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CONTENTS

The Life of Maurie Web	3
The Life of John Shelton	14
Where are they Now?	19
Memories	20
Rugby League Opening	21
SBC Foundation - Life Member	23
SBC Foundation—Annual General Meeting	24
SBC v RGS Rugby Match	25
NRG Industrial SBC Foundation Golf Day	28
From the Archives	29
College Motto	29
Unsolved Football Story	30
Old Schoolyard	31
Peter John Marsh is Back	32
Reunions	33
Events to date	33
Country Dinner Dates	33
Country Visits	34
Year 12 Senior Indigenous Commencement Mass	37
2020 Seniors Commitment Mass	39
Gold for Duhig—Swimming Carnival	41
Year 7 BBQ Meet and Greet	44
ANZAC Day	45
Letters to the Editor	46
SBC Old Boys Foundation Membership Information	49
Contribute to the Bindi Eye	50
Rest in Peace	52
Cover Page : Maurice Degrelle Webb	

THE LIFE OF MAURIE WEBB



This article was written by Maurie not long after his retirement. He was a frequent visitor to the College for all school functions proudly wearing the college blazer.

Early life in Clermont and St Brendan's. Clermont is a long way back in my life. It was where I was born on 5th November 1925 with five sisters. My parents were Joe and Caroline Webb. Life in those days was really tough. Joe Webb was a fettler in the railway working through summer and winter in very hot flannel shirts. The money for that job was terrible and to supplement food supplies a sizeable goat herd was kept. Of course, a milk supply was a first priority, but when a kid goat (wether) was slaughtered at six months, the Webb family lived like kings for a while. Chops for Sunday breakfast and roast leg of lamb (goat) for Sunday dinner with appropriate vegetables. Meat had to be kept without refrigeration and some parts were salted down to preserve for stews at a later time. My early memory was being the boy who did the goat handling. Most poor families were reared on goat's milk.

Joe Webb also worked as a doorman at the local open-air picture show for ten shilling a week and some free entries for the family. The local union rep said that was not on and he should consider the future of his railway job. The 'bastards' were around in those days! Joe was also a fossicker for gold in the bed of Sandy Creek, where some was found and

sold as a supplement for buying tucker. It was great as a kid, when big enough, to be part of these exercises. Sometimes extra culinary delights were found in the lagoon, a still water ditch, which sometimes provided yellow-belly fish or eels (terrible stuff!), but somehow that master of inventions, our mother, made things edible. There certainly should be recognition of the early struggles of those long-suffering women, bearing children and battling to please a husband and feeding the mob!

Lots and lots of experiences run through my mind but are not tangible to chronicle and make sense in this context. It is said that this lad was dragged to school by Mum and being met at the front gate by a Josephite Sister, an awesome sight in her cover up gear and certainly a frightening sight to a young lad, who had run wild and free up to that point. For some of those early days this expected early student beat his mother through the back gate and home! Apparently, this happened a few times until the Sister organized a few big boys to take the young miscreant in tow! School was humdrum with the slates and so-called pencils. Those early days the routines were probably through to the higher grades. During those years the sight of those lads getting done over with the long swishing cane was enough to deter this lad's mind into devious exploitation of impending disaster, a lesson that stayed with him right through life. There is always a way out of tight situations. The question that was always around, "Why don't the girls get the cane?"

Entertainment at the Webb household was around a piano with several people invited for a night of song. Joe was a singer of some ability and led the singing till 11.00 p.m., then in loud tone everyone was told it was over and had to go home to bed for an early start at work. Meanwhile this lad continued with his seven day a week job looking after the mongrel goats! There had to be a reason for God putting every possible bit of stupidity in one package. There is only one period when not looking for them was the time when they were fed at home in a dry period.

Normally, they would have to be discovered down on the flat, but they had to be separated from the nannies, so that milk would be available next morning. These wonderful animals were fed during the dry period using a used kerosene tin with a wire handle. Yes, you guess it! During night feeding the wire handle would get behind the horns of one of these stupid animals! Picture the scene, with every time the legs moved, a bellowing sound issued from the so-called victim. Who had to rescue the poor thing in the middle of the night? Yes, the lad himself had to retrieve this distressed animal after plenty of bashing with a large stick. There had to be some form of repayment for being dragged out of bed! Similar experiences took place when an animal would try to jump the dividing fence and get its legs caught in the wire netting. “Maurie, get out of bed, as there is a goat in trouble out there!” More of the big stick followed and the animal was free from its bondage. Fortunately, none of the beating left any tell-tale signs.

Another early chore was the looking after the firewood for the house.

Old railway sleepers from the tracks came by the truck-load and my job was to saw them into stove lengths for the kitchen.

There was no trouble splitting them with the axe because of their age they fell apart. The billy-goat cart transported the goods

to the house. Large sleepers were left behind for the outside fire and



‘Noble’ provided transport to pick up mail.

the boiler on washing days. Nothing was wasted. There was no rotary clothesline in those days for the washing line.

A long length of fencing wire was stretched between posts with a forked stake to stop sagging with wet clothes on the line. They were big washing days and Mum's work went on and on. Ironing to do, clothes for school to make and mend and Joe Webb's tough clothes for the railway job. Forty hours a week? Not on! Everybody in the house had chores each day. No running water and no town supply. All water was caught in big rainwater tanks. To bath big tubs were used with the water being carried in by bucket.

Water was heated on an outside fire with my wood. Time moved on with school continuing until Scholarship was passed and a new era was coming for Maurice Degielle Webb. He had to go to High School!

Maurice Degielle Webb was chronicled among the first student at St Brendan's College in 1940,

a Christian Brothers' School opening for the first time. How the struggling parents, Joe and Caroline, managed the cost remains a mystery to me to this day.

St Brendan's College was certainly in its infancy. The place did not boast of a vehicle of any kind. If a tip-dray, pulled by "Noble" the draught horse, qualified, then that statement is incorrect!

