



Jimnies Spirit

Past Students' Newsletter
Volume 5 September 2013

From the Principal

With this edition of Jimnies Spirit going to print during the 2013 Federal Election campaign it is timely to mention to all past students and families the absolute necessity of keeping the pressure on our major political parties to ensure that whichever party secures the nod of the Australian people in September, that the new government is committed to deliver fair and equitable funding for the Catholic schools.

Catholic schools provide for the Australian community an alternative educational environment that focuses not only on excellent academic achievement, but seeks to develop the whole person towards becoming young men and women of integrity, imbued with Gospel values of compassion, justice, peace and love.

Pope John Paul II, who more than many saw that education and in particular Catholic education was about bringing hope and freedom to the world, once wrote:

Catholic education aims not only to communicate facts but also to transmit a coherent, comprehensive vision of life, in the conviction that the truths contained in that vision liberate students in the most profound meaning of human freedom.

This reference to a 'liberating' education is further encapsulated in the Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition where we read:

We open our hearts and minds, throughout quality teaching and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.

Many of you can attest to the fact that Jimnies has, throughout its long history, welcomed the opportunity to provide educational opportunities for young men (and now young women) who needed a chance in life. This is still our brief today and we certainly do not shy away from this.

But while we know that this comes with a considerable financial impact on the school, this still must be the core business for us if we are to continue to be faithful to the mission and tradition of Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers.

Advanced planning is now underway for the new Science/Library facility which will be constructed at the northern end of the main lower playground. This three-story building will incorporate a new Library on the top level, Science rooms on the middle level and a passive recreation space and student facilities on the ground level.

With the proposed construction taking place over the railway tunnel which runs underneath that section of the school, significant engineering issues present themselves, all of which are currently being worked on by Fulton Trotter Architects whom the College has engaged for the project. The Development Application is in its eighth month with the Brisbane City Council but we hope approval for the new building will be forthcoming over the next two months.

Each year many of our students have the opportunity to engage in work experience through placements with numerous businesses around the city and suburbs. These contribute to the Certificate I Work Education and the

Certificate II Work Place Practices which the College offers as part of its broad range of training programs. Finding appropriate work placements is always a challenge for our Vocational Education & Training department. So I would be delighted to hear from any past students who may be able to assist in the provision of work placements for our students.

Thank you once again to all our Past Students who contribute to the school through donations to our Building Fund, the 'Lighthouse Project' (mentioned in previous editions of this Newsletter) and our Student Support Fund.

Thank you also to Past Students who give up their time to assist and to coach sporting teams. This year has been particularly exciting with all our boys basketball teams (junior and senior) making it through the grand final playoffs. Netball, rugby league, soccer, futsal and AFL also have provided wonderful opportunities for our students to shine.

The Jimnies spirit well and truly lives on in the hearts and minds of our students, a fitting legacy of all of you who have gone before them.

Faithful Forever

Gerry Crooks
Principal

Coming Events

The Principal, Mr Gerry Crooks invites all past students of Jimnies to attend a

Past Students Gathering

on **Friday, 11 October 2013**
in the **St James College School Hall**
201 Boundary Street, Brisbane
From **5.30pm to 8.00pm**

Entry is by pre-paid ticket only and can be purchased by phoning Maria at the College on 3230 8600.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person and will be on sale till 2pm on Monday 7 October. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening for the purchase of drinks.

Parking: Lower playground of the College via Gloucester Street.

Enquiries: Contact Naomi Ritchie on 07 3230 8686 or at Naomi.Ritchie@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au

Cultural and Language Diversity at St James College

St James College is privileged with a culturally diverse enrolment including thirty five international students on study visas. Students attending the College originate from Africa, Asia, Europe, North & South America, Oceania and Australia (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island cultures). The College has focused on the opportunities presented by such a diverse community to encourage cross-cultural engagement through celebrating our diversity, highlighting connections and building capacity to appreciate and negotiate differences. Learning programs and community celebrations promote tolerance, empathy and the importance of social capital by building cross-cultural competencies and cultural literacies, leading to a sense of global citizenship. Themes in study programs explore issues of global forces, critiques of cultural clashes and sensitivities of differing value systems. Community activities promote participation and engagement and encourage an active, personal commitment to building a peaceful and prosperous future for all. St James is an inclusive and welcoming community providing students with the skills to negotiate and manage the complexities of globalisation.

