



# KINAWAH

VOLUME 2025

MARCH APRIL EDITION



## "Fallen in the cause of the free"

### SCPSA IS PROUD TO HONOUR ANZAC DAY

#### IN THIS ISSUE

SCPSA is proud to honour Anzac Day	1
Editor's Notes	2
2024/2025 Committee	2
Johnno's Corner	3
2025 Brekky Creek Lunch	3
What you said: hearing back from our readers	4
Keeping up Appearances	4
"Dropped out of sight" list	4
The Australian Light Horse, a proud tradition	5
Slade: saleable product/priceless legacy conserved	6
Landmark moments in the history of Slade #1	7
First Anzac Day	8
Commemorations in QLD	8
2011 Warwick Anzac Day Fade Away Ceremony, uniquely respectful	8
110 yrs since Aussie sub, AE2 ran the Dardanelles	9
March of the Dungarees	10
WWII Slade POW recalls	10
WW1 Airships, Kennedy Centre honours, and more	11
Being safe online	12
Far North QLD memorial: iconic ANZAC Focus	12
St Patrick's Day parades in Warwick, 1872-1972	13
WW1 mention in very first St Catharine's Chronicle	14
Looking at Warwick through a very old lens	15
Richard Waite 1935-2024	16
Vale	17
Ronald Hendry	
Peter Moloney	
Leone Ross	
Facebook Update	18
Last Word	18



**H**ISTORICALLY EACH ONE OF THE SCHOOLS associated with the Slade Campus has respectfully honoured the fallen on ANZAC Day. For many decades, CEGS and St Catharine's Girl Guides and the Slade Cadet Corps paid honour each year at this solemn civic event. Whether or not our schools took part in the ceremony at the Leslie Park cenotaph varied according to school policy over the years.

The day was always observed in some way at school and at St Mark's. Prior to 1955 Slade Cadets marched in the Anzac Day parade and on one occasion Ted Ross was unexpectedly seconded to lead the Slade contingent when Michael John Brown\*\* was unable to do so because he had been injured in a recent football game.

Don Bonthron, Slade 1943-1950, recalls marching and Scots' own pipe band also being part of the occasion.



Derek McCosker, Ken Lincoln, David Boston and Henry Dougall\*\* ← in the 1952 catafalque party are the cadets in this photo.



St Catharine's Girl Guides are in the next Anzac Day picture, led by the late Faye Bunton ← (holding the commemorative wreath). Sister Rachel was a firm supporter of Guiding. We have no positive IDs for any of these girls.



← Principal of WCC at the time, Carmelo Rubio is shown here with Abby Grosskopf, who is wearing Cadet uniform.

Abigail's family were also on hand to support her at the dawn service.

As those who were in Cadets know, the catafalque party stands around a cenotaph or shrine, with heads bowed and their weapons reversed, taking their post at the beginning of the ceremony and remaining until the National Anthem is played. They represent the guard that was originally appointed to protect a coffin from theft or desecration. Today, we most often see the catafalque party guarding a remembrance stone or tomb, a solemn ceremonial role to honour the dead. The tradition of resting on arms, or leaning on a weapon held upside down, is said to have originated with the ancient Greeks. Underlined names indicate known deceased while \*\* denotes current status at this time unknown.

## 1915 MOMENTS

- Jan. 1: WWI- Battle of Broken Hill: 2 men, claiming to support the Ottoman Empire, ambush a train near Broken Hill. Both of them and 4 civilians are killed.
- Jan. 12: US House of Reps denies women the right to vote.
- Jan. 19: First long-distance telephone call New York City to San Francisco is made.
- Feb. 1: William Fox creates the Fox Film Corporation.
- Mar. 14: Britain, France and the Russian Empire agree to give Constantinople (Istanbul) and the Bosphorus to Russia in case of victory (later nullified by the Bolshevik Revolution)
- Mar. 18: A Franco-British naval attack on the Dardanelles fails.
- Mar. 19: Pluto photographed the first time but not identified.
- Apr. 25: Start of the Gallipoli Campaign - by land forces (this lasts until January 1916).
- May St Catharine's Stanthorpe Chronicle first issue @1/-
- May 3: Canadian soldier John McCrae writes the poem, In Flanders Fields.
- May 5: Forces of the Ottoman Empire begin shelling Anzac Cove from a new position behind their lines.
- May 19: Third attack on Anzac Cove by Ottoman Forces is repelled by the ANZACs.
- Sep. 6: Prototype military tank first tested by the British army
- Sep. 8: A Zeppelin raid levels what is later rebuilt and called The Zeppelin Building.
- Nov. 25: Einstein presents part of his theory of general relativity.
- Dec.. 10: The 1 millionth Ford car rolls off the assembly line in Detroit Michigan.
- Dec.. 23: HMHS Britannic which will be the largest British ship lost in WWI (but with only 30 casualties) departs Liverpool on her maiden voyage as a hospital ship.

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**Are your contact details current or soon to change? Don't forget to notify us of your new residential and email address plus Mobile Phone Number. If we don't have this last vital detail, we are unable to follow up failed emails when they occur).**

**ADDITIONALLY: IS YOUR CLASS MARKING ITS OWN MILESTONE in 2025 or 2026? CAST YOUR NET WIDER FOR LOST CONTACTS AND ADVERTISE HERE OR POST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND PLEASE, BE SURE TO LET US KNOW ABOUT IT IF THIS IS HAPPENING!**

## Editor's Notes...



**AUSTRALIA'S ENTRY INTO WWI IN 1915**, saw our new recruits volunteering untried but emerging as the battle hardened infantrymen they became. Certain qualities were needed for this—such as the sheer determination of those hard-pressed, first Slade administrators in tough times. Some aspects in the following exchange highlight what a difference attitude makes when the ability to bunker down and endure is absolutely critical—exactly what was needed by those who led our schools through the Great Depression and beyond, dented but not defeated:

**"It is 1939 and two Finnish foot soldiers are pinned down in a battle during the war between Finland and Russia. 'We're outnumbered,' one says. 'There must be over 40 of them, and only two of us.'**

**" 'Dear God, it'll take us all day to bury them!' exclaims the other."**

This story illustrates the Finnish national character trait, *sisu*. *Sisu*, an untranslatable word means something like a dogged, proud refusal to lie down and be beaten—a gritty quality surely useful to own when facing the hardships and shortages our forebears did in our schools. In recent and coming months this theme is being explored in Kinawah as we continue to provide a thumbnail sketch of our shared history.

This time our vale notices include the loss of two people who have been a quiet presence in the SCPSA background—the spouses and life partners of **Helen Moloney** and **Ted Ross**. Ted and Helen have both been tireless workers for SCPSA over many decades. Peter Moloney and Leone Ross may not have been members but still lent quiet support nevertheless and are greatly missed.

While recent and current subject matter in Kinawah has been heavily aligned with Slade with the 2026 event in mind, there is no reason at all why St Catharine's past students can't share that same sense of pride in the history which is part of the campuses our Association represents. A good many St Catharine's old girls have brothers, fathers, grandfathers and cousins who attended Slade and share a keen interest in all things related to Slade. Our most senior past students are, quite naturally, more familiar with much of the older history in a way that later students are not, and of course, vice versa! Either way there's a ton of history for all of us to appreciate and absorb.

Thanks again, **David Herbert** and **Eddie Wickham** for their input (see articles on P9 and P 12). There's a wealth of fascinating WWI era history for us to explore which all dovetails neatly with the Anzac Day ethos. Also **John Farquhar** has contributed, most entertainingly to **"Keeping Up Appearances"** (see P4). I look forward to hearing lots more!

**"There is no such thing as a dead-end job, it's just a necessary beginning." John Laws**

Until next time, enjoy the read Joan White



**"There are three things that cannot be recalled— a spent arrow a spoken (broken) word or a lost opportunity."**

**Chu Mein,  
Chinese Philosopher**



## 2024/2025 Committee

### EXECUTIVE

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# Johnno's Corner

**IT SOUNDS LIKE A STANDARD '101' RESPONSE TO ANY DISASTER** that our 'hearts and prayers' go out to all those affected by the rain in north Queensland. I sit here with 'survivors guilt' when hearing 2000mm (2m) fell north of Townsville in the 8 days just prior to 09-02-25—some people losing everything and having to start again in the heat, mud and humidity. This will surely test the resolve of the toughest. How do we help ?

- Please give some money to those relief organisations on the ground who are best placed to help.
- The first enthusiastic 'Centenary 2026 Task Force' meeting was held February 8 at The Haigslea Pub attended by John Bayliss, Steve Cook, Joan White, Leigh Nesbit, Cris Roy and myself. A format for the weekend (02/03-05-26) was discussed and roughed out, tasks allocated for follow up and the next meeting organised for 08-03-25 to form up our program. Further information and a progress report concerning this milestone event will be circulated immediately after this meeting.
- **Successful Centenary:** The success of the centenary is entirely dependent upon your participation. We need you to contact your old mates to come along, register on the website and book your accommodation ASAP as Warwick can get booked out very quickly. Leigh has made a comprehensive list of accommodation options to assist you with this on the website. Right click for the drop down menu under Slade Centenary to check for updates as they are being added in this evolving space.

Until next time, take care of yourselves. Johnno

**SCPSA official website:**  
[www.scpsawarwick.com](http://www.scpsawarwick.com)

**COMING UP IN 2025**

- March 21-23 Warwick Show**
- April 24 Anzac Service at WCC**
- April 25 Anzac Day**
- July 17-27 Jumpers & Jazz in July**
- July 23 PNG Remembrance Day**
- October 21-27 Warwick Rodeo**
- November 1 Brekky Creek Lunch**
- November 11 Remembrance Day**

High School Reunion Truth  
Where everyone shows up older,  
and then grows young again.  
[varsityreunions.com](http://varsityreunions.com)



## ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS 100% UP TO DATE?

Keeping our data base of contacts current and correct is a work in progress. With planning now well underway for our 2026 celebrations it is even more essential to keep these details up-to-date and to find others we previously had no contact with. Mobile phone numbers and email addresses for new found contacts can be forwarded to [kinawah.editor@scpsa.com.au](mailto:kinawah.editor@scpsa.com.au) Over to you - let's keep the ball in play!



**2026  
SLADE PAST  
STUDENTS ARE  
CELEBRATING  
MAY 2-3**



**SINCE SLADE'S  
FOUNDATION  
BACK IN 1926**

**Go to: [www.scpsawarwick.com](http://www.scpsawarwick.com) → Slade Centenary**



**Saturday, November 1  
11.00 AM FOR LUNCH**



**2025 Brekky Creek Lunch**  
**17th ANNUAL GATHERING FOR**  
**Slade/St Catharine's/WCC Past Students**  
2 Kingsford Smith Drive - Breakfast Creek. 4020

- Get together in an area set aside for us at the front
- Purchase 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


**WANT TO KNOW MORE? CONTACT**  
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# What you said + Keeping up Appearances


Your contributions, as always, are greatly appreciated. Selected and edited reader responses appear below.


The next several responses came in following notification of Richard Waite's passing. For Richard's obituary and more reader responses see P16.





 **Mike Rippin 1951-58** I remember him well! He coached us for the 1st. Cricket Team, 1958—John Deshon was the captain—John Allen and "Buck" Bosley were others with us that I recall. I thought he was more than 5 yrs older than me. I remember he used to take us to St. Cath's for dance lessons on winter Fri. nights. We had a good relationship with Mother Superior that year.

