



**David H Phillips**, Class of 1945, donated his original renderings of the Normal School and the “Red Brick Building” to the school on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of **Brisbane State High School** in 1996.

These watercolour versions were presented to **Barry Irwin**, BSHS 75th Anniversary Convenor.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

How can you help the **BSHS PSA** support the school?

The printing and posting of **AMICUS** to past students is the **PSA's** major annual expense. These funds would be better utilised for projects for the benefit of the school and students. In recent times, these projects have included:

- the contribution to the Innovation Studio
- the fitout of the school museum
- the maintenance and upgrading of the school museum
- the Premiership Honour Board
- the Legends Honour Board
- the **PSA** “*Spirit of State High*” trophy

More could be done with your help!

The digitising of all school magazines from 1921 to 2019, which will enable an online search function, may be our next project if we can minimise our printing and posting costs.

In order to reduce this significant cost, the **PSA** Executive proposes to introduce the digital version of **AMICUS** to all **PSA** members.

All past students who receive **AMICUS** via post are requested to advise their email address to: [bshspsa@gmail.com](mailto:bshspsa@gmail.com) to enable this proposal to be implemented.

### THANKS

A sincere “*thank you*” to those past students who have:

- renewed their financial membership of the **PSA**
- commented favourably on recent **AMICUS** articles
- donated valuable memorabilia to the school museum.

Your support is very much appreciated.

**Barry Irwin** BSHS PSA Registrar and **AMICUS** Editor

# Celebrating 100 years in 2021

Next year promises to be exciting with 2021 marking a major milestone for Brisbane State High School—our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

As we pay tribute to our past and look forward to the future, there will be many opportunities for our State High community to be part of the celebrations. We look forward to sharing our program of events with you, so stay tuned for more information.

For the latest updates on our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, find us on Facebook @**BrisStateHighAlumni** and join our State High Connect online community by visiting [statehighconnect.com.au](http://statehighconnect.com.au).



## Memorabilia Donations

The school museum is home to a collection of memorabilia and historical records.

In the lead up to our 100th anniversary, please consider donating your treasured memorabilia to the school, where it will be preserved and displayed in the museum for all to enjoy.

To find out more about donating, email our Museum Curator at [bshspsa@gmail.com](mailto:bshspsa@gmail.com).



## Share your photos & videos

Do you have historical photos and video footage from your time at State High?

We are seeking to build our collection of photos and video footage of State High from 1921 to 1980. Specifically, we require content which represent important milestones in the school's history or prominently feature our school facilities and buildings in that era.

If you have photos and video footage which meets these requirements and would be happy for us to take a copy, please contact our Museum Curator at [bshspsa@gmail.com](mailto:bshspsa@gmail.com).

## STATE HIGH MASTERS 2020

The Inaugural **State High Masters** went ahead prior to the COVID-19 social distancing rules. It was a magnificent day with the Indooroopilly Golf Club co-ordinator telling us that the course could not have been in more pristine condition due to the previous month's rain. We had a great turnout, fielding 16 full teams.

Special thanks to sponsors who provided great prizes for raffles: Emporium Hotel, QPAC, Dendy, Merlo, Hoppy's Car Wash, Rydges Hotel. Thanks to Indooroopilly Golf Club who also arranged special catering and function room facilities for our Inaugural Golf Day.

If you missed out on attending, don't despair. Given the success of the day we hope to have the Centenary edition of the State High Masters in 2021. And of course we must not forget to mention the winner of the **State High Masters 2020**: Team Bullion - **John Bullion Snr**, Class of 1969, **John Bullion Jnr**, Class of 2000, **Paul Smith**, Class of 1991 and Chad Brown (Friend of **State High**).

## A ROWING MASTER

**Wendy Coghill (Loseby)**, Class of 1963, is President of the Sunshine Coast Indoor Rowing Club and Secretary of the Sunshine Coast Masters Swimming Club. As President, Wendy is involved in organising training days, guest coaches and the Queensland Indoor Rowing Championships. Wendy is also a member of Maroochydore Surf Life Saving Club, the Maroochy Sea Serpents Dragon Boat Club and the Suncoast Chess Club and is passionate about how sport and indoor rowing can be something that everyone can participate in. Due to her voluntary work for sport on the Sunshine Coast and in Brisbane in the 70's, 80's and 90's, Wendy was recognised in 2018 when she was part of the Queen's Baton Relay for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