Initiatives to promote internationalisation and cross-cultural connections at St James College contribute to quality outcomes for all students at the College. For students with different cultural backgrounds, the initiatives specifically encourage engagement with the broad College community, promoting a sense of belonging, inclusion and welcome. This provides the motivation to make connections, building relationships with staff and other students, appreciating and negotiating differences and managing complexities of communication



Meeting with families of current students
Nathan Liu and Ivan Li.

across cultures. The increased communication and engagement also have considerable benefits in developing English language skills leading to increased capacity to communicate on more complex topics leading to greater inter-cultural understandings and cultural literacies.

It is equally important for the College to forge contacts with families, education agents, education authorities and schools in source countries for our international students. Staff and students also travel to countries like South Africa, India and East Timor, providing a firsthand view of the mission of the Church with the poor and marginalised. Over the past two years, staff have also visited China, Taiwan and South Korea, meeting key people in the international student industry. In March this year, Ms Helen Robin, International Student Manager and Mr Tony McCulkin, Deputy Principal, travelled to China to visit families, agents and schools in seven cities. Activities included Education Exhibitions talking to prospective

students and families; familiarisation with education agents and visits to their offices; meeting education officials and parent teacher interviews with families of current students. We also visited three schools and met with officials from another school.

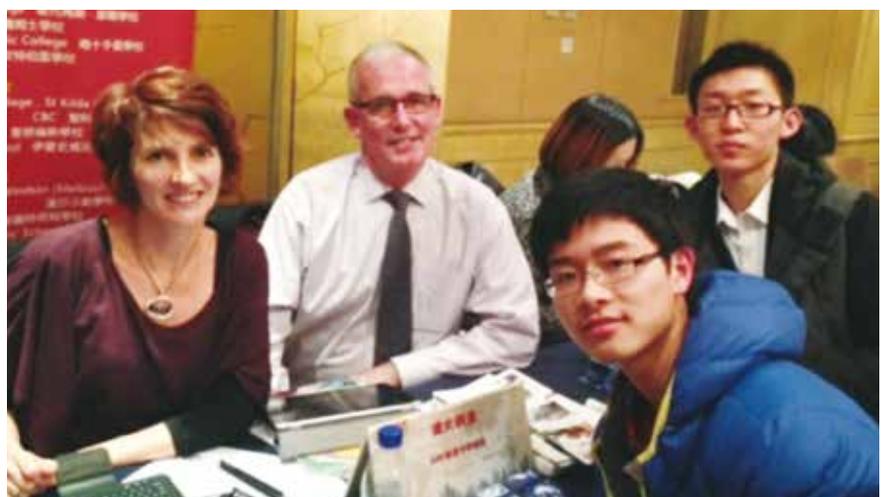
One significant development was the signing of a sister school agreement with The Qidi Middle School Attached To Northwestern Polytechnical University in Xian. The Qidi School has 5000 students, all of whom are boarders. It is situated in a rapidly expanding city that is the centre of China's mining, petro-chemical and aeronautical and military equipment manufacturing industries. The relationship will involve visits by teachers and students to each school and could lead to exchange and co-operation programs.

Other cities visited included Wenzhou, Ningbo, Guangzhou, Foshan, Chongqing, Tianjin and Shanghai.

Tony McCulkin
Deputy Principal



Lunch with the Principal and Deputy Principal of the Qidi School.



Meeting prospective students at an education exhibition in Tianjin.



A Genuine Immersion: Planting seeds of justice in the hearts of students

“One sees clearly only with the heart.

What is essential is invisible to the eye.” It is the words of author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s novella *The Little Prince* that gives inspiration to the cause for a journey of six students and three staff from St James College to East Timor, one of Australia’s closest neighbours and the world’s second newest nation. But little did these travellers realise how much their hearts would be changed and their world perspective flipped on its head.

The 11-day expedition is the fourth annual Immersion program that the school has taken to this fledgling country and aims to develop relationships between the community of St James College and the people of East Timor.

“It is very different to a normal holiday trip,” says Mr Chris Zammit, the coordinator of the program. “We stay in people’s homes, not hotels. We visit people’s coffee gardens, not all the tourist sites. Students are expected to live in the shoes of a Timorese for a few days; to do what they’re doing and share the experiences of daily life.”

