From the President St Columban’s College
Past Student Association “The Soaring Eagles”

Welcome to another edition of The Eagle. We welcome those who left the College in 2011 as the latest members of the Association. 2011 was certainly a year of growth for the College with major projects completed and plenty of anticipation for a prosperous 2012.

Events held in 2011 included the Past Students Mass at the College, the now annual reunion at the Irish Club in October, the ever successful football match co-ordinated by Mr George Goves and the participation of Columbans veterans in the College ANZAC Day Liturgy.

2012 appears to be a big year for reunions with Past Students from 1972, 1982, 1992 and 2002 all holding get-togethers. Should you have been from one of those years or are aware of someone who was, ask them to contact the College on events@stc.qld.edu.au. The College will put you in contact with your reunion coordinator. Please note that this year’s annual Soaring Eagles Reunion has been postponed to 26 October.

All the best for the rest of 2012 and it would be great to see as many as possible at the events and reunions throughout the year.

Gogra Gogral
Eugene Waugh
SCPSA President

Annual Soaring Eagles Reunion
26 October 2012 6-9pm
The Irish Club Brisbane
email events@stc.qld.edu.au to secure your ticket
**Caboolture Campus Developments**

What a HUGE year Caboolture Campus has had developmentally! Our Trade Training Centre, incorporating a hairdressing salon, full commercial kitchen, restaurant and coffee-shop is a hive of activity; with classes being offered to students in Hospitality Service, Kitchen Operations and Hairdressing. We currently offer 17 qualifications in ten industry areas. In 2012 over 90% of our students will graduate with a nationally recognised vocational qualification.

Currently under construction is our Multi-Function Centre which will be attached to the Trade Training Centre, increasing the functionality of both buildings.

What does this mean to current students? Students are offered one of the most comprehensive choices of subjects and vocational education available in Australia. This foresight has led StC to be nominated as a finalist in the Australian Training Awards. We are extremely proud of this achievement with winners being announced in November this year.

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**Top End Tour**

This year a group of 34 students and staff journeyed to the Top End on a cultural and educational immersion. Some of the highlights of the trip featured visits to the Darwin Museum, East Point, the new Military Museum, Mindi Beach markets, the Darwin Festival, Kakadu National Park, Ubirr Rock (which boasts some of the oldest Rock Paintings in the world), Jabiru, the Yellow Waters at Cooinda, basketball against boarders at St John’s Darwin, the Darwin Convention Centre, and a massive Indigenous Art display from the communities. Our students worked in Milikapiti School on Melville Island and Wurrumiyanga School on Bathurst Island.

These extracts from the students’ comments tell the story of how much it impacted them:

_I have enjoyed this trip so much because it has given me the chance to reflect on the choices I have made through this year so far – Patrick Macrae. I have learnt so much about life, history, myself and the importance of the people/community around you – Melissa Spies. I felt the time spent in the classrooms listening to them learn about significant Indigenous people or helping them learn to count, made the biggest change in me – Pat Halpin. The best day was visiting Bathurst Island, seeing how happy the children were even though most of them were not from the best of palaces and did not have the best family life – Shanae Thomason. How blessed we are to have this opportunity to meet our fellow Aboriginal brothers and sisters. We are all full of spirit, all broken, but come as we are and share in community, friendship and life as one – Reuben Pather. The kids on Melville Island were the most friendly, happy and welcoming kids I have ever met. Spending the time talking to them and playing with them really opened my eyes to their way of life and their culture – Kate Rusworth._
From the Principal

This year has seen the College progress in many ways and in particular, harnessing its community relationships. This was exemplified in the wonderful ANZAC Ceremony and the honouring of Vincent Healy and the attendance of our past students and the Healy family. The 5 Bursaries this year provided by the 1969 group of past students have provided more opportunities for our students. A recent indicator of our strength in community was our achievement as one of three national finalists in The Australian Training Awards. An intensive evaluation and interview process has taken place and we wait to attend the Awards Presentation in Melbourne in November, to see the result. However, the most wholesome result is in our positive outcomes for students, wonderful staff, industry and community support to make this happen.

