# THE OLD SOUTHPORTONIANS' REVIEW







TSS recognises Sharpie's leadership in naming the new grandstand 'Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand'

### Old Southportonians' Association Council 2013 Founded 1907

#### **OSA COUNCIL 2012**

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#### FRONT COVER:

TSS recognises Sharpie's leadership in naming the new grandstand.

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The Old Southportonians' Review V.B. Wright (Rad 76-85) K. Hailey (OSA Coordinator)

LAYOUT & DESIGN Csquared Design

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BRISBANE: J. MacAulay (Del 94-96) D. Fielding (McK 83-87)

CENTRAL WEST QLD: W. Chandler (Del 48-58) J. MacMillan (Del 83-86)

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FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND: T. McInnes (McK 80-86) M. Trout (Kai 76-80)

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA: C. Burgess (Kai 85-88) O.J. Rarua (Tho 94-99)

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SINGAPORE: C. Poetzscher (Wal 83-87)

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SOUTH WEST QUEENSLAND: S. Fraser (McK 71-74) G. Webster (Tho 57-63)

SYDNEY: J.M. Hawker (McK 59-63) J.Fyfe (McK 94-01) J. McIlwain (McK 75-83)

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA: S.J. Conran (Bid 89-93) WIDE BAY: D. McIver (Del 48-52) D. Chandler (Del 87-92)

#### **HIDDEN CREEK**

Bookings and Enquiries – OSA Office Tel: (07) 5531 9803 Email: osa@tss.qld.edu.au Tel: (02) 6679 3469 Mobile: 0410 622 125 hiddencreek@tss.qld.edu.au



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Keep in touch



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# From the President

Again, this year there have been highs and lows coming through the office. The floods and severe weather that started off the year have been followed by some outstanding news of the achievements of Old Boys.

The Office continues to make contact with Old Boys who have been off our radar for years, and inevitably they have some great stories to tell of their lives since they left the School. Some of the stories appear in these pages and they are great examples of how the School prepares its students for life after school. Not all have found their niche straight after finishing their chosen level of education, but their persistence has led them to some very interesting careers. The stories have a common thread, putting what they have learnt in the classroom, on the sporting field, the examples set by their senior students and teachers, getting the best out of their experiences and putting it all into practice in their lives.

In consultation with one of the better-known Old Boys, Nathan Sharpe, the School has decided to name the new Village Green grandstand "The Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand". Nathan was a fine leader at school and has continued that form through his Rugby career. Captaining Super XV teams and the Wallabies, Nathan has set a worthy example for us and it is fitting the grandstand is there to remind us of his leadership qualities. At the assembly attended by Nathan prior to the naming and blessing of the stand, Nathan emphasised that he gained his leadership skills through the examples set by the senior boys who preceded him. His effective leadership style is one more of consultation than confrontation, what's more, it works! The TSS Rugby Support Group Committee, the P & F and the School should also be It is now almost six months since I began in the position of President of the Association and I have certainly gained an appreciation of the work that has been put in to make the OSA a worthwhile Association.

congratulated on building the grandstand and providing everyone who attends events at the Village Green with a civilised place to view from.

We are building up to the Annual Reunion over the weekend of July 26-28 and the various year groups are already well organised by their respective coordinators. If you are not sure how big a job this is for them, then take a look at the spread of the Branches. There are 24 branches across seven countries. Add to this the countries and regions that do not have branches and you will see that the coordinators, along with Kris Hailey, do a pretty fine job of gathering the year groups together. The weekend gets off to a great start with the Generations Dinner and the Older Old Boys Assembly.

There are of course some great stories and reminiscing from Bert Cockerill. If you are ever unsure of some Old Boy History, Bert will find it. His extensive knowledge of the school and Old Boys is truly outstanding.

I look forward to meeting up with all the groups at the OSA weekend.

Peter Lockhart (Tho 62-65) OSA President

# From the Headmaster

### 2013 Enrolments

Despite very challenging and subdued economic conditions in both the local economy and across many parts of Australia, I am very pleased to be able to let you know that TSS has recorded its highest-ever enrolment. At the end of last year we finished with a record enrolment of over 1380 students, which is the highest student enrolment since the School began. When school commenced at the end of January this year we had 1405 Reception to Year 12 students on the books – a new all-time high.

This is wonderful news for TSS, but I can assure current and prospective Old Bay parents that the School Council (who live and work in the community) and I are well aware of the difficult financial time that many people are continuing to work through. We never take for granted the trust that parent put in us and we will continue this year to develop our staff and our programs to provide great value for the boys and our families. Thank you for your continued support.

New Preschool Year Group - In addition to the 1405 Reception to Year 12 boys, this year we commenced offering a service for Preschool boys aged three and a half to four and a half. Over 60 full-time and part-time boys have joined us in this newly created Year level housed in the Pearson Building on Benowa Road. Sons of Old Boys continue to have a level of priority for entry to both Preschool and Reception. The demand for Preschool places has surprised us somewhat and I would encourage prospective parents to register enrolment with our Admissions Office as there will now be less places in Reception. Once registered we then know to advise you of options as your son approaches entry.

### Opening of the 'Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand'

Recently the School Council decided to name the new grandstand on the Village Green after Old Boy Nathan Sharpe, who was School Captain in 1995. It was the significance of over 100 games for Australia that prompted a number of people to suggest that our new grandstand on the Village Green be named after Nathan. However, while rugby is a really important aspect of TSS, the development of leadership skills in all TSS boys is of even greater importance. Hence the main reason we are naming the new grandstand after Nathan is that he is an outstanding example, lived over time, of a great Australian leader. Furthermore, Nathan is an exemplar

of the style of Christian leadership we espouse at The Southport School, where a leader's priorities must be the welfare of the group, looking after all people in the group, pursuing the mission of the group, and setting an example in empathy and humility. Nathan's rugby career provided many opportunities for leadership, but he didn't wait to be appointed with a title, he just went into every team he played for and was friendly and approachable to all, showed an interest in all, looked for ways he could help others, and never thought he was better than others in the team. He was humble and a real team-man. (See the article herein by Angela Hughes on Nathan's visit to TSS for the naming of the grandstand)

### Anzac Day

At the time of writing our Cadets have just completed representing the School with great distinction and significantly enhancing the local Anzac Day commemorations at Southport and Surfers Paradise. Over 400 Army, Navy and Airforce Cadets marched at the Southport Anzac Day march and 200 plus backed up two hours later to march at Surfers. TSS Catafalque Parties participated in three services on the day, and at the St Hilda's Anzac Day Service. A respectful and solemn commemoration service was held at School on the Wednesday with all Years 6 to 12 boys present along with staff, parents and Old Boy representatives. The choir and band produced a moving rendition of the School Song "Band of Brothers", and one of the significant aspects of the service, after the reading out of the Honour Roll by the School Captain and Vice-Captain, was the laying of a wreath and the reading of the Ode by regular visitor, 94-year old Kokoda Track veteran Mr Bill Bellairs.

With the new grandstand named after Nathan Sharpe and a strong and moving showing by the boys on Anzac Day, we see two key aspects of TSS highlighted – Leadership and Service. The School looks forward to welcoming back Old Boys for the traditional Old Boys' Weekend festivities around the Weekend of Saturday, July 27th.

Best wishes, Greg Wain





# From the Editor

Welcome to the Winter Edition of the OSA Review for 2013.

In this edition we cover what a number of our Old Southportonians are up to and what is planned for Branches, Reunions and Events throughout the remainder of the year, while also saying farewell to some close friends.

The OSA continues to be a respected force thanks to the leadership within the Association, the Old Boys that continue to meet the challenges from both local and global perspectives and our pride in the place many of us built the foundations for life through friendship made and lessons learnt at TSS. Certainly in recent times the School has been the centre of a number of media stories, with a couple receiving most attention lately, being the Drugs Policy implemented towards the end of 2012 and the implementation of personality testing through the Myer-Briggs program. The substance of these initiatives shows strong understanding of the environment (social and academic) all students are having to deal with, and leadership in the measures designed to assist (with common sense) for our boys to meet these challenges within an ever-changing world. We expect in all facets of life to see character, substance and determination generate from the place where we were educated, standing up for what is right, although it may be different and with showing the proactive approach to the safety, recognising the environment and ensuring the wellbeing of our TSS boys both now and into the future.

We certainly hold a very high expectation on those running our School (Governance and Operations) to ensure TSS is at the forefront in terms of educating and developing young men that have the capability to excel in all facets of life. These life experiences that have evolved from a dominant country base are now penetrating wider and more diverse occupations and careers paths among our Old Boys. The building success of the OSA Mentor Network is testament to what the older generation would refer to as the "Old School Tie", and please no-one suggest to me that this doesn't still exist! Well done to those of you who have nominated to support this wonderful program, and to those who haven't, I ask Why Not?

While most of us have shared the success of Nathan Sharpe's stellar rugby career, and may I say we have recently seen a number of Old Boys in a range of careers, not just sport, it is more and more in a very public domain. While this success is an obvious part of the School's decision to acknowledge Nathan's achievements, there is a broader and more extensive range of reasons that I'm sure you'll enjoy within both the Headmaster's Report and the feature story written by Angela Hughes in this edition. We look forward to seeing you in the very near future.

Best wishes, Bruce Wright (Rad 76-85)

### Old Boys' Numbers

TOP 10 BY COUNTRY	
United Kingdom	114
Hong Kong	104
Papua New Guinea	87
United States of America	70
Taiwan (ROC)	54
New Zealand	49
Korea (South)	38
Canada	36
Thailand	36
Germany	31

ALL OLD BOYS – AUSTRALIA	
QLD	6135
NSW	805
VIC	186
WA	71
ACT	50
NT	38
SA	28
TAS	29

	101AL /342
ALL OLD BOYS	
Deceased	2191
Address Unknown	5455
Australia	7342
Overseas	888

TOTAL 15876

TOTAL 72/2

Editor: You will see we are still missing over 5,000 Old Boys' contact details from the OSA membership roll. Please check with your mates to see if they are receiving this magazine and encourage them to update their details via the website or by contacting the OSA office either by email osa@tss.qld.edu.au or phone 07 55319803.

# **OSA News**



### TSS Representative (Honour) Blazer Loan Pool for Indigenous Students

Following on from the good work of George Friend OAM (Del 70-74), Rad West has added to the much-needed pool of blazers for our current Indigenous students.

Radley West (McK 51-54)says..."It is my pleasure to donate my blazer for use by an Indigenous students following George Friend's example. A wonderful idea for somebody to use my blazer, which has been stored out of sight for too many years."

Radley received his blazer for Swimming and 1st XV in 1954. Any Old Boy who wishes to donate his Honour Blazer for use by a 'lad in need', can do so by dropping it into TSS reception.



### TSS Director of Rowing, Mr Iain Smith, received an oar from Steve Wardrope (McK 66-71)

lain writes...

"We have just completed the outfitting of the front room at the boat shed with many old photos of crews and your oar has been placed above the door overlooking the river and the boatshed veranda. It certainly has pride of place and we very much thank you for the kind donation of the historical oar, and do hope that when you are next on the coast you may drop into the boat shed for a chat and to see the wonderful facility we have here."



### Unveiling of the magnificently framed Rep Blazer, Thorold House Cap, Honour Cap and Honour Pocket donated by the Westcott Family

Mrs Mary Westcott officially unveiled the precious framed memorabilia of her late husband, Richard Gibson Westcott (Mit & Tho 38-41), in front of her family, friends, Deputy Headmaster Mr Alan Parsons, Head of Boarding and Thorold Housemaster Mr Dan Brown, Director of Sport Mr Bryan Hain and other staff members. The beautifully framed piece of sporting history holds pride of place in the Hall of Fame among numerous historical sporting memorabilia.

# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### **OLD BOY ROWING COACHES**

We are currently putting together a 5 year plan for TSS to win both the O'Connor Cup and Old Boy's Cup. To do this, we need quality (part & full season) coaches at the TSS boatshed to assist in both the senior and junior programs. We are asking for any TSS Old Boys aged between 35 and 50, who rowed and may be interested in becoming a part of the TSS rowing program, to please contact the OSA Office (07 55319803) preferably before June 30th with an Expression of Interest as we need you for the upcoming season. If you have not coached before, that is OK as the Head of Rowing at TSS will also offer Level coaching courses at the School. TSS Rowing are looking forward to building on a successful program and with some coaching vacancies, what better way to link into the Old Boys network as the custodians of the history & traditions of a sport introduced by the Founder.



### Bill Chandler (Del 48-58)

spent the last three days in November fighting bushfires (above and below left) on his property at Barcaldine.

### Keith Chandler (McK 56-63)

This is the damage (below) along the banks of the Burnett River. About 60 private boats were washed from moorings; most with fates worse than this, ending washed up on to the rocks along coast.



#### Michael Ord (Atk 85-88)

We got flooded in from Friday night and had a tornado hit five kms from us, but the biggest destruction was along our beachfront. Our new pad is 50 metres from the foreshore and has managed to fare OK, but the homes further down the beach from us look like this (right).

Being a small community (Toogoom) everyone looks out for each other, however, and the clean-up has begun helping friends who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Anyone wondering where Toogoom is, we are about 40  $\rm kms$  south of Bundaberg as the crow flies along the Coast.



# **CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME**

We are always interested in what you have been doing with your life, news of your travels and who you have caught up with from TSS. All contributions should be directed to: OSA Office, TSS, Winchester Street, Southport 4215 or email to osa@tss.qld.edu.au.

The OSA publishes personal notes in good faith as a service to the school community and to the alumni. The OSA accepts no responsibility for publishing information in this section of the magazine that may be erroneous, incomplete or false.



## Bendigo Bank, Bundall branch, pays Community Dividend to OSA

OSA President Peter Lockhart (right of photo) was recently presented with a cheque from the Bendigo Bank, Bundall branch, for the amount of \$1,356.10, being the OSA's semiannual "Community Dividend" payment. Bendigo Bank Manager Peter Kai-Nielsen (left) was delighted to be on hand to present a cheque to Peter at the Bundall branch. Combined dividends paid to the OSA now exceed \$6,000; from a relationship that commenced in 2010.

"This payment represents the fourth instalment of Community Dividends paid to the OSA since the commencement of our relationship back in Feb 2010. The Bendigo Bank strongly believes in giving back to local communities and associations and I know this dividend will support both the Old Boys and students who themselves are community minded. We have some exciting initiatives planned with the OSA and look forward to strengthening our relationship in the year ahead." (Peter Kai-Nielsen)

What is the "Community Dividend" and how can I help it grow?

The Bundall branch of the Bendigo Bank in conjunction with Stewart, Silver, King & Burns (SSKB) remain committed to supporting the local community. As local partners they have connected with the Old Southportonians' Association (OSA) and continue to offer OSA members the chance to contribute to The Southport School Success – simply by doing your banking with them.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you to consider the Bendigo Bank, Bundall branch as an alternative choice for your day-to-day banking and financial needs. This really is a unique banking model that has been tailored to benefit both the OSA and their members." (Peter Kai-Nielsen) The dividend is calculated as a percentage of the OSA's total banking business (calculated at 0.15% p.a.), so the more banking you do, the more the OSA "Community Dividend" will grow.

In fact, for any banking business you do with Bendigo Bank, the OSA community receives a financial windfall, which can then be used at the Committee's discretion.

