



ST SCHOLASTICA'S EX-STUDENTS' UNION

ANNUAL REUNION: FOURTH SUNDAY IN MAY

APRIL 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Ex-Students
PAX

It hardly seems a whole year since our last meeting. I would like to express my thanks to our past president, Donna Lynch, and to acknowledge all the work that was done while she was President. Thanks also to our secretary, Anne Wells and our committee members, Marie Catling and Jo Kenderes, without whom all the little extra jobs would not be done as efficiently as they are. I would like to especially acknowledge Rose Paton, our treasurer. Rose has proved invaluable in the service that she gives to the Union. I have been reading over the Constitution (from 1965!!) in which it states that “ *the objects of the Union are (i) to bring unity among the ex-students and to foster social intercourse among them and (ii) to raise funds for Good Samaritan Charities and other allied charities.*”

I think that you will agree that we manage to carry out the second object quite well, but that we need to try to improve on the first.

It further states that “*the Committee shall consist of the President, four vice-Presidents, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and twenty members*”.

As you read this, we have a President, a secretary, a seriously over-worked treasurer, and three dedicated members (two of whom are ex-presidents!)

At our Annual General Meeting this year, I would like to try to increase our committee membership with the express purpose of trying to increase the “ideas pool”, which hopefully will lead to an improvement in the first object of the Union: “*to bring unity among the ex-students and to foster social intercourse among them*”. Being on this committee usually involves spending two or three enjoyable afternoons, sharing ideas and afternoon tea, sometimes putting information into envelopes for mailing. Being on the general committee is certainly not onerous.

I would ask anyone who has a few spare hours to seriously think about taking on this role. You could ask a friend to join you as well, if you like.

Of course, if you would like to take on one of the positions of special responsibility, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We are looking forward to hearing lots of names when nominations are called for on May 25th.

(If you are unable to attend the meeting, we would be happy to still accept your nomination prior to the meeting. My contact details are included in the newsletter)

I look forward to seeing lots of you at the reunion in a few weeks time.

Peace to all

Maureen McCluskie (President)

Remember in your prayers recently deceased and their families.

McDonell, Sister Helen RSM (Class of 1941)

– died 19 March 2008

Yip, Beryl Agnes, Mother of Carol & Robin (Class of 1956)

- died 2 August 2007

Cashman, Clare, sister of Sr Imelda Mary, mother of Mary and Anne - died 2 November 2006

Borger, Anne (O'Brien) (Class of 1956) wife of Michael, - died 9 June 2004.

Pinerua, Molly (Hickey) (Class of 1931) – died 2008

These names will be entered in the Books of Remembrance and placed on the altar at our Mass.

Sister Helen McDonell RSM

Helen Margaret was born on 14 October 1922 when her family were living on the Manning River. Her parents were Donald McDonell and Ellen Carlton. Her siblings, Flora, Tom, Kathleen, Alex, Agnes, Austin, John, Jessie, Joan and Josette. All of her family have predeceased Helen, except Josette RSM.

Helen entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1942. and was professed in 1945. She was a gifted teacher, working in Australia and later from 1965 in Papua New Guinea.

Helen was a very committed member of our ex-students' Union attending until recently our Annual Mass and AGM

Helen died peacefully after a long illness-19 March 2008

A beautiful Eulogy from Sr Helen's Requiem Mass may be read on our Notice Board at the AGM.

Molly Pinerua (Hickey) who died on 7 March at Concord Hospital was a student in the 1931 Class, in which she excelled in English. Molly won an Exhibition to Sydney University, but because of the Depression she was unable to take it up. Married to Frank, a pharmacist at Balmain, their children were Richard, a retired Surgeon in W.A., Robin, Mary and Kathleen. Molly was a very supportive member of the Ex-Students' Union. She loved to play tennis and enjoyed a game of golf till recent years. They lived at Drummoyne.

Benedictine Conversations: ancient wisdom for the modern world.

Each year Rosebank College, Fivedock, sponsors Benedictine Spirituality Lectures in the multi-purpose hall at the College. There are usually three Speakers and three Responders, some of whom have been Father Frank Brennan SJ; Bishop

David Walker, bishop of Broken Bay Diocese; Dr Rachael Kohn, Radio National Producer & Presenter; Sister Clare Condon sgs, Congregational Leader of the Good Samaritan Sisters. These gatherings have earned an excellent reputation throughout Sydney. If you would like to attend next year keep in touch with Rosebank by its website at www.rosebank.nsw.edu.au or www.goodsams.org.au or phone 02 9713 4205

Jubilarians celebrate !

