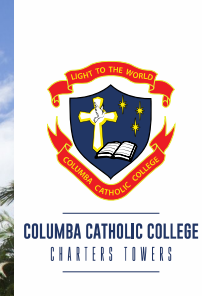


Incorporating Past Students from
St Columba's School,
St Mary's College & Mt Carmel College

DECEMBER 20

Past Student News



Dear Past Students,

What an interesting year we have had. It certainly meant that we all had to find our sense of community in very different ways, due to COVID-19. In all of this, we have had many exciting reunions and visitors to the College. It is always a delight for me to see you, hear your stories and share in the memories and feelings of past students when you return to Columba, where things have changed physically in parts, but the belonging and sense of community remains. I have a statement that I regularly use with students and families - it is Columba Pride. It is the same pride that I see when past students come back to visit - the Mt Carmel, St Mary's and St Columba's Pride - all now forged in tradition now as Columba Pride. So, I thank you for your contributions - past and present - to making this College what it is today.

I thank those past students who have donated their time, efforts and items for our Museum and urge you to contact the College and speak with Mrs Trish Phillips - Museum Curator, if you are searching for any information on College history or lost friends, or have any items to donate. The Museum is open every Friday for visitors, however, if you are travelling through, please drop in and we will gladly open it up for you and show you around. Of particular note are the gifts from Geoff Casey (1967 - 1971) of a Mount Carmel tea towel and an Australian light horseman book for our Remembrance room and Geoff Ables' (1964 - 1971) father Stan Able's (teacher 1972 - 1977) - pewter mug from 1974.

We welcome back to Charters Towers, past student (2005 - 2016) Lachlan Harrison, now Charters Towers Amateur Swimming Club Coach; as well as guest speaker at the Mt Carmel campus Awards Night - Declan Collins (1998 - 2008), now a dentist in Townsville.

We celebrated the wonderful achievement of old boy and much loved Priest, now residing in Mt Isa - Fr Mick Lowcock. Fr Mick was awarded a Queensland Great on Queensland Day this year, for his services to the Catholic Church and our midwest region. Congratulations Fr Mick!

I am under no illusion that the College stands on the legacy built by its forebears and thus, I thank you and wish you a blessed, safe and holy Christmas. I hope you enjoy this edition of our 'Past Student News'.

I look forward to meeting many more of you, in 2021 if you manage a trip back to Charters Towers. I offer you a date claimer for 2022, where a series of celebrations are being organised to celebrate 140 years of St Mary's College and 120 years of Mt Carmel College. This coincides with 150 years of Charters Towers. 2022 will be a wonderful year. More information to come. Let's make 2021 a successful one first!

Best wishes



Candi Dempster

FOCUS ON Fr. Mick Lowcock



Mount Isa parish priest and past student Fr Mick Lowcock was named a Queensland Great on Queensland Day 2020.

For some it was because of his ministry achievements like accompanying young people to World Youth Day, for others it was his social work supporting employment opportunities in Indigenous communities, and for everyone else it was just how far he travelled to bring them closer to Jesus. Fr Lowcock was named a Queensland Great by Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk as part of Queensland Day celebrations on June 6.

"It's all a bit embarrassing really, when I think of all the other priests and religious who pioneered the mid-west and western Queensland, they didn't have the luxuries we have today," Fr Lowcock said. "I remember a story from Fr Tom O'Dwyer who said during winter they had no hot water and he used to shower around 3pm in the afternoon because the pipes had had a bit of sun and the water was warm."

Townsville Bishop Tim Harris said the news that Fr Lowcock was named a Queensland Great "affirms the extraordinary work and vision of a man who has never thought about himself but rather who has devoted his priestly life to those in society who deserve our special care and consideration". "Fr Mick, as I have said on previous occasions, gives the Catholic Church a good name. "His outreach to our indigenous brothers and sisters is renowned and he holds their trust and respect. "His advocacy on their behalf is legendary and they have no greater friend." The big issue that called to Fr Lowcock was the "extent of poverty and how difficult it is to get out of the cycle of poverty".

