



Columba Catholic College

Learn, Aspire & Achieve

PAST STUDENTS' NEWSLETTER

(Incorporating Past Students from St Columba's School,
St Mary's College & Mt Carmel College)
NOVEMBER 2012

Dear Past Students,

2012 is now very quickly drawing to a close and a great deal has happened this past 12 months. At this stage last year, we were talking about the dreadful start of the year for which Cyclone Yasi and the widespread flooding were responsible. I am happy to report that this year was quite different and we were able to focus more on the important educational issues that face every school.

Of course, the implementation of the Australian Curriculum began in earnest in 2012. New syllabii are in operation in the first four subjects English, Mathematics, Science and History. This year also saw us move into the newly renovated and remodelled Administration Block and Library on the Mt. Carmel Campus. At the moment, work is continuing on the conversion of part of the Ridley Dormitory into a new Music Suite as Stage 1 of the conversion to the Performing Arts Complex.

Students on the St. Mary's Campus are enjoying the luxury of their new library, amenities block and covered multi-purpose area. This year, our Spring Fair was held on the St. Mary's Campus with all concerned declaring it a huge success in a wonderful venue. The new covered area proved to be the perfect central point. It also featured in the Reunion weekend as the venue for our Reunion dinner. It is great to have such a wonderful facility for such an important event. Thanks go to the Reunion Organising Committee who put in so much time in preparation for the successful weekend.

We are at present upgrading our IT Network software and facilities over both campuses to enable full use of the 500+ computers we now have at our students' and staffs' finger tips. This link between the campuses is soon to be upgraded with Optic Air - the newest networking link technology just developed in the U.S.

Our application for funding to renovate, remodel and modernise the Mt. Carmel Campus Kitchen/Dining Room Complex has passed through the early stages of the approval process. We are hoping to hear about the outcome in the next few weeks.

Last week, I sat with our architects to finalise our Block Grant Authority application for the 2013 round to completely remodel and modernise the Good Samaritan Residence (our Girls' Boarding building) on the St. Mary's Campus. This is a \$3.6 million dollar project that would make an enormous difference to the quality of life for our girl boarders and continues the modernisation of all our boarding facilities that the Ryan upgrade commenced two years ago.

The Annual Get Together of Past Students in Fortitude Valley in Brisbane in July was quite well attended especially as most had made their way to Charters Towers for the June Reunion. It was great to catch up with everyone again. My thanks to Mr Noel Tunny for his continuing organisation of the annual gathering. It has been his passion for 51 years now. What a remarkable commitment Noel continues to make.

As you can see, we are putting a great deal of time, effort and money into ensuring that our students continue to enjoy an excellent working environment. Our results in NAPLAN & QCS Testing continue to improve as our students are encouraged to strive for their best.

Last month, I travelled to our western schools to tell prospective students what Columba has to offer them, ensuring our link to western families remains a vital and strong one.

Columba is a College that cares about its past and is committed to forging new and stronger links into the future. We are proud of what our students achieve and enjoy the place that our past students hold for it in their hearts. I invite past students to visit the College, to witness the changes and celebrate the successes into the future.

Mike Ashton
Principal

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND REUNION 2012

The five yearly Past Students Reunion was held on the Queen's Birthday weekend and was a raging success. Over 180 past students and staff attended the various events over the weekend and were all excited about catching up with old school friends as well as noting the many changes around the campuses.

The weekend began with a Meet and Greet on Friday evening. On Saturday the group gathered at the St Mary's Campus for a very elegant morning tea prepared and served by the girl boarders and then headed off for tours around St Mary's and Mt Carmel.

Lunch time saw the start of the traditional football games against All Souls and St Gabriel's teams on the ovals. The highlight of the afternoon was seeing the Columba Team jog out onto the field in their commemorative jerseys. The jerseys were designed especially for the Reunion and were based on the Mt Carmel jerseys of the late 70's and 80's. Many of the guests commented how awesome the boys looked and the memories that the scene brought back. What an amazing thing to be able to look back on for those boys – the opportunity to play on home turf, cheered on by a very passionate group of Past Students all while wearing the old school jerseys.

The Reunion Dinner, after a quick change of venue due to power issues, was held in the new Undercover Area at the St Mary's Campus. It was a wonderful venue for the evening and the Old Girls of St Mary's were most excited that such an auspicious event was held at 'their school'. This was a great chance to reminisce some more as well as cheer the old war cries and do Roll Call. One of the highlights of the evening was the auction of the commemorative jerseys. Some big money was paid for the jerseys by past students who were keen to relive their glory days.

The final event for the weekend was brunch which was held in the Columcille Gardens. Past Students sat around for hours getting in a final story or twenty. Many have remarked that they have pencilled in 2017 to return for the next reunion.



