

Rostrevor's Heritage



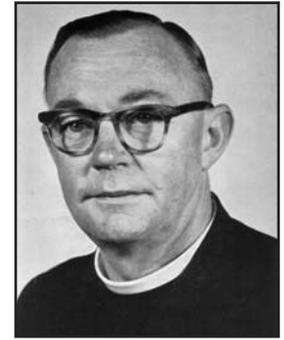
*From the 1923 Annual:
Br David Gabriel Purton*



*From the 1939 Annual:
Br Ignatius Leonard Mackey*



*From the 1966 Annual:
Br Charles Alphonsus Mogg OBE*



*From the 1966 Annual:
Br Justin Linus Kelty*

The naming of the Br Brian Clery Skills Centre adds to the list of buildings and facilities named after Christian Brothers or people who have served the College well over many years. It is timely to reflect on those people and the roles they had in the development of the Rostrevor we know today.

Possibly the first building named to honour a Christian Brother was the Purton Hall in 1970. **Br David Gabriel Purton** was the founding Headmaster of Rostrevor in 1923. After that initial year, ill health saw him move interstate and upon recovery he served at Nudgee, Ballarat and St Kevin's. He died aged 66 in 1948 in his 51st year as a Christian Brother and in Rostrevor's 25th year. 'Purt' was born in St Bathans, New Zealand in 1883 and went to study with the Brothers at the age of thirteen. He was a scholar, an excellent teacher and a visionary.

By the late 1970s the Senior classrooms built in the era of Br Mackey (1933-38) became known as the Mackey Wing but precisely when the building assumed the name is obscure (informed opinion on this is welcome).

Br Ignatius Leonard Mackey is sometimes called the 'second founder of Rostrevor' because of his guidance during the Great Depression. In 1933 the school was considered for closing due to waning enrolments and burgeoning debt but through the work of Br Mackey and the Ladies'

Committee, funds were raised which facilitated the development of the first purpose built classrooms (7 classrooms and 2 science laboratories). The rooms accommodated the entire school (between 400 and 500 students) until the building of some Junior School classrooms in the late 1950s.

Br Mackey is also well remembered for his generous donation of the funds to build the Chapel. Rostrevor had a purpose built, if not temporary, Chapel in 1923 which later became classrooms and then the Theatre. It was demolished in 1998 to make way for the new Admin Wing.

In 1937 the Province offered Rostrevor £5,000 for the building of a new Chapel. It is not evident in College records if this money was forthcoming but the 1939 Annual thanks Br Mackey for his generous donation of a bequest from his father for the purpose of building the Chapel. The building and its fit out cost in the vicinity of £6,600 of which donations were received from parents and friends totalling £1,175.

In 1972 Br Walter Hall presided over the building of the federally funded Library which was later named the Ivor Davis Memorial Library. **Ivor Davis** joined the Rostrevor staff as the first permanent lay person in 1956 and when the library was completed he became the Librarian for the secondary school. He died suddenly in 1975. In 1979, Br John Marks named the library

in his memory. With the wholesale re-development of the building in 1998, the new building undertook a name change and became known as the Rostrevor College Resource Centre incorporating the Ivor Davis Memorial Library. The original Ivor Davis Memorial Library plaque now resides just inside the new building.

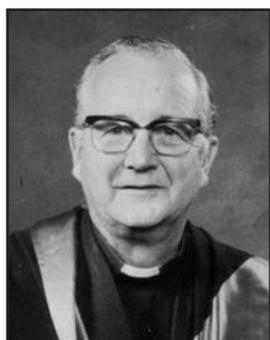
In 1975, under the Headmastership of Br John Bourke, the federally funded Mogg Wing was opened. **Br Charles Alphonsus Mogg** was on the staff from 1937 to 1942 as a teacher then as Headmaster in 1943-45 and again as Headmaster in 1950-55. Br Mogg's influence on Rostrevor is legendary. He was an outstanding entrepreneur and a man of great pomp and ceremony. He was awarded the OBE in 1956 'for services to education in South Australia.' Br Mogg was a great fundraiser and he continually was able to raise the profile of Rostrevor College in the wider community. While no great building projects were undertaken during his tenures, the fabric of the College as a school for young Catholic men was continually reinforced. Br Mogg's skills as an entrepreneur are evident in the numerous religious icons gracing the College grounds, most of which were solicited as gifts to the College during his tenure.

