

### A PUBLICATION OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

#### From The Warden:

The opening of our Centenary year celebrations began on a high note.

Two hundred and ten Johnians and friends of the college attended the Dinner in the College Hall, the Great Hall, to give it the proper name, on 22 July.

Many travelled from interstate and it was marvellous to see quite a number from the Kangaroo Point days. Some familiar faces were missing -alas - we have lost too many Johnians by death in recent months.

Welcome speeches were given by the Chairman of the Council, Dr Douglas Porter: the President of the Old Johnian Association, Mr Hamish Bonifant and the President of the Student Club, Mr David McEniery. Toasts were proposed by Archbishop Aspinall, President of the College – to the founder and first Warden, and by our past Warden, the Rt Rev Dr Peter Carnley, to the College.

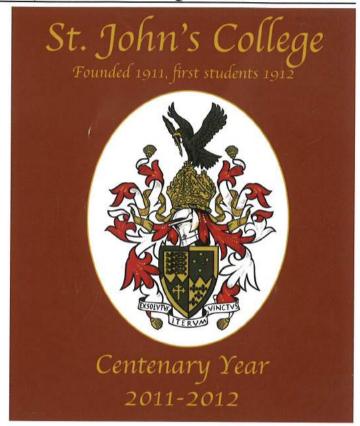
I decided not to give a lengthy speech in reply, but with the aid of Alex Yuen, a student skilled in multi media, I was able to make and show an i-movie of some 18 minutes which portrayed the history of the College from its foundation to the present day. We hope to make this available on the College web site so that those not present may view it.



The Warden, Rev Prof John Morgan with the Dean, Rev Dr Munro and Senior Tutor Ms Irena Larking - not to mention Digby!

While I was in the UK, in June, where I was a member of the Senior Combination Room of St John's College, at Cambridge, I met up with a number of Johnians and also entertained some twenty Johnians at the Oxford and Cambridge Club in London. This was a very pleasant occasion. I will be hosting gatherings in Sydney and Melbourne over the next nine months and also in some regional centres in Queensland.

We now look forward to the special Centenary service on October 23 for the Commemoration of Founders and



Benefactors during which the Archbishop will dedicate the new organ currently being completed in the UK. We will install four Honorary Fellows and rejoice in hearing the special music composed by Dr Colin Brumby for the Centenary. The special guest and speaker at the service is the Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge, Mr Duncan Robinson CBE, who will also give a lecture at the Mayne Centre Gallery of the University on Tuesday 25 October. The first Warden of St John's was chosen in 1911 by the then Master of Magdalene, the Rev. Stuart Donaldson, brother of our founder, Archbishop Donaldson. There will be a Garden Party afterwards.

Next year the Old Johnians Association is organizing a Ball to be held at Hillstone (the St Lucia Golf Course) on April 14 beginning with drinks at the College. There will also be some concerts at the College next year featuring college musicians and the new organ, as well as special lectures to further celebrate our great milestone.

I hope to see as many as possible at some of these events.

In the meantime, we continue the work of refurbishing the College and coping with the effects of both dryness – and rain - at the College. We had to completely renew all of the drainage around the Chapel from February to April after discovering that the storm water drainage was ruined by tree branches growing through it. At the same time all of the chapel landscaping was rebuilt. Lots of brickwork was rebuilt. Soon we will have to rebuild the terrace at the end of the Morgan Baker (Goodbury) wing as it is collapsing due to being built some 50 years ago without reinforcing or a block wall. Likewise, the front foyer of college is to be rebuilt as

# A Toast to the Founder and first Warden of St John's College

#### The Most Rev. Dr Phillip Aspinall

We honour in this toast two outstanding men in the College history and with them those others who founded the College.

The Founder of the College was my predecessor, Archbishop St Clair George Alfred Donaldson. Although born an Englishman, his father had been a successful business man in New South Wales and served as the first premier when representative government was granted.

St Clair Donaldson was a brilliant scholar, educated at Eton and Trinity College Cambridge. He took first class honours in both the classical and theological triposes. He was captain of boats at Trinity and a University Blue in rowing. He served as domestic chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury for three years and for nine years he worked amongst the slums of an inner London mission. In 1904 he was chosen to be Bishop of Brisbane and in 1906 he became Archbishop. Donaldson was a brilliant administrator with education at the centre of his work for the Church in Queensland. He was a man who gave himself entirely as a priest and bishop to the life of the Church. He never married and lived in a self denying fashion.

In 1911 at the Diocesan Synod, the Archbishop welcomed the opening of the Queensland University. At the same time he spoke of the need for a collegiate education —a residential one. He said: "a non resident student cannot ever have the same intellectual chance as a resident .... the moral effect of residence in College is its delightful companionships, its eager strenuous life, its free interchange of ideas, its levelling influence upon character, is too good a thing to miss".

By the end of 1911 the College was founded and affiliated to the University. A company had been formed to found and operate the College, chaired by the Archbishop and supported by a small number of leading laymen of the Diocese and helped especially by a young graduate of Sydney University, Mr Arthur Oakes.

The College was a continuing concern for Archbishop Donaldson, he raised money from friends in London in the first days of the College and even after he returned to England to become Bishop of Salisbury, he never forgot St John's College and gave many thousands of pounds to help pay off some of its heavy debts.

There is no doubt that Donaldson was a man of vision. Through Christian faith and education, the opening of both hearts and minds to larger possibilities were uppermost concerns for him

The Rev Edward Morgan Baker was chosen as first Warden on

behalf of the Archbishop by his brother, Samuel Donaldson, at that time Master of Magdalene College and Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University.

Baker was a former schoolmaster, a successful parish priest and famous all round sportsman who played rugby for England in 1895 and 1896.. At Keble College, Oxford, University, he was, as a rugby player, "ranked amongst the best of his generation". He was also a great sprinter and cricketer who represented England and his county in these sports too.

Baker was a man of forceful personality and character. He was also generous and like the Archbishop devoted his own personal finances to keep St John's afloat.

He was considered to be straight forward and gentle, yet, in many ways, seemed a demanding person who expected all those in his charge to work to the peak of their capacity.

When he left St John's for the headmastership of King's School NSW in 1919, a writer in the Student Club magazine, Argo, said of him: "a better choice could not have been made of first Warden. Broad minded, sympathetic, always cheerful, he made an ideal Head of College. In the balmy prewar days he made life for us worth living: in the stressful time of war he worked and fought to keep the College open".

Both of these men were greatly assisted by Mr Arthur Oakes, the son of an Anglican priest, an MA of Sydney University who had come to Brisbane to be partner in a chartered accountancy firm. He was a very intelligent and highly organized person and helped the Archbishop in organising the beginnings of the College. He lived in it as its first bursar and secretary and a Tutor. He enlisted out of the College into the Light Horse and was killed at Gallipoli in August 1915. Prior to his departure for the war he married his long time sweetheart. Warden Baker wrote on hearing of his death, "I have lost the best pal I have ever had".

So with the Founder and the first Warden, we also commemorate Arthur Oakes and the first members of the College Council and subscribers to the company which, in 1911 founded St John's College. It opened in 1912 with only five student members.

I invite you to rise and drink with me a toast to the Founder of St John's College, St Clair Donaldson, and the first Warden, Edward Morgan Baker – indeed to all the founders

To the Founder and the first Warden!

### **NEW COLLEGE BOAT**



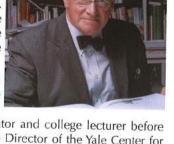


The College took delivery of a new racing IV in time for part of the 2011 UQ colleges' rowing season which was shorter and later than usual because of the floods. The boat has been named for our founder, St Clair Donaldson, who was an outstanding oarsman during his time at Cambridge.

## SPECIAL CENTENARY VISITOR

The Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge, Mr Duncan Robinson CBE, DL, will be the special visitor to the College and give the address at the Centenary Service. One of his predecessors chose the first Warden of St John's in his role as commissary for his brother, the Archbishop of Brisbane.

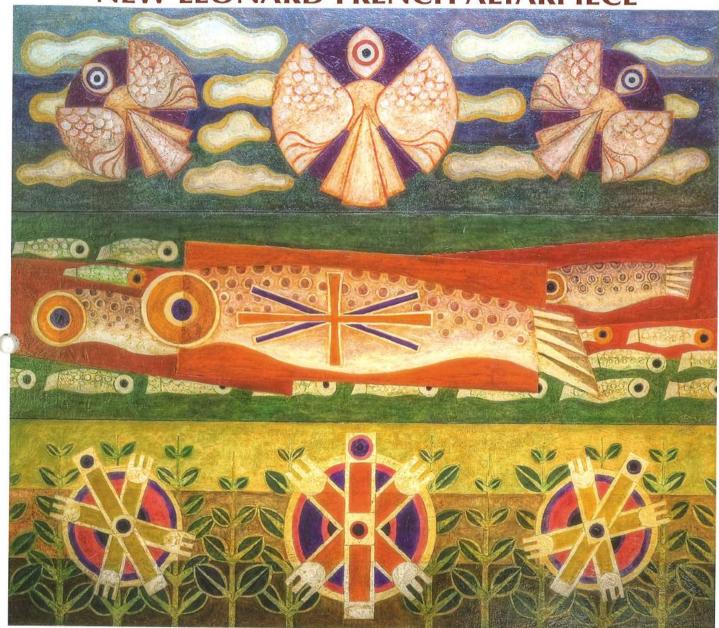
Duncan Robinson is also a Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. He began



his career in Cambridge as a curator and college lecturer before moving to the USA to become the Director of the Yale Center for British Art in 1981. In 1995 he returned to Cambridge as Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, the post from which he retired in 2007. He is currently Chairman of the Henry Moore Foundation and the Prince's Drawing School and a Trustee of the Royal Collection.

