



# ST SCHOLASTICA'S EX-STUDENTS' UNION

ANNUAL REUNION: FOURTH SUNDAY IN MAY

APRIL 2007

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Ex-Students

Firstly congratulations to the Sisters of the Good Samaritan in this their Sesquicentenary year. The past and ongoing contribution of the community to Australian society is valued and valuable. Most impressive is the adaptation of the order to the different demands made upon it and the sisters individually.

During this year's meeting we would like to raise several points for discussion including:-

Having more than one meeting a year.

Raising the possibility of a speaker, lunch or dinner.

Your reasons for attending the ex-students.

Changing the current meeting format.

We look forward to your contributions on the above matters and an opportunity will be available for ideas on other topics of interest to the Union.

At last year's general meeting I announced my resignation as President so this will be my last newsletter in that capacity. During my term we have laid the foundations for a mentoring programme for recently graduated students. We have had a slow but increasing response to this idea and I will continue to visit the college and discuss with the various classes the advantages of a network of "old girls" helping each other and the more junior classes as they leave school. Hopefully this will increase the profile of the ex-students leading to more members and a stronger Union.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as President and I would like to thank the committee, Rose Paton, Anne Wells, Maureen McCluskie, Marie Catling and Jo Kenderes for all their hard work, great ideas and fantastic cakes and biscuits. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you in this capacity and I look forward to my ongoing association with the union. Thank you to Loretto Richardson and Catherine Williamson for their interest, enthusiasm and help.

See you all in May at the meeting.

Pax

**Donna Lynch**

## **PRESIDENT**

**Remember in your prayers recently deceased and their families.**

Daley, Sr Josephine Mary, sgs - died 27 April 2006

Edwards, Helen (Johnson) - died 21 October, 2006

Ratcliffe, Joyce (Fogarty) - died December, 2006

Prendergast, Geoffrey - died 23 December 2006.

Brother of Margaret Prendergast, sgs

Studholme, Eileen - died 3 May 2006 - Mother of Leonie Burns (Studholme)

Wells, Kenneth Walter - died 1 April, 2007. Husband of Eileen (Byrne). Father of Anne, John, Catherine, Peter & Elizabeth.

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

### **Sr Josephine Mary Daley sgs**

Sister Josephine Mary died peacefully at Bethany Nursing Home, at Eastwood on 27 April 2006.

Born in Queensland, sister spent most of her life in New South Wales. She received her early education with the Presentation Sisters at Ballina and her secondary education at the Brigidine College, Randwick.

Sister Josephine was the last survivor of nine siblings, one of whom, Sr Maureen Patricia, sgs predeceased her in 2003. She entered the Good Samaritan Novitiate on 2 July 1934. Here she was professed on 12 January 1937, on the same day as her sister Maureen.

Sister spent many years of ministry in care and hospitality including twenty six years (1952-1978) at St Scholastica's Convent, when many of our ex-students will remember her as supervisor in the Boarding College for some of this time.

Many will remember her fondly as a very loyal and friendly member of the ex-students' union, whose Mass and AGM she attended for many years before her transfer from Polding Villa to Bethany Hostel, Eastwood in 2005.

### **Mary Joyce Cecelia Ratcliffe (nee Fogarty) was**

born at Narrandera and received her primary education at Taree. Here she was awarded a scholarship to attend St Scholastica's, where she became Dux of the school in 1942. After gaining her Leaving Certificate she won another scholarship to attend Sydney University in the Faculty of Arts, gaining a B.A., majoring in Psychology.

Joyce worked with the Department of Labour & Industry, particularly in the Vocational Guidance section.

Joyce married Harry Ratcliffe in 1947 and together reared a family of seven children, all of whom obtained tertiary education qualifications. Joyce was involved with charitable work, in particular the Ryder/Cheshire Foundation. She loved the Opera and Ballet.

Her son writes: "her capacity to love & share all that she had, was profound".

Joyce was diagnosed with cancer in 2001 and after a determined battle she died on 24 December 2006.

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

The Sesquicentenary of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan has been very busy for Saint Scholastica's. We have been involved in the mass, the luncheon and the Benedictine Conversations held at Rosebank. Most recently of course a core of our community here attended the very successful Race Day held at Hawkesbury on Easter Monday. It was a wonderfully successful day and the large gathering of those associated with the Good Sams brought home the realisation that this important Order had done so much for the people of Australia in many ways. The ex-students of Saint Scholastica's are among the many whose lives have been touched by the sisters and are among the two million who have been educated by the Order.

