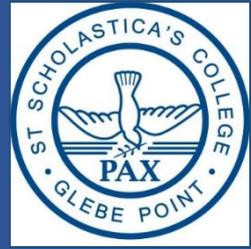


St Scholastica's College Ex-Students' Union Newsletter - 2017



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ex-Students,

It is always wonderful to be welcomed back to the College as Ex-Students. The College year starts with its opening Mass on St Scholastica's Day at St Mary's Cathedral. It is a truly grand occasion with magnificent singing by the choir accompanied by the College orchestra. The swearing in of the new College leaders is a solemn reminder of the commitment those leaders are making which they will look back on with such pride for the rest of their lives. We are honoured to be invited to witness such a ceremony. We were also well represented at Open Day on 12 March with many visitors to our stall who were interested to hear what it was like at Schols in our day.



We congratulate the class of 2016 on their outstanding achievements in the HSC. We welcome them to join us now as Ex-Students. We thank our Ex-

Students who have continued to donate generously to our Bursary Fund (which supports the daughter of an Ex-Student at the College) and the Good Samaritan Foundation (Education) Fund. These funds have enabled us to support students in need due to unforeseen circumstances.

Last year's 93rd anniversary reunion was a great success. The Mass in our beautiful Chapel was once again celebrated by Fr. Paul Coleman SJ with singing led by Jo Kenderes (Catling) ending with the College song "In the Spirit of St Scholastica". After Mass, we headed to the Trixie Forest Centre where we enjoyed a glass of champagne and a light luncheon. We were honoured to welcome eight very friendly Ex-Students from St Scholastica's College in Manila. They loved our College, participated in our Mass and enjoyed chatting with us over lunch. We were interested to hear about St Scholastica's College in Manila which is a Catholic Benedictine educational institution for young women, committed to providing a holistic education based on academic excellence, moulding its students into critically aware and socially responsible young ladies – just like us! Mariela Panopia was one of those Ex-Students. She has kindly forwarded a YouTube link to the video the group made commemorating their visit to Schols. You can access the video by visiting the following link:

<https://youtu.be/wSm9pDXVd74>

The College Principal, Kate Rayment, gave us a very interesting address on the building Master Plan for the redevelopment of the College. See Kate's article on page 2 for more details.

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

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

EX-STUDENTS' COMMITTEE

The Ex-Students' Union aims to:

- Work closely with the College to provide support in various activities, promote loyalty, friendship and support amongst Ex-Students.
- Provide support to the Good Samaritan Foundation.
- Provide bursaries to daughters of Ex-Students who, due to unforeseen circumstances, have difficulty paying their daughter's school fees.

Ex-Students' Committee Members	
President	Karen Debenham
Vice President	Maureen McCluskie
Treasurer	Vacant (currently Karen Debenham)
Secretary	Anne Wells
Registrar	Vacant (currently Anne Wells)
Newsletter Editor	Christine Volk (Smith)
Committee Members:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Bastick • Cheryl Fraser • Katrina Fuller • Maria Fuller • Clare Hamilton • Christina James • Jo Kenderes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trish MacRae • Veronica McCluskie sgs • Win McCluskie • Ellen McKenzie • Rae Wales • Anne Whiting • Carmel Vanny



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to communicate with you all through your newsletter.

I have come to know quite a number of ex-students since joining the Schols community just over two years ago. We are working to build stronger links between the College and ex-students and last year introduced a Graduation Life Membership gifting opportunity. We hope to build upon our database, increasing numbers of active members and ensuring the connection with the College is warm, consistent and lasting.

I wish to share with you, on this occasion, the development of the building Master Plan for the built environment of the College that we hope will carry the school forward in good stead for many decades to come. The Master Plan has been developed over the last two years, following consultation with staff, students, parents and the Sisters. I now provide you with an opportunity to review plans and provide feedback. The draft plan is not ready for distribution but I will summarise the overall plan and provide some images of the first two stages for your review.

