

*learning*

# Gympie *Catholic Schools* 1879–2003

*friends*



*A celebration of Catholic schooling in Gympie*

*teachers*

*life*

*memories*

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ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE - GYMPIE



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# Gympie *Catholic Schools* 1879–2003

*A celebration of Catholic schooling in Gympie*



125th Anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy in Gympie

100th Anniversary of the arrival of the Christian Brothers in Gympie

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# Foreword

I feel quite inadequate to write about the two dedicated groups of religious that have contributed so much to Gympie and indeed to Australia. My inadequacies stem from two facts — I have never been taught by the Sisters of Mercy or the Christian Brothers and, by the time I came to Gympie, St Patrick's College existed as an amalgamated co-educational secondary institution with a lay principal and totally lay staff and St Patrick's Primary School was co-educational.

However, hardly a day passes when I don't observe the positive impact the Sisters and Brothers have made on women and men who are past students. I think it is true to say that while all Catholic schools have the same objective each school has its own particular culture. At this time when we are celebrating the foundation of the two schools it becomes very obvious that the enthusiasm around the celebration speaks volumes about the great appreciation the past students have for the Sisters and Brothers who taught them and for the friendships formed among the students themselves. I frequently hear past students reflecting with appreciation and humour on their school days.

I have admired the committee for the energetic way they have organised the celebration and I am overwhelmed by the generous response of the past students from all over Queensland and interstate to attend the celebrations. Gympie would always be grateful to the Christian Brothers and Sisters of Mercy for their great faith and for giving their students an education that has prepared them for life.



I would also like to acknowledge the way the lay administration of the schools has retained and developed the charisms of Edmund Rice and Catherine McAuley.

Fr Joe McGeehan  
*Parish Priest Gympie*

# Welcome

I would like to welcome past students, teachers and friends of St Patrick's Schools and the Christian Brothers College to the 125th and 100th year Reunion. The schools can be justly proud of the fine citizens they have turned out over those years.

I hope this reunion will rekindle old friendships and that these fond words will be said, 'Do you remember when...'. As I look around today, it is one of life's surprises to think we were all once groups of small school children wearing our school uniforms with pride whether it be for playing sport or just walking down the street.

It was a mammoth task compiling the history of the schools and the church and we are indebted to Clare Nolan for editing the material for this reunion book. The research for the book was done by Bob Pearce, Kev Murphy, Pat Carroll and Liam Elmer. Articles for the book were typed by Russell Feltham, Ann-Maree Merrin, Paula Rowley and Margaret Williams.



I hope you enjoy the book and that it will revive memories.

'High on a crest of a hill they stand like gems in a Christian crown.'

Nev Bermingham  
*Chairman of the Reunion Committee*

## Editor's note

Many people have generously contributed information, photographs and other memorabilia to help in the production of this book. Sometimes it was difficult to find information because records have been lost or destroyed. We have tried to verify information wherever possible but often we found ourselves relying on people's memories. We hope that you will understand and forgive any omissions, inaccuracies or misspellings. Enjoy!

Clare Nolan





# Part 1:

## St Patrick's Parish

### *Seven parish priests*

In its 136-year history St Patrick's Parish has had only seven parish priests:

- **Dean Matthew Horan** (55 years) from March 1868 to July 1923.
- **Dean Michael O'Flynn** (12 years) from 1923 to December 1935.
- **Monsignor Timothy Molony** (16 years) from 1935 to November 1951.
- **Monsignor David Dee** (9 years) from 1951 to October 1960.
- **Dr Patrick V. Kenny** (32 years) from 1 October 1960 to 4 July 1992. (Dr Kenny was appointed to Pomona Parish on 17 March 1954.)
- **Fr James Foley** (now Bishop of Cairns) from 4 July 1992 to 20 August 1992.
- **Fr Joseph McGeehan** from 2 August 1992.

### **They served the Church**

Among curates who served St Patrick's Parish since its inception were the following:

John Ryan, James O'Reilly, Thomas Lee, Patrick Murphy, Charles Casey, F.J. McSweeney, David Dee (later Monsignor Dee), J.B. Lynch, Michael O'Connell, James Henry, J.E. O'Shaughnessy, D.R. Landener, James Slyney, J.R. Pender, James Brosnan, T. O'Connor, Meenagh, Hall, P. Grennan, Frank Costello, Denis Power, J. O'Halloran, Vergil Pender, Basil Nolan, P.J. Tynan, P.J. Stratford, K.S. White, P.J. McHugh, V. Dwyer, D. O'Brien, R. Illidge, T.P. Hegarty, B.K. McKeering, E.O. Colwell, J.G. Scarrott, L. Burke, P.C. Cassidy, J.M. Sullivan, K.V. Ryan, R.V. Birrer, M. McCarthy, G. Hefferan, L.D. Wright, D. Scanlan, M. Thomsen, E. Loh, J. McGeehan (Assistant Priest),

J. Foley, J. Daly, M. Foley, M. Kearney, J. Hong, E. Sebastian, E. Quinteros.

### *Dean Matthew Horan*

Gympie's first Parish Priest, Father Matthew Horan (later Dean Horan) was born in County Kildare, Ireland, in January 1842. He came to Queensland when his uncle, Dr James O'Quinn was the Bishop of Brisbane.

Fr Horan belonged to a remarkable family. Two of his uncles and a cousin were bishops in Australia. Three brothers — James (Warwick), Joseph (Bathurst) and Andrew (Ipswich) — were priests, and two sisters were nuns.

He came to Gympie from St Patrick's Fortitude Valley in 1868 and served as Parish Priest for 55 years.

In 1923 he died during an influenza epidemic. His funeral cortege processed through the streets of Gympie before Dean Horan was buried in St Patrick's Church.

### *Dean Matthew O'Flynn*

Dean O'Flynn was born at Cappaquin, County Waterford in Ireland, on 24 December 1872, and was educated at Mt McElleray, Paris, and All Hallows' in Dublin. In 1896 he was ordained and came to Australia.

Before coming to Gympie, he served at Ipswich, and as Administrator of St Patrick's Fortitude Valley. On the death of Dean Horan on 6 July 1923, he came to Gympie.



## First church was a tent

Mass was first celebrated in Gympie in a tent five months after the goldfield was discovered by James Nash in October 1867.

At that time when about 10,000 people hurried to the goldfield from the farthest parts of Australia and from overseas, there were tents and all manner of temporary buildings in gullies and over hills.

To this cosmopolitan, mushrooming town, whose Catholic element was mainly Irish, Bishop Quinn sent his nephew, Father Matthew Horan, just a young priest, but prudent, zealous and efficient, who ministered to the Gympie community for 55 years.

Father Horan celebrated his first Mass in a tent that soon after was replaced by the best type of church that could be provided at that time — a bark hut. This stood across the way from where St Patrick's stands today. As finances improved a wooden church was erected on the site of the present presbytery. Later came a better timber structure on the same site.

Meantime, one little wooden church had been replaced by another after the white-ant had done its work, and Dean Horan decided to erect a stone edifice worthy of the place.

The Gympie Catholics then and ever since have proved splendidly generous and loyal in all matters of the faith, and by their active and intelligent co-operation have made for themselves a proud and honourable tradition.

It was in January 1883 that the foundation stone was laid of what is now St Patrick's, the majestic building which dominates Calton Hill.

St Patrick's was ready for occupancy in 1885, but additions to the main structure followed later.

Stone for the church was obtained from sandstone outcrops west of Gympie. Some came from Scrubby Creek hill on the Glastonbury Road but most of it came from The Rocks area of Eel Creek and was donated by the late Mr Richard Long snr.

(It is on record that Palmer, the bushranger, at one time lived in a cave at Eel Creek sheltered by the very sandstone outcrop that supplied some of the stone for the Gympie church.)

Huge chunks of the sandstone were cut from the outcrops at both localities and carried to Calton Hill by horse wagon where they were shaped with hand chisel and mallet into the multi-shaped blocks that became the final church structure. How the workmen in those days lifted the blocks into place with the aid of only a pulley and rope attachment would comparatively rival the mystery of the pyramids.

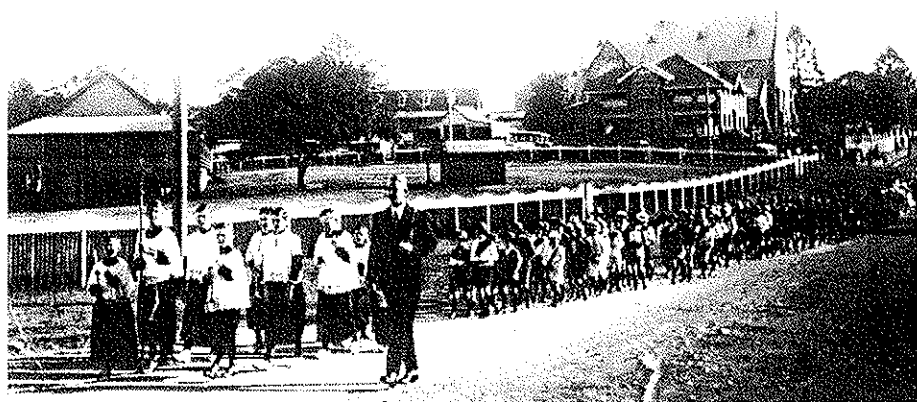
And the operation was not without mishap.

Writing from Maryborough on 2 October 1885, Bishop Quinn said:

*'Father M. Horan was here last night. He is a good deal put out over the end gable of his new church which fell in yesterday and fears that the fall may endanger other parts of the building. The re-erection of what has fallen will cost, he estimates, about £200.'*

The main section of St Patrick's was completed in 1885 and was added to in 1926 at a cost of £4000 making the total cost of the church about £20,000. (The Presbytery was built in 1926 at an approximate cost of £4500.) A fine marble altar was donated by the Fitzpatrick family, and the old altar was moved to a little church built at Glastonbury.

The ground where St Patrick's stands was donated by the late Mr Patrick Lillis.



**Corpus Christi procession, 1931.**

*The gentleman in the suit is Jack Meara. Note St Patrick's Church, Presbytery, and some of the Convent and Primary School buildings in the background. The large brick Christian Brothers College had not yet been built.*

## Building continues

Dean O'Flynn extended the church, and built a presbytery of brick. To replace the old wooden convent, he and the parishioners made the Sisters a present of the fine brick convent, artistically designed by architect O'Donoghue, on the centenary of the founding of the Mercy Congregation.

Dean O'Flynn died suddenly while holidaying at Laguna House, Noosa Heads in 1935. His funeral cortege followed practically the same route as that of his predecessor and he was buried in St Patrick's Church alongside the remains of Dean Horan.

## Monsignor Timothy Molony *VS*

Msgr Molony was born at County Clare, Ireland and was educated at St Flannan's College, All Hallows' in Dublin, and College Brignole in Italy.

In 1917 he was ordained and came to Australia in the following year. He served at Annerley, Charleville, Thargomindah and Cunnamulla before being appointed Administrator of St Stephen's Cathedral in 1923. In 1929 he was appointed Vicar General of the Archdiocese where he stayed for 12 years. In 1935 he was appointed Parish Priest of Gympie.

## Summer Schools

For the large parish with many out-centres that could have Mass only once a fortnight or once a month, Monsignor Molony devised new ways of bringing aid. For a fortnight or so before Christmas, the country children were brought in to board, and given an intensive course in Christian Doctrine to try to make up somewhat for the absence of it in their own country schools.

Here the children mingled on the friendliest terms with the priests, nuns and brothers who were preparing them for the Sacraments, topping everything off with a banquet and Christmas tree.

## Monsignor David Dee

Monsignor D. Dee took over in 1951 when Monsignor Molony was transferred to Ipswich. Having already

built the New Farm and Holland Park schools in the city of Brisbane, Monsignor Dee had proved that tastefulness and maximum efficiency could be combined in the matter of buildings.

After he had provided a new church to serve the Channon Street area, he turned his attention to the schools. The Boys' College had a smart dining hall, study block and domestic quarters added.

The Convent schools, both primary and secondary, were extended by bright, new, well-furnished classrooms, and on the new tennis court, Madonna Schacht learned to become champion of Queensland. Additional classrooms were also added to the Brothers' College.

Given the title of 'Minister for Florin Affairs', Monsignor Dee had a remarkable capacity for fund-raising and introduced the florin coin collection, hence the title conferred on him by the Rev Dr J. English.

With Fathers O'Halloran and Pender, Monsignor Dee established an effective correspondence course in religious studies for boys and girls in far-flung parts of the Parish. Religious education classes were started at Wolvi and in the Mary Valley.

He will always be remembered for his care of the aged and afflicted and his frequent visitations to parishioners in their homes.

## Rev Dr P.V. Kenny *DCL*

Rev Dr Patrick Kenny DCL, was the first Australian-born Parish Priest of St Patrick's.

A native of the Kingston area, south of Brisbane, he had his early schooling at the Logan Reserve State School, entailing a nine-mile ride each day from the family home. His secondary school years were spent at St Joseph's College, Nudgee, and he then moved to Springwood and Manly in New South Wales for his priestly studies.

After years in various parishes of the Brisbane Archdiocese, he went to study at the Gregorian University in Rome for five years, living in the Vatican City. There he obtained his Doctorate in Canon Law.

After seven years as Pastor of Pomona Parish, Dr Kenny was transferred to Gympie where he served for 33 years until he 'retired' in 1992. Since then he has regularly offered 'the great atoning Sacrifice of the Mass' at many Parishes and Convents in Brisbane. He is currently living at the Holy Spirit Nursing Home, Carseldine.



## *Fr Joseph McGeehan*

Fr Joseph McGeehan was appointed Parish Priest of St Patrick's in August 1992. Prior to this he had been an Assistant Priest here for most of 1991.

Fr Joe had completed his secondary school studies at Downlands College and then went on to Banyo Seminary. He was ordained in 1963 and served in many Parishes in the Archdiocese.

His work in the Parish has won for him the loyalty and respect of his Parishioners. In his quiet, effective way he is their 'Loving Pastor'.

## *St Patrick's Parish timeline*

1867

James Nash discovered gold in Gympie on 16 October.

1868

Rev Fr Tissot from Maryborough visited Gympie to meet with an interested Catholic group in the Brisbane Hotel. They voted to erect a church and to ask Bishop Quinn to send them a resident priest.

Rev Fr Matthew Horan was appointed as permanent pastor at Gympie. He arrived in the week of 9-14 March.

The first mass was celebrated on the goldfields in Kelly's Brisbane Hotel in Mary Street by Fr Tissot.

Fr Horan went into residence in a borrowed tent that was pitched almost on the site of the present Presbytery. Thus began the long history of Catholic domination on the crest of Calton Hill.

Mass was celebrated in a second tent, also on loan, for the following six weeks. A bark hut was erected on the northern side of what is now Church Street as a temporary church.

Tenders were called in the Nashville Times on 18 March, for a permanent Church structure. All sawn timber for the project was hauled by bullock wagon from Maryborough.

The Church was ready for use later in the same year. It lasted for about four years, but had to be pulled down owing to the ravages of white ants and the weather.

1872

A second Church building of hardwood constructed on the site of the present Presbytery was opened by Rev Dr Quinn. It soon became apparent that a larger, and more edifying structure was required.

1875

A community of the Sisters of St Joseph was set up at Monkland. The Sisters stayed for only a few years. St Joseph's Church, Monkland, opened.

1879

The Sisters of Mercy arrived to start a school.

1881

Great improvements had taken place in the vicinity of the Church. The first Catholic Presbytery on the north-east side of what is now Church Street had come into existence.

1881

Fr Horan presided over a meeting that decided to construct a building of stone. The HACBS (Hibernian Australian Catholic Benefit Society) was established. The Hibernians formed the largest and most influential Catholic society in the early Gympie Church.

1882

In November, Bishop Dunne paid his first visit to Gympie. Plans for a Church drawn up by Stanley and Skelton were placed before him. The cost in brick was quoted at £3000 and £3800 in stone. The Bishop advised building in stone. It was decided that the foundation stone be laid on 28 January 1883 with Bishop Dunne officiating.

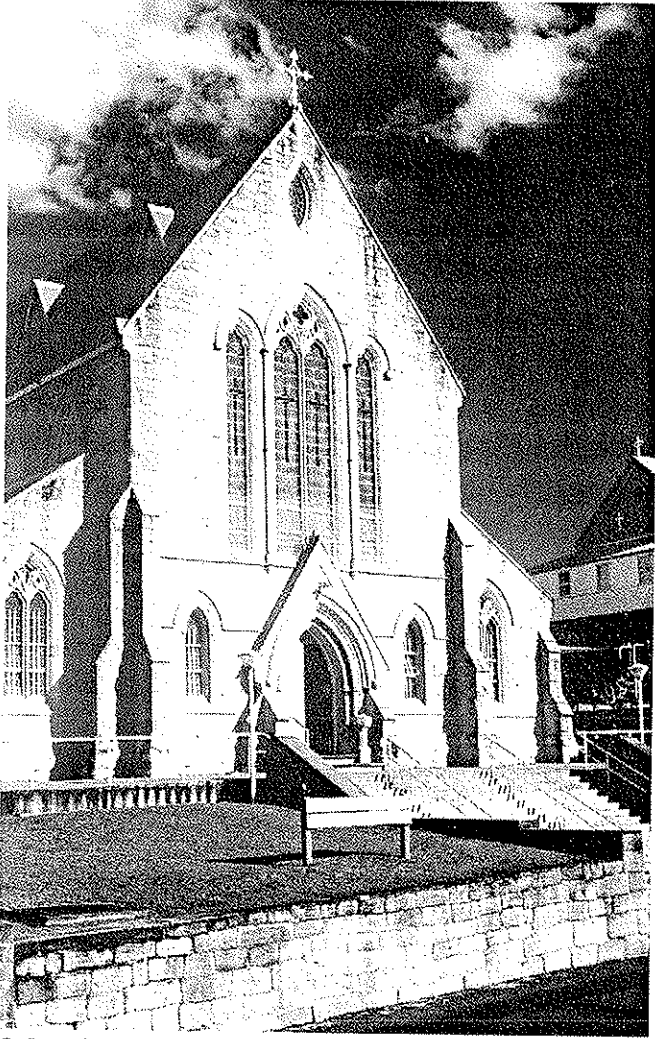
The tender of J. Smith & Co to supply materials and build St Patrick's Church for £3591 was accepted on 19 September.

1887

St Patrick's Church was completed at an approximate cost of £10,000. The increase in costs being due to faulty estimates, to additions and to the caving in of the rear wall when the building was nearing completion.

The building was formally opened, free of debt, on 17 July.

The dedication and blessing ceremony was performed by Bishop Robert Dunne. High Mass was celebrated by Fr O'Reilly of Maryborough.



*St Patrick's Church, Gympie*

After the singing of the Creed, the Very Rev Dean Leonard of Sydney delivered the sermon, taking as his text the scriptural passage, 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul'.

The combined Catholic and Church of England Choirs were conducted by Mr E.T. Percival in the singing of 'Credo', 'The Benedictus' and the 'Gloria'.

An organ costing £500 was donated by Mr James Fitzpatrick, one of Gympie's successful mining pioneers.

The Church was originally designed in cruciform style, but the two ends were never proceeded with. For many years the southern wall was stopped with iron until, in 1925 it was replaced by Dean O'Flynn. He decided to add the sanctuary with its stained and figured glass windows, that today form such a conspicuous feature of the building.

## 1887

The first Confirmation service at St Patrick's was held on 5 November. There were 94 boy and 78 girl candidates.

Archbishop Dunne administered Confirmation to 119 candidates on 17 November.

## 1896

First Church in Kilkivan was blessed and opened by Archbishop Dunne. (Dean Horan PP).

## 1904

Dean Horan welcomed the Christian Brothers to Gympie. He arranged the purchase of the triangular site for the Brothers' school from Messrs George Arnell and Nugent Brown.

The Brothers' house was on the opposite side of Church Street and was the home of a surveyor, Mr Silas Harding.

## 1910

Opening of Boys' School on the triangular grounds.

## 1911

First Church of St Joseph at Glastonbury. (Dean Horan PP). Later the building was moved to a central location.

## 1918

Sacred Heart Church at Kandanga was blessed and opened. (Dean Horan PP).

## 1920

Church of St Francis Xavier at Woolooga was blessed and opened. (Dean Horan PP).

## 1929

The Golden Jubilee of the Sisters of Mercy in Gympie.

## 1932

A tornado damaged the Monkland Church. Its replacement was opened and blessed by Archbishop Duhig. (Dean O'Flynn PP).

## 1933

The Holy Cross Church at Imbil was blessed and opened by Archbishop Duhig. (Dean O'Flynn PP).

## 1937

Foundation stone for St Therese's College was laid. (Msgr Molony PP).

### 1938

St Therese's CBC blessed and opened (Msgr Molony PP).

St Vincent De Paul Church at Widgee was blessed and opened by Archbishop Duhig. (Msgr Molony PP).

### 1939

The Little Flower Church at Gunalda was blessed and opened by Archbishop Duhig. (Msgr Molony PP). The building of this church has been overseen by Fr Henry, who is fondly remembered in the Parish.

Fr Henry celebrated the first Mass at Tin Can Bay in the local hall. Later, a house on an acre of land was converted to a Church by Msgr Molony. The Anglican Parish of Gympie used the Catholic Church for regular services.

### 1939

The sandstone wall was built in front of Church and Primary School. Widened concrete steps and handrails in front of church were

constructed and the walkway around Church completed. The Church was also 'bird proofed' and its roof was tiled. The statues were painted white.

A tennis court was built at the Brothers' House.

Some improvements were made at the Presbytery.

### 1948

Braeside Hospital was bought for a Boarding School for boys. It opened in 1948 and closed in 1978.

### 1951

The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima arrived in Gympie.

Monsignor Molony was transferred to Ipswich. Monsignor Dee came to Gympie.

Many improvements were carried out this year. The Channon Street Church was purchased and refurbished. A Boarders' Dining Room was built at the Christian Brothers

College. Improvements were made to the Primary School.

The interior of the Church was repainted including numerous murals around the Church. The statues were repainted in colour.

### 1960

Rev Dr P.V. Kenny DCL, affectionately known as 'Doc' was appointed as Parish Priest.

St Patrick's Science Hall and the attached Convent High School was built.

Extensions were made to the Presbytery for the comfort of the assistant priests.

### 1976

The first Mass at Rainbow Beach was celebrated in the home of Mr & Mrs Gordon Elmer by Fr Leo Burke. Later Masses were at the Surf Club, Recreation Club and in the Hotel Dining Room. Weekly masses are now celebrated at the Anglican Church.

### 1992

Dr Kenny retired.

Fr James Foley was appointed Parish Priest of St Patrick's, but after one month was moved to Cairns Diocese where he was consecrated Bishop.

Fr Joe McGeehan was appointed Parish Priest.



*Monsignor Dee and Archbishop James Duhig, flanked by the Children of Mary.*

## *A word from Fr Joe McGeehan*

After Fr James Foley was appointed Bishop of Cairns, I was appointed to Gympie as Parish Priest in August, 1992. The Presbytery was in need of major repairs and thanks to a group of people who organised Parish Bingo for many years, funds were made available to make the Presbytery respectable.

St Patrick's Church was the next project to be undertaken. What started out to be a 'patch-up' solution ended up as major renovations. An Architect, Mr Maurice Hirst, was engaged and eventually a Project Manager, Mr Gary James, was appointed. After much discussion with State, Church and local authorities and Parishioners, work began with Mr Chris Dodt given the contract to do the job. The renovations took nine months and during that time our weekend Masses were held in the

Primary School Hall (Science Hall) and weekday Masses were celebrated in the Channon Street Church after the interior was repainted by voluntary labour. Weddings, funerals and baptisms were celebrated in a number of places — Channon Street Church, St Peter's Anglican Church and the Chapel in St Patrick's Villa.

The renovations to the Church included the following: a new floor; the tiled roof was replaced by a metal roof; a whole new drainage system was installed; the ceiling and the pews were cleaned; the whole interior of the Church was replastered and painted; and the bell tower was relocated to make room for better access to the Church. The Church was reopened on 9 December 1996.



*Interior of St Patrick's Church since the renovations of the 1990s*



# *Part 2:*

## *The Sisters of Mercy*

In 1879, some 12 years after the historic discovery of gold at Gympie, on a day of clear, glorious sunshine, a group of enthusiastic people from the newly-founded mining town gathered to meet the stage coach.

There was no train in those days and the traveller had to journey by way of boat from Brisbane to Maryborough and then by stage coach to the goldfield. As the coach arrived, a little band of brave and generous women from All Hallows' Convent, Brisbane, who were associates of Mother Catherine McAuley, in a Mother-house in far-off Ireland, was welcomed and escorted to a home prepared for them amidst the bustle and din of a busy mining town.

Thus 125 years ago there arrived in Gympie the 'Sisters of Mercy', rather an insignificant event in those days of many unheralded arrivals and departures no doubt; but how very far-reaching in its effect!

The foundations of many successful careers have been laid by these faithful workers; and many successful men and women owe a debt of thanks to the good Sisters.

This anniversary celebration is a fitting time to recall all those people who have been part of the Mercy story — the children who have passed through the schools, the sick visited at home or in hospital, the dying comforted. Some of you will recall certain Sisters from the past, others of you will remember different ones. Hopefully, you will recall Sisters who not only performed the spiritual and corporal works of Mercy among you, but who themselves were truly merciful women.

### *The Mercy Order in Queensland*

In 1831, a Dublin heiress, Catherine McAuley, who had a great love for the poor, and saw the injustices in their plight, founded a new Order — the Sisters of Mercy. In 1861, just less than 20 years after Catherine McAuley's death, on the Feast of St Francis Xavier (Patron Saint of Australia), one of her spiritual daughters — Mother Vincent Whitty — accompanied by a group of six Sisters, crossed to Liverpool where they were joined by Bishop Quinn and his party of priests to sail for Australia. After a journey of five months, the fast American clipper, 'Donald McKay' landed them in Australia.

Dublin's loss was to be Brisbane's gain. Mother Vincent Whitty, in 1849, had been elected as fourth Reverend Mother of the Head House of the Order and she brought from Dublin's All Hallows' to Brisbane's All Hallows' a wealth of experience highlighted by a precious gift for self-restraint, a striving to understand, and above all a spirit of faith and confidence in the God who would support her in overcoming any difficulty.

From the humble beginnings of the Sisters of Mercy in Brisbane, the spirit of Mercy, so lovingly cherished and practised by the revered Catherine McAuley, found its way to Gympie on 29 March 1879, in the persons of Mother M. Stanislaus, Sr M. Syra and two postulants. The Sisters of Mercy carried the spirit of that pioneering band to the people they served — the child in the classroom, the patient in the hospital, the lonely souls met on visitation, the parishioners of St Patrick's and the communities of the Gympie and Cooloola districts. Sr Marie Costello (parish worker) continues that work today.

## *Catherine McAuley*

### *Founder of the Sisters of Mercy*

"Hurrah for foundations! Makes the old young and the young merry" (Catherine McAuley)

Catherine McAuley, born September 1778, at Stormanstown House, County Dublin, belonged to a comfortable middle class family, with interests in property, building and medicine. Her father died when she was five, and her mother, given to social climbing, so mismanaged affairs that Stormanstown House and other family property had to be sold to pay off the debts she had accumulated. When her mother died in 1798, Catherine, along with her brother James and sister, Mary were taken in by a relative, William Armstrong, whose hospitality was barbed by attitudes of intense hostility to the Catholic Church.

In 1803, Catherine moved into Coolock House, Co Dublin, with an elderly childless couple, William and Catherine Callaghan, and it was from there that she began to have sustained contact with the poor. Her down-to-earth witness to the Gospel values, inspired by a deep faith, made a considerable impact on the Callaghans, who became Catholics, and in 1822 Catherine McAuley became heiress to their considerable fortune. Seeing all around her much ignorance and poverty, she used her fortune to alleviate this suffering. She did not believe in handouts, except as a temporary solution to distress. She taught that the only form of help that had any lasting value was that which promoted

self-help. Her first move was to erect a building in Baggot Street, Dublin, where she could set up a House of Mercy. With her co-workers she taught children at school, and visited the poor and sick in the slum areas of the city.

Although at first Catherine had no intention of founding a religious community, she had a firm conviction that God was speaking to her through the hierarchical Church. Therefore, accepting the advice of ecclesiastical authority she prepared to commence training in the religious life. In the Ireland of her time, it was quite a progressive step to establish a Religious group to go out among the poor to bring Christ's compassionate love to them. On December 12, 1831, the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy was founded, when Catherine, with two of her companions, pronounced her vows of Profession, after having made a Canonical Novitiate with the Presentation Sisters.

Catherine continued to struggle against the structures that contributed to ongoing poverty and oppression of the poor. She was a strategist. She believed in planned change and viewed change as life-giving. Many of the challenges she faced have equivalents in today's society. Her Sisters (currently more than 1000 in Australia) give life and action to her vision that continues into the 21st century by their great work in education, health and community care.

## *The Mercies in Gympie*

First mention of a Convent for Gympie is contained in a letter from Bishop Quinn, of Brisbane, dated 7 October 1873, to Rev. Father Scortichini, in Gympie.

In his letter the Bishop has this to say:

*'It is desirable to set up a small Convent for the Sisters. Father M. Horan returns to Gympie within a few days and he will attend to that matter. You will continue as his curate — vicar — for the present. The Mission of Gympie has never been finally settled. Up to this it was merely an appendage of Brisbane, as it was at first, when there was no certainty of the place continuing. Now Father Horan will settle all the business of that Mission in accordance with the Regulations of the Diocese.'*

In May 1877, Father Matthew Horan was permitted by Bishop Quinn to proceed to Europe and was authorised by

him to get priests and nuns for the diocese. He must have had some success judging by this letter which the Bishop wrote to his brother Canon Quinn, in Ireland, on 2 January 1878.

*'It was mentioned in a letter I received from Rome a few days ago that Father Mat is there. A letter received from Rev. Mother of Baggot Street at the same time, by Mother Vincent, states that he was to start from Ireland with nuns for Brisbane within the present month. I made suggestions to him about remaining in Rome and studying for a time in the event of his getting priests to accompany the nuns and I sent him letters of introduction to two or three Bishops.*

*'As to money, I don't know exactly how I stand in Ireland, but I hope my position is good. Uncle Dick has paid into Baggot Street £150 in favour of the Brisbane Mission. Mrs Whitty (i.e. Mother Vincent) made the modest request and the good gentleman obeyed as he often did*

## *Sisters who served in Gympie*

Sr Rita Ahern  
 Sr M. Concepta Ahlberg  
 Sr M. Justin Bacon  
 Sr M. Edward Barry  
 Sr Franceen Blaylock  
 Sr Patricia Blundell (Marie Joseph)  
 Sr M. Martin Bourke  
 Sr M. Ambrose Boyle  
 Sr M. Trea Brewer  
 Sr M. Imelda Brosnan  
 Sr M. Brenda Browne  
 Sr M. Syra Browne  
 Sr M. St Therese Burke  
 Sr M. Joseph Xavier Byrne  
 Sr M. St Mark Byrne  
 Sr Nell Callaghan (M. Antoninus)  
 Sr Rita Caplin (M. Marianne)  
 Sr M. Victoire Cartan  
 Sr M. Misericordia Carter  
 Sr M. Marius Cavanagh  
 Sr Dorothy Mary Clarke  
 Sr Vonnie Clarke  
 Sr M. St Gertrude Coleman  
 Sr M. Calasancius Collins  
 Sr M. Scholastica Condon  
 Sr Therese Conroy (M. Wenceslaus)  
 Sr M. Berchmans Cooney  
 Sr M. Julianna Corbett  
 Sr Mary Costelloe (Marie)  
 Sr M. Paschal Crotty  
 Sr M. Sylvester Cullen  
 Sr M. Gerald Dalton  
 Sr M. Lelia Davis  
 Sr M. Benedicta Devitt  
 Sr Maureen Devlin (M. Veronica)  
 Sr John M. Diehm  
 Sr M. Ronan Doherty  
 Sr M. Breda Donnellan  
 Sr M. Briga Donoghue  
 Sr June Doro (M. St John Bosco)  
 Sr M. St Damien Dower  
 Sr M. Joseph Doyle  
 Sr M. Helen Egan  
 Sr Bridie Fennessy (M. Carthage)  
 Sr M. St Raymond Fletcher  
 Sr Yvonne Fletcher  
 Sr Nora Fitzgibbon (M. Sarto)  
 Sr Josephine Fitzpatrick (M. Josepha)  
 Sr Maureen Fitzpatrick (M. Judith)  
 Sr M. Herman Forrestal  
 Sr M. Simeon Gabbett  
 Sr Christine Gabbett  
 Sr M. Petra Gaffney  
 Sr M. James Gainsford

Sr M. Philomene Garrett  
 Sr M. Stanislaus Gimson  
 Sr M. Theodore Goldrick  
 Sr M. Hubert Goldrick  
 Sr M. Alphonso Grealy  
 Sr Margaret Hanley (M. Zita)  
 Sr Anne Therese Hannigan (M. St Malachy)  
 Sr Kathleen Harnedy  
 Sr M. Ligouri Heffernan  
 Sr M. Macrina Holland  
 Sr M. Lucilla James  
 Sr M. Julien Jeffers  
 Sr M. Honora Kearney  
 Sr M. Dominic Keegan  
 Sr M. Enda Keenan  
 Sr M. Teresa Kelleher  
 Sr M. Ildephonsus Kerwin  
 Sr Connie King (M. Constanza)  
 Sr M. Barbara Kinnane  
 Sr M. Rose Lalor  
 Sr M. St Finbarr Larrisey  
 Sr Consuelo Leane  
 Sr M. Everard Leane  
 Sr Camillus M. Lynch  
 Sr M. Laurian Lynch  
 Sr M. Fidelis Meade  
 Sr Margaret Madden (M. Antonio)  
 Sr Ursula Markham  
 Sr M. Audeon Maloney  
 Sr Ella Mangan (Assumpta Mary)  
 Sr M. Carmelita Mangan  
 Sr M. Christina Mangan  
 Sr M. Auxilii Masterson  
 Sr M. Constance McCann  
 Sr M. Albeus McCarthy  
 Sr M. Cabrini McCormack  
 Sr M. Hyacinth McDonald  
 Sr M. Catherine McDonnell  
 Sr Joan McGinley  
 Sr M. Angelo McGrath  
 Sr M. Ludmilla McLoughlin  
 Sr M. Protase McMillan  
 Sr M. Columba McPhillips  
 Sr M. Mercia McQuillan  
 Sr M. Madeleine Mulroney  
 Sr Annette Myer  
 Sr Shirley Myers (M. William)  
 Sr M. Cyril Neylan  
 Sr M. Prisca Nolan  
 Sr Mary O'Brien (M. Claude)  
 Sr M. Bertrand O'Brien  
 Sr M. de la Salle O'Brien  
 Sr Elizabeth O'Connell (M. Norberta)

Sr M. Mel O'Connell  
 Sr Lourdes Marie O'Connor  
 Sr Maryanne O'Connor (M. St Thomas)  
 Sr M. Laboure O'Donnell  
 Sr M. Cleophas O'Donohue  
 Sr Frances O'Donoghue (M. Xaverius)  
 Sr M. St Ita O'Dwyer  
 Sr Anne O'Farrell  
 Sr M. Rosalie O'Keefe  
 Sr M. Declan O'Neill  
 Sr M. Noelle O'Neill  
 Sr M. Beniti O'Reilly  
 Sr M. Anthony O'Sullivan  
 Sr M. Ethnea O'Sullivan  
 Sr M. Fioretta O'Sullivan  
 Sr M. Clement Osborne  
 Sr Mary Pescott (Christine Mary)  
 Sr Mary Peters (M. Thomas)  
 Sr M. Cephas Philben  
 Sr Teresita M. Price  
 Sr Ellen Power (M. Godfrey)  
 Sr Margaret Quane (M. Immaculata)  
 Sr M. Gerard Quigley  
 Sr Teresa M. Quinlan  
 Sr M. Giuseppe Raverty  
 Sr M. Maelisa Roche  
 Sr Elizabeth Ryall  
 Sr Noreen Rynne (M. Cyprian)  
 Sr Teresa Shannon (M. St Kieran)  
 Sr M. Nivard Smith  
 Sr Moyna Stabe  
 Sr M. Salome Stack  
 Sr M. Juan Stackpoole  
 Sr Marie Philomene Sullivan  
 Sr M. Inez Tierney  
 Sr M. Conchenna Tobin  
 Sr M. Hermes Toohey  
 Sr M. Bernarda Tupper  
 Sr Mary Tutin  
 Sr M. Josetta Walker  
 Sr. Joan Walsh (M. Corita)  
 Sr M. Xavier Walsh  
 Sr Kathryn Ward  
 Sr M. Rosita Williams  
 Sr M. Emilian Wolfe  
 Sr M. Finbarr Wood

*Every effort has been made to obtain the names of all those Sisters who have served in the Gympie community. The omission of any name, therefore, has been accidental and is regretted.*

*before. I expect to hear all particulars regarding our holy volunteers for Brisbane — male and female — within a couple of months or sooner.'*

In a letter to Dr Cani, then in Europe, Bishop Quinn told of the foundation of a Convent in Townsville and of the plan of the Sisters of Mercy to teach in two schools in Gympie (presumably at the Monkland and in the township).

The Bishop's second letter to his Vicar-General, Dr Cani, dated 28 March 1879, continues the subject as follows:

*'I spoke in my last letter of the intended foundation of a Convent for the Sisters of Mercy in Gympie. It taxed and perplexed us to the last degree. After passing in review (on paper) over and over again all the members of every community in the diocese looking for an available musician we were successful. You know that without a good musician here any foundation is only half complete.*

*'Help came from an unexpected quarter. The senior girl in All Hallows' (Nellie Ring) who had been studying music for seven years, said she would go to Gympie if the Bishop accepted her.*

*'At last Sister Mary Patrick said to Nellie Ring, "Would you go Nellie?"*

*She answered: "Yes, if the Bishop would send me."*

Four days later Nellie said to Sister, "Would the Bishop not let me go?" Sister answered, "No, Nellie." She urged, "Does he think that I could not teach music?" Sister replied, "No, Nellie, but he does not want you to give up your studies for another year,"

The Bishop's letter continued:

*'Having heard of Nellie's disposition I sent for her, cross-questioned her, and found that she was thoroughly ready for the work, so Nellie got her cap (i.e. Postulant's cap) on the 25th and started with the expedition on the 26th. She is in Maryborough today on her way to Gympie where she will arrive tomorrow evening. The company is made up of Mother M. Stanislaus, Mistress of Novices, Sister M. Syra of All Hallows', Nellie and another Postulant who holds an Irish certificate.*

*'We were utterly destitute of a musician for Gympie; no one ever thought of Nellie Ring till the last moment. Then it was found she had both the power and the will to do the work. She had seven years first-class instruction in music; she stood the first girl in the school this year. She had every disposition that could be required in a promising Postulant, only she was considered too young, barely 17 years of age on last St Patrick's Day.'*

Thus Nellie Ring 'this special child of prayer', later to become Sister Mary Alphonsus, became part of the Gympie foundation story.

The Bishop's letter continued:

*'We ought to be most grateful to God for the fine spirit that is among our people here. All are fervent, and the most brilliant girls are declared candidates for the veil. Winifrede Trotman has entered; Mary Jane Byrne is at home for a spell in accordance with the wish of her mother, but she is determined to enter as soon as she gets liberty. Blanche Byrne and Annie Fitzgerald, the foremost girls in All Hallows', have made the same decision. After it was known that Nellie Ring was going on the Mission to Gympie Sister Mary Patrick said to Blanche Byrne, "Blanche, when will you be ready to go?" She answered with tears flowing from her eyes, "Tomorrow if I could ..."*

Bishop Quinn concludes his letter to Dr Cani with the words:

*'If I had time to write you the history of the origin of our school work here you would find it, if not miraculous, a tangible and wonderful result of prayer.'*

Immediately on arrival in Gympie in 1879 the Sisters of Mercy opened a school with an attendance of 173 girls and 101 boys. The first school was a one-storey wooden building on the same site as the present primary school.

## *Building a new school*

By 1897 the number of students had soared to 400 girls and 200 boys and a new school was imperative. (Gympie in those boom mining days had a population of about 30,000).

A meeting of parishioners at which Dean Matthew Horan presided, was held to consider the building of a new, larger school. Prominently connected with this movement were the late Messrs E.L. Power, A.G. Ramsey, John Flood, J.S. Cullinane, P. Du Rietz and Daniel Mulcahy. This committee was spurred on in its building efforts by the enthusiasm of the then principal of the Convent, Sr M. Syra.

The new structure was completed in 1899 at a cost of approximately £2000.

Some years later the horse-drawn buggy was replaced by a 'modern' car which made the daily run to and from Monkland, its driver at one time being Vince Stanley who, in his heyday, was a prominent rugby league player.

Building improvements in Gympie continued over the years and the imposing red brick Convent, the home of the Sisters, was handed over as a Jubilee gift in 1929 in gratitude for their 50 years of service in Gympie.

## Gympie girls who joined holy orders



**Back row (l to r):** Eileen Fitzpatrick (Sr M. St Veronica), Monica Stallard (Sr M. St Liam), Betty Quinn (Sr M. Roseanne), Joan Crowley, Josie Crawford (Sr Bernard Mary), Colleen Geary (Sr M. Louise)

**Middle row:** Sr M. Cecilia Hourigan, Sr M. St Damien Dower, Sr Maureen Cartwright, Margaret Ryan (Sr M. St Matthew), Pat Miller (Sr M. Chanel), Anne O'Farrell (Sr M. Anne Louise)

**Front row:** Sr M. Marcella McCormick, Sr M. St Joseph Galvin, Kate and Molly Dray (who joined the Sisters of Charity), Delia O'Donohue (Sr M. Cleophas), —, Florrie James (Sr M. Estelle).