It is doubly fitting that Duncan Robinson should be our special guest for the centenary service because the new organ is being donated through Mr Robert Cripps who – together with his brother Edward - in whose memory the organ is being donated - were both made Honorary Fellows of Magdalene College.

## **NEW LEONARD FRENCH ALTARPIECE**



The College has had a long time policy of purchasing works of art for play around the College. To celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the move of the College from Kangaroo Point to St Lucia the Council of the College commissioned an altarpiece from the renowned Australian artist Leonard French. A donation was received towards this.

Prints by Leonard French, The Journey ,have graced the Great Hall of St John's since the mid 1970's. The originals are at University House, Australian National University, Canberra.

After looking at photographs of the interior and exterior of the Chapel he

proposed a series of horizontal panels which would form an altar piece to be called Earth Creations.

The work - which is a horizontal triptych - took him a year to complete and was installed with the aid of university art museum staff. It has been featured in the Courier Mail and was described as stunning by one art critic. Mr French was able to visit the College not long after the dedication of the work.

Mrs Kerry Holland, a noted Brisbane artist and a member of the St John's College Council, has written an appreciation of the painting which is printed below.

### **EARTH CREATIONS**

Leonard French, Australian artist (b. 1928) began to have a huge effect on modern and religious art in the 70's and 80's. By then he was well established as a dominant figure in the Australian art scene with public art works, stained glass and paintings abounding along with prestigious prizes. His vibrant work stood out when I was a university student in Perth in the late 70's. His strong use of rich glossy enamel colour and symbolism expressed the boldness and optimism of the time. The coloured glass ceiling commissioned of him by the National Gallery of Victoria made national news in 1968 marking a peak in his popularity and still delights the eye. More than 40 solo exhibitions is a remarkable achievement with works from small to monumental exploring some of the great human heroic themes.

Earth Creations was commissioned by St John's College a few years ago and while it is recognisably Leonard French in style with his personal visual symbolic language, richly layered texture and careful formal structure this painting is softer and more gentle than my recollection of his early work and more colourful than his darker pieces. The familiar doughnut and geometric shapes, gloss surface and structured design are evident but the colours are

muted, the reds earthy and there is a lovely harmony. This is a happy, reflective piece.

Leonard French's familiar horizontal banding in the painting read as peaceful and the classical groupings of three (doves and turtles) signify the Holy Trinity. But what really intrigues me is the choice of fish, bird and animal, that is; salmon dove and turtle. The turtles, not unlike Leonard's sun crosses in other works are full of energy and hope. Rising from burial underground they are a sign of new life and resurrection. Swimming upstream the salmon, symbolic of wisdom and heroic, sacrificial journey bear the cross. Swimming the other way in the same horizontal panel we see the new generation to come. Reminiscent of God's Spirit at Jesus' baptism and Noah's flood, the doves hover above in the clouds, circular and angel-like, watching, each with one large eye, and fanning with their wings.

and fanning with their wings.

If I were to ascribe a piece of scripture to this beautiful art work hanging behind the altar in the chapel, Psalm 8; 8,9 comes to mind; 'the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas, O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!'

Kerry Holland



The artist visits his work

# A Toast to the College

#### The Rt Rev. Dr. Peter Carnley AC

It is lovely to be back and a privilege to have the opportunity to propose this toast to the College.

An occasion such as this is naturally a time for the sharing of memories. It's a time when we find ourselves saying 'Do you remember when..."

We all, of course, have our own particular set of College memories drawn from the specific segment of time when we were here. As I think back upon the 8 years we Carnleys were here, now nearly 40 years ago, the memories tend to coalesce into a bit of a blur and I must confess that they are not all that clear.

I have a whole lot of factual memories of a fairly general kind: I remember that there were exuberant celebrations after boat races were won or after a football victory, but I cannot say I have a particular perceptual memory of any one occasion. Likewise, I recall that one of the high points each year was Hugh Botting's productions of Gilbert and Sullivan, though I would not like to be asked to pin down any one production to a particular year or name its cast members. I recall the general importance of touch football in the early evenings on the oval and 'slush' in the common room late at night. The Wednesday evening Chapel services followed by Super in the Lodge, I also remember as an important part of the weekly routine. I know we used often have 40 or more students for Supper, and once it got up to over 80 in the house, but though I remember that all this happened, I would find it hard to pin down more than the barest detail pertaining to any one of occasion.

Indeed, most of the more vivid memories of actual occasions or events in those 8 years tend to be those with a traumatic edge; I guess the emotional colouring of anxiety or trauma helps to burn a particular incident into your brain.

For example, while we lived in the Lodge, we bought the children a dog. It was a pedigree Boxer, a beautiful animal, that used to lift its front paws as it ran, like a show pony. We called him Roughie – its was a 'him'. The trouble was that Mollie Butz Olsen, the Principal of Womens College also had a Boxer and it was a 'she'. Naturally Roughie made his way up to Womens fairly regularly. On one occasion he stayed the night which was forbidden to males at Womens College. That would probably not have been the end of the world, given that he was only a dog, except for the fact that he spent the night on a lounge that Mollie Butz Olsen had herself furnished with a soft covering made with her very own hands. Unfortunately Roughie chewed at the corner of it all night. So the next day Mollie Butz Olsen, who was on any reckoning a formidable dame, chewed my ear in no uncertain terms. She demanded that Roughie would have to be put on a chain. We were reluctant to do this, but had no alternative. So we got the longest chain possible, 6 metres long. The next event in this saga was that another College along the way rang to complain that a dog thought to belong to us was running around their garden dragging 18 feet of chain and the paling from the fence to which it had been attached, and was chopping off all their poppies. Not long after that Roughie began to chase cars and had to be sent to a farm where he lasted barely a week before being ruin over. The trauma of the episode ensures that the memory remains almost as vivid today as was the actual event 30+ years ago.

Likewise, I very clearly remember the occasion when I visited a group of College students in a Royal Brisbane Hospital ward. They had been out drinking at the Indooroopilly Hotel the night before and had wrapped their car around a tree on the roadway somewhere down near the lake. Fortunately nobody died, but the large public ward they were in had about 12 patients, all with severely broken limbs. I recall very vividly being confronted by a mass of pulleys and limbs in the air in plaster casts, some with metal pins going right through the legs. It was the only occasion in life I can recall when I felt as though I was going to pass out, and had to go outside to sit on a bench and get some fresh air. That was the occasion that prompted the idea that there must be a better way for students to handle alcohol than binge drinking, and some way to avoid the temptation to drink driving, and so the idea was born that the College might form a Club and get a liquor license so that students might learn to drink 'at home' as it were and in a more civilized and moderate way, particularly with meals. The Queensland establishment from the Premier down was against

it, though the University was supportive. The traumatic events of the subsequent court proceedings, when after two licensing court hearings and a withheld judgment, the license was refused, are all clear in my memory. Then came the appeal to the Supreme Court of Queensland, which I can also recall with a good deal of detail. I certainly remember the crucial moment when the barrister for the Licensing Commission opposing the license argued that if granted a license the college would be put to a dual purpose — an educational purpose and a social drinking purpose...at which point the judge, Mr. Justice George Lucas, pulled down his glasses and looked over them and said "But, come, come, Mr. Moynihan, at golf clubs they do play golf as well as drink!" It was the first signal that we were going to win and subsequently he pointed out that the Licensing Court could exercise a discretion in the granting of licenses but it could not be 'an arbitrary discretion'. When our counsel Marshall Cooke asked for the matter to be referred back to the Licensing Court I remember clearly, Mr Justice Lucas saying 'No' he would not do that. He would simply direct that the license be issued. All this was so full of tension and drama at the time that it naturally bulks large and very clear in my memory.

Well, we all have our own vivid memories of one kind or another.

But, tonight we are here to celebrate a memory of a different kind again - the shared memory of 100 hundred years of tertiary education of the specific kind that has a residential and communitarian component integral to it. Though this is something we have individually experienced only for a small part of the 100 year span we celebrate tonight - usually 1 to 4 years on average -,tonight we remember it whole. Just why we so value living together in this kind of community is not easy to pin down. Is it something to do with the mentoring effect of rubbing shoulders, not just with like minded peers in a class, but with those pursuing the same discipline but at different year levels or even dong research? Or is it the broadening effect of living in close proximity with others studying entirely different disciplines? Or the opportunities for cultural and sporting activities, and the clarification of moral and spiritual values for the living of life well, that come with living in community? - Something to do with the education of the whole person, the coming to maturity in interpersonal and social skills in the context of a zone of freedom, away from the distractions of the family TV set or parental foibles. Or is it something to do with the purely pragmatic value of living on the spot and thus saving an hour or more a day in travel across a city to a university campus? When you think about it, this amounts to an additional day per week saved for a better and more productive purpose. It is understandable that in the case of some notably prestigious universities a residential component is mandatory, a fundamental requirement of the university as a whole.

It without doubt all makes for an entirely different educative experience from that experienced by those whose acquaintance with the university is more occasional, less intense, and detached, who come and dip into university life almost as visitors from outside. All of us who have been privileged to experience this particular kind of tertiary education with a residential and communitarian underpinning naturally own it as something we value to the point of an intense loyalty.

So tonight we remember and celebrate 100 years of university education of a specific and highly valued kind in this place. And the fact that the College has successfully negotiated 100 years of this kind of educational life, means that it is not unreasonable to hope for a further 100 years, and another 100 years after that, and on into the future. Indeed, educational institutions have a habit of longevity. On 6 May I was in England for the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the other St John's College in my life, St John's College Cambridge which was founded by Lady Margaret Beaufort, the mother of Henry VII in 1511. That kind of extended future is surely not unthinkable here. Certainly, as we contemplate the possibility of centuries of College life to come, we are not engaging in a bit of wishful thinking. The fact that we have negotiated the first 100 years grounds a genuine and reasonable hope.

