THE NAMING OF BUILDINGS

With the closing of School House as a boarding institution the main boarding area is PARKER HALL which is the large building bordering the ovals and opposite the pool and the CENTENARY GYMNASIUM. This building was named after the School’s two Rhodes Scholars GEORGE HALL [1905-1910], Queensland’s Rhodes Scholar in 1911 and CHESTER PARKER [1930-1934] the 1938 Queensland Rhodes Scholar. Parker was killed in WWII while serving as a British Navy submariner. The Centenary Gymnasium was completed in 1988 while Parker Hall was built in 1995. There is a further building named after George Hall. This building fronts the Quadrangle and the top floor is now the Mathematics’ Centre.

Various buildings on the main campus have been named after past Headmasters. The two older buildings facing Paxton Street are the MAURIE BLANK BUILDING [1940] and the LEN DANIELS BUILDING [1954]. Len Daniels was Headmaster from 1966 to 1974. The library, built in 1966, is named after P.F. ROWLAND, Headmaster from 1905 to 1938 and one of the library rooms is named after T.B. WHIGHT. Mr Whight was a student from 1916-1920, a Master from 1921 to 1927 and Headmaster during the difficult war years 1938-1946.

Buildings have been named after prominent past students. The Science Block is named after R.P. RHEUBEN [1911-1915], a brilliant student who, after completing dentistry at the University of Queensland, moved to the state of Nevada in the USA and became a leading figure in dentistry. He died in the early 1980s and bequeathed part of his estate to the School. The SPENCER HOPKINS BUILDING which overlooks the Quadrangle is named after one of our favourite sons. He was one of the original twenty-three students at the School in 1888 and maintained contact with the School in roles such as a member of the School Trustees and Chairman 1928-1940 and 1946-1960. The FRANK SIM BUILDING is named after Mr Sim, a student from 1939-1942, a Trustee from 1968-1971 and Chairman from 1972-1991.

Two important cultural areas on the main campus have been named after girl past students. The EDNA SHAW CERAMIC STUDIO is named after Miss Shaw, a student in the late 1930s, a generous benefactor of the School and Patron of the Past Grammarians’ Association. In April this year the GLENNYS PERRY PERFORMING ARTS’ PERFORMANCE SPACE will be named in recognition of Mrs Perry’s wonderful contribution to Drama at the School. Mrs Perry was a student from 1951-1954 and a teacher from 1979-2010.

The Junior School on the Annandale Campus was opened in 1996 and was the brain-child of S.C. PAUL, Principal from 1993-1997. He was supported in his vision by E. WENCK, then Chairman of the Board of Trustee and three prominent and innovative Trustees in R. MARSH, A. BLOXHAM and R. MURRAY. Ross Marsh was a long-standing Trustee and President of the Parents’ and Friends’ Association and Mrs Murray was a student at Grammar from 1964-1967 and a Trustee from 1990-2005. Buildings on the campus have been named after them in recognition of the work they put into the development of the Junior School. Another building has been named after the first Head of the Junior School, N. KERLEY.

Two further buildings are named after founding members of the School. The UPWARD BUILDING is named after E.F. UPWARD, Acting Headmaster in 1888 and Master for a short period in 1889 and who was instrumental in the opening of the School on 16 April, 1888. Mr Upward moved the majority of the students from his school, St John’s College, then situated in Stanley Street and on a site close to the Dance North Centre to the present North Ward Campus. T. WILLMETT was the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees [1884-1888] and was a driving force behind the foundation of the School in 1888. As Chairman of the Queens Gardens Trust he was instrumental in moving the School from its proposed area at Kissing Point to where it stands today. The WILLMETT BUILDING is a most appropriate recognition to one of our founding fathers.

In 2011 the new Library and Resources Centre at the Junior School was named the TAIT LIBRARY after Alan Tait, a student at the School from 1920-1924, a Trustee from 1939 to 1945 and Chairman of the Board of Trustees during the very difficult war years. Alan Tait was at various times President of the Old Boys’ Association and a Queensland representative cricketer in the 1930s.

MR BILL MULLER
School Archivist