PRINCIPAL’S REFLECTION

Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.

John F Kennedy’s quote accurately reflects the purpose of our College theme for 2014, Be the Change.

Change is fundamental to life. We all experience many changes, on many levels. Becoming a Grandma this year has certainly changed my life!

Change is a spiritual imperative and it’s at the heart of education. It requires openness to new ideas, experiences, relationships, concepts and skills. When embracing change, however, we must recognise the enduring fundamental elements of education.

Three “agents of change” have been nurtured and developed in 2014. The first of these is The Wave project which is featured on page 8 of this edition of The Star. The other two are the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning which will enhance students’ study and work choices from 2015, and StarWise, a wellbeing program for students across all year levels, also commencing in 2015.

One of Star’s seven guiding principles - nurturing compassion and community - calls us to foster wellbeing, empathy and self-awareness. We believe in educating the whole person. This edition of The Star highlights the power of this belief, evident in the diverse lived experiences of current and past students.

I wish to acknowledge the change in the leadership of the Victorian Presentation congregation with the appointment of our current Chaplain, Maria Lazzaro pbvm, as the new Congregational Leader from January 2015. I thank current Leader, Bernadette Keating pbvm, for her inspirational leadership over the past five years especially in the transition to Kildare Ministries.

Many thanks to the Star community for its love and support in 2014 as we worked on Being the Change.

Sandra Diafas
Academic, cultural and sporting achievements 2014

At the annual Presentation Night in November, awards were conferred on the following students in recognition of their contribution to the wellbeing of the College community in 2014. Congratulations to them for their outstanding academic, cultural and sporting achievements.

Rachael Beaumont
**TERESA MULALLY PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
A Year 11 student who has shown outstanding academic excellence and consistent diligence in her studies

Samantha Hickey
**PAST STUDENTS’ AWARD: SR RAYMONDE TAYLOR ART AWARD**
A Year 12 student who made a significant contribution to the Visual Arts Faculty

Georgia Taylor
**PAST STUDENTS’ AWARD: MOTHER ANGELA JOHNSTON MUSIC AWARD**
A Year 12 student who made a significant contribution to the Music Faculty

Mikaela Schreuder
**PAST STUDENTS’ AWARD: SCHOOL SPIRIT AWARD**
A Year 12 student who exhibited a generous and enthusiastic commitment to all aspects of College life, both academically and in co-curricular activities

Thea Guiry-Stewart - Year 10
**NICHOLLS AWARD 1**

Sarah Loschiavo - Year 10
**NICHOLLS AWARD 2**

Olivia Turner
**SR PHILOMENA CONSEDINE AWARD** (a bursary of $1000)
A Year 11 student, welcoming and supportive of all, friendly, caring and conscientious and has a sense of humour and genuine interest in social justice issues, epitomising *Deeds not Words*

Brittany Morgenthaler
**JOANNE RODIS CHRISTIAN AWARENESS AWARD**
A Year 12 student known for sensitivity, empathy and respect for others

Phoebe Conroy - Year 9
**PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION SPORT AWARD**
- announced at the Sports Gala night
Maria Lazzaro pbvm – Star Chaplain 2012-2014

There is a quiet light that shines in every heart. Though it is secretly there, it draws no attention to itself. It is what illumines our minds to see beauty, our desire to seek possibility and our hearts to love life... This shy inner light is what enables us to recognise and receive our very presence here as blessing.

These words from Irish writer-poet, John O’Donohue, aptly reflect my experience within the Star Community as College Chaplain. It is my privilege to support new students and their families in their transition into the College and to accompany community members in times of need, serious illness, bereavement and hardship, particularly for students in Years 7 and 8 through the Seasons for Growth program.

For me, the significance of the role of Chaplain lies beyond skills and programs. It is about a kind of presence and interaction with others that allows love, understanding, courage and a way forward to emerge. This presence is not about physical attendance but rather carries a more symbolic meaning. It is about recognising in the other, and in ourselves, the image of a loving, compassionate God who is at home in all our experiences of life.

We so often find it hard to sense God in the midst, the mess and the mystery of our human lives ... and yet we are called to do so and to image God in everything that happens, in everyone we meet, in all that exists. As we are present with and interact with one another, we find the opportunity to catch something of God from one another. We cannot underestimate the value of attentive listening, of human gesture, word and touch to make real our own and God’s concern, compassion and encouragement for each person. It is this quality of presence with another that gives us the courage to face the questions, the pain and the darkness of human suffering. It is this quality of presence with one another that, in time, enables our gifts and our wounds to be transformed into healing, wisdom and life for ourselves and our world.

