



Caboolture

The Eagle

Albion Heights

Edition 2 - March 2009

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Visit our website:
www.stc.qld.edu.au

A Farewell Message from departing Principal, Alain Sauvage, as he takes up his new position as Principal of St Joseph's College, Banora Point

Throughout the past fifteen years of working in this community, I have experienced a great sense of life, and I am forever changed because of the many encounters I have had with the people of StC. Deep tracks have been etched into my heart. I am richer, more thoughtful, more aware, more in love, more challenged because of my interaction with this community. I have been able to learn what I am good at, and discover what I am bad at, principally because of people's wonderful blunt honesty. I hope I have acquitted and honoured the trust placed in me. I have certainly given it my best shot, placing my energy at the disposal of any person who presented before me. My years here have passed as if a day, thank you for bringing life to my life and allowing me the rich blessing of serving you. Never let that quality of Spirit, Tradition and Community dim in our community!

I thank the St Columban's College community for the trust placed in me to lead during the course of the last seven and a half years, and now ask that this trust might be similarly offered to our new Principal, Ann Rebgetz. By her history, it is evident she will be a passionate and energetic person who will take St Columban's well into its new directions. She has an existing emotional connection to the College through her husband, Pat Rebgetz, himself a past student and College Captain of 1967. I wish her well as she takes up this important role.

Greetings from our new Principal, Ann Rebgetz

I am delighted with my appointment as Principal of St Columban's College. Never did I think I would lead the College where my husband Patrick had attended and one which I had heard so much about over the years. Pat always spoke so highly of his schooling and how the Brothers were so committed to reaching out to those in need and trying to provide the best. The spirit of this legacy works in strange ways and so I now take up the baton as the first female principal in the co-educational context. This is a challenge I approach with great enthusiasm and anticipation. The richness in tradition with its emeritus past students is truly inspiring. It is in this vein of the past living in us that we approach the future. I am thrilled to be able to attend a meeting in Melbourne in early March, where



Incoming Principal - Ann Rebgetz

the Christian Brothers are endeavouring to form a new structure in terms of supporting their charism in schools which previously were under their governance.

The strength of community, spirit and tradition of the College is evident and I would pay tribute to the former Principal Alain for his great work, and hope that I will be able to bring growth to the College in its journey of cultivating future responsible, caring and educated leaders of the future.

I come to the position having spent the last 3 years as Co-Principal of OLSH Thamarrurr Catholic School at Wadeye, Port Keats in the Northern Territory - a bilingual school of 730 indigenous students from P-12. Pat was the local doctor. The disparity in the position of these students makes me extremely aware of the importance of 'raising the bar', and for our country to find solutions to the complexities of closing the gaps between those who are privileged and those who are disadvantaged.

I look forward to your generosity of spirit and support. It will be great to meet you all, and you are always welcome to the College - think of it as your other home, as hopefully it nurtured so much of your spirit.

As we continue to connect with our past students, we trust that you enjoy this second edition of The Eagle.

Ann Rebgetz
 Principal



1998



1985



1947



1928

Class of 83 - 25 year reunion



Class of 98 - 10 year reunion



Albion Old Boys Reunion at the Irish Club



1960s graduates group photo





1998



1985



1947



1928

William Thornton remembers 1928

I transferred from St James School, Fortitude Valley to attend the inaugural day of the nascent St Columban's, Albion Heights on January 27 in 1928.

The two storied red brick College was built on a block of land, neglected and overgrown with weeds, lantana bush and spindly trees. Two heritage type homes, Highland and Whytecliffe, stood nearby. Initially, lunch hours were spent clearing the years of neglect.

The Brothers: From memory, a community of six Christian Brothers served the College, under the leadership of Principal, Brother Frank O'Driscoll, a native of Western Australia. Physically, he was of strong well built stature; a just man, though firm in the exercise of discipline.

The community, under the example of Brother O'Driscoll, followed the principle. Out of the classroom the Brothers tolerated the horseplay and exuberance of early adolescents; however in the classroom "the strap" was ever ready.

The precept of fair play, respect for rules and orderliness, as described in football terms – always play the ball, not the man – hit ups and stripping of the ball were unknown. Precepts, when followed, even in post College days, into adulthood, kept us out of mischief. I consider it a great privilege, now, to be known as a 'Brothers boy.'

