



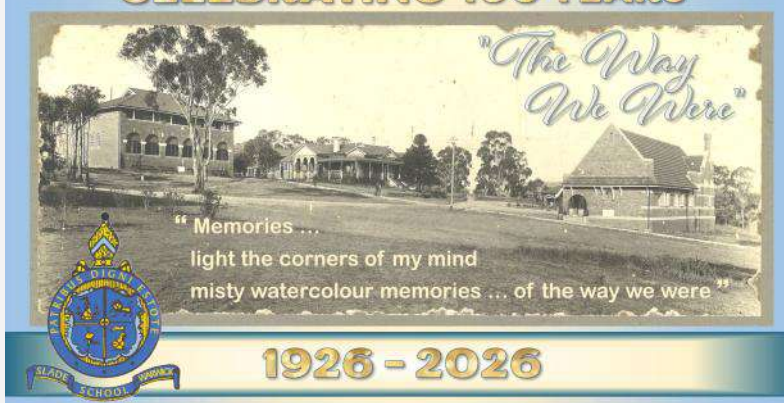
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"Thank you to all who made it to the Centenary, it was you who made it a success. The 125th is the next one, need you lot from the 80's & 90's to organise that one."

**John Farquhar 1973-1978**

## CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



**WILLIAM DOCHERTY, 1983-87, and also 1987 SCHOOL CAPTAIN, reflects on this very special occasion.**



Thank you for welcoming me back to the town where I cherished my senior schooling. It has been 39 long years, and many miles since I last came back to Warwick. While I have travelled far, I have learned the roots we set early in life are the ones that give us strength to grow. The campus may be behind us, but it will always be a part of us. I never thought I'd actually say this, but I miss school. Can we go back but not have to attend any classes?

Those attending this occasion, celebrated a century of learning, laughter, friendship and community. Whether we attended in the 1950s, 1970s or 1980s or just graduated, the hallways of St Catharine's/Slade School holds a special place in our lives.

We remember the teachers who inspired us, the cricket team finishing the competition undefeated for the first time in 30 years, the church we attended services every Sunday, the hall and the discos we enjoyed and the friendships that for many have lasted a lifetime. We also remember taking snacks, lollies, etc. to church. (We weren't supposed to but we did!)

Our old yearbook, shows how much we all went through together. We didn't just share a classroom; we shared the most formative years of our lives.

It was truly humbling to look around the room and see the faces that shaped who I am today. We all came from different backgrounds, but at Slade, we became a family.

While our paths have gone in separate directions, the bonds of the classes of the 1950s, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s remain. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us – the pioneers who built this foundation. They may never have imagined Slade's incorporation with St Catharine's or so many of the other evolutions but these are now part of our story.

The centenary wasn't just about looking back. It was about celebrating that we made it, that we have all grown and that we still have this connection. I would like to add my thanks for the opportunity to come together to celebrate and also to thank the tireless 100 year organising committee, the people working in the shadows, losing sleep and making this event possible.

A century is not just an ending; it is a springboard. As we celebrate our past, we are already building the next 100 years.

Here's to the students and teachers of the past, present and the future, to 100 years of history and to the next 100 years of greatness.



"Great weekend. Thank you to all involved in the organisation. Was so impressed and so good to catch up with so many past students." **Stuart Hazell 1969-1972**

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**Are your  
contact details  
current or soon  
to change?**

**DON'T FORGET TO  
notify us of your  
NEW RESIDENTIAL  
& EMAIL ADDRESS &  
MOBILE PHONE NO.**

**If we  
don't have this  
last vital detail,  
we are unable to  
to follow up failed  
emails when  
this happens.**

**ADDITIONALLY:  
IS YOUR CLASS  
MARKING ITS  
OWN MILESTONE  
in 2026 or 2027?**

**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...

**NOW THAT THE DUST HAS SETTLED A LITTLE** after all the excitement and celebration of our **"great big reunion weekend"**, it's time to take a deep breath and...get back to business as usual!

It was good to see so many of us together, all with the singular aim of seeing some we thought we might never see again and meeting others for the first time. We note the members on our Facebook page has grown considerably just in the last couple of weeks!

**Page 5** gives a brief overview of the occasion. Candid photos are shown on **pp 6-7**. As has been stated elsewhere, most people were so invested in important conversations, that in retrospect we realise that we are missing some photos that we thought we'd take and simply missed the moment. Nonetheless, the photos we do have (thank you to those who posted on Facebook) give a good idea of the delight people took in revisiting the old campus, the dinner and other gatherings for breakfast etc. and just looking round Warwick.

**You will see every page** of this reunion issue includes a comment or a testimonial for the time we shared together, many of them shared via Facebook. So convenient to be able to network this way!

**We have converted the PowerPoint presentation that ran on the night of the dinner to movie format.** All 198 slides take the best part of 25 minutes to view from start to finish and a link will soon be in place on the website to take you directly to it. It was tricky on the night to actually look at them all and maintain so many animated conversations so this will allow you to study it at your own pace.

I am again putting in a plug for the **"Lost Faces of Warwick and District"** (LFOW&D) Facebook page. This is a private members only page but anyone with connections to Warwick such as we all share may join. See **p10 and p15** for stories directly from LFOW&D: Thomas Adamson Horsman for whom the Slade Campus home street is named plus a story that, while not directly concerning us, resonates for most. On that note, it was good to meet **Eddie Wickham** at last. Eddie has ensured that **Noel Mills, Slade 1939-1944**, military chaplain and a casualty of the Vietnam conflict, is now registered on the Southern Downs Military History website. Many thanks Eddie!

After the notice was sent out re news of the death and funeral of Ian Jones, **Rob Davies** and **Eric Graham** were kind enough to send me several group photos with Ian in them. Happily, the quality of these was superior to the ones I had on file. I have used one of them on our vale page and hope to be able to provide an obituary for Ian next Kinawah where I plan to make good use of these.

*"Great to see you and hear your poem [Marco], you covered all areas well. Till next time."* **Vicki Schroder 1971-1975**



*"A big thanks from myself and my wife Julie for being invited along to the 100 year Celebrations in Warwick. I enjoyed immensely entertaining such an enthusiastic crowd of mates. I have posted [an audio] poem on your Facebook page featuring a nostalgic view of the Southern Downs, with photos from the Allora Photography Group for the enjoyment of students, staff and friends."*



## 2025/2026 Committee

### EXECUTIVE

President	John Farquhar	0401 917 811
Vice President/Membership	Nigel Faulkner	0412 973 831
Secretary	Martin Taylor	0421 834 660
Treasurer	Cris Roy	0468 883 563

### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Archivist/Patron	Ted Ross	0407 852 227
WCC Student Liaison	Grace Quach	0447 370 054
Slade CEGS Student Liaison	Lizzie Adams	0427 004 673
Kinawah /Contacts	Joan White	0428 344 853
Pastoral Coordinator	Rob Nolan	0439 784 457
Museum/Website	Leigh Nisbet	0418 156 296
Assistant Archivist	Helen Moloney	0402 887 651
Area Reps	Ray Dickson	0419 702 657
	Paul Masson	07 4623 5307
	Peter Ramsay	07 3245 4706
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pbmasson@bigpond.com  
peterramsay47@gmail.com  
iczzjc@gmail.com



# Johnno's Corner

**WHAT A GREAT TURNOUT WAS THE CENTENARY.** Fantastic to meet so many of you and thank you for making the effort to come along. I hope you were able to reconnect with old mates and spin a yarn or two.

