well known member of the Surfers' Paradise Life Saving Association [1947] just finished his diploma course in Engineering. He had a very successful year in football, playing in all Bulimba Cup matches for Brisbane; to be married this year. [1948]

LT Leonard John LOMAS [1931-1938] is with the Con. Depot at Burleigh. [1945]

CAPT Philip James Rhodes LOMAX [1928-1935~Dec'd 1980]

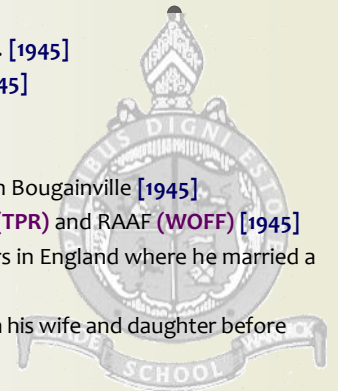
LT Claude Henry MACE [1929-1932~Dec'd 1995] is back at Goondiwindi and has a daughter. [1945]

PVT Ernest Clyde MCNELLEY [1936-1939~Dec'd 2000] has returned to their property "Dalkeith", at St George. [1945]

LAC Thomas Edgar MILWARD [1938-1939~Dec'd 1971] and **Peter Enright** (RAAF) both stationed at Oakey and visited the school for All Schools' Athletics [1945] married and running a business in Brisbane [1948]

SGT Wallace Layton MITCHELL [1939-1943~School Captain 1942~Dec'd 2006] back in Nindigully and thinking of going to University next year; [1945] with New Zealand Loan in Goulburn (Vic) and is still doing well in sport. [1948]

FLTLT Edward Kenneth MORTON [1933-1936~Dec'd 1969] is a dental officer with the RAAF and was on Tarakan. [1945]





PVT Roy Alexander MUIR [1926-1928 School Captain 1927-Dec'd 1972] first Old Boy to be made President of the Association ... still finds enough time to keep the South Brisbane Library ticking over as well as being able to spare a few minutes with any Old Boys who drop in. [1946]

Ronald Robert Warren MYRING [1932-1933-Dec'd 1997] (RAAF) has returned from England, where he was lucky to see the Fourth Test. [1945]

TPR James Robert NICHOLLS [1931-1933] was in the Armoured Division and then the Commandos. [1945]

GNR William Clayton NICHOLLS [1931-1933] found two other Old Boys in his battery, **Clive Manchee** and **Jim Brosnan**. [1945]

FLGOFF Gerald NOEL [1930-1936-Dec'd] was home in Warwick recently. [1945]

WOFF William Atherton NYE [1934-1936-Dec'd 1999] married in a very old Elizabethan Church just outside London; arrived home recently. [1945] Bill is back with a Scottish bride and is now on the land out from Chillagoe. [1946]

SGT Edward Alexander OERTON [1938-1939-Dec'd 2001] with the Repatriation Department; recently announced his engagement to AWAS Sgt Daphne Rees Jones. [1945]

FSGT Raymond Donald O'CONNOR [1936-Dec'd 2002] who returned with a Canadian bride is working in Southport [1947]

FSGT Francis Charles POLLARD [1934-1940-Dec'd 1960] also on leave recently; [1945] after being discharged from the RAAF is flying again. [1946] Flying with a company operating between Townsville and My Isa. [1947] Sadly, Frank met his end in a TAA Fokker-which crashed off Mackay Qld.

LAC Percival Henry POWER [1939-1942-School Captain 1942-Dec'd 2004] was in Germany recently; [1945] with the Taxation Department. [1948]

SPR Charles Arthur St John PRATT [1930-1932-Dec'd 1993] was with the Commandos. [1945]

LAC Francis Owen REES [1928-1929-Dec'd 1998] is back in the Bank of NSW at Killarney and is busy with civic centre plans. [1945]

SSGT Edward McGowan ROWLAND [1926-1934-Dec'd 1991] on leave recently; [1945] partnered with Jim Ferrier in an exhibition golf match in Stanthorpe [1948]

SPR Eric Wallace SHORTT [1935-1936] who is in the Islands, sent a very handsome cheque to purchase equipment for the Science Lab.

SGT Ardie Reginald SLAUGHTER [1928-1929-Dec'd 2005] and **LAC Gordon Howard SLAUGHTER [1939-1940-Dec'd 1981]** are running Australian Estates in Roma. [1948]

MAJ John Bingham Sheridan STABLE [1931-1932-Dec'd C2008] recently engaged to A.A.M.W.S. Neth Hutchison of Murgon. [1945]

CPL Paul Gray STEPHENSON [1930-1934-Dec'd 1992] married and in Brisbane studying under the Rehab. Scheme. [1946]

SPR Dyson TAYLOR [1936-1937-Dec'd] married last June; [1945] Dyson and his brother, Ian operating a tank sinking plant around St George [1946].

