Queensland Great
Ian Brusasco

REACHING OUT TO THE MARGINS
CREATING NUDGEE HISTORY
ENRICHED HORIZONS
ROD HETHERINGTON
AN AMAZON ADVENTURE
TO THE nTh Degree

GREETINGS TO THE NUDGEE COLLEGE

The first volume of Nth Degree, as the College’s Magazine has been a resounding success. This professional magazine will continue to inform the wider Nudgee College community and provide an important link for our Old Boys.

In this volume you will recognise a strong theme that runs through our College - “reaching out to the margins”. This theme is embraced and displayed through many actions, by many staff, students and Old Boys, as you will see. In this volume we are proud to tell some of the stories about Ian Brusasco, Terrence Parer, Jack Ross, Kathleen White, Nudgee Ladies’ Auxiliary, Street Swags and the Philip Ross, Kathleen White, Nudgee Ladies’ Auxiliary, Street Swags and the Philip -

One significant event for next year is the “Legends of Nudgee Sport” which will feature a number of great players from the recent past. This event will be promoted across the breadth of the wider College community, as we want a crowd of 1000 to attend!

Please keep us up to date with your details by emailing nthdegree@nudgee.com or phoning 07 3865 0319.

Thank you very much for the overwhelming amount of feedback we have received regarding Nth Degree. We truly appreciate it so please do keep it coming in. Congratulations to L. Voysey who won the random prize draw.

Finally, may joy be your gift this Christmas and may peace and hope follow you into the New Year.

O Father may that Holy Star Grow every year more bright, And send its gracious beams afar To fill the world with light.

William Cullen Bryant

Sincerely,

Daryl Hanly

President’s Address, Jubilee and 40 Year Reunion

Social Events

Festive Fare

Mark Triscott and Paul O’Brien

Cadets

With the Doneleys at Dunraven

Spawning the Globe

Mark Triscott and Paul O’Brien

Life and Style

Festive Fare

Nudgee Scene

Social Events

NOBIA

President’s Address, Jubilee and 40 Year Reunion

Contributors

John Andrew, Jim Gay & NOBIA, Daryl Hanly, Jeremy Harkins, Allister Harrison, Rod Hetherington, Clare Arakotwitch, Martin Kerby, Tanya King, Parer Family, Melissa Peacock, Kathleen White

Many thanks to

Ian Brusasco, Doneley Family, Mark Ennor, Paul O’Brien, Claire O’Sullivan, Graham Liddie, Mary Ross-Walks, Trina Sullivan, Mark Triscott, Nathan Welch

Design

Rene Graphics

www.renegraphics.com

Photography

Cover photography by Bruce Peebles

Gary Lynagh Photography, Susie McDonald, John Sayer, and others

Printing

GEON Australia Pty Ltd

Editorial queries, feedback and change of address

phone: 07 3865 0319
email: nthdegree@nudgee.com

Nth Degree is published by St Joseph’s Nudgee College’s Development and Communication Team in cooperation with other parties. Material in this publication is gathered from a range of sources and does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

COPYRIGHT: All rights reserved. Copyright of articles and photographs of Nth Degree remain with the individual contributors and may not be reproduced without permission. Other material may be reproduced, but only with the permission of Nth Degree.
Our “call to the margins” and the equally important pursuit of justice is clearly stated in many key documents associated with St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

The Charter (A Proclamation of an Authentic Expression of Edmund Rice Education as Applied to Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition) quite clearly explains our responsibilities in terms of each of the following “cultural characteristics”:

BEING JUST

Justice is integral to the vision of the Kingdom.

A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition acts justly. This is reflected consistently in its structures and processes.

The curriculum and activities of the school enable students to experience and value a critical awareness of social justice issues.

The school will not preclude the enrolment of a Catholic student on the basis of financial inability.

The school programs are designed to empower all members, especially the marginalised, to participate with dignity and confidence.

COMPASSION

Compassion is central to the life and teaching of Jesus and to the spirituality of Edmund.

A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition fosters in its members the mind and heart of Edmund, who acted with compassion.

Students at risk are provided with special assistance.

The school models the Gospel’s values of forgiveness and reconciliation by the manner in which conflict is resolved.

SERVICE OF OTHERS

Service of others is integral to being a follower of Jesus.

A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition promotes service of others, by way of significant learning experiences, as basic to fulfilling a Christian life.

The school expects each member to be active in the service of others and provides opportunities for this service in both local and global communities.

Students and staff are involved in programs in which they interact and work with the disadvantaged, understanding service as the movement from charity to justice.

Leadership in schools is based on a Gospel model of service centred in communion with others.

Staff recognise that their principal vocation is to serve students and families.

Similarly, our Mission Statement captures the following sentiments:

“We are members of the Nudgee College Family, founded by the Christian Brothers to provide a balanced education for the development of the whole person. Faithful to the dream of Edmund Rice, we hold a special concern to act justly and with compassion, especially...
towards those most in need. Our College Family is based on a century of Catholic faith, residential care, the service of others, loyalty and friendship. In Jesus our brother, we are determined in our struggle to uphold, communicate and nurture the values of the Gospel. We work together to create an environment where every person is respected and understood. Our College is encouraged to strive in the academic, spiritual, social, personal and cultural, and sporting aspects of life. Our goal is that each member of our family will become for the world, a Sign of Faith: “Signum Fidei.”

Recently, members of the Senior Leadership Team (as well as a separate group that included managers across the College) were invited to identify three of the most significant cultural elements at St Joseph’s Nudgee College. The list which emerged at the beginning was extensive, and included: diversity, community, tradition, masculinity, narrative, opportunity, boarding, sport, and Catholic. Groups were then invited to identify what they considered were the critical key elements amongst these. Three key elements emerged: community, diversity and tradition, and, not surprisingly our “call to the margins” as well.

If, as a College community, we are to go “to the margins” in our pursuit of justice, it is right that we have a shared understanding of what that “justice” is. This is all the more critical if we are to be successful in going “to the margins” beyond our campus, because we are moving outwards from a context which models justice from within. I believe we pursue justice because it is God’s work in having every person and each student is encouraged to strive in the academic, spiritual, social, personal and cultural, and sporting aspects of life. Our goal is that each member of our family will become for the world, a Sign of Faith: “Signum Fidei.”

COMMUNITY, AS EVIDENCED BY:

- the personal nature of the enrolment process.
- the inclusive and welcoming nature of open days.
- the thorough processes involved in orientation days, and orientation of new staff.
- the “community developing” strategies evident in communication media, including newsletters, College calendar etc.
- the large number of parents and Old Boys attending major liturgies including Opening Eucharist, Commissioning of Senior Students, Annuc Day, Assumption Mass, major sporting and cultural events and awards evenings.
- the promotion amongst our students of a “sense of occasion”.
- close connectedness with boarding parents through meetings, visits, and communication.
- linking parents with support staff, including counsellors, medical and boarding staff.
- involving parents, staff and past students in a plethora of support committees.
- gathering parents and carers at key decision points in students’ lives, such as subject selection, orientation, SET (Senior Education and Training) planning time.
- helping the assimilation of international students to the Australian way of life through student committees, as well as providing international students with opportunities to share their cultural practices.
- incorporating the recognition of traditional ownership and heritage in all of our ceremonies.
- maintaining an extremely effective pastoral care program which, through its verticality, enables each student to be known and cared for.
- making use of the boarding element of the College to take students at risk into our community.
- ongoing commitment through appropriate staffing and budgeting to provide for students with special needs.
- seeking out and making places available for students at the margins— indigenous students from north of Australia, refugees, students who through disability are marginalised.
- responding to applications from parish priests in terms of accepting students at low fee rates.
- ongoing support of parents who are in financial difficulties.
- integrated leadership development program within the College through student formations which encourage all students to demonstrate leadership capacity.

