



"The Old Bush Telegraph"

DOWNLANDS 1956 – 61

August - September 2016

Issue #58

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Belatedly



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NEWS FROM CLASSMATES



Mick Borger

"By the time the next issue of OBT comes off the presses, the Melbourne Spring Carnival will be upon us, so if you could bear with me, I tell this story in the spirit of Cup day 2015.

At 4.30am on the first Tuesday of November 2015, I sat in a wheelchair in a back corridor of the Emergency Department at the Canberra hospital. Beside me was an elderly lady who was also wheelchair bound. We were both advised that the 'Doc' would see us soon. It is my belief that the word 'soon' contains a significant amount of elasticity when manufactured for use in hospital land. It translates as 'in the fullness of time – maybe'.

At 5am I said to the son of the elderly lady, 'well the early morning track gallops have probably finished at Flemington and now all we can do is to wait for the barrier gates to fly open at 3pm'. I then asked the son if he was having a bet in the Cup. 'No', he said, 'but I drew a horse called Max Dynamite in a sweep and I have never heard of it'. 'Max', I told him, 'was top class Irish hurdler who would probably possess a lot of stamina and combined with not having to exert energy jumping fences, he was a distinct possibility of figuring in the finish'.

My lack of mobility prevented me from getting to the TAB but I told the son that I would dearly Michelle Payne's horse, Prince of Penance, to win the Cup. The son googled the Cup field and said in an amazed tone, 'the horse is 80/1' - in other words, I am crackers. 'False odds', said I. 'At its last start, Michelle rode a brilliant race on POP to finish second in the Moonee Valley Gold Cup. POP drops in weight, drew barrier 1, is trained to the minute by Darren Weir and, with any luck in running, has an undeniable chance of winning'.

Eventually at 2.30pm, I was wheeled over to the Hospital in the Home clinic and for this I will be forever grateful. The clinic had a flat screen TV mounted to the wall and I asked the Nurse if she would kindly turn it on so I could watch the running of the Cup. The timing was perfect because the jockeys were just being introduced to the crowd. My daughter, Liz, had just returned to the hospital and was able to watch the race with me. In the euphoria of watching history unfold, Liz made the comment

that I 'had tears in my eyes'. I was able to explain that it was 'eye perspiration' and was quite common in hospital environments.

In the following days I tried to capture the emotion of what the jockey, the family and the trainer may have felt and experienced at being 'first' in the creation of turf history. I sent the Attachment, The First Tuesday In November 2015 – A Tribute, with a cover note to Michelle and addressed it care of the Secretary of the Ballarat Turf Club. I don't know if it was passed on. I hope it was and that it meant something to the whole family. Cheers. Mick"

Then again Mick wrote :

"The Attachment is a collection of stories under the heading "From Lords to Lightning Ridge". The final story 'Lords and Graces' has an interesting postscript. Following the death of Tony Grieg, I read a newspaper article that talked about his appointment to the England Captaincy just before a MCC tour of India. Greig insisted that Roger Tolchard be selected as the second wicket keeper because he had the additional string to his bow of being an excellent player of spin bowling, an important skill on the sub continent.

Roger's dream of an England cap was realized. What made it even better was that the Poms won the Test series, a bit of a rarity for visiting teams in that neck of the woods.

I sent the stories to Bill Leak, the Australian's brilliant cartoonist, to enquire if he may be interested in caricaturing them. I harboured the undoubtedly presumptuous hope that he would be interested or even have the precious time to action the proposal.

Bill was gracious enough to ring me and advise that time constraints would make it impossible to accede to my request. The conversation, however, was most enjoyable and primarily centred on an insightful article he wrote last year about the Archibald Prize competition for portrait painting. I was in complete agreement with the tenor of his article. It also carried his portrait of Whitlam which he submitted for the Archibald. The portrait was a brilliant portrayal, full of colour and character likeness, riveting and certainly worthy of the prize.