## ANZAC DAY

An ANZAC Day ceremony is an important event in the school calendar with a special assembly for all students and invited guests. Unfortunately, this time honoured tradition could not proceed this year due to COVID19 restrictions. Therefore, to ensure the occasion did not pass without being acknowledged, a short video was compiled dedicated to past students who had served in the Armed Services. You can view the video via this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/107072953970037/videos/161537935236193>

*The BSHS PSA would like to add to this video so it can be an ongoing representation of past students who have or are currently serving. Please forward your photo/name/rank/years served to Natalie Loye, Head of Alumni & Parent Engagement, for inclusion next year. [nloye0@eq.edu.au](mailto:nloye0@eq.edu.au)*

## QUEENSLAND GREATS

A wall of plaques in Roma Street Parklands commemorates the outstanding achievement of Queensland Greats Award recipients. The awards honour those whose achievements have played a significant role in the history and development of Queensland.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the awards, **Dr James Morton OAM**, Class of 1980, was acknowledged for his work as an oncologist, haematologist and autism advocate. Dr Morton was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2015, in recognition of his services to both children with autism and in oncology. He follows five **State High** “past students” who have received a Queensland Great Award.

**2001 - Sergeant Edward (Ted) Smout OAM** Australian World War I veteran. Although Ted attended the Central Technical College High School, the forerunner to the establishment of **BSHS** in 1921, he was embraced by the founding students of **BSHS** as a “Techie” and a “past student” of **State High** and listed in the Roll of Honour in 1920’s school magazines.

**2002 - Emeritus Professor Lawrie Powell AC**, Class of 1952 and **State High Legend**  
World renowned medical scientist.

**2004 - William Robinson AO**, Class of 1953 and **State High Legend**  
Iconic landscape artist and winner of the 1987 and 1995 Archibald Prize for portraiture.

**2007 - Sir Leo Hielscher AC**, Junior Class of 1941 and **State High Legend**  
Senior public servant and financial administrator. Patron of the **State High Foundation**.

**2011 - Walter James Lewis AM**, Class of 1977 and **State High Legend**.  
Highly decorated Australian rugby league captain and a sports presenter.

## QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

The **BSHS PSA** congratulates the following distinguished past students who were recognised for their remarkable contributions to nation and State in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours List:

**The Honourable Justice Peter David APPLEGARTH AM**.....Class of 1973  
For significant service to the law, and to the judiciary, and to social justice.

**Professor Gregory James Elliott HILL AO**.....Class of 1965  
For distinguished service to education, particularly the development of tertiary facilities in regional areas, and to the community.

**Thomas Herbert HOLMES OAM**..... Class of 1956  
For service to surf lifesaving and to the community.

**Dr Lyndall Joan WHITE (WHITNEY) AM**.....Class of 1969  
For significant service to medicine, to psychiatry, and to perinatal and infant mental health.

They follow the 2020 Australia Day Honours for:

**Marita Louise COWIE, (Anderson) AM**..... Class of 1980  
**Dr Paul Elias ELIADIS AM**..... Class of 1970  
**Ian Andrew HEALY AO**..... Class of 1981  
**Dr Stephen George PAPAS OAM**.....Class of 1959

## TOWARDS MCMXXI

As **State High** approaches the celebration of its first 100 years in 2021, it is informative to reflect on some of the events that coincided with the founding of our alma mater.

The Australian population reached 5.4 million.

Edith Cowan OBE became the first female to be elected to Federal Parliament.

Queensland voted to abolish its Upper House, the Legislative Assembly.

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) was formed.

The Ford Motor Company began assembling motor cars in Australia and:

“A press advertisement was placed in the *Courier, Telegraph, Daily Mail* and *Standard* on 30 June 1921, simply stating that ‘**The Brisbane State High School**’ had been transferred from the Central Technical College to new quarters in Edward and Adelaide Streets. New scholars will attend on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July to be enrolled for the coming term.’ Those from the Brisbane Junior High School and the Central Technical College High School began study at Brisbane State High School on 4 July 1921 along with a small number of students from the Wynnum Central State School secondary department which had closed due to falling attendances. Students could now complete the Senior University Examination and matriculate to university from a free state-run school.....

The school’s character was moulded by the founding principal **Isaac Waddle**....The creation of a school that encouraged and achieved high academic results from its students was due to the determination of a great principal who lived by the motto he coined for the school: ‘Scientia est Potestas’ or ‘Knowledge is Power’.....