On arrival at Yeppoon Railway Station after an exciting trip from Rockhampton, a Brother was in attendance to make all students aware that their luggage had to remain at the station and a long walk to the boarding school life was ahead of them to St Brendan's. The train's arrival at Yeppoon was 7.00pm and a long staggering lot of boys made the trek up the hill. The good news was that all in the first contingent had the same experience. The wait was on for the last to arrive before Brother Gettons, the Principal, gave a welcome and told the bed allocation and a



*Sacred Heart Statue donated by the students of 1940
in front of original building.*

reminder that the luggage might arrive tomorrow or the next day! When it did finally arrive, the delivery vehicle was an old model T-Ford, which didn't handle the hills too well.

Beds were allotted into this long dormitory and yours truly came up with a bed near a window overlooking the kitchen. Next morning was the eagerly awaited breakfast. The interesting part was that this was the first intake of food since partaking of some 'rubbish' in Rockhampton the day before!

The early introduction to boarding school tucker was not good, but probably a quick summing up, that bread was the way to go! On occasions some of us old boys have discussed those early meals, but the conversation does not lead to any excitement about their content! The subjects discussed were not always about food. However, we did survive and found boundless energy handling the many activities that took place.

At that first breakfast the meeting with Matron Hogan took place, a white clad figure with an enormous veil that seemed to be all over her head, a beaming smile from her, but a steely look in her eyes boded no good! She was probably today's version of a dietitian. Any sign of illness to her and the blue bottle (castor oil) was produced.



First classrooms 1940.

One certainly had to be very sick to line up to Matron! One of her great managerial skills was to order a parade before breakfast every Saturday morning for a dose of Epson salts. Inner cleanliness was paramount!

A lot of dining room skills were quickly added as musts on how one held the knife or fork and which way the soup plate was tipped. After weeks and weeks of drill, these good habits became a way of life.

**“The lad was being trained
to become a gentleman!”**

Shortly after arrival news slowly circulated that there were no showers. The builders were still on site and bathing job had to be done elsewhere. Down to the creek with a towel and soap into a beautiful running stream, which supplied an endless supply of clear water. That supply of water gave up years ago along with the main supply that came from a bore, which was sunk on the corner of Limestone Creek Road. Here water bubbled up out of the ground in the same endless supply. Goodbye also to that many years ago. The very first beginning of the College existence depended on that supply of water being found. It was a massive undertaking; the huge under- ground cement tank remains

today. Over this a huge tower of three steel tanks was built, so that water pressure was available to the buildings. This structure stood about sixty feet above the ground, but we had an intrepid Br Macdonald, who walked around on the top of the tank on his hands! Credit is given to a Bert Dobeli's father of Emu Park, who eventually found the water using his skill of water divining. A plentiful supply of water was found and then pumped to the college.

The chapel was strategically placed so it had to be passed to go to bed, dining room, sickbay and administration. Father Lee was the parish priest of Yeppoon, together with an assistant Priest to guide us to Paradise. What a task! Life around the altar in the chapel was not difficult after being an altar boy in Clermont.

The low set classrooms are but a memory with learning difficulties or naughtiness remedied by a long strap secreted in the flowing habit of the Brother. Again, as in Clermont I observed the lads getting the treatment. This young lad was smarter than that! Work gangs outside with Br O'Donnell were not tolerable. The jobs were hard at grubbing out trees or cutting them down with a six-foot crosscut saw. Somewhere in these experiences was a learning curve? The hard work of really clearing ovals was done by a band of wonderful men, who came down from Rockhampton each weekend with axes and saws. No bulldozers!

Brother O'Connor led the charge in physical duties with springboard, vaulting horse, parallel bars and mats to land safety. This was marginally better than the work gang. Br Fitzpatrick was the way to go if you could make it to his working group. "Noble", the draught horse, was harnessed in a tip-dray wagon and wood was collected for the steam boilers. The payoff was tucker, usually of bread and dripping, kept under the front seat of the dray. Br Fitz had his priorities right!



First dormitory. Later named 'Hogan'.

Now back to my bed that was allocated near the window. Many a truant went out that way onto the kitchen roof and to endeavours untold. Often the return was in the wee hours of the morning when a missile landed on the bed and they were pulled back inside. An adventure that was never undertaken by M.D. Webb!

The walking to Yeppoon was on three days a week to Ross Creek for swimming. It was four times a week when training was in full swing. These trips always had that rare chance of meeting up with that girl from St Ursula's. These opportunities were strictly forbidden.

School at St Brendan's finished in 1941 with public exams for the Junior Certificate. To this day several verses of two poems stay in my memory, probably the result of learning by rote, "Elegy in a Country Church yard" and "The Man from the Snowy River" to mention just two.

Great memories well up about one of our early mates, who later became a Priest. Des McKenna, a wonderful sportsman, especially cricket, and a great bloke, who unfortunately was killed in a plane crash, while serving in the Catholic Mission of Aitape in New Guinea. The three Murphys,

Vince, Tom and John from Rockhampton figure early in my mind along with their father, Charlie, making early trips to St Brendan's in a new model car that was current at the time. At that time, the Yeppoon road was no highway!

The St Brendan's journey of 1940-1941 was over and so back to home in Clermont awaiting a possible apprenticeship in the Queensland Railways. An early advice came that all positions had been filled. The next choice or start was at the Langton shearing shed as a picker up when the shearing was taking place. This place was next to the railway line eight miles from Clermont. The mode of transport was the railway punter, which took Joe Webb and his mates to work. The shearing shed job was an early finish, so everything fell into place.

After three weeks the notice came that someone had declined to accept a position and an apprentice in wagon building at the Rockhampton Workshops was available. The proposed salary was one pound seven shilling and sixpence! (\$2.85). This amount a week becomes interesting when a boarding house was found and was exactly the amount of board required! This bizarre happening continued until Joe Webb got a job in the Rockhampton Workshops as a Tradesman's Assistant. Joy, oh joy, with the family moving to 256 George Street!