Another painting in Bill's article was a portrait of his curly headed sleeping sons. It was of such clarity that it could have been a camera image. However it is unlikely that the obvious talent and love of a father for his sons which was expressed in the precision and delicacy of his brush strokes could ever be captured by Kodak.

In the latest OBT, Kerry Prior's par helped me to recall with fond memories, the names of Derm Tiernan and Michael Maguire. Derm was the best school boy footballer I ever saw play - without a doubt, a Wallaby-in-waiting Captain. The other qualities that really set Derm apart were his genuine goodness and humility.

Michael came in from the fertile plains around Cambooya. When watching Michael play for the Firsts, I was always fearful for his safety. It was not for Michael to spend the game on the periphery adjacent to the side line, out of harm's way. He was motivated by a courage that knew no bounds as he recklessly, without any hint of self preservation, hurled himself into the lawless, chaotic land of rucks and mauls where even, and quite rightly, smart Angels would fear to tread. Michael's continued survival always remained a mystery to me. - Cheers. Mick

"From Lords to Lightning Ridge" is an attachment to this edition. Thanks for your contribution Mick - JD

David Bowden: Thanks for your great newsletter. Enjoy reading about the work and travels of our fellow Downlanders!

That was interesting to see the article about the Roma Civic Centre - I did not know about that. Peter Mc Kenzie had achieved a great deal of success in Mitchell for the Booringa Shire before coming to Roma.

Joe Mc Corley went to the same church as us in Rockhampton many years ago.

I've had a visit to a specialist at Greenslopes Hospital during July. I had won the Veteran Singles Championship at Roma Bowls Club. Then played the District Champion of Champions Final in Mitchell - which I managed to lose ingloriously! However during the game I managed to hurt my knee. The trip to Brisbane showed that I will eventually need an operation. In the meantime the really cold weather in Roma has given some acute pain. The Doctor's advice of trying a warmer climate made

sense when I was invited to MC my cousin's 80th Birthday Party in Moura. It was an easy decision to travel onto Rockhampton to see a friend who recently lost his wife. The upshot was that the warmer weather made most of the pain disappear. Now.....how do I convince Lynn that the Sunshine Coast really does need two more residents!!

Garth Cocks and Peter Edlich have been in contact with me about arranging a Downlands Dinner in Roma. I would like to arrange during September if possible. I believe the College is going to assist with a list of Past Students. Anyone interested in attending could email me on nedwob12@bigpond.com we may be able to be more definite with arrangements. Take care David.

David Brown: The following came to me via the interweb on 5/8/16: " Jacko, Just been to visit DBB (aka cous Dave; Brownie etc etc etc) who is slowly recovering from 2 very painful operations to his small, frail body,....

The first op was to cut out haemorrhoids that were stopping his brain from working; and the second was for a stress fracture of right ankle. So he is sitting gingerly when he isn't hobbling about ! Neither op has stopped him from having a chat, I might add !!!! FX"

Bernie Casey: Bernie is a Grandfather again. The run of Casey 'boys' seems to have well and truly come to an end with the safe arrival of grand-daughter number three, Eliza Hope, on 30th August. Congratulations to all the Caseys. Also, Bernard and Marie were both nominated for an award for the work they both do at Holy Spirit during the recent "Seniors Week".

Rod Cochrane: " I have just checked the date for our 55 year reunion. It is on the same day as the AFL Grand Final.

I do not think it will be a problem for most of our classmates, it could have though, had it been the ARL Grand Final! Anyone wanting to watch the AFL, or have a bet on the horses will be able to do so in the Sportsman Bar at the Club. Rod"

Lou Crema: "To the Editor, Old Bush Telegraph

Thanks once again for keeping us informed about what our old mates are up to. I look forward to reading the "Old Bush Telegraph" very much. I haven't contributed at all this year in spite of my good

intentions. We've had an eventful year so far, with many moments to enjoy and some not so enjoyable. Healthwise, we're both in fairly good shape. Gabrielle has done a bit of travelling this year; a trip to Melbourne in May to visit our daughter Lara and our grandson and then to Darwin in June to visit our other daughter, Anne. While she was up there she and Anne drove to Mataranka to visit the O'Briens, where they were made most welcome. I reminded Anne to make sure to bring a carton of Tooheys New for Himself. They returned to Darwin with a boot load of cow manure for Anne's garden. As for me I stayed home to mind the house and feed the pets and a couple of hungry sons and some of their mates who just seem to turn up when it's time to eat. They could have at least waited until Gabrielle got home as they were getting sparse fare from. I made the suggestion for them to go to Mobil as they serve ready cooked food around the clock.