In 1941, at the age of 65, Waddle announced his retirement. He had reached the goals he had set for himself for **Brisbane State High School**. The school had a reputation for producing high academic achievers and its sporting prowess in the GPS competition had strengthened.....

The Department had obviously found it extremely difficult to replace Waddle with a suitable successor due to the large number of teachers who had enlisted in the armed services. He returned to the school and served another four years, finally retiring in 1945 at the age of seventy years.

At the time Waddle handed over control of the school to his successor, **James A Barnes**, **Brisbane State High School** was a solid state icon. The staff were committed and showed sincere determination. Students’ academic results were comparable with the grammar schools and many pupils matriculated to university. The groundwork was established for later top performances in secondary school sports and other extra-curricular activities introduced during Waddle’s time.” \*

\*The Waddle Years - The history of **Brisbane State High School 1921-1945**” by **Lyn Hanlon**, Class of 1978. The *Isaac Waddle Cup* is awarded annually for Loyalty and Leadership.



**Isaac Waddle**      **James Barnes**      **Herbert Watkin**      **Arthur Copeman**      **Fredrick Cafferky**      **George Lockie**  
**Raymond Fitzgerald**      **Colin Mason**      **David Sutton**      **Richard Morrison**      **Wade Haynes**



**James A Barnes** was appointed principal in mid-1945 and unfortunately died in June 1946. In his short time at the school he was untiring in his efforts to induce boys and girls to make the most of their opportunities and to bring honour to themselves and the school.

Until the arrival of **Herbert G Watkin** in 1947, Mr Jenks was acting principal for the remainder of 1946. Mr Watkin served until mid-1952 when he was appointed as Director General of Education. One notable achievement in that position was chairing a committee that recommended the abolition of the State scholarship examination enabling entry into high school after 7 rather than 8 years of primary schooling. He was knighted in 1964, coincidentally the year that this recommendation came into effect. The *Sir Herbert Watkin Cup* is awarded annually for Scholastic and Sporting ability.

**Arthur B Copeman mid-1952 - 1957** - A compassionate educationalist.

**Fredrick H R Cafferky 1958 -1960** - A philosophical educationalist.

**George W Lockie 1961 -1971**

During the ensuing "Lockie Years" the school underwent massive expansions, growing from 1091 students in 1961 to 2183 in 1967, due mainly to the introduction of Year 8 in 1964, as well as consolidating its reputation and being highly competitive in the sporting arena. Mr Lockie initiated the founding of the P and C Association in 1962. The *George Lockie Memorial Cup* is presented annually to the Dux of the school.

**Raymond F Fitzgerald 1972-1981**

Mr Fitzgerald had the unique distinction of being the first "old boy" to be appointed as the principal. He brought to the position a great affection for his old school and a great interest in all of its activities. Under his leadership the school enjoyed success in every field of endeavour and its reputation was enhanced Australia-wide. His greatest strength, however, was his relationship with staff, parents and most importantly with the students of the school.

**Colin R Mason 1981-1997**

Mr Mason oversaw the consolidation of the **State High** footprint via the acquisition of adjacent properties, that enabled the development of facilities over the next 25 years, as well as the development of the Fursden Road Sports Complex. Mr Mason had a significant impact on the technical aspects of the performing arts and the upgrading of facilities for specialist faculties. The *Colin Mason Trophy* is awarded annually for Citizenship.

**David F Sutton 1998-2008**

Under Mr Sutton's leadership, the school witnessed a revival in ceremony and tradition coupled with continual academic improvement. The first formal Graduation Ceremony was held in 1998 and the **State High Foundation** was initiated in 1999. The *David Sutton Award* is awarded annually. It celebrates the culmination of outstanding performance in all areas over the entirety of the recipient's time at the school.

**Richard Morrison 2009-2010**

Mr Morrison, reformed the selection process for academic-merit entrants, introduced the 'Aspire' program and led the re-branding of the school. Mr Morrison is currently Headmaster of Ipswich Grammar School.

**Wade Haynes 2011 to present**

With the introduction of Year 7 in 2016, the population soared to 3200 and the benefits of the 1990's acquisition program became obvious with the completion of a multi million dollar construction program. Mr Haynes promoted the concept of a **State High Community** and the academic performance reached unprecedented heights.

The school has benefited from the calibre of all principals who have added their particular expertise and character to the evolution of our alma mater. All principals have served as the Patron of the **BSHS PSA**.