Life changed considerably with a social life now possible and a bit more money available even though board was still paid but a bit less to Mum and Dad. It is recorded that life at some stage was a dance five times a week and once to the pictures. TV was not around in those days so one-night left was guess work. The house in George Street was not all that far from the Railway Workshops. Joe Webb would be gone at a respectable time but not the young fellow. Apparently, two whistles were blown to herald the start of work. One went at ten minutes before 7.00 am and that would be when 'the lad' was putting his boots on after many efforts from his mother to get him out of bed.

At night some dances were at the Palais Royal and the School of Arts and on Wednesdays at St Patrick's. A lot of journeys home were on the Port Curtis bus, which was of an early vintage with running boards along the entry side. If the bus was full and standing room was only on the running boards, various policemen got the pleasure of pulling you off the bus and making one walk home!

Pleasurable pursuits did come in different packages. There was always the possibility of no need for a bus, if some young lass needed to be escorted home!

At last there came a breakthrough with that right young lady, Alma Ellen Dwyer from Capella, who stayed at the Kent Street, St Bridget's Hostel for girls. Kent Street had many suitors and so garden seats and places of peace and quiet were at a premium. Well, we coped and when time came to head for home, the ride was only two blocks away.

The wedding took place on 3rd November 1948 at St Joseph's Cathedral in Rockhampton. For the next few years Alma and I set up home in Northgate, Brisbane, where we raised a family. But the call the Capricorn Coast beckoned and so the family found themselves back and settled in Yeppoon in 1960. Here I began working on the edge of the pineapple industry, loading and repairing the crates. Cliff Street Yeppoon became a permanent residence on the Capricorn Coast for more than 40 years.

Early connection with St Brendan's began again at this time, which was to continue for the next 18 years. In various capacities, my original trade, as carriage builder, saw me taking woodwork with the boys among other duties. I recall the job as unofficial 'truant officer', tracking down the runaways from St Brendan's. It was mainly homesickness behind it. I would find the poor little tykes in Rockhampton, unable to go any further, now doubly homesick. Most returned quietly!

During these years I recall with great pride my long-standing link with the College, being number eight on the register in 1940. Since my retirement for

a number of years I still frequented the halls of academia as a pastoral carer, taking a roll in the lives of a group of lads at the school. Apart from being an old boy of the college, I hoped students have benefited from my experiences. I have been very proud to help them in any way.

Though retired now in the Capricorn Retirement Village, I still keep in touch with the outside world by my constant letters to the local press and more recent times addressing the Year 12 students on the importance of making the best of the opportunities offered to them at St Brendan's, my old Alma Mater.



Mr Michael Byrne (1940-43) with Mr Maurie Webb (1940-41).

THE LIFE OF JOHN (JACK) SHELTON

Early Pioneer Family



Jack and Jim Shelton

John was born on the 10th December 1928 in Wowan, the first child to Cornelius and Eva Shelton. John, always called Jack, had five siblings: James, Martin, Thelma, Fay and Bernard. The family lived on a property Glenoma near Biloela, which Dad had selected in 1924. These were the hardship years of the great depression and pre-WW 2. In those days there were no electricity, telephone, or TV. An icebox was used to keep food cold until that was eventually replaced with a kerosene fridge. Owing to only fifteen and a half months apart in age, Jack and Jim both started school at the one teacher state school at Kariboe Creek at the same time and in the same class. According to Jim some people

thought they were twins. They rode horses the 5 km. to school. Jim remembers that he and Jack sometimes walked to school by a shortcut across their Uncle's property and one time pinched some tobacco from his home. Apparently, he did not like them short cutting Sometimes the teacher did not turn up until 11 am so the boys would quickly take the opportunity to go shooting at birds with shanghais down along the creeks. When the convent school was built in Biloela, they rode their horses about 7 km. to the school ending their bird shooting expeditions.

In 1943 and 1944, both Jack and Jim attended St Brendan's College for Sub-Junior and Junior both in the same class again. The 1944 College Magazine records that Jack played in Rugby League for the Juniors, winning all games against Brothers, High and Grammar. In Cricket Jack was a member of the Juniors against Rockhampton High on the College Oval, High scoring 40 runs and Brendan's 67 with J. Sheton scoring 12 runs!

In 1944, during the second world war and after Dad sold the Biloela property, the family moved onto a small sheep property Dorrington near the NSW border, near the town of Texas. When Jack was sixteen, he finished his schooling at Brendan's and started work at Dorrington.

Jim completed Senior in 1947 and began University.

With the purchase of Dorrington Jack jokingly remarked that 100,000 rabbits were included in the purchase. While the rabbits were a pest, eating lots of grass, they did provide some extra income. During the winter months thousands of rabbits were killed for their skins, so Jack certainly knew how to skin a rabbit. During summer Jack trapped rabbits and delivering them by truck to a freezing works in Texas for human consumption. The family often had rabbit stew!

At one time Jack had wanted to buy a motorbike, but Dad disagreed. Perhaps, his nephew Matthew picked up the bug from him. However, he was always a keen sportsman and played football and cricket for Silver Spurs in Texas.

In 1946 concern over the damage the rabbit population was doing at Dorrington prompted Dad to sell out and buy a 21,000 acre cattle property Wallarobba, 23 km. east of Emerald near the Yamala railway siding. A house was purchased in Gray Street Emerald to allow Thelma and Fay and later me, to attend school. Once again Jack took up football, this time playing for Emerald. He was also a member of the Emerald Rifle Club and I can remember both him and Mart lying on the lounge room floor with their .303s, no scopes in those days, practising their breathing to steady their aim, before pulling the trigger. There were no bullets in the rifles! They both became very good, often winning awards on the rifle range, which was just over the river from us at Gray Street Emerald. We could hear the shooting going on of a Sunday morning.

