



St Scholastica's College Ex-Students Union 2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ex-students,

I am sure everyone must be interested to hear about the happenings at Schols. 2014 ended on a sad note with the retirement of its Principal of 25 years. Loretto Richardson, who graciously found a place in our hearts, kept us up to date with College happenings and through her influence, developed and maintained the fabulous school spirit which we enjoyed so many years ago. I was honoured to be invited not only to attend but also to speak on behalf of the Ex-Students' Union at the farewell garden party for Loretto in front of the beautiful Toxteth House. What a wonderful evening it was with all speakers singing their praises for her. She has been dearly loved by all and will be missed very much. This was also evidenced at Speech Night with Sr Clare Condon paying a very fitting tribute to Loretto with a standing ovation to Loretto's response. It was a real wow moment! We wish Loretto a very happy and rewarding retirement and hope to see her at our future reunions as an honorary ex-student!

On Friday 6 February, the St Scholastica's community welcomed its new Principal, Mrs Kate Rayment, at the combined St Scholastica's Day Mass, Leaders' Induction and New Principal Commissioning at St. Mary's Cathedral and what a beautiful ceremony it was – the indigenous dancers, College choirs and orchestra performing at their best. The commissioning of Kate and her



responses between the singing of verses of the College song, "In the Spirit of St Scholastica" was so sincere and emotional it brought tears to my eyes – such a serious commitment with pomp and ceremony that was inspiring to all. I am sure everyone will love and respect Kate for everything she will bring to St Scholastica's, its community, people, students, resources and environment.

The Sisters have now vacated Toxteth House and works are well underway for its restoration and refurbishment as the new premises of the Good Sams Foundation – see article later in this newsletter.

This year the Ex-Students' Committee would like to put its fund raising focus on educating young girls in the same Good Samaritan tradition that we received. You will see from the remittance advice that we are collecting funds for our own bursary fund and that of the Good Sams Foundation (Education) only. We have found

recently that by collecting funds for other worthwhile causes our own bursary fund is not receiving the support it used to receive. We feel that this should be our main focus, especially as the cost of education is continually on the increase. We are very grateful for your continuing generous donations.

Last year's 91st anniversary reunion was again a great success. The Mass in our beautiful Chapel was celebrated by Fr. Ed Dooley SJ with singing led by Jo Kenderes (Catling) ending with the College song "In the Spirit of St Scholastica" which is now becoming familiar to the Ex-Students who left the College before it was introduced. I was honoured to receive a phone call after the reunion from an Ex-student who found our Mass to be inspiring and uplifting. 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 and the room was a-buzz all afternoon especially with the classes of 1954 and 1964 celebrating 60 and 50 year reunions respectively with a special anniversary cake. Sr Lia opened the archives and had many very interested visitors.

Our oldest Ex-Student, Biddy Kennedy (Bridgit Green 1932) who turned 101 last October came to our reunion. Biddy has very fond memories of her Schols days as a boarder and mentioned the cow paddocks where now there are classroom buildings! She also had many photos to show us.

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

Kate Rayment will address us this year during our luncheon. I am sure you will be excited to meet her.

I wish to thank the executive and committee members for their work and support over the past year:

Vice President	Maureen McCluskie
Treasurer	Maria Fuller
Secretary	Anne Wells
Registrar	Therese McDermott (Trang Nguyen)
Newsletter Editor	Christine Volk (Smith)
Liturgy Coordinator	Jo Kenderes (Catling)
Committee	Katrina Fuller, Cheryl Fraser, Clare Hamilton (Weir), Christina James (Ingram), Veronica McCluskie sgs, Win McCluskie Ellen McKenzie, Trish MacRae (Grannall), Rose Paton (Duggan), Lizzy Phillips, Rae Wales, Anne Whiting (Buckley).

**Find us on Facebook at
St Scholastica's College (Schols)**

Karen Debenham (Gillespie '67) President

Invitation to Ex-Students Annual Reunion.

Join us for Mass in the Chapel at midday on Sunday 24th May 2015, followed by a light luncheon to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

We especially welcome our most recent ex-students – the class of 2014.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Mrs Kate Rayment



It is with pleasure that I contribute to this, my first ex-students' newsletter. I do so in recognition of and with thanksgiving for the ongoing contributions of the Schols Ex-students to the college community.

