

# Verity

Volume 31, March 2016

## *Seekers of Truth, Doers of Justice*

*An interview with past pupils, State Coroner of Victoria & Judge, Sara Hinchey and Coroner Jacqui Hawkins.*

## *Sellers' Success*

*Past Pupil, Olivia Sellers paving the way to her future dreams.*

## *Dream Catchers*

*The Class of 2015 achieve academic honours.*

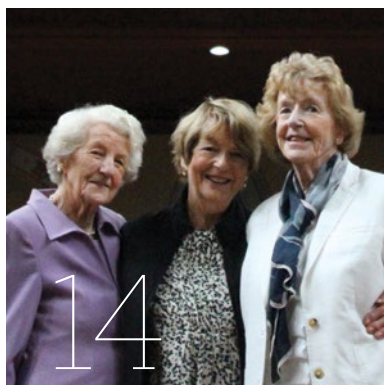
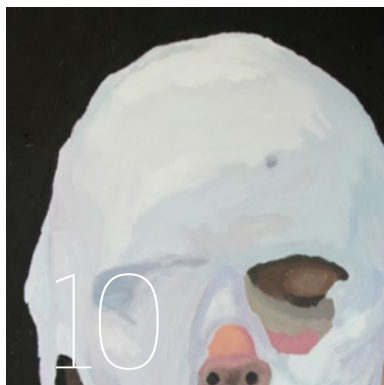


**Loreto**  
COLLEGE BALLARAT | EST. 1875





# contents



## 2016, The Year of Felicity \_\_\_\_\_ 4

*Felicitousness has been demonstrated throughout our Loreto College Ballarat community in a variety of ways.*

## College Board \_\_\_\_\_ 6

*Teacher's Kelli Baird and Roger Morris fondly reminisce about former student and champion jockey, Michelle Payne.*

## Year of Felicity \_\_\_\_\_ 8

*In the Year of Felicity, our College Co-Captains discuss what living a felicitous life means to them.*

## Sellers' Success \_\_\_\_\_ 12

*Past pupil (Class of 2015) Olivia Sellers is making her own success, recently working behind the scenes on the musical Cats. Her desire to become a professional stage manager has now been solidified.*

## Academic Assembly \_\_\_\_\_ 16

*Celebrating the academic success of the Class of 2015. Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching), Ms Linda McDonald discusses the role of hard work in achieving success.*

## Seekers of Truth, Doers of Justice \_\_\_\_\_ 24

*Interview with past pupils, State Coroner of Victoria, Judge Sara Hinchey and Coroner Jacqui Hawkins. The influence of their education at Loreto College, particularly the values of Mary Ward have helped both women achieve their dream career.*



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### Cover Photo

*Judge Sara Hinchey & Jacqui Hawkins visit Loreto College Ballarat*

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# 2016 – The Year of Felicity

Ms Judith Potter



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*“Felicity is an attitude of mind, a disposition of the heart which manifests itself in cheerfulness, good humour, joy, hope, optimism, friendliness, courtesy, positive thinking, inner peace, self-acceptance and courage”*

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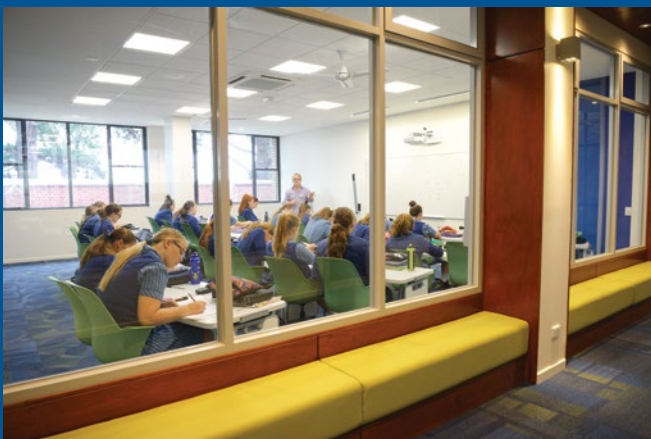
*(Loreto Schools of Australia Mission Statement)*

On 29 January the school came gloriously to life as 900 students commenced the 2016 school year. Our Year 9 students returned to find the hall transformed into a light-filled, contemporary and flexible Year 9 Centre. This new centre provides an aesthetic and welcoming learning environment for our students. Glass walls can be opened up to provide a large learning and gathering space with easily movable furniture being selected to support this. An extra classroom has been created which overlooks Lake Wendouree and there are now two change rooms in the Gonzaga Barry Centre and increased space for staff offices.

Our students have been active in fundraising, with a very successful fundraiser for the bushfire victims of Scotsburn and other affected areas. Community life has been vibrant with wonderful House spirit on show at the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals and Loreto spirit on show at the Head of the Lake.

It was a great pleasure to welcome past pupils from the Classes of 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011 to reunions in February. It is wonderful to hear their memories, with a tangible common bond between past pupils and current students being that effervescent ‘sisterhood’. I was delighted to join with many current and former students, staff and parents at our International Women’s Day Breakfast to learn from two inspirational women, Judge Sara Hinchey (Class of 1986) and Coroner Jacquie Hawkins (Class of 1989), who, in sharing their stories, provided insight into what has motivated and guided them on their career and personal pathways.

I am most appreciative of past pupils who have taken up our invitation to act as mentors for current students and past pupils in the early stages of their career. We would love to hear from more past pupils who would enjoy this important role.