The program is based around three relationships that have grown since its founding in 2009, the first with that of Santa Bakhita Orphanage in Dili, a small yet welcoming home of around 25 children aged from 9-18 years old. “Every year when we arrive both groups of kids are excited to be able to practice their English and Tetum. If you walked into the place at any time during the visit you would hear the voices of those singing and see exchanges of dance moves or basketball skills. We share meals,

exchange stories and gain a better understanding of what *family* really means in a different context.”

With a population over 1 million, the majority of people live in rural villages spread out across the mountainous countryside. In the village of Seloi, a 90 minute drive from Dili, the students move into a small house owned by ex-Principal Mario da Costa, who has six children of his own, a typical size family in East Timor.

“Living with the people is an important part of this journey,” Chris explains. “Witnessing family values, seeing the daily operations of a household and experiencing some of the poverty whilst strengthening relationships builds a much greater sense of empathy and makes the experience of walking in the shoes of another so much more genuine.”

East Timor’s main export is coffee, grown on the sloped hillsides across the country. “Before this trip none of our students had ever picked coffee or set foot on a rice paddy,” says Chris. “They not only get to follow the journey of a coffee bean, but get to taste the final product fresher than they ever could in Australia.”

One of the participants, Abraham Manyang, travels with his own story of struggle as a refugee from South Sudan. “Hearing the stories of survival in Timor made me realise that the big stories we hear on the news are made up of so many personal stories that we don’t normally hear or read about in books.”

Abraham also recognised the importance of relationships in Timorese culture. “Connecting with

the Timorese,” he shares, “happens almost instantly. They made us feel so important and welcome, almost like family. I felt so privileged to be there.”

Asked what it meant to immerse himself, Abraham says he took advantage of every opportunity he was given on this trip. “I picked coffee, dug up sweet potatoes, walked the narrow mountain tracks to natural springs, played with all the young kids and tried to learn some of the language. Everywhere I went I was inspired by the hunger and drive of people who wanted to make the most of their lives and the few opportunities they had. My attitude to my own life has changed and I now realise how blessed I have been.”

The final place the group visited was the village of Railako Kraik, where running water comes from the community tap and electricity is yet to be connected. Ms Di Riddle, one of the teachers who was on her fourth journey to the country, expressed excitement over the instalment of power lines. “It is great to finally see progress in the country. I know how much of an impact this will have on the lives of those in the mountains.”

In Railako Kraik, students are placed in homestays and spend time at the local primary school running activities. They also see first hand the wonderful work of the Christian Brothers, who have been running their ministry in the surrounding villages for around 15 years.

“Many students express their desire to return to East Timor, in some capacity, which is a testament to the relationships they build in this short time,” states Chris. “They return to Australia with a whole new perspective of their own lives and where they fit into the big picture. The seeds of justice that are planted on the way help develop compassionate, empathetic and caring young adults, who recognise the importance of story and of relationship.”

“As we reflect each night on the journey, students acknowledge not the physical things, but the values that they have seen in the people they have met.” In the words of *The Little Prince* “The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched; they must be felt with the heart.”



Chris Zammit

Ministry Co-ordinator

Co-curricular Activities at St James – Showing their True Colours

It is no coincidence that the resurgence of the mighty maroon and gold colours on the uniforms of our sporting teams, has coincided with an increase in participation and victories across the co-curricular program. These striking colours not only set us apart from the myriad of blues, whites and reds of the other teams, but also continue the tradition from decades past. The spirit shown by the young men and women in recent years, once the maroon and gold jersey is on, has to be seen to be believed.

Recently our Senior Boys Football team, wearing a maroon/gold striped jersey for the first time, made it to the knockout semi-final of the prestigious UHlsport Cup. The boys were 1-nil down at half time against Brisbane State High and with no sign of giving up, slotted the equaliser to send the game into extra time. Despite losing 2-1 in extra time the squad showed great spirit and pride for their school colours. Likewise our basketball squads are dominating the Brisbane competition with our senior boys in the final for the Men's U23 competition at the Brisbane Basketball Association. Five out of our six junior basketball squads are undefeated and are scheduled to play in the final of the South District Sporting Association. All teams wear predominately maroon and gold and I believe it has made a huge difference.

