



ST SCHOLASTICA' S EX-STUDENTS UNION

ANNUAL REUNION:FOURTH SUNDAY IN MAY

APRIL 2003

President' s Message

Dear Friends,

80 Years!

The St. Scholastica's Ex-Students` Union was formed 80 Years ago and we should congratulate ourselves that it has remained constant over all that time.

Congratulations to the College on the success of their students, resulting in exceptionally high scores. We wish them every success in their chosen fields of tertiary studies or whatever path they choose in life.

Girls! We look forward to you having a continuing association with the College through the Ex-Students` Union and we welcome you to the Reunion.

We were relieved to hear that Bill and Monica Flint (Reay) had their home and sheds saved during the bush fires in January. We pray that none of our ex-students or families suffered loss.

We pray for those who are sick. You will be remembered in our prayers and especially at the reunion Mass.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all who are such faithful members of the Union and support our projects each year. A special thanks to Anne and Rose. I have enjoyed working with them. Now, it is time for me to step down. Will you be the new face – the new President?

Thank you, sisters for your love and support over my term of office. It is you who bind us together

Loretto, thank you for your interest and assistance in our endeavours.

God Bless. May we have peace in our world.

Carmel Keys – President

Membership

Annual Subscription \$5
New Graduates \$2
Life Membership \$50

Nominations are being called to fill Executive Positions:

President.....
Secretary.....
Assistant Secretary.....
Publicity Officer.....
Treasurer.....

Jubilee!!!

Congratulations to ex-student sisters who celebrate Jubilees of their religious profession!

Golden- January 2002

Sr Maria Roberts SGS (Heather)

Golden - January 2003

Sr Elizabeth Carr, SGS

Sr Lola Junge, SGS

Sr Carmel Connelly, SGS

The Treasure of Saint Scholastica' s

A new book, by Jacinta Shailer sgs and Judith Foster sgs was launched in October 2002 by Sonia Wagner sgs.

You will have the opportunity to view and purchase this book, together with Coasters, Cards and Bookmarks taken from the book, at our AGM on 25 May 2003.

Costs are:- Book \$19.95; Coasters \$13; Card with Envelope \$2.70; Bookmark \$1.00; Post Card \$1.00.

What' s happening at Toxeth Estate?

We look forward to being pleasantly surprised to see the erection of the new fence surrounding the estate, which was due to commence in March 2003!

What' s happening at the College?

With the Strategic Plan of 2000 well under way, the Masterplan, which had been explored by the community, was taking shape. The College now has three Development Applications in with the Council. They cover the Amphitheatre in the area around the Canteen, the extensions to the Gymnasium and the addition of a further story on the Library building. These will be further excellent facilities for the students. If you have not received your SCHOLS.COM for January 2003 look for it on our AGM Notice Board and view the Masterplan by the Architect, David Fleeting.

There will also be vouchers available for ex-students who wish to express their support of the College by making a donation to this wonderful endeavour.

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4WD East Timor Appeal

At our AGM in 2002 a collection was organised to help Sr Rita Hayes sgs for her arduous pastoral work in the mountains of East Timor. An excellent amount of \$580.95 was raised. With an additional contribution from ex-student funds an amount of \$780.95 was given. Sr Maureen Patricia,sgs, the instigator of the appeal, writes in a note " a thousand thanks to all who contributed! Much appreciated!" Sister advises the

fund with over \$10,000 in hand has reached over the halfway mark. Any further donations are urgently needed!

Remember in Your Prayers recently deceased ex-students/relatives/friends

Sr Jessie (McDonell) SGS - June 2002

Sr Regina Houlihan – 2002

Colleen Sibert (Wilson, Year 1945) – January 2002

Joan Levick (Fraser)-September 2001 Sister of Shirley McGlynn & Marie Berry.

Shiela Couch (Byrne) Sister of Patricia Byrne & Eileen Wells – January 2003

Joan Taggart (Lamond, Years 1930-1933)– January 2003

Robin Buckman (Henville)

Heather Naughton (Stephens)

Kevin Granger – husband of Mary (Spora)

Our sympathy to all who have lost loved ones.

Please forward names of deceased ex-students or family for inclusion in the Books of Remembrance, which are placed on the altar at our Annual Mass.

Sister Jessie McDonell R.I.P.

Jessie, of Irish/Scottish heritage, was the eighth of eleven children of Donald and Ellen McDonell (nee Carlton)–seven girls (all of whom entered the Convent) and four boys (one of whom became a priest).

Jessie received Primary education in Wingham where she was born in 1917, and Secondary education at St Scholastica`s. She was a keen scholar and even keener sportswoman, especially at tennis.