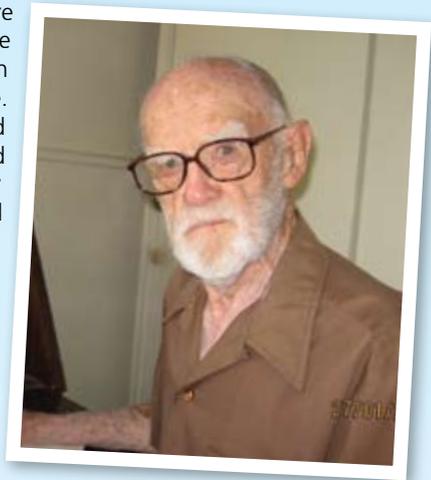
The boys: Columban boys came from a broad cross-sectional sweep of many Parish areas of the northern suburbs surrounding the College, an area embracing a social structure of varying levels.

Such social differences were left in Sandgate Road, as the boys passed through the iron front gates of the College. Friendships were established and mateship developed into lifelong affinity. Sadly war intervened, with sad repercussions.

I left Columban's in 1931. Solely, because of my laziness and lack of attention to lessons and homework, I left sans a certificate of any type. It was in my post-Columban's endeavours, I achieved a degree of notoriety. It is believed I became the first old boy to become a grandfather! My first job at 17 years of age, was employment as a boy laborer in a meat works.

Fifty years later (1982) after transferring to a clerical occupation, I had become a politico-industrialist. I retired as Branch President and Federal Deputy President of the Federated Clerks Union.

It was a hectic career, yet interesting and challenging. My career had taken me across the nation and into the international arena - London, Amsterdam, Tokyo and Honolulu. Obviously, my time at 'Columban's' had not been wasted!



William Thornton

Community Noticeboard

Event Date Claimers

Saturday 23 May St Columban's College Community Open Day 9am-12pm, St Columban's College, Caboolture.

Friday 29 May St Columban's College Charity Golf Day, at Pacific Harbour Golf Course & Country Club, Bribie Island (see advert on page 8).

Friday 23 October 'Old Boys' Reunion for Albion graduates to be held at the Irish Club. \$15 per person, tickets available from Monday 3 August. Register your interest now with Linda Upton in the office or email events@stc.qld.edu.au

Deaths

July 2008 John Murray Davis

5 August 2008 John Murtagh Macrossan, AC

Marriages

27 Sept. 2008 Alex Cabrera (class of 2005) and Kirralee Moss (class of 2005)

Births

16 May 2008 Ava Jean Wasson – 2nd child for Sara Wasson (nee Giles), class of 2001

19 June 2008 Riley Adam Selwood – 1st child for Adam Selwood, class of 2000 and Carol Selwood (nee Mathers), class of 2000

1 November 2008 Reagan Louise Dever – 1st child for Paul Dever class of 1998 and Yesmin Dever (nee Hunt), class of 1998

2009 Australia Day Awards

Peter Francis Conran, Prefect-class of 1969 – Member of the Order of Australia

Louise Parkes class of 2006 – Young Citizen of the Year for Moreton Bay Region

To include an event, or other details in next edition's Community Noticeboard please contact the Editor, Lea Rubio, at the College or email lrubio@stc.qld.edu.au

Molloy Crocs Unite

Year 12 graduates of 2000, Carol Mathers and Adam Selwood, first met in Year 8 when they shared the same classes, immediately striking up a friendship that continued throughout their time at St Columban's College.

It is important to note that both Carol and Adam were proud members of the mighty Molloy House and were both heavily involved in sports. Adam participated in swimming, volleyball and basketball, whilst Carol tried her hand at a number of sporting activities.

It was during Year 11 that the friendship became a little more serious, with the couple remaining together ever since, formalising their commitment to each other when they married in October 2005.

After graduating Adam and Carol got full time jobs, with Adam working as a roofer and Carol working in an office. They purchased their first home in 2004 and during 2006 the travel bug kicked in by way of London, Scotland, Dubai, Singapore, Fiji and Port Villa.

A highlight for the couple occurred on 19 June 2008 when they welcomed their own little 'Croc' into the world. Riley Adam Selwood joined the family at 8.55pm weighing in at 7lb12oz, and even though there have been sleepless night and hard times, Carol said it is all worth it when Riley gives them a cute little smile.

Carol and Adam commenced at St Columban's in 1996, the first



Carol, Riley and Adam Selwood

year the College became co-educational, and both have fond memories of their days at Albion – the walk up the hill, the old buildings, the pigeons, sports days at Banyo, John Monagle blitzing the competition in the pool, and Year 8 camp in the Blackbutt area with the old cabins, dirty creek and the cows that chased them!



St Columban's – the next generation!