While we are celebrating the past and living in the present we are preparing for the future. Like all our ex-students, we want to make sure that we will be able to continue the Good Samaritan tradition into the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> century educating young people of faith and developing in them the values of compassion and justice. While we depend on the best personnel we also have to make sure we offer the best facilities possible in this era of technology and independent learning. Thus we are preparing for the second stage of our Master Plan which extends the library, provides new classrooms and new staff facilities as well as refurbishing the existing staff facilities to create new art rooms. The architect is preparing the design development and we expect to start the work by the end of the year. Over the years our ex-students have been very generous in their donations to the building fund and scholarships providing the annual Sister Clare Award, and Ex-students' Scholarship and many generous donations to the Building Fund. Recently Mrs Marie Berry (nee Fraser), who left Saint Scholastica's in 1931, donated \$20,000 in memory of Sister Clare Slattery and Sister Philomena Gallagher. We will name two of the rooms in the new building after these two sisters which will preserve their names in perpetuity. Marie was taught English and French by Sister Clare and Latin by Sister Philomena. What a wonderful testament to these two renowned teachers to name part of our new building after them!

The College is very grateful for all that the ex-students continue to do for the education of the girls here at Saint Scholastica's. Your generosity and connection are very much appreciated. I look forward to meeting with all of you at the Ex-Students' reunion in May.

**Loretto Richardson**

**Jubilee!**

Congratulations to our Jubilarian, **Sister Marie Gerard McGlynn, sgs**, who celebrates 60 years of religious profession this year!

**Congratulations to:**

- **Loretto Richardson** and all 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 and thank you for your presence at our AGM.
- **All HSC students** who performed so well in 2006. Joanne Bayndrian gained the top UAI of 98.15 as well as a Premier's Award. She will receive the Sr Clare Memorial Award and will continue studies for a Bachelor of Global Studies at Sydney University. Gemma Lim gained UAI mark of 97.55 and will study for a Bachelor of Commerce at Sydney University.  
19 Students gained a UAI in the top 10% of the state and 70% were accepted into their first choice of course in universities in NSW, Darwin, New York and London. Well done!
- **The College**, who once more won the Award for the 'Best School/Community Garden' in the area.

**A message from our friends at Bethany Hostel, per kind favour Margaret Ann Kelly sgs**

"Nine Good Samaritan Sisters reside now at the Bethany Hostel at Eastwood, Sydney. Among them Sisters Beryl Rogan, Anne Rhoddy and Anthony Clare Mullany have had long association with St Scholastica's, all being past students of the College. Although unable now to attend the gatherings of the past pupils, they are always interested in reading the newsletter, in hearing of other past pupils and in getting information regarding the present activities of the college".



**Sister Beryl Rogan sgs celebrating at Bethany!  
Update - Sr Clare Memorial Award**

This year the Sr Clare Memorial Award has been won by 2006 HSC Student, Joanne Bayndrian, with a UAI mark of 98.15. She has chosen to enrol in a Bachelor of Global Studies Degree at Sydney University. Joanne also received the Premier's Award of Excellence for achieving above 90% in all her subjects.

**We had a wonderful response (\$850.00) to our appeal in 2006/07 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, where we hope it will be an inspiration for students to perform to their highest standards

### **Class Reunions**

#### **The Class of 1957 (Year 7 1953 - Year 11 1957)**

Class of 1957 is to hold their 50-year reunion luncheon at St Scholastica's in late October.

If you were in this class or know of anyone who is interested, details may be obtained as below.

Arrangements are being completed and for further details contact Ann Eskens. **Phone: 9923 2794**  
**Mobile: 047992327**

**Email: [anneskens@ozemail.com.au](mailto:anneskens@ozemail.com.au)**

#### **"The Class of 1967 (Year 7 1963- Year 12 1967)"**

Catherine advises, "will be holding their 40-year reunion on Sunday 30 September 2007 at the College. There will be Mass at 12.00 noon, followed by lunch in the Trixie Forrest Centre. We've managed to track down about half the class, but if you were in the class and hadn't heard about the reunion plans, please contact Catherine Crittenden (nee Weir) [ccrittenden@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ccrittenden@optusnet.com.au) or 21 Rosemount Avenue, Summer Hill NSW 2130. If you know someone who was in the class, we'd appreciate it if you'd let them know about the reunion and ask them to contact either Cath or Win McCluskie at the College.

#### **The Treasures of Saint Scholastica's**

A book, which depicts the beauty and tradition of St Scholastica's and the Chapel, 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, at our AGM on 27 May 2007

Cost of Book is \$19.95

#### **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.

**Ex-Students' 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bursary Fund**

Please be advised that once more a very generous response (**\$3668.57**) was made to our **Bursary Fund** in **2006/2007**. Your continual support to this special project is very encouraging. **Our Investment Fund will this year exceed \$65000!**

In 2007 we were able to offer a Scholarship of \$1500 which greatly assists in payment of annual college fees, which are in excess of \$4000 per annum for years 11 & 12. Please keep remembering we are assisting each year in the education of a selected student at St Scholastica's. To date from 1998, **172** ex-students have donated **\$30,619.09**.