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

**Charis Mullen (Naoumis)**, Class of 1991, Member for Jordan, was elected to the Queensland Legislative Assembly in 2017 and follows a long line of past students who have been elected to various levels of government, including:

<b>Chris Bombolas</b>	Class of 1978	<b>Fred Campbell</b>	Class of 1925
<b>Mal Colston</b>	Class of 1955	<b>Manfred Cross AM</b>	Class of 1946
<b>John (Jack) Dempsey</b>	Class of 1984	<b>George Georges</b>	Class of 1939
<b>Bill Hayden AC</b>	Class of 1949	<b>John (Jack) Houston</b>	Class of 1935
<b>Bill O’Chee</b>	Class of 1982	<b>Lin Powell</b>	Class of 1954
<b>Gualfi Scassola</b>	Class of 1958	<b>Lyle Schuntner</b>	Class of 1954
<b>Murray Watt</b>	School Captain 1989	<b>Jason Woodforth</b>	Class of 1984

**Amy MacMahon**, Class of 2003, is an aspiring candidate in the 2020 election for the seat of South Brisbane.

### ON THE AIRWAVES

**Neil Breen**, Class of 1985, is a multi-award-winning journalist who has been one of Channel Nine’s most senior sports reporters and presenters for a number of years. He had a distinguished career in newspapers during which he was editor of Australia’s largest selling newspaper, *The Sunday Telegraph* and sports editor of *The Courier Mail* and *The Australian*. Neil’s awards include a Walkley Award for Journalism in 2002, a Kennedy Awards “Scoop of the Year” in 2012 and “Outstanding Television News Reporting” in 2018 and an Australian Sports Commission Award for Excellence in Sports Journalism.

Neil has returned to Brisbane to host 4BC’s local breakfast program. Neil is a passionate supporter of **State High**, was the keynote speaker at the 2008 Graduation Ceremony and is on the **State High Legends** committee that is charged with the responsibility of nominating the Legends to be inducted in 2021.

### THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

**Sophie Beer (Blackhall-Cain)**, Class of 2007, surrendered a career in the law to pursue her childhood passion for books and colourful illustration. Sophie has been illustrating children’s books since 2015 and has a string of books to her illustrator’s portfolio. The latest is *Izzy and Frank* written by Katrina Lehman. Also a children’s author, Sophie’s publications include *Pup and Down*, *Arthur and the Tiger*, *Kindness Makes Us Strong*, *Alpha Pups!* and *Naughty Pups!*.

### VIRTUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

The recent 4MBS Virtual Festival of Classics celebrated Beethoven’s 250th anniversary. **Tahu Matheson**, Class of 1993, who is now head of music at Opera Australia, conducted the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra playing Beethoven’s *Symphony No. 9* in the virtual festival finale. The 9th Symphony with its theme of hope for the future of humanity was a timely message.

### PUBLICATIONS

The school museum that was the **BSHS PSA’s** gift to the school on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1996, collects and displays memorabilia that recalls **State High’s** history. Included in the museum’s collection are Centenary publications that document the history of Anglican Church Grammar School, Brisbane Grammar School, Ipswich Grammar School, St Joseph’s College, Toowoomba Grammar School and Sydney High School. These provide an insight into our fellow GPS associate schools and are a valuable resource.

**Lyn Hanlon (Stubbs)**, Class of 1978, published “*The Waddle Years – The History of BSHS 1921-1945*” in 2000. This thesis clearly unravelled the early years from the 1920’s to the 1940’s. Various articles published in **AMICUS** have dealt with the physical environment, the cultural heritage and sporting achievements for the benefit of past students. Similarly, the annual school magazine has tracked the physical, social, cultural and educational development of **State High** since 1921.

The publication of **State High’s** history in our centenary year is awaited with **HIGH** expectations.

**2020 REUNIONS**

The Classes of **1960, 1990, 2000** and **2010** are requested to contact the Registrar via [bshspsa@gmail.com](mailto:bshspsa@gmail.com) with information regarding your reunion. The **PSA** has prepared a checklist that is useful in planning your reunion and arranging publicity. The checklist is readily available from the Registrar.