May we be mindful of ‘the quiet light’ that lives in the heart of each person.

May we be open to the God who dwells at the heart of all created life.

May we all receive blessing upon blessing.

And may we realise our power to bless, heal and renew each other.

PRESENTATION SISTERS SELECT NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

In September, the Victorian Presentation Sisters gathered for their Chapter. Held every five years, this is an important gathering where the Sisters reflect on their recent priorities, elect a new Leadership Team, discern and set directions for the next five years and renew their commitment as Presentation Women.

The Sisters’ discussions, discernment and forward planning have resulted in a change in leadership.

As of 1 January 2015, the new Congregational Leader will be Maria Lazzaro pbvm. The three Councillors will be Helen Carboon pbvm, Joan Power pbvm and Nola Vanderfeen pbvm. The Star community wishes them all the very best for the next five years.

We thank Congregational Leader, Bernadette Keating pbvm, and the members of the current Leadership Team - Patricia Tully pbvm, Cheryl Bourke pbvm, Joan Marshall pbvm and Nola Vanderfeen pbvm - for their leadership over the past five years.
Deeds not Words at Star

Star stretched its horizons in Semester 2, connecting with friends from different parts of its local and regional neighbourhood.

Students, staff and parents were moved by presentations from Sr Margaret Patras pbvm from Pakistan and a young Afghani doctor - her name cannot be published for safety reasons. Both detailed the struggles of women trying to live full lives in different parts of our world.

Year 9 students hosted a visit from our long-time Muslim friends from Sirius College, Broadmeadows. Students explored women in our varied faith traditions and consolidated bonds forged at an Iftar Meal shared during Ramadan in April. A panel of Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist women discussed many aspects of their lives of faith as part of our Mosaics of Faith unit.

Our hearts and minds were touched by the plight of women and children seeking asylum here in Melbourne. Responding to the call of Catholic Social Teaching, Pope Francis, Australian Bishops and local Presentation Sisters, Year 10 students raised money to purchase six baby play mats for mothers in detention in Melbourne.

Staff and students organised Detention for Detention in October. Community members from Star, Killester College, Kilbreda College and PCW Melbourne joined in solidarity with people in Australian detention by sitting silently in a cordoned space to ponder the need for justice, hospitality and compassion in our country.

Taking a stand …

In October, Star students from every year level sat in the scorching heat in Presentation Place and were silent … we were taking a stand.

Detention for Detention was an awareness campaign where we showed that our school did not stand for detention centres and poor treatment of asylum seekers.

We teach that everyone is equal no matter the colour of their skin or their religion. Detention camps go against what we are teaching. Detention camps violate health standards and basic human rights … We judge these people because they are new to our country and are not from first world countries.

The Star community believes that everyone should be treated equally and have a fair chance in life.

Star started this campaign to raise awareness and to make people realise and experience downgraded conditions: it sure did! With so many students participating in Detention for Detention, we attracted attention from other schools who also joined us. Star successfully raised the awareness needed and the hope that Australia would change its ways and the horrendous treatment of these people.

Sophia Hodgson & Julia Surace
Year 8
Presentation Student Leadership Conference in Yeppoon

In September, six Year 10 students, accompanied by teacher Tony Jugovic, ventured to Yeppoon in northern Queensland for the biennial Presentation Student Leadership Conference. They stayed in St Ursula’s boarding school and met with students from Presentation-inspired secondary schools from around Australia.

We learned about the rich history of our schools. It was an unforgettable experience. All of those on the trip have a much deeper appreciation of the brave Sisters who founded our schools. We are also aware of our responsibility to carry on their legacy into the future.

Martine Kaliny
Year 10

Debating is alive and well at Star

There have been some great debates in 2014: Harry Potter vs Twilight, Miley Cyrus should hold a concert at Star (guest debater, Ms Diafas, argued for five minutes why Miley should definitely not come to Star) and which historical figure should be thrown out of a crashing hot-air balloon (we decided J K Rowling for killing so many of our beloved Harry Potter characters).

House debating was re-introduced at Star in 2014. The four houses debated why ignorance is bliss, celebrities should be seen but not heard, modern music is killing Rock & Roll, women need men like fish need bicycles ... and many more. In the final round, Stella was declared House Debating Champion 2014 after an epic debate with Ave. The topic was Shakespeare would have tweeted.

