

VERITY

JULY 2018



ST MARY'S COLLEGE
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE



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Front cover: Ms Margaret Twomey.
Guest Speaker & College Alumna.
St Mary's Centenary Dinner.

Back cover: St Mary's at dusk.
Courtesy of Peter Casamento
Photography.



A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL



This is a significant year for St Mary's – we are celebrating 100 years since St Mary's Hall opened on The Avenue in Parkville. The Hall opened with a pioneering community of eight Loreto Sisters and by that year's end had 16 young women students of the university in residence. The original aim – of providing a supportive and nurturing 'home-away-from-home' for country students while preparing them for life beyond college – remains the aim of the college today.

The world in which the college operates is, of course, vastly different to that of 100 years ago – not just in terms of technological change but also in terms of scale, societal structures and values, economic conditions, career and other opportunities for graduates, globalisation, etc. That the college opened at the start of 1918 – with the Great War in its fourth year – was, in itself, a remarkable achievement and an expression of a far-sighted vision for the role of education, even in a deeply fragmented world. It was also a reflection of a degree of optimism and a serious commitment to the future. That the college has flourished, grown, evolved in many ways, and yet still strives to meet those aims of 100 years ago is a remarkable achievement!

The support of so many alumni and friends of the college is vital to its ongoing ability to achieve its aims. I recently wrote to all alumni inviting financial support for the college's Scholarship and Bursary Fund; the response was heartening as several alumni and friends made donations. I thank them all. We have several students for whose families the college fees are a major financial strain, but such students and their families are greatly appreciative of any bursary support that we can provide. I encourage any of you who are now in a position to be able to do so, to give back to your college, so that others may benefit from being members of this unique college community.

The highlight of the centennial celebrations to date was without doubt the Mass of Thanksgiving and Centenary Dinner on 17 March. I was delighted to welcome back to the college so many alumni, and current and former members of the college council and staff including former principals, Sr Maureen Burke ibvm and Sr Liz Hepburn ibvm. It was indeed a special night and one befitting such a significant milestone! Other highlights have been the first Centenary Public Lecture – by the college's Visiting

Scholar, Professor Anne Steinemann, and the Centenary College Day address by Professor Emeritus Margaret Manion ibvm AO. We are fortunate indeed to have such eminent scholars as members of our wider college community! Another highlight will undoubtedly be the Centenary Concert on 2 December under the artistic directorship of Ms Genevieve Lacey who is donating her time and extraordinary abilities to the college for this event. Please see the college web-site for details on centenary events.

I leave tomorrow to accompany a group of second-year students walking 270 kilometres along the Camino de Santiago de Compostella in Spain – a time for reflection and some pondering of life's bigger questions, after the pressure of mid-year examinations. My hope is that we will take full advantage of this opportunity to step aside from the 'busyness' of our everyday lives, appreciate the many gifts and privileges each of us has received, and consider how we wish to live our lives going forward.

Dr Darcy McCormack

Principal

A WORD FROM THE DEAN & DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



As I rode my bike around Melbourne, firstly to the Shrine of Remembrance and then on to the beach I felt a sense of gratitude for the beautiful day and the many other things in my life that I am grateful for. As I sit in my office to pen this piece, I look out to the beautiful gardens at St Mary's and the changing colour of the leaves and ponder the changes in my own life in the last few months. Moving from Bendigo, where I lived on my own, to community life here in Melbourne was going to be an interesting challenge, but one that I was looking forward to.

My son, Brendan was a student at St Mary's in 2003 and I recall the many stories he shared about his experience here under the leadership of Sr Maureen. I now know why he loved his time here and how he developed such good friendships. The different activities he spoke of are still present today and the place feels alive and welcoming.

I have experienced O Week, First Year Dance-off, tutorials, hockey, soccer, athletics, rowing, music, high table, Pleasant Friday Afternoons (PFA), Indigenous night, College day and of course the Centenary Dinner. The Dinner was an amazing event where many alumni shared stories and reminisced about years gone by. The joy was palpable that night, as many came back to reconnect.

Many will remember at this year's Centenary Dinner we had wonderful guest speakers who spoke about their time here and what they have done since leaving St Mary's. Others reflected on the influence and impact of the Loreto Sisters and their charism.

My experience throughout my own education was mainly of the Mercy and Marist Charisms. As I said on the night of the Dinner, I feel privileged to be able to experience and work within the Loreto Charism.

Recently, I was speaking with some of the first-year students, and one of the them recounted the story of me ringing her about receiving a place here at St Mary's. It was wonderful for me to be reminded of the excitement I heard in her voice months before, but now to see great animation and joy in the young woman's face in front of me. I asked how the start to the year had been. Her words say it all, "I cannot say enough about how amazing Mary's is, and has been for me. I could never have imagined how great it would be". I am pleased to say, my experience has also been life giving and enriching. It has been a privilege to work with the staff and the amazing young adults that live here at St Mary's. Each individual brings something of themselves to each encounter and hopefully they leave each other better people, challenging each other to be more. We are all on this journey together. St Mary's has a holistic approach to developing young people and we remember that we are relational beings and we become more authentically human in relationship.

As we come to the final stages of this semester the college continues to be a hive of activity. Students have been off-site doing voluntary activities, they continue their studies and sporting events and many attended the first public lecture for the year by Professor Anne Steinemann.

We wish our students well for their end of semester exams and we pray that those travelling to Spain for the Camino, have a safe and uplifting experience.

Ms Maria O'Donnell

Dean & Deputy Principal

STUDENT CLUB NEWS



O-Week Report

After months of organising, preparation, excitement and anticipation, on 26 February 2018, we welcomed 97 amazing fresh faces into our college community. To make them welcome, over the course of six days the student club, with great help from student mentors and the work-scheme team, ran a week of fun and games.

The first years were in for a big week discovering all that's great about St Mary's and Melbourne as a city. With activities running throughout the morning and night, the newest first years were treated to morning runs, yoga, formal breakfast, bowling, ice-skating, laser-tag, trivia, a visit to the markets and so much more.

As the week progressed, so did the first years' confidence and their connections and friendships began to blossom. They gave this week their all, and soon enough their introduction to this amazing college life was coming to a close.

At this time of the year, it is amazing to look back at where we all started and what O-Week brought every single one of us, as we continue to develop and enjoy each other's friendship at Mary's.



STUDENT CLUB REPORT



Throughout this semester, the student club has been working hard, organising various activities aimed at bringing our college community together, enjoying each other's company and having fun, in a way that is inclusive and enjoyable for all of our students here at St Mary's.

We welcomed 97 new first years and they have quickly gelled with our college life. Our first and largest activity for the student club was organising, coordinating and running 'Tropical week' as an orientation for the newest faces in our college community.

The students enjoyed the array of activities organised by the student club. Many worthwhile and relevant talks were included in the O-week program, and it was a successful start to the year. This was the perfect start for setting up new friendships, and getting to know what our community is all about.

Other events organised by the student club include multiple 'Pleasant Friday Afternoons' (PFA's) where students showcase their many and varied musical and performing talents.

The student club also organises 'Get your life in order week' (GYLIO Week). GYLIO Week is where we encourage our students to get their life in order. Students are encouraged to do their washing, catching up on their course, calling their parents and getting some decent rest.

We offered a 'So you think you can date week?' which is an event that encourages students to reach out to people that they might not have had the chance to connect with yet. Each member of the college is given a name to 'take out on a date' and this is a nice time to have lunch or a coffee and get to know someone. Everyone seemed to enjoy it, and enjoy the chance to treat someone and get to know each other better.

The student club has helped organise numerous sporting competitions such as cricket, hockey, soccer, squash just to name a few. Sport has continued to be an integral part of college life and gives students a healthy break from study.

Overall, this semester has been a fantastic start to the year with students embracing all aspects of college life. With major events such as the Ball coming up, we are all looking forward to the second half of the year!



By Kathleen Gillahan

Student Club President

COMMENCEMENT

ST MARY'S - A SPECIAL PLACE

The formal commencement to the academic year was celebrated on Wednesday 28 February 2018. Bishop Mark Edwards OMI PhD, Episcopal Vicar for Tertiary Education, celebrated Mass in the Frewin Room assisted by Fr Michael Elligate. Bishop Edwards challenged the students to embrace

life's challenges and to look beyond their own academic discipline. The commencement dinner followed in the college dining room, scholarships were awarded to first year and returning students on the basis of their achievements and presented by Bishop Edwards, the Principal Dr Darcy McCormack, the Dean

Ms Maria O'Donnell, Professor Anne Steinemann, Associate Professor Patrick Quirk and Mr Patrick Houlihan. The commencement address was given by Mr Patrick Houlihan, college alumnus, whose address follows.

Commencement Dinner Address by Mr Patrick Houlihan. 28 February 2018.

