



St Mary's Old Boys' Newsletter

March 2018



Dan McErlean
12 Werona Street
Sunnybank Qld 4109
Dear Old Boys

Bryan McSweeney
email:julieandb@iprimus.com.au

The first T.B.O.B.A. Brisbane Sub-Branch meeting in 2018 will be held on Friday 9th March at the Central Station Queensland Railway Institute rooms beside the "Deck on Edward" Café, 309 Edward Street, at 12 noon. As usual, to assist with catering, could you please advise Dan McErlean if you intend coming to this meeting and provide your luncheon preference. We have a limited menu of Fish & Chips, Beef Burger & Chips, or Toasted Sandwiches & Chips, with a few other options. Please advise Dan of your preference so the Café Staff can be advised prior to our arrival.

Tentative dates for future Brisbane meetings for 2018 are **18th May, 20th July, 21st September, 23rd November**, so please reserve these dates on your calendars as Claimer Dates. There will also be two meetings held at Buderim again this year around mid-year and early December. The firm dates for these gatherings & the Annual Toowoomba June/July Luncheon will be advised in due course.

In the second half of 2017 there were a number of successful functions for College Old Boys and the organisers of these events are to be congratulated for the meticulous efforts they made setting the date, making venue and catering arrangements and contacting former classmates.

Following on from the Annual TBOBA luncheon at the Blue Mountain Hotel on 23/06/2017, there were reunions of the 1946-1955 Class on the 1/07/2017, the 1956-1965 Class "Long Lazy Lunch" Reunion on 22/07/2017. Our Association's year concluded with a meeting of Sydney Old Boys on 9/11/2017, the year 1948-57 Reunion as well as the year 1950-59 reunion on 18/11/2017, the Christmas meeting of the Old Boys in Brisbane on 17/11/2017 and at Buderim on 8/12/2017.

Please remember in your prayers the Old Boys and Friends of the College recently deceased:

- **Philip Egan** (1948-49) husband of Shirley, father of Mark, Jenny and Ann,
- **Ron Evans** (1935-42), husband of Mary (dec), father of Anne (Bridger), John, Paul, Michael and Cathy,
- **Harold Leis** (1948-49), Life Member and husband of Rosalie, father of John, Gregory, Andrew and Karl, brother of Gordon (John) Leis,
- **Tom Mitchell**, husband of Mavis, father of Carolyn, Wendy (dec), Angela, Joanne and Katrina,
- **Tom Shearer** (1943-45), husband of Judith, father of Elizabeth, Susan (dec), Peter, Anthony, Mary Louise and Philip, brother of Dorothy (McLeod),
- **Terry Sullivan** (1945 Scholarship), husband of Joan (dec), father of Paul, Tracey and Tony,
- **Joe Tanna** (1936-40), brother of Fred, Ted, Reg (dec), and Peter,
- **Tony Williams**, husband of Robin, brother of Graham (1945-54), step-father to Donna Lee and her husband Darryl,
- **Aina Helen (Carlson) Littleton**, wife of John (1946-51), mother of James, Karin and Gregory,
- **Sharon Ann (McSweeney) Kemp**, wife of Graham, sister of Tim (1968-69), Bryan (1970-71), and Kerry,
- **Trish (Lunney) Cantwell**, wife of David, sister of Michael, Peter, Anne Maree, Eileen and Therese, daughter of Leo and Pat Lunney,
- **Marcella Francis Green**, born in Charleville on the 7th May 1943. Wife of Gene, mother of Bradley, Michael, and Kerrillee and grandmother to five. Sister in-law to Colin Green,
- **Father Mervyn Ziesing** and **Sister Mary Evangeline rsm.**

There are also a number unwell or recovering from surgery:

Tim Coonan, Colin Green, Lyle Dornbusch, Brian Marks, Trevor Muller, Joe Short, Bob Sullivan, Philip Stephens, Kevin Garrett, Sandra Garret, wife of Michael, and Bevan Zeller.

