



# St Scholastica's College Ex-Students Union 2016

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ex-Students,

It is so wonderful to see the students of St Scholastica's continue to achieve amazing results not only in the HSC but in other fields during their time at Schols. This year we congratulate and are honoured to provide some financial support to a Year 10 student, Priscilla Kyei, who was selected to attend the UN Youth Australia's Pacific Project 2016. Only 12 students from across the country were selected for this trip, giving them the opportunity to work on development projects, teach in schools, visit government officials and engage with Australia's role in the Pacific region. The selection process was long and rigorous and Priscilla is a worthy representative of our country and St Scholastica's. It will be very interesting to hear from Priscilla at our Annual General Reunion this year.

Due to our Ex-Students' generous response to our request to focus our fund raising on the education of young girls in the Good Samaritan tradition, we have been able to increase our bursary to the daughter of an Ex-Student at the College and our contribution to the Good Samaritan Foundation (Education) Fund for which we thank you. Please keep up your generous donations especially as the cost of education is increasing rapidly.



In this Newsletter, you will read about the sad loss of three of our well known Sisters, Justin Simonds, Marilyn Kelleher and Mary Ronayne (M de Lourdes). I am sure they all held a special place in the hearts of many of our ex-students. Sr Marilyn was also known to many of the current students who sang during her funeral Mass. The College Orchestra played and the students formed a guard of honour along Arcadia Road. It was a huge celebration of her life.

Last year's 92nd anniversary reunion was a great success. The Mass in our beautiful Chapel was celebrated by Fr. Paul Coleman SJ with singing led by Jo Kenderes (Catling), ending with the College song "In the Spirit of St Scholastica" which is now our tradition. After Mass we headed to the Trixie Forest Centre where we enjoyed a glass of champagne and a light luncheon. There was much catching up all afternoon especially with the Class of 1955

celebrating its 60 year reunion. Unfortunately, Sr Lia was unable to open the archives due to the renovations at Toxteth House but this year the archives will re-open after our luncheon.

I am sure you were delighted to meet our new Principal, Kate Rayment, who gave her first address to us and we look forward to meeting her again this year and having a long association with her. I am sure she has exciting plans for the future of St Scholastica's.

May God bless the wonderful Sisters of the Good Samaritan, the College community and all past and present students.

**Karen Debenham (Gillespie '67) President**



*Karen Debenham (centre) with Carolyn Walker, Executive Assistant to Kate Rayment, and Neda Jurukovski, (mother of Bianca Year 12 and Isabelle 2015 College Dux), at the 2016 St Scholastica's Day Mass at St Mary's Cathedral.*

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**St Scholastica's College (Schols)**



**Ex-students Committee 2016:**

Vice President	Maureen McCluskie
Treasurer	Vacant (currently Karen Debenham)
Secretary	Anne Wells
Registrar	Vacant (currently Anne Wells)
Newsletter Editor	Christine Volk (Smith)
Committee	Susan Bastick, Cheryl Fraser, Katrina Fuller, Maria Fuller, Clare Hamilton, Christina James, Jo Kenderes, Trish MacRae, Veronica McCluskie sgs, Win McCluskie, Ellen McKenzie, Rose Paton, Lizzy Phillips, Rae Wales, Anne Whiting, Carmel Vanny.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

It is a privilege to write on behalf of Kate Rayment for the Ex-Students' Union this year. Kate is currently in Rome attending the BENET Conference and is then leading, alongside Tom Galea from Rosebank College, the Australian Good Samaritan Principals' Conference in Rome.

In Kate's absence, I thought a good way to start would be with a snippet from her end of 2015 Newsletter summation:

*2015 has been a period of listening and observing for the Executive. Feedback from analyses and a whole school perception survey provided rich data to inform school improvement during 2015 and will continue into 2016 and beyond. Developments in 2015 primarily targeted compliance, policy and procedures (especially related to anti-bullying, mental health support and emergency/critical incident management), increased transparency and improved accountability structures, and academic performance data analysis. Significant effort has also been directed towards reviewing the College Masterplan to ensure a high quality learning environment long into the future. During 2016 emphasis will be placed on strategic planning to*

*ensure clear movement towards our vision of being the best school in Australia.*

I currently hold the position of Assistant Principal for Pastoral Care and Wellbeing, and I have been a member of the Schols community since 2000, in fact, recent ex-students might remember me as a History, Aboriginal Studies and English teacher. I was also fortunate enough to be a Guidance Coordinator for the graduating class of 2006, and more recently a Faculty Coordinator from 2006 to 2014.

