



# ALUMNI NEWS

Issue 13 - June 2017

## Welcome

### New Name, New Look, New Students, New Buildings . . .

The future at our College is exciting with a new name and innovative new learning space planned for 2018.

Our College has a proud tradition dating back to 1876 when Sister Aloysius Martyn and the Sisters of Mercy first arrived in Bendigo. Last year we celebrated 140 years of education in Bendigo inspired by the spirit and ethos of Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

The current Year 12 students will be the last graduates of Catholic College Bendigo. Our College will be known as Catherine McAuley College from the beginning of 2018. St Mary's College, Marist Brothers' College, St Vincent's College and now Catholic College Bendigo are all chapters of our story and thousands of our past students are valued members of Alumni.

Earlier this year, the new crest was unveiled, which features the Mercy Cross surrounded by local Whirakee wattle. The motto will be 'Living Mercy', which brings to life our Mercy Education Values of Respect, Justice, Compassion, Courage, Hospitality and Service. The concept of living Mercy has been integral to our culture for 141 years and will continue to evolve.

Mr Brian Turner, Principal



Brian Turner with Sisters of Mercy at the Opening Mass after the official announcement of the new College

# 140 Years of Mercy

Throughout 2016, Catholic College Bendigo honoured and acknowledged 140 years of the presence of the Sisters of Mercy in the Sandhurst Diocese. Central to these celebrations was the establishment of a Heritage Room at Coolock in what was once the Convent. The room was unveiled in September following a whole school Mass. At the Mass, Sr Mary Duffy (former student and Principal) reflected on her own school days and gave thanks to the women of Mercy who laid the foundations of our College.

The Heritage Room, which is open for viewing during school hours (unless occupied for meetings), features the



Proficiency Class of 1953 as a wall mural. There are also photos and artefacts of the past 140 years and even a photo of the convent prior to its purchase in 1876. Sr Mary Duffy and

Sr Maureen Sullivan were both present at the unveiling and were delighted to recognise their Matric class in the back row.

In October the wider community had an opportunity to honour the extraordinary service of the Sisters of Mercy when an Alumni Mass was held at the Sacred Heart Cathedral. Mass was celebrated by Mons Frank Marriott, himself a past student of both St Mary's College and Marist Brothers' College. Many of those present had been associated with the Sisters for five generations and recounted the great influence the Sisters had on their education and their outlook.

Dorothy Comer (SMC 1954-1957) gave the welcome address and said the "impressive Convent of Mercy building, including the beautiful Chapel stands as a proud reminder of the first Sisters' belief in Bendigonians."

She believed that "generations of children and families received a firm foundation in education and spiritual guidance. The Sisters enriched our lives throughout many Bendigo schools, also welfare in parishes."



## Staff Update

### Sue Rawlings

SMC 1962-1965, Staff 1983-2017

Sue Poynton Rawlings will retire from Catholic College Bendigo in 2017 after thirty-four years of service. Her association with our school began as a student at St Mary's College in 1962. Sue started work at Marist Brothers College during the period of amalgamation in 1983. She worked at what was then known as the Junior School where there were only junior boys for the first few years of the amalgamation until it became co-ed. A major change that occurred in the library during Sue's career was the change of the cataloguing system from cards to digital.

Sue also had the pleasure of working alongside her mother Marjorie McNamara Poynton, herself a former St Mary's College student 1931-1935. Marjorie worked at Marist Brothers' College from 1980 until retiring in 2001.



### Tania Parker Angove

SMC 1980-1985, Staff 2005-current

In October 2016 Tania Angove was awarded the 2016 Educare Award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Classroom Teaching and Curriculum Innovation' for her work in leading best practice skills informed by data. She has considerable experience solving complex staff and timetable problems and is a passionate educator.





# Our Alumni Dominate Local Government

In November 2016, Margaret (Seymour) O'Rourke SMC 1974-1979 was sworn into office as Mayor of the City of Greater Bendigo. Four other Alumni were also sworn in for the same term of office: Matt Emond CCB 1984-1989 Lockwood Ward, Julie (Nally) Hoskin SMC 1976-1979 Whipstick Ward, George Flack MBC 1962-1970 Eppalock Ward and Andrea Metcalf SMC 1972-1977 Whipstick Ward.



Meanwhile Sharon Whiteman Telford SMC 1974-1979 was appointed Mayor of Mt Alexander Shire. Sharon has represented the Tarrengower Ward since 2012. She and Margaret were former classmates at St Mary's College.