Bryan McSweeney
President
(07) 3278 9872

Dan McErlean
Secretary
(07) 3345 4404

Dan Reilly
Co-Ordinator
(07) 3395 1813

T.B.O.B.A. (Brisbane Sub-Branch) Meeting – 17th November 2017

Present

Apologies

Bryan McSweeney (TBOBA Brisbane Sub-branch President) John Bagget Carl Betros Greg Butler Nat Chandler Frank Deighton John Drew Brian Gagen Rolly Griffin John Hagan Tim Hagan Tom Hutchinson Doug Lee Dick Lynch Jim Long Pat Mullins	Denis McClure Paul McClure Dan McErlean Greg McErlean Justin McErlean Peter McMahan Lee Nightingale John Noonan Wayne Nuss Reg Oliver John O'Neill Lindsay Reis Allan Roney Errol Ryan Phil Simpson Kerry Taylor Gerry Williams	Fr Paul Chandler Fr Tyrone Deere Br Barry Buckley AM Laurie Atzeni (Hon) Robert Beckwith John Byrnes Nev Card Bernie Collins Noel Cronin Allan Duncan Les Duncan Jack Davis (Hon) Brien Dunne Brian Fagan Noel Frost Terry Gesch Barry Gordon Gene Green Peter Kennedy	Barry Kuhnemann Fred Lincoln Deacon Peter Devenish Meares Dinny Madden Jim Mullins Mike Murphy Robin Murphy OAM Terry Murphy Rod McDonald Chris McMahan Martin O'Sullivan Jack Parker Keith Pickels Pat Stringer Grahame Swenson Trevor Taylor Peter Upton Greg Wiedman
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T.B.O.B.A. (Buderim) Meeting – 8th December 2017

Present

Apologies

Fr Tyrone Deere Rod Anderson Geoff Anderson Redmond Byrne Bernie Collins Bill Fechner Bob Grundy Jim Long Tom Long Kevin Leadbetter	Pat Mullins Dan McErlean Terry Murphy John Noonan Martin O'Sullivan Merv Paddison Ron Roney Darel Stirling Brad Wilson Lance Wilson	Gary Blacka John Littleton Pat Long Brian Lynam Reg Oliver David Robson Laurie Walsh Bevan Zeller	
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“Coming Events”

9 th March 2018	Brisbane TBOBA Sub Branch Meeting at 12 noon – Queensland Rail Institute, 309 Edward Street beside the “ Deck on Edward Café ”
26 th March 2018 @ 7pm	TBOBA Annual General Meeting – Clive Berghofer Arena, St Mary's College
24 th April 2018 8:45am	St Mary's College ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony, Br Rodgers Sports Fields.

Annual Membership Fee (\$10.00) for Calendar Year 2018 is now due / or

Life Memberships are available (Fee \$100.00)

Cheques for Membership should be made payable to the “Toowoomba Brothers Old Boy's Association”

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Cheques as donations towards the Indoor Sports Complex should be made payable to

‘Br. Baptiste O'Sullivan Building Fund’.

They are fully Tax Deductible and will be receipted.

Thomas Donald Shearer (7/04/1931 – 4/11/2017)

Thomas Donald Shearer born April 7th 1931 to Arthur Shearer and Kathleen Shearer nee Hyland on a Dairy Farm (Forrest Gate) nestled at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain, a small unremarkable hill across Blanchview Rd from Table Top. Tom remembered a fairly Spartan existence as the youngest of six children Molly, Bill, Dot, Kit, Pat and Tom. The whole family worked the farm with cows having to be milked and horses to be caught (5 kids 2 horses) before the five or so mile ride to school at Postman's Ridge. Times were tough as these were depression years and trips to the metropolis of Toowoomba were a welcome distraction. Tom recalls that his first formative years at the one teacher school were loudly punctuated by the whistle blowing principal Mr Death, Tom didn't really enjoy early school life.

In 1943 Tom went to St Mary's Christian Brothers Toowoomba just a quick horseback ride up the range to Rowbotham St, tie the horses up, then on the bus to West Street. Here Tom excelled at Rugby League and getting the cuts as did most of the other boys from that era, as it didn't seem to matter if you did anything wrong or not it was just the Christian Brothers way of inclusion and treating everyone as an equal. Tom's participation in extracurricular activities were hampered by the bus time table and his need to get back to the farm so while he was very keen to be involved circumstances meant that his attendance was limited, Tom was a frustrated pole-vaulter. It was the lead up and the beginning of the second world war and not even school children could escape the effects. Cadets were compulsory and cadet camps included survival and live ammunition training exercises that could have resulted in the demise of the next generation of soldiers prior to them leaving secondary school. Tom remembers the placement of some sort of artillery gun at the approach road of Forrest Gate during the war years.