### Bendigo Bank, Bundall Branch/OSA Members Benefits. This offer provides the following benefits to OSA Members:

Bendigo Home Loan & Bendigo Home Equity Loan

- Application Fee Nil
- Valuation Fee Nil (to a maximum limit of \$500.00, or two residential properties)
- Loan Documentation Fee Nil
- Agent Lodging & Settlement Fee \$200.00

- 0.50% discount on our standard variable interest rate through the life of your loan on any loan amount that exceeds \$50k, or
- Up to 0.70% discount on our standard variable interest rate through the life of your loan on any loan amount that exceeds \$250k
- Available for Owner Occupied and Residential Investment property

To find out more about this Community Dividend initiative and benefits for OSA members, please contact Peter Kai-Nielsen on 5570 2558 or call into the Bundall Branch at 116-118 Bundall Road to discuss your banking needs.

\* All loans subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. Offer only valid on new and transferred home loans applied for through the Bundall branch. All other additional legal, valuation or government charges will be payable by the customer, including any costs associated with additional securities, documents or valuations. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (S31710) (02/12).



PHOTO – Peter Kai-Nielsen, Bendigo Bank Relationship Manager, presenting cheque to Peter Lockhart (Tho 62-65)



### **Update by Peter Lockhart**

This report is being written from Hidden Creek. I am enjoying a couple of peaceful nights in the Old Southportonians' Cabin. I am doing this as part of being the interim Caretaker. Fortunately I am self-appointed, as otherwise my credentials may be questioned and I may have not have got the job! The OSA executive had an informative familiarisation day on Saturday, April 6th. The beginnings of an Operator Manual for the equipment was started and it was obvious that some were more challenged with operating equipment than others. Clinton Cronk has been the caretaker for six years and now his contract has finished he has moved on. Clinton has done a great job at Hidden Creek and now a new caretaker will soon be in place.

As a result of the above, a new tradition has been established and it shall henceforth been known as the President's Mow (see attached photo). I predict this to be an annual event and a rite of passage of all future OSA Presidents.

The bunkhouse is occupied currently by students from Moreton Bay Girls College. They were somewhat disappointed to come to a facility associated with TSS and finding just one Old Boy and no current students. They are on a geography trip, two days of exploring the caldera, a landform both of scenic and of international significance. The Mt Warning Shield Volcano was created some 20 million years ago. Its centre, Mt Warning, is 1157m and the height of the original peak would have been some 2000m. Given the right conditions it would have been a good ski slope. This is the largest erosion volcanic basin in the southern hemisphere.

Mt Warning National Park is part of the World Heritagelisted Gondwana Rainforests of Australia and it is home to one of the world's largest stands of subtropical rainforests. Some of the oldest species of ferns and conifers can be found on Mt Warning's slopes and surrounding valleys, with a concentration of primitive plant families directly linked to flowering plants from more than 100 million years ago. Hidden Creek sits in the middle of this and is ideally situated for students to gain a full appreciation of this special landscape. It is great to see the students of Moreton Bay Girls College taking advantage of Hidden Creek as it allows them to have the time to experience this world-class phenomenon. Moreton Bay have found an economical way of improving their educational and life-skill experiences using the bunkhouse and self-catering all makes good sense.

Like many other parts of Queensland and NSW, Hidden Creek has had more than its fair share of wet weather. This has not been good for school camps and several have reorganised their schedules, postponing to a time of the year when the weather is more suitable to all the outdoor activities that Hidden Creek has to offer.

One of our Old Boys, Ben Farinazzo, is currently CEO of Outward Bound Australia. It seems the experiences at TSS and Hidden Creek have put him in good stead for that position. Outward Bound have a facility at Mebbin, on the other side of Mt Warning from Hidden Creek. Ben has been back to Hidden Creek with his management team and they will be using it to cover the overflow from their Mebbin Camp as well as offering an extension to their own activities.

We are looking forward to hosting the CYC groups from Burleigh, TSS Year 9 and two large SE QLD Cadet contingents. This combined with regular occupancy of the cabins and bunkhouse by TSS families and other groups means that this amateur caretaker is out of a job and needs to hand over to someone more qualified!



# **Calendar of Events**

### **BRISBANE BRANCH FUNCTION – JUNE 14TH**

Brisbane OSA Branch Representatives David Fielding, James Macaulay and Dominic Hoare have pleasure in inviting all TSS Old Boys to attend a Brisbane Branch Gathering on Friday, 14 June 2013, commencing at 6.30pm for 7.30pm start at The Summit, Level One – Iceworks Building (opposite Suncorp Stadium), 157 Given Terrace – PADDINGTON.

Cost \$75 for two-course meal and limited drinks (\$500 bar tab, generously donated by Castle Property) RSVP and pay online at www.tssoldboys.com.au

### **EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THE REUNION WEEKEND**

### THU 25 JULY GENERATIONS DINNER

- FRI 26 JULY Chapel 10.30 11.15am
  - Older Old Boys' Assembly\* 11.45am -12.45pm
  - 00B Lunch\* 1.00pm 2.30pm
  - \* invitation only
  - Young Old Boys' Drinks 'Fuel on Chevron' 7.00pm - Late

### SAT 27 JULY • Delpratt Breakfast

- Headmaster's morning tea
- Rediscovery Tour
- BBQ Old Gym Cafe 11.00am - 2.00pm
- Round 2 TSS v IGS Basketball 1sts 12 noon Centenary Centre
- Round 2 TSS v IGS Rugby 1sts Kick-off 2.00pm Village Green
- Reunion Dinner Commencing with drinks & Canapes in the Old Gym Cafe 6.30pm

### EVENTS ON FRIDAY 26 JULY ...

#### **1963 WELCOME FUNCTION**

1963 Class Coordinators have organised a drinks and canapés at the TSS Boat Shed on Friday, July 26th commencing at 6.30pm. Contact OSA Office to register and arrange payment for this function.

#### **1988 OLD BOYS' DRINKS**

Nick Deane invites all 1988 Old Boys to join him for a 25-year reunion catch-up at the Northcliffe Surf Life Saving Club on Friday, July 26th at 5.30pm. If you need more information, please contact Nick at nick@prohenderson.com.au

#### 1993 & 2003 OLD BOYS' DRINKS

James Irvine (Mau 93) has combined with Lex Stewart (Tho 03) and Alex Douglas (Atk 03) to have a joint gathering for all 10 and 20-year groups at Stingray Lounge at QT Hotel, 7 Staghorn Avenue, Surfers Paradise on Friday, July 26th from 7.00pm. Email: jirvine@aegogden.com or adouglas@RL57. com.au or lex@lexstewart.com if you need more information.



#### TSS & OSA MCWHIRTER CUP GOLF DAY

For bookings, please contact Gerry Northausen – Tel: 07 5531 9841 or email gerry. northausen@tss.qld.edu.au – Cost \$150 per person or \$600 for a team of four players



2013 Reunion Dinner will be held on Saturday, July 27

See Booking form on Page 44

### **OLD BOYS' WEEKEND 2013**

2003 – 10 Year Reunion

1993 – 20 Year Reunion 1983 – 30 Year Reunion 1973 – 40 Year Reunion 1963 – 50 Year Reunion Lex Stewart (Tho) – lex@lexstewart.com, Alex Douglas – adouglas@RL57.com.au James Irvine (Mau) – jirvine@aegogden.com Brett Sturgess (Wal) – bas@mjsfloorcoverings.com.au Roland Dickson (Kai) – rolandbinnaburra@gmail.com Sam Staines (McK) – cowarrie@gmail.com, Keith Chandler (McK) – kchandler@bses.com.au and Angus Douglas (Tho) angus.douglas@rbsmorgans.com



## **Branch** Functions By Nathan Quartermaine (McK 96-99)

It has been a more subdued start to this year from the Branches, Reunions and Events committee, however, with a large number of branch functions now locked in, it promises to be a bumper second half of the year.

A number of RSVPs have already been received for the various branch functions, and if last year was anything to go by, the 2013 annual Old Boys Weekend will see hundreds of Old Boys' and families returning to the school to catch up with their classmates from years gone by.

This year's Old Boys' Weekend dates have been set and organisation is well under way. This year's events commence on the Thursday with the Annual Generations Dinner, followed on Friday with the Annual TSS & OSA McWhirter Cup Golf Day, Special Assembly, Old Boys' Chapel Service and Young Old Boys drinks, finishing on Saturday with the Headmaster's morning tea, Rediscovery Tour, Family BBQ and the Reunion Dinner.

Due to recent success and the large number of RSVPs for the Reunion Weekend the number of attendees for the Reunion Dinner has been capped. If you are thinking of attending, I strongly suggest you purchase your tickets ASAP. You can pay online at www.tssoldboys.com.au or send in the Reunion booking form sent with this magazine.

It promises to be a fantastic weekend again this year, and with the amount of interest we have had already we are sure all events will be heavily attended by many Old Boys and their families. Year group representative positions have been filled and special thanks must be extended to all of those who have enthusiastically nominated to be the Year representatives and have already put in a lot of legwork to get as many of their classmates to attend as possible.

For those in the 10-year groups to celebrate special milestones this year, there have been a number of special functions set up for your respective years on Friday night. Details are listed in the Calender of Events on page to 11.

Thank you to all the Branch representatives and Year Group Coordinators who have willingly volunteered their time this year to organise and host functions. Without your support these events would not happen, so we thank you for taking the time to assist the OSA with one of our main objectives; to assist with offering 'Friendraising' opportunities for all members.

A number of functions have now been locked in for the second half of the year – hopefully in a city/town near you. It promises to be busy, so please watch out for emails on these special events and remember to RSVP online or directly to the OSA office.

Thanks once again to all those who are contributing to the promotion of the OSA organisation globally. It has been encouraging to see the number of events hosted and organised over the past 12 months. This would not be possible without the assistance of all branch representatives and especially to Kris Hailey, who works hard to promote and organise events all year round.





### **Class of '65, Annual Lunch**

Our annual lunch was held at La Baguette restaurant in Ascot, Brisbane on November 21st, 2012. This year saw 19 Old Boys attend, which is a record

L to R are : Randall North-McK, John Jackson–Tho, Tony Thelander-Tho, Peter Graham-Tho, Geoff Carruth-Tho, Ian Munro-McK, John Hiew-Tho, Rod Rush-Del, Dennis Yates-Tho, Greg Scott-Tho, David Trude-Del, Terry Herbert-Tho, Steve Hartmann-McK, David Matthews-Tho, Chris Lomax-McK, Denis Brown- McK, Peter Lockhart-Tho, Peter Kerkenezov-Del, Roger Chandler-McK. Apologies received from Geoff Taylor, Jeff Reichelt, Bill Morrow & John Mainwaring.

Any enquiries regarding the 2013 lunch should be directed to me, Tony Thelander – Email: tony@valuvet.com.au or Tel: 07 3832 5257.

### Los Angeles Branch

Greg Tweedie hopes to organise a BBQ in late June. For any Old Boys living on the West Coast of America who want to connect with some local Old Boys, please make contact with Greg on email: gregtweedie@mailpac.net

### Sydney Gathering – May 30th

The three Johns (and if it's not enough that the three Branch representatives are all called John (Jon), they all happen to be McKinley boys too!) have organised a gathering for NSW-based Old Boys at the Square Bar at Rydges World Square. Thanks to John Hawker (McK 63), Jon Fye (McK 01) and John McIlwaine (McK 83) for all their efforts in organising this gathering. At the time of finalising this publication, there were 14 Old Boys registered to attend. Details will be published in the next *OSA Review*, Summer edition.

### **1st Crew's Rowing Presentation**

A crowd of 1st crew Old Boy rowers turned up for the presentation of the representative zootsuits on March 13th at the TSS River Centre. It was great to see the 2013 current 1st VIII rowers talking to the Old Boys and no doubt listening to a little advice.

Photo: 2013 1st VIII and Old Boy 1st crews

Photo from R. Betts (Del 47) 1947, 1st IV Nearest river; R Betts (Stroke), J Stanfield (Cox), Dick Blanshard (3), Norm Ferrier (2), J. Dowling (Bow)



# NATHAN SHARPE

TSS recognises Sharpie's leadership in naming the new grandstand. **'Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand'** 

written by Angela Hughes

### Warm welcome for a born leader

In welcoming back 1995 School Captain Nathan Sharpe (Tur 88-95) to TSS for the official blessing of a new sporting grandstand, Headmaster Greg Wain revealed the significance behind the naming of the Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand. While applauding Sharpe's exceptional sporting career pre and post TSS, the Headmaster said to a packed assembly that it was the development of leadership skills in all TSS students that was of even greater importance.

### Sharpie's wisdom

- 1. Always remember consistency is important, not just in sport, but in everything you do.
- 2. The more Rugby you play (or for that matter anything you try), the better you become.
- Don't fall into the trap of allowing yourself too much resting time, whether it be in sport or procrastination in business.
- 4. You have to have the will as well as the skill to succeed.
- **5.** Learn from others and make sure you never let others down.
- 6. Enjoy the experience of giving back in every aspect of your life.
- **7.** Never judge anyone else until you've walked a mile in their shoes.

"The main reason we are naming the new grandstand after Nathan is that he is an outstanding example, lived over time, of great leadership," said the Headmaster. "Nathan is an exemplar of the style of Christian leadership we espouse at The Southport School, where a leader's priorities must be the welfare of the group, looking after all people in the group, pursuing the missions of the group, and having empathy and humility.

"Nathan's Rugby career provided many opportunities for leadership ... but he didn't wait to be appointed with a title, he just went into every team he played for and was friendly and approachable to all, showed an interest in all, looked for ways he could help others, and never thought he was better than others in the team ... humility ... he was a real team-man."

The Headmaster referred to a conversation he had with the high-performance coach at the Western Force a couple of years ago in which he asked Wayne Goldsmith to describe Sharpe's leadership style.

Goldsmith's reply – "Nathan is patient, composed, humble, honest, compassionate, yet certainly tough and courageous

when needed, but with a genuine care and interest in everyone in the team, and has a great sense of humour. He is as comfortable leading as he is supporting, following and encouraging his team-mates to the point of helping younger players get their gear organised and packed."

The Headmaster told students that if they were looking for guidance on

how to achieve a leadership position at TSS, they should follow Nathan's example:

- Make an effort to understand others (empathy)
- Be compassionate, help those in need, keep an eye out for others
- Be humble
- Show courage, stand up for what is right
- Be friendly with a wide range of boys
- Build School spirit by getting involved and supporting and encouraging others

h a title, quintessential Old Boy whose outstanding leadership friendly qualities have never wavered from when he was a student at TSS, extending throughout his exceptional Rugby career and now in his new career in tactical business training and placement within the mining and construction sector. In November 1995, as School Captain, Nathan walked emotionally from the Annand Theatre holding the coveted and well-deserved Chelmsford Cup (the School's highest

In his signature blue

headgear, Nathan was

always a standout for the

Wallabies on the field.

grandstand in his honour.

and well-deserved Chelmsford Cup (the School's highest honour) in his hands, with a sense of connectedness embracing the TSS ethos and School community spirit while displaying empathy to all those around him. At his side was one of his best mates (but then again Sharpie has many best mates who look up to him not simply because of his

He said the School indeed was honoured that Nathan had

agreed to allow TSS to name the new grandstand on the

Village Green in his honour. Following a stellar Rugby career

and equally stellar commitment to leadership with dignity

and humility, Australia's second most highly capped player

and former TSS School Captain Nathan ('Sharpie') Sharpe

returned to his alma mater in April for the naming of the new

The Nathan Sharpe Leadership Stand represents a

stature, but for his quiet, dignified leadership qualities), School Vice-Captain Andy Hawkins, current TSS Dean of Students.