We became grandparents for the second time in February. Ruby May was born on 19th February. Now that we one of each we can relax. Unfortunately Ruby lives in England so we don't get to see her in the flesh. We keep in touch through Skype and Facebook so we can see her growing up.

The reunion in October sounds good to me, and the venue as well. At least it will be fairly easy to get there. I was hoping to fly down but what with school holidays and football finals, it's pretty tough finding a cheap flight, so I think I might come down by train, a trip I haven't made since 1959. Train travel is a lot faster now and a whole lot more comfortable. When we used to travel back then, there were no air-conditioned carriages towed by the Sunlander. Mostly they were pulled by a Puffing Billy belching loads of soot and grit which we were constantly getting stuck in our eyes. We used to get home looking pretty grimy. But they were good times as we often met with kids from other boarding schools and made friends. Occasionally they would hook some old carriages behind the Sunlander for us students returning to and from boarding school which we referred as dog carts or stock cars. We reckoned we were treated like livestock sometimes.

We've had so much wet weather since May, that there will be a lot of cane which will remain

unharvested, which is causing a good deal of concern, as farmers and harvesting contractors and others associated with the harvest could be in for a hard time. There's a bumper crop and there were concerns that the Tully Mill would have difficulty crushing the entire crop in ideal weather conditions, but so far only 700000 tonnes of an estimated 3.2 million tonne crop has been harvested. Normally the figure would have been up around 1.4 million. The irony of it all is that the sugar price is at an all time high right now. The banana industry is also experiencing a down turn with some growers leaving the industry. Workers are being laid off and many back packers who come here seeking work have to move on. Quite a few locals have been laid off as well. I find myself wishing that the rain would fall in places where it really needed. There's no need to water the lawn.

I hope to see you in October, so I'll let you know for sure soon. In the meantime keep up the good work on the Bush Telegraph. Cheers Lou"

Kerry Crowley: A little bird told me that Butch had an overseas sojourn during July. He attended the World Youth Day Celebrations in Krakow during the last week of July.

World Youth was very fortunate to have Fr Kerry as a guest because he has to be well rested and on the ball before the Spring Carnival starts down south.

Like the rest of us, Butch is getting close to 'retirement age'. I wonder whether he might end up on a small spelling property in country Queensland!?

Barry de Hayr: I've lost him!! Barry's email 'bounced back' when I forwarded the ~~QBT~~ last month.

He's been living at Tweed Heads for a number of years and had been very active, I understand, in the Volunteer Marine Rescue Assn of Qld for some time. If anyone happens to have contact with Barry, please let me know.

Frank Crawford: ' Looking forward to the luncheon in October. Is Phil coming up? Cheers, Ladder'

Phil Derriman: Showed what a proud uncle he is by travelling from Oberon to Canberra to witness the

Maiden Speech for the newly elected Member for Fairfax, his nephew, Ted O'Brien.

Phil writes: ' Yes, we thought Ted performed very well. No nerves whatever. I also thought Turnbull performed exceptionally well in Question Time that day, although the media didn't report it that way.

On Wednesday night a mob of us had dinner at the excellent Ottoman restaurant in Canberra. Ted wasn't there (he and his wife were at the MPs' ball), but two of his best friends were, and I got talking to one of them, Ben Crosby, who, it emerged, was the son of Bing Crosby (1959), and a Downlands old boy himself. We talked about his late Father and what a great character he was.