The following Sisters were natives of Gympie and/or attended St Patrick's Schools:

Sr Valerie Birchley  
 Sr M. Livinus Cartwright  
 Sr Margaret Cheers  
 Sr Bernard Mary Crawford  
 Sr Joan Crowley  
 Sr Patricia Crowley  
 Sr M. St Damien Dower  
 Sr Josephine Fitzpatrick  
 Sr Kathleen Fitzpatrick  
 Sr Maureen Fitzpatrick  
 Sr Eileen Fitzpatrick  
 Sr M. St Joseph Galvin  
 Sr Colleen Geary  
 Sr Peta Goldberg  
 Sr Judith Hourigan  
 Sr Kay-Margaret Lane  
 Sr Patricia Miller  
 Sr M. Cleophas O'Donoghue  
 Sr Anne O'Farrell  
 Sr Michele Quinlan  
 Sr Roseanne Quinn  
 Sr Gabrielle Ryan

Sr Mary Sellen  
 Sr Moyna Stabe  
 Sr Monica Stallard

## The James girls

Monkland in its boom days could lay claim to many devout Catholic families but none more prominently associated with the church and the Sisters of Mercy than that of John and Helen James, of Noosa Road, Pound Hill. Five of their daughters became nuns. They were:

- Anne de Chantel James who became Sr M. Rosarii born 1886, died 1966.
- Margaret, who became Sr M. Lucilla.
- Kathleen, who became Sr M. Estelle, who died two years after being professed.

- Mary, who became Sr M. de Chantel.
- Florence, who, when professed, took the name of her deceased sister, Sr M. Estelle.

These five women were sisters of the later Mr Jack James, a well-known local Catholic layman of Noosa Road, Pound Hill, formerly a manager in the Queensland National Bank, of the late Mr Frank James, a railway employee, formerly of Bligh Street, the late Mr Bill James, a bank manager, formerly of Toowoomba, and the late Miss Nell James, of Pound Hill.



On the executive committee headed by Fr M. O'Flynn, (later Dean O'Flynn) which was formed in May 1927 to handle the project were Messrs J.A. Cullinane, J. Carey and F.P. Power each of whom received his early education at the Convent school.

Built on the same site, this fine school was completed in 1899, largely through the energy of Sr M. Syra. Indeed, the Archbishop threatened more than once to carry her off to places that were lagging behind in building schemes.

## *Sister Mary James*

The well-remembered Sr M. James had already spent a few of her sixty-odd years of Gympie residence when the children moved into the new school. So much of a legend did she become with her pupils that, on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee, they mustered from far and near to present her with the gracious statue of Our Lady that stood for many years in the Convent grounds near the Presbytery driveway. When the convent was converted and extended to become St Patrick's Villa in the 1990s, the statue was moved to its present home near the chapel.

Sr Mary James' past pupils recalled with much merry laughter how, when one of them as a little boy had proved naughty, he was given a private and individual showing of her famous picture of Hell, specially kept for such occasions behind the gallery. Nor were her many kindnesses forgotten, like the way, when they were wet or cold, she fussed over and cared for them.

Many of her children later carved a niche for themselves in public life — Judge Sheehy, Judge Moynihan, Dr John Power and Miss Kath Sheehy, who did such widely recognised work for the Opportunity School in Brisbane, not to mention Monsignor Owen Steele, of Beaudesert.

After her Jubilee, when she was growing old and deaf, she retained charge of the altar of St Patrick's Church. One day, pottering around in the sacristy, she noticed a number of children in the aisle, went to the door and called out:

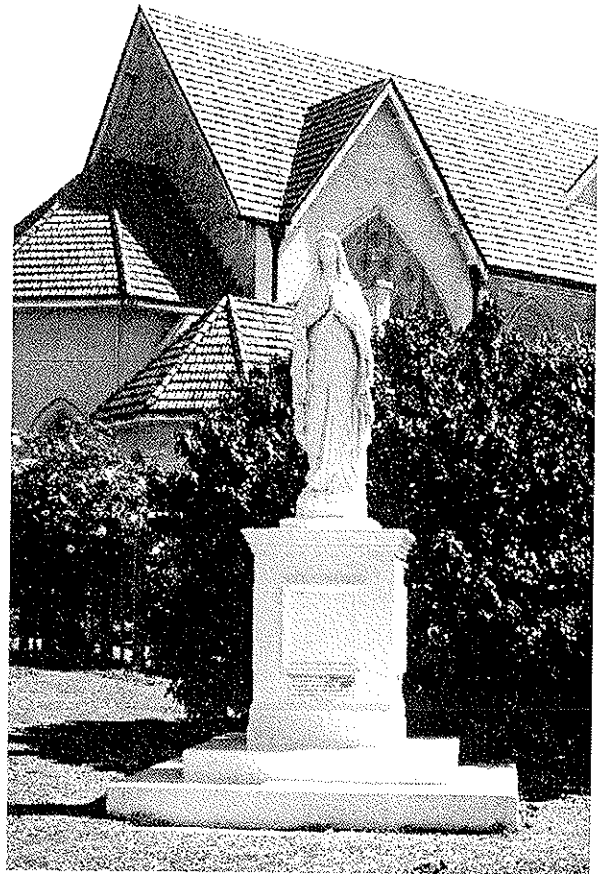
'Who will bring flowers for Sister M. James tomorrow?'

'We will, Sister, we will,' cried several voices.

'You always say you will, but you don't,' grumbled she.

A deep voice from the sanctuary boomed out, 'But they will tomorrow, Sister.'

It was His Grace Archbishop Duhig, who had been examining the children for Confirmation before Sister M. James' unscheduled appearance.



*Statue presented to Sr M. James on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee.*

## *St Joseph's School, Monkland*

In 1875, Dean Horan had established a Church-School to meet the needs of the many Catholics in the Monkland area. The Sisters of St Joseph taught school here but after some years were recalled to Brisbane. When the St Joseph Sisters returned south, the Monkland school was continued by Misses Winnie and Ellen Meade, Winnie later entered the Sisters of Mercy Order and returned to teach in Gympie as Sr M. Fidelis. (She was born in 1872, professed on July 9, 1902, and died on June 11, 1956).

By 1902, the Sisters were able to resume charge of the Monkland school which then had an enrolment of about 200. They made the journey each day from Gympie Convent in a horse-drawn buggy, the reinsman and stable groom being Mr Tom Bermingham. This mode of transport continued until about 1930 when they were driven by car by Mr V. Stanley.



**St Joseph's School, Monkland, 1933**

**Back row:** Pat McKenna, Leo Brennan, Des Dean, Pat Honeyman, Bill Johnson, Tom Smith, John Hickey, Ray Neill

**Third row:** Molly O'Keefe, Olive Lake, Maureen Bennetts, Pat Coombe, Elsie Brennan, Gerry Neill, Maureen O'Brien, Heather Ross

**Second row:** Eileen Hickey, Marie Johnson, Jill Neill, Esme Dean, Gladys Brennan, Noelle Ross, Elva Brennan, Joan Donaldson

**Front row:** Jack Neill, Bob Owens, Jack Lake, Tom Casey

Among the Sisters who made that journey that first day to tend for an attendance of about 200 pupils were Sisters M. Carthage and M. Emilian.

Former pupil, Marie Nolan (nee Johnson), recalls:

*'I started school at St Joseph's in 1932 and I vividly recall the roar of the huge tornado that year, when the original church was destroyed beyond repair. I can recall sheets of roofing iron and timber flying through the air. I have been told that Fr McSweeney, for safety's sake, had locked some children in the school. When the roof lifted, he had to quickly get them out! School was taught in a shop owned by the O'Brien family until a new building was opened by Archbishop Duhig in 1933.'*

*'Some of our teachers were Srs M. Emilian, Loraine and Gympie-born Cyril (Neylan). Classes went to Year 5 and*

*children completed their education at St Patrick's or the Christian Brothers. Priests who visited the school regularly were Fathers Lynch, O'Connell and Henry.*

*'Music was important and St Joseph's was represented in St Patrick's concerts, and at the annual fancy dress ball and concerts in the Hibernian Hall, Red Hill. We all helped to decorate our float for the St Patrick's Day Procession.'*

*'St Joseph's was a small friendly school and many local families like the O'Connors, Lakes, Coombes, Neills, McVays, Smiths, Owens, O'Neills and O'Briens will recall their early education with happy memories.'*

The closing of the mines, however, caused the Monkland population to drift away and numbers had so dwindled by the late 1930s that the school was discontinued.



**Gympie Convent Grade 1, 1931 Class**

**Back row (l-r):** Teacher: Miss Gladys Condon, Celia Buckley, Monica Devereux, Joy Cullinane, Peggy Tobin, Betty Abdy, Marie ?, Jean Glasgow, Gloria McVay, Imelda Cartwright, Dorothy Friend, —

**Second row:** D. Jocusen, B. White, I. O'Donohue, —, V O'Maley, —, Brian Quirk, Pat Fitzpatrick, John Nolan, J Keenan, —, B. Curly

**Third row:** Clare Jones, Pat Condon, Joan Meara, Mary Major, Maureen Fitzpatrick, Daphne Abdy, Joyce Bushell, R. Symes, B. Reed, Ita Quinlan

**Front row:** Stan Daunt, Viv Houghton, N. Brown, I. Brennan, Charlie Carroll, S. Creamer, Tom Fitzpatrick, B. Brennan, Noel Walsh.

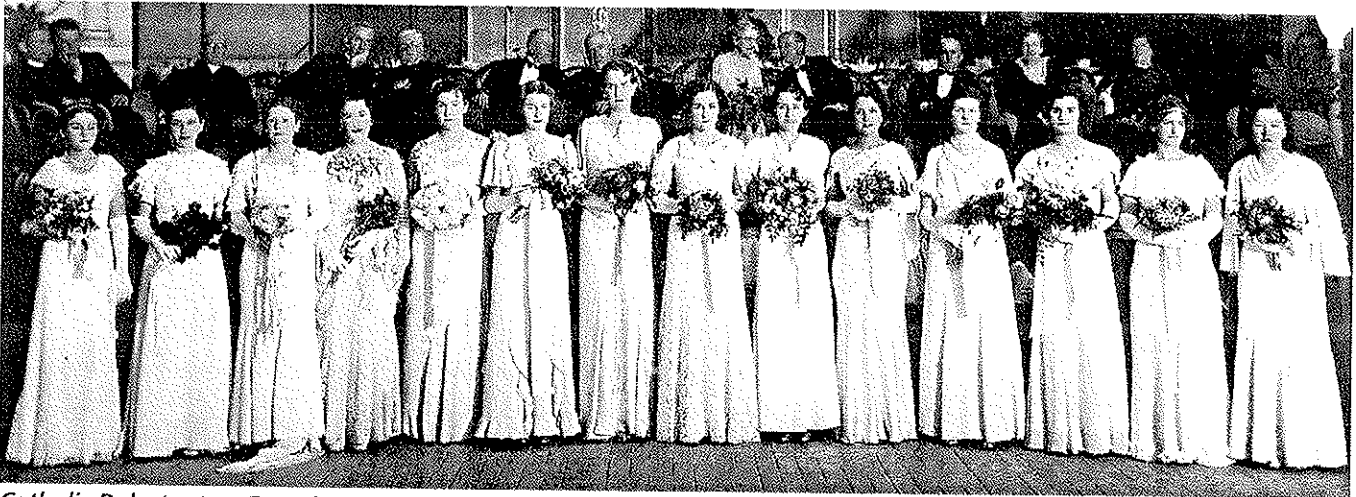


**St Patrick's Gympie Boarders, 1929 or 1930**

**Back row (l-r):** Leona Price, Eileen Condon, Ita McAuliffe, Dorothy Boland, —, —, Mary Crimmins

**Middle row:** Thema Condon, Valmai Daunt, Olga Clancy, Mavis Bucket, Lurline McVey, Delia Shanahan, —

**Front row:** Olive Flynn, Delia O'Donohue, Jean Bushell, Peggy Meara, Gay Dray, Patsy Golden, Vera O'Brien.



**Catholic Debutantes, Gympie, 1936** The debutantes were (not in order of the photograph): Clarice Neisler, Beryl Neisler, Elsie Brennan, Maureen McIntosh, Rita Carroll, Sheila Mills, Veronica Major, Ita McAuliffe (3rd from R), Kathleen Quinn, Biddy Hogan, Elvie Bowman, Veronica Barlow, Dorothy Readdy, Nell Gorman.

**Convent School 1940/41,  
Grades 5 & 6**

**Back row:** Thelma Gleeson, Aileen Hore, Ena Johnson, Eva Boyd, Sheila Cummings, Maureen Walker, Joan Moreland, Vivienne Carroll, Merle O'Neill, Paula Pronger

**Second row:** Betty Polzen, Rose Murray, Nellie Gormley, Val Jones, Desley Sheaffer, Iris Murphy, Moira Carroll, Delphine Sprada, Iris Iaffey, Pat Lusk

**Front row:** Loris Dunstan, Margaret Weir, Moira Jones, Val Shanks, Goldie Brewer, Moira Cox, Nola Neisler, Pat Condon, Daphne Balkin, Beryl Mooney, Pam Shanks.



## *From an 'original'* *Senior*

1956 was an historic year for St Patrick's High School, for this was the year that the girls first went on to Sub-senior at the school. This big step was initiated by Sr M. St Paschal, to whom we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude. On looking back to those two years, my most vivid memories recall Sister's untiring zeal and dedication, for she took us on as 'extras' to her already overcrowded program of work. Other beautiful memories surround Sisters Frances O'Donoghue (Xaverius) and Margaret Hanley (Zita) who also taught us during that time.

On behalf of the four of us, who persevered through to Senior — Sr Judith Hourigan, Maureen Francis, Betty Burns and myself — I would like to say a sincere 'Thank You' to these Sisters who gave us of their time, talents and so much of themselves.

Sr Gabrielle Ryan, RSM

In 1957 girls were taken on as far as Senior for the first time with 84 girls then at High School.

## *Memories of 1935–43*

One of the many past pupils who have fond memories of their school days at St Patrick's is Joan Crowley. She has written some of her recollections:

When I received the 2004 Anniversaries Newsletter my mind immediately took a trip down memory lane to the happy years of 1935–43 when I was a pupil of St Patrick's.

### *Infant school*

My earliest memories are of the infant school where Sr M. Consuelo and Miss Hourigan (Lettie) were every small child's delight. Sr M. Consuelo was a great artist and, every month, a blackboard featured a new picture done in coloured chalk.

### *War years*

The war years brought a change of scene to our previously untroubled lives. Coupon tickets were just as valuable as money. Tea, butter, sugar and clothing could be bought with the right coupons and the right money.

The windows in the shops, schools and in the homes had to be plastered up with wide sticky tape which ran horizontally and vertically. Every now and again, when an air-raid siren screamed out its warning, we would pro-

ceed to the trenches dug near the toilets where we would crouch, heads between our knees, until 'the all clear' sounded. If the siren sounded at night, all lights had to be switched off until further notice. It was an eerie feeling being in the dark with no lights anywhere.

In 1942 I think the war situation must have become more of a concern, because for several months, we went to school one day a week, at a certain time for only a couple of hours and in groups of three or four. Our class teacher (in my case, Sr M. Godfrey) taught us as much new work as possible, and set us up with homework for the rest of the week.

### *Catching the bus*

There was no such thing as a school bus and teachers doing bus duty. Our feet would take wings past the Brothers to Gordon's Hotel Corner where we would catch the bus. Those from Ashford Hill, Cootharabra Hill and Monkland would be gathered at the corner.

Just opposite was Fardooley's Bakery with an eye catching mural on the sidewalk. If you missed out on buying a cinnamon bun for threepence, you have really missed one of life's treats.. Another treat was to buy penny iceblocks sold by Patrick's on the opposite corner.

### *Mullock heaps*

In the huge vacant allotment below the State High School was an enormous mullock heap. It was a great gathering spot for the local children looking for that elusive speck of gold. Much spit was rubbed on the stones in the search. And sometimes, but rarely, there would be the tiniest speck glittering in the sun.

When searching for gold became a fruitless exercise, different ones would laboriously drag a piece of corrugated iron to the top of the mullock heap and, with great shouts, many falls and gravel-rashed knees would slide on it to the bottom. When I see all the various types of 'boarding' that are in vogue, sixty years later, I think, 'But Gympie did it first'.

### *Teachers*

I would like to pay tribute to the members of the teaching staff who were part of my school life. Names I recall easily are Srs M. Columba, Teresita, Godfrey, Auxilii, Christina and music teachers Srs M Antonio and Julianna. Other teachers I recall, besides Miss Lettie Hourigan, are Misses Joan Best, Marian Webb, Gay Webb, Aileen Stewart and Maureen Cartwright. From this point in my life I can only think that these teachers, together and individually, must have modelled very positively for us the enormous place a teacher plays in the life of a child because five of the eight members of my family became teachers. Thank you teachers of St Patrick's, I salute you.

## 1979 memories

*The following articles have been reproduced from the commemorative booklet published in 1979 as part of the celebrations of the Centenary of the Sisters of Mercy in Gympie.*

### Sister Anne Louise (O'Farrell) calls to mind

When I think back to my school days in Gympie, my mind becomes alive with memories of great people, and of events.

Many will remember Sr M. James and her promises of coconut ice. 'If you take my stool round to the bush house'; Sr M. Leila and the great line-up of shoes at the door of the chapel so that the floor didn't get scratched; the Sunday mornings spent in the orange trees in the fowl yard, and so the list could go on and on. One name, however, which is synonymous with my years in Gympie as a boarder, is that of Mother Alphonso, and of course, her faithful attachee, Doreen.

There are few whose love of Gympie and its people was greater than that of Mother Alphonso. Her father was said to have led the band that piped the Sisters of Mercy into Gympie. She was undoubtedly a Religious Woman of her day, and her concern 'for the children' was unsurpassed, and even as youngsters, we recognised that concern. However, that's not to say that we didn't do our best to thwart her efforts at concern, with our very earnest attempts at creating reasonable excuses for innumerable trips down town, and our resistance to behave as ladies, in what we considered rather 'quaint' ways. No statement on Mother Alphonso could end without mention of the Saturday afternoon sessions saying the 15 decades of the Rosary, the three golden Hail Marys, the exhortations to listen to the Hour of St Francis rather than the 'Top 20', and the not-so-gentle reminders to pick up our clothes from the 'laundry'.

Through it all we loved her, and Mother Alphonso certainly helped to shape the lives of many.

### A Past Pupil and Pupil Teacher, Mrs Ayleen Crawford (nee Stewart) remembers

Mother Madeleine was Superior of St Patrick's Convent when I joined the ranks of the scholarship class under Sr M. Inez's care in 1934. Sr M. Martin reigned supreme as head Mistress of the Primary School, while Sr M. Protase was Infant Mistress, ably assisted by Alice Murphy, Kath Tait, Ellie O'Donohue and Lettie Hourigan.

Upper Primary lay teachers included Frances Stalley, Noreen Murphy and Kath McVeigh. The diminutive Sr M. Hyacinth taught every non-commercial subject in the Junior class, Celia Dower taught the Sub-Juniors, while Sr M. St Mark was responsible for the Commercial students as well as being Boarding Mistress.

Musical tuition was well catered for by Srs M. Veronica, Declan, Immaculata and Cyril. ...There were about 40 boarders and Srs M. St Mark and Immaculata kept a vigilant eye on them at all times.

In the years that followed, development in education continued to flourish. Speech and drama classes were established, and scores of students were prepared for examinations. Some fine violinists and pianists contributed their talents to the formation of a large orchestra which reached its peak under Sr M. Antonio, assisted by Tess Conroy. ...Teachers who supported and guided us during these years included Srs M. Justin, Consuelo, Audeon, Hermes, Malachy, Mel, Concepta, Laurian, Barbara, Dorothy, de la Salle and Columba. For many readers, these names are rich in memories.

### Memoirs (the late fifties)

...The sisters who preceded me and whose work I strove to continue were Sisters Mary Beniti, Hyacinth, Lelia, Constance, Xavier, Benedicta, St Malachy and Noelle. Each had her own distinctive personality, with her particular gifts and graces but I see something of a beautiful pattern in the heroic efforts of all of them to cope with the responsibilities of their role, for theirs was the important task of preparing their students for their future as Catholic women being really Christian in their spiritual, working and social lives.

...When Catholic Action became a feature of the Church among the laity, we introduced the Young Catholic Students Movement into the school, and undoubtedly many blessings came upon us all through the interest and zeal manifested by our students who were members of this group. Because of the comparatively small numbers in St Patrick's Secondary School, we were able to combine courses — Academic, Science, Home Science, Commercial — so as to enable the girls to choose subjects most suited to their requirements for the Junior Public and for post-Junior studies. ... About this time, too, we endeavoured to make sporting activities (mainly basketball and tennis) an integral part of school life, and began interschool sport with the State High at Gympie, and with our sister Catholic High Schools at Maryborough and Bundaberg.



## 1979 memories (continued)

Two new classrooms and a type room were added to the Secondary Department in the old wooden building in 1959 — the whole structure has since been demolished. The Hall of Science and adjoining class rooms were erected in 1965, while, the period 1977–78 saw the completion of a new section to accommodate the Junior Secondary students. Thus time and improvements move on, but earlier on equipment in science, audio-visual, home science and commercial was limited in supply, and often we laboured under difficulties which we looked upon as part of the adventure.

...Towards the end of 1955, it became obvious to Sr M. Zita (Sr Margaret Hanley) and myself that what the girls and their parents were pleading for should be given consideration. The time seemed ripe to reach towards the future. What a difference it would make to the girls themselves, to the Secondary School and to the parish in general if we were to top our school with classes up to Senior University level. We were strengthened in our conviction by a deputation of our Mother General, Mother Damian. No, she was unable to spare a senior teacher in 1956. We were disappointed, but, not daunted, we worked out a plan whereby we ourselves would commence a Grade 11 class, take half of the subjects each in addition to our usual classes, doubling up where necessary, and begin the experiment. We would offer to our five prospective seniors English, French, Latin, Modern History, Mathematics 1 and Accounting and our proposal was accepted.

On the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy the answer came — a reluctant 'Yes' — Mother thought we were trying to cope with too much, and so we were, but she would provide an extra teacher in the following year. Thus began the Grades 11 and 12 at Gympie, and thank God, they are still continuing owing to the efforts of the sisters who followed in our wake.

...How happy I am to know that the Gympie girls and their educated-minded parents still have the advantages of an education to tertiary entrance level in a Christian environment in this world of technological, social and psychological change.

Sr M. Paschal Crotty

### Academic stars

The much-coveted McDonnell Medal — awarded to the candidate of a Catholic School obtaining the highest marks in the State Scholarship examination — was won by students of St Patrick's Primary School in both 1950 and 1958.

Sr M. Simeon, in recalling her appointment to Gympie in 1949, remembers quite clearly the words of Mother M. Norbert, the Reverend Mother at the time, 'Sister, I'm sending you to Gympie to start Domestic Science there. Don't ask Monsignor for too much!'

A narrow veranda at the rear end of the Primary School served as the Domestic Science Room with equipment almost at a minimum. On approaching Monsignor Molony with a long list of essential requirements, to Sister's delight he said, 'Sister, get whatever you want.' Such generosity gave rise to new hope, and Sister spent four happy years as Scholarship teacher in Gympie. She quickly discovered, as did Sr M. Finbarr later on, that the Gympie-ites were particularly good at Maths. It was not unusual for a few pupils each year to obtain full marks in this subject.

At the 1950 State Scholarship examination, Patricia Fitzpatrick won not only the McDonnell Medal, but also the Hibernian Bursary and Rotary Bursary. In 1959, Judith Cartwright gained a triple award when she had the distinction of winning the McDonnell Medal, the Hanlon Bursary (awarded to the boy and girl who gained top marks in the State Scholarship exam, irrespective of the School attended), and the Commonwealth Trades Alphabet Bursary. Sister M. Finbarr, the Scholarship teacher at that time, claimed that Judith was an excellent pupil. In the Junior examination two years later, Judith gained ten A passes; in the Senior exam, she finished her secondary school education by gaining seven As.

### The challenge that was ours

In the middle seventies, St Patrick's High underwent a dramatic change. It was not, as the song went, 'Girls, girls, girls', but rather it was 'Boys, boys, boys'.

What brought about this change? Boys had been a part of the student body for a long time — they studied French and History and among other things, created a diversion from the more serious task of learning. But it was not that. 1975 saw a man (Norman Tranberg) acting as swimming instructor and as sports master — and then in August, because of a serious accident to a science teacher, he became the first full-time male teacher employed on the staff of St Patrick's High.

Five years later I was to return to St Pat's — this time to find the males well and truly ensconced. We already had the unique distinction of being the first girls' secondary school to have a male teacher on the staff and now we had two—three for a few weeks. In

## 1979 memories (continued)

addition we were the first and only school to have, not co-education but co-instruction with the Christian Brothers. Boys in Grades 11 and 12 were taught the essentials of Modern History, Economics, French and Accounting while our girls learnt that there was much more to Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Ancient History than they had ever imagined. While we had the room, boys in Grade 10 joined our French students and they were very handy when we came to perform 'Cinderella' in French, and were looking for ugly sisters!

Seriously though, the boys added a joy and zest to teaching and learning. They kept the girls on their toes and in turn, the boys worked much harder because they did not want the girls to be superior to them. Life was never dull or boring and the students who experienced this form of education were indeed privileged.

It has been my privilege to have been associated with the many fine young men and women who have gone through St Patrick's High, and I pray that the generations to come will cherish the privileges which are theirs.

Sr June Doro, RSM

### History of the Mighty Midgets

The year 1968 saw the beginning of rugby league at the Convent with the formation of its first-ever football team. However, we were not to get a crack at interschool competition until the following year.

Training began in the school yard under the dedicated eye of Mr Merv Chisler, himself a former player and keen follower of the game, ably assisted by the then Sr M Sarto (Sr Nora Fitzgibbons). The ball was nearly as big as some of the boys. It was hard to handle but with practice we began to get round and we prepared ourselves for some tough competition. Preparation consisted of an 'overweights' team doing battle with the 4st 7lb competition side with Mr Chisler telling us what to do and how to do it. Soon we were to test ourselves against the experienced State School sides.



### *The Mighty Midgets*

**Back row:** Steven Graham, Tony Schmidt, Lindsay Waters

**Middle row:** Sr M. Sarto, Gary Bermingham, Steven Alexander, Peter Hemsall, Mark Goodchild, Stephen Merrin, Mr Merv Chisler

**Front row:** Michael Garrahy, Greg Macpherson, Robert Murray, Greg Skennerton, Barry Day

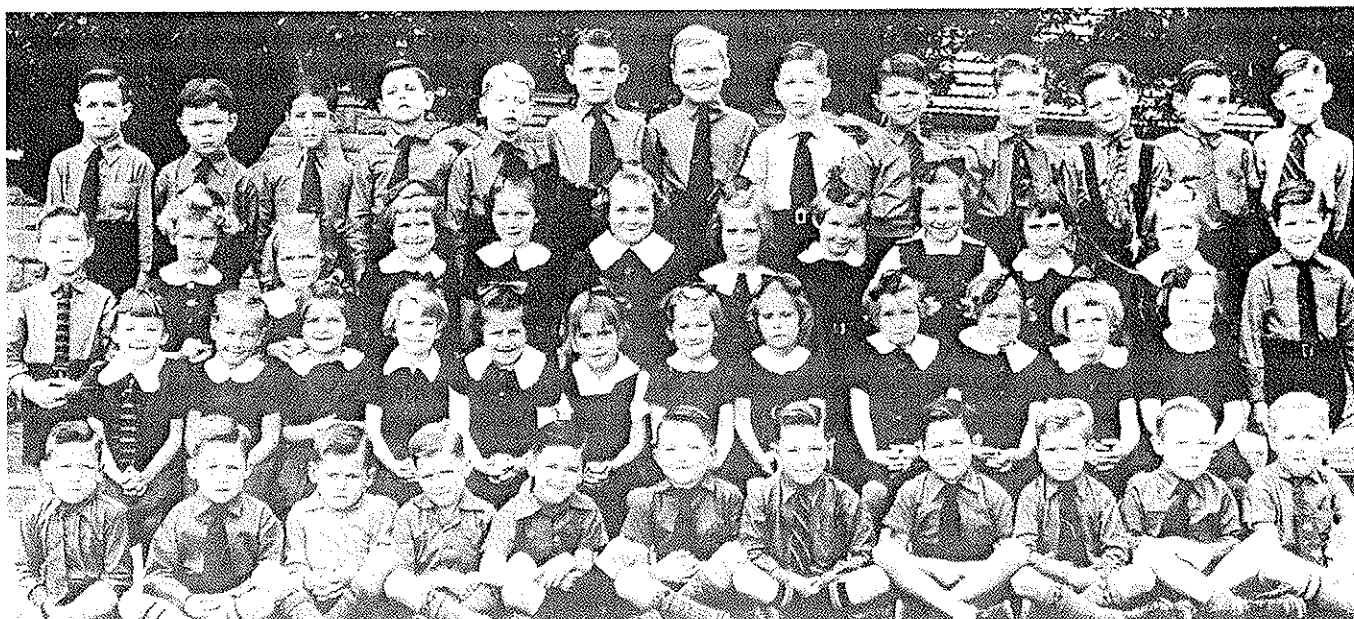
Things didn't go exactly as planned in our first encounters and it took many more lunchtime trainings before we were finally able to better the other teams. We were not, however, fully certain that our wins were attributed only to our skills or to the many prayers said by our enthusiastic sideline supporter, Sr M Sarto. Many a time she was seen to look skyward as the opposition came close to crossing our line.

1969 brought the first-ever premiership win for the Convent Primary School and so came about the title 'Mighty Midgets'. This was not to be the end of our 1969 season as we arranged to meet a top Brisbane Brothers side. Two games were played, both of which we won thus proving our name.

We did, however, do plenty of school work besides thinking football, with Sr M Sarto keeping us well in hand both on and off the field.

Thank you Mr Chisler and Sr M Sarto for giving us a start in "the greatest game of all".

Members of the Mighty Midgets



**St Patrick's Convent, Year 1, 1953 or 1954**

**Back row (L-R):** Graham McGrath, Tim Macdonnell, Ivan Day, Peter Davies, Peter Hodginson, John Ross, Graham Mitchell, Michael Tobin, Ray Anerson, Peter Dore, Dennis Dwyer, Ray Brady, Bill Schacht.

**Third row:** Danny Condon, Dianne Spring, Veronica Cook, Carol Mackney, Maree Spencer, Joyce Daunt, —, Sue Tremeer, Sharon Bowes, Colleen Lawson, Christine Ryan, —.

**Second row:** Robyn Gormley, Ruth McNaught, Janice Toomey, Maureen Spellman, Lois Fowles, Adrienne Fraser, Joan Freney, Lorraine Hooper, Maureen O'Brien, Patricia O'Brien, —, Joan McCloy.

**Front row:** Tony Merrin, Terry O'Brien, John Alsop, Bevan Smith, —, Michael Costello, Graham Houghton, Terry Freney, Vincent Hughes, David Peet, Robert Gerrard



**School Ball 1957: (l-r)**

Pat Keenman,  
Lyn Punter,  
Barbara Brennan,  
Pat Bennett



*Class photo circa 1950*

*Back row: E. Searston, C. Ash, B. Ryan, Y. Betts, M. Schacht, M. Tobin, L. Meredith, M. McGrath*

*Middle row: E. Ellery, E. Elmer, H. Deagon, C. Adams, M. Margetts, M. Reilly, B. Spelman, F. Bennett, C. Fallon*

*Front row: M. Mills, M. Connolly, D. Nolan, M. Day, G. Cass, C. O'Brien, I. Quinlan, P. Whittington, L. Skennerton, M. Connolly.*



**Boarders Hair Washing, 1950**

*Margaret Sharman and Del Quinn taking part in the ritual Saturday morning hair washing. The two Sisters in charge of the boarders, Sr M. Honora and Sr M. Carmelita, would supervise the process. After lunch was clothes mending time before the Sisters inspected all the clean clothes ready for the coming week. Sr M. Agnes worked in the laundry and Sr M. Philomena and Sr M. Dorothy worked in the kitchen.*



**Boarders (Juniors) 1951**

*Standing: Doris Ridler, Pat Garrahy, Margaret Sharman*

*Front: Mary Wettergrund, Pat Walsh, Glenda O'Brien*





**Junior class, 1963**

**Back row:** Janice McLennan, Maree Spencer, Sue Tremeer, Denise Nastaga, Carol Gormley, Pauline O'Brien, Sharon Sunberg, Robyn Gormley, Kay Hilton

**Third row:** Mary Patricia Wood, Rosemary Byrne, Helen Searston, Janice Twomey, Carolyn Window, Denise Howard, Joan Rhodes, Patricia McDonald, Sue Godwin, Jenny Finch, Marie King, Mae Kidd, Christine Ryan, Kathleen Connors, Julie Connors

**Second row:** Moira Taaffe, Jane Hunt, Glenys Skennerton, Carmel Charles, Ruth McNicol, Sr M. Constance, —, Wendy Maxwell, Lynette Nolan, Ruth McNaught, Beverley Carstens

**Front row:** Mary Jeffery, Patsy Young, Noelene Rice, Irene Schultz, Lyn Reibel, Rosemary McArdle, Joan Freney, Lorraine Nolan, Judy Fraser, Lesley Goldberg, Lorraine Turley, Colleen Lawson, Maureen Connors



**Year 7, 1971**

**Back row:** Judy Bushell, Debbie Saunders, Cathy Webb, Georgina Webb, Carrie Eastaway, Cherylee Connell, Cathy Bacon

**Middle row:** Donna Schmid, Maree Schmidt, Rosemary Codde, Sharon Wills, Debbie Cumming, Judy Murray, Patricia Kelly, Tracey White, Janet Kelly, Sharon Tryhorn

**Front row:** Marilyn Ward, Irene Bourke, Clare Nolan, Glenys Westlake, Donna Wust, Sr M. Macrina, Rita Bochow, Cecilia Vesey-Brown, Michelle Plate, Michelle Poncini, Debbie Walker





**St Patrick's High School staff, 1981**

**Back row:** Anne Bayntun, Dave Williams, Johanna Wills, Gayle Cameron, Enid Carroll, Irene Flynn

**Front row:** Helene Fletcher, Jill Logan, Sr Christine Gabbett (Deputy Principal), Sr Moyna Stabe (Principal), Elizabeth Lewis, Mel Codde, Cathy Kratzmann



**CBC and SPHS Year 12, 1981**

**Back row:** M. Jones, J. Kuhn, T. Emery, M. Crough, R. Cousins, P. McMullan, M. Fisher, J. Chapman, C. Fitzpatrick, M. Nolan, S. Partridge

**Middle row:** P. Hehir, D. Webb, C. Stallard, P. Smoothy, K. Hodson, J. Hourigan, P. Carr, W. Davidson, R. Godwin, A. McEwen

**Front row:** A. Farrelly, D. Knight, B. Logan, P. Bishop, K. Byrne, E. Nilon, L. Robeck, E. Quinlan, W. Dray. (Absent: C. Milne)

## *Farewell to the Sisters and Brothers*

In October 1986, the Gympie community and hundreds of people from throughout Queensland sadly farewelled the Sisters and Brothers at a special thanksgiving Mass and dinner to mark the end of teaching in Gympie by the Catholic teaching orders. The occasion marked the end of a 107-year association between the Sisters of Mercy and Gympie and 83 years for the Christian Brothers.

Dignitaries attending included the Provincial of the Christian Brothers Br Len Marshall and Sr Madonna Josey, a member of the General Council of the Sisters of Mercy.

A Mass to thank the orders for their contribution to Gympie was celebrated by Dr P.V. Kenny, Parish Priest of St Patrick's. In his homily, Dr Kenny said it was with a heavy heart that parishioners farewelled the sisters and brothers from Gympie.

*'But it with hearts full of gratitude to Almighty God for the wonders he has wrought in our midst through these religious men and women.*

*'They, like the Apostles, left their homes and family for the sake of Christ and the Gospel. So we pray this evening they will be rewarded as Christ promised people like these would be rewarded.*

*'They shunned the honours of this world and put all these things behind them. If they burnt the midnight oil studying for degrees, it was not for the honour of the individual, but so that they would be efficient instruments of God in the teaching of our children.*

*'We have taken them for granted. How we can carry on Catholic education without them is quite impossible for us to fathom at this stage.'*

At the Mass Br Marshall and Sr Josey were presented with two candles representing the Light of Faith by two college students of the day — Andrea Shoecraft and Tim Sweeney.

Mr Vince Brennan read a welcome at the Mass:

*'It is with deep regret that we have to say farewell. We are confident that God in his wisdom will continue to provide for our religious education in future years. We place ourselves confidently in his merciful hands.*

*'I say to our Christian Brothers and Sisters of Mercy a sincere thank you.'*

The thanksgiving dinner was held at the Civic Centre after the Mass. A toast to the Sisters of Mercy was made by Mrs Catherine Leyden (nee Flehir) and for the Brothers Dr

Kevin Hourigan, both of Brisbane. Other speakers included Dr Kenny, Sr Josey, Br Marshall, Ald Mick Vernardos, Cr Adrian McClintock, Mr Ron Witham and Mr Les Doyle.

In her toast to the Sisters of Mercy, Mrs Leyden said:

*'The gratitude and optimism which accompanied the sisters' arrival in 1879 was well and truly warranted as the sisters soon became a vital force in the Gympie community — not simply in the education of the young in religion and the three Rs, but they were, and are today, a wonderful support in times of grief, illness and despair — regardless of creed.*

*'The memories of up to five generations of Gympie youth are firmly embedded in the walls of the older buildings still being utilised and in the boarders' building and classrooms that have been demolished.*

*'Every class has its stones to tell of school times of wonderful sisters who have given up so much and who quite simply gave so magnanimously to the children they taught.*

*'We all know and knew sisters who had not only given their lives to God by leaving homes in Australia and Ireland, but also were so gifted in science, literature, art, music or sport that they could have had promising careers as lay women. Yet they chose to live in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, bringing Christ in word and deed to all they served and give of those talents to others.*

*'How wonderfully they gave to all of us who received all or part of our education with the sisters, the individual sisters have probably never realised.*

*'The lack of sisters in a school is sad. It is the end of an era.*

*'To all those Sisters of Mercy who made Gympie their home and its people their family — for whatever length of time — we thank you.*

*'We thank you for giving to the life and education of Gympie, for the sacrifices you each made.*

*'We thank you for playing such a wonderful part in the formative years of our lives, and we pledge that the spirit of your work will never be forgotten.'*

Dr Hourigan said:

*'On this occasion my feelings are ambivalent — glad for the chance publicly to thank them (which they never sought as a low-profile community), but sad that we are here at all to have to say farewell.'*

*... 'The cogent argument to me is the one which says that the best results are achieved in a system where the educators are not only skilled and experienced, but, and more importantly, disciplined and dedicated to the task.*

*'The Christian Brothers have been the archetype of such discipline and dedication since Edmund Ignatius Rice founded the Brotherhood in Waterford, Ireland, 185 years ago.*

*'Ironically, Sir Henry Newbolt's words are fitting: "These were men who set the cause above renown who love the game beyond the prize."*

*'Gympie will not be without the Christian Brothers after 1986. The seeds of spiritual educational and sporting excellence they have seen in this community after 83 years live on in the hearts and minds of us so fortunate to have received a Christian Brothers education.*

*"These men came to teach us how to work and pray and live and learn for a lifetime — and then some; so we pass it on to our children.*

*'In different times Rupert Brooke wrote: "There's some corner of a foreign field that is forever England. There shall be in that rich earth a richer dust concealed."*

*'Gympie is a foreign field a long way from Waterford, and where the members of the Christian Brotherhood may be sure they leave a community enriched for their being here and ever grateful.'*

## *Convent becomes St Patrick's Villa*

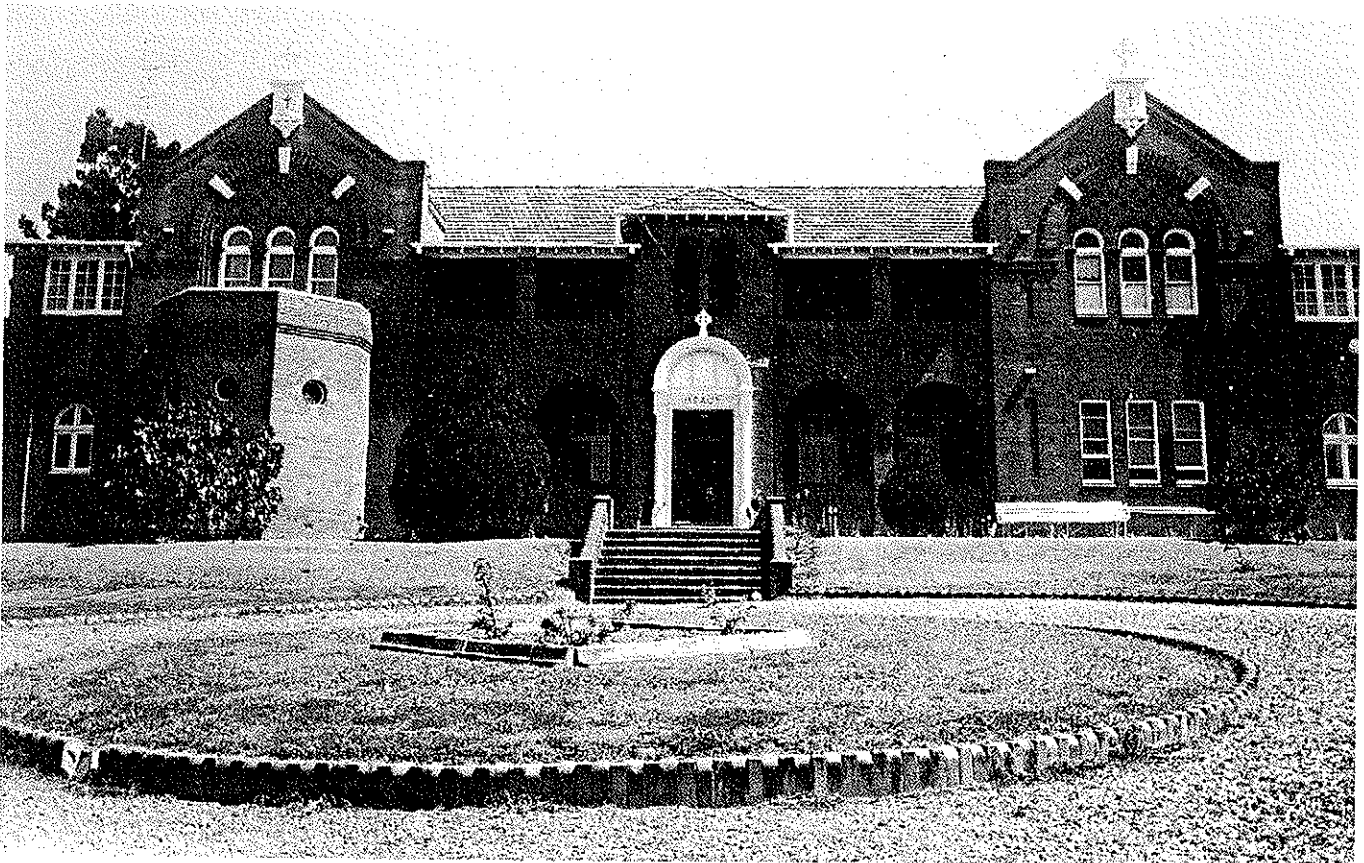
In the 1980s, the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane saw the need for the provision of residential aged care facilities for an aging population.