Thirty-three years ago I was here in this dining room as a first-year student at the 1985 Commencement Dinner. I was 17 years old which just happens to be my son, Liam's, age now. I spent four years here in college undertaking my Bachelor of Science with Honours. Four of my siblings also went here. My best friends today are those who I met during my time here, and I am still involved with St Mary's as a member of the College Council.

Clearly this college is a special place for all its former and current students. But what makes it special? Why do so many people (current and former students) have such affection for this place?

No doubt, the background of the students is a major part of this.

Life in the country

I grew up in Winslow, a small community north of Warrnambool. We lived in a tiny wooden house, on a small farm; there were six kids in our family. Our parents worked hard to educate us. Extended family was important in our lives and we visited them - and they visited us - often. Mum and Dad, six kids and Nanna in one station wagon. There was a real sense of community with neighbours helping each other, being interested in each other, and looking out for each other. We played cricket on the track - for hours on end!

And many of my fellow students here at St Mary's had similar upbringings. We had to 'make do' with whatever we had - an important life skill - though, of course, we didn't recognise that at the time! I guess it's closely related to that current buzz-word 'resilience'.

As an aside, of Australia's 100 largest companies, half the Australian-born

CEO's are from the country ...an interesting correlation about leadership traits and 'country kids' experiences.

Love of Science

The influence of a gifted and inspirational science teacher at Emmanuel College, Warrnambool, the late Mr John Hingston, sparked and encouraged my curiosity about all things scientific ...and encouraged me to look to higher education. Interestingly all five of my siblings went on and completed science degrees.

Life at St Mary's

Before coming to St Mary's I had little idea of life in Melbourne - having only spent a total of three days of my life in the city. I remember coming for my interview at St Mary's (accompanied by my mother) ...and the then principal, Sister Jane, encouraging me to apply to other colleges...!

Somehow I was accepted into St Mary's and life here was an amazing experience. As I mentioned earlier, I stayed four years to complete chemistry honours. I have great memories of my time at St Mary's - friendships formed; many late nights; visits to 'Twins' in Lygon Street well after midnight; and all-night study bursts for exams.

It took me some time to find my true area of interest - 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year passed by. I look back on those years and see now how formative they were (though, again, not recognised at the time)! Life here - like back home in Winslow, but at the same time so different - was about community, getting to know others, tolerance, gaining self-confidence, and heading home for summer holidays (even deliberately missing a train or two.... and phoning Mum to tell her I was held up and that I would be on tomorrow morning's train!).

So St Mary's opened up a new world of opportunity for me ...how different my life would have turned out if I had not come to live in this college.

Post University

After completing my Honours degree in chemistry I was accepted to undertake a PhD in chemistry; however, I deferred that. I started work at Dulux Group in 1989 - and I am still there 29 years later. I spent nine years leading our polymer chemistry R&D team; I was sent on secondment to the USA and there met my wife, Susan... Darcy was my best man. I completed an MBA; then spent the next nine years in sales, marketing, planning and then as General Manager. I'm now in my 12th year as the CEO of Dulux Group...a \$3 billion company with 4,000 people in a dozen countries. So who knows where life will take you! Do what you enjoy and be flexible. Some people are specialists and some people are generalists... there's no right or wrong. Challenge yourself; push beyond your comfort zone and never stop learning... try new things!

I wish you well on your own journey!

Thank You

I remain deeply grateful for my four years in this special college community.



If I can say one thing to you all here tonight, it is to cherish your years here – it's a unique chapter of your life that will be over before you know it!

I sense that today the enduring values that underpinned this college 30 years ago remain as strong as ever here. May you never take them for granted and may you work always to build them up.

Look out for each other, and have the backbone to stand up for principle. Strive to reach your potential – whatever it is!

And when you are in a position to support this college, do so, so that others may also have benefit from this special place!

By Mr Patrick Houlihan

Managing Director
& Chief Executive Officer
Dulux Group



St Mary's College Choir



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

St Mary's College Scholarships - First Year Students

Awarded to the first year students with outstanding ATARs:

Hannah Billington *Victory Lutheran College, Wodonga*
Bachelor of Arts

Chantal Zhao *All Saints Anglican School, Merrimac QLD*
Bachelor of Commerce

Gabriella Taranto *John XXIII College, Mt Claremont WA*
Bachelor of Science

Annabelle Brennan *SCEGGS, Darlinghurst NSW*
Bachelor of Biomedicine

Elizabeth Greenwood *Darwin High School, Darwin NT*
Bachelor of Science

Anisha Sarib *The Essington International College, Nightcliff NT*
Bachelor of Arts

Declan Negus *St Andrews International School, Thailand*
Bachelor of Commerce

St Mary's College Scholarships - Returners

Awarded to returning students with the most outstanding academic results across their entire previous year's enrolment:

Bree Booth *Merbein Secondary College, Mildura VIC*
Bachelor of Arts

Jesse Burgess *Don College, Devonport TAS*
Bachelor of Science

Jack Dean *Kardinia International College, Bell Post Hill VIC*
Bachelor of Arts

James Grant *QASMT, Toowong QLD*
Bachelor of Biomedicine

Lindsay Hicks *Ravenswood School for Girls, Gordon NSW*
Bachelor of Music

Ben Howden *Nagle College, Bairnsdale VIC*
Bachelor of Science

Rocky Jiang *Kristin School, Auckland NZ*
Bachelor of Science

Joanna John *Brisbane Girls Grammar, Brisbane QLD*
Bachelor of Commerce

Lachlan McIntyre *St Patricks College, Ballarat VIC*
Bachelor of Science

James Petchey *St Peters College, Adelaide SA*
Bachelor of Commerce

St Mary's Alumni Scholarship

Awarded to a returning student who has made an outstanding contribution to college life:

Hannah Goddard *Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston TAS*
Bachelor of Communication

Archdiocese of Melbourne Scholarships

Awarded to first year students who are parishoners of the Archdiocese of Melbourne and achieved a high ATAR:

Bridget Bennett *Sacred Heart College, Newtown VIC*
Bachelor of Nursing

Georgia Hayes *Sacred Heart College, Newtown VIC*
Bachelor of Arts

Olwen Kibby *Clonard College, Geelong VIC*
Bachelor of Business

Dominic van Slageren *St Joseph's College, Geelong VIC*
Bachelor of Science

Culican Ward Scholarship

Awarded to a returning student of the humanities with the highest average mark across their previous year's subjects:

Jireh Tay *Anglo-Chinese School (International) Singapore*
Bachelor of Arts

Kallady Gippsland Scholarship

Awarded to a first year student/s from Gippsland with the highest ATAR:

Alisha Collenette *American International School, Riyadh Saudi Arabia*
Bachelor of Science

Maria Jens Scholarship

Awarded to a returning student who has contributed significantly to college life by living out its values with a high degree of commitment:

Joanna John *Brisbane Girls Grammar, Brisbane QLD*
Bachelor of Commerce

Loreto Sisters Scholarship

Awarded to a senior student (i.e. post first year) who demonstrates both academic promise and a lived commitment to the values of the college:

Kathleen Gillahan *Donald High School, Donald VIC*
Bachelor of Nursing

Mother Patrick Calnan ibvm Scholarship

Awarded to a returning student with consistent academic results and who has made a valuable contribution to the building up of our college community:

Matheus Vollert *St Josephs Nudgee College, Boondall QLD*
Bachelor of Arts

Charlie and Pat McCormack Scholarships

Awarded to a returning student (or students) with consistently good academic performance whose contributions to college life are characterised by generosity and humility:

Dinan McMahon *Marist College, Canberra ACT*
Bachelor of Science

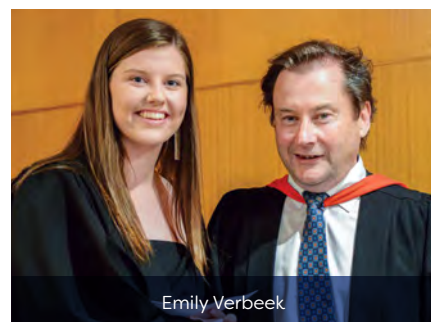
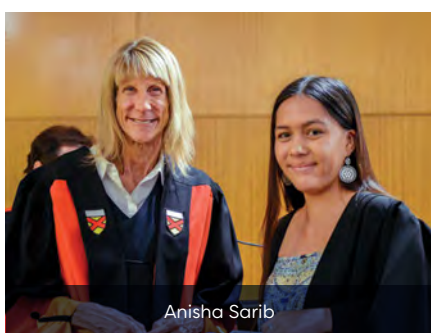
Emily Verbeek *Catholic College, Bendigo VIC*
Bachelor of Biomedicine

Patrick Houlihan Science Scholarships

Awarded to returning students in the broad area of Science who make a significant contribution to college life and who have the potential to achieve significantly in science-related fields:

Tom Clarkson *St Josephs College, Mildura VIC*
Bachelor of Science

Amy Surkitt *Emmanuel College, Warrnambool VIC*
Bachelor of Biomedicine





Gabriella Taranto



Declan Negus



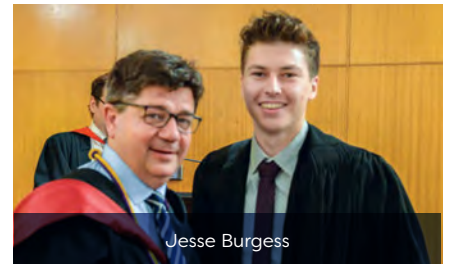
Olwen Kibby



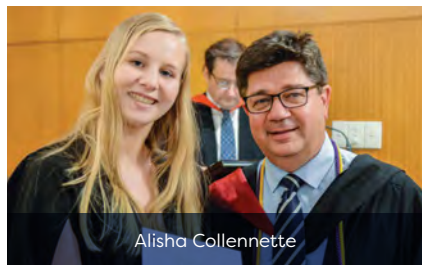
James Petchey



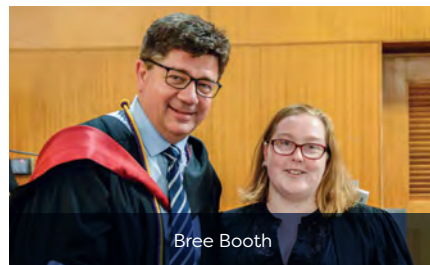
Lindsay Hicks



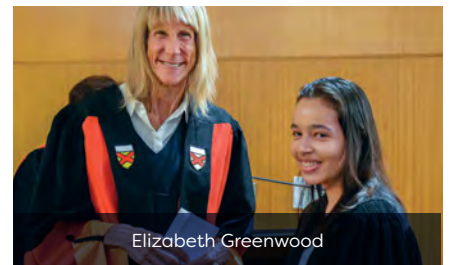
Jesse Burgess



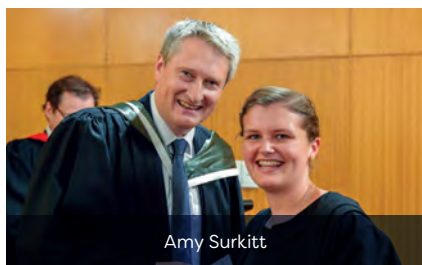
Alisha Collenette



Bree Booth



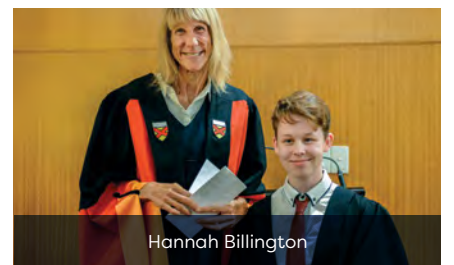
Elizabeth Greenwood



Amy Surkitt



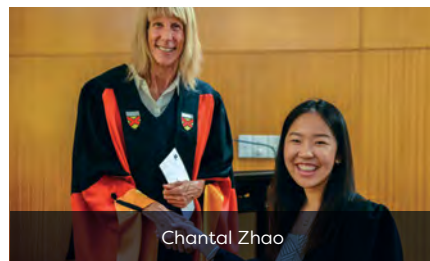
Bridget Bennett



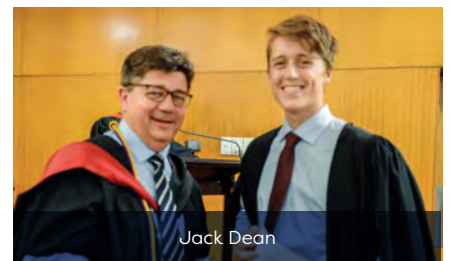
Hannah Billington



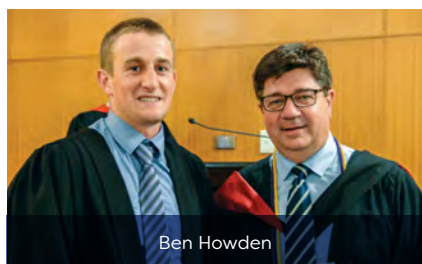
Annabelle Brennan



Chantal Zhao



Jack Dean



Ben Howden



Dinan McMahon



James Grant

ST MARY'S COLLEGE CENTENARY

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



Mass of Thanksgiving and Centenary Dinner. 17 March 2018.

Celebrations to mark the centenary of the opening of St Mary's Hall in Parkville in 1918 commenced with a Mass of Thanksgiving and a Centenary Dinner on Saturday 17 March. A large crowd, including many Loreto Sisters, former and current students and staff, members of the college council, and representatives of The University of Melbourne, as well as friends and supporters of the college participated in both these events.

The principal celebrant of the Mass was Archbishop Denis Hart who has chaired the college council for the last 17 years. Several Loreto Sisters had special roles in the Mass – Mary Wright ibvm read the first reading; Carina Flaherty ibvm, who commenced as a student at St Mary's in 1947, brought up the offertory gifts along with current student, Dinan McMahon; and Carolyn McSwiney ibvm (former student, staff member, and member of the college council) and Anne Kelly ibvm (current member of the college council) read the general intercessions, with current student president, Kathleen Gillahan. The sizeable congregation included former principals, Elizabeth Hepburn ibvm and Maureen Burke ibvm; Jane Kelly ibvm sent greetings from Ireland. The college choir, under the direction of alumna Juliarna Cleal, added significantly to the liturgy.

The archbishop spoke at the end of the Mass of how much he has enjoyed being involved at St Mary's – in particular, the college's role in helping form young people to serve generously in the professions and to contribute to wider society. Following the Mass in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Newman

College, everybody walked next door to the Frewin Room in St Mary's, where displays of historical documents and photographs brought back many memories!

The Centenary Dinner followed in the college courtyard on a warm Melbourne autumn evening. It proved to be a special night. Current principal, Dr Darcy McCormack, introduced the guest speaker and college alumna, Ms Margaret Twomey. A senior diplomat, Margaret has served in a succession of sensitive postings, including Australian Ambassador to Timor Leste, Ambassador to the Russian Federation, and High Commissioner to Fiji. Margaret spoke with deep affection of the Loreto contribution to St Mary's; she highlighted particularly the encouragement, support and inspiration provided to young, often shy country students, and the fact that all are treated equally at St Mary's. The text of Margaret's speech is provided in this issue of Verity.

The Chancellor of The University of Melbourne, Mr Allan Myers AC QC, highlighted the significant contribution

and scale of the university, the colleges will always be highly valued by the university as well as by the students. Mr Myers also spoke endearingly of his own memories of St Mary's and those of his wife, Maria, an alumna of St Mary's.

Natalie Houlihan ibvm spoke on behalf of the Loreto Sisters. Natalie recalled with deep affection her own time as a student at St Mary's in the 1990's and the significant inspiration provided by the Loretos during those three years. Natalie highlighted how significant the college is in young people's lives – in providing a home-away-from-home and a strong sense of belonging or 'family'. Natalie's speech is reproduced in this issue of Verity.

The centenary celebrations are continuing throughout the year with a public lecture series, an oral history project, a luncheon at the old St Mary's Hall for alumnae of the Hall, and a garden party. The celebrations will conclude with the Centenary Concert in early December.





Margaret Twomey, a career diplomat, emanates from Shepparton, Victoria, and completed an honours degree in Russian and French (combined honours) in 1984 at The University of Melbourne. Through this period she attended St Mary's College, residing in Room East 54.

Upon graduation, Margaret began her career as a strategic analyst at the Department of Defence in Melbourne. In 1988 she moved to Canberra to take up a position with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), working on Eastern European and Soviet affairs at the time of the fall of the Berlin wall and the beginnings of the end of the Soviet Union. Her first diplomatic posting was to the Australian Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia (also accredited to Romania, Bulgaria and

Albania), where she witnessed the beginnings of a prolonged civil war. On return to Canberra, Margaret put her experiences to work as East Europe and Balkans analyst at the Office of National Assessments, before returning to DFAT to work in the Strategic Assessments Branch and then heading to London as political Counsellor (1995-2000).

From London, Margaret went to Suva, Fiji, as Deputy High Commissioner, where she witnessed the 2000 Speight coup and engaged in assisting Fiji's 2001 return to democracy. On return to Canberra she headed DFAT's Northern, Southern and Eastern European Branch.

In August 2004 Margaret assumed her first Head of Mission posting

as Australia's Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. In June 2008 she was appointed Australia's Ambassador to the Russian Federation (remotely accredited to Armenia, Moldova, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan).

Margaret then returned to Australia in 2011 to head Policy Planning in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In November 2014 she returned to Fiji – this time as High Commissioner.

Margaret recently completed her term in Fiji and has returned to Canberra to take up a role as Assistant Director-General of the Office of National Assessments.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE CENTENARY

DINNER ADDRESS BY MS MARGARET TWOMEY

**St Mary's Centenary Dinner
in the college courtyard.
17 March 2018.**

Bishop Peter Elliott, Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, Mr Allan Myers and Maria, Justice Richard Tracey and Hillary, Loreto Sisters, St Mary's friends, alumni and students.