# College Board

Mr Shane Carey



The 2016 school year has brought with it significant change to the governance structure of Loreto College Ballarat. Under the leadership of the Loreto Province, the Loreto College Council is now the Loreto College Board, a Company Ltd by Guarantee. The members of the Loreto College Board are Mr Shane Carey (Chair), Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Deputy Chair), Mr Luke Dunne, Ms Janet Freeman, Mrs Trudi Kannourakis, Mr Matt McCabe, Mrs Maria Myers AO, Mrs Tracey O'Neill and Mr Richard Robinson. While the Loreto College Board is responsible for your school we, along with all Loreto schools in Australia, now report to Loreto Ministries Ltd.

“Loreto Ministries Ltd. has been established to provide sound governance and ongoing stability of the Province’s corporate ministries, by taking on the governance oversight of these entities in place of the Province Leader and Council. Loreto Ministries

Ltd. is a Not-For-Profit public company limited by guarantee and a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission. It has a Board of Directors, who along with their loyalty to Loreto, have a broad range of experience and skills. Inaugural Board members are: Justice Peter Garling (Chair), Sr Margaret Mary Flynn ibvm, Mr Paul Henderson, Justice Ann Lyons, Mr Frank Malloy, Ms Kate Torney and Sr Mary Wright ibvm.”  
([www.loreto.org.au](http://www.loreto.org.au))

With major strategic projects now brought to fruition, the Loreto College Board is engaged in considered investigation and reflection in planning for the next ten to thirty years. The strong commitment to building upon what has been gifted by previous generations continues. At the centre of all our deliberations is what will best educate and advantage the current and future students of Loreto College.

*Back Row L-R: Mr Jeff Primmer (Business Manager); Mr Matthew McCabe (Chair, Finance & Risk); Mr Luke Dunne, Mr Richard Robinson*

*Front Row L-R: Mrs Tracey O'Neill, Ms Janet Freeman, Mr Shane Carey (Chair), Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Deputy Chair), Ms Judith Potter (Principal), Mrs Trudi Kannourakis, Mrs Maria Myers AO (Chair, Marketing, Community Relations & Fundraising)*



# College Co-Captains

*By Eva Gillett and Hannah Armstrong*



In this year of Felicity, as co captains, we commenced our leadership of the College believing Felicity was a girl's name! Very quickly, we realised the name actually means so much more. As we compose this report, we now know that Felicity embodies the very best in human beings, in particular, young women. As the badge reveals, humour, humanity and humility are at the very core of what makes a Loreto girl so unique. In our roles as Co College Captains, we recognise the unique opportunity we have been given to represent our school and promote these essential attitudes of the mind. Since elected, we have attended a number of student leaders' conferences to hone our skills in managing the role. One aspect that stays with us is the notion of empowering others to be their best selves. Without putting too fine a point on it,

we, as College Captains, can be instruments of change, despite our relative youth and inexperience. And 'Living a Felicitous life' allows us to be open-minded and celebrate the gift of the relationships we forge here at Loreto. Highlights so far, once we can catch our breath and reflect, include the Bushfire Relief Appeal organised by the Senate to directly support Loreto families, our annual Swimming Carnival and the Year 12 synchronised swimming event, the Year 7 camp where we introduced the war cry and the lead up to the Head of the Lake and the whole school war cry. As our favourite chant goes; 'We've got sprit, yes we do. We've got spirit, gold and blue.' In this, our first term as College Co-Captains, we are relishing the privilege of being Loreto girls.





## *Prayer for Felicity*

*Written by the Loreto School Leaders for 2016 at the LSAC Student Leadership Conference*

Loving God,

In this Year of Felicity may we act from love not fear, serving one another with humility, humanity, and humour.

With cheerful minds and grateful hearts, may our inner joy flourish as we grow in loving acceptance of ourselves and others.

As we move through the journey of life, may we give thanks for the blessings on our Loreto community, recognising your loving presence in all our relationships.

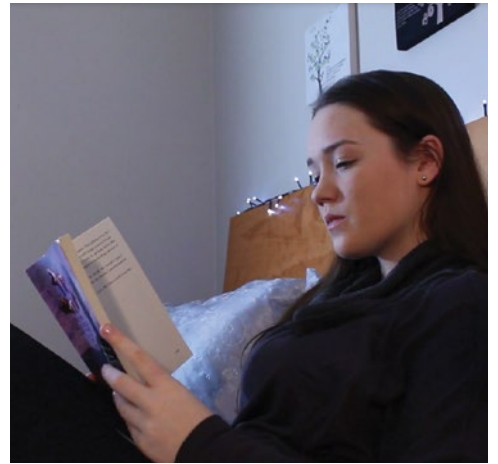
And where love is hidden, may we find the courage to bring love, for felicity belongs to the open-minded and generous hearted.

Amen

# NEXT Gen 2016

*By Ms Stephanie Greet*





*Eleanor, 3rd from the right and Taylor 2nd from the right at the Opening of the NextGen exhibition with fellow award winners.*

Art Gallery of Ballarat Next Gen exhibition represents the extraordinary talents of students and their dedicated teachers from across the region. This year, the exhibition includes works from DET, Catholic and Independent schools from as far and wide including; Apollo Bay, Woodend, Donald, and Camperdown, as well as many schools in between. The exhibition includes work from students studying Art, Studio Art, Visual Communication & Design, and Media and features students engaging their audiences using various media such as oil, acrylic and watercolour paint, pastel, digital and analogue photography, screen print, ceramics, ink, collage, charcoal, graphite, lino print, modroc, film, textiles, found objects, steel, wood, cotton, resin, papier mache, mosaic tiles and blue biro.

We are delighted to share that artworks from four members of the Class of 2015 were selected for the 2016 exhibition. We congratulate Eleanor Begbie, Taylor Dunn, Olivia Sellers and Vera McCarthy. It was exciting to have Olivia's Media work selected as she represented the first class of Media students to graduate from Loreto. We further commend Taylor Dunn on being awarded the 'Three-Dimensional Art Award' for her beautiful work in porcelain, *Planes* and Eleanor Begbie was awarded a 'Highly Commended Award' for her striking portraits *Georgia and Sam*. We would also like to acknowledge the Loreto Visual Arts VCE teachers for all their hard work with and encouragement for their students' artistic pursuits; Tony Griffin, Alessandra Bourke-Finn and Michael Walsh.