The Queensland Day honour focused on his local community work like North West Queensland Indigenous Catholic Social Services Limited, an organisation he established to serve those in need. Fr Lowcock said NWQICSS employed more than 70 Indigenous people and they worked with clients who often went through similar circumstances. Poverty was all around him. "Here (poverty is) on your radar, people are living in the church yard," he said. "You can't go anywhere without seeing poverty in a way. "So to me that's been a gift I always say, they've been a gift to us to enable things to happen. "You can't have people in your own backyard struggling and not do anything about it."

Fr Lowcock's words were a reminder of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's maxim, "Never see a need without doing something about it", a quote he lived by. He said St Mary MacKillop was a "real inspiration for me out here". "I think because we're living in Cloncurry, which is part of the area, which was the last foundation of Mary MacKillop... you sort of live in a whole Mary MacKillop history in that sense," he said. "Certainly being the first Australian saint, she's made an impact on me."

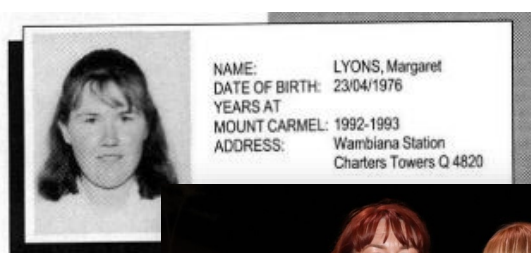
Working with people in need had grown his faith, too. "It makes you trust in God a lot more because you don't know what God's got up his sleeve next," Fr Lowcock said. "You've just got to trust God that whatever happens is going to happen. "What God wants, (and) how can we allow that to happen – sometimes we're on the mark and sometimes we're not." He said being named a Queensland Great was good for priests and religions in Queensland too.

"It's a recognition after all we've been through, with all the negative publicity, it's good to occasionally to get some positive publicity," he said. "Not for myself but for the whole institution of church – it's good for the church to be recognised as doing something very positive."

(<https://catholicleader.com.au>)



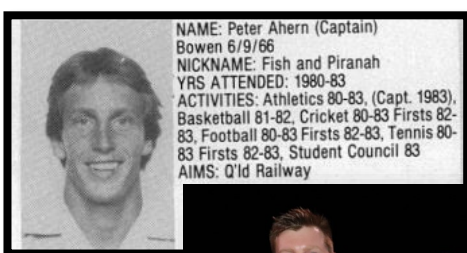
Year 12 Graduation 2020 and Children of past students



Past student Margaret Kingham (Lyons) celebrating her daughter Megan's year 12 graduation from CCC



Children of past students secondary



Peter Ahern is pictured celebrating his daughter Isabelle's graduation, along with his son Nathaniel who is also a past student.



Children of past students primary

Year 6 Graduation 2020



Kate Lyons
Address: "Junction Creek",
MS2
Charters Towers
4820
DOB: 16/03/81
Years Attended: 1994-1998

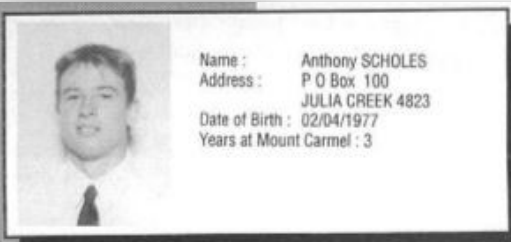
Kate Lyons (Flood) 94 - 98 and
Albie Flood 95 - 96 pictured at
daughter Grace's Year 6
Graduation



TONY MOODY
Address: "Square Post"
Mingela
4816
DOB: 07/10/1984
Years attended: 1997-2001

Tony Moody
97 - 2001

Celebrating with
Daughter Biancha-Ann



Name : Anthony SCHOLLES
Address : P O Box 100
JULIA CREEK 4823
Date of Birth : 02/04/1977
Years at Mount Carmel : 3