Within life each day at the College, we work to support all the students' development through our pastoral programs. Across 2015 and 2016 there has been a focus on cyber safety and being positive cyber citizens. The College is now a BYOD (bring your own device) environment where students bring their own laptop for use in classes. To assist the students in their developments of good habits, this year has seen the successful roll out of the "phones away" policy, providing girls with the freedom to learn and interact with their peers without the distraction of non-learning technology. This policy follows on from the 2015 strategy to remove iPads and laptops from the school gardens during breaks at recess and lunch which again creates different opportunities for socialising without technology.

It is an exciting time to be a teacher and a student as we navigate the opportunities presented through technological advances.

Our pastoral work has included developing strategies with the students for the promotion of mental health, and to support those who are facing the challenges of mental illness. This is ongoing work, and connects with the dedicated work of all the staff who support students during particularly challenging times.

Within the College community, work continues for the care of Aboriginal and other Indigenous students in both the day and boarding school worlds. A consultative committee is currently being formed by Kate Rayment bringing parents and staff together to work collaboratively in support of the students. Recent ex-students would remember the Yapa Mala dance group who presented both traditional Australian

Aboriginal and contemporary dance during College events. In 2015 the Yapa Mala students decided to re-name the group and it is now called Miyaymiyaay, (MIN-ya-ME-yaar) which is a Kamilaroi word meaning 'little sister'. I think the name captures something of the critical role played by the group in gathering up and nurturing our students into a community often a long way from home. The students felt that whilst there has been a strong connection to the name Yapa Mala, moving to Kamilaroi language was providing a direct language representation of many students, whilst still being welcoming of all students. The girls work with guidance from Ms Kerry Johnson who is at the College each week during term. A recent opportunity for our Aboriginal and other Indigenous students to join the Aboriginal student branch of the Gondwana Choir has also been eagerly taken up with great enthusiasm.

This year we welcomed Ms Nadia Mansutti into the role of Head of Boarding. Nadia brings a wealth of Boarding School experience and has settled in quickly, working with the Boarding School team to continue the tradition of hospitality and care from the tenure of Annie Barnett who finished at the end of 2015.

Schols girls continue to take on a broad range of extra-curricular activities, including multiple sports, dance, many musical events, and public speaking and debating. In 2015 our Year 9 students working with Ms Jayne McNeill, became College representatives in the Girls' Schools Alliance, working regularly with students from girls' schools across Sydney on developing an understanding of and raising awareness of complex social issues prevalent in Australia.



It was a pleasure to have an ex-student, Professor Denise Brix-Nielsen (Guterres) ('88) as our guest speaker at the 2015 Speech Night. Professor Brix-Nielsen spoke to the girls with great enthusiasm about the choices and opportunities life can

present, and the associated work and passion that has shaped her career path.

Our Aboriginal Studies class had the privilege earlier this year of spending time with another ex-student, Rarriwuy Hick, whose success in film, television and stage has captured the imagination of many of our students. We are grateful to these ex-students for sharing their experience and time with us.



My best wishes to all our ex-students for the year ahead.

**Dr Jen Petschler**

Assistant Principal (Pastoral Care and Wellbeing)

## **GOOD SAMARITAN FOUNDATION**

The Good Samaritan Foundation brings together people and resources to support works and initiatives of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, or Good Sams. Good Sams assist the needy in communities across Australia and the Pacific, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees and asylum seekers, women and their children who are homeless or escaping domestic violence, women subjected to human trafficking and more. Good Sams rely on generous community support to provide these services. We would welcome your contribution, no matter how large or small.