 **Des Brown 1968-73** Sad news about Mr Waite, Caig ... was a great man as I had him in Cadets and I liked him as he was a fair man. My condolences to his family

 **Rob Nolan 1964-65** I remember Richard well and had the opportunity to meet up with him about 12 years ago.

 **Bruce Whybird 1969-73** Trudy Waite was good friends with my mother [Mavis Whybird].

 **John Farquhar 1973-78** I remember Dick, '73 was his last year at Slade before going to Concordia. He taught Agriculture and ran the Cadets.

 **Pam Christopher (Aldridge) 1964-66** ... once again, a great Kinawah, so informative. It was wonderful to read about how the SSA started.

As all email recipients of Kinawah are aware, we have been working hard to streamline bulk delivery of emails. My first attempt to send out the January February issue resulted in wholesale rejection of Gmail recipients (not Bigpond rejections this time but a massive glitch all the same). My husband, Peter, spent considerable time and effort adjusting this and authentication settings. We trust the problem has now been resolved.

I am once again reminding Bigpond subscribers to finalise alternatives for when Telstra discontinues email support in the coming weeks in accordance with information that we have published in previous Kinawahs. This is also a reminder to make certain you notify us ASAP of your new email address when this happens so you don't end up on our "dropped out of sight" list!

"The most beautiful discovery true friends make is that they can grow separately without growing apart." — Elisabeth Foley



The following contains drug references (tobacco), nudity and foul language, (ie it won't go unread!): **The Streaker**

The identity of The Streaker shall remain confidential but let's just call him James White, the year would have been 1975.

James was a known smoker who had run out of smokes, and, it appears, money. As an entrepreneurial sort of fellow, James decided to raise money for his drug addiction by canvassing sponsors who would be prepared to fund a naked run from Barnes House to Roberts House via Horsman Road.

During second prep James went to the various year rooms collecting donations (from memory, a packet of Drum, 2x papers and matches was \$1.10). The full sponsored amount collected is unknown to the writer. With second prep over, everyone returned to their respective houses in anticipation of the streak, and their money's worth.

The rules of engagement were that The Streaker was to run from Barnes out through the small gate, proceed to Roberts (up the middle of Horsman Rd) down the steps in front of Roberts and into Roberts where he was to get dressed and then return to Barnes under the cover of darkness with Ron McCloskey (Boarding Supervisor) none the wiser of the events which had just occurred.

It must be noted how drug addiction can make people do desperate things as 'The Streak' took place in the middle of a Warwick Winter. Old Army great coats were popular with some of the boys as Cadets were still part of the school activities.

So, James was primed and ready to go for his streak. Off with his great coat and on his way, his only attire: white Adidas Rome runners and an Army slouch hat.

James set a cracking pace up Horsman Road, too bloody cold to dawdle, and in next to no time down the steps to Roberts.

Unfortunately for James the 'rules of engagement' had suddenly changed and the doors to Roberts had become locked. This now posed an exponential stress level as the entrance to Roberts House was directly opposite the Headmaster's (Eddy Prince) Residence.

Now James was from the bush, a youth spent around shearers and other great wordsmiths, so his use of the Queen's English was of a direct and robust nature, "open the f\_\_en door ya bastards".

Again, unfortunately for James, his request fell upon deaf ears and the doors remained firmly locked. Things were looking grim.

On the landing above the entrance to Roberts were three boys with buckets of water, whose names are lost from memory (conveniently).

Whoosha, all of a sudden James was looking like a drowned rat. Along with robust encouragement from the Roberts boys, James had to beat a hasty retreat. The last sighting was a skinny white backside and spindly legs off through the trees back to Barnes.

John Farquhar 1973 – '78

## "DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT" #4: CAN YOU HELP US?

We seem to regularly lose touch with people still on our contact list. Needless to say, when this happens we have no idea if these people: (a) haven't looked in their inbox for so long it's stuffed full, (b) have moved away with no forwarding address (including their email one), (c) don't want to be found, or (d) may even have died. We are currently missing the following (school yrs this time included where possible). NB, mobile phone numbers are extra helpful to clear up these issues but not everyone has supplied us with one. Do YOU know where these people might be or how we might restore contact with them? Underlined names are those suspected deceased. Are you able to confirm? More names coming in next Kinawah.

<u>John Stevens '49-'50</u>	<u>Bruce Davis '50-'54</u>	<u>Peter Roberts '46-'53</u>	<u>Tony Martin '50-'55/'48-'54'</u>
<u>Gary Spillman '49-'52</u>	<u>Peter Stehr '50-'50</u>	<u>Richard Parry '50-'51</u>	<u>Digby Cooper '46-'53</u>
<u>Rodney Swain '47-'51</u>	<u>Neil Cooke '49-'51</u>	<u>James Housden '49-'55</u>	<u>Jon Schnitzerling '50-'51'</u>
<u>Graham Donovan '50-</u>	<u>Jock Hofland '59-'65</u>	<u>Henry Dougall '48-'52</u>	<u>Kelvin Hockey '69-'71</u>
<u>Michael J Brown '51-'55</u>	<u>Roger Dent '26-'28</u>	<u>Harry McCartney WW2POW</u>	<u>Raye Cairnes '61-'62</u>
			<u>Jim Biggam '47-'56</u>

# The Australian Light Horse, a proud tradition

**T**HE AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE was a mounted infantry unit within the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) that primarily served in World War I, most notably during the Sinai and Palestine Campaign against the Ottoman Empire, where they gained renown for their cavalry charges, particularly the famous capture of Beersheba in 1917; their origins trace back to the Second Boer War, where Australian mounted troops first gained combat experience, and they were largely composed of men from rural Australia with strong horsemanship skills, often riding Australian "Walers" horses, making them well-suited to fighting in the harsh desert environments of the Middle East. More recently, they have filled a more ceremonial role and, as we might suppose, their numbers are dwindling. Darling Downs and Warwick troops are hoping to attract new members. What follows is an account of one man who helped make the regiment the legend it has become.



**Jack Scott, Cattleman, Soldier, Sportsman a true Blue Aussie and a man's man.**

One of the most colourful characters in the Light Horse Association, and in South East QLD, is Jack Scott—born to the outback way of life in 1921 in a dinghy in flooded country south-east of Moree while his mother was on her way to hospital. He spent his childhood in the watercourse country west of Moree and at Boggabilla on his father's property, "Ivanhoe".

Educated by correspondence, Jack's lifetime association with agricultural show, bushmen's carnival and rodeos – all revolved round a love of horses and the land.

An exceptionally athletic man in his younger days, Jack's sporting achievements, other than his equestrian feats, were cricket, where he was an accomplished opening batsman; and he played rugby – league and union – a sport in which he represented the combined Australian services against the British services during WW2.

At the 1938 Warwick Rodeo, Jack placed 5th in the Australian buckjump championship and won the S.W. QLD championship at Goondiwindi the same year. In 1939 he won the bulldogging title at Warwick with a time of 6 seconds.

Enlistment in the Texas Troop of the 11th Light Horse gave Jack the opportunity to compete in the winning team for the "Prince of Wales" Cup, under Corporal Bob Campbell of Bonshaw; the section won the tent pegging at the 1st Cavalry Brigade sports at Beaudesert in 1940.

Jack Enlisted in the AIF in 1940 and was posted to the ill fated 8th Division which was sent to Singapore, and took part in the withdrawal to Singapore Island. The Japanese crossed the Strait and the battle for the Singapore Island had begun. During this period Jack witnessed for the first time the use of the Bayonet in combat and at one stage his Section was left as it was thought the position had been overrun. This action in his view was unforgivable as no losses had been suffered and at the time they were not under pressure. His section then had to fight their way back to the new defensive line in a series of skirmishes from behind trees, buildings, vehicles and any other form of cover available.

One incident (kept a secret for many years) occurred during the final days of the Singapore battle. Jack recounted that during heavy fighting two members of the platoon came back with a badly wounded soldier. The Platoon Commander was known to be a little erratic under pressure and, waving his pistol, he stood in their path and ordered them back to their positions. Without a word they put the wounded man on the ground and walked off while the Platoon commander and Jack busied themselves with the matter of survival in the battle going on around them.

Jack happened to look up at the moment when one of the men that had been ordered to return to his position brought his rifle up and shot the Platoon Commander through the stomach. With blood pouring from his wound he shouted for Jack to take over and he headed off to Battalion Head Quarters. Jack never saw him again and never knew whether he survived the wound or the war. Within half an hour the position was overrun and the platoon withdrew.

With the situation hopeless, the only course of action capitulation, Jack approached the Company 2nd in command advising that he had a plan to escape the Island. He was advised against going however, if he was to go, that the plan should not be implemented until the surrender was in force. Jack and three others went to Singapore harbour where they located a 12 foot dinghy and a

small outboard motor. With 2 gallons of fuel, very little food, their army water bottles and a set of oars they headed west towards Sumatra. By early March 1942 Jack had arrived back in Australia and was admitted to the Hollywood Military Hospital in Perth.

Jack was eventually posted to the 2/31 Battalion in New Guinea and returned to Australia in early 1943. He married Joy Potter that year and attended Officer School at Woodside. After graduation he was posted to Western Australia in spite of his pleading to be posted back to an Infantry Battalion. In a desperate attempt to return to a Battalion he found his own way to the Atherton Tableland and put himself at the mercy of the Commanding Officer 2/31st Battalion. He was taken on strength and returned to New Guinea where he hoped the whole matter would be forgotten. Back in Australia a warrant was put out for his arrest as he was posted AWL. The Provost searched Joy's Neutral Bay flat early one morning and were disappointed that Lieutenant Scott was not to be found.

Jack continued to serve in New Guinea but in January 1944 whilst in the vicinity of Shaggy Ridge he contacted cerebral malaria and had to be evacuated.

On the way to the Casualty Clearing Station he was met by a young officer from Brigade Headquarters who was carrying a small folder and who made inquiries as to the whereabouts of Lt. Scott. Although very ill Jack gave the young officer a most elaborate set of directions on how to locate Lt. Scott. He was later to find out that the small folder carried by the officer was a show cause as to why his commission should not be cancelled.

Jack returned to Melbourne and once pronounced cured returned to a unit on the Atherton Tableland and from there went with his battalion to take part in one of the last battles of the war being the landing at Balikpapan. Before being discharged from the Army he was involved in the repatriation of P.O.Ws from Japan and the Philippines having served in the 2/18th, 2/31st, and 2/33rd Infantry Battalions. Jack and Joy had five children: Joanna, Virginia, Louise, Harriet and Dougal – all accomplished horsemen and women, with a great love of the land and the people on it. Dougal, born in 1960, became a Squadron Leader and Commanded 38 Squadron at Amberley.

At war's end, Jack bought a property "Bucleuch" at Boggabilla, also playing polo in the Goondiwindi "A" team competing in the NSW Dudley Cup and also competing in the QLD Gold Cup, taking part in the finals of both events. He was a member of the QLD team in the interstate and inter dominion competitions (NSW, Qld, Vic, SA and New Zealand) at the Sydney Royal Show in 1952, playing off a handicap of 2.

In 1947 he judged with Roley Munro and Arthur Winter all events at Warwick Rodeo. Jack and Joy moved to Roma at the end of 1952, buying the sheep and cattle property "Sterling". Because there was no polo played there, Jack involved himself as President of the local agricultural show and also club cricket. In 1962 the Scott family moved to the North QLD tablelands, buying the cattle -fattening property, "Wha Hae".

