PRESIDENT’S REPORT

A chance meeting of DANE GORRIE (1992) and DEAN CAVANAGH (1998) with Dean’s mother, LORRAINE CAVANAGH (nee WHITTLE 1970), herself a past staff member, produced some interesting asides. Speaking with Dane, he was not aware that we held regular Grammar@Home weekends each year and showed great interest in becoming a member of the Past Grammarians Association. Another interesting thing to come out of that chance meeting was the realisation of the ties between Lorraine and myself. Her brother, ALAN WHITTLE (1969), was in my class for four years, and Lorraine has a granddaughter, one of Dean’s children, who was born on the same day as my grandson and they are now in the same class together at school!

The Reunion was held at The Banquet Centre and I was privileged to sit at the 1996 table, sitting beside Daniel Thearle. He, along with everyone else, was very impressed with Principal, Mr Richard Fairley’s presentation showing the past, present and future of Townsville Grammar School. He also expressed interest in the fact that families, generation after generation, return their children to the School. The reunion itself was a delightful occasional once again, wonderfully organised by Mrs Kim Steele (1998), Mrs Kristell Scott and Ms Marion Walker-Campbell.

As usual, the School’s ANZAC Day ceremony was commemorated in the Quadrangle, with the Past Grammarians Association representing past students.

The School had its first Hong Kong Reunion this year with a lovely turn out by Past Grammarians. Thank you to the students involved for helping make it a success.

The Brisbane reunion, organised by Mr Arthur Burke, was a fantastic lunch gathering and a great time was had by all.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Richard Fairley for his continued support of our Association, and also thank the School for the presentation made to myself and Mr Bill Muller at the Reunion dinner in recognition of our efforts over a number of years. Thank you also to Mr Bill Muller for your efforts each and every year.

Congratulations Class of 2016! I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you at School Reunions in the future.

Mr Jack Callcott (1965-1969)

PRESIDENT, PAST GRAMMARIANS ASSOCIATION
NEWS OF PAST GRAMMARIANS

The Australian Museum in Canberra recently contacted the School regarding GLADYS ROBERTS (1902-1905) wanting to know about her years at the School.

A curator at the Museum is writing an article about the work that Gladys performed as an illustrator while working at the Centre of Tropical Medicine in Townsville. The Centre was run by Dr Anton Breinl who was a trustee at the School from 1913-1943. It seems as though the illustrations drawn by Gladys were highly regarded for their time. Gladys was a member of a long-standing and respected Grammar community.

In early July the Review section of the Weekend Australian had a feature article on Frederick Parkhurst Dodd, better known as the Butterfly Man of Kuranda. Dodd lived in Townsville for many years and had two sons attend the School, FREDERICK WILLIAM DODD (1903) and the better known ALAN PARKHURST DODD (1910). Alan became a world renowned entomologist and was the scientist behind the landmark campaign to eradicate the scourge of the prickly pear in Central Queensland. Alan, like his father, also had an interest in butterflies and some of his collections are now housed in the Queensland Museum. For his work Alan was awarded the MBE and the OBE.

It has been great to hear from KEN MORRISON (1942). He was only at the Grammar for a short period but remembers his days at the Rosslea Campus with great fondness. At the end of the 1939 he remembers a Townsville Year 7 cricket team travelling to Herbert River to play the locals. In the team were PLUM WARNER and IAN McNAUGHT who were to enrol at Grammar in 1940.

Thanks to RAY KOHN (1964) for emailing to the School a copy of the 1963 student paper The Epithet. This is the first copy of The Epithet seen in the archives and if there are other copies from other years it would be appreciated if they could be forwarded to the School. The students from 1966 produced The Epigramme annually and copies from each year can be found in the archives. The student editor behind the writing and publication of the Epithet was PETER McKIMMIN (1961) who now resides in the USA.

Congratulations to JIMMY LAZAREDES (1957) on his recent retirement. Jim, who had four children attend the School, was a long serving and popular dentist in Townsville.

STEPHEN de JERSEY (1987) who has children attending Grammar continues to collect awards for his architectural designs. His recent success was his Bath House project winning the National Small Project Award.

BILL TWEDDELL (1967) who was recently appointed Chancellor of James Cook University has added another string to his bow with his appointment as patron of the Great Barrier Reef Orchestra.

Congratulations again to NATALIE WEIR (1983) on another stunning ballet she choreographed in Brisbane. As part of a triple bill called Lest We Forget she choreographed We Who Are Left. The ballet was inspired by the poetry written during World War One and set to the music of Benjamin Britten.

In a former Melior Exi it was reported that MICHAEL VAN GENDREN (1983) had died. His mother EDNA VAN GENDEREN, a former matron at the School, has written stating that the Townsville General Hospital Past Graduates had set up a bursary in his honour and it would be awarded on an annual basis. The Van Genderen family had also donated money towards the bursary. It is a wonderful gesture from the Past Graduates. Edna had founded the association many years ago.

CARMEN ELLIOTT (nee QUINN) recently completed twenty-five years at the head office of Woolworths in Sydney. He was honoured by being invited to propose the toast at the 25th Anniversary Dinner.