■ It was good to have Jason Gay (WCC Principal) come along and be part of the celebration. He thoroughly enjoyed himself and felt honored to be invited and welcomed by you. With that said, Jason 'gets' the strong feeling that most of us share for the school and is aware that he is the custodian of our history and is a strong advocate for the SCPSA. Also, with that said, I would urge all of you to consider your membership of the Association. I believe it is a small price to pay for the upkeep of our museum and to kick a few bucks in towards assisting with the overall maintenance and other projects where we can assist.

■ Thank you to the boys and girls from the 80's for showing up. I am sorry I didn't meet all of you. However, I'll be in touch – I have your numbers !!!

■ Was saddened to hear of the passing of Ian Jones. Ian was a leader in the Pig Industry and owned the 'Pig Farmer Journal'. Ian developed a method of testing for a stress gene in pigs amongst other things. I remember in the late 80's or early 90's he shipped 1600 live pigs through the Port of Darwin to Indonesia. Accompanying the trucks from Clifton to Darwin was a water truck driving alongside the moving stock trucks wetting down the pigs to keep them comfortable. You would need a good long flat piece of road for that !!!

■ And as always, remember to ring your old mates and check in on them, it may just make their day. Until next time, take care of yourselves. Johnno



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

**COMING UP IN 2026**

**July. 16-26 Jumpers & Jazz in July**

**July. 19 Classic Vehicle Exhibition**  
Leslie Park

**Aug. 15-16 Leyburn Sprints**

**October. 20-25 Warwick Rodeo**

**Nov. 7 Brekky Creek Lunch**

**Nov. 11 Remembrance Day**

*"A great night. Wanted to thank the mob who spent so much time making it be that...onlya folks... great to catch up with so many oldies...terrific to see so many make the effort...see you all in the future"* **Barry Riddiford 1971-1975**



**PAYMENT DETAILS TO REGISTER AS A SCPSA MEMBER OR RENEW EXISTING MEMBERSHIP:**

**BSB: 124001      ACCOUNT NO: 90641027      ACCOUNT NAME: SLADE CAMPUS PAST STUDENTS**  
**REFERENCE: YOUR INITIALS AND SURNAME      FORMS FOR NEW MEMBERS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**



**Southern Downs**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**SLADE'S CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS SINCERELY THANKS SOUTHERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL for its generous support via its Community Grants Funding**



*"It was wonderful to catch up with past students of Slade School at their centenary celebrations... Their stories and memories were so interesting, and like many boarding school students, it seemed more like they were reuniting with long lost family than merely school chums. I've added a special keyring for my drives across the Southern Downs, to remind me of a lovely evening and an important part of Warwick's history"* **Melissa Hamilton SDRC Mayor**



**John Farquhar, John Bayliss, Melissa Hamilton and Leigh Nisbet**

*"Thankyou Melissa and great to meet another who was born on the banks of 'the muddy Fitzroy'. Thankyou again for the support from the SDRC"* **John Farquhar 1973-1978**

**For many, the recent celebrations, were a first "back-to-school" event and invited interest in our Brekky Creek Lunch! Severe storm cells threatened attendances last year so let's hope the weather stays kind to us in 2026! ▼**



**Saturday, November 7**  
**11.00 AM FOR LUNCH**



**2026 Brekky Creek Lunch**  
**18th 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**  
**Richard Cleal: 0447 447 236**  
**richard@cleal.au**

## A Special Highlight for 70 Horsman Rd

**SLADE CENTENARY AND COLLEGE UPDATE:** It was an honour to attend and celebrate the Centenary of Slade with so many past students, staff and friends of the school community. The evening was a wonderful reminder of the deep affection so many people still hold for the Slade Campus and the significant role this place has played in the lives of generations of students.

As the current custodians of the site, Warwick Christian College feels the weight and privilege of that legacy. We are very conscious that we are not simply using a campus, we are stewarding a place filled with memory, story and meaning. It is our desire to care for both the physical site and the memories attached to it with respect, gratitude and a genuine commitment to the future.

It has also been a full and exciting few months at the College. Enrolments continue to grow strongly, with the College now passing 240 students. I believe this may be the largest student intake on the Slade Campus, at least in peacetime. We are already projecting enrolments of well over 280 students for 2027, which is a remarkable sign of the continued confidence families are placing in the College.

One of the most visible signs of this growth is our new undercover multicourt, which is now nearing completion. This \$2 million project, built beside the formerly named Roberts House, will make a significant difference to College life. It will provide students with a high-quality, weather-protected space for sport, assemblies, events and daily play. It is a major investment in the future of the campus and will serve students for many years to come.

The College also recently held its Cross Country Carnival, which was the largest carnival we have hosted to date. It was wonderful to see strong participation across the year levels and a growing sense of House spirit among our students. These events continue to play an important role in building culture, connection and healthy competition within the College.

We have also seen many students represent the College beyond our own campus. A significant number have progressed to Southern Downs and Border Districts carnivals and teams, with several going on to compete at Darling Downs regional carnivals and competitions. It has been particularly pleasing to see our students grow in confidence and compete strongly.

As we look ahead, we remain grateful for the foundation laid by those who came before us. The stories, traditions and memories of Slade continue to shape the life of the campus today.

I would like to warmly extend an invitation to all past students to visit the campus whenever you are in town. I know many enjoyed wandering the old halls as part of the Centenary celebrations, and we would be glad to welcome you back again. The campus continues to grow and change, but its story remains deeply connected to the generations who have called it home.

Jason Day, Principal



*"That [commemoration] keyring is special ... past student attendees had their names and years inscribed on theirs ... what a wonderful thought and gift from the organisers of the reunion dinner."* Barry Dixon 1962-1965

# 1926 - 2026, memories, mementos & so much more:

**F**ROM THE MOMENT EVERYONE ARRIVED IN WARWICK ready to celebrate our Centenary weekend it was clear this was going to be one of those truly unforgettable occasions. Those visiting the Slade campus and making their way around the city, took in old haunts, familiar streets, places and buildings with older, fresh eyes but with heaping helpings of déjà vu. Pictures shared on Facebook record old friends simply sitting together, chatting and reminiscing with a ton of nostalgia and emotion.

Other vignettes evoking the weekend float in and out of consciousness inviting warming smiles and "remember whens"...