After a couple of years at St Mary's Tom was allowed to go to boarding school at Downlands..

Tom only went to Junior, so after school it was back on the Dairy farm where he worked with his older brother Pat clearing lantana and prickly pear, milking cows, raising pigs and chickens on a pretty subsistence existence.

It was Tom's good fortune that one of his older sisters Kathleen (Kit) was going out with and soon to be married to one John Langbeen Ferguson, a cattle

buyer for Andersons, who had an abattoir at Wallangarra on the Qld, NSW boarder and John was able to get Tom a job as a trainee cattle buyer for the company. Tom loved livestock and indeed the meat industry, excelling with Andersons and becoming one of their main Queensland buyers stationed in places like Wandoan, Taroom and St George.

Tom very much enjoyed this part of his life buying 100's of Thousands of cattle for Andersons and travelling 100's of thousands of miles in Western Queensland and NSW meeting some great people on some iconic properties and having some fantastic times, often over a few beers. Tom also revived the Wandoan Rugby League team and took them to a premiership as captain coach while living there.

In the mid 50's Tom had to dust off his moleskins and riding boots and head down to Sydney for the impending Nuptials of his older brother Pat who had been courting a Sydney girl who was a registered nurse at St Vincent's Hospital in Toowoomba and was going to marry her in Maroubra and Tom was to be in the bridal party. This nurse Elizabeth Anne Atkin (Beth) also had a sibling in the bridal party a young nurse called Judith Mary Atkin. Well it must have been quite a wedding and this girl called Judith must have made quite an impression as Tom was smitten. Never mind the fact that Judith was emigrating to Canada a couple of weeks after the wedding Tom knew what he liked and it was quite obvious that to him anyway that he liked Judith and Tom was prepared to wait. He went back to Queensland and went about waiting for Judith's return.

To cut a long story short Tom waited and on Judith's return they were married in Maroubra Sydney and soon set up married life in Charleville. This would have been quite the culture shock for the girl from Sydney's Eastern Beaches.

Tom decided to leave Andersons and have a crack out on his own. Tom found that he could buy cows and especially spade cows in western Queensland then on sell them to T A Fields at Dinmore. This early trade bolstered Tom and Judy's bank balance. Around this time Tom met David Throsby who mentored Tom into the Export Meat Business. David had built a large shed for the drying of sheep skins out on

Alderley Street near to the Toowoomba Abattoir and ended up selling it to Tom. The shed would become the global head office T D Shearer Pty Ltd. The kids in the family knew it as the Skin Shed.

Tom was wholesaling as well selling out of the TPA meat hall and this meant early starts before coming home for a hearty hot breakfast with Judy and the tribe before travelling around the various sales in Toowoomba, Oakey & Dalby. Eventually Tom's business grew such that he had around a dozen buyers spread throughout Qld and NSW buying cattle for TD Shearer Pty Ltd.

Tom became renowned as the king of the bulls and TD Shearers 95cl BFH became the preferred brand for some of the largest burger makers in the USA. Tom was also overseeing a substantial domestic operation with trailer loads of pork and beef travelling far and wide.

While all of this was happening and even a bit before it started, Tom and Judy started having a family first Elizabeth in 1961 and then Susan in 1963. Tragedy struck in 1963 when on vacation in Sydney young Susan died from phenomena. Susan's death in terrible circumstances had a profound saddening effect on Tom and Judy that tested their faith. However over the passage of time their love for each other and their children strengthened as did their Catholic faith. Over the next few years additions to the family included Peter, Anthony, Mary Louise & Philip. The arrival of Mary in 1970 saw the family move from Crown Street to what is still the family home at Murrumba Road.

Tom would not want us to be too upset, he had a great life full with all the things that people yearn for, love, success, adversity, recovery, family, friendship, grandchildren, love and beer.

Tom was an exceptional man, a legend in the Australian Meat Industry, a good and generous boss, a loving and caring father, a friend that you could count on, and a husband for 58 years who was devoted completely to Judy.