**NOTE:** Due to the COVID19 restrictions the following reunions are tentative.

**CLASS of 1953 – 67 YEAR REUNION**

**Date:** Friday 4 September  
**Contact:** Alan Skyring  
**Venue:** “Sofitel Brisbane Central”  
**Email:** [alanskyring@gmail.com](mailto:alanskyring@gmail.com)

**CLASS of 1970 50 YEAR REUNION**

**Date:** Friday 16 October  
**Contact:** Cecily Blake (Welsh)  
**Venue:** “The Ship Inn”  
**Email:** [bshs1970reunion@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bshs1970reunion@yahoo.com.au)

**CLASS of 1980 40 YEAR REUNION**

**Date:** Saturday 12 September  
**Contact:** Rona Zorzetto (Yaxley)  
**Venue:** Darling and Co Paddington  
**Email:** [mezoretto@bigpond.com](mailto:mezoretto@bigpond.com)

**2019 - 40 YEAR REUNION - CLASS of 1979 by Beverley Tavio (Thompson)**

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019, the Class of 1979 held its 40 year reunion. In terms of numbers, this was the largest reunion yet for our group, with 147 classmates gathering together at Brisbane’s Port Office Hotel. Initial planning began on a Thursday night in April, when a discussion about a reunion event was started by a small Facebook group of 8 people. By the weekend, the chat group had grown exponentially to almost 80 people!

Our initial goal was to track down as many of the class of 1979 as possible, especially those with whom there had been little or no contact since leaving school. Accordingly, a good deal of time and effort was spent by lots of enthusiastic helpers, exhausting all possible avenues to find ‘missing’ people. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is paradoxically, both easier and more challenging to track down classmates. Social media makes light work of reconnecting with friends – even if at times during the hunt, accidental connections were made with the ‘wrong’ Brad or Debbie. But in a cohort of people, now in their 50s, not all are active users of social media, and therein lay the challenge: how do you find people scattered far afield, over a 40 year period? A simple Google search turned up a few extra people (and I would encourage anyone playing detective, to go beyond the first search page results!). Even the White pages were not obsolete. As we got down to the line, the best clues came from the class members themselves, who were pressed for any information, no matter how trivial, that might help to track down elusive classmates. And so it was that sporting clubs, the workplaces of the nephew of a classmate and the electoral roll, were all conscripted into the search. We didn’t find everyone, but we now have a data base very much larger and more complete than the one with which we started.

The event itself was hugely successful and did not disappoint on any level. People came from the USA, the UK, Hong Kong and Myanmar as well as from interstate. The noise of animated conversations almost drowned out the fabulous live music – from guitarist Peter Cupples (of iconic 70s band, Stylus). The food was fantastic and included two fabulous celebratory cakes. There was a photo booth which provided a great opportunity to capture memories from the night (and maybe channel that inner teenager). Revellers stayed on talking and dancing into the wee hours (long after the midnight official finish time – how nice were the staff at The Port Office for letting us stay?) and many people backed up the following day to attend a ‘recovery’ event at ‘Fridays’, Riverside. The entire weekend was everything we hoped it would be – and in unexpected ways, so much more than we’d ever anticipated. And this close-knit group of newly connected former **BSHS** students intend to not wait another 10 years to see each other again.

**2019 - 10 YEAR REUNION - CLASS OF 2009 by Gopi Ravindran**

The Class of 2009 was excited to see a large turnout to the Osbourne Hotel. In total, 95 **State High** Alumni attended - almost a quarter of the graduating class. People flew from as far as Melbourne or/and the Northern Territory. Those who weren’t able to attend sent messages from countries including England, France and the USA. Predictably, almost everyone at the event wished we had name tags on as everyone struggled to recognise each other until old high school nicknames were dusted off and brought back into life. This 10 year reunion reminded us how much time had passed since we graduated - and how little we had changed. Looking forward, the Class of 2009 is keen to participate in a 15 year reunion as that way we can have something else to talk about other than 'What do you do?' (10 year reunion) and 'How old are your children?' (20 year reunion).

## Brisbane State High School Past Students' Association

**BSHS PSA General Meetings** will be held at 9.00 am on Saturday **8th August** and **7th November** 2020 in the school museum in the Assembly / Sports Hall, Block "F" on the Vulture Campus.