Jack TAYLOR [exactly which Jack Taylor is unclear] is a keen supporter of the Association and is arranging some tennis afternoons in aid of the Memorial Fund. [1948]

SPR William Ronald Ian TAYLOR [1935-1938-Dec'd] in town a few weeks ago to shake off some Western dust; [1947]

WOFF Philip Raglan THOMAS [1937-1940-Dec'd 2003] expected home early in the new year after three years service in England. [1945] at the new branch of the Commonwealth Bank Coorparoo; during the year Warwick seemed to hold special attraction for him, and we have seen him quite often. He has ably aided Peter Enright in the Memorial Fund. [1948]

FLGOFF John Clarence TODD [1937-1940-Dec'd 1981] visited the school with **Fred Murray** and **Bob Thomas** on Labour Day, and with **Les Stabler**, took on the First Tennis Four and were narrowly defeated; has since been discharged and is working at home with brothers Geoff and Ron. [1945]

LCpl Colin James TUCKFIELD [1938-1939-Dec'd] with the Department of Health and Home Affairs, Brisbane [1948] Colin's family placed a window in the school chapel in memory of Colin just prior to the school's closure.

GNR Maurice Edmund UNDERWOOD [1934-Dec'd 20013] recently purchased a car and is back with the Queensland Trustees after being a POW [1946]

WOFF Douglas Briand UNWIN [1939-1940-Dec'd] recently returned from England, and has started work again with the Commercial Bank of Sydney. [1945] boring for oil in New Guinea and was in Brisbane recently [1948]

AC2 Franklin David UNWIN [1941-1944-Dec'd 2001] with Hume Steel in Townsville and expects to return to Brisbane shortly. [1948]

FLGOFF William Henry Nugent WALSH [1931-1934-Dec'd] with the Australian Estates Co. and spends a lot of time in the country. [1947]

LAC Desmond Fitzhursht WILLIAMS [1938-1939-Dec'd] is growing very bored sitting on a desert island. [1945]

FLTLT Geoffrey Cullen Graham WILSON [1940-1943-Dec'd] with the RAAF at Pt Cook [1948]

CAPT John Stuart WINTERFLOOD [1936-Dec'd] hopeful of going to England next year to further studies in Engineering [1946] His posting at time of discharge was 2/3 AUST CMDO SQN. He was awarded the Military Cross. Still in England and spent a few days with the Rev. A.E. Hughes, the previous Headmaster [1947] Said to be in Tokyo [1948]

There were a good many other Slade Old Boys who fought for King and Country in World War II including our most decorated WW2 soldier, Captain Francis Joseph Hoddinot MC DCM who was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in Syria and the Military Cross in New Guinea. Those who have been mentioned above are those who kept in touch with the School and the Association in the years immediately following the War and thus were mentioned, as previously stated, in Slade magazines which is where the information was obtained. The 1946 Slade Magazine reported that the much anticipated Old Boys Reunion that year was the first to take place since the War and was an outstanding success. At least 75 journeyed to Warwick to take part in the festivities. The date of future Annual Reunions was changed to the King's Birthday Holiday and members were asked to bear this in mind so as to be able to arrange to be in Warwick for that weekend. Abbreviations for Military ranks are as indicated below.

AB	Able Seaman RAN	FSGT	Flight Sergeant RAAF	RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
AC2	Senior Aircraftman RAAF	GNR	Gunner Royal Australian Artillery	RAN	Royal Australian Navy
AWAS	Australian Women's Army Service	GPCAPT	Group Captain RAAF	SGT	Sergeant Australian Army
CAPT	Captain Australian Army	LAC	Leading Aircraftman RAAF	SPR	Sapper
CFMN	Craftsman Australian Army	LCDR	Lieutenant Commander RAN	SSGT	Staff Sergeant Australian Army
CPL	Corporal Australian Army	LCpl	Lance Corporal Australian Army	TPR	Trooper
FLTLT	Flight Lieutenant RAAF	LT	Lieutenant Australian Army	WOFF	Warrant Officer RAAF
FLGOFF	Flying Officer RAAF	PVT	Private Australian Army		

Ed Wickham: Mt Lamington eruption

Mt Lamington is located in Oro Province, Papua New Guinea, and is within sight of the provincial capital of Popondetta. Mt Lamington erupted on January 21st 1951, with no known prior volcanic activity. Pyroclastic flows killed everything in a 200 square mile radius of Mt Lamington.