During the Br Bourke era, funds were also raised for a new pool to replace the original 1929 facility. To honour Br

Bourke's commitment to Rostrevor over 50 years and his work on raising funds for the new pool the Parents' and Friends' fittingly named it the **Br JV Bourke Pool**. Br Bourke attended Rostrevor College in 1927. He returned as a teacher in the 40s and 50s and as Headmaster 1974-76. In that time he presided over the building of the Mogg Labs. Upon retiring from teaching in the 1980s he set about writing the history of the first 50 years of Rostrevor College - 'The Rostrevor Story'. He continued to be very close to the College up to his death in July 2006 at age 93.

During the Headmastership of Br John Marks the Kelty Theatre was commenced and completed under the Headmastership of Br Kevin McMaster in 1985. **Br Justin Linus Kelty** was Headmaster at Rostrevor from 1956 until 1961. When he commenced the school population was 440 students, 9 Brothers and one lay staff. When he left there were 600 students and 18 staff. Work began on the Rice Wing in the form of two downstairs Junior School classrooms in 1958 as well as a Dining Room to accommodate 200 boarders. In 1959 the Rice Wing proper was commenced incorporating two upstairs dormitories and downstairs classrooms as well as the Tuck Shop. Br Kelty's Headmastership raised the bar for academic success and many of Adelaide's leading professional men were products of this era. In 1966 he

Rostrevor's Heritage



*From the 1976 Annual:
Br John Vianney Bourke*



*From the 1966 Annual:
Br H S Gurr*



*From the 1983 Annual:
Matron Monica Duggan*



*From the 1986 Annual:
Mrs Mary Fountain*

was appointed Provincial Leader for St Patrick's Province. He died in April 2002.

In 1987, under the Headmastership of Br Kevin McMaster, the Junior School Library and General Purpose Room were built. The building was named the Gurr Building after **Br H S (Hec) Gurr**. Br Gurr came to Rostrevor in 1925 and stayed for 27 years. He was an excellent teacher and over those years taught composite classes of Years Three, Four and Five. He was the Junior Dormitory Master over those years as well as the very successful coach of the Under Thirteen A Cricket and Football teams. Br Gurr loved music and was the conductor of the Chapel Choir and the Junior Choir. At the end of 1951 he was transferred to Sydney. No Brother in the history of the school was to have such a long association with Rostrevor. He died in 1965 at the age of 64.

With the closing of Boarding in 1984, the dormitories were quickly converted to classrooms and the College population swelled to 900. The closing of the Boarding School was challenged all the way by Rostrevor connections but the Province deemed it necessary in the interests of financial expediency. A groundswell of old scholar opinion supported by Rostrevor Christian Brothers, eventually saw boarding reinstated in 1990 and a work program commenced to build a new boarding

facility. In 1991 the building was officially opened and in 1992 a naming ceremony was conducted to name the facility Duggan House after and in the presence of **Matron Monica Duggan**. Matron Duggan served as Matron to the Boarding House from 1949 for a period of 35 years. In that time she cared for over 5,000 Rostrevor boarders as well as the Christian Brother staff that passed through the College. For many years Matron and husband Patrick lived in an upstairs room in Rostrevor House (currently a meeting room) while son Kevin joined the Boarding House. Later the Brothers purchased a house for them on Morialta Rd. The naming of Duggan House summarises the esteem in which she was held as a result of her contributions to Rostrevor and the Edmund Rice ethos. Monica Duggan died at the age of 90 in September 2002.

When Boarding was closed in 1984, the Senior Dormitory, originally opened in 1941 at a cost of £5,300 was gradually subsumed by the Music Faculty. In 2000 it received a \$500,000 upgrade, most of the expense being the rebuilding of the roof which was found to be under-built after the repairs to the building from the 1972 Dormitory fire. So what was planned to be a \$90,000 makeover ballooned into a \$500,000 re-roofing project. The Rostrevor Foundation was called upon at short notice to finance the project and it was completed towards the end of 2000. In

2001, the Christian Brothers chose to name the refurbished Music Building the Mary Fountain Music Centre after long-serving Music teacher **Mrs Mary Fountain**.