The enthusiasm and effort the students have put into debating this year have been overwhelming. They have participated in house debating and Fight Club as well as the events organised by the Debating Association of Victoria.

Beatrix White, Debating Captain
Year 11
Star students dazzle audiences in major productions

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

The 2014 College production, *Little Shop of Horrors*, was a wonderful celebration of Performing Arts at Star.

Performed over four nights in August, the Patricia Carroll Auditorium exploded with colour, talent and energy. Principal, Sandra Diafas, highlighted the many ways that this production encapsulated the values espoused by Star: commitment, collaboration, risk taking and stepping out of one’s comfort zone.

All involved in the production - from performers to stage crew - had a fantastic time and have wonderful memories of the experience. All students and staff should be proud of what they achieved.

Luke Delecca
Publicity Manager

1. Grace Hocking
2. Siobhan Judge as Audrey
3. Cast in action
4. **Back:** Bonnie Nolan, Lilly Wallace, Tess Carroll, Tess McCullough. **Front:** Madeline Kelly, Maya O’Farrell, Grace Cullen
5. Cast in action
6. Maread Judge & Bridie Mannion

**TIME TO SHINE GALA**

Jessica Zuk (Year 10) and Rachel Santon (Year 12) performed at the Catholic Schools’ Performing Arts Gala, *Time to Shine*, at the Palais Theatre in September. Presented by the Catholic Education Office Melbourne, the inaugural Gala was a major success.

Rachel Santon
Jessica Zuk
On 25 November, 750 people gathered in Sebastian Hall to celebrate writing and art work from eighteen Catholic schools across Victoria. The work is contained in the Shared Stories anthology which began in 2006 with Star of the Sea as a foundation school. Since then, the anthology has grown from a 72-page book, largely printed in black and white, to a full-colour volume of 512 beautiful pages.

There are ninety-four students from Star whose work has been featured in Shared Stories this year. This work has been produced in classrooms from Year 7 to Year 12 and allows readers an insight into the ideas and issues that are addressed by our students. There is also an impressive body of work that has emanated from our Extension program at Years 7 to 9, most notably in the area of poetry, some of which is remarkable for its detail and maturity.

One of the highlights of the launch was the speech delivered by 2009 alumna, Tammy Wright, in which she provided insights on the anthology’s theme, Nothing is Impossible. Tammy drew from her experiences, both local and international, as a Law student with a strong interest in human rights. The large audience was also entertained by a musical performance of the song, Flashed junk mind, by Year 9 students, Veronica Shaw and Simone Marinelli. Prior to the launch, Year 10 flautist, Jessica Zuk, entertained with a performance of By the Brook by Paul Wetzger.

We look forward to 2015 and the 10th edition of Shared Stories. We are most fortunate to receive considerable support from our sponsors, Australian Catholic University, Catholic Church Insurance and Catholic Super, as well as design and print services from the Archdiocese of Melbourne and Ability Press.

We are very proud that Shared Stories forms part of the permanent collection of the State Library of Victoria. The works published by our students are viewed by many thousands of people and serve as a constant reminder of the joy and hope that exists so vibrantly in our young people.

Peter Farrar
Editor
INSPIRATIONAL TESS  
SAILING TO RIO IN 2016

When she was sixteen, Tess Lloyd was involved in a freak accident that caused serious damage to her brain. Two years later, she has completed VCE and is focusing on competing at the Olympic Games in 2016.

Sailing has always been my preferred sport. In the summer of 2012 whilst competing in the Nationals in Queensland, I was hit in the head by a windsurfer. Knocked unconscious, my crewmate, Lewis Duncan, saved my life by holding my head above water until help arrived. I was put into an induced coma for fifteen days after extensive brain surgery.

After a long and difficult rehabilitation where I had to learn to walk, talk, write and regain all language, I returned to Star to join Year 11. I was unable to handle the workload, struggling with processing information and cognitive fatigue. School was a lot harder after my accident as I was hit on the left side of my head which is responsible for language and memory. The teachers at Star, along with my family and friends, gave me the confidence and support to continue with my studies.

I decided to attempt Year 12 over two years. The first year was based at Star studying English, Health and Maths Methods. With many hours of extra help and special consideration, I passed my exams. The second year was completed by Distance Education. I was in Europe for most of the year competing in sailing as this is the pathway to the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio. I completed Further Maths and Biology and sat my exams at Star.