Just after 10.30 am on Sunday morning January 21st 1951, a paroxysmal explosion released a cloud of intense heat and massive force. The sound of the blast carried over 80 miles and the dust fell on Port Moresby. Within an area of 60 square miles, there was almost complete devastation. The District headquarters of Higaturu, the Commonwealth Rehabilitation and Training School, Sangara Anglican Mission Station, Martyrs' Memorial School, Sombou Primary School, and 29 villages were swept by the lethal cloud.



The death toll of the Mt. Lamington eruption were reported as:

- * 3,256 Orokaivan People in 29 villages
- * 210 Schoolchildren from Martyrs' and Sombou Schools.
- * 35 Europeans including Anglican missionaries.
- * 90 Papuan policemen and their families.
- * 75 Prisoners including 59 wartime troublemakers
- * 15 Papuan Medical Orderlies
- * 48 Papuan Labourers
- * 11 Papuan Missionaries and their families

A plaque built to the memory of those who lost their lives in the eruption, was unveiled by the Minister of State for Territories, Paul Hasluck in Popondetta on November 24th 1952.

Several accounts of the Mt Lamington volcanic eruption are available on the internet, including an article written by Maclaren Hiari entitled "The Mt Lamington Tragedy Remembered", a feature article in the Sunday Bulletin, a local PNG newspaper. January 2021 saw the 70th anniversary of the eruption commemorated as reported on www.pngattitude.com.

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The Mt Lamington volcanic eruption for me had a connection with St Catharine's CEGS / Slade. I can only presume that there are others, either Australian or Papuan, who attended St Catharine's CEGS / Slade that have connections to the Mt Lamington eruption.

Father Denis Taylor, Priest-in-Charge of Sangara Anglican Mission Station married Leslie Irene Wickham. They and their children all perished as a result of the eruption. Leslie Irene Wickham and several of her sisters attended St Catharine's CEGS and two of her three brothers attended Slade.

EDITOR'S NOTE: As we are all now aware, this catastrophic event saw the end of Byam Roberts tenure as Headmaster of Slade as almost immediately after this, he departed post haste for Papua New Guinea to oversee the rebuilding of the Mission School...another postscript in the history of Slade School.



4 Headmasters—4 WW2 Servicemen



Our past students were not the only members of the Slade community with first-hand experience of serving in WW2 but we will confine ourselves here purely to Slade Headmasters who did.

John Deshon recalls that both Peter Mayhew and Eddie Prince were acutely aware of the boys at Slade who had lost parents during WW2, saying "Rob and I, and our cousins Bill and Doug, were among them. Our dad served in RAF Bomber Command (all RAAF personnel were included) and was killed when his Wellington crashed in 1944. Bill and Doug's dad died the next year on the Sandakan death march. Peter and I spent a day together when he visited Australia during the eighties, and I visited him, then in his dotage, when I lived in Oxford.

"Eddie watched over me for many years - Scouting, University career, Air Force service, School Council. He wrote a lovely letter when I was appointed AM in 1998 and came down from Warwick for Pam's, [John's late wife], funeral in Brisbane in 2000. I presented a eulogy at his own funeral, now just over 10 years ago."

REV. PETER MAYHEW MBE 1910-2001 B.Sc (Econ). Dip Ed. (Oxon):

British Army Chaplain, Peter Mayhew, also known as "Pedro", was Headmaster of Slade School from 1953 to 1958. He exchanged his position as vicar of St Aidan's Parish in Leeds, for that of a Bush Brother to take charge of Slade School. The 1958 school magazine outlines Peter Mayhew's story, noting his belief that knowledge of subject matter and students is as necessary for the Headmaster as for the teacher. Further, his wide and lively intellectual interests and administrative skills extended across the spectrum; his priesthood enabled him to bring to his work that most invaluable quality which cannot be taught from colleges and may not always be developed in practice; this roughly speaking, this might be called largeness of heart." Educated on both sides of the Atlantic, and as a Chaplain to the Forces, "Pedro" served in the evacuation of Dunkirk, in India and in Burma during World War II, where he was "Mentioned in Dispatches" and awarded the MBE. During his time at Slade he demonstrated light-heartedness in dealing with others, yet was himself rigorously self-disciplined. This intrinsic quality governing his life at Slade coupled with refusal to let his spiritual life and pastoral office be squeezed out by the many material and emotional pressures round him as Headmaster. Peter eventually returned to England following his Australian service. He is SCPSA Honorary Life Member No 7.