**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.

Sister Lorraine Victorsen sgs, prior to her resignation in 2006 as Executive Director after seven and half years of dedication to this role, wrote:

"We are very grateful for the support we receive from our friends who enable the Foundation to continue supporting the charitable works in which the Sisters are engaged. The contributions from people have helped us so much to empower other people. We really feel that together we are working 'to make the world a better place'.

I have recently returned from the Philippines where I attended the Good Samaritan Kinder School Graduation ceremony and saw the results of the Sisters' good work in this little school of 120 students. The Sisters provide basic education for the children of low income or no income families many of whom live in the squats where facilities such as running water and electricity are non-existent. Education would be an impossibility without the help of its supporters, who assist in such a meaningful way. You know that you are remembered by the Sisters in their prayers as a small expression of our gratitude."

Be pleased to know a very generous response of **\$1295.89** from ex-students was made in **2006/07**.

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.**

#### **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.**

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

**Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict, celebrating 150 years of Life and Mission, 1857- 2007**

The Good Samaritan Sisters, past and present have been truly honored in the sesquicentenary celebrations that have taken place since the beginning of the year. Many ex-students were in the midst of the huge congregation that filled St Mary's Cathedral for the Mass, concelebrated by Cardinal Pell, many bishops and priests and special guest, Abbot of Downside, Abbot Aidan Bellenger osb. Good Samaritan Colleges took part in the liturgies and choirs, one of which, St Scholastica's College delivered an inspiring rendition of Anton Bruckner's *Locus Iste* -

"This place was made by *God*, a priceless mystery, it is beyond reproach".

The three Benedictine Conversations held in February and March were certainly thought provoking evenings for the many who gathered.

Word has it that the raceway at the Hawkesbury was enjoyed by all!

### Remaining Sesquicentenary dates

July 15 GOOD SAMARITAN SUNDAY  
Launch of Good Samaritan Rose  
2.30pm St Scholastica's College  
July 19 Public Lecture - Sr Joan Chittister osb  
7.30pm Mt St Benedict's College, Pennant Hills  
August 20 Seiwa College Choir Concert  
11.00am Mt St Benedict's College, Pennant Hills  
Sept 16 Open-air Mass,  
10.00am Queanbeyan Racecourse  
Sept 23 Launch Mater Dei Story,  
2.30pm Trixie Forrest Centre,  
St Scholastica's College  
Nov 4 Mass for Deceased Members of the  
Congregation  
2.00pm St Scholastica's Chapel, Glebe Point  
Enquiries: Tel: 02 8752 5300  
Email: [gsoffices@goodsams.org.au](mailto:gsoffices@goodsams.org.au)  
Website: [www.goodsams.org.au](http://www.goodsams.org.au)



**The Good Samaritan Rose** This new rose is being specially cultivated "to celebrate the planting and growth of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict 1857-2007"

A limited number of orders may still be taken for the July distribution. More potted roses will be available for ordering, for delivery later in the year, but will be a little dearer. Details will be advised at our AGM.

How to order:

- Forms will be available at our AGM.
- Contact Sr Francis Maher sgs Tel:9809 1590  
Email: [fmaher@goodsams.org.au](mailto:fmaher@goodsams.org.au)
- Or the following form for July issue:

### **Membership**

Annual Subscription \$5  
New Graduates \$4pa or \$20 for 5yrs.  
Life Membership \$50

### **Ex-Students Executive**

**President: Dr Donna Lynch**

P.O.Box 892, Lane Cove 1595  
Ph 94270730

**Secretary: Anne Wells**

10 Drynan St., Summer Hill 2130  
Ph 9798 6655

**Treasurer: Rose Paton**

201/9 Everton St., Pymble 2073  
Ph 99880541 Email: [rose.paton@swiftdsl.com.au](mailto:rose.paton@swiftdsl.com.au)

**ORDER FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBURB \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

QUANTITY \_\_\_\_\_ Good Samaritan roses @ \$19.95  
+ \$10.00 postage if not collected

I will be able to collect     Please Post

Collection Point: St Scholastica's Convent Glebe Point  
within three days from 15 July 2007

Payment Details - Tick box

I enclose a cheque/money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
made payable to Sisters of the Good Samaritan

Please debit my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VISA     BANKCARD     MASTERCARD

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and send ORDER to :  
Sr Francis Maher sgs  
Good Samaritan Offices  
PO Box 876  
FIVE DOCK NSW 2046

**The following items or part thereof not included in 2007 Newsletter due to lack of space.**

**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 19 May 2007 please?

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

Congratulations to our last year's winners:

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:

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

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

**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.

**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 27May.

**Classes of 1947, 1977, 1987,1997**

Is anyone out there organising 60, 30, 20, 10-year reunions? 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 07!!

***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.*