Jack also involved himself with Sir William Gunn, doing reports and inspections on Cape York for sale to American interests. Later, he took on a development at Fitzroy Island off Cairns, where the family lived for eight years before selling the resort to Japanese investors. Jack managed a 1350 sq mi property on the peninsula for American interests until it sold in 1982.

Jack then spent three years touring Australia with Joy. During this time he wrote and had two books published: "A Fair Crack of the Whip" and "Stone the Crows".

Jack and Joy settled on the Sunshine Coast in 1986; Jack took up gliding at age 66 and celebrated the Bi-Centennial year by making his maiden parachute jump from 5000 feet.

During the Centenary of the Shearer's Strike in 1991, Jack organised the Light Horse reenactment contingent to Barcaldine. His organizational skills were also put to good use during the Coral Sea Commemoration in Cairns in 1992. Sadly, Jack's riding days are over – a tough life and ill-health have taken their toll. He is now in retirement; his interests consist of 5th Light Horse Troop and Museum at Gympie, politics, home brewing and most of all, his family. Jack, ever colourful and controversial—that's his style—that's his pedigree, epitomizes the "True Blue Australian", of that era in which he grew up. <https://www.lighthorse.org.au>

*Note: Despite my best efforts, I can find no record of Jack's death making him 100+ years old. An extraordinary life and character.*

# Slade: saleable product/priceless legacy conserved

**H**ERE'S WHAT HAPPENED NEXT IN THE SAVE OUR SLADE SAGA THAT WE HAVE BEEN RELATING IN RECENT ISSUES OF KINAWAH.

On May 12, 2011 Rebecca Brown wrote for **Stanthorpe Today** under the heading **"Tenders invited for Slade Campus"**:

"It's a battle between education and community interests as both groups interested in the purchase of Slade Campus will be invited to submit a tender for the site.

"The Southern Downs Regional Council decided to invite both groups i.e. Christian Community Ministries, who runs Warwick Christian College, and the Slade Lives Again – Development for Everyone (SLADE) to submit a tender for Slade Campus after they each made a presentation to the council at a special meeting on Monday.

"Mayor Ron Bellingham said the tenders would have a closing date of September 1.

"Both presentations were very good. It's going to be a very difficult decision for the council to make,' Cr Bellingham said.

"Christian Community Ministries' chief executive officer John Lyndon said Slade Campus would allow the Warwick Christian College to grow more rapidly.

"Mr Lyndon said the school had already grown from seven students when it first opened four years ago to the current enrolment of 51.

"Our budget projections for the next 10 years show over 400 enrolments,' he said.

"At the moment, we're only accredited to offer primary school. That growth is based on us going into secondary education,' Mr Lyndon said.

"Education infrastructure is expensive. Slade was built as a school and we would like it to remain as a school.'

"He said parents at the school were excited by this opportunity.

"Yet, the SLADE group wants the facility to continue as a place for community groups to meet as well as expand on its community potential.

"This could include a dementia respite centre and a civic centre.

"President Ian Perkins said the group hoped to receive grant money and community donations to commission a feasibility study, which would take about four months to complete and cost up to \$50,000.

"Mr Perkins said up to 100 people have paid \$10 to become a financial member of SLADE and between \$30,000 and \$40,000 has already been pledged to support the proposal.

"Some of those pledges are from Stanthorpe,' he said.

"SLADE will hold a public meeting 5pm this Sunday at Slade Hall for all interested residents."

<https://stanthorpetoday.com.au/top-stories/2011-05-12/tenders-invited-for-slade-campus/>

**Warwick Daily News March 02, 2012** under the heading of **"Council breaks even on Slade"**

"SDRC have announced the handover of Slade campus to Christian Community Ministries.

"A \$4 MILLION (plus GST) price tag almost saw the Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) dodge a loss on the sale of Slade campus, with the official handover finalised yesterday.

"SDRC announced the handover of the campus to Christian Community Ministries (CCM) - owners of Warwick Christian College - yesterday afternoon.

"The property was purchased in 2007 from Church of England Grammar School for \$3.65 million plus GST.

"Southern Downs Mayor Ron Bellingham said the council's intention was always to preserve the site as an educational or community asset and prevent residential development.

"I am pleased that this historical school site will once again be used for educational purposes,' Cr Bellingham said.

While the sale price may have appeared like a tidy profit, the loss on staff and maintenance costs totalled \$354,000 put them at about square.

"The council did not take out a loan on the property and therefore did not pay interest but lost out on opportunity cost which could have seen interest earned if that money was invested.

"By the Daily News' calculations, \$4 million at a five per cent term deposit would equal \$200,000 for four years, totalling \$800,000 in interest which could have been earned.

"Warwick Christian College principal Terrence McCorkell said they were working on plans to begin refurbishment work on a number of buildings.

"We need to ensure everything is ready as soon as we have the go-ahead from the State Government to make the move,' he said.

"He said they planned to extend to secondary schooling at the beginning of next year.

"Mr McCorkell said the community use of the site and the operation of the school could be managed together after concerns were raised over the fate of groups which hired out rooms.

"Blue card requirements won't hinder us being able to make sections of the campus available to the community,' he said.

"CEO of CCM, John Lyndon, confirmed the site would be available for community use.

"People wishing to use the site simply need to contact the site supervisor to make bookings,' he said.

"The SDRC's aspirations for the site to be used for its highest purpose and also for community have now been realised.'

"Contact information to hire sections of the school can be obtained by visiting

[sladecampus.com](http://sladecampus.com)."



<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/warwick/council-breaks-even-on-slade/news-story/18b8ecc935275c27b32f4b152b65aefc>

# Landmark moments in the history of Slade #1

## Slade 25 years on: tested, challenged, courageous still

### IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY WITH SOLEMN PLANTING OF MEMORIAL TREES ON THE SLADE OVAL:

"In a simple but moving ceremony one Sunday morning on the school oval in November 1950, 27 trees were planted around the oval in memory of all Old Boys of Slade who had died in the 24 years since the school opened in 1926.

"The cadets were fallen-in on the parade ground and, headed by the Warwick Thistle Pipe Band, marched to the oval and formed a hollow square in front of the pavilion which was filled with relatives, Old Boys and friends.

"A short service of remembrance was conducted by the Headmaster, Bro. Roberts, assisted by the Head of the Bush Brotherhood of S. Paul, Bro Browning.

"The cadets were then posted around the oval fence and relatives and Old Boys planted the trees. The cadets stood at attention during the planting and then came to the Present. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded and the flag slowly lowered. Thus did we honour them on the field where we had all known many happy times.

"And when the trees grow, they will not only make the oval a more pleasant place but they will serve to remind us of those fine young fellows whose lives were cut short:

#### OLD BOYS SO HONOURED

- Richard Lyall Penfold\*
- Richard Cecil Jones\*
- John Towart Shaw
- Rodrick Scott McLeod
- Edward Henry Pollard
- Howard Gordon Webster\*
- Thomas Welsby Clark
- Thomas Beech Wolley
- Henry Barrymore Rowland
- Peter Owen Stephenson
- Mervyn Durham Gillman
- Noel Oliver Boyd Flitcroft
- Francis John Kille\*
- John Ambrose Daly\*
- Wallace Ellis Wynne
- Keith Frederick Marstella\*
- Evered Austin McCasker
- Basil William Hindmarsh\*
- Cyril Collas
- William Brabazon Rudd
- John Lewis Rowe
- Robert William Withers
- Hector Reginald Wickham
- B Powell Flitcroft\*
- Hubert Thomas Freeman
- Henry Holmes Chapman
- Raymond Thomas Marstella

#### GUARDIAN OF TREES

- Alan Murray
- John Stevens\*\*
- John Armbruster
- Gordon Cox
- Colin Johnston
- Max Smith
- Bruce Davis\*\*
- Kerry Gray
- Peter Roberts\*\*
- Arthur Winter
- Tony Martin\*\*
- Gary Spillman\*\*
- Peter Stehr\*\*
- John Harrys
- Richard Parry\*\*
- Paul Bailey
- James Biggam
- Robert Martyn
- Digby Cooper\*\*
- Rodney Swain\*\*
- William Deshon
- Errol Donovan
- Jon Schnitzerling\*\*
- Neil Cooke\*\*
- James Housden\*\*
- Graham Donovan\*\*
- Barry Woodworth

[Of the names above, \* indicates death was not war caused, and as on pages 1 and 16, and\*\* indicates we currently have no other information and have no contact details for that person. Several of those listed above served as School Captains and many more of them were fine athletes and team sportsmen.

Those whose names are underlined we regret are known to be deceased. We would be deeply appreciative

if you or anyone you are currently in contact with might be able to supply current information about any of those whose names fall into the "current status unknown" category.]

*The above is taken from Charlie Olsen's book, "The Annals of Slade School Warwick 1926-1976" (full names of old boys have been added in lieu of the single initial that was given in the original text). More tree plantings took place after 1950 in honour of Old Boys who lost their lives, most, while on active service of their country. Their names are:*

- Michael Vaughan Curtis, Allan James Hood\*, Hector Thomas Wilson\*, Neil Boden, and John Sydney Davies. There were no plantings after this.

Since 1950 we have learned of the Vietnam War-caused death of Noel Reginald John Mills.

Pauline Blanche Hempstead, a St Catharine's past student, we now know to have died as a POW at Muntok 1945.

As noted before, no trees remain. These compatriots of ours gave the lives in the cause of the free. "Patribus Digni Estote".

Shortly after the tree planting ceremony described above, Slade Headmaster, Bro. Roberts went to PNG to assist in the rebuilding the Martyr's Memorial School at Popondetta after the Mt Lamington eruption. Below is the text of his parting address on retiring as headmaster of Slade 1939-1951.

"The years I have spent here have been exceedingly eventful. In 1939 the future of Slade was uncertain; there was talk of closing down. That picture has entirely changed and if anyone refers to it now, he is speaking of ancient history. Slade's future shines brightly and we shall see it grow from strength to strength. Those who have watched its progress have seen its numbers grow, its buildings expand, its attainments and achievements increase, and its whole tone, prestige and reputation rise.

"That has been due to devoted service from a great many people. At the risk of leaving out unintentionally some who ought to be mentioned, I would like to remember with the gratitude of the school, some who have taken part in this great job of building up the school"... Bro. Roberts concluded thus:

"I hand over this important work. I do so conscious of my own shortcomings in it. I am proud that I have had a part to play in the history of Slade School, but I realise very fully the tremendous work that has been done by others, to whom by far the greater part of any praise is due. I say quite sincerely that I have been only one among a number who have been faithful and devoted and whose only aim is to see the school flourish and prosper.

"Finally I should like to wish you all every happiness and blessing in the future. To the boys who are leaving I would say 'Fight the good fight of Faith, that you may prove worthy of your forefathers'; to the boys who will be back next year 'The torch is handed over to you; keep it burning brightly'.

"My prayers will be with you, may I ask that your prayers will go with me."

In 1952 the death of King George VI, signaling the beginning of the longest reign of any British monarch was noted in Charlie Olsen's book this way:

"The commencement of our school year was saddened by the news of the death of our beloved King, George VI. His majesty had restored our faith in the Monarchy after the troubled period of the Abdication, and had led us through the total war with no thought for his personal safety. He had set an example for the whole world in his happy family life. We mourned a King who was a friend of all his subjects."

