



ST SCHOLASTICA'S EX-STUDENTS' UNION

ANNUAL REUNION: FOURTH SUNDAY IN MAY

APRIL 2005

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear Ex- Students

Another year has passed with bursts of frenzied activity from the Committee.

This year I attended a meeting with other representatives of ex-students' associations (RESA) and discussed the changing role of associations such as ours. Many other schools have programmes of mentoring – whereby a past student is matched with a recent graduate who has similar career interests.

With this in mind, perhaps a way to promote the association, attract new members and offer the girls who are graduating an introduction to the ex-students would be to match up next years' graduates with those leaving school in 2009. This is forward planning and I have yet to work out the logistics, and of course the privacy issues of such a proposal. If the plan goes ahead, the profile of the ex-students would be lifted and perhaps membership increased. The ex-students, I think performs a valuable role in keeping us in touch with old friends who knew us "before". That, our charity work and our support of the college needs to be maintained through a growing and active current membership. We are open to further suggestions on this and any other issue at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on 22nd May.

We are lucky this year to be able to hold our meeting in the new multipurpose centre at the school. Both the Mass and afternoon tea will be held in the studios there. There is flat access and the change in venue offers everyone the opportunity to explore the new facility and experience the changes happening at St Scholastica's. We will return to the chapel for Mass next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee, Rose Paton, Anne Wells, Marie Catling, Maureen McCluskie and Jo Kenderes for their work this year. A full report of our activities will be available at the AGM.

Donna Lynch

PRESIDENT

Remember in your Prayers recently deceased:

Sr Peter Damian McKinlay SGS - 28 April 2004

Sr Imelda Mary Callaghan - 23 August 2004
Duffy, Mary (Mollie) Kathleen (Killian) - 19 Sept 2004
Macauley, Marilyn Ann - 9 October 2004
Ebert, Anthony-24 June 2004 -husband of Mary (Wicks)

Giddey, Reginald - June 2004 -husband of Elaine (Considine)

Cubis, Ellen - died 11 April 2004 & Cubis, Valeria - died 2004, mother & father of Elizabeth, Catherine & Colleen & sister & brother-in-law of Elizabeth Carr sgs
These names will be entered in the Books of Remembrance placed on the altar at our Mass.

Sr Peter Damian McKinlay sgs 6/7/1916 - 28/4/2004
It is with sadness we report the death last year of Sr Peter Damian. Sister was born in Gowrie Junction, Queensland. She received her Primary education at St Mary's School, Manly and in 1929 won a state bursary to St Scholastica's, where she attained her Leaving Certificate. In 1936 she entered the Good Samaritan Novitiate and after her profession, she began her ministry of teaching and study, completing her Dip.Ed. at Melbourne University. Sister had many appointments in education, and in 1959 became Mistress of Postulants and Novices.

As well as other important ministries throughout her long life of service, she was a linguist, translating Latin, French and Spanish, artistic and a great friend to all whom she encountered.

Sr Imelda Mary Callaghan sgs. 28/7/1906 - 23/8/2004

Sister Imelda Mary Callaghan was born at Narrabri NSW. Sister boarded at St Scholastica's in 1921. After leaving school, she became a student teacher with NSW Department of Education. Sister entered the Good Samaritan Novitiate in 1933. After Profession she had many teaching appointments in NSW and Queensland. She was appointed Counsellor to the Superior General in 1963. In 1995 she retired to Polding Villa where she celebrated her Diamond Jubilee

Mary (Mollie) Duffy, (Killian). 5/3/1912 - 19/9/2004
Mollie was one of six children. She was educated by the Good Samaritan Sisters, first at Balmain and then at St Scholastica's. She trained at Sydney Teachers' College as an infants' teacher. Mollie was an ardent & loyal supporter of our ex-students' union.

Mollie married in October 1935 and raised six children. She was active in catechetics at Drummoyne High School, co-ordinated Meals on Wheels at Drummoyne, taught English to many migrants. Mollie was a skilled knitter, a lover of music, a voracious reader, a talented correspondent and funny conversationalist. Her faith was the core of her being. Her words the day before

she died says it all: "I really have no regrets about my life. I did the best I could with what I had"

TRIXIE FOREST CENTRE COMES TO LIFE

The completion of the Trixie Forest Centre and the associated landscaping which saw new paths through the property, new gardens, a new amphitheatre outside the canteen, the repositioning of the netball courts and the creation of a village green at the back of the property, was a truly significant achievement for the College. The Opening held on 12 September last year was a wonderful celebration of all the talents of our students and the attendance of so many from the school community including many ex-students was greatly appreciated. It was truly significant that this new and very beautiful addition to the College landscape should be named for an ex-student of St Scholastica's and, indeed, made possible at least in part by a bequest from a 1920's ex-student.