The Plan consists of four stages spread over five years. Stage 1 is due to commence in June/July this year and Stage 2 will commence, if approval is received from GSE and SGS, in 2018. The need for the Master Plan arose from the rapid growth in the

student population over the last 5-6 years, with an increase of approximately 200 students in that time. The physical infrastructure is inadequate for accommodating the number of students and the condition of the environment has deteriorated significantly over the years, leaving some learning spaces outdated and in need of significant upgrade. The special opportunity to be stewards of our time is an exciting one for the community and responses have been very positive. The Education Brief presented to the architects and project management team was a demanding one but the response from both important stakeholders in the project has been creative, intelligent, sensitive and forward-thinking.

Stage 1 involves the relocation of teaching staff, some support staff and the Library to temporary accommodation for the duration of the works. This will enable the overall development project to be completed in a carefully structured way to minimise disruption and to prevent students from having to be accommodated in temporary classrooms for up to five years. Once the existing staff area and library have been cleared, refurbishment of those spaces will enable the introduction of ten new, state-of-the-art learning areas, some office spaces and student amenities. The new spaces will enable the return of other classroom spaces to regulation size for more comfortable and effective teaching and learning.

Stages 2-4 will involve construction of new spaces. These additions will be managed in such a way as to minimise impact on green space and maximise the aesthetic beauty of the environment while providing additional learning spaces and renewal of other

spaces. Stage 2 will include construction of new Visual Arts, Drama and Music spaces, a new canteen and covered dining/learning area, new uniform shops and amenities as well as General Learning Spaces.

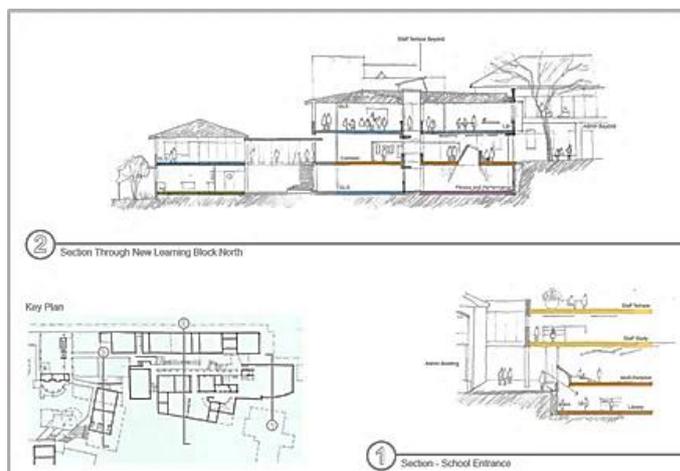
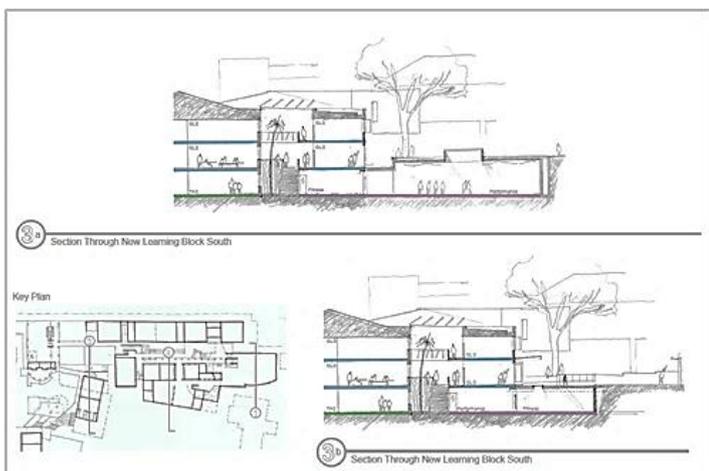
This plan indicates the addition of a new front along the existing Junior Block, down to the Benedict Centre. This will enable three storeys of additional learning and other spaces to be added without cutting into the green space. It will also enable us to create a new façade that will replace the multiple existing facades created by years of adding buildings onto existing structures.

