Welcome to this, the 130th year in the history of Christian Brothers’ College.

130th Year Celebrations

On Friday August 15th this year the school will celebrate its 130th birthday and the College is planning a number of functions to help commemorate this historic occasion. There will be a week of activities celebrating the school’s history and traditions, including a 130th Anniversary Dinner Dance at the Adelaide Oval Function Room, on Saturday 16th August, organised by the Rowing Auxiliary and the Parents & Friends Association; and culminating with the Birthday Mass celebrations on Friday 15th August, the actual birthday of the College.

The CBC Old Collegians’ Association will be hosting a “Back to CBC” Tour of the College and Barbecue that will be held on Sunday 17th August. Please put aside this date in your diary and plan to come along and see the incredible changes that have taken place in recent years, including the new Chapel and Conference Centre and the renovation of the Brothers’ House, which have completed the recent stages of development under the leadership of recently-retired Principal, Brother Pat Cronin. College students will be available to host tours around the College and the whole day promises to be a great event. Booking forms and details to follow in the July issue of “The Gym.”

Annual Dinner

This year’s CBCOCA Annual Dinner will be held on Friday 17th October. The Committee is planning on making this year’s Dinner a big occasion, in keeping with the 130th anniversary theme of 2008. We’ve booked the Entertainment Centre and are working hard to attract 450 Old Collegians to this year’s event.

Your Executive Committee want all Old Collegians to make contact with old friends and encourage them to attend as a special celebration of the College’s history and achievements. We will be advertising in the newspaper and radio as well, so please do your bit to help spread the news.

If you’d like to be the point of contact for your friends, or would like further information, please don’t hesitate in making contact with any of the Executive Committee of the Association (phone contact details in this issue) or alternatively write to the CBCOCA, via the College mail address. Finally, why not drop me a line? My email is vjaks@mac.com. It’d be great to hear from you.

Remember to keep the 17th October free for a great night’s celebration and entertainment.

The Committee

It is with pleasure that I announce the other members of the CBCOCA Executive Committee for 2008, who were elected at our AGM, held on 11th February in the College Boardroom. I am grateful for the support of Old Collegians in endorsing me as your President. Joining me on the Committee are: Paul Della (Vice President), Mark Roberts (Secretary), Michael Moran (Treasurer), Kevin Sheehy, Anthony Andolfatto, Alex Mabarrack and Shaun Clarke.

I am very grateful for the support, encouragement and enthusiasm of these of these Old Boys and thank them, on behalf of all CBC Old Collegians for their commitment and dedication.

All the best for an outstanding 2008, I look forward to seeing you soon.

Viano Jaksa
President (1971)

A NOTE FROM THE principal

Dear Old Collegians

Welcome to another edition of The Gym. 2008 indeed marks another glorious page in the history of CBC as we celebrate 130 years. Our founding Principal Br TR Hughes would be most proud of the College as it stands today.

The College has entered a new strategic planning cycle and is currently preparing plans to redevelop the Junior campus, science and middle school facilities. Staff have been piloting new reforms which are part of the state and national agenda into education and our enrolments continue to grow with waiting lists in some year levels for 2009.

This edition of the Gym celebrates both the past and the exciting present at the College. In this edition we mourn the passing of our oldest old scholar Charles Amiel and parent Molly Fitzsimons, we farewell long serving staff, welcome the new custodians of Christian Brother schools EREA and celebrate a new chapter in CBC rowing.

I warmly invite all old scholars to our 130 year events this year (10th-17th August) and encourage you to view the College website for upcoming events. I wish you every blessing and happiness.

Noel Mifsud
Principal
Bishop Moore Visit

In August last year CBC held a Mass in our Chapel, celebrated by CBC old scholar, Bishop Desmond Moore (CBC student 1939-1942). Bishop Moore was awarded the CBC Mathematics Prize, in Leaving (the final year of studies) and was a member of the football, gymnastics, tennis and athletics teams. Bishop Moore celebrates fifty years as a priest this year, so it is our honour to celebrate the Eucharist and the gifts of God’s grace expressed through vocations. 

Bishop Moore is an old scholar of CBC having left the College 60 years ago. He was very impressed with our school and spoke to the boys of his fond memories of his student days at CBC. Jordan Young presented a portrait of Bishop Moore to our visitor, which will be hung in the Paul McGuire Library. CBC boasts of three old scholars who have become Bishops.

Blessing of the D.M. McCabe

On Thursday, 28th February there was an assembly for the blessing of the new Rowing Four by Fr. Anthony Kain (Old Collegian and Rowing captain). The assembly was followed by a morning tea for our invited guests in the Board Room.