*A handful of us have now seen four distinct eras of the British Monarchy.*



# FIRST ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS IN QLD

**Right: First Anzac Day parade, 25/04/1916 and Anzac Day ceremony, Brisbane Synagogue, 1930**

10/01/1916, the Anzac Day Commemoration Committee formed to commemorate the fallen, remember the wounded and recognise the courage of Australia's servicemen.<sup>[6]</sup> A number of clergymen, under the stewardship of Anglican Canon David Garland undertook much of the planning of the first and subsequent events.<sup>[2]</sup>

**THE FIRST OBSERVANCE OF ANZAC DAY IN QUEENSLAND** was on the first anniversary of the Gallipoli landings on 25 April 1916. It consisted on a number of events, including:<sup>[4]</sup>

- church services in the morning
- a marching parade of veterans and military personnel
- evening gatherings
- one minute's silence at 9.00 pm, when all Queenslanders were asked to pray for, or to reflect on, those who had served and those who had died

Although Canon Garland was a deeply committed Anglican, he was well aware that the Australian servicemen and those who would want to mourn or commemorate them would come from a wide range of faiths, which would create difficulties incorporating religious elements into the ceremonies. For example, it was not customary for Protestants to pray for the souls of the dead, for Roman Catholics to attend a religious event led by a non-Catholic, while Jews believed in God but not in the Holy Trinity. \*

Therefore, at any public event (outside of those organised within a place of worship), Garland recommended that instead of prayers spoken from the podium, all present be asked to spend a minute in silent prayer or reflection according to their own beliefs.

Garland also proposed that any hymn singing should be limited to those that would be acceptable to all faiths, e.g. those that mentioned God but not of the Holy Trinity, e.g. Our God, our Help in Ages Past. Given these founding principles, public Anzac Day ceremonies in Queensland are generally secular with singing often limited to the national anthem.<sup>[5]</sup> \* *Editor's Note. Hopefully we have grown enough as a nation for such outdated values to remain in the past.*



## 2011 Warwick Anzac Day Fade Away Ceremony, uniquely respectful

**JOHN SKINNER IS THE LOCAL RSL REPRESENTATIVE** who most often officiates at the Anzac Day commemoration at Warwick Christian College each year. Under the current ownership of the campus this is conducted on the grass facing Slade House with the War Memorial building proudly bearing the Slade insignia as its backdrop. John is known for the special brand of understanding and the relevance which he brings to the proceedings in full knowledge of the fact that he is addressing a generation which is very much more removed from the dark spectre of war than most of us were in our youth. Very few of us at school in the 1950s and 1960s did not have a parent or grandparent who had served in one (sometimes both) World Wars and the reminders were with us in countless ways throughout our growing up years.

In 1911, the following article, inspired by John Skinner was published in the Warwick Daily News at a time when a special commemoration with slow marching the focus was being planned. Those who served in the school Cadet Corps already know that this is quite a demanding discipline and this is the thrust of the article. The correct ceremonial pace of the slow march, 60 beats per minute, is much more difficult to master than the standard marching tempo but undoubtedly adds to the solemnity and dignity of those occasions when it is employed.



While no-one was expected to wear a suit and tie as they did in this 1970 ANZAC Day parade, all who marched in the Digger's Column in 2011 were asked to dress appropriately as a mark of respect.

THOSE who had not served in any arm of the military were discouraged from taking part in the Warwick Anzac Day Fade Away Ceremony in 2011.

The Fade Away is a slow march by serving and ex-service men and women through the ranks of young people, mainly high school students, signifying the handing over of the "torch of service" to the next generation and is something unique to Warwick.

Former RSL Sub-branch deputy president John Skinner said many veterans from throughout Australia had been asked about the ceremony and no-one could yet identify another area which conducts anything similar.

"The part of this ceremony which is difficult, even to those who have had military drill training, let alone those who haven't, is the slow march," he said.

"In the past we've had non-service folks take part in the ceremony only to look completely out of place because they didn't understand the slow march etiquette.

"This year, without upsetting anyone, we want to ensure only those who have been trained to slow march actually take part.

"After all, it's a ceremony of special significance to military people and may have originated partly from John McCrae's World War I poem, In Flanders Fields where, in the third verse, he wrote;

"Take up our quarrel with the foe;

To you from failing hands we throw, The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die, We shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders Fields." "

Mr Skinner also said a certain code of dress would be required of everyone taking part in the ANZAC Day Parade Digger's Column.

"Dress styles have changed and will continue to change but inappropriate clothing will not be permitted in the Digger's column at this year's ANZAC Day march," he said.

"We had some complaints after the 2010 parade, more particularly from ex-service people themselves, concerning the dress of some people wearing the medals of a deceased relative.

"While we encourage the wearing of medals of a deceased relative, those who choose to do so must dress appropriately.

"This doesn't necessarily mean a suit and tie but something like a jacket or a pressed shirt is considered more appropriate.

"Anzac Day is Australia's way of paying homage to those soldiers, sailors, airmen, nurses, merchant seamen and others of both sexes who did not return but paid the supreme sacrifice.

"We also say thank you to those who were wounded and to all who served and to wear thongs and shorts or similar is disrespectful."

# 110 yrs since Aussie sub, AE2 ran the Dardanelles

Australia's first submarines, HMAS AE1 and HMAS AE2, were launched in England in 1913 and manned by composite Australian and British crews. Unfortunately they didn't survive the war. At the outbreak of the First World War both were sent from Sydney to German New Guinea with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force to help capture the German colony. On 14 September, a day after the official German surrender of the colony, AE1, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Thomas Besant, left Rabaul harbour to patrol Cape Gazelle. It never returned. An initial search lasted two days, but no wreckage or oil slick was found. For 60 years AE1 was all but forgotten. From 1976 several searches were undertaken by various teams, but it remained missing until 20 December 2017, when the wreck was located off the Duke of York Island group. In April 2018 high-definition cameras helped produce a 3-D model of the wreck, allowing experts to study it and perhaps learn what happened.

AE2 remained in the Rabaul area until 4 October, when it proceeded to Fiji to join other Australian and French ships. After three weeks the German threat had greatly diminished, and AE2 was ordered back to Sydney. In December it joined the second Australian Imperial Force troopship convoy heading from Albany, Western Australia, for Europe, and in February 1915 it joined a Royal Navy squadron operating in the Aegean Sea.

**O**N APRIL 30, 1915, AE2 BECAME THE FIRST Allied submarine to pass through the Dardanelles and into the Sea of Marmara commanded by Lieutenant Commander Henry Stoker with a crew of 35 submariners. AE2's mission was to prevent enemy ships from traveling between the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, which would stop Turkish troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula from receiving reinforcements and supplies.

AE2 was ordered to sail through the Dardanelles and "run amok" in the Sea of Marmara. No other submarine had managed to breach the heavily mined and defended channel, but in the early hours of 25 April 1915 AE2 got safely through. After engaging a Turkish torpedo boat, it reached the Sea of Marmara and remained at large for five more days before sustaining irreparable damage from Ottoman troops.

Stoker was eventually forced to sink the submarine. He and his crew were taken prisoner and spent the rest of the war in Ottoman captivity. Stoker survived, and was later awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

The wreck of the AE2 was located off Kara Burnu Point June 1998. The crew survived the sinking but were captured by the Turks.

[https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/ww1\\_navy/ae1\\_ae2](https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/encyclopedia/ww1_navy/ae1_ae2)

## So who was Lieutenant Commander Stoker?

**H**enry Stoker has been described as a free spirit who revelled in the freedom that the submarine service offered. He completed his submarine training in October 1907 and in January 1909 was given command of the submarine HMS A70.

On the morning of 25 April 1915, Stoker took AE2 through the Dardanelles (75km in length), and after evading Turkish minefields, shore batteries and patrolling warships she broke through into the Sea of Marmara, after repeated failures by others. During the transit AE2 torpedoed and damaged a Turkish gunboat. The news of AE2's success was communicated back to his senior Royal Navy officer and soon other British submarines successfully penetrated this heavily defended waterway.

On 30 April 1915, while attempting to rendezvous with another Allied submarine, AE2 was caught on the surface by Turkish gunboats and badly damaged and Stoker ordered his crew to abandon ship while he had scuttling charges detonated to sink the vessel. Stoker's second in command, Lieutenant Geoffrey Haggard, was keen to fight on, but without a deck gun and unable to dive the submarine this would have caused the unnecessary slaughter of the crew. Stoker ordered a white tablecloth to be waved at the Turkish warships, indicating he was surrendering, but this was in reality to have them cease fire while his men abandoned ship, and bought enough time for AE2 to sink and prevented the capture of the vessel.

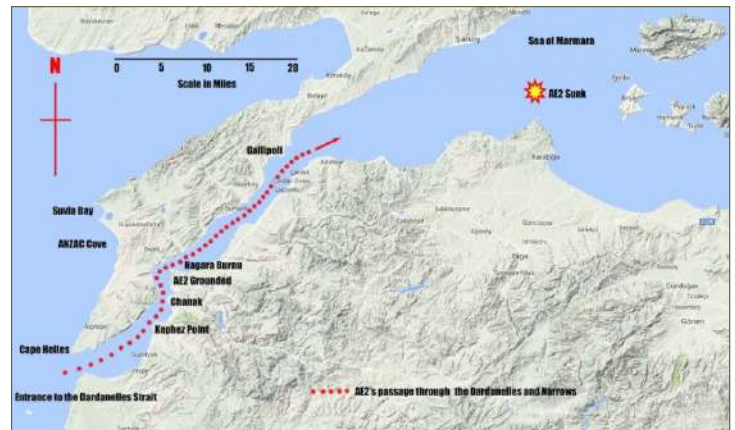
And after his war service?

**Henry Hugh Gordon Dacre Stoker**, DSO (2 February 1885 – 2 February 1966), also known as **Hew Stoker** and commonly credited in films as **H. G. Stoker** or **Dacre Stoker**, was an Irish Royal Navy officer captured in 1915. He spent the remaining three-and-a-half years as a POW of the Ottoman Empire.

He retired from the navy in 1920 to pursue an acting career on the stage and film. As an amateur athlete, Stoker competed in the Wimbledon tennis championships throughout the 1920s. With the outbreak of the WWII, he was recalled to service in the navy, where he helped with public relations. When the war finished, Stoker returned to his acting career. In 1962, aged 77, he became Irish Croquet Champion. What a unique and extraordinary career!

<https://seapower.navy.gov.au/biography/lieutenant-commander-henry-hugh-gordon-dacre-stoker>

KINAWAH



Royal Australian Navy submarines AE1 and AE2 in Sydney Harbour, c. 1914.

Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey Haggard and Lieutenant Commander Henry G Stoker, both of AE2, in 1919. (ANMM)



2025 MARCH APRIL

# March of the Dungarees WWII Slade POW recalls

**T**HE MARCH OF THE DUNGAREES was a snowball march in November 1915 in South-East QLD, to recruit men into the AIF at a time when enthusiasm to enlist had waned after the loss of life in the Gallipoli campaign. It began at Warwick with 28 men and followed the Southern railway line through Toowoomba, Laidley and Ipswich to its destination in Brisbane, gaining 125 recruits along the way.