Overall, we emphasize ‘excellence, equity and strategic edge’ so that our motto of ‘Every Student, Every Success’ rings true in The Columban ‘Spirit, Tradition and Community’ ethos. Thank you for your support in our outreach programs. We are proud now to be an Edmund Rice Associate school and I was privileged to attend the recent Inaugural National Congress.

Our current building project of a Multi-Function Centre is our major undertaking at present. We finished our Trade Trading Centre mid-year and the large Multi-Function sports and cultural centre is our self-funded project. We would be grateful for your donations or sponsorship for this as we have had to ‘dig deep’ to take on this expansive project, which also includes additional administration areas to cater for growth. Overall, our sporting and cultural teams have achieved great success this year, including the winning of the Rugby Premiership, so your help will further enhance our students’ platform for excellence.

I would also like to draw your attention to the enclosed leaflet which highlights our new projects.

I look forward to seeing you at the Reunion on 26 October.

Wishing you happiness for the remainder of 2012!

Ann Rebgetz

Inaugural Meeting of the Colana Carnival Start-Up Committee

Venue: Hotel Majestic, Brisbane.

Seated from left: Clive Morgan, Bill McLeod, Sir Clive Uhr, Br Whiteman, Jim Anderson, Dr Parker, Jim Stafford, Geo Boland


During its time this body and other P&Fs were instrumental in completing the swimming pool and Chapel; Restoring Whytecliffe; and the preparation of the Banyo sporting fields.

Brian Allom (1966)

Sincere gratitude is extended to Brian, who has kindly lent us his Year Books from the 1960s to copy for our archives.
Anzac Day Liturgy 2012

Another wonderfully moving Liturgy was attended by Past Students who served in the Vietnam and Korean Wars. This year’s event also highlighted one of our fallen, Vincent Healy (1934). Vincent's brother, Peter Healy (1958), gave a moving recount of Vincent's life. Also in attendance were Mick Barry (1958), John Bunworth (1956), Patrick Cunningham, Geraldine Evans, Patrick Evans, Paul Evans, Terence Fogarty (1963), Paul Gallagher (1964), Carmel Healy, Chris Healy, Tricia Healy, Gary Hunter (1961), Paul Neilson, Gillian Outen, Lionel Outen (1963), Monica Roberts, Michelle Rockley, Nicholas Rockley, and Brian Sullivan (1962).

A fabulous framed tribute to Vincent Healy was donated to the College Archives, together with very useful books relating to the Australia and New Zealand war and peace-keeping efforts for our College Library. We also received Mick Barry’s College hat and prefect badge for our Archives.

The Liturgy was preceded by a lovely morning tea with the College Senior Leadership Team and Student Leaders and was followed by a light lunch hosted by College Archivist, Margie Hallinan.

Handy websites for Service Personnel:

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Holidays:
www.cocosholidayapartments.com.au
www.spahs.com.au
www.grandefloridaresort.com.au
www.nqahr.com.au
www.defence.gov.au
www.armyholidays.com.au

Gym Facilities:
www.veteransexercise.com.au
www.rehabfitness.com.au

Thank you to Terry Fogarty (1963) who has been keeping tabs on our Vietnam Veterans over the years and has offered to coordinate a StC Military Past Student Register. If you are able to help Terry with this huge project please email events@stc.qld.edu to register your interest.

If you have served in the armed forces please also let us know so we can add you to the register.
**Eddie Fraser (2008)**

It was fantastic to catch up with Eddie Fraser at his brother’s graduation from StC last year. Eddie has certainly found his feet since leaving StC, completing a double degree majoring in Law and Justice and minoring in Counselling and Event Management at Sunshine Coast University. Next year Eddie plans to begin his Master’s degree.

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**6RAR Reunion – Perth**

1961 students; Gary Hunter, Gerard O’Neill and Pat Cunningham recently attended the 6RAR Reunion in Perth. Not only were they in the same class at StC, they served together in Vietnam with the 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

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**Hugh Hyland (1962)**

I started school in England in 1949, (1st half of the last century,) moved to New Zealand the following year, (lost an academic year due to the different start times) and commenced in St Peter’s Christian Brothers College in Auckland in Form 1 in 1956. My last year there was 1959 in Form 4, and Brother Whiteman joined the school for the last two (of three) terms, though he never taught me.