Firstly, I wish to thank Darcy for the invitation to speak to you all here tonight on this most significant occasion, the college's centenary dinner.

When I stand at podiums in august places such as this, I recall sitting at my desk in the Australian embassy in Moscow and taking a call from Kevin Rudd's chief-of-staff, asking if I could arrange for Mr Mikhail Gorbachev to be the guest speaker at a non-proliferation event that we were hosting at the embassy. "There is, of course, nothing wrong with thinking big", I thought... Happily I knew just the man to call and he said that, indeed, this request could be accommodated. All was on track, I thought, until – as an understated aside – my interlocutor noted that this would cost Australia a mere USD 175,000! Errr....right... maybe not!

The good news tonight is that I am cheap – indeed, I am free! But apart from being free, the only other claim that I can stake to this honour is that, in quite a few ways, I represent the St Mary's 'everywoman'. To validate the 'everywoman' premise I have talked to a few others from the generation of the early 1980s.

I beg the indulgence of the many wonderful men, past and present, of St Mary's. But for me a key element of this celebration is the wonderful things that the Loreto Sisters have done for young women over the years – in this case across exactly 100 years.

So who is that St Mary's girl? The St Mary's everywoman? She is the sheltered Catholic girl from the country. She wants to do big things in life but is not yet sure how. She wants to indulge in her intellectual curiosities or passions. She wants to test herself – to see if she can stand up to the challenges of life in a faster lane. She wants to make her parents – who are probably paying a lot of money to get her to Parkville – proud. Does that sound familiar?

So she comes here, to St Mary's; she discovers herself, she flourishes and she goes out into the even wider world to 'do her thing'. So that is me and, I suspect, many of you...

Like the rest of you, I have explored a lot of the world since I lived here. I've ended up in some very strange places – and sometimes quite disorienting situations... including civil war in Yugoslavia, a military coup in Fiji, the 2006 collapse of security in Timor-Leste. My orientation: 91 Corio St, Shepparton. My second point of reference: right here! These surrounds are about who I was when I came here...; who I wanted to be... Remember that exquisite feeling we have during our university years of how the world is our oyster?

These surrounds also remind me of who I had become by the time I left here and ventured into the first stage of my career. When I first arrived here at St Mary's in February 1981 and made my way to my room, East 55, I was aware that I was fairly unworldly. But I don't think that I really appreciated the importance of 'social education' to my 'university education'. Archbishop Little got it right when, as the student representative on the College Council, I assured him that we were all focused heavily on our studies. He replied that he hoped not! I now understand what he meant.

University, for some students, is liberation from home and parents. For me it was liberation from school bullying and small-town parochialism. It was finally OK to admit to intellectual interests – or even ambition!

What I found here was a Christian-based respect for difference, diversity, and eccentricity – which was, indeed, allowed to prosper and was sometimes even venerated! I recognised it straight away: however homesick I was for my family in Shepparton, I knew I was onto a good thing. I told my parents this was my Utopia – and, indeed, it was... "Collegiality".

St Mary's was – and undoubtedly still is – a place for blossoming and self-discovery.

Many, if not most, experienced our first loves while here – quite a journey for

those from all-girls schools who had to adjust from rarely socialising with boys at all to sharing the bathroom with them! I saw people grow from shy to exuberant here.

And whatever the financial hardships our parents had to go through to pay our fees, we all lived life on a relatively even economic footing while here. There was no economic difference between rich and poor when emptying the slop bucket during kitchen duty! Nor were we any longer having to cope with the inequalities of advantaged and disadvantaged schools.

This was a moment in life where we could act on a pretty level playing field.

Again, with due respect to the men, a huge impact this place had on me was the example set by the strong, capable and inspiring women of the Loreto Order. 'Feminista' nuns who questioned the place of women in the Catholic church and asserted the place of women both within the ecclesiastical and secular world. There was Mary Ward, of course; Mother Francis Frewin – who triumphed over Dr Mannix.

I well remember that portrait of Mother Francis looming over me as I studied in the (then) library. Margaret Manion and Veronica Brady were the icons for those of us here in the 1980s. But I have met quite a few Loretos making their mark in the world since, including Anne Kelly – here tonight – and Dian Stuart in Timor-Leste, and Helen McGuire who regularly comes to Fiji.

But, seriously, the icon of the 1980s and 90s: Sr Jane Kelly. She kept us in line with a look, a raised eyebrow, or a cryptic smile. She epitomised that myth propagated by nuns at school that they could read our minds and had eyes in the back of their head. She knew when we were being naughty.

Tonight is a tribute to all the principals and the other sisters who first fought for this place and have guided generations through this place. Effortless though they have made it look, we know it was not easy.

We have all recently heard stories of hazing and other appalling examples of student behaviour at colleges and halls

of residence. Yes, students can and do lose their way and have their travails – and the exuberance of youth can lead to lapses of judgement. But in all my associations with this College it has NEVER lost its collective grip on right and wrong – or its moral compass. And that is something to celebrate!

We will hear more of the Loreto story tonight. That includes the sad reality that their numbers are no longer strong

enough to lead St Mary's. A hard cord to cut! But made better by the inspiring choice of Darcy McCormack as the first lay principal. I congratulate the Loretos, the Archdiocese, and the College Council for finding the perfect person to lead this College into this necessarily new era.

Now... if it were back in 1981 I would say that I'll see you later at the 'turn' in the JCR.

And we would be hoping that, while formal proceedings continued, there was not going to be a guerrilla raid on our JCR beer and port supplies by some 'baddies' from Newman.

But that was then... I'm sure it doesn't happen now!!

By Ms Margaret Twomey



ST MARY'S COLLEGE CENTENARY

ST MARY'S COLLEGE CENTENARY DINNER

**Dinner Address on behalf
of the Loreto Sisters.
17 March 2018.**

Thank you, Darcy, for your warm welcome! Bishop Peter Elliot, Chancellor Allan Myers and Maria, Margaret Toomey, Members of the College Council, Loreto Sisters, dear friends, alumni, students and staff - both past and present:

I am so grateful to be here this evening representing the Loreto Sisters as we celebrate in thanksgiving the centenary of St Mary's College.

St Mary's has always held a very special place in my heart and little did I realise in 1992 as a first-year student that I would find myself some 26 years later as a member of the Loreto Sisters and speaking on behalf of the Sisters at this centenary. This is truly an honour!

St Mary's, we would all agree, is a unique College on the crescent; a home-away-from-home, a place where young lives, our lives, are held as sacred and lovingly nurtured as important life transitions and future possibilities are discerned and lived out. Tonight there will be many moments of reminiscing and the sharing of memories; memories that are now deeply embedded in the 100 year story we are celebrating with gratitude.

As recently as last Wednesday I attended High-Table and witnessed again why this place is so loved. The students know that they belong to this family. The charisma and beauty of this place continues to be so infectious no different to what I experienced with

Sr Jane and her team - a charisma and understanding of young people that I sense has always been present since the days of beginning 100 years ago. As early as 1888, Mother Gonzaga Barry, the founding leader of the Loreto Sisters in Australia, had set her heart on having a place close to the University of Melbourne and one day noticed from her carriage, the beautiful mansion, Barbiston, in The Avenue, Parkville, and making the comment at that time "that that's the place I would like".

In 1895 she made an official request to the Chancellor of the University and the then Archbishop of Melbourne, seeking approval for her plan to allow Loreto to buy and administer a 'Hostel' for young Catholic women studying at the University. Undoubtedly Mother Gonzaga Barry was a visionary. She had an advanced view of women's education and the academic possibilities that were becoming available to them.

In 1918 the original plan was realised and on 17 March that year, St Mary's Hall was officially opened with a community of 8 Sisters and, by years end, 16 students. And now, 100 years later, St Mary's College has stood for over 50 years on this current site, on land granted originally to the Catholic Bishops of Victoria.

From being a residence for women studying at the university, the mid-1970s saw St Mary's evolve with the acceptance of the first male students who, to this day, are integral to the life of the College as are the members, past and present, of the College Council, and the many tutors and

members of staff who, over time, have embraced the values of this community of which they are part. The change to lay leadership is one more way in which the story has unfolded.

This centenary provides all of us with the opportunity to acknowledge the present, excellent leadership of the College and its membership. It is also an opportunity to remember the loving commitment of the many Loreto Sisters, who lived and worked at St Mary's for 96 years. To them belonged the original idea to provide a residence for young Catholic women students. Today we are bearing witness to this dream's unfolding and the lives lived to let it grow.

On behalf of all Loreto Sisters I would like to wish Dr Darcy McCormack and the present St Mary's College Community and Alumni every blessing in this centenary year as you continue to support and nurture future leaders in the tradition of our Loreto foundress, Mary Ward, to be "seekers of truth and doers of justice." Thank you!