Like so many who have had the privilege of 'crossing paths' with Sharpie over the years, Andy has retained a strong friendship with this past TSS student leader, evident when the two took to the Annand Theatre stage for a humorous,

yet meaningful Q&A session in front of students at weekly Assembly.

It was Sharpie's first return to Assembly in 18 years and gave him an opportunity to talk and interact with current students as well as to publicly, quietly and lovingly thank his parents, Tony and Enid Sharpe, and family friends who were always present on The Mound or beside the water to watch him in action. Interestingly, it was Enid Sharpe who, at Sharpie's graduation, had the honour of presenting the House Shield to the captain of the winning House, Andy Hawkins (McKinley House).







1995, Nathan accepting the coveted Chelmsford Cup. Photo: TSS Archives

Hanging up his footy boots to pursue a new professional career has been a major move for the high-powered Rugby forward, whose career in professional Rugby spanned almost 16 years at elite level, including stints as captain of the Australian Wallabies.

Second only to George Gregan in claiming an amazing 116 Wallaby caps and claiming the title of being Australia's most capped lock in history, Sharpe also owns an amazing 162 Super Rugby caps, the highest ever recorded. He's also a two-time winner of the coveted John Eales Medal (2007 and 2012).

Sharpe's Rugby career is set to go down in the history books as legendary, with so many achievements in the game he first started playing at TSS. For those who remember back to his final year at TSS in 1995, Sharpe's finesse on the Rugby field was second to none and all could see that this strapping two-metre-tall (6'6.5" in the old scale) young man was destined to scale great career heights.

The boy from Wagga Wagga, NSW, first started his football career playing AFL, but all that changed when his family moved to the Gold Coast and he entered the TSS Prep School in 1989, aged 11. Before he knew it, Sharpe was hooked on Rugby and Rowing and quickly proved he was basically an all-round excellent sportsman, academic, musician, cadet – a true Renaissance man in the making.

In his final two years at TSS he played in the 1st XV, captaining the team in 1995, while, at the same time, admirably filling the position of School Captain. He also rowed in the 1st VIII in his final two years and was Captain of Boats in 1995. While School colour blazers and Gold pockets flowed his way, Sharpe remained firmly grounded in all that he undertook at TSS, and his genuine good humour and demeanour combined with an ability to remain organised underpinned the legendary career ahead of him.

"I loved my time at TSS and appreciated all that it had to offer me," said Sharpe. "I still have fond memories of my mates and mentors at school and would encourage every student to grab the opportunities that exist at TSS with both hands and run with them. Enjoy every day, make the most of what you are doing and you will never look back.

"My time at TSS was nothing short of remarkable. I quickly understood the importance of learning as much as possible from those around me. It was a matter of watching, absorbing and grabbing every opportunity to learn and follow by example. When you do that you learn how 'things' are done and you are able to replicate that in the way you approach each day.

"I made sure not to let anyone down and that is one of the great things about TSS – when you are involved, everyone supports you, and you, in turn, learn to support everyone

else in the community. For example, one of my most memorable feelings after changing into my 1st XV gear would be to walk around the crowd and feel connected with them. Perhaps it's only later in life you realise how much TSS plays a crucial role in learning to give back to others, something I try to do each day, especially to those less fortunate. I believe this was one of the reasons I became involved with the Sony Foundation while in Western Australia. When you see those less fortunate, you also come to the realisation that it could be you."



Nathan Sharpe has taken to his new career path with the same qualities and enthusiasm as when he played elite Rugby. Photo: Angela Hughes

Even prior to his final years at TSS, Sharpe had shown his talent with the Rugby ball, having made selection for the Queensland U15 XV in 1993, followed by being included in the Queensland Country U16 XV (which he vice-captained) and the Queensland and Australian 1st XV Schoolboys. The morphing of a great Rugby player had, indeed, been established.

The year after leaving TSS, Sharpe quickly showed coaches and selectors that he was a 'stayer' in the game, making selection for the Australian U19 and U21 representative sides in 1996-7 and keeping his selection in the U21s for two more years, captaining the side in 1999. He'd already made his Super 12 debut for the Queensland Reds in 1998 (when he was name Rookie of the Year) and played alongside such greats of the game as lock John Eales. Later he was to overtake Eales' record of 86 Tests to become the most capped lock in Australian history.

"I was fortunate to be around at the time when the great players of the game were at their peak," said a modest Sharpe. "It was a privilege to watch and be mentored at the time by the likes of Eales, Justin Harrison and Dave Griffin. "Those were my greenhorn Reds days; the players were older, but it was a wonderful feeling to be part of the training sessions in 1997 and 1998 with Eales, Toutai Kefu and Nathan Spooner. They also were days of playing with some great characters who liked to dish out the odd trick or two.

"I remember I used to slink down the back of the bus when we were travelling as I always seemed to be a prime target for the odd trick or two, probably because of my height. This was at the start of my career and, as it turned out, it was how I ended my career, preferring to slink down the back of the bus as I was now one of the oldest players or elder statesman," laughs Sharpie.He also jokes about his lack of hair. "I won my first hat at the age of 18, the same year I started going bald. Trying to grow hair on my head was like trying to grow grass in the Sahara Desert. It just was never going to happen." Hence Sharpe's famous blue protective headgear became a bit of a signature dress code for the remainder of his playing career.



Sharpe donned his first Wallaby jersey in 2002 for his Rugby debut against Melbourne, France in and from then onwards Test appearances his just kept multiplying and the records kept being broken, as he showed his followers he was going to hang around for as long as possible regardless of injuries or setbacks.

After many years with the Queensland Reds in Super Rugby, Sharpe felt it was time for a change so he headed west in 2006 – to Western Australia, where

he was one of the first recruits for the newly formed Western Force, becoming its inaugural captain. With 70 (Reds) Super Rugby caps already under his belt, he added another 92 with the Western Force and, during those 14 seasons, he went on to surpass George Gregan's all-time Super Rugby appearance record during the 2011 season.

With the summer beginning to set on his stellar career, Sharpe scooped, for the third time, the prestigious Australian Rugby Union Players' Association's Medal of Excellence, thus joining Gregan as a three-time winner of this honour. In true Sharpe style, when the award was made, there was one person missing – Sharpie. Always a lover of the great outdoors and water, Sharpe had booked an off-season fishing trip and NOTHING was going to stand in his way of reeling in that big one!

In 2012, Sharpe had decided the time had arrived to hang up his footy boots and pursue a different career avenue. As fate would have, it wasn't until the end of 2012 when those golden boots and blue headgear were finally were put to bed, as Sharpe had been recalled back into the team on a couple of previous occasions during his final year. Fittingly, his 116th game and final Test captaining Australia against Wales in December was a winner for the Wallabies, and a befitting swansong for a player who will go down in the history books as one of Australia's finest.

It was a fairy-tale farewell for the gentle giant, who during his amazing career had shown he was a tough opponent and a natural leader against almost every Rugby team around the world. The sweet victory for Sharpe during that final game is something, he said, that will stay with him for ever – along with the 48kg Golden Trevally he managed to snare off the waters of Papua New Guinea.

When asked if he had any regrets, Sharpe said he had just one – never to have won a World Cup, but the players he teamed up with or against during his career more than made up for 'what could have been'. Sharpe played in three World Cup campaigns in 2003, 2007 and 2011 (when at that time he received his 100th Test cap).

### New beginnings

For Nathan Sharpe, the road ahead is certainly going to be different as he joins fellow TSS Old Boy Chris Salmon in establishing SES Labour Solutions. It also will be different for his two lively young sons, Cooper and Frankie, who Sharpie jokes will have to get used to sitting and watching Rugby with him in normal seating rather than getting VIP treatment.

A director in the company with Chris, the focus of SES Labour Solutions is in providing specialised heavy-machinery training for those seeking placement in the mining and civil construction sectors. With the mining industry having experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, the market has encountered a shortage of experienced operators. In a response to this industry demand, SES Labour Solutions was set up to source and train machine operators for permanent employment or labour hire that meets stringent industry operator guidelines.

SES Labour Solutions has strong links to all Queensland mine sites and major earthmoving contractors. The company is affiliated with the Salmon family and Salmon Earthmoving, which was established in the mid 1940s and has expanded to become one of the largest privately owned mining and earthmoving companies in Australia. SES Labour Solutions offer clients permanent employment solutions or the flexibility of labour hire. "Our personnel have undertaken major projects over many years and developed a solid reputation in the industry. SES Labour Solutions is fast becoming a leading supplier of employment solutions to the Queensland mining and civil construction industries," says Nathan.

"This involves technical training and certification in the use of all types of heavy equipment used in these sectors and sourcing job placements around Australia. The business also incorporates extensive corporate consulting, managerial and leadership behaviour and corporate speaking to industry."

While he holds a Bachelor of Science (Human Movement) degree from the University of Queensland, Sharpe readily admits the transition from Rugby to a career outside sport has its challenges, but he's determined to meet them head on and apply his wealth of knowledge and motivation gained on the footy field to his new role within the company.



# Mentor Network Program – Get Inspired!

### Lachlan Joseph (Bid 95-06)

Lachlan's father, Glenn Joseph, sent in the following information to Lachlan's school Housemaster, Mr John Wallace...

"We thought you might be interested to know that, after successfully completing his Bachelor of Laws degree at Bond University, Lachlan put off his travelling plans, embarked on a military career and has spent the past 18 months in Canberra studying at RMC Duntroon.

Lachlan was appointed the senior officer cadet at the Royal Military College at the completion of II Class and for the past six months has performed the duties of the Battalion Sergeant Major, holding the rank of Senior Under Officer.

It was announced at yesterday's Military Prizes and Sporting Awards Ceremony that Lachlan was the recipient of The Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey Memorial Award, the highest honour that can be bestowed on a graduating army officer cadet, being awarded to him as the Sword of Honour recipient for exemplary conduct and performance of duty.

As the Parade Commander, he led the graduation parade earlier today and hosted and accompanied the Reviewing Officer, Her Excellency, The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. His family is proud of his achievements and we know that your mentoring as his Boarding Master while he was boarding at TSS played an important part in his recent succes." Parade Commander (Lachlan Joseph) accompanying the Governor-General inspecting the parade

The Royal Military College – Duntroon, General Service Officer Graduation Parade was held in Canberra on 11 December 2012. During the parade, the Governor-General presented the Sword of Honour to Senior Under Officer Lachlan Joseph for exemplary conduct and performance of duty.



Senior Under Officer Joseph, who was promoted to that rank in June, said it had been a privilege to be offered a leadership role so early in his military career. "It meant I had to perform to a very high standard and that I had to prove myself to myself, my superiors and my peers."

Senior Under Officer Joseph stated that receiving the Sword of Honour was the highlight of his time in training, but that many of his peers were equally deserving of the prestigious award. He remarked that it would not have been possible without the support of his peers and lifelong friends that he had made in the Army.

Senior Under Officer Joseph has his eyes firmly set on field service and is looking forward to joining the 2nd Cavalry Regiment at Robertson Barracks, Darwin, in the new year. He will lead a troop of ASLAV 25s, armoured reconnaissance vehicles that are currently widely employed in Afghanistan. The vehicles are equipped with a 25-millimetre chain gun and conduct tasks such as overwatch and convoy escort.

A comprehensive article on three Old Boys who have been awarded the Sword of Honour over the past 100 years will appear in the next edition of the School's magazine, The Band of Brothers.



# From Little Things **BIG Things Grow**

### Casey Brown (Bid 98-00)

Turning a big disappointment into a positive is something TSS 2010 graduate Casey Brown says helped him get where he is today.

The 29-year-old is General Manager of Agri Labour Australia – his own thriving national recruitment company that is making a major impact on filling the gap in agricultural positions in rural Australia. Born in Goondiwindi to parents who worked on the land, Casey enjoyed a childhood of shenanigans played out in open spaces but his first love was football. He ran on to the field for the first time as a Goondiwindi Boar when he was a tiny six-year-old.

His gifting in this sport helped him receive a scholarship for Years 10, 11 and 12 at TSS. He bordered in Biddle House under Mike Halpin. Casey was 15 and says the culture shock and separation from his mates and family was very hard. "There were a few tears in the early days," he said. "It was a big culture shock for me moving from the country to somewhere like the Gold Coast."

A keen sportsman, he admits to trying his best with his TSS academic studies, but says sport was always something he spent more time on. "I found my academic studies quite a challenge and I did struggle at times, so I was more drawn to sport because I found comfort in sport," he says. His love of football helped him beat the homesickness and he says he worked hard to perfect his footy skills and says that hard work paid off.

His three years at TSS are peppered with footy achievements: he represented the school in 1st XV Rugby, which later lead to several years playing Premier Grade Rugby in Brisbane. But what Casey wanted most was to represent Australia. The stars aligned for him in 2005 when he was selected to play for the Queensland Reds. It was against the Auckland Blues in front of a home crowd at Ballymore. "I was playing the best football of my career," Brown said. "I was at my best."

The grandstand was packed, his family and friends were there to support him and he says he was so nervous the bile in his throat threatened to choke him. "It was my debut and I played the worst game of football of my career," he said. He says his passes were poor and the pressure was too much for him. "It was the nerves, the hype and the pressure." "I didn't play my natural game of football." He says his performance in that game mentally scarred him and he never bounced back. A few months later he injured his shoulders and was forced to have 12 months off. He returned to the footy field for one season with GPS, but says the damage was done.

He was 24 and his lifelong dream was in tatters. The stars were falling in on him. But instead of falling into a heap, Casey says he used the football lessons he unknowingly had absorbed in his 17 years of playing football to pick himself up. He says the skills he learnt working in the many football teams he'd been a part of helped him build a growing and successful business. "I realised that it was hard work, commitment and going above and beyond that created the opportunity for me with the Reds," he said.

"That gave me the self-belief that I could tap into those same characteristics to build a new pathway for me." Casey says it's those key qualities he now looks for in the men and women he finds for the agricultural sector positions. "They need to work bloody hard, and they need to commit to the job and they need to go above and beyond," he said. It's a business mantra he lives out as well.

"If I have to get up at three in the morning and drive six hours to Central Queensland to meet a dairy farmer or if I have to sleep in my swag in the middle of nowhere then that's what I'll do, that's the lengths I'll go to for my business, and it is that philosophy that has enabled this business to grow at the rate it has and for me to build the relationships we have now."

Many of the men and women on Casey's books are former refugees from countries like Burma and Afghanistan and Pakistan. The homesickness they feel for loved ones and the countries of their birth are so much more than what he experienced as a 15-year-old at TSS. The advice he shares with them when times are tough are: "Never doubt yourself," he said. "Even in times of failure you must believe in yourself." "Go above and beyond the norm."



### Sean Jacobs (Tur 00-03)

Over the past few years, as an Adviser at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in Canberra, I've had the privilege of providing policy advice to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers on a range of issues, from national security and federal disaster recovery arrangements to public service reform and Commonwealth-State relations.

My immediate circumstances in 2003 after finishing from TSS, however, certainly didn't point towards such a position. I can recall with great clarity, for example, being deeply disappointed about not coming within shouting distance for a place at university. With uninspiring Year 12 results, I had gone up to Papua New Guinea (PNG) for the summer break, optimistically leaving behind my details so that John Catterall, my best friend and House Captain (Tur 2003), could check on any tertiary admission offers. Over the crackly line he broke me the bad news, "I'm sorry, brother, but it doesn't look like there's anything there." In 2013, with a decade of hindsight, I can slowly jigsaw together the life lessons from a TSS education that set strong foundations for dealing with adversity, reflated my professional hopes and introduced me to ideas of character and responsibility.