Dr Kenny, the parish priest of St Patrick's Catholic Parish Gympie at that time, supported the aged care project enthusiastically. He had a special interest in the elderly, especially for those who were frail or sick.

The parish set up an aged care steering committee to work with the Archdiocese of Brisbane to develop a frail/aged facility. The Commonwealth Government committed itself to the funding of a 30-bed hostel.

The new facility was to make use of St Malachy's Convent, which had been vacated recently by the Sisters. The sisters sold the convent to the Archdiocese for the establishment of the hostel.

On 18 December 1993, St Patrick's Villa was blessed by Archbishop John Bathersby, and officially opened by Dr. Andrew Theophenous MP, Parliamentary Secretary.



*St Malachy's Convent, before it was transformed to become St Patrick's Villa*

Kaye Aston was appointed manager of the Villa, a position she still holds today. The Friends of the Villa is a volunteer support group, mainly recruited from the Catholic parish, who have worked enthusiastically with the Villa over the past ten years.

The Villa consists of three houses, each with separate living environments. The houses are designed to be self-contained and have kitchen and recreational areas. Each of the residents' rooms has an ensuite and balcony.

The houses are looked after by Home Care assistants who are multi-skilled, attending to all the wants of her/his charges — cooking, washing, cleaning, personal care and more. The houses are named after three figures important in the Catholic history of the Gympie parish: McAuley, Rice and McKillop.

In 2000, Mount Olivet Community Services, based at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane and founded by the Sisters of Charity, incorporated the Villa into its organisation. There followed a major restructuring which markedly affected the Villa, but has had the effect of linking the Villa into a wider support network in aged care.

A major achievement for the Villa was the accreditation in the same year, 2000. In October 2003, the Villa went for its second three-yearly accreditation and again achieved a very high standard.

## *Renovations and a 'new' look*

The buildings at St Patrick's Primary School had served the community well but by the 1990s were in need of some repair and refurbishment. Mr Peter Donelan was the principal at the time and he was closely involved with grant applications and planning for the renovations to the administration building and to the historic pink building facing Church Street.

The renovations constituted a major project worth \$443,213 raised from a Commonwealth grant of \$120,896, a State Government grant of \$174,504 and the generous contributions of local community members.

The basic structures of the buildings were retained. The most visible change to the 'pink' building was the sand-blasting that exposed the original brickwork, plus the addition of new verandah railings. This building is now the administration building for the school. The work was completed in 1995.



*The historic St Patrick's Primary School, after refurbishment in the mid 1990s*

## *Strong family connections with the Gympie schools*

Many Gympie families can boast that three or more generations of their family have been educated 'on Calton Hill' by the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers and many dedicated lay teachers.

### **The O'Briens**

By the end of 2003, 28 O'Brien descendants had completed 48 years of schooling at St Patrick's College.

It began in January 1948 when two brothers, Con and Jim O'Brien (both dec'd), dairy farmers settled at 39 Glastonbury Road, now known as Nahrunda Park Estate. Con and his wife Flo (dec'd) had seven children: John (Sydney), Patricia Sorrensen (Maroochydore), Maureen Elliott (Gympie), Dennis (Toowoomba), Eileen Benstead (Gympie), Paul (Gympie) and Chris (Gympie).

Jim and his wife Joyce (who died November 2003) also had seven children: Tony (Darwin), Therese Hawkins (Brisbane), Mary Bothams (Gympie), Cathy Ryan (Rockhampton), Pauline Daunt (Gympie), Mick (Mooloolah) and Vince (Gold Coast).

They all attended St Patrick's Convent and Christian Brothers College beginning in 1955 and finishing with

Chris who commenced schooling in 1966 and completed in 1978. During those years, many of the older O'Briens had grown up and married and their children were now attending the schools. In 1983 the school amalgamated and became St Patrick's College. Maureen's (Elliott) two sons, Patrick (Biloela) and Brian (Perth), Eileen's (Benstead) two children, Selina (Brisbane) and Jamie (Gympie), Mary's (Bothams) five children, Angela Keenan (Tannum Sands), Ben and Tim (Gympie), Loretta (Rockhampton) and Peter (Port Macquarie), Mick's children, Renae and Shannon attended the school before transferring to Caloundra, as well as Pauline's (Daunt) children, Brendan (Brisbane), Damien (Brisbane) and Kirt, who completed this era at the end of 2003 as College Captain.

Some of these O'Brien descendants also married St Pat's students. In Jim and Joyce's family, Cathy married Graham Ryan, Pauline married Noel Daunt and Mick married Judy Barlow. Mick's daughter Renae married Brett Johnson (College Captain 1992). Mary's son Ben Bothams married Sharon Bird and of Maureen's two sons, Patrick Elliott married Nicole Bathesby while Brian married Anna Sweeney.

In the 1970s Con and Jim's sister, Sister Mary O'Brien (dec'd) was Principal of St Patrick's Convent for a number of years. So, from 1955 until 2003 many of the descendants of Con and Jim O'Brien have been educated at St Pat's. At present the great grandchildren are being born and at some future time they too may grace the school rooms of St Pat's.

# *Part 3:*

## *The Christian Brothers*

### *Honour Board*

#### *Principals*

Br J.E. Murphy 1904 Jan–July  
Br L.B. Tevlin 1904–06  
Br D.D. Quigley 1907–13  
Br M.B. Flood 1914–15  
Br C.L. Whiting 1916–21  
Br C.W. Jones 1922  
Br A. Geoghegan 1922–24  
Br A. Geraghty 1924–25  
Br J. Mullen 1926  
Br J.B. Grace 1926–32  
Br B. Doran 1932–33  
Br B.A. Duffy 1934  
Br H.B. Wynne 1935–41  
Br T. Barfield 1941–43  
Br E.M. Rogers 1944–46  
Br K.B. O'Farrell 1947–52  
Br J.K. O'Neill 1953–58  
Br C.S. Wright 1959–61  
Br M.L. Murphy 1962–68  
Br B. McKennarney 1968–72  
Br J. Cummins 1973–79  
Br B.L. Cumming 1979–82

#### *Old Boy Priests*

Msgr Owen B. Steele  
Michael Sheehy  
Morgan Howe  
William Buckley  
Pat McKenna  
Frank Gilbert  
Keith Wallace  
Terry Keliher  
Barney Wilson  
Pat Cassidy  
David O'Connor  
W. McCarthy  
John Connolly  
Thomas Brady  
Gerard O'Connell  
David Hore  
Brian Horton  
Brian Daly

#### *Old Boy Brothers*

Francis Greal  
Peter Greal  
H.J. Smith  
Joseph Deagin  
Xavier Galvin  
P.L. O'Doherty  
H.D. Gardiner  
B.T. Crawford  
Joseph Gorman  
Noel Stallard  
Kevin Lynch  
Alan Mooney  
P.L. Ellis  
A.G. Gallagher  
Francis Pottinger  
Christopher Tooley  
Michael Poncini  
Kevin Kerley  
James Sellen  
Vincent Roche  
Denis Twomey  
J.I. O'Brien  
Tony O'Brien  
John Leyden

#### *Divine Word Missionary*

A. Ben Seng  
B.R. Anthony

#### *Anglican Bush Brother*

Edward Neville



## *Old boy priests*

### **Msgr O.B. Steele OBE**

For more than 50 years, Monsignor Owen Beevor Steele faithfully served his parishioners on the Logan River.

He was born at Gympie in 1898, youngest of a family of six boys and one girl. After attending St Patrick's and the CBC Gympie, he studied for the priesthood at Springwood in the Blue Mountains and St Patrick's College, Manly. He was ordained in November 1921 and arrived in Beaudesert in January 1922 to become a curate to Fr Hennessy.

In 1924, Fr Hennessy made his first and only visit to his homeland, Ireland. The parish was left in the hands of Fr Steele and Fr Tom O'Callaghan, who had recently arrived from Ireland.

At Easter, 1925, Fr Steele was advised of his appointment to take charge of a new parish, to be established at Yeronga. This struggling parish, which took in a large portion of today's Brisbane southern suburbs, had the Logan River as its boundary. As the finances of the Yeronga parish were limited, Archbishop Duhig invited Fr Steele's mother to become his housekeeper. This she agreed to do for one year, but she and her daughter, Miss Phyllis Steele, were to remain on the job for 13 years.

Conditions were at first rather primitive. The chapel consisted of two rooms, linked by a chimney. Seats in the church were planks set on kerosene boxes. Fr Steele accepted this arduous but interesting challenge and helped lay the foundation of what is today a flourishing parish. The present church at Yeronga was built in 1936.

He represented the archdiocese at the Eucharistic Congress in Budapest in 1938 and on returning to Australia, volunteered for overseas service and became the first Catholic chaplain from Queensland to go overseas with the AIF.

Fr Steele was twice mentioned in despatches during the Tobruk and El Alamein campaigns and was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

After the war, Fr Steele returned to Beaudesert as parish priest, a position he held until his retirement in 1975.

He became Monsignor Steele in 1949 after taking part in an Australian servicemen's delegation to unveil a special memorial at Tobruk. On that trip, he said Mass on the beach at Gallipoli.

In the New Year's honours list in 1958, he was awarded the MBE in recognition of his work for the welfare of ex-servicemen, particularly the survivors of Tobruk, who had elected him a life member of the Rats of Tobruk Association.

Msgr Steele was probably best known for founding Boys Town in 1961. In the mid-1930s, he had seen a motion picture starring Mickey Rooney and Spencer Tracey, portraying a juvenile institution that had been founded in Nebraska in 1917.

He realised that there was a need for just such an institution here in Queensland and in 1960 took the first steps to bring this dream to fruition. He purchased the Plunkett property, arranged for the project to be conducted by the de la Salle brothers and continued to give it his wholehearted support until his death in 1981.

In 1968 Msgr Steele received a rare honour from the de la Salle order, which installed him as an honorary brother.

In the New Year's honours list of 1981, he received the OBE in recognition of his service to the community and religion.

Apart from his efforts for the youth of Boys Town, his parishioners, and work for ex-servicemen, Msgr Steele also had a great appreciation of the needs of the elderly. When the Wonga Garden Settlement for the Aged was launched in Beaudesert, he was elected patron of the society, a position he occupied until his death.

### **Father Patrick Bernard McKenna**

Pat McKenna started at CBC Gympie 2 February 1938 and sat for the Junior examination at CBC Gympie in 1945. He worked in a bank for two years then entered Banyo Seminary in 1948. He was ordained to the priesthood in St Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane on 29 June 1956.

### **Father John Connolly**

John Connolly completed his schooling at CBC Gympie in 1962 when he sat for the Senior examination, he was also school captain in that year.

He became a Columban priest in 1969 and has had numerous overseas postings. He now serves as the rector of St Columban's College, Hayes Park NSW and Chaplain to the Korean Community.

### **Father Keith B. Wallace**

Born in Brisbane, Keith Wallace was a boarder at CBC Gympie from 1950-53. He was a good runner and a member of the First XIII rugby league team and completed his senior in 1953.

He joined St Columban's Mission Society in 1954 and was ordained in 1960 and was posted to Chile. He had one holiday back in Australia and then returned to Chile.

He was released from his vows in 1973 by Pope Paul VI. He is now married and living in Darwin.

### **Father Morgan Bourke Howe**

Morgan was born in Ipswich on 8 May 1919 to parents William Morgan Howe and Ellen Frances Bourke. He had a brother James and sister Margret.

In 1922 his father, who was a teacher, was transferred to the Dagon State School. It was here that Morgan started school and where he did all his primary schooling. He also did scholarship twice because he was considered to young to start secondary schooling.

Morgan was enrolled at the CBC Gympie in 1933 and he boarded with the Menagh family. The school at that stage was a wooden building facing Bligh Street and it was divided into four classrooms for about 160 pupils. Four Brothers were the only teachers — Brothers Doran, Murphy, Duffy and Kincaid.

Morgan passed the Railway entrance examination and became a clerk in that Department until he gained a teacher training scholarship in May 1935. He graduated as a teacher and taught at various schools, but in March 1938 he decided to join the Priesthood and began his studies at Springwood seminary in the Blue Mountains and later at Manly in Sydney.

He was ordained in 1945 and was taken on the staff at the not long-opened Banyo seminary. Here he taught ethics, social justice, Latin and a 'few other minor things'. He considers the opportunity to teach future priests as one of the highlights of his life.

From 1953 to 1974 he was Parish Priest at Boonah and from 1974 at the Indooroopilly Parish. It was here his interest in social justice became more public. He stood up for the poor, voiceless, down-trodden and unemployed. He was an active member of the council that controlled the arrangements of the foundation for Aboriginal and Island Research Action Ltd.

He was director of the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission in 1987 and in 1990 the commission submitted plans to the Queensland Electoral and Administration Review supporting the right to public assembly, freedom of access to government information, government accountability and a 'one vote, one value' electoral system.

Fr Howe retired at Indooroopilly and in 2000 took up residence at Canossa, Oxley, Brisbane. (Taken from an article by T.S. (Tom) O'Rourke)

### **Father Michael Sheehy**

Michael Sheehy was born in about 1890 and at 14 years of age was one of the boys who commenced at CBC Gympie in 1904.

### **Father William Buckley**

William Buckley was born on 31 July 1930 and commenced at CBC Gympie on 31 March 1939.

### **Father Francis Charles Gilbert**

Born 5 June 1931, Francis Gilbert completed his schooling at CBC Gympie when he sat for the Junior examination in 1946. He entered Banyo Seminary in 1948 after he had been farming for a short while.

### **Father Bernard 'Barney' Wilson**

Barney Wilson was born 5 August 1940. He sat for the senior examination at CBC Gympie in 1958 and entered Banyo Seminary in 1959.

**Father Thomas Brady** completed his schooling at CBC Gympie in 1937 when he sat for the junior examination.

**Father Terry Keliher** completed his schooling at CBC Gympie in 1956 when he sat for the senior examination. He entered Banyo Seminary in 1957 and he was ordained at St Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane on 29 June 1962. He celebrated his first mass at St Patrick's Gympie on 1 July 1962.

**Father Patrick Charles Cassidy** was born at Dalby on 22 December 1940. He was educated at Meandu Creek State School, St Patrick's Convent Nanango and CBC Gympie (1958-59) where he completed his senior examination.

He went to the Banyo Seminary in 1960 and was ordained at Nanango on 1 July 1967.

He served at the following Parishes: Mt Gravatt, Darra, Gayndah, Gympie, Inala, Booval, Crestmead and is currently at Kingaroy/Nanango.

During his term as assistant Priest at St Patrick's in Gympie, Father Pat played reserve grade rugby league with the Past Brothers RLFC. In the past, several priests trained with the football club to keep fit, but Father Pat was the first and last to ever actually play.

**Father David O'Connor** was born 3 November 1945. He attended CBC Gympie from 21 June 1958 in grade 5. His father was a bank inspector and the family must have been transferred before he sat for scholarship. He was ordained a Priest in 1973.

**Father Brian Robert Daly** was born 28 December 1931. He enrolled at CBC Gympie 2 March 1942 and left school in 1947 after completing sub-senior. He entered Banyo Seminary in 1948.

**Father Brian Horton** was born 4 February 1955 and commenced at CBC Gympie in January 1964. It not known when he finished school or was ordained, but before he passed away he was the prison Chaplain.

**Father W. McCarthy** — No record of when he attended CBC Gympie

**Father Gerard O'Connell** completed Year 12 at Gympie CBC in 1977. He entered the seminary and was ordained in the early 1980s. He has since left the priesthood.

**Father David John Hore** was born 9 August 1969 in Gympie commenced at CBC Gympie January 1978. After he completed his schooling in 1986 he worked in a bank for a couple of years but got the calling to join the priesthood and was ordained in late 2003. He is an accomplished bagpipes player and Rugby League referee.

## *Old boy brothers*

### **Br J.H. Gorman**

The Junior class of 1937 will recall that Br J.H. Gorman was one of their number. After spending two years in the railway he joined the RAAF in 1941, and spent five years on active service in Darwin and New Guinea. When he was discharged he returned to school in Ipswich, and later, completed his education at the Christian Brother's Training College, at Strathfield, NSW. Ballarat was the scene of his first labours as a Christian Brother. Later he taught at Middle Park in Melbourne. For the last three years he worked untiringly at St Patrick's College, Goulburn NSW. Here he made available for the training of the boys, his extensive military training. He was an officer in the cadet unit at the College. He had a very sunny disposition. He was extremely friendly and efficient in his undertakings. May God bless his generosity and self-sacrifice and may his example inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

**Br Francis Xavier Grealy** was the first old boy of the Gympie Christian Brothers' School to become a Christian Brother. In 1907 at 19 years of age, he had an interview with Br Quigley and then headed off to Mt Zion, Sydney in 1908.

Francis was born on 2 February 1888 in his family home on Old Brisbane Road opposite the Monkland School. He

had five brothers and six sisters and the family home was rich in music and singing.

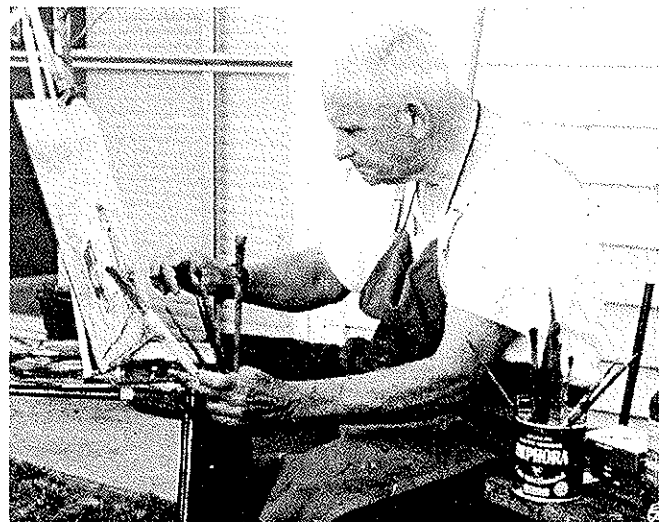
Two sisters became Mercy nuns. (Kathleen 1890–1967 became Sr Mary Alphonso and returned to Gympie as Mother Superior in the 1960.)

Br Grealy taught at many schools in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and in New Zealand. He came back to Gympie in 1963, when he died at the age of 89 he had been a Christian Brother for 69 years. (Taken from article by T.S. (Tom) O'Rourke, Francis Grealy's nephew)

**Br Peter Grealy** was born in 1899 and completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1913 when he sat for the Junior examination. He went to Strathfield on 16 December 1913.

**Br James Smith** was born 6 March 1912 and completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1926 when he sat for the Junior examination.

**Br Joseph Deagin** was born 28 April 1911 and started at the Brothers 15 September 1924. He completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1928 when he sat for the Junior examination. He became a teacher and then joined the Christian Brothers.



*Br Deagin, pursuing one of his favourite hobbies.*

**Br Henry Xavier Galvin** completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1912 when he sat for the Junior examination.

**Br Patrick O'Doherty**, born 11 May 1925. He was enrolled at CBC Gympie in 1938 when he did the scholarship examination. He travelled daily from Gunalda. It is not known when he left or commenced at Strathfield. He worked mainly at the Holy Spirit Provincialate, Manning WA.

**Br Harold John Gardiner**, born 26 June 1923. He completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1939 when he sat for the Junior examination. He commenced at Strathfield in 1940.

**Br Brian T. Crawford** (born 20 June 1931) completed schooling at CBC Gympie in 1946 when he sat for the Junior examination. He joined a bank before entering Strathfield.

**Br Alan Mooney** (born 27 November 1932) completed schooling in 1947 when he was dux of Junior Class. He entered St Edna's, Strathfield in 1948.

**Br Kevin Lynch** completed schooling in 1945 at CBC Gympie when he sat for the Senior examination. He entered Strathfield the following year.

**Br Noel Stallard** was born in Gympie on 3 January 1940. After his Convent days, he commenced at CBC Gympie in January 1948. He left school in November 1955 after completing Junior and commenced work in a bank before entering the Brothers in 1959.

**Br Francis Pottinger** was born 24 January 1939 and commenced at CBC Gympie in January 1950 and left after completing sub Junior in 1953.

**Br Peter Anthony Ellis** was born 15 January 1936. He commenced CBC Gympie in January 1951 in the Junior year which he completed and then entered St Edna's College in Strathfield in 1952.

**Br Denis Twomey** was born 19 December 1942. He commenced at CBC Gympie in January 1951 from the Convent and completed Junior in 1958. He entered Strathfield in 1959.

**Br Benedict Vincent Seng** (born 1 July 1937) commenced at CBC Gympie in January 1951. He completed Junior in 1953.

**Br James Sellen** (born 18 October 1941) commenced at CBC Gympie in October 1952 in Grade 5. He completed Junior in 1957.

**Br Michael Neville Poncini** (born 14 September 1955) commenced CBC Gympie in January 1963 from the convent. He sat for Junior in 1969.

**Br Christopher Joseph Tooley** (born 9 November 1955) commenced CBC Gympie in January 1963 from the Convent. He sat for the Junior examination in 1969.

**Br Anthony John O'Brien** (born 23 November 1954) commenced at CBC Gympie in 1967 in Grade 8.

**Br Vincent Roche** (born 3 October 1948) commenced at CBC Gympie in 1956 in Grade 3. He left at the end of 1958 and it is not known when he joined the Brothers.

**Br Edwin Alfred Neville** (born 24 September 1939) lived at Pialba and became a boarder at CBC Gympie in 1954. He sat for Senior 1957.

## *Early boys education in Gympie*

Until the Christian Brothers came, the education of older boys had been attended to by lay-teachers appointed by Dean Horan. For many years Johnny Bohan and assistants Mr Lou Grealy, Mr Jack Goodwin, Mr Mick O'Shea and at various times Misses Margaret Grealy, Polly Smith and Polly Neylan taught at the Catholic Boys School which was a wooden building parallel to Church Street, in front of the present Presbytery. The building had been the Church before the present St Patrick's was built.

The boys at this school would go to the Sisters of Mercy for religious instruction for the sacraments.

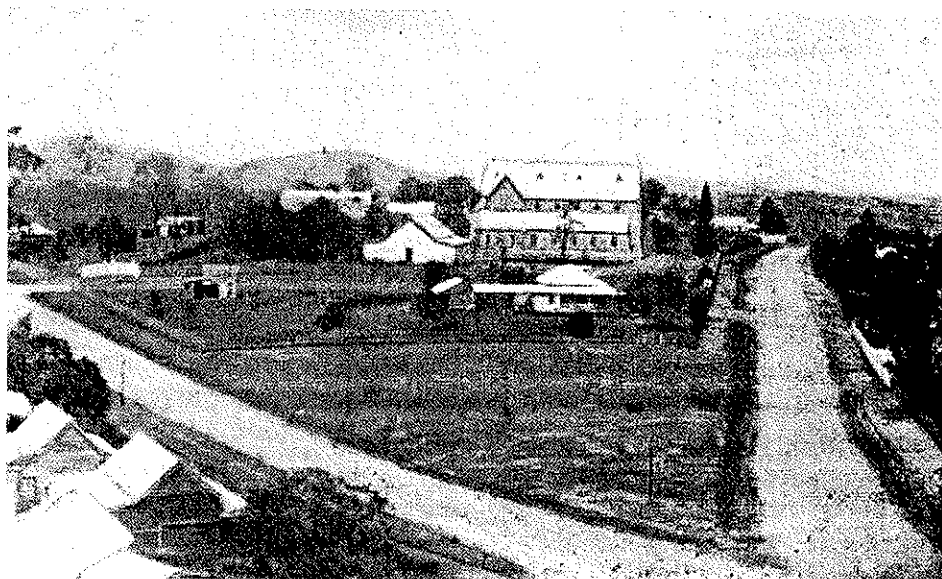
From 1899 Father Mathew Horan, Parish Priest of Gympie, had urged that the Christian Brothers take control of the Catholic Boys' school in the town. The exciting years of the gold rushes had passed and many miners had left the area for Charters Towers and more recently for Kalgoorlie in WA. However the primary production potential of the Mary Valley and other centres around Gympie ensured a satisfactory level of population.

## *Christian Brothers come to Gympie*

When it became necessary to close the Brothers' school in Albany WA, the provincial Br I.I. Mullen agreed to Father Horan's request in July 1903 that three Brothers would come to Gympie for the beginning of school in 1904. A suitable residence was to be built for the Brothers and a sum of £120 was to be paid for the travelling expenses of two Brothers from Ireland and a further £120 towards furnishing of the Brothers' residence.

An interesting part of the original agreement was that fees should be charged but no boy would be refused admission if that fee be not forthcoming and that the Parish Priest would pay the Brothers at the rate of sixpence per week for boys not paying fees.

The triangular area where all the Brothers' Schools were eventually built covers an area that was once Gympie's famous gas light running track conducted by Mr Rufe Nayler and on which such illustrious athletes as Arthur Postle competed.



*The original school of the Christian Brothers, in the Presbytery yard. This school had been moved from its site in front of the present Presbytery for the arrival of the Brothers*

These grounds were originally in two blocks. The 'square' block bounded by Church St, Calton Hill and Bligh St, together with a house which ultimately became the Brothers' first home, was purchased by a church committee from Mr G. Arnell for £300. Dean Horan, the then Parish Priest, purchased the adjoining triangular block from Mr Nugent Wade Brown for £400.

On 1 February 1904 the Brothers opened their school which was the original building moved nearer the convent fence. It was divided into three classrooms that were congested, poorly lit and with insufficient ventilation. The playground was in front of the school where the presbytery now stands.

The new Provincial, Br P.J. Barron, assisted at the opening ceremony. The principal was Br J.E. Murphy and Brothers X. Grist, A. Prunster and D. Joyce comprised the first community. The Provincial stayed in Gympie one week to help out.

Although the first principal was Br Murphy, our founding Principal was really to be Br Berchmans Tevlin who eventually took charge in July 1904. He was a man of considerable talents and later, in 1911, was to be the first principal of the Brothers' school in Townsville.

Some of Johnny Bohan's pupils followed him to another school he opened on the city side of Church Street. It is not known how long this school existed.

## *The first 25 years:*

*1904–1928*

### **Brothers who served in Gympie 1904–1928**

D. Joyce (1904–06)  
X. Grist (1904–06)  
A. Prunster (1904–06)  
G. Miller (1907)  
A. Kinnane (1907)  
R. Wexted (1908–12)  
A. Geraghty (1908–12, 1952–53)  
A. Brennan (1909–10)  
R. Dillon (1911–12)  
L. Carroll (1913)  
B. Attridge (1913–15)  
C. Brennan (1914)  
S. Quinlan (1914)  
M. Doran (1914)  
B. Lee (1915)  
G. Purtell (1916)  
G. Seagrave (1916–20)  
C. Mahoney (1916–19)  
A. Devanny (1917)  
J.N. Moore (1918–19)  
L. Kerrigan (1918)  
P. Lawless (1920)  
M. Shiels (1920)  
C. Carroll (1920–21)  
P. Egan (1921–23)  
R. Allen (1921–22)  
B. Redmond (1923–24)

L. O'Shea (1924)  
 H. Kemp (1924–26)  
 B. Jones (1924)  
 C. Desmond (1924)  
 P. O'Sullivan (1925–27)  
 I. Kerwick (1925)  
 J. Mullen (1927)  
 C. Williamson (1925)  
 P. Morris (1927–28)  
 D. Boland (1928–30)

## First-day pupils

The following is a list in alphabetic order of the 183 first-day pupils of the Christian Brothers when they took over the school on 1 February 1904. The first student was Dan Styles of Rifle Range Road.

BANFIELD, Clement  
 BEAUSANG, Richard  
 BENHAM, Henry  
 BISHOP, Albert  
 BISHOP, James  
 BRENNAN, Bernard  
 BRENNAN, John  
 BRENNAN, John  
 BRENNAN, William  
 BUCKLEY, William  
 BYRNE, Alphonsus  
 BYRNE, Roderick  
 CALLAGHAN, Patrick  
 CALLIGAN, William  
 CAREY, Thomas  
 CARTWRIGHT, John  
 CARTWRIGHT, William  
 CASEY, Leo  
 CASEY, Patrick  
 CASEY, William  
 CLAFFEY, Michael  
 CLANCY, Edward  
 CLANCY, James  
 CLANCY, John  
 COLWELL, Edward  
 COLWELL, James  
 COLWELL, Roy  
 CONDON, Michael  
 CONNOLLY, Bryan  
 CONNOLLY, Kevin  
 CORLEY, David  
 CRAWFORD, James  
 CRYAN, James  
 CRYAN, Thomas

CULLINANE, Chas  
 DALY, Andrew  
 DALY, James  
 DALY, John  
 DALY, Joseph  
 DAVIDSON, John  
 DAY, William  
 DILLON, John  
 DONOVAN, James  
 DONOVAN, John  
 DONOVAN, Patrick  
 DOWNEY, Norman  
 DUNLEA, Cornelius  
 DUNLEA, Jack  
 DUNNE, Edgar  
 DUNNE, Edward  
 DUNNE, John  
 DUNNE, Joseph  
 DUNNE, Joseph  
 DUNNE, Leonard  
 DWYER, Con  
 DWYER, Frank  
 DWYER, Michael  
 DWYER, Michael  
 DWYER, William  
 EGAN, Michael  
 ELLIOT, Charles  
 FITZPATRICK, Chas  
 FLYNN, John  
 FLYNN, Michael  
 GALVIN, Richard  
 GARTLAN, George  
 GARTLAN, Thomas  
 GIBB, Francis  
 GIERKE, John  
 GLEESON, John  
 GOREY, Michael  
 GOUGH, Alfred  
 GREALLY, Joseph  
 GREALLY, Marcus  
 GREGG, John  
 HANLON, Jack  
 HANNEY, Eric  
 HARTE, Bryan  
 HASSETT, E  
 HASSETT, William  
 HEALY, Mat  
 HICKEY, Michael  
 HILL, Jack  
 HOGAN, Michael  
 HORE, Bertie  
 HOURIGAN, Alfred  
 HOURIGAN, Michael

HOURIGAN, William  
 HUMPHREYS, Jack  
 JAMES, Frank  
 JAMES, Frank  
 JAMES, John  
 JOSEPHS, George  
 KEENAN, Patrick  
 KELIHER, John  
 KENNEDY, Jack  
 KENNEDY, Jack  
 LANE, Michael  
 LAVIN, Frank  
 LIDDY, Reginald  
 LONG, Thomas  
 LOUGHMAN, Edward  
 LOUGHMAN, Patrick  
 MacDONNELL, Val  
 McCAIG, Frank  
 McCORMACK, Cecil  
 McGUINNESS, Edward  
 McGUINNESS, Jack  
 McKENNA, Albert  
 McKENNA, Henry  
 McMAHON, Arthur  
 McMAHON, Edward  
 McNAMARA, James  
 McNAMARA, William  
 McSWEENEY, John  
 MACKAY, Jack  
 MANION, Jack  
 MANION, Thomas  
 MARTIN, I.  
 MAYNARD, Cyril  
 MEAGHER, David  
 MEAGHER, John  
 MEAGHER, Thomas  
 MEARA, Patrick  
 MEREDITH, William  
 METCALFE, Ernest  
 MINAHAN, John  
 MOHAN, John  
 MOORE, Thomas  
 MURDOCH, William  
 NOLAN, Norman  
 O'BRIEN, James  
 O'CALLAGHAN, Patrick  
 O'CONNOR, James  
 O'DONOGHUE, Michael  
 O'DONOGHUE, William  
 O'MALLEY, Albert  
 O'MARA, Bernard  
 O'MARA, Dan  
 O'MARA, William



O'NEILL, Phelim  
 OSTWALD, Joseph  
 POWER, Leonard  
 POWER, Noel  
 RAMSEY, Bernard  
 RAMSEY, Edmond  
 RANSON, Roy  
 RANSON, Victor  
 ROBERTS, Tom  
 RUSSELL, Charles  
 RUSSELL, Con  
 RUSSELL, John  
 RYAN, Esmond  
 RYAN, Hugh  
 RYAN, James

SHANAHAN, Con  
 SHANAHAN, Tom  
 SHEEHY, Christy  
 SHEEHY, Michael  
 SHERIDAN, James  
 SINCLAIR, William  
 SMITH, Bernard  
 SMITH, Jack  
 STARK, David  
 STEELE, Alan  
 STITT, Clifford  
 STITT, Vivian  
 SULLIVAN, John  
 SULLIVAN, Vincent  
 STYLES, Dan

STYLES, Denis  
 SWEENEY, Denis  
 SWEENEY, Michael  
 THOMAS, Harry  
 THOMAS, William  
 WILKIE, William  
 WILLIAMS, Chas  
 WILLIAMS, Henry  
 WILLIAMS, James  
 WRIGHT, Ernest  
 WRIGHT, Steve  
 WYNNE, Jack  
 WYNNE, Michael

## *School with the Christian Brothers*

The first shock the boys received at the new Christian Brothers School was an alteration in the timetable.

Under Mr Bohan: School started at 9.30 am; Play break was 11 am and Lunch was 12.30–2 pm. This long recess gave the boys time to 'go bush' in the plentiful scrub and to enjoy roasted potatoes and onions with bread and butter, or to go down to the river for a swim or a game of 'hares and hounds'. School terminated at 4 pm.

Under Br Murphy: School began at 9am. Lunch break was reduced by 30 minutes, but school finished at 3 pm. The half-hour off lunch was highly unpopular, but the early arrival home compensated.

The pattern of a Brothers school was quickly established. In November 1904, the boys gave their first concert and gymnastic entertainment — the forerunner of many such functions at the Olympia Theatre. The Brothers could not hire a suitable piano for choir practice so Father Horan went off to Brisbane without saying a word, paid £50 for a new piano and presented it to the Brothers.

## *Timeline*

### 1905

The first ladies committee was formed and organised a social, which raised £56 for the erection of a hand-ball court.

Four boys passed Sydney Junior University examination. One of these was Dormer Andrews, who secured a silver medal for Geography.

In this year the Brothers presented their first class for Junior, and it was then the succession of excellent examination results commenced.

### 1906

Four boys passed the Junior examination.

### 1907

Three boys passed the Junior examination.

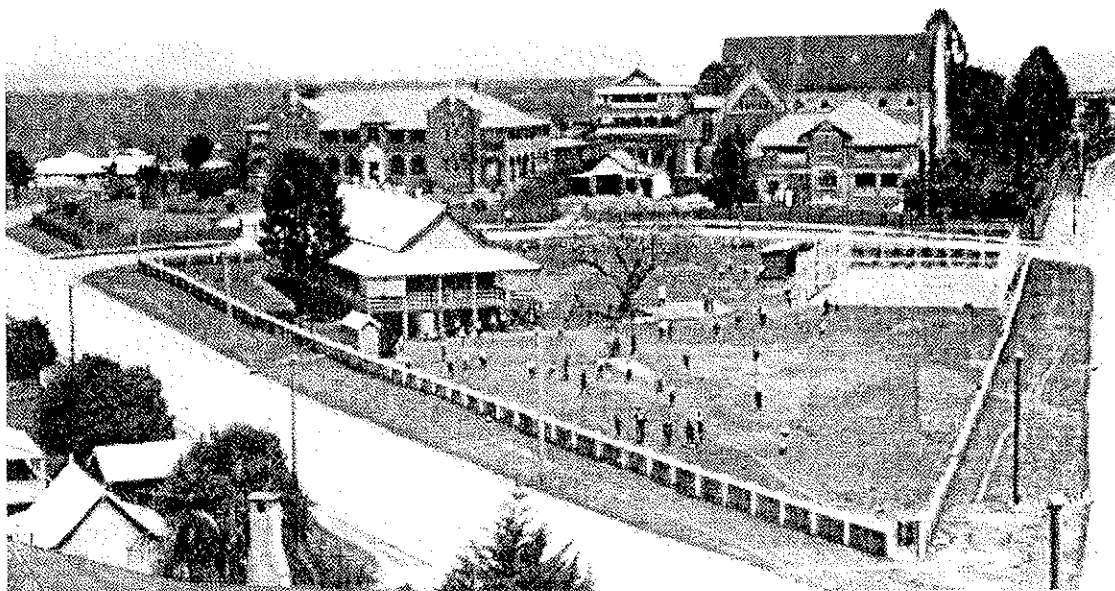
### 1908

Some of the pupils who commenced this year included: Frederic Carstens, Frank Moynihan, Thomas Sheehy, James Brennan, Frank Murdoch, Joseph Thompson, Denis Gallwey, Joseph Sellen, James Mead, Roy Gillespie, Joe Thompson, Ed Brushe, Thomas Ward, Francis Quinn, Kevin Heenan, R. Slattery, R. Williams, Bob Fraser, Paul Lynch, and Tim McDonnell.

### 1909

Some of the pupils who commenced this year included: Ibar Flore, James Rodney, James Williams, Peter Eagers, Andrew Hogan, Francis Hickey, Frank Sheridan, Matt Kileen, Chas Davison, Eric Durietz, Ivan Loveday, A. Vienian, James Ryan, Nat Dillon, William Douglas, Edward Eagers, Charles Koppe, Alan Burchell, Eric Loveday, Vivian Stitt, William McFarlane, George Stallard, Francis Byrne, Arthur McMahon, Lewis Dean, John McMahon, Vince

*In about 1910 the first school was transferred to the site shown here and raised on posts. This school lasted until 1938.*



Hanlan, Michael Daly, Edward Pollard, John McCormack, John Dunne, Alfred Tobin and Tim Dwyer.

## 1910

John Redmond and Joe Devlin visited the school. They were both members of the British parliament and leaders of the Irish national movement.

## 1911

Ivo Davison, Cyril Grealy, Evan Jones, Viv Liddy and James Williams sat for the Junior examination.

## 1912

Henry Galvin, James McGuinness, Nicholas Moynihan, Thomas Williams and Joseph Sheehy sat for the junior examination.

Henry Galvin became head of the Queensland Housing Commission.

Nicholas Moynihan was successful in the legal profession and a Supreme Court Judge.

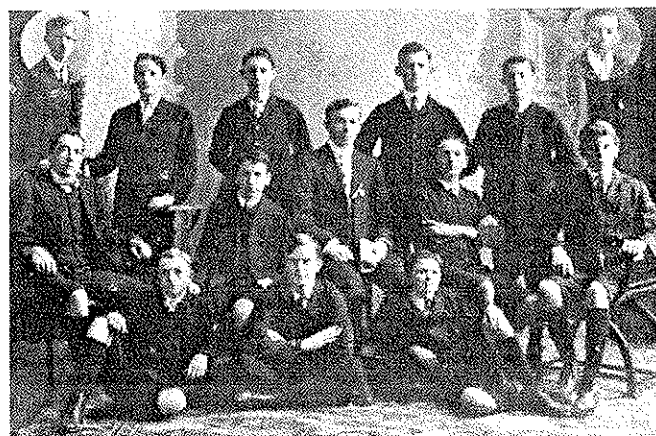
Joseph Sheehy became a well-known judge.

## 1913

This year began the Br Attridge period 1913–15. This remarkable man with unorthodox methods of teaching put Gympie Christian Brothers well on the way to fame in university results.

Br Attridge often spent a whole week's period on one subject until the pupils had absorbed the main fundamentals thoroughly. A pupil later said of Br 'Bede' Attridge — 'They acknowledge the debt owed to him, whose secret of success with pupils was self-sacrifice, hard work and example. He worked tirelessly for his boys and would tolerate no slacking on their part. Yet despite the leather in his pocket, we loved him.'

All the pupils who sat for Junior in 1912, apart from Joseph Sheehy, repeated in 1913. The best pass in Catholic schools in Queensland was that of Thomas E. Williams who won the Archbishop's prize.



**The class of 1913**

**Insets:** P. Grealy, J.F. McGuinness

**Back row:** T.F. Williams, J. Sheehy, V. Andrews, H.X. Galvin

**Middle row:** W.J. Bath, R. Dillon, N.J. Moynihan, J.N. Tennant, V. King

**Front row:** T. Bath, J. O'Donohue, L.J. Casey

## 1914

Viv Andrews, William Bath, Thomas Bath, Laurence Casey, Francis Casey, Reg Dillon, John Dunne, Virgil King, John O'Donohue, Thomas O'Connor and Jeremiah Sheehy sat for the Junior examination.