DIVERSITY, AS EVIDENCED BY:

- broadening our intake through the establishment of Year 5–7 classes.
- making available a broad curriculum which caters for all students with learning needs, including those who are exceptionally bright and those who are academically challenged.
- maintaining a “balance” between academic and co-curricular involvement.
- providing a range of pathways for students through VET offerings, as well as access to gateway offerings.
- focusing on “excellence” in relation to educational outcomes for students.
- providing access to a range of co-curricular activities which provide immense opportunities for students, including: art, drama and music clubs, cattle club, golf, rifle clubs and many sports activities.
- providing access to strategic professional development for staff to encourage the enhancement of their craft so they are able to provide increasingly meaningful learning experiences for students.
- introducing the Curriculum Framework and the Dimensions of Learning Framework to enhance professional dialogue which will enable more effective learning practices for students.
- improving the College timetable to meet the needs of the diverse population.
- integrating faith development experiences through reflection, retreats and opportunities for students to engage in the liturgy of House masses.
- providing learning support to those academically challenged.
- providing extension activities through a well developed Gifted and Talented Program.
- encouraging the notion of a sense of “story” about Nudgee, through partnerships with past students, the College history and archives.
- supporting the appropriate understanding and manifestation of the College motto, “Nudgee Spirit”.
- promoting the focus on spiritual development for both staff and students, recognising and celebrating the exceptional commitment of our staff.
- promoting appropriate manifestations of “masculinity” in student behaviour.
- involving students in leading prayer.
- evangelisation through strategic and appropriate experiences, such as relevant liturgies, appropriate modelling, and, in general, “Sharing the Good News”.
- involving students in the liturgy of House masses.
- having mass available in the chapel, six days per week.
- encouraging of the different faiths of the diverse student population.
- sharing of the Catholic Faith by sharing the life of Jesus with all students through compulsory religious education programs.
- ensuring all students are involved in service activities within the College. These activities include: Big Brekky, Big BBQ, street waves, touch football with intellectually handicapped communities, working in palliative care, immersion activities and a strong involvement and presence with the Christian Brothers in the Philippines.
- ensuring each other within this community in all aspects of life.
- developing the notion of “leadership as service” to all who lead in the College.
- ensuring just and appropriate processes for student discipline.
- maintaining close connections with our Indigenous brothers and sisters through the provision of a significant number of places in the College for indigenous students.
- forging close connections with communities of our Indigenous students.
- developing the College master plan and the focus on refurbishing and maintaining heritage buildings as well as developing new buildings in a strategic manner.
- keeping the focus on “tidying up” the College environment.
- the role of Australian Environmental Studies and this impact on students’ awareness of the environment.

In simple terms, the achievement of justice will be the bringing about of the end of injustice. The pursuit of justice must necessarily take into account our particular context—St Joseph’s Nudgee College, a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. More specifically, this College has a population of over 1500 male students of whom 300 are boarders. The majority of the teaching and ancillary staff is male. The college has taken pride in developing “Nudgee men” who are manifestations of the College motto, Signum Fidei (Signs of Faith). There is no doubt that this manifestation means different things to different groups. What “Nudgee men” do have, however, is the “Nudgee Spirit” — the special bond that is exhibited in the way the students feel about their school. This “spirit” is seen to emanate from a perceived sense of one-ness, a mutuality and “solidarity” the boys feel. The spirit and the one-ness can, however, come to be formed by a perception of what is, which resulted from what was. In other words, our approach can lead us away from an appreciation of “who we are, how we are, how we contribute (or not) to what is, why this is so, and more critically, what might be.

What I am proposing here is a need for a process that involves a reflection of the context so that our understanding of the term “solidarity” demands a commitment to mutuality. Paramount to an understanding of the term “solidarity” is a recognition of the presence of the “Other” and shift towards that “otherness.” In other words, we should move from the view that, “the oppressed do not exist,” to the view that “we have something in common; a mutuality.” Within our College context, the “others” could, if ignored, form a large list, including: women, international students, students who are refugees, students from isolated areas, Indigenous students, students who are physically and/or intellectually challenged, students who are...
arts-oriented, staff and students who are not Catholic, and so on.

The second stage is to become involved in critical reflective discourse through the sharing of narratives. The conditions for such discourse demand a climate of safety in which people feel free to speak their truth, where blaming and judging are at a minimum, where full participation is encouraged, where evidence and arguments may be assessed objectively and assumptions surfaced openly.

I would contend that in seeking these “objective assessments” we should first acknowledge that it is very difficult for us to be genuinely objective, because of who we are and where we come from. While striving towards objectivity, we must declare our subjectivity, consider our particularities and look at them critically. Our stories will establish the history of our subjectivity and make our objectivity more “real”.

Effective discourse at all levels focuses energies on what we have that is going well and developing a vision and action for the future, while identifying injustices and oppression that currently exist.

In the end, what I am suggesting is a review of our whole approach to social justice as we know it. This will necessarily involve challenging people’s understandings of why we do what we currently do, such as fundraising for the “poor and marginalised”, holding retreats, visiting the elderly, providing breakfast for the homeless, participating in immersion programs, both at home and abroad, and so on. The desired outcome will be the commensurate development of appropriate processes to ensure that the “Nudgee man” has a mature understanding of justice and of his responsibility for bringing about justice; he should be armed with some strategies and have the capacity to achieve some justice-oriented goals.

What opportunity do we take on public occasions to promote and/or celebrate our women as significant members of our community?

What do we mean by subsidiarity? How do we practice this? Is it just delegation, or should it be something more? How do we prepare people to take on their new delegations so they may maximise their success?

How might we diminish the alienation of persons from different cultures in their experience of our liturgies? How do we include those who have a history of “suspicious” cultural practices?

What strategies can we use to help our teachers to transform their approaches to teaching, as well as being receptive to being transformed themselves, particularly in terms of our understanding of justice?

What opportunity do we take on public occasions to promote and/or celebrate our women as significant members of our community?

What do we mean by subsidiarity? How do we practice this? Is it just delegation, or should it be something more? How do we prepare people to take on their new delegations so they may maximise their success?

How might we diminish the alienation of persons from different cultures in their experience of our liturgies? How do we include those who have a history of “suspicious” cultural practices?

What strategies can we use to help our teachers to transform their approaches to teaching, as well as being receptive to being transformed themselves, particularly in terms of our understanding of justice?
Street Swags is a not-for-profit organisation that relies on donations from the public to keep producing and distributing swags to the homeless to sleep more comfortably. Nudgee College has rolled 8000 swags this year. We have sent swags to Byron Bay, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Alice Springs, Darwin, Mackay, Rockhampton, Hervey Bay, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Sandgate and Brisbane City.

Partnering Organisations include:

- Funding
  - Swans AFL
  - Macquarie Bank Sydney & NSW
- Distribution Charities
  - St Vincent De Paul
  - Salvation Army
  - Father Chris Riley
- Promotion
  - FM101 Caboolture
- Schools
  - Mt Alvernia

PAG-INUPDANAY WITH SPIRIT

2008 marked the second time for ‘Pag-Inupdanay With Spirit’, an immersion for twelve Year 10 students and twenty Filipino students from Negros in the Philippines.

The nature of ‘Pag-Inupdanay With Spirit’ is evident in its very name: ‘Pag-Inupdanay’ being Ilonggo (local dialect where we visit in the Philippines), for ‘togetherness’. As we learned, togetherness is integral to Filipinos—good-natured people leading lives that, in the face of constant hardship, are held together by the love of family and the spirit of Christ.

Such a simplistic but deeply meaningful approach to life is foreign in secular Australian society. As visitors, we could never come close to understanding the true difficulty of their lives. However, by walking with them, we not only formed new, lasting friendships and immersed ourselves in a unique culture, but were encouraged to act in accordance with the fundamental values that underpin the experience itself—solidarity, global citizenship and equality.

We are challenged to stand up and make a difference: as Australians, valuing mateship; as Catholics, passionate about social justice; and as Nudgee College men, with the unwavering desire to be ‘Signum Fidei’.

‘Pag-Inupdanay’ is not simply a twelve-day trip for a handful of students. It is a community based experience, evident in the raising of $25,000 by the College community to assist the education of the students with whom we formed such close relationships.

It is easy to become despairing at the disadvantages. However, I am quietly optimistic, that with the work done so far and the shared Christian charism of our communities acting in solidarity, we can close the ‘gap’.

Below: Members of St Joseph’s Nudgee College’s First XV, First XI and a team of boarders competed against each other in the recent Street Swags Great Winter Roll Up Challenge.

Below: College’s Philippines Immersion group at Kuya Center for Homeless Children in Manila where Old Boy and Marist Brother Ralph Arnell works.
IAN BRUSASCO

“The Firsts players were idolised. That undefeated team of 1946 is considered by people like Terry White to be one of Nudgee’s greatest ever.”

There was little in Ian Brusasco’s record at Nudgee that would have encouraged his contemporaries to identify him as a man destined for great things. By his own admission he was a mediocre student, and even after the passage of 60 years he recalls, with considerable delight, that he was the student least likely to succeed. Yet his upbringing, blighted by poverty and a disrupted education, also imbued him with a natural resilience and a sincere commitment to social justice. In his 80th year Ian is still working for the marginalised and dispossessed. “I know what it is to be poor and hungry,” he explains.