Mary Fountain (nee Carey) served the Christian Brothers at Rostrevor for 65 years from 1936. In the early years she was accompanist to the Choir and over the years her role grew to include piano instructor. Mary worked for 50 years as accompanist to the College in an unpaid capacity. It was only after the death of her husband Pat that she began her time as a paid piano teacher while continuing in her voluntary role as accompanist to the Chapel Choir, Whole School Choir and the College musicals. Mary's eldest son, Fr Peter Fountain graduated from Rostrevor in the early 60s and she has three other children, Mary-Therese, Julian and John.

Mary continues to be a great supporter of the College and was present at the Christian Brother celebration at the Convention Centre in August last year.

It is difficult to quantify such devotion to a school and to the Brothers but Mary's direct involvement with the school over those 65 years has mirrored the history of the College. She was the accompanist at the first wedding in the Chapel in 1939 and worked closely with Br Gurr in the 1930s and 40s. She worked with Bros. McCabe, Greening, Tobin, Shacklock, Moylan, Gibbons and

Hackett on musicals and whole school choir performances for Speech Nights.

The Rostrevor Pavilion was opened in 1996 under the Headmastership of Br Dean McGlaughlin. The \$1million project was funded by a loan and a fundraising drive heavily supported by the old scholars. In 2000 a changeroom in the building was named the Br John Moylan Changeroom.

In 1950 **Br John Moylan** joined the Christian Brothers from the Brothers' school at Ovingham. After stints in Melbourne and Collie WA, he joined the staff at Rostrevor in 1965 to 1971 and again from 1974 to 1984.

The role of the Christian Brother in a boarding school is far reaching and Brother taught a range of subjects, coached football, cricket and swimming, managed a dormitory, ran the Tuckshop, conducted the choir, was bursar, managed the picture theatre and coordinated debating and public speaking. In his holidays he would travel to country South Australia visiting boarding families and prospective enrolments.

However, he is most remembered for an unparalleled, to that point in time, period of success for the 1st XVIII Football team. In the five year period of 1978 to 1982 Rostrevor lost only 4 matches and during his tenure as coach defeated Sacred Heart seven out of ten games. His teams were State Champions three years in a row.

Rostrevor's Heritage

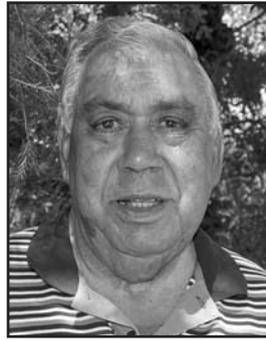


Br John Moylan, 2007

In the year of his Golden Jubilee, 2000, (50 years as a Christian Brother), the Rostrevor Old Collegians' Inc. established an Appeal to name the 1st XVIII changeroom in the new Pavilion the Br John Moylan Changeroom. The Appeal raised \$40,000 and the Naming Ceremony was conducted in May 2000. Brother Moylan continues to be close to the College when not working as a Chaplain in France.

The year 2000 was an era when the wider community was informed and educated on a number of issues relating to the traditional custodians of this land. It was in that year that Mr Howard refused to apologise on behalf of the nation for the Stolen Generation and the Reconciliation Movement was active in a number of ways most notably the Harbour Bridge walk and subsequent walks of support around the nation.

It was in this climate that the Director of Development at Rostrevor, Mr Andrew Robertson, had a chance meeting with Elkin Reilly who was visiting the College with friend and fellow old scholar Ted Buckler. As Elkin was a boarder from Minlaton in the 1950s, Andrew had assumed he was a YP Narrunga man but after some discussion it was revealed that Elkin was born at Lake Nash Qld. and is of the Alyawarra clan. He was taken from his mother in 1938 and delivered to the Alice Springs hospital. It was here that



Elkin Reilly, 2007

he was deemed too ill to join the other children taken from their families and the doctor on duty that night offered to care for him. Elkin was fostered by Dr Pat and Betty Reilly, a loving couple, who went on to have children of their own.

The 'Reconciliation' climate at the time and Elkin's circumstances as a well known Rostrevor Old Collegian and national sporting identity provided a story that could be used to underpin an educational program and a fundraising appeal within the Rostrevor Community. In the same year but earlier, old scholar Richard Ryan came forward to offer his support for an indigenous boy to attend Rostrevor and a scholarship for one boy from the NT was put in place.

