**PRESIDENT’S report**

Dear Fellow Old Collegians,

Welcome to this edition of The Gym, which enters another year of publication and which brings you greetings from your Executive Committee for 2013. I would like to thank, on behalf of the College and of all Old Collegians, my fellow committee members: Simon Cousins, who has been elected Vice President; Mark Roberts, Secretary, Michael Moran, Treasurer; and Josh Grant and Steve Connell, committee members. I am grateful to them all for their willingness to serve on the committee and to continue the good work of the Association in building bridges between the old boys of CBC and between the Association and the College.

The month of May promises to be a fairly busy time in our calendar. On Wednesday 15th May we will be holding our Seniors’ Lunch at the Public Schools’ Club, East Terrace. The lunch will consist of an a la carte menu, which will enable attendees to choose a meal of their preference. Further details, and to make bookings, are contained in this magazine. Alternatively you can make contact with Michael Moran, either through the College or on 8276 9156. The following Sunday, 19th May, the College will be holding its Open Day and all old collegians are welcome to attend and view the College’s facilities and to take a tour.

I trust you enjoy reading this issue of your College’s newsletter to you and I look forward to seeing you at a College or Old Collegians event soon.

Sincere best wishes,
Mr Viano Jaksa
President (1971)

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**A NOTE FROM THE principal**

Dear Old Collegians,

Welcome to the New Year

Christian Brothers College continues to enjoy a very positive and palpable public sentiment that we are a visionary College outstanding in the local, national and international educational horizon. Enrolments continue to flood in with waiting lists in some year levels. We began 2013 with a student population exceeding 1200 across all three campuses.

CBC is an ever expanding and multicultural community. Our diverse student population resides in 104 postcodes across Adelaide. They represent 42 nationalities and 17 faith traditions. Over 180 staff members serve the College. I firmly believe that this diversity builds a robustness of spirit where individual difference, faith and culture are respected and celebrated.

The newly acquired Junior Campus and Community Children’s Centre continue to gather awards and interest from many community groups. This term Business Manager Frank Scali and I provided a tour of the Junior Campus to over 40 delegates from the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (Cefpi). The innovative CBC Junior Campus will also be a key focus of the (Cefpi) International Conference to be held in Adelaide in 2014.

**Trade Training Centre**

Construction on CBC’s latest development, the Adelaide City Electro Technology Trade Training Centre will be complete by the end of April this year. An official opening is planned for August 15th at 2.30pm. This exciting collaborative project with St Mary’s and Samaritan Colleges will provide students with the very latest technology in order to assist students who chose a trade career path into their future.

**Old Collegian News**

We received the following letter this term from the daughter of an Old Collegian:

_Herewith the prize book presented to my father, Mr Charles O’Connor, for 10th place. In 1906 at CBC. I remember that this prize gave us, his four children, an enormous amount of merriment, and we were very disrespectful and scornful about 10th place. We hadn’t heard of prizes further down than the 3rd place. He loved CBC and he was the most wonderful father in the whole world. I am very happy that this book is returning to its ‘home’ after 107 years, where I know it will be cared for. Sr Deirdre O’Connor RSM._

_The College deeply thanks Sr Deirdre for her generous gift which will be placed in the College archives. I love the wisdom of our Christian Brothers who in 1906 recognised that all achievement, no matter how significant is worthy of recognition._

**Asian Literacy**

Over the coming weeks two CBC staff members, Deputy Principal Mr Clarke and Mrs Kaylene Barriera, will depart for China. Mr Clarke is participating in a School Leaders’ tour and Mrs Barriera is travelling with a group of SA educators as part of the National China Bridge program which seeks to improve and develop knowledge and understanding of contemporary China, provide opportunities for visits to Cultural sites and to collect resources and explore how they can be used in class. We wish both members of staff every blessing for safe and productive tour.

**Conclusion**

The 2013 College theme _Uniting our Spirit Igniting Our Future_ speaks eloquently of how CBC has been built upon the shoulders of giants. This edition of the Gym is a tribute to the Old Collegians who have made the name of CBC a proud one. I wish you every blessing for the New Year.