For so much of TSS, it has become clear to me, lies in preparing young men for life's challenges. Sitting cross-legged in assembly, I can remember when Bryan Hain – the Master of Sport – paraphrased to us Steve Waugh, saying that you should never get too carried away by success, in the same way you should never get too carried away by failure.

At the cricket nets one afternoon, I recall Dirk Wellham – First XI Cricket Coach and former Australian batsman – looking me in the eye with a smile and advising me that life's pursuits are much more enjoyable when you enjoy what you do.

In religious education class, too, it's difficult to forget Father Bryan Gadd's final Year 12 assignment where he asked us to write about our heroes. "But it's impossible to fail, Sir!" we all jeered. Although slightly true, it was a masterstroke in getting us to think with an end-goal in mind. "What lessons have your heroes demonstrated?" he asked. "How can you relate to them?"

This was sound guidance, but it was matched by the practical way that our teachers gave us a creeping sense of

responsibility. I remember Tony Knox – Turnock Housemaster for 18 years – seeking us out as final year Army Cadets to serve as a 'demonstration platoon' for our younger peers. Although we were hardly standout performers, because he had given us his trust you could feel us lift as we performed the exercises with great effort.

On the rugby field, our Third XV Coach, Don Ross, gave us a similar kind of responsibility. At both games and training, his subtle messaging was clear – "I can give you boys the direction, but the details are up to you." We had battled and lost countless times in our junior rugby years, which made winning the third grade premiership that year much more memorable. In our engine room – the second row – was a much less stocky and, at the time, very under-celebrated future Wallaby, Scott Higginbotham.

In my current role, some TSS lessons are more direct. Speaking in front of audiences, for example, I draw directly from the drama lessons of Di Francis and Cameron Anning. Although I was hardly a maths prodigy, cobbling over policy briefs is curiously not much different from Elizabeth McArthur's maths lessons – analysis and synthesis, followed by refinement and relentless double-checking.

With experiences like these, it is perhaps unsurprising that I bounced back from that immediate post-school disappointment. Through a bridging course, I scraped my way into university and finished a degree, volunteered as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development to Fiji and then consulted for the United Nations in PNG before coming to Canberra.

Such professional pursuits, especially in those early years after leaving TSS, would have been impossible without great parents. But it is clear that great parents bear curiously similar characteristics to a great school – always supportive, very encouraging, at times disciplining, but always fair. With 10 years of hindsight, I've increasingly realised how fortunate I was to be introduced early on to some unique life lessons and ideas that come from a TSS education. During the school years, both the counsel from teachers and the experiences from school were warmly received, but only fully realised after a decade of 'getting out into the world'. I'm sure many more TSS lessons, not only for myself but for my 2003 classmates, will crystallise over the coming decades.





Josh McCouat (Mau 98-06)

During the end of 2006, as I sat my final Year 12 exams, finished up at high school and prepared to leap out of my comfort zone and into the big wide world, I had no clue what was going to happen over the next six years, or furthermore, not even what was going to happen over the next six months.

I remember sitting down with my parents to discuss plans for the future. Their initial plan for me was to go to university and study a Bachelor of something (seriously, I didn't have a clue what I wanted to do). But all I wanted to do was be on or in the water, and I knew I wanted to get away from the Gold Coast for some time. Then the idea of working on superyachts came into play.

A great friend of mine who sadly passed in May 2012, Bodie Maas (Melbourne '06) had also heard about the industry, so we did some research and put the idea to our parents. After numerous hours of convincing my parents that I would only take a "Gap Year" then return to university, I finally got my way and booked into TAFE courses at the Superyacht Crew Australia Base in Newport, Sydney, NSW.

Bodie and I went off to the school in early 2007, then before I knew it, he was off to Mallorca, Spain and myself to Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA. My first international flight ever and I landed in America six days before my 18th birthday with a duffle bag, a place to stay and enough cash to last me three weeks.

So with persistence and perseverance it took me a little over three weeks (and a stretched budget) to land my first job as a junior deckhand on a 157ft (49m) Christensen motoryacht called *Thirteen*, with a crew of 10. Still not having a clue what to do or what I was about to witness, I started my first day at work. I remember being on the bow of the boat as we were leaving the dock and a friend who I had met from South Africa was on another boat beside us. So he decided to take video of me participating in my first manoeuvring procedure ever. Which ended in my dropping the whole bow line into the water and him laughing so hard in hysterics that he got in trouble from his captain; to this day we still laugh about it.

Over the next 24 months that vessel took me all up and down the East Coast of America, Caribbean Islands, Bahamas and the Mediterranean. I met some of the most amazing people in all different places that I still keep in touch with to date, saw some of the most amazing sights in the world that would usually cost a fortune to see, and all while getting paid – but don't get me wrong, work hard, play hard goes without saying for the industry.

I have spent endless nights scrubbing teak decks at 2am while guzzling coffee to stay awake, numerous days polishing stainless steel, cleaning up oil spills, and all the jobs that are not the most favoured upon. Even as a captain now, I still find

myself doing these jobs. I guess it's just in my blood. These are the less talked about times; instead just the highlife is shared on the likes of Facebook, which we are all guilty of. I'd rather my family and friends see photos of me sitting on a beach in the Caribbean with a bottle of champagne and some amazing people. Leaving MY *Thirteen* in my tracks at the end of Jan 2009 I then joined two other vessels; MY *Lady in Blue*, a 52-metre Amels in the position of Lead Deckhand, and MY *Aquarius*, a 70-metre Amels in the position of Bosun, Officer all in a bid to climb the ranks and work my way into a more senior position.

This was difficult for me as I wasn't even 20 years old yet. Being told constantly that I was too young, immature, not right for the position and inexperienced only pushed me to work harder in an effort to get what I wanted, which was to be captain on a superyacht before the age of 25.

After leaving these two vessels, I went back to the original vessel I worked on, MY *Thirteen*, as the First Mate and was lucky enough to employ a great school friend onboard to work with me, Joel Atzenhoffer (Mel 06), for the year of 2011, travelling and chartering along the east coast of America.

I had also got four great friends into the Industry as well who I went to school with – Brock Easton (Sur O6), Daniel Smith (Mau O6), Joel Atzenhoffer (Mel O6) and Charles Jorden (Kai O6). I am writing this story from MY *Mary-Rose*, a 93ft (28m) 2001 build, Benetti Motoryacht, built in Italy, which I am the captain on. So I guess that gap year is still continuing! We are enroute from Sydney, Australia – Gold Coast, Queensland, around 36hrs straight travel. I have been running *Mary-Rose* since February 2012. I was 22 when I was offered the position on-board by the owner.

My time at TSS (Years 4–12) taught and shaped me into the person I am now. I won't say that it gave me the opportunity to become a superyacht captain, but it did give me the determination and enthusiasm to push myself to become what I want, it taught me that I need to have goals and morals in order to get there, and it introduced me to a lot of people who I still call close friends that have aided and helped me to get to where I am today. I have met a lot of people who have had a positive impact on my life and I have met few people who have a negative impact on my life.

I have made a lot of good choices that got me where I am now, and I have also made a lot of bad choices that got me where I am now. What I have learnt over the years is that it's not about making only good choices (that's not possible), life is about being able to take the good from the bad, the positive from the negative and use that to correct your choices and make your life work for you, not you work for your life.



# **Baptism**



Photo: Fr Jonathan baptising Georgie, with Tony looking on

Reid Mackay (Sur 79-83) baptised his daughter, Chloe, in St Alban's on March 17th.

**David McWilliam (Rad 82-94)** baptised his daughter, Alessandra Hope, in St Alban's on November 24th, 2012.

### Tony Burchill (Rad 78-84)

and his wife Geraldine baptised their daughter, Georgina Faye Vivienne, on April 13th in St Alban's. Georgie's godparents were Prue Kellahan, Nicky Condon and Andy Sangster.

### Dean Garrow (Del 92-94)

baptised his son, Louis James, in St Alban's on October 28th, 2012.

### Wesley Graham (Kai 89-97)

Please find our family photo from our daughter Evelyn Mae Graham's Christening on Saturday, April 13th, 2013. In the photo is her mother Heidi, her big sister Imogen and father Wes.





### **Rob Wehl (McK 98-02)**

Zoe Violet Wehl, born to very proud parents Robert and Jasmine Wehl on 1st April, 2013 at 7:03am, 3.67kg and 56cm.

# Weddings

### Michael Greig (Rad 93-97)

Michael and Deanne met in 2002 at the winter Olympics in Park City, Utah and after almost 10 years of courtship were married on November 1st, 2011 at The Halekulani, Honolulu, Hawaii, with 25 close friends and family, with Michael's brother James (Rad 98) playing the guitar for the bridal entrance. Michael is currently on secondment from Qantas Airways as a Captain with Jetstar based out of the Gold Coast, while Deanne is completing her Law degree at Bond University.





### 2 Hilton Pohl (Wal 95-99)

married Paulina Repits on November 3rd, 2012 at St Alban's Chapel. The reception was held at Palazzo Versace later that evening. Hilton and Paulina were honeymooning in Mauritius and South Africa in December.

### Benn Kirkham (Rad 01-04)

Benn Kirkham married Kate Morahan, who was the School Captain of St Hilda's, in 2004 and has brothers who went to TSS, Simon (Kai 09), Luke (Kai 07) and Daniel (Kai 01). Married on April 5th at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters, the reception was at Kate's family home. They honeymooned in Bali. Benn's best man was Shaun Fyfe (McK 04) and one of the other groomsmen was Tim Jones (Atk 04), Benn Kirkham is currently a Project Manager at Jones Lang LaSalle and completed a Construction Management degree and holds a QBSA builder's licence. Kate Morahan is the Director of Covered Linen Pty Ltd.





### **4** James Maunder (Sur 81-85)

Jimmy's wife, Lisa, writes..."Jimmy and I were married on Saturday, 8 December 2012, 3pm. Our minister was Jim Stonier, who had been the chaplain during Jimmy's years at TSS. It was a very special ceremony with good friends and family. Some of my family from America were able to be here for the wedding as well, including my parents and two of my best friends. My maid of honour was Jodi Slager, best friend. Jimmy's best man was his brother, Scott Maunder (also an old boy of TSS). Jimmy and I were married exactly one year after we met."



## **Reflections** by Bert Cockerill (McK 46-55)

# As we closed off last time, I was going to carry on with some more history from the 1926 era.

The Courier Mail reported that the opening of the new Southport School happened on Saturday, 2nd October, 1926 at exactly 2.58pm when the Clocktower was set going by a very generous donor, Mr T C Lahey, and the Westminster chimes have been ringing ever since. Bishop Le Fanu, the School Council, Mayor of the South Coast with aldermen, teachers, pupils and friends were all present at this dedication ceremony. It was a great occasion and it had wide coverage in local and Australia-wide media. Were you there? You would have to be over 90, and one person I know who was there was Jack Radcliffe. His son, the very young Alan Radcliffe, started school in 1927 and is now living with wife, Micky, in Brisbane at AVEO DURACK in Blunder Road. I'm pleased to tell you that they are both in good health. Alan has many great stories of that era and hopefully we will be able to get these from him or his son, Bill.

The Archbishop paid tribute to the Headmaster, Horace Henry Dixon, who in 25 years had seen the school grow to over 200 students. Many thanks to Bishop Dixon's grandson, David Dixon, who wrote telling me of the great lady behind our great founder: He wrote: "I can confirm there was a wonderful woman behind him, from what I have been told. Horace and Florence had two sons, Cecil (Squid) Dixon, my grandfather, and Bowler Dixon, whose son, Peter, remembers them very well. Florence could speak more than a few languages, was very involved in the layout and construction of the new buildings and was a mother figure to many boys. She was well respected by the boys and she looked after many during holidays when they couldn't get home." Thanks for sending this information through, David.

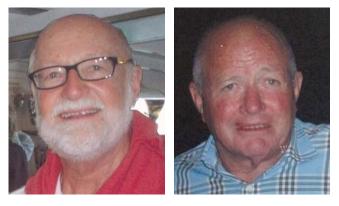
Bishop Dixon's foresight also prompted another Englishwoman, Helena Davenport, who came out in 1870 to start a boarding school for young ladies. She brought the ladies from Brisbane by paddle steamer, *The Maid of Sker*, and started up a house in Bauer Street. She acquired land in Davenport Street and built a school named Gog-Te-Lea, named after her home town in England. The Church of England purchased this in 1912, making it a sister school for TSS, and later changed the name to St Hilda's. The first Headmistress was Catherine Borne and there were 80 students. Other heads were Miss Fittock (1924 to 1951), Miss Horton (1952-1964), Miss Granowski (1965-1974) and Jennifer Reeves followed in 1975. Just a few weeks ago, Bishop Adrian Charles passed away after a severe stroke. His funeral at St John's Cathedral (pictured top right) was more than you could imagine – WOW, what a send-off. I believe it was even better than Maggie Thatcher's! I have never seen so many archbishops, bishops and clergy at any funeral. There was a strong contingent of TSS personalities, with Headmaster Greg Wain, TSS School Captain Sam Rasmussen, Father Jonathan and Canon Bruce Maughan to name a few. Other dignitaries were lan Hollindale, Edward Kernke and Jim Stonier, who were robed. Others were Gary Ferguson, Ken Mander-Jones, Graham Rylance, Ian Cameron, Peter Wehl, Tim Bell, Christopher Johnston, Doug Murphy, Annelise and Sandy Kemp and Peter Lockhart, OSA President. There were more, but with the huge crowd I never caught up with them all. Goodbye, dear friend.

Just last Valentine's Day I was listening to the voice of the Gold Coast, our ex-Editor Bruce Rogers, on radio 4CRB. He is on every weekday until 10am, and was playing romantic requests for listeners when one unexpectedly came from his wife, Sandra, who requested he play the music that was played when she walked down the aisle with him over 20 years ago. I think he was overcome by this as at first he didn't have a clue who it was. It was great listening. Thanks, Bruce.

It's great to hear of fantastic achievements by our Old Boys, but the best this year is that of Tony Goodwin (Tho 49-54). Tony, after being a student for six years, became a teacher in the Junior School in the 1956-58 era. Now at the age of 75 he is still keeping fit by swimming. At school in 1954, he won the 100-metres breaststroke in 1 minute 38 seconds and was involved in most sports, especially cricket and swimming. You must remember that we had no swimming pool prior to 1960 and the only training we had was in the river in front of the Boat Shed. Floods and strong cyclonic winds back in the 1950s made it impossible to train. Our swimming carnivals were held in almost surf conditions in the enclosure at the pier just off the end of Nerang Street. Our first pool wasn't built until the '60s (see more information on Tony in the Personal Notes section of this magazine). Well done, Tony! Many of my mates from the '40s and '50s have taken up lawn bowls. Bryn Whitcombe, stroke of the 1955 first VIII, is secretary of his club in Noosaville, and Jake MacRonald, our school patron, is also a bowler in Brisbane. We need more Old Boys playing sport and keeping fit.