Anthony Scholes 92 - 94 enjoying
daughter Grace's Graduation

Katherine Walkey (Ford)
92 - 96 is all smiles with
her son Ethan



JUST MARRIED



Jenalee Hopkins (2007 - 2011), married Ryan Tam on the 1/8/2020



Samantha Bell (2002- 2011), married James Apps on the 1/8/2020



Jessie Sciacca, (2002 - 2011) married Tremayne Jones on the 25/10/ 2020



Chris Briody (2002 - 2006) married Sarah Miller in Maleny on the 18/9/2020

WITH SYMPATHY

Paige Gallon

2016 - 2019

Mackenzie Guild

2019 - 2020

Patrick Quinn

1935 -1938

Eda Sartorisi (Vella)

1946 to 1948.

Norma Powell (Teichmann)

1943 - 1945

Shane Busiko

1980 - 1984

FOCUS ON Fr. David Lancini

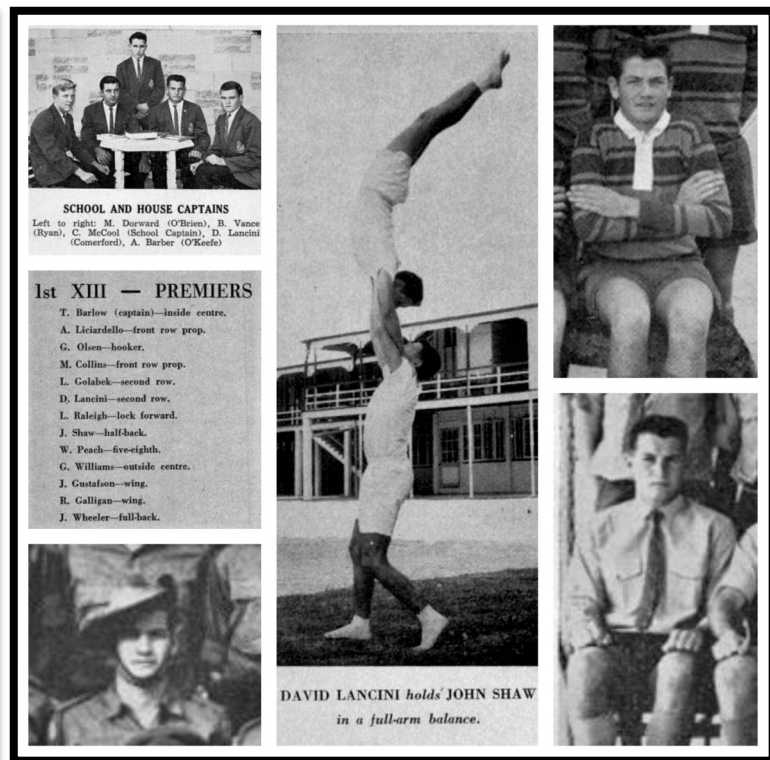
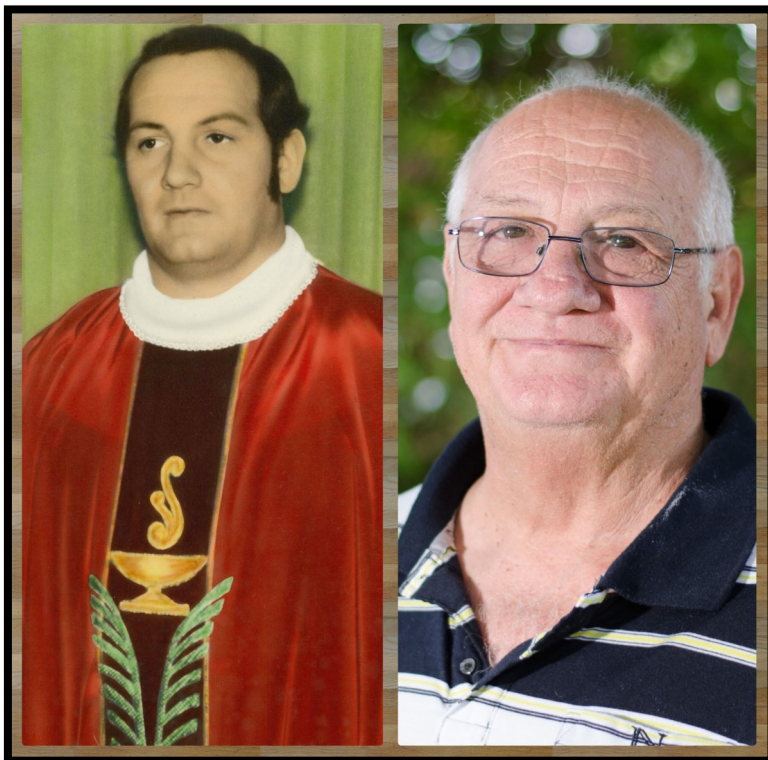