Follow the Good Sam Foundation on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/goodsamsfoundationAus>

Go to <http://goodsamsfoundation.org.au/good-sams/> to learn more about the great work of the Good Sams Foundation.

*If you are interested in supporting the work of the Foundation, would like to organise a fundraiser, make a donation or have other ideas for support, please contact Catherine Cresswell on phone: (02) 87525313 or email:*

[ccresswell@goodsams.org.au](mailto:ccresswell@goodsams.org.au)



## **Good Sams feature in documentary**

A new short film capturing the contemporary life and mission of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan was launched late last year as part of celebrations for the Feast of St Benedict.

Drawing on interviews with 12 Good Samaritan Sisters from different age groups, cultures and ministries, the 15-minute film, "A Consecrated Life", focuses on the passion for religious life that exists today among the order's 200-plus members.

Congregational Leader Sister Clare Condon said the film's focus was inspired by Pope Francis' call to religious women and men of the world "to live the present with passion, to be open to the challenge of the Gospel."

The creative team behind the film's production consisted of Hugh Clark, a Sydney-based filmmaker, Catherine Cresswell, Executive Director of the Good Samaritan Foundation, and Mary Robinson, Executive Assistant to Sister Clare.

Shorter, cut down segments from the film have also been made available as a resource for schools and supporters. These focus on the inspiration of the parable of the Good Samaritan and the Sisters' ministries.

The Good Samaritan Sisters featured in the film are Sisters Elizabeth Brennan, Mary Constable, Leonie Duenas, Judith Foster, Meg Kahler, Colleen Leonard, Marie McMahan, Eiko Mukae, Sarah Puls, Tuata Terawete, Juniko Toaua and Elizabeth Wiemers.

"A Consecrated Life" can be downloaded online at [www.vimeo.com/132913795](http://www.vimeo.com/132913795)

## ACU student wins Good Sams Prize



**Sister Veronica McCluskie**, on behalf of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, presented the 2015 Sisters of the Good Samaritan Prize for Commitment to Social Justice to **Erin Looby** at the Strathfield Campus of Australian Catholic University (ACU). Erin is currently undertaking a Master of Teaching (Primary) at ACU.

The prize, which is sponsored by the Good Samaritan Sisters, recognises students who have “shown a strong commitment to social justice in the area of inclusion, reflecting the charism of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in social justice and its commitment to the provision of pastoral care and education of persons with disabilities”.

## Polding Villa to be demolished

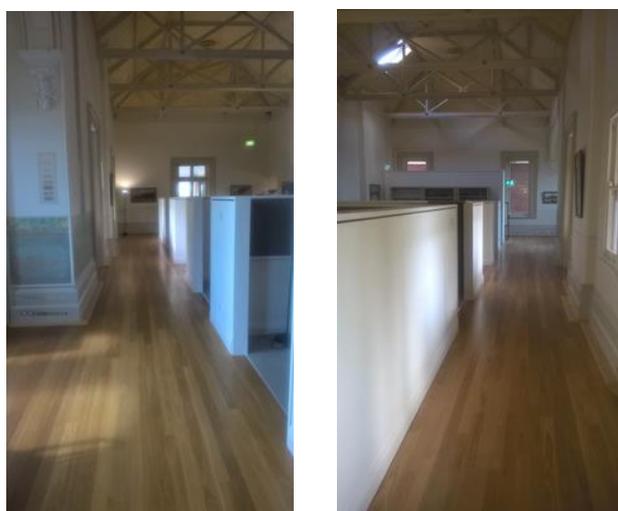
Polding Villa as we know it is ready for demolition! This will happen soon. Once the ground has been cleared, building will take place for a new residential building for the Sisters of the Good Samaritan which is more in line with the heritage streetscape. The new building will consist of 3 units (able to house four sisters in each) along with two individual units. Included in the whole will be a small chapel and a common kitchen and dining area. The units will have a common wide corridor that links all the units. All units will be fully set up with bedrooms, kitchen and lounge/dining area. These units will have some sisters living there but there will be space for visiting sisters from interstate and/or overseas.