Back in 1945, just before the end of World War II, the Americans dropped the atomic bomb over Hiroshima. At school when this happened was one young student, Elton Stone (top solicitor), from Lismore, now living at Ballina, and he can vividly remember his physics teacher, Mr Phillips, giving the class a detailed explanation of how the atomic bomb worked. How could he have had so much detailed knowledge of this technology? Who else remembers this?



Cricket, Swimming and Rowing are the main sports in the first term with Soccer at this time of the year. Rowers are on the river from 5.00am and really giving it their all. Weather conditions have been cyclonic, but they are out with their coaches and giving their all. They have trained hard and look great. Back in 1955, we rowed in excess of 400 miles training, and this year the crew has done in excess of 1,000 kilometres. At the recent Head of River, the School came third. We won seven out of the 12 races, so there are some great crews coming through. I thought I'd give you a photo of two coxswains from the '50s. Both were at lan Cameron's 70th birthday a few years ago on board the *Lady of Brisbane*. Geoff Pie (architect), who coxed the first VIII in 1955, and Don Rylance (top Brisbane broker), who was the cox in 1956.

Brian Trenchard-Smith has had a very interesting life since leaving TSS in 1955. He was a Thorold boy and in the swimming team in 1954. He became a journalist and worked with some of the giants in that field. He was with *The Age, Sun Herald*, worked with Derryn Hinch and assisted Peter Fox with the "Smile for Life" TV campaign raising money for anti-drug education. He worked in London with the Murdochs and was there when Sir Alick McKay was in control while Rupert and Anna Murdoch were in Australia. Kidnappers mistakenly took Alick's wife, Muriel, hostage and demanded a ransom. When they found out they had the wrong person she was murdered and the body was never found. Not the end of this story, it's too gruesome, so ask Brian. Brian's sporting heroes of that era were Arthur Fittock, Alister Boyd and Don Rylance, all Rugby greats. He said that Arthur would have made the Wallabies, but he went to Duntroon and won the title of "Mr Rugby". At Duntroon, his mentor was none other than the late Peter White (Del 47-53), a truly great sportsman whose life was cut too short. There is a lot more Brian wrote; maybe you should write a book on your experiences like Bryce Courtenay has done, Brian. Thanks again, Brian, for sending through your letter. Let us have some more stories, but PLEASE make them short.

Many of you who were there in the early '60s have asked me how both Don Taylor (Tubby) and Andrew Morse (Morso) are getting on. Well, I'm glad to say that they are both reasonably well and like me starting to get the ageing problem like loss of memory. Both may come to Mulgowie this time as many of you have requested. Sandy and Annelise have advised that the Mulgowie Muster will now be on June 2nd and Reverend Jim Stonier will take the church service. We will miss Adrian at the Muster. Last year was a tremendous success, even if I got lost coming home! I ended up at the Gateway Bridge. If you have never been there, make sure you go soon. If travelling alone, try contacting any Old Boys in your area and go together.

Steve Bingham who runs a bathroom business at Australia Fair, has given us a glowing report of his years in the 1980s at the Junior School under the new Head at that time, Mr Peter Rogers. His story is following on from my report.

On Friday, 15th March, I was startled to learn that my very good friend Ray Fowler, better known as Chooky, lost his wife. Chooky was the groundsman at TSS for over a decade. He was a wizard at preparing the wicket for the next match. I went to his wife's funeral and met up with the family. Chooky is not in the best of health, but never forgets his association with us. Don Taylor, Ron Pearson, John Glenn, Bill King and Andy Melville will always remember Chooky.

Well until next issue, enjoy life while you can and don't let me see your name in the obits for some time. Cheers and God Bless, Bert.

Memories

Letter received from John Robert (Bob) Quinn (McK 42-44)...



Photos from JR Quinn's Collection from 1945

For one reason or other I have never been able to attend any Old Boys' days or OSA meetings. As time is drawing on, I will probably never get the chance. However, as there probably are a few of my old school mates still with us, I felt the need to drop you a line. Dear Sir,

My name is John Robert Quinn and I attended TSS in the war years of 1942 and 1943. I was a We were situated in the old buildings bordering on Nerang River and Pong Creek. The TSS buildings were taken over by an American convalescent hospital. I actually stayed for one night in a dormitory at TSS after I had formally left the school when I returned in 1944 to member of McKinley House. collect a reference from the Head to take to Moreton Depot, to enroll in the Navy. The war

I had many occupations during my working career including farming and grazing in both sheep and cattle, employment in local government and finally 20 years managing Eidsvold ended before my call-up.

Sawmills, probably the most modern and most productive country sawmill in Queensland. Unfortunately, various governments have ruined the hardwood timber industry in

In later years, my wife and I retired to Gympie where I continued working with timber as a hobby, making many items of furniture for our home. Having raised six children who followed a range of professions, I now enjoy hearing of the exploits of my 18 grandchildren Queensland. and 21 great-grandchildren. Unfortunately, after 60 years of marriage, I now live alone after

Dobishica

my wife's death in 2009.

Yours mily, Bol Prim

Bob Quinn

# David Dixon (McK 80-83) writes...

Dear Bert, I read with great interest your most recent reflections segment in the OSA Review. I learnt some more interesting history of my grandfather, Greg, and how he founded the school. Thank you for that. I can confirm there was a wonderful woman behind him, from what I have read and been told. Horace and Florence had two sons; Cecil (Squid) Dixon, my grandfather, and Bowler Dixon. It seemed a coincidence when I read your segment that only very recently Bowler's son, Peter, was telling me of the great woman behind the man. According to Peter, who remembers them both well, she was a very strong woman and provided so much support to Horace on many fronts. She could speak more than a few languages, was very incolved in the layout and construction of buildings and was a mother figure to many of the boys. Peter says she was well respected by the boys and looked after many over school holidays when on occasions they were unable to return home. He also says

There are photos of her in *Bearing the Palm* p. 36, 87 and p. 91. I thought when she spoke the boys listened!

this might be of interest to you.

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It was 1974 and Peter Rodgers was in his first year as Prep Head. The old guard was still trying to retain their grip on power. John Webster was one of these old guard masters, known to all the boys as Zorbo, who was equally loved and hated for his charm and "old school style discipline". He would commonly have a queue of 6-10 boys outside his office after dinner or prep most nights for a good dose of the strap or cane for what were often insignificant misdemeanours, for example, boys speaking after he asked the boys in

the dining room to finish the dinner in silence.

1974 started with great promise. A new headmaster, and a number of the old cronies had left at the end of "73... But there was Zorbo, clinging to his power and he made us pay! Every Wednesday we would file into the junior school dining room at 6pm, and sitting at the masters' table would be the masters, including Mr Webster, invariably scowling at us as he ordered us to stand as he had a roll call. We would glance at each other and we all knew we were in for another eventful night. Not only was Webster the master in charge of dinner, but would also be master on duty for the evening's prep and was responsible for distributing the boarders' pocket money, money paid by parents into each student's account at the beginning of each term.

No boarder in 1974 could have foreseen the misery that Webster was going to inflict us every Wednesday night. After filing into the dining room and taking our seats, Webster would chant the Latin Grace and immediately the dining room would fill with the sound of boys chatting as they would file out to get their meals. Within minutes the masters' bell would start ringing as Webster unceremoniously rang it, and screamed "finish the dinner in silence" and the dining room would fall silent. However, boys being boys, it was virtually impossible for 110 boys to remain silent for the next 40 minutes. Invariably someone would break the silence, immediately followed by the screaming Webster that the guilty parties leave their meals and the dining room and assemble at the duty office, where they would wait for the next hour anxiously

He would also announce that there would be no pocket money this week. As a boarder our pocket money was sacrosanct ... We would spend six days a week longing for the next pocket-money night and to remove

this privilege week after week created an enormous amount of resentment towards Mr Webster. First term started for returning boarders with great apprehension when Mr Rodgers took over the role of his predecessor, Bill (Pop) Jordan, as Head of Prep. Mr Rogers also assumed the running of the Prep school tuckshop. Under Mr Jordan, the tuckshop was opened on a limited basis. Mr Rogers was the 'new broom' and part of his regime was to open the tuckshop on a daily basis, and on the weekends. We were all delighted and we all made use of the more frequently opened tuckshop. However, week after week we had no money to spend and Mr Rogers' tuckshop was full to the brim with chips, drinks and a great selection

Boys' complaints about not having pocket money became a crescendo and Mr Rodgers' tuckshop was going broke. Peter Rogers had a simple solution and that was to open his own pocket-money ledger, which of lollies, as nothing was selling. was kept at the tuckshop and could be accessed any time he had the shop open. Parents could deposit their son's pocket money directly in the tuckshop pocket-money account. A 'godsend' to us boys who were craving a bag of chips and a few lollies, and to Mr Rogers, who was keen to see his tuckshop become viable. John "Zorbo" Webster was clearly livid at the new tuckshop pocket-money system and to the relief of the 1974 Year 6 students, who were facing another year of his tyranny, they were delighted when they heard he was leaving in 1975. We, the Year 7 of 74, moved to the senior school and faced a whole new world of

school tyranny.





### Dominic Buckland (Kai 98-10)

The Southport School is a place that provides such a comprehensive and broad set of opportunities and skills that many valedictorians are spoilt for choice when graduation day arrives. For some, their futures are mapped out in front of them; for others the next year is far more uncertain. A year and a half studying Journalism/Business at UQ gave me time and a chance to learn a great deal about life and career aspirations, at a time when my love and appreciation for music was blossoming. Despite having had a truly amazing time at residential college, I found myself returning from lectures and picking up a guitar when I should have been picking up my textbooks. I had joined a band, begun playing solo at small gigs at private venues and had landed a few corporate jobs.

I deferred to work full-time, and later enrolled in a Bachelor of Music at QUT and love every minute of it. This degree is designed to develop technical expertise, business directions as well as creative approaches to songwriting and performance, with opportunities for professional recording in the Newstead sound and recording studios. The satisfaction gained from studying an area you love cannot be traded for anything.

Recently I have had the fortune to work on several sessions recording for an aspiring producer at QLD Conservatorium of Music, and performed a Powerhouse gig as part of the 'Popalicious' concert series. I am currently focused on performing at private events, including 21st birthdays, weddings and parties, as well as corporate events, including a recent concert at Riverstage. Much to my delight, I have been asked to sing at the OSA Reunion BBQ this year – I look forward to catching up with all the Old Boys who turn up on Saturday, July 26th for Old Boys' Weekend.

At the end of the day I have found my niche and really appreciate all that The Southport School offered me in igniting that musical flame.

# Personal Notes



# Tim Carroll (Sur 00-12) & Matt Ward (Kai 93-97)

were thrilled to meet up with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa at the Gold Coast Arts Centre in March.



### **B** Peter Cooke (Tho 65-67)

Attached is a shot of me at the White House for The Kennedy Centre Honors Dinner with President Obama and the First Lady in Washington, USA. I am the Head, and a tenured Professor, at the oldest drama school in the USA in a university setting – Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama, Pittsburgh, PA. I was Deputy Director at NIDA in Sydney for 22 years, and have been living in the States for the past five years.



### <sup>4</sup> Brett Lush (Del 83-87)

Brett thrives on community development. As a community development manager for The Benevolent Society, he is considered one of the most crucial players in the northern Gold Coast region. Brett's pet projects include the North Gold Coast Early Years Centre,

which provides parents with a one-stop shop to improve their children's health, wellbeing and safety, and the early intervention Helping Out Families program. Brett is also a member of multiple community workforce development and social connection groups. Thanks, Brett, for having the foresight, skills and energy to see community needs and be able to liaise with key people and turn all this into something positive and worthwhile.



### **I** Nicholas Donnelly (Sur 78-86)

Music is such an important part of life. Can you imagine living without it? Being a musician is very rewarding. What other job do you receive applause at the end of the day? I have to be in form just like an athlete, as when I don't practise my performance drops. Keeping the motivation up after years of practising scales is not always easy.

I completed four years of performance-orientated study at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. Then I spent one year in Hong Kong on a full scholarship also studying oboe performance. After that I taught oboe and flute at various private schools on the Gold Coast (including TSS) and in Brisbane. As I was not getting enough performance opportunities in Australia, I decided to try my luck overseas and ended up studying in Nuremberg in Germany. I was lucky enough to be able to get small jobs straight away playing in beautiful old churches. With the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra I had an internship for one season and got to play many concerts, operas and also a CD recording of film music. I had rehearsals in the Colosseum, a massive stone building that the Nazi regime used for rallies. Living in an historical city such as Nuremberg was fantastic. I lived in the old city and had oboe lessons in a tower built in the 15th century, how's that for history! With Les Miserables in Duisburg I got my first full-time job, just in time, as I really had, had enough of being a student and I was looking for long-term employment. And 16 years later I am still in Germany... I changed cities and played nearly every major musical written. Including: *Les Miserables, Miss Saigon, Phantom, Cats, Wicked* and many more.

Parallel to all the musicals I still had many different gigs. I played in symphony orchestras, with the German Pops Orchestra and I also did some studio recordings. Playing to a packed stadium with 70,000 people while being broadcast live on MTV was the ultimate test of nerves and years of performance training. But even playing a little gig for a church choir in a Christmas service is still a joy. At this point in my life, maybe it is time to come home and see what Australia has to offer me. To see my children grow up in the same beautiful environment as I did. And maybe I will teach your son the oboe one day in the future.

### Interpretation Tony Goodwin (Tho 49-54)

Congratulations on being awarded the Master Athlete for 2012 at the recent NSW Sport Federation Sports Awards ceremony. At age 75, Tony had an incredible year. In January 2012, Tony set a world record for the 200m breaststoke (long course). His record-setting swim took 6.54 seconds off the previous record. A few months later, he set another FINA world record, this time in the 200m breastroke (short course), taking 6.48 seconds off the old record. Tony also travelled to Italy for the FINA World Masters Championships, coming home with three Gold Medals, for the 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke. He was also part of a relay team that came home with two medals. He was also awarded with a bronze in the 100m butterfly. Not only were the records set a world level, but at a national level as well, showing his strength in the breaststroke. He set new national records in his age category (75-79) in all six long-course distances from 50-1500m breastroke, 100 fly and three new national records in three breaststroke short-course distance events. To top this off, in February 2013 Tony broke the 400m, 800m and 1500m breaststroke records in one swim, having achieved the same outcome in 2007 in his previous age group.

Congratulations to Tony on an outstanding and well-deserved achievement.





### Dylan Harris (Rad 08-12), Scot Rose (Atk 02-12), Tristan Stonhill (McK 08-12) & Christian Kafritsas (Atk 05-12)

2012 produced a group of very talanted muscians and artists. Boy Cry Wolf is gaining popularity with the soleful sounds of singer Dylan Harris and the brilliant electric guitar work from Scot Rose and Christian Kafritsas, all backed up by Tristan Stonhill on the drums. The band finds itself spending most weekends at gigs at various gatherings and events on the Gold Coast and was spotted playing at the Surfers Surf Club recently. The boys all dream to work their way into the dizzying hights of success in the music industry and they are certainly on their way, working hard to realise their dream. Dylan Harris and Scot Rose are both studying at the Conservatory of Music, Tristan Stonhill is studying Fine Arts at Griffith University in South Bank, Brisbane and Christian Kafritsas is studying Event and Business Management at Griffith on the Gold Coast. It looks like all areas of expertise are covered for this band's success! We wish them luck and have no doubt we will be hearing more of this up-and-coming Band of Brothers.



### 2 Jack Martin (Mau 00-12)

2012 graduate Jack started his gap year in Bogota on exchange and met Dennis Naguib (Mau 07-12) in a local village.