Garrick Morgan's name came up too, and I told Ben I once interviewed Garrick at his home for the SMH. He had just one rugby jersey framed and on display . . . not one of his Wallaby jerseys, but his Downlands 1st XV jersey ! All the best — Phil

For anyone who's interested, you can find Ted's Maiden speech using 'Google'. I found it via '*Maiden speech Australian Parliament Ted O'Brien member for Fairfax*'. Among other things, there are shots of the gallery showing Phil, Bernice and other family members.

I enjoyed watching the video because, as I may have bored you earlier, Ted was School Captain at Nudgee in 1991, that school's centenary year. Our son was at NC, younger than Ted, at the same time, and I was fairly involved in the P&F for a couple of years. There were many social, commemorative and spiritual events during that year. Ted was at practically every one of them, representing the boys, so I saw him quite a lot. He was a very impressive young bloke then, spoke well, and seemed a very popular school leader. I'm confident he'll have a successful career in Canberra.

Peter Edlich: Newly elected committee-member of the DPSA, spent the weekend of 3/4th September at the College helping out behind the bar during the evening of the combined 'reunions', and lunch, in the refectory, on Sunday

Peter Guilfoyle: "I'm typing and dropping letters! Old computer or first glass?

(29/ 7/16) Just been hearing more of the Clampett family. Cousins Kevin R and Mal T.

Which one is Jed? Both came by serious money easily like Jethro. Both love the Dada Gaga thing. Both have Eastern connections. Both have overseas pads! We'll have a break from Saturday as we're off to Calgary to see some of Canada, followed by Alaska. Kay and I celebrate a personal milestone while flying out on a Dreamliner on Sat. morning (30/7). The big 50 Wedding Anniversary!

When we had our few years in Sydney, we read the SMH. I was delighted to find articles under the byline of Pip.Boy! What a grasp of the game of Cricket! I spent some time last night trying to recall the words he used to describe the pure sound of bat on ball from a cover drive played to perfection by a World Champion Player. " Not a click! Not a slap! A bit like the sound of a Teutonic Car Door being closed." I've gotta go. Please keep on keeping on. See you on 1 October. Peter G"

Bill Harrington: ' I received your kind invitation to the 55 year reunion. Unfortunately one year ago I was operated on for bowel cancer.

On that very week (1/10) I will be in Melbourne making sure the dammed thing has not come back

Hope it all goes well . Best wishes –Bill'

Bill Hurley rang, out of the blue on 23rd August.

He sounded well, but apologises for not being able to come to Brisbane for the reunion.

He gave me a message to pass on to Brian Joseph and Hugo Fitz-Herbert OAM regarding an old school mate from Eagle Heights!8

His cousin Adele O'Sullivan, wife of former Police Commissioner Jim, passed away during the month.

John Hede: Luds is off to the UK for a few weeks from 10th September. He has apologised for not being able to make our get together on the 1st October. Hopefully we'll see him next time.

Terry McHugh: rang on 31st August to give his monthly update from Mundubbera. He and Erica set off a couple of weeks ago, caravan in tow, with a view to go to Black Jack's annual bull sale in Mataranka. Unfortunately they didn't get too far, to Emerald, before mechanical problems hit the tour, so no Northern Territory this time.

Terry said the country around Ilfracombe and Blackall looks fantastic with grass knee high in some places. Hopefully this will mean a change in fortune for people on the land, but, as Terry points out, so many graziers have had to sell stock, it will be some time before they can rebuild their herd for the good times to roll.

I hope Tyse Doneley received good rain over recent months as I recall him saying earlier in the year, his dams were drying out.

Black Jack O'Brien: "Coodardie Annual Bull sale:

"Forty years ago Mike and Clair O'Brien received the history and description of a line of Brahman cattle via letter.

Since then the family has built up a respected purebred Brahman bull stud, first operating out of north Queensland and later in the Northern Territory.

Now based at Coodardie Station on the outskirts of Mataranka, the family business this week [from 17/8] celebrated its ruby anniversary with its first sale on-property.