The school rugby league team defeated the High School side 61 to 0. The coach commented, 'Our boys were far too superior in play and dash, though matched as regards size.' The team later played a combined schools plus several teachers side and defeated them 29 to 5.

The Great War (World War I) commenced in this year and many past pupils joined the Australian Armed Forces.

## 1915

N. Andrews, J. Bath, J. Casey, T. Killeen, R. Kelly, P. McMahon, E. Moynihan, T. Waddell and W. Kelly sat for the Junior examination.

## 1916

Country boys attended for preparation for confirmation and 36 were confirmed. The following pupils sat for the Junior examination: Dan Davies, Viv Dunne, Richard Kelly, Tim Killeen, Francis Moynihan, Alfred Tobin and Thomas Waddell.

## 1917

Charles Arnell, John Cahill, Edward Connor, Dan Davies, William Davies, Patrick Gleeson, Daniel King, Jeremiah McSweeney, Cyril Muhldorff, James O'Regan, Eric Scateni and Alfred Tobin sat for the Junior examination.

## 1918

Past and present boys collected £21 for a chalice as a memorial for the old boys who lost their lives in World War I, which concluded in this year.

The Old Boys club was formed and their first annual dance was a huge success.

His Excellency, the Apostolic delegate, the Most Reverend Monsignor Cattaneo, visited the College.

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: C.R. Arnell, M. Bath, C.P. Dunlea, E.H. Goldburg, D. King, V.T. Moynihan, C.R. Muhldorff, E.G. Scateni. All passed.

## 1919

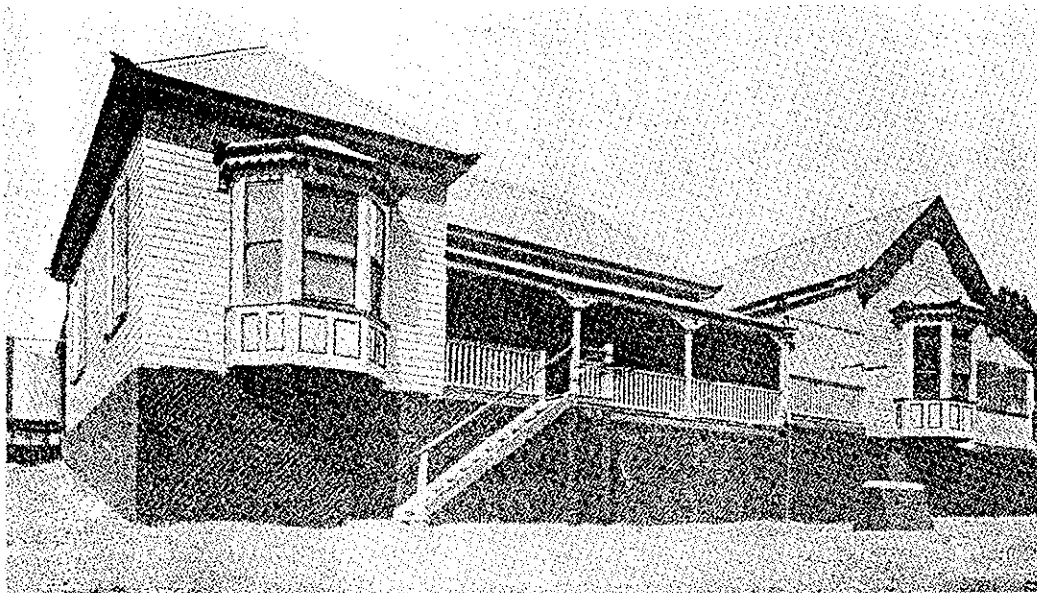
The school was closed for an indefinite period owing to an influenza epidemic. The following pupils sat for the Junior examination: Matthew Bath, Colin Dunlea, Gerald Maher, Leonard Moynihan, Mathew O'Brien, Leonard Roles and T. Smith.

## *Past pupils of CBC Gympie*

### *killed in action during World War I, 1914–18*

James Bocker		Church St, Gympie	KIA 25.10.1917	Aged 23
Thomas Joseph Carey	First Day pupil	Red Hill, Gympie	KIA 29.07.1916	Aged 23
Roy Colin Caston	Awarded Military Medal	Horseshoe Bend, Gympie	KIA 28.09.1917	Aged 24
Edward Bernard Dunne	First Day Pupil	Brisbane Rd, Monkland	KIA 28.09.1917	Aged 23
Patrick Joseph Fitzpatrick		Young St, Gympie	KIA 12.08.1918	Aged 28
Eric Letheindler Loveday		Mary St, Gympie	KIA 04.09.1916	Aged 19
Richard James Moore	Awarded Military Medal	Bent St, Gympie	KIA 03.10.1918	Aged 22
Patrick O'Callaghan	First Day Pupil	Inglewood Hill	KIA 28.10.1917	Aged 20
Noel Plunket Power	First Day Pupil	South Side	KIA 04.10.1917	Aged 24
Clifford John Stitt	First Day Pupil	Smyth St, Gympie	KIA 14.01.1917	Aged 24
Charles George Waller		Channon St, Gympie	KIA 13.04.1917	Aged 21

(We apologise for any errors or omissions. This list was obtained from the school admission details and *Roll of Honour Gympie and District 1914–1918*, compiled by Greg McGuire.)



*This house is believed to have been the second home of the Gympie Christian Brothers. The first was a small house on property purchased by the parish from Mr Arnell. The house pictured was the home of local surveyor, Mr Silas Harding, and situated lower down in the property. It served until 1921 when the Brothers moved into their home fronting Church Street.*

## 1920

The following pupils sat for the Junior examination: John Spencer Cartwright, Thomas Alexander Lusk, Leonard Basil Moynihan, Matthew O'Brien, Leonard Henry Riles. All passed.

## 1921

The Brothers moved into their new residence, for which the Old Boys club helped in the costs of erection, with a donation of £150.

Br C.L. Whiting, who was principal from 1915 to 1921, was a wonderful man. When he came to the school he took charge of the university class and for three years never knew what a failure was, being very successful with the civil service examinations. He was energy itself and

infused the same enthusiasm into the boys, both for schoolwork and sport.

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Gerald Jeremiah Maher, Myles Kennedy Toomey, and Leo John Williams. All passed.

## 1922

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Henry Joseph Benham, Eugene Aloysius McDonnell, John Valentine O'Donohue, and Myles Kennedy Toomey. All passed.

## 1923

Dean Matthew Horan, Parish Priest of Gympie since 1868, and great friend of the Brothers, died.



*School photo, 1927*



***Some CBC pupils from the late 1920s***

***Back row (L–R):*** Steve Buckley, Lionel Tobin, Bill Lergessner, Ted Gormley, Jim Kerley, Len Midgley, —, Mick Gablonski

***Middle row:*** —, Laurie Keogh, Theo O'Neill, Lester Gorley, Hugh McVay, Frank Abrahams, Max Dore, Kevin Nolan, Con Healy

***Front row:*** Kevin Quinlan, Bill Boland, Noel Dunne, Pat Donovan, Noel Lawson, Denver Murphy, Jeff Ryrie, Len McDonald

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Henry Joseph Benham, Bertel Henry Bundensen, Henry Charles Koppe, William Joseph O'Neill, John Valentine Patrick O'Donohue, Eric James Tennison, and James Michael Watson. All passed.

## 1924

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Herbert McNally, Vivian J. Owens and, John E. Spillane. Results are not known.

## 1925

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: James Lawson, Bernard McNally, and Bernard Smith. All passed.

## 1926

Only one boy sat for the Junior examination: Vincent Keliher. He passed.

## 1927

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Horace C. Batten, John A. Burke, John A. Ham and, Colin A. Jones. The results not known.

## 1928

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Gordon Batten, John Byrne, Joseph Deagin, Bernard Kehoe, Harold McNally, Francis Owens, Arthur Rice and William Lawson. All passed.

## *The second 25 years: 1929–53*

### **Brothers who served in Gympie (1929 to 1953)**

F. Peden (1929–30)  
J. Bradley (1930)  
F. Murphy (1931–33)  
C. O'Donnell (1931)  
M. McNamara (1931)  
C. Anglin (1932–34)  
C. Kinnaid (1932–33)  
B. Murphy (1934–35)  
B. Smith (1934)  
M. Rogers (1935–47)  
T. Barfield (1935–39)  
R. Bermingham (1936–42)  
T. Young (1937–38)  
B. Archer (1939–43)  
X. Hefferan (1940)  
M. Miller (1941–43)  
J. S. Madden (1937–38)  
C. Clarkson (1944)  
C. Gaspar (1944)  
E. Tuck (1944–45)  
H. Eaton (1945)  
A. Hehir (1945)  
H. Madden (1945)  
E. Raymer (1946)  
A. Keenan (1946)  
P. Dwyer (1946)  
M. Shortill (1947)  
B. Duffy (1947)  
T. O'Dwyer (1947–49, 1954–57)  
F. Monagle (1947–54)  
M. Hayes (1949–0)  
D. Cervetto (1949–52)  
V. Couch (1953–55)  
B. Flynn (1951–52)  
O. Robinson (1951)  
M. Adams (1952–53)  
M. Murray (1953–54)  
M. Byrne (1953)

### **1929**

On Monday 22 April, Archbishop James Duhig presided at a high mass celebrated in honour of the Brothers'

Silver Jubilee. He paid a fine tribute to the Brothers in an address entitled 'What is a Christian Brother?' Later that day at the Brothers' school, a concert was given by the pupils for the Archbishop, visiting and local clergy, Br J.B. Grace, Principal, other Christian Brothers and a large number of parents and friends. The Archbishop petitioned for a week's holiday and his request was duly approved, to the delight of many a young heart.

The following boys sat for the Junior examination: Arthur D. Rice and George C. Young. Both passed.

Joseph Deagin was dux of the College in the Silver Jubilee year.

### **1930**

A few old boys of the school got together and formed the Past Brothers Rugby League Football Club.

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: C.J. Curley, W.E. Lake, P.M. O'Brien, R. Piccinelli, E.L. Quinlan, and G.B.J. Young. All passed.

### **1931**

In the 1931 Gympie Rugby League competition the Brothers' Club supplied a third grade team.

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: Raymond Cartwright, James Crawford, Donald Gordon, Cyril Leach, Leonard Kehoe, Thomas Menagh, and Robert Piccinelli. All passed.

### **1932**

In the 1932 Gympie Rugby League competition the Brothers' Club had teams in all grades — Third grade, Junior and Senior. Teams from CBC and State High School played rugby league for the Thomas Cup for the first time. Result: 3 all.

Owing to the epidemic of infantile paralysis the school attendances until March were very small — all boys under 12 years were excluded until after the epidemic.

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: Vincent Benham, James Crawford, Gregory Kehoe, Gerard Quinlan, Colin Smith, Denis Spillane, and Wilfred Tobin. All passed.

### **1933**

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: James Crawford, David Dower, John James, Gregory Kehoe, Percival Meara, John McKenna, Gerard Quinlan, Thomas Reilly, and Colin Smith. All passed.

### **1934**

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: Morgan Howe, Patrick Kerley, Harold Poole, Colin Smith, and James Kevin Sorensen.

### **1935**

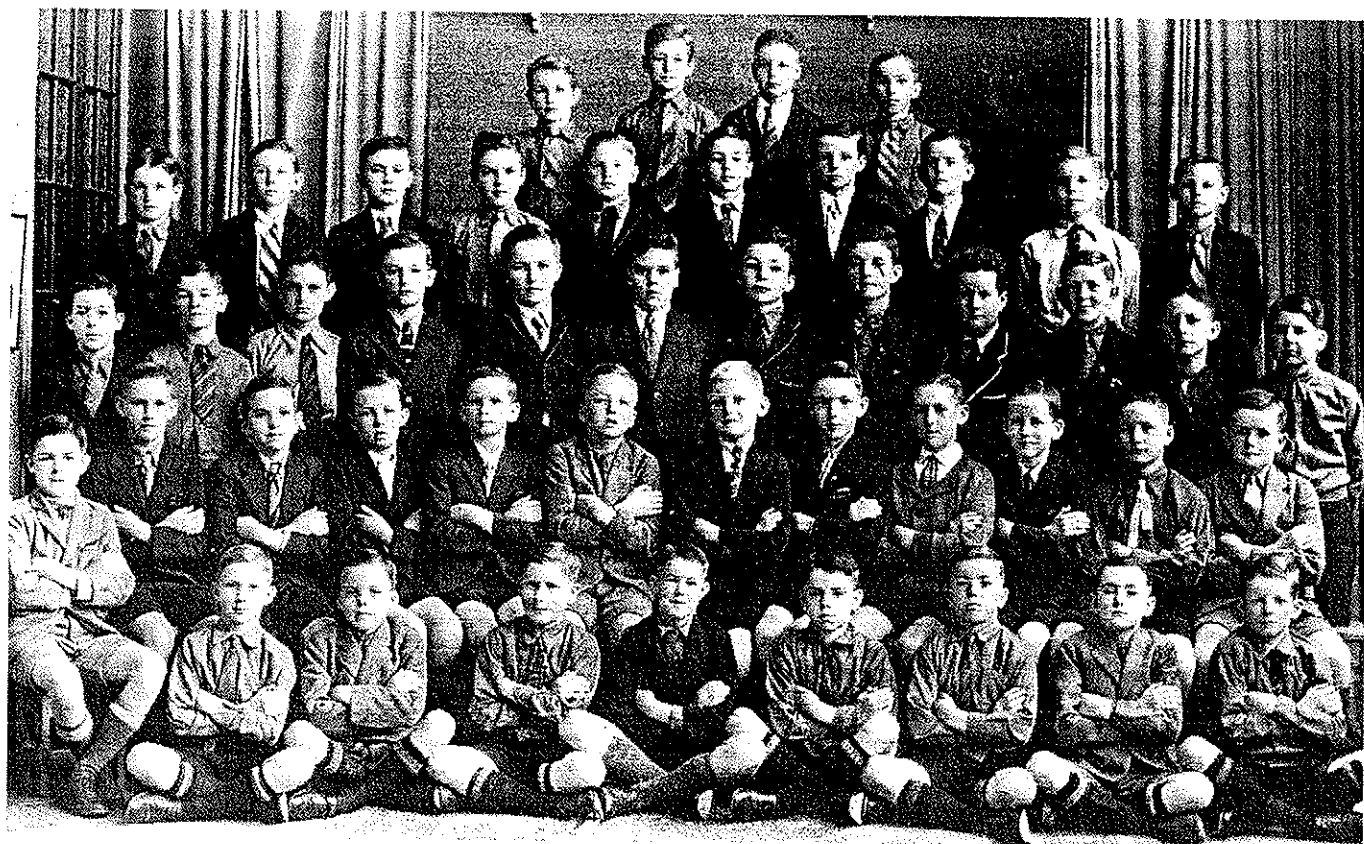
Br T. Barfield commenced as one of the staff that consisted of Br H.B. Wynne, Principal, Bros T.B. Murphy and T.M. Rogers. He taught the scholarship course and was involved in sporting activities. He was at St Laurence's College, South Brisbane in 1940 and returned to Gympie as Principal in 1941.

The very Rev. Dean M. Flynn, while recuperating at Noosa Heads, died in his sleep. The Brothers paid a wonderful tribute to a loyal and generous friend by having the superior of every house in the Archdiocese to act as pall bearers at his funeral.

The school won the Dr Morris Shield for primary athletics for the fifth time in succession.

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: Leonard Cartwright, Lester Corley, Francis Donovan, Maxwell Dore, Francis Eather, Alfred





*Class photo circa 1934*

*Back row: ? Daunt, K. White, D. Davies, Bernard Balkin*

*Fourth row: —, K. Lyden, L. Gill, E. Ryan, I. Gormley, —, W. Condon, L. Hudspeth*

*Third row: —, L. Dunne, R. McGeever, J. Williams, K. Bennett, Bill Johnson, T. Fitzpatrick, Arthur Abdy, Pat Honeyman, Kevin Major, —, J. Hibbert*

*Second row: —, M. Goldburg, Viv Nolan, B. Quirk, K. Andrews, V. Houghton, D. Bradford, F. Carver, —, J. Shannon*

*Front row: B. Byrne, W. Bushell, ? Carroll, J. O'Keefe, —, —, T. Condon, ? O'Neill, L. Symes*

Etheridge, James Kerley, Bernard Lynch, John Norman, Patrick O'Shea and, John Walsh. All passed. E.P. Donovan with seven As and three Bs obtained the Archbishop's prize for first place in Junior.

## 1936

School footballers won the Cullinane Shield outright.

Pupils who sat for the Junior examination: Leslie Cutler, Alfred Etheridge, Laurence Gillett, Angus Johnson, James Kerley, Francis Lawson, Terence Meehan, and Patrick O'Shea. All passed. L.T. Cutler achieved five As, three Bs and a C.

## 1937

On the feast of the Little Flower, Sunday 3 October 1937, the foundation stone for the new college was laid and this was the first step towards the realisation of the hopes and aspirations of the Brothers and parishioners over many years – the building of a more suitable college.

His Grace the Archbishop Dr James Duhig D.D. presided at one of the largest gatherings ever seen at a Catholic function in Gympie.

A collection on the occasion amounted to £1600. The boys' donation was 50 guineas.

The bricks used to build the new college were brought from Brisbane by train where they were unloaded by hand onto trucks by parishioners, pupils and friends. They were taken to the college site and again unloaded by hand. It is not known how many loads were carried out, but it must have been very hard work.

The following pupils sat for the Junior examination: Thomas Brady, Denis Buckley, John Gamble, Leonard Gill, Milton Goldburg, Glen Hielscher, Angus Johnson, James Lynch, Kevin Major, Bernard Murphy, John Murray, Raymond Neill, Vivian Nolan, Terence O'Callaghan, Edward O'Rourke, Denis O'Shea, Edward Ryan, Joseph Wagner, and Kevin White.

## 1938

The Prime Minister, Joseph Lyons visited the College.

The following pupils sat for the Junior examination: Brian Byrne, Keith Fraser, Leonard Gill, Keith Goldberg, Leo Hearn, Glen Hielscher, Patrick Honeyman, Harold Jocumsen, Francis MacDonald, Bernard Murphy, Leonard Murphy, Raymond Neill, Kevin O'Neill, Edward Ryan, Joseph Wagner, Kevin White, and Herbert Murray. All passed. R.J. Neill and K.J. White each achieved five As, three Bs and two Cs.

## Opening of the new college, 17 July 1938

On the occasion of the opening and blessing of the brick college by Archbishop James Duhig, Old Boys from near and far returned to pay tribute in a spontaneous way to their old school and their masters, as well as the 'creator' of the new College, Monsignor Molony.

The day saw a display of solidarity and devotion to a school that had never before been seen in Gympie and has never since been repeated. On that great day over 150 'Old Boys' journeyed by special train from Brisbane and marched from the Gympie railway station to the College, led by the local citizens band, arriving to tumultuous applause of hundreds of parishioners and their friends who had gathered for the opening ceremony.

It was certainly a great day for Msgr Molony, the Christian Brothers of Gympie and the parishioners of Gympie and district.

The new College was dedicated to St Theresa, the Little Flower. The blessing and opening ceremony began with solemn pontifical high mass at 10 am.

At 2.15 pm a procession of children and sodalities, followed by visiting and local clergy marched from the church around the college grounds to the front entrance where the blessing ceremony was performed by his Grace, Archbishop Duhig, who also erected a crucifix in one of the classrooms. The official opening followed.

In the official party were many priests and visiting Brothers, including the Brother Provincial, Br M.B. Hanrahan, the superior of the Brisbane and Maryborough Houses, and Br Anselm Geraghty, one of the early members of the local Community and its Superior in 1924–25. Attending the Archbishop were Msgr McCarthy (Maryborough) and Msgr McKenna (Clifton). Visiting priests included Fathers T. O'Connor (Cathedral), F. O'Connell (Clayfield), T. Ahearne (Windsor), P. Meanagh (St Leo's), J. Prout (Kangaroo Point), N. Jordan (Nundah), J. Cullen (Murgon) and P. O'Hare (Fortitude Valley).

Msgr Molony gave an account of the finances and tendered his sincere thanks to all concerned in any way with the undertaking.

The Mayor (Ald L.J. Thomas) welcomed the Archbishop and visiting Priests, Brothers and Old Boys and complemented the Monsignor and his co-operators on the construction of the new school.

Archbishop Duhig eulogised the work of the Brothers and congratulated the Monsignor, the Catholic people of Gympie and the Brothers on their faith in undertaking such a magnificent work. He thought that apart from the boarding schools it was the finest building they had in Queensland.

The Superior, Br Basil Wynne, made reference to the number of Old Boys from all parts who were present on that special day. He hoped that the products of the new would be as successful and as staunch as those of the old.

Mr M. Hickey, representing the Gympie Old Boys, and Mr. M.J.P. Kelly, representing the Old Boys' Association of Brisbane, also spoke. Msgr McKenna made an appeal for funds, and by the end of proceedings £2228 had been contributed — a record for any collection of a similar kind in the town.

His Grace was thanked by Br Hanrahan, supported by Dr A.E. Kelly.

The official House chronicler wrote:

*'A word of appreciation is due to the Monsignor. He showed princely generosity in all things connected with the College and gave the Brothers a free hand in every way. Despite the great additional expense he agreed to the inclusion of the basement and saw that only the best was provided in furnishings and fittings. The finished article is something of which he can be just proudly and he has fittingly dedicated the College to St Theresa, the Little Flower, to whom he has great devotion.'*

The chronicler continued:

*'Much of the success of the undertaking is due to the inspiration and untiring efforts of the Superior, Br H.B. Wynne. He was able to secure the wholehearted co-operation of Priests and people and through his organising ability, the various functions connected with the College ran without a hitch. He saw to it that the plans and detail connected therewith were to the satisfaction of the Brothers and the new College stands as a monument to his zeal and enthusiasm.'*

## 1939

This years saw the start of the tragedy and privations of the Second World War, when hundreds of our Old Boys were called upon to defend their country, both at home and

abroad, several of whom made the supreme sacrifice, and when, on the home front, the routine of schooling was interrupted for reasons of security. However, the credits of this period far outweigh the debits, and it must be considered an integral part in the successful saga of the Christian Brothers' College in Gympie.

Br Francis Murphy, the first superior, passed away in Brisbane (1904 Jan to July, then from 1931-33 as Sub-Superior). He was very successful in getting boys back from state schools. Considering his age, he was an avid hiker and was often seen on the country roads over 10 miles from Gympie. He is remembered with great affection by many.

A troop of the Catholic boy scouts was formed, through the efforts of the Legion of Mary. Their headquarters for many years was located at Pilchers Hill. This was close to where the 'space ship' water tower now stands at Old Maryborough Road/Parsons Road. The scout grounds are now covered with houses.

Fourteen boys sat for the Junior examination and all passed: Brian Byrne, Charles Carroll, Leslie Davies, Harold Gardner, Leonard Gill, Francis

McDonald, Brian Miller, Herbert Murray, John Nolan, Brian Quirk, Thomas Smith, Richard Walker, William White and Patrick Honeyman. R.E. Walker received six As, two Bs and one C. Five boys passed the railway clerkship with J.E. Nolan getting first place.

H.J. Gardner left to join the Christian Brothers.

### 1940

A 'Paddys Market' together with a number of small functions, were held to raise funds for the erection of a new fence around the College. This realised £100.

Seventeen boys sat for the Junior examination. Eleven passed and six failed: John P. Clancy, J.L. Carroll, K.J. Condon, Noel W. Brown, Marcus T. Dower, Brian C. Henderson, Gerard P. James, Patrick C. McKenna, Denis G. Murphy, John P. Murphy, Sidney E. Murray, Owen J. O'Donohue, Paul Kevin O'Gorman, Brian J. Quirk, John P. Stewart, Noel E. Walsh, and Donald J. Weir.

### 1941

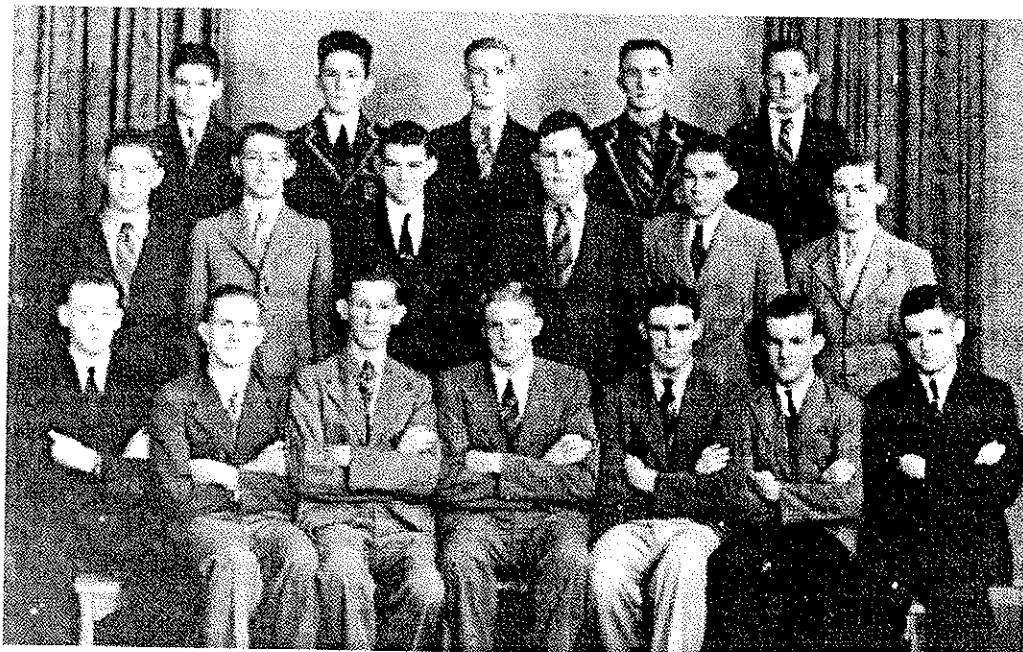
Nineteen boys sat for the Junior examination. Seventeen passed and two failed. P.J. Allan, L.P. Barlow, N.W. Brown, P.T. Carroll, B.E. Claffey, K.J. Condon, R.E. Cork, M.T. Dower, B.C. Henderson, L.J. Kelly, J. Lake, D.E. Meehan, C.J. Niesler, V.E.S. Nolan, E.V.J. O'Rourke, E.J. Readdy, C.H. Soanes, K.J. Soanes, B.E. Tooley. L.J. Kelly received five As and four Bs.

### 1942

On account of the war situation, schools in the district did not re-open at the usual time. Those on the coastal belt were closed indefinitely by Government order.

In order to keep the classes together, a system of correspondence was instituted whereby a few boys at a time came to the Brothers' house on appointed days and received work for the ensuing week. This was returned for correction on the following week, and a new assignment allocated.

Eventually the school was re-opened after certain facilities were provided as a protection against air raids. Several hundred feet of slit trenches were dug in the College and Convent grounds by the Brothers, pupils and



### *Junior Class, 1942*

*Front row: J. Cranney, P. Robinson, J. Vagg, J. Gardner, D. White, T. Higgins, K. Griffiths.*

*Second row: C. Niesler, J. Quinn, M. Miller, K. Julius, K. Tramacchi, F. O'Rourke.*

*Back row: D. Kelly, W. Lenane, B. O'Donohue, G. Johnston, F. Lake.*



**Junior Class, 1943**

**Sitting:** Vince Smith

**Front row:** Stan Hudspeth, Kev Murphy, Dan White, Frank Lake, Geoff Traill.

**Second row:** Kevin Fitzpatrick, Roy O'Neill, George Scott, Noel Maguire, Jim Stewart, Ray Murray.

**Back row:** Pat Nolan, Adam Morrison, Mark Olsen, Denis Long, Brian Griffin

parents. A night shelter was provided for the Sisters and Convent boarders in the basement of the CBC Building. This shelter was also for the use of younger boys during any daytime raids. School hours were staggered to prevent large numbers of children being together at any one time. Four classes attended for a half-day only — seconds and fourths in the morning and thirds and fifths in the afternoon.

There were many troops in the district and it was decided to set up a branch of the Catholic United Services Auxiliary. The library room in the College was the most convenient place and it was selected for the purpose. The troops used it as a meeting room, tea room and dance hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights and all day on Sundays.

During the last five months of the year, classes were conducted twice weekly in the college for Air Force reservists. These young fellows were from the local military camps waiting to be called up by the RAAF. They had been attending the Air Training Corps classes and found them so unsatisfactory that the Brothers were requested to take over the classes. There was an average class of 20 doing maths and physics and at levels ranging from sixth class to Senior, making the work more difficult. Reports were sent regularly to their headquarters in Brisbane and all of them were called up during December.

The people of Gympie rejoiced at the return of Br T. Barfield (previously in Gympie 1935-39) as principal.

Br Leonard Whiting, who was principal of CBC Gympie from 1915-21 passed to his eternal reward. He had done such great work among the boys that his had become a

household name with Catholics and non-Catholics alike. A memorial to him, a shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, was placed in the College.

In this year the Jordan Shield for athletics was contested for the first time between Gympie, Maryborough and Bundaberg Christian Brothers Colleges. Bundaberg beat Gympie by one point with Maryborough third.

Eighteen boys sat for the Junior examination. Sixteen passed and two failed. J.J. Cranney, J. Gardner, K.S. Griffiths, T. Higgins, G.E. Johnson, K.E. Julius, D.E. Kelly, J.E. Lake, W.M. Lenane, M.E. Miller, C.J. Niesler, B.M. O'Donohue, F.V. O'Burke, A.P. Quinn, P.T. Robinson, K.D. Tramacchi, J.S. Vagg and, D.J. White. D.J. White received seven As and two Bs.

## 1943

As was to be expected, most of our ex-pupils went into one of the military forces as soon as they reached the required age, most of them to the Air Force.

This was the first year boys attending this college sat for the senior examination. They were R.E. Cork and V.E. Nolan and although only one passed they both won teachers' college scholarships.

Twelve boys sat for the Junior examination: J.W. Cartwright, B.E. Goldberg, K.S. Griffiths, T. Higgins, K. Hughes, E.D. Jones, R.E. Julius, G.E. Kelly, K.E. Kerley, K. Lynch, G.G. Meadows, and A.E. Slade. The following boys obtained excellent passes — J.W. Cartwright, K.E. Kerley and K. Lynch all obtained seven As and two Bs.

## Past pupils of CBC Gympie killed in action during World War II, 1939–45

### Army

Kevin Corley	KIA 1 July 1942	Crown Rd, Gympie	Aged 31
Patrick Joseph Dwyer	KIA 2 March 1945	Elizabeth St, Gympie	Aged 25
John Francis Walsh	KIA 1 June 1942	Henry St, Gympie	Aged 22

### Air Force

Hugh Edward Burridge	KIA 18 August 1943	Greens Creek via Gympie	Aged 22
John Gamble	KIA 30 August 1943	Mellor St, Gympie	Aged 21
Benjamin Francis O'Neill	KIA 2 March 1945	Bligh St, Gympie	Aged 35
Colin James Corley	KIA 14 September 1941	Mt Pleasant Rd, Gympie	Aged 26
Brian Arthur Kelly	KIA 1 September 1943	Lady Mary Terrace, Gympie	Aged 20
Charles Dermott Kelly	KIA 19 August 1942	Lady Mary Terrace, Gympie	Aged 25

We apologise for any errors or omissions. This list was obtained from school admission details and *Cooloolo Remembers 1939–45* compiled by Diane Kay.

### 1944

His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate, the Most Rev. D.J. Pancio visited the College. He had come to Gympie to interview Italian prisoners of war who were working in the Gympie district.

Fifteen boys sat for the Junior examination: Thirteen passed and two failed: K.B. Fitzpatrick, B.H. Griffin, S.J. Hudspith, D. Long, N.V. Maguire, A. Morrison, R. Murphy, R. Murray, P.T. Nolan, P.M. Olsen, R.J. O'Neill, G.T. Scott, V. Smith, G.A. Stewart, and G.J. Traill.

Two boys sat for the Senior examination — E.J. Lake and D.J. White.

### 1945

It was on the feast of the Sacred Heart in June 1945, that Msgr Molony, St Patrick's Parish priest, bought 'Braeside', formerly a private hospital and nursing home, and one adjoining home, for the establishment of what was to become the Sacred Heart Boarding School. Msgr Molony had had envious eyes on the Bligh Street building for some time before the hospital property came on the market, and he eagerly grasped the opportunity, when it arose, and acquired it for £1500. Tenants were Messrs Sherran and Ryan. He also bought the adjoining property from Mr P. Walsh.

Conversion of the buildings took a long time, but was subsequently accomplished by Mr Mick Grinke (builder) to plans prepared by Mr Frank Cullen AFIA.

The boarding school idea came about because at least 20 country boys were boarding in Gympie and attending the college so they could obtain a Catholic education.

The college athletic team won the Jordan Shield for the first time.

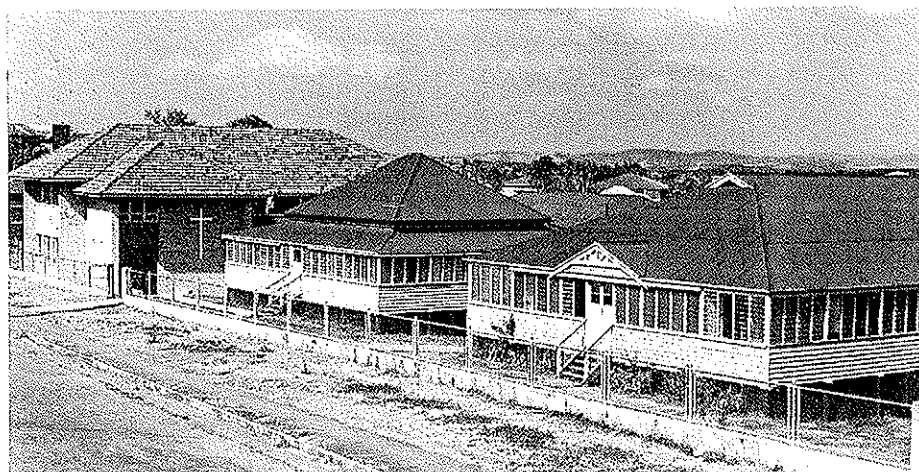
Nineteen boys sat for the Junior examination and all passed: L. Dillon, D.J. Doyle, G.A. Gardner, B.R. Hourigan, D. Israel, B.K. Jensen, K.D. Kirby, V. Lynch, L.A. Meara, B.T. Murphy, R.J. Murray, A.W. Morrison, E.E. McGrath, P.B. McKenna, N.W. O'Connell, G.T. O'Donohue, C.O. Pearce, N.V. Poncini, and N.J. Soanes. E.E. McGrath achieved eight As and one C, V. Lynch six As, one B and two Cs, and L.A. Meara seven As, two Bs and one C.

Three boys sat for the Senior examination and all passed — J.W. Cartwright, K.E. Kerley and K. Lynch. (Jack Cartwright became a well-known Gympie solicitor and Kevin Kerley and Kevin Lynch joined the Christian Brothers.)

Kev Lynch won honours in every sport — athletics, football, swimming and cricket and he later coached these sports in many Catholic schools.

The year saw the end of the Second World War.





Sacred Heart Boarding College

## 1946

The First XIII rugby league team (coached by Br T.T. O'Dwyer) was unbeaten.

Eleven boys sat for the Junior examination and all passed: B.J. Crawford, B.J. Daly, E.C. Gilbert, B.R. Hourigan, K.J. McKenna, K.W. Mooney, N.E. Pearce, J.W. Stallard, R.S. Trail, and J.P. Wilson.

B.R. Hourigan achieved five As, two Bs and a C.

No boys sat for Senior.

## 1947

The college magazine *The Gympian* was first published

The athletic team tied with Maryborough in the Jordan Shield to defeat Bundaberg.

Br K.B. O'Farrell commenced his tenure as principal. The roll call was smaller than he was used to but so was the number of Brothers who taught classes from lower primary to senior. They totalled six with Br Hickey, an old man, supervising the boarders. The first boarders started in this year. First night boarders were Fabian and Marius Webb, Pat, Ron, Brian and Leo Langton, Keith and Brian Elliott and their uncle Cyril, Vincent Clarke (The First Arrival), Tim Carmody, Vince Schultz.

Another 18 boarders arrived on Monday and school began on Tuesday.

The boarding school meant more work for the Brothers — supervision of games, showers, meals and night study. The first boarders were a happy, friendly group who gave little trouble and fitted in well with the day boys.

Matron Byrne, who had run 'Braeside' when it was a private hospital, came for the first couple of months to get things started — then came Mrs Mahon, Mrs Moore, Mrs Keliher, Mrs Hodgkinson, Mrs Corbett and finally Mrs Watson.

It should be recorded of the schools' appreciation of their devoted efforts on behalf of the boys.

The First XIII rugby league side was again successful under coach Br T.T. O'Dwyer.

A tuckshop under the school started on a modest scale.

Eleven boys were in the Junior class and only ten sat for the Junior examination with one failing: J.D. Condon, B.H. Court, J.P. Draheim, B.R. Elliott, J.D. Hearn, P.R. Long, C.D. Lundh, A.J. Mooney, E.B. Webb, W.D. Wynne, and B.R. Dunning.

Two boys sat for the Senior examination — Leonard A. Meara and Adam W. Morrison.

## 1948

The sports oval at the rear of the Boarding establishment became a reality after levelling out of a mullock heap and adjoining ground by Thiess Bros.

Before the topsoil went down, hundreds of tons of sawdust was carted from a sawmill at Stewart Terrace and dozens of parishioners and students spread it by hand. This was followed up by the building of the tennis courts, again with a great amount of voluntary labour.

On the 31 July 1948 Archbishop James Duhig officially blessed and dedicated the Boarding School and oval to the Sacred Heart. The Sacred Host was carried from the Church in procession to the oval where the Archbishop performed Benediction.

Principal of the college Br K.B. O'Farrell, said that the Boarding School had actually come into existence in 1947 and that most of the hard foundation work was carried out by his predecessor Br F.M. Rogers — there were 40 boarders at the start of school this year.

On the site of these buildings and oval, a miner named Hanlon had hit a rich strike of gold and was so pleased

with his endeavours that he had presented Dean Horan with sufficient money to build the convent free of cost.

This year also saw the start of summer schools that for two weeks provided Catholic education for country boys. Two of the Brothers would come back from holidays to run these schools.

The athletic team won the Jordan Shield beating Maryborough and Bundaberg.

The First XIII rugby league team again had great success under coach Br T.T. O'Dwyer.

Seven boys sat for the Junior examination with two of them failing: K.R. Elliott, D.T. Flynn, J.A. Griffiths, J.M. Lally, G.J. Lawrence, N.L. Smith and, M.P. Webb. J.A. Griffiths obtained five As and three Bs.

No one sat for Senior.

## 1949

There were 50 boarders by the end of this year and that made it possible to have classes up to Senior.

The college entered the First XIII rugby league team in the Gympie Rugby League third grade competition with coach Br T.T. O'Dwyer.

Although affiliated with the Gympie Rugby League through the Past Brothers' RLFC (who helped in purchasing all the players' gear), the college team would be called Present Brothers. They did very well in their first year playing against much older players.

In the schools competition they defeated Maryborough and Bundaberg and played a very entertaining drawn series against the High School. Team members were: Bob Pearce, Ken Murray, Terry McMahon, Gerry Niesler, Fred Streets, Bevin Barsby, Tom Lehane, Ron Hinds, Brian Claffey, Vince Johnson, Berard Webb, Jim Connors, Kev Murphy, Joe Moore and Brian Murray.

Br O'Dwyer also entered the first XI in the Gympie Cricket Association third grade competition to secure more competitive sport for the boys.

Nine boys sat for the Junior examination and all passed: B.A. Claffey, R.M. Dionysius, T.D. Lehane, C.N. McCormick, T.P. McMahon, B.J. Moore, K.J. Murphy, B.P. Murray and, K.G. Murray.