**Tony Henry, 1983-84**, noted how deeply sorry he was when he learned about the closure of Slade, saying he would have loved to send his own children to this small proud school in the country if the option had still been available.

**70s students, Cris Roy, Martin Taylor, John Farquhar and Nigel Faulkner** welcomed past students to the Slade Campus Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and witnessed first-hand the sense of lingering connection visitors felt with the new-look college.

**Percy Tesch, 1951-53**, was chauffeured up from Brisbane by his son just for the afternoon to meet his old classmate, **Ted Ross, 1951-55**. Percy had commitments at home and wasn't able to attend our dinner but the two men took this rare opportunity to catch up and identify with near 100% accuracy exactly who was who in their old class from a wonderfully well preserved vintage photo.

For everyone, as is often seen at gatherings such as this, it was exactly as if the many years between leaving school and the present simply melted away: old conversations resumed, yesterdays relived as if absolutely nothing had changed, quite belying possible evidence that external appearances might suggest otherwise!

The upstairs private function room where we were spoiled with appetizers, mains, desserts and drinks was beautifully decorated and warmly welcoming. Mine hosts, Condamine Sports Club manager, **Steve Domjahn, Slade 1995-97**, and his function manager, **Nicole**, coped with our near 200 guests gracefully and admirably—no small task.

**Outstanding highlight** of the evening ► was the appearance of performance poet, **Marco Giori**. It is difficult to accurately put into words how best to explain this artistic genre to the uninitiated but Marco did not disappoint, perfectly tailoring the original entertainment that he so creatively and cleverly brought to his audience and, with his own Slade connections, had the entire room in the palm of his hand.

Marco's parents, **Dario and Audrey**, were two of Slade's non-academic staff from the 1970s and many in the audience recalled them fondly.

**Formal speeches** for the evening were kept to a minimum. **Honorary Life**

**Member, John Deshon**, had been unexpectedly hospitalised in Noosa but **Steve Cooke** stepped into the breach and seamlessly delivered John's address for him.

**A ceremonial handover of the SCPSA Archives** from **Ted Ross** to **Helen Moloney** was the next item on the agenda.

**Warwick Christian College Principal, Jason Gay** impressed on us the honour he feels as principal and custodian of the Slade Campus.

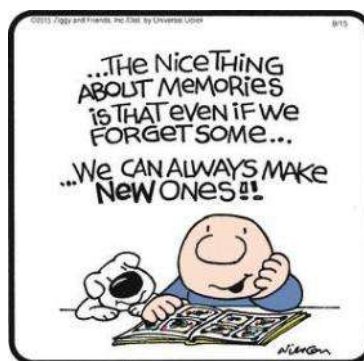
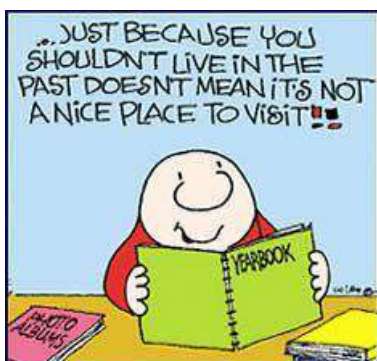
Truthfully, there was such an intense level of "networking" in play that several people completely neglected their mobile phones on the night and overlooked taking some of the photos they had planned to use to record their own personal mementos of this one-off occasion. In this day and age, that is practically unheard of!

**A final item of formal business** acknowledged the monumental contribution of **John Bayliss**. His personal organisation is largely responsible for the outstanding success of the reunion. This took the form of a special vote of thanks thinly disguised as a segue to conferring a thoroughly well deserved Honorary Life Member No 23 upon him. **For more about this, see p8.**

To close out this special centenary celebration, there was a fulsome representation from our group at **St Mark's on Sunday morning**. The majorly modern 8.30am service bore scant resemblance to the rigid ones we



knew from long ago. **Our presence at the service and the reason for it were acknowledged** with **Steve Cooke** and **Ron Ladner** invited to give bible readings. Much has changed since our school days became a fixed part of our lives but the truly important parts cannot be so easily extinguished. **PTO for more reunion pics.**



"Good to see so many old friends again. Great job Marco! Congratulations organisers. Brilliant all round." **Leigh Hartog 1963-1968**

# A selection of candid snaps of the reunion weekend



*"Some pics of the crowd at last night's fabulous dinner and some gurus at work." Barry Dixon 1962-1965*

# A few more happy snaps of the reunion weekend



"Great seeing all those photos. I am surprised that I can remember most of the names" **Denis Cleaver - Slade Staff 1979-1987**

# Seminal moments in the history of Slade #8

## 100 Years on from Slade's hopeful beginnings

THE MOMENT WE HIGHLIGHT THIS TIME IN SLADE'S LONG NOBLE HISTORY IS MUCH MORE RECENT and also focuses on the legacy that SCPSA is designed to preserve for all who have graduated from the schools the Association serves. Now that we have celebrated Slade's long awaited centenary event, we will be giving more attention to the history and life of the sister schools that are also part of SCPSA. For the benefit of the many new contacts we have found while working to arrive at the almost 200 grand total who joined us in Warwick May 2-3, the following, which was presented on the night helps to explain a little of how our organisation functions as well as honouring one of its most dedicated members...

TONIGHT WE THANK JOHN BAYLISS who has literally put his life on hold for the past year to make this event such a special one. Because many here may be a little in the dark about how SCPSA operates, this outline of some of John's involvement gives some idea of how we function as a body, simply because John is a good example of what we do and how we do it.

Obviously not everyone here was with him at Slade, so you may not know that **John was there 1963-1967** and is one of those rare individuals who has been involved in reunions and past student activities almost from the time he left school.

His no-nonsense rural background saw him apply himself to a range of employment options growing a varied skillset and acumen as a businessman. All of this John brought to the table when he was elected **Steve Cooke's Vice President at the 2014 AGM** and took a hands-on role on the Executive.

The Association at this time stood in need of redirection and so, by committee decision, as Vice President, John moved to reset its financial viability as Membership Officer, overhauling the way the Association was run. To assure its continuity, steps were taken to allow WCC graduates to be provided for as future members and the **Rules of the Association** were amended to accommodate this:

- 1) It was **renamed Slade Campus Past Students' Association;**
- 2) The old system of financial life memberships, which ultimately created close to zero income for many, many years, was voided and replaced by a **standard annual membership fee;** and
- 3) **Invoicing for new members and membership renewals** was set up. This put the Association on a firmer financial footing to finance several initiatives:
- 4) **Assistance** with maintaining the War Memorial Science Block and other structures on the campus significant to us; and
- 5) **Implementation of annual bursaries to WCC students.**

**Among several other initiatives,** and facilitating his own professional connections, John undertook to **redesign, update**

**and overhaul SCPSA's website,** originally set up by the late **Harry Haxton** and sold to Steve Cooke for the princely sum of \$1 when Harry's death was imminent. This was assisted by a substantial gift via Carmel Wickham, from the estate of late Slade student, Alan Wickham, after Alan's death in 2017. Leigh Nesbit, who lives in Warwick, now oversees this for us.