Elkin graciously consented to put his name to an appeal to raise funds for Indigenous Scholarships and the Christian Brothers approved the naming of the Old Collegians' Changeroom in the Pavilion, 'The Elkin Reilly Room', as a permanent reminder of Rostrevor's commitment to Reconciliation. Since that time the Appeal has raised over \$200,000 and the school has accommodated over 30 indigenous boys. Installed in the room are Honour Boards acknowledging the hundreds of donors to the Appeal. In 2006, 5 Indigenous boys graduated Year 12 at Rostrevor College. Mr Richard Ryan AO continues to be an interested



Br Dean McGlaughlin, 2007

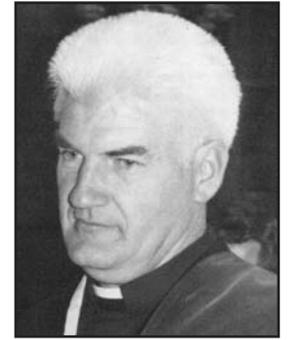
and generous benefactor to Rostrevor's commitment to Indigenous Scholarships and Bursaries.

In 2006, under the Headmastership of Mr Jeff Croser, the new Science and Technology Discovery centre was completed. The Science Centre was named the Br Dean McGlaughlin Science Discovery Centre and the Technology Centre was named the Br John Marks Technology Discovery Centre.

Br P D (Dean) McGlaughlin first worked at Rostrevor from 1976 - 1982. He returned as Headmaster from 1992 - 2002.

During his tenure as Headmaster, in conjunction with the Rostrevor Board, a building and facility Master Plan was conceived which heralded unprecedented capital development at Rostrevor College.

In 1996 the Pavilion was completed, in 1998 the Administration and Student Services Wing, the Resource Centre and the Computer Centre, in 2000 the re-development of the Junior School and in 2001 the re-development of the Mary Fountain Music Centre. Planning for the Science and Technology Discovery Centre was at the concept stage when he transferred to the Christian Brother Provincial Leadership Team as Executive Officer of the National Governance Group and he is currently Deputy of the new Edmund Rice entity, Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA).



*From the 1984 Annual:
Br John Marks*

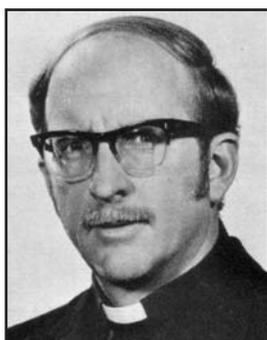
Br John Patrick Marks graduated from Rostrevor College in 1952 as Head Prefect and Dux. He returned to Rostrevor as Headmaster, 1977 - 1984.

During his tenure as Headmaster he presided over the construction of The Manual Arts Centre. Later it became known as the Design and Technology Centre. Other developments during his Headmastership include the Language Lab (upstairs Rice Wing), the Art Rooms (upstairs Rice Wing), the Kelty Theatre, extensions to Purton Hall, and the Chapel restorations of 1983. His association with Rostrevor continued in the early 2000s as the Province Leadership Team representative on the Rostrevor College Board.

Three laboratories in the new Science facility are named after former Rostrevor Science teachers. Br John Bourke, whose profile has already been expanded in relation to the **Br John Bourke Pool**. The naming of the laboratory was funded by the Franzon and Lewis families. The second is **Br Trevor Gibbons** who worked at Rostrevor College over two periods: 1968-1974 and 1983-1985. He predominantly taught in the field of Science over those years.

During his years at Rostrevor he was a Senior Dormitory Master, Athletics Coach, Swimming Coach, Coordinator of the College Brass Band and Orchestra, conductor of the Massed Choir and Leader of many

Rostrevor's Heritage



From the 1974 Annual:
Br Trevor Gibbons



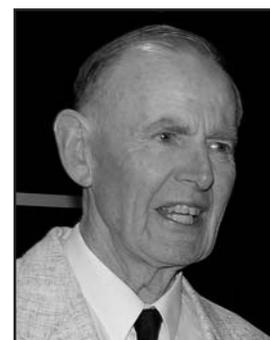
Mary Meredith, 2003



John Evans, 2007



Bob Pridham, 2003



Br Brian Clery, 2007

student/parent Expeditions to the Outback. In 1974 he was Deputy Headmaster to Br John Bourke.

Since 1985 he has worked in Aboriginal education in WA, in Sudan in Africa as a teacher and recently in Papua-New Guinea as Senior Science teacher at the Jubilee Catholic Secondary School in Pt Moresby. He will soon be undertaking a study sabbatical to the USA. The naming of the laboratory was financed by Gerard McCabe of Gerard McCabe jewellers, an ex-student of Br Gibbons in the early 70s.

