

COLUMBA CONGRATULATES WILL HARRINGTON

Past student, William Harrington (1997-2002) from "Olga Downs", Richmond, was awarded one of only 24 Australian Nuffield Scholarships in Albury recently. He will study the global use of remote monitoring technologies in agriculture and how adoption can be increased by beef producers in Australia.

This is a great result for Will and for Columba Catholic College, as he is the third Nuffield Scholar the College has produced in recent times. Other Nuffield Scholars have been Brendan Kersh (2002) and Michael Lyons (2014). Brendan and Michael are both involved in grazing businesses in the Charters Towers district, and have children attending Columba.

Will plans to visit Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Europe, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States to understand more about graziers' attitudes towards using remote monitoring technologies. Armed with that knowledge, he hopes to develop new technologies that are practical, reliable, cost-effective, and better match the needs of Australia's beef industry to help lift efficiency and productivity.



WITH SYMPATHY

Geoffrey Hughes (1962-1963)

Passed away November 2014

Kelvin O'Shea (1946-1950)

Passed away 22 January 2015

Brother Brian Saward (Staff 1963-1970 Mount Carmel College)

Passed away 13 January 2015

Lynelle Ashton (Staff Columba Catholic College)

Passed away 25 March 2015

Kevin Harney (1986-1990)

Passed away 16 May 2015

Edith Yule (Residential Staff St. Mary's)

Passed away 24 May 2015

Sister Aquinas (Muriel Evans) (Staff St. Mary's College)

Passed away 18 March 2015

Irene Poole Music Teacher St. Columba's

Passed away September 2015

May they rest in peace

KELVIN (KEL) O'SHEA

In February this year, The Courier Mail paid tribute to one of our past students, Kelvin (Kel) O'Shea who passed away in Brisbane recently. In the article Steve Ricketts wrote "O'Shea was schooled at Mount Carmel College, one of Queensland's great league nurseries".



Kel was a forefather of a proud rugby league and sporting tradition that the College has established over many years. He graduated from Mount Carmel in 1950 and went on to represent Australia in 15 tests and 10 World Cup matches, becoming North Queensland's first home grown, home based international. In his prime, he and Norm Provan were internationally recognised as the best second row combination in the world.

Despite his success, Kel never forgot his fond memories of boarding at Mount Carmel and remained friends with many of his school mates.

CLASS OF '85

The Class of '85 met up in Townsville in August to celebrate their 30 year reunion.



CLASS OF '99

The Class of '99 celebrated a 15 year class reunion in November 2014. Past Students toured the Mount Carmel Campus and the Saint Mary's Campus and then enjoyed a dinner at the St Patrick's Hotel in Charters Towers.



CLASS OF 1980 REUNION

The class of 1980 Seniors held their 35 year reunion in July and included members who attended Year 11 in 1979. Classmates, including the 'first girls of Mt Carmel', travelled from W.A., Sydney, Brisbane, and all across Qld to attend. There were about forty at the meet and greet for Saturday lunch before being given a tour of the Mt Carmel and St Mary's campuses. There were 47 who attended the reunion dinner, of whom 33 were classmates, including our College Captains of 1980. Brunch was held at the Stock Exchange before departing with promises to meet again and hailing the event a wonderful success.



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

NOVEMBER 2015

Past Student News

Dear Past Students,

2015 has been my first year as Principal at Columba Catholic College and being a part of this wonderful community is something that I am very grateful for every day.

Our school has seen a \$3 million transformation of the St Mary's campus which includes a glorious restoration of the Mercy Building as well as six brand new classrooms and the construction of a new Catholic Kindergarten. Both of the College pools have been refurbished this year and we have also had a marketing rebrand and new College website.

We are hoping to refurbish the Kruger Centre which includes new Manual Arts and Art facilities in 2016 and work has already commenced on the restoration of the Mt Carmel Chapel with plans for a College Museum and Visitors' Centre underneath. I hope that Past Students take

the opportunity to come and visit when this is completed.

Columba Catholic College is a vibrant and a growing learning community and this year has seen an increase in our numbers for 2016.

I have really enjoyed the opportunities that I have had to meet with many past students and parents from Brisbane to Burketown and in Papua New Guinea in 2015 and look forward to the opportunity to meet many more in the years to come. Please know that you are always welcome to come and visit our College and to have a tour. As a College, we aim to improve our connections with our Past Students and I would welcome any suggestions as to how this could be achieved.

We were delighted to hear that Columba Catholic College will host the Confraternity

Rugby League carnival in 2018. The carnival is the largest independent school boy rugby league competition in this country and is a marvellous opportunity to showcase our College and this town. 2018 also marks the 20 year anniversary of the amalgamation and this will be a wonderful time to make the trip to visit the College.

Future editions of this Past Students newsletter will be sent electronically. Please ensure that the College has your current email address. If you would still prefer to receive a paper edition of this newsletter, please complete the enclosed form and return it to the College Office.

May God continue to bless you,



Dan McShea
PRINCIPAL

CAUGHT ON CAMPUS



Visitors to the College during the year - Photo left- Brother Neil Langan pictured with College Principal Dan McShea and Photo Right - Peter Castellaro (1945-1948) and Ben Russo (1940-1944)



L to R - Past Students Anne-Marie Kaekae (1996-1998), Mavis Tito ('97-'99) and Pauline Wake (1998-2000) met up with Principal Dan McShea on his recent trip to Papua New Guinea.

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NEWSLETTERS

From 2016 the Past Student Newsletter will be sent to Past Students electronically. Please note that the Past Students’ newsletter is also currently accessible from the College website and via the newsletter link posted on the College facebook page. Please return the enclosed form confirming your current email address and details. If you would still prefer to receive a paper edition of this newsletter, please indicate this on the form.