Margaret was honoured to address the Laureate Assembly in February 2017. This was via a pre-recorded video, as she was at that moment flying to China on a fact-finding trip with other councillors. Margaret has maintained links with Catholic College Bendigo by serving for a number of years on the Advisory Board and is currently a parent at the school. She reflected in her speech; "life is amazing and has many twists and turns". When she was a schoolgirl at St Mary's College she would never have predicted that she would one day address over 1600 students in her capacity as Mayor of the City of Greater Bendigo.



## Coolock Works

In January, the large, redbrick retaining wall between the library and canteen at Coolock was demolished to make way for a more user-friendly space, including garden and seating. The wall was erected in 1962 as part of an extensive building project when St Mary's College expanded across Wright Street.

The external part of St Mary's Hall and Art area has also undergone a facelift to rejuvenate the rendering. Opened in 1897 by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Carr, the building features polished granite pillars, tiled veranda and distinctive colonnade with arches. Upstairs was home to the boarders while the hall downstairs had many functions including classroom, recreation and meeting place. The current works complement the refurbishment of St Mary's Courtyard undertaken in 2015.



# Where are they now?

## Sam Irwin-Hill

CCB 2003-2008

In April 2017, the Dallas Cowboys in the American NFL signed Sam Irwin-Hill. He had previously spent two years with the Arkansas Razorbacks.



## Fergus Greene

CCB 2011-2016

Shortly after completing Year 12, former Backhaus Captain Fergus Greene was drafted to the Western Bulldogs. Fergus was Co-Captain of the 2016 Premier League team and winner of the Tim Ledwidge Medal 2016. He made a tremendous contribution to college football during his time at Catholic College Bendigo and has a promising future in AFL.



## Will Slater

CCB 2005-2007

Regional Manager for Camps International. The company is a global leader in school immersion expeditions to Africa, Asia and South America. Will, along with Sam Gaskell CCB 2004-2009 and three others, co-founded Our Connections, a company that builds homes for villagers in the Philippines.



## Alex DeAraugo

CCB 2001-2006

Alex started developing his media career even before leaving school. After graduating from Swinburne he has built his career in broadcasting and production and is currently co-hosting the breakfast show on Hit91.9 Bendigo. Alex recently joined a panel of Alumni at Careers Night, offering tips and advice to senior students.



## Tayla Vlaeminck

CCB 2011-2016

Tayla (pictured below) received a 2017 Premier's VCE Award for her score of 50 for Physical Education in 2016's VCE. She was also selected to play for the Melbourne Renegades Cricket Team in the Women's Big Bash League last summer.

## Louise Truscott

CCB 1989-1994

In March 2017 Louise released her new book, *Project January: A Sequel About Writing* which is a follow-up to her previous book, *Project December: A Book About Writing*. This is the third book Louise has published.



## Byron Storie

CCB 1993-1996

Byron has ridden in the Great Cycle Challenge Australia for three years in a row in support of his nephew Jaxon Cooper, who lost his fight with an inoperable brain tumour in 2015.



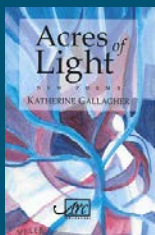


## Where are they now?

### Katherine Gallagher

SMC 1948-1950

London-based poet Katherine Gallagher has released her eighth book of poetry; *Acres of Light*, described as "bejewelled throughout with haiku-like moments of vivid observation."



### Jarryn Geary

CCB 2001-2006

Picked up by the Saints in 2007 as a Rookie, Jarryn has developed his career in AFL and was named Captain of St Kilda before the start of the 2017 season.



### Angie Hogan

CCB 1994-1999

Angela completed a Bachelor in Music Performance at the Victorian College of the Arts in 2007. She has performed with various opera companies as Mezzo-Soprano including Opera Australia and Opera Melbourne. She has toured China in the title role of Carmen and as Flora in *La Traviata* as well as toured with Opera Australia's school Outreach Program. She is currently performing in Opera Australia's Sydney Autumn season.



# 2016 High Achievers Triple Treat

Not only did three of our students achieve such incredibly high ATAR scores in 2016, but all three of them received exactly the same score of 99.35. Jack Duckett, Emma McGregor and Aram Perez all shared the honour of Dux of CCB 2016. Emma intends to study Arts, while Jack will focus on research and genetics and Aram is interested in science at Monash.

Congratulations also to former school Captain Sam Kane who was awarded the Bishop Noel Daly Memorial Award – presented to a student whose conduct is best fit to be imitated.