So tonight we remember 100 years of achievement, but in drinking to the health of the College community we also express the hope that it may continue to flourish: may prosperity and success be its portion for centuries to come.

## GIFT OF NEW ORGAN FOR CENTENARY



A donation has been made through the St John's College Foundation, by interests associated with Mr Robert Cripps, to make possible the building of a new two manual and pedal baroque organ for the College chapel. The organ will be a memorial to the late Edward Cripps.

The organ is being built by Kenneth Tickell and Company in the UK as no Australian builder was available to complete the work within the time frame. Mr Tickell is the leading builder of new organs in the UK at present. He has recently built organs for Worcester cathedral, the historic St Mary le Bow parish church in London (home of "Bow" bells") and has just completed a new organ for Keble College Chapel at Oxford University.

The new organ will be used for both recital and accompanying work.

# College Choir Successes



The annual Choral Festival (Choralfest) of the University of Queensland Colleges is a highlight of the cultural calendar.

Under the direction of Katie Lill, a Music and Education student, the choir took first place by a margin of 22 points in 2010 and was just beaten in 2011. Above, she is shown conducting the Choralfest choir in the great Hall of the College.

Katie also sings in a major Australian choir – Solo Voce – which recently won an international competition in Switzerland. Over 1,000 choirs auditioned for this.

In 2011 Katie is College musician in residence. In addition to her conducting and choral singing Katie is a pianist and the James Warner Organ Scholar of the College.

## JOHNIAN VIOLINIST WINS TOP PRIZES

Glenn Christensen, who was a 2010 Valedictee, took first place in the 2009 Kendall Young Violinist of the Year awards. The competition, which is the leading competition for emerging violinists in Australia, also led to Glenn winning a major scholarship for a period of overseas study. He has won all of the major prizes available for young violinists in Australia

Glenn was the leader of the St John's College Quartet during 2008-10 and a College Music Scholar who always made himself available for College musical occasions. He is currently the co-leader of the Australian Youth Orchestra, a member of the AYO Quartet and performs on a casual basis with the Melbourne and Brisbane Symphony Orchestras, as well as being part of the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra Emerging Artist Programme. He recently was the soloist in two performances of the highly exacting Mendelssohn Violin Concerto.



# LIFE AFTER COLLEGE SOME JOHNIAN EXPERIENCES

#### PETA JOHNSTONE

I spent three wonderful years at St John's College, from 2003 to 2005, with the final year as Vice President of the Student Club Executive. I enjoyed each of these years immensely. I made life-long friends, partook in day-to-day college frivolities and began my academic and professional careers, even if I didn't know that's what I was doing at the time!

Since leaving college at the end of 2005, I have undertaken a variety of professional pursuits. In 2007, I completed a Bachelor of Marine Studies and obtained First Class Honours for my thesis on environmental impact assessment. This enabled me to begin working for the global consulting firm Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM). My position at SKM as a Marine Scientist for two and half years was extremely challenging, I learnt about the intricacies of the consulting world and developed important professional skills. At this time I also undertook a Graduate Certificate in Natural Resource Management Policy and Planning externally through the University of Western Australia.

In November 2009, I embarked on a new challenge as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) through the Australian Government's aid program (AusAID). My role as an AYAD involves working as a Marine Resource Manager with the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation (CCEF) in Cebu City in the Philippines. CCEF is a non-government organisation that builds local government capacity in coastal resource management. I am developing a training module on the concept of marine protected area networking in the context of ecosystem-based management. The aim of this training is to increase government and community awareness about the need for a whole-of-ecosystem approach to

marine management, as well as the need to build stronger links between municipalities to enable information sharing and adaptive learning. Living and working in the Philippines is proving to be an invaluable personal and professional experience, it is a very unique country full of warm and friendly people.

I believe that St John's College played a big role in shaping the professional path I continue to follow today. My path is not necessarily the most coordinated path, but it is a path that continues to be full of opportunities and rare experiences. I continue to strive for professional and academic diversity and what better way to pursue it than when you are young, energetic and continuously craving adventure?



#### **ELIZABETH JAMIESON**

If there's one thing the French appear to hate more than foreigners entering the Charles de Gaulle TGV, it's foreigners entering the sortie doors dragging one of those tattered red, blue and white polyester bags, grinning stupidly and interpreting their (in retrospect, somewhat violent) gesticulations as signs of welcome. ticket office through the sortie doors, it's foreigners entering the sortie doors dragging one of those tattered red, blue and white polyester bags, grinning stupidly and interpreting their (in retrospect, somewhat violent) gesticulations as signs of welcome. Thankfully it's a scenario that only occurred once in entirety, though the dagging of similarly tattered bags and innocent grinning at exasperated locals certainly occurred separately a few times in the last 4 years. The best part though: more than half of these encounters have been endorsed by, and even paid for, educational institutions, from UQ to the European Commission itself. Curious?

Starting out a solo travelling career in France with one sentence of francais is like arriving in Milan wearing gypsy pants and a technicolour headband. Local reactions can get ugly. But there was no way, in January 2007, that a little airport awkwardness was going to deter this wide-eyed, scholarship-toting Johnian from making the most of a European Business Semester at a pre-eminent business school in the west of France. Those four months flew by in a flurry of European laws, business models and history (with a dash of Erasmus mischief and travelling in between), and before I knew it I had finished my dual degree and UQ was delighted to confirm that I had passed with honours: now which graduation ceremony would I like to attend? Without a second's pause I eschewed my return ticket to Brisbane for one to Portugal and my ever-extending Euro summer kicked off: from Mykonos debaucheries to Istanbul mosques, Spanish coastlines to Austrian lakes, Polish con-centration camps to Czech mega-clubs and Ok-toberfest beer tents to Scottish Highlands.

Somehow still financially afloat after five months of foot-soldiering (and preferring linguistic angst to paper-pushing stress back home) I traded pounds for dollars and London frowns for LA smiles and continued in Mexico for the last three months of 2007, culturally submersing myself in all things Mayan until finally an income-source became mandatory. Cue: Emirates Airlines, Dubai. 18 months, 24-hour flings with at least 100 worldwide cities and a positive bank balance later I emptied the sand from my shoes one last time in September 2009 and boarded a plane back to Europe. Destination: Edinburgh. Reason: a full academic and living scholarship from the European Commission for an 18 month MSc. in Strategic Project Management.



The opportunity was once-in-a-lifetime: to get paid a monthly wage almost on par to what I could get in Australia, ON TOP of the cost of the fees, to study in an Erasmus Mundus masters program in three amazing countries over 18 months. Beginning at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh I completed the first 6 months of the course with a focus on project management from a business perspective (versus from the traditional engineering perspective), then shipped myself and an embarrassing quantity of newly acquired Topshop paraphernalia to the Politecnico di Milano in Italy where the second trimester began. Still full of boundless energy, and now actually relishing local disdain (technicolour headband day was a weekly ritual), I re-fell in love with all my original French vices – bread, red, coffee and chocolate – and passion for romance languages. It wasn't all glee and gastronomy though: the course took a rather abrupt engineering-based turn due to the technical nature of the university, and it didn't help that we shared our classes with MBA students

either. Nevertheless we learnt a great deal and were satiated food- and vitamin D-wise ready to face the Swedish winter. Bags packed again, we were off to Umea Universitet in the very north of Sweden (as in, a few hours from the Arctic Circle) for the final few subjects of the course and the omnipotent master thesis. Four semistructured interviews from project managers in four African and Sub-continental countries, six appendices, a five-page table of contents and 47,000 words later I was an official master's degree holder and heading back to Australia to finally, truly, once-and-for-all face the real world: less gastronomically-exciting Lean Cuisine dinners, alarmingly large financial outlays for bond/advance rent/a mattress but great times with old friends, new Aussie passions (AFL of all things) and the satisfaction of knowing you actually EARNT your monthly income. OK so I could probably still live without that one, but you get my drift.

I don't doubt that in the way of luck, I am a disproportionately endowed person. But I also know its good old-fashioned hard work that really gets you past the post. In such a startlingly direct way, despite the years and randomness of life in between, it was the old sleepless nights in New Block formatting reference lists, weeks slaving over the precise wording of application forms and cover letters and the generous help from colleagues and mentors (thank-you Warden!) that ultimately secured my 1 in 1500 place in the program I from which I have just recently returned f. I guess European airport tourist office workers have their own luck to sort out!



# CANON STEELE ADMITTED AS HONORARY FELLOW

The Rev. Canon Dr John Steele AM has rendered significant service to all areas recognised by an Honorary Fellowship.

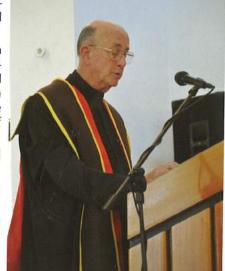
He was a Senior Lecturer in the Physics Department of the University and undertook significant research in Marine Physics and Oceanography and he served as Deputy Dean Pre-Clinical of the Medical School.

Since his ordination as a priest in 1959 he has served largely in an honorary capacity within the Diocese of Brisbane. Noteworthy roles include Chaplaincy of St John's College 1960-1965 and Honorary Rector of Stradbroke Island 1993-2000, during which time he established the Parish of Stradbroke Island. He was inaugural Chairman of the Diocesan Committee on Aboriginal and Islander Affairs and worked to establish ministry amongst indigenous people within the Diocese. He was made Honorary Canon of St John's Cathedral in recognition of this work.

He has published numerous works on aspects of the history of south east Queensland which are regarded as seminal in their field aswell as works on hydrology.