Following Britain's declaration of war on Germany on 4 August 1914, Australia and the other members of the British Empire were also at war. The first Australian to perish on the Western Front was Lieutenant William Malcolm Chisholm of the Lancashire Regiment, who died in the Battle of Le Cateau in France on 26 August 1914. Closer to home, Australian troops secured German New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago in September–October 1914. Australians landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey on 25 April 1915. By October 1915, Australia had lost 7,279 men in the Gallipoli Campaign and thousands more were wounded. More recruits were needed.<sup>[1]</sup>

On 5 November 1915, the QLD Recruiting Committee held a public meeting in the Exhibition Hall in Brisbane to initiate a snowball recruitment march. Snowball Marches—named for their ability to gather up men along the way—began with the 'Cooees' march from Gilgandra to Sydney in October 1915. The March of the Dungarees was the second snowball march, travelling from Warwick to Brisbane. Another QLD snowball march was the Cane Beetles March from Mooliba to Cairns for Anzac Day in April 1916.<sup>[1]</sup>

Crowds assembled outside the Warwick Town Hall in Palmerin Street at 10.30am on the morning of 16 November 1915 to farewell the men. The previous evening, 28 recruits from Stanthorpe and Warwick districts were sworn-in, and further men were expected to join.<sup>[3]</sup>

The Warwick contingent led the march under a new Union Jack presented by the Mayor of Warwick while the Stanthorpe boys held a tattered and battle-stained Australian flag. It had been the first flag hoisted by the 9th battalion at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915.<sup>[3]</sup>

The men wore dark dungaree (blue denim-like material) uniforms with white linen hats and were supplied with badges indicating their initial acceptance following a medical examination into the recruitment process.<sup>[3]</sup> The public spectacle of the march out of Warwick continued over the Helene Street Bridge, along the Condamine River bank, (where sporting fields are today), under the railway line, and headed along Glengallan Road<sup>[3][5]</sup> [note all this happened within close proximity to Slade].

They passed through Allora, Clifton, Nobby, Greenmount, Cambooya, Wyreema, Westbrook, Drayton, Harristown and camped at what was at that time, the Toowoomba Showgrounds [site of today's TAFE Campus.]

The march continued through Grantham, Gatton, Forest Hill, Laidley, Rosewood, Walloon, Ipswich, Redbank, Ebbw Vale, Goodna, Oxley, Moorooka, Woollongabba, South Brisbane to King George Square in Brisbane collecting more recruits from Esk, Blackbutt, Kalbar, Boonah and Harrisville along the way.

The Dungarees expected to serve at Gallipoli, but with troops withdrawn from there by 20 December 1915, were sent to either the Middle East or the Western Front.<sup>[1]</sup> Most were recruited into the 11th Reinforcements of the 25th Battalion. Others were given specialist roles in other battalions depending on their qualifications and work experience.<sup>[30]</sup>

Despite the strong support for the march shown along the route by the townsfolk, the Brisbane Courier expressed disappointment in the overall numbers of men recruited, given the high expectations demanded by the Australian Government. However, the Courier praised those who had enlisted through the march as "splendid" "high-spirited patriots" in contrast to the "lethargic" "craven" "slackers" who were able to enlist but did not heed the call.<sup>[31]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March\\_of\\_the\\_Dungarees](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_of_the_Dungarees)



**Our fellow Slade past students who lost their lives on active service in WWII have been listed (p7) but still others finished the war as POWs. Charlie Olsen recorded their return as follows. Underlined names are known to be deceased while again, \*\* indicates no current contact details.**

Slade's 1945 magazine reported that all Old Boys known to be prisoners of war had been safely returned home, expressing the very great pleasure of the Association in welcoming them back to the school. These were...Peter Collas after nearly four years in Germany, Ian Fairbairn who "nearly built that notorious Japanese railway", Ed Brownsdon and Roger Dent\*\*. News was also gladly received that Maurice Underwood, Geoff Luscombe, Colin Tuckfield and Harry McCartney\*\* had all returned.

The question posed to Peter Collas was "What happened to the Germans in Bavaria?" Peter [who came to Slade from Stanthorpe] spent most of his time on farms. 20 or so prisoners went to a small village where each POW was allocated to a small farm to work during the day and were all locked up at night in the village. Peter spent the last 18 months in the tiny village of Grosselstadt, housed each night on the upper floor of an old pub. Herr Grubb and his Frau Klara ran the establishment with reasonable benevolence - Peter described them as simple, peasant folk.

The Australians (note the Collas touch) soon woke up to the fact they could get away with quite a lot because all that the farmers could do to punish them was to send them back to an army prison - and they lost their workers, so, very sensibly, they put up with "Collas and Co".

Working in the field all day on your own is rather boring, so they started a few games - like kicking an imaginary football to the bloke in the next field - or playing an imaginary game of tennis with him. The Germans must have thought they were quite mad.

There was an interesting sequel to all this. Some years later, Peter and his wife, Isobel, returned to that pub in Grosselstadt to be greeted fondly by Frau Grubb who recognised him as "The Australian Peter". It was more the return of the conquering hero than that of a once scruffy enemy of the Fatherland. It seemed that Klara had sent out smoke signals, for within minutes her friends and relations arrived to greet him. A truly moving experience.

Some years later still, [in 1975], Peter accepted an invitation to attend a special International Ceremony in Crete. Flying into Crete he realised he was looking at the exact same view the German parachutists had on their approach to invade the island 34 years ago. Peter found himself wondering what their thoughts might have been as they neared their destruction. He recalled that the succeeding events surpassed all expectations of a highly nostalgic journey.

Amid all the rationing and shortages during WWII Slade boys volunteered part of their pocket money to help with food parcels to go to Britain via the Bush Brotherhood. There was also an appeal for butter coupons if people had them to spare to go Britain and co-ordinated by St Mark's Mothers' Union—yet another reminder of some of the grim realities of times past.

**Footnote:** This photo (Australian War Memorial website) appears when "Peter Ivor Collas" is entered as a search term.

The accompanying description given is as follows: Informal portrait of men of 5 Battery, 2/3rd Field Regiment, behind their 25 pounder gun at Kriekouki, Greece.

Left to right, rear row:

SX1179 Lance Bombardier (L/Bdr) Neil Winston Pritchard and SX1171 Gunner (Gnr) John Turner Boord.

Left to right front row: SX454 Gnr Nevill Freeman Frith; SX1153 Lieutenant Lieutenant (Lt) Frederick Thomas Parsons; Nol Brown and **QX6562 Gnr Peter Ivor Collas**.

All of these men, with the exception of Lt Parsons, were captured by the Germans on Crete in May 1941 and spent the next four years as prisoners of war (POW) in Germany. Lt Parsons reached Egypt and served with the unit for the remainder of the war.

Note: Peter's War Service record gives his place of birth as Riga, Latvia. Peter's twin brother, Cyril, also attended Slade and was killed in action 18/11/1944. Peter died 10/02/1993.



# WW1 Airships, Kennedy Centre honours, and more

**I F YOU ARE A CHILD OF THE 60s, 70s OR 80s**, when someone happens to throw the word "Zeppelin" into the mix, your first reaction may well be something along the lines of:

"Oh, you mean, that English rock band! Robert Plant was the vocalist and songwriter, Jimmy Page played lead guitar with John Paul Jones on bass and keyboards and John Bonham on the drums;" or, you might respond "Yes, they're best known for Stairway to Heaven" one of the most covered songs in modern music.

In 1968, talented session musician, Jimmy Paige, formerly of "The Yardbirds," was forming a new group with a new name and a new direction. The group's name, "Led Zeppelin" came from an off the cuff remark about the band's likely success, made by Keith Moon of "The Who". Moon suggested the band would go down like a lead balloon. This was not the first name the group toyed with before settling on Led Zeppelin but it stuck. They went on to influence the emerging music scene with the development of album-oriented rock and stadium rock. But, what about their Zeppelin namesake?

Survivors of either of the World Wars waged in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century or those who served in the military, will have a rather different take on the word "Zeppelin" because of its darker associations during an era back when the WWI, German Navy Zeppelin raids, caused great damage to civilians in Britain and France.

The military effect of these raids was small but they caused alarm: disruption to industrial production and the diversion of resources from the [Western Front](#). Concern about the conduct of the defence against the raids, the responsibility for which was divided between the [Admiralty](#) and the [War Office](#), led to a parliamentary inquiry under [Jan Smuts](#) and the creation of the [Royal Air Force](#) (RAF) on 1 April 1918.<sup>[1]</sup> It would seem even the darkest cloud has a silver lining!

Now keep in mind that it was only in December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina that Wilbur and Orville Wright, successfully flew an airplane they built. Admittedly it was for just 12 seconds but their flying machine led the way for future aeronautics.

Prior to this, however, lighter than air flying machines had been successfully developed before aeroplanes. Count von Zeppelin was impressed by their potential and built his first successful airship in 1900. From then, civilian airships developed rapidly before the First World War. Passengers travelled in considerable comfort in gondolas slung underneath the huge 190 metre-long hydrogen-filled rugby ball-shaped balloon. They had more space than in many, much more modern aeroplanes and could stroll about admiring the view.

The German Army and Navy both saw the potential that airships had for reconnaissance. They were used almost from the onset of the war for getting information by flying over enemy lines far above gunnery range. As it became clear that the war would be long and drawn out, Zeppelins were sent to bomb British cities. Their route was over the North Sea from their bases on the north-west German coast. The early raids caused plenty of damage and many civilian casualties.

At first, British defences were quite inadequate to deal with the

Zeppelin threat. However, by 1916 a range of anti-airship defence measures were introduced. Many more guns were deployed, and searchlights. Fighter aircraft were also sent against them. British defences learnt to pick up their radio messages, so had warning of their approach, and a central communications headquarters was set up. It was soon realised that Zeppelins were extremely vulnerable to explosive shells, which set light to the hydrogen, often in spectacular fashion. Zeppelin raids were called off in 1917, by which time 77 out of the 115 German Zeppelins had been shot down or totally disabled. Raids by heavier-than-air bombers continued, however. By the end of the war over 1500 British citizens had been killed in air raids.

The vulnerability of Zeppelins to explosive shells, and their relatively slow speed, led to rapid development of heavier-than-air machines. By 1918 both sides were using large numbers of aeroplanes, for reconnaissance, fighter air support and as bombers. Air war, and the threat it brought to the lives of civilians, had become part of 20<sup>th</sup> century warfare. After the war Britain and Germany continued to develop airships for passenger services, offering a much more roomy, comfortable service than early aeroplanes could provide. However, the spectacular crash and fire of the R101 in 1930 discredited this form of air flight in Britain.

Before the 20<sup>th</sup> century, civilians in Britain had been largely unaffected by war. Previous overseas wars rarely touched British shores. WWI changed that, being described as a 'total, or global war', involving both civilians and armed services on a huge scale.

Count von Zeppelin, a retired German army officer, flew his first airship in 1900, lighter than air, filled with hydrogen, they had a steel framework. When the war started in 1914, the German armed forces had several Zeppelins, each capable of travelling at about 85 m.p.h. with up to two tons of bombs. With military deadlock on the Western Front, they used them against towns and cities in Britain. The first raid was on Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in January 1915.

So what was the meaning behind the implied insult and name chosen by Led Zeppelin?

A quick Google check into the history of airships soon reveals that their flying record was sometimes erratic with bombs often dropped nowhere near their intended targets.