While studying, I had to find a balance that allowed travelling and training. Just before my final exams in September, I competed in the Sailing World Regatta in Spain in the 49er FX. We qualified for the Olympic Games in Rio which was a massive achievement for myself and my crew, Caitlin Elks. After my accident and working with a huge team of amazing Star women, I have become a very positive and determined young woman, ready for many challenges in life.

ICE QUEENS IN YEAR 10

Tyra McNeill has been ice skating for four years at the Icehouse at Docklands and is starting to make her mark nationally and internationally. Tyra and partner, Beau, were one of two Australian couples selected by the International Skating Union to attend an Ice Dance camp in Seoul in August. In September, Tyra and Beau were awarded first place at the Victorian State Championships and in December, they are competing at the Australian Championships in Queensland.

Julia Moore recently competed in the Australian short-track speed skating championships at the Icehouse at Docklands. Julia was placed second behind a New Zealander after four events held over two days. She was awarded the Endeavour Trophy for her skating, her perseverance and good attitude. The following week, she participated in a training camp for elite skaters.

Students star in wet and icy conditions

Tyra McNeill

Julia Moore

Julia Moore out in front
In 2013, the College Leadership Team decided that our tired classrooms needed more than a face lift. It decided to embark on a longer-term plan to transform learning spaces in relation to the continued development of relevant pedagogy. The Wave became the name of the project that would eventually roll through the entire school.

For the past twelve months, teachers have worked closely with Dr Ben Cleveland, an educational design specialist from Melbourne University, and with Hayball Architects, to design the renovation of the Year 7 and Year 8 area.

Stage 1 of The Wave focused on the internal renovation of the East Wing now known as Trasna (Gaelic for “the crossing place”). These new spaces will offer staff and students greater flexibility, transparency and choice. Collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication will be optimised within our diverse programs. The Year 7 area will be ready for occupancy at the start of 2015.

Stage 2 will be ready for Year 8 students in Term 2.

Stage 3 will focus on the transformation of the Science and Food Technology spaces.

As The Wave gently laps at the Star of the Sea shore, we will continue to develop teaching and learning strategies that meet the needs of our students. This will ensure that a Star education remains relevant, engaging and personal for every member of the community.

Melissa McDiarmid
The Wave Project Manager
Art Comes to Life in September

The 2014 annual Student Art and Design exhibition brought together works by over 700 students from Year 7 to Year 12.

The rich variety reflected the breadth of the curriculum at Star including playful felt sculptures, cheeky ceramic gnomes, delightful planter pots, highly skilful drawings in a range of media as well as thought provoking and sophisticated artworks and design solutions.

The exhibition was opened by Melbourne textile artist, Mardi Nowak, at which the recipients of Art Awards were presented with their prizes and certificates.

The stArchibald portrait prize winners were also announced: Niamh Wardlaw (Year 10) was the senior winner; Caeli Yole (Year 7) was the junior winner. These works have been acquired by the College and are part of the growing collection of student artwork. They are displayed in the Library.

The fashion parade delighted the audience with garments that would have been comfortable on the catwalks of Milan or Paris.

Rehana Patrick
Visual Arts Coordinator
BACKGROUND

Presentation Family Centre, Balnarring Beach was established by the Presentation Sisters of Victoria in 1989 to provide a place of respite and recreation for families and individuals in difficult circumstances due to poverty, sickness, distress, misfortune or disability.

In 1988, the Congregation purchased Harbour View Farm, a house and six house blocks on forty-seven acres. Finance for the purchase and the building of the six houses was obtained through the sale of the O’Neill College property in Elsternwick. The building of houses was carried out in 1989 and the first holiday program was held in the summer of 1989.

More than 30,000 people have been through the Centre which provides the space and the opportunity to communicate, to relax and to just feel normal. The Sisters are always looking for new volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to join them:
http://presentationfamilycentre.org.au

YEAR 10 STUDENT, THEA GUIRY-STEWART REFLECTS:

In October, three teachers and a mix of students from all year levels set off to Balnarring to plant trees and help the Sisters take care of the land. After a long bus drive, we dropped our bags off and were sent straight to work. Instead of physically planting the trees, we were instructed to clear the weeds around the regenerated seedlings so that they wouldn’t be mown over or whipper snipped!

We also went off to different spots to find some seedlings.