All 49 bulls offered were sold, with an average price of \$3,242 and a gross of \$158,900.

The top-priced bull went to a buyer from central Queensland for \$6,100.

In 1976 the O'Briens were looking to move away from British breed cattle, and were impressed by the characteristics of the Brahmans outlined by the Tyagarah Brahman Stud.

They soon began breeding and selling their own bulls from Craig's Pocket Station in north Queensland.

Speaking to ABC Rural after the 40th anniversary sale, Moira Lanzarin (daughter) said her parents, Mike and Clair, started selling bulls straight away.

"Mum and Dad first entered the show circuit about 1983; won junior champion heifer at the Cairns Show in 1984, and her descendents were in the sale ring today," Ms Lanzarin said



I pinched the story and the above pics from the Coorardie website. Top photo is of the family, Patrick, Moira and Felix, Clair & Mike. Bottom one is of Moira and two of the sale items. I spoke to Mike after the successful event and 'approved' my use of the details - JD

Paul Stark: On Sunday 28th August, Paul and his wife Mary went for a drive from Clifton out onto the New England Highway, ending up on a tour of heritage listed Glengallan Homestead which is <20 klms from Warwick. Those among you who were in the band will remember the place as looking derelict, haunted-like when we'd return from the St Patrick's Day procession



As they were leaving a call came out "Hey Paul!" – it was Phil Moloney who was visiting with his wife Carolyn. Due to other commitments Paul and Mary will not be able to make our get-together in October.



SPECIAL NOTICE – REUNION



Sunnybank Community & Sports Club

470 McCullough Street

MACGREGOR Q 4109

[NB if setting your 'GPS', the suburb is 'MACGREGOR']

The reunion committee met on the 9th July to check out the facilities at this club.

There is ample parking on flat terrain. The menu is extensive, and meals can be purchased and paid for individually, thus taking the issue of making a charge for the day, out of the equation.

For anyone who may consider coming from outside Brisbane for the weekend The Sunnybank Star Motel is very handy to the luncheon venue.

As advised the reunion will be held on

SATURDAY, 1st of OCTOBER, 2016.

12.00pm for 12.30pm

Wives, Partners are, of course, most welcome



Brian Herzig & Jack Duggan (Organising Committee)

It would be appreciated if you would let me know if you're attending so we can let the Club know how many tables we're likely to need

We have apologise to date from: Bill Harrington, John Hede, Bill Hurley, Bill Sexton, Paul Stark, Anymore???

News from other years



Apex Collis: Kindly rang to acknowledge receipt of Issue No 57!

He wants to know what people's favourite meal was at school? I remember the 'snags':

Tony Atkinson: "I always enjoy reading your newsletter and congratulate on an excellent presentation.
The class of 1962 is having its annual luncheon on Friday 12th August and I will endeavour to get our "in-house journalist" Kerry White to send something through after the event (See photo below)
!
Thanks very much - Tony Atkinson"

Fr Jim Littleton: "Many thanks for your recent newsletter. It always has some items of interest to me, e.g. Aileen Doyle. Warm regards - Jim"

Des Reppel: "Speaking of Arg Whitton I still remember him refereeing football matches. There were times when he actually got down physically to ground level to make sure the feeding of the ball into the scrum and the hooking of the ball was correct!!! We had to strike not with the nearest foot but the other foot: compare that to a Rugby League scrum nowadays!!! Next year will be 60 years since we left Downlands. I had phone call from Des Draydon re doing something next year: probably September or October. I will let you know later when he lets me know the dates. Des was at the Bundamba races with Tony Salier (another 1957 boarder). When I rang him back, he thought he was talking Des Cook (another one of our cohort)! Keep up the good work. Des."

Alan Wise: wrote to tell of his elder brother, Kevin's passing, at the end of July. See 'Requiescant in Pace'

below.

Our sincere condolences Alan

Boys from the Class of 1962 lunched at the Plough Inn, South Bank, Brisbane, on Friday, 12th August.