## Toxteth House Renovations

Remember this? The Boarders' dorm:



It's now looking like this:



Late last year, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan Congregational Offices were relocated from the grounds of Rosebank College, Five Dock, to the historic Toxteth House.

The House has been sympathetically renovated, in line with heritage requirements. The old ballroom has been opened up and converted into offices for finance and resources staff. The ballroom's stunning 10m + high ceiling has been revealed, creating a light filled space that looks out over the gardens.

Floors have been polished, walls painted and new carpet laid. In the process of sanding the walls, layers of decorative paintwork were uncovered, some more than 100 years old.

The Good Samaritan Foundation will welcome friends and supporters to an event at Toxteth House in mid-October where there will an opportunity to view some of the heritage

interior. If you would like to be included on the email list for this event and other activities of the Good Samaritan Foundation, please email [info@goodsamsfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@goodsamsfoundation.org.au).

**Veronica McCluskie sgs.**

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### Sr Marilyn Kelleher sgs PhD



Schols' ex-students from the 70's and early 80's will be very saddened to hear of the passing of Sr Marilyn Kelleher, who died peacefully on 12 March 2016 after a long battle with cancer. Sr Marilyn taught English and Ancient History and was an inspirational and innovative teacher who fostered a love of lifelong learning in her students.

Marilyn grew up in Marrickville and was educated by the Good Samaritan Sisters. On completing school, Marilyn worked as a library assistant at the City of Sydney Library, before entering the Good Samaritan Novitiate at Pennant Hills at 19. Many ex-students will remember Sr Marilyn by her religious name, Sr Marcella.

In 1964, Marilyn made her first profession of vows and commenced teacher training at St Scholastica's Teachers' College, Glebe. In 1964, she graduated with the Teacher's Diploma in Theory and Practice of Speech from Trinity College London.

Marilyn's first appointment was to St Patrick's Campbelltown, where she found her passion for teaching. In 1971, Marilyn was transferred to St Scholastica's College, where she was an

enthusiastic and much loved teacher with a great passion for learning herself. Between 1971 and 1980 Marilyn graduated with her BA, BA Hons, and MA Hons.

From 1982 Marilyn was Principal of Stella Maris College. In 1988 Marilyn had the opportunity of a Summer School at Oxford, by 1995 had completed five of the units towards a Bachelor of Divinity, and in 2001 was awarded her Doctorate of Philosophy at Sydney University.

In 1999 Marilyn was appointed Executive Secretary of the NSW Catholic Principals' Association. Again she enjoyed these "exciting years" as she called them.

Following research into the early years of the Order, Marilyn was appointed in 2005 to the formal research and writing of the Good Samaritan Annals Volumes II and III. At the time of her death, Marilyn had been working on Volume IV, 1960 – 1969 of the Annals.

Sister Marilyn Kelleher is remembered with love and gratitude. She was always a great presence at Schols reunions and get-togethers, where ex-students valued her vibrant presence and friendship. She will be sadly missed by the many ex-students who maintained their friendship with her throughout their lives.



Marilyn's life was lived as a true Benedictine woman – a life of peace, compassion, harmony, stewardship, hospitality and wisdom.

**Mother Mary de Lourdes Ronayne** was the principal of St Scholastica's from 1964 until 1969 when she was elected Superior General. Mother de Lourdes passed away in March at age 89 and in the 71st year of her religious profession. Her

funeral Mass was held in St Scholastica's Chapel on 31 March 2016.

**Sr Mary Justin Simonds ('37)** passed away in February 2016, just short of her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Sister Justin (pictured below) was a much loved teacher and musician who shared her talents with the ex-students by playing organ at Mass for the annual Mass and Reunion.



**Margaret Walsh**, previously Sr Joseph Mary, passed away 28 February 2016, in Canberra where she lived with her husband Kevin and family. Margaret was a much loved and highly respected teacher who taught at St Scholastica's in the 1960's. Margaret maintained her affection for the Sisters and wrote "The Good Sams" a history of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan 1857-1969, published 2001.