# Olivia Sellers Making Opportunities

*By Ms Stephanie Greet*

You may remember Olivia Sellers from past Verity articles such as International Women's Day Award winner 2015. You may have also noted that she features in our Next Gen 2016 article for her Media work. However, this article is not about her wonderful people skills nor her artistic talents, but rather her passion, ambition and 'just do it' attitude.



*Olivia at her Stagecraft Examination Dress Rehearsal  
September, 2015*

I first noticed Olivia when in year 8 she volunteered to help backstage with the Junior Arts Festival Concert. There were four girls helping backstage with the Arts Captains, when I noticed one of the microphones had been switched off by a performer. I was sitting at the front of the old Sturt Hall stage with the sound equipment and endeavoured to catch the attention of the stage hands to get them to turn the microphone back on. Most of the girls were enjoying being backstage, Olivia, however, instantly noticed I was trying to get their attention. I mimed a “turn the mic on” mime. By this stage the other girls had noticed me, they looked at me quizzically. Olivia, on the other hand walked confidently on stage, turned the microphone on, ready for the next act. It was that moment, then and there, that we had a stage manager in the making. Since then she has always been involved backstage as a runner, stagehand, floor manager or stage manager at Arts Festivals, Gala Concerts, Christmas Concerts and most importantly our College Productions. Olivia’s help was invaluable when we produced “Alice in Wonderland” and in “Fame” – and the students really came to rely on her. In “Joseph” she even called one scene of the show as part of her Theatre Studies.

It is no surprise then, to learn that Olivia has been accepted into Federation University’s Advanced Diploma of Live Production, Theatre and Events (Technical Production) and no surprise that she has a dream of one day stage managing a professional show on Broadway. What is a little more surprising and quite delightful is the story Olivia shared with Ms. Potter at the opening of the Next Gen Exhibition. Never content to sit back and wait for her dream to happen and never content to stand idle, Olivia decided

she wanted to pursue some more stage management experiences before Uni started. Here is Olivia’s story;

“I recently had the unbelievable opportunity of shadowing the Stage Management team for the Australian/New Zealand tour of CATS the Musical, shown at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne. I was able to observe the Deputy Stage Manager as she called the lighting, sound and special effect cues within Act One, while during Act Two I followed the Assistant Stage Manager as he conducted quick changes and ensured all actors were safe when on and off stage.

The entire cast and crew were extremely kind, leaving me to feel welcomed in such a professional environment. It was a truly invaluable experience to witness the cohesiveness of the production company and has strengthened my passion for becoming a professional Stage Manager!”

Olivia Sellers, Class of 2015

I saw Olivia at the academic assembly awards last Thursday, where she was collecting her subject award for Media Studies. It was here she told me a little about how she made that happen. Olivia went to see CATS, loved it, and wanted to get back stage. Many of us have that same desire, but do little about it, maybe, at most, wait hopefully at stage door. Olivia, however, took her programme, found the names of the stage managers and searched them online. She found the email contacts for one of them and sent a lovely email asking if she might shadow (a quiet, backstage observer) for a show. Amazingly, they said yes! Olivia now has professional stage manager contacts. Now that is showing initiative.

# Tea and Memories

*By Mrs Shona Hendley Loreto College Ballarat Communications Officer  
& Ms Robin Scott Loreto Province Archivist*

The reunions for our Ballarat past pupils bring joy and laughter. The reunion of the 'Golden Girls' is always particularly special and late last year was celebrated in the new Mary's Mount Centre as there were too many for the usual setting of the Parlour. So with a view of the Chapel and cuppas enjoyed from vintage tea settings, school days were relived and friendships renewed.



This special occasion brought together three of the four Vaughan sisters who attended Mary's Mount Clare, Dorothy and Anne (Patricia was unable to attend); whose school days spanned nearly 15 years between them, from 1940 until 1954. They originally came from Wentworth, where their parents owned the Crown Hotel. With many others, they made the journey from various parts of Australia to meet old friends..

Patricia, Clare, Dorothy and Anne were boarders, as were most Mary's Mount pupils before the late mid 1940s when day pupils were introduced. "My time as a boarder at Loreto Abbey Mary's Mount began in 1939 and ended in 1943. I loved my time there and the nuns who taught me had quite an influence on my life", Clare Davison (nee Vaughan) reminisced. For all four sisters their time as boarders is looked back upon fondly. "We were similar to a very large family, just forty boarders; there were no day students. The close friends I had a Mary's Mount have been my life-long friends", she recollected. During this visit the sisters shared their memories both entertaining and historically informative; including some hilarious tales of mischief.

"The very cold Ballarat winters were unforgettable. There was no heating at Mary's Mount then, only small Victorian fireplaces...My friend Mary returned to school

after holidays with a box of white face powder, after covering her face with the powder before the walk around the lake, she told the nun in charge of the dispensary she was not feeling well and was promptly sent to bed. The nun woke up to our tricks when Mary, her Sister and I shared her powder the next week hoping to get out of a walk around the lake".

The Loreto Sisters had always held a special place in the Vaughan families' heart, the Vaughan's parents, Mr. & Mrs Gerald Vaughan donated a copy of Bartolome Esteba Murillo's "Immaculate Conception" to the Loreto Sisters in 1935 which now hangs in the Chapel. A highlight of the 'Golden Girls' event was showing this to Clare, Dorothy and Anne, linking history with the present day, old memories with new. As they looked fondly upon the art and wandered through the Chapel linking arms, the sisters shared stories of their Loreto lives, although their stories were all unique, their smiles were all the same.