### John Purcell (McK 49-53) OAM

John Purcell joined TSS at the Junior School in Shepherd House (1949) and later continued as a boarder in the Senior School (until 1953) in McKinley House. Following school in 1953 John was employed by the then well-known Scottish Australian Company on several properties in Queensland.

In 1959 John and his younger brother, Bill, were successful in the land ballot of the property "Yatton", north-west of Rockhampton, Central Queensland, where John has continued to live after raising his four children. He operates the property to this day. In the June 2012 Queen's Birthday Honours List John was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the General Division for service to primary industry and to the community. In carrying out his duties in the cattle industry he travelled frequently in all Australian States as well as going to the USA and Canada on several occasions, and also to SE Asia and South America.



A number of his activities included: Chairman, Property Rights Australia (2004-2009); Key Contributor, Cape York Heads of Agreement (1996-1997); Executive Member, Cattle Council of Australia (1984-1986, 1989-1993); Founding Member, Cattlemen's Union of Australia (1976) and then National President (1984-1985, 1994-1997). As well he was a member of the Computer Aided Livestock Marketing Board; member of the Meat Research Council Selection Committee of the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation; member of the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Policy Council; board member of the Livestock and Meat Authority of Queensland and board member of Queensland Abattoirs. He was a National Farmers Federation representative with CSIRO/DPIE personnel in selecting Malaysia as the SE Asia screw-worm fly research site in 1992. Community involvement included his role as co-founder of the Clarke Creek Pony Club and he served as chairman of the Clarke Creek School P&C.



### Ben Provest (Kai 00-12), James Vincent (current Walker House Student) & Tristan Rogers (Sur 11-12)

Benny and The Dukes was formed in January 2012 just prior to us commencing our senior year. I had composed a number of original songs in the style of jazz/pop with James Vincent and Tristan Rogers lending their horn-section expertise to the overall mixing pot of sounds. During the end of 2011, after I had returned from my exchange trip to Paris, James Vincent, Tristan Rogers and myself performed locally as a trio. I decided that we were ready to enter the studio to record a six-track album. A few weeks prior to recording we decided to add a rhythm section to our sound, drums and bass. We contacted Harry White, Gold Coast Big Band drummer and member of the Queensland Young Conservatorium of Music Program, and Oliver Powell, previous TSS student and captain of music at All Saints Anglican College. It was chemistry. The music that we shared together in the few rehearsals prior to heading up to Alchemix studio's in Brisbane held us in heavy stead for what was to be a fantastic session that would open up many opportunities for us.

The sold-out release of the self-titled debut EP at local music venue The Loft lead us to five star ratings and reviews from Triple J presenter Alex Dyson for our song "Balloon Head", a radio interview with radio host Rosie Beaton, regular radio play on local station 94.1FM, supporting Lady Gaga's band in the Brisbane Valley, performing at The Gold Coast Show as well as sold-out shows at The Basement, The Swinging Safari and regular corporate work for private functions and parties. It was a very busy Year 12. Towards the end of Year 12 Tristan Rogers was offered a scholarship to the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. Oliver Powell, Harry White and myself went through the gruelling audition process at The Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne University in late November and received an offer to study a Bachelor of Fine Arts Contemporary Music at one of Australia's leading music institutions.

Supporting the Bamboos at Bond Uni – We were asked to support Melbourne-based funk-soul band The Bamboos at the opening of the free concert community series at Bond University. The Bamboos are one of Australia's most successful soul bands, being nominated for Three ARIA awards and performing at The Byron Bay Blues and Roots Festival. We were thrilled to be able to work with them as we soon discovered that they too were also graduates from the Victorian College of The Arts, and in fact had some of the same lecturers!



Photo: Left to right: Will Murtagh (Tur 93-03), Joey Green (Sur 99-01) and Rhys Quinn (Mel 93-03)

### Rhys Quinn (Mel 93-03)

is a Property Valuer with Herron Todd White Valuers based in the Collins Street office in Melbourne. Recently he was on holidays in the USA and on his travels visited San Diego and happened to note on Facebook that old schoolmates Will Murtagh and Joey Green were also in San Diego. It turns out they were only a couple of streets away and the boys met up on the rooftop bar on Rhys's hotel and spent the afternoon together.



### Jervis Sparks (Tho 46-49)

During 2012, Jervis spent time in Ontario, Canada, assessing the construction of a D60 sonic drill. This drill was then shipped to Fiji, where Jervis instructed locals in its operation on two alluvial mineral prospects on the main island of Viti Levu. The first was on the Coral Coast at Sigatoka, and the second was in the mangrove swamps at Tavua in the north. The mineral objectives were for gold, magnetite and rare earths. After concluding that first phase, Jervis is scheduled for another mineral exploration project in Mali, central Africa, in 2013.



Photo: Naoya holding the trophy alongside his teammates. The boy to Naoya's right is only 14.

### Naoya Yamamoto (Mau 00-12)

Naoya was part of the Queensland Under 21 Table Tennis Team nominated as Queensland Junior Team of the Year (any sport eligible). Much to the team's surprise, they ended up winning the award. Congratulations to Naoya and team. Naoya, from the class of 2012, went all the way through TSS from Reception.

# SPORTING NEWS

### THE SOUTHPORT SCHOOL

# Festival of Cricket

1st XI vs Old Boys XI

Sunday of the Festival of Cricket saw TSS 1st XI take on a strong Old Boys' Team on the Village Green featuring players having 1st class experience (Michael Neser, Cameron Brimblecombe and Nick Stevens) and current Premier Grade cricketers.

#### TSS Old Boys' Team:

Ian Elk ©, Simon Anderson, Tom Hanrahan, Mitch Gahan, Anderson Matthews, Nick Stevens, Cameron Brimblecombe, Michael Neser, Ben Solomon, Howard Biddle, Jack Hargreaves, Luke Broekman, Blair Tickner and Alex McInnes.

TSS Old Boys elected to bat first with 1st XI taking early wickets. However, dominant displays of batting by Anderson Mathews, Michael Neser and Ben Solomon allowed Old Boys to set an imposing total of 262 that 1st XI never really threatened. The sight of Michael Neser opening the bowling off his full run-up was a sight that will remembered by the boys, and the presence of Bill King to speak and present the aptly named "Bill King Trophy" will be fond memories of a most enjoyable day.

TSS Old Boys 262 (50 overs) (Ben Solomon 60no off 75 balls, Michael Neser 61 off 34 balls, Anderson Matthews 55 off 58 balls) (Andrew McMahon 3/55 off 8, Nathan Black 2/46 off 7) defeated TSS 1st XI all out 141 off 45 overs (Andrew McMahon 21, Simon Anderson 4/31 off 7, Michael Neser 2/18 off 5, Jack Hargreaves 2/22 off 9).

### Cricket is strong among the Old Boys Community

Director of Cricket Steve Baker is thrilled at the amount of Young Old Boys who have returned to coach the TSS Cricket teams this year. This year he has Remwell Melia (current staff member), Aaron Chapman, Josh Oates, Rob Wehl (staff member), Joel Menzies, Spencer Attoe, Joel Threlfall, Max Christensen, Luke Cocco, Jason Bear, Alex McInnes and Nick Boyce. Blair Tickner, Howard Biddle and Jack Hargreaves also do the "In2 Cricket" Program at Prep.



### Touch Football - like father, like son...

Current TSS teacher and honorary member of the Old Southportonians' Association **Greg Norman** writes...

My son, **Peter (Sur 04-08)**, recently represented Australia as a member of the men's team in a best of three Tests against NZ. This was held in Auckland, Feb 8-10. Playing in the men's team completes his progress from the 18s as co-captain, 20s as vice-captain and the open mixed team.

The men lost the first game in extra time, then the second game by one point and then had a good 9-5 win in the last game. I believe Peter is the first, second-generation male player to follow in his father's footsteps, as I represented Australia in the first Touch Football Mixed Team and then in the Men's team at the first Touch Football World Cup.

Apart from playing local league including the Titan 20s, Peter has just completed his degree in Exercise Science and is doing his Graduate diploma in teaching this year.



Peter (Sur 08) & Greg Norman (Current HPE teacher and OSA honorary member)



### Football Josh Brillante (McK 10)

Versatile Newcastle Jets midfielder Josh Brillante has given his club a boost by agreeing to a contract extension until the end of the 2014/15 season. This recent TSS old boy, who is still only 19 years old (he looks older with his new beard!), has been a revelation for the Jets this year, playing in 16 games and starting 11 of those. He has moved between the midfield and defence with equal effectiveness. "I like the direction the club is going and I want to continue playing at the Jets," Brillante said. "I certainly didn't expect the opportunities afforded to me this season, but I am obviously pleased to have played as much as I have. I have exceeded my own expectations and the team is just looking forward to finishing off the season strongly." Sealing the extension is a shrewd move by the club as Brillante is on track to show his wares at the upcoming FIFA Under-20 World Cup in Turkey this June and July. Should he attract interest from overseas clubs, the Jets will be in a strong bargaining position with regard to a possible transfer fee.

All Old Boys are asked to come and support this year's 1st XI – they are chasing back-to-back premierships and call on all Old Boys to support them, especially at the home games this year. Details on last two **GPS home** matches:

	#	Date	Home	Away	Location
Round	7	1/06/2013	TSS	TGS	TSS
Round	8	8/06/2013	BGS	TSS	BGS
Round	9	15/06/2013	TSS	BBC	TSS



### Rugby Jarrad Butler (Tho 07-09)

received his first starting cap for Reds vs Bulls











### Dan Collins (Atk 97-01)

Captain courageous of Breakers Premier Grade who are now based at Bond University

### Jono Lance (Kai 03-07)

made his comeback from serious injury to starting full-back for the Reds

### Simon Morahan (Kai 03-09)

selected in Aus 7s team and played in Hong Kong at the Hong Kong Rugby 7s

### James Slipper (Tur 05-07)

Captain of the Reds in James Horwill's absence. Then when he was substituted in game vs Hurricanes ...

Ben Tapuai (Del 04-07)

was on-field captain for the second half



### Golf

Adam Scott (Sur 94-95)

(courtesy from The Australian)

Adam Scott has become the first Australian to win the Masters, delivered in breathtaking fashion in a sudden-death play-off at Augusta. Scott secured victory on the second

play-off by holing a five-metre putt after Argentina's Angel Cabrera narrowly missed his birdie attempt on the par-4 10th. Bidding to become the first Australian to win the Masters, Scott sunk a seven-metre birdie putt on the last hole in regulation play to shoot a closing three-under-par 69 and finish at nine-under 279. But Cabrera, the 2009 champion, nailed his approach shot at the 18th, putting it within a metre of the hole and matched Scott's birdie to tie him with a round of 70. Scott's countryman Jason Day finished outright third, two shots back, after a closing 70.

### **Ironman Series**

### Shannon Eckstein (Sur 96-00)

will wait until retirement before he fully appreciates the growing mountain of silverware in his trophy cabinet.

Congratulations to Shannon for his seventh win at the national ironman series at Noosa in February. His domination of his sport runs so deep he won that record seventh Kelloggs series yesterday in Noosa after only three races. There were five on the program to decide not only the round-six winner in the 2012-2013 series, but the overall champion. Shannon said he'd lost count of how many rounds he had won over his 10-year career, but he isn't stopping any time soon. "I'm still racing well enough to stay in front of these blokes. But as you saw today, they're pushing. The last two years I thought about retirement, but it didn't cross my mind this time. Instead I've found rejuvenation and a new passion.

"I'll definitely be here next year, but we'll play it by ear. I'm enjoying it, but the training is the hardest thing, getting up early in the morning. You can only do that for so long."



Shannon Eckstein catches a wave in the board leg at Noosa. Picture: Matt Roberts



## Rowing

### Curtis McLeod (Atk 05-12)

Has been selected into the Australian Junior Rowing Team to compete in the World Junior Rowing Championships in Lithuania later this year. Curtis will compete in the

Coxless Pair, which is the same class of boat that Duncan Free won his Olympic Gold Medal in, 2008.

Curtis and his pair partner, Henry Leef (formerly Somerset College), will continue to train and study at UQ in Brisbane before leaving in July to train at the Australian Rowing European training facility in Varese, Italy, prior to the World Championships.

Congratulations to Curtis on his selection and the very best for the lead-up to the World Championships and of course great success in Lithuania later in the year.



# Sailing

### Mathew Belcher (Sur 88-00)

ISAF Sailing World Cup, Hyeres: Double Gold for Australia

Well done to Mat and Will Ryan with their gold medal win in Hyeres.

Australian sailors have won two gold medals on the final day of the ISAF Sailing World Cup in Hyeres, France, with Tom Burton claiming a come from behind Laser gold while Mathew Belcher and Will Ryan continued their dominant run to win the 470 men's class.

Persistent rain and incredibly light winds made for two challenging Laser medal races, with Burton starting the day third overall, behind Croatia's Tonci Stipanovic and dual Olympic Gold medallist Robert Scheidt of Brazil.

# School News

by Tony Watt, TSS Director of Community Relations, and Karen Martin, TSS Marketing Coordinator

### Another great season out on the pitch

A glittering TSS Cricket Presentation night capped off another great season in 2012/2013. What an effort by TSS Teams, with Yr7A (Undefeated), Yr8A, Yr9A, Yr9B (Undefeated), Yr10A (Undefeated), Yr11A and Yr11C (Undefeated) all having an outstanding premiership season.

Summarising the highlights, we had an increase in winning percentage from previous years across teams, 40 boys playing representative cricket and all of the boys who participated having had fun with their mates. Once again, TSS Cricket enjoyed a higher success rate in 'A' teams winning 78% of all games, as well as increasing the overall winning results in all teams to over 66%, despite rain affecting parts of the season. This has increased from 15% in 2007, which shows the depth and strengths of this program that also holds great promise for future years.



TSS fielded 19 teams this season; two more than last year and was superbly coached by a high-quality coaching team who all did a fantastic job with the boys. The 'A' teams all performed strongly while the 'B' – 'D' teams maintained their participation focus, and also performed very well. The Festival of Cricket was even more popular this year, with the Old Boys Team fielding a strong line-up featuring Old Boy Michael Neser and a Yr11/12 Team "Runs to the Roar" taking out the annual Super 8's Tournament.

The 1st XI were a 'tight' outfit. Unfortunately they lost their first two matches in close contests, which meant they could not retain the Earl Williams GPS 1st XI Trophy. However, they did train, play and perform professionally throughout the whole season finishing 5th overall. The 1st XI enjoyed a tour to Sunshine Coast in January and many of the players have already made an impact in Grade Cricket for their future endeavours. With the 1st XI largely consisting of Yr12 boys in 2013, there are many opportunities available for aspiring TSS Cricketers to play 1st XI in the 2013/14 season.



### A winning way with the oars

From the terrific success at the Queensland State Schools Rowing Championships in Bundaberg late in 2012, to the National Rowing Championships in Sydney the week after the Head of the River, TSS rowers have excelled and been a great advertisement for the School, the Rowing program and themselves.

The Junior Head of the River held at Kawana two weeks before the Senior Head of the River was a triumph for the TSS rowing team. While fielding 25 junior crews in a 17race program, TSS Juniors won 13 of those 17 races and placed highly in all the other races to be easily the most successful school for the fourth year running.