Some spectacular crashes have also been recorded, perhaps the most well known being the Hindenburg disaster. This iconic photo shows "Zeppelin the Hindenburg" on fire at the mooring mast of Lakehurst (United States of America) 6 May 1937 with ballast water being thrown down.

Perhaps Keith Moon was inferring that Led Zeppelin might bomb out almost as spectacularly as the Hindenburg had done but the band resoundingly proved him wrong.

Led Zeppelin were honoured with a memorable tribute performance of Stairway to Heaven by Heart plus a full cast of other supporting performers at the Kennedy Centre with Barack and Michelle Obama in attendance in 2012. A very different take on a lead balloon!

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## Being safe online

**FOLLOWING ON FROM OUR PREVIOUS ARTICLE RE CYBER SAFETY/ CYBER BULLYING: We owe it to the children/ friends/grandchildren we are rightly concerned about, and not forgetting ourselves, regarding the various dangers it is possible to be exposed to via their/our electronic devices. Now, more than ever, we need to be properly informed especially considering the fact that many grandparents are often acting as de-facto parents or otherwise "in loco parentis". You may never need to actually use this information, but if necessary, here it is. It will clearly be seen the following advice is directed at children but you should be able to make the information work if the need arises.**

**THERE ARE A RANGE OF WAYS TO ENSURE PROTECTION. HERE MAY EVEN BE TIMES YOU ARE ASKED FOR HELP! THESE TIPS SHOULD ASSIST WITH STAYING SAFE ONLINE.**

**Explore together** — ask your mum, dad, carer or a trusted adult to play new games or apps with you at first.

**Stay close by** — when using a phone, tablet or computer by yourself, make sure your mum, dad or carer is nearby so you can get help if you need it.

Bonus tip — don't use your device alone in your bedroom.

**Ask before you download, install or buy anything** — check with your mum, dad or carer first.

**Keep your personal information private** — don't give out your address, what school you go to, phone number or passwords. [Find out more.](#)

**Check your privacy settings and talk about what to share** — make your online accounts private and talk to your mum, dad or carer about the kinds of photos and information it is OK for you to share online. Find out more in [The eSafety Guide.](#)

**Cyberbullying** — if you receive a mean message, or a message that is mean about someone else, try not to respond and don't forward it. Tell an adult you trust about it and read our [tips on what to do.](#)

**If you see something online you don't like** — show your mum, dad,

carer or a trusted adult immediately. [Find out more.](#)

**If someone you don't know sends you a message or you receive a message that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe** — tell your mum, dad, carer or an adult you trust straight away. [Find out more.](#)

**Only 'friend' or add people you know in real life** — remember that not everyone online is who they say they are, so don't accept friend requests or followers you don't know.

**Don't meet up with online friends** — It is best to keep 'online friends' online, so if you do chat to other kids in online games don't meet up with them in person.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids/i-want-help-with/being-safe-online>

Please be aware that while the intent of the new legislation is viewed as a positive step, there seems to be consensus that, in practical terms, it is, to all intents and purposes, virtually unenforceable.

For example, as we all know, there are any number of other offences that contravene the law but this by no means stops these crimes being committed—but that's all the more reason for us to stay on our toes, be aware of this rapidly expanding panorama that is the modern landscape and do our best to keep aware and informed!

Here are few more considerations to mull over.

Keep in mind it is a good idea to be prepared to raise the topic ourselves rather than wait until we are asked. remember how challenging it was to raise certain uncomfortable subjects with adults, whether parents or teachers, when we were of school age!

If you are like many of us, you already know you can actually learn quite a lot about this and all kinds of technology-related questions from your children and grandchildren.

Don't be intimidated by this. Be creative about how you broach the topic. You might even ask your grandchildren how YOU can be safe online in order to gauge what they already know and proceed from there. Also if you have any other tips that you have found useful please pass them on. There's always plenty more to learn!



## Far North QLD memorial ~ iconic ANZAC Focus

**T**HE EVELYN SCRUB WAR MEMORIAL – ATHERTON TABLELANDS was erected after the First World War on land set aside for this purpose by Edward Daniel, ca 1919. It lists the forty one names of the men from the Evelyn district who served during the war. It was added to the Queensland Heritage Register on 28 February 2003.

The Memorial stands on private property on Jonsson Road, off the Tumoulin to Ravenshoe Road in the southern Atherton Tablelands. A single flagstaff stands five metres from the Memorial on the southern side. Today, in keeping with its rural surroundings, a set of cattle yards is clearly visible immediately behind the Memorial.

The Evelyn Scrub Township was established on the edge of the rainforest "scrub" in the 1890s as a commercial centre for the Evelyn Tableland farming district. Shortly afterwards, the Evelyn Scrub State School was established in 1895. The town had two timber mills, a town hall, a general store, butcher's shop and houses.

Following the outbreak of war in Europe in 1914, approximately 90% of the young men from the Evelyn Scrub area enlisted for overseas service. Some never returned, and of those who did, very few went back on the land.

The Evelyn Scrub War Memorial is all that now remains of the town. It serves as a reminder of those who served in faraway battles and is also an illustration of the once bustling farming and timber getting community in an area that is now sparsely populated. A dawn service is held at the Memorial each ANZAC Day in commemoration of those who served. As a focus for ANZAC Day ceremonies it is highly valued by the community for its spiritual, symbolic, cultural and social associations. *Credit: Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia*

The Evelyn Scrub War Memorial is listed by the RSL as one of 12 most scenic ANZAC Day services in Australia. Beside a set of cattle yards, in a beautiful glade of gumtrees, a lone Cenotaph plays host to the Evelyn Sunrise Service. Known as Evelyn Scrub War Memorial, the Cenotaph is the sole reminder of the farming community that existed there prior to WWI. Sadly, more than 70% of the local men who enlisted were killed or wounded in the war. And so, the community faded out of existence, leaving just the Cenotaph as a reminder of the past. The Cenotaph stood abandoned until the early 1970s. Since then, Herberton and Ravenshoe RSL Sub Branches have jointly maintained the site and, each ANZAC Day, run the Evelyn Sunrise Service.

The 6:30am service attracts large numbers and is recognised as one of the Atherton Tablelands' most iconic ANZAC Day ceremonies.



Image credit: Sally Gray  
Credit for this article: RSL Newsletter 18 March 2024

# St Patrick's Day parades in Warwick, 1872-1972

**A** LASTING MEMORY OF MY FIRST TERM IN WARWICK is of being shepherded to the Palmerin/Pratten Street corner with the school to watch the St Patrick's Day parade. There was no opportunity to see such things out in the back blocks where I lived, and while the birthday of one of my brothers fell on St Patrick's Day, the essence of this saint's day had quite escaped me. My family were not church goers and hence my introduction to St Catharine's seemed rather a blur of church related rituals new and unfamiliar and this, yet another one. Sr Lois, who took the 1965 Grade 8 class for Divinity, impressed upon us that the word, Catholic, meant universal and that the branch of the faith simply referred to as Catholic was Roman Catholicism, under the auspices of the Pope in Rome whereas we were Anglican Catholics but Catholics nonetheless. This was more than a little confusing. The livestock back home on the farm weren't troubled with such concerns and the topic had never been part of my family's discourse. We were 100% busy with our sleeves rolled up working on the brigalow block we moved onto in 1959. There were Catholics at the one teacher school we attended. We knew this because they were drafted off in a different direction from everyone else when it was time for Religious Instruction on Fridays. They all belonged to hard working families just the same as everyone else in our district. So what were the many saints' days all about and, St Patrick's Day in particular?



**Q** uite unbeknown to me at the time that 1965 parade mentioned above took place, this long-standing local tradition had almost reached its conclusion: in 1972, after some 100 years, Warwick's renowned annual St Patrick's Day celebrations quietly ceased.

In 1969, the local newspaper reported: "Warwick is unique in Queensland for its spectacular celebration of the Feast of St Patrick and for the beauty of its decorated floats." Those generously described decorated floats were created with great pride and required hours and weeks of preparation. They also said a great deal about the Warwick community that embraced the traditions that accompanied them.

In the 1960s Warwick's Irish Catholic heritage is on record as being so integral to its identity that one Catholic child is on record as believing the national anthem was "Hail Glorious St Patrick" and was surprised to learn it was "God Save the Queen".

The first mention of Warwick's St Patrick's Day festivities seems to have been 23 March 1872: the *Warwick Examiner and Times*, reported that a successful ball and banquet had been held to celebrate the "festival of St Patrick, patron saint of the 'Green Isle'". Central to the decorations was "a flag with a neatly worked Irish harp upon it". Almost a hundred years later, this same flag, in earlier years associated closely with the Irish home rule movement, was still being flown in Warwick's St Patrick's Day processions. That first 1872 event was celebrated and attended by "all classes of society", including guests, such as the mayor of Warwick, Samuel Evenden, and the Catholic parish priest, the Rev. S.H. McDonough.

So who precisely was St Patrick?

St Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. But for all of his prevalence in culture—namely the March 17 date and the [day of his death](#) that bears his name—his life remains something of a mystery.

Many of the stories traditionally associated with St Patrick, including the famous account of his banishing all the snakes from Ireland, are [false](#), the products of hundreds of years of exaggerated storytelling.

St Patrick [was born in Great Britain](#)—not Ireland—to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D.

Although his father was a Christian deacon, it has been suggested that he probably took on this role because of tax incentives and there is no evidence that Patrick came from a particularly religious family.

At the age of 16, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family's estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in

captivity. (There is some dispute over where this captivity took place. Although many believe he was taken to live in Mount Slemish in County Antrim, it is more likely that he was held in County Mayo near Killala.)

During this time, he worked as a shepherd, outdoors and away from people. Lonely and afraid, he turned to his religion for solace, becoming a devout Christian. It is also believed that Patrick first began to dream of converting the Irish people to [Christianity](#) during his captivity.

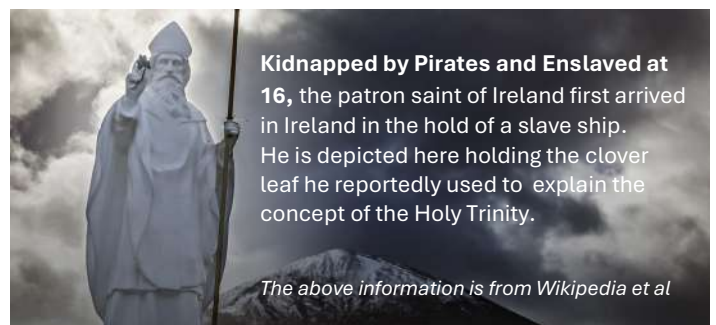
After more than six years as a prisoner, Patrick escaped, walking from County Mayo, to the Irish coast. After escaping to Britain, Patrick reported that an angel in a dream told him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Soon after, Patrick began religious training, a course of study that lasted more than 15 years.

After his ordination as a priest, he was sent to Ireland with a dual mission: to minister to Christians already living in Ireland and to begin to convert the Irish. (Interestingly, this contradicts the widely held notion that Patrick introduced Christianity to Ireland.)

Familiar with the Irish language and culture, Patrick chose to incorporate traditional rituals into his lessons of Christianity instead of attempting to eradicate native Irish beliefs. For instance, he used bonfires to celebrate Easter since the Irish were used to honouring their gods with fire. He also superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish.