Born Iulio Prospero Brusasco—he changed his name by deed poll in 1969, his parents were part of a rapid influx of Italian migrants into Australia in the twenties. A tightening of immigration restrictions in the United States and Canada saw the numbers of Italians in Australia grow from just over 8,000 in 1921 to almost 40,000 within a decade. This increase was further exacerbated by the rise to power of Mussolini in 1922, which saw many peasants from northern Italy, like Brusasco’s parents, seek their fortunes abroad.

Brusasco’s family came from a very small village called Cuccaro Monferrato. Perhaps a hint of a genetic predisposition for public service is to be found in the fact that the current mayor of the village, which boasts a population of 362, is Giuseppe Brusasco—none other than Ian’s cousin. Although he initially thought he would migrate to Argentina after his military service, Brusasco Senior migrated instead to Australia in 1923, and was joined two years later by his fiancée and her brother.

Like many of their countrymen, the Brusasco family sought work on the sugar cane farms of northern Queensland. They met with solid resistance; they were not discarded until 2004. While running a number of successful pharmacies, Brusasco served as a Brisbane City Council Alderman for 14 years and was made a life member of the ALP. Other appointments came his way in the course of an amazingly diverse career: He was chairman of the Port of Brisbane Corporation, the Brisbane Strikers, Soccer Australia, 4TAB and 4KQ. Though he is now “retired”, Brusasco was named a “Queensland Great”—a formal recognition of what his alma mater had known for years.

Of these many and significant achievements and an amazing career, it is Ian’s work with Foodbank that is his personal highlight. “Last year we gave out 5,500,000 kilograms of food to 267 charities. That gives me more pleasure than anything else I’ve done, because I know what it is to be poor and hungry.”

Ken McMillan the General Manager of Foodbank has been working with Ian for nearly a decade and over that time Foodbank’s operations have grown enormously. “What hasn’t changed is Ian’s dedication and effort,” said Ken. “Foodbank is essentially a life saving service; without the food Foodbank provides people would be going hungry, it is that simple. So Ian is helping to save lives!”

Ian Brusasco is a fine example of Signum Fidei.
Terrence Gerrard Parer was born in Melbourne, a son to Cyril and Marie. When he was only three weeks old, Terry was taken “home” by boat to Papua New Guinea, to spend a blissful childhood surrounded by the extended Parer family. Terry’s immersion in pidgin English, which he loved forever after, was brought to a halt in 1942 when evacuation occurred.

From Toorak College in Melbourne, he was sent to board at Nudgee Junior at the tender age of seven. At that stage, Nudgee Junior had been relocated to Mount Tamborine because the Indooroopilly Campus had been converted into a US military hospital. His Nudgee years (Junior and Senior) laid the foundation for a lifetime association. Being an only child until he was 13 may go some way to explaining his love of, and filial devotion, to Nudgee College. The fact that he had four cousins attending Nudgee at the same time may also have contributed to his sense of belonging. Terry was active in the Society of Australia.

In 1954 Terry began study at Pharmacy College where the art of pharmacy combined well with the science of botany which became an abiding passion. He graduated in 1957 and then bought the local pharmacy in St George. He married Jennifer, who helped to win Australia’s first Academy Award.

In 1999 Terry sold up and with some trepidation after 42 fabulous years out west, he and Jennifer packed their bags to be closer to the family. Once in Brisbane, his characteristic enthusiasm re-asserted itself. He adjusted well and thoroughly enjoyed this new chapter of his life. Such was Terry’s ongoing dedication to pharmacy that he was presented with a plaque on that trail, in memory of Damien Parer, his uncle who had filmed Kokoda during WWII and who had helped to win Australia’s first Academy Award.

Terry never could sit still. If he was not running marathons, playing squash, or keeping fit at the gym with son and granddaughter, he was on the golf course. He loved to travel and gained tremendous pleasure from each new adventure…and didn’t spare anyone the details! In the last two decades, he and Jennifer saw more of the world than most do in a lifetime; they took particular delight in less mainstream destinations such as Madagascar, Angkor, Namibia, Bhutan, the Galapagos, Uganda, China, India and the Baltic states. These exotic trips also meant he could indulge in his passions for botany, wildlife and amateur photography.

Terry’s “attitude of gratitude”, like his irrepressible sense of enthusiasm, was a defining characteristic. He was always grateful for everything and never took anything for granted. He was a straightforward, down-to-earth and sincere fellow who accepted people as they were. Terry’s generosity and hospitality were legendary. He took great pleasure in sharing what he had. James Delahunty, his brother-in-law, suggested that “He was not only my best man—he was everyone’s best man”. Graham Perrett (Member for Moreton), who went to school in St George, paid tribute in Federal Parliament to this “great man” and “great worker for the community…and church”. He said, Terry “was a great inspiration for me growing up in a family without a dad”. Robin Parer, who once cycled up the coast of Turkey with Terry, wrote, “What an example he set for us all. He had such a lively and enquiring mind, such energy and enthusiasm, a real sweetness of character. We will all miss him so much. I expect God will be very pleased to see him. He will make Heaven a much livelier place”.

In the last three weeks of his life, Terry bravely battled acute leukaemia with the support of a compassionate team of doctors, nurses and pharmacists at the Wesley Hospital. In true Terry Parer style, he maintained his dignity and was incredibly gracious, chivalrous, humble, grateful and even cheeky, right up to the end. Vale Terry Parer—an ordinary life, extraordinarily well lived.
A feminine INFLUENCE

KATHLEEN WHITE

What are your current roles at Nudgee?

I am privileged to be a part of the Student Formation Team. In 2005, I was appointed as House Dean of Duggan House. I am a learning support teacher and I assist those students who require additional help with their work. This year I am enjoying being part of the Year 9 core team. I enjoy my role as House Dean and the opportunities I have to get to know the students and their families. I simply want to focus on being the best person and House Dean that I can be.

Tell us about being a female member of staff. What has changed, particularly concerning acceptance and responsibility?

More women have been appointed to positions of responsibility during my time at the College. There are more females employed as teachers and working in the boarding school than there were ten years ago. I think society as a whole has embraced the concept of having women in positions of responsibility.

Tell us more about your charity work:

I have been involved with a variety of children’s charities since 1991 when I returned from living overseas. I volunteered for Radio Lollipop at the RCH from 1991-1994. This gave me my first real taste of what it felt like to be able to support people who were going through tough times. In 1992, I joined Camp Quality and that association continues today. That has been a fantastic experience for me and I feel that I have gained so much more than what I have given. The adults and children linked to that charity are an amazing group of people; the impact that has had on my life will stay with me always.

In early 2007, I also read about a charity called The Pyjama Foundation. This foundation works to ensure that at-risk children have a chance to experience the wonders and joys of reading. Many children who are in foster homes or in situations where their family life is unstable often miss out on essential literacy skills. Similar to Camp Quality, this is an organisation that has had a profound impact on my life. I love reading and to be able to share that passion with these children while at the same time, helping their families with life skills is an incredibly rewarding experience.

What is Nudgee’s greatest attribute?

Perhaps the greatest attribute is that Nudgee is an Edmund Rice College. The diversity of students allows for the ability to learn to work with, and understand, many different cultures. The boys are able to leave the College with a much greater understanding of what it means to be a part of a cultural and socially just community.

In what ways do you see Nudgee reaching out to the community?

I feel that in the ten years that I have been at the College, we have progressed to a point where the boys are truly gaining a valuable understanding of what it means “to act justly and with compassion” to those people in the margins. Nudgee College is a community who embraces students with a wide range of diverse needs. The boys have the opportunity to be exposed to situations in which they are able to contribute to the community in a way that helps them to make a difference. This is more and more evident by the involvement of boys helping to roll the swags, participating in the Big Brekky and Big BBQ programs, the Philippines Immersion experience and the Australia/South Africa Alive Program.
creation

HISTORY
YEARS 5–7 BEGIN COLLEGE LIFE

Seventy-seven Years 5, 6 and 7 students walked into the McKennariey Centre on January 30 this year. They would have been feeling excited but slightly nervous about starting their Nudgee journey.

By the time they begin their summer holidays in a couple of weeks, it will be with the knowledge that they are now a firm part of the Nudgee College community.