CCC Firsts after playing against All Souls with proud Past Students,
Saturday 9 June 2012

We are always delighted to receive news from past students, and we are sure you would too via the Past Students' Newsletters.

Please send information by post to

Jo-Anne Thompson (nee Kerle - Past Student 1973 - 1984)
Columba Catholic College PO Box 274 Charters Towers Qld 4820
or email: jthompson@columba.catholic.edu.au

Likewise, if you have the opportunity to visit Charters Towers, please call in and visit the College - you will see many changes!

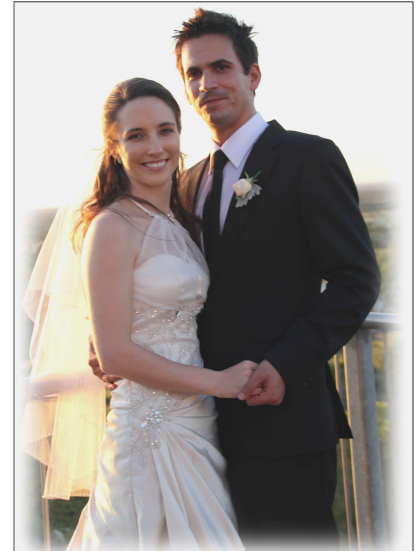
Just Married



Blair Copelin (1990-1992) married Michelle Peatfield in Brisbane in 2011.



Jason Hoch (graduated 2005) and his wife Kirsty were married at Cedar Garreries in Benaraby on 20 March 2010. The bridal party included past students best man Sam Burke; groomsmen, Phillip Kernan, Stan Hamilton and Peter Hunter and bridesmaid, Alisha Hoch.



Frances Butler (1998-2004) married Adam Fraser in Charters Towers on 31 March 2012.



Janine Poli (1992-1997) married Michael Cantoni on 11 August 2012 in Townsville. The couple enjoyed their honeymoon in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Olivia Katter (1987-1997) married Ben Hatch in October 2012. Olivia's sisters Eliza, Mary-Jane and Caroline, all past students, were Olivia's bridesmaids and Father Ormonde Rush, former St. Columba's Parish Priest was the Celebrant.



Bridget Morris (1996-2007) and Andrew Moody (2003-2007) were married in May this year. The couple enjoyed their honeymoon in Hawaii and the USA.

BRISBANE GATHERING 15 JULY



PAST STUDENTS' REUNION QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND



L to R - John Marsh (1951-1953), Henry Trickey (1945-1955), Len Bourke (1949-1957), Bernard Marsh (1953- 1956), Norman Shrubsole (1954-1958), Joe Marsh (1955-1958) and kneeling Maurice Irving (1951-1954).



Back Row L to R - Rhonda Parker (nee Adams 1969-1971), Shirley Champion (nee Hill 1969-1973),
Front Row L to R - Joan Wilcox (nee Verra 1969-1971) and Julie Raitelli (nee Bagley 1969-1973).



L to R: Paul Sorenson (1967-1968), Phil Peters (1966-1967) and Ray Lancini (1957-1960).



Michelle Hislop (nee Monize 1984-1986).



L to R: Bob Katter (1959-1962), Raymond Abdy (1993-1997) and Norman Katter (1961-1965).



L to R: Mark Bagley (1967 - 1978), Peter Scott (1970-1978) and Lance Stone (1974 - 1978).



Janine Ginns-Larkin (1976 - 1980).



L to R: Rohan Dixon (1975 - 1983) & Stephen Lennox (1968 - 1979).



Peter Rubiolo (1959-1966).



L to R: Julie Waugh (nee Booth 1971-1973), Jemma Schwartz (nee Mahoney 1970-1973), Patricia Berkley (nee Scott 1971-1973) and Cathy Lewis (1974).



L to R: Collette Midgley (nee Gibson 1976-1980), Margaret Gibson (nee Bourke 1943-1946) and Jim Gibson (1969-1977).



L to R: Tonya Burgoine (nee Walkey 1981-1986), Sharon Prior (1979-1982), Tanya McGibbon (1983-1985) and Nicola Power (1981-1985).



Back Row L to R: Dorothy Pavlichuk (nee Case 1961-1964), Sharon Thompson (nee Peck 1961-1964), John "Whack" Wheeler (1962-1965), Joan Robuck (nee Hill 1961-1964).
Front Row: Trish Woodward (nee Thatcher 1964-1966), Mary Ruge (nee Petersen 1963-1966), Diann Denneen (nee Gottwaltz 1965-1967), Margie Archer (1961-1964).