### Ex-Students' News



Thank you to **Sharon Wilson (O'Keeffe '67)** for forwarding this lovely photo of her aunt, **Phyl Hayes (Malone '36)** and her mother, **Norma**

**O'Keeffe (Malone '39)** at a recent family gathering.



Thank you to the class of '65 for this photo of students of the Leaving Certificate, 50 years ago. Pictured are Joanne Widdup (Halpin), Margaret Wakeling, Margaret McCabe and Colleen Pola.



**Margaret White (Turner '62)** celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday in March by taking her family to Glebe to show them her old schools, St James and Schols. Here she is proudly sitting on the Toxteth House steps with her six grandsons.

### Reunions

#### **Class of '55**

On 12 November, 2015, a luncheon was held at '99 on York' for students who had attended Schols from 1951-55. Nineteen were able to

attend, coming from Melbourne, Geelong, Canberra, South, Central and North Coast, Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sydney.



*Back Row from left: Anne McKenna (class below), Pat Creighton, Jeanette Slattery, Bernadette McDonnell, Jan Kull, Jan Crane, Rosemary O'Dell, Margaret Bodnar, Esmé Harrington, Noni McGuinness, Yvonne Conway (class above), Front Row: Coralie Harrington, Robin Yip, Joan Burrows, Barbara Conway, Noelene Foster*

We found it hard to believe that it was 60 years since we had left Schols. It was a really enjoyable occasion with much talk, laughter and many 'do-you-remember's'. We have decided to meet again in two years' time when we will all be approaching 80! (Five years seemed to be too optimistic!) Thank you to **Rae Wales** for forwarding this information.

### Class of '62 - '67



Ex-students from 1962-67, the first HSC class, held a recent get together. *Front row Diane Iredale (Beashel), Maureen Morris (Hanley) Cath Crittenden (Weir), Kathy Jones (Smallwood), Anne Wallace (Sexton) and Mary McMahan. Back row Sharon Wilson (O'Keeffe), Karen*

*Debenham (Gillespie), Annette Wirz (Hurley), Rosanne Newton (Bull) and Win McCluskie*

### Class of '69 & '71

It was a perfect end-of-Summer day for a class reunion lunch, held on 12 March, 2016. Before lunch, 13 of us met at the school for a guided tour, led by Principal Kate Rayment, who generously allowed the giggling group to explore the new and old school precinct, and renovated boarding quarters. Twenty-one of us attended the lunch, at The Little Snail restaurant, Darling Harbour. We all reported enjoying a delicious lunch, and a heart-warming trip down memory lane. Special thanks to Donna Cooper for organising the lunch, and to Anne Wells for organising the tour.



*Class of 1969-71 pre-lunch tour of Schols, with Principal Kate Rayment, top row centre, Coralie Riley photographer.*

### Nancy Atterton: PE Teacher 1970's

Ex-students from the 1970's would not be surprised to hear that our wonderful PE teacher, Nancy Atterton, mother of **Stacey ('78)**, continues to go from strength to strength and, at 81, is still coaching elite athletes bound for Rio.



## Hermoine Macura



“When Australia's track and field team takes to Rio's Olympic stadium in August, it will include a runner in the men's 100-metre race for the first time since the Athens Games in 2004. Josh Clarke is Australia's fastest man. He has only been running seriously for five years and has one person to thank for his meteoric rise in the sport — his 81-year-old coach **Nancy Atterton**. Josh said that if it wasn't for Nancy he wouldn't be there”. (From abc.net.au)

Nancy's achievements include winning an Empire Games gold medal in the relay team anchored by Marjorie Jackson in 1954 and competing at the Melbourne Olympic games and, of course, teaching Schols girls from the '70s how to pass the baton.

## Denise Brix-Nielsen (Guterres '88)



Denise has had an amazing career that includes producing musicals with Cameron Mackintosh, and working as a forensic linguistic specialist with the Australian Securities Investment Commission. Denise graduated from Sydney University with a double Honours degree, has lectured in China and is a published author. She divides her time between Sydney and London along with her four children.

Denise is a self-described inveterate traveller who enjoys cathedrals, crypts and museums all over the world. She writes and lectures, and her “dream project” is to lead a series of book tours in the Champagne region of France.

