March 2013

Dear Old Boys

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2013. I hope you enjoy the contents of this first edition for the year.

"Empathy is the ability to share other people’s feelings, to see things, even if you don’t agree with them, from their point of view. You can’t underestimate the need to handle interpersonal relations well, and empathy is the quality that counts most in that.” G.J. Tankersley

Strong minds, gentle hearts is our theme for 2013. Those four words capture the desire we have for the young men in our care. To be men of substance and high achievement but to also be men who care and have empathy for those they encounter is what we hope to nurture here at Saints. In many ways this is a rare commodity in the modern world. These qualities are often portrayed as “soft” and most certainly are undervalued.

Schools like ours are often counter cultural and I am convinced that our boys are all the better for it. To give young men the capacity to develop strong minds while also nurturing their compassion and gentle hearts is a gift that can only enhance the wider community.

This short tale expresses this in another way:

According to the legend, a desert wanderer happened upon a spring of cool, crystal-clear water. The water was so delightful, he decided to bring the king a sample of it. Barely quenching his own thirst, he filled his leather canteen and began his lengthy journey in the hot desert sun to the palace.

When he finally reached his destination, the water had become stale because of the old leather container in which it had been stored. The king graciously accepted the gift of his faithful subject. He tasted it with an expression of gratitude and delight, and the wanderer went his way with a joyful heart.

After he had gone, others in the king’s court tasted the putrid water and asked why the king had pretended to enjoy it. “Ah,” responded the king, “it was not the water I tasted, but the spirit in which it was given.”

The warmth and thoughtfulness of the king ensured the wanderer left feeling satisfied and affirmed, rather than ridiculed or belittled. The king chose the response which affirmed the caring and generosity of the wanderer. The king lived out well the reflection attributed to Danny Thomas.

“Success in life had nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It’s what you do for others.”

My best wishes for the year ahead.

Br Bill
President’s Note

Welcome back for another year. I am hoping this one doesn’t go as quickly as the last one.

I hope you enjoy the first newsletter for 2013.

The last meeting of the Old Boys Association re-constituted the positions of the Association, and I have returned to assist again as President.

I extend a warm welcome to the following old boys who have also stepped up to assist with the running this year, and are as follows:

Vice-President: Ken Harris (1975)
Secretary: Czek Kersevani (1971)
Treasurer: John Brimstone (1998)

I would like to take a moment to pass on some well-earned thanks to two people who have been main contributors to the Old Boys society and newsletter.

Br Barry Lamb, the College Archivist for the past few years, has been a great contributor to the historical archives and articles within the newsletter. Br Barry has recently taken up a new posting in Melbourne and his presence for the SAC Old Boys will be missed.

Jean Lendon, the remarkable wiz who puts together the newsletters, needs another big thanks for the energy and effort to pull together the newsletters time after time. Thankfully she is continuing in the roll again this year, and thus the reason you are reading this new addition.

It is almost time for the first Old Boys meeting of the year. Those who are interested are invited to the College on Wednesday 13th March, being held in the Conference Room (within the staff room) at 5.00pm.

Best wishes to you and your families for 2013.

Brad Hutchison
President

Farewell to Br Barry

Last Week Br Barry who joined the College staff in 2005 left for a new Marist appointment in Melbourne. Brother was the College Archivist and spent countless hours sorting and collecting College memorabilia. The archives are now well catalogued in yearly sections thanks to Brother’s tireless work.

Brother was an energetic creative man who made a contribution to all aspects of College life. He gave enormous support to the Arts Department, Gildas Centre, Boarding Program, Old Boys’ Association, Lay Marists, Post Ed Journalist Club and Learning Support.

Br Barry was inspirational, his enthusiasm was infectious and his quiet spoken manner always offered a kind word or helping hand to a struggling student. His bubbly personality and hard work will be sadly missed. We wish him well in his new endeavour.

Leadership 2013

Congratulations to the following boys who have been selected by peers and staff to be our College Leaders in 2013.

Captain
Matt Hancock
Vice Captain
Seamus McManus
Academic Captain
John Hickey
Sports Captain
Connor Quinn
Sports Vice Captain & Service Captain
Ben Harris
Arts Captain
Liam Spannenburg
Public Speaking Captain
Christian Peters
SRC President
Jacob Hurley
Liturgy & Saints Mates Captain
Patrick Dwyer
& Boarding Vice Captain
Blake Huggett
Boarding Captain
Jordan Way
Phelan Captain
Liam Duncan
Heavey Captain
David Munro
Reginald Captain
Jack Ward
Walter Captain

2013 Prefects with Br Bill
Building Program from 2013 to 2014

A building programme in the order of $9.2 million will be commencing at the College this year. This has come after much planning, meetings and with the aid of the Federal & State governments. In summary, J Block (the building closest to Lennon Hall) will be demolished and three separate buildings will be constructed on this footprint. Facilities will be built in three phases with Phase one commencing in Term Four 2013.