“This year has been a wonderful success,” said Years 5—7 Coordinator, Ms Sian Kennedy. “Seeing the boys come to school every morning with happy, smiling faces delighted to be here has been fantastic. I have been particularly impressed with the way they have assimilated into the College, priding themselves on becoming true ‘Nudgee men’.”

The fact the boys settled in so easily is largely thanks to the acceptance of the older students, particularly the Seniors who acted as big brothers throughout the year.

“In my opinion, has been one of the greatest success stories. The relationships they have developed are a delightful and enriching experience for all concerned. This has certainly helped our boys become accepted into the community as a whole,” Ms Kennedy said.

Like the rest of the student population, the Years 5—7 students have had a busy year with a wealth of activities across all areas.

“The new building is wonderful. It’s a truly unique building that we are most privileged to work in. It’s great to have this semester to get used to the place, how it all operates, and even where all the light switches are before next year. That’s when we’ll truly be able to make the most of the place.”

2008 was always going to be a trial year to a certain degree, as ideas relating to all aspects of a student’s day-to-day life at Nudgee College were put into practice. There will no doubt be various changes in the years ahead however Ms Kennedy is confident that the plans currently in place will mean the Years 5—7 area of the College will continue to excel.

“We’re still very much in phase one and throughout 2009 and in the years ahead, we look forward to building and developing what we have started this year to meet the changing demands of lots more boys and staff. I am excited by this challenge and look forward to working with all the new staff, students and their families and watching all aspects of Years 5—7 grow and develop.”

Years 5, 6 and 7 students are Awarded the Ian Brusasco Award each semester in recognition of the following qualities:

* Compassion
* Resilience
* Perseverance
* Demonstrates diligence, maturity and compassion to others

Above: Mr Ian Brusasco presenting an award in his honour

Main picture: Inaugural billy cart races
Earlier in November St Joseph’s Nudgee College held its annual Enrichment Week Expo and Horizons Night which showcased the work of the College’s gifted and talented students.

The enrichment area comprises various subjects across all year levels. Students are invited to join the program based on their academic performance in Term 1, their personal determination to achieve potential as well as teacher recommendations and diagnostic testing results.

Subjects that make up the Middle School enrichment area are “Horizons” and “Personal Enrichment”. Students can also elect to study the senior enrichment subject “Philosophy and Reason” in Years 11 and 12, and as an authority subject marks for the subject count towards a student's OP. Head of Enrichment, Ms Stella Chan explained that the main difference between the “Horizons” and “Personal Enrichment” subjects is the teaching focus.

“In Horizons, the teaching focus is on research, organisational skills and creative thinking rather than acceleration of learning,” she said. “In Personal Enrichment we continue to develop these skills, but the focus is more on teaching students to become autonomous learners who learn for the sake of learning.”

Traditionally a Year 8 subject, this year Horizons consisted of students from Years 5—7 who have their own stream, which will contain the same principles of learning as the Horizons subject.

“The Years 5—7 students will differ slightly from the Year 8s, as they will be on a three-year cycle. Each year will focus on a different aspect of the Horizons subject,” Ms Chan said.

Horizons students study the subject one lesson per week. Students are mentored by a variety of teachers who voluntarily give up their time each week to mentor the students. This year there have also been six Year 11 student co-mentors who have volunteered to work with the younger students and teachers.

“The boys just love being able to develop their projects with one-on-one assistance from the mentors. They develop a real bond throughout the year and everyone looks forward to showing off their projects on Horizons Night, which is why it is always such a great event,” said Ms Chan.

Personal Enrichment continues to develop the skills students acquired in Horizons, but their projects focus more on themes that encourage students to engage in problem solving. Year 9 projects, for example, include constructing articles entirely of socks during Term 2 and a “What if?” project during Term 4.

“The ‘What if?’ project requires students to select a specific event in history, such as the bombing of Pearl Harbour, and think about what might have happened had that event not occurred. They can select any event from any era they choose, as long as their final project covers all aspects of the event. We’ve had quite a few fascinating responses in the past.”

Year 10 projects are more philosophy and reason based with themes being logic (Term 1), brain box (Term 2), and an in-depth, future problem-solving project during Semester 2, which was displayed at the Enrichment Expo.

Events some of the enrichment students have participated in this year included: the Tournament of Minds, Da Vinci Decathlon and Days of Excellence.

“For the first time we had both primary and secondary teams entered into the Tournament of Minds competition and although we didn’t win, the boys received very good feedback from the judges.”

In another first, two teams of eight Year 8 students took part in the Da Vinci Decathlon. The decathlon involves 10 challenges across various subject areas which are not revealed to the students until the day. The competition is new to Queensland and was originally developed at Knox Grammar in Sydney.

“The boys who participated in the decathlon worked extremely hard in the lead up to the event and did really well on the day. They may not have won overall, but they did win individual challenges and had a good day which is the most important thing.”

### The Facts - Horizons (Year 8)
- Provides opportunities beyond the regular curriculum for identified high achievers.
- Students with recognised potential to succeed academically, intellectually, psycho-socially and/or creatively meet with a teacher-mentor one lesson per week.
- The Horizons Night at the end of the year enables students to display the independent projects worked on over Terms 3 and 4.

### Personal Enrichment (Years 9 &10)
- Year 9 Personal Enrichment aims to identify and help develop gifted behaviours in all students at Nudgee College.
- The course is designed to expose students to broadening experiences which are not ordinarily covered in the regular curriculum.
- Personal Enrichment is a flexible and multi-faceted course which enables each student to reach full potential in a variety of challenging learning experiences.
- Year 10 Enrichment builds on the skills and strategies from Year 9.
- Advanced organisational skills and research techniques develop as students undertake multi-faceted projects for learning.
- The course uses Bett’s “Autonomous Learner Model” as its focal point, and directs students through the last three of five dimensions:
  - Enrichment: explorations, investigations, cultural activities and community service.
  - Seminars: small group presentations of diverse genres.
  - In-depth study: individual projects, mentorships, presentations and assessment of self and others.
Every day at Nudgee College is bound to be different. There really is no way that “a day in the life” can really be defined for a Nudgee College boy. Sure there’s the routine of classes and dinner and study at night, but with so many different people and so much going on it’s hard to describe a normal day.

6.45am get ready for school
My mates and I normally go up to breakfast together then after that back to the dorm to pack books for the day. When time permits I like to go to the music block to practice in the mornings. Being a boarder it’s sometimes hard to do this, especially because I play the trumpet. One day a week we have a full band practice, but the other days it’s good just to go and play around by yourself for a little while, to get your mind off school work and the big day ahead. Otherwise the mornings are normally hanging around in mates’ rooms until we are supposed to be out of the dorm.

8.20am pastoral care
PC has become a crucial part of my day in Senior. Every morning I meet with the other captains and we organise what’s happening around the College. Who’s going to do the speech this week at Assembly, what the plan is for cheering practice and our fundraising for the Senior gift are amongst the topics discussed. Although we have a lot of fun, everything always manages to get done. In the event of there being nothing to discuss, we are free to walk around the school and talk to all the boys to see what’s been happening around the College.

8.45am school time
Business as usual. In a day there are six to seven periods, with a lovely selection of subjects ranging from physics to the study of religion. It is always good to talk to the day boys at lunch time and see what’s happening outside Nudgee College. Then we go back to classes for the last two periods of the day.

2.55pm after school
Sports training. Straight after school everyone gets back to the dorm and quickly changes for training. The dorm is nearly deserted except for the odd student with far too much school work who is forced to stay in and finish it all.

5.30pm dinner
This year the Senior and Sub-Senior dorms have been split in two for dinner. Dinner is always the perfect time to just relax with your mates, and to catch up with those from the other dorms. School time is so busy this is sometimes not possible during the day.

7.00pm study
Every night we have an hour and a half study block, followed by supper then another half hour study block. Living with almost 80 Seniors, help with your work is never far away. Except, all of that vanishes when the rush for the toasters takes over.