## 1950

The college boys were extraordinarily successful in sport:

- They won every trophy in the public school sports. The athletic team also won the Jordan Shield. Gympie



**Class photo, 1950**

**Back row:** D. Davies, P. Brennan, B. Pask, J. Peet, D. Doyle, I. Duffy, F. Fitzpatrick, K. Smith, R. Ward, T. Malynn, M. Henry  
**Third row:** B. Sheppard, R. Messer, T. Davies, B. Daunt, J. Davies, D. Fish, R. McBride, J. O'Neil, J.A. McDonald, R. Sullivan, P. Dwyer  
**Second row:** J. Scott, T. Bagnell, M. Wells, R. Stephens, C. Mossman, S. Raabe, D. Sorenson, M. Rowlands, J. Margetts, N. Ryan, R. Elmer  
**Front row:** P. Lourigan, V. Brennan, M. Rowlands

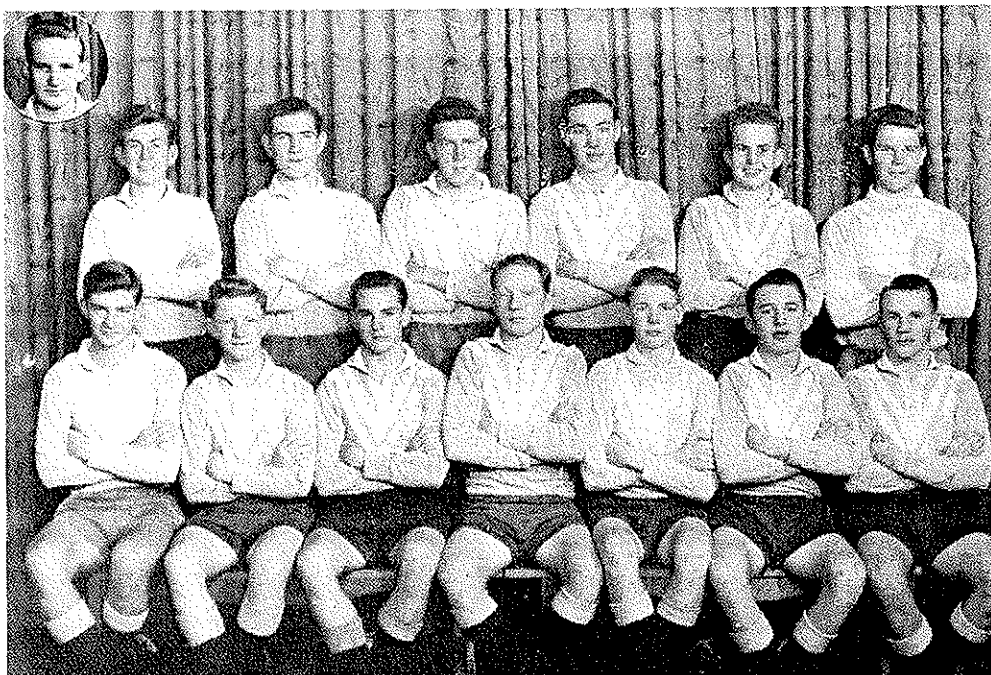
**First XIII / Present Brothers,  
1951**

**Back row:** Con Mahoney (fullback), Bob Pearce and Kev Murphy (front rowers), Gerry Niesler (lock), John Hourigan (centre), Berard Webb (reserve)

**Front row:** Bev Barsby (hooker), Leo Lehane (halfback), Des Tramacchi (winger), Ron Hinds (capt., five-eighth), Tom O'Rourke (second rower), Keith Wallace (winger), Denis Conway (second rower),

**Inset:** Fred Streets (vice-capt., centre)

**Reserves:** Vince Johnson, Jim Connors, Joe Moore, Brian Murray, Francis Hourigan, Bryce Sealy and Frank Duncan.



scored more points than the other two teams combined: Gympie 139½, Maryborough 70½, Bundaberg 61½

- The First XI competing in the Gympie Cricket Association competition won the 1949/50 third-grade premiership.
- The First XIII rugby league side was the best the college had had to date. Under coach Br B.V. Couch's guidance they did not lose a game against Maryborough or Bundaberg Brothers or the Gympie High School and they also won the Gympie Rugby League third-grade premiership being undefeated. That in itself was a great effort as the college boys ages ranged from 14 to 16 years while some players in the opposition sides were in their 20s.

Twenty-two boys sat for the Junior examination, the largest number to date. All but one passed: R.J. Abdy, A.J. Adcock, B.C. Amies, B.C. Barsby, A.N. Connors, D.J. Conway, C.E. Elliot, I.V. Frizzo, R.A. Hinds, J.A. Hourigan, E.C. Hourigan, N.A. Johnson, L.R. Lehane, J.B. Loth, T.J. Mahon, C.A. Mahoney, G.Niesler, T.S. O'Rourke, R.A. Pearce, V.M. Schultz, H.A. Stallard, F.B. Streets. H.B. Stallard achieved five As, two Bs and a C.

## 1951

The Superior General of the Christian Brothers' Order, Very Rev. Br E.E. Clancy visited the college.

Ten boys sat for the Junior examination and only one failed: B.E. Clements, E.F. Duncan, P. Ellis, V.T. Johnson, I.D. Johnston, B.V. Meara, B.R. Sealey, A.G. Waldock, K.B.

Wallace, B.S. Webb. I.D. Johnson obtained seven As, one B and one C.

Two boys sat for the senior examination and both passed: B.J. Moore and K.J. Murphy.

The First XIII rugby league side under coach Br B.V. Couch performed reasonably well considering it was almost a new team as compared to 1950 — Berard Webb, Bryce Sealey and Frank Duncan all played well.

The First XI cricket team performed well with Graham Johnson an outstanding prospect.

## 1952

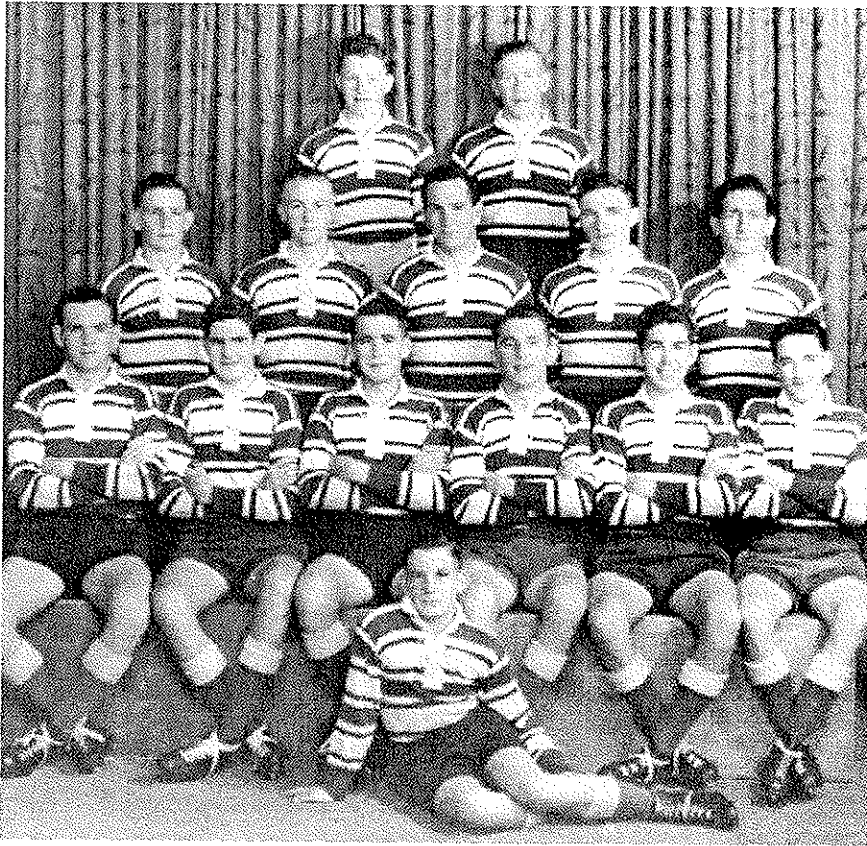
Rev. Br K. B. O'Farrell known to his students as 'Bumper' finished his tenure as principal of CBC Gympie that he had begun in 1947. He was an excellent teacher and made sure all boys were involved in sport.

Two Chinese boys Iu Kam and Iu Wah from Hong Kong were permitted to enter Australia as students and so enrolled at CBC Gympie as boarders. Their sister Iu Mui was a boarder at St Patrick's.

There were 60 boarders, which was the capacity, and there were 221 students enrolled at the college, which was also the maximum.

A new syllabus prescribed by the Department of Education saw the scholarship class become known as Grade VIII. Therefore primary classes at the college were Grade III to Grade VII.

The Christian Brothers order was 150 years old.

**First XIII, 1953**

Undefeated Premiers GRL — Winners of Police Shield, Premiers Cup, Minor Premiers Cup, Points for: 374. Points against: 18.

**Back row:** B.L. Keenan, T.T. Keliher.

**Second row:** C.J. Mills, G.F. Wigan, N.F. Punter, G.R. Streets, T.P. Mills.

**Front row:** B. Stirling, H.G. Hourigan, E.F. Duncan (Captain), K.B. Wallace

(Vice-Captain), S.J. Mahoney, N.P. Daly.

**Sitting:** J.T. Condon.

Staff for 1952: Br O'Farrell, Br Cervetto, Br Geraghty, Br Monagle, Br Couch, Br Flynn, Br Adams.

The College made history by taking part in a swimming carnival against Maryborough and Bundaberg Brothers at the Maryborough Baths with our boys having learnt their craft at 'The Sands' in the Mary River.

Br B.V. Couch again coached the First XIII rugby league team. Although they did not win the GRL Third Grade Premiership they did beat the High School to win the Police Shield. In the GRL awards for that year, Best and Fairest Third Grade player was Frank Duncan; Most Improved Third Grade player, Brian Sterling; and the Footballers sprint all grades was won by Keith Wallace.

Ten boys sat for the Junior examination and only one failed: P. Barnard, P.M. Bradshaw, B.P. Bulley, B.J. Connors, D.J. Horton, G.T. Kunst, B.L. Lehané, G.E. Mannine, P.J. Stallard, B. Stirling.

Three boys sat for the Senior examination: B.C. Amies, A.J.N. Connors, C.E. Elliot. One failed.

**1953**

Mrs Moore, on doctors orders, resigned as Matron of the boarding school, a position she had held for six years.

The First XIII rugby league team won the GRL Third Grade Premiership beating Wanderers 39 to 5 with Brian Stirling scoring three tries and kicking seven goals. Coach was Br B.V. Couch.

Dux of the college: Ian Johnston

Twenty-one boys sat for the Junior examination. Only one failed. N. Daly, N. Flynn, N. Graham, P. Ham, H. Hourigan, R. Ireland, B. Kennan, T. Keliher, L. Langton, J. Mahoney, I. McInnes, J. McInnes, T. Mills, J. O'Neill, P. Pottinger, N. Punter, W. Rowlands, B. Seng, K. Stapleton, A. Valentine, G. Wigan. N. Daly, P. Ham, I. McInnes and G. Wigan all achieved five As.

Three boys sat for the Senior examination — E. Duncan, I. Johnson and K. Wallace.

The Christian Brothers had now completed 50 years of their work in Gympie.

## *The final 29 years, 1954-82*

### Brothers who served in Gympie, 1954-82

Br T.T. O'Dwyer (1954-57; 1971-76; 1977 (six months); 1978 and 1981-82); E. Cumming (1956-58); B. Matthews (1956); P.E. Connole (1956-58); G. O'Kane (1957-58); J.L. Loth (1957-61); J.G. Gladwin (1957-62); C. McCarthy (1958); A. Walker (1959-61); Q. Davidson (1959); S. Croitan (1959); C. Massey (1959); P. Gray (1960); L. Lipman (1960); T.R. O'Berg (1961-63); B. Mahoney

(1961-63); D. Pottinger (1962); D. Corney (1962); G. Saunders (1963); H. Gardiner (1963); L. Larkin (1964); J. Cruice (1964); P. McSweeney (1964); A. Greal (1963-71), A. Geraghty; E. Noonan; D. Wallis; D. Busuttin; R. Keogh; J. Dowd; J. Deagin; W. Morahan; P. Macrossan; T. Thornton; A. Moss; D. O'Shea; G. Fredericks; E. Pender; C. Roberts; P. Malony; T. Robinson; A. McQuillan; R. Weston; D. Surawski; K. Bucher; T. Ansell; E. Harris; C. Bradshaw; M. Heilshoff; P. O'Brien; M. Quane; J. Hodgkinson; K. Lewis; L. Dowling; P. Denny; M. Reardon; N.A. Renton (1980-82); I.D. Robertson (1980-82); K.A. Walker (1981-82).

### Lay Staff

Mrs M.P. Taylor (1958); Mr P. Hehir (1980); Mr D. Fink (1980-82); Mr K. McKay (1980-82); Mr P. Kenny (1980-82); Mr D. Murphy (1980-82); Mr E. Pedersen (1980-82); Mr P. Ball (1981-82); Mr W.Ward (1980-81); Mr N. McIntyre (1981); Ms B. Carr (1980-82); Mrs I. Filla (1980-82); Ms H. Kenny (1980-82); Mr J. Boxsell (1980); Mr N. Dutton (1980-82); Mr P. Gabina (1980); Ms D. Landy (1980-81); Mrs M. McMahon (1980-82); Ms H. Dillon (1980); Ms K. Bradford (1981-82); Ms C. Williams (1981-82); Mrs M. Kerrigan (1981-82); and Mr Merv King.

### 1954

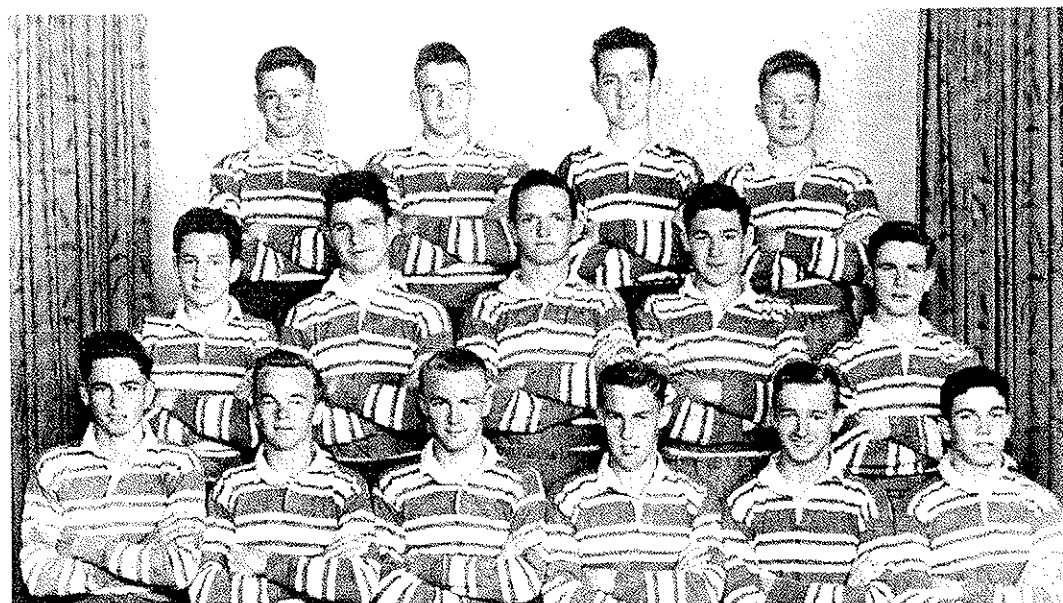
During Brother O'Neill's term as superior, the two-storey brick building was commissioned for the boarders by Monsignor D. Dee the parish priest.

The foundation stone of this building, incorporating study, dining room, modern kitchen and staff quarters, was laid by Archbishop James Duhig in October 1954 with the offi-



#### **Jubilee celebrations**

(L-R) Kevin Hourigan, Vince Murphy, Noel Stallard, Bernard Wilson, Kerry McSweeney, John MacDonald, Hugh Pearson.



#### **First XIII, 1955**

**Back row:** N. Stallard; J. Condon; E. Flynn; V. Murphy

**Middle row:** N. Tierney; A. Stewart; A. Frohmuller; P. Hoffman; K. McSweeney

**Front row:** K. Bennett; P. Pottinger; G. Wigan (capt.); J. O'Neill (vice-capt.); B. Wigan; J. Connell.



## *We Old Boys are the Gypians*

*Old Boy, Noel Stallard, has written a very entertaining poem to celebrate his school days at CBC Gympie. As space is limited here we are only able to publish a portion of the poem, and we do so with Noel's permission.*

We Old Boys are the Gypians of Brothers CBC,  
Our college stands on Calton Hill for all the world to see.  
'Twas here the Brothers taught us how to learn and to behave,  
'Twas here we forged those mateships dear that live beyond the grave.

Those Brothers like 'Spud' Massey, and 'Rags' Loth and 'Friar' Tuck,  
'Bumper' O'Farrell, 'Lefty' Wright and Rogers, known as 'Buck'.  
But Couchie was the hero, a man's man who inspired,  
He showed no fear, no favourites, a person all admired.

The Brothers all had nicknames that they earned from what they did,  
O'Neill was know as 'Bombshell', he'd explode at any kid.  
And Monagel we knew as 'Slip', you never got away,  
With any mischief that you did, he'd always make you pay.

And Gympie could be cold at times, you learnt to toe the line,  
For pain from cuts in winter time would sting like stinging vine.  
And Brother O'Dwyer was the one you learnt to fear,  
As 'Ned' would have you touch your toes and belt you on the rear.

And I remember well my dose of discipline from Ned,  
'Two on the hand — one on the pants? Which is your choice?', he said.  
How could you choose two lots of pain instead of only one?  
How wrong I was for that bum-thump stung more than some shotgun.

...

The Brothers took us once a month off to St Patrick's church,  
Confession queues we formed in pews as consciences we'd search.  
One day I asked who's hearing the confessions here today,  
And got this chorus of response, 'We all hear what they say!'

It's interesting to look back on those schooldays on the hill,  
Where getting lines or getting cuts you copped with no ill will.  
For while at times you may have got what you felt was unjust,  
More often you dodged justice with some tales of pure bulldust.

We thank the Brothers and schoolmates of Gympie way back when,  
They did their best in schoolboy days to make us into men.  
And what success we may have had perhaps is due to skill,  
We learnt those many years ago on top of Calton Hill.

cial opening again by Archbishop Duhig taking place on 25 August 1955.

With this £27,000 extension and consequent alterations to the two wooden buildings, the boarding school was completely transformed from the hostel concept to a boarding school in the accepted sense of the word under the name 'Sacred Heart Memorial College'.

The First XIII rugby league team was beaten in the third-grade premiership final by Past Brothers 14–8. For the season they played 12 games, winning 7 and losing 5, with 140 points for and 53 against. Grand Final Team: Graham Streets, Kerry McSweeney, Peter Bradshaw, Brian McAulliffe, Brian Kirby, Col Mills, Dennis Schultz, Brian Stirling, John O'Neill, Graham Wigan, Ron Stewart, Dennis Close, Jeff Condon, Ron Lane and Ken Bennett.

Brian Stirling won the GRL trophy for the best and fairest player in all grades, an effort that had been unheard of before and since by a third-grade player.

Twenty-four pupils sat for the Junior Examination with 19 passes and 5 fails. These students were: R.C. Baker; G.J. Balkin; K.M. Bennett; D.E. Close; J.T. Condon; J.E. Eales; N.J. Ham; K.J. Hourigan; G.E. Johnson; R.A. Jones; J.D. Kenny; B.D. Kirby; R.R. Lane; B.T. McAulliffe; J.M. Meteyard; C.J. Mills; G.E. Pearce; H.T. Pearson; W.R. Ridler; D.J. Schultz; A.J. Waide; D.D. Winkel; M.J. Witham; C.D. Young.

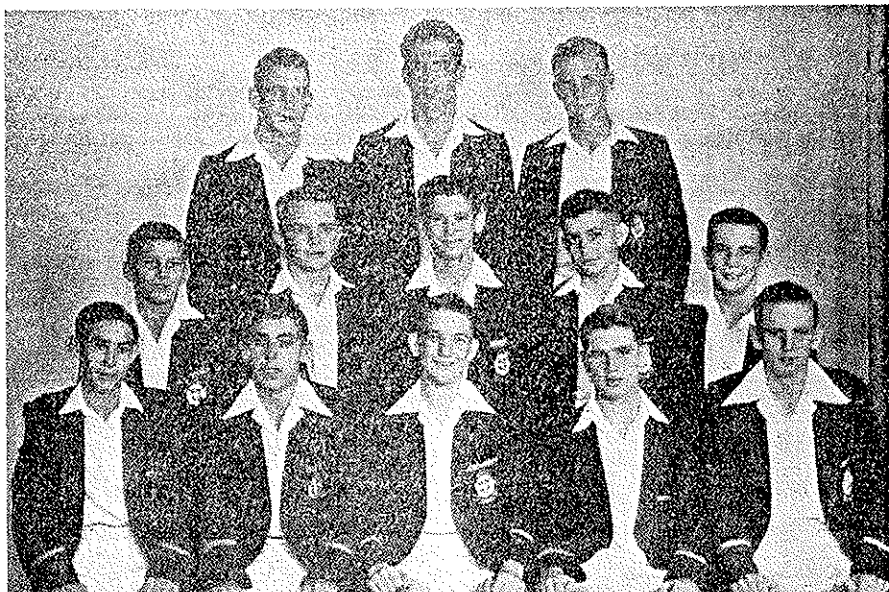
Four pupils sat for senior — all passing. P.M. Bradshaw; B.J. Connors; B. Stirling; G.R. Streets.

Br M.D. Cervetto passed away just two years since he left the CBC Gympie. He was described by Msgr Dee as an 'Ideal Christian Brother'.

### 1955

The three Chinese students who arrived in our community in 1952 — Lu Mui, Lu Kam and Lu Wah, were



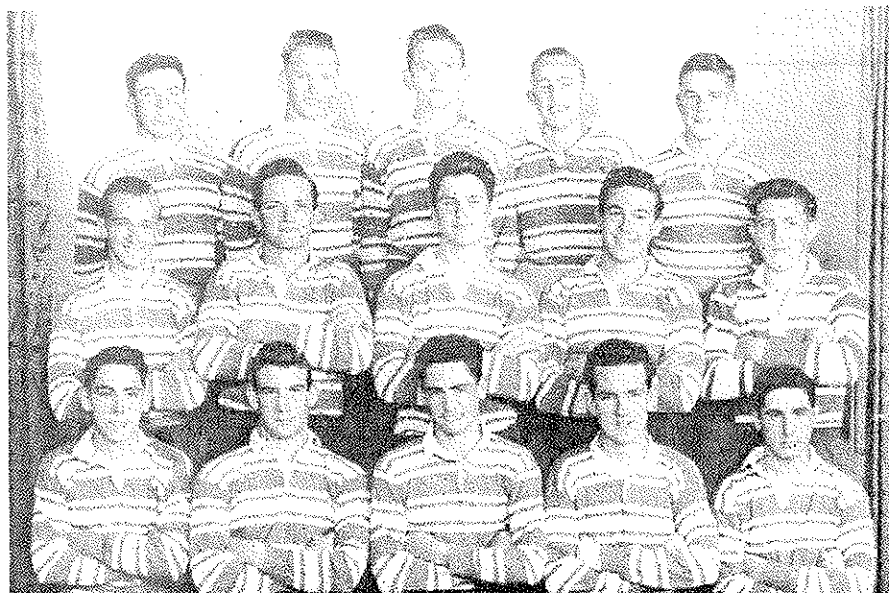


**First XI 1956 — Premiers of the G.C.A. Third Grade Competition**

**Back row:** J. Condon, K. Bennett, B. Wilson

**Second row:** C. Craven, G. Tinney, K. Craven, T. O'Brien, T. Condon

**Front row:** F. Fitzpatrick, N. Lally, G. Johnson (Captain), K. McSweeney, G. Moreland



**First XIII 1956**

Undefeated Premiers G.R.L. Third Grade - Winners of Buffalo Shield, Premiership Cup Kehoe Trophy, Miller Cup and Police Shield.

**Seated:** N. Lally, J. Condon (Vice-Capt.), K. Bennett (Capt.), E. Flynn, M. Paspalus

**Second row:** B. Wigan, A. Frohmuller, A. Stewart, P. Hoffman, P. Kirby

**Top row:** J. Connell, G. Moreland, B. Wilson, W. Fowles, K. McSweeney

received into the church and took the Christian names of Mary, Christopher and Joseph.

The First XIII won the GRL Premiership and for the year scored 149 points with 32 scored against.

Br V. Couch left the college on transfer to Waverley at the end of this year. During his seven years as coach of the First XIII Rugby League team, he won the GRL Third Grade premiership four times.

Winner of the Ben O'Neill Memorial Cup for general proficiency and leadership was Graham Wigan.

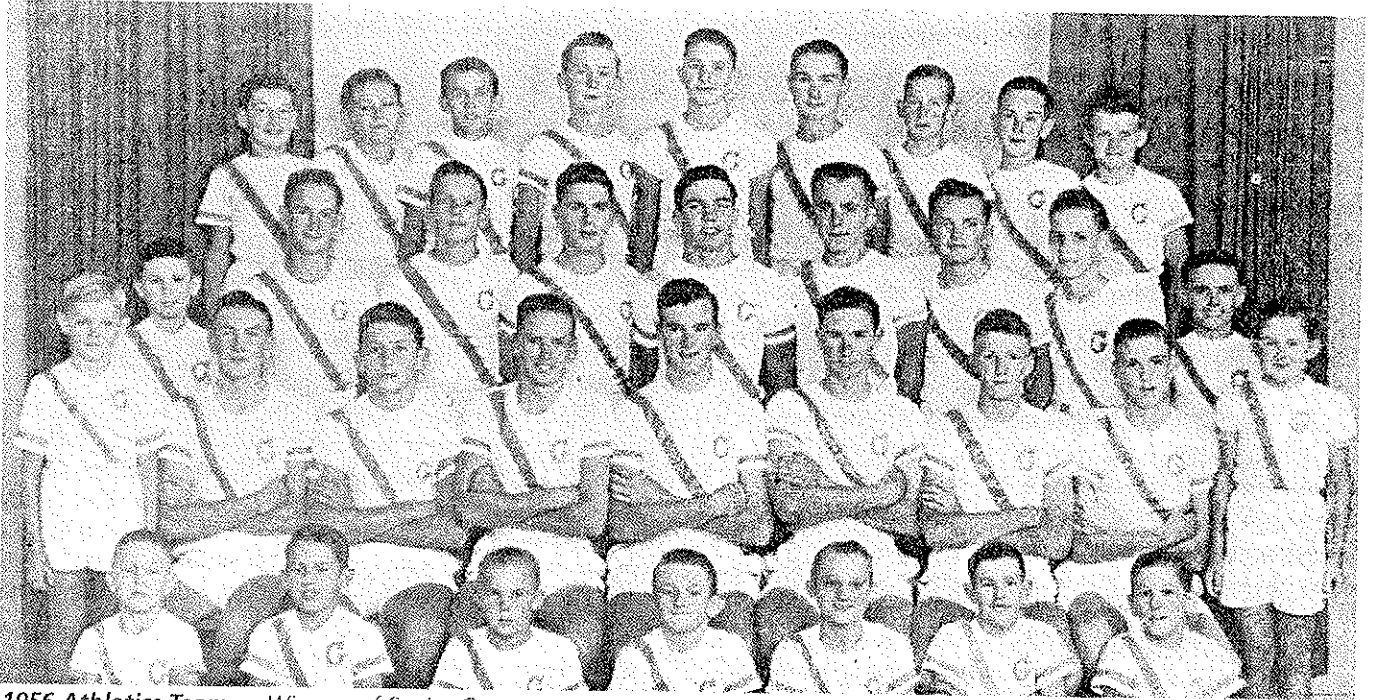
Twenty-two boys sat for the Junior examination — Gregory Condon, Leo Davies, Ian Dempsey, Errol Flynn, John Hammer, Peter Hoffman, Carl Johannson, Keith Kelly, James Kerr, Maurice McAulden, Kerry McSweeney, Michael MacDonnell, Trevor Mason, Myles Nelson, Edwin

Neville, John O'Farrell, Hugh Pearson, Trevor Percival, Noel Stallard, Allen Stewart, Noel Tierney, Bevan Wigan., Errol Flynn obtained five As and two Bs., Four boys sat for the Senior examination — Ian McInnes, John O'Neill, Paul Pottinger, Graham Wigan.

## 1956

The first Old Boy priest, Monsignor Owen Steele, visited the College.

The school roll numbered 290 and this included 90 boarders. School Captain for the year was Ken Bennett. Three more Brothers joined the teaching staff — Brothers O'Kane, Loth and Gladwin



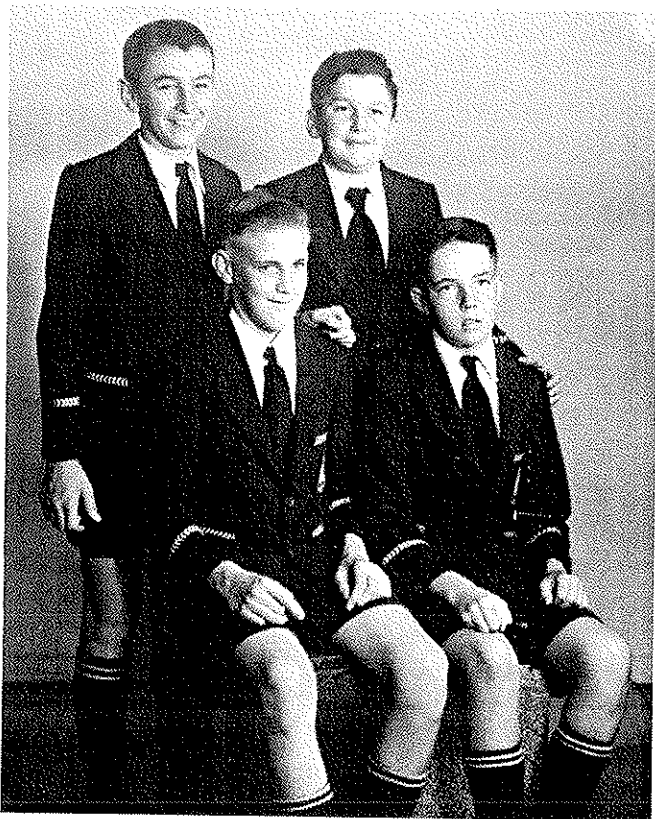
**1956 Athletics Team — Winners of Senior Cup**

**Back row:** B. Gallwey, G. Cronk, C. McFadden, K. Barry, M. Horton, P. Hourigan, B. Messer, K. McGrath, N. Heiniger

**Second row:** D. Nolan, M. Tramacchi, G. Rogers, K. McSweeney, J. Connell (Captain), P. Grennan, G. Tinney, D. Carmody, K. Grennan

**Third row:** D. Gablonski, G. Laherty, B. Wilson, G. Moreland, J. McKenna, W. Sprenger, L. King, V. Hooper, T. Freney

**Sitting:** D. Condon, C. Johnson, P. Herron, M. Butler, A. Girdler, G. Ryan, D. Merrin



**Place-getters in Christian Brothers' Sub-Scholarship Examination April 1956**

**Standing:** J. Lewis (8th), G. Ham (11th)

**Sitting:** V. Hooper (17th), D. Twomey (5th)

The Railwaymen handed the Brothers a cheque for £86 as a holiday gift. This annual gesture had been in operation for well over 30 years and was always greatly appreciated.

The First XI won the Gympie Cricket Association Third Grade Premiership. Graham Johnson was the top batsman with an average of 93.2. Top bowlers were Kerry McSweeney, Noel Lally and Ken Bennett.

The First XIII won the GRL Third Grade Premiership. They were undefeated for the year scoring 622 points with 16 against. They defeated Northern Suburbs in the final 31 points to nil. J. Connell won the GRL Best and Fairest Trophy.

The College had two teams in the GRL Third Grade competition this year. The 'B' Team was: H. Richardson, E. O'Farrell, R. Baptist, B. Wilson, J. McDonnell, P. Kirby, G. Johnson, K. Craven, G. Balkin, J. Hammer, E. Paspalus, G. Rogers, E. Fitzpatrick and G. Tinney. Coach was Br Connolle.

Br T. O'Dwyer's favourite football team during his work in Gympie was the 1956 6 stone 7 pounders. The 'A' team were premiers of the Gympie primary schools competition. The players were: D. O'Brien, K. Stallard, K. Skennerton, D. Pierantozzi, M. Hourigan, K. Grennan, K. McGrath, P. Herron, G. Cronk, B. Bermingham, D. Fitzpatrick, J. Connolly, G. Godwin.

As had become normal for the College over the years, the athletics team swept all before them. Open champion was

Jeff Connell who was also captain of the team. Jeff ran the 100 yards in 10.8 secs., the 220 yards in 25 secs. And the 440 yards in 56.4 secs.

On 29 June, Old Boy Father Pat McKenna was ordained to the priesthood in St. Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane. The next day he celebrated his first mass at St. Patrick's in Gympie.

Br Connolle from Launceston, Tasmania and Br Cumming from Maryborough commenced on the staff.

Welcome to new arrivals — Daniel Lam (Senior) from Hong Kong, Theo Van Doren (Grade 4) and Tony Van Doren (Grade 3) from Victoria.

Pat MacDonnell won the title of Champion Boy rider at the Toowoomba Show.

Old Boy Mr Nick Moynihan QC was elected to the position of acting Judge of the Supreme Court. He was a pupil at the convent and came to Brothers in 1906 where he stayed until 1913. Nick and his four brothers were all pupils at CBC Gympie at the same time. Nick passed Junior and joined the Public Service, he became interested in law in 1918 and he passed the preliminary bar examination in November of that year with a record 85%. He passed his Intermediate Bar examination the following year with another record pass of 73%. In 1923 he passed his Final Bar examination. He practised at every court functioning in Queensland before his appointment to the Supreme Court.

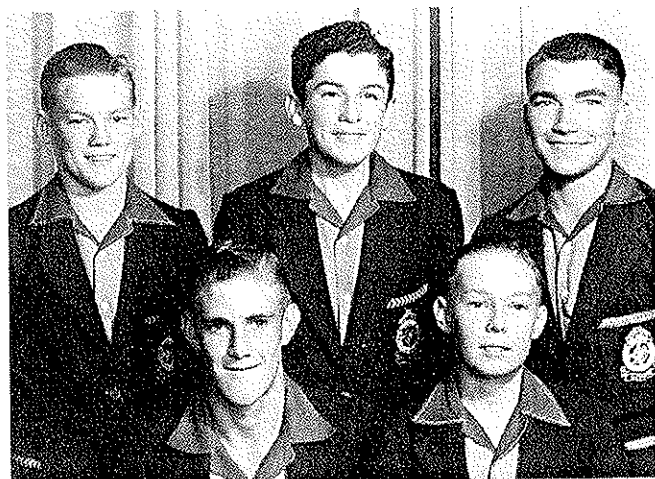
Thirty-four boys sat for the Junior Examination with only two failing. Those sitting were: R. Baptist, P. Benham, K. Byrne, J. Carr, R. Campbell, J. Connell, K. Craven, R. Cronk, N. English, B. Flynn, W. Fowles, A. Frohmuller, P. Grennan, T. Hore, Iu Kane, P. Keliher, P. Kelly, P. Kirby, N. Lally, J. McKenna, K. McSweeney, J. Malynn, V. Murphy, T. O'Brien, E. O'Farrell, E. Paspalus, N. Punter, H. Richardson, J. Ryan, R. Stapleton, G. Tinney, W. Wiley, B.B. Wilson, B.E. Wilson.

Six boys sat for the Senior Examination with one failure: G. Balkin, K. Bennett, J. Condon, G. Johnson, D. Lane, D. Winkel.

Dux of the College was Jeff Condon and Graham Johnson won the Ben O'Neill Memorial Cup for General Proficiency and Leadership.

## 1957

For many years Summer Schools for country children had been held early in January and had averaged about 120 girls and boys. In this year the time was changed to two weeks before Christmas and proved a great success for all



**Place-getters in various subjects in 1957 Queensland Christian Brothers Inter-school Sub-Junior Examinations**  
Back row: Brian Fitzpatrick, Gary Ham, Clarie Stjernqvist  
Front row: Ian Christensen, Vin Hooper

concerned. About 220 children attended and were instructed by a large staff of Brothers and Sisters.

While expenditure on the Sacred Heart College had cost the Parish over £40,000 pounds 1946 and 1957, when at the suggestion of Mons Dee that the Brothers take over the deeds of the College, the Archbishop accepted an offer of £20,000 from the Brothers in consideration of the work the Brothers had done in Gympie over the years.

The highest number of boarders was reached in this year — 110 boys.

Dux of the College was John Hammer. Second was Errol Flynn and third Hugh Pearson.

Ben O'Neill Memorial Cup was won by Bevan Wigan.

Athletics Open Champion was Barry Dingle who was also captain of the team. Barry won all the open events and broke the high jump record with a jump of 5 feet 5½ inches. In the under 17 years competition Frank Fitzpatrick had wins in all events.

Pat Whelan was captain of the First XI cricket team and won the award for best performance for the year.

The First XIII Rugby League team won the GRL Third Grade premiership and the secondary schools premiership. Coach was Brother Cumming and award winners for the year were: Best Back: Alan Stewart. Best Forward: Peter Hoffman. Best Utility Player: Bevan Wigan. Most Improved: Brian Flynn.

The 6 stone 7 pounds Rugby League team was once again the primary school premiers.

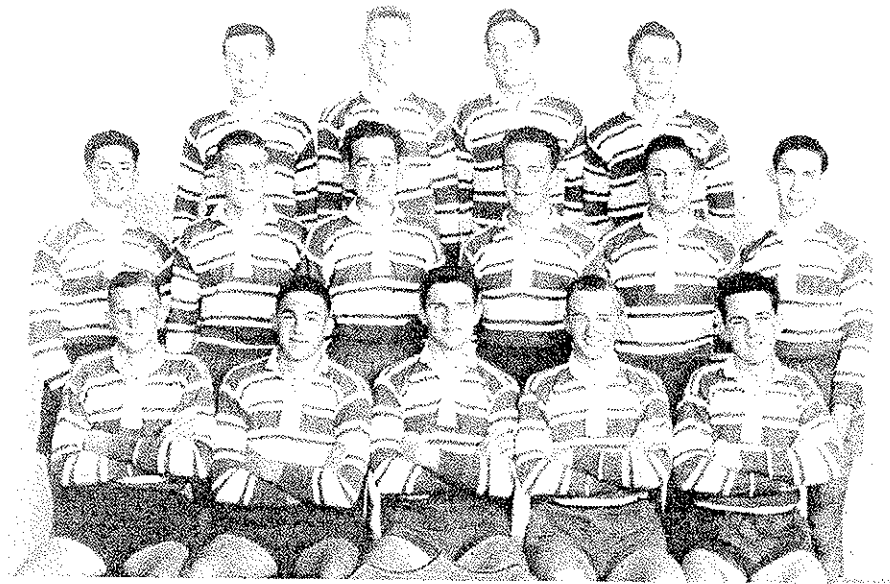
Forty-one boys sat for the Junior Examination — all passed. They were: Anthony Bagnell, Bevan Barsby,

**First XIII, 1957**

**Front row:** B. Wilson, P. Hoffman, A. Stewart (capt.), B. Wigan, E. Flynn

**Middle row:** M. Hoffman, V. Hooper, B. Flynn, E. Neville, J. Hammer, F. Fitzpatrick

**Back row:** D. Davies, G. Moreland, K. Rogers, G. Tinney



**6 st 7 lb Team, 1957**

**Back row:** C. Lally, R. Davies, G. Godwin, J. Auer

**Middle row:** N. Blyth, G. Butler, D. Dwyer, P. MacDonnell

**Front row:** C. Johnson, T. Geary, M. Hourigan (capt.), D. Pierantozzi, G. Ryan



Ronald Beal, Peter Benham, Dermott Bowalan, Daniel Carmody, Thomas Condon, Brian Conway, Daniel Davies, Lex Cooper, Thomas Davies, Robert Eales, Robert Elmer, Francis Fitzpatrick, Terrence Flynn, Anthony Girdler, Brian Graham, Max Hoffman, Ray Johanson, P.F. Jones, David Lam, Patrick Lourigan, Graeme Maguire, Albert McDonald, Ronald Messer, Geoff Moreland, Anthony O'Brien, William O'Neill, Emanuel Paspalus, John Peet, Stephen Raabe, James Sellen, Kevin Rodgers, Francis Shiel, G. Shepherd, Francis Simes, Rod Sullivan, Ashley Taylor, Barry Turner, Patrick Whelan, Warren Wiley.

Ten boys sat for the Senior Examination — Barry Dingle, Errol Flynn, John Hammer, Peter Hoffman, Austin Lee, Maurice McAnalen, Edwin Neville, Hugh Pearson, Allen Stewart, and Bevan Wigan.

**1958**

Br C.S. Wright came to the college from Nudgee College. He was the Senior teacher of English, Latin, logic and history. He immediately fell into the position of sports master and was to take the First XI and First XIII. Br P.C. McCarthy came from St. Laurence's, South Brisbane. He was to teach the senior science and mathematics.

Mr M.P. Taylor came from the teaching staff of the Army School at Balconnie, Victoria. He was responsible for grade seven.

Other teachers were Br O'Neill, Br Gladwin, Br O'Kane, Br Loth, Br M. Sylvester.

Five boys sat for the Senior Examination, all passed and secured their matriculation — T. Hore, G. Tinney (School Captain), B. Wilson, J. Ryan and B. Flynn.





**First XI, 1958**

**Back row:** K. Crawford, G. Moreland, K. Rogers

**Middle row:** F. Fitzpatrick, V. Hooper, R. Eales, B. Lewis

**Front row:** T. Connolly, B. Barlow, G. Tinney (capt.), T. Condon, D. Carmody

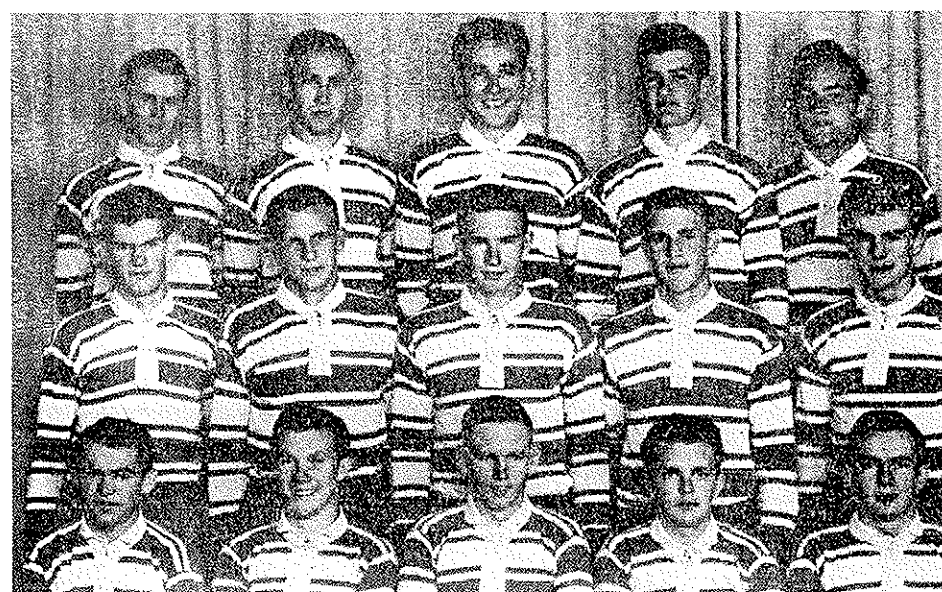


**Life Saving Squad, 1958**

**Back row:** M. Keliher, A. McTaggart, C. Stjernqvist, B. Barsby, F. Sheil, A. Crawford

**Middle row:** K. Andreassen, C. Clifford, B. Graham, A. Taylor, W. Wiley, K. Rogers

**Front row:** B. Turner, D. Carmody, K. Crawford, R. Eales, G. Moreland, T. Condon, G. Tinney



**First XIII, 1959**

**Back row:** B. Fitzpatrick, A. Hoffman, W. Wiley, C. Stjernqvist, K. Rogers

**Middle row:** F. Fitzpatrick, R. Eales, P. Cassidy, V. Hooper, W. Sprenger

**Front row:** D. Davies, B. Turner, B. Flynn (capt.), D. Carmody, T. Condon

Dux was Geoff Tinney who also won the Ben O'Neill Cup for General Proficiency.