**Hermoine Macura** is one of the most recognised journalists in the Middle East and the first Australian news reader in the United Arab Emirates. The host of Emirates News on Dubai One TV for eight years, Macura has become a trusted face for more than 80 million people. The girl from Maroubra credits St Scholastica's College in Glebe with giving her the belief to follow her dreams.

At 21, on the way back from travelling through India, she stopped in Dubai. She began working in TV and has since become very popular among people from this region.

Hermoine was headhunted by the government channel and in 2013 she moved away from hosting the news to start a production company to focus on issues important to her, such as women's empowerment.

“My area of focus is the Middle East Islamic relations,” she said. “Over the years talking to the thought leaders from the region I've been able to understand the issues that are here but at the same time connect them with the West.”

Hermoine's book, *Faces of the Middle East*, was launched in 2015.

This is an extract from an article that appeared in *The Australian* on 4 May 2015.

Watch Hermoine's news presentations on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7V54hjLxAMal>

## Malarndirri McCarthy ('88)



**Malarndirri McCarthy**, College Captain in 1988, is currently working as a Journalist for NITV News and as Host of Week in Review in Sydney.

In 2015 the NITV News team received its first Logie nomination this year for 'Most Outstanding News Coverage' for its coverage of child removals in Moree and across Australia and in 2014, she won Journalist of the Year at the Multicultural & Indigenous Media Awards.

In 2013, Malarndirri won the inaugural Deadly Award for Journalism for her breaking story, Noongar Brothers in Saudi Arabia. She also received two Walkley nominations in 2013 for her story on a car company that filmed its advertisement on Wave Rock in Western Australia, a place of deep cultural significance to Aboriginal custodians.

From 2005–2012, Malarndirri represented the people of Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory Parliament. As Tourism Minister, she travelled overseas to develop opportunities for Indigenous tourism. As Minister for Statehood, Malarndirri pushed for constitutional recognition for the Northern Territory to become the 7th State in the Australian Federation

Malarndirri is passionate about seeing Indigenous young people stay at school through to Year 12, and on to tertiary study and continues to work closely with Sydney schools to

foster the educational development of Indigenous students.

## Ramza Martin ('09)



**Ramza Martin** came to St Scholastica's from Mudgee in NSW Central West, as a boarder for years 11 and 12. She chose the College to experience the challenges offered and to work towards her goal of studying Law. She settled in quickly, becoming Vice House Captain for Ullathorne .

Ramza studied B Laws/B Communication Studies at Western Sydney University. In 2011, she commenced as an intern at the Parliament of NSW office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Roads. In 2012 she was hired by the Minister for Roads and Ports as a Parliamentary Liaison Officer. She worked part-time as she continued her studies.

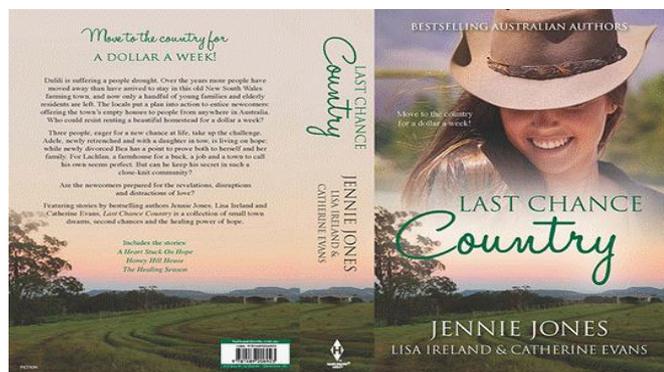
After the 2015 State election she was promoted to Policy Adviser for Road Safety.

Today, Ramza continues to work for the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight on road safety, where she can have a positive impact on people's daily lives through the development of law and policy. She is completing her final semester at university, continues to sing as part of an acoustic duo and plays netball.

## Catherine Evans

Thank you to Jimmy Evans, father of Catherine, for forwarding information about Catherine's

recently published book, which is part of a trilogy called “Last Chance Country”. Catherine’s book is titled “The Healing Season” and is currently available at Dymocks and good booksellers. Congratulations Catherine!