The third is the Mary Meredith Laboratory. Mrs Mary Meredith was on the Staff at Rostrevor for 29 years. Mary commenced her employment at Rostrevor in 1975 as a Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics teacher.

At the time of commencing at Rostrevor, Mary was the only female classroom teacher on Staff. In 1977 she began her long and celebrated career as a teacher of Biology to Rostrevor boys. In 1987 she was appointed Year 11 Coordinator and in 1991 Year 12 Coordinator. In 1998 she was appointed Head of Murphy House. In 2002 Mary was appointed Acting Head of Senior School.

In October 2002 Mary was diagnosed with cancer and, sadly, she passed away in December 2004. The naming of the Laboratory was conceived by the Staff of Rostrevor College as a tribute to Mary's long devotion to Rostrevor and the boys in her care.

The foyers in each of the buildings were named after significant contributors to Rostrevor College. The Science and Technology Foyer was named the L R Pridham Foyer. The plaque in the foyer reads:

This foyer has been named in recognition of the contribution of Lancelot Robert (Bob) Pridham to Rostrevor College.

Bob Pridham was born in Lochiel, South Australia on 2-11-1926. He attended Rostrevor College as a boarder from 1940 to 1943. Bob was a both a fine scholar and sportsman. In his final year at Rostrevor he completed Leaving Honours and served as a Prefect.

In 1947, Bob was awarded a First Class Honours Degree in Science by the University of Adelaide.

Bob married Marie Carroll in the College Chapel in 1953. They had five children, Helen, David, Mary, Richard and Andrew.

David attended Rostrevor College in 1973, Richard from 1973 to 78 and Andrew from 1974 to 1983.

The Technology Discovery Centre Foyer was named the Evans Family Foyer. The plaque in the foyer reads: *The Rostrevor College Board acknowledges the generosity shown to Rostrevor by John Evans and his family with the naming of this Foyer.*

John Evans graduated from Rostrevor in 1950, married Joan and had four

children: Andrew, Stephen, Louise and Michael (deceased).

John Evans served on the inaugural Board of the Rostrevor Foundation in 1987 and later as Treasurer. John and Stephen are Directors of the Rostrevor Foundation.

Andrew graduated in 1974 and his son Matthew is currently in Year 10. Stephen graduated in 1977 and his first son Thomas graduated in 2003. Samuel is currently in Year 8. Louise's son, Ben Wells, graduated in 2004.

The Senior Science building opened in 1966 was refurbished in 2006 to become the Br Brian Clery Skills Centre. Text from the plaque unveiled by Br Clery:

'Br Brian Clery was on the staff at Rostrevor College from 1964 to 1969. During his six years at the College he made a great contribution in all aspects of school life: in teaching, as a dormitory master, on the sports field and in the Cadet Unit.

He is one of the most popular Brothers to have passed through Rostrevor and will be long remembered by many past pupils

Upon leaving Rostrevor, Br Clery worked at Clontarf Boys Home, Perth, Trinity College, Perth, as Principal at the Aboriginal College, Broome, and at Aquinas College, Perth.

In 1998 he was awarded a National Excellence in Teaching Award for "his

career contribution to innovation and excellence in teaching". Br Clery continues to work at Aquinas College where he coordinates the Year 8 to Year 12 Retreat program. He has developed the Senior School Retreats to explore boyhood to manhood Christian rite of passage. The participants are challenged to work outside of their comfort zone, and in so doing, develop their male spiritual dimension.'

Projects on the drawing board at Rostrevor over the next few years include additional Middle School classrooms, an upgrade of the Purton Hall and possible development of hospitality and catering facilities in the Pavilion. The College looks to the school community to help finance all development projects at Rostrevor. The Rostrevor Foundation raises in the vicinity of \$300,000 annually made up of regular donations from parents, major gifts from old scholars, marketing of the College's resources during the holiday breaks and annual fundraisers such as the Waseda University High School visit and the Spring Fair. Total Foundation assets as reported at the Foundation AGM on November 29th were \$3.3 million. Two thirds of this amount is not able to be drawn upon by the College at this point in time as it represents the 'corpus' of the Building Fund and the underwriting of College loans.