Mr Noel Mifsud
Principal
James was born on 12th Sep 1925, the fifth son of Dr Gerald and Marjorie Murray. James was born in Brisbane but the family was constantly on the move as Dad was a medical doctor with the Commonwealth Dept of Immigration.

James comes from a long line of Murrays, and he delighted to tell us in community gatherings that his ancestors fought in the Battle of the Boyne 1690. James subsequently gave me a copy of his family tree.

Aubrey was his older brother who died 2 years ago and we are pleased to have Aubrey's wife Fay and his niece Marian with us today. They came over from Perth as soon as they knew of Jim's terminal illness and have stayed with the Brothers right through to his last days.

James always took his holidays in Perth in March and stayed with Aubrey and Fay. Apparently Aubrey had the same wicked sense of humour as James so they enjoyed each other's company immensely.

James attended school at CBC Fremantle and St Malachy's (the old CBC Perth). He was very proud of his great nephew Jed who attends Trinity College. He liked to be known as a Freo man and barracked for the Dockers.

At the age of 15 James decided to join the Brothers and came to Strathfield in 1941, and then to the Novitiate in 1944. However there was a problem, James had been baptized in the Baptist church so how could he become a Brother! In those days respect for each Church's baptism was ignored and James was baptized, confirmed and received First Holy Communion again!

Every now and then under some teasing from the Brothers, he would say “I should have stayed with the Baptists.”

James travelled from Fremantle to Sydney in January 1941 with Barry Robinson (with whom he still kept in contact) and Tom Dunn, picking up Tony Dally from Adelaide en route.

In the middle of the war years he did his Leaving Certificate amidst the threat of invasion. Trenches were dug next to the old vegetable garden and one night the sirens sounded and the boys were directed to the trenches only to find them full of water.

The ever creative Jim (writes his friend Lex Hall) a lover of Gilbert and Sullivan detached a large leaf from a pumpkin in the vegetable garden and put it over his head as an umbrella and entertained the boys with his renditions of 'Mikado' until the ‘all clear’ siren.

Jim wrote that after the novitiate, he came back to Strathfield “for a brief year trying to discover how to teach.” His first experience was a fortnight at Burwood with 29 pupils. “I survived so now down to business.”

Two years at St Joseph's Newtown, then three years at Manly where he had 83 pupils at one stage, and then to Edgecliff. From that first class James kept the names and addresses of every pupil he taught right through to his last days.

There was never a complaint or criticism from parents and it was obvious he had the support of staff and students. But there were times when Jim thought I wasn’t interested in the Junior School and he would be very reserved to say the least. A Sunday visit to the Junior school while he was doing his weekly blackboard display or a Saturday morning visit to one of the Junior School soccer games when the “Aged Referee” was doing the honours, usually was enough to restore good relations.

This is the time when Br Mark McCabe became a good friend to Jim and helped him to acclimatize to the Adelaide scene. Max says “I probably exercised a policy of benign neglect not wanting to tread on his toes in the Junior school; I could see he was running a good school. In six years
He had some very loyal friends because he involved himself in activities beyond the school such as the Molfetta choir. There were Romeo Cavuoto and Leo Andolfatto of the Grand Prix and later Clipsal years. He continued with refereeing for the Junior School soccer teams with Maurice Baggio. He was so meticulous about everything, such as making sure the soccer nets were put up and taken down correctly.

Later came his involvement with rowing crews as the “Ancient Scribe.” He would spend hours getting results, typing up results and having them ready for the boys on the Monday. His “tome” was the history of rowing at CBC.

When the big move came from Wakefield St to Regent St on the 19th July 2001, James and Al Howard were the first to approve of the move, much to my relief.

At Regent St James could foster his privacy and contentment. He looked after the pot plants which he brought down from Wakefield St. He became the “shopping” man for us all. He literally would walk many kilometres a day to “keep the Brothers happy.” First he would walk to the Junior School to open the gates (about 6.00am) then walk up to the market to buy food then on the way home the papers so the Brothers could read them over breakfast.