He was made a Member of the Order of Australia for historical publications (especially regarding aborigines) and for his service to the Church and Stradbroke Island.

Canon Steele was a member of the St John's College council from 1969-2005 and was the first elected Chairman of the Council.



## Address By Canon Steele

A glance at the list of the Honorary Fellows of this College shows what a high honour it is to be admitted to their number. I thank the College Council and Warden for electing me, and all who have come to witness the ceremony.

In a few minutes we shall commemorate the Founders and Benefactors of the College. The bible verses that were read in this service prompt me to pose the question: What motivates founders and benefactors?

The Hebrew writer of Ecclesiasticus has given us phrases that resound on Anzac Day – 'Let us now praise famous men', and 'Their name liveth for evermore' [Ecclus.44:1, 14, IV]. For some founders and benefactors, the motivation may have been to leave their own memorial on earth.

The writer of the gospel of John imagined Jesus saying 'The truth will make you free' [Jn.8:32]. This is sometimes seen as an endorsement of higher education, but the writer probably had in mind a fact of human experience often alluded to in John's gospel - the fact that when we believe in a God who is love, and respond to his love by loving and serving others, we discover that we are set free from worldly self-centredness.

I want to share with you some pertinent details of the life of our founder, Archbishop St Clair Donaldson, and the Donaldson family. To distinguish the family members from one another I'll refer to them by their Christian names.

But first let me share with you a slightly amusing story connected with St Clair's elevation to Archbishop when the ecclesiastical Province of Queensland was created. Legend has it that Saumarez–Smith, the Archbishop of Sydney, quipped, 'I am not

aware that there is anything in Queensland to be Archbishop of'. The joke was on Saumarez-Smith.

St Clair's father, Stuart Donaldson, had been trained in the firm of Donaldson, Wilkinson and Co., a well-known shipowning and trading company based in the City of London near the Bank and the Stock Exchange. At the age of twenty-three Stuart arrived in Sydney, NSW, to join the firm of Richard Jones and Co. and he took over the firm in 1838 on the retirement of Jones.

Among his many community achievements, Stuart helped to found the University of Sydney in 1851. He was as a member of the University Senate, and his brother John in England helped to select the academic staff. The year after, he persuaded the NSW Government to allocate £10,000 to assist Caroline Chisholm's Family Colonization Loan Society, which did so much to create a stable colonial society. In 1856 he became briefly the first Premier of NSW.

The family returned to England, where St Clair, the third son, was born in 1863. Although Stuart died three years later, the memory of his achievements in nation-building and education lived on in the family. St Clair was educated at Eton and at Trinity College, Cambridge; he graduated with distinction, and was ordained. In 1904 the Archbishop of Canterbury selected him to become Bishop of Brisbane, and in the same year his eldest brother became the Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

In Brisbane, St Clair Donaldson and other denominational leaders promoted the reading of the bible in Queensland state schools - achieved through a referendum - and the founding of church second-

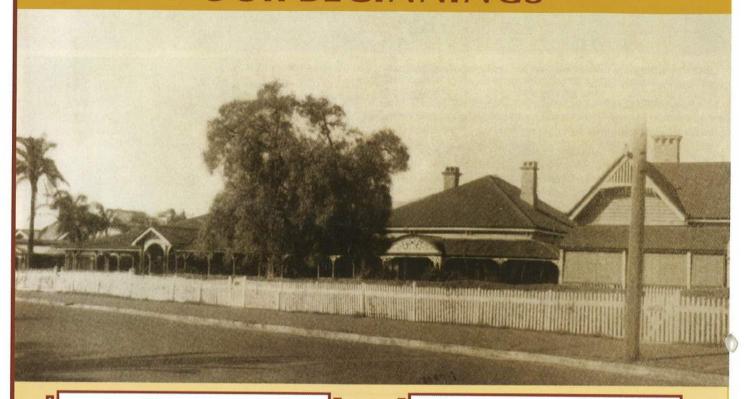
ary schools with boarding facilities. When the University of Queensland was founded, the government turned to the churches for their experience as the main provider of secondary education and of boarding facilities for students. St Clair's brother, shortly to become the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge, selected our first Warden in 1911.

As Betty Crouchley has written in the Australian Dictionary of Biography, St Clair was a significant benefactor of the church in Queensland. During his time as Archbishop he donated £3,000 of his private funds to the Yarrabah Aboriginal Mission, and in 1935 he left bequests totaling £4,000 to the endowment funds of the Diocese of Brisbane. For comparison with today's currency, add about three zeros to these figures. He gave generously to St John's College both in his lifetime and in his will.

The Donaldson family clearly believed that England and its church had a responsibility to nurture the new society being forged here among a burgeoning population, mostly immigrants from the British Isles. The biblical injunction, 'Let us now praise famous men' is appropriate when we consider this family who gave so much to the development of this church, state and nation. And today we shall also give thanks for the many generous benefactors — both men and women - of recent years.

It is not for us to analyze the motives of founders and benefactors, but I like to think that they were not primarily driven by a desire to be remembered by posterity, nor even by an urge to store up merit points in a future heaven. I like to think they simply rejoiced in the experience of being a channel of God's love – an experience that made them truly free.

# OUR BEGINNINGS



#### From the Church Chronicle April 1912

A short informal service of dedication was held by the Archbishop at St. John's College on Saturday, March 9th, ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE. in the presence of those most immediately connected with the college. In the course of a short address, His Grace spoke of the college as representing a real venture of faith, financially and otherwise. But in view of the greatness of the object for which the college stood, he had no hesitation in claiming that the venture was well worth the making. Of all the objects for which the University existed, the production of character was incomparably the greatest. And the residential colleges were the University's agents for the tion of character was incomparably the greatest. And the residential colleges were the University's agents for the production of character, which was formed not in the lecture-room or the laboratory, but in the general life of the University. Without residential colleges the University would be vitally defective, and he thanked God that the Church had taken her share in remedying the defect. the Church had taken her share in remedying the defect. The college opened its doors to students on the following Monday (March 11), and has now begun its career with five students. The Warden and Mrs. Baker, and the Secretary (Mr. A. W. Oakes) had previously taken up their residence in the college. It is interesting to know that the number of students with which St. John's starts is identical with the number of students with which St. is identical with the number of students with which Sc. Andrew's College, Sydney, started. There is no need for us, therefore, to despise the day of small things, and indeed everything connected with the college is full of promise. An illustrated prospectus has recently been issued, and copies will be sent to anyone who desires them and will communicate with the Secretary.



#### From the Church Chronicle July 1912

St. John's College.

St. John's College.

I announced last year my hope that through the enterprise of some individual Churchmen a Hostel might be opened for University students this year. I am proud and glad to announce that St. John's College is now in existence as one of the affiliated Colleges of the University of Queensland. The Rev. E. M. Baker, late Vicar of St. Andrew's, Wolverhampton, has entered upon his duties as Warden, and from the first has won the confidence of the Undergraduates. We welcome him with special pleasure in Synod to-day. We have also the great advantage of a really excellent Secretary and Bursar in Mr. A. W. Oakes, whose first-rate abilities both in teaching and in finance make him an invaluable officer upon the College staff. We owe him a most real debt of gratitude for the zeal and energy with which he has helped to float the concern. The Directors are Messrs. P. A. Blundell, E. W. Walker, J. H. McConnel, and Dr. E. S. Jackson, with the Archbishop of Brisbane for the time being as Chairman and Managing Director. The College has found a temporary resting place on River Terrace, Kangaroo Point, and I very much hope that all members of Synod will take an opportunity of visiting the premises. As you know, we are not the only college in the field. Emmanuel College, which owes its existence to the enterprise of the Presbyterians, was affiliated on the same day as ourselves, and the cordial relations between us have been an especially pleasant feature in the arduous work of struggling into existence. In addition to this, the Methodists are hoping shortly to open King's College under the Wardenship of the Rev. M. Scott Fletcher. Emmanuel and St. John's each start with four undergraduates [I am glad to add that I have just heard of a fifth], and if this seems to be a small number, you must remember that the University itself is small and largely composed of Brisbane Undergraduates from every part of the State.

While, however, St. John's College starts with bright promise, the strain of initiating the work has

While, however, St. John's College starts with bright promise, the strain of initiating the work has been extremely severe. We owe the whole enterprise to the generosity of a very small body of Churchmen, and for the immediate present the College is solvent. I want to make it clear, however, that the College cannot hope to pay its own way until we have at least twenty undergraduates, and that meanwhile the Directors must find a sum of not less than 400 a year to supplement the fees received. The existing subscribers and shareholders in addition to the heavy initial expenses are prepared to continue to do their share. But it is obviously scribers and shareholders in addition to the heavy initial expenses are prepared to continue to do their share. But it is obviously unfair to expect a small handful of men to shoulder the whole burden. I think that the Church with one voice has approved our action in the matter. Indeed public opinion generally and the University authorities in particular have been emphatic in their appreciation. We look therefore to the generality of Churchmen now to come to our aid in the support of the work which we have begun. What we specially desire is more shareholders in the concern. But we should welcome ordinary subscribers; and I feel confident that many who hear me, when they see for themselves the work done, will gladly come forward to help in placing it on a sound and permanent basis. Mr. A. W. Oakes, the College Secretary, will give all information.

# **OBITUARIES**

## Walter Wyndham Biggs

Dr Walter Biggs, a very well known and widely respected anaesthetist was farewelled at St John's Cathedral after a service conducted by the Warden. We print below an abridged version of the eulogy delivered by Dr Laurence(Ned) Kelley.

It is a great honour to be asked to speak at today's service. It is also a great challenge and if there are any breaks in transmission that seem like senior moments, they are more likely pauses for me to regain composure. Bev has said that Walter would not want a laudatory eulogy but there is no need to gild the lily that is already cast in gold. As I speak of him I'm sure you will all remember the handsome, imposing, dignified and gentlemanly figure of Walter Wyndham Biggs, who was so greatly respected by all who knew him.