It was tough work pulling out the hardy weeds but some patches were cleared and the little plants could clearly be seen. A downpour of rain at lunchtime made the job a tad more difficult so we had a sausage sizzle. The rain stopped and we were back at it, pulling out weeds, adding finishing touches to the well-crafted labyrinth and completing other jobs.

We were proud of our achievements even if the fingernails looked worse for wear. It was a fantastic experience and we thank Mr Brown and the other teachers that came along.

14,000 INDIGENOUS TREES PLANTED

Part of the farm property is being returned to native bushland. A ten-year plan has been drawn up and weed management, fencing and planting have been undertaken. Families, Sisters, groups, schools, locals and friends have already contributed to the planting of over 14,000 indigenous trees, grasses and shrubs. The Sisters’ hope is that this bushland will become an educational and spiritually-rich open space for visitors as they explore and learn, appreciate and wonder at the bounty of the natural world. They also see this as their contribution to restoring and healing the land.
Parents' Association

FATHER DAUGHTER BREAKFAST

In September, sixty fathers and their daughters enjoyed the annual Father Daughter breakfast in the FayByrne Centre, hosted by the Parents’ Association. The guest speaker was Anthony McEvoy, Manager of Homeless Services at The Salvation Army. He is the father of Julia in Year 7.

Anthony talked about his work with homeless people in Melbourne and what we could do to help them. He was inspirational and challenged us to reach out in ways that can make a difference. Anthony spoke about the life of Mouse, the homeless man who was murdered on the bank of the Yarra River earlier this year. He described Mouse as a friend, not a client. Anthony emphasised the importance of having a good family life and a quality education. His gentle yet powerful delivery connected with the audience.

David Wells, father of Siobhan Lynch-Wells in Year 10, reflected: I feel compelled to tell you how much I appreciated, was challenged and inspired by Anthony McEvoy’s speech at this morning’s Father Daughter breakfast. He spoke poignantly about how inclusion, care and love can challenge and support us out of the direst circumstances and how exclusion and neglect can ruin our lives. He shook me out of my comfort zone. I am determined to reach out more, in everyday life, but also in some extra way.

The Year 11 Ministry Retreat in Term 4 requires participants to leave their comfort zones and minister to Melbourne’s homeless and refugee population. Students who participated had to undertake preparatory sessions before heading out, including attendance at Anthony’s presentation. The students took part in a structured debrief after his presentation.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

There have been quite a few new faces in Star’s PA Committee in 2014 which has been refreshing.

The year has passed so quickly ... from the start of the year with welcoming drinks for Year 7 and Year 8 parents to the Year 12 Graduation day in late October. A highlight was the annual Father Daughter breakfast held in September. Many thanks to the parents who turned up at 6.30am to help and to those who helped with the clean-up.

I thank the Committee members for their constant enthusiasm and support throughout the year. Fundraising is definitely a team effort and it’s a bonus to have fun together.

I look forward to another successful year in 2015 and warmly encourage parents and guardians to consider joining the Committee.

Leanne Danielson

1. Year 11 students with guest Anthony McEvoy
2. Rod & Imogen Thomas
3. Anthony & Catherine Walsh
4. Isabella, Tim & Victoria Coyne
5. Gerard, Eliza & Samantha Browne
6. Annie, Madeline & Nicholas Nicola
7. Vince, Tess & Olivia Lyons
CLASS OF 1958

The Class of 1958 met again at the Victoria Golf Club, Cheltenham. We welcomed many “girls” who had not been to a reunion before so they had not seen some faces since school days. It was amazing to be with those from our First Communion photo after all these years. Chairs were rearranged to enable a lot of mixing, sharing of memories, storytelling and laughter. The next reunion for the Year of 1958 will be held on the Sunday, 4 October 2015 at the Victoria Golf Club from 1.00pm-4.00pm. Email Carolyn Ryan (Schofield) on carolynryan@y7mail.com or telephone 9754 6130. Hopefully some more “new faces” will be enthusiastic about being part of this fun day.

CLASS OF 1964

Where did 50 years go? Memory-lane moments abounded with a montage of images from 1964 projected on the wall as we tapped our toes to music from the swinging 60s. All of us are now well into our sixth decade but you would not have known it when the beautiful dining room of Il Caminetto in Brighton was filled with the laughter and chat of forty-two former students of Sister Josepha and Mother Eymard. Would those two wonderful nuns and all our teachers be proud of us? Yes, definitely. Some came from Queensland and New South Wales; others from just around the corner. How lucky we were to still know each other as we shared precious memories of those girls who were not able to be with us on this special night. Thanks to Barbara Harkin and the committee for organising a wonderful evening.

