



out of the blue

Number 21
July 2018

Dear Past Pupils, Staff and Friends of OLMC

Welcome to Edition 21 of the *Out of the Blue* newsletter. The newsletter is called *Out of the Blue* as this was the name of the student produced magazine in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

The role of the Past Pupils Association is to foster connections between past pupils, staff and friends of OLMC and between current and former students. In all that we do, we seek to promote and support the work and ethos of the Sisters of Mercy and act as a valuable resource to the College community. We strive to keep Past Pupils informed about significant achievements and activities of fellow students whilst providing a link with the present College community. This edition continues to do just that and we hope you enjoy reading all the news.

The Past Pupils Association Committee meets three times a year to oversee the production of the bi-annual newsletter and assist with the organisation of key reunions and events.

We welcome all past pupils to attend the Committee meetings. Dates for 2019 are Thursday 21 February, 18 July and 7 November. If you would like to join the Committee please contact Marie Jenkins
E: mjenkins@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

Kind Regards
Past Pupils Association Committee

Please save the dates!

Sunday 9 September 2018

OLMC High Tea in
Heidelberg

Thursday 28 November 2018

OLMC
Twilight Market

Friday 8 March 2019

IWD breakfast

Sunday 14 April 2019

Class of 1969 Reunion

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IWD Breakfast 2018

On Thursday 8 March we hosted our International Women's Day breakfast at the College and were pleased to welcome as our guest speaker Sioné Pemberton, a past student of OLMC from the class of 2011. Sioné has significant experience working with people seeking asylum in Australia and overseas. Her work has included an internship with the African Refugee Development Centre in Israel and as a legal advisor for persons in Malaysia navigating the UNHCR refugee status determination process. She has volunteered with the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre and with SisterWorks Inc., a social enterprise which works to empower women from migrant and refugee backgrounds to develop entrepreneurial skills.



Sioné was an engaging speaker who challenged us to think about what it means to be a refugee in our world today. We speak so often of a global society, but for many refugees their world has been made quite small by the actions of governments or political regimes that are beyond the control of refugees. We were, indeed, privileged to spend time with Sioné.

The breakfast enabled guests to enjoy good food and company as well as share stories and insights. Proceeds from the breakfast went to McAuley Community Services for Women, a very apt cause for this event.



Future Focus

During the last week of Term 2 the Year 10 cohort took part in a Future Focus day which included a range of activities designed to empower students to engage in career discussions, reflect on the skills and attributes they value in their learning and to showcase pathways and the future world of



work. A group of past students from the Classes of 2016 and 2017, who are currently engaged in higher education, joined the group for the day and shared their stories and insights about their journey after Year 12. They answered questions about how and why they made subject choices, what barriers they encountered and how they sought help to overcome them, what fuels their motivation, and how to battle



perfectionism. There was much discussion about the many different pathways available after VCE and the varied challenges that go with them. It was a great day of conversation and shared learning and we thank the past students for taking part in this very successful day.

High Tea in Heidelberg 2018

for McAuley Community Services for Women

OLMC Heidelberg is excited to be hosting a **High Tea in Heidelberg** and we invite you and your friends to share in this special event.

Sunday 9 September 2.00pm

OLMC McAuley Hall, Cape St Heidelberg

The event will support the work of **McAuley Community Services for Women (MCSW)**, a Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy. MCSW provides services for women who are experiencing the effects of family violence and homelessness, including a 24 hour crisis accommodation unit. Each year they help around 600 women and children to rebuild their lives, supporting them on their journey towards independence and safer futures.

We will welcome Carol Vale, Head of Community Services at MCSW, as our guest speaker.

Tickets are priced at \$40 for Adults and \$20 for Students.

You can purchase tickets online by going to Trybooking and searching OLMC

OR by entering the link <https://www.trybooking.com/WWXD>

OR by contacting Marie Jenkins T: 9455 7596 E: mjenkins@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

To book a group/table, you can either purchase the whole table in one booking or purchase a ticket on an available table and then notify your guests of the table number they should specify when booking. Tables will seat 10 people.

To book individual tickets, purchase the required number on any table.

We do hope that you can help us to support the work of MCSW by joining us.

Reunions

Reunion groups are determined by the final year, which is the year a student did or would have completed Year 12 or equivalent. For example, if you left OLMC in Year 11 (Form 5) in 1976, your graduating year would have been 1977 – therefore you are part of the Class of 1977.

Reunions are important to the College as through these gatherings the College shares in the lives and achievements of past pupils and is able to share current news about life at OLMC. If you are organising a reunion please let us know so that we can publish details in school publications.