KEITH DAN 1924-2009 B.A., Th. A., M.A.C.E.:

LAC Keith Alexander DAN Service No. 446119 enlisted in the RAAF in Sydney, 13 February 1945 where his superior mathematical skills were soon put to use. Discharged 22 October 1945, when peace was declared, Keith joined the staff of Slade School shortly after as a young man of 22 in 1946 and became the resident Master at Highfields, which was where the very young boys attending Slade lived and were cared for. Keith had been awarded a Mason's Scholarship to Sydney university, where he achieved First Class Honours in Arts majoring in Latin and Greek, subsequently studying Theology so that he felt qualified to conduct Evensong at Slade which many of his past students will remember him doing. Keith was an outstanding coach in all fields of sport, but was also a man with a complete mastery of languages and mathematics. As a secondary school teacher, he went on to become first Deputy Headmaster, and then Headmaster of Slade until he left in 1966. He then went on to teach Mathematics at Churchie, and became Head of that Faculty at that School and the author of several books which came to be widely used as Text Books for Mathematics. He retired from Churchie after twenty-four years service there in 1990. Past Slade students Bishops Adrian Charles and Rob Nolan had the honour of officiating at his funeral. Keith Dan is SCPSA Honorary Life Member No 5.



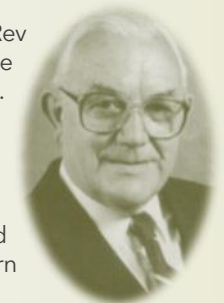
HORACE WHYBIRD: 1926-1973 B.A., A.Ed.:

LAC Horace John Whybird Service No. 453317 enlisted in the RAAF in Brisbane, 20 March 1945 just a few months before the end of World War II. He was discharged 7 August, 1945 and posting at time of enlistment was No 7 Stores Depot, Harristown, Toowoomba, a venue known to those Slade boys who spent time there for Cadet Camps. Informally known as Horrie, he graduated as an external student from the University of Queensland and came to Slade in Warwick as Headmaster in 1967 aged 39, bringing his wife and four of his five children with him to substantially boost the enrolments of both Slade and St Catharine's. His immediate previous appointment was as Deputy Headmaster of Ipswich Grammar School. Prior to that he had taught for three years at All Souls' Charters Towers and for five years at Toowoomba Grammar School. He had also been Senior Maths Master at Ipswich where he was also heavily involved in Rugby Union and Cadets at camps in Canungra. His final year at Slade was 1973 after which time he was appointed to Mt Gravatt Teachers' College with the position of Audio Visual Lecturer.



EDWARD PRINCE: 1923-2011

A Major in the British Army, Edward Prince was serving in Burma during World War II when he met the Rev Peter Mayhew who was there as an army chaplain. Some years later, Peter Mayhew became Headmaster of Slade and when staff at the school were needed he remembered Eddie Prince with whom he had kept in regular contact. So it was that in 1956 Eddie became a teaching master at Slade, a position he held with pride for some seventeen years until 1973, when he in turn was appointed Headmaster, remaining as such until he retired in 1990, thus becoming the school's longest serving master and Headmaster, having been at the School for thirty-four years. In his retirement, he continued to live in Warwick not far from Slade, and during that time wrote several books including "Sir" and "Yes Sir," the second one of which has become a history of his time at Slade. He had an exceptional ability for art, and his penned sketches and paintings of buildings throughout South Eastern Queensland are recognised for their attention to detail. Eddie is SCPSA Honorary Life Member No 8.



Matron C.M. Hurford: the years after Slade



Matron Hurford came to our notice recently in the July August Kinawah as part of the "Gargling at Slade" story. She filled the position of Matron there beginning in 1933, working for Headmaster Rev. Cecil Newton Pell during the dark and difficult days of the Great Depression. History, of course, reveals that World War II led to even darker days when but a few years later, war was declared in 1939. For Catherine Maud Hurford, this included enlisting in the Australian Army Nursing Service, where she no doubt felt keenly that many of the boys she had been caring for were approaching an age when they would be enlisting. This photo from the Australian War Memorial collection, taken at Alice Springs, NT. 1942-12-01 is captioned thus:

GROUP OF MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE SERVING WITH 109 AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL

Left to Right:- Back Row - Sister M.W. FORSYTHE, Sister M.D. HAMILTON, Sister A.P. CUSSEN, Sister F.J. DEANE, Sister R.R. DUNSTER, Sister J.G. DODGSON, Sister J.R. GILBERT, Sister E.G. FORDHAM, Sister V.A. DUNHILL, Sister A. WIDDOWSON, Front Row - Sister K. CONCANNON, Sister S. GREEN, Sister H.H. HONNER, Sister E. GOYDER, Sister C.J. CHILD, Matron S.J. HAINES, Sister I.L.M. MADDY, Sister V.L. DOYLE, Sister L.B. ALCHIN, Sister H.M. GEISLER and Sister C.M. HURFORD.