In 1947 Mart went to Brendan's to complete his Junior year. Jack, Jim and Mart all wanted to be on the land, but Dad needed someone to help him on Wallarobba, there being not enough money to pay wages for the boys. Jack, being the oldest and already been working for Dad, continued this work. Jim was encouraged to do a Vet Science course at Qld University and Mart was encouraged to take a clerical job at Harold Loch's Garage and Agency.

Wallarobba was a heavily timbered property, running about a thousand head. The cattle were wild at first and Jack said that they were lucky to escape with very little injury. Jim remembers he and Jack were out riding one day on Wallarobba and they came on to a wild bull possibly a cleanskin. They took off after it with Jack throwing the bull by the tail and tied him up. In the meantime, Jack's horse had taken off, so Jack had to double bank behind Jim to get home. When they arrived back at the homestead, feeling proud of themselves, Dad blew the socks off Jack for allowing his horse to get away, claiming that it would probably roll on the saddle and destroy it. There was no praise for the catching of the troublesome bull! Next day they took a small mob of cattle back to where the bull was and led him up to join the mob. Jack's horse was found with the saddle still

in good order. Jack and Jim were both good horsemen and stockmen. One of Jack's jobs was to ride recently half broken acquired horses. Not too long after acquiring the Wallarobba property a severe drought set in, so they loaded 800-900 head of cattle on the train at Yamala and trucked them to Nippan in the Theodore-Moura area. They then grazed the cattle along the stock route running into trouble at boggy creeks and later losing cattle due to red water disease. They were probably on the road for at least six months, camping on the back of the old Army blitz truck under a tarp and many times when it rained they were cold and wet.

**The conditions were so tough
that Jack, later in life, never
wanted to go camping again.**

In 1955 Dad was on the move again. He formed a partnership with Jack and Mart, called Shelton and Sons and bought a 632 acre property at Moura from the British Food Corporation. They called the property Shelhaven, which had a piggery and irrigation area along the Dawson River.

In 1955, Jack married Mary Ellen Moriarty who was teaching in Emerald. After their marriage they moved to Shelhaven. Jack and Nell had lovely daughters, Beth, now living in South Australia, Mary living at Yeppoon and Anne-Maree living south of Perth. Initially, Jack and Dad started growing pumpkins, potatoes and lucerne on the river country. Later they decided to see how pigs would go by putting some pigs in the piggery area, which was mainly a free range set up. It appeared that pigs would be profitable, and as time went on, the pig numbers were built up. Dad and Jack then went out of small crops and concentrated more on lucerne and grain for the piggery.

In 1964 I joined in the partnership with Jack and Dad after buying Mart's share. In 1965/66 the piggery went through a major change with the pigs being housed indoors in sheds. The piggery was now putting out 3000

baconer sized pigs per year. 1972 turned out to be a very sad year as Dad died in March and Nell died in June. This was an incredibly sad and difficult time for Jack, his daughters, Mum and all of the Shelton Family.

In 1975 during the beef depression Jack and I bought a small dry land farming cattle property Hidden Valley about 16 km. from Shelhaven. Jack was very keen on this purchase, which turned out to be a very good investment. Sometime after this purchase, Elizabeth and I moved there to run the property. In 1978 Jack married Heather Acheson, who besides looking after Jack and getting the orchard going at their home, she started helping down at the piggery, and was a great help to Jack. In 1987 the piggery under Jack and Heather's guidance won the Top Performance Synthetic Boar at the Brisbane Royal National Show. The following year the RNA invited Jack to judge the Large White Breed most suitable for carcasses.

In 1982, as I wanted to pursue my interests in cattle grazing, Jack and I split our partnership and Elizabeth and I purchased a cattle property north of Roma. Jack and I had worked together for over 20 years. Financially, it was a great time and we worked well together.

In 1994 Jack embraced a new interest and joined the gliding club and twice a month the club would gather at the Moura airfield, which was close to Shelhaven. This was a great pastime out of which Jack got a lot of pleasure. One regret for Jack was that he could never fly solo because of a shortened arm, which was a legacy of a childhood accident.

In 2005, Jack and Heather sold Shelhaven, This was a heart wrenching time leaving the property, a home built up over 50 years. Heather had made it her home for 27 years and was whole heartedly involved with the running of the property. They retired to Emu Park, where Jack became involved in vegetable gardening and in Model Aeroplane sport until it was necessary in 2006 to give up after heart surgery. Jack was always been a

great supporter of the St Vincent Paul Society, spending a lot of time volunteering in Moura and later in Emu Park.

Jack passed away peacefully on 26 April 2020 in Emu Park. All the 42 years Jack and Heather have been together, Heather had been a wonderful mate and companion to him.

Bernie Shelton, younger brother of Jack, was at St Brendan's 1956 to 1960.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Samson Tumins—Class of 2000

Extracted from recent correspondence with Brother Kevin Smith.

... After I left SBC in year 2000, I got accepted at the University of Papua New Guinea and completed my Diploma in Business Economics. The year was 2003 and I went over to Lae and worked there for a while and then I went back to Pom and started a new job with one of those Aust Mining Companies called Emperor Mining Company.

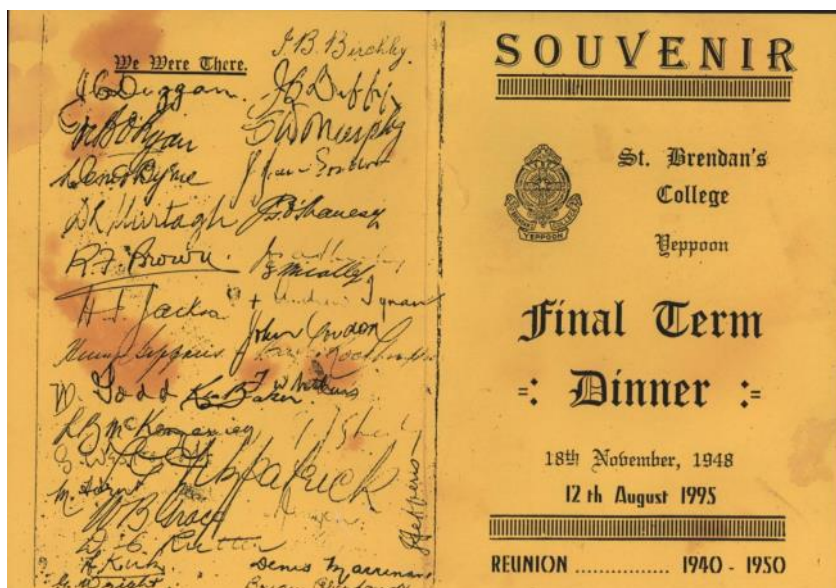
Worked with them for 2 years and I got sent to James Cook University for six months to do Pronto Xi Training. I attended that and went back to Papua New Guinea in year 2006 and worked with them for another 4 years until 2010 and I left them to go to Lihir Island, by the time Newcrest Mining Limited has just acquired the Lihir Gold Ltd. Since then I am still here working with them.