So lets us mourn him, let us miss him, but let's celebrate and give thanks to God for a life that touched so many people in such a positive way. Let's

celebrate and be thankful for the life that was Tom Shearer.

Ron Ambrose Evans (6/3/1927 – 5/12/2017)



Ron was born on the 6th March 1927 at St Benedict's Hospital Toowoomba. His parents, Albert Henry and Gertrude Emma Evans were living on the corner of Long and Ruthven Streets at the time, and moved to 29 Gowrie Street in 1932. Sadly Ron's father passed away on 2/3/1934, just

before his seventh birthday.

Ron's early education was received from the Sisters of Mercy at the Holy Name Convent from 1932 to 1934. In 1935 he was enrolled at St Mary's College in Grade 2, completing Junior there in 1942. His classmates included Kevin Coonan and Bill Hutchinson, ex Holy Name students, as well as the likes of Fr Frank Hall and Doctors Vince Barron and Keith Wilkinson. Ron particularly enjoyed his time as a member of the St Mary's Cadet Corps while in the upper grades.

Growing up he had fond memories of trips to Woody Point with his mother to visit his Aunt Gwen. He was indentured as an apprentice electrician with the Toowoomba Electric Light Company on leaving the College and then was appointed maintenance electrician at St Vincent's Hospital.

Ron and a group of young friends including Basil Nolan, Jack Hall, and others were part of a fund raising team that ran weekly Chocolate Wheel raffles every Saturday night in Ruthven Street. They also travelled with the Wheel around the various Agricultural Shows to centres such as Dalby, Mitchell, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Roma and many others. Proceeds from these ventures and from the annual St Vincent's Rodeo, on which Ron was a committee member, were all raised for the St Vincent's Maternity Block which opened in the 1950s.

During this time Ron met the love of his life, Mary O'Connor, a nurse at St Vincent's Hospital and they married on the 24th September 1955 at St Patrick's Cathedral. Ron and Mary continued to live in Gowrie Street and cared for Ron's mother until her death in

1963. The couple were blessed with five beautiful children – Ann, John, Paul, Michael and Cathy.

Later Ron joined the staff of Piggott & Co as the store Electrician before establishing his own business “R A Evans Electrical Repairs & Maintenance Seven Day Service”. In later years the couple relocated to Ranfurley Street and enjoyed annual road trips to Cairns to visit their son John and his family.

Ron was a loyal member of our Toowoomba (St Mary’s) Brothers Old Boys’ Association and helped with the lighting of the Show Pavilion for the annual TBOBA balls in the 1940’s and 50’s. He was a great supporter of the Christian Brothers often giving elderly Brothers a lift home from Saturday evening Mass.

A member of the All Whites Foundation Committee, he loved Rugby League, especially State of Origin and his “hero” Johnathon Thurston.

Ron was an active member of the Holy Name Parish and the Holy Name Society, a devout Catholic and one of nature’s true gentlemen. He proudly loved his wife Mary, five children, eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren and the world is a sadder place without him.

A requiem Mass to celebrate Ron’s life was offered in the Holy Name Church by Rev Fr Darrel Irvine P.P.

Terence Sullivan (17/11/1931-12/1/2018)



Terry was born on the 17th November 1931 to James and Sylvia Sullivan. The family lived in Campbell Street, Newtown, and consisted of six girls – Mary, Eileen, Sylvia, Daphne, Bernice and Joyce and six boys – Jock, Steve, Eugene, Frank, Victor, and Terry, His sister Mary

joined the Sisters of Mercy Order.

It was the Depression years and father Jim and the elder brothers took up what jobs they could, often in rural areas, clearing land and helping with wheat harvests to provide the family income.

Terry’s early education was gained at the Holy Name Parish School and then he followed the path taken by his five elder brothers to St Mary’s College where he was a popular member of the 1945 Scholarship class taught by Rev Brother Frank McCarthy.

Terry joined the 9th Toowoomba Scout Group and one of his early highlights was the trip to Melbourne for the Scout Jamboree in 1948 with Brian O’Connell, Keith Mercer, Ted Bowling, Pat Arnell and Bill Thygesen.

He enjoyed movies on Saturday afternoons, funded with some of the bounty claimed by his second eldest brother, Steve, from the Toowoomba City Council for the swallows or sparrows he had shot.