Here they all are (from left): **John Blakeney, Charlie Billington, Tony Atkinson, Mick Dunne, Rod McCafferty, Kerry White, Terry Prindable, Ed McCormack, Dick Rowe, Justin McCarthy and Bill Taylor.**

Apologies for various reasons came from Denis Sexton, Neil Ziegenfusz, Lyle McGrath, Peter Casey, Pat Hayden, Ken Dooley, John Peard, G.G. Potter, Lindsay Borger & Mac Whitehouse.

*Thanks to **Kerry White** for the photo above.*

*Incidentally, Kerry, as you know is a freelance writer and a Vietnam Vet. The 18th August marked the 50th anniversary of the battle of Long Tan. This battle claimed the lives of 18 Australians one of whom was a young 19 year old who was at school with us, **Frank Topp**, RIP (1960 – '61) from Flagstone Creek. Frank had only been in Vietnam for five weeks before his untimely death.*

See the attachment to read the poem Kerry has written in Frank's honour.

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It makes you feel 'old' when some of the little kids join the septuagenarian club doesn't it?

Such was the case on the 25th August when I heard that F X Uhr turned 70! He finished school in 1964 !!

Many Happy returns Frank, and welcome to our 'Club'.

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

“SIKKENS” wins hands down this month. I’ve just given our deck it’s two yearly spruce-up and it looks pretty darned good if I do say so myself. I know ‘Luds’ Hede is a great promoter of this ‘Nederland’ product. The only thing wrong with it is the price, but as it does the job so well, it’s worth every cent – well \$165 for 5 litres anyway.

EDITOR’S COLUMN

Brain Teasers – Once again, no cheating now!

Olympic Quiz!!

- 1) In which year, and where, were the first modern Olympics held?
- 2) What is the Olympic motto?
- 3) In 2000, the Olympic Oath was rewritten to include an athlete’s promise to compete without the use of what?
- 4) Who designed the Olympic Flag?
- 5) When and where, were women first allowed to participate in the modern Olympic Games?
- 6) What distance is the Olympic marathon?
- 7) What was so remarkable about Ethiopian Abebe Bikila’s win in the 1960 marathon in Rome?
- 8) Why were all equestrian events at the 1956 Melbourne Games held in Stockholm?
- 9) Who was Australia’s first Olympian?
- 10) Who was Fanny Durack?

(Answers on page 12)

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Letter Writing!

Newspapers I’ve read in recent times have had articles regarding the decline in the exchange of handwritten letters between friends. Understandable of course given the ease and speed of using emails, but the columnists continue to hammer the fact about ‘The joy of receiving a hand-written’ letter’ .

Remember our Sunday morning ritual of ‘writing home’ each week? Living in Toowoomba I made other friends.

The question has been posed “How long is it since you’ve written / received a hand-written letter”? An what were the contents????!.

The last one I’ve received was one at Christmas time from Luigi – thanks again Lou.

I’m going to start writing the odd letter long-hand from here on – keep an eye on your letterbox!!

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During August, Neville Hewitt, a well respected, former Central Queensland politician passed away.

The National Party stalwart was respected by all Queensland politicians and cared deeply about the people he represented in the seats of Mackenzie and Auburn. He was a ‘true gentleman, and a very sad loss to the community’ according to a former political foe.

Mr Hewitt, 96, was also a war hero, having served with the Royal Australian Air Force in the Second World War during which time he survived six days lost in the desert.

He was born in Theodore in 1920, but spent many years in Rockhampton as his children went through school.

In 1980, the city’s second bridge was named after him.

Why do I record this?

During my daily ritual of reading the Funeral Notices in the paper on 4th August, I recognised MR Hewitt’s name from the days of the Bjelke Petersen government,

I read on and saw that, because the local Anglican Cathedral in Rocky, St Paul’s, is undergoing renovations , Mr Harper’s “Anglican Service” would be held at St Joseph’s Catholic Cathedral on 6/8/16, to accommodate the number of mourners expected.