The next chapter
My “day in the life” will have changed before you read this. At the moment I only have 17 school days left as a Senior and a Nudgee boy. Followed by exam block then capped of with Valedictory, the end is near. From school, after the farewells, it will be back home to Dirrinbandi to help Dad prepare for shearing and help fix the property up until engineering starts at UQ. It will be sad to leave; Nudgee College has been my home for the past five years. Boarding can be tough and not being able to get away from everyone can be quite trying at times, but we really share a strong bond that the day boys, I believe, will just never feel. They’ve never experienced the rock around the clock or the being in trouble and standing together; or the most emotional thing I’ve ever seen: the boarders’ farewell on the Seniors’ last night of boarding. My family is fourth generation Nudgee College men; I was the ninth Hetherington in my immediate family to attend. It’s easy to say we live for the place. But when I leave, Nudgee’s influence will always be with me.
Barcaldine is famous for being the home of the "Tree of Knowledge". The tree was a ghost gum and was said to be approximately 170 years old. In 1886, when Donald took up land which ran along the Alice River, he named the property "Barcaldine Downs" after his family’s estate in Scotland. In 1863, when Donald took up land which ran along the Alice River, he named the property "Barcaldine Downs" after his family’s estate in Scotland. Barcaldine became the headquarters of the Great Shearers’ Strike. One thousand shearsers from around the district met at the Tree of Knowledge and laid down their blades in protest. Their actions resulted in the formation of the Australian Labour Party and a graziers’ group which later evolved into the National Party. The strike is remembered in the monument which stands where the Tree of Knowledge previously stood.

History...
When the Central Railway was opened as far as Barcaldine on 8 November, 1886, it was believed the mushroom town which sprung up to meet the line of rails from Rockhampton would share the same fate as Bogantungan, Pine Hill and the other temporary termini which flourished for a few years before dying out. On the contrary, the extension of the line beyond Barcaldine did not affect its progress. Some residents followed the line on to Ilfracombe and Longreach, but others remained. Hotels and shops sprung up or were extended. At the back of these building, houses multiplied year by year untill the town’s population became the largest of any town west of Rockhampton.

Handy things to know...
A great way to learn about the history of Barcaldine is to walk the “Between the Bougainvilleas” heritage trail. The trail and accompanying guide showcases the town’s rich history.

The Australian Workers Heritage Centre is a national project which commemorates the shearsers’ strike and formation of The Australian Labor Party. These are events which changed the course of the nation’s working history. The centre is a tribute to all Australian working men and women. School and community groups can stay in the unique residential facility at the Wanpa-rda Matilda Outback Education Centre.

In the town centre, you will also find the Radio Theatre. A trip to this theatre is truly an old world experience, made all the more authentic by original style canvas seats.

A famous Nudgee tale...
See the article, “With the Doneleys at Dunraven”.

Check out...
Barcaldine plays host to the Westech Field Days. These are a celebration of developments in the agricultural industry where tried and tested advancements in rural technology are demonstrated first hand. Westech brings together one of the largest assortment of equipment, products and information specific to the grazing industries and remote area living assembled on one site in Queensland. The Westech Field Days were held in September this year, and are held every three years.

Famous for...
Barcaldine is famous for being the home of the “Tree of Knowledge”. The tree was a ghost gum and was said to be approximately 170 years old. In 1891, Barcaldine became the headquarters of the Great Shearers’ Strike. One thousand shearsers from around the district met at the Tree of Knowledge and laid down their blades in protest. Their actions resulted in the formation of the Australian Labour Party and a graziers’ group which later evolved into the National Party. The strike is remembered in the monument which stands where the Tree of Knowledge previously stood.

About the name...
Donald Charles Cameron migrated to Australia in 1852 from Scotland. The Cameron family had been the proud owners of Barcaldine Castle in Argyll, Scotland. In 1863, when Donald took up land which ran along the Alice River, he named the property “Barcaldine Downs” after his family’s estate in Scotland. Barcaldine Downs included the land where the town of Barcaldine now sits.

Population: 1,750
Location...
Barcaldine is located in central Western Queensland. The town sits approximately 600 kilometres west of Rockhampton and approximately 1, 052 kilometres north-west of Brisbane, at the junction of the Capricorn and Landsborough Highways.

The Australian Workers Heritage Centre is a national project which commemorates the shearsers’ strike and formation of The Australian Labor Party. These are events which changed the course of the nation’s working history. The centre is a tribute to all Australian working men and women. School and community groups can stay in the unique residential facility at the Wanpa-rda Matilda Outback Education Centre.

In the town centre, you will also find the Radio Theatre. A trip to this theatre is truly an old world experience, made all the more authentic by original style canvas seats.

A famous Nudgee tale...
See the article, “With the Doneleys at Dunraven”.

Check out...
Barcaldine plays host to the Westech Field Days. These are a celebration of developments in the agricultural industry where tried and tested advancements in rural technology are demonstrated first hand. Westech brings together one of the largest assortment of equipment, products and information specific to the grazing industries and remote area living assembled on one site in Queensland. The Westech Field Days were held in September this year, and are held every three years.

Famous for...
Barcaldine is famous for being the home of the “Tree of Knowledge”. The tree was a ghost gum and was said to be approximately 170 years old. In 1891, Barcaldine became the headquarters of the Great Shearers’ Strike. One thousand shearsers from around the district met at the Tree of Knowledge and laid down their blades in protest. Their actions resulted in the formation of the Australian Labour Party and a graziers’ group which later evolved into the National Party. The strike is remembered in the monument which stands where the Tree of Knowledge previously stood.

About the name...
Donald Charles Cameron migrated to Australia in 1852 from Scotland. The Cameron family had been the proud owners of Barcaldine Castle in Argyll, Scotland. In 1863, when Donald took up land which ran along the Alice River, he named the property “Barcaldine Downs” after his family’s estate in Scotland. Barcaldine Downs included the land where the town of Barcaldine now sits.
Sixty-three years before Nudgee College Old Boy Elton Flatley got his first taste of post-apartheid South Africa, another Nudgee Old Boy footballer, the Australian team, in light blue jerseys, produced an attacking style of rugby that both delighted the fans and caused a rethink in the home team’s conservative play.

For Bernie Doneley, this first and only taste of international rugby transcended a mere sporting experience; it offered him a glimpse of a world far removed from Depression-era Australia. His son Peter recalled that throughout Bernie’s life he spoke fondly of his time in Africa when they “were treated like absolute gods”. Bernie imbued his family not just with a love of the land, but a preparedness to travel the world.

This year Nudgee College Events Manager, Claire Juratowitch, travelled to Barcaldine to promote Nudgee College to rural Queensland and yet o’er all the rest,

And we have hearts to do and dare,

we sent our sons to die.

Well have we held our fathers’ creed.

For them no trumpet sounds the call,

The wide bush holds the secrets of the holy altar fires,

For me, however, it all seemed reminiscent of Sister Mary’s “Women of the West”, which I heard for the first time in 1974; whereas the popular image of the outback is of a masculine world dominated by the bronzed Anzac of Australian mythology, it is a world equally shaped by women.

“The property has been passed down via the female line. Peter is the first outsider to have ever bought into the family partnership. We are a very strong line of women, and although there were sons, they either didn’t marry or didn’t have issue. We are lucky that we have help here, and I am very involved out in the paddock now. It’s not like a professional life. We mustn’t leave it behind,” says Roberta.

“We have a great lifestyle,” Peter remarked, as he relaxed on a wide veranda amongst an oasis set firmly in the brown and reds of the outback. For me, however, it all seemed reminiscent of Sister Mary’s “Women of the West”, which I heard for the first time in 1974;...
STRAW IN

F A I T H  A N D  W A R

THE NUDGEE

CADETS

Earl morning visitors to the College are often witness to the unfurling of the flags. It is a ritual conducted without ceremony, but it is one which literally and figuratively plants the colours in the very heart of the campus.

The Australian, Queensland and Nudgee College flags form a powerful backdrop to the statue of Edmund Rice at the eastern edge of the mall. The House flags—another symbol of the long history of the College—line the edge of the old tennis court; there are a dozen flags in all. Yet there is one flag which has not sat atop a mast for almost 40 years—the Nudgee College Cadet Flag.

In 1906, Neal Macrossan (pictured) contributed an article “The True Australian”, in which the writer argued that “the immense mineral and other resources of our country are regarded with covetous eyes by millions of eastern people—such as Chinese, Japanese etc….We in Australia number but 4,000,000. Spread out over a continent as vast as Europe, having an immense line of coast, we are exposed to the attack of any powerful nation…..But are we, then, to sit down quietly and wait till the yellow flood shall flow in on our happy land?” The anonymous writer then went on to extol the virtues of a rapid increase in population and the provision of some rudimentary military training to all young men.

In June 1912, the Cadets were disbanded for the final time in 1970, and though there is occasional talk of their return, it is probable that the flag will never again fly over Ross Oval. It will have a home in the new museum, and will remain there as a tribute to the boys of Nudgee College Cadets who lost their lives in the Boer War, and to those who served in the Second World War.