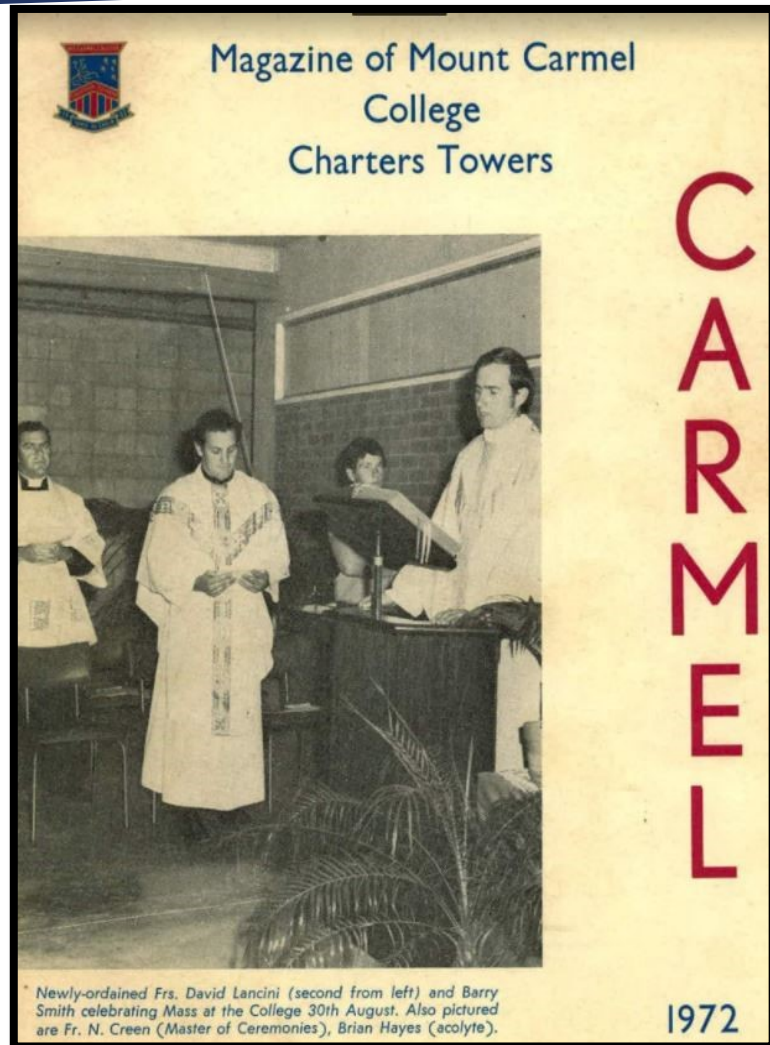
We are so proud to call Fr Dave Lancini a past student, mentor, friend and advisor to the College and Parish over so many years, and wish him the very best in his retirement after 49 years.

Fr Dave attended Mount Carmel College from 1961 - 1965 (grade 8 - 12), where he was a keen footballer, a member of Our Lady's Sodality, the Gymnastics team & the Cadet Corps. He was also the Comerford House boarding boys captain

After graduation he entered the Provincial Seminary at Banjo to complete his studies for the Priesthood. Father Dave was ordained in Halifax on the 11th of August 1972.

His strength of conviction, good humour, dependable spirit and strong personal and practical faith are legacies that he will leave with us.