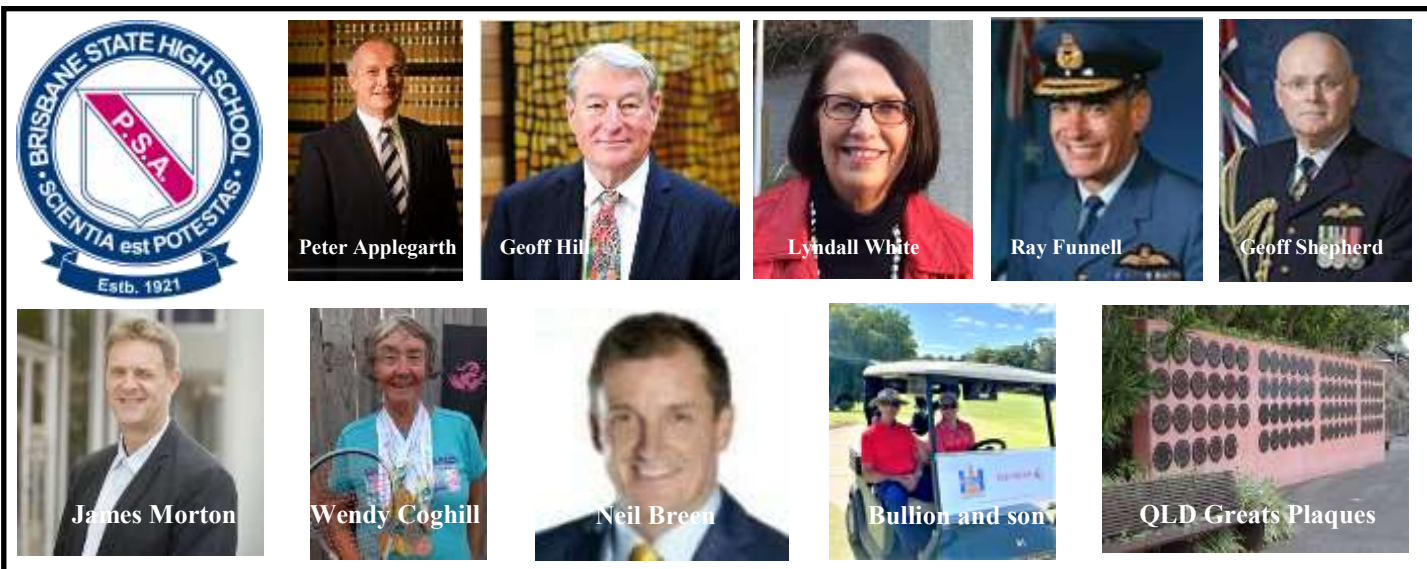
All past students are invited to attend these important meetings to provide input to their association.

**NOTE:** Due to the COVID19 restrictions the meeting dates are tentative.

### VALE

The **BSHS PSA** records with regret the passing of the following past students and extends its condolences to their family and friends.

<b>Gregory John Beacroft</b>	1970-1973	<b>Allen Leslie Ronald Crisp</b>	Class of 1957
<b>Allan Leon Maurice Doobov</b>	Class of 1959	<b>Alan Leslie Duus</b>	Class of 1963
<b>Ronald Michael Feenaghty</b>	Junior 1947	<b>David John Fergus Nickols</b>	Class of 1959
<b>Jocelyn O'Neill (Joyce)</b>	Class of 1956	<b>Alexander Bindon Stoney</b>	Class of 1950
<b>Cornelis Toonen</b>	Class of 1967		



**BSHS PSA** Corner Cordelia and Glenelg Streets, South Brisbane, QLD 4101 Email: [bshspsa@gmail.com](mailto:bshspsa@gmail.com)

### THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

**Major General Douglas (Tim) Vincent, CB, AM, OBE**, Class of 1934, was a senior officer in the Australian Army, seeing active service during the Second World War and the Vietnam War. Graduating from the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1938 into the Signals Corps, he volunteered for service in the Second Australian Imperial Force soon after the outbreak of the Second World War and served in Syria, Western Europe and Borneo. Later, he served as Commander Australian Force Vietnam (COMAFV) during the Vietnam War. After a number of senior staff positions he retired in 1973. He was actively involved in defence issues in his retirement and served as a chairperson of the Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL).

**Air Marshal Raymond George Funnell, AC**, Class of 1952 and **State High Legend** is a retired senior commander of the Royal Australian Air Force. He served as Chief of the Air Staff from 1987 until 1992. A graduate of RAAF College, he began his career flying CAC Sabre jet fighters in Australia and South East Asia in the 1950s and 1960s. Other awards: Commander of the Legion of Merit (USA)

**Air Marshal Geoffrey David Shepherd AO**, Class of 1969, is a retired senior officer in the Royal Australian Air Force, who served as Chief of Air Force from 2005 until 2008. Air Commodore Shepherd was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 2000 Honours List and in 2006 he was elevated to Officer of the Order of Australia. Other awards: Commander of the Legion of Merit (USA), Meritorious Service Medal (Singapore) and Commander of the National Order of Merit (France)