As the five elder brothers were on army service in various places in World War II their mother Sylvia gathered her daughters and Terry each night to say the rosary for the safe return of the five lads. They served in North Africa, Singapore and PNG/Bougainville. Frank & Eugene became Prisoners of War, and Steve was in the thick of the action at Slaters Knoll, gaining a Military Medal. Naturally they were grateful when the family was all together again post war.

Terry’s early working life was spent with Queensland Railways and when he settled in Acacia Ridge in the late 1960’s he joined Denning Manufacturing Pty Ltd, Coach builders, and was responsible for the layout arrangements and seating in the buses, many destined for Jack McCafferty’s Bus Company.

Terry passed to Eternal Life on 12th January 2018 and is survived by his children Paul Tracey and Tony. His wife Joan pre-deceased him.

ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

Our Old Boys have enjoyed Lawn Bowls contests twice a year for the past twenty (20) years and the current organisers, Eric Howe 46322191), Laurie Blacka (33595365), Terry Gesch (33599228), and Gordon Robertson (32165886) are keen to hear from lads willing to join these Roll Up days.

Don’t hesitate; give them a call today, as you can enjoy “colour” competition just like the old days at St Mary’s and convivial fellowship.

Life Member Reg Oliver from the 1942-47 Class has written a song titled “Gertrude Carbines Grave” to the melody “The Lights of Cobb & Co”. It’s based on a true Australian story from the Darling Downs country. It was back in the 1840’s where the bunya pines trees swayed at the foot of the Bunya Mountains in the early pioneering days.

The Class of 50-59 Reunion

The bi-annual gathering of the Class of 50-59 was held at the Federal Hotel, Toowoomba, on Saturday 18th November.

The day kicked off with the “boys” meeting in the bar at 2pm for a drink and a trip down memory lane. The seventeen attendees had a very enjoyable afternoon with lots of class room events and sporting events being recalled-some funny others painful!



Back Row (L-R) Brian Sharpe, Russell Campbell, Brian Scott, Mick Quinlan, Brian Carter, Pat Kane, Justin Lunney, Frank Thygesen
Middle Row (L-R) Dan McErlean, Robert Trapp, Pat Costigan, Michael Murphy, Martin O’Sullivan
Front Row (L-R) John Warriar, Barry Gordon
AWOL Lionel Stower

Then we gathered with our partners at 6.30 p.m in the restaurant for dinner. Despite the dreadful weather 25 attended and a great night was had by all.

On both occasions we were joined by Dan McErlean, secretary of the Brisbane Branch of the Old Boys.

The guys were reminded that 70 years ago they had just completed their first year of school. Barry Gordon began to recite his St Mary’s poem, a highlight of the evening, but was interrupted by another group celebrating a birthday so we all joined in the singing of “Happy Birthday” which was appreciated. This was followed by Mick Murphy leading the War Cry.

An elderly gentleman (older than us anyway) sitting at a nearby table got to his feet and gave his version

of some of the words-obviously an Old Boy.



In total we had 19 of the class attend with a further 14 sending their apologies. The group decided that we should meet again in October 2018 and hopefully in the intervening period we can locate more of our class mates. If you can help please send contact details to Mick at mickquinlan@Bigpond.com or 02 99972397.

Reunion Grade 2 1948 – Senior 1957

On November 18th 2017 at the Wilsonton Hotel Toowoomba twenty five Old Boys gathered who were part of the 1948 – 1957 “Vintage” at St Mary’s College. Speeches were kept to a minimum, but we did remember those who had died.

A group photograph was taken, delightful “finger food” was served, and some memorabilia supplied by the School was displayed. Many present were accompanied by their wives/partners. All mingled together in a happy and welcoming atmosphere. A special booklet was published to mark the occasion called “Movers, Shakers, and Pain Bearers”. Special thanks to Robin Murphy and his business for making the publication possible.

This booklet contains (1) The Memorial Roll plus a short note about those who had passed away about whom we were able to gather information, (2) a list of the Brothers who taught us, some notes and obituaries, (3) “Whatever Happened To”? - a short life story each class member was asked to provide, some unfortunately were not able to be contacted, (4) Photographs, (5) Stories and memories of our school days.