The link with the past is an important part of the sporting program and I am pleased to report that past student Peter McWhirter (1976) played a vital role in the recent success of our Senior Rugby League team. With the

mounting costs of getting our squad to Townsville for this year's Confraternity Carnival, Peter put up his hand to pay the \$1500 for jerseys, shorts and socks. A further \$500 was donated to the squad by past student Robert Ebrington (1953) to help cover costs for food and accommodation. The squad returned with four wins from seven games, finishing fourth in the Cup pool matches and going down to Faith Lutheran College in the semi-final. Down 14-nil at half time, the squad rallied to be leading 18-14 with ten minutes to go only to be run down by a couple of late tries. The pride in the jersey shown throughout the carnival was exceptional.

At the 2013 EREA Basketball tournament past student Peter Egan (1978) generously donated \$300 worth of A Mart Sports vouchers after witnessing firsthand the talents and challenges of our junior and senior basketball squads. Despite defeating the overall winner Nudgee College in the earlier pool round, the squad were relegated to third place after a complacent semi-final against Parade College. The boys have recently regained their earlier form that saw them victorious against Brisbane State High, Brisbane Boys College, Marist College Ashgrove and Ipswich Boys Grammar. Both our Senior Boys and Senior Girls basketball will compete in the 2013 Queensland Champion School Basketball Tournament, hoping to improve on last year's unbelievable finish of 4th place.

The inaugural Past Students versus Current Students Basketball Challenge

was a huge success. The past students were victorious in the first match with our current Senior Team winning the main game. The College looks forward to the Basketball Challenge becoming a fixture in the St James College calendar.

Success has also come in the co-curricular activity of Theatre Sports where last term the St James team placed in the top 16, out of 120 schools throughout South East Queensland. The team predominately from the senior drama class, entertained and inspired both supporters and opponents alike. This year the college has excelled in Debating and Chess with some monumental victories over several GPS Colleges.

The Leroy Loggins run Sporting Chance Program as well as our own Lighthouse for Athletes project, offer support to those students and their families who face barriers on several fronts. Leroy and his group work alongside our Indigenous students supporting them in and outside the class room. The Lighthouse for Athletes project continues to offer financial assistance to the students who are unable to participate in sporting activities due to financial hardship or simply because they cannot afford a pair of sports shoes. Details of both programs can be found on the College web page and your support would be greatly appreciated.

The Junior Sporting Program run each Wednesday afternoon continues to gain momentum and with five of the six junior basketball teams competing in this term's final, we are in a strong position to regain the South District Association Sporting Champion School trophy for 2013. We also offer fishing, bowling, golf and a social justice activity that sees our students volunteer their time at either the Young Care organisation or Ronald McDonald House.

The Jimmies Spirit is no more evident that in the competition between the four College Houses, with Hogan House ensuring a dramatic final term of competition. By overcoming reigning champion Long House in the Interhouse Athletics Carnival, Hogan House has closed the gap on the overall points



Confraternity Carnival, Townsville.

and has applied the pressure in the run home. The College is currently overcome with World Cup Soccer fever with Europe taking out the girls final and the boys starting semi-finals in the coming weeks. World Cup Soccer, St James style, is a fantastic event that includes the whole school, staff and students alike. It is one of many traditions that keep the Jimmies Spirit alive.

Faithful Forever.

Andrew Ebrington
Sports Co-ordinator



Past Students vs Current Students Basketball Challenge (Left to Right: Joshua Angalo, Michael Trotter, Sean Connolly, Ranko Puseljic, Ged Sheehan, Chol Muorter).

Pierre de Coubertin Award

Each year the Queensland Olympic Committee make available an award, named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games, recognising an outstanding sports person in each high school across Queensland. This year, St James College nominated Year 12 student Zac Telfer, for this award. Zac has represented the College, Met East region and the State in swimming throughout his high school years. He represented Australia in the World Down Syndrome Swimming Championships in Loana, Italy in November 2012 where he won a number of medals. Zac is a very worthy recipient of this year's Pierre de Coubertin Award as well as receiving a State Great Award.



Zac Telfer with (Left) Bianca Hammett, Synchronised Swimming Summer Olympics 2012 and (Right) Natalie Cook OAM, five time Olympian Beach Volleyball, Gold in Sydney 2000 and Bronze in Atlanta 1996.