Supported by Steve Cooke, Peter Ramsay and Leigh Nisbet, John took responsibility for restoring the crumbling, Slade crest on the War Memorial Science Block.

As a hard-working supporter of the SCPSA committee, John has also competently assisted in many other ways including:

- a) Helping set up St Catharine's CEGS Centenary celebrations held at the Slade Campus in 2018;
- b) Sourcing and providing superior quality name tags for our annual Brekky Creek Lunch and for this Centenary dinner and the centenary key rings to name just a few.

John's practical advice with respect critical decisions made at committee level has been invaluable and is always able to be depended upon.

As dedicated primary coordinator of Slade's 2026 Centenary celebrations, our man of the hour has personally contacted as many past students as possible via countless phone calls and emails. As well as this, he has also supplied several items of the décor in the room. His input has been a monumental undertaking and the end result? An evening that is one we will all remember.

We recognise John as the ultimate volunteer. With his total dedication to the cause, there is no better man to have in your corner when it comes to getting things done.

With sincere appreciation and thanks we confer this thoroughly deserved SCPSA Honorary Life Membership No 23 upon Reginald John Bayliss for distinguished service to the Association.

For reasons already given, we have no photo of the presentation of John's certificate but the pictures below were part of his tribute. NB we have no contact details for those unaware this event was on.



*"The Centenary reminded us that a school is never really just buildings or classrooms. Its real strength has always been the people, the friendships, the shared memories, and the values carried forward through generations. What stood out most was how quickly people slipped back into old conversations and old connections, as though the years in between hardly mattered at all. That says something pretty special about the Slade spirit.*

*And as we continue to gather in years to come, we'll also carry with us the memory of those classmates, teachers and friends who have passed on — still part of the story, still part of the family. Blue Gold Blue — You stood where I stood too."*

**Barry Riddiford 1971-1975**

*"Thank you [Marco] for the entertainment, that was wonderful, my ribs are still sore from laughing..."* **Jim Wiseman 1970-1975**

# Eddie Prince's Legacy: an expanded diverse clientele

**I**N THE 2020s, MULTICULTURALISM AND DIVERSITY CONTINUE TO BE FREQUENT AND HOTLY DEBATED TOPICS and yet for most of our school days, to varying degrees, these were a seamless part of our everyday existence. Boarders and day students from varying socio economic backgrounds shared classroom work, sporting and other extra curricular activities. The meals that many of us were accustomed to at home might or might not have resembled what was served up at school but so long as we weren't overly picky, exercise-fueled appetites compensated for any shortfall. And if you really didn't fancy something on the menu there was usually someone else who was willing to eat it!

From the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, our schools were living spaces shared with students from PNG and historically, many of us also came away to boarding school from families posted overseas representing a variety of professional and sometimes, missionary fields.

When drought impacted families from rural backgrounds, enrolments automatically suffered and so too did school finances. Then, when PNG secured its independence in 1975, grants for those students to be educated in Australia were no longer offered. When Eddie Prince succeeded Horace Whybird as headmaster, he earnestly sought to prevent the likely closure of Slade if at all possible. Looking further afield, he sought and secured government grants for students to attend Slade as boarders from remote Australian communities and also several Asian countries. His plan of action surpassed all expectations. Slade was by now fully co-educational with a purpose-built new dormitory, to suitably accommodate girls. Names on school enrolments reflected a growing and increasingly diverse community and when Eddie Prince sadly retired due to failing health, the school had been cleared of debt and was operating firmly in the black.

While it is almost certain that for many of the students transplanted to chilly Warwick winters for the duration of their school years, conditions and expectations differed in many respects from what they had grown up with (much as the rest of us also experienced). For a good many of these students recruited by Eddie, distinguished careers in health, education and local governance followed their schooling at Slade. As has been written about in various recent Kinawah articles, we count doctors, nurses, educators of all kinds, mayors and other elected representatives, CEOs, cultural advisors and more all grown out of this initiative credited to Eddie Prince.

Ultimately, government funding for this too was no longer accessible but Eddie Prince's legacy is one that yielded far reaching results.

## Our own Lizzie Adams: "A woman leading the way"



**LIZZIE ADAMS WHO ATTENDED SLADE 1980-81, recently made the shortlist of "Toowoomba women leading the way with courage, grit and grace". The following write-up appeared in a recent Chronicle.**

**Originally from Cunnamulla, Lizzie has dedicated her life to offering health support to indigenous communities as the chief executive officer of Goolburri. This photo of Lizzie is from her LinkedIn page.**

After getting into nursing at 16 years, Lizzie saw the need for more medical support for indigenous communities but the way forward hasn't always been without personal challenges. After losing her son, Jaydon Adams in a traffic crash in 2013, she started a foundation in his name offering mental health first aid and cultural safety programs. As she dreams of retirement, Lizzie reflects on what she has achieved in her life and career...

**Q:** What woman from history or current day, could all women learn from?

**A:** I've never really had anybody other than my mum to inspire me and support me and the support from all my sisters to lead my career. What I've learned from my mum is that you need to work hard to provide for your family. When I started to do what I do, the admiration I got from her, and to know that she was proud of me in my career was a very big factor for me.

**Q:** What is one piece of advice commonly given to young women you think they should ignore?

**A:** 'You have to be somebody you're not.' Don't be somebody you're not. Don't step up if you're not ready just because everyone thinks you should be something that you are not.

**Q:** What tradition or practice shared among women in your life has been a source of strength or knowledge for you?

**A:** Sharing knowledge. Instead of someone trying to be better than someone else, I find the more we share and support each other, the better we are. We are all equals. It doesn't matter what title you have. It doesn't matter that I'm the chief executive, we're equal and as long as we continue to share and support each other we can meet our goals in life.

**Q:** If you could shield the next generation of young women from one specific challenge you've faced, what would it be?

**A:** Women who work in a male dominant industry, don't be intimidated by that. In times in my career I've seen intimidation and "the boys' club" sort of thing. They can be intimidating and I've faced that first hand. It's taken me more than 20 years in my role, to go "No it's not good enough. I'm going to stand up".

**Q:** If your younger self could see you today, what would she be most proud of?

**A:** I think she would be proud that I made it., because it's been quite a journey to get to where I am. From somebody who wasn't a great student, who just wanted to support people and community and now I'm up in that decision making, solution space now, where I can make a difference. You look back at this little Aboriginal girl who was born in Cunnamulla and now getting ready for retirement, raised my family and did great in life.