At the Senior Head of the River TSS fielded 7 x Year 10 Quad Sculls, 3 x Year 10 Quad Sculls, 3 x Year 11 Eights and 4 Open Eights. On the day TSS won 7 out of the 12 Championship races scoring 107 Old Boys Cup points to win the trophy for the second year running. Of 29 combined races in the Senior and Junior Head of the River TSS won 20, which is an amazing effort from all our boys and coaching staff.

During the season the numbers of boys rowing and competing grew to over 230, with 27 junior quad sculls forming what we hope will be the backbone of the rowing program for many years to come.

The parent support throughout the season has been outstanding. Providing support for 200 plus boys is a massive task and we thank one and all who helped in any way large or small. The coaching team is truly amazing and the results really do speak for themselves. All coaches deserve a huge vote of thanks for the effort and commitment, as do our valued sponsors one and all, old and new.





### TSS swimming closes down the gap

Following the last three GPS Swimming Championships, the TSS Swimming slogan since 2011 has been "we are closing down the gap...". In 2010 the gap to the top of the points tally was 110 points, down to 65 points in 2011 and by 2012 just 34 points stood between us and first. We knew we had a good team heading up to Chandler on March 8th this year and we knew we could most defiantly 'close the gap' some more. Whether or not this would be all the way and beyond to result in our first GPS Premiership in four years, we did not know...

What actually materialised on the night was the biggest win a TSS Swim Team has ever produced, claiming our first Premiership since 2008 and finishing the night the best possible way, winning both the Medley and 6x50 Freestyle Open relays. The winning margin was an outstanding 30 points over Nudgee. TSS led the competition from start to finish, but it was the strength of the relays that moved the team into a record-breaking winning margin.

Major highlights along with the two open relay victories came with a record-breaking Medley relay swim from the Under 16 boys, smashing the record by 0.6 of a second.

Individually the Open team led by example with three out of three wins for Bradlee Ashby and two wins from Lachlan Colquhoun. Josh Parrish and Dom Richardson also won events in the Under 16s. Brodie Smith (captain) led the team superbly throughout term one. The team was the best behaved and most professional group of boys the staff have seen, so well done to everyone involved.

Along with the success of the GPS team was a great performance from the CIC boys. The juniors won the percentage aggregate trophy for the second year running as well as the under 9s and under 13s age groups. Considering the size of TSS compared to our rival schools, coming away with two age group trophies at CIC as well as the GPS Premiership shows what a great group of swimmers The Southport School has.

From here on "closing down the gap" is something that the competition will have to work at, and TSS swimmers will be sure to not make it easy for them.

### TSS sailors buoyed by victories

Tom Cunich was the shining star of the summer break. Three major regattas in quick succession has put him in prime position to take one of the coveted Australian Team places for the 2013 Optimist World Championships to be held in Italy this coming July. All through the term Tom has travelled to lead-up events as far away as New Zealand in the quest to do his nation proud.

Tom wasn't alone in his efforts to fly the flag for TSS so decisively. Jackson Rees, Tom Ross and Zaymon Foulds-Cook raced in the Laser Queensland Championships with personal bests and George Morton competed around the country in the O'Pen Bic class.

These performances set the stage for first term sailing.

TSS remained undefeated in the Schools Fleet sailing competition, as George Morton and Luke Van Herwaarde dominated the Term 1 competition seizing victory against a fleet that was 30 strong. Jackson Rees and James Woodhouse were successful in winning the Queensland Schoolboy Championship in the Pacer class, taking 2nd in the state in Under 19s and claiming 5th in the All-age competition. This was a great result given that the focus of these boys this term had been on their individual classes ahead of the Sail Brisbane International Regatta over Easter.

Perhaps most importantly, TSS has begun the training process for over 50 boys in the sailing pathway. To have half of the 100-strong Boat Shed company as beginners is a testament to the growth in the sport both around the country and at TSS.

There's no doubt we are turning heads out on the water. Our instructors are considered world-class and the opportunity TSS provides for boys to get into boats at all levels of ability is second to none. Results are always great, but it's the enjoyment of boys getting on to the water that makes this sport worthwhile.

# Archives

### St Alban's Art Festival

by Diana Stonier

### What a \$30 donation from the OSA achieved!

1972 was to be a watershed in the life of Jim and Diana Stonier in many ways. Archbishop Felix Arnott had appointed the Rev. Jim Stonier to The Southport School. Having been the Master in Charge of the Ipswich Boys' Grammar Prep School before ordination, Jim was delighted to be back teaching as well as carrying out his ministry.

Jim was quite dismayed at the austerity and lack of art or sculptures within the school. Peter Abrahams, a former past student, told how he had to hide in the toilet to do his art when at school. In 1973, Jim and Diana, with Headmaster John Day's permission, set about to have an Art Competition among the boys. It was intended that it was to enable the boys to express some aspect of their Christian faith or teaching. There was to be a monetary prize given by the OSA of \$30 to inspire the boys! The winning painting was to become the property of the school, however, the winner was reluctant to give up his painting. He did eventually!

From such humble beginnings, the St Alban's Art Festival was to become a major social event in the TSS calendar and, indeed, the calendar of most artists. John Day's support enabled the offer of better prize money, and at John Millington's suggestion it was to become an acquisitive festival open to all artists, judged by some outstanding art critics, including Anthony Capon, Betty Churcher, Nancy Underhill and several others. Many parents, Isobel Thatcher, Shirley Entsch, Elspeth Barnes, Kay Rowley, Barbara Corrigan, Gloria Frail, Moira Lockhart and far too many to name without fear of leaving out some, worked tirelessly organising, cooking, hanging, arranging and selling items. Over the years, many parents and friends became part of the St Alban's Art Committee. The Festival was to sometimes include members of the Qld Woodcarvers' Guild as well as sheep shearing, weaving, pottery, photography and events that entertained as well as encouraged the development of cultural aspects in the school.

Jim's aim was to place the acquired paintings in each classroom. The Committee also began to purchase selective artworks that were placed in more secure areas. Over time, it was decided that the Festival could also include a section for sculptures. Kathleen Shillam's 'The Lost Sheep' was to become the first winner of this section. Other sculptures were also commissioned and placed in both the Senior and Junior School areas. In 2001, when Jim resigned from TSS, the sculpture that now stands outside the Music Centre was erected by the Art Committee in recognition of his work in establishing the St Alban's Art Festival. Sometime in the 1980s, a painting had been hung in the Senior Staff Common Room in thanks for Jim and Diana's work with the Festival also. This painting now seems to be missing.

It gives great pleasure to see such valuable art and sculptures grace the walls and grounds of the school. When everyone has forgotten whose idea and who worked to obtain these items is long lost, the art and sculptures will remain a lasting tribute to the endeavour of the many who supported and toiled for the St Alban's Art Festival so that the students of TSS could have a more attractive environment. Wow! This was \$30 well spent. Thanks, OSA!







# OBITUARIES

# FAREWELL DEAR FRIENDS

Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on and cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone... The OSA extends its sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the following Old Boys.



### Reginald Shelly Bond Baker (McK 36-41)

Excerpt from Eulogy written by Dr Tim Baker (Wal 70-77)...

You can take the boy out of the bush, but you can't take the bush out of the boy. That statement sums up my father. Dad was a gifted story teller; had what the psychologists would say is "a rational belief system". If you can't see it, hear it, smell it, taste it, touch it ... it doesn't exist, according to Dad. Dad was a perfectionist in many ways. He often took a long time to get his master designs around the house finished, but when they were finished

that were a marvel. He was an individual who had the gift of not really caring – or worrying – what people thought of him or his actions. But most of all he was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word. Three events defined who Dad was: Event one – both his parents died before Dad was seven years of age. He was subsequently sent off to boarding school at Angus's age. Event two – his wonderful, resilient and loving relationship with his wife, Suzanne. It doesn't actually get much better than Mum and Dad's relationship. Event three – his near-fatal skiing accident when I would have been about seven. Mum helped Dad walk and talk again. It was more that dutiful partnering; it was devoted love in action. Each of those events explains his character and the life he led...

Dad had a plethora of stories that he would roll out at the drop of a hat. I made the mistake of asking Dad what the scar was on his nose many years ago. He replied in a flash, "Ow that was when I was thrown down the giller". "What's the giller?", I asked, accepting the bait. He replied, "At TSS they use to initiate you by throwing you down the giller". The giller was a long, vertical cliff face filled with sharp rocks leading down to the bank of the Nerang River. It is where the Boat Shed is now. He explained that two boys would grab both of the arms of the first-year TSS boy and one boy would grab a leg each of the boy and hurl the boy head first over the cliff face. The scar on his nose was the result of that experience. Image that happening today!

The second story Dad told me about his experiences at school was incredibly unbelievable. The only reason I know it is believable is that he told it to me six times and each time it was exactly the same.

Dad was caught smoking in the mossy bush. The mossy bush was some bushland at the entrance of the school on Winchester Street. He was subsequently hauled up to the Headmaster's office. The Headmaster in 1939 was the Rev. Vernie Johnston, an English aristocrat. Dad tells the story like this: He asked Dad to drop his pants and then proceeded to hit Dad several times with a sandshoe on the backside and then several times with a cricket stump. I asked why a sandshoe and a cricket stump. Dad said that was what they used to do in those days to soften you up. The Headmaster than gave what is commonly referred to as "six of the best" with the cane. Quite an ordeal don't you think? But it gets better. As Dad got to his feet shaken, the Headmaster looking directly into the eyes of Dad said, "Baker, I think I have been a tad too harsh on you. You are to give me six strokes of the cane in return." I said, "What did you say, Dad?" Dad said he replied to the Headmaster in his self-effacing way, "Ow sir, I couldn't do that". The Headmaster replied immediately and forcefully, "Baker, if you don't oblige, I will give you another six". And Dad obliged. As you could imagine I asked Dad, "Did you hit him hard?" Dad said without a flinch, "I didn't miss him!"

According to Mum, Dad was a great skier. But as I mentioned earlier, he had a near-fatal skiing accident, losing control and hitting a tree head-on in Perisher Valley. He was in a coma for quite some time and had to learn to walk and talk again. But the way Dad tells the story, you would think he was going for a casual ski on a Sunday.

Dad was gifted with his hands. I didn't inherit that ability. No challenge too big. He was an inventor and a consummate handyman. A perfectionist in that regard. He designed a golfing putter that was way ahead of its time. Now all the great golfers use a similar putter...

Dad and I had a fascination with the NASA space program. At nine years of age I told Dad that I was going to write to NASA and ask them to send me some autographed copies of photos of the astronauts in the Apollo 11 mission to the moon. Dad initially thought this was ridiculous. I told him I was going to do it anyway. And we both sat down and he helped me craft a letter. A week later a parcel arrived in the mail and inside – to our great delight – were photos of all the astronauts in every Apollo mission, personally signed by all the astronauts. I think Dad wanted to hang them in his room, but Mum wouldn't have entertained that. That was a wonderful memory...

Dad died peacefully at approximately 1:50pm on Thursday, 4th October in the Gold Coast Hospital. He went on his own terms, which was typical of Dad; he'd had enough.



### Chevalier the Right Reverend Adrian Charles AM RFD ED GCSJ MMSJ ThL

Written by Reverend Canon Bruce Maughan...

Adrian Owen Charles was born in Warwick on 31st July 1926. He attended Slade School in Warwick. He studied for the Ministry at St Francis' Theological College in Brisbane and was made Deacon in 1951 and served his curacy at St Mark's Church, Warwick, where he was ordained Priest in 1952.

He was a Member of the Bush Brotherhood of St Paul 1952 to 1954, and became the School Chaplain and House Master of Delpratt House 1954 to 1956, where he was known as 'Brother Charles'.

He married Leonie in Surat, but they lived in the Clocktower rooms in Delpratt. Eventually they had two children, John and Jennie.

Following TSS, he was Vicar of Wondai, and then the first Rector of Christ Church, St Lucia (1958-1966), where he built the current church building. He was also the Senior Anglican Army Chaplain in Northern Command 1963-1966; after a time at St Augustine's College in Canterbury, UK he returned to become Rector of St Paul's, Ipswich 1966-72 and Rural Dean 1966-68.

In 1968 until 1972 he was appointed Archdeacon of Moreton. From 1972-73 he was the Chaplain at Christ Church Grammar School in Perth, WA; and then Dean of St James's Cathedral, Townsville, North Queensland from 1973 until 1977. He then returned to Brisbane to be the Rector of St David's, Chelmer 1977-83. 1978-83 he was the Senior Anglican Chaplain for 1 Military District, South Queensland, and was appointed Archdeacon assisting the Archbishop 1981-83.

From 1981 to 1996 he was the Warden of the Society of the Sacred Advent. In 1983 he was invested into The Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller. On 1st March 1983 he was consecrated Bishop in the Church of God, and became the Bishop of the Southern Region of the Diocese (1983-86), and then Bishop of the Western Region (1986-92). He was appointed the first Anglican Bishop to the Australian Defence Force 1988-1994.

More than a decade ago Leonie died: it was a sad loss for him. He lived on alone in their home in Sinnamon Park.

He served as the much loved and respected Prelate of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem.

He was appointed Member of the Order of Australia in 1994 (AM).

He was the first Chairman of The Southport School Council when Archbishop John Grindrod, as Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia, relinquished that role. (For that date see the Board in the Founder's Room in the Clocktower Building).

He retained a strong interest in TSS, and especially in Dellie. He attended a number of Delpratt House Suppers when Bruce Maughan was Housemaster, and also came to a number of Dellie House Annual Chapel Memorial Services. In recent years he both celebrated and preached. He presided at the funeral in the Chapel for Ron Pearson, formerly Master of The Junior School during Adrian's time as Chaplain. At the renovation of Delpratt House in 2011, he blessed the House and gave a memorable address (Bruce Maughan opened the renovated House). He loved his time at TSS and often spoke about it with affection, particularly of the boys of his time.

Adrian was modest and unassuming, a man of great achievement, kindness and compassion. He was highly respected and greatly loved. He lived the qualities of integrity, values, standards and ideals that he both articulated and lived out by his witness, and has left an example of service, commitment, faithfulness and loyalty. He was much admired for his wise counsel and practical common sense. His sermons were always thoughtful and inspiring, as well as being memorable.

His faith in God and our Lord was palpable, which he communicated with great sincerity. We give thanks for a life gloriously lived.

May he rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory.

# OBITUARIES



### Kevin John Davies (Del 51-54)

Kevin John Davies passed away aged 75, on 29 December, 2012 after a short battle with cancer. Known to many as KJ, KD, Kev or Big Kev, he was a giant of the Queensland surveying and mapping industry and introduced many far-reaching reforms commencing in the mid-1970s. His influence was felt on the whole Australian surveying and mapping scene.

Kevin was born in 1937. His parents were pragmatic country folk with strong family values and work ethic, which

they instilled in their four children. Kevin boarded at The Southport School from 12 to 17 where he was an excellent rower, good rugby player, in the army cadets and dux in mathematics. Holidays were spent on family farms at Kilkiven and Esk where he learnt bush skills, including fishing, which was to become a lifelong passion. With bush skills and an excellence in mathematics, it is no wonder that he became a surveyor.

At 19 he met Jill, his future wife of 52 years, and was besotted. Jill sensibly refused to marry him until he became qualified. With that incentive he became the youngest surveyor to ever qualify in Queensland – Such incentive must have developed his great tenacity of purpose. John Andrews, a lifelong friend and partner with him in their surveying firm, was also under a similar mandate to qualify as a surveyor from his future wife, Valda. They helped each other study through the article system and became licensed surveyors on the same day in 1959. Kevin and John remained lifelong friends, fellow members of the Liberal Party, and worked together during Kev's various appointments in government.