Back Row L to R: Collen Young (nee Jones 1966-1969), Elizabeth Hung (nee Kerman 1965-1968), Prue Newman (nee Beattie 1966 - 1968), Julie Millican (nee Crowley 1966-1969), Pamela Jones (nee Crowley 1964-1971), Catherine Simpson (nee Hardwick 1965-1969), Carmel Della Torree (nee Hardwick 1967-1971), Carmel Broughan (nee Lyons 1959-1971), Maree Munday (nee Gilmore 1967-1971), Annette Allwood (nee Ollivero 1967-1971), Agnes Chaw (nee Leung 1967-1969), Jennifer Webster (nee Jones 1968-1969), Vicki Teleni (nee Mercer 1967-1970), Mary Haslam (1967-1970).



Back Row L to R: Lance Stone (1976-1980), Veronica MacNeil (nee Ruming 1976-1978), Michele Emerson (nee Quantick 1976-1978), Kathy Searle (nee Dillon 1976-1980).
Front Row L to R: Collette Midgley (nee Gibson 1976-1980), Janine Ginns-Larkin (1976-1980), Judy Risdale (nee Weller 1976-1980) and Michelle Cartwright (nee Bligh 1978-1982).

Where are they now?



- L to R - Sisters, Jordan Marshall (2005-2009), Anastasia Marshall (2003-2007), her daughter, and Madison Marshall (2007-2011) visiting the College during 2012. The girls' father David Marshall is also a past student (1982-1985).

- Photo Right - Sam Onno visited the College from Papua New Guinea in September this year.



- Left - College Principal, Mike Ashton congratulates Noel Tunny (1937-1947) on the success of Noel's book "3rd Bomb Group Charters Towers 1942" for the 3rd Bomb Group C.T. Commemoration - 1st May 2012.

- Irene Isome (1990-1992) emailed the College earlier this year. Irene is currently working with the University of Papua New Guinea in the Michael Somare Library.



- Left - Year 10 Student Brodie Burgoine (son of Tonya Burgoine nee Walkey 1981-1986) was presented with the Michael Solari Bursary Award at the College's Annual Awards Night 2012 by Callan Solari (2003-2007) and Lochlan Solari (2008-2010).



- Above - Sister Clair Condon - Past Principal of St. Columba's 1979-1981 and current Deputy Principal of the St. Mary's Campus, Colleen Young (nee Jones 1966-1969) presented Year 6 students with Community Service Awards at the College Annual Awards Night in October 2012 - Ashleigh Beare (daughter of Paula Beare nee Hardy 1993-1997), Hanna Burton (daughter of Jeffrey Burton 1982-1983 and Dianne Burton nee Weller 1982-1986), and Lloyd Stevenson (son of Leesa Stevenson nee Walkey 1976-1987).

Catholic Mission Week

In Term 4, 2012, all students at Columba Catholic College raised funds to assist the work done by Catholic Mission. On the Mt. Carmel Campus the Senior Prefect Team arranged a number of fundraising activities.

Deputy Principal - Pastoral/Residential Mr Dan Kyle (Past Student 1980-1984) volunteered to have a strip of leg hair waxed for every \$200 the students on the Mt Carmel Campus raised during the week. Congratulations to the Senior Prefect Team as they raised \$1000 during the week. Thank you to Past Students, Dani Mitchell (1998-2009) and Kelsee Mitchell (2001-2012) from Sisbella Hair & Beauty for the Wax Treatment provided to Mr Kyle. Mr Kyle's Colleague, current staff member Mr Andrew Butler (Past Student 1978-1979) was only too happy to assist.



Thank you to the late Evan Arthur Greer, enrolled in the 1930's, and his wife on the donation of the Australian Cricket Team 1930's bat signed by Australian Cricket greats including DG Bradman, SJ McCabe, SG Barnes, AG Chipperfield, AL Hassett, WM Woodfall, A Jackson.

The cricket bat is on display in the Visitor's Reception Area of the Office on the Mt. Carmel Campus.

With Sympathy

Noel Conn

Passed away during 2011

Michael W Mullins (1942-1947)

Passed away 17 April 2011

Carmel Burke (nee Chaplain)

(1926-1930)

Passed away 23 May 2011

John (Jack) Craven

(1944-1945)

Passed away 30 October 2011

Trevor Toohey

(1942- 1951)

Passed away 8 December 2011

Andrea Lafferty (nee Lestone)

(1991-1995)

Passed away 12 January 2012

Graham Williams (Senior 1965)

Passed away 11 February 2012

Pamela Smith (nee Angus)

(1962)

Passed away April 2012

Giuseppe "Joe" Rinaudo

(Past Student of Mt Carmel during the war years)

Passed away 4 April , 2012.

Richard Wakeford (1975-1980)

Passed away May 2012

Michael "Mickey" Lewis

Passed away July 2012