I begin by introducing myself to you all:

I grew up on a farm in the rural area surrounding the village of Wallabadah, South of Tamworth and attended the local Primary school there. I attended St Joseph's College Lochinvar as a boarder for my secondary schooling and then moved to Sydney where I completed my undergraduate degree in Music Education. My first appointment was to Marcellin College in Randwick, providing my first and only experience of single-sex boys' education. My husband and I moved to Tamworth in 1987 to allow us to raise a family in the country. We have three beautiful sons, all now in their twenties. I taught at two of the local High Schools before taking up a position as the only Music teacher at the Catholic Senior High School. The school amalgamated with the local Catholic junior school and was renamed McCarthy Catholic College. Other than two years working at the Australian International School in Kuala Lumpur, I spent the next 25 years working in various roles at McCarthy, including REC, AP Teaching & Learning and Assistant Principal before becoming Principal in 2009. The school operated under the charism of the Dominican

Sisters and the Christian Brothers. This was a very formative and wonderful time in my life.

During the years in Tamworth I also completed two Masters Degrees, one in Educational Leadership & Management and the other in Theology. I am now working to complete my PhD in Education.

I come to St Scholastica's with great enthusiasm and am enjoying the context of single-sex girls' education in the Good Samaritan tradition.

There is a very special quality of St Scholastica's that is not difficult to name. In a SWOT analysis conducted on the first day of school for staff, the qualities of the college were named repeatedly by groups and individuals. They have been reinforced in my discussions with parents and with students. They centre on quality, commitment, high standards, community, diversity, tolerance, and relationships but they are deeply rooted in the Good Samaritan values underpinned by The Rule of St Benedict.

It has been clear to me from the outset that there is an authenticity in the charism of the Good Sams that permeates life at the college. It is not shallow, trite or laboured; it is a deep, natural connection to the Benedictine tradition gifted by Archbishop Polding from the foundation of the order. The same values that were born of the monastic rule in the sixth century and translated into the burgeoning colony of Australia in the 1850s are articulated and lived today through the narratives and activity central to the physical, spiritual, academic and pastoral life of our college.

The traits which characterise St Scholastica's College are those that define an authentic Catholic school - "a place of integral education of the human person through a clear educational project of which Christ is the foundation; its ecclesial and cultural identity; its mission of

education as a work of love; [and] its service to society”.

The justice and compassion of Christ is witnessed to in classrooms, in the counsellors’ offices, administration centre, the boarding college, in the pastoral programs, extra-curricular life, and in the playground. The outstanding academic, cultural and sporting programs and the attention to developing knowledge, skills, values and attitudes deliver a truly holistic Catholic education.

My vision is a shared vision – for a Catholic school centred on excellence in all things. It will be a place where every student is provided the opportunity to know Christ. It will be a place where all girls and staff flourish; where, in partnership with parents and carers, the girls develop into young women of goodness who will have choice about how they will approach their future and who will make outstanding contributions to their communities and to our world.

Our place in the world needs to be firmly grounded in our call to be Good Samaritans by being good neighbours: listening; acting with compassion, hospitality and peace; and seeking balance, while being loyal stewards of that which is not ours, and to do this with that which St Augustine calls “the foundation of all virtues” – humility.

To be successful in this endeavour, we must begin by making OTHER larger than self. We envision the community we can become. Then, with clear goals and high expectations of ourselves we will work together, doing the best we can do and being the best we can be.

I look forward very much to the journey with you along the road to Jericho. To getting to know my new neighbours and to working together to build upon the strong foundations already well established.

Pax and may God bless you all for the year ahead.

Farewell Ms Loretto Richardson



Loretto was and still is a traveller. Irish heritage, Scottish formation and a serendipitous voyage that brought her to our shores... The strength of Loretto’s voice is her most potent weapon. It is both lyrical and idiosyncratic. In a world where many of us bemoan the formulaic lines and adherence to a pre-determined script, Loretto brings individualism, intuition and character... Her style is organic. I searched for a master copy of her design, a modus operandi if you like, far and wide, through the drawers of her desk and beyond, something like Prospero’s Project or Whitlam’s Program, but instead, I looked up and saw, out the window, a woman tending the garden and picking up papers...