An additional Music performance space, including classrooms and outdoor entertainment area, will be built underground in the area of the existing tennis

court. Landscape architects have been engaged to ensure the beautiful green space is honoured and enhanced. Once the old demountable buildings are removed from the front of the school, there will be a continuous, uninterrupted flow of garden and lawn from the front entrance on Avenue Road to the rear of the College on Maxwell Road.

A viewing of the plans will be available at the May AGM of the Ex-students' Union. I will take detailed feedback at that time and suggestions at any time. (principal@scholastica.nsw.edu.au)

**Mrs Kate Rayment
Principal**



GOOD SAMARITAN FOUNDATION

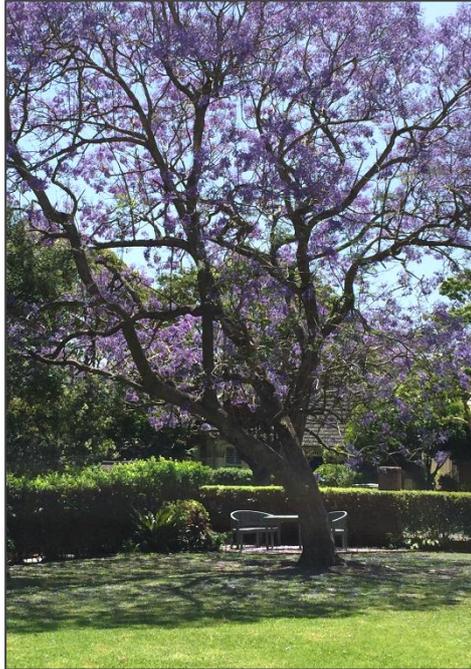
The Sisters of the Good Samaritan Foundation continues its work supporting the charitable programs of the Sisters in Australia, the Philippines, Kiribati and Timor Leste. In NSW, the main project is supporting Good Samaritan Education grants, which provide assistance to selected students attending Good Samaritan Colleges who are struggling as a result of particular family hardship. This could include serious illness in the family, family violence, living in out of home care or other circumstances. In 2017 there are 8 students receiving Good Samaritan Education Grants. This includes a student very generously supported by the St Scholastica's Ex-students' Union.

The Good Samaritan Foundation, College principals and families extend warm thanks to all those who have made a donation towards the grants. You can be assured the grants are making an enormous difference to the lives of these young students. All donations to the Good Samaritan Foundation are delivered in full to people in need, with no administration costs withheld.

Work on the new residences on the site of the old Polding Villa is going very well. The original octagonal brick building was demolished late last year, meaning the back of the boarding house is now visible from Arcadia Rd. The new 3 storey development will be a terrace style development, more in line with the heritage streetscape. There will be several separate apartments for Sisters and shared spaces for cooking, community gathering and prayer. Work is expected to be finished mid 2017.



The balcony of Toxteth house was also recently painted and repaired and the entire building is now looking magnificent!



Sr Sue Hallams and her team continue to do an amazing job tending the gardens and the grounds are truly a delight to behold.

Oblates of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan will be organising a team this year for the Blackmore's Sydney Running Festival, to be held on 17 September. Funds raised will go to support ministries of the Sisters, via the Good Samaritan Foundation.

If you are interested in running with the Good Sams team or would like to sponsor a runner, please contact the Good Samaritan Foundation.

info@goodsamsfoundation.org.au

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:
by phone: (02) 87525313
or email: ccresswell@goodsams.org.au



GOOD SAMARITANS CELEBRATE 160 YEARS

On February 2, 1857, the first Australian Catholic religious congregation, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, was born. Founded in Sydney by Archbishop John Bede Polding, an English-born Benedictine monk, and Mother Scholastica Gibbons, an Irish-born Sister of Charity, the congregation came into being with just five sisters.