Cadets on Ross Oval, 1949

THE NUDGEE COLLEGE 1863–2003

For the ashes of his fathers, And the temples of his Gods?

The True Australian…will be ready on all occasions to defend his country with voice and pen when her enemies vitify her. First among his temporal concerns, he will put the interests of his native land…he should be filled with that enthusiastic devotion, that simple elemental passion of love for his country and his people, that sacrifice of all for hearth and home and liberty, that animated Horatius Cocles on the bridge, that inspired the resistance of the Greeks to the myriad hordes of Xerxes or that in our own times, has strengthened the resolution of the true hearted sons of Ireland through long centuries of tyranny and oppression…To right his country’s wrongs, to vindicate her cause, to protect her from an alien yoke, the True Australian must be content to devote himself to his country’s service, and if necessary to pay her in the last extremity the supreme homage of the sacrifice of his own life, in the full confidence that he is thereby performing an action most acceptable to the Creator that dowered him with existence…For how can man die better than facing fearful odds, For the ashes of his fathers, And the temples of his Gods?

THE COMPULSORY DEFENCE ACT, 1911

ensured that boys between the ages of 12 and 18 were trained as cadets in order, as Macrossan would have seen it, “to manifoldly play the part imposed on him by his Creator (and) to fulfill the duties of citizenship”. Within a year, the Nudgee College Cadets had reached a remarkable degree of proficiency, a development evident in the College’s success in a series of cadet competitions. Nudgee College defeated Boy’s Grammar and Gregory Terrace in their district and Rockhampton Grammar at the State level. The Commonwealth Champion saw 40 students, escorted by Brother Magee, travel to Melbourne in June 1912. The skills tested were shooting, marching, skirmishing, physical drill and general appearance.

The students arrived in the temporary capital to be met by Queensland parliamentarians and a welcome that the College historian described “as a Roman triumph before the battle”.

The Prime Minister, the Minister for Defence, the Chief of Staff and the Inspector General of Forces watched the competition. The team came second to a combined Victorian team, which no doubt disappointed Brother Magee, whose dislike of second place was well known. Yet the subsequent invitation to parade at Parliament House and attend a luncheon with the Prime Minister capped a remarkable run for the cadets.

The Cadets were disbanded for the final time in 1912, and though there is occasional talk of their return, it is probable that the flag will never again fly over Ross Oval. It will have a home in the new museum, and will remain there as a tribute to the boys of 1912 and their place in the history of this great College.
Mark Triscott PhD

Age: 54
Years at Nudgee: 1968 – 1972
Grades at Nudgee: 8 – 12
Home: born Melbourne, lived in Aspley, now New York suburbs
Profession: medical biochemistry research and development executive
Marital status: married
Children: two boys aged 17 and 19

I always catch up with a Nudgee crowd at...
Any place I run into them, or through the magazine or email updates,
A song that reminds me of Nudgee is...
The Nudgee community member who has influenced me most was...
Brian Bolton. He was headmaster and left the Christian Brothers. I met him at Uni when I was doing my PhD. He was a good guy, who I felt I would do well to emulate. I remember Mr Murphy. I had him for a number of years in French, and as a coach in the firsts. He was good, but Brian was ‘the man’.
My best mate at school was...
Steve Quadrini. We don’t catch up much. We had a mutual friend die and caught up then.
The best decision I made at Nudgee was...
To stay there.
The Nudgee event/occasion that has stayed with me is...
The 1972 loss to BGS on a field goal off the post!
The strangest place I met someone connected to Nudgee was...
At an apartment complex ‘happy hour’ in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He was an exchange student. I couldn’t believe it. As proof I asked him ‘What’s the difference in the footy uniform of the 1st XV versus the rest of the teams? He answered, ‘striped socks’ Met another on a plane from Geneva to London, and one came to New York and met my South African brother-in-law and me at a Mexican bar near Times Square—much to my wife’s chagrin.
What do you believe to be the best attribute about Nudgee?
It’s an anchor for my roots. I’ve travelled around a bit, and being there for a length of time has kept me in touch with Queensland as a home—along with my family who are still there.
The imprint Nudgee left on me was...
Be better than anyone expected—shock ‘em—in a good way. All you need to give it is everything you’ve got. Platitudes, but they came from Nudgee.
The legacy I left at Nudgee was...
Maybe that day boys are part of the team. One’s influence is pretty fleeting, at a place where the cast changes every four or five years.
My greatest achievement to date has been...
Seeing my boys grow up to be smart, well mannered, good looking (my wife’s side). Also being promoted to vice president in two different companies.
A typical day at work for me includes...
Either in New York or Boston. Project reviews, plant reviews, company sales and gross profit evaluation and projections, contact with consultants and scientific leaders in my field (blood coagulation), Interactions with the other 200 people in research and development.
I like to spend my weekends...
At home! I play some golf, shoot hoops with the boys, keep the one acre garden in shape—or shovel snow off the driveway!
Right now I’m learning...
About Toyota manufacturing processes, SouthWest Airlines personnel policies, GE management, and IDEO’s innovation ‘planning’ 9% of an executive summer course at Harvard Business School.
An exciting endeavour on my horizon is...
Coming back to Australia to give a talk in Perth. I’ve been invited to attend a meeting of opinion leaders in my field, and am being sponsored by a company who distributes our products in Australia, US and China—and I’ve presented for them before in all three markets.

Paul O’Brien

Age: 36
Years at Nudgee: 1985 – 1989
Grades at Nudgee: 8 – 12
Home: originally Brisbane, lived in London for 6 years, now in Hong Kong for 3.5 years
Profession: banking
Marital status: married
Children: daughter, nine months

I always catch up with a Nudgee crowd at...
Unfortunately, I do not catch up with the Nudgee crowd, but I would love to get back to see a 1st XV match on Ross Oval and see whether they are the same as they were back in 1989.
A song that reminds me of Nudgee is...
‘500 Miles’ by the Proclaimers; it was played at every school social I ever went to.
The Nudgee community member who has influenced me most was...
John Kennedy, deputy principal and myYear 11 English teacher. He had us write a story or article every week in addition to the normal curriculum. He then made constructive comments on the composition. During that year, my writing style really improved. As a lawyer, and now working in banking, an ability to write well is incredibly important. Brad Tacey, maths teacher, always used to say ‘simplify method, best method’ – I have always remembered that and still look for the easiest method to solve problems.
My best mates at school were...
Scott Peut, James Campbell and Andrew Gunn. We still catch up when I go back to Brisbane.
The Nudgee event/occasion that has stayed with me is...
The first few days of Year 8 when I arrived with all the other students, filled with a lot of uncertainty and excitement.
The strangest place I met someone connected to Nudgee was...
I met Selwyn Mar at a board meeting in Hong Kong and we worked out that we both went to Nudgee, although he was there some time ahead of me (probably 25 years ahead).
When I hear Signum Fidei I think of...
The school crest and Br Mdlaughlin who was the headmaster when I left.
What do you believe to be the best attribute about Nudgee?
Nudgee has a great tradition of sporting achievement, superb facilities and encourages involvement from all students regardless of standard. This involvement in sport and team play fosters very important qualities, such as an ambition to achieve, confidence and teamwork.
My greatest achievement to date has been...
Getting married and having a daughter.
A typical day at work for me includes...
Finding and analysing distressed debt investment opportunities in the Asia/Pacific region. This means speaking to people about their businesses and financial position, understanding interesting markets and industries and looking for opportunities to invest in complex situations.
I like to spend my weekends...
Hanging out with family and friends, playing sport, going on junk (boat) trips and enjoying a good night out.
Right now I’m learning...
How to use Microsoft Excel well (I am sure most current Nudgee students can use it better than I can).
As the bells struck midnight on February 21 this year, Nathan Welch (Nudgee College 1991-1992) and teammate Mark Kalch became the fourth team in history to ever navigate the length of the Amazon River—the longest and most treacherous river on earth. The 153 day, 6,800 kilometre expedition was a far cry from the sedentary lifestyle of law chambers towards which Nathan was aiming after leaving Nudgee College.

At university, Nathan responded to the call of the wild. He was drawn to the river life—leading white water river trips and safaris on some of Africa’s most celebrated rivers and living the “river life”—leading white water river trips and safaris on some of Africa’s most celebrated waterways. But Nathan wanted more, and so for 5 long hard years he planned his great adventure.