**What is Goolburri?** It is a community-controlled, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving the health, wellbeing, and social outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the Goolburri footprint. For over 30 years, it has walked alongside its communities, delivering holistic, culturally safe services that support individuals, families, and communities. Established in Toowoomba in the early 1990s, Goolburri Aboriginal Health Co. Ltd was formed to meet the growing need for delivery of accessible, culturally safe health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is dedicated to improving health and wellbeing through culturally appropriate services, advocacy, and community-led programs.

Goolburri works collaboratively with various stakeholders, including government agencies, not-for-profit organisations, and community leaders, to advocate for policies and initiatives that support the health and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It aims to ensure that Aboriginal Families voices are heard and that policies are developed in a way that respects and incorporates cultural values and traditions



*"Inspiring to see so many gathered for this celebration. Well done all! ..."* Ruth Womersley Lufkin CEGS 1967-1968

# Horsman Road: named for a Warwick pioneer

It has been some time since we featured an article from David Owens' Facebook page, 'The Lost Faces of Warwick and District' but this one seems serendipitous as we continue exploring the beginnings of that shared history that we hold in common.

We noted in a recent Kinawah St Mark's first purpose-built parsonage was in Weewondilla Road, a pathway quite familiar to generations of Slade students. The following story focuses on a thoroughfare equally familiar and tells us about the Warwick identity it is named for.

Several rural property and family names familiar to us make an appearance in this story.

**H**ORSMAN ROAD in Warwick stands as a quiet reminder for us today of a man whose life intersected with some of the earliest days of European settlement on the Darling Downs.

**Thomas Adamson Horsman**, born in Leeds, Yorkshire, in 1806, was among the first generation of colonists to leave their imprint on the Queensland frontier. His story is not one of grand conquests or political power, but of steady, honest labour and deep local roots — the kind that helped shape a community.

In 1838, Horsman arrived in Sydney aboard the barque, *Catherine Cooke*, having been contracted by the firm Hunt and Buckley, to take charge of a proposed woollen factory. When the company failed and the venture collapsed, he turned instead to the open country of the interior. Travelling together with Donald McConnell, Horsman journeyed overland to the fledgling station of Canning Downs where he took a prominent role in the station's work

A death notice which appeared Saturday 3 April 1880, in the *Warwick Argus* (Qld: 1879 - 1901), noted that Horsman was one of the few men living who passed over the site on which Warwick now stands when it was a pathless forest, — then still untamed and largely untouched and he could tell many interesting anecdotes of the Leslies, the McConnells, the Gammies, and other early pioneer settlers on the Downs. The notice went on to say that Warwick may be said to have been his home for the past 40 years, the greater portion of which were spent in its immediate neighborhood. Of a kindly nature, unassuming in manner, and unflinching in honor, he was much respected by a large circle of acquaintances.

As a trained wool sorter — a trade he had learned in the mills of Leeds — Horsman brought vital skill to the growing pastoral industry on the Downs. Over the years, he sorted some of the region's finest wool clips, including the celebrated fleeces of Pikedale Station, which consistently fetched high prices on the market. He was, in fact, one of the first professional wool sorters to work in the region

and was known across the Downs for his expertise.

For more than four decades, Warwick was Horsman's home. He built his life on Parsonage Hill, where he lived out his final years at a residence he called "Prospect." He

was known, not only for his work with wool, but also for his contributions to civic life.

Horsman served as a municipal auditor and was involved in the affairs of St Mark's Church over a lengthy period of time.

A man known for his quiet integrity, he was both unassuming, honourable, and kind, having earned the

respect of settlers and station workers alike.

Thomas Adamson Horsman died on 1 April 1880 at the age of 74, after a long and painful illness. His funeral was well attended, drawing townsfolk, friends, and fellow pioneers — including a few "old hands" who, like him, had seen the wilderness transformed.




In honour of his long-standing contribution to the community and his place in the early development of the district, the road that runs through the area where he lived was later named Horsman Road. Today, it is more than a name on a map — it is a tribute to a man who arrived with a trade, adapted to a changing colony, and quietly helped to build the town of Warwick. Ω Ω Ω Ω Ω



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# HERE THERE AND EVERYWHERE

Social Media in the spotlight still , restored WWII Fighter flies again and some good old Aussie ingenuity

**U16s SOCIAL MEDIA BAN BETTER FOR WELLBEING OTHER COUNTRIES SEEKING TO FOLLOW AUSTRALIA'S LEAD** with an under-16s social media ban are told that major platforms are “dangerous consumer products that harm adolescents at a massive scale”.

The well-known Gallup and Oxford World Happiness Report 2026 has concluded that widespread reduction of social media use by adolescents could cause substantial improvements in mental health.

The happiness study shows that young people are struggling to be happy as heavy social media use is affecting them significantly.

“The global evidence makes clear that the links between social media use and our well being heavily depend on what platforms we're using, who's using them and how and for how long” Jan-Emmanuel De Neve, director of Oxford's Wellbeing Research Centre said.

## RESTORED WWII FIGHTER TAKES TO OUR SKIES



CAC Boomerang A46-54 March 15  
Photo by John Parker

This was first written for [Warbirds Online's Facebook](#) page by **JOHN PARKER**. It was later republished by Vintage Aviation News.

**THE CAC BOOMERANG A46-54**, an example of the only fighter aircraft designed and built in Australia during WWII, has flown again for the first time in 81 years completing its long-awaited return to flight at Toowoomba

Wellcamp Airport in QLD. This is the culmination of decades of restoration work led by Greg Batts of Combat Aircraft Constructions which is based at Archerfield near Brisbane.

Weather initially threatened to delay the event. Strong winds across the airfield raised doubts about whether conditions would be suitable for a first flight but the winds eased enough for the team to proceed. Following final checks, Taberner taxied the Boomerang to the runway and lifted off smoothly, returning the aircraft to the skies for the first time since it saw action in WWII.

The A46-54 handled extremely well. It has now completed several hours of flight testing, and its performance has proven to be above expectations. “It's beautiful, don't touch a thing”, was the appraisal.

Its return to the air represents the culmination of an extraordinary restoration journey that began when Greg Batts acquired the remains of the aircraft in 1984. At the time, little remained of the once-proud fighter beyond surviving structural elements. Over the following decades, Batts gradually rebuilt the aircraft at his workshop in Archerfield, developing a reputation as one of the world's foremost specialists in the restoration of CAC Boomerangs. The aircraft slowly evolved from scattered remnants into a fully rebuilt airframe, constructed as faithfully as possible to its original wartime configuration.

Wherever possible, original components were incorporated into the restoration. The aircraft is powered by a Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation license-built Pratt & Whitney R-1830 Twin Wasp 14-cylinder radial engine, producing approximately 1,200 horsepower.

<https://vintageaviationnews.com/warbirds-news/australias-cac-boomerang-fighter-a46-54-flies-again-after-81-years>.