Two other students from 1993 are also doing well in the world of rugby union. DANNY McKELLAR who was the ACT Brumbies coach for the 2016 season is the favourite to take over the reins of the Brumbies when their head coach moves into an Australian coaching position. LIAM MULLER who coaches in Sydney was recently invited by the Australian Rugby Union to act as an official at the World Rugby Sevens tournament to be held in Sydney in February 2017.

Our president, JACK CALLCOTT (1969) recently caught up with DANE GORRIE (1992) who was working in the Police as a relieving sergeant in Charters Towers. Working at the same station was DEAN CAVANAGH (1998), also a sergeant.

Great news re JOSH HANNAY (1997), who is returning to Townsville as assistant coach to the North Queensland Cowboys. Josh was the first player to play 150 games for the Cowboys before moving to the UK to have a two year stint playing there. He returned to Queensland and has been coaching teams in the Queensland State league.

MICHAEL JONES (2004) is working for the New South Wales Government as a lawyer in the Department of Public Prosecution. Michael will long be remembered for his great performance in the School Production of “The Beggars’ Opera”.

MAHN COOKE (1995) is now a director and physiotherapist at the Health Studio in Townsville. He is doing very good work in the rehabilitation of people seriously injured in accidents and with returned servicemen.

TAVIS NICHOLSON (2003) has also been in contact with the School. Since enlisting in the Australian Army in 2005 Tavis has served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He has also served at the Royal Military College Duntroon and is presently deployed to the Sinai (Egypt) as part of the Multi National Force Observers. Tavis’ grand-father was a past student and served
in World War One and was awarded the Military Medal.
The DYER sisters continue to have successful careers in film and theatre. MADELEINE DYER (2003) is planning to shoot a movie in the Townsville area. She and her partner recently won an award at the Capricorn Film Festival for the best short film shot in the region. HARRIET DYER (2005) has had another success playing the lead in the Sydney Theatre Company’s French farce “A Flea in Her Ear”.

Anita Sachlikidis (nee SABAG 1998) and her husband, Alexi, welcomed their second child and baby sister to Luca - Elena Eden Sachlikidis born 2 Nov at 9:42am, 3.2kg (7lb1oz) and 50cm. Mum and bub both happy and doing very well.

VALE

We record with sadness the passing of the following members of the Grammar community and extend our sympathy to family and friends.

ERROL WENCK was a long serving Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees (1992-1997) and played a strategic role in the Board’s decision to develop the Junior School Campus at Annandale. In recognition of his service, one of the main buildings at the Annandale Campus was named in his honour. Errol was a very community minded person who was on the Board of the Townsville Hospital and one of the founders of the Cricketer’s Club in Brisbane. He was also a great supporter of junior cricket in Townsville. A talented sportsman, Errol played A grade cricket and hockey in Brisbane and was a very good tennis player. A great supporter of the School Errol had four children attend Grammar (Adam, Adrian, Jolyon and Shaunagh).

Denise and Alan Morwood

It is also with great sadness that we report on the passing of DENISE MORWOOD, the wife of our former headmaster Alan Morwood. Denise was an integral part of the School from 1975 until Alan retired at the end of 1992. Denise was educated at Brisbane State High School and then Teachers’ College. Her first teaching post was at Childers where she met Alan. After their marriage her life was dedicated to her children (David, Jenny, Helen, Philippa and Sally) and the School.
Denise was the founder of the Ladies’ Auxiliary and also the organizer of the School Art Shows. She would regularly host lunches for staff on pupil free days and her Christmas parties for children of staff were legendary. Visitors to the School would invariably be invited to either lunch or dinner at her house and on Speech Night the Board was always treated to a great meal before the event. Denise was also on the inaugural committee of SCAR, the Skin Cancer Awareness and Reform Group.

Denise re-married some years after Alan’s death and her time with Arthur was spent fishing and enjoying theatre and opera. A lady of class Denise will be remembered by many.

A generation of boarders will remember ANNETTE COOK who passed away earlier this year. Annette worked at the School for twenty-four years, starting in the kitchen and becoming the Catering Manager. Her work included looking after the tuck shop, catering for functions and for the day to day running of the kitchen. Mrs Cook always had a cheery disposition and was much loved by the boarders. In recognition of her contribution to the School a prize named the Annette Cook Prize for Year 10 Hospitality will be awarded at Speech Night every year.

MICHAEL LEHMANN, the son of Kay and Barry Lehmann, passed away recently. Many past students will remember Kay as a great mathematics’ teacher and top-level hockey coach. Michael was forty-two at the time of his passing and working in Mackay. He leaves behind a wife and three children.

Michael was a talented musician who as a youngster would play a variety of instruments but later on in life became a very adept guitarist.

Save the Date - 2017 Reunion


Saturday 12 August, 2017

Tickets will be on sale in early 2017 via the TGS website

KEEP IN THE LOOP! *****
Make sure your details are up-to-date!
Contact Rebecca Paterson
rebecca.paterson@tgs.qld.edu.au
for more information.

GALA NIGHT OF REMINISCING
Townsville Brewery Banquet Centre

Merry Christmas