Thirty-five boys sat for the Junior Examination with three failures: K. Andreassen, B. Bargaquast, B. Barlow, I. Christensen, C. Clifford, T. Connolly, P. Coyne, K. Crawford, J. Cronk, L. Donohue, B. Fitzpatrick, A. Girdler, G. Ham, B. Hooper, V. Hooper, M. Horton, K. Jarrett, K. Kann, M. Keliher, P. Keliher, J. Kerley, B. Lewis, J. Lewis, L. McKenzie, A. McTaggart, G. Moreland, W. Natoli, R. Philip, N. Ryan, S. Ryan, I. Searston, W. Sprenger, C. Stjernqvist, D. Twomey, G. Young. G. Ham achieved six As, one B and a C.

Br P.D. Grealy passed away on 7 March at the Mater Hospital in Brisbane. He was an Old Boy of the CBC Gympie, and had laboured in Melbourne and a few places in Queensland but his most outstanding work was performed at St James' School, Brisbane.

The First XIII rugby league side coached by Br Wright again won the GRL Third Grade Premiership. Points for 315 and against 102. The team played Past Brothers in the final and it was the best game of the season. It was 3 all at half time and with 15 minutes to go the college side was down by 3 points to 10. Frank Fitzpatrick scored for Present Brothers and with four minutes to go they were still down 6 points to 10. Tom Condon then scored a great try under the posts after ten players had handled the ball and Geoff Moreland converted to make the final score 11 points to 10.

The team on that day: Dan Davies (fullback); Frank Fitzpatrick and Bill Sprenger (wingers); Tom Condon (centre); Geoff Moreland (capt. and centre); Bill Turner and Geoff Tinney (halves); Brian Flynn, Rod Eales, Ken Rogers, John Ryan, Ken Crawford, Brian Wilson and Bob Lewis (forwards). Others — Vince Hooper, Tom Connolly, Terry Hore, C. Clifford, T. Davies and F. Sims. Coach was Br Cumming and Dan Davies won the best and fairest in the GRL and Geoff Moreland was most improved back.

On 24 October Br F. Grealy paid the College a visit to celebrate his Golden Jubilee.

The College played social tennis against the High School.

Br O'Kane stated a lifesaving squad with about 25 of the senior boys and they started training for their salt-water bronze. Training was at The Sands in the Mary River and the boys measured out 110 yards and marked out the distance on the rocky bank with red paint. They had to do four 110-yard laps within 15 minutes, two laps against and two laps with the current. The boys also did first aid and physiology lessons. Only seven boys were able to train for the reel and line bronze and to do this they borrowed a reel from the Noosa Lifesaving Club.

The First XI cricket team again coached by Br J. O'Dwyer won the GCA Third Grade premiership. Team captain was G. Tinney and top batsmen were: V. Hooper, K. Rogers, T. Condon, F. Fitzpatrick, G. Moreland and D. Carmody.

Top bowlers were F. Fitzpatrick, V. Hooper, K. Rogers and G. Moreland.

The athletic team won the Monsignor Jordan Shield and the Robinson Cup. Team captain was G. Moreland. Open Champion of the College was Frank Fitzpatrick.

## 1959

The Gympie City Council agreed to, and backed up, the College application to the Land Administration Board for a special lease (21 years) of Whites' Gully reserve (approximately seven acres). The parish priest and Past Brothers Rugby League Football Club agreed to meet the cost of transforming the area into a suitable football field. This was done; lighting erected and change rooms and toilets constructed. The oval was later named Lehman Oval.

Twenty-two boys sat for the Senior examination. There were four Chinese pupils in the class and they all passed Senior English after only one year in Australia. Pupils were: D. Carmody, P. Cassidy, Chan, T. Condon, B. Conway, D. Davies, T. Davies, Robert Doo, R. Eales, F. Fitzpatrick, B. Flynn, A. Girdler, B. Graham, R. Messer, E. Paspalus, K. Rogers, F. Sims, Sin, A. Taylor, B. Turner, W. Wiley, F. Yeung.

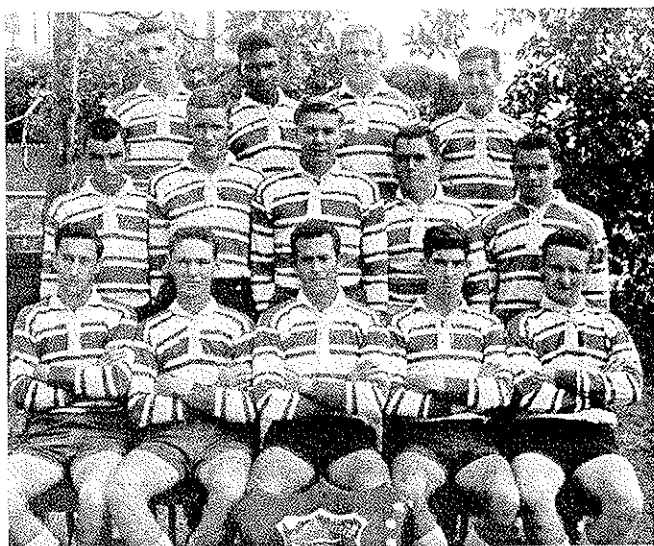
Thirty boys sat for the Junior examination — K. Barlow, J. Blaik, J. Bromage, M. Brown, T. Buchanan, A. Crawford, B. Dwyer, D. Francis, B.J. Hodson, A. Hoffman, K. Jarrett, L. Jeffs, L. King, A. Lane, G. Maguire, B. McCabe, P. McCormack, T. McCormack, B. Messer, P. Mitchell, A. O'Sullivan, R. Pearman, B. Ramsey, P. Rice, L. Simpson, J. Spelman, A. Stapleton, P. Tozer, B. Vellacott, D. Walton.

Br S.Wright became the principal of CBC Gympie in 1959. During his term office extensions were added to the school.

Br J.K. O'Neill who was principal from 1953 to 1958 died at the Christian Brothers Training College at Mulgoa in New South Wales. He loved his time at Gympie and left with a sad heart. He had spent something like 42 years in the responsible positions of superior and headmaster. Gympie reaped the benefit of all that wisdom and experience because we were given the 'last wine' which is the best.

The rugby league season was most successful as the College First, Seconds and Thirds were undefeated in their games against the High School for the Police Shield. Games were played and won against Maryborough Brothers, State High School Murgon and the Imbil State School teams. In the local Primary competition the





**First XIII, 1961**

**Back row:** K. Barsby, A. Sapias, P. McCormack, D. Andersen

**Middle row:** A. Crawford, L. King, G. Cronk, A. Stapleton, N. Dunstan

**Front row:** R. Jones, P. Dore, A. Hoffman (capt.), M. Poulgrain, J. Connolly

College fielded five teams, all of whom performed credibly — two being undefeated.

The First XIII in the GRL Third Grade competition won all the available trophies and the premiership. In the 10 competition games they scored 377 points for and 25 points against. The coach was Br Wright. The best and fairest player was Brian Flynn, best back — Vince Hooper, best forward — Pat Cassidy and most improved player — Tom Condon.

## 1960

The First XIII rugby league team was undefeated for the year, winning the GRL Third Grade premiership and all available trophies. They also won the Police Shield in the competition against the High School.

Team members were: B. Hooper, D. Kirkpatrick, A. Stapleton, B. Adams, D. Anderson, J. Kerley, A. Hoffman, W. Sprenger, G. Cronk, B. Fitzpatrick, G. Sternqvist, J. Lewis, V. Hooper (capt.), L. King and J. Bromage.

In 11 undefeated games in the GRL competition they scored 410 points for 37 against. GRL trophy winners in Third Grade were: Best and fairest — Vince Hooper: Best forward — Tony Hoffman: Most improved player — Clarence Stjernqvist: Coach — Br Wright.

Ten boys sat for the Senior examination — Brian Fitzpatrick, Gary Ham, Brian Hooper, Vince Hooper, Patrick Keliher, James Kerley, John Lewis, Ivan Searston,



**First XIII, 1962**

**Back row:** A. Sapias, B. Lourigan, G. Ryan, C. Lally, D. Schaumberg

**Middle row:** M. Lavercombe, R. Jones, T. Lavercombe, B. Simpson, C. Johnson, A. Bechley

**Front row:** M. Butler, M. Sprenger, P. Dore, J. Connolly, G. Cronk, G. Tatnell, R. Hopper

William Sprenger, Clarence Sternqvist. Ivan Searston obtained five As and one B.

Thirty four boys sat for the Junior examination — Warren Andreassen, Kevin Barlow, Ken Barsby, Oswald Bonutto, Noel Bowman, Michael Butler, Harold Clifford, John Connolly, Michael Connors, Terrence Connors, John Dunstan, Neil Dunstan, John Dwyer, Richard Eales, Dan Fitzpatrick, Glynne Francis, Frank Freeman, Graham Garson, John Geiger, Nev Gormley, Garth Jensen, Warren Kann, John Kerley, Brian Lourigan, Brian McCormack, Trevor McCormack, Frank McDonald, Keith McHugh, Donald Nolan, Patrick Oberle, Terrence Shiel, Leo Smith, Ken Stallard and Wesley Taylor. Patrick Oberle obtained seven As and one B.

## 1961

Once again the College produced a top First XIII rugby league team. They were undefeated, winning the GRL Third Grade Premiership and defeated the High School to win the Police Shield. They were ably coached by Br Wright. Tony Hoffman won the GRL Best and Fairest award and Des Andersen the Best Back.

Fifteen boys sat for the Senior examination and twelve passed — Matriculation: 12, Teachers College Scholarships: 6, Commonwealth Scholarships: 5. They were: D.J. Andersen, M.J. Caton, A.H. Crawford, B.J. Dwyer, A.J. Hoffman, L.W. King, B.A. McCabe, P.B. McCormack, P.I. Mitchell, A.J. O'Sullivan, M.L. Poulgrain, L.J. Simpson, A.J. Stapleton, P.M. Tozer, N.F. Wex.

Forty-seven boys sat for Junior and 35 passed.

Junior Extension Scholarships: 30, awarded to B.J. Blades, S.A. Burkett, J.P. Cameron, J.F. Cartwright, D.J. Charles, G.W. Cronk, T.M. Cross, D.M. De Vere, B.P. Dore, P.J. Dore, N.T. Dunstan, D.J. Eagers, R.J. Eyears, B.P. Gallwey, T.W. Grady, N.J. Heiniger, A.W. Jackson, W.C. Jeffs, D. Jensen, A.M. Kearney, K. Keliher, J. Kerley, K.J. King, C.W. Lally, P.J. MacDonnell, E.L. McCabe, P.G. McCabe, R.E. McCarthy, F.W. McDonald, N.J. McIntyre, G.W. Mitchell, R.C. Natoli, T.J. O'Berle, J.J. O'Brien, S. Privana, J.F. Parkinson, A.P. Perren, T.W. Reed, G.P. Ryan, J.C. Schafer, D.L. Schaumberg, N.E. Squire, V.J. Summers, T.J. Tierney, J. Urenga, M.A. Vesey-Brown, M.J. Walker.

T.J. Tierney achieved seven As and one B; B.J. Blades achieved six As, one B and one C.

## 1962

The principal for the past three years Br C.S. Wright finished his term at CBC Gympie. He will be remembered by many as a great football coach, winning three GRL Third Grade premierships in a row — Br Murphy became the new principal.

Br T. Loth also was transferred to St. Edmunds' Blind School in Sydney. He will be well remembered as the school choirmaster.

Roll call for this year reached 333, which included 84 boarders. College Captain was John Connolly.

This was the final year for the class known as Scholarship. From 1963 it was to be Grade 8 and its students would not sit for an external exam, but those gaining satisfactory marks proceeded to a four-year course to Senior (Year 12) or two years to Junior (Year 10).

Once again the First XIII rugby league team swept all before them to win the GRL Third Grade Premiership and the Police Shield against the High School. In the final they defeated Wanderers 16 to 8, making them the undefeated premiers — Coach Br M.L. Murphy. Best and Fairest player for the year was Col Lally.

The Athletic Team won the Msgr Jordan Shield from Bundaberg and Maryborough.

School Athletic Champions were: G. Ryan (Senior), G. Cronk (U/17), C. Johnson (U/16), G. McCormack (U/15), T. Oliver (U/13), D. Jack (U/12), R. Betts (U/11), R. Gilchrist (U/10), A. Jack (U/9), J. Cartwright (Cross Country Senior).

Michael Sprenger became the State Under 16 years High Jump Champion clearing 6 feet.

David O'Connor was also the State Under 14 years Champion clearing 5 feet 2 inches.

Captain of Swimming Champion House, Red, was Augustine Sapias. In the swim meet against Maryborough as a young college in the swimming world, we got our first recorded win in the open relay. The team was Gus Sapias, Graham Ryan, Jeff Leggat and Peter Mahoney.

Cricket awards for the year went to Graham Cronk (batting), Terrence Tierney (bowling) and Col Lally (fielding).

Players of that year were: B. Window, J. Carlson, C. Lally, K. Summerfield, C. Ryan, T. Tierney, D. O'Connor, J. Martin, G. Cronk, K. Hogan, G. Milady, W. Philp, N. Dawson, P. Eather, R. Messer.

Br L.B. Tevlin who had been in Gympie 1904–5 died at St. Vincents' Hospital, Sydney.

In 1962, permission was sought, and obtained, to allow pupils from the Convent School to attend classes for subjects not available at their own school. This allowed the Senior girls and boys a greater choice of subjects and assisted the staff position of both schools.

The school was divided into four houses — Duhig, Rice, O'Neill and Treacy.

Other notable events during 1962:

- Br D. Murphy became Principal
- The Memorial Baths were completed in Gympie and the first swimming carnival was held early in the year (goodbye The Sands in the Mary River).
- An Old Boys reunion and dinner was held in the Returned Soldiers Memorial Hall to celebrate Gympie's centenary.
- A number of most helpful improvements were made to the Boarding School.

In the Scholarship examination Ross Messer received 94.7% and Michael Merrin 94.2%.

Fourteen boys sat for the Senior examination — A.E. Bechly, M.J. Butler, J.N. Connolly, J.J. Dunstan, G.C. Francis, E.E. Freeman, G.J. Carson, P.E. Goodman-Jones, P.D. Hoffman, R.W. Hopper, M.A. Lavercombe, B.T. Lourigan, T.J. Shiel, K.R. Stallard.

School Dux was John Connolly who also won the Ben O'Neill Memorial Cup for leadership, character and general proficiency.

Fifty-six boys sat for the Junior examination — N.C. Andreassen, M.J. Apps, G.J. Bacon, B.J. Bargenquast, R.J. Barnes, N.B. Blyth, K.J. Burchill, C.P. Burton, L.D. Callaghan, J.R. Carlson, J.E. Cartwright, K.J. Connors, R.W. Cunningham, P.R. Daly, R.E. Davis, D.M. Dempsey,

D.J. Dwyer, R.M. Dwyer, R.J. Ebner, R.K. Eyears, D.J. Gablonski, D.M. Geary, T.J. Geary, B.K. Hawken, P.W. Hill, D.L. Jensen, C.J. Johnson, J.R. Leggatt, W.J. Lehmann, P.J. Mahoney, R.E. Major, J.C. Martin, G.P. McCormack, P.J. McIntyre, I.P. McKenzie, D.L. Merrin, G.T. Milady, P.D. Moran, M.W. O'Shea, C.E. Portas, P.G. Priddy, G.P. Ryan, T.T. Sangiakau, A.T. Sapias, J.J. Seidner, B.L. Simpson, M.M. Sprenger, J.H. Steer, G.T. Tatnell, T.E. Taylor, G.J. Tierney, C.R. Turner, M.J. Walker, M.E. Ware, G.L. Wilson, B.E. Window.

G.J. Bacon achieved seven As and one B; N.C. Andreassen: six As, one B and one C; G.J. Johnson: six As and two Bs; and G.T. Tatnell: six As, one B and one C.

## 1963

There were a number of staff changes in this year:

- After six years in Gympie, Br J.G. Gladwin was transferred to St. James', Brisbane.
- Br E.D. Corney transferred to CBC Townsville
- Br EA. Grealy joined the staff. He was an Old Boy of Mr Johnny Bohans' School and an original of this school in 1904.
- Br H.D. Gardner joined us, and he also was another Old Boy, of the 1939 era.
- Mrs J. McArdle also joined the staff and worked with the third and fourth grades.

In this year there were 339 enrolments including 54 boarders. The boarders were given a 1929 vintage car, which was used to teach the boys some points about engines and to enable them to learn to drive — it was not registered.

The dormitory was divided into areas for Juniors and Seniors and the boarders constructed a barbecue between Murphy Hall and Schumann Lane.

After about three years the 4th Gympie St Patrick's Scout Group was reformed — a special work of the St Vincent de Paul Society — Cub pack 24, Scout troop 30 and Senior Scouts 6.

School Captain was Col Lally.

The First XIII rugby league team again had great success under the guidance of Br M.L. Murphy — they won the GRL Third Grade Premiership and retained the Police Shield by defeating the High School. This trophy had been contested since 1952 and had been won by the College every year with the exception of one. At the last round of this trophy seven police officers were present and Senior Sgt. Banks, father of Gordon Banks who played in the Firsts, started the main game.

On 13 July the College played three games against Padua College of Brisbane at the Nambour Showground. The Thirds lost but both the Seconds and Firsts won their



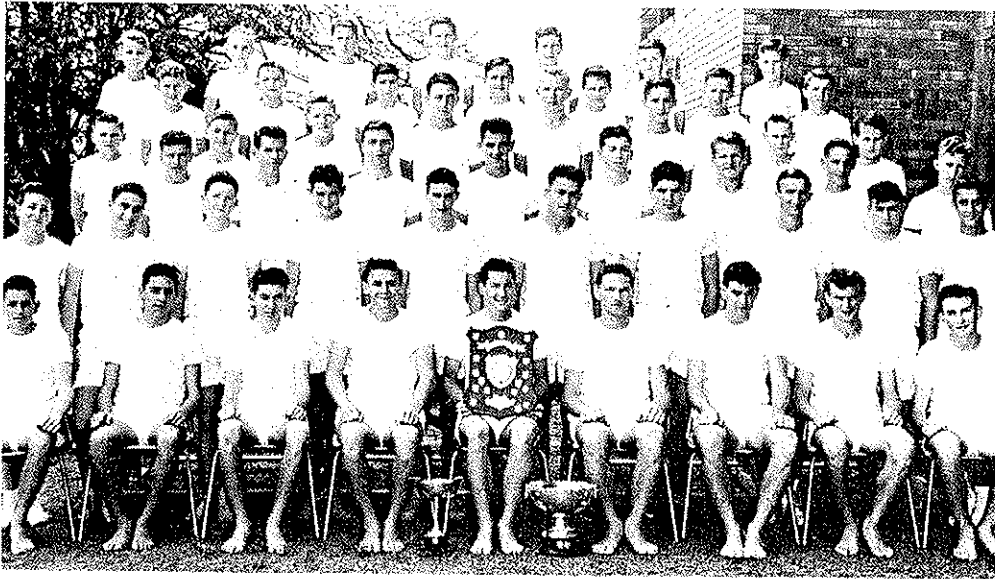
**Swimming Team, 1963**

**Back row:** B. O'Farrell, K. Condon, R. Ward, P. Frisby, D. Rathborne, W. Nolan, J. Hourigan

**Third row:** R. Dower, P. Mak, D. Condon, B. Tierney, R. Ebner, T. Oliver, J. Porter, S. Pearson, J. Egan, G. Day

**Second row:** B. Greaney, J. Mak, G. Tucker, D. Dwyer, P. Dore, G. Cronk (capt.), P. Mahoney, M. Sprenger, D. Schaumberg, J. Cartwright, G. Gablonski

**Front row:** M. Dore, M. Doyle, G. Houghton, M. Mahoney, D. Jack, G. Manning, P. Butler, L. Condon, J. Learoyd, J. Leyden, P. Brown, R. Manning.



**Athletics Team, 1963**

**Back row:** G. Gablonski, A. Jack, T. Gablonski, K. Jillett, M. Daunt, T. Francis, M. Winkel

**Fifth row:** M. Mahoney, R. Betts, G. Poulgrain, M. Doyle, R. Bennett, J. Learoyd, R. Gilchrist

**Fourth row:** K. Olsen, J. Costello, K. Hogan, D. Rathborne, P. Mak, M. O'Brien, D. Jack, C. Carkeet

**Third row:** N. Dawson, J. Cartwright, P. Stewart, C. Lally, P. Eather, R. Ward, A. Jeffery, J. Turley

**Second row:** D. Condon, T. Oliver, B. Beale, L. Laurie, T. Lavercombe, K. Brown, D. Holloway, T. Tierney, G. Tucker, R. Melnacic

**Front row:** D. O'Connor, T. Reed, P. Mahoney, G. Cronk, B. Gallwey (capt.), P. Dore, K. Connors, G. McCormack, J. McCarthy

games. Three junior teams played the Nambour Convent teams on the same day and all were successful.

The Annual Sports held at Albert Park were a huge success and the victorious Greens' winning captain Col Lally received the Chisler Colour Shield from the Mayor Ald Witham.

The College team proved superior in the Wide Bay Christian Brothers Sports Meeting held at Albert Park, winning the coveted Monsignor Jordan Shield.

On Sunday October 6, a dozen cars left Gympie carrying the College athletes to the Metropolitan Catholic School Sports at Scarborough. This was the first time the College competed in these sports and the boys showed great spirit by keeping up to the standard that these more experienced schools set in previous years. In a program of 48 events the Gympie athletes obtained three firsts, seven seconds, eleven thirds and eleven fourth places. The College came fourth out of seven schools.

The First XI Cricket Team finished third in the GCA Third Grade competition. The team comprised: R. Ward, P. Eather, C. Lally, K. Hogan, P. Smith, W. Philp, R. Messer, T. Tierney, G. Tatnell, G. Cronk (capt.), J. Carlson and D. O'Connor.

The Present Boys played a team from the Old Boys and it was hoped to make this an annual event.

This year the school held its second annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival at night in the Gympie Memorial Swimming Pool. The victorious team was Green. Dr P.V. Kenny presented the shield to Daniel Schaumberg, captain of the winning team.

A couple of weeks later at the Wide Bay Christian Brothers Colleges swimming carnival, Gympie finished third behind Bundaberg and Maryborough.

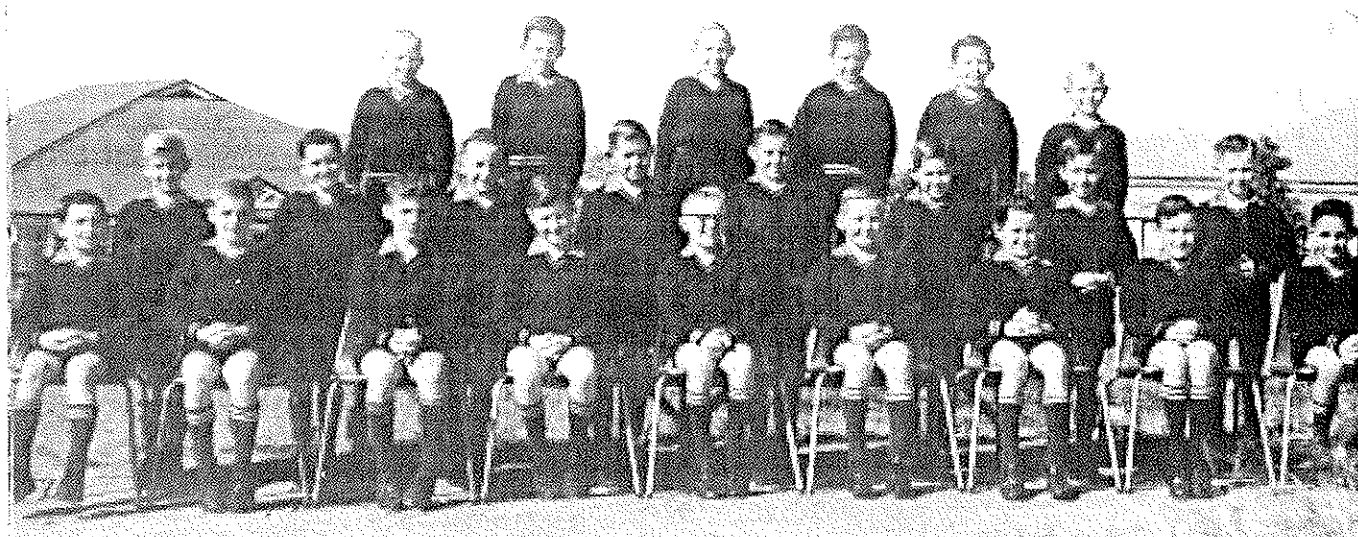
The College competed in the Metropolitan Catholic Schools Association swimming carnival and came in fifth out of seven schools competing.

Nineteen boys sat for the Senior Examination —

S.A. Burkett, J.P. Cameron, D.J. Charles, G.W. Cronk, S.H. Doo, B.P. Dore, P.J. Dore, B.P. Gallwey, K. Keliher, C.W. Lally, D.F. Lavercombe, D.F. McArdle, E.L. McCabe, P.G. McCabe, A.R. Pollock, T.W. Reed, D.L. Schaumberg, P.J. Smith, T.J. Tierney.

Terrence Tierney — Dux of the College — won a State Scholarship in Veterinary Science. Others to win scholarships were Pat Smith, John Cameron, Sean Burkett, Graham Cronk, Col Lally and Paul Dore all in teaching. Terrence Lavercombe, offered a teaching scholarship and a cadetship in the Department of Agriculture and Stock, chose surveying as his career as did Alex Pollock and Barry Dore.

Forty-one boys sat for the Junior examination — J.L. Ahern, R.L. Anderson, B.J. Beale, N.W. Brazier, R. Brown, M.E. Burkett, J.P. Byrne, M.J. Carkeet, R.J. Cowan, G. Cross, N.P. Dawson, D.L. Dwyer, P.T. Eather, C.J. Eyears, W. Forman, P.T. Frisby, R.E. Gablonski, R.W. Gerrard, V.B. Greaney, E.H. Harber, L.V. Laurie, B.P. Leslie, T.J. MacDonnell, P. Mahoney, J.B. McCarthy, W.R. McCarthy, A.J. Merrin, J.J. Miller, G.E. Mitchell, R.J. Moore, P.D. Moran, H.J. Niesler, W.A. Nolan, W.R. Philp, K.R. Reibel, D.B. Seng, B.J. Tierney, M.J. Tobin, K.J. Traill, G.D. Tucker, R.G. Ward.



### Grade 3, 1964

**Back row:** Robert Andrews, Raymond Pearce, Peter Hore, Eddie Knight, Tim Hore, John Marlow

**Middle row:** M. Buckell, Patrick Symes, Wayne Sauer, Gavin Pearce, Simon Hunt, Michael O'Connor

**Front row:** David Punter, Neil Gerrard, Bernard Dore, Greg Bishop, John Gorman, Bruce Williamson, Bernard Webb, Gary Allery, Michael Abdy

B.J. Tierney achieved seven As and one B; J.B. McCarthy: six As and two Bs; N.P. Dawson: six As, one B and two Cs; and B.J. Beale: six As and two Bs. Eight Commonwealth Government scholarships were won.

## 1964

Diamond Jubilee Year of the Christian Brothers in Gympie.

The Old Boys Association ran an art union for a Holden car and raised £1167 pounds to help fund a library in the College.

A new look for the College had commenced late in 1963 with aluminium windows replacing the iron ones

The old Senior room was converted into a modern laboratory equipped with up-to-date scientific instruments (a grant was received from the Commonwealth Government of £5400 towards these costs). Next to this laboratory was a small room with cupboards and benches. The old Sub-Junior room next to it was converted into a modern demonstration room. It contained a bench and facilities for visual education. The room next to this was a very modern physics laboratory. It contained benches, cupboards and up-to-date facilities for modern physics experiments. All these rooms had rubber floor tiles. The whole interior of the school was repainted.

During the Jubilee Week the school was inspected by the parents of the present boys, and by the Old Boys of the school.

There were 98 boarders at the College.

Rugby league: The College entered two teams in the GRL Third Grade Premiership. Although both teams gave a

very good account of themselves in all their matches, neither team was successful in the premiership round.

The team once again defeated the High School to win the Police Shield. In the first round the Firsts and Thirds were victorious, but in the second round all teams won giving the College the shield five games to one. Snr Sgt Banks presented the Police Shield to John Cartwright.

Seconds team: L. Callaghan, W. Forman, P. Eather, P. Frisby, M. Merrin, B. Beale, B. Tierney, J. Monsour, R. Anderson, K. Brown, D. O'Connor, J. McCarthy, D. McArdle (capt.), R. Dwyer, J. Carlson.

Athletics: The season opened with a meet against the High School that the College won 149 points to 112 points, although it must be noted that the High School were not at full strength.

Michael Sprenger cleared six feet to win the high jump. He also leaped 20 feet to win the open broad jump.

Dan Holloway won the under 16 years broad jump in a new record of 19 feet 3 inches.

Kevin Brown came nearer to the Queensland record for the under 16 shot put with his 45 feet 3 inches.

Next were our own school sports — among the nine records broken the standouts were:

- Michael Sprenger, Open high jump 6 feet 3 inches
- Terry Oliver, Under 15 years 220 yards 25 seconds
- Pat Eather, Under 17 years 100 yards 11 seconds

In the Queensland Schoolboy Championships, Michael Sprenger jumped 6 feet 3 inches to beat the previous year's

champion Brenton Thompson. This jump established a new Open Schoolboys record.

College Swimming 1964 — At the College swimming carnival the Green team was successful and the winners' shield was presented to the captain Russell Ebner by Dr P.V. Kenny (PP)

At Bundaberg for the combined Gympie, Maryborough and Bundaberg Carnival, our juniors showed outstanding improvement but came in third. The seniors had a strong victory.

Our second swimming meet was between Gympie High School, Nambour High and CBC — Convent School Gympie. This was the first carnival between these schools and also the first time the Mercy Convent, Gympie competed in such a swimming carnival. Gympie High came in first ahead of Nambour then Gympie.

The final carnival was held at De La Salle College, Brisbane. Eight teams competed. St. Mary's, Toowoomba came in first, second place Padua, third CBC Gympie (only two points behind Padua). Gordon Banks throughout the season showed outstanding form in the open events.

Cricket for 1964 was limited with games being played against the Old Boys, a Boarders—Day Boys game and a game against Parents and Friends. In the matches against Gympie High School our three College teams were defeated. Pat Eathers' batting stood out in this game.

Two tennis matches were played against the Gympie High School and the College suffered defeat in both series. The team was Les Callaghan (capt.), Dudley McArdle, Terrence Bechly, Brian Tierney, Bill Forman and Richard Melnaxis.

Other sports the boys got involved in during the year were volleyball, cross country running, and hockey.

Forty-eight boys sat for the Junior examination — W.W. Bacon, N.W. Bell, K.J. Brown, P.J. Carlson, K.M. Charles, D.E. Condon, K.J. Condon, H.A. Connolly, M.J. Costello, J.W. Cotter, W.A. Cridland, P.M. Dore, P.J. Doyle, M.J. Drynan, D.N. D'Arcy, K.J. Hogan, D.C. Holloway, B.J. Hooper, T.E. Hullett, A.M. Jeffery, J.J. Jocusen, T.H. Magee, G.V. Major, J.S. Mak, J.W. McDonald, H.A. McKenna, R. Melnaxis, M.J. Merrin, R.D. Messer, K.J. Mitchell, T.C. Natoli, J.J. Ogden, M.W. O'Brien, T.W. O'Brien, D.T. O'Connor, J.B. O'Farrell, S.J. Pearson, J. Pijanka, A.R. Pointon, J.W. Porter, R.E. Rankin, V.A. Reibel, P.G. Rhodes, W.A. Rough, B.A. Springall, P.R. Stewart, P.M. Twomey, P.M. Walters.

#### NOTE

*From 1965 we have not been able to find school class photos, examination results, sporting photos etc. We have included the admission lists from these following years.*

#### 1965

On Wednesday 30 June Rev. Fr. B.E. Wilson, an old boy of the CBC, celebrated the ordination to priesthood in St. Patrick's Church, Gympie by the Most Rev. P.M. O'Donnell D.D., Archbishop of Brisbane.

The Fourth Grade and First XIII rugby league teams from the College won GRL premierships. The Firsts were coached by Br M.L. Murphy.

In the GRL fourth grade awards G. Hooper won Best and Fairest, J. Tobin won Best Forward and M. O'Brien won Best Back.

At the 13th Annual Swimming Carnival between the Christian Brothers Colleges of Gympie, Maryborough and Bundaberg, Maryborough was successful winning the Dean Dolan Shield with Gympie coming in third and in doing so scored its highest aggregate of

points since taking part in the carnival. Eighteen records were broken and in the Senior section Gympie was first and second in all races and first in the relay.

Outstanding for Gympie, among many, were S. Pearson, J. Mak and P. Mak. Point of interest was that in the under 10 years (20 yards) John Leyden of Gympie came second and Mark Loane of Gympie came third. Mark's sport was rugby union and he went on to play for Australia while John Leyden played A grade rugby league for Brisbane Brothers.

The following boys commenced school at CBC Gympie in 1965 in various classes: Paul Stanton, Peter Stephens, Peter Abdy, Noel Alexander, Mark Connell, John Frampton, Darryl Gilchrist, Trevor Gorman, Michael Hayes, Peter Hehir, James Henry, Mark Houghton, Shane Jones, Graeme Manning, Geoffrey Murray, Murray MacPherson, Alex McArdle, Patrick McCaul, Michael Nolan, John O'Sullivan, Rodney Rice, Shaun Vines, Martin Peach, John Reilly, Mark Tobin, Ian Vagg, Glenn Warnes, Michael Waters, Bernard Webb, Anthony Wilson, Peter Simpson, Keith Carrott.

#### 1966

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1966 in various classes: John Mahony, Denis Bochow, Stephen Buckley, Stephan Coleman, Wayne Connell, Darryl Coxon, Christopher Dore, Lawrence Eagers, Paul Edwards, Ross Fear, Bruce Feltham, Ian David Frampton, Ed. Michael Gormley, John Greaney, Anthony Hope, Bernard Hore, Danny Hore, Russell Jones, Warren Kajewski, William Knight, David Langton, Michael Leyden, Garry Lowe, Matthew Macklin, Peter Major, Alan Markham, Phillip McGrath, Jonathon Nolan, Wayne Osborne, Michael Pearce, Barry Plate, Peter Quatermass, Anthony Rowlands,



Martin Rowlands, John Sheehan, Ken Simpson, Terrence Syle, Barry Symes, Michael Traill, Timothy Twomey, Kenneth Urban, Stephen Urban, Ross Kamp, Shane Strong, John Anderson, John Banks, Christopher Cavanagh, John Eyears, William Forsyth, David Gerard Fox, Richard Gylliford, Brian Harrison, William Hutchison, Joseph Kuroma, Kevin Markham, Brian Millard, Stephen O'Brien, Terrence O'Brien, John Paulger, Glen Pearce, Graham Porter, Michael Proberts, Robert Rice, Peter Sokol, Geoffrey Swift, Kevin Tramacchi, Thomas Vogler, Noel Wheeler, Alexander Hanlon, Michael Cannon, Rodney Cassidy, Lyndsay Cox, Patrick Curran, Michael Dobbyn, Ian Forsyth, Greg Gallagher, Robert Gumley, Mark Hehir, Charles Heidemann, David Law, Alan Lowndes, David MacKenzie, Michael O'Byrne, Grahame Robson, Gerard Sprenger, Phillip Tomkinson, Darcy Sheehan, Peter Birt, Michael Loane, Michael Pedrazinni, Johannes van Loendersloot, William Hinds, Michael D'Arcy, Anthony De Vere, Mark Foster, John Wameran, Lindsay Powell, Gary Walker, Francis Dierke.

## 1967

House crests were obtained from Ireland for the four houses.

The Superior General Br A.A. Loftus accompanied by the Provincial, Br J.A. McGlade visited the college. An official

welcome was tendered by the parish priest, Rev. Dr. P.V. Kenny, the mayor Ald. R.N. Witham, the brothers and the Old Boys Association.

In the presence of the College pupils and a large number of relatives and friends of old boy priests and brothers, Br Loftus unveiled a new honour board bearing, in gold letters, the names of our old boy priests and brothers.

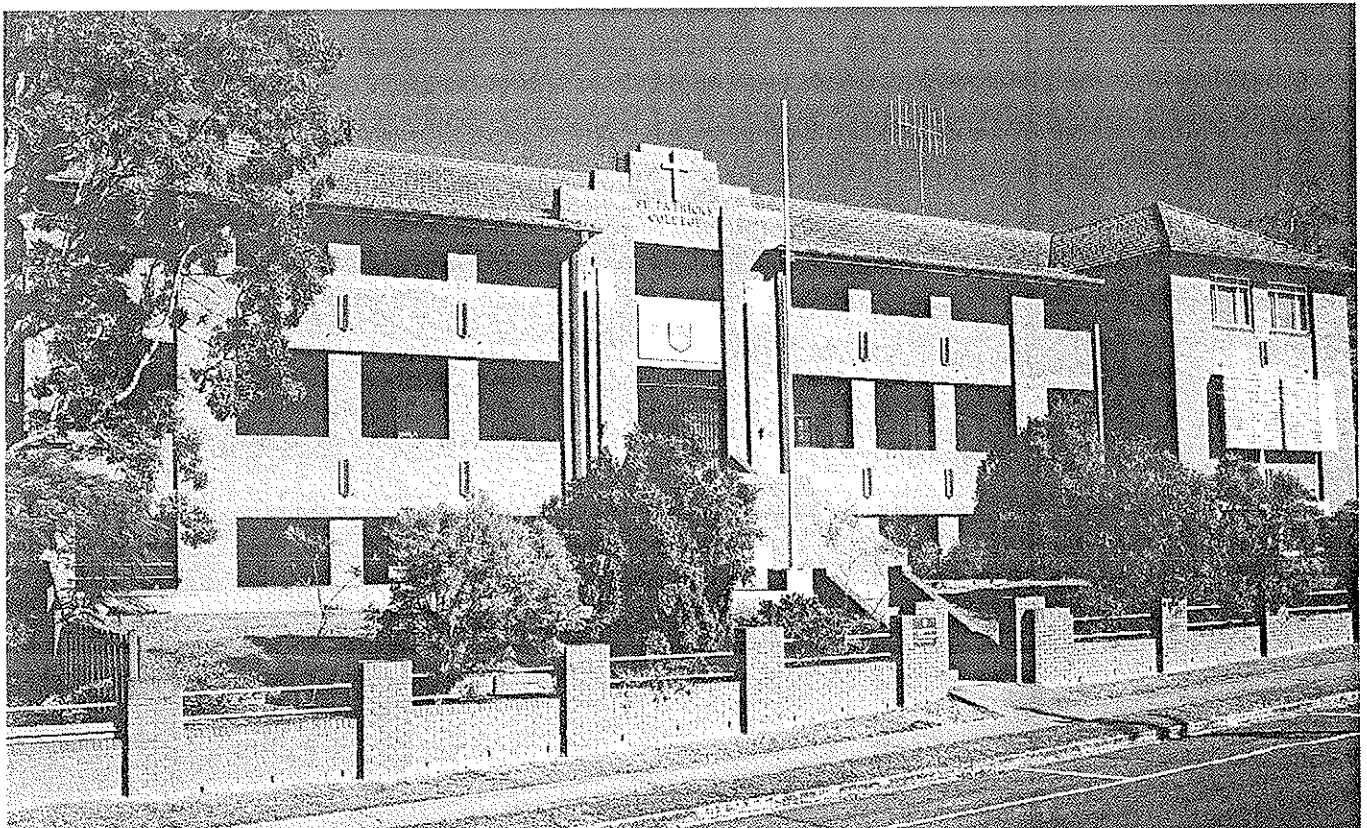
The honour board was a gift to the College by the Old Boys Association.

On Sunday 15 October a reunion dinner was held by the Old Boys Association as a gesture to Gympie's centenary at the Memorial Hall.

Approximately 250 past pupils of CBC Gympie from all over the state and interstate attended. Some of the old boys in attendance were: Br H.B.W. Wynne (Deputy Principal, Ipswich); Br K. Lynch (Principal, Ipswich); Br H. Gardner, Father O'Brien; Br A.J. Mooney (Shorncliffe); Br J.L. Deagin (Gympie) and Fr K.B. Wallace (Columban Missioner).