Thanks for the memories Fr Dave.



Reunions

Have you started to organize your reunions for next year?

We can help to host any reunions you may be planning.

Leavers from

2011—it's your 10 year anniversary

2006—it's your 15 year anniversary

2001—it's your 20 year anniversary

We invite all our past students to follow or contact us:

Facebook:

[https://](https://www.facebook.com/ColumbaCatholicCollegeChartersTowers)

www.facebook.com/ColumbaCatholicCollegeChartersTowers

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ColumbaCatholicCollege>

Email:

Office@columba.catholic.edu.au

Online:

<https://www.columba.catholic.edu.au/>

Year 12 - 2011



Roll Call—Year 12

YEAR LEVEL COORDINATOR: Mr Andrew Butler

FRONT ROW: Courtney Hembrow, Zahnee Stout, Elizabeth Reynolds, Lauren Briody, Claudee Rowe, Ammar Mahmood, Christin Mathew, Amy Meehan, Michayla Allan, Jaimi Johnston, Josie Stainey, Georgia Brown

SECOND ROW: Thuan Truong, Yanni Sorensen, Shayne Teece, Madison Marshall, Louisa Rhoden, Erin Morris, Kahl Adlard, Courtney Kennedy, Gidgett Santowski-Scott, Quinton Miller, Robert Hiskop

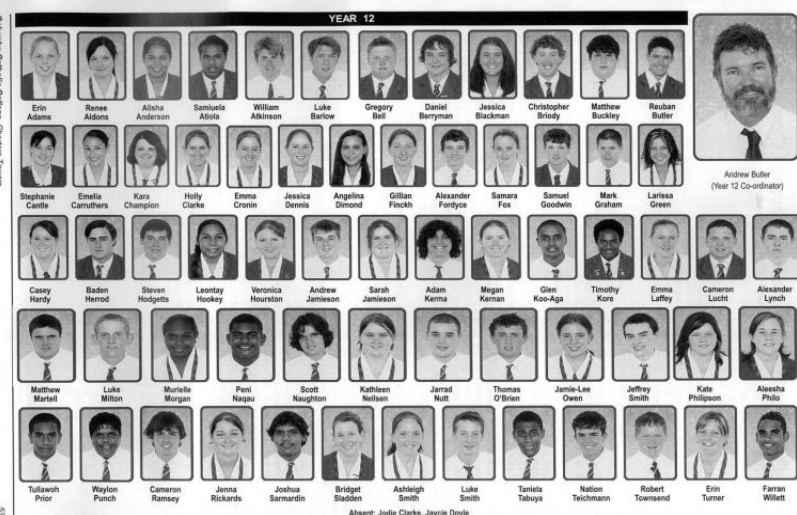
THIRD ROW: Scott Bell, Justin Yung, Luke Goodwin, Daniel Buck, Lochlan Wagner, Jarad Clements, Matthew Douglas, Morgan McLaughlin, Wesley Fegan, Stuart Fordyce, Louis Whitney

FOURTH ROW: Marnee Clements, Kathryn Kirby, Michelle Hermann, Anika McMahon, Brianna Harvey-Torkington, Madison Lewis, Emma Davis, Jenalee Hopkins, Lacie Clarke, Jessica Wilkie, Jordan Barnes, Amber-Jane Whelan, Morgan Toomey

FIFTH ROW: James Graham, Mitchell Burton, Karl Morrison, Jack Ever, Lawrence Adeville, Ivory Barath, Brodie Geisel, Zachary Sellars, Tye Smith, Peo Nona, Michael Griffin

ABSENT: Adrienne Connolly, Matthew Price, Kelly Williams, Rowan Williams

Year 12 - 2006



COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

YEAR 12

Row 6: MURRAY STRINGER, CHRIS BUSHELL, AARON BELL, NORMAN JENKIN, TY MCCPHERSON, ANTHONY DOYLE, TRISTAN GOULD, CHRIS FERGUSON, DEREK HICKS, TONY MOODY, JOSEPH DUNCOMBE, TY OSBORNE, MICHAEL BAUDINO, LEON O'NEILE