← Sister Hurford would have been posted to various hospitals and locations during her service. This pic, also part of the Australian War Memorial collection, gives us an inkling of what the conditions that she lived and worked in may have been like. Anyone who has visited Darwin, is familiar with its tropical heat /ambient temperatures and what they are like and will keenly appreciate the demands of being uniformed the way old school nursing staff were obliged to be.

Here is the official caption for the photo:

DARWIN, NT. 1944-12-23. AN INFORMAL GROUP PORTRAIT OF RAAF AND ARMY NURSING SERVICE CHIEFS, OUTSIDE PRINCIPAL MATRON S. J. HAINES' HOUSE.

Left to right: Sister C. M. Hurford; Matron-in-Chief M. Lang; Matron Haines and Matron C. J. McRae.

Note the rudimentary nature of the house with its bark roof.

No doubt many wounded servicemen have reason to be grateful (if only in retrospect) for the care given by those who nursed them. Darwin was bombed in February 1942. It was also where Australian WWII troops were sent for jungle training prior to shipping out for the Middle East. They were quartered at Vestey's Meatworks while they were there. Sister Hurford may well have been in Darwin at this time. The final photo in this collection is captioned as follows and provides a little more information about a lady who was briefly a part of our collective past:

← **DARWIN, NT. 1944-12-23. RAAF AND ARMY NURSING SERVICE CHIEFS AT THE LUNCH TABLE AT THE HOUSE OF PRINCIPAL MATRON S. J. HAINES OF HOBART, TAS, SENIOR ARMY SISTER IN THE AREA, DURING A TOUR OF INSPECTION BY RAAF NURSING SERVICE MATRON-IN-CHIEF M. LANG.**

Left to right: Sister C. M. Hurford of Tenterfield, NSW; Matron C. J. McRae of Glen Innes, NSW; Matron Lang and Matron Haines.



S/N QFX 22714 Pauline Blanche Hempsted



BORN 9 SEPTEMBER, 1908, Pauline Blanche Hempsted was the daughter of Percy and Bertha Louisa Hempsted, from Brisbane's riverside suburb of East Graceville.

We understand that Pauline, more familiarly known as Blanche, attended St Catharine's in Stanthorpe for a time, but her name also appears among the alumni of St Margaret's, Ascot where, according to their records, she was enrolled in 1922. After graduating, she trained at Brisbane General Hospital between 1934 and 1938 and enlisted in the Australian Army in 1941. Ranks held during her service are listed as Lieutenant and Captain.

She was attached to the 13th Australian General Hospital in Malaya/Singapore where she cared for patients wounded from various attacks by the Japanese.

Captain Hempsted was one of 65 Australian nurses and over 250 civilian men, women and children evacuated on the SS Vyner Brooke, one of the last ships to leave Singapore before its fall three days later. The Vyner Brooke was bombed by Japanese aircraft and sunk in Banka Strait on 14 February 1942. Captain Hempsted was among 32 of the 65 nurses who survived the sinking and were captured as Prisoners of War.

Records indicate S/N QFX 22714 Pauline Blanche Hempsted died in the Muntok prison camp on 19 March 1945 at age 36, puffed-up with Beriberi which eventually reached her heart. The notation is added that this hard-working nurse could survive no longer.

Her grave was moved after the war to the Jakarta War Cemetery DWC-1 Plot 5 Row 6 Grave 5.

The funerals of the nurses were carried out with full military honours. The sisters, wearing their tattered uniforms, slow marched behind the coffins. Even the Japanese realised that the occasions were of great significance and often stood to

attention as their mark of respect.

Pauline is honoured on St Margaret's website as one of many inspirational Old Girls who, after leaving the school gates, were quickly thrust from schoolgirls to courageous women serving for Australia in times of conflict, often in places far from home shores.

The following is extracted from Sarah Fulford's *Training, ethos, camaraderie and endurance of World War Two Australian POW nurses*. [Note the spelling of Blanche's last name is Hempsted in her enlistment photo, but she is referred to as Hempstead in the memoirs of her fellow captives].