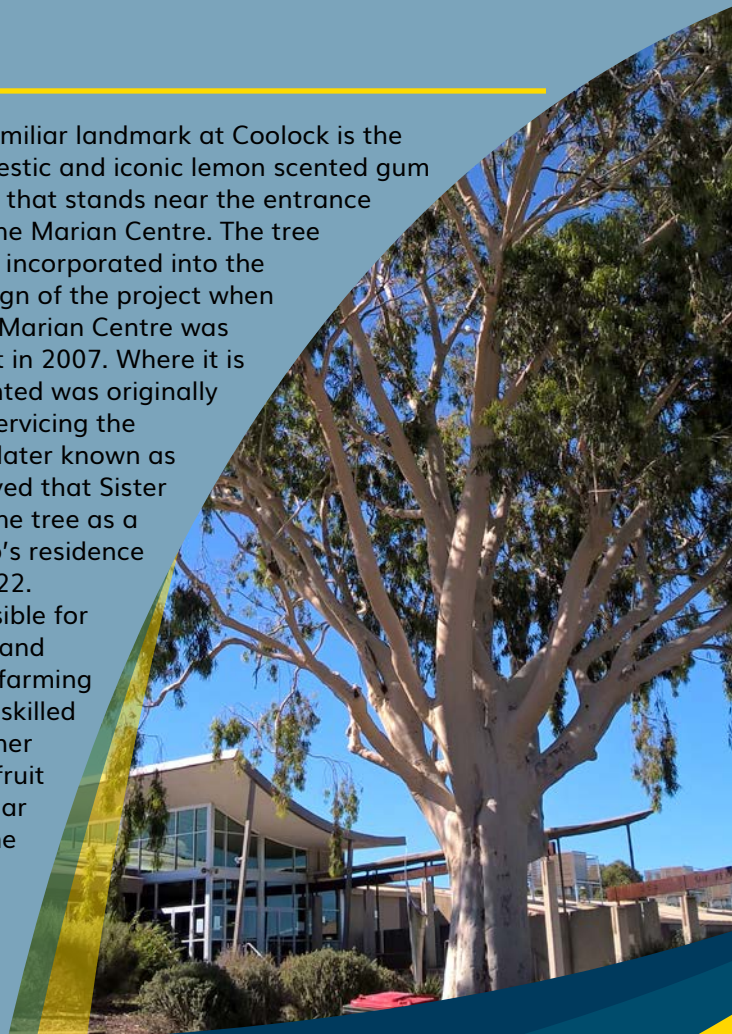


## Our Lemon Scented Gum Tree



A familiar landmark at Coolock is the majestic and iconic lemon scented gum tree that stands near the entrance to the Marian Centre. The tree was incorporated into the design of the project when the Marian Centre was built in 2007. Where it is planted was originally

the vegetable garden servicing the convent and boarders (later known as St Michael's). It is believed that Sister Joachim transplanted the tree as a sapling from the Bishop's residence 'Genazzano' around 1922. Sr Joachim was responsible for meals for the boarders and Sisters. Coming from a farming background, she was a skilled and enthusiastic gardener and kept chickens and fruit trees. A number of similar trees planted at the time were later removed to make way for netball and tennis courts at St Michael's.





# Farewell

## **Max Fletcher** *MBC Staff*



In January 2017, Max Fletcher lost his year-long battle with cancer. Max will be remembered for his leadership during a long career in Catholic education. Max was part of the staff at Marist Brothers' College and later at Catholic College Bendigo. He was the first lay Principal at Galen College, an education consultant in the Ballarat Diocese and Deputy Director of Catholic Education Sandhurst. Max was held in high regard by former students and colleagues and his integrity, warmth and experience will be greatly missed.

## **Cath Gillies** *Staff 1990-2011*



Former Library Technician, Cath Gillies died on 19 March 2017 aged 67. Wife of Rowan and mother of David CCB 1989-1992, Mark CCB 1990-1994

and Tavis CCB 1994-1998, Cath died suddenly after a short illness. She worked in the library at La Valla from 1990 until her retirement in 2011. Cath was a stalwart of the Bendigo Yacht Club and Golden City Netball Association. She was recognised by the Bendigo Advertiser 'Roll of Honour' in 2012 for her volunteer work in the community.

## **Fr Xavier Barry** *SVC Staff 1973-1976*



1/11/1930 - 25/2/2016  
Coming from a highly religious family, Fr Barry devoted his life to the Vincentian Community, serving in Parishes and

schools throughout Australia. He taught at St Vincent's College Bendigo from 1973 until 1976. Fr Barry died in Ashfield, NSW on 25 February 2016.