After graduating from Teachers`College, Jessie taught in both NSW and Queensland, and later spent a year on the Motor Mission in North Queensland. Later again she engaged in Catechetics, Parish Visitation and Hospital Chaplaincy. In 2000 she moved to Polding Villa where she stayed till major surgery took her to hospital and then to Bethany Nursing Home where she died on 25 June, 2002.

Jessie was the last of eleven members of the McDonell and Carlton families who have been Good Samaritans since 1887. She is survived by two of her Mercy Sisters, Helen and Josette.

Joan Levick (Fraser) R.I.P. Shirley McGlynn (Fraser) writes to tell us her sister, Joan Levick, who died in 2001, was the Australian woman writer and poet with the pseudonym, Amy Whiting, winner of the Patrick White, amongst other awards. An amazing comprehensive

www.flinders.edu.au/english/witting/amywitting.html is maintained by Yvonne Miels at Flinders University. Joan was awarded an AM posthumously in 2002 for services for Australian literature and as a mentor to young writers. She is also survived by eldest sister Marie Berry, BA, a fellow ex-student (1927-31).

St Scholastica` s Day& School Year Opening

Fr Dennis Rochford celebrated Mass at St Mary` s Cathedral for St Scholastica` s Day and the Opening of the School Year on 13 February. The Theme of the Mass called for Peace and Harmony in the World. This

message was delivered by Ms Loretto Richardson, Principal, in her welcoming address, and reiterated in Fr. Rochford` s Homily and by the many students who participated in the Liturgy. Under the leadership of Ms Felicity Andreasen and Ms Jayne McNeill the choir, orchestra and soloists enhanced the solemn occasion. The Dedication of Captains and the Blessing of their Badges was included in the celebrations.

News of ex-students:

? Present at St Scholastica` s Day Mass this year was ex-student (1930` s) Biddie Kennedy (Green) whose mother Madeleine Brown attended Pitt St school before the move to Toxeth House.

? Shirley McGlynn, BA (Fraser) reminds us of high SSC standards in literature & art in early days due to Sr Clare Slattery` s encouragement. Shirley was the recipient of the Alice Furlong Prize in 1939 for the study of English Literature.

? Monica Fitch (Wilkins) – received at the Catechist Mass at St Mary` s Cathedral in May 2002, the Cardinal Freeman Medal for twenty-five years` catechetical work.

? Sr Beverley Caffery who at the local Australia Day Awards for Hughenden and Flinders Shire, Queensland, was named Citizen of Year 2002

Congratulations and best wishes to:

? **Births:**

To JoAnne (Catling) and Robert Kenderes on the birth of their second son Paul Robert on 24 January 2003

? **50th Wedding Anniversaries:**

Mary (Plasto) & John Duggan
Monica (Reay) and Bill Flint
May they be blessed with good health for many more years.

? The College Principal, Loretto Richardson, and all her staff for another year of great achievement in all fields of education. We thank you also for the help and cooperation received by the ex-students executive throughout the year and your presence at our AGM.

? HSC Class of 2002 on completing Secondary Education. Acting Deputy Principal, Elizabeth Clark, advises the College is extremely pleased with the HSC results. She acknowledged excellent performance of some of the students - Dan Li, 99.3 UAI; Louise Wesolowski, 97.7 UAI and Band 6 in all her subjects; Louise De Gabriele, On Stage Recognition; Karla Subrata, Maths Accelerant; Ju Mi Lee, 2nd highest UAI and 5th in State for Korean Background Speakers. Results revealed outstanding successes in the areas of Drama, English, Geography, Information Technology, PDHPE, Mathematics, Chinese Background Speakers, and Japanese Beginners. 18% of Year 12 received UAI above 90 and 38% above 80.

? Top UAI Student - Dan Li, UAI of 99.3, has chosen to study Commerce at Sydney University. Therefore, She qualifies for the Sr Clare Award.

Just to hand
Class of 1953, is organising their 50-Year Reunion and attendance at our Annual Reunion in May, 2003.

? **Polding Villa** - An insight by S.M.Peter Damian,sgs (SSC ex-Student, ex-Teacher)
At present the home of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan – those who “ have borne the burdens of the day and the heat” and now make Prayer their ministry. It operates as a Hostel under the Commonwealth Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency, but its days are numbered as the conditions cannot in future be met with the sources we have available. It is expected that at the end of June 2004, Polding Villa will close and the Sisters will then make their home at Bethany, Eastwood, where the current building project will enable the Daughters of Charity to offer accommodation.