*Our reunions for these earlier students combine both schools (Mary's Mount and Dawson Street) and our archival collection includes the records of both schools. We probe our collection for photographs to display at these reunions to strip away the intervening years for just a moment in time so that past pupils can once again be Loreto girls.*



*Mary's Mount 1947  
Dorothy Vaughan - 2nd front row, 15th from left.  
Anne Vaughan - front row, 9th from the left.*



*Dream Lady Production Cast, 1948  
Anne Vaughan - Fairly Talk Folk Prince.*



*Dorothy Vaughan - 2nd front row, 6th from left.  
Anne Vaughan - second row from front, 10th from left.*

# Academic Honours

*By Ms Linda McDonald, Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching)*

Parents, past pupils, staff, students and distinguished guest gathered together on Thursday 4 February to honour and celebrate the outstanding achievements of the Class of 2015.

When I reflect on what factors have contributed to their success I can think of two main factors. Firstly their diligence and hard work. I have been here to watch everyone one of these girls as they have worked hard in collaboration with their teachers throughout their school years. They made their studies a priority – yes, more important than parties and Facebook, and that part-time job. School was their job and they were determined to make the most of their opportunities.

Secondly they were aspirational: “they went after their dreams”

I think it is so important to have your dreams or goals. Because dreams motivate you to work hard and succeed. Our very famous past pupil Michelle Payne spoke of her dream in year 9 to win the Melbourne Cup. She also stressed that she had to put in long hours training horses before she could qualify to ride in the Cup. Michelle is a young woman who epitomises hard work and the ability to go after her dreams.

It would be my hope that each and every one of our students will work hard to achieve her own success, whether it is to travel overseas, to study at university or to perform well on the sporting field, the stage, artist studio or the concert hall.



*Rose Murphy*



*Lucy Flynn*



*Bridget Kelly*



*Georgia Gittings*



*Vera McCarthy*



*Dominique Holland*



*Kate Tinney*



# Academic Excellence Awards



*Vera McCarthy*  
*Art, English*



*Hannah Armstrong*  
*Biology*



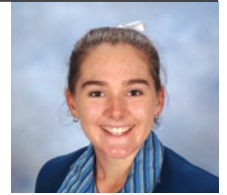
*Laura-Anne Fay*  
*Business Management*



*Kate Tinney*  
*Chemistry*



*Georgina Reynolds*  
*Dance*



*Lauren Powell*  
*Product Design & Technology*



*Lucy Flynn*  
*Legal Studies, English*



*Georgia Gittings*  
*English, Mathematical Methods*



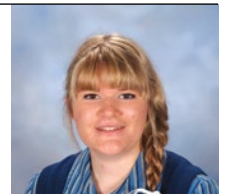
*Dominique Holland*  
*English*



*Georgia Harraway-Jones*  
*Food Technology*



*Monica Young*  
*Health & Human Development*



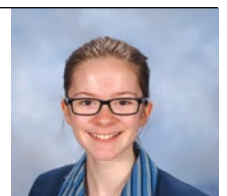
*Mikaelie Biederman*  
*History-Revolutions*



*Kate Tinney*  
*Literature, Psychology*



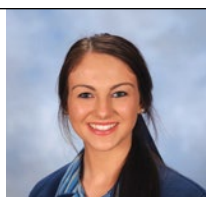
*Claire Hogbin*  
*French*



*Grace Fry*  
*Japanese*



*Cassie Anstis*  
*Further Mathematics*



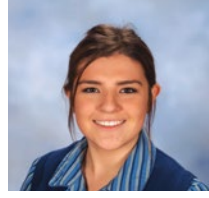
*Rebecca Timmins*  
*Further Mathematics*



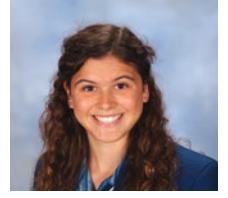
*Sarah Wood*  
*Music Performance*



*Olivia Sellers*  
*Media*



*Meg Kennedy*  
*Media*



*Bridget Kelly*  
*Specialist Mathematics*



*Nellie Tansey*  
*Physical Education*



*Erin Sutton*  
*Physics*



*Jasmine Wray*  
*Religion & Society*



*Emma Sharpe*  
*Religion & Society*



*Emily Gladwell*  
*Studio Art*



*Ceri Hocking*  
*Sociology*



*Prue Steggall*  
*Sociology*



*Chelsea Trainor*  
*Theatre Studies*





*“So make the most of all the things that make Loreto so special, because you will miss it.”*

# Dux 2015

## Kate Tinney

*“Congratulations to the entire class of 2015 for making it to the end, and for everything you have achieved.”*

Good morning girls, teachers, families, special guests, Ms Potter.

I’m Kate Tinney, and I’m honoured to be standing in front of you today.

I remember being in year 7, watching the grown up year 12s and everything they had to do, and thinking that that was something I never wanted to do, and would never be able to handle. So if that is what you’re thinking right now, don’t worry. Everything seems scarier when you look at it in the future. When you get there, you will be prepared, ready to show how much you’ve learnt in the last 6 years, and do yourself proud.

The girls who are celebrated at the academic assembly every year are not out of your league, they are not naturally gifted or geniuses. They don’t have secret information that got them there. They were you once. They are girls who worked hard and consistently, not just in year 12, but all throughout their time at Loreto. You don’t suddenly change, or have a moment of clarity where you suddenly know what’s going on and how to succeed. It’s a gradual thing, and you never have all the answers. If you work consistently hard you will get to year 12 and it will slowly become less and less daunting.