**Quenten Watson,
Senior Guidance Coordinator**

Sr Clare Condon, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict, Speech Night Occasional Address, 18/11/2014;

My final words are to the students, gathered here this evening in this town hall. You have experienced a woman of deep faith in her God and a practical spirituality that has sustained a life of prayer and humility. You have experienced a leader who has been prepared to listen, to wait, to encourage and to respond to the needs of all before her. You have experienced, not just a good teacher or an administrator, but an

educator of immense quality and skill. You have experienced a woman who has believed in each one of you and fostered your human and spiritual development in all its facets. Each of you can follow her example in whatever venture you seek to pursue in your life. That is the greatest gift that you can render to her for her leadership. The best gift of gratitude you can offer is to follow her example.

Ciara Morris, *College Vice Captain, Year 12*
Graduation, 18/9/2014:

You have been a cheerleader and supporter at each event. You constantly push the boundaries of social action. You take risks for us, and we would like to thank you;...for your support and celebration of Australia's Indigenous young women;...for involving the school in social justice causes such as refugee rights and environmental activism; ...for the opportunity to discuss with Cardinal Pell a woman's role in the Catholic Church. ...for each and every International Women's Day Breakfast and the awe inspiring speakers you had us meet and converse with. ...for setting an example for Schols Girls that they too can hold the top job, be leaders, speak their minds, live with respect for all people and do so in peace. Just like former Irish President Mary Robinson you know that "everybody matters".



Scholarchie People's Choice award: Bianca Jurukovski
(Yr 10); hand decorated linocut "Legacy"

Rosie Brewer ('14) reflects on her education at St Scholastica's

When I graduated from St Scholastica's in 2014, I knew I had been a part of something special. For my entire high school career, I had been built up by the warmth and care that is a unique part of the Schols environment.

In my years at St Scholastica's College I learned many things. Whilst many of my lessons were academic, most of them were sentimental. I learned the importance of hospitality, and welcoming everyone into our community. I understood that we must take care of our environment. And most importantly I was introduced to the importance of compassion; compassion for our friends, our family, neighbours and strangers.

A large influence in the ethos of the school was Ms Richardson. Like the hearth in the home, her warmth reached all members of the college. She has been a leader in the truest sense of the word, she has led by example. I had the privilege of undergoing night patrol one night with her, and not once did she dictate what was to be done, rather she showed us, she communicated with not only us but with the people we were there to help.

The staff of St Scholastica's provides a sense of support which is truly unique. Whether it was discussing the trials of teenage womanhood in homeroom, academic support from morning classes, or stopping by the year coordinators office for a chat, Schols makes sure that the girls are taken care of. As each student walks into the gates in the morning, a staff member is there to greet them, reminding each girl that they are a member of a community.

The values put forward by Ms Richardson and the College community have stayed with me.

They have become an integral part of my life, influencing my decision to pursue a career in human rights law. I aim to carry over the Schols values to my studies at the University of New South Wales. I know that the foundations that St Scholastica's College granted me have set me up to succeed, for which I am eternally grateful.

Thank you Rosie for your contribution to our Ex-students newsletter and we welcome you to the Ex-students Union as one of our newest members!

GOOD SAMARITAN FOUNDATION

Good Samaritan Foundation Scholarships offer life-changing opportunities.

When the Good Samaritan Foundation's Scholarship Program was launched in late 2013, one student was awarded a scholarship. A year later, growing interest and support of the program has meant that seven more students have received scholarships from the Foundation for 2015 - 2016.

These seven senior secondary students – all from Good Samaritan Education Colleges (five from Sydney including one student from St Scholastica's, one from Wollongong and one from Melbourne) – were presented their scholarship certificates during a special event held in the Trixie Forest Centre at St Scholastica's College. Each student will receive support for years 11 and 12, in most cases covering the cost of their tuition fees.

Around 100 supporters of the Good Samaritan Foundation gathered for the presentation, including award sponsors Tony Carroll representing Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers and Patsy Healy of WN Bull Funerals, principals of Good Samaritan Education Colleges, the Hon Jamie Parker MP, Sister Clare Condon, Congregational

Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and many of the Good Samaritan Sisters.

“The Foundation is delighted to offer these scholarships which support the community and assist families facing particular challenges. We are very grateful to the donors and supporters who make this possible” said Catherine Cresswell, the Good Samaritan Foundation's newly appointed Executive Director.

The scholarship program is just one of many initiatives supported by the Good Samaritan Foundation.



L to R: Kate Rayment, Karen Debenham, Loretto Richardson and Elizabeth Carnegie at the 2015 Foundation Scholarship Program Presentation held at the Trixie Forest Centre.