Earlier this month, on February 2, around 150 people gathered for evening prayer in St Scholastica's Chapel to give thanks for that humble but significant beginning 160 years ago, and to celebrate the many expressions of Good Samaritan life and mission that have followed.

"We come here today to celebrate 160 years since our foundation with hearts full of thankfulness and joy," Congregational Leader Sister Clare Condon told those gathered. "We come with an uncertainty about the nature of our future, just like our forebears did. But we come together as sisters, oblates, partners in ministry, parishioners and friends, with trust and confidence. "We acknowledge that if we are to be prophetic for our time, which is the fundamental



calling of religious life in the Church, then changes beyond our contrivance are before us daily."

Following evening prayer, guests moved to the garden outside Toxteth House, the Sisters' current Congregational Centre, for refreshments. Among the guests were Dame Marie Bashir, former Governor of NSW, the Honourable Tanya Plibersek, Federal Member for Sydney and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Charity, Sister Clare Nolan.

EX-STUDENT NEWS



Senator Malarndirri McCarthy ('87)

Congratulations to Malarndirri McCarthy, College Captain 1987, who was elected to the Senate for the Northern Territory at the Federal election in 2016. Malarndirri had previously served in the

Northern Territory Legislative Assembly for Arnhem from 2008 – 2012. Senator McCarthy is currently serving on the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation and References Senate Standing Committee and the Joint Standing Committee: National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Senator McCarthy delivered her first speech in the Senate on 14 September 2016. In the gallery of Parliament to hear her speech were current and former teachers from St Scholastica's, Malarndirri's friends from Schols and the current College Captain, Alice Dennison. It was moving to hear Senator McCarthy speak so warmly of her education at St Scholastica's.

The following is an extract from her speech:

I would like to acknowledge the staff and students of St Scholastica's College, my former high school, who are present in the gallery today. In 1988, I became the first Aboriginal student to become College captain, and I acknowledge my schoolmates who are here, in particular Yvonne Weldon of the Wiradjuri people of New South Wales and her family, Aunty Ann and the Coe families of Cowra. I pay my respects to the memory of the late great Mum Shirl, who was witness to ensuring that both Yvonne and I would finish well with the Good Sams. Today, another Indigenous student sits in the gallery who will be the 2017 College captain: Alice Dennison. I sincerely wish you all the best.

The full transcript of Senator Malarndirri McCarthy's first [speech can be accessed by clicking here](#).



Lynn-Marie Danzey ('80)

Lynn-Marie, school Captain and Dux of the College in 1980, was the guest speaker at the College Speech Night in December 2016.

Lynn-Marie is a writer and director. After leaving Schols, Lynn-Marie graduated from the University of Technology

with a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in

Communications and specialising in Media Studies and Film Theory. Lynn-Marie has worked in the film and television industries for the past 30 years.

Lynn-Marie began her career as a script writer and first assistant director. She worked with Jane Campion on *The Piano*, *Portrait of a Lady and Holy Smoke*, with Peter Jackson on *Heavenly Creatures* and Jodie Foster on *Anna and the King*.

Her first foray into directing was the short film *Fetch* starring Matt Day, which premiered at Cannes in 1998 and was nominated for the Palm d'Or. The short went on to win thirteen international awards, screening at dozens of film festivals including New York, London, Telluride and Rotterdam. It went to air in the US on HBO and regularly features on Qantas in-flight entertainment.

Lynn-Marie has directed over 50 episodes of Australian Television Drama on shows including *A Place to Call Home*, *Love Child*, *House Husbands*, *Packed to the Rafters* and *All Saints*. Lynn-Marie was the set-up director for *The Secret Life of Us*, Australia's highest rating drama and she has been nominated three times for the award of Best Achievement in Direction for a Television Drama Series.