I’m sure that “Old Boy, Bishop Michael McCarthy, would have received high praise from the local community for acting in such a ecumenical manner. Well done My Lord!

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You’ve got to be impressed by the Paralympians don’t you?

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The Maggies are out as I'm sure you're aware!!

Those leisurely morning walks take on a whole new dimension when the magpies are nesting don't they?

I have the shank from an old putter that I take on my walks. I wave it like mad when I come near places where I've been bombed over the years. Magpies and Bulldogs – been terrified of both since I was chased by both species when I was about 8 years old !!

Since writing the above there was a report on the news this week (5/9/16) telling that a handler at the Currumbin Bird Sanctuary was 'swooped' by a wedge-tailed eagle!! Poor girl was badly hurt, so I shouldn't complain about the maggies!!

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I don't know how many of you get the Courier Mail these days, we do. It's mainly to look up Funeral Notices and for Deb to work out all the puzzles



There was a story in the 'Qweekend' supplement, 10/9, titled "Channelling Ambition" which caught my eye. Those of us who were regulars at the Toowoomba Municipal Baths from late January to early March each year will remember the names Bernie & Tuppy Shapland. I spent most of my summer school holidays there as well.

Anyway, the story is about Chris Shapland, 69, owner of 17 Learn to Swim schools throughout SQ, Bernie & Tuppy's eldest. I know a lot about the Shaplands, just ask me !!

What I didn't know is that, between September 15 – 21, Chris will make his first attempt at swimming across the English Channel. He was friendly with the late Des Redford who made the crossing 19 times!! Maybe Peter Joseph would like me to put him in touch with Chris so that they can do it together sometime ! yuk, yuk.

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OTHER DOWNLANDS NEWS

The **DPSA Committee** for the coming year, elected at the AGM of the Association on 15th August, are

President: Cameron Donaldson – Class of 1981

V/President: Scott Burton - Class of 1985

Sec: Melanie Cavanough (nee Long) - Class of 2003

Treasurer: Garth Cocks – Class of 59

Peter Edlich is also a member of the new Committee.

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You may enjoy seeing a couple of photos, (*pinched from the past students webpage*), from the DPSA Bursary launch in Brisbane at the end of July.

You'll recognise some people I'm sure!



Peter Edlich and John Casey

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Cameron Donaldson (President DPSA), Mike Ahern (Guest speaker), Mike's wife Andrea and Stephen McIlhatton, (Principal, Downlands)



OBC Editor proposing a vote of thanks to the guest speaker Mike Ahern

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GRAMMAR DAY

I just know you'll all be waiting with baited breath to know the result of the First XV match against TGS on Saturday 3rd September.

Thanks to our man on the spot, Peter Edlich, I can report that Downlands, after being behind 12 to 21 at half-time, were ultimately defeated by TGS.

Final score TGS 33 d Downlands 29.

All being well Garrick Morgan will be able to develop a team to defeat the foe next year. A much better result for the boys than in recent years

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Reunion Weekend 3 – 4 September



Congratulations to Brett Robinson (Class of '86 [left]) on winning the Outstanding Past Student Award. A well deserving recipient - not only has Brett forged a rugby career, but is a respected orthopaedic surgeon.



Top golfer George Emerson, 1949 – '54 (right) with a couple of mates at the reunion 'Golf Day'

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Stop Press [12/9] - Congratulations to Past Student Katie Kelly (1991 – '92) who won gold in triathlon at the Rio Paralympics last night!

Katie was featured in the Summer 2015 edition of "Fortes"

Congratulations and well done Katie

NOTICE BOARD

DPSA Bursary Launch at Roma Bowls Club on Saturday 1st October, 2016, 6.30 for 7.00pm.

Cost is \$39-00. Canapes, Main Course and Dessert.

For more information please contact:

David Bowden (M; 0429664275,

E: nedwob12@bigpond.com) or

Melanie Cavanough at the College (0746909501).

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Mass to remember Deceased Past Students will be held on 22nd January, 2017, at St Rita's College Chapel, Clayfield commencing at 11.00am.