The Foundation began in 1999 to provide ongoing finances and resources to support the works and ministries established by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Some of the key projects of the Sisters include The Good Samaritan Inn in Melbourne, which provides safe accommodation to women and children escaping domestic violence, Good Samaritan Housing in Brisbane, which provides accommodation for young homeless mums and children, and support for the work of Good Sams in assisting refugees and asylum seekers and trafficked people.

Recently the Foundation began a new chapter in its life with a new Board of Directors and an Executive Director, as well as the relocation of its

offices from Brisbane to Sydney to establish a more national focus.

“It is an exciting time for the Foundation. We are looking forward to working with schools, supporters and alumni and growing the support we are able to offer to the ministries of the Good Samaritan Sisters,” said Catherine.

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) 8752 5313 or email: ccresswell@goodsams.org.au www.goodsamsfoundation.org.au

Mary Robinson (McCluskie) ('72)
PA to Sr Clare Condon, Congregational Leader,
Sisters of the Good Samaritan

What's happening at Toxteth House

Toxteth House is an historic house built in 1829 by Australian architect, John Verge and is listed by the New South Wales Heritage Council as a building of historical significance. The house was owned by two generations of the Allen family and in 1901 it was purchased by the Catholic Church as a convent for the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and later incorporated into the grounds of St Scholastica's College.



Under the guidance of Heritage experts, Toxteth House is currently being renovated and restored. When this process is complete, the Good Samaritan Congregational offices will relocate to

the building from their current location on the grounds of Rosebank College in Five Dock. Other Good Samaritan entities such as the Good Samaritan Foundation and Good Samaritan Education will also have offices in the restored Toxteth House. The restoration work has already revealed stunning soaring ceilings, marble fireplaces previously covered in thick enamel paint and parquet floors. It is hoped that the work will be finished by mid June.

Good Sams feature in new book

Perfect Charity – Women Religious Living the Spirit of Vatican II is a new book that documents the impact of the Second Vatican Council on the lives of 14 Australian nuns, two of whom are **Good Samaritan Sisters Anna Warlow** and **Clare Condon**, and 12 other religious women, tell their personal stories of the dramatic changes they experienced as a result of the Second Vatican Council. “What they describe is radical renewal,” said Mary Ryllis Clark, one of the book’s editors. “Their stories chart journeys which took them from school classrooms to the wider world. Various they went to university, practiced canon law, feminist theology and biblical scholarship, and [undertook] advocacy on behalf of the marginalised and asylum seekers.” The contribution of religious women to Australian cultural and educational life has been remarkable but largely anonymous and its significance understated. In choosing the women, Mary said the editors “wanted a range of different congregations” and “a variety in the focus of ministry”. Journalist and broadcaster Geraldine Doogue has described *Perfect Charity* as “a terrific collection of Australian stories of women who have contributed mightily by adapting themselves to meet a changing mission; indeed leading some of that change when others weren’t quite sure where the journey led. “Faith,

bravery, risk and wisdom all feature within the experiences of these highly impressive nuns. I salute them," she said.

Sisters celebrating Jubilees

Congratulations to **Sister Jean Gates**, **Sister Maureen Pendergast** ('45) and **Sister Cecily Pullen** ('47) who are celebrating Diamond Jubilees and to **Sister Veronica McCluskie** ('61) who is celebrating her Golden Jubilee.

You can keep up to date with news, stories and spirituality of the Good Samaritan Sisters in their e-magazine "The Good Oil".

<http://www.goodsams.org.au/category/good-oil/>

NEWS FROM EX-STUENTS

Class of 1964 Reunion

The class of 64 celebrated their 50th anniversary of leaving St Scholastica's with a special celebration cake and champagne at the annual Ex-students' reunion on 25th May last year.



L to R: Shirley Boag (Smith), Carmel Vanny (Pye) Veronica Northcott (Heffernan), Elizabeth McKenna, Noreen Mostyn (McDonald), Sr Gemma Cahill and Maureen McCluskie

Class of 1965 Reunion

Recently, the class of 1965 got together to celebrate (once again) the 50th anniversary of our leaving school.

The impetus for this second get-together was the return to Australia of one of our class-mates, **Anita Brigden-Butterfield**, who has been resident in Canada for many years. Anita comes back to Australia every few years, so we took the opportunity to meet up again.

As it happened, we managed to organise a lovely meeting with quite a few of the group who had not managed to come to the reunion last year.