Anne Cummins 1985

Since leaving St Scholastica's in 1985, Anne Cummins has

worked as an art conservator on some of Sydney's most famous public artworks. After commencing studies in engineering, Anne switched to art conservation and set up her own business *Sydney Artefacts Conservation* in 1992. This is one of only three art conservation companies in Sydney that works on public sculptures. Anne has worked on restoration of the beautiful and haunting sculpture "Sacrifice" in the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park. She has also worked on major projects such as fountains and the famous bronze bear outside Sydney Hospital and works for many private clients as well. You can read the full story that appeared in The Sydney Morning Herald [on July 23, 2016 by clicking here.](#)

REUNIONS

The Class of 1952-56 celebrated 60 years since leaving St Scholastica's College on 23 September with a lunch at the home of **Joan Smith (Martin)** in Mosman.

A number of class members sent their apologies because of health issues and other commitments but some fifteen "girls" were in attendance. **Bozena Sain (Dzieglewska)** had travelled from the U.K. and several others came from country towns. Lyn Innes Schofield had come from the UK to catch up with family and her classmates but the day chosen clashed with a family reunion. She was indeed very disappointed as were her classmates. Our remaining teaching nun, **Sr Francesca**, was able to attend and amazed us with her mental alertness at age 93. Recalling how she had left the classroom and found her niche doing wonderful work caring for the poor and homeless. With no concern about her own safety she had found these people and brought hope and happiness to their lives. In recognition of her fine work the Australian Government awarded her an OAM.

The house in Mosman was full of laughter as the school days were remembered and relived. Our



Back Row: Pat Collins (Haroldson), Marion Lee (Choong), Joan Smith (Martin), Toni Daru (Saffron), Front Row: Joyann Loftus (Paterson), Rae Wales, Margaret Huxley (Hogan), Sr Mary Francesca, Mary Granger (Spora), Anne Haskew (Kennedy), Bozena Sain (Dzieglewska), Anne Hargreaves (Flook), Anne McKenna, Maureen Wright (Dalton) By herself at front: Janet Morse (Black).

wonderful teachers were certainly remembered and gratitude was expressed for their skill and dedication.

Over lunch there was a very happy atmosphere as the "girls" caught up with what had occurred in the years following school and/or since the last reunion. Travel and grandchildren played a large part in this discussion.

Looking back we are very proud of our achievements since leaving school. The careers followed by the "Class of 1952-56" were varied. Many found employment in the business world - law, banking, the

Public Service and private enterprise. These skills were recognised in the positions many held overseas e.g. the United Nations in New York. Teaching was the dominant profession ranging from Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Education. The class can boast a Professor of English at Canterbury University (UK) an Inspector of Schools in NSW and some held administrative positions in a number of schools. In the Health professions, there were Nurses, a Pharmacist and a Dietician. Many nurses went on to

pursue further training and specialised in areas of their profession.

Following the reunion, Bozena returned to St Scholastica's College to give a talk to the History students assembled. She talked about her deportation from Poland to the Russian labour camps and subsequent travels as refugees until she and her Mother arrived in Australia. She presented the School Library with a copy of her book "From Pillar to Post".

Class of 76, 40-Year Re union

We laughed until we cried! And "you haven't changed a bit!!!" This probably sums up the 40-year reunion for the Class of 76 held last October.

We chose Harold Park Hotel as our venue. This was perfect as many girls were able to go up to the school in the afternoon. It was a wonderful night! There were boarders who had not seen each other since school and it was fantastic to see how special these reunions were. Many girls made the effort to travel from the country and interstate to attend.

Amongst the laughter, there was also sharing of some difficult times that some girls had been through. Yet, here they were on the night! To me, that was the testament to the strength of a "Schols girl". We are a resilient lot!!!



As the night progressed, everyone seemed to settle back into their familiar groups and that's when the laughter really began. We had a fabulous time. In fact, we are not waiting 40 years to get together again. We are going to make it an annual event on the last Saturday in October!