So, as far as I know, there is no secret formula for success, but there is one thing that I think worked for me; I tried my best in every assessment task all through the years. That doesn’t mean I studied every hour of every day since year 7, but I knew myself and prepared for each task enough so that I was comfortable and

able to do my best. This is something each of you can do. Take the time before year 12 to work out how you study best; how often and how long. In year 12, I just consistently chipped away at the homework we were given and did what my teachers told me to do, not desperately trying to finish it all on the first night, and not leaving it to the last minute either.

You will be stressed if you only study the night before a SAC because there will be times when you have 3 or 4 in a few days and it’s physically impossible to prepare enough to feel comfortable if you leave it to the last minute. This is where I used my diary to keep track of when SACs were and plan ahead for busy times with sport and other things. I knew when I would have the time and when I wouldn’t. I was hardly ever overly stressed about SACs or study because I took it one night at a time.

Year 12 is a big year, and if you’re the sort of person who is involved in a lot of things and is always busy, you may have to sacrifice some things in order to leave enough time to focus on school. But, it is so important to not give up all the things that make you happy, because you will never be able to find the motivation to keep going if you are miserable. I still played school sport, I was still in the band and the choir, and I still went to my friends’ 18th birthdays. These things were something to look forward to during the week, and something good in the future to think about when times were tough. I was able to do these things because I planned my study around them, and I wouldn’t have done any of them if I wasn’t comfortable with my work situation at the time.

I would also take some time every day to do something that I liked, like watch an episode of Gossip Girl, listen to some One Direction, or just lay down and do nothing. Having some time to forget about school made it all a bit easier.

Sometimes in year 12, you may find yourself counting down the time until the end of the day, the end of the week and the end of the term. But try to make the most of your time here at Loreto. You may never again be in an environment that is so supportive, welcoming and friendly, and surrounded by people who are willing to do anything to help you to succeed.

Sometimes you have to take a step back from all the pressure and hard work and look at what you have, and try not to take all the opportunities and help you are given for granted. So make the most of all the things that make Loreto so special, because you will miss it. Looking back on year 12, I don't remember the struggles of homework and SACs, I remember running around in our planets costumes at walkathon, I remember my friends and I entering every single event at the swimming and athletics carnival, almost drowning during the butterfly race, barely making it to the finish line in the 800m walk, and, as you can probably guess, not winning a single ribbon between us. Those are the things that will stay with you.

I would like to congratulate all award recipients. I'm proud of every one of you, and I'm so glad your hard work can be celebrated today.

Congratulations to the entire class of 2015 for making it to the end, and for everything you have achieved. Thank you to my parents and my sister for all the support. I always knew they would be happy with whatever ATAR I got, and of the pressure I felt throughout the year, none of it came from them. Thank you to my friends, they were always up for a much needed One Direction session at recess, and they were there to cry with me about how beautiful Harry Styles is, or how much we were enjoying Maths Methods at the time. They made year 12 so much better than it could have been. So treasure your friends, try not to snap at them when you get frustrated or stressed. They are in the same boat, and you will get through together. I wouldn't have made it if I didn't have recess and lunch with them to look forward to. Thank you to Loreto for

all the opportunities I was given, and for an amazing 6 years that I will never forget.

And lastly, to the teachers, for always supporting us, and being so helpful and understanding. Please know that everything your teachers do is for you, they want you to succeed, and they have the skills to help you to do just that. So listen to them, and do what they say, especially in year 12.

Last month I found out that I was accepted into Biomedicine at Melbourne University, which was great. I can remember in year 8 when I was asked to research and present a poster of a course I wanted to do at university, I remember being worried about saying I wanted to do biomedicine because I thought I had no chance of getting in and felt like people may laugh or judge me for hoping. But Loreto isn't an environment where you need to worry about that. Never feel like you can't strive for what you want just because of what others may think, or because you think you might fail. It's much better to try your very best and set high goals, than to lower your expectations and be left wondering what could've been. Don't change what you want for other people's benefit.

There's always a way to get to where you want to go after school, so even if you think you have no chance of getting straight into what you want, don't give up on it and choose something that seems more achievable, the worst that can happen is you just find another way, and the best thing that can happen is that you surprise yourself, which is a pretty amazing feeling it's your future, and it's up to you. You decide how hard you work, and you live with the consequences. If you are determined to do no work, than no matter what your teachers and parents do, they can't force you to do your best. But you've made it this far, why waste those 13 years of your life by not making the most of it. You don't want to finish with regrets.

So work hard and think about how you'll feel when you walk out the front gates for the last time. Because it feels pretty good when you can look back and honestly say, you've tried your best.

Thank you, and good luck girls.

# 2016 International Women's Day Breakfast

*By Mrs Judy-Ann Quilliam, Director of Marketing, Fundraising and Community Relations*

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*“Be such as we appear and appear such as we are”  
Mary Ward*

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On Tuesday 8 March, 2016 Loreto College Ballarat celebrated our eighth annual International Women's Day (IWD) Breakfast at the Ballarat Golf Club. We welcomed two distinguished Loreto alumni, Judge Sara Hinchey (Class of 86) and Coroner Jacqui Hawkins (nee Wadell, Class of 89) back to their home town of Ballarat as our special guest speakers and their message was consistent with Mary Ward's message from all those years ago, to "be such as we appear and appear such as we are."

International Women's Day is a worldwide annual event created to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievement of women; and raise awareness and support for progress on gender parity throughout the world.

Judge Sara Hinchey is the current Victorian State Coroner and previously served as a County Court Judge. Prior to her appointments, Sara had been a barrister for almost 20 years and had appeared before the Coroner's Court in many high profile inquests as a barrister and counsel assisting the Coroner.