Kokoda Youth Program

Congratulations to Year 12 student, Connor Whelan, who has been taking part in the Kokoda Youth Program, the aim of which is to develop the general health and physical fitness of participants, whilst also improving their sense of community.

Since April this year, Connor and his Brisbane team mates have been training for eight hours every Sunday starting at 5.15am. They learn endurance, leadership, first aid, Kokoda history, teamwork and leadership skills. With over four months of training under their belt Connor and his team recently participated in the Gold Coast Kokoda Challenge. This is one of the lead-up events to the actual trip to Papua New Guinea where this group of teenagers will walk the Kokoda Track.

The Gold Coast Challenge involved a weekend hike of 96km beginning at 7.00am on the Saturday morning and finished at 3.30pm on Sunday afternoon. These teenagers walked

non-stop through the night with only four 20 minute meal breaks. Connor distinguished himself through leadership and support of others throughout the two day challenge.

Connor and his Brisbane team are now training with 15kg weighted packs in preparation for walk the real Kokoda Track in PNG this September.



Connor Whelan with Kokoda Challenge founder, Doug Henderson OAM.



Group photo at finish line.

College Events

Jimmies on the Dam

On Sunday 5 May a number of students, both past and present, together with their families and staff from the College enjoyed a very relaxing day at St James Outdoor Education facility, Jimmies on the Dam. Many took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy a variety of different water sport activities. This event looks set to becoming a regular fixture in the College calendar.



Bastille Day Celebrations

On Thursday July 18, Year 8 French students held a Bastille Day stall selling croissants to help promote French at St James. As Bastille Day was on Sunday July 14, a presentation was given at Assembly to the whole school. The students learnt about the significance of Bastille Day to French people and the beginning of The French Revolution in 1789.

Mrs Karen Herrick
Year 8 French Teacher



Open Day welcomes back Karina Hogan and Nicholas Filer

Recently, on Friday, 2nd August, the College held its annual Open Day. On days such as this, we are always reliant on our students to represent our school to their highest level. It is always a tough gig to tell the story of Jimmies to others – prospective parents and students – in the fear that those who are listening may not fully understand the reality. After all, it really is not about telling the story but about being the story. Every young person who walks through our gates becomes that story.

At that Open Day two past students shared their experiences both as a student of St James and then in their post-school days.

Nick Filer, of the Class of 2009, recounted a story of a very personal struggle that gave him a different and renewed perspective on life. His recounting of his perseverance in his studies, culminating in an honours degree from Griffith University, was inspirational. His comments about St James resonate with us all: *Maybe St James is a small school in size but it*

has a big heart. When asked by my friends why I am so loyal to the school, I say: it's simple. I hold St James in the highest regard not only for the friends I have made, and for the teachers who inspired and challenged me, but the opportunities they gave me and the knowledge that I would not be where I am now were it not for their support and encouragement.

Karina Hogan, of the Class of 2003, related a personal tale that not only was about her extraordinary career as a journalist after she left St James but, more importantly, about her journey from the time she first arrived at the College. Karina related a story of being lost and of being found through her life at St James. As she said: *I built strong relationships with teachers, the Principal, the tuckshop ladies, our Indigenous teachers and friends whom I still talk with to this day. Don't get me wrong: like most teenagers I often doubted my ability but was lucky to have teachers who often reminded me of the importance of taking my education seriously and making the right decisions. St James was so accommodating and accepting of people from all sorts of backgrounds. It gave me everything I needed and more.*

For all Jimmies students, past and present, both Nick's and Karina's stories strike a chord with us all. These stories are part of the fabric of what this little place is all about, and why it continues to hold a special place in all our hearts – past and present students, families, and staff whose vocation and commitment is so in tune with the uniqueness of the Jimmies story.



Nicholas Filer & Karina Hogan.

60km Walk for Weekend to End Women's Cancer

Hi my name is Yolanda and I have been working at St James for 17 years. Friends and I have formed a group (William Global Warriors) to raise money for Research that will help towards finding a cure to end Women's Cancer. We are required to walk 60kms over the weekend of October 26 – 27. To be eligible to enter we must raise a minimum of \$2000 per person.

On Saturday 29th June, we hosted a Ladies High Tea fundraiser at the College, (big thanks to the College for making available to us at no cost the venue and facilities). This was a huge success and a great afternoon was had by all who attended.