Congratulations to our ex-student Jubilarians, who, this year, celebrate anniversaries of their religious profession:

70 Years 24 May 2008 - Sister M Xavier Compton sgs
70 Years - Sister Beryl Rogan sgs
Golden Jubilee: - Sister Beverley Caffery sgs

**MESSAGE FROM LORETTO RICHARDSON,
PRINCIPAL, ST SCHOLASTICA' S COLLEGE.**

I have just spent the weekend in the Hunter valley. Having lived here for 30 years I had never had the pleasure of tasting the wines which have put Australia so firmly on the map for those of us who enjoy a good drop. I sampled some fine wines, discovering that there was a great deal more to a good vintage than I had ever realised. It is a bit like last year which was surely one of the best years ever for the College. The ingredients are all the same as other years but somehow the end result is different.

By any standards 2007 was a very good vintage year. We celebrated the sesquicentenary of the Good Samaritan Sisters in fine style, beginning with mass at the cathedral in February and went on from there to enjoy a number of events which commemorated the life and work of all those teachers whose wisdom had enriched the lives of the young women in their care. I'm sure many ex-students participated in one or some of these varied events.

Our Year 12 students ended the year with a fine set of results adding further to our vintage year. Marlee Bower, the Sister Clare Memorial Prize recipient, achieved above 90 in all her subjects and received a Premier's Award for excellence. Her UAI was 99.55, and she was closely followed by Elizabeth Byron who achieved 99.1 and Tilly Milroy with 98.65.

Special congratulations are in order for Tilly, an Indigenous student, who was joint dux of the College and was also awarded the prize for the top mark in Aboriginal Studies in NSW presented by Professor Gordon Stanley, President of the Board of Studies. Thirty three students received a UAI over 90 with over two thirds of the students electing for their first choice at university. The courses they chose were varied from Arts/Law, Psychology, Medical Science, Global Studies and Multi Media through to Teaching and Nursing. Overall the results were the best in the nineteen years I have been here at Schols and I am sure the much loved Sister Clare Slattery would have been very proud of these girls.

I have already mentioned Tilly Milroy, one of our 43 Indigenous students. Last year, with the introduction of

the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program, the number of Indigenous students in the Boarding College increased to 13. These young women have made excellent progress with the support of the teachers. Five Indigenous students matriculated in Year 12 with four of them now at university. St Scholastica's is closing the gap for Indigenous students in education!

Towards the end of the year Stage two of the Master Plan was finally approved further adding to the richness of the vintage year. The Government granted the College \$1.745 million towards the cost of the project, which is a great support for a building which will cost \$5.5 million. As I write this, the concrete for the footings has been poured and the scaffolding for the extension to the Library is being erected. I hope by the time of the Ex-Students' Reunion on 25th May, it will be possible to see the building taking shape. The new facilities should be ready by the start of 2009. An opening and blessing will be planned for then and we hope that many of you will be able to come and join us. So many events occur throughout the year in so many areas that it is hard to pick out just exactly what makes one year different, better or more of a vintage than another. I have picked just a few from 2007 knowing that you all keep up to date with what goes on here through *Schols News* available through the web page. If you would like to have the newsletter sent to you personally then please send your e-mail address to office@scholastica.nsw.edu.au. It will be emailed to you regularly. I look forward to seeing you all at the Reunion on 25th May.

Loretto Richardson

A message received from Sisters of the Good Samaritan: " Celebrations for the Sesquicentenary year were a great success and the Sisters were most grateful for the contributions of their ex-students"

Congratulations to:

Our New President, Maureen McCluskie, elected at the AGM in May 2007 to head our ex-students' Union. We wish her a successful and enjoyable term of office.

Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict, who, last year, celebrated with excellence 150 years of Life and Mission, in Australia, Japan, Kiribati, Philippines, East Timor. One marvellous result is we now have the beautiful 'Good Samaritan Rose' blooming throughout our land - surely a vivid reminder to all who tend their rose, of the spirit endowed by the various celebrations.

Loretto Richardson and all members of her staff, for another year of great achievement in all fields of education. We appreciate the help and co-operation we receive from Loretto and the administration people throughout the year. We thank you for your presence at our AGM.