In his address, Mayor Ald R.N. Witham stated:

*'the city had a great tradition and the Christian Brothers School had played a major part in the development of the city and district, and the state. The community spirit in Gympie was outstanding, partly due to leadership from the school'.*



*The impressive red brick college, opened in 1938, has stood the test of time well. It is now part of St Patrick's College and displays the college's crest above the main entry.*

Dr P.V. Kenny, the parish priest said:

*'I feel that this college has turned out men of strength, none of whom are sectarian, men who are tolerant without being neutralist. A college that can do that has reason to be very proud. This community is ours and we have an obligation towards it. We must first remember we are Catholics and that this college was established so that we could be trained and educated in an atmosphere that would turn us towards God, but there would be something lacking if we did not learn to live with other members of the community who are not trained in this school.'*

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1967 in various classes: Alfred Bale, Kenneth Hanlon, Peter Hanlon, Brian Robertson, Anthony O'Brien, Luciano Martinero, Kevin Bishop, Owen Noffke, Bernard Richardson, Geoffrey Swift, Graham Cahill, Graham Carlson, Phillip Coyne, Brian Dougherty, Neil Findlay, Warren Paulger, Lawrence Imoda, John Rouen, Russell Elliott, Robert Elliott, Stephen Connell, John Francis Quinlan, Peter Quinlan, Gary Cronin, Anthony Cronin, John Kelly, Philip Agnew, Peter Burridge, Michael McGrath, David Lindeberg, Peter Lindeberg, Max Uectntz, Gordon Uectntz, Reginald Dixon, Neil Kelly, Wayne Andrews, John Lister, David Naylor, Robert Reilly, Chris Fuery, Paul Andrews, Phillip Alexander, Kenneth Brady, Michael Campbell, Paul Carroll, Michael Coleman, Peter Dennis, Brian Dore, Milton Doyle, Timothy Edwards, William Farrelly, Ronald Ford, Henry Garrahy, Paul Geldard, John Goldburg, Glen Hallahan, Peter Hansen, Gregory Hehir, Geoffrey Hope, David Hourigan, Michael Lehman, James Lawson, Martyn Malone, Anthony McMullan, Anthony Nebe, Francis Rowlands, Noel Ryan, Shane Sauer, Noel Springall, Owen Steffens, Michael Traill, Vivian Warry, Gregory Wilson, Peter Wilson, Ian Wooding, John Wooding, Patrick Malone, Paul Malone, Kenny Malone, Peter Malone, Edmond Van Hicke, William Hutchinson, Geoffrey Gumley, Shane Walsh, Leon De Vere, Bradley Treadwell, Greg Freaney, Michael McCarthy, Arthur Vesey-Brown, Geoffrey Dower, Bevan Philip, Michael Kennane, Michael MacKenzie, Paul Madigan, Darryl Tassell, Edwin Knight, Gary Thomas Pointing, Alan Bourke, Michael Hodges, Martin Taylor, Francis Burkett, Laurie Bourne, Doug Brian, Gerard Busitin, Robert Bury, Leo Doolan, David Naylor, Kevin Clem, David Ammis, Timothy Neisler, Albert Franklin, Russell Luckock, John Curran, Michael Bourke, Ken Hind, Mark Lynch, Anthony Schultz, Keith Laird, Michael Byrne, John Byrne, Christopher Treacy, Aquila Geelen, John Doolan.

## 1968

Br M.L. Murphy finished his term as principal of the CBC Gympie and he will be remembered not only as a fine

teacher but also as a successful rugby league coach winning three GRL premierships with the First XIII.

Br B. McKennariey succeeded as principal. The new library and science room were planned. The YCS was introduced into the school and by this time a great measure of co-instruction with the older girls from the convent gave a great choice of subjects for the senior boys and helped rationalise staff in the Catholic high schools. Moderation had become a new feature in testing and examination.

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1968 in various classes: Michael Terkelsen, Colin Idle, Bernard Dominick, Roger Dominick, Christopher Vesey-Brown, Jeffrey Sokol, Stephen Cobanov, Daniel McCarthy, William Beeson, John Beeson, Robert Beeson, Nickolas Udoric, Robin Boyd, Robert Kemp, Peter Pearce, Michael Stephens, Brian McGuire, Russell Henessy, John Davidson, Peter Busteed, Gregory Pedrazzini, Daryl Sempf, Joseph Hill, Russ Doyle, Lawrence Miller, Alan Giles, John Muir, Colin Geiger, Dallas Walker, Stephen Freeman, Timothy Curran, Bevan Vogler, Johaness Noordefmeer, Daniel Williams, Myron Banks, Peter Henebery, Anthony Henebery, Kevin Rafter, Robert Rafter, Michael Preston, Kenneth Cahill, Peter Stark, Mark Loane, Stephen McBride, Bevan Payne, Kemsley Cross, Michael Atkins, Ronald Atkins, Timothy Twomey, Alan Markham, Mark Roberts, Daniel Prentice, Stephen Turnbull, Gregory MacPherson, Robert Murray, Phillip McGrath, Anthony Nolan, Peter Quatermass, Brian Robertson, Brian Dray, John Davidson, Michael Hodges, Peter Pearce, Herman 'Jo' Urhardjo.

## 1969

On July 8 an old boy, Noel John Connolly, was ordained a priest of God by the Most Rev. Bishop H. Kennedy D.D. in St. Patrick's Church. More than 30 clergy participated in the ordination ceremony.

Through the co-operation of the Old Boys Association, a public address system was placed in the College.

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1969 in various classes:

Donald Marsh, Kerry Bullock, Bevan Reibel, Barry Donovan, Maurice Buckley, Mark Grant, Timothy Cavanagh, Daniel Tramacchi, John Tramacchi, Joseph Tramacchi, David Vesey-Brown, Robert Carr, Geoffrey Diefenbach, Stephen Rothwell, Stuart Dell, Gregory Dell, Anthony Proberts, Colin Reaney, Rodney Rogers, Robert Timmis, Russell Seyde, William Power, Michael Hodges, Gary Allery, Peter Hinds, Anthony Ryder, Martin Taylor, Kerry Noffke, Trevor Pitt, Paul Kelsey, Alan Comans, Kenneth Waldron, Thomas Burkett, Peter Cavanagh, Stephen Brown, Peter Blakeney, Ian Brown,

Thomas Muir, Craig Bond, Daniel Taaffe, Michael Bond, Patrick Frawley, Anthony Martyn, Paul Martyn, Damian Martyn, David Eulick, Dominic Yan, Graham Porter, Denis Finn, Kenneth Lockhart.

## 1970

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1970 in various classes:

Gavin Kelly, John Reilly, Robert McGill, Rodney Davison, Gregory Clem, Terence Cooper, Peter Avenell, Colin Harriot, Roy Jensen, Ross Davies, Bernard Sanderson, Michael Murray, Russell Dombrow, John Murphy, Michael Muir, Andrew Muir, Anthony Muir, Geoffrey Simons, Stephen Paulger, Kevin Phillips, ? Campbell, Bernard Ryan, Paul McCarthy, Noel Dowdle, Peter Shanahan, Peter D'Arcy, Arthur McPherson, Timothy Pedrazinni, Stephen Ryan, Geoffrey Morris, Mark Noffke, Michael McWilliams, Peter Conway, Leon Adams, Michael Blinco, Christopher Blinco, Edward Blinco, Stephen Bagnell, Anthony Boxsell, Michael Bochow, Mark Cummings, Michael Frampton, Allan

Gaté, Paul Gorman, Bernard Greaney, Christopher Hope, Brian Hayes, Robert Hourigan, Neil James MacDonnell, Liam Malone, Colin Murphy, Paul Nebe, Terry Nolan, Christopher O'Brien, Paul Poncini, Robert Preston, Gregory Rafter, Damien Twomey, Bevan Webb, Robert White, Tony Schmidt, John Tramacchi, Gary Birmingham, Martin Pobar, Gavan Matthew Duffy, Frederick Brooks, Stephen De Vere, John Kelly, John McCarthy, Tino Mascali, Myles Carroll, Terence Carroll, Adrian Willimott, Peter McKenzie, Dennis Granshaw, Graham Granshaw, Noel Granshaw, Alex Toffoli, Bruno Toffoli, Anthony MacLelland, Anthony Hence.

## 1971

St Francis Xavier Training College was opened at Indooroopilly by the Superior General who later visited the Gympie College.

A very successful walk-a-thon was arranged by the parents and friends to help the library and other college needs — a sum of \$2000 was raised.

There were 44 boys in year 10.

The following boys started their schooling at CBC Gympie in 1971 in various classes:

William Crew, Paul Hansen, Martin Laizans, John Lister, Michael McCarthy, Allan Neill, Mark Powell, Maurice Simons, Shane Frerichs, John Kirwan, Mark Kruger, Osborne Noordermeer, Rowan Reibel, Lloyd Kidd, Phillip Draheim, Phillip Blakeney, Brian Kemp, Gregory Edwards, James Avenell, Raymond Ethell, Michael Holmes, John McCarthy, Peter Allison, Peter Abell, Michael Buckley, Benjamin Bishop, Jeffrey Brennan, John Carroll, Michael Curran, Mark Coleman, James Connolly, Michael Daunt, Ambrose Duffy, Gerard Hehir, Kevin Kelly, Brian Learoyd, Danny Leyden, Anthony McGrath, Terence MacDonnell, Stephen McMullen, Peter Murphy, Stephen Murphy, Anthony Murray, Phillip Pritchard, Richard Pointing, Damian Pobar, Danny Robertson, Danny Steffens, Ken Tramacchi, Marco Vaccarini, Timothy White, Owen Warry, Charles White, Paul Woodrow, David Cross, Michael Brown.



### First XIII, 1973

**Back row:** David Crowther, ? Cross, Greg Hickey, Stephan Fuchs

**Middle row:** Br Evan Harris (coach), Shane Frederichs, John Shardlow, Patrick Symes, —, Michael Nolan

**Front row:** Michael Quinn, Darryl Gilchrist, Peter Walker, Dennis Bochow, Peter Abdy

**1972**

Rev Fr W. McCarthy, an old boy of CBC Gympie, was ordained to the priesthood in this year.

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1972 in various classes: Christopher Boxsell, Patrick Brennan, Keith Burrridge, Anthony Cignoli, Stephen Codde, Paul Cummings, Wayne Daunt, Michael Doyle, Craig Drinkwater, Robert Ford, Bryce Goldburg, Neil Ham, Peter Hamblin, Peter Kelly, Anthony Kewen, Paul Lake, John Gerard, George Leach, Stephen Learoyd, Phillip Martyn, Russell Murdoch, Michael Murphy, Michael McKenna, Denis McGill, Peter Preston, Michael Rosenthal, Peter Sagner, Glen Shepherd, Adam Simpson, Paul Sproxton, Matthew Steffens, Michael Stewart, Neville Terkelsen, Robert Tryhorn, David Turley, Gregory Waters, Peter Waters, William Wilson, Leonard Baglow, Kerry Cosgrove, David Crowther, Stephan Fuchs, Gregory Hickey, Peter Massingham, John Quinn, Francis Shepherd, Frederick Swift, Peter Walker, Michael Weaver, H. Wihardjo, John Marlow, Allan Pascoe, Michael Quinn, John Shardlow, David Bird, Eugene De Vere, Kevin Erbacher, Thomas Williamson, Michael Bale, Glen Bird, Gregory Carlson, Edward Cormac, Terry Coyne, James Cronin, Xavier De Vere, Barry Fitzpatrick, John Grabbe, Brett Greenslade, Gerard Gumley, David Hawthorne, Gregory Hyde, Gavin Jensen, Peter Kruger, John Lake, Kim Lansdowne, Tasman Lawrie, Michael Lawrence, Albert Prince, Randall Quinn, Gregory Richards, Vincent Sanderson, Anthony Stephens, Emanuel Venardos, Gregory Warren, Neil Milliner, Russell Zerner, Gregory Ash, Colin Hargrave, Joseph Natoli, Stuart Nicol, Darren Weekes, Michael Williamson, Scott Ford, Kenneth Richards, H. Bostock,

Kazimer Czetvo, Michael James, Anthony Natoli, Angelo Venardos, Hans Peter Jessen, Peter Wilson, Stephen Downing.

**1973**

A Student Council was introduced into the school, with members contributing many constructive ideas which were acted upon, with good results for all concerned.

Br B. McKennairey finished his term as Principal of the school and was succeeded by Br J. Cummins.

A very enthusiastic Angling Club was launched by Br Ansell.

The first XIII Rugby League Football team consisted of D. Crowther, K. Cross, G. Hickey, S. Fuchs, S. Frederichs, J. Shardlow, P. Symes, L. Kidd, M. Nolan, M. Quinn, D. Gilchrist, P. Walker, D. Bruhn, P. Abdy.

Br Evan Harris was the coach, he also joined the Gympie Rugby League Referees Association and became one of the top A Grade referees.

Br Paul O'Brien became the first Christian Brother to play rugby league for the Past Brothers RLFC. He was a Reserve Grade player who never took a backward step.

There were 81 boarders this year. Br J.A. Cummins (Principal), Br M.D. Surawski (Deputy Principal) and Br J. Weston along with Mrs K.M. Watson (Matron) looked after the boarders.

In Year 10 there were 42 boys: J. Avenell, D. Bird, P. Blakeney, D. Bochow, S. Buckley, S. Coleman, E. De Vere, C. Dore, G. Dower, P. Draheim, C. Edwards, D. Edwards, B. Feltham, S. Frederichs, K. Hoffman, A. Hope, C. Hore, C. Idle, B. Kemp, L. Kidd, W. Knight, M. Kruger, D. Langton, M. Leyden, G. Lowe, P. Major, A. McClelland, W. Osborne, M. Pearce, T. Pedrazzini, K. Phillips, B. Plate, D. Prentice, J. Riven, J. Sheehan, K. Simpson, A.

Strong, B. Symes, D. Taaffe, T. Twomey, B. Webb, T. Williamson.

In Year 12 there were 21 boys: M.P. Abdy, L. Baglow, M. Bambrick, P. Plakeney, G. Bun, K. Cosgrove, K. Cross, D. Crowther, S. Fuchs, G. Hickey, T. Hore, B. Horton, E. Knight, K. Malone, P. Massingham, E. Shepherd, E. Swift, P. Symes, P. Walker, M. Weaver, P. Woodrow.

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1973 in various classes: Michael Gorey, Michael Bambrick, Anthony Cosgrove, Michael England, Terence Flemming, Marcus Fuchs, Mark Gampe, Leo Hansen, Jason Payne, Gregory Suter, Darryl Beddows, Patrick Mahon, Kevin Hoffman, Anthony Strong, Michael Buckley, Roderick Collins, Simon Collins, Robert Davis, Phillip Groves, Geoffrey Hardiker, Bradley Hogan, Paul Jappe, Thomas Mahon, Martin Blakeney, Daniel Cavanagh, Lyle Clem, Craig Connor, Rodney Desmond, Anthony Fitzpatrick, Mark Fox, Michael Heit, Peter Jocusmen, Peter Madden, Terence McClelland, Christopher Murphy, John Robeck, Christopher Seidner, Anthony Strong, Lawrence Swift, Shane Draheim, Spencer Young, Stephen Davidson, Peter Imhoff, Stephen Taylor, Mitchell Ambrosetti, John Bradford, Damien Bradley, William Bushell, Peter Carr, Paul Cummings, Russell Cousins, William Davidson, Symon Duggan, Rodney Godwin, Peter Hancox, Paul Hehir, Kenneth Hodson, John Hourigan, Bernard Jones, Paul Lake, Damien Malone, Michael Malone, Andrew McEwan, Peter McMullen, Peter Preston, Mark Punter, Anthony Quatermass, Allen Rafter, Patrick Rafter, Gregory Sauer, Mark Schultz, Neil Stallard, Craig Stallard, Peter Treasure, Malcolm Turley, Timothy Vanderaar, Mark Warwick, Damian Webb, Austin McMahon, Timothy McMartin, Lloyd Hatton, Graham Cox.



#### **Grade 4, 1973**

**Back row:** Ken Hodson, Peter McMullan, Peter Hancox, Greg Sauer, Bernard Jones, Russell Cousins, Michael Malone

**Third row:** John Hourigan, Timothy Vanderaar, Malcolm Turley, Mitchell Ambrosetti, Peter Preston, Damian Bradley, Paul Lake, Billy Bushell

**Second row:** Patrick Rafter, Paul Cummings, Craig Stallard, Tony Quatermass, Simon Duggan, Mark Schultz, Peter Carr, Allen Rafter

**Front row:** Andrew McEwan, Damian Malone, Rodney Godwin, Neil Stallard, Mrs Mary Tinney, Peter Treasure, John Bradford, Damian Webb, Paul Hehir

#### **1974**

The seventieth year of the Christian Brothers in Gympie was fittingly celebrated with many Old Boys returning for the Jubilee Mass and other functions. Old Boy, Father Pat Cassidy, celebrated the Mass.

The Old Boys donated \$2100 towards renovations in the Brothers Residence, a project that was long overdue.

Br Lee Dowling played rugby league with the Past Brothers R.I.F.C. and was better than the average player.

The following boys started school at CBC Gympie in 1974 in various classes: Bernard Carty, Michael

Flemming, Paul Hammill, Michael Meiers, Ian Powell, Raymond Horne, Richard Birchley, Charles Hayes, Francis O'Neill, Ken McIntosh, James Bartlett, William Blinco, Bernard Blowers, Mark Cassidy, Anthony Corfield, Terrence Gannon, Kevin Hooker, Graeme Jenson, Cameron Mullins, Matthew Murray, Andrew Reibel, Stephen McLaughlin, Gerard Maher, Christopher Morrison, Stephen Robinson, Brendan Ryan, Allan Spinks, David Corfield, Peter Rice, Francis Bennett, Anthony Horton, Ricky Janeak, Alexander Bally, Michael Abell, Patrick Buckley, Patrick Burns, Allen McMahon, Jason Connell, Michael Connolly, Bradley

Dickfos, Stephen Dickfos, Lee Doyle, Brendan Duggan, Brett Daunt, Peter Dwyer, James Fern, Craig Horton, David Hodson, Shane Jones, Craig Kelly, Michael Kewin, Reginald Leis, Paul McClelland, Michael Murphy, Paul Orchard, Shane Pearce, Thomas Pearce, Anthony Schmid, Grahame Shepherd, Gregory Turley, Mark Landy, Peter Young, Mark Cassidy, Robert Gray, William Delaforce, Peter White, James Blinco, David Daly, Bryce Gallagher, Scott Warren, James Gallagher, Michael McDonald.

#### **1975**

The extensive alterations to the Brothers Residence were completed.



**Prefects, 1974**

**Standing:** Neil O'Sullivan, Alfred Bale, Peter Avenell, Graeme Manning (Vice-Captain), Peter Hehir, Marcus Fuchs, Peter Fleming

**Seated:** Dr P.V. Kenny (Parish Priest), Michael Terkelsen (Captain), Br J. Cummins (Principal)



The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1975 in various classes: Michael Campbell, Terence Carty, Ian Balley, David Hung, Dermot Funnel, Robert Stace, Peter Hung, Paul Cutler, Mitchell Lawrie, James Carolan, Cameron Green, Malcolm Lohse, Sean Mullins, Michael O'Brien, Darryl Penfold, James Planck, Martin Webb, Kevin Williams, Mark Bickle, Michael Birchley, Robert Buckley, Terence Krauger, Kevin Nicol, Desmond Stace, Ashley Weekes, Patrick Spratt, Shaun Penfold, Michael Stace, Glenn Tierney, Anthony Weinert, John Bennett, Timothy Bishop, Michael Burridge, Paul Callaghan, Craig Chapman, Timothy Fuery, Simon Hancox, Dean Holzworth, David Kuhn, Russell Learoyd, Anthony Leis, Kenneth Mahoney, Michael Miles, Shane McBride, Bernard McEwan, Sean O'Neill, Craig Pearce, David Pejich, Stephen Punter, Bradley Stallard, Mark Tramacchi, Peter Turley, David O'Brien, Darrin Elford, Michael O'Brien, Simon Cassidy, Ross Smith, Perry Hume, Paul Hume, David Reed, David Daly, John Gardner, Damian Pobar, Mark Smith.

**1976**

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1976 in various classes: Robert Basford, David Bermingham, Gregory Bourke, Darryl Bradford, Gregory Brown, Gerard Browne, Michael Byrne, Troy Cavell, Jerome Curran, Michael Curran, Stuart Hatton, Gregory Hillcoat, Robert Hourigan, Peter Jenkins, Ronald Keim, Allan Mahoney, Kevin Meredith, Anthony Miles, Peter Moore, Mark Murray, Michael McKay, Mark Orchard, Michael Reed, Nigel Rosenthal, Terrence Schmid, Timothy Shepherd, Peter Skennerton, Michael Spring, Daniel Sullivan, Patrick White, Michael Moore, Christopher Dodt, Peter Mullins, John Moore, Adam Shipway, Robertus Dingjan, Brendan Mullins, Len Murphy, Wayne Paterson, Andrew Robinson, Daryn Storch, Christopher Flynn, Terry Harding, Michael Noone, Gregory Shaw, Liam Stallard, Timothy Murphy, Joseph Pointing, Stephen Donadel, Paul Freyer, Paul Johnson, Kim Harrington, John Warner, Gregory Chatterton, Gordon Newton, Neil Brown, Steven Johnson, Gerard O'Connell, Francis O'Neill, Francis O'Rourke, Glen Murdoch, Michael Murdoch, John Carter, Stephen Flynn, Andrew Flynn.

**1977**

The annual speech night was held in the new Civic Centre.

Two college boys, Peter Lehman and Michael Curran, made the Open Queensland Under 18 Rugby League team to play NSW at Lang Park. Both boys were in Year 12.

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1977 in various classes: Shane Palmer, Gary Westaway, David Donaldson, Steven Gregg, Paul Westaway, Mark Smale, Robert Baldwin, John Hardiker, Mark McCudden, Anthony Rogers, Cameron Schneider, Laurie Shaw, Anthony Webb, Peter Bonanno, Andrew Hilditch, Ciba Wagai, Anthony Williams, Paul Byrne, Benedict Carroll, Christopher Cox, Sean Doolan, Timothy Fitzpatrick, Brett Gerrard, John Grant, Anthony Haling, Michael Hodson, Philip Hourigan, Dean Hume, Liam Kenny, Robert McBride, Paul McIntosh, Paul McMullen, Heath Murdoch, Ashley Pearce, Damian Smith, Bradley Richards, Paul Turley, Simon Walker, Roger Smethurst, Neil Choyce, Robert McConville.



## 1978

This was the final year of Br J. Cummins' term as Principal. During his term of office (six years) the Brothers Residence was transformed in a way that made the living conditions much more pleasant. It allowed for more space, better ventilation in summer and warmth in winter, with many other facilities which helped to make it very comfortable.

In regards to the college, plans were initiated by Br Cummins for a bigger, brighter staff room, principal's office, deputy's office, secretarial and duplicating areas, sick bay and an interview room.

Co-instruction with the convent school in the senior classes continued to prove very satisfactory.

At the end of 1978 a very sad event took place when the Sacred Heart Boarding School closed. The college had started taking boarders when the boarding school opened in 1947 and for 32 years had given country boys the chance to receive a Catholic education. A great era in the history of the school came to an end.

Old boy, Kevin Kerley, was raised in the ministry of Deacon at the end of this year. Kevin had completed his schooling at this college in 1947 when he sat for the senior examination. He then joined the Marist Brothers and has been with the Marist Missions in New Guinea for most of this time. Kevin decided to extend his vocation in the late 1990s. He is at present with the Marist Fathers, Pinputz Province, Bougainville.

Gary Bermingham (who had left school in 1977 in Year 11) made the Queensland Under 18 rugby league team to play NSW at Lang Park.

Former pupil John Tobin (and fellow Past Brothers RLFC team member Brad Kennedy) became the first players, while playing in Gympie, to make the Queensland A grade team to play NSW at Lang Park.

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1978 in various classes: Martin Abel, Noel Brennan, John Cartwright, Glenn Clarke, Gregory Connors, Luke Croton, Bradley Forsyth, David Hore, Darryl Kewin, Ashley Leis, Peter McKay, Paul McMahon, Daniel Mahoney, Danny Meredith, Peter Murray, Timothy Reed, Mark Stallard, Kenneth Sorensen, Mark Turley, Richard O'Driscoll, Anthony Pointing, Steven Crawley, Ivan Jensen, Steven Kerr, Brett Sengstock, Brett Tremble, Wayne Lynn, Mark Duncan, Neil Choyce, Murray Abel, Ashley Cunningham, Gabriel Cerasani, Peter Freudenstein, Nicholas Bleakley, Timothy Bleakley, Christopher Bleakley, David Kay, Lehny Felesini, Peter Felesini.

## 1979

The new principal of CBC Gympie was Br B.L. Cumming and he was the third successive superior to be appointed from Abergowrie College. This is of more interest than would at first appear, as one of his predecessors in Gympie, Br B. Doğan transferred from Gympie to become the foundation superior of Abergowrie, close to 50 years before.

Two hundred and thirty boys attended the college this year with many Year 11 and 12 girls from St Patrick's attending science and general studies classes.

John Carroll was captain of the school.

There were 33 boys attending Year 10: A. Ambrosetti, A. Bally, E. Bennett, J. Bradford, D. Bradley, B. Bushell, P. Carr, R. Cousins, B. Davidson, P. Freudenstein, R. Godwin, P. Hehir, K. Hudson, J. Hourigan, P. Hume, B. Jones, P. Lake, W. Lyn, A. McEwan, P. McMullen, J. Moore, M. Punter, T. Quatermass, A. Rafter, C. Schneider, M. Schultz, C. Stallard, G. Tierney, P. Treasure, P. Turley, T. Vanderaar, A. Webb, D. Webb.

There were 19 boys attending Year 12: B. Blowers, J. Brennan, J. Carroll, M. Coleman, G. Cox, D. Cross, A. Cunningham, M. Daunt, G. Hehir, P. Hume, T. Murray, M. O'Brien, D. Pobar, D. Robertson, M. Vaccarini, A. Venardos, M. Webb, N. White, T. White.

The following boys started school at CBC Gympie in 1979 in various classes: Liam Bagnell, Timothy Cartwright, Paul Daniels, David Gear, Jason Handy, Glen Heaton, Andrew Herbert, Timothy Ham, Stephen Jones, Damien Kenny, Steven Kluver, Philip Lickorish, Nicholas Mahoney, Martin Male, Steven Meredith, Shane Mills, Andrew Mullins, Daniel O'Brien, Shayne Ostwald, Jeffrey Richards, John Sheldrick, Christopher Shields, Scott Smith, Jason Tramacchi, Timothy Walker, Shane Handy, Michael Millard, Dominic Ovenden, Stephen Banham, John McNaught, Simon Ovenden, Stephen Ross, Mark Ovenden, Shaun Milburn, Mark Evans, Paul Evans, Mark Cranny, Timothy Cranny, Glen Cranny, David Bally, Tony Brierley, Peter Knox, David Ross.

## 1980

Br Ian Robertson played rugby league for the Past Brothers RLFC in the Reserve Grade competition and was a fine player.

There were 34 boys attending Year 10: Michael Abell, Nick Bleakley, Patrick Buckley, Pat Burns, Simon Cassidy, Ashley Connell, Michael Connolly, Mark Cranny, Steven Crawley, Brett Daunt, Chris Dodt, Lee Doyle, Peter Dwyer, Craig Hatton, David Hodson, Robert Hurley, David Kay, Steven Kerr, Michael Kewin, Mark Landy, Michael McDonald, Murray McNaught, Tony Moroney, Simon

Morrow, Peter Mullins, Michael Murdoch, Michael Murray, Simon Ovenden, Sean Pearce, Mark Perissinotto, Steven Russ, Tony Schmid, Graham Shepherd, Greg Turley.

18 boys attending Year 12: Chris Boxsell, Michael Brown, Stephen Codde, Wayne Daunt, Bryce Goldberg, Denis McGill, John Leach, Patrick McKenna, Michael Noone, Mark Ovenden, Michael Rosenthal, Greg Shaw, Glen Shepherd, Liam Stallard, Peter Sagner, Daryn Storch, Robert Tryhorn, Peter Waters.

The following boys started school at the CBC Gympie in 1980 in various classes: Michael Fischer, Peter Smoothy, Robert Horley, Timothy Kerrigan, Kyle Chapman, John Gablonski, Michael Kerr, Brendon Kerrigan, Peter Milne, John Morgan, Leonard Phillips, David Treloar, John Jeffrey, Wayne Hogan, Peter Kerrigan, Anthony Pope, Scott Banks, James Forrest, Matthew Ovenden, Matthew Phillips, Darryl Pope, Mark Thatcher, Peter Alder, Guy Bermingham, Mark Brennan, Michael Condon, Philippe David, Stephane David, Joshua Dickens, Patrick Elliott, Simon Farrelly, Nicholas Henle, Ashley Connell, John Jeffrey, Mark Perissinotto, Ricardo Perissinotto, Steven Perissinotto, Simon Morrow, Mark Morrow, Anthony Moroney, Michael Banks, Todd Pevreal, Peter Williamson, Ian Tritton, Richard Brough, William Brough, Mark McLoughlan, Christopher McLoughlan, David Pevreal, Julian McNamara, Warren Dunell, Michael Crough.

## 1981

Br T.T. O'Dwyer (affectionately known as 'Ned' to his early pupils and 'Big Bird' to a later generation) was six times a member of the Gympie CBC community — 1947–49, 1954–57, 1971–76, 1977 for six months, 1978 and 1981–82.

He was instrumental in the college entering cricket and rugby league teams in the City competitions, and he coached many of these teams.

He had much to do with the establishment and running of the boarding college. After the erection of the new block in 1955 he arranged the purchase of a 16 mm projector to screen films on Saturday night and the boarders paid for the pleasure with an admission fee of nine pence. He also installed speakers in the dormitory and played records to lull them to sleep. Two of the things he regretted were:

- the closure of the boarding school during his term because he had been here for the opening.
- the final *Gympian* (the student magazine) that started and finished during his terms here.

24 boys attended Year 10: Stephen Banham, John Bennett, Tim Bleakley, Michael Burrige, Paul Callaghan, Craig Chapman, Brendan Condon, Warren Dunell, Darren

Elford, Steven Kerr, Tim Kerrigan, David Kuhn, Russell Learoyd, Anthony Leis, Ken Mahoney, Shane McBride, Bernard McEwan, Mark McLoughlin, Michael Moore, Craig Pearce, David Pejich, Bradley Stallard, Mark Tramacchi, Peter Turley.

16 boys attended Year 12: Peter Carr, Russell Cousins, Michael Crough, Bill Davidson, Michael Fischer, Rodney Godwin, Paul Hehir, Ken Hodson, John Hourigan, Andrew McEwan, Peter McMullen, John Moore, Peter Smoothy, Craig Stallard, Peter Treasure, Damian Webb.

17 girls attended Year 12: Patricia Bishop, Kelli Byrne, Janine Chapman, Wendy Dray, Tracey Emery, Anne Farrelly, Colleen Fitzpatrick, Maria Jones, Dianne Knight, Janine Kuhn, Belinda Logan, Catherine Milne, Mary Nolan, Elisabeth Nilon, Sonia Partridge, Erin Quinlan, Leanne Robeck.

The following boys commenced school at the CBC Gympie in 1981 in various classes: Rex Helmrich, Barry Bambling, Gregory Cross, Brett Edwards, Peter Hartley, Craig O'Halloran, Darren Page, John Pitman, David Woodward, Timothy Conroy, Kevin Hartley, Mark McKlaren, Michael Sharkey, Raymond Grambower, James Byrne, Ian Daniels, Jamie Day, Shaun Dwyer, Brian Elliott, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Dwight Foreman, Paul Garrahy, David Hallahan, Steven Hearn, Steven Hourigan, Gavin Hourigan, David Innis, Dennis Kay, Kenneth McLachlan, Justin McLoughlan, Keith Mather, Tony Meredith, Dean Miller, James Murdoch, Robert O'Brien, Shane Pope, Matthew Smith, Craig Richards, Jason Roebig, David Tramacchi, Brett Turley, Bruce Turley, Peter Young, Peter Venardos, Brendan Condon, Robert Condon, Matthew Hawless, Bradley Ellis, Paul Bougoure, Damien McGrath, Peter McBreen, Darren Neil, Anthony Neil.

## 1982

36 boys attended Year 10: D. Bermingham, C. Bleakley, P. Bougoure, G. Bourke, D. Bradford, M. Byrne, T. Cavell, T. Cranny, S. Cross, D. Daly, J. Gablonski, S. Hatton, G. Hillcoat, R. Hourigan, P. Jenkins, B. Kerrigan, R. Learoyd, B. Mahoney, M. McKay, S. Meredith, P. Moore, M. Murray, D. Ovenden, R. Perissinotto, L. Phillips, S. Punter, M. Reed, N. Rosenthal, C. Schmidt, T. Schmidt, T. Shepherd, P. Skennerton, A. Smith, D. Sullivan, D. Treloar, P. White.

15 boys attended Year 12: P. Buckley, M. Cranny, R. Helmrich, D. Hodson, M. Kewin, M. Landy, M. MacDonald, M. McNaught, S. Morrow, D. Neill, S. Pearce, M. Perissinotto, S. Ross, T. Schmid, G. Shepherd.

25 girls attended Year 12: Christina Alba, Louise Ansen, Donna Bagnell, Sue-Anne Brennan, Anne Carty, Louise Carroll, Belinda Chatterton, C. Daly, Maree Daly, Kerry

Doolan, Kathy Fisher, Tracey Fisher, Gerarda Goldberg, Anne Heater, Johanna Logan, Colleen McDonald, Amanda Miles, Louise Mills, Louise Portas, M. Rogers, Anne Stallard, Simone Toffoli, Trudy Verity, Philomena Webb, Cathy White.

The last boy shown in the admission book for the Christian Brothers College Gympie was:

No 4956: MICHAEL JAMES BOURKE Aged 10 – Grade 6

The following boys commenced school at the CBC Gympie in 1982 in various classes: Denis Daly, Miles Jakeman, Bradley Savage, Evan Smith, Kenneth Sorensen, Gordoun Frazer Bath, Gary Michael Robeck, James McAndrew, Gerard Daly, Terrance Gablonski, Donald Horley, Christopher Jorgensen, Scott Maitland, Brendan Lightfoot, Christopher Lightfoot, David Gear, Christopher Schmidt, Steven Schmidt, Andrew Claridge, Barry Mahony, ? Page, Michael Grubner, Darryn Arps, Jason Talbot-Scobie, Duncan Talbot-Scobie, Gregory Ardey, Mark Pope, Grant Auer, Peter Hobbes, Gregory Haring, Clinton Barker, Michael Bourke.

## Conclusion

So the curtain came down in 1982 on the Christian Brothers teaching order in Gympie. For 79 years from 1904 they had taught the Catholic and non-Catholic boys of Gympie and district and others from far afield.

During their time in Gympie there were some students and parents who thought the brothers were cruel and vindictive, others saw them as hard but fair. These differing opinions would always be the case, with thousands of boys having attended the school over the years. The boys were from many different backgrounds and social levels.

One well-known boarder from the mid-1950s wrote in the *Gympian*:

*'I came to Gympie and the last stage of my school life was entered upon. I had never heard of the Christian Brothers before, but now we were sent to this great brick building, where we were taught by strange looking gentlemen in black. They were something like the nuns of my earlier career, but I soon found out to my great sorrow, that they could hit harder.'*

But most thought that the attitudes and methods of these men who had come from various parts of Australia and from Ireland were the reasons the boys succeeded with their studies and set them on the path to their future careers.

Others remember these teachers in their threadbare habits and worn shoes suffering, like most of the boys, from the cold and the heat. These Brothers had to live under the vows they had taken — and poverty stood above the rest.

Their success in educating the boys and girls speaks for itself, as many past pupils rose to the very top in their chosen fields in the workforce. But all of these men and women have helped to make Gympie, Queensland and Australia a great place in which to live. Special mention must be made of the many dozens of Old Boys who left this school and joined the railway; these men were great benefactors of the Brothers and for a long time gave them the money that enabled them to go on holidays.

The College's pupils have excelled in many and varied sports and most importantly learnt about fair play and helping their mates and, above all, to enjoy the game be it rugby league (and the other football codes), cricket, athletics, boxing, gymnastics, swimming, tennis, golf or many others.

The Christian Brothers are owed a great deal by the boys and girls who attended this college over the years. The brothers and their students will long be remembered for their contributions in the Gympie community and beyond. Their legacy lives on in the continuing work of those committed to the Edmund Rice charism.

# Part 4:

## St Patrick's College

### *A new beginning — the end of an era*

In the early 1980s a series of meetings were held between the Parish Education Committee and representatives of the Brisbane Catholic Education Office. The presence of the religious orders in the schools was coming to an end, and it became clear that the schools could not continue in their current form.

Planning began for a major reorganisation involving the amalgamation of both secondary schools and the transfer of the primary school boys to the St Patrick's Primary School. After a year of planning, the amalgamation took place at the beginning of 1983 with the two new schools adopting their present names and occupying their present sites. Sr. Anne O'Farrell was appointed Principal of St. Patrick's College with Michael Byrnes as Principal of the primary school. Sr Elizabeth Ryall and Br Nev Renton completed the religious presence, along with Br O'Dwyer who, though no longer teaching, maintained an interest in the college. The original student leaders of the college were Tim Kerrigan and Shirlene Brennan.

A major curriculum benefit of the amalgamation was the establishment of a Manual Arts department located under Murphy Hall, teaching woodwork, metal work and technical drawing. Home economics was taught to both girls and boys, with all Year 8 students doing both manual arts and home economics.

With the withdrawal of the Sisters of Mercy in 1985, Bryan Baker was appointed the first lay principal of the College, and Graeme Hight replaced Br Renton as Deputy Principal; the withdrawal of the religious orders was complete. Contrary to popular opinion the college survived, and in fact entered a golden era of success in the academic, cultural and sporting fields.

The secondary students in the new St Patrick's College occupied the site of the Christian Brother's College plus

some classrooms in the Science Hall, which is situated on the original Sisters of Mercy site. The Year 11 and 12 classes had been co-educational in all subjects except religion and English since the middle 1960s.

### *Why amalgamate?*

A decline in student numbers over the years of 1971 to 1981 had made it uneconomical for the two secondary schools to operate independently. This is due to many factors including:

- the closing of both boarding schools — the girls boarding school in 1972 and the boys boarding school in 1978
- the increase in numbers of Catholic boys and girls attending local State primary and secondary schools — this increase had many contributing factors such as the breakdown of family as a strong Catholic unit; the stronger influence of peer group pressures to attend State schools (even at early age); the proximity of State pre-schools (situated in State school grounds); the absence of catechists in some State schools; the lack of technical facilities (woodwork and metal work) at the CBC; the slightly wider range of subjects available at the local State High School; the existence of a fee structure especially relevant to larger, poor families.

### **Quotes from the amalgamation submission:**

*'At present (based on February figures) the breakdown of figures shows St Patrick's Secondary School has 140 girls from Years 8–12. The Christian Brothers College has 125 boys from Years 8–12. At both schools, the Junior Secondary Departments operate independently. The Year 11–12 boys and girls come together for all subjects*

except religion and English. This arrangement has been working since the middle '60s, and has been an economic saving and help towards social adjustment for both campuses. Boys are welcomed in the girls classes by the staff just as the girls have become an accepted and involved part of the Brothers school classes. In the primary divisions, the St Patrick's Primary school (218 pupils) is an integral unit in its own right; the boys in Years 4–7 in the Brothers primary classes (111 pupils) form a vital division of the complete Brothers School.

### Staff numbers 1971–81

1971		1981	
Religious	Lay	Religious	Lay
7	5	4	9
5	6	3	4
6	1	2	7
18	12	9	20
Total 30		Total 29	

'Of significance must be the mushrooming of wages as religious on stipends are replaced by lay teachers on full salary. The replacement value of a religious teacher being in hard cash some \$15,000 p.a. while for a religious school administrator upwards of \$25,000 p.a.'

### Funding

'Funding by the Commonwealth Government is now being restricted to what the Government sees as more economical limits. Catholic schools side by side are finding it more difficult to convince the Government of our dual set of needs for laboratories, libraries and for a percentage of capital costs especially as the number of students in each school is not great. Funding is essential to

maintain comparability with State schools in the material provisions which influence some people in the choice of a school for their children.'

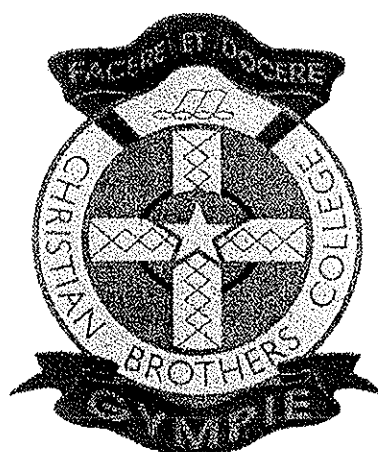
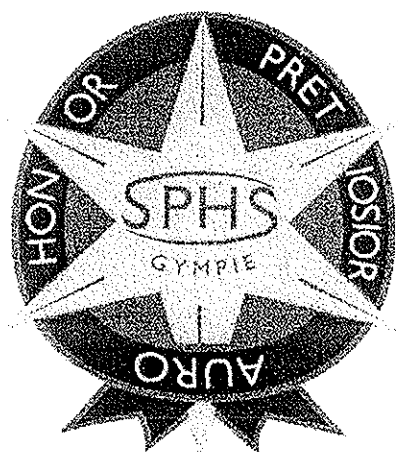
...The Gympie Catholic community, through its Parish Council and Education Committee, has much discussed the issued of future Catholic schooling at Gympie.

During a meeting on 16 September 1981 at which Dr. Kenny, the Parish Priest, was present as were representatives of the local community of Sisters, Brothers and laity, the following formal motion was passed. It was moved by Mr Jack Forrest, a parent, and seconded by Sr Christine Gabbett, local superior of the Sisters of Mercy.

**Motion:** 'In view of the evidence obtained from a survey conducted and public meetings held in the Parish, community opinion was that we proceed with the implementation of amalgamation'.