Walter was born in Brisbane and spent his early years there but when his family bought a property at Kogan, he was sent as a nine year old to board at TSS with older brother John. He was envious of sister Janet and younger brother Tom who remained in the country. He loved the country life and later had a property of his own. He spent nine years at TSS, was Dux of the school at Junior level and at senior level was both Dux and the winner of the Chelmsford prize for all round achievement. He represented the school at Rugby and in the GPS swimming and athletics. He sang in the school choir and after the hormones sabotaged his soprano voice he played the organ for choir practice. In his final year, 1953, he declined a seat in the rowing eight, which later won the Head-of-the-River, as he knew that the incredible training regime would leave him too tired to study. A responsible decision for a 17 year old schoolboy to take, but typical of Walter.

He won a Commonwealth Scholarship with 7 A's in the Senior examination and In 1954 he went to the University of Qld to begin his medical degree. I first met him when he came to live at St. John's College He enjoyed college life enormously, both at Kangaroo Point and then the New College on the St. Lucia campus. Walter's room at the new St. Johns was across the corridor from David Hunt and myself. David and wife Margaret have flown from Sydney this morning to be here. Walter has written an account of parts of his life for his family and his stories of University life make very comical reading but in the context of today's service are probably best regarded as Secret Mens Undergraduate Business. He graduated in Medicine with honours in 1959.

Because of his Commonwealth Scholarship, Walter was dependant on the Queensland Health Department for his posting and with very minimal training was sent to Longreach as Anaesthetist to the Flying Surgeon. That was the beginning of a stellar career in Anaesthetics that his good friend Peter Livingston will talk about shortly. At Longreach Walter met a lovely young lady from NSW who was staying with some family friends. He obviously wasn't spending all his time flying around Western Queensland sticking needles into people for within six weeks they were engaged. When they married in 1965 it began a wonderful partnership. The flame that was lit in Longreach has burned brightly all these years and they have been each others best friends and No 1 fans. Their pride in each other has been palpable and Walter has always had

great enjoyment from the compliments Bev has received, especially for her catering and home making skills, her Serena-like forehand on the tennis court and her wonderful string of 7's when she undertook her University degree a few years back. Her devotion and caring during this last year have left her exhausted but, I hope, knowing that she could not have done more to support and comfort her beloved Walter.

Walter and Bev have shared many interests. With their combined handyman and decorator abilities they have maintained their homes at Brookfield and the well known Curigee Hilton on South Stradbroke in fine style. They loved their garden, fine food and wine, fishing, the arts, especially the opera and travel – often with their great friends Isobel and Colin Furnival. Biggs hospitality was special. Such was their loyalty to their friends – and their friends to them – that there was often a sense of Deja Vu with their parties. The same faces seemed to be there each time – and were very happy to be so.

As suggested by his academic capacity, Walter had a very acute mind. He was widely read and could converse on any subject. He was a serious person, but never austere. He had a great humour and often told his anecdotes with little bursts of his characteristic laugh – a laugh that defied categorisation, being part chuckle, part chortle and part guffaw and various other things from the laughter Lexicon. He did not suffer fools gladly and humbug and pretence not at all. He was never vindictive though and 'pompous ass' was about as vigorous as his invective ever became.

Despite his physical and mental strength there was to be but one short year between the onset of his illness and the time it overtook him. He fought his illness with great courage and then a quiet acceptance. He would not want memorials of tablets carved in stone. The most significant memorial is to stay in the hearts and minds of the people we have known and loved. Walter will certainly do that and so remain a part of our lives. The very best testimony to this wonderful man would be that we should have care and concern for Bev and the family that he loved so dearly.

Rose and I went to see Walter for the last time during his recent admission to The Wesley. As we left we were all aware of the significance of the parting. Rose kissed him on the cheek as she had done so many times over so many years and then as he shook my hand he said "All the best, Ned". Under the circumstances this was a very generous benediction. I could not find the words to respond - it is no easier today than it was then. "Goodbye" dear friend, Walter Wyndham Biggs. You have earned your peace.

# Justice Peter Connolly CBE

Peter David Connolly, Honorary Fellow of the College, was farewelled at a Funeral Service conducted by the Warden in St John's Cathedral. We give thanks for his contributions to society and generosity and friendship to the college

Below is an edited version of the address given by the Hon. Bruce McPherson CBE at the tuneral.

The Hon. Justice Peter Connolly CSI, CBE, QC, was a Judge of the Supreme Court of

Queensland, of the Court of Appeal (of which he was the President) of Solomon Islands, and of the Court of Appeal of Kiribas. He was born in Sydney on 29th September 1920 His father was a journalist and an author. In consequence, the family was not well off financially. Had it not been for Peter's brilliant intellect, and his determination, his educational opportunities might have been severely restricted.

He won scholarships to St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, where he was both Dux and Head Boy in his final year in 1936. He then went on to St John's College at the University of Queensland to study for an Arts degree, in French and German. Peter enlisted in the AIF.

When he returned to University in 1946, he began the study of Law in place of Arts. He graduated LLB with first class Honours in 1948 and was awarded a University Medal. In 1989 he finally- in retirement – completed his Arts degree. He had by then transferred his attention to classical Greek studies and was awarded a second University medal. In 1992 he went on to graduate as a Master of Literary Studies in ancient Greek,

Peter had been appointed Lecturer in Constitutional Law at the University of Queensland even before he had completed his degree in Law. It must surely be unique for a student to be teaching a major legal subject at a University before he himself has graduated. If you look at the earliest numbers of the UQ Law Journal you can there see notes written by P.D. Connolly, on recent High Court decisions on the Constitution. He maintained a lifelong interest and activity in the field of Education.

There was not much in the way of cultural life in the community in which he did not participate, and often dominate. He was for many years President of Trustees of the Queensland Art Gallery. Music was not overlooked. He was a Director of the Queensland Opera Company and, from 1961-1963, President of the Musica Viva Society in Queensland.

From being a private in 1939, Peter Connolly had risen to Captain during the war, and afterwards to full Colonel. He took silk (became a QC) in 1963. In 1967 he was elected President of the Queensland Bar Association, a position he held for three years. He was President of the Australian Bar Association from 1967-1968 and President of the Law Council of Australia in 1968 to 1970, as well as a Councillor of the International Bar Association.

As the leader of the Bar, and therefore of course extremely busy, he was nevertheless always helpful to us junior barristers. I certainly found him to be so. In court, his ability both as a cross-examiner and as an advocate, was legendary. We all learned from him. But what impressed me most was his capacity to pick up someone else's area of knowledge, to simplify it and thoroughly perceive its nuances. I never saw anyone else able to do it with the same ease. It also enabled him to destroy his opponent's own expert witness with a few well-conceived questions. Through being cross-examined by Peter, some of them learnt things about their own science they had obviously not realised before. He was justly feared by witnesses; but, although at times impatient with some of us, I never saw him behave angrily with witnesses in the box. He could be caustic: "You must bear with us city folk while I ask you yet again ...", he said put-ting the question a third time to a rural witness who had decided to be evasive in his answers.

In his address, on Peter's retirement from

the Bench in 1990, the Attorney-General said the Solicitor-General had told him that, to the end of his career as a QC, Peter acted for and charged no fees to Public Defence clients who could not afford to pay someone of his standing in the profession. He was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in 1977, and thirteen years later reached the statutory retiring age of 70. At the time of his appointment, the Court was generally in need of some intellectual stiffening, and he provided it. He was a superb lawyer. He discharged a large part of the court's workload, doing it quickly, and with admirable skill and judgment. When I left the court sixteen years after him, his decisions were still being quoted, both as authoritative statements of legal principle and for their clarity of expression.

In his conduct as a Judge he was renowned for his wit and sense of humour. A story that is still doing the rounds of the Bar today arose from his belief that every solicitor in a certain part of Queensland was incompetent. He was very nearly right. Finding that the case before him emanated from there, Peter picked up a volume of the Supreme Court Rules and dropped it over his back, remarking as he did "Then I won't be needing these!"

### Bryan Emmerson AO

Bryan Emmerson entered St John's College from Townsville Grammar School in 1947. He spent the whole of his medical course in residence at the college at Kangaroo Point and graduated with first class honours. He was considered a world expert in the area of metabolic disease. He was a leading patron of music in Brisbane, the inspirer of many rising medical researchers, the encourager and patron of self help groups in the area of rheumatic related disease, especially Arthritis Queensland, and a fine friend to, and benefactor of, the College. He was one of the earliest Honorary Fellows of the College.

He received many national and international prizes and awards for his contributions to the study and treatment of metabolic diseases and was the chair of many organizations and committees.

The Warden conducted the funeral service at St John's Cathedral which was filled to overflowing by friends and colleagues from around Australia. In his homily, the Warden said that Bryan was a " a quiet and profound achiever: a man of deep Christian faith who cared deeply and gave himself fully to his family, patients, colleagues and all who called upon his time and interest."

Eulogy by Professor Mervyn Eadie

I first came into contact with Bryan Emmerson in 1956 when he was a medical registrar at the then Brisbane General Hospital and I was a raw first-year medical graduate. Bryan went on to make his whole career in the University of Queensland Department of Medicine, taking his Membership of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 1957, thus achieving specialist status, and then commenced research towards a Doctorate in Medicine. I saw him intermittently over those early years while I trained as a neurologist in the Hospital. The main link was Bryan's senior colleague in the University Department, the late John Sutherland, who had taken me under his wing. Also, Bryan's research involved measuring the lead content of bone in his pa-tients with kidney disease and in age-matched control subjects, and I would occasionally see him while he was collecting left-over pieces of skull after neurosurgical operations.