The new facility has already become an integral part of the College and it is hard to imagine how we managed without it. As a sports facility, a creative arts venue for both drama and music, for special functions like the staff end of year dinner, for P&F meetings and presentations and for outside groups who book the college during the holidays, it is indispensable. At a daily level the ability to have a school assembly and liturgy in an area which, although not a traditional sacred space can be used as such, is invaluable. Indeed the 2005 Year 12s will have their Graduation Mass in the Centre on September 21. We look forward to the ex-students' gathering in May which will also be held in the Centre.

The next stage of the Masterplan is the extension to and above the Library. While we would like to embark on this building as soon as possible, it is necessary that we consolidate our finances before commencing on such a large project and that we are aware of the exact costings and our capacity to service the debt. The community - including ex-students - have been very generous over the last few years contributing to the Building Fund. We hope that the College can continue to rely upon the enthusiasm and encouragement of the ex-students, and that those who can might consider making a contribution to the Building Fund as a practical token of their support for Schols.

Loretto Richardson, Principal

News of our Ex-Students

? **Class Yr 1995 Bich Thoa Anne Lam** would like to meet up with her peers from St Schols. She e-mailed:- "I am working as a solicitor at a law firm. I am living in Balmain and go to Glebe all the time. To me nothing has changed. My e-mail is anne8381@hotmail.com and mobile is 0423982133".

Perhaps a reunion of 1993 & 1995 Classes could be held at our gathering in May next.

? **Class of 1993 Charis Picado** e-mailed she is

interested in finding her old friends from school. A 2nd e-mail reads: "What I have been doing is I have had a two week holiday to the Philippines where I attended my Grandmother's 90th birthday. Many people came. It was a joyous occasion. My relatives also gave me a surprise birthday party before I left. Since I have been back I have been volunteering at the Smith Family and the Red Cross in Parramatta doing administration work. Especially with the Smith Family, I help write updates for students".

For those who are interested, send in your details by e-mail, 'phone or mail to the Ex-Students' executive and these will be forwarded to Charis.

? **The McCluskie Sisters**

"Did you know that there was a McCluskie sister at St Scholastica's from **1957 till 1972!** Where are they now?

Veronica is a Good Samaritan. She lives in Pennant Hills and is Director of Vocation Ministry for the Congregation

Maureen lives in Penrith and presently is Pastoral Care Co-ordinator at Xavier College, Llandilo.

Winifred lives in Enfield and is Science Co-ordinator at St. Scholastica's College Glebe

Margaret is married to Peter Malcolm and they live in Mittagong. Margaret is a GP with the Mittagong Medical Centre

Mary is married to Peter Robinson and they live in Lane Cove. Mary is PA to Sr. Sonia Wagner, Superior of the Good Samaritan Sisters.

All are members of the Ex-students Organisation"

What a great record! Are there any other families of Schol's ex-students, who can compare with or surpass this wonderful achievement?

? **SIXTY YEARS - A MERE PASSAGE OF TIME**

Sunday, 10th April was the chosen date for the Intermediate **Class of 1943** and the Leaving **Class of 1945** to gather to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of leaving the hallowed walls of St. Scholastica's College. Fifteen members of the class gathered at the Good Samaritan Convent, Pile St, Marrickville to celebrate the sixty years. Eight apologies were received and Sister Mary Xavier Compton, our First Year teacher joined us for the afternoon.

Our class is probably unique in the fact that every five years we have gathered to focus again on our relationships which have continued for so many years. Though saddened by the absence of five members, who we trust are celebrating the Resurrection with the Lord, we were gladdened by the fact that we are still a very vibrant group of women continuing the heritage we received from the College. Many of those present expressed the fact that their grandchildren just could not grasp that we would still meet after such a long period of time.

- **Joan Sexton sgs**

? **Class of 1945** So why was **Margaret Prendergast**

sgs absent from 1945, 5 yr reunion? Because she was venturing off to do a spirituality course at Hawkstone Hall, Marchamley, Shrewsbury SY 45 LG

England, followed by a visit to Scotland and relatives in Ireland!

Jubilee!!!

Congratulations to ***Jubilarians of 2005***

70 Years celebration of religious profession!

Sr Romuald Bull sgs (for many years sister was in charge of Boarders' Kitchen)

50 Years celebration of religious profession!

Sr Margaret Prendergast sgs

Sr Cecily Pullen sgs

Sr Jean Gates sgs

Congratulations to:

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

? all HSC students who performed so well.

Twenty-six students gained a mark above 90 in the UAI. Five students gained above 90 in their 10 best units of study, thereby recognised by the Premier of NSW through his "Best All Rounders " list.

? Rani Nurcahya and Susana Carvalheiro achieved first in the State for ESL English and Portuguese respectively.

? St Scholastica's for winning the Best School Garden and Best Overall Garden in the City of Sydney Competition for 2004. Come to our annual gathering in May and have an ideal opportunity to see this beauty in the heart of Sydney.

Class Reunions 2004

1944 Class celebrated 60 years at a luncheon held at St Scholastica's Congregational Centre last August organised by Carmel Keys (Gilchrist).