...The final stimulus for the motion came from a survey put to parents earlier in the year in which 96 per cent of the parents who replied voted in favour of amalgamation of the school for varying reasons. ...This restructuring is being undertaken not in isolation. The Committee appreciates the stress placed on both Orders involved in our community. Nor is the Committee unmindful of the financial commitments that the local Parish will have to undertake to see this transition to a financially viable, educationally exciting and spiritually dynamic Christian establishment'.

It is important that the origins of St Patrick's College are known and that the future vision of the amalgamation be kept in mind. On looking back, we can see that the hopes and ideas outlined in the submission have been achieved in the direction the college has taken in the first 21 years.



### Two schools become one

The crests of the three schools (from left) St Patrick's High School, Christian Brothers College and the new St Patrick's College

One of the first tasks in the new amalgamated College was to develop a Mission Statement (refined over the 21 years), a College Badge and College Anthem. The Mission Statement below is the present one but contains the aims and ideals of the original. The badge and the anthem have not changed.

### St. Patrick's College Mission Statement

*St Patrick's College aspires to be based on Gospel values of love, forgiveness, care, respect, sensitivity and justice.*

*We strive to:*

- *witness to belief in God and the Christian way of life in our dealings with each other and the wider community,*
- *foster and applaud the talents and potential of each member of our school community,*
- *promote the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, social and physical development to the full, and*
- *foster a deepening personal commitment to God.*

### The College Badge and Motto

The College badge and motto were designed to encompass the aims and ideals of Catholic education in St. Patrick's Parish, Gympie: Let your light shine.

### The College Anthem

The lyrics and tune of the College Anthem were written by Colleen Dore and Helen Nolan (Year 12 students) during the amalgamation period.

#### Refrain

St Patrick's, she stands in her glory,  
Down in fame shall her name ever go.  
There is pride in our hearts,  
There is faith strong and true,  
Let your light shine ever through.

1. With loyal hearts we'll stay true to her name,  
Courage, truth and friendship,  
With goodness as our shield,  
Through our lives where e'er they lead,  
Our God our guide will be. **Refrain**

2. After our years at the College are past,  
The love that was shown to us  
Will remain in our hearts,  
And the times that we shared  
Will be living in our memories. **Refrain**

#### Coda:

St Patrick's, St Patrick's  
Let your light shine ever through!

## *A brief history of St Patrick's College*

### History of enrolment

Year	Enrolments	Year	Enrolments
1983	290	1994	274
1984	305	1995	281
1985	311	1996	278
1986	291	1997	280
1987	273	1998	292
1988	256	1999	320
1989	248	2000	324
1990	239	2001	341
1991	232	2002	369
1992	247	2003	386
1993	272	2004	410

### The eras

In the 21 years that the college has operated as a co-educational secondary school it has had four distinct eras:

- 1983–84 *The amalgamation and a new beginning*  
Principal — Sr Anne O'Farrell  
Deputy Principal — Br Nev Renton
- 1985–96 *First lay Principal refining the curriculum*  
Principal — Mr Bryan Baker  
Deputy Principal — Mr Graeme Hight
- 1997–2003 *A time for building and expansion*  
Principal — Mr Alain Pitot  
Deputy Principal — Mr Andy O'Connell
- 2003– *Carrying on the tradition*  
Principal — Mr Dave Cuskelly  
Deputy Principal — Mr Daryl Wease

### Sr Anne O'Farrell — Amalgamation and College development

The total amalgamation of two secondary schools is a daunting task and under the guidance of the administration staff and with the co-operation of the teaching and ancillary staff the many hurdles were overcome.

The school opened with approximately 300 students. Classrooms were on three sites with specialist areas such as home economics, art and typing on the 'Convent' site. There were few audio-visual facilities.

The week before school began there were no classrooms for three classes. A request was put to the Christian





**Year 12, 1983 — the first graduating class of St Patrick's College**

**Back row:** Michael Moore, Peter Hobbes, Bernard McLwan, Bradley Stallard, David Kuhn, Stephen Banham, Jackie Grant, Maria Sharkey, Carmel Crough, Angela Phillips, Colleen Dore

**Middle row:** Leonie Gear, Karen Jones, Michelle Butler, Jane Carty, Shirlene Schultz, Helen Nolan, David Pejich, Michael Burrige, Mark Tramacchi, Craig Chapman, Tim Kerrigan, Brendan Condon

**Front row:** Kerry O'Brien, Michelle Johnson, Monique Walsh, Marilyn Jensen, Madonna Byrne, Mr Kev McKay, Michelle Hallahan, Michelle Daly, Vicki Burrows, Maree Cross, Shirlene Brennan

Brothers to have access to the old dining room. This was granted, and a working bee opened the building (it had been closed for eight years), cleaned and cobwebbed, and polished the wooden floors. Small pin-board partitions were sent from Brisbane to act as walls. The Year 8s were all taught in this space.

Retreats for Years 11 and 12 were held at Mapleton.

Arts, graphics, and home economics classes continued in the Science Hall classrooms. Assemblies were held in Murphy Hall (one of two old Queenslander houses that had been part of the Boarding College). Manual arts classes (wood and metal) were held under Murphy Hall; Mr Gary Bradley was the manual arts teacher.

The upstairs section of the Sacred Heart building was used for exams; the downstairs for offices. An agriculture plot was established in a wire-fenced area below the present manual arts building. Sue McKay was the tuckshop convenor.

#### *Curriculum during amalgamation*

The merger of the two schools gave students the opportunity of a wider curriculum. The Commonwealth Government had a program called the Participation and Equity Program. One of its purposes was to increase the retention rate to Year 12. A submission was written for St Patrick's and it was successful. This enabled a review of the

curriculum offerings and an investigation into school-based subjects, which was a new concept at the time. Staff developed a new curriculum model for the school, which would better meet the needs of the students.

Some composite Year 11–12 classes were created for subjects like modern history and ancient history. Five school-based subjects including business maths and English expression were introduced. Study skills courses were also introduced and speakers came from Brisbane to conduct evening classes for parents and students. Computers were introduced and there was so much interest that the students were put on class roster to access the computers during lunch hour.

In 1983 there were 33 Year 12 students.

#### **Bryan Baker — mid 1985 to mid 1996**

Bryan replaced Sr Anne and continued with the development of St Patrick's College. Br Nev Renton remained as Deputy until the end of 1986 and was replaced by Graeme Hight in 1987.

When Bryan left in 1996 Graeme assumed the duties as Acting Principal for six months and then went on to join Bryan Baker in establishing a new Catholic College, Siena College, at Sippy Downs.

Some of the highlights of the Baker and Hight team at St Patrick's College are:

- The old boarding house, Murphy Hall, on Bligh Street, was used as extra classrooms and also as a resource area.
- Year 9 camp at Tuchekeoi — Nudgee Outdoor Education Camp. St Patrick's College did its own catering, initiated one year by Betty Carr and Mary McMahon. Anne Bayntun took over for several years with the help of her husband Len. (Anne has also iced every Debutante Ball (now Presentation Ball) cake since 1977.)
- A music program was re-established, carrying on the long tradition of fine musical education and performance that had been so successfully taught by the Sisters of Mercy.
- The first Year 8 Ballroom Graduation Dance was held in the Science Hall.
- Shade areas were established and landscaped with voluntary working bees on the main site.
- The two old Queenslander style houses which had been part of the boys boarding facilities were removed.
- A new brick building was constructed to house the manual arts and art classes, with new equipment and furniture to make these classrooms up-to-date and functional. This building was opened in 1988. The surrounding areas were landscaped.
- The old Sacred Heart Building was refurbished to accommodate home economics, graphics, secretarial

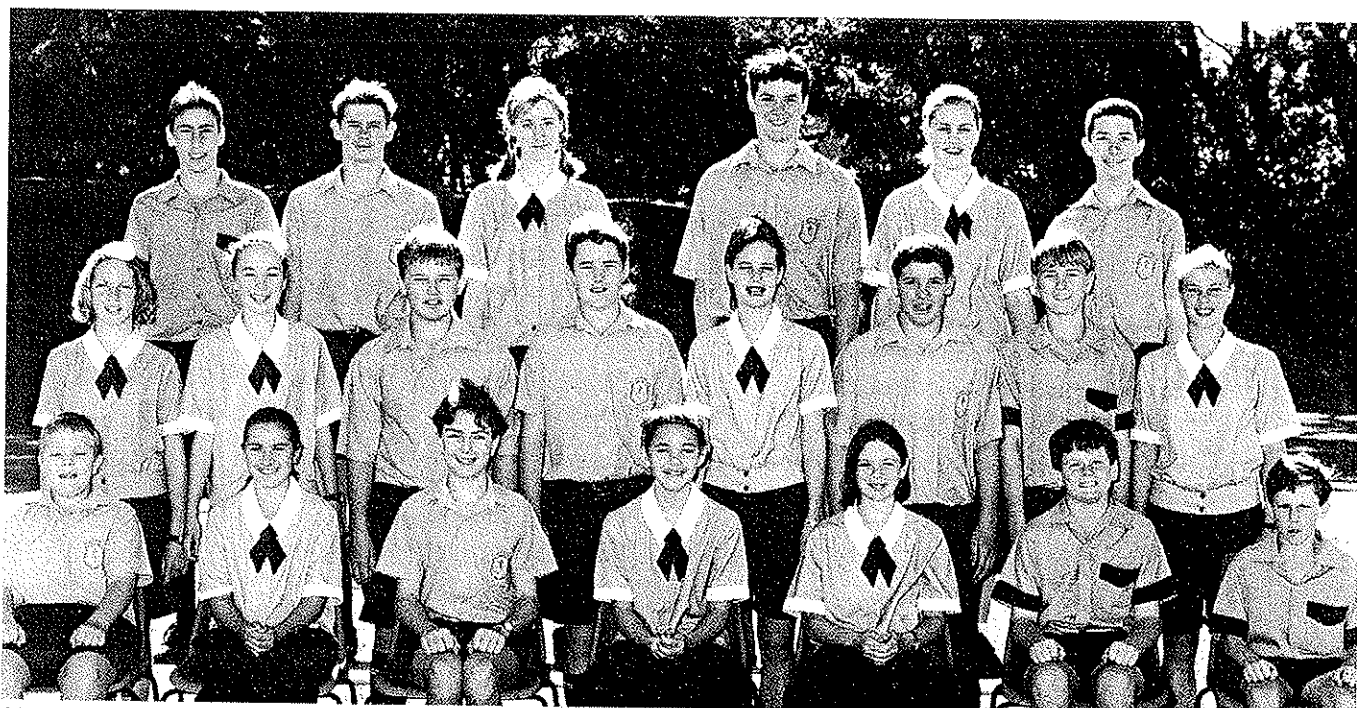
studies, business practices and music. Other subjects were also timetabled into these classrooms.

- The banners for Houses were appliquéd. The Rice banner, resplendent with a dragon, was made by Lyn Nothdurft; McAuley was represented by an eagle, made by Jill Logan; Horan was symbolised by a proud lion and was made by Anne Bayntun.
- An additional room was added to the end of the library to become a resource room.
- Computers were introduced into the library and the secretarial/business studies area with one room being dedicated to a computer room.
- A staff room was outfitted in a room on the ground floor at the presbytery end of the main building.

### Alain Pitot — 1997 to mid 2003

Mr Alain Pitot replaced Mr Bryan Baker at the College in 1997 and Mr Andy O'Connell replaced Mr Graeme Hight as Deputy.

Alain came to St. Patrick's from St John's College in Nambour where he had held the position of APRE (Assistant to the Principal, Religious Education). He set in place a master plan for refurbishing the present buildings and building new accommodation for extra and dedicated classrooms.



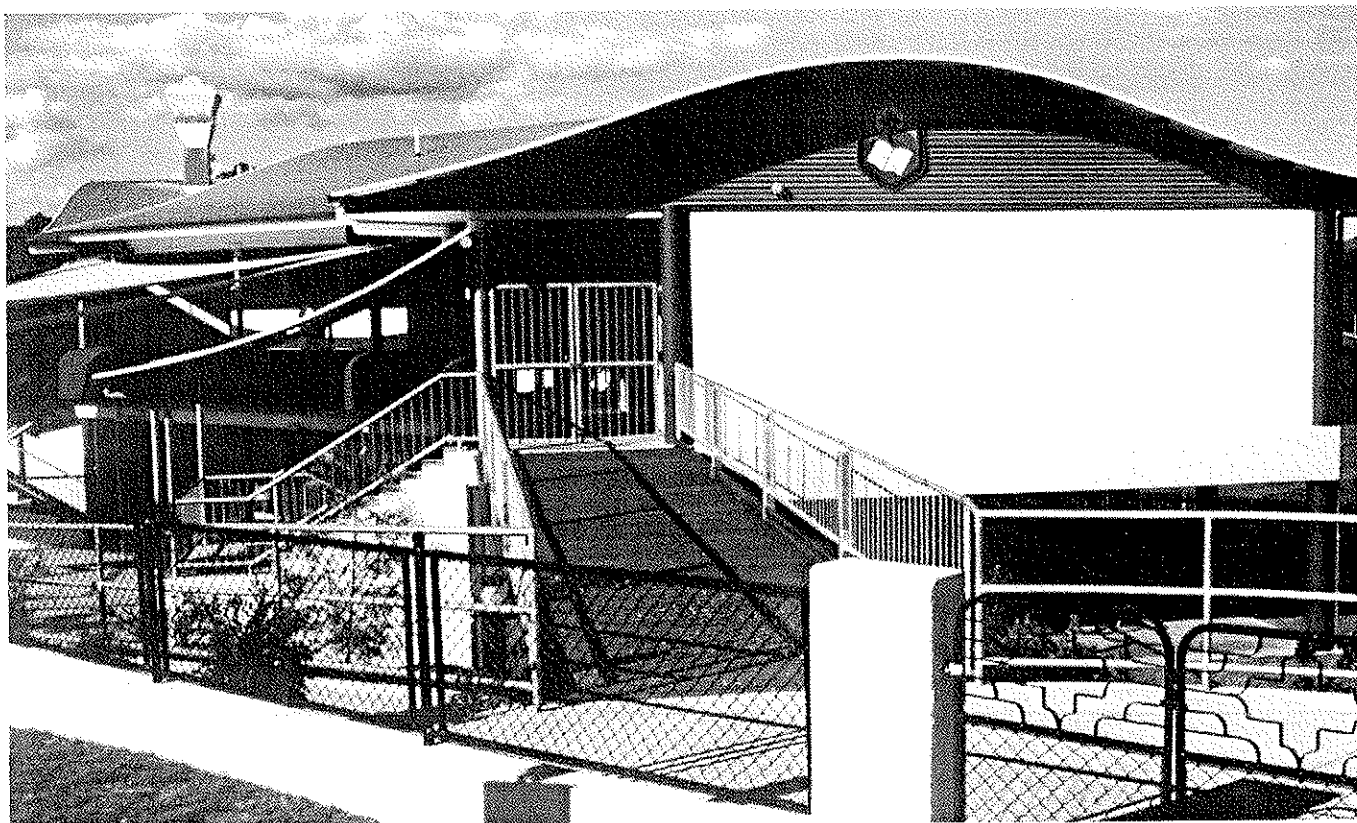
**Year 9.3, 1999**

**Back row:** Nathan Beutel, Patrick Wilson, Lisa Newell, Shaun Armstrong, Jenna Flemming, David McClelland

**Third row:** Rebecca Stretton, Aimee Keay, Ben Tipman, Matthew Taylor, Katherine Gorman, Scott Wright, Brendan Moore, Lauren Nolan

**Second row:** Eileen Hickey, Marie Johnson, Jill Neill, Esme Dean, Gladys Brennan, Noelle Ross, Elva Brennan, Joan Donaldson

**Front row:** Cody Samain, Elena Pereyra, James Blyth, Holly Garrahy, Sara Gaffney, Trent Butler, Clinton Lines



*The new Sacred Heart Building, opened in 2002 on the site of the old boarding school in Bligh Street, houses drama, music, graphics, catering and hospitality classrooms.*

Some of the highlights of his years at the College:

- The five-stage master plan was developed for classroom accommodation and refurbishment of buildings and grounds. Four stages of this plan were completed during his time as Principal. The architect employed to design, advise and implement the plan was Gavin Patterson.
- The Edmund Rice (main) building was refurbished in 1999. The old Christian Brothers' residence was used as temporary classrooms.
- In the Jubilee Year 2000, the refurbishments were officially opened by Archbishop John Bathersby. The multi-purpose sport courts were resurfaced.
- Traffic calming in Bligh Street and traffic lights on Calton Hill were installed in 2001.
- Also in 2001, the science laboratories were refurbished with the addition of two extra GLAs (General Learning Areas). Temporary classrooms were held in the old Christian Brothers' residence while the refurbishment was completed.
- In 2002, the old Sacred Heart Building was demolished. Stage three of the redevelopment program was the construction of the new Sacred Heart building. This centre comprised drama, music, graphics, catering and hospitality classrooms. The centre integrated the latest technology in the rooms to ensure the students had the best possible start in the workplace.

- In 2003 stage four of the building program, the new toilet block on the main site, was commenced, as was the construction of classrooms under the Sacred Heart Building.

### **Dave Cuskelly — Carrying on the tradition**

Mr Dave Cuskelly was appointed Principal and commenced in Term 3, 2003. Mr Cuskelly came to St. Patrick's from St. Patrick's College, Mackay. Andy O'Connell remained as Deputy until the end of 2003.

Mr Daryl Wease also from Mackay has replaced Andy O'Connell as Deputy Principal.

The new toilet block was completed, as was the resurfacing of the quadrangle. The classrooms under the Sacred Heart Building became operational.

Mr Cuskelly has this to say in his 2003 report for the College magazine:

*'While St Patrick's today has the enviable reputation in our community, much of the spirit that currently exists has been handed down to us from those who went before. As Sir Isaac Newton once said, when complimented upon what he had achieved, 'If I can see further it is because I stand on the shoulders of giants who went before me.'*

*'St Patrick's is a place where life is always busy, occasionally hectic and sometimes slips into frantic. We are a small school that participates in all the activities of much larger institutions — this means that everybody does much more. It also means that students have more opportunities to participate.'*

*'Let's try to remember to be there for each other and 'Let Your Light Shine' when friends are in darkness.'*

David Cuskelly is assessing the new directions that the College needs to take in response to changes and challenges that arise, and from his experience, stamp his own style of leadership on the school.

For the College to function efficiently and effectively, leadership, direction and organisation are essential. Each of these eras displays the influence and skills of each of the principals and deputy principals.

## *Development, challenges and changes*

Education is constantly changing in order to satisfy the needs of a changing society. Students need an environment in which they can work and play that allows them to give of their best, to live out the College motto, 'Let your light shine'. Some of the changes made at St. Patrick's to enable this to happen are recorded here.

### Curriculum

#### Curriculum History and Development

The curriculum at St Patrick's College has evolved over the last 21 years in response to changes in educational theories and policies, and in response to the needs of Gympie students. Teachers take part in ongoing training and development to maintain and improve their skills. Flexible class structures (including composite classes) enable a broader range of subjects to be offered. Pastoral care groups care for the needs of individual students as part of the school community. New subjects, including legal studies, information processing & technology and drama are now offered as senior subjects.

In 2002, the College introduced Rostered Activity Days (RAD) — senior students have no timetabled classes on one Thursday each fortnight. They use this time for Queensland Core Skills Test practice, subject excursions,

work experience (all students are required to complete at least five days of work experience during their senior schooling), or may choose to study at home.

Computer technology has been integrated into all subjects — use of the internet to find information, creating web pages, computer programs and CD-ROMs. This has been increasing since the 1980s with great demand for computer rooms from all subject areas, language and humanities as well as maths and science.

A vocational education program has been introduced in the senior school involving students in work placements one day each week.

A partnership with Victory College sees St Pat's students attending agriculture classes at Victory, and their students studying (at varying times) drama, Japanese, English communication, trade & business maths, and technology studies at St Pat's.

### Religious Education

In addition to classroom religious education, the communal life of the college continues to offer students the opportunity to participate in liturgies, RE days, retreats and camps as well as the opportunity to celebrate together the Sacraments and the seasons of the Church. These are a part of the religious life of the school and a shared expression of faith and worship. Opportunities to learn Christian ministry through community assistance, social awareness and justice education are many as students respond in a variety of ways to local, national and global situations.

### English

The English programs have been rewritten in response to curriculum changes from State Boards and include a stronger emphasis on the spoken word. Public speaking and debating have always had a high profile in Gympie's Catholic schools and the new St Patrick's College has continued this tradition. The College is well-represented in speaking and debating competitions like Rostrum and the competitions run by Jaycees, Quota, Lions and Apex, with some students having great success. Helen Nolan was Quota Student of the Year State finalist in 1983. Darren McClafferty was regional winner and State finalist in Lions Youth of Year 1996. Andrew Last was State Champion in Junior Rostrum 2003.

### Maths

College students are involved in range of mathematical competitions — Australian Maths Competition (all school, multiple choice questions), Queensland Maths Teachers

Problem Solving Competition (self-selected students do a two–three hour paper), Gympie Maths Teams Challenge (teams of five students compete in problem solving against other secondary schools; recently involved 12 teams from St Pat's), Year 8 Maths Quiz (teams of three Year 8 students against other schools), Australian Maths Challenge (self-selected students from junior school solve problem booklet over a three-week period).

In 2002 the College introduced a new subject into Year 10 — Accelerated Maths/Science — with aim of preparing students for maths and science subjects in senior school. There has also been an increased focus on problem solving in the junior school.

### Vocational education (VocEd)

Planning commenced for the introduction of the Vocational Education Program in late 1997. In 1998 the college started to explore whether such a course would be of use to students in the school, allowing some students access to work experience and the signing of our first school-based apprentice.

Our fully-fledged Vocational Education Program came to fruition in 1999. It started with 17 students, 16 from Year 11 and 1 from Year 12. Developed to cater for those who wished to directly enter the workforce or continue TAFE studies after year 12, the course combined education with work.

Students spent one day out in the workplace, which equated to around 30 days or 210 hours of on-the-job training.

In 2000, 30 students were enrolled in the program, with 11 students undertaking school-based apprenticeships or traineeships. These were in a wide variety of industries including engineering, retail operations, and agriculture and office administration. We introduced a bar course for the hospitality students through CSIT and the agriculture students became experts at cattle handling, attending many shows in the district including the RNA Brisbane.

Work placements in 2001 started to take on new dimensions with students travelling to distant locations to gain insights into career areas that interested them.

In 2002 work experience was offered to all senior students, not just those in the vocational education program. While this caused a significant increase in the workload of the work placement officer, the benefits for students far outweigh the costs.

As a Registered Training Organisation under the Australian Quality Training Framework, the college constantly monitors the Vocational Education Pathway to ensure the program is about options and making the most of opportunities for students. Through the Jobs Pathways Program (introduced in 2000) and the Work Placement Program the College hopes they leave armed with all possible advantages to set them on their journey.



#### **Year 11.2, 2003**

**Back row:** Matthew Nolan, Sam Mitchell

**Third row:** Michael Robbins, James Mayfield, Andrew Moore, Alex Gyte

**Second row:** Naomi Dwyer, Caitlin Coulsten, Emma de Vere, John Alcorn, Erin Nolan

**Front row:** Shannon O'Brien, Sara Scott, Tegan Butler, John Flemming, Tom Daunt, Ellie Tizzard



## Drama

Drama has always been a significant part of the College life, carrying on the tradition established at St Patrick's High School.

Dramatic productions have included:

- 'The War Game' directed by Johanna Wills and Elizabeth Lewis. Our shortened version of the famous 'Oh What a Lovely War' with delightful Pierrot costumes by Anne Bayntun, tap dancing and a moving 'Keep the Home Fires Burning' sung by Colleen Dore, Helen Nolan and Helen Walsh. (Helen Walsh went on to a highly successful singing career.)
- Performances at Speech Night at Hamilton Hall continued with 'Us and Them' directed by Christine Williams and Elizabeth Lewis
- Several 'Collage Dramas' i.e. compilations of song, poetry, a variety of texts under a particular theme e.g. 'Sport', 'Brush up your Shakespeare' and 'Voices from the War' (1995)
- A group of students attended the Sunshine Coast Drama festival to perform 'Crying in the Wilderness' a modern version of the story of the fall of Troy.
- In 1992 the College staged its first public show for which it charged admission, 'Hating Alison Ashley' (in the Science Hall).

Drama has been part of the College in liturgies; street theatre; Christmas liturgy for ministers fraternal with other schools watching a performance in the Church (the era of Father John Daly); street theatre for Victory College — both for assessment and for fun; clowning for Muster Day and the Mary Valley Show; street theatre for the opening of refurbished and new buildings; and street theatre for Anzac Day, Hiroshima Day and Easter Liturgies.

Visiting artists have been a feature of the program e.g. Zen Zen Zo, Tony Kishawi, Linsey Pollack (marimba teacher), Velvet Eldred, Arts Council, and Grin and Tonic.

## Music

Instrumental music is available during school hours. Individual and small group tuition is provided for the following instruments: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, drums and violin.

Students (whether part of the tutored classes or not) may join the concert band, jazz band or string ensemble if they can play a musical instrument to an acceptable standard. These groups played for our musical productions and at various concerts and Eisteddfods.

Music appears as a subject in the school curriculum in Year 8 and is being introduced to Year 9 and 10 in 2004.

The college choir developed with the help of dedicated teaching staff to the extent that they were invited to sing at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day, competed in the choral section of the Eisteddfod, sang at various concerts and entertained in retirement homes as well as providing sacred singing for parish masses and college celebrations and liturgies.

## Home economics

In the late 1980s the old kitchen on the bottom floor of the Sacred Heart building was gutted and became the home economics kitchen with the textile/general classroom next door. Hospitality subjects were introduced in 1998.

In 2002 a new state-of-the-art hospitality facility was opened in the new Sacred Heart Building. Classrooms adjacent to the new facility are fitted out for textiles and theory.

## New technology

The College is very fortunate to have the most up-to-date teaching facilities with all graphics now being taught using computers, CAD and 'smart board' technology. The number of students choosing graphics has now increased to such an extent that the College has two senior classes.

## Languages other than English (LOTE)

There has been a tradition in the College to expose students to other cultures and their language. French has traditionally been offered and Japanese commenced in the late 1980s. Cultural exchanges have occurred between our students and the students of Chiba Kita High School.

## The College Library

In 1983 Betty Carr took on the responsibility for the library — a big task to combine the library resources of both schools and decide what new resources were required. In 1986 Mrs Diane Landy was appointed Librarian and Betty Carr remained in the Library as Library Aide. Diane was replaced in 1988 by Maree Devery (Young). Automation began in the Library with the installation of Oasis Library Management Program and the introduction of ID cards for students.

In 1996, the Internet was connected in the library and the age of Information Technology had arrived. In 1997 Mrs Clare Banks was appointed Teacher/Librarian.

In 1999, the library became the Library Resource Centre and moved to the first floor of the Edmund Rice Building as part of the school refurbishment. Over 20,000 items were moved during the September holidays.



By 2002 the Library Resource Centre had over 25,000 resources and was used for most periods every day. In 2003, the Centre introduced its first biometric device, a fingerprint sensor to facilitate student identification.

## Building names reflect history

In recognition of the College founders, the main classroom building and resources centre is known as the Edmund Rice Building, and the administration centre and science classrooms as the Catherine McAuley Building. The buildings on the site across Bligh Street are the Sacred Heart Creative Design Building (home economics, drama, graphics, music) and the Dean Horan Technology and Arts Building (art, wood and plastics technology).

## *The religious dimension of St Patrick's College*

St Patrick's College endeavours to build a community in which each person is valued, living in harmony with and caring for each other, in the image of Jesus.

Classroom teaching of religion focuses on the life and teachings of Jesus, particularly his loving care and respect for each person. In the life of the school, a sense of Christian community in which we attempt to live in harmony, giving care and respect to each individual, is promoted.

Religious education (RE) is a key learning area with equal status to other key learning areas. Concepts developed in RE are reinforced in other key learning areas.

Beyond the classroom, the College supports the teaching of religion by involvement in the Parish and wider community; through liturgies and retreats; and by promoting in students a sense of justice and commitment to appropriate and relevant action within the college, the local community and beyond.

## Community awareness

The College and its students are involved in many community events including:

- Red Nose Day
- Dawn service (Anzac Day)
- River beautification (Mary River)
- Clean-up Australia Day
- Red Cross Calling
- St Vincent de Paul

- Salvation Army Door Knock
- Christmas Craft spectacular
- Chip van at the Country Music Muster
- Gympie Show Society parking
- Gympie Show entries
- Fund-raising for Confraternity Carnival Rugby League
- Fund-raising for Confraternity Carnival Netball
- Fund-raising for Project Compassion
- Fund-raising for East Timor and Laga Appeal
- Leukaemia Foundation
- Amnesty International
- Community Assistance Program
- Other community based projects are implemented on a needs basis

## East Timor — Laga

Soon after the devastating violence and destruction that followed the September 1999 elections in East Timor, the people of Gympie and Cooloola sought a way of responding to the immediate needs of the East Timorese people. The area of Laga was chosen as it resembled our own community in some aspects, notably agriculture and fishing. The vast majority of the people of East Timor are Catholic and it was seen as important for St Patrick's Schools and Parish to be among the leaders in the Gympie community's humanitarian response to Laga's needs. For the last four years, St Patrick's teachers have been prominent in the Gympie–Laga Friendship Group formed under the leadership of Lutheran Pastor, August Fricke.

As an immediate response to the disaster, two containers of donated goods were delivered to Laga with a value of more than \$40,000. Aid sent included:

- more than three tonnes of rice — each school student in the district was encouraged to bring a kilo of rice to school and St Patrick's responded magnificently to this.
- \$4000 worth of seeds (all weighed and packaged by St Pat's students)
- over 500 school pads, pencils, chalk and other school requirements, boxes of stationery.
- many other practical items from bicycles to clothes, all packed and loaded at St Vincent de Paul Depot (with many St Patrick's parishioners helping).

In July 2000 St Patrick's College and Primary Learning Support Teacher, Mary Condon together with Anne Skinner from Gympie Times were the first Women's Delegation from Gympie to visit Laga. The aim of their visit was to consolidate ties with Laga and to undertake negotiations for possible self-development projects.

Out of this grew the St Patrick's Clean Water Project, responding to the expressed need for bores in four of the villages of the Laga District. St Patrick's Parish together

with its two schools hosted a Clean Water Dinner in October 2000 and launched an appeal which raised \$30,000 to provide the much-needed water.

This response has been ongoing with St Patrick's teachers Brian Garronne and Craig sharing their house with East Timor visitor, Tomas Correia, Co-ordinator of Catholic Education in the Laga area and Parish Secretary at St John Bosco, Laga. A gentle and inspiring man, Tomas taught us much about the extreme needs of his people.

St Patrick's parents, Greg and Brenda Langdon hosted Marcio who became a student at St Patrick's for a semester. His beautiful singing voice will be remembered for a long time and gave St Patrick's students an insight into a richly different culture. Greg spear-headed the Laga Boat Building Project which saw 12 boats built for Laga and more built by East Timorese locals under the supervision of a Gympie group. St Patrick's College and individual families sponsored a number of these boats as did many sections of the community.

## *Student Representative Council*

The Student Representative Council (SRC) enables the students to have a voice in aspects of their life at St. Patrick's College. The Council began in the mid 1980s and has undergone a number of changes since. In its current format it incorporates the following committees: Media, Publicity and Promotion; Social; Faith and Mission; and Environmental. There are two College captains and an SRC President as well as House Convenors. Staff and

students vote for those students whom they feel are potential leaders. The thirteen students who attract most votes then undergo a discernment process where that group decides on which students are most suited to the positions. Both the individual committees and the whole council are involved in organising student activities and fund-raising.

## *St Patrick's College Pastoral Board*

The Pastoral Board was formed at the end of 1999 following a process of education and formation. It operates on a 'Shared Wisdom Model' in which members reach consensus through discussion, gathering information, and collaboration to discern good action and so make policy. Elected Board members include three parent members, one parish member and one teacher member. Ex-officio members are the Pastor, the Principal, one member of the College Administration team, and the two school captains.

## *College musicals*

The College presents a musical every two years and five musicals have been performed at the Civic Centre commencing with 'Man of Steel' in 1994. They are open to the public on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Thursday matinees are reserved for

schools. The production for 2004 is 'Guys and Dolls'.

## *Special activities*

All students celebrate special days including St Patrick's Day and Founders' Day. The Student Representative Council plays a major role in organising activities on these days.

## *Sport*

Sport forms an important part of the overall curriculum. All students are expected to participate in the College's sporting program which includes inter-house competitions and inter-school carnivals in swimming, athletics and cross-country.

Junior students have the opportunity of participating in a range of sport and other activities on Thursday afternoons. A number of inter-school competitions occur after school. There are also opportunities to try for inclusion in Cooloola teams for both summer and winter sports.

Every Year 8 student completes one trimester of Physical Education as a subject. Students in Years 9 and 10 can choose the elective subject Health and Physical Education, and those in Years 11 and 12 can choose either the Board subject Physical Education or the Vocational Education subject Physical Recreation. These subjects involve approximately half practical activities and half theory.

Students also participate in sport in the junior sports programs and competitions in the Cooloola Shire.

## School team sports

- Rugby League: interschool and the Confraternity Carnival (first attended this carnival in 1986) \*
- Cricket: interschool \*
- Hockey: interschool \*
- Netball: Confraternity Carnival \*
- Basketball: interschool \*
- Soccer : interschool \*
- Touch football: interschool \*

## Individual

- Swimming \*
- Athletics \*
- Surling \*
- Golf \*
- Tennis \*
- Bowls: interschool
- Cross-country \*

\*can lead to selection for Cooloola/Wide Bay/State championships.

The College has had many Cooloola, Wide Bay, Queensland and Australian representatives in a diverse range of activities and sports including baton twirling, hockey, squash, rugby league, public speaking, soccer, futsal and Tournament of the Minds.

## *St Patrick's College from the viewpoint of the Principal*

The St Patrick's College of 2003 bears no physical resemblance to the school that the Sisters of Mercy started in 1879 or to that of the Christian Brothers in 1904. Both schools were built at the top of the hill near the Church but no building remains. The opening of both schools was an important development for Gympie as it allowed some choice for education. Gympie Central School predated St Patrick's Convent by opening in 1869, with Gympie South opening in 1910 but Gympie High School did not open its doors until 1912.

What has survived the years has been the desire to educate and improve the life of the students who attend the College and the dedication of the band of teachers that have devoted themselves to this vocation. Families still

desire the best education they can provide for their children and they want values instilled into that education.

The externals of the vocation have changed as lay men and women, many with their own families, have replaced the Sisters and Brothers over the years. The original teachers in both orders were almost invariably Irish immigrants who came to serve in the mission land of Australia. They imposed the strict discipline that they themselves had been subjected to in Ireland. This attracted many into the Catholic schools but the religious often found their practice of the Faith wanting. The wheel has turned full circle and after a halcyon time through the early twentieth century, we are back to complaining about it again.

When the schools were established, few children attended school past year 5 and Scholarship, at year 8, was considered a high level of education. The spirit of the College has moved with the times through all the changes in the broad educational spectrum — Scholarship was abolished; public exams for Junior and Senior gave way to internal assessment; the leaving age was steadily raised to 15 and is about to go up again in the next few years. On top of these changes, the original single single-sex schools were made co-educational and split into separate secondary and primary schools. One wonders what changes the next hundred years will bring to education on this site.

The schools have also grown over the years with the secondary enrolments passing 400 for the first time in 2004. This expansion has meant that extra land is being purchased to allow for the increased numbers on the site. The oldest building remaining on the College site is the Edmund Rice building which was opened in 1938 and was extensively remodelled in the late 1990s. The original Sacred Heart building in Bligh Street was demolished and replaced in 2002. The latest, and probably most needed, demolition was the original toilet block which was replaced in 2003.

When we consider the fine reputation of the schools today we need to give thanks for the work of those that who went before us. As Sir Isaac Newton once said when complimented upon what he had achieved, 'If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants'. There have certainly been giants who have laid the foundations for the College in the past. Let us remember them and give thanks for them in our prayers.

Dave Cuskelly

Principal

## *St Patrick's College Honour Board*

Year	School	Captains	SRC President	Dux
1983	Shirlene Brennan	Tim Kerrigan	Helen Nolan	Colleen Dore
1984	Jenny Cartwright	Danny Sullivan	Ricky Perissinotto	Katrina Ward
1985	Andrea Webb	Peter Skennerton	Tanya Miles	Timothy Fitzpatrick
1986	Paul Crenna	John Cartwright	Ben Carroll	David Ross
1987	Louise Sweeney	Ted Stone	Mary-Louise Fitzpatrick	Madonna Sharkey
1988	Anita McEwan	Michael Lourigan	Matthew Nunan	Anita Tramacchi
1989	Trudy Bernhardt	James Smoothy	Aaron Favell	Selena Benstead
1990	Bonita MacDonnell	John Forrest	Loretta Bothams	Chad Pedersen
1991	Jodi Reibel	Jamie Webb	Tim Sweeney	Jamie Webb
1992	Cathy Cartwright	Ben Johnson	Claire Walker	Joanne Walker
1993	Kirsten Geary	Greg Garner	Angela Ashford	Guy Jakeman
1994	Charmaine Chapman	Ben Dore	Anna Barton	Joslyn Fitzpatrick
1995	Michelle Burns	Shaun Massingham	Joanne Wigmore	Shaun Massingham
1996	Jenny Robbins	Darren McClafferty	Anna Moore	Patrick Banks
1997	Skye Creedon	Joel Baker	Russell Johnson	Skye Creedon
1998	Camille Banks	Matthew Dillon	Patricia Christie, Lisa Major, Jenny Moore	Elisa Taylor
1999	Karen Birse	Brett Davey	Louise McEwan	Daniel Dwyer
2000	Elizabeth Moore	Nick Shepherd	Lucy Cuddihy	Lucy Cuddihy
2001	Jo Neilson	Tim Powell	Michael Kearney	Michael Kearney
2002	Katie Blowers	Shane Long	Sally-Anne Morgan	Jenna Flemming
2003	Dominique Schuh	Kirsten Daunt	Chloe Baldwin	Kiri Eyears

## *2004 College leaders*

**College Captains:** Tom Daunt and Caitlin Coulston

**SRC President:** Melanie Gilbert

**House Convenors:**

John Alcorn and Sarah Scott (McAuley)  
Josh Baumgart and Kate Donovan (Horan)  
Matt Lally and Emma Keay (Rice)

**Faith and Mission:** Lucy Knott

**Media, Publicity and Promotion:** Shannon O'Brien

**Social:** Natalie Borchert

**Environment:** Cassie Moore





# *Part 5:*

## *St Patrick's Primary School*

### *A word from the principal*

**M**y name is Lawrie Knott and I have been Principal of St Patrick's Primary School for since October 2001. Prior to that, I was Principal at St Joseph's School in Gayndah.

The role of Principal at St Patrick's is a challenging but very rewarding one. It is made very fulfilling by the fact

that I am surrounded by excellent people who support me. This includes, of course, the very committed and dedicated staff of the Primary School, Father Joe, the people who make up the School Pastoral Board and the Parents and Friends Association. It is through our combined efforts that our school is able to offer quality Catholic education to the people of Gympie.

The celebrations of 2004 bring home a very important point regarding the principalship of St Patrick's School. They serve to remind me that our school has a very long and successful history. It has flourished due to the hard



**Year 3, 1986**

**Back row:** Paul Edwards, Adam Baker, Russell Houghton, ReBecca Boswell, Natalie Malcolm, Leisa Dechnik, John Brady, Sean Baumgart, Annaleise Radecker

**Middle row:** Mrs Marcia Mills, Katie Leech, Tanya Mills, Anna McLean, Katie McIntyre, Bronwyn Byrnes, Justin MacDonnell, Michell Burrigge, Tony Wolfe, David Meredith

**Front row:** Jessica Melville, Kym-Marie Holmes, Heather Curtain, Brendan Lutton, Leisa Ardrey, Daniel Kirkpatrick, Kelli Geary, Aaron Murray

work of the Sisters of St Joseph, the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers, various Parish Priests and the parents of all students who have attended since 1879. It also reminds me that my role is one of 'caretaker', a person trusted to preserve the traditions of the school, honour the history and build on the past to ensure a bright future. That is my role and it is one that I take very seriously.

The most rewarding part of this role is the children. I enjoy being able to visit their classrooms, to hear about their lessons and units of work. I also really love being able to take part in their special events such as concerts, camps, presentations, masses, liturgies and prayers. I love to kick the footy with them and to try to keep up with them in a handball game. Most importantly, I want them all to be

happy to be a part of the St Patrick's family, to feel welcomed and special and to develop a love of learning that helps them throughout their lives. This is no simple task, but a challenge that our school takes on readily every day.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to the St Patrick's Community on the milestones that are being celebrated in 2004. It is my sincere hope that we can continue to make our school grow and prosper, offering a standard of Catholic education that our community can be proud of and that our school is still here for another 100 years, educating the leaders of the future.

Lawrie Knott  
Principal



**Year 7E, 2003**

**Back row:** Joshua Roadley, Tyler Davey, Demi Mincher, Maddison Keffe, Kirsty Casey, Jack Hine, David Scafton

**Third row:** Andrew Campbell, Joanna Luhrs, Tegan Truman, Libby Mayfield, Lauren Stevens, Nick Dunchue, Ben Philpot, David Tuffley

**Second row:** Kelly Blake, Jarren Doyle, Hayden Edwards, Aaron Sander, Kimberley Rinehart, Michael Plate, Mr Eric Ellerns

**Front row:** Jess Greaney, Corey Hall, Amber Johannesen Lawn, Molly Edgar, Gemma Gabbana, Chris Quinlan, Emma Last



## *Autographs*