Bryan's MD came through late in 1962, probably the 5th or 6th ever conferred by the University of Queensland. In that same year the University determined to open a section of the Department of Medicine at relatively new Princess Alexandra Hospital, with a Reader (Associate Professor) in charge. With his doctorate, a prerequisite for appointment at Reader level, Bryan was appointed.

Thereafter his entire career was made at that Hospital. I remained at what became the Royal Brisbane Hospital, with a part-time attachment to the University Department of Medicine, and over the next 15 years saw very little of Bryan. When I became a full-time member of the University staff in 1977 I began to see him again and realised how much he had achieved at Princess Alexander Hospital over the intervening years. From a sub-department involving a single academic (himself), and probably a desk, chair and filing cabinet, he had built the sub-department up to include 4 or 5 academics and a larger number of support, research and secretarial staff. He had involved himself fully in the academic and professional life and administrative affairs of his Hospital and, as a physician, in its clinical practice. He had formed links with outside professional and lay bodies relevant to his research areas. He had continued his researches, centered on various questions related to gout, and been awarded a PhD. Over his whole career he must have produced around 200 scientific papers and book chapters and, as well, a monograph on gout.

For many years he was the faithful and effective first lieutenant to the long-serving Head of the University Department of Medicine, John Tyrer, and during this time was himself elevated to the Professoriat. Whenever John Tyrer went on his frequent semi-sabbatical research expeditions to Paris, Bryan took over the running of the Department and also for some months was Acting Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. When John Tyrer retired in 1985 Bryan became Head of the Department of Medicine.

By that time the Department had grown considerably, with sections in all of the various public hospitals in Brisbane and with tentacles extending into hospitals on the Gold Coast, Ipswich, Toowoomba and Nambour. The Department's governmental mechanisms were manifestly inadequate for it increased size. Bryan set about re-organising the Department, reallocating staff positions and money largely in pro-portion to student teaching load. He brought in more skilled administrative staff to look after the financial affairs of the Department, a matter of importance when University departmental funding was in increasing relative decline. Bryan continued his own research and encouraged further growth in the Department so that, when he retired in 1994, he departed from one of the largest and wealthiest departments in the University, wealthy in the academic sense that it was a little less impoverished than its fellows, largely from the amount of money secured by its research performance.

In retirement, Bryan continued to go to Princess Alexandra Hospital and, I suspect, exerted influence there behind the scenes. He travelled, included in his hobbies, in the early years of his retirement continued to write for the scientific literature, and spent increasing amount of time at Burleigh. He organized much appreciated lunches for his old University colleagues several times a year. The Government recognized his service and achievements by creating him an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia. A little over a year ago he was ill

for a time, but by late last year I thought he was becoming his old self again. And then, his life ended.

We will each have our particular memories of Bryan and our own appreciations of him. However I would like to think that I speak for his old colleagues, and indeed for all of us gathered here in expressing the hope that such memories, awareness of the extent of Bryan's achievements, gratitude for having known and having been known by him, and personal hope and belief, may help sustain and console Elva, Stephen, Brett and their families, and indeed ourselves, in this time of their sorrow.

I believe that to Bryan Emmerson, more than to any other single person, belongs the credit for having brought medical research and internal medicine at Princess Alexandra Hospital to its present high repute. In that knowledge, rather than in any bronze plaque on a wall somewhere in his old Hospital, lies Bryan's true and enduring memorial.

# **Edward Douglas Murray MC**

E.D. "Doug" Murray entered St John's college from the Southport School where he had been school captain. He was one of two brothers to come to St John's – the other being Alfred who was killed during the second World War.

Doug studied engineering and specialised in electrical engineering. He was employed by the Queensland Government in various capacities. For many years he was in charge of the North Queensland Electricity Board and was later appointed the State Commissioner, in charge of all electrical undertakings in the state. He resigned from the latter post on an issue of principle, as the then Premier had bypassed the recommendations of the expert committee on the siting of a new power station and placed it within the area of his own electorate. This was typical of Doug – he was a man of principle in all things.

During the Second World War Doug saw action overseas as a combat engineer and was awarded the Military Cross for "gallant and distinguished service". The citation in the records refers to his "outstanding energy and leadership", "untiring zeal and rendering assistance to others". He took command of two sections when another officer became a casualty and then "supervised the laying of extensive anttank minefields under small arms and heavy artillery fire." Subsequently he carried out forward reconnaissance work to within 400 yards of forward German posts'. Later he supervised mine-laying in face of a brewing enemy armoured attack – again under considerable fire and bombing, with enemy tanks as close as 400 yards. He was wounded during the progress of this work, but "remained at his own insistence on the site until he had ensured it was satisfactorily advanced".

This bravery and display of character was of a piece with the way Doug approached life. If he saw a job to be done he stayed on until it was finished and did not flinch from his duty.

College was important to Doug and he was devoted to Warden Felix Arnott with whom he had an enduring friendship. He served as president of the Student Club in 1940. Anne Atkinson, Doug's daughter, writes, "I think the sincerest demonstration for his profound respect for the place of St John's in his own life was his commitment, when he moved north, to establishing a male college at James Cook University.

He became the Chairman of the Joint Colleges appeal which raised the funds necessary to build a number of Church colleges (among them St Mark's) on the bushland campus of the university." He later became chairman of the Council of St Mark's College. Mrs Atkinson also writes, "... he was initially very keen that St Mark's should cater for men only (just as St John's had done in his day) but he later became converted to the idea that having the fairer sex resident as well was a good thing."

Doug was later to serve as member of St John's Council for many years and gave full-hearted support to the development of the College and to the admission of women. He was a zealous member of Council and no detail was too small to get past his keen eye. All of his life he was a devoted member of the Anglican Church.

Doug was amongst the first group of Honorary Fellows of the College.

We give thanks for his life, loyalty to the College and the qualities he displayed.

## Alister Graeme Rodgers

Alister Rodgers who contracted Hendra virus during his veterinary work, spent all of his student days at St John's and was married to his wife Linda in the College Chapel, died in September 2009.

This an edited version of the eulogy delivered by Old Johnian Dr David Lemmon in St Paul's Cathedral, Rockhampton.

In 1973 the cost of a bottle of Royal Reserve Port, I think from memory was about 85c a bottle. Alister and I wanted to find out what this drinking alcohol was all about. So we pooled our meagre university financial resources and shared the cost of purchasing a bottle. Obviously quantity not quality was what we were after.

I often talk about life's mental photographs. The little memory snapshots of an incident or a meeting that springs to mind at the odd time.

Well one of those photographs that I will always remember is that of a tall, lanky first year vet student in the green Wrangler jeans whose size 10 flat heel riding boots were trying to invite his pants down for a party – running down the walkway at St Johns College with his legs about 2 seconds ahead of his torso.

The sequel to that one was opening his college door to find Alister lying prostrate on his back with a huge icepack on his forehead, and the waste paper bin parked conveniently beside him on the floor.

"How you going?" I said

"Good. Good!"

Grey, green ashen face, icepack and bin – Alister. Always with the glass half full! Always positive that things will improve!

I think that incident cured Alister of the demon drink forever.

Before moving to the Curry where I was in practice he rang me and asked my permission: would I mind if he hangs the shingle out there? That was typical of Alister – always making sure he did the honourable thing.

One day on a quick visit home, to visit my father I visited Alister in his surgery. He had a

dog with a fractured femur and we set about putting it back together as a TEAM. It was the first and only time we had ever actually worked together.

Alister took off where I left off, and all of us of that generation who were heavily involved in the TB and Brucellosis eradication schemes got to know what hard work was all about. Those huge bullocking days, of bulldust and poop and personal sacrifice. Working up to 20 hours a day and travelling vast distances was not for the timid or faint of heart.

I guess when someone close to us passes away two things happen: Firstly it brings home to us our own mortality and vulnerabilities. Secondly we reflect on the life and our relationship with the person who has passed.

As a biological scientist I have always been fascinated by the web of life. How every living creature and blade of grass depends on each other for survival. The ripple effect of all that happens reaches out and embraces us all.

Alister epitomised all that belief in oneself can achieve. He never ever thought for a moment that he would not be successful. Indeed Alister thought he would live forever.

It was this positive attitude in everything he undertook that allowed him to accomplish so much

We know that the life of Alister touched the lives and hearts of a lot of people. Let us hope and pray that his death thru Hendra virus will not be in vain and will bring about some sort of preventative action. The saving of one more life will be worth it.

May you rest in peace old mate. Take your boots, hat, swag and jeans and I hope you find a peaceful place to rest, until we meet again.

# Wallace Brown OAM

Wallace Brown who entered College in 1948 died in Canberra where, for over 45 years, he was The Courier Mail national affairs writer. He wrote over 1000 columns. Madonna King has described him as: "The gentleman of journalism" who "with enormous vitality, embodied what journalism students are taught ...: to have a passion for the truth, a steely resolve to tell it to our readers first, and a healthy dose of cynicism to separate what's nonsense and what's not." He was regarded as the epitome of neutrality: no one could ever tell which way he voted.

At his death then Prime Minister Johnn Howard said that he would be remembered as one of Australia's finest press gallery journalists . These sentiments were echoed by Labour leader Kim Beazley.

We give thanks for a fine Johnian who always remained a firm friend of the College and supporter of the College Foundation

## Brian Hubird (Bud) Ford

Bud Ford was a resident member of St John's from "Churchie" in 1942 and enlisted out of the college into the army. After the war he joined the group of ex servicemen who began

the Union Hostel. He explained to the present Warden that they wanted a slightly more relaxed form of existence! However, he always regarded himself as a Johnian

He studied dentistry, and for decades was in practice at Miles. He also ran a property on the edge of town and was a well known local figure. In retirement he moved to Toowoomba where he was again active in civic and cultural affairs. He had a keen interest in matters historical. All of his sons were resident at St John's.