All HSC students who performed so well in 2007. 30% of students gained a UAI of over 90 and 66% received a UAI of over 70.

Marlee Bower gained the top UAI of 99.55 She will receive the Sr Clare Memorial Award and will continue studies for a Psychology Degree at Sydney University. Marlee also achieved above 90% in her ten best subjects, thereby gaining the Premier' s Award.

Three students who shared equal Dux of the College: Ellizabeth Byron, Talila Milroy & Ji Sun Kim.

Joanne & Robert Kenderes on the birth of their fourth child, Hugh Andrew, on 3 January 2008. Hugh was baptised on 13 April by Fr Peter Quinn SJ at St Mary' s, North Sydney. He is a brother for Simon, Paul and Marnie.

PROGRESS ON ITS WAY AGAIN!



Steve Davidson, Chair of Board of St Scholastica' s College informs us: "The implementation of Stage 2 of the Master Plan for major additions to and redevelopment of the College premises commenced at the beginning of 2008. This stage includes additions to the Library, a Technology Resource Centre and staff facilities, new offices and classrooms, including two new Art rooms. These facilities will enhance the capacity of the College to provide a positive learning environment which will be reflective both of our Good Samaritan education tradition and the educational requirements of the 21st century " .

The Board of the College is establishing a capital appeal fund, to meet part of this major development cost. The support of the ex-students is requested by the Board.

Our committee agreed to donating our usual amount of \$500 to the College Building Fund for the current year. We are prepared to accept donations from our ex-students throughout the year in the same way that we manage our other financial projects.

We would appreciate the members' feedback about our establishing such a fundraising project and your preparedness to support it.

Donations may be made also directly to the college
Donations over \$2 are Tax Deductible.

The Good Samaritan Art Shop

The Good Samaritan Art shop at Polding Villa, will be open on the afternoon of our reunion for the convenience of ex-students who may wish to peruse the many exquisite articles on sale there. Also available there will be ' Journey to the Heart Mater Dei 50 years, 50 Stories', edited by Jeanie Heininger sgs and launched in September 2007 at a special sesquicentenary meeting in the Trixie Forest Centre; and the 'The Treasures of St Scholastica' s' by Jacinta Shailer sgs and Judith Foster sgs., first published in 2002

Opening times: 12.30pm-1.00pm and 3.30pm-4.30pm

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

St Scholastica' s College Indigenous Fund

This is the Year of Saying Sorry to the Stolen Generation, for the past wrongs they have endured. St Scholastica' s College Indigenous Fund was recently established to support the education of Aboriginal students from regional and isolated areas. Year 12, 2007 raised \$2500, which contribution initiated the setting up of this fund. On behalf of the Ex-students' Union the committee agreed to donate \$500 to this fund in this financial year.

The committee would like your views regarding the setting up of an Ex-students' Union Indigenous Fund for transfer to the College Fund, managed similiarly to our Bursary Fund. Donations over \$2 would be Tax Deductible.

OUR ONGOING PROJECTS

Ex-Students' 75th Anniversary Bursary Fund

Please be advised that once more a very generous response (**\$4238.28**) was made to our **Bursary Fund** in **2007/2008**. Your continual support to this special project is very encouraging. **Our Investment Fund this year exceeded \$70,000.00**

In 2008 we were able to offer a Scholarship of \$1500 which greatly assists in payment of annual college fees. Please keep remembering we are assisting each year in the education of a selected student at St Scholastica' s. To date from 1998, **174** ex-students have donated **\$34857.37** to this Fund. **Would you like to join this generous group by donating a small amount each year?**

Donations over \$2 are Tax Deductible.

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. Be pleased to know your donations to this project have doubled since its inception. **\$1907** from ex-students was given in **2007/08**.

The Newsletter from the Foundation advises: The Sisters of the Good Samaritan Foundation provides resources to assist the Sisters in their ongoing response to contemporary social needs. These

include provision of services to disadvantaged women and children (55 adults and 85 children have been housed in transitional Units); education; isolated rural families; prisoners; homeless people; physically and intellectually disabled young people and other needy people.

So once again, we ask if each AGM invitation recipient would donate an amount (small or large) annually to be part of this mission. (Refer our Remittance Advice).

Donations over \$2 are Tax deductible.

This year the Sr Clare Memorial Award has been won by 2007 HSC Student Marlee Bower. Marlee will continue her studies at Sydney University.