**NSW COTTON FARMER'S FERTILISER BRAINCHILD FARMER, DAVID STITHM**, with Kiwi aid, found an answer to a problem. NSW grain farmers are rationing urea because the next load is stuck in a war zone with no known future. Why? Two thirds of our fertilizer is imported from the Middle East.

Did you know Australians invented WiFi - the technology connecting billions of people to the internet every single day was invented by CSIRO researchers in suburban Sydney? We also invented the Hills Hoist, the black box flight recorder, the cochlear implant, Google Maps, polymer banknotes and the mechanical sheep shearer. We are a nation of people who look at a problem and solve it in ways that change the world. We invented WiFi but lately, haven't made all our own fertiliser.

Back to David Stithm. With Australia busy writing discussion papers about the future of agricultural self-sufficiency, a cotton farmer in northwest NSW looked at the Ukraine war in 2022, watched fertiliser prices go feral, and said: I'll do it myself. Very Australian. Extremely Hills Hoist energy (someone saw wet laundry draped over a fence and said there has to be a better way and built something the whole world copied). Stithm saw a broken global supply chain risking his livelihood and said ditto.

He saw how a war in Europe affected his supply chain and a way to do something about it. Same DNA. Different paddock.

Stithm runs an advanced farming operation and felt it could do better. He started building a system that produces green hydrogen on-site, converts it to green ammonia, and turns that ammonia into fertiliser on his own property, no ships, no Middle Eastern Strait of Hormuz, no geopolitical anxiety required.

The whole thing runs off solar panels just like the taxpayer-subsidized ones on many roofs and the result: roughly 4,500 tonnes of green fertiliser per season and enough hydrogen to displace 1.8 million litres of diesel, on a farm, in regional NSW.

Who came riding in to make this a reality? Who showed up with the technology to build Australasia's first green hydrogen refuelling network and said yeah, we'll partner with your mad genius farmer and make history? - NZ - the Kiwis. They looked at what Stithm was building, said, “This is a world first. Let's go”.

All the individual technologies existed. Nobody had stitched them together into a single integrated farm system before. A NZ company and an Australian farmer did it together in the middle of cotton country and it might be the most important agricultural innovation this continent has ever produced.

The project is worth around \$100 million. The NSW Labor government chipped in, which is the least they could do given the alternative is explaining to 8,000,000 people why grain production is deactivated. Stithm's vision is 3 or 4 of these large scale projects running up and down the eastern seaboard in two years. No import dependency. No supply chain fragility. Just Australian farms powered by sunlight and NZ ingenuity.

The solution isn't in the meeting room. It's already on a farm in northwest New South Wales, humming away on solar power, producing the fertiliser this country desperately needs, built by a bloke who didn't wait for permission.

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“...it was a great weekend, so good to meet up with friends from 55 years ago.” Wal Holcombe 1970-1972

# The road Warwick built by hand 100 years ago

**A**nother wonderfully historic article from David Owens' Facebook page. This initiative was of hugely critical significance to the entire Southern Downs region—a milestone in the continuing development of the area. Again, a few very familiar names feature in this account which also shares a very special anniversary with Slade!

**DURING EASTER OF 1926—ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO—**the Warwick district accomplished something remarkable. There were no contracts signed, no wages promised, no heavy machinery commissioned by government decree. Instead, there was determination, axes, motor cars, horses and drays and a community willing to give its holiday over to a vision.

For years there had been talk of a better road over the range. The route via Spicer's Gap was steep and costly to maintain. Yet investigations showed that a passage through Cunningham's Gap, three miles to the north, offered easier grades and would cut nearly nine miles from the journey to Brisbane. In an age when motor cars were multiplying and tourist traffic was increasing, the need for a direct eastern link was obvious.

But talk alone would not bring it about. So, over the Easter holidays of 1926, the people of Warwick and district resolved to show they were in earnest. They would clear, by voluntary labour, a track some fourteen feet wide from Craig's paddock to Cunningham's Gap — roughly three miles through lightly timbered country — and demonstrate that the planned route was not mere hopeful speculation, but practical possibility.

The call went out for volunteers.

And they came.

A. Rose offered two days' service. G. Williams pledged his labour for the Easter weekend. R. Young volunteered two days. C. F. Counsell not only gave £1 but the use of a marquee. J. Kidner donated £1. T. Toms gave his services. T. Kirkland lent a marquee. T. W. Webber contributed the generous sum of £2/2/. R. J. Grieve placed his car at the movement's disposal. W. Brown provided a motor lorry. J. H. S. Barnes offered a car. J. McKenna volunteered his labour. Messrs. Craig pledged their services. Jas. Jones brought a man, horse and dray. P. Clegg came with axe in hand. A. C. Redgwell offered his motor 'bus. The Glengallan Council supplied tents, picks, axes, shovels and saws. C. Wickham contributed motor service. Burgess Bros. provided a car.

Further support followed. C.H. Barnes offered car transport. G. M. Bullock committed two days' work. Alf Scott volunteered. T. G. Bathe, inspector of the Rosenthal Shire Council, gave his services. P. Horne joined in. Chas. Bunn offered car service. The Warwick Hire Car service pledged car transport for a day.

Behind the scenes, organisation was guided by Mr. M.C. White and Mr. A. R. Willing of the Glengallan Shire Office, ensuring the movement was no mere enthusiasm but a coordinated effort.

When Easter arrived, the "happy band of volunteer workers" set to work in earnest. Timber fell. Scrub was cleared. The line of the future road took shape.

By Easter Monday the task — at least for the time being

— was completed in masterly fashion. One motor car reached the top of the Gap by 9.30 a.m. By afternoon some 30 motor vehicles had visited the scene. A dozen, including two motor lorries and even a tractor, climbed to the Gap without difficulty. The road had proven itself negotiable.

At 3 p.m., with around 200 people gathered at the summit, a ceremony was held. Councillor A. Cox of the Glengallan Shire presided. Mr G. P. Barnes, M.L.A., formally declared the road open and moved a vote of thanks.

## THE "VOLUNTEER" ROAD



Gratitude was expressed to Messrs. R. C. Brett and F.D. Daveny for their preliminary work; to Mr Thomas Craig on the western side of the range; to Messrs. Maddox and Kidner on the eastern side, who allowed the track to pass through their properties; and to the Director of Forestry for permitting construction through the National Park. High appreciation was placed on record for the "grand band of voluntary workers". Their self-sacrifice and enthusiasm had demonstrated the practicability of a road to the historic crossing first traversed by Allan Cunningham a century earlier.

The motion, seconded by C. F. Counsell, was carried with cheers. Then the Union Jack was hoisted by the secretary, Mr M. C. P. White, amid enthusiastic applause.

The place itself was fitting for such an occasion. Cunningham's Gap—known to local Indigenous people as Cappoong—lies between Mount Mitchell (Coonyinirra) and Mount Cordeaux (Niamboyoo), within what is now the Main Range National Park. In Yuggera tradition, the

gap was formed in the Dreaming when freed kangaroos stampeded across the range, tearing open the mountainside between the peaks.