I then went to Brisbane to complete schooling and to prepare to study naval architecture at Evans Deacon Shipyard at Kangaroo Point. I enrolled at StC in Sub-Senior taking English, Logic, Mathematics 1 and 2, and Religion (12 in the class). I also took French by correspondence and Geometrical Drawing at night at the Technical College.

At the end of that year the vocational guidance people visited and said I needed to study at the University of New South Wales or RMIT, and I needed to do Physics and Chemistry to matriculate, so I repeated Sub-Senior (lost another year, 3D in the class) and completed Senior in 1962. I was the second oldest at 18, a Chinese chap was 20 and used Chinese textbooks as well. Peter McMahon was the youngest at 16.

I went to UNSW (lost another year repeating Mathematics since the Year 12 Old Mathematics was behind that of NSW), completed Naval Architecture part-time in 1969 (there were no full-time courses available at the time), and started working for the Royal Australian Navy as a civilian (I am still with them). I subsequently completed a part-time degree in Mechanical Engineering and a part-time Masters in Industrial Engineering.

I left Sydney in 1992 and have been in Western Australia ever since.

I married in 1983, have three children: Ray, 26, degrees in IT and Arts; Michelle, 24, degree in OH&S; and Sarena, 24, Masters degree in Architecture. They all spent 13 years in the Catholic Schools.

Photos courtesy of Hugh Highland (1962)
Where are they Now?

Past Student Guest Speaker

It was wonderful to hear Monique Macfarlane (2004) address our senior female students on International Women’s Day this year. Monique was engaging and encouraged our young ladies to make a difference, think globally and act locally.

We sincerely thank our past students for giving their time to foster the well-being of our current students. If you have experiences to share, please contact the College Past Student Association.

Mary Josey (2011)

Over the weekend of 20-22 January the Netball phase 2 trials were held for the U17s and U19s Queensland team selections. Over a gruelling weekend of fitness testing, coaching, drills and match play 30 x U17 and 30 x U19 players competed for the 12 places in each of the teams.

Mary Josey was selected to the U19 team and is now training intensively with the team. They are supported by the Queensland Academy of Sport Netball Queensland U19s Coach Christine Voge and a raft of experts in various fields. This team then competed in the Nationals in Launceston Tasmania from 30 March to 4 April, where they finished 3rd out of the eight state teams competing.

After Launceston, Mary competed in the Indoor Netball Nationals at Toombul at the end of April. At the presentation night on Saturday Mary was awarded:

- Player of the Grand Final
- Player of the Series

She also scored a spot on the Australian Team (this is a non-touring side) but still a great honour. Congratulations from the StC Community!
Where are they Now?

You can take the boy out of StC but you can’t take StC out of the boy!!

I finished glancing through an issue of the Northern Times (2 December 2011), something I don’t often get the time to do during term time. I got to the second last page, Sports Extra with Peter Marsh (2007). I wondered if he realized the connection of the three main articles on the second last and last pages of the paper…..

You can take the boy out of StC but you can’t take StC out of the boy!!

This statuesque blonde kept many StC students and past students on the edge of their seats, sporting number 7 during the Hockeyroos 2012 Olympic bid. Not only did Jodie do the College proud, but she has inspired many of our young athletes by making them realise the possibility of greatness in their individual endeavours.

(Jodie’s hockey journey was featured in the November 2011 issue of The Eagle.)


Mary’s a Diamond Inside

Mary Josey (2011)

First Grade Captain and Coach Sandgate Redcliffe Cricket Club

StC Teacher

Frances Manning

Where are they Now?

**Nathan Chilo (2008)**

I began my time at StC in 2004 as a Year 8 student. In 2006, during Year 10, I decided that I wanted an apprenticeship. I wasn’t the strongest academic student and I thought that some kind of trade was going to be my best bet at being successful. With the help of the Careers team at SC, in particular Mr deLaurence, and the support of my parents I secured a school-based apprenticeship in air-conditioning and refrigeration.

It was an excellent way to begin my apprenticeship and still receive my senior certificate. I carried on with my school-based apprenticeship throughout Years 11 and 12 and began my apprenticeship full time after school. I was lucky enough to work in various aspects of the trade which I feel has given me quite a broad knowledge in different areas of air-conditioning and refrigeration.