## **Florence Elizabeth Pedretti**

**Williams** *SMC 1937-1940*

25/6/1923 - 25/10/2016

Youngest daughter of the late Ann and Michael Pedretti. Wife of Laurie (dec.). Mother of Geoffrey, Margaret (Lock), Barbara (McMahon), Jim, Carolyn and families. Professed Sister of Mercy for thirty years.

## **Betty Helen Cowling McKinnon**

*SMC 1936-1947*

19/10/1930 - 8/5/2016

Betty passed away peacefully at Bendigo on 8 May, 2016, aged 85 years. She was the youngest sister of Hilda, William (Bill), Jean and Ruth. Betty attended St Mary's College from prep through to Leaving Certificate. She was a loved member of the Proficiency Class of 1945.

## **Kathryn Maree Watson Jelbart**

*SMC 1969-1974*

6/10/1956 - 25/3/2016

Kathryn passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on 25 March 2016 aged 59 years. Wife of Ray. Daughter of Alexander (dec.) and Lorna (Watson) SMC 1928-1938. Mother of Dion CCB 1988-1991, Vaissy CCB 1993-1996, Bethany CCB 1995-1998 and Bronte CCB 2006-2007.

## **Audry O'Brien Long** *SMC 1945-1946*

14/9/1930 - 1/6/2016

Audry was born in 1930 to William and Alice O'Brien. She attended St Kilian's PS before coming to St Mary's College as did her sisters Brenda O'Brien Connell SMC 1941-1943 and Pauline O'Brien Garland SMC 1947-1949, while her brother Peter O'Brien attended Marist Brothers' College from 1942. Audry is the mother of Anne SMC 1967-1972, Jim SVC 1970-1974, Maree SMC 1971-1976, Tony SVC 1971-1976, Robert SVC 1974-1977, MBC 1978-1979 and Judy SMC 1978-1983. Many of Audry's grandchildren also attended or still attend Catholic College Bendigo.

## **Lorna Ethel Brogan Watson**

*SMC 1928-1938*

14/1/1922 - 22/8/2016

Lorna passed away in August 2016 at the age of 94. Mother of Margaret Watson, Ritchie, Kathryn Watson Jelbart (dec) SMC 1969-1974 and Judith Watson Lawrence SMC 1973-1978. Lorna attended St Mary's College from 1928 in the Infant School until completing Honours in 1938.

## **John Walsh** *SVC 1989-1969*

Died June 2016 in Barooga after a short battle with cancer.

## **Dawne Patricia Milburn**

*SMC 1980- 1983*

5/2/1968 - 20/7/2016

Sister of Colleen SMC 1977, Maree SMC 1977 and Daniel MBC 1981

## **John Brasier** *MBC 1938-1942*

Husband of June Dooley Brasier SMC 1943-1948, father of Mark, Roger, Paul, Leonie, Anne and Helen (all past students of St Mary's College and Marist Brothers' College). John enjoyed a long and successful career in education. He died 29 October 2016.

## **Sr M Frances Flannery RSM**

*SMC 1943*

Died peacefully on 14 May 2017 at Rice Village, Geelong in her 71st year of religious profession. A much-loved member of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

## **Margaret Murphy Card**

*SMC 1959-1963*

Died 19/9/2015

Margaret boarded at St Mary's College from Kyalite NSW. She greatly appreciated her education with the Sisters in Bendigo, which opened up her life-long involvement in community service, politics and writing, along with bringing up six children with husband Allan.

## **Sr Patricia McArlein**

**(Sr M Francine)** *Principal 1971-1972*



A former staff member and Principal of St Mary's College and much loved and esteemed member of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea, Sr Patricia died on 6 May 2017 in Ashwood in the 60th year of her Religious Profession.

## **Neil Frederick Talbot**

*MBC 1953-1961*

16/4/1944 - 15/10/2016



Neil passed away peacefully at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne.

Husband of Janice Nugent Talbot SMC 1967-1968, father of Lisa-Jane, Karl and Letitia. "A true Bendigonian" and passionate supporter of Marist Brothers' College 'Old Boys'.