MEMORIES

Recently, a visitor to the College came up with a wonderful idea of having a Memories section in the Bindi-Eye. If you have any old or special photos or memories you would like to share, please forward them with a brief description to the College at marketing@sbc.qld.edu.au.

1948 Souvenir of Term Dinner

In the early days it was customary to have a Dinner each Term with a visiting guest speaker. On 18th November 1948 the Guest was Jack O'Shanesy, Chairman of the Fitzroy Council. Recently, this again has been re-introduced into the College by Fr. Pius Jones.



Note the signatures of Bishop Andrew Tynan, Frs. Brown, Murtagh and Arthurs, Br H.I. Jackson, headmaster 1946-1951, Br J.B. Duffy, headmaster 1952-1957, and Brs. B. O'Ryan, L.B. McKennariey, G. Fitzpatrick, W.B. Grace. There is also a number of signatures of students. Interestingly, the Rollcall in 1948 was only 159 including 33 Day Students.

RUGBY LEAGUE OPENING

The Opening of Rugby League Season in Townsville's new Stadium.

Peter and Cara Bartlett and Jason and Magella Keily travelled to Townsville for the NRL opening game of the season for the Broncos Cowboys clash.



Jason Keily and Peter Bartlett at the entrance to new Queensland Country Bank Townsville Stadium.



*Peter Bartlett, Julian Tomlinson 1989-93,
Devin Hume 1989-93, Shane Boyes 1989-93.*



*Cara and Peter Bartlett, Jonathan Thurston, Darren Lockyer
at the opening game of the season.*



*Peter catching up with Old Boys Paul Bowman 1989-93, Jake Granville 2002-06,
Troy Aldridge 1995-99. Troy, CEO of Cowboys, Peter, Staff of SBC 1993-2020,
Paul, Assistant Coach, and Jake, Star player of Cowboys.*

FOUNDATION FIRST LIFE MEMBER

SBC Foundation was formed in 1989 in advance of the College Golden Jubilee. Founding directors of the company were: John McKenna, John Fitcher, Mario Cresta, Brian Hooper Sr and Ted Neville. John McKenna was the inaugural Chairman of the Foundation and remained in that role until his retirement in 2015.

At its recent Annual General Meeting, Foundation members agreed to admit John McKenna as the company's first Life Member. On behalf of a grateful St Brendan's College community, congratulations and thank you.



John McKenna (1959-60)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members of St Brendan's Collage Foundation met recently for the Annual General Meeting, the following is a summation of proceedings :

- John McKenna was admitted as the first Life Member of the Foundation. We congratulate and thank John as a founding member and Chairman of the Foundation for over 25 years.
- Cameron Wright was returned as current Chairman, Cale Dendle as Secretary/Treasurer and Mark Boyd as director to join Michael O'Keeffe, Renee Gilbody, Matt Solley and Principal Rob Corboy to make up the board of directors.
- Audited financial statements showed a surplus for 2019 of <\$13,000 and Cash at Bank of \$138,000+. \$16,250 was paid in scholarships to students from Years 9-12 in 2019.
- The outlook for fundraising events for 2020 isn't great, but everyone is keen to kick things back into gear once the virus threat passes - and we'll be looking for your support.
- Chairman's Report, Financial Statements and Auditor's reports are available on the www.acnc.gov.au website.

SBC v RGS RUGBY MATCH

Two tribes go to war at Rugby Park, Rockhampton 22 February. Here are a few snaps of the Old Boys in Action V Rockhampton Grammar School.



L-R: Alistair Warren (1990, Longreach), Rob Sherry (1988, Marlborough), Trent Flynn (2000, Yeppoon), Damien Kenny (1988, near Gympie), David Cass (1991, Charleville), David Owens (Rockhampton), Dean Smith (2006, Yeppoon), Dan Toon (1984, Yeppoon)



Organisers of the Rugby Match:
Rupert Collins (RGS) and
Cale Dendle (1990, Springsure)
at Rugby Park, Rockhampton.



Two tribes go to war at Rugby Park, Rockhampton



L-R: Jesse Irvine (2002, Yeppoon), Adam Ryan (1994, Dysart), Trent Flynn (2000, Yeppoon), Simon Harris (1988, Monto), John Reddy (1994, Wowan), David Owens (Rockhampton), Matt Couper (1993, Clermont), Damian Gunning (1990, Mackay), Grant Searles (1990, Longreach).



L-R: Rob Sherry (1988, Marlborough), Jesse Winch (2002, Yeppoon), Dean Smith (2006, Yeppoon), Trent Flynn (2000, Yeppoon), Dave Cass (1991, Charleville).