The Amazonian journey was completed under their own power—they trekked, sometimes barefoot and with nothing more than what they had on their backs; they paddled a 14-foot inflatable raft, they dragged it knee-deep through mud and then paddled some more. The team were confronted by altitude sickness, snowstorms and tidal surges. They were shot at by terrorists in the Peruvian Red zone and again on the Colombian border and suffered all manner of tropical diseases. After their teammate and medic, Phil Swark, had to be flown back to Brisbane for the medium term basis. But he is now planning to come back to Brisbane for the medium term basis, and have to override your own intense fear in those hard times, you begin to really appreciate what you’re capable of.”

Nathan acknowledges that his travels and transient lifestyle have meant he could not stay in touch with the Nudgee community on a regular basis. But he is now planning to come back to Brisbane for the medium term period to recover and begin preparations for his “next big life adventure”.

Raspberry and Meringue Ice-cream Puddings

Ingredients
- 1 litre vanilla ice-cream (Connoisseur brand is best)
- 100 g petit-pre made vanilla meringues (roughly crushed)
- 300 g fresh or well thawed frozen raspberries
- 1 tablespoon icing sugar

Method
- Line 185 ml tumble moulds with plastic wrap and arrange on baking tray.
- Place ice-cream in a bowl and gently fold in meringues and 200 g raspberries with a wooden spoon.
- Spoon mixture into moulds, cover with plastic wrap and freeze for 6 hours.
- Turn the frozen puddings onto plates, top with remaining raspberries and dust with icing sugar.

Fruit Tingle Drink

Ingredients
- Equal parts
- Orange juice
- Raspberry or red cordial
- Lime or green cordial
- Lemonade

Method
- Put crushed ice into a glass. Hold a spoon carefully over the ice in the glass. Pour the different ingredients slowly onto the spoon so that layers remain separate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>Classes Resume</th>
<th>GPS Cricket Round 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Brothers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(14–20)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See Christian Brothers’ Schools from around Australia and New Zealand battle it out on the Cricket Pitch. Matches are played daily at Nudgee College and various other locations around Brisbane.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>Golf Club</th>
<th>GPS Cricket Round 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>GPS Rowing Head of the River</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(14) Stockland Park, Kawana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>ANZAC Ceremony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(24th) 9am, Ross Oval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>Beef Week 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4–9) Rockhampton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>GPS Competitions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(5–8) Round 1Chess/ Football/ Rugby</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit www.nudgee.com for more events and details.
130 people attended the 2008 Nudgee College Cricket Luncheon held at the Cricketers Club, at The Gabba’ on Friday 17th October.

Over $15,000 was raised from the function with money going towards specialist coaches, new equipment and four new cricket scoreboards for the College.

Cricket royalty Ian Healy emceed the luncheon which was full of entertainment with renowned poet and public speaker Rupert McCall, as well as guest speaker former test cricketer Wayne Phillips.

Feedback has been outstanding and planning is already started for the 2009 event.

The Ladies’ Auxiliary Breast Cancer Morning Tea, organised by President Clare O’Sullivan and the committee, raised in excess of $11,000 in October. The money will go towards an organisation which specialises in Breast Cancer detection and post operative care.

The Wesley Breast Clinic will use the money to purchase Mammospot Paddles and a Breast MRI Machine—the latest imaging tool to be utilised in the diagnosis of breast cancer and diseases.

The Kim Walters Choices Program will use the money to create a comfortable environment for patients post operation. Items the charity intends to purchase with the money include massage tables, towels, oils and stools.
Rowing 10 Year Gala Evening  Ten years of Nudgee College Rowing were celebrated in style at the Gala Evening on 6th September. The Crew of the Decade was announced: Scott Turvey (coxswain), Matthew Gardiner (stroke), Will Fordyce, Graham Rolfs, Tom Armes, Tom Cox, Daniel Rollinson, Ted Postal, Nick Winkler, and coaches Graham Leddie and Gary Lynagh.

Firstly, as President of the Nudgee College Old Boys’ Association, I would like to congratulate the editor, Susie McDonald, on the first volume of Nth Degree. It is certainly a welcome publication that will showcase Nudgee College life and highlight the traditions of our College.

Our online Old Boys’ Signum Fidei updates will continue to complement the Nth Degree with the latest journey that Nudgee College is facing, not only from the Old Boys’ perspective, but also from the expanding Nudgee College community.

The objects of the Association are to promote a bond of friendship amongst the Old Boys and promote the interests of the College. Accordingly I urge Old Boys to support the Nth Degree and to provide more regular updates online through the Signum Fidei.

Secondly, my address to the recent 2008 Nudgee College Old Boys’ dinner will hopefully encourage some thought:

“Since the start of Nudgee College in 1891 over 17,900 students have passed through Nudgee College and their education has been provided by over 150 Christian Brothers. February 1890 saw 40 boys on the Nudgee College roll, today there are over 1,300 boys on the campus. “Nudgee College and the Christian Brothers have produced over the years a group of men comprising priests, Brothers, academics, judges, politicians, graziers, farmers, engineers, architects, men who have joined the military, and been involved in the arts, medicine, education, the media, finance, aviation and ordinary people going about their daily business—all known as Nudgee Old Boys.

“So tonight I offer you all a challenge, and that challenge is to ensure a strong and vibrant Association. “Next year we will formally launch the Nudgee College John Elliot Ross Bursary Fund. The fund already has $25,000 provided by the NCOBA. In 2010 we plan to grant the first bursary.”

As this will be the last volume of Nth Degree for 2008, on behalf of the Nudgee College Old Boys’ Association may I wish all Old Boys and the Nudgee College community a Holy and Joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year and that St Joseph will pray for us.

With best wishes,
A P (Tony) Behm President
REUNION

LAWRIE CUSACK

Old Boys from the 1944 Scholarship, 1945 Sub-Junior, 1946 Junior, 1947 Sub-Senior and 1948 Senior classes, together with Old Boys from 1947 Scholarship and 1948 Sub-Junior classes celebrated their Diamond Jubilee Reunions together.

The reunions were held at the College on the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, Friday, August 15. The 54 Old Boys and 25 spouses who were able to attend came from near and far: from Perth, Melbourne, Casino, Toowoomba, Rockhampton and more.

The reunion began with mass celebrated by Rev Fr John Kiliko PP and Rev Fr Jim Hynes (1948 Sub-Junior) and shared with the whole College community of students and staff, a total of some 1,550 persons.

After mass they enjoyed an excellent morning tea and began a tour of the College including the chapel, the ‘Flats’, the McKennaray Centre and the O’Neill Building.

O’Neill was a former boarding accommodation building which has been completely remodelled to house state of the art classrooms complete with the very latest electronic equipment to assist with teaching and learning. O’Neill will be used by students Years 3, 6 and 7.

The McKennaray Centre is a spectacular example, not just of the changes which have taken place over the past 60 years but of the facilities which are now available. The two swimming pools, weights room and indoor sports courts were jaw droppers. The comprehensive stock displayed in the clothing shop, which happened to be open for trading, meant that several Jubilarians were able to make purchases.

The tours, during which Old Boys expressed constant surprise and delight at the extent and quality of the College development, ended in the quadrangle before lunch which was served in Ryan Hall.

Fr Jim Hynes led Grace, Tony Behan spoke on behalf of the Old Boys Association and Frank O’Driscoll, representing the 1948 Senior class, introduced the toast on behalf of the Christian Brothers and regaled the Jubilarians with the names of Christian Brothers who had taught at Nudgee and who were remembered fondly (or otherwise). Br Larkin, in his numerous years in the classroom and Nudgee for the great educational opportunities which the Y ear 9 students participated. These boys included Bradley Anderson, Sam Chiarambaglio, Alfie Larkin, Reilly McHugh, Mitchell Peereboom, Connor Richardson, Laughlin Smith, David Sten and Mullie Watson. They acted as cordial hosts and willingly offered assistance to Old Boys and Ladies entering and leaving the buses and provided informed commentary on the College. They were capable, confident and polite gentlemen who are a credit to themselves, their parents and St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

LM (Lawrie) Cusack
Secretary, NCObA

When in the chancing days that come and go, we meet an old acquaintance, and the night is lengthened to narrate each joy and woe and desolating long forgotten spite: When one-time enemies recall their fight and reckon up swift anger’s each fierce blow - then grievance past is but a memory bright with kindly laughter and forgiveness. Lo! All with humour and happiness shine, viewed from the eminence of celestial years.