The accounts in the nurses' memoirs include a humorous explanation of events despite the serious situation the women were in. Blanche Hempstead is a specific focus in several the stories. They had agreed as a group to not accept liquor from their Japanese captors. When one enquired what Australian women drank, Hempstead who "...could drink and swear with the best of the cattle drivers, replied in a sweetly innocent voice that 'Australian girls were nice and did not drink alcohol...' "this statement bringing much mirth from the nurses who heard it, "if Vivian [Bullwinkel] had not controlled herself she would have burst out laughing at this ridiculous statement".

“ Hempsted administered not only prescribed medicines but much home-spun common sense. ”

Jessie Simons also referred to Hempstead's reaction. "The girl addressed had often drunk too much of what was not good for her.... Despite the gravity of our plight, I nearly burst out laughing as I caught her eye".

The women refused the Japanese advances throughout the night and the majority were sent home with a small group forced to stay. They had been chosen before the night began by the nurses for their apparent ability to outwit the Japanese.

The memoirs maintain that this group was finally allowed to return to the other nurses without incident. Blanche Hempstead had a cough and pretended to have tuberculosis, barking and barking until the Japanese sent her home.

Vivian Bullwinkel recorded another altercation in which Blanche Hempstead told one of the civilians that she needed to: "...belt up or there

would be a bloody big blue". Bullwinkel emphasised the group comradeship when she described Nesta James coming to the defence of Hempstead when they were questioned by their captors over the incident. James told the Japanese guard that the Australian women would not be bullied by other internees.

The cough Blanche pretended was tuberculosis at the beginning of internment, probably indicated she had cancer and she was the next to die. Through her larrikinism, Hempstead always brought laughter to their difficult existence. She was known for her hard work, which undoubtedly hastened her death. When she realised that death was inevitable, she apologised to her friends for taking so long to die. Hempstead's apology is reiterated in a number of the nurses' stories. "In the end she must have known she would not get well, because she apologised to one of her friends who was sitting there with her for taking so long to die. She died half an hour later".

The following is taken from: *The Story of 13th Australian General Hospital; 8th Division; 2nd A. I. F.; 1941 – 1945*:

When twenty casualties were unloaded from ambulances on February 1st (1942) very late at night, diagnosed as suffering from a variety of fevers caught in the swamps and jungles, S/N Hempsted immediately took them under her wing and administered not only prescribed medicines but much home-spun common sense. Patients were there to be made fit and well as soon as possible and Nurse Hempsted endeavoured to gain patient co-operation to make this a reality.

St Margaret's is proud to claim Pauline as one of many inspirational Old Girls who, after leaving the school gates, were quickly thrust from school girls to courageous women serving for Australia in times of conflict, often in places far from home shores, as are we of SCPSA.

Resources: <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/631826> and <http://muntokpeacemuseum.org>

This illustration of the Camp and Jail at Muntok is from the publication, *The Palembang and Muntok Internees of WW2*





Our girls also served in WW2

The information we have about the girls among our past students who served in World War II is a little more limited as are details concerning the trajectory their lives took afterwards for all of the usual reasons. We are however, just as proud of all of them and their service as we are of our Old Boys and are keen to update our records wherever possible. Let us know if you have more information.



LTCOL Anna Ruth BONNER QFX44617 born 1901 Tenterfield NSW dec'd 1998; Served 1940-1945 attended St Catharine's CEHS Stanthorpe

LCPL Patricia Frances JEFFERIES QF271690 born 1921 Warwick QLD dec'd 1993; Served 1943-1945 attended CEGS Warwick

LDG Writer Blanche Alice LAWLESS-PYNE WR/666 born 1924 Brisbane; Served 1943-1946 attended St Catharine's Warwick

Barnes House Athletics Captain 1939; Junior 1941 mentioned in Old Girls Notes 1943 as having joined the WRANS

CPL RAAF Betty MALONEY nee Armstrong 98950 born 1915 Charleville dec'd 2008 Served 1943-1945 attended St Catharine's Stanthorpe

GNR Patricia Mary MCLEAN nee Luscombe QF270810 born 1920 Thursday Island dec'd 2004; Served 1943-1944 attended CEGS Warwick

Mentioned in Old Girls Notes in 1939 St Catharine's School Chronicle as having completed Teacher Training and working in a western QLD school (before enlisting in the service).