On that Easter in 1926, it was not kangaroos but motor cars, lorries, axes and willing hands that marked a new chapter in the story of the range.

The "Volunteer Road," as it came to be known, was more than a cleared track. It was a declaration — that Warwick would not wait idly for progress but would demonstrate its practicality and determination. It was a community staking its claim to connection, commerce, tourism and future growth.

100 years on, as travellers pass through Cunningham's Gap, it is worth remembering that its beginnings were carved not by paid contractors, but by locals giving their holiday in a spirit of shared purpose.

That Easter of 1926 stands as a testament to what a district is able to achieve when it is, in the words of the day, "up and doing."

*Sources: Warwick Daily News, Saturday 27 March 1926, p.6; Warwick Daily News, Wednesday 31 March 1926, p.3; The Brisbane Courier, Wednesday 7 April 1926, p.6; Queensland Place Names – Cunningham's Gap (Main Range National Park). (H186)*

"...a wonderful get together, a credit to all involved in organizing it. A big job much appreciated. Thank you all." **Jim Wiseman**

# Looking at Warwick through a very old lens

Barnes & Company Ltd's imposing building erected 1920s, later Smith & Miller, then Rivers, and, as of April 2026, untenanted



Devine's Building erected 1907 Grafton/Palmerin Streets corner



A very early photograph of Glengallon Homestead year unknown



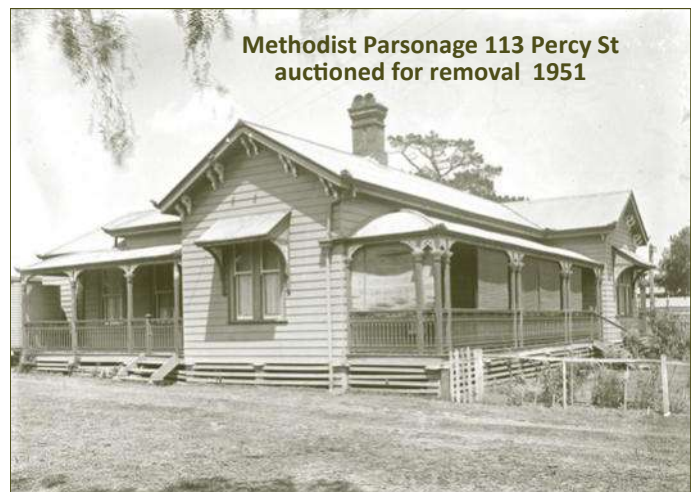
Slab and bark home for a Warwick pioneering family, late 1850s. All pics on this page are from The Lost Faces of Warwick and District.



The Palace Hotel 1941



Methodist Parsonage 113 Percy St auctioned for removal 1951



Laying the foundations for Warwick's maternity hospital 1938



The above parsonage as it looked in 2010



*"Wonderful...such a privilege to listen to your stories And the photographs taken around Warwick are simply beautiful."*

**Elizabeth Ann Raymond 1956-1957**

**“Those we love don’t go away,  
they walk beside us every day” Alex MacLean**

## Ian Jones 1941-2026

JONES Ian Robert, AKA ‘Sprogs’ at Slade passed away 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 aged 84 years.

Bereavement details: Husband of Joanne;  
Father and Father-in-law of Andrew and Raylene, Marcus and Michelle;  
Grandad and Great-Grand of their Families.

At his funeral, 13<sup>th</sup> May at Toowoomba’s T.S. Burstow Chapel, Ian was remembered as a larger than life character, a pioneering primary producer and the last Mayor of Clifton Shire 2004–2008 prior to the 2008 amalgamation of local government shires. He had previously served in the role 1991-1994. Clifton is now part of the Toowoomba Regional Council. Ian, at Slade 1956-1959, came from Clifton, and in 1959 was a Prefect, Cadet of the Year and played in the First XV.



## Erue Stevens

STEVENS Erue Geua, nee Lawrence, late of Canberra and formerly of Hanuabada, Port Moresby, passed away 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2026.

A funeral for Erue will be held 20<sup>th</sup> May at Norwood Park Crematorium, Mitchell ACT.

In lieu of flowers Erue’s family asked that donations be made to either ACT Carers who provide emotional and practical support to all unpaid carers or Dementia Australia who support people impacted by dementia and their families.

Erue attended St Catharine’s 1961-1964 and was part of the wonderful PNG contingent who joined us in 2018 for our successful CEGS centenary.

## David Vickers 1940-2026

VICKERS Professor David Whitman A.M. MBBS (Qld) FRACS, late of Windsor and formerly of Charleville, departed this life 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 aged 85 years.

Bereavement details: Husband of Jennifer; Brother of Robert, (Alex Gow Funerals, Geebung). David, was in Monty Marshall’s 1954 Scholarship class and, in Grade 8, was the open diving champion at the All Schools meet and subsequently honoured with colours for swimming. David was privately cremated. This photo dates from the Slade/St Catharine’s Reunion in 2001. Our thoughts at this time are with David’s family and also with Robert who attended Slade 1951-54.



SLADE 1959 FIRST FIFTEEN

**Back:** Raymond Menkens, Neville McEwan\*, Keith Nagel\*, Frederick Sakzewski, Ronald Watson, David Jackson

**Middle:** Howard Breden, William Crosbie\*, Douglas Johnson, Ian Jones, David Comben, John Henning, Trevor Leis

**Front :** Gordon Shirley, John Davies (Captain), Mr Keith A. Dan, Patrick Price\* (Vice-Captain), Orwen Bell.

Underlined names indicate known deceased; \* : current status unknown. We are in contact with those whose names are not otherwise highlighted.

We thank Rob Davies for this photo. Rob’s brother, John, was Slade Captain in 1959, Captain of this First XV and lost in the 1964 Voyager disaster off Jervis Bay.

**“Although it’s difficult today to see  
beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory  
help comfort you tomorrow”** Author unknown

Rather than selecting a more standard poem I chose the following written by one of our own.

**Thunder Storm** 1959 Slade Magazine

J.S.Tomlinson (1941-2024) VIA 1959

*We hear the roar, the distant forge of Thor.  
The birds quell frightened young in cover scant  
As blackening monsters creep o’er heaven’s door;  
Their breath lifts dust and leaves with scurrying pant.  
That strange half-light, precursor of a storm  
Transmutes the land that even shadows glow.  
The clouds in one foreboding body form;  
They curl so low! Collective strength they show.  
The aerial matador amidst the crash  
Goads the terrestrial bull with swords of light.  
With fast increasing beat the rain-drops splash,  
And drowsy Summer’s pests are put to flight.  
Blindly they scatter as the rampage grows  
And pelted Death from darkened dome o’erflows.*

**“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.**

Those who have passed on ahead of us, were not all named, but remembered with a minute’s silence at the 2026 Centenary.