Although there were a small number of Christians on the island when Patrick arrived, most Irish practiced a nature-based pagan religion. The Irish culture centred around a rich tradition of oral legend and myth. When this is considered, it is no surprise that the story of Patrick's life became exaggerated over the centuries—spinning exciting tales to remember history has always been a part of the Irish way of life.

He may be known as the patron saint of Ireland, but Patrick was never actually canonized by the [Catholic Church](#). This is simply due to the era he lived in. During the first millennium, there was no formal canonisation process in the Catholic Church. After becoming a priest and helping to spread Christianity throughout Ireland, Patrick was likely proclaimed a saint by popular acclaim.



**Kidnapped by Pirates and Enslaved at 16**, the patron saint of Ireland first arrived in Ireland in the hold of a slave ship. He is depicted here holding the clover leaf he reportedly used to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity.

The above information is from Wikipedia et al

# WWI mention in first St Catharine's Chronicle

**T** *Who shall dare to call it failure? There are failures that are nobler...*

THE INAUGURAL ST CATHARINE'S CHRONICLE was published in May 1915. Head Mistress at that time was Miss Dorothy Edwards and while the war was half a world away, it was very much on the minds of those at home. It requires a stretch by today's standards to grasp that all overseas communication back then was by boat—meaning news came well after events actually happened.

This first Chronicle was dated a few short weeks on from the ill fated landings at Gallipoli, details of which were not yet known as they are not mentioned anywhere in the Chronicle. The following, listed under "General Notes" gives some idea of how the war loomed large in the public consciousness. It is worth keeping in mind that some girls at the Stanthorpe school at this time may well be the grandmothers, great-grandmother and/or great-great-grandmothers of some of us.

■ "Before the war broke out we were regularly receiving one of the English illustrated papers, the pictures of which were pinned up in the classrooms in order that everyone might keep abreast of the times, and develop a keener interest in events taking place in other parts of the world."

■ "In the last few months of last year S. Catharine's was busy doing its small share in helping the work of the Red Cross and the Relief Funds. The weekly afternoon given to needlework was devoted to work for our soldiers and sailors, and each form collected from its members a weekly subscription in aid of the Patriotic Fund. All prizes were voluntarily given up, and the money thus saved was donated to the Food-Stuffs Fund. The girls who earned prizes received instead certificates, showing the school badge and colours, and stating that the owner forwarded at her own request the cost of her prize to the Food-Stuffs Fund."

■ By the following year, several members of the school community had suffered the loss of close family - menfolk who were fighting the good fight for King and Country in the Australian Imperial Forces at Gallipoli and in Europe and the losses were listed in the Chronicle.

*Note: The poem below appeared in the 2016 St Catharine's Chronicle with no author named and speaks from the heart, clearly reflecting the sentiment of the day, with its readily assumed Australian "Britishness". Everyday language, literary style and perspective of the Anzac experience has clearly evolved in the years since.*

## ANZAC

Time will write in golden letters,  
Anzac on the scroll of fame,  
Now 'tis writ in blood and suffering  
On the wounded and the slain.

On the hearts of stricken mothers,  
Loyal hearts that gave their best;  
Sisters, wives, true friends and lovers,  
Of the gallant lads who rest.

Now but bare, deserted trenches—  
These which were but yestere'en  
Filled with Austral's valiant soldiers,  
Proved, when tried, true "British men".

On those hills they proved their manhood,  
And the laurel wreaths of fame,  
Twined in everlasting glory,  
Round their loved Australia's name.

Up those cliffs they charged in triumph,  
On that glorious April morn;  
Silently they left their stronghold,  
In a chill December dawn.

Who shall dare to call it failure?  
Think of all our boys have done;  
There are failures that are nobler  
Than the Victories men have won.

And their dead they left behind them,  
These shall rest till dawns the day,  
On that wild and rocky fortress  
Wrapt in peaceful slumber they.

In that far off lonely graveyard,  
Dwells enshrined a Nation's heart;  
And their influence ne'er shall perish,  
Heroes that have done their part.

*An Australian wounded comrade being carried by his mate from Walkers Ridge, Gallipoli, down to a medical aid post*



## Editorial Notes from St Catharine's Chronicle May 1915

Hearty greetings to S. Catharine's girls, past and present. We hope that the fact that our little publication is so very unpretentious in its outward appearance will not hinder you from giving it a warm welcome.

It does not intend to compete with the "Link," either in beauty or literary effort; we hope, however that it will fill a distinct sphere of usefulness by extending, as it were, a "handshake" to old girls once a year on behalf of the "Alma Mater," and also by giving a record of their contemporaries. The secretaries would be glad to hear from all old S. Catharine's girls in the first quarter of the year, and we hope that all will do their best to make the magazine a real chronicle of S. Catharine's doings.

The old girls' news this time has been collected from various sources and the Secretaries would be glad to have any errors pointed out.

All communications should be addressed: -

The Secretary

"S. Catharine's Chronicle,"

S. Catharine's School,

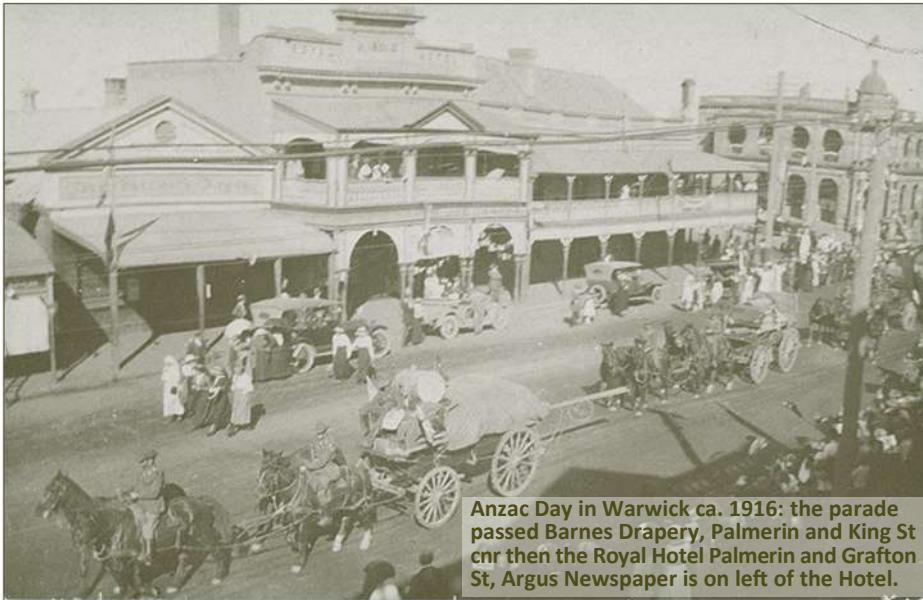
Stanthorpe, Queensland.

## Editor's Note:

*It is clear from the sentiments expressed here that St Catharine's Stanthorpe School, the first chapter in the book comprising the history of all our schools combined, understood fully the value of keeping strong close connections and communication with all those who had passed through its doors. Your SCPSA aims to keep this tradition alive and well.*



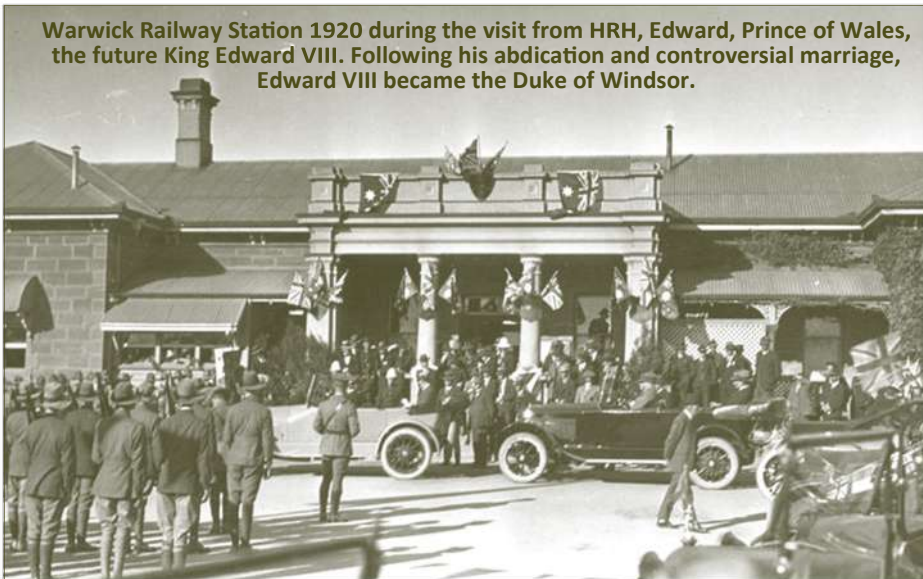
# Looking at Warwick through a very old lens



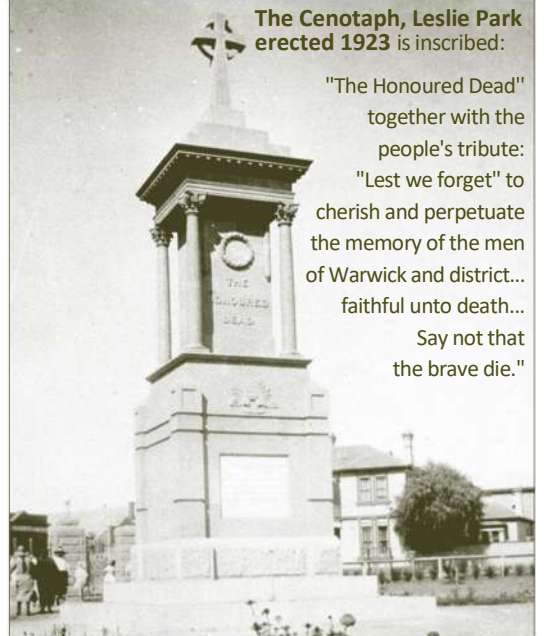
Anzac Day in Warwick ca. 1916: the parade passed Barnes Drapery, Palmerin and King St cnr then the Royal Hotel Palmerin and Grafton St, Argus Newspaper is on left of the Hotel.



ca. 1910: decorated float St Patrick's Day



Warwick Railway Station 1920 during the visit from HRH, Edward, Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VIII. Following his abdication and controversial marriage, Edward VIII became the Duke of Windsor.



The Cenotaph, Leslie Park erected 1923 is inscribed:

"The Honoured Dead"  
 together with the  
 people's tribute:  
 "Lest we forget" to  
 cherish and perpetuate  
 the memory of the men  
 of Warwick and district...  
 faithful unto death...  
 Say not that  
 the brave die."



Crowds farewell Dungarees Warwick 1915



5 Jan. 1942, children watch on while local men dig slit trenches in Erskineville to give some shelter against a possible air raid attack from Japanese planes. The trenches were designed in a zig zag fashion in order to mitigate the blast effect of a direct hit (a design learnt in the early days of trench warfare during WWI). Many of these slit trenches were dug in the grounds of schools (including ours), shopping centres, local parks and were retained for the duration of WWII.



Group photograph taken at the combined teacher's meeting of Warwick schools, ca. 1943. Note the standard formal attire - .

# RICHARD WAITE 1935-2024



*Richard's great loves were his wife, Trudy, cricket, family, chocolate, Rugby, History, Geography, World War I and II documentaries, travel, Zane Grey books, the beach and trains. His service and influence on so many in his teaching career will not easily be forgotten.*

challenging traditional thinking with thought provoking discussions, sometimes concerning religion, scripture and numerous other topics.