LT Doris May PIERPOINT QFX489902 born 1916 Stanthorpe QLD dec'd; Served 1942-1944 Australian Army Nursing Service attended St Catharine's Stanthorpe 1931-1936

PVT Marjorie Joan YOUNG QX4100 born 1927 Toowoomba dec'd 2002; Served 1942-1946 Australian Army Medical Womens Services; attended CEGS Warwick



Beryl JENSEN nee Griffiths mentioned in 1943 *The Saga* as joining the AWLA: attended St Catharine's Warwick 1937-40

Bernice PARINA nee Harding mentioned in 1944 *The Saga* as serving in the WAAFS; attended St Catharine's Warwick

Eileen RIGALL mentioned in 1943 *The Saga* as joining the AAMWS

Thelma SNOWBALL nee Fraser mentioned in 1943 *The Saga* as joining the WRANS

Patricia TWEEDIE mentioned in 1944 *The Saga* as serving in the AAMWS; attended St Catharine's Warwick 1934-34

Jean WALKER nee Turner mentioned in 1945 *The Saga* as joining the AWLA: attended St Catharine's Warwick 1942



WW2/PNG links St Catharine's/Slade

CEGS 100 Year souvenir booklet, '*Gone But Not Forgotten*' briefly notes among the significant milestones for the school that in 1950 the dwelling adjacent to Mytton House that had been converted into cubicles and dressing rooms for 16 senior girls had been named **Parkinson House** in memory of **Mavis Parkinson**, known as one of the New Guinea martyrs.

Here is the story of the New Guinea Martyrs.

Mavis Parkinson and May Hayman, two Anglican missionaries, stationed at Gona, fled into the jungle with local Anglican priest, Father James Benson, when the Japanese landed on 21 July 1942.

One of the first to arrive at the abandoned mission site were 2nd Lt IDA and his embarkation squad. A small building nestled among the sago palms in the gathering gloom was recognised as not a native hut but a western-style building. Just as the squad entered, the phone rang. Picking up the receiver they heard a flustered voice order in English: "Head for Kokoda immediately!"

Realising they had just missed the escaped occupants of the building, they set off to find them.

May Hayman was a nurse who ran the missionary clinic. Mavis Parkinson was the teacher at the missionary school. They survived for several months in the jungle with the assistance of Father Benson, local villagers, and a small group of Australian and American soldiers and airmen. They were ultimately delivered to the Japanese by a village councillor after the servicemen were killed and Father Benson escaped.

According to a local witness, they were executed by the Japanese at Ururu Plantation after they refused to reveal any information during interrogation. In February 1943, after the Japanese were defeated in the area, the bodies of the two women were recovered and re-interred at Sangara mission station.

Mavis's father was William Bretherton Parkinson. Neville James Parkinson attended Slade 1961-62 and Neville's first cousin, Paul William Masson was at Slade 1967-68. William is a name that appears frequently in both the Masson and Parkinson families so our connection to this martyred teacher may be even closer than we knew.

Mavis Doreen Parkinson attended Ipswich Girls Grammar School 1930-1931. She made the decision to serve as an Anglican Missionary and ten years after leaving IGGs, was the Teacher-in-Charge at Gona in Papua New Guinea. **

** this information and image of Mavis Parkinson is from the IGGs archives.



Valé

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

Seamus Ryan 2001 - 2021

Unhappily, Seamus is the first of our Warwick Christian College past students to be included in our vale notices. As reported, he suffered a seizure and died in his sleep. The following details are exactly as they appeared in mytributes online and as formally listed by Warwick Funerals.

A private service for Seamus, 16th September was followed by a public celebration of his life at the Warwick Wolves Oval (soccer field), Queen's Park, Warwick.



RYAN Seamus Patrick late of Rosenthal Heights, Warwick passed unexpectedly 31st August 2021, aged 20 years.

Cherished son of Brendan and Sharon, adored brother of Nella and Niamh, much loved partner of Stephanie. Loved by many.

“A Life Well Lived”

Grace Quach's tribute to Seamus follows below.

Seamus Ryan spent his first nine years of school at Warwick Christian College and was amongst the first students to attend the College. He was a valued member of our College and the Warwick community. Seamus never failed to bring life to the classroom and a smile to our faces; he was my favourite class clown. The one thing I will always remember about Seamus was his passion, whenever he found something, he was passionate about, he put his all into it. Seamus was determined and dedicated to learning everything he needed to know about his sports, work, and his animals, and he did it with pride. I'm forever grateful to have known Seamus and I'm shattered that we have lost such a beautiful soul. My heart goes out to the Ryan family, and his beautiful partner, Stephanie. I know that Seamus is now at peace with our Heavenly Father and enjoying looking after all the birds up in heaven.



Graham Wood 1934 - 2021



WOOD Graham Edwin (Fuffy), late of The Gap and formerly of Surat passed away 26th September, 2021 aged 87 years. Graham was at Slade 1946-1951 and was a member of the First XI in 1951. After leaving Slade, Graham worked as an agent for Dalgety and was branch manager at Surat for many years. Professionally, he is remembered as an outstanding agent and mentor and on a more personal level as a dear friend and mate.