Coroner Jacqui Hawkins was appointed as a Victorian Coroner in 2014. Prior to her appointment, Jacqui was the Senior Legal Counsel for the Coroner's Court of Victoria providing legal advice to the State Coroner and other Coroners of Victoria and oversaw a significant re-structure of the Court.

Sara and Jacqui's stories were intriguing, inspiring, and interconnected with each other, with the theme of IWD and with the legacy of Loreto College. Sara shared a powerful enduring message of guidance and encouragement for career longevity, captured eloquently in five key tips – 1. Study hard, 2. Never, ever give up, 3. Travel often – it gives perspective, 4. Practice mindfulness, meditation and exercise and 5. Be kind – to yourself and others.

Jacqui reflected on her learning and continued practise of the Loreto Values - Sincerity, Verity, Felicity, Freedom, Excellence, Truth and Justice and how these values and the words of Mary Ward have been integral to her career success and continue to be part of her everyday life.

The other highlight of this day is the announcement of the Loreto Community Achiever Award, sponsored by Regent Cinemas and the Loreto Woman of the Day Award, sponsored by Fernwood Fitness.

The recipient of the 2016 Loreto Community Achiever was Laura Prendergast. Laura demonstrated a commitment to social justice through her broad community involvement. Laura is a Eucharistic Minister and keen sportswoman who attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival, in Adelaide in 2015. Laura volunteers with the Ballarat Soup Van, is a member of the Victorian Leadership Team for Canteen (youth cancer organisation), an organiser for the Walk for Brain Cancer and initiated the successful Beanies for Brain Cancer Research Day at Loreto.

The recipient of the Loreto Woman of the Day was Georgia Harraway-Jones. Georgia embodies the spirit and values of Loreto and has consistently been involved in the full life of the College, making a profound difference to the lives of others. Georgia has been actively involved in JPIC Committee, Environmental Action Committee, House Committee, and served as a Eucharistic Minister, member of the Cross Country and BAS athletic teams, and the Rowing Club. Georgia led the Senior Mornane House - Love your Body and Mind Week and Liptember (an initiative to raise money for Beyond Blue and the Butterfly Foundation) and assisted the Karden Disability Services Special Olympics. Georgia is also part of a year 12 volunteer contingent travelling to Cambodia at the end of this year. However, it was her swift action and sisterly concern for a fellow year 12 student, whose home was destroyed by fire, that revealed her genuine desire to put others first, contacting teaching staff and rallying her peers over the school holiday break to secure books and raise funds.

The annual Loreto International Women's Day Breakfast continues to provide a perfect platform to celebrate women and the values of Loreto that are deeply instilled in the achievements of our current and past pupils.



# Seekers of Truth and Doers of Justice

*By Mrs Shona Hendley, Communications Officer*

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*An interview with State Coroner of Victoria Judge Sara Hinchey  
and Coroner Jacqui Hawkins*

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Speaking with Sara Hinchey and Jacqui Hawkins you would forget that their days are spent piecing together the puzzle of people's deaths. The sense of darkness that you'd associate with being Victorian State Coroner and Coroner respectively is only expressed through their black dresses and jackets. Their felicitous, generous and optimistic personalities are what shine through about them the most. These two highly successful coroners are both past pupils of Loreto College Ballarat, Sara graduating in the Class of 1986 and Jacqui in the Class of 1989. Considering that there are only ten coroners within the entire State of Victoria, this is an incredible feat, and a testament to the school where they were educated.

Sara was awarded the role of State Coroner of Victoria last year, only months after being promoted to the role of County Court Judge. After success as a barrister for over 19 years, the new position has been a welcome change for Sara, made even better by working with her friend and another Loreto College past pupil, Jacqui, as a fellow coroner. Both women love their jobs; the thought of doing anything else is far from their minds. Although not a career either had planned to be doing, and one which can sometimes be quite challenging on a variety of levels, it is a position that they find extremely rewarding. "I really love the inquisitorial nature...there isn't a truer thing that we do than as a coroner, we are searching for the truth...and we are doers of justice," Jacqui stated. This desire for social justice is something

they both said was an influential aspect derived from their experiences at Loreto College. Being able to have such an active role within this area through their careers is something that gives them great pride.

As guest speakers for the Loreto College Ballarat 2016 International Women's Day Breakfast, their generosity of spirit, and embodiment of Mary Ward's wise words, 'Women in time will come to do great things,' was evident. Both women whose schedules would leave most people gasping, didn't 'give up their time', they instead saw this as an opportunity to inspire and engage other women to, as Jacqui stated, "never give up." The notion of mentoring and assisting other women is something both women emphasised as being extremely important. "I think that supporting each other... exercising kindness....that was a value instilled in me at Loreto," Sara said. Sara and Jacqui both suggested that the idea of women supporting one another is often rare in professional work places, particularly in law. This is something both are actively trying to change. "It never hurts you to have a smile for someone and to stop and listen to what they have to say. It doesn't take very long... and to engage with someone is the best thing you can do," Sara said. This notion of felicity, one of the five pillars that embody Loreto College's vision is something that radiates through both women from the moment you meet them, and is something they believe directly comes from the ideals of Mary Ward.



*Year 7, 1981, 3rd row, second from left Sara Hinchey*



*Year 7, 1984, 3rd row on the end (right) Jacqui Hawkins (nee Waddell)*

While interviewing Sara and Jacqui there were times where moments of hilarity and a sense of frankness made both women so relatable. Listening to their experiences and how they worked their way through to the top of their field, (although hard-work), somehow made success seem achievable. “Even if we have had hurdles and obstacles and we’ve made mistakes and fallen down we just keep going and have been persistent...I think the school has really taught us about resilience,” Jacqui said. This tenacity and resilience combined with the idea of the ‘Loreto Sisterhood’ makes them such intriguing professionals. Embodying qualities usually associated with a more ‘masculine’ persona, combined with such kind words and supportiveness of one another exemplifies their achievements and the role Loreto played in their lives.