If you know of any Past Student who is currently not receiving the Past Students’ Newsletter please pass their details on to the College.

MARRIED RECENTLY



Clinton Archer (1987-1998) married, Anastasiya Kazakova, in the hills above Malaga, Spain, 6 May 2013 .



Amanda McGuire (1998-2004) married Cameron McAllister on 4 April 2015 in Airlie Beach.



Jayna Whitfield-Jones (1999-2003) married Luke Carrington on 15 August 2015 in Townsville.



Angela Chappel (1990-2001) married Josh Mackay on 3 October 2015 in Charters Towers.



Erin Archer (1992-2004) married Peter Garde on 5 April 2014 in Charters Towers.



Melissa McGuire (1998-2009) married Matthew Pickering on 26 September 2015 in Airlie Beach.



Marissa Ferguson (1998-2003) married Daniel Smith in Townsville on 26 September 2015.



Amber Whelan (1999-2011) married Jake Hilditch in Charters Towers 18 April 2015.

CATHERINE ‘DADIE’ DAWES 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Catherine 'Dadie' Dawes (nee Eckford) celebrated her 100th birthday in Brisbane in July this year.

Young Dadie completed her formal education at St Mary’s College in Charters Towers successfully negotiating the Scholarship (1929) and Commercial Junior (1931) examinations. In recognition of her commitment to her studies, she received many awards and pleasing examination results during her time there. These included Junior Shorthand, Typewriting and Bookkeeping (1929) Royal Academy of Music Theory of Music Division 1 (1929), Christian Doctrine examination standard A honours (1929), and Crown of Honour for good conduct in 1930. Dadie also liked to play tennis whilst attending St Mary’s. Prior to that Dadie’s primary school education had been undertaken at St Columba’s Charters Towers (1921-1923) and the Julia Creek State School (1924-1928).

Dadie’s husband Peter Dawes attended Mt Carmel in the 1920s and three of their grandchildren Melanie (1990-1994), Monique (1992-1996) and Patrick (1995-1999) also attended, St Columba’s, St Mary’s, Mount Carmel and Columba Catholic College.



Dadie pictured with her granddaughters, Melanie and Monique.



BALCH NEWS...

The College received correspondence from Veronica Balch (nee Bourke) 1946-1947 earlier in 2015. Veronica expressed her love of receiving the Past Students’ Newsletter and included details on her grandsons Craig and Shane.

Craig Balch (1992-1994) excelled in IT and after graduating university secured a job at Computer and Support Maintenance, Darwin. The company subsequently offered Craig a job in the UK to open and manage an office. After two years, Craig decided to open his own office in the UK. While there, he met his wife Julie and married her in December 2008 and they now have two sons. Craig and his family are planning a visit to Charters Towers in July 2016 and are looking forward to visiting the College.

Shane Balch (1995-1999) began his working career as a Diver in Broome and then went on to join the Royal Australian Navy where he passed his exams with flying colours. Shane and his partner have two sons and Shane is currently on HMAS “Adelaide” based in Sydney.



FOCUS ON KELLY EGAN ‘84-’86

Kelly Egan visited the College in October this year and was the guest speaker at the College’s Annual Awards Night. Kelly captivated the audience when he spoke with pride, reliving time as a Mount Carmel boarder. During the weekend Kelly also enjoyed giving Leadership Presentations to the Year 11 students and running a series of Rugby League Clinics for the Columba Catholic College students.

Kelly Egan attended Mount Carmel from 1984 to 1986 and was Vice-Captain in 1985. Kelly was a product of Cairns and had a strong soccer background prior to attending the College. He soon learned rugby league was the more prominent sport at Mount Carmel and adapted to it very quickly, making the First XIII in his first year in 1984.

Mount Carmel went on to be crowned State Champions in 1985 and 1986, in sides which featured a number of players who went on to higher representation in Queensland rugby league. Kelly played in the centres and was scouted by Brisbane Valleys, where he played for 2 years before being contracted with the North Sydney Bears, where he played for a further 5 years in what is now the NRL.

During that period, he also completed a Bachelor of Education, but always had a yearning to try coaching.

He earned his stripes in the lower grades and in development roles, before getting an Assistant Coach role at the North Queensland Cowboys in 2005, the year they made their inaugural grand final. His reputation as a well-respected strategist then saw him leave the Cowboys in 2007 and soon after team up with Des Hasler at Manly where the team won World Club Champions in 2009 and were NRL Premiers in 2011.

Kelly then followed Des to the Canterbury Bulldogs in 2012 with immediate results, gaining the Minor Premiership in 2012 and being defeated Grand Finalists in that year and in 2014.

During that period, his coaching talent was recognised by the NRL and he has coached the Junior Kangaroos for the last 3 years. Despite his climb to the elite level of the sport, Kelly remains very interested in the happenings at his old College and continues to enquire how the ‘Red Gods’ are travelling.



Kelly pictured presenting the Stephen Bliss (1984-1988) Memorial Shield to Matt Cluff at Awards Night.



Kelly pictured with Year 11 students Henry Fielder (L) and Sage Marshall (R). Kelly attended school with Henry’s father Lindsay and Sage’s father David and Uncle Darin.



Kelly with sons of past students at the Coaching Clinic (L to R) - Jacob Peck, Jesse Kyle, Sage Marshall, Ronald Berryman, Jack Mitchell, Kelly Egan, Henry Fielder, Jack Dixon and Terance McCosker.



Kelly running the Junior Coaching Clinic for Columba students on Saturday 24 October.