Row 5: AARON GALLAGHER, JASON NIELSEN, STEPHEN NIELSEN, RORY BLACKBURN, BILLY-MAC SULLIVAN, FABIAN JENKIN, BROOK MCGILNCHIEY, TY RITSON, BEN BERNETTO, RHYSS LOWE, PETER COLEMAN, GARY LUKE NAUGHTON, GAVIN FRANZMANN

Row 4: KIERAN WHERRY, STACEY HICKMOTT, KATIE ROBINSON, DANNI STEWART, JOSEPHINE MCCOSKER, KATIE-MARIAE MORRIS, KIRSTY WRIGHT, NATALIE JAMIESON, NICOLE MANASSERO, CARLY HOWELL, CLAIRE REPPLE, JANET GOLU, KRISTY PATTERSON, TIFFANY SIMMS, SEAN MERCER

Row 3: JESSE ATKINSON, LIAM WHITFIELD-JONES, FRED DUMABA, CLARENCE HULL, LOCHLAN RUSSELL, TYRELL BLACKMAN, CLIVE DOYLE, JOSHUA CHRISTENSEN, DANIEL HOCH, NEIL ARNOLD, CHRIS PATTERSON, DOUGLAS TONKS, KEAGAN SANDS, NATHAN BARNES

Row 2: BROWNWYN KERR, EUNICE BOKALEN, ELISA MOTEGLI, TAMERA STEVENSON, CASSANDRA UREN, SHANAN FRASER, BROOKE QUARTERMAINE, REBECCA FERGUSON, LISA KELLY, NATASHA KAES, ANGELA CHAPPEL, MELISSA ROGERS, MAJELLA BARRY, HELEN GILCHRIST, KIRSTIE GLENWRIGHT

Row 1: GREGORY DAMIEN, BROOKE FOX, ROBERT CHAPLAIN, MELLISSA BAKER, ALEX SOLO, LEIA MITCHELL, GLENN PETERSEN, KIMBERLEY ARNOLD, SCOTT SCHOO, GEMMA STRINGER, DANIEL BARNES, CORINNA JACKSON

ABSENT: CHRIS SMITH

Year 12 - 2001



The Class of 1979/80 hosted their school reunion the weekend of the 12th of September.

This was the first Co-Ed class to attend Mount Carmel College

We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere. - Tim McGraw

Alumni visits and calls

Mr. Evio Contenati (1947 - 1950)

We were delighted to welcome back Mr Contenati & his family to the College. Evio was the Senior Dux of 1950 and after his tour of the school, left us this wonderful message.

"After 70 years the change in my old school is extraordinary. I'm sure Columba meets every requirement of a modern Education unit.

The students of the future are in good hands."



Mr. Owen Schmidt (Teaching staff 1979 - 1995) caught up with past student **Warren Phillips** (1973 - 1984) at the College in June.



John standing in front of one of the tree's that he and his brother planted during their time as boarders at MCC, over 50 years ago,

Phil Cook (1963 - 1967)

John Williams (1964 - 1968)



Thank you for your call

Due to Covid-19 making travel difficult, it has been lovely to catch up & reminisce with past students over the phone during the course of this year.

John McNamara: 1952—1956

Geoff Casey: 1967—1971

Thank you also to Geoff who has kindly donated his MCC tea-towel and a book about the Light Horseman for our remembrance room. Both are proudly on display in our museum.