CLASS OF 1994

The date was set for Saturday, 13 September at our old stomping ground, The Half Moon in Church Street. Outfits were purchased, hair appointments made and spray tans booked, but who really cared? This was a chance to catch up with the girls we shared our teenage years with. The night went off spectacularly well. Food, drink and lots of merriment: the noise level of more than fifty 30-something ladies was deafening. Laughter, squeals and shrill voices carried on into the night. It was fantastic to catch up with so many comrades and hear the highs (and lows) of each other’s last twenty years. Thanks to Amy Beveridge and Amanda Hawthorne for organising this fantastic night.

CLASS OF 2004

On Saturday, 20 September, approximately sixty young women from the Class of 2004 gathered at White Bar to catch up and reminisce about our time at Star. It was a great chance to catch up with people we had seen recently as well as people we hadn’t seen since we left school ten years ago. Some people have changed a lot while others haven’t changed at all. Some people are married and have children while others have established careers or done a lot of travelling. Some people still live in the Bayside area while others have moved far away. One thing is very clear though: we have all grown into strong Star women. A great night was had by all.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

2014 was a productive year for the Past Students’ Association. Highlights include two successful Star Women Speak events featuring Felicity McGahan (Cooke -1986) and Gina Liano (1983), and the Blessing and Dedication of the Garden of Reflection. We were thrilled to welcome back the Class of 2013 in October for their first-year reunion.

Thanks to Kris Johnstone for providing tremendous leadership as Liaison Officer, Sandra Diafas for keeping the PSA “in the loop” with Star activities, Noreen Miller and the Nagle Café for providing delicious catering and to all members of the PSA Committee for their time and energy.

Our beautiful Garden of Reflection is in full bloom. It is a peaceful place for prayer and contemplation. Remembrance plaques may be purchased by emailing paststudents@starmelb.catholic.edu.au

The Chapel Appeal is ongoing and more funds are needed to complete the restoration of this significant building. All donations are tax deductible and donations over $500 are acknowledged on the Honour Board in the Chapel’s foyer.

I wish everyone in the Star Community a happy, safe and relaxed festive season. We invite both familiar and new faces to share ideas at our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 16 February 2015.

Frances Tobin (1980)

DATES FOR 2015 PSA MEETINGS IN THE FAYBYRNE CENTRE

- Monday, 16 February at 6.00pm: AGM
- Monday, 23 March at 6.00pm: Committee meeting
- Monday, 27 July at 6.00pm: Committee meeting
- Monday, 14 September at 6.00pm: Committee meeting
- Thursday, 15 October at 5.00pm: Reunion of Class of 2014
- Monday, 9 November at 6.00pm: Committee meeting
- Sunday, 22 November at 1.00pm: Annual Mass & Open Day
Past Students' news

1 **Associate Professor Mary Coloe pbvm (1966)** from the Melbourne University of Divinity has been invited by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity to be part of a dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Church of Christ. This appointment is for five years and involves meetings in North America, Canada and Rome. For more information, visit www.marycoloe.org.au

2 **Samantha Carson (Martin - 1991)** studied nursing and post-graduate studies in cardiac nursing, working at the Victor Chang Institute in Sydney before moving to the Alfred Emergency Department. Sam has worked for pharmaceutical companies and managed project work at the Alfred. She now works in recruitment with responsibility for commercial health care roles with Six Degrees Executive. She is a proud mother of three and her first daughter started in Year 7 at Star in 2014.

3 **Christine Carolan (1968)** is the National Projects Coordinator of Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH). Responding to human trafficking is a major concern of the Presentation family worldwide. Joan Kennedy pbvm also works for ACRATH. In May this year, The Guardian Australia reported Christine’s description of the Federal Government’s 2014 budget cuts to foreign aid as a ‘national disgrace’. Our aid budget funds, among other things, access to clean drinking water, education programs for girls and counter human trafficking initiatives in our South-east Asian region. These are essential for some of the world’s poorest people and yet they come and go at the whim of the Australian Treasurer.