L to r: Shirley (Smith) Boag, Jane Chapman, Lynne (Murphy) Hutchison, Maureen McCluskie, Noreen (McDonald) Mostyn, Maureen (McCauley) Robins, Sr M Gemma Cahill, Elizabeth McKenna, Anita (Brigden) Brigden-Butterfield, Carmel (Pye) Vanny, Veronica (Heffernan) Northcott, Carol Yip

For some of us it was the first meeting in fifty years, so we had a lot of catching up to do. We spent several happy hours hearing what we had done, where we had been, sharing family news, laughing, looking at photos both of recent events and "long ago", swapping addresses and phone numbers, and just generally sharing.

We had a delightful time.

Happy “50th Birthday” reunion

On 18th October a ‘Happy 50th Birthday’ reunion was held by graduates from 1979-1981; a chance to acknowledge the change from young women starting out in life to self-assured women wishing to connect and celebrate with friends and faculty. We reminisced about classroom antics, school yard injustices and missing lines in *Iolanthe*, and discussed the challenges that school and boarding life had offered.

It was a privilege to again meet **Sister Teresita (Joan Sexton)**, who knew our names and recognised so many of us even though the years had certainly wrought change! Accompanying this amazing woman were the fabulous **Sisters Marilyn, Francis, Colleen and Anne**, Mr Tapsell, Mr McArthur, Mr Hekeik, Ms Lyneham (Tapsell), Ms Smith (Lourey), Ms Johnson (Cheney), Ms Dengate, Ms Hutch, Ms Mason, Ms Shaw and Ms Warner. These teachers had helped shape our future pursuits in life. Over the ensuing 4 hours, prompted by tales, insights and photos, fuelled by genuine curiosity we reflected on learning, growing and our contributions to family and community.

Our thanks goes to **Danielle Heininger** (Pierce) and **Shelly Laval** (Barnes) (our photographer) for organising the event along with **Jane Lourey** and **Natalie Perri**. We honoured the memory of women who did not get to celebrate with us and appreciated the effort taken by all who attended.



Sr Marilyn calls the class of '79 – '81 to order.

Maureen Edgton (Winn), 1981 School Captain

Class of 2003

Members of the class of 2003 at the wedding of **Louise Tapsell** and Michael Anderson. Louise’s parents Michael and Meryl are both former teachers at St Scholastica’s.



Back from left: Claire, Gina, Sarah, Jillian, Louise, Kathleen, Annabel, Allison Front: Millie, Elise, Lavagna, Stephanie

Class of 2004 Reunion

On the evening of Saturday, 22 November 2014, the Class of 2004 gathered at the Marble Bar to celebrate their 10 Year Reunion. It was a night of reminiscing with classmates and teachers of past school days as well as catching up on the past ten years. We laughed as memories flooded back. No one could believe how fast ten years had flown. It was ten years to the day that we had celebrated our Formal. We especially thank Ms Richardson, Ms Barnett, Ms Spaulding, Ms McCluskie and Mr Ross who joined us. We are grateful to all the staff at Schols for supporting, encouraging and helping us become the women we are today.



Katrina Fuller ('04)

Inner City Alumni

The Inner City Alumni meets annually for lunch at the Bowlers Club, 99 York Street, Sydney. The next luncheon is on Saturday 17 October 2015 at noon. The regular attendees are mainly ex-students from both St James, Forest Lodge Patrician Brothers and Good Samaritan Schools, with many ex-students from St Scholastica's who all share wonderful school memories. To be on the mailing list, please email innercityalumni@gmail.com.



L to R::Kathy Williams (Alleyne) Dianna Taylor (Chapman), Jan Ledger (Reddie), Diane Ballantyne (O'Grady), Roma Agius (Waldron), Kay Greentree and Lena Martin (Calamatta).

Dame Meg Taylor ('69)

Dame Meg Taylor has been appointed Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum and is the first woman to be selected for this leadership role.

The announcement was made in July 2014 by Pacific leaders gathered for the 45th Pacific Islands Forum in Palau.

Dame Meg previously served as a senior official at the World Bank and has over 20 years' experience working in the region and internationally, including serving as Papua New Guinea's Ambassador to the United States, Mexico and Canada.

A national of Papua New Guinea (PNG), Dame Meg attended [Schols](#) from 1964 to 1969. After finishing her secondary education, she completed a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Melbourne University and later, a Master of Laws (LLM) from Harvard University.