NRG INDUSTRIAL SBC FOUNDATION GOLF DAY

AWARDS

Men:

2020 Champions

Darren McGilvray
Darren Lucht
Darren Goslin

2020 Runners Up

Cameron Schick
Dan McPherson
Luke Nixon

2020 NAGA

Andrew Lawrence
Ben Toohey
Glenn Edwards

Women:

2020 Champions:
Maggie O'Keeffe,
Carmel O'Keeffe
Karen Solley

2020 First Runners Up

Claire Lawrence,

Kim Reddy
Phena Biddulph

2020 Second Runners

Up Jo Couper
Bree Sing
Roxi Furber

2020 NAGA

Julie McLaughlin
Melissa Collins
Kellie Hill



2020 Champions awards presented to Darren McGilbray by Foundation President Michael O'Keeffe (far right).

FROM THE ARCHIVES

COLLEGE MOTTO

Not many of us would be able to translate the Latin in the College Motto,

NE DUBITA DABITUR.

Do not doubt. It will be given.

Even the translation that is usually given is somewhat puzzling. A more liberal translation that appeared in an Old Boys' News-letter in the 1970s was "Have faith and you will succeed." The origin of the motto goes back to the 1950s, when Brother Duffy was Rector of the College. He was responsible for the college crest of the 1950s and the motto. On one occasion Brother Duffy said the motto came from the writings of Marcus Tullus Cicero, (106-43 BC), a Roman writer and orator and known as one of Rome's greatest public speakers and not from the writing of St Paul.

Some old boys of the period may be able to verify this. Brother Borgia Duffy died in Sydney, 4th October, 1997, aged 86 years.



The old College Crest many of you would remember.

UNSOLVED FOOTBALL STORY

In the Archives there are several knitted Footballers similar to the photo dating back to the 1960s. It is believed the work was carried out by Vera Cornell, the Mother or Grandmother of Elton (1960-66) and Everett Cornell (1960-68) of Yeppoon.

The address of either Elton or Everett can no longer be traced. There is just a chance that relatives of the Family may be known in the area. If so any information would be appreciated.



OLD SCHOOLYARD

Remember the days of the old school yard
we used to laugh a lot.

Oh don't you remember the days
of the old school yard.

When we had imaginings and
we had all kinds of things

And we laughed and needed love

Yes I do, oh and I remember you.

Cat Stevens

1948



Definitely Old Schoolyard—Playing Marbles!

Jack Gibbs, Len Jensen, Bill Murph, Wilf Grigg

We are not sure who is throwing the marbles—Anyone remember?

PETER JOHN MARSH IS BACK

In early January 2020 well-known Old Boy, Peter John Marsh, better known as 'P J', returned to St Brendan's College as part of the Wallace Boarding Residence. Peter is no stranger at St Brendan's, 1996 to 1997, and came from Blackwater. His profile reads: 1st XIII; CQ R.L Rep; Member of Inter-School Swimming Squad; Australian Under 18 Touch Football; 1996 Cross Country Champion; Member of the Inter-School Athletic Team.



Waverley, Braelen, Peter, Jay, Kelly

With such a record it is no wonder that "PJ" was recruited to play for the Central Queensland Capras in the 1998 Queensland Cup. He began his NRL career at Parramatta and played for the Eels from the bench in their 2001 NRL grand final loss to the Newcastle Knights. P J played for the New Zealand Warriors at hooker in their 2002 NRL Grand Final loss to the Sydney Roosters. Midway through the 2003 NRL season, he unfortunately sustained a serious neck injury against Parramatta, which ruled him out for the rest of the season as well as 2004. Following a three-year stint with the New Zealand Warriors (2002–2004), PJ returned to Parramatta for the 2005 NRL season. In November 2007, he signed a three-year deal with the Brisbane Broncos returning to his home state Queensland. PJ was one of first Old Boy to represent Queensland in the State of Origin, playing 2002, 2003 and 2008. Unfortunately, he was forced in March 2010 to retire owing to injury, thus ending a long distinguished playing career.

On Wednesday 20th July 2016 P J visited the College as part of a team, known as 'Head Space', to speak to the Year 12 students about 'Life Choices'. Last year he was the guest speaker at the Brendan's Formal Dinner. P J and Kelly and family have settled in well and have made an incredibly positive influence in the boarding itself thus providing a real home life for the students. Welcome.

REUNIONS

We have no news of any recent reunions, with most of us in lock down for the most part of the last six months. If you are planning an event please send us the details via email below and we can promote it for you
- marketing@sbc.qld.edu.au.

EVENTS to date

COMING TO A TOWN NEAR YOU

Calling all Old Boys, current boys and future boys.

Principal Mr Robert Corboy and Head of Boarding Father Pius will be calling by once again and are very much looking forward to the opportunity to meet with families in the region. We hope that you are able to find time to have an informal chat and catch up. If you know of anyone who wishes to send their boy/s to St Brendan's this is a perfect time for them to come along and meet them. Circle the following dates and watch for further information via our Facebook page or contact the College.

Biloela Country Dinner 16 July, 2020

Theodore Country Dinner 17 July, 2020

Roma Country Dinner 27 July, 2020

Rolleston Country Afternoon Tea 28 July, 2020

Springsure Country Dinner 28 July, 2020

Emerald Country Dinner 29 July, 2020

Longreach Country Dinner 24 August, 2020

Barcaldine Country Dinner 25 August, 2020

COUNTRY VISITS

Before Lockdown

Principal Mr Robert Corboy and Head of Boarding Fr Pius Jones, hit the road visiting our SBC Family and potential families in Blackwater, Clermont and Blackwater. A delightful time was had by all.



Principal Rob Corboy and Fr Pius catch up with Trevor and Cody Ford of Capella.



Connell and Renee Walker with Father Pius.



Fr Pius and Rob Corby visit Moranbah Families

End of Term 2

Principal Rob Corboy and Head of Boarding Fr Pius Jones, took to the road to end the Term dropping students back home in the Gladstone, Monto, Biloela, Moura, Theodore, Taroom and Miles regions. Whilst out and about they gathered with Miles and the surrounding district families for a country dinner.