Most, if not all who were present, would say that the reunion was successful and well worth attending. Some actually said they were looking forward to the next reunion.

Copies of the booklet may be obtained from Fr Kerry Costigan who asks that five dollars be included with the request to pay for postage and handling. His address is :- 1/31 Winstanley Court, Newtown, Queensland 4350.

Attendees were; Fr Kerry Costigan, Bill Collins, Neville Dredge, Brian Fagan, Terry Gleeson, Colin Green, Errol Griffin, John Gurney, Joe Jones, Barry Kuhnemann, Allan McCabe, Boyd Mott, Robin Murphy OAM, Vince Murphy, Jack Parker, Doug Reis, Kevin Roberts, Dave Robson, Dave Scott, Ron Smith, Glen Thompson, Alf Zeller, Peter Zeller, and guests Dr Colin Owen AO and Dan McErlean.

Sydney Gathering

On the 9th November 2017 the Sydney Group met at the Castlereagh Club, co-ordinated by Michael Quinlan. They included John Arndell, Kerry Byrne, Peter Auricchio, Peter Buckley, Brendan Crotty, Mick Fitzpatrick and Steve Stratigos. Rev Fr Michael Gilbert CSSR, Dr John Frawley AM, Justin Dwyer, Michael Ledbury, Kerry Carmichael and John Leis were unable to be present on this occasion.

Members Stories

Pat and Frank Deighton

Congratulations to Pat (Dwan) and Frank Deighton who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary with a gathering of family and friends on Saturday 27th January 2018. Before the function Fr Hal Ranger offered a special Mass for the couple and their immediate family. Another highlight was the performance of the Deighton Choir.

Pat and Frank, who have lived in Stafford for some years, were blessed with five children; Des, Christine, Helen, Paul, and Jane and have fifteen grandchildren.

Their wedding celebrant in January 1958 was Rev Fr John Clancy and the ceremony was held in St Patrick's Cathedral, Toowoomba. Fr Nev Grundy was the soloist, Pat's Bridesmaid was her sister Anne (Lunney), and Frank's Best Man was Bill Lunney.

Frank had a career in the Commonwealth Bank after completion of his Secondary education at St Mary's College in 1946. In the 1950's Frank served as Treasurer for our Old Boys' Association.

Elizabeth and Barry Ainslie



Congratulations also to Elizabeth Bailey and Barry Ainslie who were married at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Booval, on Saturday 9th December 2017. Barry attended St Mary's College in 1972 and 1973 and was a member of the College Teaching staff in 1980.

Elizabeth and Barry are now teaching at the Booval Sacred Heart Primary School and will live nearby in Silkstone.

Jonathon Hutchinson

Old Boy Doctor Jonathon Hutchinson Phd Philosophy, the fourth son of Daphne and Tom Hutchinson had the launch of his book "Cultural Intermediars" at the Sydney University on the 24th November 2017. Jonathon was a year 12 student at St Mary's College in 1953. The Principal then was Br Fergus Gagen and his teacher was Tom Denham. He has attained a Degree of Philosophy "Media Communication" and lives in Sydney with his wife Leisa and three sons.

His father Tom, a College student from 1942 to 1947, and his wife Daphne travelled down to Sydney for this occasion. The couple, who relocated from Toowoomba to Wynnum in 2016 celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in April 2017. Daphne was the popular Toowoomba music lovers radio presenter on FM102.7

From the Archives

Legend of Sport – Mart Ryan

Rugby League commenced in Toowoomba in 1919 with many of the players coming from breakaway Rugby Union members. There were three Clubs: Brothers, Valleys and Boomerangs.

The Past Christian Brothers Football Club had won the 1918 Toowoomba Rugby Union Premiership and elected to play in the Rugby League competition. They won the Grand Final in the inaugural 1919 season 15 points to 7 points by the Valleys Club.

Brothers team was Mart Ryan, R McAllister, H Callaghan, Mick Bennett (capt), W Gaven, Tom Gorman, N O'Connell, L Obst Frank Mullins, J Scanlan, J Pobar and Mick Ryan.