PHASE ONE

This new set of facilities will include:

- New toilet amenities
- A new Food Technology & Hospitality Centre which will be located adjacent to existing facilities in Lennon Hall.
- Four new Science Laboratories
- Three new multi-purpose classrooms
- Eleven new classrooms
- A lift to facilitate disabled access
- A 35 Bed Boarding facility to cater for the incoming Year 7 in 2015.

All these facilities will be located in the current footprint of J Block and the Hangar, with the Boarding facilities to be constructed nearby.

BASKETBALL COURT SHADE STRUCTURE

We intend placing a new shade structure over the basketball court to replace the current hangar near J Block. This will have to be self-funded. Any donations are most welcomed.

PHASE TWO

An extra four classrooms will be built at the end of the new facilities (at the Lennon Hall end). Once this is done the current Science Block will be demolished and the front of the College returned to its original historical perspective.

PHASE THREE

A new Tolle’s will be built on the bottom level of these new facilities. The current Tolle’s will be converted into Boarding facilities or accommodation. Phrase Three will not occur for some time.

Above are photos to give you a preliminary look at what these facilities will offer our school community.

St Augustine’s College extends an invitation to Ex-Students to a meeting of the “Saints Old Boys” at the College on Wednesday 13th March at 5.00pm

If attending please email: oldboys@sac.qld.edu.au
Back in 1952 the Year 12 Class comprised only 10 students.

Sixty (60) years later, six (6) members of that class were able to gather at the Easts Leagues Club in Brisbane on the 21 November 2012 to celebrate its 60th Anniversary.

Kevin Conlan (Canberra) and John Anich (Cairns) travelled to Brisbane to join David Clark, Vince Flynn, Henry Friend and Laurence Quinlivan.

The following special invited guests, who have had a long and close association with the class, joined the gathering:

Brother Vales (Sydney), Brother Benet (Sydney), Brother Hugh Thomas (Brisbane), Brother Roger (Brisbane), Father Peter Hayes (Brisbane), Lou Piccone (Cairns), Michael Dunlea (Brisbane) and Vic Vadala (Brisbane).

It was notable that the gathering included three distinguished past students who have had bestowed on them the Order of Australia Medals for their generous widespread dedicated community service. They were Lou Piccone O.A.M., John Anich O.A.M. and David Clark O.A.M.

Having last gathered for the 50th anniversary in 2002, it was considered that in lieu of planning to celebrate a 70th anniversary in 2022, it was felt that it would be more prudent to gather again in 5 years time in 2017 for the 65th anniversary.

**Class of 2007 Reunion**

On December 1st 2012 over 30 young men from 2007 revisited the College to catch up with some teachers and see what progress had been made to the facilities. They were amazed at the change over such a short period of time. The College hosted a BBQ lunch followed by a tour of the College grounds by Mr Czek Kersevani.

Mr Jones, Mr Dorahy, Mr Gregory and Mr Williamson were delighted to catch up with the lads and to share many stories and experiences. From a teacher’s perspective it was great to see the many successful pathways that the men had chosen.

A joyful night a Rydges Plaza followed. Big thanks to Terry Struber for all the work in planning the reunion.
Saints has a new website! It is dynamic, modern, very informative and user friendly. The site gives a comprehensive coverage of all facets of College life and effectively portrays who we are as a community. It provides the public the ability to stay connected by providing the latest news, events and developments as well as providing the essentials to new prospective families.

The homepage features assets such as webmail, parent lounge, student cafe and teacher kiosk logins. It also features quick links to the on-line shop, enrolments, boarding and the College calendar. The scrolling marquee linked to the calendar gives latest news or urgent notices to parents. There is an image and video gallery, feeds into social media sites and incorporated search engines.

Please spend some time on the site. It is the simplest pathway to stay in touch.

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**Upcoming Reunions**

**Class of 1993**

20 Year Reunion

Saturday 1st June 2013

**Contact:** John Grieves  
Ph: 0488783154 or email: jackhammer165@gmail.com

**Class of 1973**

40 Year Reunion

Saturday 8th June 2013

**Contact:** Ken Harris  
Email: ken@thejack.com.au  
Ph: 0418195600  
Dave Lawrence  
Email: dlawrence@sac.qld.edu.au

**Class of 1983**

30 Year Reunion

25-27th October 2013

**Contact:** Angelo Caltabiano  
Ph: 07 4036 1711  
Mob: 0488 363652  
Email: angelo@alllending.com.au

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**Are Your Contact Details Up To-Date?**

*"The only constant thing in life is change"*

Personal contact details are always changing. We would like to encourage people to update their details for the Old Boys’ database. Please email the following details to: oldboys@sac.qld.edu.au

Name: __________________________________________________________________________
Postal Address: ___________________________________________________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________ Mobile:__________________________________
EMAIL: __________________________________________________________________________
Year began at St. Augustine’s: __________________ Your last year at St. Augustine’s:________
Would you like to be contacted for Old Boy Committee Meetings? Y / N
Would you like to be sent an electronic copy of the Old Boys Newsletter? Y / N
Would you like to be sent an electronic copy of the College fortnightly newsletter “Saints News”? Y / N
Preferred contact method Email / Phone / Mail
If you do not have email, please mail your contact details to the College at 251 Draper Street Cairns, Q 4870
If you know of other Old Boys, can you get them to forward their details to us in order to update our database.