Upcoming Reunions for 2018

- **Class of 1978 40 Year Reunion**
Sunday 14 October 2018
Abe's Staff Lounge, OLMC, Cape St Heidelberg
- **Class of 1988 30 Year Reunion**
Saturday 27 October 2018 6.30pm
Abe's Staff Lounge, OLMC, Cape St Heidelberg
Enquiries: Anna Marchetti E: marchettianna@hotmail.com
We would like to contact as many classmates as possible, so if you are in contact with anyone from the Class of 1988 please pass on this information.
- **Class of 1998 20 Year Reunion**
Saturday 13 October 2018 2.30-5.00pm
Abe's Staff Lounge, OLMC, Cape St Heidelberg
Please email olmcclassof98@gmail.com to register your email address. Invitations will be mailed closer to the date. Please share this invitation with your Class of 98 friends.
- **Class of 2017 First Year Reunion**
The Class of 2017 are invited to attend an afternoon tea 'catch-up' on Thursday 23 August, 4.30 -6.00 pm, in Abe's Staff Lounge at OLMC. This is a great opportunity for staff and students of the Class of 2017 to reconnect and share their experiences.

Reconnecting with our earlier Past Pupils

On Thursday 14 June, we held a High Tea luncheon for all those that attended OLMC before 1964. Over 30 past pupils from the 1940s, 50s and early 60s attended and enjoyed a beautiful high tea in the Heagerty Room. Margaret Mangan, who started at Our Lady's in September of 1945 was the earliest past pupil in attendance and a special mention must go to Kevin Sharkey, the only male guest at the lunch. Boys were students at Our Lady's up until 1959. Thank you to Patricia Smith (nee Wellington) Class of 1955, and Dagmar Jensen (nee Berlot) and Patricia Joss (nee Rooney), Class of 1962, for sharing memories of their time here at the College.

A big thank you to the College for the opportunity to catch up with old friends at the Past Pupils Reunion of the 1940s, 50s and 60s. The delicious luncheon was served by a lovely group of students - thank you! Over 30 attended and there were squeals of delight as "girls" recognised each other and caught up with their lives. A special surprise for some of the group was the presence of our Grade 5&6 teacher, Miss Roberts, who hasn't changed a bit. The College has grown beyond recognition and we were proud to see how it has progressed. There was much reminiscing about the boys up to Gr 2, the small wooden classroom in Form 2 and the 70 students it held, the paddocks that were our playgrounds, the antics we got up to in class and the senior prefects who kept us in line. We fondly remembered our teachers, Sr Mercedes (Principal), Miss Arter (Gr1&2), Mrs Hornidge (Form 1), Mrs Kellalea (Elocution) and Sr Sebastian (Greek & Roman History) who set us up with the values we still hold today. After all, Duce Maria is our motto. We are proud to be associated with Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg and look forward to many more opportunities to meet again.



Dagmar Jensen (Berlot) and Patricia Joss (Rooney) Class of 1962

Class of 1968 Celebrates

On the bright and breezy Palm Sunday morning of 2018, twenty-five women gathered for their 50 Year Reunion, enjoying pre-lunch drinks in the beautiful gardens near the College's Cape Street entrance. Some had travelled long distances from interstate, others from country Victoria, including Mansfield, Yarram, Yarck and Yarrawonga, and many from various suburbs across Melbourne. Two of our former teachers, Sr Jan Geason (who we knew as Sr Teresa and was the Principal in 1968) and Sr Gabriel Perversi, had accepted the invitation to attend. With each new arrival, enthusiastic and warm greetings were exchanged as names were recalled and faces recognised.

We then moved to Abe's Staff Lounge, a space that was our former Form 4/Intermediate classrooms but is now a modern and attractive staff centre. School uniforms and many school photos from the 1960s were on display, attracting laughter and nostalgic comments. The sun streamed through the windows as we sat at the beautifully set tables to enjoy a delicious lunch served by members of the Past Pupils Association. Afterwards, Anne Bambrook (Hood) and Patrice O'Shea (Willis) shared memories and anecdotes of our years at OLMC. Teachers' idiosyncrasies, student antics, school and sports uniforms (remember those pinafores, some with our names embroidered in house colours... and the white, box-pleated sports dresses?), rules that now seem so old-fashioned, school trips and much more

were all on the agenda. Patrice summarised it all by acknowledging that we had received a sound education at Our Lady's, thanks to our hardworking, caring and talented teachers, almost all of whom were women. After big smiles for a group photo, Helen Fox (Booth) and Jill Harricks (Cummins) were invited to cut the 50th anniversary cake, as both women had begun their schooling at OLMC as Preps. (Where have those 60+ years gone?)

More than half the group enjoyed a tour of the College. We tried, sometimes with difficulty, to identify former classrooms and familiar spaces while admiring the many new additions, improvements and the attractive grounds that the



current students enjoy. A highlight was inspecting the new Nalleijerring Centre built on the land we knew as Maryland. It is large enough to accommodate the school's 1100+ students for assemblies and other important whole school events. The Centre has an impressive Honour Wall with a mural of images from the school's early history with the name of every Sister of Mercy who has been a College staff member. There are also coloured discs with the names of students who have been College Captains (or, Head Prefect, in our day – Patrice Willis in 1968) and College Dux (in 1968, Teresa Humphrey for Science and Patrice Willis for Humanities and in 1969, Mary McDonald, another of our classmates, for Humanities). The day passed all too quickly with so much to see and so much catching up to do. Many women remained chatting until late in the afternoon. The Reunion was a very enjoyable event and we thank the College and the Past Pupils Committee for hosting the event.