Anne Whiting (Buckley)

The Class of '86 (Year 10 1984) had a fabulous 30th reunion on 18 June also at the Harold Park Hotel. We set up a FB page in April and by the time the reunion rolled around we had managed to find 95 old girls plus many more via email, and just over 50 attend the evening. Quite a number of boarders met up beforehand for a tour of the boarding house – lots of laughs and reminiscing. One of our classmates, **Nina Beilby**, is a photographer – she set up a fun "photo booth" complete with crazy hats, glasses and feather boas. We had such a wonderful night. If you are planning a reunion, get onto it in plenty of time, it was so much fun catching up with everyone!

We now have a vibrant FB page full of amazing photos plus many photos from the old school days, and much enthusiasm for more reunions.



OUR NEWEST EX-STUDENTS

The graduating class of 2016

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2016 for their outstanding achievements in the 2016 HSC. 149 students sat for the HSC last year, in addition to 24 Year 11 students who completed the HSC Mathematics as accelerated students.

- Two top achievers were placed in the state: **Clarissa Zurio** was placed 5th in the state in Society and Culture and **Susie Dodds**, was placed 18th in the state in Modern History.
- Five students were placed on the All-rounders list for achieving above 90% in 10 units of study: **Guinevere Buckland-Watts**, **Susie Dodds**, **Bianca Jurukovski**, **Rosie Ryan** and **Isabel Thurgar**.
- 63 students appeared on the distinguished achievers list for achieving over 90% in one or more subjects.
- The College is aware of 5 ATARS over 98.
- HSC Showcase and Exhibition Nominations:
 - Art Express: **Stephania De Nicola**, **Heidi Brant-Vickery** and **Linhnai Cai**
 - Encore: **Eilidh Smith**
- 36% of students received at least 1 Band 6 result.
- 86% of subjects were above the state mean.

These outstanding achievements reflect not only the hard work of students but also the commitment and dedication of teachers at St Scholastica's College.

HSC Aboriginal Studies Major Projects.

Each year, five outstanding works for the HSC Aboriginal Studies Major Projects are selected for permanent display as part of the NSW State Library Digital Collection. The College has learnt that, amazingly, all five students whose work was selected from across New South Wales were from Schols; this is a tremendous achievement for the students and their teacher, Jen Petschler.

SISTER CLARE MEMORIAL AWARD

Dux of 2016

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. **Georgia Lundie** achieved the highest ATAR of 98.75 and was named Dux of the College in 2016. Georgia will be presented with her award at the Annual Reunion on 28 May. Georgia is studying a double degree in Bachelor of Law and Forensic Science at UTS.

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations and best wishes to **Carmel Keys (Gilchrist '44)**, **Patricia Baker ('44)** and **Therese Holles (Logue '44)** who are all celebrating 90th birthdays this year. Carmel, Patricia and Therese have all served on the Ex-Students committee in various positions including President and Treasurer.

BABIES!!!

Congratulations to Leyla Singh (da Silva) on the birth of her son, Avnor.

DECEASED EX-STUDENTS

Please remember the following Ex-students 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:

Sister Lola Junge sgs ('43) passed away on 15 September 2016. She attended the Reunion for many years and was an accomplished musician, singing with Sydney Philharmonia.

Biddy Kennedy (Bridget Green '30) died 23 April 2016 aged 102.

The Most Reverend John Steven Satterthwaite, Fourth Bishop of Lismore (1971-2001) died on 23 April 2016. Brother of **Sr Patricia Satterthwaite ('42)** and **Joan Baillie (Satterthwaite '47)**.

Sr Patricia Satterthwaite ('42) died on 20 May 2016. Sister of **Joan Baillie (Satterthwaite '47)**

Bernadette Burns, ('60), died on 26 January 2017. Bernadette was the niece of **Sr. Winifred Try, ('45)**

Peter Wells died 29th June 2016. Son of **Eileen Wells (Byrne '45)** deceased, and brother of **Anne '71**, **Catherine Carroll '73**, and **Elizabeth Garcorz '82**.

Dorothy Treacy ('47) after a long and brave battle with cancer. Thank you to Dorothy's niece Anne Morgan for forwarding this information.