Dame Meg practised law in PNG and served as a member of the Law Reform Commission. She is co-founder of Conservation Melanesia and has served on the boards of international conservation and research organisations.

Dame Meg said she will aim to bring her own leadership style to the new role. "I report to the leaders – I have a lot of bosses – I'm sure with their agreement it should be much more consultative". "If we're really focused on a regional approach, we've got to be able to make sure people believe in it and are part of it."

Australia's Foreign Affairs Minister, Julie Bishop, described Dame Meg as an "impressive representative of both Papua New Guinea and the Pacific on the international stage" who "has championed private sector led growth and has been a pioneer for women's economic empowerment".

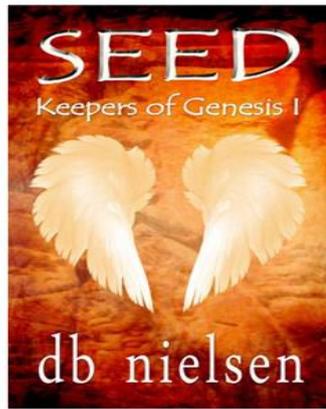
"With her experience and expertise, Dame Meg will bring a powerful intellect and a global perspective to the role of Secretary General," she said.

Sister Joan Sexton, who taught Dame Meg in years 11 and 12, has fond memories of her. "Meg had a very high sense of her duty to Papua New Guinea and saw it as her responsibility to promote the good of her country. With this in mind, she later became involved in the global aspect of serving her country," she said.



Dame Meg Taylor

Professor Denise Brix-Nielsen (Guterres) ('88)



Congratulations to **Denise Brix-Nielsen (Guterres)** on the publication of 'SEED' - the first book in an epic adventure series set in Iraq and blending romance, urban fantasy and history. The book is the first in a series of four, an example of the popular *para-normal romantic fiction*, a genre that is loved by teenagers today. In this book the protagonist, Sage, a 17 year old young woman falls for a part-human part-angel, named St John Rivers. The novel draws on historical events and has clever literary allusions throughout which engage the more 'well-read' booklovers. The following books in the series will be the enduring mystery of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and their echo of the Garden of Eden Genesis story.

Nicola Dugar ('09)



Nicola studied Mathematics and Education at Newcastle University and recently submitted her honours thesis on educational research. She has had a paper accepted to present at a conference on feminist theory at Roskilde University in

Denmark, and is attending a conference at Goldsmiths University, London in 2015. She is currently applying for graduate school programs in the US and UK to study for her Masters and PhD. Nicola.Dugar@uon.edu.au

Danielle Verde ('06)

Ex-student **Danielle Verde (2006)** visited the College to speak with Legal Studies classes. Danielle is a lawyer who works in personal injury law with Maurice Blackman. She demystified legal work, a large part of which involves long hours listening to clients' stories on the phone or face to face. Most legal work she explained to the students, involves negotiation or alternative dispute resolution, not the dramatic court battles we see on TV. In fact most legal cases settle on the steps outside the courtroom!



Danielle Verde with current Schols students, Ada Du and Hannah Draper

Emma Duggan ('08)

Emma completed a degree in Digital Media at UNSW and recently returned to Australia after completing her Masters in Post Production Sound Design at York University in England. Emma has recently worked on pre and post production of a film made by a NIDA student based on the biblical Cain & Abel story and is looking to freelance in her specialty area, possibly in New Zealand. She credits her early passion at school for both Music and Mathematics for leading her into this exciting creative field.

Alanah Scholes (Wright)



Congratulations to **Alanah Scholes (Wright)** who has recently been appointed as Indigenous Careers Advisor to Accor Australia.

Alanah has been an integral part of Accor's Indigenous programs since joining the team from Mercure Parramatta in October 2010. Her achievements include launching the first ever Accor Reconciliation Action Plan in 2011, developing the current Indigenous Job Ready program and helping increase the number of Indigenous employees across the network to above 300 in 2013.

Alanah is charged with developing Accor's Indigenous Training Academy and leading the career advancement for current Indigenous employees across the country.