Frances Sullivan (nee Conway) Class of 1968

How things have changed!

Recently the Principal received the following email from, Helen Searle a past pupil who had not long read the latest edition of CapeStreet.

As a member of the year of 1964, I enjoy reading the regular editions of Cape Street that arrive in my mail box. Yesterday was no exception but I was amused at the Laura Henshaw photo and article on p.18.

In November 1962, an OLMC year 10 student was swimming for Australia at the Commonwealth Games in Perth. Her photo appeared on the front of the Melbourne Sun (as it was then called) in two piece bathers that were no more revealing than what Laura is wearing in the photo. The school did not approve and asked her not to return in 1963. She had, apparently, embarrassed the school and damaged the good name of our college.

The subject line of the email was 'How things have changed'. Most of us would agree that they have definitely changed for the better!

In Loving Memory

Mary Burke passed away on 12 May 2018 at the age of 102. Mary and her sister Antoinette were guests at the OLMC Centenary events in 2010 and took great delight in joining in the celebrations and sharing stories. As far as we know, she was our oldest Past Pupil. She will be missed by many.

Genevieve Byrne (nee O'Farrell) from the Class of 1937, passed away peacefully on 31 January 2018 at the age of 92. She will be much missed by her family and friends.

Patricia Mary Rodriguez (nee Grindlay) was a student at Our Lady's in the 1940s. After gaining her Intermediate certificate, she went to Business College and became a comptomotrist (an obsolete occupation today). She enjoyed her time at Our Lady's and was absolutely delighted to attend the Centenary celebrations and tour the modern school. Known as Pat, she passed away on December 17, 2017 aged 88. She was much loved by her family and friends.



Pat is pictured here in the basketball (now known as netball) team. She is 2nd from the left.

The above information has been supplied to the College and has been verified to the best of our ability. We invite families to advise the College of details for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Parade College celebrates 21 Years of Musical Productions

A group of Old Paradians are banding together to organise Encore! 21 years of Parade College Musicals - a one night only musical retrospective on Saturday, August 25 at Melbourne's iconic Athenaeum Theatre. Tickets are available through Ticketek.com.

They are calling on former cast and crew, together with orchestral members and production staff from Parade, Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg, CLC Eltham, Santa Maria College Northcote and Mercy College Coburg to join in. The group has a facebook page - Encore! 21 Years of Parade College Musicals - to showcase stories and images accumulated from every show from as far back as Barnum in 1998. If you were involved in one of the past productions or would like to attend the evening please contact parademusical21@gmail.com

OLD PARADIAN'S ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
ENCORE 21
CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF PARADE MUSICALS 1998 - 2017

SATURDAY AUGUST 25TH
ATHENAEUM THEATRE

21 YEARS OF MUSICALS PERFORMED BY CAST OF ALL 21 PREVIOUS SHOWS IN A ONE NIGHT ONLY SPECIAL EVENT

Parade College has been home to 21 Years of Musical Theatre Shows. Paying tribute to momentous occasion in the 50th Year of the College at Bundoora, the largest ensemble of cast, orchestras, crew and production teams are coming together in a one night only concert of all past Parade Musicals to celebrate and you are invited to the party!

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AT:
WWW.PARADEMUSICAL.COM.AU
PARADEMUSICAL21@GMAIL.COM

YOUR PRIVACY



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COLLECTION NOTICE

1. The Our Lady of Mercy College (OLMC) Past Pupils Association may collect personal information about you from time to time. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable us to inform you about our activities and the activities of OLMC and to keep alumni members informed about other members.
2. We must have the information referred to above to enable us to continue your membership of Past Pupils Association.
3. As you know, from time to time we engage in fundraising activities. The information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. [It may also be used by OLMC to assist in its fundraising activities. If you do not agree to this, please advise us now.
4. The College may publish details about you in the Past Pupils Association newsletter, *Out of the Blue*, and in the College bi-annual magazine, *CapeStreet*. If you do not agree to this you must advise us now.
5. The College's Privacy Policy contains details of how you may seek access to personal information collected about you or how you may complain about a breach of the APPs.
6. The College may store personal information in the 'cloud', which may mean that it resides on servers which are situated outside Australia.
7. If you provide personal information to us about other people, we encourage you to inform them of the above matters.

If necessary, please complete this form and return it to:

Past Pupils Liaison Officer

PO Box 293

HEIDELBERG 3081 VIC

Phone: T: 9455 7596 E: mjenkins@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

- I do not wish to be on the Past Pupils data base and receive copies of the newsletter
- I do not wish to be contacted about fund-raising activities and/or appeals
- I do not agree to details about me being published in publications associated with Reunions and alumni events.

Name

Surname at School