December last year proved to be a very exciting time, my girlfriend and I bought our first home and I became a tradesman. At 19 I decided to take the nerve-wracking plunge, with a fresh mortgage in mind, into business ownership. Five months on I am proud to say that my business has been a great success. I have managed to pick up a lot of work through local real estate offices, looking after the air-conditioning break downs and installation in rental properties and I have also gained a lot of air-conditioning installation work through one of the largest builders in South East Queensland, which was no easy task.

Starting my business, Temper Troops, in the middle of summer was definitely an advantage as this is the industry’s busiest time, however with winter just around the corner I have my work cut out for me. I look forward to tackling the challenge head-on and growing my business through the quieter months. I would like to thank StC for their support in gaining my apprenticeship as I wouldn’t be doing what I am otherwise. www.tempertroops.com.au

**Kenneth (John) McCallum OAM (1967)**

Congratulations to John who was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 2011. His impressive service history includes:

- For service to the sport of Rugby League football, Queensland Community Clubs, and to the community of Cairns.
- Chairman, Brothers Leagues Club (Cairns) Ltd, since 1983; Board Member, since 1977; Inaugural Member, Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund Committee, 1994-1997.
- Vice-President, Queensland Community Clubs, since 2004; Board Member, since 2003.
- Member, Advisory Board to the Bishop of Cairns, in the 1980s.
- Inaugural Member, Advisory Board, Family Care-Cairns Diocese, 1984-1990.

**John Bunworth (1956)**

John completed the Parkinson’s Disease Fundraiser walk this year, on behalf of Brian Ford (1955), who as you know died of Parkinson’s around this time last year.

John is currently writing Brian’s biography and was able to catch up with Wallaby number 6, Jake Shatz, who did the walk with a broken arm, alongside his Dad and featured, along with his mother, in Brian’s biography.

**Vale Jim Anderson (1946)**

Jim worked as a journalist at the Courier Mail from about 1950 until around 1960 when he retired as Turf Editor and joined the Queensland Turf Club to set up their library at Eagle Farm.
Whilst 1991 saw those living endure the pain of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze, Bryan Adams singing and unfortunately the end of TV show PUGwall, there were some good things that came out of the year. One of these being the group of young men who strode ‘trepidatiously’ into the wide world via Sandgate Rd on November 15 as the latest crop of Columban “sons of the men who went before.”

This group never quite did things by the norm and their reunion schedule reads as such. 1994 saw over 40 former students gather in the now defunct (as far as I know) Brothers Rugby Club beer garden for a much touted three year reunion. The next time they gathered was early November 2011 to celebrate 20 years since parting ways and dispersing to various corners of the globe. The night was celebrated at the Newmarket (not Merthyr) Bowls Club and to the thrill of some unattached past students, it coincided with three Hens’ parties. 25 men were able to make it, with at least 15 noted apologies, as well as much loved teacher Donna Spillane, albeit briefly, and a lovely message from 12 White English teacher John Byrnes, who accredited this year group with nearly driving him to the brink, but also making him as a teaching professional.

One of the beauties of this gathering was how immediately old friendships and connections were re-established. Behind the facades of expanding waste-lines and vanishing hair-lines were the same personalities that at times infuriated teachers and inspired a wealth of joy and memories for all. The laughter was endless and all were pleased to have made the journey, for some a much more labour-some affair than others.

Worth noting are the efforts of Cameron McKeown who winged it from London to be a part of the night and Trent Sayers who detached himself from his prosthetic second head (non-Tasmanians have to try and fit in somehow) to make the trip from Hobart. Also to Geoff Smith who postponed a work trip to LA by 12 hours so he could fly out at 6am the following morning, thumping head and all. But the true star of the evening was the pristinely preserved, sky-blue Columban’s Primary School cap that accompanied Condon Quinn. Such a hat had rarely been sited since 1986 when the Primary School closed, yet Quinny was able to retrieve this valued commodity and share it with all in attendance for the night.

Over 50 out of the 85 graduates were tracked down and this enabled many to communicate with those they had not spoken with in decades. The aim of the group is to have some form of get together in another five years, but this could more than likely turn into seven. For a group who has always done things differently, a 27th reunion has quite a ring to it.