By Sr Natalie Houlihan ibvm



ST MARY'S COLLEGE CENTENARY

CENTENARY PUBLIC LECTURE



**Public Lecture in the Frewin Room.
17 March 2018.**

Professor Anne Steinemann, St Mary's Visiting Scholar, delivered a thought-provoking Centenary Public Lecture entitled 'Hidden hazards in everyday products and indoor environments'. The large audience included 40 current students who asked many probing questions. It was a memorable occasion for all present and the students'

Environment and Social Awareness Committee is currently discussing ways in which the college can meet some of the challenges posed by Professor Steinemann's lecture. The second Centenary Public Lecture will be delivered by Sister Jane Kelly ibvm in August – details will be forthcoming shortly.

Professor Anne Steinemann

ORATORY COMPETITION

The Sr Dierdre Rofe ibvm Oratory Competition was conducted in the Jabiru Room in The Allan and Maria Myers Academic Centre on Wednesday 2 May 2018. The winner receives a trophy and a cash prize.

There were fine contributions this year from Jade McIntyre, Fergus Patterson, Declan Negus, Hannah Billington and Chantal Zhao on a wide variety of topics. The competition was judged by Associate Professor Patrick Quirk.

Congratulations to the winner, Chantal Zhao, for her speech entitled: **Macbeth Soliloquy: Interpretation.**



Participants



Participants

ACT 1, BEFORE SCENE 1

Enter three WITCHES

At the hands of the game maker,
They'll turn blacker and blacker.
We'll turn their wood
Til they're no longer good.
For each his turn,
We'll watch them burn.

Methinks tomorrow will bring the dawning
Of a new game. Come sisters, let us take
Counsel from air and discuss matters
Of the heart.

Thou dost not need
To wait for Hecate's command.
Have you not seen all
That hath gone awry following her lead?
We sisters, we three,
United in blood, mischief and darkness
Will rise more successfully
If we consort together. Let Hecate be,
To darker matters where she is best suited.
(She brings them closer and conspires to take over)

Now, sisters hear thee well, for I have things
In my head, that will soon be to hand:
On the moors, the noble Macbeth and
His loyal friend Banquo are heavy in battle.
Ay, they do as I command
For time and place, I have made fit of the pieces.

Macbeth is "A gentleman on whom
[Duncan] built an absolute trust.
[Duncan] have begun to plant thee, [which] will labour
To make thee full of growing" (1.4 29-30).

But I will petrify thee tree, and carve the white wood
into black pieces for my game.
He whose whitest hands will be tainted with a deep
crimson red
That he will conceal by dipping in ink darker than the
night sky.
He who has his noble Lady to consider,
who plays most beautifully in our collied hands.
Because once before, she has already played.

Do you not recall, O sisters of mine?
I didst work wonders as still babes after babes
did fall from the womb of Lady Macbeth.
How easily we plucked them, like white roses,
Watched the wind pick them up and
Drift off into the dust. We bid them farewell
And danced upon their snowy little graves
as she wept to thee and found solace in only our spirits.

Where was her almighty God then?
And where will he be on the morrow?
One could not help but turn away
From Him for Lucifer hath out smarted Him.
Mere mortals look towards the light,
In search of that dear son.
But we know that Lucifer,
The brightest angel,
Hath become the number one.
Where there is light,
There too, lurks shadows.

And one by one, Pawn by pawn,
We will pick them up
Guide them away from the light,
And turn them towards the darkness.

Away sisters, and see my works,
The progress of the mighty soldiers.

WITCH 2 and WITCH 3 exeunt

ASIDE

This will be my finest hour.
I shall rise to the highest level of chaos.
And be higher than Hecate.
An angel brighter still than Lucifer Shall fall from heaven.
I shall be known for the demise of the
"Lord's anointed (2.3 42)" King Duncan himself.
I shall be lifted to be seated above the
Mighty of mightiest God.

WITCH 2 and WITCH 3 enter

My dearest Sisters, are the mortals doing as I bid them to?
Silence coward! Art thou afraid of mere Hecate?
"If you cleave to my consent (2.1 24)," when tis,
I promise thee pretty chaos.
Chaos as ne'er before: Mortals running hither and thither
Will plague th' Scotland.
For if thou dost not follow my leadings,
Thou wilt suffer at my hands which as thou wilt Remember
brings far greater wrath than Hecate
Who is still "young in deed (3.4 150)".

Sisters, hear again. Wonderful words and apparitions will
win Macbeth over. As in a trance, he shall move square upon
square upon on our chessboard.
Our word is his command.
The poor souls, know not but to play our game.
They are mere pawns dear sisters!
O Sisters, come play,
Come play this fast game with me.

Lady Macbeth's blood will become thicker
which will feed th' flower that is planted
in her false heart.
The serpent under't will be awoken by Macbeth's words that
are the thorny roots,
That will wrench her back into the dark.
The sweet words, will show her a glimmer of power,
Which she will snatch as fast as we did her babes.
And Macbeth too will fall
into the rhythmic waltz of the game. King Duncan
Will be left defenceless.

Hear not of Macbeth's conscience,
Over heaven's cry "Hold, hold;".
Hear not of "trumpet-tongued (1.7 19)" angels
Over the "lamentings heard i'th'air (2.3 30)",
The great unsuspecting King Duncan,
binding further to the Macbeths will fall
Into a mighty restless sleep.

Checkmate.

Hark! Peace! Hecate is coming.
No more. Hence sisters, and lay today's talks to heart.

WITCHES vanish

By Chantal Zhao

CENTENARY COLLEGE DAY

The Centenary College Day was celebrated on Friday 11 May 2018. The day commenced with a formal breakfast and various activities were conducted by the student club throughout the day. A highlight was the debate between the resident tutors and the first-year students. It was gratifying to witness such a high-level debate – even our distinguished adjudicator, Associate Professor Patrick Quirk, was impressed – not least by one of the tutors speaking fluently and at

length in Latin...before providing a translation!

Mass was celebrated in the Frewin Room by Fr Michael Elligate and the college choir was outstanding. The Guest of Honour at the evening dinner was Professor Emeritus Margaret Manion ibvm AO, a former Acting Principal of the college. Sister Margaret spoke eloquently of her deep feelings for St Mary's and on the wisdom of the decision to admit young men to the college from

1977; she relayed her recollections of the council meeting at which the recommendation to admit male students was made, and her pleasure that this has proved to be such a successful enhancement of the quality of the college experience for all. The students enthusiastically expressed their gratitude to Sister Margaret for sharing her recollections of her many years in residence at St Mary's.





CENTENARY COLLEGE DAY

Margaret Manion was born in Nowra, NSW and educated at Loreto Convent, Normanhurst, in Sydney. She then joined the Loreto Sisters and completed a BA in Education and an MA at The University of Melbourne. Sister Margaret worked as a teacher, then as Principal of Loreto College, Ballarat, before completing doctoral studies at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, USA.

Dr Manion was then a lecturer in fine arts at The University of Melbourne and then Head of the Department of Fine Arts. For many years Sister Margaret resided here at St Mary's and served for a year as Acting Principal of the college. Her outstanding scholarship, which by then was well recognised internationally, led to her being appointed as Professor of Fine Arts at The University of Melbourne - the first woman to be appointed to an established Chair in the university's history. Professor Manion also served as Deputy Dean and Acting Dean in the Faculty of Arts, Associate Dean for Research, and then Pro-Vice-Chancellor of The University of Melbourne. She also became the first woman to chair the university's Academic Board. In 1995 Sister Margaret was appointed Professor Emeritus.

Among many appointments – both in Australia and internationally – Professor Manion served two terms as Foreign Advisor to the International Center of Medieval Art, New York. She was also appointed as a member of the Council of Adult Education, the Arts Centre Melbourne Trust, and the Australia Council. Professor Manion was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (FAHA). For 15 years she was a trustee of the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) and its Deputy President. She was subsequently appointed Trustee Emeritus of the NGV in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the gallery. Professor Manion was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) in 1989, received the Centenary Medal in 2001, and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa by The University of Melbourne in 2007.

Professor Manion's scholarly publications are world renowned and centre on illuminated manuscripts; she has researched and authored numerous publications and curated exhibitions of international and Australian art. Books and journals donated from Professor Manion's research library now form the core of the Medieval and Renaissance (Early Modern) Manuscript Studies Collection in the Allan & Maria Myers Academic Centre.

Throughout all these achievements, Margaret Manion has been, and is, a Loreto Sister who brings passion, generosity, dedication and creativity to her work as a scholar and teacher. We at St Mary's are immensely proud of this college's long association with Sister Margaret Manion ibvm AO.



**Professor Emeritus
Margaret Manion ibvm AO**



INDIGENOUS DINNER

On Wednesday 16 May 2018 we celebrated our annual indigenous night. The speaker at the specially prepared dinner was Mr Charles O'Leary, Deputy Director of the university's Murup Barak indigenous unit. Charles was accompanied by his four-person student liaison team. His speech on indigenous history in Australia was well received and appreciated by the students and ended with some encouraging statistics on trends in indigenous enrolments and graduations at the university. A reflective and extraordinarily beautiful musical item was played on the Yidaki by Kiernan Ironfield. It was a most significant evening for the entire college community.