Kev exhibited the attributes of entrepreneur, optimist, technologist, reformer, politician and legislator as well as being the consummate professional. Above all he was a visionary. He also exhibited loyal friendship, gruffness, humour, compassion and love of family. He never saw problems, only solutions. He was held in high respect both within and outside his chosen profession.

Like all young surveyors of his time, his first years were spent on extensive field trips and getting mud on his boots. In his early career he travelled countless miles in the outback. A photo shows his team leaving Birdsville in an old army 6x6 towing a caravan and water trailer where the back of the truck had been made into two storeys; the top storey was for a herd of goats to provide meat for his team.

Kevin was instrumental in setting up the Queensland Association of Consulting Surveyors, which later spread to all Australian States. This body had a significant impact on improving the interests and capabilities of the private sector, and also in influencing policies associated with surveying and mapping. This was the start of his many innovations and reforms.

In about 1978 Kevin realised he could best foster innovation from inside government and he was appointed Deputy Surveyor General. Few could lay claim to the following:- President, Institution of Surveyors Queensland; President, Institution of Surveyors Australia; Inaugural Chairman, Association of Consulting Surveyors Queensland; Inaugural Chairman, Association of Consulting Surveyors Australia; President, Surveyors Board of Queensland; Deputy Surveyor General; Surveyor General; Director General, Department of Geographic Information; Director General, Public Works and Housing; Deputy Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology; President, the Queensland Council of Professions. There were many other positions, some with an Australia-wide focus.

Kev was not a mere collector of positions, he was a doer with a formidable intellect. He passionately believed that the status quo could be improved and achieved in major leaps. Strategically he would look 20 years ahead. He was the right man at the right time and achieved much both for his profession and for the Queensland public service. These days it would probably be impossible for a single person to achieve the same amount.

Big Russ Hinze once remarked that since the formation of the new Department of Surveys and Valuation, with Kevin involved, more had been done in local government mapping in four years than in the previous 50 years.

Those who worked closely with Kev, and got to know him well, observed the human qualities of the man behind that gruff, sometimes grumpy, professional exterior, exacerbated by the bushy eyebrows. He gave loyalty and friendship to his friends, and love to his family. To many he was really a big Caramello, a hard external appearance with a soft inside. His formidable intellect was always ticking away. He was the instigator of robust debate wherever he could find a willing partner. He thrived on good opposing arguments and gave and expected no quarter.

Kev's life was not all work and no play. His great love was fishing, with golf coming probably second. At one time he owned a racehorse. There is a story of how, with his good friend Ian Keilar, he put his mathematical skills to good use playing poker. The exploits of Kevin Davies the fisherman are legendary. He established the annual Swains Fishing Trip about 50 years ago on the Great Barrier Reef and only missed one. He was known to fish throughout the night on occasions, with evenings spent with a rum and coke with his fellow fisherfolk. The Swains crew took some of the 2012 catch and had a great lunch with Kev, his family and some friends on the BBQ at the Wesley Hospital just before he died. Kevin also founded the Moreton Island Fishing and Leisure Club about 40 years ago, to which he often brought visiting VIPs for "the experience". Kevin was also a long-standing member of the Fraser Island Gang and participated for over 30 years in the annual taylor trip, where he was known to sit around the campfire with a rum and provide comments about political realities and what made the world go round. Kevin was also one of the colourful members of that colourful club The Johnsonian, where many surveying functions, formal and informal, were held in the 1970s and 1980s.

Kevin was a strong family man. He and Jill had five children and they also largely brought up one grandchild. He was a strong patriarch to his family and kept in close touch with them, even though they were spread around the globe. He was intensely interested in their doings and proud of their achievements. His single-minded focus, in the last decade of his life, in caring for his beloved wife Jill, stricken with dementia, was an inspiration to everyone. He undertook this with the same passion and vigour as everything else he undertook in his life. During this time his daily routine include a 5am cycling stint on the riverside bike path from St Lucia to the city where he would have breakfast, meet every now and then with friends, and then cycle back to prepare for his day in looking after Jill in the nearby nursing home. In typical style he also assisted the nursing home and others in it.

His wife Jill, his partner of 52 years, died a mere four months before Kevin. He is survived by his children, Helen, Elizabeth, Katherine, Kevin, Ian and Andrew, and his many grandchildren.

Vale from the industry he did so much for; his legacy will last a long time; he showed what could be achieved and how one determined individual can make a major difference.

At the church service the final piece of music was, appropriately, "I did it my way".

### **Reginald James Hayes (Del 35-36)**

has recently passed away. David MacAllister Henderson (Tho 1950) of Ascot, Brisbane, passed away August 18th, 2012 at age 77.

### Kenneth William Lehane (Tho 44-46)

Fleur, Kenneth's wife, advised of his passing in November 2012. Kenneth was 83 years of age.

### James Richard (Potts) McIlwraith (Tho 55-61)

Eulogy supplied by Lance Look

...I would like to thank Jan, Margo and Tina for the special privilege of getting up here and talking today about Richard McIIIwraith, better known as Potts.

I am not sure whether to describe him as remarkable or just different. Suffice to say, he was both.

Potts was born in Maryborough on the 7th March, 1943. Potts had two siblings: Brother Tony and sister Suzi. Unfortunately Tony is not well enough to be with us today. The McIIIwraith family had extensive involvement in the timber industry on Fraser Island and both Gordon Douglas and myself had many memorable stays in the McIIIwraith home after leaving school.



Potts started at TSS in 1954 at the age of 11 and I arrived two years later in 1956 aged 12. Having known Potts for 57 years I feel able to share a few memories with you all.

The one outstanding feature about Potts was his incredibly retentive memory and his vast knowledge of all things important to him. Like most kids in that era at TSS, academic brilliance was something you only read about in books.

During his years at TSS Potts specialised in tennis, terrorising masters and unfortunate "newies" in the junior classes. Our year group, to this day, remains an incredibly closeknit group, with up to 15 of us meeting every couple of months for lunch. They were all shocked and saddened to hear of his passing last week. Potts was a great communicator and every Christmas we always received a lengthy annual report on family and friends.

Of all the fond memories I have of our years at TSS I have highlighted just a couple.

In the Senior years Potts developed a love of all things horsey. After studying the form all week he decided that the next Saturday was the day to be at The Southport Races. Potts donned all his finest racing attire; long check trousers and his pork-pie hat, with the form guide stuck in his back pocket. He must have looked like he was off to the Melbourne Cup. He just failed to factor in the fact that Pick Pearson and Don Taylor, Headmaster and Senior Master in the Junior School, were pencillers for the bookies. Sure enough Potts rushed around the corner flush into the two masters. BUSTED!

Ron Pearson simply asked Potts if he had a "special" in the last race. Nothing more was ever said. The mark of a great Headmaster we all loved and respected and also feared. The other great event came at our 30th Old Boys' Reunion for which we must all bear the responsibility for appointing Potts as our Year Group Spokesman. The 50 and 40-year group speakers all highlighted their various members achievements; Members of Parliament, Rhode Scholars, Generals in the armed services, etc. OBITUARIES

### James Richard (Potts) McIlwraith (Tho 55-61) *continued.*

God bless his soul, Potts delivers this 10-minute speech about who was doing what to the House maids and who was sitting in the fig tree outside their quarters. You could see the Headmaster and all the guests of honour trying to disappear under the table. But that was Potts. Potts, to the very last day, always maintained that his school days at TSS were the best days of his life. I hope that Jan and the girls beg to differ.

Potts's post-school career reads like a series of "The Outback Wrangler". Like all kids in the 1960s you either went home to the property to jackeroo or you had to find a career elsewhere. Potts decided he was going to become a doctor and started at Queensland University. Being slightly academically challenged, like most of us, he had to start in physiotherapy. Fortunately this career choice was short lived. Can anyone imagine Potts's bedside manner had he become a doctor?

Potts left uni and headed out west jackarooing. I am not sure how long this lasted, but I can just see Potts trying to sweet talk a couple of cranky old cows into the yards on his trusty old night horse. The mane on the horse would have stood on end at the verbal tirade that would have been unleashed.

Eventually he decided to put his vast knowledge of all things rural to good use and acquired a block at River Heads in Maryborough and grew passionfruit.

Throw into the list of careers:

- Stint with BP in Toowoomba and Gympie
- Manager of interstate trucking company for Doug Hall
- A term in Sydney with a wine importer
- And a term with Strammit in Toowoomba

Potts finally made the best decision of his life. He married Jan in 1971 at Yandilla – Jan's family home. Jan was Potts' second great love after TSS. They had a wonderful marriage of 42 years. Potts lived for Jan, Margo, Mercedes and Betina. In 1992 they converted the house in Tourist Road into a very successful B&B, winning many awards along the way. When Potts's health issues surfaced they retired from the B&B lifestyle and focused more time on Potts's third love – bridge. They say you can pick your bridge partners, but not your family. Potts chose Roy Reynolds.

In spite of the fact that Potts repeated Sub Junior and Big Roy not winning too many academic awards at school either, this pair did manage to set the bridge community alight in the Toowoomba area. Potts loved his bridge and continued with it to the end. At least twice recently we tried to visit, but played second fiddle to a bridge tournament with Roy. Finally, with his health deteriorating and almost confined to a wheelchair and a gas bottle, I thank the Lord above we managed to gather a few close friends on that last Tuesday and had a memorable lunch and the opportunity to spend about three hours of hilarious reminiscing about the good old days together. Thanks again to Jan for such a wonderful lunch and a time we will never forget.

At about 3pm Potts told us that we would have to clear out as he could not laugh anymore. I don't know if Potts organised it, but I could not imagine a better farewell and I know in my heart Potts would not have tolerated a lingering end in an ICU while inflicting stress and strain on Jan and the girls. I have been privileged to have known Potts for 57 years and counted him as a dear friend. To Jan, Margo, Mercedes and Betina, keep your chins up and be assured that Potts will be in our memories for ever.

We have all lost one of the true characters of our time.

### David John Meekin (McK 38-40)

passed away on January 29th, 2013 at age 89.

#### Samuel Arthur Pollard (Del 45-48)

Sam passed away on Thursday, April 18th. His wife advised the OSA of his passing and that he loved his school and one of his highlights was attending the Older Old Boys' assembly.

#### George Ricketts (Del 40-42)

Andrew, George's son, wrote... "It is with great sadness that I write to advise that my father, George, passed away peacefully on January 26, 2013, at the age of 88. I believe he left school at the end of 1942 to join the RAAF. I know that he had a wonderful time while he was at the School and had many fond memories of those times."



John Carlile Stuart Roach (Tho 39-40) of Greenacre passed away November 22, 2011, aged 87.

# **NEW OSA MERCHANDISE**

Available for all members to purchase from the TSS Old Boys' website – www.tssoldboys.com.au

### Old Southportonians' Association Rings



jostens

Rings from \$225/\$495

For the first time in our history, the OSA Council has approved the commissioning of two OSA signet rings especially for our community members. The rings feature a fully detailed three-dimensional accurate representation of The Old Southportonians' Association crest, set in your choice of large and small oval-shaped rings. The two unique styles make the beautiful rings quite distinctive and recognisable among Old Boys and we have no doubt will be worn with pride among our community.

To make the rings even more significant for you, they can be engraved with the House and Graduation year. There is no extra charge for this option. Your OSA ring comes with a lifetime warranty, covering the following: Resize your ring free of charge (if in resizable condition) – Restore the original finish free of charge – Any defect or blemish in materials or workmanship, your ring will be either repaired or replaced free of charge (this offer is void if work is performed on your ring other than by *Jostens*).

### Old Southportonians' Association Cufflinks



Cufflinks \$59 (boxed pair)

### **OSA Hats and Ties**



OSA Hats and Ties are also still available. For more information, contact the OSA Office on 07 5531 9803.



### OSA Key Tag

The OSA Council this year have commissioned a Key Tag for the class of 2012. This is to help remind them to keep in contact and use the resources the OSA provides to all Old Boys. If you are interested in ordering a Key Tag, please contact the OSA Office for more information. Note: Minimum orders are required.

# Old Boys' Weekend 2013



### This year, a weekend of activities is planned from 26 - 27 July 2013 Below is your reunion program and weekend booking form

Friday 26 Ju	ly
10.00am	Older Old Boys' Morning Tea - Memorial Room*
10.30 - 11.15am	Older Old Boys' Family Chapel Service - St Albans*
11.30am	Older Old Boys' Assembly - Annand Theatre*
	* BY INVITATION ONLY
12.00 noon	OSA McWhirter Cup/TSS Foundation Golf Day Bookings essential
1.00pm	Older Old Boys' Lunch - Dining Hall*
5.30 for 6.00pm	After the Golf Presentation there will be informal drinks at Lakelands Golf Club – Cash Bar
7pm	Young Old Boys' Drinks - Fuel Bar, Chevron Island - Cash Bar
Saturday 27 J	uly
7.30–9.00am	Delpratt Breakfast - Hosted by Karel Bos, Delpratt Housemaster
10am	Morning Tea - Hosted by the Headmaster and Mrs Wain at the "Old Gym Cafe" (Behind Delpratt) - No charge

11am	Rediscovery Tour of the School Meet outside Old Gym Café
11am - 2.00pm	Family Barbecue Lunch Cash Bar - Old Gym Café Special Guest Singer, Dominic Buckland (Kai 10)
2.05pm	Rugby Home Fixture – TSS vs IGS Village Green, TSS Opposite Centenary Centre
6.30pm	Pre-dinner Drinks and Canapés Old Gym Café
7.00pm	Official Year Group Photographs - Old Gym Café Class of '63, '73, '83, '93, '03
	Reunion Dinner, Dining Hall
8.00–11.30pm	Pre-dinner drink, finger food, two-course dinner and glass of wine included – Cash Bar. Lounge suit. Partners welcome.

### BOOKINGS AND PAYMENT ESSENTIAL – Please return by Friday, 19 July 2013

Fax 07 5591 2124, email osa@tss.qld.edu.au or post details below or pay online at www.tssoldboys.com.au

Full Name
Preferred Name for name tag
House and Years at TSS
Address
Phone (ah)
(mobile)
Email
Partner's Full Name (if attending with you)
Payment Method Cheque Visa Master Card
Card Number*
Name of Card Holder CVV Number Expiry Date

Signature

\*Merchant fees apply.

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TSS Foundation/OSA McWhirter For bookings, payment and details contac email: gerry.northausen@tss.qld.edu.a	t Gerry Nor	thausen on
SATURDAY 27 JULY	NO. ATTEND	COST
Delpratt Breakfast \$25 per adult Children		\$ No Charge
Morning Tea		No Charge
Rediscovery Tour		No Charge
Family BBQ Lunch - Old Gym Café \$26 per adult \$15 per child (13 years and under) Cash Bar		\$
Reunion Dinner – Dining Hall Pre-Dinner Drinks & Canapés - Old Gym Café \$99 per adult Limited seating		\$
Please tick if you would like information regarding the pre-purchase of a class pl must be made directly to photographer	hoto - NOT	E: Payment
Total		\$

Old Southportonians' Association

Send payment and completed booking form to: OSA Coordinator, The Southport School, Winchester Street, Southport Qld 4215

Tel: 07 5531 9803 Fax: 07 5591 2124