Scott Thomson

Erin Honsa (2002)

It is heart-warming to read the accomplishments of our fellow Past Students:

2003-2005 Bachelor of Science, majoring in Microbiology. Graduated with a Distinction.
2006-2007 Erin held the position of Research Assistant at QUT
2007-2008 Honours at QUT in Microbiology
2008 Won a scholarship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, USA
2008-2012 Researched Anthrax and won the Best Student Talk award two years running
2012 Will graduate as Doctor of Microbiology after presenting a thesis on Bacteria and Anthrax. Will begin a Post Doctorate Fellowship at St Jude’s Childrens’ Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Congratulations Erin, you have done us all proud!
Mitchell Buckett (2008)

Mitchell was an all-rounder in his time at StC, competing as part of the TAS Athletics, Cricket, Cross Country, Rugby and Swimming teams and the Confraternity Rugby team also.

As well as playing for the College, Mitchell was a member of the Caboolture Snakes team from the age of 8 to U18s, and in this time was never selected in a representative side.

With a dream and passion for rugby, Mitchell’s determination was strong and after completing school he was selected as one of the team members for the Queensland Cup, where he gained a six week trial season with the Manly Sea Eagles. He was not selected in the final team for this, but came back to the Queensland Cup more determined than ever to train harder and have a good season, and this has paid off with him recently securing a two year contract with the South Sydney Rabbitohs last month.

We wish Mitchell all the best on his realisation of his dream and recognise his achievement in the face of his passion and determination to reach his highest potential.

Congratulations from the StC Community!

Vale Judge Patrick Shanahan (1930-40)

From the Courier Mail Wednesday 25 April 2012

A former chief judge of the District Court, Pat Shanahan, has died at the age of 82.

Judge Shanahan, who retired in 1999 after five years as chief judge, spent more than 50 years as a lawyer and judge.

He was a District Court judge for 26 years after being appointed in December 1972 as the first resident District Court judge in Rockhampton.


He is survived by wife Patricia, their six children and their families.

John Hennessy Reminisces:

There were four boys in the Shanahan family. Their mother was widowed and worked hard to support the family (no widows’ pension in those days). They lived next door to the Joss house in Albion and Pat and his brothers walked to school.

Pat left school at 13 or 14 years of age but studied further at night. He began his career in the CMF legal section.

Despite his successful career, Pat’s feed remained firmly on terra firma and was a family man.

It is also interesting to note that Len also addressed the Christian Brothers at the closing of StC Albion.

New Archbishop

POPE Benedict XVI has announced the appointment of Archbishop Mark Coleridge, currently Archbishop of Canberra-Goulburn, as the new Archbishop of Brisbane.

He succeeds Archbishop John Bathersby, who retired last November.

StC is pleased to welcome our new Archbishop!
In July the College community gathered for a short but moving liturgy to acknowledge Sgt Blaine Diddams, an Australian SAS soldier recently killed in Afghanistan. Blaine attended the College at Albion in the 1980s. Students observed the liturgy with the deepest of respect as they were reminded of the achievements of a remarkable soldier, who had served in many theaters of conflict in service of his country before his tragic death on his seventh tour of Afghanistan. Blaine leaves behind a wife and two children. The St Columban’s community extends its deepest sympathy and respects to his family and friends.

Vale Blaine Diddams

Sadly, we have also been briefly notified about the passing of the following students:
- Brian Vince Shanahan (died September 2012)
- Barry Gorman (died September 2012)
- Fr John McGlone (died 2002)
- John McLean (died February 2012)
- Denis Cleary (died July 2011)
- Brendan Shanahan (died September 2012)
- Denis Cleary (died July 2011)
- Roger Grehan (died 2011)
- Paul O’Hare (died July 2012)
- John (Jack) Murray (died July 2012)
- Ian Tuffield (died September 2012)
- John DiBetta (died September 2012)
- Brian Webb (died 2008)
- Ken Gordon (died May 2012)
- Sean Keaney (died June 2012)
- Neil Breen
- John McLean (died February 2012)
- John DiBetta (died September 2012)
- Ian Tuffield (died September 2012)
- John (Jack) Murray (died July 2012)
- Paul O’Hare (died July 2012)

Our deepest respect and prayers are with families and friends of these past students.