This idea of being supportive not only assists in day-to-day situations but also in the more difficult and demanding experiences the two deal with within their positions. Jacqui talked about her role as coroner on the case of Luke Batty, the eleven-year-old boy who was murdered by his father in 2014. It was Jacqui’s first time on call when she received the message to visit this scene and one, which still obviously sparks a nerve with her when she talks about it today. “I can’t recall those circumstances without getting a little bit emotionally charged.” The experience on this case touched Jacqui profoundly and the support of her colleagues and those around her was pivotal in her coming through it. Her reaction to the case also emphasises the empathy that she and Sara both clearly embody, and something that they believe makes women so well matched for this profession. In what had been an extremely male dominated industry, now 6 out of the 10 Victorian Coroners are women, Jacqui believes this is because women, “Have a real sense of social justice and also empathy...and because we care.” With this new “refreshing” attitude and direction led by Victoria’s second woman State Coroner, we will no doubt see great changes and progress at the Coroner’s office, and the influence of Loreto College’s education within it.

*To watch a filmed interview with Sara and Jacqui please visit the Loreto College Ballarat website.  
[www.loreto.vic.edu.au](http://www.loreto.vic.edu.au)*



*Year 12, 1986, 3rd row, 4th from left Sara Hinchey*



*Year 10, 1987, front row middle, Jacqui Hawkins.*

# Who and what are JPIC?

*By Mrs Mandy Carroll, JPIC Coordinator & Emily Beggs (Year 11)*



The social justice committee known as JPIC (Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation) is a vital component of the Loreto College commitment to the Gospel imperative; to serve less fortunate. Our Committee is regularly attended by over sixty students from across the six year levels and every girl comes with the understanding that she has the ability and an opportunity to make a difference to someone else's life on an immediate, local, national or international scale.

We find it to be of utmost importance that this, our first article for Verity in 2016, promotes these four letters...

**Justice**- underscores every action we make and every interaction we have with those known to us in the community and those who we do not know. We strive to live out this particular value, through charity events such as the annual Walkathon, the funds from which go to the Loreto primary school in Timor Leste and various other organisations. There is a need to provide basic essentials that every human being should have access to and which we take for granted. Not only are we striving for equality and fairness within the whole human race but also in the way we treat the world, our 'home'.

**Peace**- must take into account the non-negotiable fact that people have the right to live safely and freely wherever they please. A lack of peace in the world leads to massive upheaval. This is apparent now more than ever and our JPIC committee seeks to raise awareness amongst the school community, especially of plight of the refugees.

**Integrity of Creation**- the committee recognises that we have been incredibly privileged to live and thrive on planet Earth, and therefore, we have a commitment to look after it. Through JPIC, we want to ensure that these last two letters are not overlooked. It is abundantly clear to that our 'home' needs to be better cared for, as our world struggles to compete with human intervention. In JPIC we find it of high importance to keep the school community mindful of this precious gift we have been given.

Ultimately as a part of the JPIC committee, we want to make it abundantly clear that our focus is not primarily fundraising but to speak on behalf of those who cannot.

# Loreto Sports

*By Ms Megan Poulton, Mr Shane Nankervis & Mr Nathan Sims*

2016 is the Loreto College year of Felicity; and the sports programs are the perfect opportunity for students to exercise this state of joy, either as a cheering spectator or as a keen competitor. The sports programs including the College Athletics and Swimming Carnivals and 2016 Rowing Season have provided plenty of opportunities for some amazing performances.

The first College sports event for the year was the Swimming Carnival. The day presented a full schedule of events, with many girls competing in the 25 and 50 metre traditional swimming races, team events and water polo. The enthusiasm from all of the Houses was fantastic during the day and the themed costumes - Great Barrier Reef, Mornane Monarchs, Mulhall Marvels and Prison Ward, were all creatively inspired.

The second event on the College calendar was the Athletics Carnival. There were many girls who participated enthusiastically throughout the day in either track, field or teams events. At the end, the girls lined the running track to loudly cheer their year level relays and House team mates. The finale to the day is the legendary Tug-Of-War event, where each year level try to win the contest by dragging the opposition across the line. The infectious sense of felicitousness was consistently demonstrated by the vocal encouragement, bright smiles and laughter throughout the day. Congratulations to The Great Barrier Reef, who were the dual winners for both Swimming and Athletics for 2016.

## **ROWING**

Throughout Term 1 the highly anticipated Rowing Season also takes place. This is where our Loreto Gold Rowing Team put into practice all their dedicated summer holiday training, including early starts, sore bodies from long sessions on the water, in the heat, cold and rain, to compete in various regattas throughout Victoria and interstate.



The girls' hard training is tested to the limit against other schools throughout the Rowing Season, with boats regularly being taken to places such as the Barwon River in Geelong to compete against Melbourne and Geelong schools. The aim for our Loreto Gold Rowing girls is to do their best; and if that means not finishing in first place, but having a great row, then that is to be celebrated.

Loreto Gold Rowing Team train towards two main regattas for the season; the Ballarat Associated Schools (BAS) Head of the Lake on Lake Wendouree and The Head of Schoolgirls, held in Geelong. Both events are extremely competitive and exciting. The Head of Schoolgirls event attracts 58 schools competing and over 2000 highly trained competitors.

All the girls that have been a part of the rowing program this year have consistently given it their best and have represented the school with great pride. There have been some mixed final results, however the most important thing is that the girls continue to learn, have fun and take away skills like fitness, persistence, perseverance and effort that they can apply in their everyday life.