We had a wonderful response (\$1005.00) to our appeal in 2007/08 for support of the Sister Clare Memorial Award Fund. Your continual support is greatly appreciated and necessary to keep this Award presentation viable

Take time to look at the Sister Clare Memorial Board now hanging in the College.

NEWS OF EX-STUDENTS

Pamela Gallagher (Goldstein)(Class of 1945)

After being educated at St Scholastica's from Kindergarten to Leaving Certificate Pam studied for a Physiotherapy degree at Sydney University. Her first appointment was on the staff of Prince Alfred Hospital. Now after 58 years in Practice and with her husband, Terry, rearing a family, Pam has retired from her career occupation. She is now busily occupied in the lives of her five daughters, all of whom have university degrees—Margaret - Occupational Therapy, Rosemary - Physiotherapy, Jennifer - Nursing, including a Master's Degree in Public Health, Catherine - Chartered Accountancy, Gabrielle - Architecture – and twelve grandchildren, four of whom, are now studying for University degrees.

A wonderful achievement Pam and it looks like a very lively future!

Bozena Sain (Dzieglewska) (Class of 1956)

Bozena taught in England for some years and following her marriage moved to Trieste, Italy. She has one son and has now retired to the modern occupation of minding two grandchildren.

She manages a trip to Australia every couple of years.

Lyn Innes-Scofield (Innes) (Class of 1956)

After leaving St. Scholastica's Lyn studied English at the University of Sydney and on graduating became a Teaching Fellow there. In 1963 Lyn moved to the United States to study for a MA in English and Comparative Literature at the University of Oregon, and taught in the states of Washington, Alabama and Massachusetts. As a lecturer in English at Tuskegee Institute a Black College in Alabama she became interested in African and African-American Literature and went on to write a doctoral thesis at Cornell University comparing nationalist literature in Ireland, Africa and the Caribbean. In 1975 Lyn went on to the University in Kent, where she married Martin Scofield, who is also a Lecturer in English. Lyn has published several books on African and Irish Literature (including

Chinua Achebe in 1990, and *Woman and Nation in Irish Literature and Society* 1993), was promoted to Professor of Postcolonial Literatures at Kent in 1992, and became Head of the

School of English there in 1995 where she remained until recent retirement. Lyn makes regular visits to Australia to

visit her Mother and Family and usually manages a catchup with one or two from the old school yard!!!

A recent sadness in UK was the death of one of the great Actors – Paul Scholfield – Lyn's Father-in-law – a great Shakespearean Actor but best remembered for his

Performance as Thomas More in Robert Bolt's *Man for All Seasons* – for which he won an Oscar.

Classes of 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1998

Is anyone out there organising 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10-year re-unions? It is usual for a group of ex-students from each class to organize a gathering of classmates at our AGM in May each year on these significant anniversaries. Many ex-students are not on our mailing list. We would like to send out Invitations & Newsletters

if you send in the authorized names and addresses by 1 May 08!!

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.

Enrolment Forms are available for anyone who might wish to become a member of the Ex-Students' Union.

Our projects we hope to continue to support are:- Sr Clare Memorial Award, Our Bursary Fund, a Student Community Award, Srs of Good Samaritan Foundation, the College Building Fund.

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.

Prevent the queuing after Mass

If Bookings for AGM are paid prior to 19 May you may pick up your receipt and Name Badge at the entrance before Mass from 12.50pm to 1.20pm.

Guessing Competition

This year our prizes are:

First: \$200 David Jones Gift Voucher

Second: \$100 David Jones Gift Voucher

Tickets cost \$2.00 each or \$10.00 for the booklet of 5 tickets. It 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 16 May 2008

please? Please remember the proceeds are a very important resource for financing our various projects!

Congratulations to our last year' s winners:1st Prize:

Patricia Thomas 2nd Prize: Sue Turner

BEQUEST

Would you consider a Bequest for the benefit of the projects supported by the St Scholastica' s exstudents' Union?

A suitable example is as follows:-

I,..... bequeath the sum of \$..... to the St Scholastica' s ExStudents' Union to be applied to the

various projects of the Union as deemed appropriate by the committee acting on behalf of the said Union members and I declare that the Receipt of the said Union will be full discharge for my executor, without any further need to enquire as to the actual application of monies.

Membership

Annual Subscription \$5

New Graduates \$4pa or \$20 for 5yrs.

Life Membership \$50

Ex-Students Executive

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