The date of the christening was scheduled for 9.00am Thursday February 28 2008. The Blessing was done by our ex-student Fr Anthony Kain.

On the podium were the Director of Waters Sports Mr Ron Mobbs, Br D. M. McCabe, the Principal of CBC Mr Noel Milford, Captain and Vice Captain of the Boats, Andrew Gimenez and Imre Zambo Junior, Fr Anthony Kain and the President of the Auxiliary Mr Imre Zambo Senior. Amongst the Guests were Brothers Cronin, Dean, Flaherty, McAppion, and Murray whilst the Parents and Friends were well represented by Messrs Brian and Jan Corbett, Jim and Mary Cusenza, Noel and Mary Johnson, Roger Leech, Paul and Jan Logan and Beau Gora to name just a few people.

Unfortunately Mark’s friend of many years Slim Lawrence was suffering from a knee operation and was unable to attend. Slim had been coaching CBC rowers since 1966 at least. He missed a couple of sessions but it was Br McCabe and himself who brought about CBC’s greatest success the Head of the River Victory in 1980. The customary christening of the Boat was done discreetly with no broken bottle by Br McCabe after which he delivered a moving speech on his connection with rowing down the years.

The Blessing of the Boat was done by Fr Anthony and the function concluded with three hearty cheers delivered by the young audience.

Passing of Charles Amiel

Recently Charles Amiel, who was our oldest ex-scholar at 100 years of age, passed away. According to our records Charles first attended CBC in 1921. It is interesting to reflect on what the College was like then and how much it changed over Charles Amiel’s life time. At that time the campus consisted of the Brothers House, the Gym Wing (now known as the Hurley Building) and a two story classroom building facing Ackland St (now Frome Rd) which is the present site of the Chapel.

In 1921 CBC was still a boarding school; prayers were held in the Brothers Chapel, now the Museum and the entire playground between the three buildings was bitumen. There was no air conditioning and no trees to shade the sun. The College did not have a uniform but boys were expected to wear a woolen suit with collar and tie no matter what the weather, together with a CBC cap. Drinking water came from taps gravity fed from rainwater tanks. Classes had up to sixty students under the control of one Brother and students wrote with pens dipped in ink with most of their textbooks being written and produced by the Christian Brothers.

Young boys of that period played with spinning tops and Balls or knuckle bones at school, older students played Handball or Cricket. As space was limited, football was supposed to be restricted to the ovals. Our competitors in sport were PAC and St Peter’s, many of the schools we now play against did not exist at that time. Many of the boys walked to school but there were electric trams that ran down Wakefield Street. Most of their parent’s did not own cars and the idea that they would be driven to school was unheard of.

Schooling today is substantially different form what it was in the 1920’s; the physical size of the school has quadrupled, the choice of subjects and sports is extensive, classes are smaller and technology is embedded through everything we do but we are still a Catholic community following the ideals of Edmund Rice and dedicated to educating boys.

Jacinta Weiss (CBC Archivist)
Farewell to long-serving Staff

Ann Coughlin
For 28 years as College registrar Ann was the first person our new students would meet upon enrolling at the College. Ann gave new students and their parents the first impression of the College and therefore was 'the public face of the College'.

Ann is assisting with the 130 year celebrations so we will still see her cheery face around the College.

Bob Bowes
Bob Bowes arrived at CBC in 1976. Diminutive in stature, he became a tower of strength at the College over his illustrious career, guiding students, mentoring staff and becoming a significant part of the rich tradition of this school.

The CBC of 2007 was very different to that of 1976. Then, there was not one computer on campus; not a Gymnasium nor an Art Centre; barely any playground (more a car park); very big classes but very few facilities. Bob leaves the college a better place, knowing that many lives have breathed easier because they have known him.

John Lambert
John Lambert commenced at CBC in 1985 and you quickly established yourself within the college and over the years you taught across a number of areas including Maths, English and Religion, to name the main ones. John took on the role of Yr 11 Co-ordinator before becoming the Director of Admin, Deputy Principal and Acting Principal in Br Cronin’s absence back in 2005 for six months.

We wish you all the best for the future in your role at Blackfriars.

Donna Andolfatto
Donna worked in the Finance Department of the college and was Registrar of the Junior School.

Donna was part of the group that set up the Grand Prix fund raising and was also involved in the CBC cabaret; balls etc during the 1980s and 1990s which were very big affairs. In 2007 she was the Treasurer of the P&F.

Thanks for the many happy memories and I’m sure her association with CBC will continue into the future.

John Fanning
John Fanning has been an iconic figure at Christian Brothers College and his association with the college dates back many years. John is an old collegian of the college, who graduated in 1947 and has had a family tradition within the college with his grandfather, father and sons attending the school.