### Inner City Alumni

The Inner City Alumni meets annually for lunch at the Bowlers Club, 99 York Street, Sydney. The regular attendees are mainly ex-students from both St James, Forest Lodge Patrician Brothers and Good Samaritan Schools. More than twenty ex-students from St Scholastica’s attended last year’s lunch and shared wonderful school memories. The next reunion is planned for Saturday 15 October 2016. To be on the mailing list, please email [innercityalumni@gmail.com](mailto:innercityalumni@gmail.com).

### Our Newest Ex-Students

#### The graduating class of 2015

In 2015, 170 students sat for the HSC in 41 courses and the results were stunning!!

Congratulations to **Louisa Gallagher** who gained 1<sup>st</sup> place in the State for Studies of Religion 1 with a perfect score.

**Jiayang Lu** was placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the State in Mathematics in 2014 as a Year 11 accelerated student and then placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State in Japanese Beginners in 2015 as a Year 12 student.

Five students were named on the All-round Achievers list for earning 90% or above in 10 or more units – **Sophie Hussey, Louisa Gallagher, Jiayang Lu, Hayley Cumming and Alice Gordon.**

64 students appeared on the Distinguished Achievers list for scoring above 90 in one or more subjects.

20 students achieved Band 6 (the highest Band) in at least 6 units of work.

100% of Music 1 students achieved a Band 6.

33% of students achieved Band 6 for English (Advanced).

90% of students achieved a Band 5 or 6 for English (Advanced).

30% of Studies of Religion 1 students achieved a Band 6.

74% of subjects offered at the College received a Band 6.

All English Extension 1 students achieved a Band 5 or 6 (above 80%).

All Italian Continuers students achieved a Band 5 or 6.

### Sister Clare Memorial Award

The Sister Clare Memorial Award is presented to the St Scholastica’s student who achieves the highest Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) in the HSC Class of the previous year provided she is continuing on to tertiary studies. The award is in memory of Sister Clare Slattery sgs MBE who died on 18 October 1980 after a long and distinguished teaching career at St. Scholastica’s College. **Louisa Gallagher** achieved the highest ATAR of 99.70 and was also named Dux of the College in 2015. Louisa will be presented with her award at the Annual Reunion on 22 May.

### Art express at the ARMORY

Congratulations to 2015 HSC Visual Arts student, **Mackenzie Rowe**. Mackenzie’s Body of Work, a collection of six abstract ceramic forms, was

included in the Art Express exhibition at the Armory Gallery at Sydney Olympic Park.

### Deceased Ex-Students

Please remember the following Ex-students and their families in your prayers. The names of all deceased Ex-students are recorded in our memorial book which is placed on the altar during the Annual Reunion Mass.

**Connie Gleeson ('76)** passed away in June 2015, after a long battle with cancer. Connie was a much loved teacher at Sturt Public School in western NSW. Connie was fondly remembered by her students and local community.

Connie taught at Sturt Public School for over twenty years. Former students remember her for her fun, "groovy" nature and her antics during art class. She used to play "Wild Thing" and dance around the class room while the students were painting or drawing. It was these fun and relaxed lessons which earned her reputation for always making learning fun.



**Mary Ann Kilpatrick's (Mackey '55)** passed away in September 2015. Mary Ann attended Schols in the fifties and was school captain in 1955. She enjoyed keeping in touch with Schols and attended the reunion in 2014. She lived with her

husband, Bill, and three children, Mark, **Judy ('77)** and Jonathan, in Canberra. Her funeral was held at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Pearce, ACT. Thank you to **Marie Trounson (Kerney '55)** for forwarding this information.

**Sr Justin Simonds ('37)**

**February 2016**

**Dominica Whelan ('71)** passed away on 17 February, 2016. The following tribute was published by the Federal Circuit Court of Australia:

It is with great sadness that the Federal Circuit Court of Australia advises one of its Melbourne-based judges passed away on 17 February 2016.