When Polding Villa was erected on the site which incorporated Sr Nuncie’ s Garden and the Egan family home, which had been bequeathed to us, a small Nursing Home and a Hostel were provided. It was indeed a place where peace reigned; where the Sisters were provided with all spiritual assistance by His Lordship Thomas McCabe who had retired from the Diocese of Wollongong and lived in the chaplain’ s flat, and where many Sisters, the Bishop himself and Rev. Father F.X. Roberts, formerly Parish Priest of Forest Lodge, were cared for in the last hours of their life. Day by day, the Sisters and the Staff celebrated life and many outings and activities brought stimulation and enjoyment. Many Sisters, family members and friends were always assured of a welcome at Polding Villa.

It became necessary to transfer the Nursing Home patients to Bethany and remodel Polding Villa for Hostel care only. Naturally, the Sisters in the Nursing Home have been visited frequently by the Sisters at Polding Villa, and the Wheel will come full circle when, in a few months, the Sisters at Polding Villa will make their home at Bethany. However, at this time, it is important to stress the contribution Polding Villa has made to the Annals of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. It has been a safe refuge for those who have developed the disabilities consonant with advancing years. It has been a strong bulwark of prayer for the Sisters especially those on far-away missions. With a great zeal for Peace–Peace in the World; in families; in the hearts of those who are poor or isolated or distressed – the Sisters eagerly watch the course of events; receive almost daily requests for prayers for the sick and the dying and live out the community life in peace with themselves and with one another.

Among those who have lived at Polding Villa are many Sisters who taught at St Scholastica’ s and many who were themselves students at the College. In the last two years, we have had a system by which individual students in Year 12 have been prayed for and encouraged to study for success in the HSC by their own Sister who is their “ Prayer Partner”

On the day of the Annual Reunion, after the proceedings, a number of the Ex-students find their way to Polding Villa to visit some of the Sisters. **It is so**

heart-warming to be remembered. Welcome are all who visit Polding Villa.

Please remember to notify your change of address to ensure you stay on our Mailing List.

Class of 1963 celebrating 40 years Reunion-

As it was:

It is 1959 and a new class of 1st Form arrives to begin secondary schooling at St Scholastica’ s College, Glebe Point. Entering the imposing gates and walking along the

red pebble drive, we are dressed in the maroon summer

uniform, wear thick fawn stockings, brown regulation lace-up shoes (polished with Ox-Blood Nugget), close fitting ‘ dutch’ hats on our ‘ off the face’ hairstyles

gloves and leather shoulder bags. Our uniforms (made by Mrs.Steele in the city) must be long enough to touch the ground when we kneel. At school we wear a maroon pinafore and a cardigan if it is cold. Our winter uniform is a maroon serge tunic with a panel of fine knife-pleats at front and back, worn over a fawn, collared blouse. The tie is also maroon. The Latin motto on the school crest on the blazer pocket is “ Macte Virtute” . A white concert dress with a blue sash worn only once (end of year concert) completes the wardrobe.

Sr Mary Agnes is the Head Mistress. She is tiny and always walks quickly, often followed by her kitten which sometimes hitches a ride on her flowing black scapular. Sr Judith is 1st Form class teacher, Sr Pius teaches maths. There is a Head Prefect, a Boarder Prefect and sundry other Prefects. It doesn’ t take long to learn all the rules and consequences for not keeping them. Lunch can be ordered from the Tuckshop on Mondays only. The Tuckshop is in the Boarder’ s Courtyard, where resides a sulphur-crested cockatoo.

We come from different primary schools although the majority of us went to St.James’ at Forest Lodge. Some of us are from overseas. About half live in as boarders. The college grounds are extensive and include a courtyard where Assemblies are held, a grotto, the colonnade, tennis courts, basketball courts, a running green, a ball wall and even a mini-golf course. Within the school we are divided into four Sports Houses: Genezzano, Loreto, Nazareth and Lourdes. Inter-House sport is compulsory at lunch time down on the green. We wear Dunlop Volley sandshoes and run relay races. Ball games such as Tunnel Ball, Overhead and Corner Spry are another popular inter-House sport. Tennis is coached by Victor A Edwards Tennis School. Our racquets have wooden frames!

At the end of the colonnade a large bell is rung by a 4th Former to signal the beginning and end of each school period and to toll the Angelus each day at noon. Essay and poetry competition winners’ writings are displayed behind glass on the colonnade notice boards.

During the next five years we will be taught by many different nuns, and very few lay people. Our school crest will change to a circle with a dove of peace, holding an olive branch in its beak, and the new motto will be “ PAX”

We continue to sweep classrooms and clean blackboard dusters, hold talent quests, raise funds for the many Good Samaritan missions, attend dances at Holy Cross, Ryde and St Patrick's, Strathfield, participate in stage productions at the school and the Trocadero. Benediction will be on Friday followed by uniform inspection.