The 60km walk will be staged over two days through the suburbs of Brisbane. It will be very powerful with a strong message of determination to end women's cancer. I am committed to this challenge for all the women in my life whom I love and have lost or will lose and for all those whom I don't know but have suffered from these diseases.

I ask that you take a stance with me in this adventure for all women. Don't stand back and regret what you could have done. Take the first step today and take a chance with me, to change thousands of lives, beginning with our own.

This is not just my adventure or journey. It can be yours too.

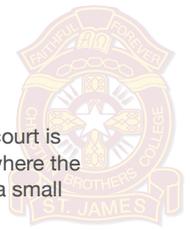
One Weekend Can Change the World.

If you would like to donate to this cause please go to the following web site or ring the College on 3230 8600 and ask for me and I can guide you through various way to donate. The web site is:

<http://br13.endcancer.org.au>.



Yolanda Cano, pictured second from the left.



Where are they now?

Maurice Maunsell (1937)

I started school at St James in 1933 and left in 1937. Whilst doing Scholarship in Grade 8, one day a week I attended Central Tech to do woodwork. I left school aged 14 years and started working in woodwork earning 8 shillings (80 cents) a week. I joined the Army in 1941 as a special instruments mechanic. After the war I built houses then started my own furniture factory. I married in 1944 and had a son and a daughter as well as a foster son and foster daughter. In 1982 I made a presentation box for the Queen and in 1986 an altar for Pope John Paul. I have enjoyed making church pews from Torres Strait to Cooloolabin NSW as well as school desks for St James. I retired in 2000 and now enjoy making jewellery boxes.

Brian Grenier (1947)

My years at St James's School (as it was then called) were 1945-1947 (Grades 5 to 7). I am currently living in semi-retirement; but I am kept busy writing for Catholic publications.

William Ball (1948)

I attended St James from 1946 to 1948 when I passed Scholarship and went on to Gregory Terrace until passing Junior in 1950. I accepted a position with a Stevedoring Company on the Brisbane Waterfront. I stayed with this Company/ Industry for 41 years and 8 months before taking an early retirement in 1992 at Age 57 as Qld Manager-General Stevedoring.

Apart from my work situation over the years, I have been actively involved with Rugby League and was Secretary of Past Brothers R.L. Club from 1962 to 1968. From 1984 to 2001, I was Public Address Announcer and/or Timekeeper/Scoreboard Operator at Lang Park, mainly for Rugby League but also Rugby Union, Soccer, American Football and also a Catholic Reconciliation gathering with Indigenous persons.

I am now residing at Golden Downs Over 50s Village and have been Secretary of the Residents' Association and now am Secretary of the Golden Downs Sports & Social Club Inc.

Jim Tolhurst (1953)

I have very fond memories of my time at St James. I enjoy reading Jimmies Spirit and seeing how the school has changed since I was there between 1950 and 1953.

Edward Sheedy (1960)

My history with St James's College began in the Year 1955 in Grade 5 through to Junior Level in 1960.

Many students continued their studies at Gregory Terrace College, as was the case in that era. I clearly remember that the cost of education at Jimmies in those early days, it was anywhere between 3 pence and 2 shillings, per week, depending on the status of your family. I would suspect that the cost of education today would be many thousands of dollars. I was not the greatest student, however I had a great love for Social Studies, English, Arithmetic and at Junior Level, Latin.

My early employment (17 years) was with Carlton and United Breweries, starting as Office Boy through to Stores Supervisor. I had gained a sufficient track record in management over those years and decided on branching out on my own. Joining AMP in 1977 as an Agent for Insurance/ Superannuation for 2 years.

During those early times, I found time to meet and marry Maria, a wonderful wife and mother to our 3 children.

In 1978 I joined Amoco Australia (American Oil Company) as their Distribution Supervisor at Pinkenba until the British Petroleum Company (BP) purchased all Amoco Australia interests in 1983, at the time, I was Business Manager (Marketing).

BP dismissed many Amoco employees, however, during that time I learnt that the Oil Businesses were very cut throat and I was in a position to retain my employment with BP as their Retail Business Manager until 1986 and then offered Commercial Sales Manager South Queensland.

I retired in 1993 and currently do a lot of fishing. I am looking forward to my 70th birthday in 2014. And so to all the Class of 1960 I wish the fondest regards.