We extend our condolences to his family.

## Richard (Dick) Laws

Dick Laws entered St John's College after service in the Royal Australia Navy . Prior to war service he had attended Toowoomba Grammar School.

Dick qualified as a civil engineer and joined the firm of Cardno and Davies (now Cardno) and eventually became a partner.

All of his life Dick was a very involved member of the Anglican Church and was involved in the foundation of the Centenary Suburbs Parish.

Dick was the most loyal of Old Johnians and served as President of the Old Johnian Association. When the St John's College Foundation was set up in 1987-8, Dick became a Director and served as the first Secretary to the Board. He worked tirelessly as a volunteer for the Foundation with the help of his wife Ferrol, alongside the Warden and Mrs Helen Lang both in fundraising and keeping track of donations and Foundation affairs. He was appointed the as the official – although unpaid-fundraiser.

The College is grateful for his devotion and his work. We express our sadness at his passing and our condolences to his family. A music room in Foundation Court was named in his honour.

### **Dr Keith Shaw**

Dr Keith Shaw, one of a family that has sent many members to the College died earlier this year. He came to St John's from "Churchie". Dr Shaw was a highly regarded doctor who piloted his own plane.

He was a loyal member of College from the Kangaroo Point days and remained committed to the well being of the College. He was an early member of the St John's Foundation.

Dr Shaw's kindness and gentleness will be long remembered.

### **Charles Stokes**

Charles Stokes entered College in 1973 and died in Sydney in 2010. Charles was for some years a lecturer in the Journalism department of the University and a resident senior member of College, following a career as a professional journalist in Adelaide and London. While in Brisbane he produced various editions of A Guide to Eating Out in Brisbane.

All of his life he was a devoted member of the Anglican Church. At his death, he left most of his estate to a wide range of church associated bodies, ranging from the Cathedral in Suva, Fiji to the St John's College Foundation.

We give thanks for his devotion to the Church and the college.

## PERSONALIA - Some News of Old Johnians

Bob Anderson (1999) graduated with a degree in psychological science from UQ and later did post-graduate work with James Cook University. He is currently working as a psychologist at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. He and Nicole have one child, Charlotte.

Tim Baxter (1991) graduated in engineering and is now working with his own small firm and is engaged in construction on the Gold Coast. He is one of three Baxter Johnians. He reports that his brother ,Julius, is living in Stockholm while completing his Masters degree and working for an electrical engineering company while sister, Georgina, a civil engineer, is taking a year off to travel around Europe.

**Geoffrey Beck (2005),** who graduated with honours in mechanical engineering, is employed in Brisbane by Sinclair Knight Merz.

Richard Bonner (1980) still resides in Stanthorpe where he is a rural general practitioner and obstetrician. At present there are two sons at St John's College - Chris and Brady - who ran in the Great Court Race in the UQ Centenary year. Richard was one of the very first runners in the Great Court Race when it was inaugurated in the 75th Anniversary year of the University.

**Richard Bryant (1984)** originally a pharmacy graduate from UQ is now a well established general practitioner in Hobart where he lives with his wife Naomi and three children.

Douglas Campbell (1978) continues practising at the Brisbane Bar and lives close by the College in Indooroopilly. Douglas undertook post-graduate study at Cambridge where he was a member of Magdalene College which has a particular relationship with St John's College in that the very first Warden of our St John's College was chosen by the Master of Magdalene College, brother of the Founder of the College, St Clair Donaldson.

Peter Charles (1998) is living and working in Gladstone where he has his own practice in podiatry, as well as a retail outlet. He and his wife Rachael have two children, William and Madeleine.

John Cole (1974) has recently become the Director of the Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development at the University of Southern Queensland. For many years he was in charge of a number of different State Government departments, lately the Office of Clean Energy and helped to develop Queensland's renewable energy plan.

Robert Cruickshank (1979) is in practice at the Canelands Medical Centre in Mackay. He and Jennifer have one child, Annika.

Sam Duddy (1997) who won most of the prizes in his graduating year of agricultural science, recently completed a Master of Property Studies and a Master of Business Administration. He was married in Glennie School Chapel to his wife, Anita McGrath by the Warden in March of this year.

**Kevin Fear** is currently living in Redfern and is working in the travel industry.

Sonia Gallaher (nee Nettle) (1998) is currently living in England where she is employed as a senior planning officer with Bedford Borough Council. She and her husband Shane have two children, Lexie and Max.

Gavin Gemmell (1953) who was one of the last residents of the Kangaroo Point site is still residing in England but makes occasional visits to Australia and the College. He retired some time ago from working in the oil refining industry. Many years ago he collated a tableau of photographs showing the last days of the old college at Kangaroo Point. It graces the wall in the Warden's office.

Bernard Gerber (1974) is a general practitioner in Caboolture and reports that the faithful feline companion of him and his wife Diane, recently passed away at an advanced age. His medical practice was recently nominated for a Business Achiever's Award.

David Glasgow (1962) recently retired as a magistrate with the Federal Court. He is still living and working in Cairns where he is now involved with the Family Responsibility Commission.

Lisa Gotley (1996) is married to Bryan Day and they recently had their first child, Olivia. She reports that she will complete her paediatric specialty training in 2011 and continues her interest in medical education working on curriculum development at the University of Queensland Medical School.

Rebecca Gowen (2004) graduated in natural resource economics from UQ and has been employed with the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation. She works as an agricultural economist and is currently completing a PhD on the economics of carbon trading. She intends to take a whole year off during 2011 and to spend six months at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Janelle Hall (1996) is working in the area of cosmetic and skin cancer medicine. She is very involved in the charity "Destiny Rescue" which rescues children sold into slavery in South East Asia.

Cameron Hayden (1991) who completed a degree with first class honours in pharmacy, later gained a PhD and is currently working as a pharmacist and scientist.

**Lynton Hudson (1977)** is a general practitioner in Warwick. He and his wife Louise have three children William, Harriett and Flla

**Edward Leney (Pat) Hunt** who entered College in 1947, from Killarney, reports that he is still involved in the Anglican Church as a liturgical assistant at the Holy Spirit Church, Surfers Paradise. He taught at The Southport School for many years.

John Hurley (1979) who graduated in Veterinary Science is currently working at Swettenham's Stud near Nagambie in Victoria.

Christopher Inness (2003) is living back in Townsville and is a project manager with Thinc Projects.

Robert Jenkins is currently living and working in Sydney with Grant Samuel. He occasionally gets together with fellow Johian oarsman, Richard Birks who is now living in Melbourne.

Bindee Johnston (nee Goon Chew) (1993) is living in Townsville where she is a health promotion officer with Queensland Health. She married Trent Johnston, also an Old Johnian and they have one child, Lilly.

Aaron Jorgensen (2002) is the senior mathematics teacher and director of culture and special events at St Brendan's College, Yeppoon. He reports that he is involved in the setting up of a new performing arts centre at the school and hopes to introduce technical production courses into the college's curriculum during 2011. He also writes that he has been involved in the renovation of a house as an owner/builder!

Michael Keary (1958) retired as a teacher of latin and classical studies from Geelong College in Victoria. He says that he has lived on a 20 acre farm for 35 years. He has been involved with the Oaklands Hunt Club and is an active parishioner of All Saints, Newtown in Geelong.

Neale Kent (1976) is an engineering manager living and working in New Zealand where he is employed by Carter Holt Harvey at their Tasman Mill.

David Lemmon (1973) is still living and working in Mackay. Three of his daughters, one still currently resident, have been members of St John's College. David reports that he just finished building a new state of the art veterinary hospital in the northern beaches of Mackay.

Martin Love (1992) is now working full time as a physiotherapist in private practice and also with Queensland Cricket. He and his wife Deborah have three children Matthew, Nicholas and Jack. Martin was the all time leading run scorer for the Queensland Bulls and played in five tests for Australia.

**Greg Magee (1975)** is currently the Rector of the parish of Bass/Phillip Island in Victoria.

David Marks (1984) continues practising law in Brisbane. He and his wife Rosanne sometimes drop in at the College in order to catch up with Warden's current curly coated retriever - Digby.

Damien Mergard (1991) is working as a locum doctor for rural, remote communities and indigenous communities throughout Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory. He is based in Sydney.

**Catherine Mitchell (1992)** is currently working as a pathologist at the Peter Mac-Callum Cancer Centre in Melbourne.

Megan Moore (nee Yates) (2003) who graduated in pharmacy, is married to Stuart Moore and working at the Coomera Pharmacy.

**Derek Murphy** (1965) has recently retired as the Chairman of The Southport School Council.

Jane Newby (2000) is working as a secondary physical education teacher. She is currently on leave from Yanco Agricultural High School.

Matthew Parkinson (1988) is working with Jeppesen, an affiliate of Boeing. He is married to Janet.

John (Barry) Porter is a long retired dentist. He is the oldest living member of College. Currently he is living in Toowoomba.

**Philip Prouten** (1931) is working with the Department of Education and Training as a program manager.

Lee Reinhardt (nee Hoogsteden) (2003) graduated in occupational therapy and is currently with Queensland Health. She is married to Michael Reinhardt who is teaching at Southside Christian College. Lee and Michael have one child, Jesse.

Stuart Reid, with wife Samantha – also an Old Johnian - together with baby Alice, visited the College recently. Stuart is currently in an academic position following some years as consultant running his own business. He works on aspects of tourism and has been doing a lot of travelling, most recently in Greece.