Our Newest Ex-Students

The graduating class of 2014

The College improved its overall achievement compared to last year. Ella Finney, Tayla Joel and Stephanie Rowell attained a Band 6 level for each subject, which is 90% or more in each subject. Kristina Simic was 9th in Geography and Jia Ying Lu was 8th in Mathematics. 39% of students attained a Band 6 in at least one subject. Approximately 80% of students were offered a place at University. Congratulations to Ella Finney who attained the highest ATAR of 98.45 and to Isabelle Jurukovski, the Dux of the College, who attained an ATAR of 98.05. There are many more achievements that go largely unnoticed. Approximately 80% of subjects were

above State average in Bands 5 and 6. This means the College has a large number of girls who were one or two marks off a Band 6 level, a fantastic achievement. Approximately 9% have an indigenous background. We congratulate the class of 2014.

Sister Clare Memorial Award

Dux of 2014

The Sister Clare Memorial Award is presented to the St Scholastica's student who achieves the highest result 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. **Isabelle Jurukovski** was named Dux of the College in 2014 having maintained that position throughout her 6 years at the College and achieved an ATAR of 98.05. **Ella Finney** achieved the highest ATAR of 98.45. Both girls are worthy of the Sr Clare Memorial Award and the Ex-Students' Committee have decided to share the prize equally between Ella and Isabelle. They will be presented with their awards at the annual reunion on 24 May.

Lionel Bowen Young Writers' Award

In November **Isabella Brown** (Yr 12 2014) won first place for her story titled *For the Best*, which was entered in the Lionel Bowen Young Writers' Award, presented at UNSW. The judges said that her story was "The strongest piece of writing in the collection - a truly stunning piece of work that is beautifully crafted. This is a heartbreaking account of an unplanned pregnancy that is poignant and taut with the tensions of desire, disappointment and unrealised potential, viewed through the naïve narration of a younger sibling. Simply superb work." Her story appears in an anthology published by Juvenilia Press.

Babies!

Congratulations to **Maria Peña** ('98), on the birth of her baby boy, Harrison.

We are always interested to hear of ex-student's 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 Current Projects:

St Scholastica's College Ex-Students' Bursary Fund:

Our Bursary Fund this year received \$3,310.00 in donations from Ex-Students. Our Investment Fund this year reached \$101,168.55. The Bursary amount paid for 2014/2015 was \$5000.00.

St Scholastica's College Building Fund

The College Building Fund received \$970.00 in donations from Ex-Students.

St Scholastica's College Indigenous Fund

The College Indigenous Fund received \$2,560.00 in donations from Ex-Students.

The Good Samaritan Foundation

The Foundation received \$1,425.00 in donations from Ex-Students.

Maria Fuller

Treasurer



Karen Debenham, Dennis Hoolahan and Win McCluskie (1967) at the Farewell Garden Party for Loretto Richardson. All three attended kindergarten together at St James Forest Lodge in 1955.

Recently deceased Ex-students

Sister Mary Christopher Keane FDNCS

(Dorothy) ('45) 24/01/2015

Sister Anthony Clare Mullany sgs

(Joan) ('36) 28/08/2014

Marie Huxford (Dawson) ('65)

05/09/2013
Sister of Jan Mears ('58) & Patricia Phillips ('62)

Patty Leehy ('58)

18/03/2014

Shirley McGlynn (Fraser) ('39)

23/04/2014

Patricia Sutherland (Harley) ('45)

23/11/2014

Marina Casula (College Captain '71)

19/05/2014
Sister of Lucy ('72)

Cecily Bastick ('49)

01/04/2015

Mother of Susan ('77) and Cathryn ('79)

Christina Sheridan

16/02/2014

Mother of Carol Griffith ('53)

Brigitta Imison (Mazy) ('54)

27/07/2014

Neville Compton

22/02/2015

Brother of Sister Xavier Compton sgs ('33)

The names of deceased ex-students will be entered into the memorial book which is placed on the altar during our reunion

Mass

Winners of last year's raffle:

First – Libby Fowler

Second – Eric Hamilton

Third – Gail Southwell

St Scholastica's Ex-Students' Memorabilia



Fine bone China Mug \$15.00



Eco-friendly water bottle \$5.00



Schols pen \$5.00



Post it notes \$8.00



4G USB \$8.00

All items will be available for sale at the Annual Reunion on May 24th 2015

Ex-students' memorabilia are wonderful mementoes of the College and make great gifts for current or recently graduated Ex-students. Proceeds support fundraising for Ex-students' Union projects, including our Bursary Fund.

Mail orders are also available if requested. Please email karendebenham@optusnet.com.au or phone 0419 999 084