

# Serbire Regnare

VOLUME 74

Past Students Newsletter of All Souls St Gabriels

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## MUSEUM IN FINAL STAGE



We now enter the final phase of the Museum & Archives project. Internal fittings are almost complete and the next six months will be spent organising the display cabinets and cataloguing electronically our collection. This is a time consuming process trying to ensure that all who enter the museum are connected in some way and that we establish good record keeping procedures.

It is planned to have the official opening of the Museum & Archives at next year's reunion weekend. So if you really want to see the end

product of this nine year project, make plans to attend the 2015 reunion weekend on 9-11 October. This project has only been possible because of the support of many past students and friends.

The Museum Project Appeal has been closed as the PSA has sufficient funds to complete the project. However, the Past Students Association has the task of the continued operation and care of the facility. Anyone wishing to add their name to the donor list is still able to help facilitate this ongoing

responsibility. Any museum or Archives always has curating costs.

Please continue to send contributions to us that can be stored in our Archives and/or placed on display in the Museum. Such memorabilia is invaluable.

The Management Committee of the Past Students Association wishes to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all past students and friends who have in some way contributed to the realisation of Project Museum & Archives.

### SPECIAL DATES

Burry Project Weekend: 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2015  
Reunion Weekend 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015







# Burry Project Weekend 2014



## BURRY PROJECT WEEKEND 2015

Our 2015 Burry Project Weekend will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> January. If you are a local of the Charters Towers area, you are passing through or you are one of those special supporters who like to travel to the School for this weekend we look forward to your company.

The Burry weekend is one of the School's great traditions which is now 39 years old. Started by the late Kevin Burry, who was a past student and most respected and admired member of staff, it is symbolic of the start of a new School year. Members of the whole School community (not just past students) come together, work together and socialise. It is an occasion to tidy up the School and work on various projects. This year we will help out the Junior School with a concrete pathway to the Burry Oval with other projects in the pipeline.

We need equipment and expertise and plenty of ordinary helpers. Accommodation is available for those out of town in Green House (bring your own linen) and we start 8am Saturday finishing at lunch time on the Sunday.

**If you have any equipment  
that may be useful contact  
Robert Peace, 0427 558 719**





# DISAPPOINTED? WHY NOT BECOME A "CLASS ORGANISER"

We try to make reunions enjoyable occasions for all who attend but it is also up to the individual to make the best of the occasion themselves. From time to time the PSA gets a comment from a past student who attends the reunion: *"I came back but was very disappointed as there was no one/very few from my year."* We understand how dull a reunion would be if you were the only one from your class. So why does this occur?

For years now past students tend to come back at periods of five or ten years in their class groups. So next year we would expect significant groups from 2005, 1995, 1985, 1975, 1965 and probably a few real oldies from 1955 or even 1945 depending on the survival rate and their capacity and willingness to attend. Some even return in 5 year spaces as was the case with the class of 1979 this year. This year we had significant groups from 1964, 1974 and 1979 but the other groups were very small and some years had none at all.

So who contacts these students and persuades them to come back to reunions? Who is it that spends so much time finding them, getting them interested and finally getting them back as a group? It appears that those who make the above comment that the expectation is that the PSA has this task. This is not the case as we do not have the resources or the time to do so within our small voluntary group and even if we could the past students in those classes concerned would not respond as well to our request as they would to a fellow classmate's request.

Our first step to encourage past students to attend is to publish the invite to reunions generally in our *Servire Regnare* magazines. Then we try to contact one or two members of each five or ten year class and encourage them to become "Class Organizers". These people then do the leg work of finding their fellow classmates and encouraging them to come along. It is a challenging and time consuming task. We can contact those on our database on behalf of these organizers but because of privacy laws cannot release their names and contact information to others.

Class Organizers are the life-blood of successful reunions. If no one from your class takes on this task, sadly very few will turn up with you for reunion. The PSA is extremely grateful for the work done by Class Organizers. Sometimes they can get in contact with many and they themselves feel a little disappointed with the small number that turns up after so much work has been done but we all realise that people lead busy lives. What is evident though is that all who return have a great time, even those who were first reluctant to attend.