Worthy of their Forebears

# Pondering "What was" vs "What might have been"

**A**S ANOTHER ANZAC DAY HAS COME AND GONE, our thoughts have been drawn yet again to the sacrifices made by so many local communities who gave up their own in the many conflicts that Australia has been involved in simply because of its association with other, far away countries. Small and scattered these communities may have been but nearly all of them, proudly but fearfully, sent off their young and often, not-so-young men in defence of "King and Country". Many of them returned forever changed and also many of them never returned at all, lost forever to their families on foreign soil in a war that they did not start.

No matter where we grew up or where we live now, every single one of us belongs to a community that has been affected and shaped in some way by conflicts such as these. Countless cenotaphs and other memorials attest to this. Warwick and its environs is no different. There are no past students with the family name of Pearce that I can find among our enrolment records so the following story does not have any other connection to us besides that of the place of origin of its main character. It does, however, clearly illustrate the power of today's expanded connections via the modern media options that many of us have a love/hate relationship with!

Again I have taken inspiration from David Owens' Facebook page and the comment below from Kevin Timms, a member of this group, is one that provoked much pondering. Here it is:

*"I often wonder how far our country would have progressed if we had not lost so many of our young men to foreign wars. What our population would now be and the things these young men could have achieved. I am not anti war and respect the service of those who paid the ultimate price and those who continue to serve. As I get older it just saddens me terribly so many were snatched away before they could shine."*

## A FACE FOUND – GUNNER FRANCIS ROBERT PEARCE posted by David Owens 20/04/2026

In February this year, a single photograph stirred a quiet mystery among the members of our *Lost Faces of Warwick* group.

Posted by **Bob Young**, it showed a young World War I digger — broad-shouldered, steady-eyed, with an impressive moustache, his slouch hat tilted with a confidence that hinted at both youth and resolve. The image had been taken by Warwick photographer M. H. Poulsen, and Bob's hope was simple: surely someone would recognise the face.

For weeks, the soldier remained unnamed.

Then, just days ago, the silence broke.

The young man was identified as **Francis Robert Pearce** — known as Frank — a son of the district, born at Pratten on 6 June 1889 and raised among the rugged country of Thane's Creek. One of eleven children of Alfred and Hannah Pearce, Frank was a bushman by trade, accustomed to hard work and harder country long before the war called him away.

He enlisted at Toowoomba on 27 August 1915.

Like so many others, he left Queensland behind aboard the *HMAT Kyarra* in January 1916, bound for a world far removed from the open skies of the Darling Downs. He would serve first as a private, later as a gunner with the 6th Field Artillery Brigade — a role that placed him amid the relentless thunder of the Western Front.

Back home, his mother waited at Thane's Creek.

Then, in June 1917, the news came.

A brief notice in the newspaper carried the weight of a lifetime: her son, Gunner F. R. Pearce, had been killed in action in Belgium. He was just 28 years old, and had spent nearly a year at the front.

He fell at Ploegsteert — a place far from Warwick, yet forever tied to it through men like Frank.

Today, he lies at rest in the London Rifle Brigade Cemetery, among hundreds of others who would never return home.

And yet, more than a century later, his story has found its way back.

From an unnamed photograph to a recognised face... from a forgotten image to a life remembered. *Lest We Forget*.

**Editor's Note:** *Frank Pearce may not be related to any of us beyond his district of origin but most of us are either related to, or know of, people exactly like him who put on the uniform and fought to protect a way of life that they believed worth preserving. It is also a sobering reminder of many other unidentified heroes in old photos in need of identification. In these current turbulent times we are also mindful of the fragility of peace and a way of life that we are too easily able to take for granted.*

**PS:** *If you are not yet familiar with The Lost Faces of Warwick Facebook page, because of your past connections with Warwick, you most certainly qualify to join as a member. As of 21/04/2026 this private group is a staggering 13,000 members strong! It is an excellent resource as you can see from the articles I have reproduced from it here by kind permission of David Owens. Who knew we might one day be able to (and even wish) to maintain such close connections with Warwick all these years after leaving school?*

*Image below (StateLibQld) shows the huge crowd gathering in Warwick, 1915, at the start of the famous March of the Dungarees. It is possible that Frank Pearce's journey from Thane's Creek to western Europe began with this same historic muster of men all of whom answered the call and travelled via shank's pony all the way from the Darling Downs to Brisbane.*



*"As Patron and retiring archivist, it was great to meet so many as we celebrated this historic occasion."* **Ted Ross 1951-1955**



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...

**WARWICK DAILY NEWS, JANUARY 13, 1976** featured under the banner of 'It happened 50 years ago', plucked from its January 1926 files, an item of particular interest to us. It is reproduced immediately below.

"The chairman of the Slade School Council, Mr J.H.S. Barnes, reported to council that the prospectus of Slade School is now available, and copies may be obtained from the headmaster, or from any member of the council.

"The prospectus shows evidence of careful preparation. It is excellently illustrated by photographic views of the school site and buildings, the town of Warwick and St Mark's Church. We claim permission to produce the 'foreword' of the prospectus.

"Slade School will undoubtedly become one of the great public schools of the Australian Commonwealth. It has been established with object in view. And if generosity, courage and determination count for anything in human affairs, then the vision of the founders of Slade School must sooner or later be fully realised.

"The name of Slade is known and honoured everywhere in Queensland. Mr William Ball Slade is one of our most distinguished citizens.

"In response to the unanimous desire of his fellow churchmen, he has graciously allowed his name to be associated with the institution."

Other 1926 events mentioned give us a peek into the past of a community not so different from other towns familiar to many of us: a Christmas night conjuring act to entertain patients and staff at Warwick General Hospital, portrayed as spellbinding; a southern holiday trip taken by Mr and Mrs Hal Warner of Club Hotel to the Harbour City, Blue Mountains and beyond; a review of the land business of Warwick and district for 1925 claiming that the district stands out on its own for temperate farm products but noting that the listlessness of demand for farms can unhesitatingly be put down to 'the lure of the cities'; a horse riding accident involving a popular young local known as 'Snowy' bruising his ribs and shoulder but no serious damage; and, titled 'Singing the old songs with joy', coverage of a Warwick meeting where Senior Citizens were entertained with old time songs, including interactions with Senior Citizen groups from other Darling Downs towns with birthdays also noted.

Doubtless every one those mentioned in this brief 1926 synopsis are long dead and gone and many of us now sit firmly within the same senior citizen demographic touched on above.

A century of happenings, accidents, celebrations and more have taken place in the years since then but every single one of us even if we no longer live in or near Warwick, are now also legitimately part of the 'Rose and Rodeo City's story.

We thank David Carstens, SCPSA Honorary Life Member No. 15 for the quoted newspaper clipping concerned.



"A great walk down memory lane..." Stewart Bulmer 1967-1971