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**New College Website**

(www.sac.qld.edu.au)

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2012 PRESENTATION AWARDS

Old Boys’ Prize for All-round Achievement in Year 10: MATTHEW WRIGHT
The Sam Pappalardo Memorial Bursary for Effort and Achievement in Year 10: WILLIAM McCARTHY
Lou Piccone Prize for General Proficiency in Year 12: PATRICK KENNY

Bernie Mullins Trophy for Senior Sportsman of the Year: JOSEPH BARCLAY
Matthew-Mauro Award for Outstanding Effort by a Senior Student: PETER ANDREASSEN

The Good Conduct Medal, presented by the Senior of 1953: HARRY THEODORE
Lionel Williamson Award for Initiative and Service: JARRAD EASTWOOD
The story of the entry of the boys into the North Queensland Eisteddfod, as told by Bernie Mullins -- one of the boys in the group -- seventy years later, is that there was a challenge from Brother Claude McLaughlin at the Brothers’ school in Innisfail, who believed that his boys could beat the St. Augustine’s Boys. Miss Lulu Ward was the elocution teacher and trainer of the verse-speaking choir at St. Augustine’s and under Br. Xaverius’ direction took the boys on eight consecutive Saturday afternoons (according to Bernie Mullins who loved his sport and resented this curb to his liberty) to practise.

Finally the day came for the competition and St. Augustine’s won 81 marks to 80. A tiny consolation for the boys was that they were granted a picnic for their efforts.

The boys would have been pleased to know (had they known) that the Eisteddfod Society decided not to hold the Eisteddfod in 1942 on account of the difficulties caused by the War!

Archives would like to know WHAT VERSE DID THEY RECITE? Does anyone know? (and any other anecdotes about this adventure.)


Middle Row: F Maddock, A Boniface, T Carman, J Bolton, K Burman, D Lennon, C Marrinan, G Davis, L. Ross, E Moylan.

Front Row: C Young, D Cantwell, B Bolton, H Mooney, P Zammit, K Farrelly, J Lennon, E Shambrook, H Cale.

RECOLLECTIONS
North Queensland Eisteddfod, 1941

The new Abbot was a student at St Augustine’s in Cairns in the mid sixties. After leaving school Steele studied for an Arts Degree and Diploma of Teaching at the University of Queensland. After a brief stint at teaching in state schools, he joined the Cistercians Order as a monk (OCSO) in 1983 and was ordained a priest in 1997. Appointed Abbot in 2012.

Left: Abbot Steele Hartman OCSO (2012)

Right: Steele Hartmann in Year 9 at St Augustine’s (1967)
A TRIPLE TREAT FOR WALTER

Walter has continued its recent dominance of the St Augustine’s Interhouse Swimming Carnival by taking out the title for a 3rd year in a row. In hot and humid conditions the competition was fierce right from the outset with many competitors pushing themselves to the limit. At the halfway mark of the competition, Reginald surprised many and lead by over 50 points and a major boil over was on the cards. But true to their fighting spirit, Walter slowly clawed back and once they hit the front was never headed.

Well done to Phelan (2nd), Heavey (3rd) and Reginald (4th) on a fantastic battle between the houses with only 250 points separating 2nd from 4th. Special mention must also go to all Age Champions and Record Breakers on an outstanding effort. Finally, a big thank you to all students on their exemplary behaviour and attitude throughout the day and the staff for their amazing efforts. Your combined efforts allowed the day to be a huge success.

Mr Matt Walsh

Age Champions

13’s 1st Baiden Sager 2nd Guy Carley 3rd Ben Fry
14’s 1st Noah Kresvic 2nd Jack McMenamin 3rd Finn Devine-Cameron
15’s 1st Hudson Anu 2nd Lachlan Jackson 3rd Nick Sibree
16’s 1st Max Fifield 2nd Lachlan McKinstry 3rd Adam Haug
Opens 1st Daniel Esposito 2nd Jordan Bromley 3rd Chris Kiss

Record Breakers

Hudson Anu Records in 100m Freestyle (57.67) and 100m Backstroke (1.06.35).
Chris Kiss, Jonah Glasson, Matt Hancock, Daniel Esposito Record in Opens 4 x 50m relay (1.53.53).

If you have any stories to be submitted for our next edition please email us at oldboys@sac.qld.edu.au