22 ex-students from our class attended our 30-year reunion in 1993. How many can we round up this time? And what do we all remember?

Update - St Scholastica's ExStudents' 75th

Anniversary Bursary Fund (Special Appeal 1998)

Please be advised that once more a very generous response (**\$3188.89**) was made to our **Bursary Fund Special Appeal** in **2002/03**. Your continuing support to this special project is very encouraging. To date **133** people are involved.

An informative word from the College Principal, Ms Loretto Richardson:-

The Ex-Students' Scholarship was set up a number of years ago by the Ex-Students' Association. It is a way of assisting the daughter or grand daughter of an ex-student with fees. Over the years a number of students have benefited from the generosity of our alumnae. Some of the girls have been day girls, others boarders, but all have benefited alike from the generosity of those who have gone before them at St Scholastica's.

The Scholarship, in particular, emphasises the special link these students have with the tradition of St Scholastica's. Each year the selected student gives a small presentation at the Reunion in May and is able to express what St Scholastica's means to them and to their parents. Above all, the Scholarship emphasises the aim that we all have in education, to achieve personal excellence in all areas of school and community life.

Although in its infancy still, the Scholarship has already had a significant influence in the lives of those students selected and, as time goes by, its impact will be felt more fully as students graduate and move into tertiary education and professional life.

Raffle

This year our prizes are:

First: \$100 Gift Voucher from David Jones

Second: \$50 Gift Voucher from D.J.'s .

Third: "The Treasure of Saint Scholastica's" A new book by Jacinta Shailer sgs and Judith Foster sgs, plus Coasters, Cards and bookmarks taken from the book.

Tickets for the raffle cost \$2.00 each or \$10.00 for the booklet of FIVE tickets. The raffle will be drawn at the Annual Reunion. If you are unable to attend could you return the butts, money and any unsold tickets to the Treasurer prior to 20th May 2003

Our winners last year were:-1st Mary Jane (Croker)

2nd - Michael Fitch 3rd - Sr Carmela Ritchie, sgs.

Ex-Students' Executive

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Please remember to notify your change of address to ensure you stay on our Mailing List.

Sisters of the Good Samaritan Foundation (Est.1999)

This Foundation was launched at Government House, Canberra in March 1999 by the Foundation's patron, Sir William Deane, AC KBE. It is under the Chairmanship of Hon W.J.Carter QC

It was established to ensure the continuance of the Good Samaritan ministry.

The Foundation **gives us the opportunity** in a small way to be a "Good Samaritan". We may be unable to be there but we can be part of this important mission of responding to real needs.

A message from the Chairman of Sisters of the Good Samaritan Foundation reads: - "This year has seen the Foundation take very positive steps towards achieving its core purpose - to be a tool of the Congregation in responding to requests for assistance for 'socially fragile people, homeless people, women in need, disabled people, isolated rural communities, indigenous communities and overseas ministries' "

Achievements this year:-

- ? The official opening of a transitional accommodation service for homeless women and children in Brisbane.
- ? Support for a social and economic ministry to people in the Whyalla area.
- ? Assistance in sponsoring two people to attend in Melbourne, the World Congress of Inclusion International Conference, which called for Life, Liberty, Security for people with intellectual disabilities.
- ? The Foundation responded to a request for resources, basic but essential, for her ministry to the people of Nauiyu Community at Daly River in the Northern Territory.

You will be pleased to know a very generous response totalling **\$685** from our ex-students was made in **2002/03** towards the **GSF**.

Once again, we ask if each AGM invitation recipient would donate a small amount annually to be part of this mission. (Refer our Remittance Advice). Any donation will be receipted and if over \$2 may be used as a Tax Deduction.

Calling all SSC Ex-Students

An invitation is extended to come and join us at our Annual Mass and Afternoon Tea on the fourth Sunday of May annually, -This year on 25 May.

We are about renewing friendships, meeting new folk.

We are about helping in our various projects:-

- ? Sister Clare Memorial Award to the highest achiever in HSC and who is continuing on to Tertiary Studies.
- ? Our Bursary Fund which presently provides a scholarship for a selected SSC student.

- ? Award for Community Work by SSC student.
- ? Sisters of Good Samaritan Foundation - As per article - page 4

NB. Owing to rising costs of postage, stationery and printing we will be obliged to delete names of people from our mailing list, if they have not responded for a period of 5 years.

Let us have your news for our next newsletter