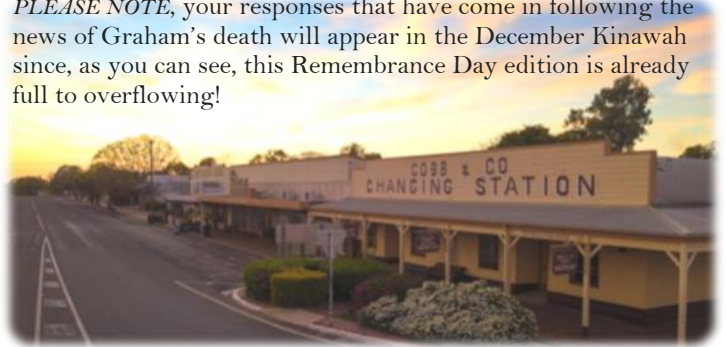
Notice as per the Courier Mail 29/09/2021:

Husband of Marcia, father of Nicky, Tammy and David, grandfather of 10, great-grandfather of 11. Called by the angels to his last auction sale. Sale-oh, sale-oh!

A livestreamed farewell for Graham was held at George Hartnett Metropolitan Chapel Kelvin Grove Road 30th September, 2021. Graham's valette is as follows.

G. Wood, 1946-51, Captain, Barnes House, 1951; Junior, 1949; Scholarship, 1947; Colours in Cricket, Football, Tennis; Half-Colours in Swimming; Athletics Team; Cadet C.S.M.

PLEASE NOTE, your responses that have come in following the news of Graham's death will appear in the December Kinawah since, as you can see, this Remembrance Day edition is already full to overflowing!



Errol Donovan 1938 - 2021



DONOVAN Errol Charles, late of Texas passed away on 1st October 2021 aged 83 years. A service celebrating Errol's life was held at All Saints Anglican Church Texas, 11th October 2021 where Errol was remembered as beloved husband of Heather, father and father-in-law of Craig and Jess, Wayne and Kathy, Myles and Melissa; Loving Papa to seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

After school Errol worked with his father on his properties until towards the end of 1963 when he moved to "Euroka", Toobeah, to run this, his own property. He sold "Euroka" in 1978 and bought "Oakleigh" at Texas which he worked until he retired to Texas.

Our grateful thanks are owed to Heather Donovan who kindly supplied the above information and Errol's photo as shown here.

Errol's Valette is as follows.

E. Donovan, 1948-55; Scholarship 1952; Junior 1954; Colours in Cricket; Half Colours in Football.

“When you are in the service of your fellow beings, you are in the service of God.” Anonymous

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

As always, we are deeply appreciative of information that you are able to contribute about any of our number we have lost. Please be sure to pass on anything that should be included in our Valé or Obituary notices.

Worthy of their Forefathers



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.



What we're talking about on Facebook...

Facebook is the 21st Century way to find out many things. Kathy Fabila (1972-1975) took the initiative of establishing this page as a way for past students to connect with one another in a respectful, non-confrontational way.

Our aim: to get everyone connected again, to share stories, our families, continue friendships from where we left off decades ago and get some conversations going...like this!

JOAN CLOTHIER WHITE 26 SEPTEMBER:

Here is a story about an old Slade boy, Adrian Wockner and his wife, Gail who have made a big splash with their Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers efforts. Adrian was at Slade 1962-1963.



High Country Herald 11 December 2018

The funds raised by Adrian and Gail Wockner during the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers week have already been put to use by the LifeFlight Toowoomba Base. The Wockner's, of 4

Horizon Court Highfields, were one of four gardens involved in The Chronicle's Garden Exhibition and raised a total of \$17,927. In total, \$11,250 was made at the gate which saw more than 3000 people pass through it, with a further \$6677 generated by the sale of raffle tickets, coffee, cakes and crafts in the back yard. Here, Adrian and Gail are with QAS Critical Care Paramedic, Simon Cadzow, Aircrew Officer, Leigh Aynsley and Engineer, Mike Smit.

BRIAN REYNOLDS: Well done to them.

MARGARET MELTON: That's awesome.

MARGARET STEWART: Well done!

PAM CHRISTOPHER: **CONGRATULATIONS** on helping such a wonderful charity.

GARY WALL: Too deadly Adrian and Gail

WILLIAM DOCHERTY 19 SEPTEMBER:

Went to pick up my sister Michelle from Blackwater, so we decided to go n see Albert Rankin, Fiona Peckham n I (William Docherty)