In 1920 Valleys were Premiers beating Brothers (15 v 8); but Brothers were able to defeat Valleys (12 v 3) to win the 1921 Rugby League Premiership. A key member of the Brothers side in those years was Full Back Mart Ryan who also represented Toowoomba in the 1919 and 1921 matches against the visiting New Zealand sides.

Then on the 18th June 1924 Mart was again the Toowoomba Full Back, in that team's remarkable victory (23 v 20) over the touring Great Britain side, marking legend Jim Sullivan (then a 20 yr old). A crowd estimated to exceed 10000 people witnessed the match at the Athletic Oval.

The attendance was not only the largest seen at a Toowoomba sporting venue, it was also the most representative with visitors from places like Chinchilla, Wallangarra, Laidley and Gatton and intervening centres.

The Toowoomba Team was captained by Duncan Thompson and, as well as Mart Ryan at Fullback, it included Old Boys Tom Gorman and Jack Cuneen (centres) and front row forward Jim Bennett. Mart Ryan was adjudged to have played well, kicking with great judgement, 60 yard line kicks and a 70 yards long, high kick.

Mart's rival for Queensland Representation was Eric Frauenfelder the Ipswich fullback who had taught at St Mary's College in 1920 having been encouraged to move to Queensland from Albury by Brother C Seery. Eric was regarded by many as flashy, speedy and a great handler of the ball compared with Mart who was mistake free, a good defender with a wonderful kicking game.

Mart was not only a top footballer; he was a top class cricketer, mentor and football and coach to St Mary's College students.

Sport has not been neglected at St Mary's College since its foundation in October 1899 and in fact it is recorded that a second St Mary's cricket team played a North State School team on 25/11/1899. It follows that Past Brothers was a successful club in the Junior Grade of Toowoomba Cricket in the 1900's; but in 1909 they took their place in the Senior competition captained by the redoubtable Bill Heeney. Their first Premiership win came in the 1919/1920 season when the strong combination of players included Jack

Leahy(c), Mart Ryan, Jack McKenna and Herb Callaghan.

Mart played for the Past Brothers Cricket Club from 1918 to 1926 and his innings of 232 not out vs the Railway Club in 1921 is recorded as one of the dominant innings ever played in Toowoomba. He was selected for a trial match in Brisbane from which selectors chose the State side to play England's 1920 Touring side captained by JWHT Douglas; but Mart had to be satisfied with a game for the Darling Downs v England at the Show Grounds on the 8th/9th December 1920.

Over an eight season playing career (1918-1926) Mart made 2382 runs (average 33.55) and took 246 wickets (average 12.19). Then he continued to play miscellaneous Grade Cricket for a number of years but when the Brothers cricket team was disbanded and re-conveyed as Past Brothers in 1936, Mart Ryan was Captain and N Mulligan Vice Captain.

Ten years after he had finished playing senior cricket Mart was judged by journalist Bill Heeney, under his nom de plume 'The Critic', still to be the best batsman in Toowoomba.

Mart married Kathleen Mullins and the couple were blessed with three daughters: Marie (Lucy), Beryl (Rigby), and Helen (Walters).

His working career was spent in the Railway Department in charge of the Goods Office in Toowoomba before a transfer with that Department to Bundaberg.

Other top Old Boy all-rounders include Syl Stower (1947-1959) with bowling figures (219) wickets (av 16.09) and his battling (2973) runs (av 25.85). Paul Toohey (1989-2004) took (287) wickets (av 20.31) and scored 2792 runs (av 23.46). Bowler Adrian Bidgood (1986-2004) managed (265) wickets in his career (av 18.25).

Old Boy batsmen of note include:

Brad Spanner (1984-2004) 6225 runs (av 51.45)

Dean Spanner(1986-2003) 5852 runs (av 46.08)

Des Simpson (1935-1973) 8402 runs (av 37.85)

Pat Nash (1952-1980) 5769 runs (av 25.41)

Mart was an Uncle of the Mullins brothers: Jim, Pat and Brian and Joe and John (both deceased). Their father, Frank Mullins, was a member of the Brothers' Premiership Rugby League sides in 1919 and 1921 and the Toowoomba side that defeated New Zealand on 22/6/1921, 30 v 18.

Bill Heeney was the grandfather of Bill Fechner (1957) and grand uncle of John (Heeney) (1947-1953) and uncle of the late Frank Heeney (1938).