1998 College Captain, Paul Dever, and fellow 1998 St Columban's graduate, Yesmin Hunt, wed at St Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane on 16 June 2007. Baby Reagan Louise Dever joined their family on Saturday 1 November weighing in at 6lb 10oz.

Yesmin joined St Columban's College in 1997, the first operational year at the Caboolture campus and belonged to the first cohort of girls to graduate. Paul commenced his StC education at Albion in 1994. Paul was a member of O'Driscoll House and Yesmin, Duhig.

During Year 12 Paul was March student of the month, being recognized for Cultural Achievement. Paul was heavily involved with Debating, the Liturgy Group, and the Easter play, The Vigil. Paul was also the recipient of various Special Awards for 1998. Both Paul and Yesmin were involved with Debating and the Liturgy Group.

After graduating, Yesmin completed a Bachelor of Law degree at QUT and currently works as a Crown Lawyer for the State Government. Paul works at Petrie in a private dental practice, completing a Bachelor of Science degree at UQ and a Bachelor of Dentistry degree at the University of Sydney.



Yasmin, Paul and baby Reagan

World Youth Day

The word Pilgrimage, had been thrown around so much, however, I had not taken the time to find out what it really meant. Because I was unsure of what a pilgrimage stood for, I assumed it was just a biblical term for a holiday, and being a World Youth Day pilgrimage I pieced together from this information that the world's youth were in actual fact gathering together for a holiday in Sydney.

With this in mind I set out along with 100 fellow students, 85 Papua New Guinean guests and 12 staff members, and after a tiring 16-hour bus trip, we arrived in Ashfield, a small northern Sydney suburb. At this moment it dawned on me that the teachers weren't kidding when they'd said we would be sleeping in a school. But worse than that, the male pilgrims were made to sleep in one small classroom and a foyer - on the floor, and the females were assigned two small rooms. For me this was the real beginning to my pilgrimage.

While on our journey as pilgrims it was not only our accommodation that came as a shock, but also the meals we received. Every pilgrim attending WYD from all across the globe was provided the same meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner. A set of staples and non perishable foods were handed out to pilgrims as their meal tickets were cashed in. And to top it off, we needed to walk for hours on end each day around Sydney!

As the week came to an end I still did not have the definition of a pilgrimage, but the journey I shared with my fellow StC peers and our PNG friends meant that a definition really was irrelevant. To me, my pilgrimage entailed sharing company with people from not only my local town or country, but meeting people from different walks of life, people who follow different traditions and possess different cultures. Whilst being with these people I noticed that we all have something in common and that is the faith we share. It is amazing how thousands of pilgrims can be in the same place for the course of a week and no conflict arises. Even after the closing mass had been



StC World Youth Day Pilgrims

done and dusted, every pilgrim remained composed and stood as one, the Catholic Youth of the world.

Every pilgrim that I made contact with enjoyed their week and said they were eager to attend the next WYD, to take place in Madrid, Spain. My pilgrimage was unbelievable and I'm grateful to have had this opportunity, and I thank StC for that. Considering the sleepless nights, sore feet and going without decent food for a week, WYD08 has been one of the best weeks in my whole life and that is no exaggeration!

Ben Doveston
2008 College Captain & WYD Pilgrim

Past Students Take Advantage of College Open Day

A special highlight of this year's calendar was the College Open Day in May. Quite a number of Old Boys from Albion days attended the Open Day, and brought with them historic photos and memoirs. Three gentlemen from the year of 1948 arrived almost simultaneously to look at their student entries in the historic College Register and realised that they were in fact from the same class and hadn't seen each other since graduation, whilst a lady standing nearby, heard them talking and confirmed that her brother had also attended their class.

One former Albion graduate had flown from Perth to attend a wedding, and upon hearing that the campus was open, collected his brother from Brisbane and drove to Caboolture to watch the rugby and peruse the Archive collection. They too were amazed to discover the College Register and photos from their days at Albion. Such were the many stories and reflections that evolved on Open Day. The day in terms of discovering history was highly successful and inspired interest from current, future and past students and families.

From time to time, previous students, clergy and staff forward their stories and memorabilia from Albion days. These artefacts create a great deal of interest, particularly on Open Days. Deborah Kerr, one of our parents, has been assisting to create and preserve an informative autobiographical memories file for the collection.

As the history of St Columban's comes to life through the College



Old Boys search the archive

Archive, we are constantly searching for memorabilia and anecdotes to expand the collection. If you have anything to include, stories to relate, or can donate some time to assist, please make contact.