In our advocacy work over the past two years, we have called on the Australian Government to commit to an aid budget of at least 0.7% of GNI by 2015-16. This was the vision of the global community when the UN developed the Millennium Development Goals. And how does Australia shape up now, one year away from the 2015-16 target? At present, the foreign aid budget is 0.33% and will, after this budget, be 0.29% in 2017-18. This is a national disgrace and it needs to be trumpeted in the media.

4 **Kathryn Essing (O’Neill - 1994)** is the founder of Integrated Heart, specialising in “connecting women in business to themselves”. She is also founder of the Surf Coast Small Business Women, a collective group of local women committed to growth within their business, the community and themselves. She is a published author, speaker and business coach, and a wife and mother. For more information, visit www.integratedheart.com.au

5 **Dr Joanna Phipps (1993)** completed a Bachelor and Master of Optometry at the University of Melbourne. She worked in Public Health Optometry and developed an interest in the causes underlying diabetic eye disease. She completed her PhD in 2005, investigating the losses in neurons in the retina during diabetes as part of her thesis. She was awarded a CJ Martin Fellowship to work at the Joslin Diabetes Centre at Harvard Medical School in Boston where she developed skills in retinal neurobiology.

After returning to Australia, Joanna was awarded a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award from the Australian Research Council (ARC). With this grant, she is investigating how blood vessels of the eye communicate with glial cells in the retina, critical for our...
understanding of vision in both health and disease. The ARC made these awards more flexible, in recognition of the difficulties women face in maintaining a research career, enabling Joanna to balance science with caring for her family. She is currently working in the Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience at the University of Melbourne. She and her husband, David Clarke, have three children: Leo (6), Sebastian (4) and Hugh (1).

6 Jessica Weereratne (2001) worked in Egypt and Cyprus as an archaeologist while studying Archaeology at Monash. In 2010, she decided to make a career change and moved to Canberra to take up a position as a policy graduate within the then Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. During this time, Jessica worked across a range of policy areas including the early childhood education reform agenda. She then moved to the Department of Finance as a Communications Officer. In 2012, Jessica became a political adviser to then Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Hon Catherine King MP, and then to the Minister for Health, Hon Tanya Plibersek MP. Jessica recently returned to the Department of Finance as an Executive Officer where she works in an advisory capacity to one of the Deputy Secretaries of that department.

7 Jessica Anderson (2006) received the Commendation to a Young Achiever at The National Association of Women in Construction awards ceremony. Jessica obtained her Civil Engineering/Science degree from Monash and started working with John Holland in 2012 in its Graduate Program. The Young Achiever award recognises the dedication and excellence of an individual under 30 years who is involved in the construction industry. It is assessed on the significance of contribution to the construction industry, leadership potential and involvement in community affairs. Jessica aims to be an inspiration and example for other young women considering a career in the construction industry.

8 Dr Anna Hurlimann (1996) is currently the Senior Lecturer in Urban Planning at the University of Melbourne. Anna teaches Environment and Urban Planning and conducts research into water management and the impact of climate change. A highlight of Star’s Environment Week was Anna’s presentation at the College assembly. She affirmed the practice of undertaking small tasks that will have an impact in the wider world as we are all part of an interdependent universe. She encouraged a change in thinking and actions around sustainability with a view to encouraging our families and the wider community to do the same.

9 Annabel Carr (2004) has completed several TAFE courses in Liberal Arts, Library/Information Studies, Business Administration and Bookkeeping. She has also undertaken voluntary work in a wide range of places. Annabel secured her first paid job in 2012 as a Data Entry Officer at Southern Cross Care in Oakleigh, a thirteen-week contract position. After seeking work for the past two years, she recently secured a position as an interviewer at the Social Research Centre in North Melbourne.
Margaret Bullock (left in photo) and twin, Hilary, attended Star from kindergarten, beginning a long relationship with the school and the convent. Their mother, Margaret, was one of the original pupils at Star and wrote *Memories of School Days at Star of the Sea: 1898 – 1907.*

Margaret chose teaching as a career and was sent to small rural schools with very little training. She entered the Presentation order in March 1951 and was professed Sister Mary Bruna on 19 January, 1954. She taught at many schools and was Principal at O’Neill College. In 1980, she was appointed Superior at the Motherhouse and later, at Sandringham. In 1994, she returned to Star of the Sea until she moved to Corpus Christi Aged Care facility in 2012. A keen gardener, Margaret maintained the convent garden until her eyesight failed. She was a tragic Melbourne supporter, a great lover of animals and a prolific poet.