**Barry Robinson** (1975) is living and working in Mackay where he is a senior veterinary officer.

Michael Sisley (1979) is a technical services manager for Queensland Alumina and lives in Gladstone with his wife Julie. They have three children Grace, Patrick and Kate.

Michael Smith (1971) has retired from full time employment as an agricultural consultant.

Martin Stuart-Fox (1957) who is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities is one of a group of distinguished Johnian academics.

Rochelle Sutherland (nee McClelland) (1990) gained her master's degree in physiotherapy and is occupied with writing books on homeschooling and etiquette. In addition to her three children she is heavily involved in the work of the CWA and is an international tutor in needlelace. She is helping the local museum to gain full accreditation. She says that she is still teaching piano, guitar and voice as well as theory in music and currently playing piano, guitar, voice, violin, recorder, flute and harp. Her latest interests and skills are aerial trapeze, contact juggling, devil sticks and Scots Gaelic language!

Val Swindon (1950) who graduated in geology, spent his career in oil and gas exploration development and production. He is the sometime state president and national councillor of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. As well he has also been a councillor, state president and vice chairman of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association.

**Stirling Tavener** (1996) graduated in both science and agricultural science. He is working as a banker and is based at present in Mareeba where he is employed with Suncorp.

Peter Thomas (1966) has retired from his irrigation work and is involved in a business on the Sunshine Coast . His son, Angus, who studied science as a member of St John's College is now a qualified medical practitioner.

**David Thornely (1975)** writes that after working as an engineer and software developer for about 15 years he headed west to operate the family farm.

Alice Tucker (nee Venables) (2001) is living and working around Yeppoon. Her husband, Paul Tucker (2000) is also a pharmacist. Alice was president of the Student Club in her final year 2003.

**Leonard Tucker (1967)** continues to live and work as a consultant physician in Toowoomba.

**Richard Tucker** (1967) is currently living and working in Alice Springs where he is the security coordinator for the Alice Springs airport.

Martin Varley (2000) qualified as an optician but is now currently studying for a degree in medicine. He is married to Jess.

Mark Wager (1972) is working at Camberwell Grammar School as "Designer in Residence" as he puts it for want of a better term, working on a variety of theatre productions

throughout the year. The most recent being a major production of "The Producers" with a cast of 95 students.

Amanda Waldock (1999) lives and works in Bundaberg where she is at the Burnett Dental Centre. She is married to Anthony Cobiac.

Stephanie Wallwork (2003) graduated in medicine with first class honours. She is looking forward to helping to organise the Centenary ball for St John's which will be held in March of 2012.

**Erin Wilson (2003)** graduated in medicine and is currently serving as a resident medical officer at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

Murray Williams (1946) was, for many years, in charge of the Australian National University Medical Service. He is still living and working in Canberra. He has been very helpful in providing background material and photographs from past College years for the history of the College.

**Thomas Wood (1985)** is living and working in Mooloolaba where he is a solicitor with Ferguson Cannon Lawyers.

**Gordon Williams (1950)** is a retired engineer and living in Ascot.

Rosalind Williams is married to Sean Riordan and living at Kangaroo Point. In 1997 and 1998 Ros was the advisor to female students at St John's College. Over the years she has been heavily involved in theatre, in addition to her employment with the Caxton Legal Centre. She is currently involved with the Southbank Institute of Technology.

# JOHNIAN STUDENT JOINT WINNER FOR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

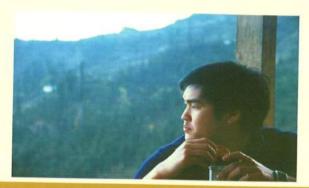
Arthur Cheung a 2009 Johnian Valedictee, and fellow medical student, Ben Treffene, were winners of the 2009 QETI Award in the category of Best Practice in International Collaboration, Higher Education, for their work on the Manali Medical Project.

Contributions to the charity – at Lady Willingdon Hospital – were made through the fundraising work of the St John's College Community Service Committee.









## MY INDIAN SUMMER

Tom Cornish was President of the Student Club in 2010. Below he describes his "Indian summer" spent at an orphanage in India.

During the Summer Holidays between my second and third year at college (09'/10') I was fortunate enough to spend five eye opening weeks in Delhi, working with the Nag Javriti collective.

Navjagriti is a youth organization which works for creating awareness and imparting education to street children. Its motto is Cultural Action is Social Action

Overpaying for a rickshaw to Nizzamuddin Station (an accomplishment in itself), every weekday I was engulfed by the mix of aromas emanating from surrounding slums, markets, animals and sewage. Each day as I walked towards the orphanage, I was among men & women, beggars & children, dogs, motorcycles, cows and even donkeys. Each day I was perplexed by the chaotic simplicity of navigation, not even my enhanced study of traffic systems at UQ would enable me to choose the correct path. A quick side step left, up a flight of stairs, and I was engulfed by serenity.

"Booya, Booya", the children would yell as they ran to show me their latest pieces of Art, English and Maths. At this orphanage the children were fortunate enough to have access to pencils and paper, blackboards, chalk, education posters, and there was even a bed. These considerable items were however obsolete compared to the unconditional love, joy, peace and warmth given to each and every soul that passed through the door.

The orphanage was visited by around 30 children from homes in the local slums (some without) each day and there were 6 permanent residents. Included as permanents were two long term orphans recently married with a 6 month old child, and three boys;





aged 16, 14 and 7. The seven year old was a recent ring-in named Raja, or "King". Raja was part of a local street gang who would beg, scavenge and steal to get money which was not spent on food, or fresh water, but on "whiteout". This they would sniff to get 'high' in order to forget about their life, heartache, starvation and physical pain.

With a basic understanding of Hindi, and a few teaching commands up my sleeve such as "listen", "watch", "follow", "now you" and importantly "quiet" I was ready to TEACH! Sadly, my impression of a civilised classroom situation was shattered within the first 2 minutes - although I can't say I was expecting it, I was still hopeful. Difficulties included a language barrier, varying age span and cognitive development, along with a tendency to rely on physical discipline. These difficulties meant when I taught, it involved a lot of visual learning. I tried to utilise hand gestures, actions, plays and even dance. It is difficult describe the feeling I got inside watching the children dance. All of a sudden they had purpose, confidence, and most importantly - they were happy.

While there is a lot more that could be said about the time I spent in India; shotguns in department stores, body boarding down the Ganges, rhinoceros following road rules, 50c tallies, cricketing riot, flower ceremony, rowing a leaky boat, con artists and the Golden Temple to name a few. During my time in India I was able to gain a greater perception of the world, that of a different culture, and through and from this I underwent a wealth of personal growth.

I wouldn't trade the time I spent in India for any other. I hope to visit again sometime soon. I recommend this experience over any trip to the full moon party, and hope that more people consider the path.

#### From the Warden continued from Page 1

the 1950's glass is not of the required safety standard and the aluminium shop front framework is starting to move badly in places. Some large panes have craked. The planter boxes at the entrance are suffering from the same problem as the terrace at the other end. We will also remodel more bathrooms. Such work and other activities are a very big call on our funds.

This makes the work and contribution of the St John's College Foundation all the more important. The University has asked us to provide matching scholarships and bursaries for various programmes designed to bring in students from disadvantaged backgrounds. We cannot fund these from current undergraduate fees which are still at the lower end of college fees at UQ and hence the contribution of the Foundation – only income, not capital is ever used, is vital.

We ask all past members of College to donate at least \$100 in our Centenary Year 2011 -12 and we hope that you will consider this kindly, and respond accordingly to help build up our Foundation endowment.

Meanwhile life goes on at College. Activity is never ending. We have done well so far in sports and other cultural activities this year and last Sunday won the women's Senior IV and came equal first in ICC men's rowing after beating King's in the first two regattas we lost the senior VIII to King's.

Last year's academic results were quite outstanding - some 17 Johnians took first class honours and two Johnians received University Medals.

I look forward to welcoming you at Centenary events.

## JCR REBUILT









Over summer 2009-10 the Junior Common Room was completely refurbished. The old rather stark ceiling – with its unadorned beams and utilitarian looking fluorescent lighting - was completely altered. In place now is an undulating ceiling with designer lighting. A built - in overhead projector and screen have has been added: excellent for viewing past sports and cultural performances! The worn out parquet flooring has been replaced and new wall panelling installed.

An annexe has been added which allows for the sitting area to be increased by 40% when necessary by means of folding doors. This was necessary because 288 undergraduates do not fit into a space designed for 160! The annexe – when not being used as part of the common room - contains a totally new and much larger television lounge, plus a table tennis area.

# © COLLEGE HISTORY IN PROGRESS

Dr Paul Nicholls, formerly of the History Department of Melbourne University, has been engaged in research on the history of St John's for the past two years. He has combed all available archives in Brisbane. Unfortunately there is not a lot of material available at the College , but some years ago Dr Craig Zimitat, together with the Warden began collecting material.

Dr Nicholls is the author of a number of works, including a widely acclaimed history of an inner Melbourne parish which combined local, state and ecclesiastical themes – somewhat of a change from narrowly focussed narrative institutional histories.

In the meantime we require more photographs – especially from the Kangaroo Point and early St Lucia days.

We hope to have a launch of the history around the middle of next year as our centenary celebrations come to a close.

If you have any material relating to the college we would be most grateful for a loan of it so that it can be copied and possibly used in the book.

# SPECIAL CENTENARY MUSIC

Famous Australian composer, Dr Colin Brumby , has written a special centenary Anthem to be sung and played by college musicians at the Commemoration of Founders and Benefactors Service on 23 October.

The words of the anthem are a paraphrase from chapter 15 of St John's Gospel, opening with "I am the vine and you are the branches and concluding with "Love one another . I ask of you.

The piece is designed for voices, organ and small orchestra – strings, woodwinds, brass and tympani.