Neil McMahon (1972)

Principal of Stafford Heights State School.

The College would like to thank Neil for participating in St James Work Placement Program by hosting one of our Year 11 students who is keen on a career in sports coaching and wanted to work with a PE teacher in a school environment.

Paul Callaghan (1973)

I attended St James in the early to mid-70s and enjoyed playing rugby league against schools such as Iona, Padua, St Edmunds and even St Mary's in Toowoomba. Some of my team mates were boys such as Vinnie Fahey, George Souter, Shane Winter and Tony Pallela. The internal school magazine produced at that time was called *Smoke from the Tunnel* for which I can lay claim to providing the title.

Brad Kunkel (1977)

As a St James Old boy, it was a pleasure to see students from St James representing their College by selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Cerebral Palsy League and ROMAC at the Brisbane Rotary Art Spectacular 2013 Opening Night Cocktail Party held at the Riverside Centre in April.

Thank you Brad for your kind words and congratulations which were passed on to the students involved.

Simon McAllister (1981)

My name is Simon McAllister. I attended St James College when it was an all boys school with a population of 375 students from Year 5 through to Year 12. I started Year 5 in 1977 and left at the end of Year 9. Since my step children have been attending St James I have noticed a few changes. While I attended the College there was a

tennis court where the basketball court is now. There was also a small oval where the catering wing is now, this gave us a small bit of grass on the property.

After leaving school I worked at Woolworths Toowong as a trainee manager. After working there for 2 years I realized that wasn't for me and started my career in hospitality.

I moved to my family in Alice Springs when I was 18 and started my apprenticeship at Federal Pacific Hotels when they were the only Casinos in Australia. In total I spent 8 years in Alice Springs completing my apprenticeship, running a small restaurant, then moving onto a Head Chef role at Ansett in-flight catering. I stayed in this role for 2 ½ years before deciding to move back to Brisbane to see some water.

On my return to Brisbane I started working in a number of restaurants in town. One being Rumpoles, where my role was Chef de Partie. I left Rumpoles after a year and a half then I received a job in Qantas in-flight catering. In Qantas my role was Chef de Partie looking after first class and business class meals for British Airways, Thai and Singapore just to name a few. I accepted a redundancy in 2000.

I then moved to a small country town outside of Brisbane called Dayboro. I took over the lease of the kitchen in a small country pub. My Dad also being a chef all his life and I ran this until the pub sold. I had a small break sitting back thinking about what I would do next.

In 2005 a small building came up for rent in the main street of Dayboro, so after a lot of consideration I decided to open a restaurant there and named it 'Monty's Of Dayboro'. Once again my dad and I were in the kitchen together. This is where my wife and I met. Fiona used to be my front of house manager. After 2 ½ years and business slowing down I decided to close it. While I was wondering what I was going to do next my good friend needed help in his landscaping business. I ended up staying there for 2 years.

With my kids approaching high school we decided to make the move to Hendra. This is where I got a job as Sous Chef Catering and Events at Bretts Wharf, working alongside Alastair McLeod. During this time I did events for the Australian Defence Force 150th year celebration for 1800 people, The Ekka and cooking breakfast for Gordon Ramsay. My weekly hours could range from 75 hours to 100 hours. Only moving on from this position when council announced the plans to widen Kingsford Smith Drive.

My current role is with Brisbane Hilton where I am Sous Chef Conferences and Events. In saying that I'm responsible for the catering of the 14 different event spaces we have available. Where we regularly have 5 or 6 spaces used at once. I also write rosters and hire and fire people. I've looked after many famous celebrities. Some sporting teams I have looked after include the Wallabies, All Blacks, Welsh

Where are they now? cont.

and Lions Rugby teams. I'm in charge of all catering events within the hotel. Numbers can range from a dinner for 12 to a sit down meal for 600 and a canapé function for 1000 and all numbers in between.

I believe that my time at St James and the education I received while there gave me the confidence to handle the many changes and situations that life has thrown at me.

Michael Oxenham (1988)

I joined the RAAF in February 1989, and have had numerous postings and Operational Deployments world-wide. I am married with two children and currently posted to RAAF Amberley as of 2012, employed within Combat Support Group.

Alfio Di Maio (1991)

I left St James at the end of Year 10. Under the United Nations banner of the Australian Army I undertook a tour of duty in East Timor in 2002. I am looking to join the Qld Fire and Rescue Service and enjoy sports and the gym.