Some who return make the observation that the older ages are well represented, even overrepresented. It seems that the older classes are more successful at getting large numbers back through their Class Organizers and they are supposed to be less competent at using the advantages of technology than their younger counterparts. Perhaps the younger groups need to work a little harder at it. We would dearly like to see more past students from the younger years but if they cannot find Class Organizers they will continue to return and find few class mates. Roger Netterfield this year (class of 1964) found more than eighty of his old class tracing them back to those who left well before year twelve. More than twenty of them made the commitment to return and had a wonderful time. Peter Norford from the class of 1974 and Sian Platte (nee Woods) from 1979 have been Class Organizers for years and always get a sizable group back. Kerry Willcox from the class of 1980 is an old hand at the job of Class Organizer and his class mates, who will probably come back next year (a five year group) at his urging, so appreciate the job he does of keeping them all in contact. He even persuaded them to sponsor as a class a scholarship in memory of Sally Goodman from their class who passed away too young. Some organizers like Bill Hely (1963) set up a web site for his class more than twelve months out from their reunion while Roger Netterfield produced a Newsletter twelve months out and updated it every few months. These people devote a lot of time and even expense to the task and we are rewarded with great numbers at reunions. So please, rather than be disappointed with small numbers in your class when you come back, take a leaf out of their book and become a "Class Organizer". You will be appreciated by your class mates and you will be rewarded with a most enjoyable reunion weekend. It is a service you might well consider.





SoulsConnect is a new mentoring program our school is embarking on; connecting current and past students. The idea came from a chance conversation with Mrs Di Alford, Chair of the Board of Governors, and her son Scott, a recent old boy, who is currently in the second last year of his medical degree at JCU.

We recalled and recounted stories of many of our past students and the personal and professional achievements they have made since leaving school. Some students leave having an idea of what they want to do

when they leave school, others leave unsure what they will do, still others leave having planned for one particular path, but have ended up on a different one.

Regardless, each has a story to tell about negotiating life and the world outside of school, wisdom and insight that could be valuable to a current student who is beginning to shift their focus beyond school and into future study or work.

Barbara Salisbury and the Life Skills and Career and Development staff already do an excellent job at bringing

students in contact with people and resources that can help them engage in discussion about their plans after school. The JCU camps, ambassador programs, careers expos and work experience programs arranged by Mac Horne have borne great fruit, opening up possibilities for students that might not otherwise have been conceived.

The question Di, Scott and I proposed was – what if current students could be connected with recent past students who are close to the experience of negotiating life after school? This would enable past students to support and guide current students as they too move toward transitioning from school to further study or work. SoulsConnect is about making that connection. It is hoped that over time we will build up a bank of past student mentors with a range of life experiences, trades, professions and further training and education who are willing to be linked up with a current student to support them and guide them.

Similarly, we are hoping to encourage current students who want to benefit from the wisdom and support of those who have travelled before them to get involved in SoulsConnect.

Obviously the success of such a program will depend on both potential mentors and mentees coming forward to participate in the program.

If you are a past student reading this and thinking - I do not have any contribution to make, I have not done anything special, then you are more than likely to be the person we are looking for. If you are a current student and are looking for someone you can talk with about the reality of apprenticeships, TAFE, University, employment (the bits recruiters, admissions officers, and employers do not tell you about) then SoulsConnect is probably for you.

**Please contact -**

**Br Nathan-James:**

[brnathan@allsouls.qld.edu.au](mailto:brnathan@allsouls.qld.edu.au)

or

**Barbara Salisbury:**

[bsalisbury@allsouls.qld.edu.au](mailto:bsalisbury@allsouls.qld.edu.au)

## 2015 SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND PREFECTS

### **Captains**

Bianca Peace and Patrick Galvin

### **Vice Captains**

Kate Blennerhassett and Mitchell Rankine

### **Chapel Prefect**

Callum McDougall

### **Alban House Captain and Prefect**

Seanne Santo

### **Becket House Captain and Prefect**

Sarah Salisbury

### **Chad House Captain and Prefect**

Dempsey Currin

### **Feetham House Captain and Prefect**

Clayton Gough

### **Page House Captain and Prefect**

Thomas Elliott

### **Ramsay House Captain and Prefect**

Rowan Fittock

### **Music Prefect**

Jack McDougall

### **Academic Prefect**

Kate Blennerhassett

### **Rural Activities Prefect**

Jessica Lusk

### **Prefects**

Chloe Campbell

Taylor Ievers