Brown Family



Gilmour Family



Kerwick Family



Paul and Kendrick Treadwell



Sinclair Family



Treadwell Family with Fr Pius

YR 12 SENIOR INDIGENOUS COMMENCEMENT MASS AND CELEBRATION

Year 12 senior students joined fellow colleges in the region for a special Indigenous Commencement Mass. The two day celebration, culminating in a Mass, brought together Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander students to celebrate culture, create fellowship and have the opportunity to listen to guest speaker Joshua Creamer (Barrister at Law) who shared his journey and inspiration to strive for your goals and Mr Peter Bartlett who provided insight into his pathway to the future.



Tagai Tapau-Bon



Regional Schools coming together for Mass.



Tagai Tapau-Bon presenting for St Brendan's College.

2020 SENIORS COMMITMENT MASS

St Brendan's College 2020 Seniors were celebrated at a special Mass on the 14 February, as they embark on their final year.

A welcome to our newest 211 students and 36 teaching staff into the St Brendan's Family opened the ceremony.

Father Matthew Maloney encouraged students to give of who they are. For it is the person who goes up to someone and says you did well, thank you or shows an act of kindness that achieves great things. It makes for a real hero, a real leader and it inspires others he said.

Thereafter Seniors pledged to lead by example and mentor the youngest students as they commenced their high school journey. In the spirit of our strong ethos in Brotherhood and Belonging our Seniors will be an inspiration to all their fellow colleagues .



School Captain Jake Baigrie presenting College Badges.



Senior Commitment Mass



Boys receiving blessing from Fr Matthew Moloney.

GOLD! GOLD! GOLD! FOR DUHIG

Students were in high spirits on Friday 14 February as they competed and cheered for their fellow brothers as swimmers sliced through the water vying for PB's and victory.

Congratulations to Duhig on a dominant performance in the pool. This now marks the sixth year in a row that the mighty Yellow house has won the Swimming Carnival.

Final house points were:

1st	DUHIG	523 points
2nd	HAYES	441 points
3rd	GETTONS	407 points
4th	TYNAN	302 points



*Kalari Sing being presented the trophy by
Principal Mr Corboy.*

Well done to the following Age Champions:

SWIMMING RESULTS	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Under 12 Age Champion	Cooper Slade	Aiden Stieg	London Duggan
Under 13 Age Champion	Alexander Eaton	Tyson Gilmour	Oliver Miles
Under 14 Age Champion	Lachlan Mortimer	Joshua Monaghan	Kane Laundry
Under 15 Age Champion	Jamal Doyle	Xavier Craggs	Aston Fortier
Under 16 Age Champion	Lachlan Tomkins	Ky Pambid	Connor Champion
Open Age Champion	Jesse Laverty	Liam Doherty	Lane Bauer
Swimmer of the Year	Lachlan Tomkins		



Gettons House



Duhig House



Tynan House



Hayes House

YEAR 7 BBQ MEET AND GREET

St Brendan's College Yr 7 students and parents enjoyed a Welcome BBQ as an introduction to the school year and each other in February.

It was a lovely night until the mozzies decided that they wanted in on the festivities! Ah the joys of the great Australian outdoors.

Thank you to the parents who joined us we look forward to you seeing you at many more functions, hopefully in Term 3 or 4..



Year 7 Students ready for their future at St Brendan's.

ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day was marked at the college prior to the 25th with a private ceremony at the Greater Court Yard .

Due to isolation from Covid-19 staff and families were encourage to join the nation in lighting a candle in their driveway and playing the service in memory and thanks to those who came before, followed and especially for those who did not return.

Students made cutouts depicting the service of men and women ,erected a memorial placed at the school gates in participation. These can be seen in the imagery below.



ANZAC Ceremony conducted at the Greater Court Yard

LETTERS to the Editor

Peter Webb

I was a SBC student from 1963-67 and my brother Lawrence (died December 2014) and Gerard (who now lives in Cairns) also were SBC students. Our sister Kathryn's husband Ian Hoy (deceased) was also an SBC student and her sons, Tony and Rodney Hoy, I believe worked as boarding supervisors at SBC. Tony's sons Alex and Harry are current students. The statement from Dr Ray Channells is attached. Dad's middle name we always spelt Degrelle: it's a good story, as he had a French Aunt Jeanne, who married his WWI soldier Uncle Clarence Hawkins and came to live in Clermont and as you see below that's where the name came from, her brother, Maurice Degrelle. He was a French sprinter who competed at the 1924 and 1928 Summer Olympics.

I spoke this morning to Dr Ray Channells, now 93 and a much-loved doctor in Yeppoon for many years and his wife Norma who were great friends and Cliff Street neighbours of our parents, Maurie and Alma (who died 1995). Mum was a secretary at SBC for a time and as you know Dad was on staff here as well as being Number 8 on the 1940 roll.

Perhaps, you might publish Dr Channells' address. He was one of Dad's best friends.

Dr Ray Channells, O.A.M., of Yeppoon. Tribute to Maurice Degrelle Webb

Maurie was educated at St Brendan's College in the 1940s. He was later employed as a Manual Arts Teacher for 17 years after graduation.

He was always a keen worker for community projects as an honorary member and maintained a long association with the Yeppoon Rugby League Football Club, as a member and present of the committee. His outstanding work for the Club was rewarded by having the playing field, when installed, named the Maurie Webb Football Oval. His contribution to

the game at local, district and state level made him a recognized authority on Rugby League in Queensland. He was an ardent fan of the Broncos Club attending many of their matches in Brisbane, including the 2001 Semi-Finals against the Auckland Warriors winning 40 to 10.

When the Yeppoon Senior Citizen's Benevolent Housing Society was formed in 1967, he was one of the earliest members to join and in quick time became the President of the Society. Having been reelected as President at the A.G.M. on 13th February 1991, he stated in his Annual Report: "The worth of this work is I hope reflected in the community and the residents who live at the Birdwood Estate. Way back twenty- six years ago, we were the only providers on the Coast for Pensioner folk. We as committed people can be justly proud of these achievements. It proves how mindful our original committee were of needs in our community. The Units provided have been of a high standard at a give-away rental not to be matched anywhere in Queensland!"