# Reunion Wrap Up



CCB Class of 1986 – 30-Year Reunion, July 2016



CCB Class of 1996 – 20-Year Reunion, September 2016



St Vincent's College – Annual Family Day, February 2017



St Mary's College Class of 1966 – 50-year Reunion, October 2016



Marist Brothers' College/St Mary's College Class of 1976 – 40-Year Reunion

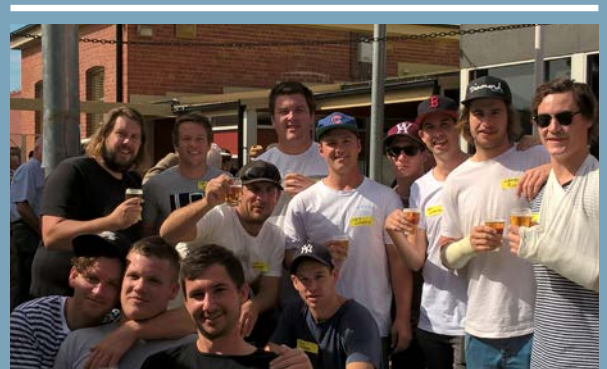


St Vincent's College Class of 1965 - Reunion

## Marist Brothers' College Annual Reunion – March 2017

Thanks to sponsors the Mulqueen Family and Paul Sheehan from the Rising Sun, the Marist Brothers' College Annual Reunion was again a well-attended and enjoyable morning. Fred Schroder retained his title as oldest Old Boy present, having commenced at MBC in 1940.

2018 marks the 125th Anniversary of the arrival of Marist Brothers in Bendigo in 1893 and 200 years since the Order commenced in France. A sculpture has been commissioned to celebrate this milestone and show gratitude for the work of the Brothers. It will be made of cedar and placed in a sacred space at Marist College, Maiden Gully. The Pocock family of Maiden Gully has initiated a campaign to meet the costs associated with the sculpture, with further contributions currently sought. It is anticipated that the sculpture will be unveiled in April 2018.





# Family in Focus: Reilly Family

Both parents were high-profile Bendigo doctors who came to Australia from the United Kingdom in the 1960s to build a new life. Living within a few blocks of the school, the first four Reilly children attended St Mary's College from prep to graduation. It's not surprising that all six Reilly children grew up to be accomplished and creative adults.

James MBC 1982-1985 lives in Sydney with his son and has a senior position at Westpac Bank.

Kirsty SMC 1979-1982 lives in Geelong with her two children. She is currently undertaking a PhD at Deakin University in Theatre Arts Practice whilst continuing to teach as a theatre director and pursue an interest in painting.

Sarah SMC 1969-1981 lives in Bendigo and has established a new business called 'The Manner House' aimed at training young people in etiquette, communication skills, diplomacy and presentation of self.

Lisa SMC 1967-1979 lives in Melbourne with her husband and two children and is a restaurant and hotel owner and entrepreneurial Melbourne socialite.

Fiona SMC 1966-1978 lives in Tasmania, is a Senior High School educator, and loves to dabble in the Theatre scene as an actor in her spare time.

Joanna SMC 1966-1978 is a well-known face in Bendigo who has lent her specialised skills as a vet to the Bendigo Animal Hospital for many years. She lives locally with her husband and their beloved Standard poodle.



Left to right: James, Kirsty, Sarah, Lisa, Fiona and Joanna

## Alumni Sponsored Prizes and Awards

Our College has a long history of financial support from the community and Alumni. Bursaries, gifts and scholarships are always welcomed from our past students.

**The Marcia King Scholarship** to a Graduating Year 12 Arts Student Presented to Samuel Kelly and Alexander Rothmeier in 2016.

**St Vincent's Past Students Technology Award**

Presented to Benjamin Hancock in 2016.

No longer printed or posted. Please forward to friends or relatives. To make sure you receive news and updates by email, please send your email address to the Alumni office: [alumni@ccb.vic.edu.au](mailto:alumni@ccb.vic.edu.au)

**Catholic College Bendigo Alumni Newsletter**  
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## Reunion Noticeboard

**CCB Class of 2007 – 10-Year Reunion**  
2 September 2017

**CCB Class of 1997 – 20-Year Reunion**  
11 November 2017

**CCB Class of 1987 – 30-Year Reunion**  
14 October 2017

**CCB Class of 1992 – 25-Year Reunion**  
14 October 2017

**MBC Class of 1982 – Annual Catch-up,**  
Friday 10 November 2017

**SMC Proficiency Class of 1945 – 72-Year Reunion,**  
Saturday 4 November 2017

**MBC/SMC Class of 1976 – Annual Catch-up,**  
Saturday 18 November 2017

**St Vincent's College Annual Family Day and Dinner – Marong Cup,**  
February 2018

**Marist Brothers' Annual Reunion –**  
Easter Sunday 1 April 2018 in the grounds of the old College following 10am Mass at St Kilian's. All Old Boys welcome to attend.

**MBC Class of 1967/1968/1969 – 50+ Reunion –**  
17 & 18 November 2018