Will and Jane Tour

A group of thirteen students and staff travelled to England and Scotland to commune with William Shakespeare, Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, the Brontes, John Ruskin, William Wordsworth and Beatrix Potter. Along the way they visited Hogwarts dining Room at Christ Church College, Stonehenge, Stratford-on-Avon and many other literary and historical landmarks.

This is part of what the students had to say about the trip:

This trip has consisted of a lot of firsts for me, and has been an eye-opener because I didn’t know what people had to put up with to survive back in the old days. Wordsworth’s poem ‘Leech Gatherer’ described an horrific job but that’s what they had to do to keep their families alive – Josh Connolly. This trip has opened my mind further to a few things and given me access to many opportunities. I love to travel and will continue to do so through my life. The more I learn about literature, the more I appreciate its history and iconic practitioners – Mitch Phillips. Personally I was quite surprised by how much I enjoyed the Shakespeare aspect of the trip. The Globe was one of the greatest experiences of the trip. I was definitely inspired by some of the trip to read more: Jane Eyre and Julius Caesar in particular – Hinemoa Streten. On this trip I have become more confident in myself and I believe that my dreams aren’t too hard to achieve and now I know I can do it – Georgia Price. I think this trip has been very liberating. I’ve always wanted to travel the world and to find it a place so filled with culture and loveliness has made my weird and wonderful plans feel possible – Amber Wriede. Hearing the circumstances, backgrounds and personal emotions and events in the lives of the poets and others made me really think about what has been written and made me appreciate the words and stories more – Zoe Pickering. I was able to get a different perspective on the world, to learn what it is like to be away from home and that things are always more interesting when you step out of your comfort zone – April Dobson.

The invaluable lessons learned by students on these pilgrimages are certainly worthwhile and are shared with peers upon their return to the classroom.

You can help...

SAS Resources Trust arranges support for the families of SAS diggers who have been killed in action. If you would like to support this please visit sartrust.org.au and your donation will go to the next deserving SAS digger’s family.

Care Packages are also being prepared for delivery to overseas diggers on Remembrance Day, 11 November 2012. Donations can be made through your Federal Member.
TAS Sporting Program:

Our sporting program is quite unique and operates to a high standard. We have had some exceptional outcomes in the last few years including winning All Schools Touch Carnival and QISSN last year, as well as some TAS premierships, including Rugby, Netball, and Tennis. We sustain Saturday sport in the TAS competition which is a feature of the College and it facilitates great parent involvement.

We have an exceptional number of PE trained teachers, who teach also in their other fields. The uptake on PE and Fitness courses in the College is very high.

StC has a proud history and tradition associated with school sport. As one of the founding schools in TAS, StC has made a significant contribution to sport in the district.

The school also competes locally in many regional sports where individuals are given the opportunity to represent at a higher level. Sporting endeavours rely on teamwork and co-operation, where students can develop a real sense of making a worthwhile contribution.

This is very important in its links to the academic program in Health, Physical Education and Fitness.

“…through persistence and being unrelenting on expectations, it was raising the expectations in all areas... the level of commitment and expectation and applying that to training, pride in the College, uniform and behaviour on and off the field has all helped immensely.” - Darren Crilly, PE Faculty Co-Ordinator, Coaching Director of Rugby (Excerpt from the Principal's address to a recent sporting conference)

Reunions

All Past Students

Friday 26 October 2012

The Irish Club, Elizabeth Street, Brisbane
6pm-9pm

Class of 2002

Class of 1992

Class of 1982

Saturday 17 November

Fratelli Italian Restaurant

Class of 1972

Class of 1962

Class of 1952

Class of 1965

Linda Upton

events@stc.qld.edu.au

Karma Somerville & Adele Johnson

Craig Smith

Stephen Dutton,

Matthew Brady & Greg Dent

stc1982reunion@hotmail.com

Kim Carnaffan

Brian Sullivan

Brian Balaam

Aaron Clark

Please email events@stc.qld.edu.au and we will forward your email to your reunion coordinator. Please let us know if you are planning a reunion.

Calling Past College Captains, Vice Captains, House Captains and Committee Chairs....

We need to enlist your help by asking you to liaise with your classmates.

Please visit www.stc.qld.edu.au to update your contact details and check for current information and events.