1/6/1926 – 12/9/2014

FROM INCARNATION, MAY 1984:

God’s breathing was a soundless “big bang” in time and space charging matter with His mystery to be a growing, showing, knowing of truth, beauty, love.

In His time a woman, consenting, enspirited beyond all human knowledge, brought forth the matter of His Word – whole sign – to draw evolving matter to Omega point. 

Mould our clay, Lord – Sign us with your Word.

Geraldine Rush, mother of Mary Kenny (1970) and teacher at Star for nine years, died in September, aged 92. Geraldine was a talented and creative teacher of senior History and English at Star from 1969 to 1978.

Patricia Foley pbvm worked with Geraldine during her time at Star. Over forty years ago, I had the great pleasure of teaching with Geraldine Rush at Star. She was one of the best teachers I ever encountered. She was a scholar at heart and valued education highly to the great benefit of her students ... She always seemed to balance her responsibilities at home and at school with much grace and humour ... Geraldine exemplified the Valiant Woman described in the Book of Proverbs. The energies of love, integrity and deep faith coursed through her veins and impacted on all those privileged to have known her.

1922 – 26/9/2014

FROM HOPES AND DREAMS, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING REFLECTION:

Star of the Sea was and is a very special school ... There was a breadth of educational vision. Opportunity was offered for girls to demonstrate independence and there was a wide range of leadership opportunities ... I was fascinated to observe the way in which the atmosphere of Star of the Sea could develop freedom, individualism and self-discipline within a structured, ordered academic framework.

But – what is the End? 
It is a new beginning! 
As surely as the sunset, 
Comes the beauty of the dawn; 
The old year passes 
To a peal of bells welcome, 
A New Year has begun. 
The starkness of the winter – 
Bare branches, barren lands – 
Hides, but cannot harness 
A quickening of new life.

AT THE END OF GERALDINE’S FINAL YEAR AT STAR, SHE WROTE:
Family News

ENGAGEMENTS
1 Sacha Pollard (2002) and Shane Katzer.
Sacha was School Music Captain in 2002. She sings professionally and currently teaches music at Haileybury College.

WEDDINGS
2 Dianne Sinclair (1997) married Andrew Hudson in New York in May 2014. Dianne works in New York with Ernst & Young. Star alumnae included Dianne’s mother, Geraldine Sinclair (nee O’Connor), sister Nicole Sinclair, cousins Natalya and Jacinta Devitt, friend Julia Robinson (Gray -1996) and bridesmaids Lena Bell (1997) and Carla Silverstone (Distefano - 1997).

Photo: Emma Malton (Lamb), Catherine Merritt (Hayden), Lena Bell, Dianne Sinclair, Carla Silverstone, Josie Shepherd (Hoare) & Kate Grammatico (Callaghan)

BIRTHS
3 Larissa Cairns (staff) and Paul Montgomery: son, Gilbert Paul, in July.
Stephen Brown (staff) and Nicole: daughter, Annabelle, in June.
Frank Huang (staff) and Joanne: son, Jaxon, in June.
Lara Lackmann (Murray - 1995) and Broder: a son, Max John, in May 2013.
Maree McDonald (1995) and Orme: daughter, Arle Phoenix, in March 2013.

DEATHS
Pat Bow (King - 1956) – a great friend to many in the Star community.

Des Dalley – loved husband of Eileen Dalley who worked at Star for many years.


Maryanne Healy (Smith) died 19 September 2014. Loved sister of Bernadette and Margie.
Christine Hodges (Keogh - 1959) died 22 August 2013. Loved mother of Robbie, Jamie & Susan.

Sr Genevieve Jeffery pbvm died 6 August 2014. Genevieve was a resident at Star and attended many school functions. She had lived at Daylesford and also worked at the Catholic Education Office.
Carmel Kelly (Dundon - 1963) died 12 June 2014. She was in the Presentation Order for some years.

Marjorie Nelson (Adams - 1949) died 12 August 2014 at the age of 82.
Fiona O’Brien (Gibbons – 1992)

Natalie Oswald (Sheehan – 1940) died October 2013. Loved mother of Phillip, John, Leanne (1972) and Damian. Natalie was a past President of the Past Students’ Association.

June Stewart died 9 October 2014. June was a former teacher at Star.
Eleanor Taylor (Schmetzer - 1941) died 17 June 2014 aged 89 years.
STAR OF THE SEA COLLEGE
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