His long and dedicated involvement with Cadets, the aspect that many Slade students remember him best for, is outlined below.

**Captain Richard Waite Service Record:**

**Cadet 1949; Corporal 1950;**

**Sergeant 1953; Under Officer 1954;**

**National Service 1955**

**(2/55 Battalion Wacol)**

**Army Reserve - 1955-57**

**(CMF 25 Battalion)**

**Officer of Cadets 1957-84**

**1974 Captain Richard Waite was awarded the Cadet Forces Medal for his long involvement with the Australian Cadet Corps.**

Despite his National Service, Army Reserve service record and unquestioned willingness to actively serve, he was never asked to do so.

Trudy was diagnosed with breast cancer in the early 2000s. Richard nursed her through this and the family also ensured she enjoyed the holiday of a lifetime in scenic New Zealand. During this trip, ever the consummate teacher, Richard lost no opportunity to point out any and all examples of geomorphology and other geographical features he found worthy of note.

With the passing of Trudy and now Richard, aged 89 years, we honour their life vows well lived and pay tribute to the contribution he made in the lives of so many of his students.

The following cherry-picked tributes came in following news of Dick's passing and appear here. For more, see Page 5 re "What you said".

**R**ichard's eulogy, given by his youngest son, Jonathan, was styled as a walk through the myriad cricket change rooms of his life. He was remembered as a man who loved cricket, his wife, Trudy, chocolate, family, History, Geography, Rugby, World War I and II documentaries, travel, Zane Grey books, the beach and trains.

**Richard George Waite**, also known as Dick, was born in Pittsworth Hospital 26<sup>th</sup> August, 1935, one of 5 brothers, all excellent cricketers. The family enjoyed beach holidays in an era when this meant a solid day's travel in its Model T Ford to Maroochydore in the '40s/'50s with a stop off at Helidon to break the journey.

Graduating from Gatton College in Horticulture, Richard made the cricket team 3 yrs in a row. He later sailed for Wales and England on a worker/volunteer trip, visited Egypt, attended a proper bull fight in Spain, saw a test match at Lords and Herb Elliott win his 1500m Olympic final in Rome (adding a little coaching commentary for Herb from the sidelines—"You've gone too early son!" as told at his funeral service).

Returning to Australia, Richard met and married Trudy. The couple rented a small annexe on the site of a large Queenslander home in Warwick. Here he taught Agricultural Science, Farm Mechanics, Animal Husbandry, Welding and Geography at Slade from 1957. No surprise, he coached cricket and also headed up an Australian Army Cadet arm in the area.

Firstborn twins, Andrew and Ruth arrived prematurely but sadly did not survive, a devastating blow and deep sadness for Trudy and Richard in an era when no counselling or professional support was readily available.

Andrea, Evan and Jonathan followed to complete the family which kept up the Waite tradition of beach holidays.

Richard's last year at Slade was 1973 at which time he left to take a teaching position at Concordia in Toowoomba. His teaching style was described as loose and cordial with a fondness for



**1966 Slade Cadet Group:** Bandmaster John Stibbard, CWO Kim Becker, Sgt. Dale Evans, Kenneth Bromley, Sgt. Stuart Groat. CSM Paul Holland, CQMS Lester Huston, Cpt. Richard Waite



**1968 Slade Cadet Officers and NCOs:** BACK ROW: S/Sgt. John Milton, Sgt. Stephen Kyle\*\*, Sgt. Raymond Hammond, Sgt. Lloyd Lindenberg\*\*, Sgt. Richard Noon, Sgt. John Gosper FRONT ROW Lt. John Statham\*\*, CWO Clive Lindenberg, Cpt. Richard Waite, CWO. Leigh Hartog, Lt. Bruce Green\*\*

**Barry Dixon 1962-65** RIP Dick Waite. Dick was house master of Atkinson House in my sub senior and senior years 1964/65 at Slade. I was the house captain in my final year and Dick was boss of the cadets and had me playing drums in the cadet band. Dick was the Ag teacher along with many other roles and sport...

**John Deshon 1952-58** ...I knew Dick Waite well, as a confident young teacher who, I think, was engaged to commence the school's agriculture course. He was a bold leader of school cadets...He also fancied himself as a leg break bowler - he bowled me in a past students vs school match in 1959, when Fred Sakzewski and I opened the batting.

**John Milton 1964-65**...Dick Waite, also known as Caig at Slade. Dick and Trudy had dinner with my wife and I at our house in Perth about 20 years ago. That was the last time I saw him ... he had a big influence on my life at Slade and the pursuit of my career in Agriculture.

**Eddie Wickham 1964-65** I knew Richard Waite well as my Ag Science teacher, cadets and sports (mainly track). In 1965 I won the Junior Ag prize with an "A" in Horticulture, following on in 1966, I was offered a position as Trainee Agronomist with the Department of Primary Industries in Warwick which could only have been through the recommendation of Richard, bless him. Alas in 1969 the army [and Vietnam] beckoned and the traineeship went by the wayside.

Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω

# Valé

**“There is no pain so great as the memory of joy in present grief”** Aeschylus



**Ronald Hendry 1938-2025**

HENDRY Ronald James, late of Redcliffe, passed away at the Peninsular Private Hospital 19<sup>th</sup> February. For his funeral, 26<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary’s Anglican Church, Redcliffe, his final request was for those attending to wear colourful clothing. Ron arrived at Slade 1952-1955 from Taroom and was part of Slade’s 1955 First XI.

After Slade, Ron’s career was as a teacher of special education. Our thoughts are with Ron’s brother, Graham (Slade 1946-1947) and Ron’s wife, Pam at this time.

**As mentioned on, P2, this time we regretfully and respectfully farewell the life partners of two long standing SCPSA members, Helen Moloney and Ted Ross. Helen and Ted have exemplified the backbone of our Association for many years...**



**Peter Moloney 1941-2025**

MOLONEY Peter John, late of Toowoomba, formerly of Goombungee and Goondiwindi, passed away peacefully 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025, aged 81 years.

Bereavement information: Husband of Helen; Father and Father-in-law of Suzette and Darren; Penny, and Wendy; Grandfather of Amber, Emily, Aylah, Siane and Jacob. Family and friends joined in a warm celebration of Peter's life, held at St Anthony's Catholic Church, Harristown, 21<sup>st</sup> January where Peter was fondly remembered as a dedicated teacher, sportsman, coach and good friend. A small company of SCPSA members were on hand to pay their respects. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Helen and her family in their time of loss.



**Leone Ross 1943-2025**

ROSS Leone Grace, nee Oswald, late of Robertson, passed away peacefully 18<sup>th</sup> January with her family by her side.

Bereavement information: Wife of Ted; Mother of Pauline, Michelle, Stewart, Ian dec'd, and their partners; Mardi to her 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Family and friends attended a service 29<sup>th</sup> January to celebrate Leone’s life at St John’s Anglican Church, Robertson and also via live streaming. As those who attended already know, the service was not without incident. A candle set off smoke alarms in the new building, delaying proceedings for a considerable time, recalling the ageless words of Dylan Thomas: “Do not go gentle into that good night”. A few laughs relieved any possible tension with all who knew her agreeing Leone would have been laughing right along with everyone else at this unintended mishap. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Ted and all his dear family as they come to terms with Leone’s loss.

**“To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die”**  
Thomas Campbell

**“Be the things you loved most about the people who are gone.”**

Rosemary

## 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 Forebears

FOR THE FALLEN BY LAURENCE BINYON

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,  
England mourns for her dead across the sea.  
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,  
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal  
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,  
There is music in the midst of desolation  
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,  
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.  
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;  
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;  
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;  
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;  
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,  
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,  
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known  
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,  
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;  
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,  
To the end, to the end, they remain. *The London Times* (1914)

Robert Laurence Binyon, CH (Order of the Companion of Honour) 1869-1943 was an English poet, dramatist and art scholar. Born in Lancaster, England, his parents were Frederick Binyon, a clergyman, and Mary Dockray. He studied at St Paul's School, London and at Trinity College, Oxford, where he won the Newdigate Prize for poetry in 1891. *Information from Wikipedia*





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.



## Last Word...

**WE HAVE AT TIMES PONDERED WITHIN THESE PAGES** some of those things that set our schools apart from other, perhaps more highly fancied places of learning. We will all have our own thoughts about those things and what those other institutions might represent and may occasionally have been made to feel in some ways...less...because of the mantle of privilege that sometimes seems to be assumed by those "other institutions". However, the attitudes and attributes we learned at school and which we have taken with us into adulthood are no less valuable and should not be underrated or undervalued.

Most of us came away from modest rural backgrounds and likely never would have fitted comfortably into those "other" schools where the considerably wealthier students' families knew nothing of the harsher realities of life "in the bush" all too familiar to some of us. Our schools never pretended to exist for the rich and credentialled. Rather, our schools understood that they were providing a service that most of our parents would never have otherwise afforded and, in challenging times, our schools and parents often struggled to do this.

In the same spirit that saw every Australian locality, no matter how small, send its sons off to fight for King and Country and future freedom, our parents scrimped and did without to pay for fees that were purposely kept as low as practicable. In the fight for freedom just alluded to, fathers, husbands, sons and brothers from many of our communities bore the hopes of those who tearfully and proudly farewelled them. Far too many never returned while those who did make it home earnestly desired the kind of future for their sons and daughters that in many cases had been unavailable to them—the advantages of an education and their gift to us.

There can hardly be a community anywhere within our shores that did not lose some (or many) of its sons in the Dardanelles, in Europe and in the skies over Britain, in Africa, in Palestine, in New Guinea and POW camps and then later on in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

The repercussions of these losses took many forms, including, but not limited to, deeply felt personal and community grief, reduced manpower and productivity in cities, towns and on farms due to heavy death tolls on the various battle fronts plus all manner of crippling injuries, both visible and invisible, carried for life. Many times, these were almost a bridge too far for many communities to endure but, bravely soldier on they did.

In smaller towns, bereft fiancées in many cases, never married because there was no one left to marry and monuments to the fallen and those who served began to appear in their thousands around the country. They bear long lists of names—the pride and deep sorrow of each one of those communities.

The illustration at right has been selected for Last Word because of its striking resemblance to many of these monuments but also because it is one that may be found very close to Warwick. It is actually Allora's Boer War Memorial but I am sure you will agree that its general appearance has an extraordinarily familiar look!

It is often said that the smaller towns we came from punched far above their own weight in terms of numbers of men who served in the wars Australia has been involved in. One need only peruse the long columns of names on every monument to feel their sobering weight and, let's not forget that before the Vietnam conflict, enlistment was entirely voluntary. A similar "punching above one's own weight" factor by way of after school achievements is also found among those educated at our schools—schools founded for kids who most often came from the country.

For this, and many other reasons, let us all acknowledge a profound sense of pride in our roots and what they represent.

Let us never forget the sacrifices made not only by those who lost their lives in war but of those who returned after doing their best to ensure that we, their descendants, might never have to endure what they did.

Let us not forget the sacrifices made by those who kept our schools operational when reason indicated that they could not go on.

Let us not forget the gift (even if it was not always appreciated initially!) that our parents gave us concerning where we were schooled.

Let us count it a point of pride that we are all part of a history that belongs to nobody else, and be grateful for the resilience that saw us aim for higher things and which was necessary for us to advance and become contributing adults worthy of our forefathers.