We were privileged to be joined by members of the Melbourne University Murup Barak, Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development, including Kiernan Ironfield, Matthew Starr, Kirsten Bonds, Carly Donovan and associate director, Charles O'Leary. Kiernan played a moving musical piece on the Yidaki, and Charles presented to the students on the importance of understanding and reconciling with our national history. His powerful speech offered a new perspective on the history of Indigenous Australians and their treatment, as well as providing examples on how we as a community can adjust our behaviours and build our own knowledge to facilitate support and reconciliation.

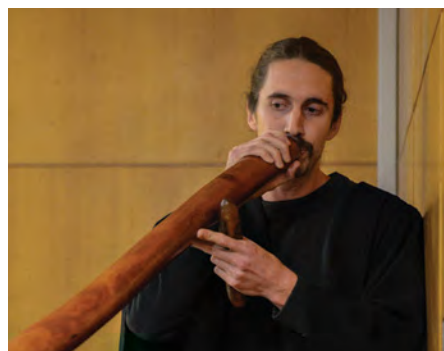
As an Aboriginal woman from Darwin it was a significant experience as I

was able to connect with other Indigenous people living in Melbourne.

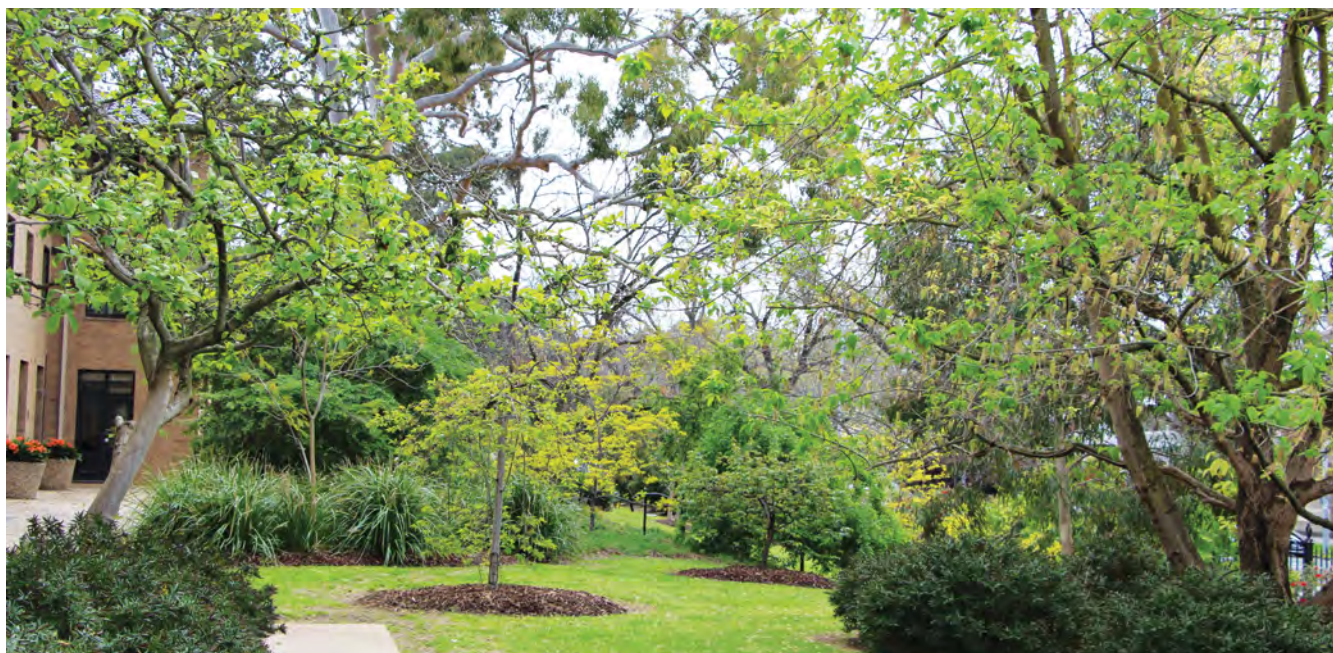
The response from the wider St. Mary's community has also been very positive and it seems that the evening has had a profound impact on all those who were present.

The 2018 Indigenous Recognition Dinner was a huge success, uniting the residents of St Mary's College, and providing a timely reminder of the need for ongoing commitment to reconciliation and equity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. We look forward to this newly established tradition continuing on next year and well into the future.

By Caitlyn Grace-Long



ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE



What a semester it has been for our Environmental and Social Awareness Committee! Already we're at the end of the first half of a big year of fundraising, volunteering, environmental improvement and awareness-raising activities.

Our first big event of the year was our annual 'Get Involved Night', where students had the opportunity to sign up for volunteering with an array of different organisations offering a range of community engagement opportunities. The night was a great success in that all our students put their names down to participate in one, two, or, for some, as many as five or six different volunteering experiences! Some of the organisations who came along included St Vincent's, Brunswick Neighbourhood House, Yarra Riverkeeper Association, Mary Ward International, The Way Community, Red Cross Blood Donation, The Red Shield Appeal and Embrace Education. The representatives were thrilled at the level of interest across the student body, which is something to be very proud of!

So far, we've had students participate in Yarra River Clean-up days, tutoring through Embrace Education, helping to run carnival days and other events at Brunswick Neighbourhood House and we've had an outstanding number of students donate blood. In fact, we've

had more students donate blood than any other college! A big thank you goes out to Hannah Cope-Williams and Max Li Kim Mui, our resident 'Blood Buds' who organised everybody's donation bookings! In the last few weeks of semester many students go out on the streets to raise funds for The Red Shield Appeal and that is always a great day.

In week 5, the ESAC committee organised our annual eggo-grams and distributed many thousands of Easter Eggs throughout the college, resulting in yet another year of successful fundraising for The Royal Children's Hospital's Good Friday Appeal. Over \$800 was raised by our students' generosity in buying Easter eggs for their friends.

Towards the end of the semester, more success came with our first ever Dine Below the Line night at High Table, where over 50 students and staff elected to be given a meal that would be equivalent to what somebody living below the poverty line could afford to have for dinner. The less-than-satisfying meal provided an opportunity for those who participated to reflect on what we are so privileged to receive for our meals every other day and reminded us not to take advantage of these privileges. We also raised some funds for Oakridge, an organisation that

provides support, education and learning materials to children in developing countries.

The annual College Day auction was another major success to end the semester with, whereby an impressive list of 65 donations from the student body all had multiple bids placed on them on the day, and collectively raised over \$1500 for Caritas. We had people donating everything from yodelling lessons, to personalised original songs being written, to home-baked goods, to brand new eskies and everything in between. It was all very much appreciated.

We've already had so much going on for ESAC in first semester, but there's more to come next semester including film screenings, fundraising nights, more efforts to reduce waste, sponsoring endangered species, Pink Breakfast, guest speakers and lots more on the agenda!

Thanks to everyone who has been involved in a great first semester of ESAC for 2018!

**By Ella Moyses
& Anna Bennet**

ESAC representatives

SPORTS REPORT



Sport at St Mary's has continued to be an integral part of College life in Semester 1, with many students involved in men's Cricket, women's Softball in the early weeks, backed up by Hockey, Soccer, Athletics, Squash and Rowing.

In true Mary's spirit 'Friendship is the real winner' with nearly every student

at St Mary's being involved in sports - be it as a player, supporter or mascot.

Women's Softball was completed over a number of weekends - a strong second game against Janet Clack Hall led to the girls progressing through to the semi-finals. Unfortunately, the first final against Ormond the girls didn't make enough home runs and were knocked out. It was an incredible effort with next to no one having previously played.

Mixed Squash was highly anticipated with 69 Marians putting their hand up for a spot on the 8-person team. We managed to pick a squad and came to compete for our game against Queens, which unfortunately we lost 0-8. Congratulations to Jesse Burgess on being selected as an All-Star after a brilliant game.

The Men's Hockey team played three games this season. The first game was against University College where we lost 0-1 for a tough start to the season. The next game was against Newman where we needed a draw to advance to the next round, which we managed to achieve with a late game save by Jack Shaddock. Then on to the Quarter Final where we played against a very strong Trinity side and unfortunately went down 0-4. Congratulations to Ben Howden on making the All-Star Team for the season.

The Women's Hockey team this year were much stronger than in previous years with several of the girls having actually played prior to college sport. The team played against University and Trinity College; however, despite our Dean's encouraging support from the side line, these bigger colleges closely defeated the girls.

Next up was Soccer. Our Women's team were faced with a tough draw with their first game against Trinity. They were defeated 3-0 and their second game was much closer against Janet Clark Hall but unfortunately were defeated. In the Men's Soccer, we managed to have a very convincing win against Janet Clarke Hall, 3-1. We then hoped to continue our stay play, when we were challenged the next morning

by University College. We managed to draw 1-1 to solidify a spot in the Quarter final against Queens, where unfortunately we couldn't get another win. Great work to the team on the season and congratulations to Hugh Gibson on becoming an All-Star.