Mrs Chris Ward
College Archivist

Cricket Triumph

The 2008 cricket season proved to be one of the most successful seasons in St Columban's College cricket history. Overall all our teams achieved very well across the TAS competition, Christian Brothers Carnival, Indoor Cricket and club competitions. It was our First XI however that, suffering only one loss, secured the First XI premiership for the first time in over 20 years. All other teams showed that they are continuing to improve their cricket and the future looks very bright indeed for cricket at StC.

The Christian Brothers Carnival, which runs during the Christmas holidays, was again a highlight of the cricketing calendar. The team, made up of a mixture of what would become the First and Second XIs made it to the grand final where they were narrowly beaten by St Brendan's College, Yepoon.

These excellent achievements are clearly a result of the efforts that St Columban's has been putting into its cricket over the last couple of years. Tireless work from First XI coach Garry Dillon, as well as our Comprehensive Cricket Program, has started to reap dividends.

2009 has commenced very well, with the boys this year winning the



2009 Christian Brothers Team

final of the plate division, beating Ignatious Park. This is the first time a Columban's team has won this title since 1987!

Mr Luke Hamilton
TAS Cricket Coordinator

Old Boys Challenge Cup

The inaugural game between our current First XI soccer squad and the Old Boys XI took place on Saturday 2 August 2008. The Old Boys team consisted of past Open players, with teacher Dean Stevens joining them. Nathan Collier who graduated in 2003 returned to face off against his younger brother Luke, who played in the 2008 squad.

With a brand new shiny Cup up for grabs, both teams engaged in a tough but fair contest. The Old Boys took the lead with a cracking strike from William Holland in the first half. The First XI managed to tie the score in the second half, with our Year 10 star Corey Heath, slotting the ball in the back of the net.

Elliott Griffiths broke the deadlock putting the Old Boys in front 2-1. Despite a strong surge by the Firsts to try and level the scoreboard, the Old Boys held on until the final whistle. Captained by Daniel Mangano, the Old Boys raised the Cup.

The game provided a great opportunity for past students to catch up and also enabled our First XI squad to get a tough trial match before the start of their season. There was an encouraging turnout of supporters, and hopefully this will increase in 2009 when the Firsts try to get their name on the Cup. I thank the Old Boys for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship enabling this match to take place.

Mr George Goves
TAS Soccer Coordinator



Old Boys Team



First XI Team

Week one of the 2008 June school holidays saw the Confraternity tour group depart for sunny Rockhampton to once again compete in the Queensland Independent Secondary Schools Rugby League Confraternity Carnival. The 'Confro' carnival was contested by 36 schools from throughout Queensland. St Columban's played in the very competitive 'plate' division in which 24 teams were entered. After some very hard fought victories in their pool games the team went on to win their quarter, semi and grand final remaining undefeated to be awarded the 'Confraternity Plate' for 2008. This is the best result that the College has achieved at the carnival and will be talked about for many years to come.

It was a special week for the players who represented their families and the College with distinction. They should be very proud of their achievement and look back on this week with the fondest of memories.

Mr Dean Stevens
Coach



2008 Confraternity Rugby League Team

2008 Charity Golf Day

A sunny day greeted us for the 2008 Charity Golf Day, to be ever so slightly marred by the unseasonal storm at about 3pm!

From the outset it was clear that the players were in for a treat. Amid plenty of belly laughs and general joviality players registered, purchased raffle tickets and were assigned their golf carts and playing cards. Although we had some extremely talented golfers, there were some who were just there to have a hit and giggle (and that's okay too!). All participants enjoyed the culinary fares from the Mission BBQ on their way past the 18th hole, attempted to win a jet-ski at the 7th in the Hole in One competition and were challenged to hit their golf ball within the concentric circles at the 13th hole for a chance to win \$50. Those who were a little challenged were encouraged to pay for pro-golfer assistance at the 15th hole.

Initial planning is now underway for our 2009 Charity Golf Day, which promises to be ever bigger and better than last year. Now is the time to think about getting a team together and booking a spot.

Sponsorships for the event are available, so if you are interested please contact the College office or email events@stc.qld.edu.au



St Columban's College Charity Golf Day

Pacific Harbour Golf Club - 29 May 2009

Proceeds go to the St Columban's Mission Program

Players - \$100 per head with
dinner included

Sponsorship \$1000 per hole

Hole in one Competition with a major
prize (to be announced closer to the event)

Get your office together and challenge
your business rivals to a game!

Trophies can be arranged

For more information or to make a booking contact:
Linda Upton via the College office or lhupton@stc.qld.edu.au