Judge Dominica Whelan was appointed to the Court in 2010 after having served as a Commissioner of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission and Fair Work Australia for approximately 15 years.

Her Honour was held in the highest regard by her fellow judges, colleagues (past and present) and lawyers across a wide jurisdiction. Judge Whelan had a life-long passion for the law and a compassionate way in which she conducted her role as a judicial officer.

Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia, John Pascoe AC said, "This is a very sad day indeed for the Court. Judge Whelan courageously battled her illness for the past year or so and was determined to overcome it and return to her role which she loved dearly. Unfortunately for everyone, that was not to be. We are devastated to say good-bye to a well-respected judge and friend. Our condolences go to her husband, Tony, her children and extended family."

Judge Whelan's fellow judges will remember Her Honour for her vibrant, friendly personality who embraced life, and for her intellect which she

willingly shared during her many roles in academia and continuing education. Her Honour's diverse legal experience was the perfect background to then be applied in her role as a Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia. Her Honour also made a significant contribution to the development and implementation of the Court's Reconciliation Action Plan which aims to improve access to justice for indigenous Australians.

A role held by Her Honour early in her career was as the Associate to the Hon Elizabeth Evatt, the first Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia. Her Honour was previously a Commissioner of Comcare and worked for the Australian Council of Trade Unions undertaking industrial representation, negotiation and advocacy across a range of industries. She was also an Industrial Research Officer with the Australian Public Service Association, a solicitor with the Fitzroy Legal Service and a Tutor in Family Law and Constitutional Law at Monash University.

*Denise Healy, National Manager - Media & Public Affairs, Federal Circuit Court of Australia*



**Mary Duggan (Plasto '44)** passed away in April, 2016. Mary attended Schols from kindergarten, before the primary school was closed in the late 1930's and then returning for high school. Thank you to **Carmel Keys** for forwarding this information.

**Eileen Killian** was a teacher at St Augustine's School in Balmain in the 1960's, and many of her students went on to attend St Scholastica's. Eileen was an innovative teacher, known for her expertise in teaching literacy and numeracy to infants' classes. Eileen passed away in June, 2015.

**Annette Toombes (Messina '71)**, passed away December 2015.

**Mary (Nancy) Etcell (Stenning)** passed away in March 2016. Nancy was in year 3 in 1946.

John Croker, 22 September 2015, husband of **Joan (Breen '45)**.

Arthur Boyd, 18 September 2015, husband of **Ronda (Timbrell '43)**.

Mark Gill, husband of **Suzanne Gabrielle Gill (Thomson '77)**, who passed away in November 2015 after a short illness.

Nobel Fuller, father of **Katrina Fuller ('04)** and **Maria Fuller ('02)** who passed away on Good Friday, 2016.



### **Babies!!**

Congratulations to **Trang McDermott (Nguyen)** and her husband, Colin, on the birth of their daughter, Beatrice. Trang was the previous Registrar for the Ex-students Union.

## Treasurer's report

### **Our Current Projects:**

Our Bursary fund this year received \$5,499.00 in donations from Ex-students.

Our investment fund this year reached \$102,668.46. The Bursary amount paid for 2015 – 2016 was \$6,000.00

The Good Samaritan Foundation (Education Fund) received \$3,015.00 in donations.

**Karen Debenham**

**Acting Treasurer**

### **Winners of last year's raffle:**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Margaret O'Flynn (Collar)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Carol Yip

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Rhonda Boyd (Timbrell)



## Upcoming Reunions

The class of '86 (Year 10 '84) will be holding their 30 year reunion this year. For further details, please contact Jodie Sewell (Bonnington) by email at [Jodie@robinsonsewell.com.au](mailto:Jodie@robinsonsewell.com.au)

### **Invitation to the Ex-Students Annual Reunion**

**Join us for Mass in the Chapel at midday on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016, followed by a light luncheon to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.**

**Cost: \$40 (includes lunch and champagne on arrival)**

**To RSVP, please contact Karen via email:**

**[karendebenham@optusnet.com.au](mailto:karendebenham@optusnet.com.au)**

**We especially welcome our newest Ex-Students – the graduating class of 2015.**