Therese Eadie (Tarlinton) '54-'57 died on 22 August 2015, sister of **Marie Rheinberger '51-'55** and **Cecilia Tarlinton '58-'61**.

Norma Dally-Watkins (Craven) died 25 May 2016. Norma was a life member from the class of '57.

Marie Weir (nee Henderson) died on August 28, 2016. Marie attended St Scholastica's from 1939 completing the Leaving Certificate in 1943, as it was then. She was the beneficiary of an academic scholarship and made the most of the opportunity it gave her. Schols remained very important to Marie throughout her life and she made many firm lifelong friends. After marrying young, Marie worked hard looking after her family, and she also worked as a receptionist and a bookkeeper, as she was always good with numbers.



students events, and served for many years in various positions on the Ex-Students' Committee.

Marie was inspired by her favourite teacher Sr Clare Slattery and especially valued her motto that '*girls can do anything*', which was a fairly radical view in those days, and certainly so for a nun. She even named her youngest daughter after Sr Clare, and with Marie Catling, she set up the Sr Clare Memorial Award Fund that provides a prize each year from the Ex-Students to the Schols

Marie was a person whose faith was demonstrated in practical terms – she was often helping others in the community, and was, along with her husband, often volunteering to help at their local church in Haberfield.

All of Marie's daughters, **Cath Crittenden ('67)**, **Helen Elliott ('74)**, **Elizabeth Haberecht ('77)** and **Clare Hamilton ('82)**, and some grand-daughters, have attended the College of which Marie was so proud. Her granddaughter Rebecca is currently in Year 10. Marie was always keen to attend the College and Ex-

girl who achieves the highest ATAR and goes on to study at University. Marie was a great believer in a good education and this was her practical way of contributing to the education of others.

Sadly Marie developed dementia later in life, but she remained patient, steadfast and smiling until she passed away peacefully on 28 August 2016.

Marie was the mother of seven, grandmother of nineteen and great-grandmother of eleven.

Vale Marie - proud Schols girl.

We are always interested to hear of ex-students' achievements, weddings, anniversaries and births. Please contact us so that we can publish details and photos in future Newsletters. Send your news and photos to Christine Volk (Smith) ('77) at christinevolk@bigpond.com



TREASURER'S REPORT

- Our Bursary Fund this year received \$6,190 in donations from Ex-Students.
- Our investment fund this year reached \$103,882.68. The Bursary amount paid for 20016-2017 was \$6,000.
- The Good Samaritan Foundation (Education Fund) received \$3,055 in donations.

Karen Debenham Treasurer (Acting)

RAFFLE TICKETS

We love hearing from you and even if you are just able to buy and return the raffle tickets it would be of great assistance to us in supporting the aims of the Ex-students' Union.

WINNERS OF LAST YEAR'S RAFFLE:

Raffle prize-winners for 2016:

- Faye Heggie (Riley) '55
- Patricia Thomas (Thompson) '52
- Margaret Kennedy (Grelis) '94

INVITATION

Ex-Students' Annual Reunion

Join us for Mass in the Chapel at midday on Sunday 28 May 2017,
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 Debenham

karendebenham@optusnet.com.au

We especially welcome our newest Ex-Students – the graduating class of 2016.

UPCOMING REUNIONS

The Class of '57 is holding its 60-year reunion on Saturday 24 June at 12 noon, at the Bowlers Club, York Street, Sydney. For further information, please contact:

- **Ann Eskens (Hogan)** on 02 9923 7794 or 0427 992 327 or email anneskins@ozemail.com.au;
or
- **Vilma McMahon** on 0417 447160

The Class of '67 is holding its 50-year reunion on Sunday 28 May at 12 noon, in conjunction with the Ex-Students' Annual Reunion.

For further information please contact **Karen Debenham** (Gillespie) on 02 9460 4462 or 0419 999084 or email karendebenham@optusnet.com.au