More details to follow. We're meeting at Brisbane Racing tomorrow, 13/9, to confirm our Luncheon venue.

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WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT



I mentioned Brownie's 'issues' above. I've spoken to him since, and he's well and truly on the mend. I wouldn't be surprised if he actually enjoyed his short break in hospital!

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I've heard that both Garth Cocks and John Power, both members of the new DPSA committee have been off colour recently. Get well soon gentlemen. Garth must have been 'crook' because he missed the Saturday night's festivities over the reunion weekend of 3rd – 4th September.

An 'old timer', Bryan O'Toole, [1943 – '46] has not been in the best of health for the past few months.

The old "prostrate" has risen it's ugly head again in a couple of places

All the best to those mentioned above, and anyone else who's off colour.

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A retired medico, a friend to many in Brisbane, but particularly to Bill Sexton, lectured a group of us many years ago telling us to "*Give yourself a colonoscopy for your 50th Birthday*". Many of us took action as advised. In fact I lined up for my fourth, since receiving that good advice, last Friday. I'm happy to report "all clear" so to speak!
I mention this because I think, at our age, and among friends, we should be prepared to share what medical procedures people of our vintage are undergoing.
We might miss out on something important if we don't!!

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REQUISCANT IN PACE

J. Paddy Blair, 1943 – '44 originally from Charleville. Passed away peacefully on the 24th August, aged 88. He was well known among his old schoolmates who travelled to Toowoomba from the far west in the train.

Kevin Brennan MD, 1942 – '45 originally from Hampton. Buried from St Mary's Catholic Church in Ipswich on 5/8/16. Classmates Graham Joyner and Martin McGrane were in attendance to farewell their old classmate.

E.J (Ted) Twomey, 1940 – '43 originally from Chinchilla. Passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on 26th August, 2016, aged 90. Ted was buried from St Ignatius Church, Toowong on 2/9/16

Kevin Wise, 1954 – '55, originally from Cunnamulla passed away in late July. Read on: "Dear Jack,

I just thought I would mention that my older brother Kevin, (Downlands mid 50's), passed away peacefully during July. He loved Downlands especially L.G. Mahony as his scholarship teacher. After Downlands he joined the Navy then the ACT Police, later to become the Australian Federal Police. He passed away in Cunnamulla - our old home town where he spent his last years in retirement.

Kev was last seen alive on Sunday 24/7/16 but was found deceased on Thursday 28/7/16. This made for some confusion. The facts are that One of the sad aspects of living alone in a distant town.

Warmest regards mate, Alan"

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Champions are not those who never fail; they are those who never quit!

FUN & GAMES

Wonderful English from Around the World ..

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

Practice safe eating - always use condiments.

Shotgun wedding - A case of wife or death.

A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play.

Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.

What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway.)

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your count votes.

She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off.

A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

Local Area Network in Australia - the LAN down under.

Every calendar's days are numbered.

A lot of money is tainted - Taint yours and taint mine.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

He had a photographic memory that was never developed.

A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.

Once you've seen one shopping centre, You've seen a mall.

Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know
Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

Acupuncture is a jab well done.

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Answers to Olympic Quiz on Page

- 1) **1896 in Athens**
- 2) **Citius, Altius, Fortius – [Latin for “Faster, Higher, Stronger”]**
- 3) **Performance enhancing drugs**
- 4) **Baron Pierre de Coubertin (1863 – 1937, considered the Father of the Modern Olympics)**
- 5) **1900, Paris**
- 6) **42.195 kilometres**
- 7) **He was the first black African to win plus he completed the race barefooted**
- 8) **Because of Australia's strict quarantine laws**
- 9) **Edwin Flack (Winner of 800m &1500m in 1896)**
- 10) **Australia's first female Olympic gold medallist (First 100m freestyle in 1912)**

Thanks to everyone who contributed this month, it is greatly appreciated.

All care taken in presenting material here, but no responsibility taken for errors / omissions. I sometimes take images and stories from the Downlands and MSC websites.

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