1954 Class celebrated 50 years - first with a Saturday lunch at City Tattersalls Club, followed by attendance at the ex-students' Mass and gathering on the next day. Veronica Hourigan (Coates), the chief organiser, e-mailed "it was a wonderful reunion day with the Mass, weather and company being so special..."

1964 Class celebrated 40 years - organised by Maureen McCluskie, with quite a number of their ex-students attending the annual ex-students' Mass and a cheerful afternoon of reminiscing.

1968 Class celebrated 36 years - organised by Margaret Harris (Woods), wrote " On behalf of the girls of the '68 Class, I would like to thank the executive for such a very successful day. We had a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed seeing Sr Gemma. After spending such a lovely weekend together we have decided that it definitely won't be the last Reunion that we attend"

Classes of 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995

Is anyone out there organising 50, 40, 30, 20, 10-year re-unions? It is usual for a group of ex-students from each class to organise 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 authorised names and addresses by 1 May 05 !!

Update - Sr Clare Memorial Award

This year the Sr Clare Memorial Award has been won by two 2004 HSC Students, both with a UAI mark of 99.7. Sabrina Wu has been accepted into Pharmacy at the University of Sydney and Lucy Luo has chosen to study Commerce at the University of NSW. Congratulations and very best wishes for the future!

We had a wonderful response (\$1010) to our appeal

in 2004/05 for support of the Sister Clare Memorial Award Fund. Your continued support would be much appreciated.

Take time to look at the new SCM Board now hanging in the College, where we hope it will be an inspiration for students to perform to their highest standards.

Update - Ex-Students' 75th Anniversary Bursary Fund

Please be advised that once more a very generous response (**\$3250.12**) was made to our **Bursary Fund Special Appeal** in **2004/2005**. Your continuing support to this special project is very encouraging. Keep remembering we are assisting in the education of selected students at St Scholastica's. To date from 1998, **156** ex-students have donated **\$23872.13**. Our fund now stands at **\$51814.96**. (Refer separate sheet). **Don't forget, 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

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 Foundation Executive Director, Sister Lorraine Victorsen SGS informs us:-

? The Sisters in the Philippines have begun the Good Samaritan Kinder School for disadvantaged children, aiming to provide an affordable, quality Catholic Kinder School for children who might not otherwise have access to education. The Foundation has committed itself to covering the staffing needs for at least the first three years of the School.

? The Foundation is also supporting again for three years, the programme for women at risk, caught in the web of prostitution. Sr Glenys is conducting this in Melbourne, assisting them to make other lifestyle choices.

? In Brisbane, with the assistance of Queensland Rail and a Rotary Group, the Foundation is extending the transitional Accommodation service for women with children, who are leaving emergency crisis care".

Sister continues "you can see how important and valued your assistance is. You know your contribution is being used for real people in real need, and for real projects in which the Sisters are involved".

You will be pleased to know a very generous response totalling **\$1305** from ex-students was made in **2004/05**. 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).

Any donation will be receipted and if over \$2 may be used as a Tax Deduction.

New Committee members of Ex-students'Union

Many thanks to Marie Catling, Maureen McCluskie, Joanne Kenderes for accepting nominations as committee members.

Welcome back to Jo Kenderes from WA where, due to her husband's work, she has lived for 12 months with her little family, Simon & Paul. The electronic age enabled Jo to fulfil her liturgical work for Riverview College while there.

News of SA Ex-students

Everyone delighted to meet with **Norma Diamantis** (Cunningham), in Sydney for reunion with her classmates, before heading off on a bi-annual visit to Cyprus.

Also heard from **Kate Kerry Anne Hickman** (French) 1965 Class. Kerry advises she has had a career in Education since leaving school.

The Treasure of Saint Scholastica' s

A 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 22 May 2005.

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

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 FIVE 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 20th May 2005 please?

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

Congratulations to our last year's winners.

BEQUEST

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

A suitable example is as follows:-

I,..... bequeath the sum of \$..... to the St Scholastica's Ex- Students' 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.

.....**No nominations are being called for people interested in Executive Positions:**

- President.....
- Secretary.....
- Treasurer.....
- Committee.....
- Nominated by.....
- Secunder.....

Polding Villa

Later in this year the Sisters who live at Polding Villa will be moving into a new building at St. Catherine's, Eastwood. We wish them peace and happiness in their new abode.

Mothers' Day - 8 May 2005

'When a child is hurt, emotionally or physically, they instinctively want to be lifted and embraced by the arms of their mother. By God' s design a mother is blessed with a love that nurtures and heals, protects and comforts. In His sovereignty, He gave a promise to go with the awesome responsibility of motherhood: "*..He gently leads those that have young.*" (Isaiah 40:11)'

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 22 May.

We are about renewing friendships, meeting new folk.

Our Projects include:

Sr Clare Memorial Award, Our Bursary Fund, a Student Community Award and Srs of Good Samaritan Foundation.

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 to the Studios, Trixie Forest Centre from 12.50pm to 1.20pm.

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

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

Membership

Annual Subscription \$5

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

Life Membership \$50

Ex-Students Executive

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