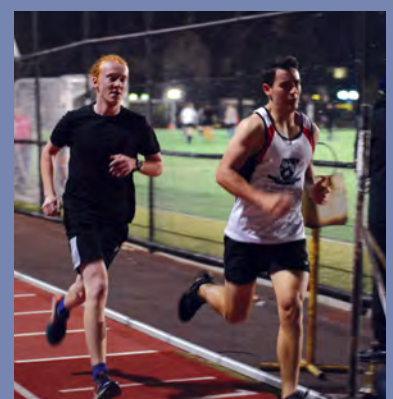
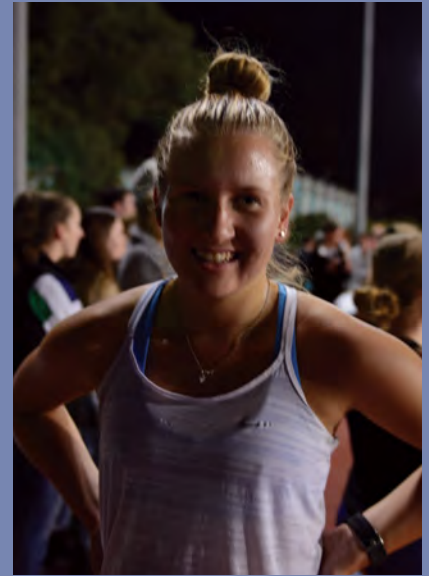
Athletics was a successful day at the track with a number of Mary's students competing and qualifying in finals. Thanks to our First year Sports Representatives, Lily Trew and Hugh Gibson, for organising and leading the team on the day.

The final sport of the semester was rowing. Two crews of eight along with their cox' and coaches, put in three long weeks of early mornings and hard sessions. Regatta day was a great success with rowing being the most supported sport on the college calendar. A massive congratulations to the women's crew who went back-to-back for the third year in a row! The men's crew also did a tremendous effort to finish second in their division. Mannix Day this year was also a huge success, with 30 of us up bright and early, traveling down on the bus to have an exciting day of sport. We played a few games of netball which was a lot of fun for both the players and supporters. We had a nice BBQ lunch, then unfortunately it started raining before the football! It was a very exciting game - for many people it was the first game they had ever played. We managed to get a win, then retreated to the bus, soaking wet, but with a lot of smiles on our faces after a great day.

Thanks to all those who played, supported and coached sport in Semester 1. It's been great to see so much support from all of the St Mary's community and we are excited for next semester's sporting events.

**By Anna Chalkley
& William Reed**





ROWING REGATTA



After five weeks intensive training in the gym and on water, one Men's crew and one Women's crew competed in the 2018 Intercollegiate Rowing Regatta on 28 April 2018. The hard work paid off with the Women's crew coming first in their division for the third year in a row! The Men's crew also finished exceptionally well taking second place amongst the colleges.



Women's Crew:

Cox: Alice Roundhill
Stroke: Rachael Gay
7: Cassie Smith
6: Amy Surkitt
5: Anna Chalkley
4: Annabelle Brennan
3: Lily Trew
2: Chloe Dutton
1: Gabriella Taranto

Coaches:

Bianca Litchfield
 Sarah Mousley

Men's Crew:

Cox: Thomas Leadbetter
Stroke: Thomas McMullin
7: James Grant
6: Seth Stokes
5: Jack Shaddock
4: Lachlan Trigg
3: Hugh Gibson
2: William Reed
1: Kane White

Coaches:

Nicholas Wood
 Stephen Radley

CRICKET PREMIERSHIP



Team:

Douglas Arnold
Michael Kelly
William Reed
Anthony Argento
Jack O'Dwyer
Asher Kelly
Lachlan Smith
Hugh Gibson
Charlie Reinhardt
Jack Noonan
Dominic van Slageren
Nathan Sonnberger
Thomas Clarkson
Will Harrod
Lachlan McIntyre

Coaches:

Paddy Collier
Liam McGregor
Liam Jess

Men's Cricket was the first opportunity for our new first year students to make a name for themselves on the intercollegiate sports stage. Our first game was against Janet Clarke Hall; a strong performance secured our first victory for the year. Following this was the semi-final against International

House which saw our team once again taking the win. Progressing through to the grand-final against University College where we managed to bring home a convincing win behind All-Stars Jack Noonan and Lachlan Smith. Congratulations to the team on their tremendous victory.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REPORT

Hi, I'm Kiran Admani and I'm an international student who has travelled all the way from Sri Lanka to study at The University of Melbourne. For those of you who aren't familiar with my little island, let me shine some light on its location.

The small, red, tear drop shaped island is what I can proudly call my home. Flying from Colombo, which is the commercial capital of Sri Lanka (also the city in which I live) to Melbourne is a good ten and a half hour long flight and the differences between the two cities range across much more than just time zones and climate.

2018 is the first year of my undergraduate degree in the Bachelor of Science and I am currently studying to major in Biomedical Engineering. I decided to continue my studies in Melbourne as although my love for Sri Lanka is everlasting, unfortunately for the field of study I was planning to pursue, the university level education is not of a high standard. Sinhalese is the national language of the country and it's fluency is essential to pursue higher education in any field at a Sri Lankan university. Growing up, I was privileged enough to study at an international school and due to this there was very little opportunity for me to learn the local language. My mother and my father are of Dutch and Indian origins respectively, speaking English predominantly at home, leading to my two siblings and myself being most fluent in English and slightly less eloquent in Hindi and Sinhalese.

Over the past five years I have become familiar with the city of Melbourne as I have been traveling frequently to visit my sister who is also currently a masters student at the University of Melbourne. Australia seems like a different world when compared to Sri Lanka, both wonderful in their own ways. Living in Sri Lanka as a girl, it is difficult to be able to travel alone or walk the streets; it can be a little bit dangerous to travel around on your own. This is a big change from Melbourne where you can walk around freely, filling you with a sense of independence.

This last year has brought with it many changes. A new place I can call my home, St Mary's College, new study environments and learning styles,

different types of food to what I have daily at home, my first experience being away from my friends and family for a period of four entire months! I am a very family-oriented person and come from a very close knit family, initially I thought this transition would be impossible for me and spent days and nights worrying. But this past semester has flown by and I feel settled and comfortable here at St Mary's College.

Through my experience thus far, I can conclude that food is the biggest consolation in a university student's life. So, let me talk about the differences in cuisine between Australia and Sri Lanka. Back at home food is usually very spicy, jam packed with flavor. One of the most common daily meals would be rice and curry but very different to the rice and curry served up at college. Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining, food at St Mary's is the best along the crescent! If you walk into my room you will find bottles of lime pickle, mango chutney and chill paste; essentials for my taste buds. Although for most of this month and the next, these condiments won't be the highlights of my day as I would spend most of my day trying my best to not be tempted by food.

A little bit about myself: I come from a culturally diverse family and so along with celebrating Christmas and Easter, I also participate in a month of fasting, known as Ramadan. From sunrise to sunset we refrain from ingesting any food or water. Although it seems like an impossible task to many, over the years I have grown to embrace and appreciate this month of Ramadan. Back at home it is well anticipated and celebrated with the whole family, think all your favorite cousins and favorite food together all through the night!



And of course, a date every evening;) This year I'll be spending my first Ramadan away, replacing family with books and lecture notes all through SWOT VAC and exam period! Although, having my sister close by and the close knit college community does act as a consolation.

Along with our hot and spicy food we also have a hot and spicy climate! Sri Lanka is a tropical island which doesn't experience the four seasons. We have one season all year long, summer. Temperatures in summer range from 26 to 34 degrees celsius in most areas. Sri Lanka is famous among tourists for our amazing beaches and killer waves. We do although have cities on beautiful hills and mountains, full of amazing scenery, our infamous tea and much colder climates.

Australia is a very liberal country, providing every individual opportunities to express themselves and their personalities freely. Over the past couple of months, I have grown to become very fond of my little bubble here in Melbourne and although my main motivation throughout the semester was going back home during the break, I am happy and content with my temporary home, here at St Mary's College.



By Kiran Admani

THE ALLAN & MARIA MYERS ACADEMIC CENTRE NEWS

St Mary's College Centenary 1918 - 2018

To celebrate the Centenary of both St Mary's College and Newman College, the Academic Centre has an archival display of photos, yearbooks and articles which highlight one particularly important year in the life of both Colleges. The year 1977 marks the occasion when both Colleges became co-educational and St Mary's admitted men as students for the first time in the history of the College. St Mary's admitted fifteen male students that year and Newman College admitted 17 women. In this year many 'traditions' and annual events were both subtly, and radically changed, as the student committees responded to the new college dynamic which is in 2018 the norm. The following are some of the highlights of the display. I would invite you to the Academic Centre where the displays will be in the foyer outside the Jabiru room on Level 2, until the end of the year.