Geoff Able: 1964—1971

Geoff rang and then visited the school to donate his father Stan's pewter cup, which was given to him in 1974 by the MCC tennis teams he coached that year. Stan was also a teacher at the college and was instrumental in building a new Manual arts building with his students in 1972

(Excerpt from the 1973 MCC Year book)

"The foundations were poured towards the end of the third term, 1972. The work was carried out by lads in Grades 9 and 10, under the supervision of Mr. Stan Abel, the Manual Arts teacher. The first term of 1973 was the beginning of Stage 2, when the framework was cut and erected. We had outside help from a plumber in laying the roof. This was an eye-opener for some of the boys who assisted in laying corrugated iron 37' long, with no ridge capping used. The lads were now really keen to see the building completed. Outside sheeting was installed and also window sills and metal louvres, finally came the front door and the building was ready for occupation for Grades 8, 9 and 10. Moving day went like clockwork, benches were installed, tools were placed in position, machinery was carried over, and the Metalwork section, a new department, was made ready for top gear. Mr E. Nicolson, new to the staff, supervised the metalwork installation and got the subject under way.

Andrew Tynan- 1965, James Pett - 1974 and Maureen McCloskey (Peach) 63 - 66 also dropped by and said hello.

ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day was commemorated across the College in a very unique way this year, and again, the Columba spirit of community and tradition was evident. At each campus, ceremonies were held for students of essential workers; many students from all around the region engaged in the RSL's 'light up the dawn' initiative dressed in college uniform from their driveways and homes; and a dawn service, led by the College Leaders and St Mary's Campus Leaders was live streamed. The ode was read, the last post was played, flags lowered, a minute's silence honoured and a wreath laid at the cenotaph in town. It was a day to commemorate and was done in a very special way this year with dignity, integrity and pride. Columba has 65 known past students who engaged in WW1 and 225 in WW2. We honoured them and all who have served or continue to serve, for our freedom.



Michael Lindsay leads the way on the bagpipes followed by Callan Solari, Peri Naqua, Luke Barlow and Mitchell Steele on drums.

ANZAC Day 2004



MCC Rifle party ANZAC Day 1975



MCC Band ANZAC Day 1968



St. Mary's students ANZAC Day 1955



CCC Students ANZAC Day 1998



CCC Students and Mrs Dempster ANZAC Day 2020

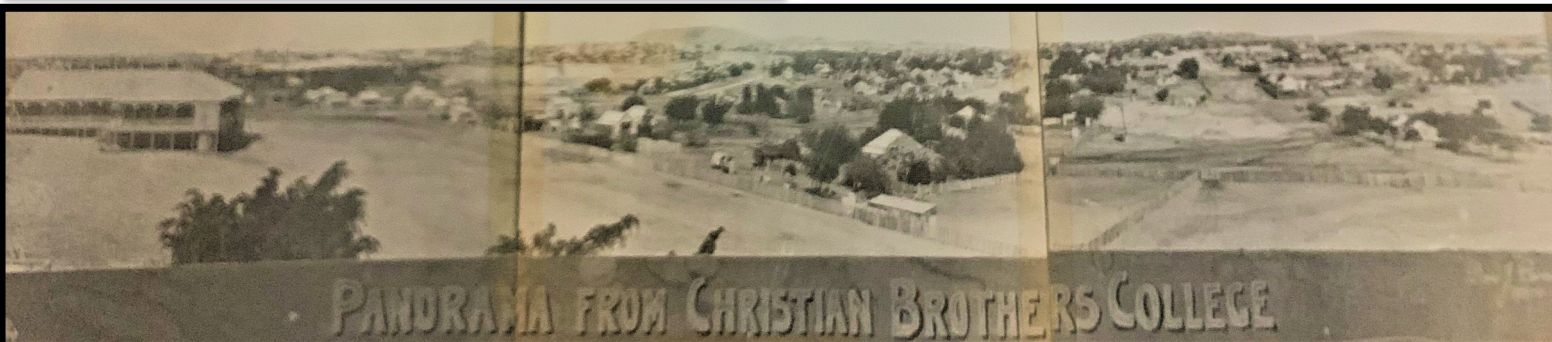
Looking Back 1920 - 2020



P Punzell

In February 1920, The Public Examination results once again constituted a record. Seven passed the University Senior, with Peter Punzell who finished his career at Carmel as Dux of the College and champion senior athlete, obtaining a University Exhibition - third place in Queensland.

(Br B. J. Beatson cfc 'and they came to share the vision')



Merry Christmas



From the staff & students of CCC