Sean Connelly (1995)

I attended St James from Year 8 to Year 12. I was part of the Basketball Program during my time at the College and also coached for a couple of years after I left. I still play and coach at BBI and am the current President of the North Brisbane Dragons Basketball Club.

Martin Edge (2003)

I enjoyed catching up with staff from St James at my *Colourful Journey* Exhibition in May this year. My next Exhibition *Unaffected and Connected* is part of a group exhibition celebrating vibrant colour and the world around us. It will be held at Redcliffe City Art Gallery from 21 December 2013 to 4 February 2014. Opening Night is Friday, 20

December 2013, 6.00pm to 6.30pm with all in the St James community warmly invited to attend.

Joseph Yunis (2008)

I graduated Science with Honours at Queensland University in 2012 and currently work part-time at St James as a Teacher Aide as well working part-time at UQ as a Research Assistant in Neurobiology.

Michael Goodwill (2008)

I graduated Biomedical Science with Honours at Queensland University of Technology and am currently studying Dentistry at Griffith University on the Gold Coast.

Nathan Watts (2008)

I am currently studying a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) and would like to be an educational psychologist.

Dominic Proberts (2012)

I am undertaking a Fitter and Turner apprenticeship with light vehicles for Chrysler Mechanics.

Stay Connected

Past Students, please send your details to:

Naomi Ritchie, Principal's Assistant

St James College,
201 Boundary Street,
Brisbane QLD 4000

Phone: (07) 3230 8686

Naomi.Ritchie@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au

- Title & Surname
- Surname at School
- Given Names
- Telephone
- New Address
- Previous Address
- Email
- Last year at St James & Year Level
- Occupation/Skills/Interests
- Have you been doing anything we should know about?
- Please advise if you would prefer not to receive information from the Past Students' Association.



L-R: Ms Corrie Shand, Mrs Bronwyn Doherty, Martin Edge, Mrs Andrea Williams, Ms Rozalie Ferris.

Notices

Reunions

Class of 2003 – 10 Year Reunion

The Class of 2003 look forward to attending the Past Students Gathering on Friday 11 October. Please contact Sam Scarpato on 0403 716 958 for further Reunion details.

Deaths

Br Denis Hernon cfc (July 2013)

Brother Denis Hernon passed away on July 10th aged 76 years. Brother Hernon would have been known by many Jimmies staff and students over the past forty years. For many years Brother Denis conducted staff retreats and staff inservice for teachers in Edmund Rice schools throughout Queensland. Denis was a master story teller who could hold audiences spellbound for hours as he broke open story in all its forms. Denis was one of the most creative Christian Brothers to work in the Queensland Province and was known far and wide

for his wonderful retreat experiences. Denis loved story in all its forms and was able to touch deeply into the heart of anyone with whom he worked. Ultra enthusiastic Denis would sweep participants in any program that he run up in his energy and have them dancing, laughing, crying and sharing their story as he reminded them beautifully of just how much their God loved them personally. Denis would often say, "Can you leave that which is essential and attend to that which is important?" What was important for Brother Denis were people and people totally and unconditionally loved by their God. Many Jimmies classes would have had the benefit of Denis bouncing in with a huge smile and his bag of tricks; staff knew him well as caring and sensitive and he reminded staff again and again of just how precious their ministry in teaching was. He will be deeply missed by both his Brothers and his many friends. May he Rest in Peace.

By Br Damien Price cfc

Jim Gallagher (March 2013)

Jim attended St James from 1946-48. A keen Rotarian, Jim enjoyed visiting his alma mater in 2011 with his wife Louise.

Brian Felsman (November 2012)

Brian Felsman was a student at St James during WW2. Brian was a keen sportsman and a member of some successful school Rugby League teams during his school days. He continued to be a participant sportsperson throughout his life and remained a member of Brothers RUC and Nudgee Golf Club. He was also a member of the Brisbane Racing Club. Brian is survived by his wife of 35 years Brigid, his daughter Carmel, three sons – Peter, Gregory and Sean as well as six grandchildren.

Jarrold Bliss (September 2012)

Jarrold enjoyed his time at St James, graduating from the College in 1999. He is survived by his mother and brothers, Andrew and Calvin.