The Past Students Association Newsletter reports of the Co-Education 1977 with following details:

15 Later year men were accepted into the College in 1977. It was decided to accept a small number of men students in the first few years of co-education in order to maintain the essential spirit and character of the College and to ensure that our tradition of a Co-Ed College based

on Christian values and ideals could be established. As a result of a study by a Sub-Committee, the main factors which emerged were:

- 1. Co-education in University Colleges does provide a social and academic climate which is beneficial to students. It promotes a positive, healthy and natural environment and provides an education for the students in relating to one another as people in a "family" atmosphere. As such it appears to provide a better education for later life.**
- 2. It provides the opportunity for a greater range of academic disciplines and general interests within the College and a consequent enrichment of student life within the total University experience.**
- 3. It provides a balanced and moderate style of community living resulting in a more stable and mature community.**

Marie Bond, student president in 1977, assessed the co-educational experiment a success and had the following to say in her report in the St Mary's College Yearbook from that year.

It has been interesting to see and be part of the first year of co-education, especially after having helped with the 1975 co-ed survey -

a taboo topic in those days. A large fresher intake this year has meant that a lot of events have had to be explained. This has slowed things down a little but an advantage of this has been that we've had to review many previously accepted "traditions". In this and other respects the men have been particularly helpful in adding a balance to discussions.

The Co-Education Questionnaire that Marie refers to is on display at the Academic Centre and some of the more interesting responses from the July 1975 document are below.

The major reasons against co-ed were:

- Newman is next door, hence there is no need. We have plenty of male company.
- More noise and mess.
- How would the nuns and administration staff cope with men?

The major reasons for going co-ed were:

- Shy students would be assisted in mixing.
- Less "bitchyness" and rivalry.
- College life would be more interesting and have a broader outlook.

And finally, though the photo from the 1977 St Mary's Yearbook is not that clear, you can just make out a well-known Melbourne identity in the back row.



Ms Kathleen Kilmartin

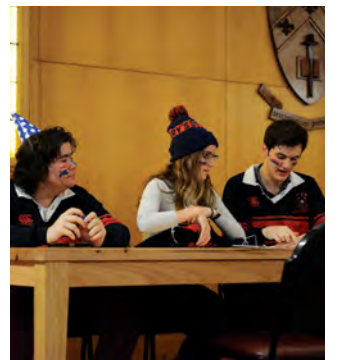
Director



OUT AND ABOUT









EXCHANGE NEWS

I am Abby Kostecki, an American exchange student majoring in Architectural Studies from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. I have spent the entirety of my third year of university studying design at the University of Melbourne. Initially, I wanted to spend this year in an apartment in the CBD, but my family convinced me to apply to a college. I chose to apply to St Mary's after looking at their website and thinking "I could be friends with them." My university at home is a tight-knit community so I did not expect to learn anything but I had no idea how living in this community would impact my year abroad.

Everything about Mary's is centered around kindness and respect for others from the open door policy to making sure no one sits alone at meal time. I got my first glimpse of this when I first arrived at Mary's and was immediately welcomed into the college with open arms. While I was unpacking students came to my room and offered to take me into the city to show me around. I was so nervous about living at college, so this small act of kindness meant so much to me and really made an impression on me. If there is one thing I learned about being at Mary's, it is how

genuine and kind actions can impact others.

In my first semester, I tried to immerse myself in the community as much as I could. I joined the ensemble in the St Mary's musical, Fame. I grew up dancing, singing and performing in musicals so doing the musical felt natural. It was a great experience to get to bond with the cast throughout the long rehearsal process. Once we got to performance weekend, it was exciting to share all of our hard work with the Mary's community. It was lovely to look out into the audience every night to see such support. I am really thankful for being in the musical because I made some close friends during that time who would stick with me throughout my time here.

During my second semester, in addition to building up the friendships I already made, I loved meeting and getting to know the new first years at Mary's. It was exciting to help them adjust to Mary's just as I had a semester ago. I am so thankful to have stayed at college for two semesters and to participate in all of the traditions and events. My favorite part of this semester was College Day especially since it is Mary's centenary year. I wore my red

and blue with pride and had a fantastic time celebrating this special place with all my best friends.

I would like to thank the St Mary's leadership and students for making this by far the most memorable year of my life. I've laughed, I've cried, and I've laughed so hard I've cried! Thank you for accepting this crazy girl from the middle of America into your community. I will always have this place in my heart.



By Abby Kostecki

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Centenary Celebrations in 2018

**PUBLIC
LECTURE
SERIES**

**ORAL
HISTORY
PROJECT**

**ST MARY'S HALL
ALUMNI LUNCH AT
ST MARY'S HALL**

Saturday 27 October 2018

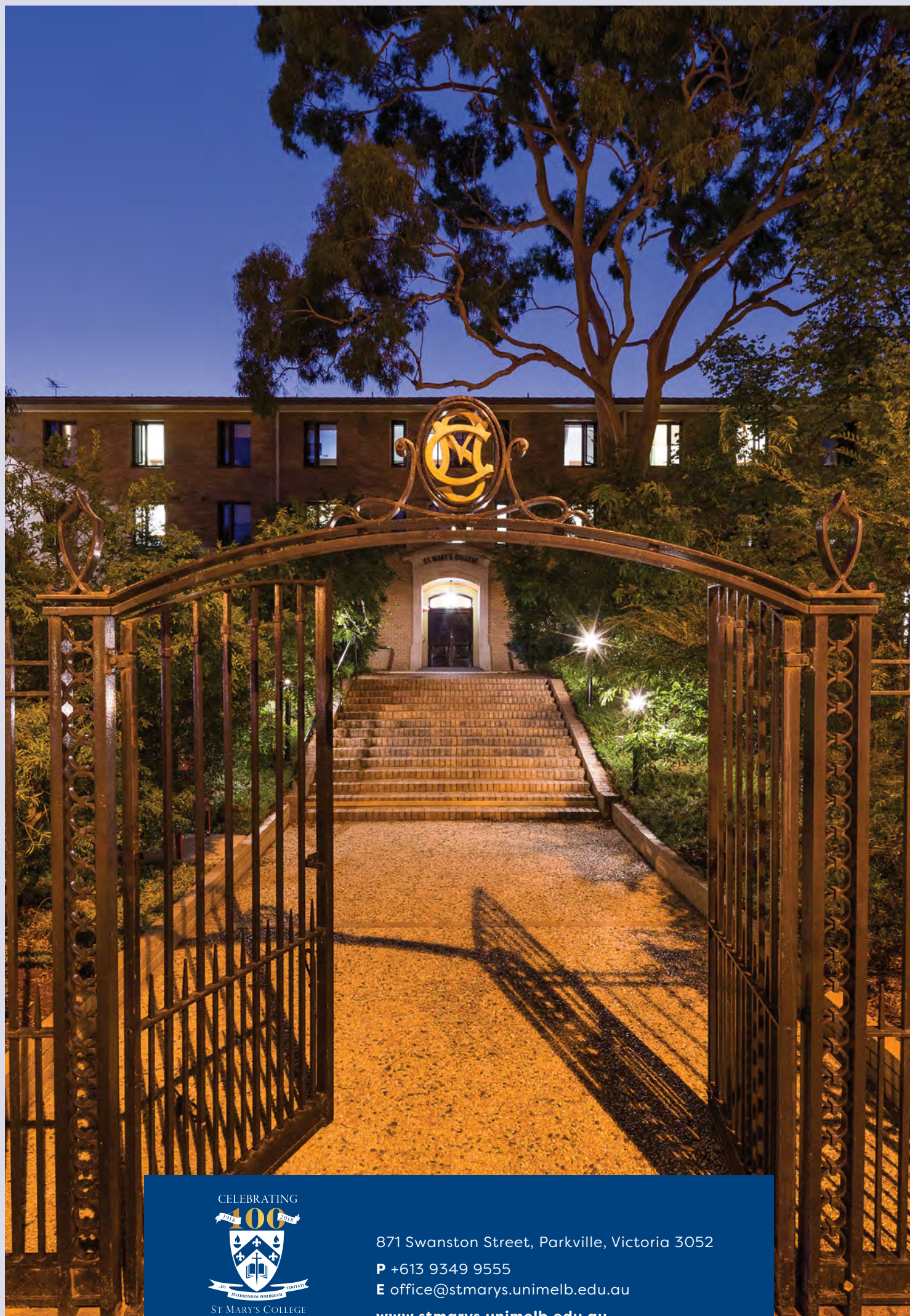
**CENTENARY COURTYARD
& GARDEN COCKTAIL PARTY**

Saturday 27 October 2018

**CENTENARY
CONCERT**

Sunday 2 December 2018

A chance to remember, reflect and reconnect



871 Swanston Street, Parkville, Victoria 3052

P +613 9349 9555

E office@stmarys.unimelb.edu.au

www.stmarys.unimelb.edu.au