John’s association with the college still continues with his involvement with the Edmund Rice Associates and his support of college activities, even in his retirement.

EREANews
On Wednesday 13th February 2008 CBC hosted the local launch of Edmund Rice Education Australia, which was attended by the EREA team, Christian Brothers and representatives from schools and ministries.

EREANews was launched on the 10th September 2007 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The establishment of EREA, as it is known, involved the dissolutions on the four Australian Provinces, the New Zealand Province and the region of Papua New Guinea to form the new Province of Oceania.

EREANews

CBC OLD COLLEGIANS’ INC.
2008 Annual Dinner

Venue: The Adelaide Entertainment Centre, Port Road, Hindmarsh
Date: Friday October 17th, 2008
From 7pm
Dress: Lounge Suit

ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY

Tickets available from your regular Table Captains & Committee.

Give some thought to arranging your table & group in advance. Please call your regular contact from the Committee or Michael Moran (8276 9156) with any questions regarding table bookings.

Reunions for Classes of past years are a great idea and are encouraged.

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* Mention this ad for an additional discount!
After 127 years the Brothers House is finally getting a new roof! Removing the original iron work has exposed the bones of the roof cavity allowing us a glimpse of building techniques from the nineteenth century. The iconic tall stone chimneys have also been restored. The new Colorbond roof will keep the Music Suite and the Archives Museum rain free whilst maintaining the buildings Heritage listed facade. Contributions to the Building Fund have assisted in the financing of this project.

Jacinta Weiss
Archivist

Please consider joining “the 100 Club,” a fundraising initiative of the CBCOCA which offers some exclusive benefits to participants.

A contribution of $100 each year will give you:
- Membership for one year (if you are not already a life member)
- Half price on next year’s Annual Dinner (No cost on next year’s Annual Dinner if you are already a life member)
- A Commemorative bottle of Tawny Port exclusive to “The 100 Club” members, which each year will feature on the label either a famous Old Collegian, a Christian Brother, a teacher or other person of interest associated with the College
- A Commemorative Certificate To join “The 100 Club”, ring Paul Della (0414 829 759) who will forward you an application form & details.

Mrs. Molly Fitzsimons

The College learnt with sadness of the passing of Mrs. Molly Fitzsimons on the weekend. Mrs. Fitzsimons had four sons attend CBC in the late 1950’s and 1960’s. During that time she was a founding member of the Mother’s Club and a strong supporter of the College.

As there was no government funding for Catholic schools until the early 1970’s all the money needed to finance building and operational costs for the school was raised by fees and by the fundraising efforts of parents. Mrs. Fitzsimons was amongst a group of parents under the guidance of Mrs. Nell Kain whose hard work brought about a huge expansion of the facilities at CBC. They raised the money for the boathouse on the Torrens and the change rooms at the oval and contributed significant funds to the building of the Bourke and O’Brien buildings. They formed a catering committee that provided food and drink for all school functions including sports days and the openings of buildings as well as Balls and Cabarets and functions involving the Brothers. In those days the school did not have the funds to employ people to do the routine maintenance and every weekend father’s were rostered on to fix, paint and repair. The Mothers Club came once a month to sew and mend for the Brothers.

The Parents and Friends of that time, like the P&F of today made huge contributions to CBC. It is important to remember that many of the facilities that we enjoy today were provided through the hard work and fundraising of previous generations.

If your family has any photographs of Mother’s Club or Parents and Friends activities, or any photos of school life at CBC we would appreciate being able to copy them for the archives. Please contact Jacinta Weiss on 8400 4297 for more information.

2008 - The Year of The Dolphin

Season 2008 has ‘kicked off’ for the Dolphins as our Footy and Soccer teams conclude their pre-season training programs in anticipation of another promising year for the club.

The Dolphins are pleased to confirm The Royal Hotel as Major Sponsor in 2008 and for the third year running the hotel serves as a fantastic base for the club remaining equally suited for club members, friends and family alike. Thank you again to staff and management for their ongoing support of CBCOC Footy and Soccer.

The committee and coaching staff take this opportunity to wish all new and existing CBCOCFC members the best for Season 2008 and we remind any Old Collegians interested in having a run to get in contact with the club at their earliest opportunity to confirm training times and to cement their position in what is sure to be ‘the Year of the Dolphin’. Alternatively should you be interested in sponsoring The Dolphins please advise your interest and suitable sponsorship/promotional packages can be discussed.

For any information on the above, please contact Anthony Andolfatto on 0418 824 727.

Best of luck lads.
Anthony Andolfatto
CBCOC Sports Rep

Official Newsletter of the CBC Old Collegians Incorporated

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Website: www.cbc.sa.edu.au