# Konnichiwa from Japan

*By Anna Tinney and Bianca Laidlaw (Year 11)*



In December, 2015, twenty-one Japanese language students from Loreto College Ballarat, embarked on a three-week whirlwind trip around Japan. The group were accompanied by Mrs Yoshie Burrows, Mrs Loretta Hyland and Mrs Christina Sofis. Some of the memorable highlights recorded by the students were:

Walking around the port in our warm coats, where we saw the famous Kobe Port Tower, and enjoyed our first real taste of Japanese cuisine and shopping.

Visiting our sister school, Sacred Heart Obayashi School, where we met our Japanese host sisters who welcomed us into their homes. We were all anxious about living in a Japanese household with different foods, bathroom arrangements, language barriers and chopsticks handling abilities.

Going on a tour of the temples of Kyoto and learning about the history of the city. We stayed in Kyoto for three nights and travelled to several nearby cities on the incredible bullet-train system.

Visiting the beautiful island of Miyajima where we caught our first glimpse of native deer. And visiting Hiroshima, where learning the history of the bombing was an emotional experience for all.

Our stay in Takayama, a traditional Japanese Inn, was most memorable. Dinner was a special affair where everyone wore Yukata robes, and tasted multiple courses of weird and wonderful foods.

The experience of the Onsen, a traditional Japanese bath, was an amazing cultural experience that brought the girls closer to Japan and each other. It was also a lot of fun exploring Tokyo's shopping district of Shibuya and visiting the Disney Sea theme park.

The departure back to Australia was filled with both joy and sadness for the group; joy at the prospect of seeing our families and feeling the warm weather once again, sadness from the heavy hearts we felt from leaving our new-found families behind.

# Past Pupils' Association

*By Miss Meg Barry - President*

A Happy New Year to all our past pupils—to the girls of 2015 who are entering into a new world of opportunities and challenges; to all those who have re-connected with Loreto at their class reunions; to the mothers and aunts, sisters and grandmothers who have watched nostalgically as girls in Year 7 have started on their schooldays at Loreto and to all who hold dear the memories and friendships of their years at Loreto in Ballarat.

At a very happy afternoon and evening on November 4 2015 our “Golden Girls” (from the pre-1960’s) enjoyed High Tea in the foyer of the Mary’s Mount Centre we then gathered in the Chapel with past pupils of all ages for our annual Mass of Remembrance, as we remembered all members of the Loreto family who have gone before us. We returned to the lovely space of the Mary’s Mount Centre for light refreshments to which we welcomed the three Year 8 girls who received our Performing and Visual Arts Scholarships.

The Annual General Meeting of the Loreto Ballarat Past Pupils’ Association followed during which we reported on the wonderful contribution of so many past pupils, Loreto College staff and

current students in the organization of Loreto Federation 2015. It was decided to continue to support those who are living Mary Ward’s vision through Mary Ward International, Loreto Family International and Loreto Vietnam. On the “home front” we remain committed to Loreto Ballarat through the annual College Dux Award, the scholarship programme and our attendance at College functions and the support in friendship of S.Marg.Sculley and the Loreto community. The office-bearers for 2015- 16 are President: Meg Barry Secretary: Lyn Browne Treasurer: Monica Eastwood. The future of the Annual Reunion was discussed in the light of the decline in numbers attending and the popularity of the class reunions. It was decided that we will gather on the first Wednesday in November and as we have done in 2015 combine the “Golden Girls” afternoon tea, the Mass of Remembrance and the Annual General Meeting.

I look forward to meeting many of you at upcoming College events, including the exciting production of “Les Miserables”.



# Alumni Updates

## Vale - Emma Peart

It was with great sadness that we were informed of the passing of former Loreto College Ballarat Student Emma Peart (Class of 2000) on February 2, 2016.

'Dearly loved daughter of Trish and Bruce. Beautiful sister and auntie to Nicole, Nick, Millie and Luca, Rachel and Matt, Sophie and Ella, Shane, Jemma, Jordyn, Jaimie and Jessica, Nathan, Talia and Jake, Josh, Aaliyah and Bella. Loving granddaughter of Ken and Doreen. Dearest friend of Russell. "Our star on Earth is now our Angel in Heaven". Forever loved and will never be forgotten.'

The thoughts and prayers of the entire Loreto College Ballarat community are with Emma's family and friends at this difficult time.

**Jacinta Bongiorno (Class of 2003)**, a qualified Nurse with a Masters in Public Health, is currently working as a Refugee Health Nurse in Footscray. Following her studies, Jacinta volunteered as both a teacher and a nurse in rural Tanzania, and now serves as Vice-President of FoodWaterShelter ([foodwatershelter.org.au](http://foodwatershelter.org.au)), an organisation providing education and care for vulnerable children in this area. Jacinta and her fiancée Josh live in Kensington with their gorgeous one and a half year old son Charlie.



## Birth

Anita Roberts (nee Kleinig, class of 2000) and her husband Ben welcomed Samuel George into their family on August 2nd 2015. A brother for Levi and Madeleine.

## Marriage

Miranda Kydd will marry Brendan Smith on Saturday 2 April 2016 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Reception at The Convent' Daylesford.

*If you would like to share your news with the Loreto family, please fill in the form that came with your copy of Verity and send it to:*

*[email.development@loreto.vic.edu.au](mailto:email.development@loreto.vic.edu.au)*

*Or*

*The Development Office, Loreto College Ballarat, 1600 Sturt Street BALLARAT VIC 3350*



# Reunions 2016





'76

'86



'96



2006

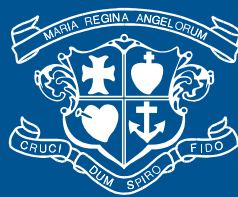


2006



2011





Loreto  
COLLEGE BALLARAT | EST. 1875

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