Then he would walk up to Mass and hopefully have Fr Noel (for his short Mass), then he would go back to Coles or Woolies in case he missed something in the morning. He liked to anticipate your wants.

He was a well-known sight in the markets and the shops with his white hat and trolley, the “four wheel drive.” If one of the Brothers boasted about their minimal petrol consumption, he would say his four-wheel drive could out-perform all.

Later in the day he would devote hours to his stamp collection, the coin collection, and writing the various reports. He enjoyed the Brothers who sent him stamps.

Then there were the fish to feed; the canary and finches to feed and care for. He would inform us that he had “changed birdie’s toilet paper today.” He took a great interest in caring for these little creatures.

James’ circle of friends grew larger, from the German Club, to the Resting Rowers, and the CBC rowing. His long standing friends in Josephine and Ennio Damiani together with Fr Gavin Small and Monsignor Robert Aitken were wonderful to him. His loyalty to friends was very deep. Thank you to all of you if I can say that on Jim’s behalf.

In the last few years Br Trevor Dean and John Moylan and I learned how to humour James and appreciated his dedicated service to the community.

James did not take kindly to change, so when we changed our routine for prayers, there was a time of some adjustment, but eventually he would come around. All in all you could sum up James’s life as one of Faithfulness and Loyalty.

Trevor, John and I cared for James in his last few weeks. The first sign of the illness was on December 4th at dinner with the Resting Rowers. He came home ill. Two weeks later Trevor took him to Dr Joe Masolino for tests. On 21st December Jim was diagnosed with inoperable cancer. Monsignor Aitken came and gave him the last sacraments, and Dr Joe visited him regularly. Eventually James agreed to be admitted to Calvary North Adelaide where he was wonderfully cared for by the staff, particularly Beverley, Graham and others.

Jim died peacefully on New Year’s Day in the presence of Fay his sister-in-law, and Marian his niece, and me. Rest in Peace James.

Br Patrick Cronin CFC

CBC Old Collegians Lunch
Come join other old collegians and the principal Noel Mifsud at the
Public Schools Club - 207 East Terrace Adelaide
May 15th at 12.00pm.
Ala Carte Meal - Bookings Michael Moran 8276 9156

Fr Brendan Graham Harnet
Ordained 1973 in Adelaide
Passed 7 March in Maine, Portland

Fr Robin Sutherland
Born November 29, 1923
Passed January 6, 2013
James Kevin Leydon, or "Jim" as he was more commonly known, was a humble man who never sought attention, but he would be honoured to be remembered by his fellow CBC Old Collegians in The Gym.

Born on 5 November 1928, Jim was the eldest of three brothers, followed by Brian (now deceased) and Robert, both also CBC Old Collegians. The family lived in a humble two bedroom house at Ovingham typical of working class families at the time, with cooking done on a wood or gas stove, and luxuries we take for granted today such as refrigeration, washing machines and air conditioning completely unheard of.

Growing up during the Great Depression and then World War II, times were tough, but Jim remembered his parents' acceptance of their hard and frugal lives, and admired their hope that the sacrifices they made would give their children the opportunity of a better life.

Jim was educated at Christian Brothers' College Wakefield Street in what he described as an atmosphere of strict discipline, but both the academic lessons and Christian values he learned from the Brothers were to be the foundation for a most productive and fulfilling life. While he obtained accounting qualifications later in life, Jim did not have the opportunity to attend university.

At the time he left school, jobs were scarce due to many servicemen returning to the workforce after the War. Without a specific qualification it was necessary to accept any job one could get. Jim's first job was as a clerk at the Government Printing Office where he was paid 2 pounds ten shillings per week.

This modest job was however the beginning of a highly successful career in the State Public Service. Over the years Jim progressed through various roles including in the Engineering & Water Supply Department, Woods & Forests where he spent a year in Mt Gambier, Public Trustee and eventually Corporate Affairs, where he rose to the level of Assistant Commissioner. His success in these roles was formally recognised when he was awarded the first Public Service Medal in the 1990 Australia Day Honours for "outstanding service as a member of the South Australian Public Service".