Maurie retired as President of the Society in November 1997. His involvement and contribution over the years could only be described as monumental.

In 1989 Laurie stood for and was elected a Councilor of the Livingstone Shire. The commitment in time and energy can only be appreciated by those closely involved with local councils. He was a member of the Council Community, involved with the St Vincent de Paul Society and the State Government and was Chairman of a group of people planning Hostel Accommodation for the Frail Aged. Forty beds were made available for Emu Park and Yeppoon by the State Government. He remained on the Livingstone Shire Council till 2004.

The Yeppoon Meals on Wheels Club was instigated by the Rotary Club in 1972. Laurie was a member and President of the Committee running the organisation for several years.

In January 2006 Laurie was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (O.A.M.), a prestigious award recognizing his long involvement with numerous community organisations. He has been a leading citizen of the Capricorn Coast for a lifetime and in later days enjoyed his retirement in the Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village of Yeppoon.

From J. Rowan (1946-47)

It has been some time since I last visited Brendan's from Ayr. I apologise for my lack of making contact sooner. Every time I start to do something poor health beats me to the punch. At least I am still walking and will be 90 in September.

My wife passed away some years ago, but we had four children, 2two girls and two boys so I have been kept busy but very lucky.

I arrived home from Brendan's in 1947 and got a job the next Monday. I only had one job and one employer for the next 60 years and finished in 2008.

*I went to Ireland
and saw where St Brendan
built his boat and sailed.*

I was at St Brendan's in 1946-47, also my brother Raymond in 1954-56. I saw his photo in one of the Bindi-Eyes but no date. We were still at Gumlu after World War 2. my mum organized St Brendan's, I still don't know how she did it, but my mum was something special.

I will say goodbye for now and perhaps I will be lucky to see St Brendan's and thanks for everything.





ST.BRENDAN'S —OLD BOYS— FOUNDATION

THE ST BRENDAN'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION

is a not-for-profit organisation working to improve the resources of St Brendan's College, foster the spirit of Edmund Rice and develop the broader interests of the College community.

Our motto is to connect, advocate and build.

CONNECT

Encourage participation in the activities of the College community by Old Boys, past parents and friends and students.

ADVOCATE

Raise the profile of the College among the Old Boy network and general community.

BUILD

Through events and fundraising, raise money to support the development of College facilities and community.

STAY CONNECTED

 /SBCOLDBOYS

WHO SHOULD JOIN?

Any member of the community with a connection to St Brendan's College, whether that is past students, parents or friends of the College.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

St Brendan's College has a proud history of providing education to rural and regional sons and young men of the Capricorn Coast since 1940. The College is renowned for its brotherhood and belonging, and the bonds formed during the St Brendan's years often last a lifetime. The Foundation is a meaningful way of becoming and staying connected to St Brendan's and making a real contribution to the ongoing development of the College and its students.

HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?

The Foundation is membership based, and has also introduced a significant calendar of events and encourages participation by the St Brendan's College community. Events include the annual SBC Foundation Golf Day in January; Race Day in August, Old Boys vs First XII Rugby League Match in November, as well as a Sportsman's Dinner in Brisbane, to name a few. To find out more about these events, please follow our Facebook Page.

MEMBERSHIP

Current member fees are:

YEAR 12 SCHOOL LEAVERS	\$20 PER ANNUM
UNDER 25 SBC OLD BOYS	\$50 PER ANNUM
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP	\$100 PER ANNUM

Visit the St Brendan's College website to join, with convenient online payment options - www.stbrendans.qld.edu.au/our-community/sbc-old-boys/sbc-old-boys-foundation/



CONTACT

SBC Old Boys Foundation Chair: Cameron Wright
Secretary: Gale Dendle
foundation@sbcqld.edu.au

CONTRIBUTE to the Bindi Eye

Stay in touch via the Bindi Eye. Have you got a story to tell? Achievements, Graduations, Marriages, Sporting Events, Reunions etc. All it takes is a page or two and a photo! Thank you to those Old Boys who have contributed to these pages and we encourage more of you to share with your fellow Old Boys.

CONTACT us via Donna Prentice or Kylie Hedges at:

Administration / Marketing: marketing@sbcl.edu.au

We invite you, in-between publications, to keep up to date with news about the college by visiting our website www.stbrendans.qld.edu.au or our Facebook page / SBCYeppoon . To those who prefer a hard copy the postal mailing will continue. Please ensure your address is kept current. All updates can be sent to the above email address or mail address 139 Adelaide Park Road, Yeppoon, 4703.

Please note:

We have been advised there has been a small amount of confusion in relation to the Foundation and the Bindi Eye. The two are separate entities. The Bindi Eye Newsletter is compiled inhouse at St Brendan's College and is the compilation within, with an additional contribution to content of events and news from the Foundation.

The Foundation however is a separate not-for-profit organisation whose vision, motto and interests for past students and friends of the college can be reviewed on the previous page, alongside contacts and membership information.

You do not need to be a member of the Foundation to receive the Bindi - Eye. This is sent to all Alumni unless you notify us otherwise.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the printing and postage of the Newsletter please forward any contributions to :
St Brendan's College, 139 Adelaide Park Road, YEPPOON 4703.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Circle: Visa Mastercard Credit Card

Number : _____ Expiry Date: _____

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Update your details:

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Rest In Peace

*We pray for the family of the following members of the
St Brendan's Family who have gone to their eternal rest.*

Anthony Clark

SBC 1985-88 from Rockhampton
Deceased 16 February 2020, Melbourne.

Tereek Conlon

SBC 2016-17 from Brisbane
Deceased 3 May 2020, Brisbane.

Michael Ross

SBC 1997-98 from Rockhampton
Deceased 12 March 2020, Rockhampton.

John Shelton

SBC 1944-45 from Emerald
Deceased 26 April 2020, Emu Park.

Maurice Degrelle Webb

SBC 1940-01 from Clermont
Deceased 27 December 2019, Yeppoon.