The success of the reunion was due to the outstanding manner in which the Year 9 students participated. These boys included Bradley Anderson, Sam Chiarambaglio, Alfie Larkin, Reilly McHugh, Mitchell Peereboom, Connor Richardson, Laughlin Smith, David Sten and Mullie Watson. They acted as cordial hosts and willingly offered assistance to Old Boys and Ladies entering and leaving the buses and provided informed commentary on the College. They were capable, confident and polite gentlemen who are a credit to themselves, their parents and St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

When in the chancing days that come and go, we meet an old acquaintance, and the night is lengthened to narrate each joy and woe and desolating long forgotten spite: When one-time enemies recall their fight and reckon up swift anger’s each fierce blow - then grievance past is but a memory bright with kindly laughter and forgiveness. Lo! All with humour and happiness shine, viewed from the eminence of celestial years.

The success of the reunion was due to the outstanding manner in which the Year 9 students participated. These boys included Bradley Anderson, Sam Chiarambaglio, Alfie Larkin, Reilly McHugh, Mitchell Peereboom, Connor Richardson, Laughlin Smith, David Sten and Mullie Watson. They acted as cordial hosts and willingly offered assistance to Old Boys and Ladies entering and leaving the buses and provided informed commentary on the College. They were capable, confident and polite gentlemen who are a credit to themselves, their parents and St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

Frank reiterated his sentiments in proposing the toast.

Br Vic Larkin c.f., Community Leader, Treacy Residence responded to the toast on behalf of the Christian Brothers and regaled the Jubilarians with the names of Christian Brothers who had taught at Nudgee and who were remembered fondly (or otherwise). Br Larkin, in his numerous capacities within the Congregation worked with many of them and knew them personally very well.

Daryl Hanly, Principal of Nudgee College, demonstrated, through projected images, the changes which have taken place at Nudgee and, more importantly, the changes which are being made or are planned for the near future. All changes are designed to ensure that Nudgee maintains its leading position as an institution in which teaching and learning is accomplished in an environment which provides physical comfort and the use of pre-eminent equipment.

The reunion proved to be a rewarding success and could be paraphrased in words taken from Nudgee poet Martin Haley (1917—21), if I may be so bold. They are taken from his poem, “Reunion”.

The McKennaray Centre is a spectacular example, not just of the changes which have taken place over the past 60 years but of the facilities which are now available. The two swimming pools, weights room

The McKennaray Centre is a spectacular example, not just of the changes which have taken place over the past 60 years but of the facilities which are now available. The two swimming pools, weights room and indoor sports courts were jaw droppers. The comprehensive stock displayed in the clothing shop, which happened to be open for trading, meant that several Jubilarians were able to make purchases.

The tours, during which Old Boys expressed constant surprise and delight at the extent and quality of the College development, ended in the quadrangle before lunch which was served in Ryan Hall.

Fr Jim Hynes led Grace, Tony Behan spoke on behalf of the Old Boys Association and Frank O’Driscoll, representing the 1948 Senior class, introduced the toast on behalf of the Christian Brothers and regaled the Jubilarians with the names of Christian Brothers who had taught at Nudgee and who were remembered fondly (or otherwise). Br Larkin, in his numerous years in the classroom and Nudgee for the great educational opportunities which the Y ear 9 students participated. These boys included Bradley Anderson, Sam Chiarambaglio, Alfie Larkin, Reilly McHugh, Mitchell Peereboom, Connor Richardson, Laughlin Smith, David Sten and Mullie Watson. They acted as cordial hosts and willingly offered assistance to Old Boys and Ladies entering and leaving the buses and provided informed commentary on the College. They were capable, confident and polite gentlemen who are a credit to themselves, their parents and St Joseph’s Nudgee College.

Frank reiterated his sentiments in proposing the toast.

Br Vic Larkin c.f., Community Leader, Treacy Residence responded to the toast on behalf of the Christian Brothers and regaled the Jubilarians with the names of Christian Brothers who had taught at Nudgee and who were remembered fondly (or otherwise). Br Larkin, in his numerous capacities within the Congregation worked with many of them and knew them personally very well.

Daryl Hanly, Principal of Nudgee College, demonstrated, through projected images, the changes which have taken place at Nudgee and, more importantly, the changes which are being made or are planned for the near future. All changes are designed to ensure that Nudgee maintains its leading position as an institution in which teaching and learning is accomplished in an environment which provides physical comfort and the use of pre-eminent equipment.

The reunion proved to be a rewarding success and could be paraphrased in words taken from Nudgee poet Martin Haley (1917—21), if I may be so bold. They are taken from his poem, “Reunion”.

The McKennaray Centre is a spectacular example, not just of the changes which have taken place over the past 60 years but of the facilities which are now available. The two swimming pools, weights room and indoor sports courts were jaw droppers. The comprehensive stock displayed in the clothing shop, which happened to be open for trading, meant that several Jubilarians were able to make purchases.

The tours, during which Old Boys expressed constant surprise and delight at the extent and quality of the College development, ended in the quadrangle before lunch which was served in Ryan Hall.

Fr Jim Hynes led Grace, Tony Behan spoke on behalf of the Old Boys Association and Frank O’Driscoll, representing the 1948 Senior class, introduced the toast on behalf of the Christian Brothers and regaled the Jubilarians with the names of Christian Brothers who had taught at Nudgee and who were remembered fondly (or other-wise). Br Larkin, in his numerous capacities within the Congregation worked with many of them and knew them personally very well.

Daryl Hanly, Principal of Nudgee College, demonstrated, through projected images, the changes which have taken place at Nudgee and, more importantly, the changes which are being made or are planned for the near future. All changes are designed to ensure that Nudgee maintains its leading position as an institution in which teaching and learning is accomplished in an environment which provides physical comfort and the use of pre-eminent equipment.

The reunion proved to be a rewarding success and could be paraphrased in words taken from Nudgee poet Martin Haley (1917—21), if I may be so bold. They are taken from his poem, “Reunion”.

T

he 40 year reunion of the class of 1968 was a great success. An evening event was held on Friday September 19, at The Tanbah Restaurant in Felix Street, in the City.

There were 40 Old Boys there as well as some of their partners. Daryl Hanly spoke to the group about the impressive future journey of Nudgee College. What a great night—the food and drinks flowed almost as fast as the Paul Finlay stories. Fondly we toasted absent friends.

Graham McNamee brought along a heap of old annuals and had photos copied individual portrait shots from the Signum Fidei. I knew everyone, except Denis Itzstein, who was our fast bowler in the 1st XI.

Dermot Kelhoie could not attend because he is on holidays in Italy with his wife, but he had suggested we meet every three years as we are all getting older. Mind you, there were no signs of old age when the restaurant closed and we eagerly moved on for more celebrations.

The following day we met at the Story Bridge Hotel for lunch, a few beers and cheeky bets on the TAB. Thanks to the staff who were very welcoming.

Ross Stark turned up in his day uniform complete with laundry number on the collar and it still fitted. We noticed some, but not much, grey hair.

The reunion brought together men from Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Muttarbara, Camooweal, North Coast and the hinterland, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Canbeerra and Brisbane. A great Nudgee spread.

Thank you to Pat Haseler, Graham and the others who helped chase up the class of ’68.
This tournament was held on Sunday 14 September at the home of the event, Nudgee College’s own Centenary Golf Course. Unfortunately not all were able to still be available for the photo post presentations but it was one of the biggest fields we have had.

If a champion keeps winning, the competition normally rises. Brett Harkins (1984 Senior) won the event again. Whilst he maintains a solid grip on this trophy winning it some five times in the last six years, the players are closing in on him and I dare say he would be extremely lucky to win again next year! (I thought with the calibre of some of this year’s players, my brother would finally hand over the silverware.)

Brett won the day with a net of 71. The breeze picked up late in the second nine making for a tougher closing. Peter Lawrence showed his form finishing second and one stroke back saw Terry Carey, Kerry McShane and John Lutteral come home.

It was brilliant to see new faces, young and some nearly as young come along and enjoy a great annual event. I always request everyone that plays try and bring one more Old Boy back with them next year to share in some good golf and catch up with fellow Nudgee men.

Many thanks to our event sponsors GP Realty, McGuire Hotels Group and the Chalk Hotel. Special thanks to James Luxford and the staff of the Club House for their assistance in organising and facilitating the day which always has a great atmosphere. Thank you also to the grounds staff that work on the course, enabling us to boast a GPS school with such an impressive facility. Finally, thank you to John Lutteral, who works behind the scenes to make this day bigger every year.

Thank you all once again and we look forward to next year’s championship – 13 September 2009 at the College course.
Jon acted as a horseman stunt double for Hugh Jackman in Baz Luhrmann's movie.