After retiring from full time work at the Corporate Affairs Commission in March 1987, Jim continued to work for 3 days a week before fully retiring in the early 1990s. He continued to undertake various voluntary work, including serving on the board of Housing Connexions, an organisation for the provision of independent housing for the disabled, and the role of Treasurer of the CBC Old Collegians’ Association.

Joe Abraham. And what a wonderful marriage it was: a loving husband and father to his two sons, Jim’s devotion to his family was absolute.

While never pursuing any conventional hobbies, Jim had a real interest in other people and their lives. He could recall a wealth of information about every person he knew, and the relationships and history between various people. When those who knew him speak of Jim the recurring themes are invariably his kindness, generosity, gentleness and utter selflessness. He was a thorough gentleman who abhorred rudeness of any kind. Manners and politeness clothed everything he said and did.

Jim's Catholic faith was an extremely important part of his life, and there is no doubt that he lived that faith in every aspect of his life. This was consistent with the core values taught to him by his parents: to treat others as you would have them treat you, and never to see a need without doing something about it.

Jim's health deteriorated quite suddenly before he passed away on 27 November 2012, but his family took great comfort from the fact that he was fully content with the life he had lived. He had lived to see his children well established in their own lives, and to relish the love of his four grandchildren. He revelled in his simple life of a comfortable home in his familiar Adelaide, a loving wife and family, wonderful friends, and a cold West End Draught or three at the end of each day. There were no material things he aspired for, no ambitions unfulfilled, and absolutely no regrets of any kind.

Jim is survived by his wife Netta, sons Gavin and David, and grandchildren Ashleigh, Jemima, Adam and Noah.
South Australian Head of the River

We wished our 70 CBC rowers that participated in the 2013 Head of the River Regatta under Rowing Coordinator Mr Beau Gora’s direction every success.

In previous editions of the Gym we reported on CBC’s history in the Head of the River:
Initially CBC borrowed boats from the Mercantile Rowing Club but by 1911 the first boat had been purchased. The best crew was chosen, training was under the guidance of one of Australia’s best oarsmen, old boy Mr. W. Kennedy and the school entered the inter-collegiate event. Disaster struck on the eve of the race however when the father of one of the crew members was accidently killed and the race had to be abandoned. In 1912 CBC defeated St Peters in the final of the Schools’ Championship on the Torrens in front of a crowd of thousands.

A change of headmaster and the outbreak of the Great War saw rowing suspended and when the senior classes relocated to Rostrevor in 1923, rowing ceased. It was reintroduced briefly in the late 1940’s under Br. Mullen with boats borrowed from the Torrens Rowing Club.

In 1958 Br. Bourke committed the passion and the resources to enable rowing to be re-established permanently at CBC. The boats were at first borrowed but by 1960 the College had two boats “Wakefield” and “See Bee”, the rowing master was Br. Cuneen.

In 1962 the legendary “Slim” Lawrence commenced coaching the first VIII an association that was to last thirty five years. In 1980 the First V111 won the Goose Shield and the Head of the River title for the College for the first time. Since then there have been numerous success for the many CBC teams.

By the time you read this newsletter I am confident that I can share with you favourable results from this regatta scheduled for April 6.

Old Collegians Survey
Thank You

Thank you to all members of the CBC Old Collegians Association who completed the survey in the last Gym. The results will help improve future issues of the Gym. If you have any queries regarding this survey please direct them to Alex Ly, Publications and Marketing Officer on 8400 4263.

SAVE THE DATE
Old Collegians Annual Dinner
18th October 2013
Public Schools Club
Further details in the next Gym
Junior School Name Pavers

For a limited time, Christian Brothers College is offering parents the opportunity to purchase an individualised paver for $50 which will be on permanent display at the new CBC Junior School. All money raised will go towards the development of the Junior School Chapel and other student facilities at the Senior and Junior campuses. This will be a unique and lasting record of your support and your name will go down in history!

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Simply fill out this form and return with full payment to the CBC Finance Office. For further information, contact the Finance Office on 8400 4207.

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