

Verity

Volume 30, December 2015

*Michelle Payne
Memories of Michelle Payne,
Melbourne Cup winner and
Loreto girl from two of her
past teachers.*

*Yours Truly...
VCE Art & Technology
students showcase their
talent in 2015's annual
exhibition.*



Loreto
COLLEGE BALLARAT | EST. 1875



contents



This is Verity _____ 4

A reflection on 2015, a dynamic year of verity.

Memories of Michelle Payne, Loreto Girl and Melbourne Cup Winner __ 9

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

Digital Futures _____ 14

Living and learning in a digital world

The New Mary's Mount Centre Celebrates Performance _____ 16

With state-of-the-art facilities the new Mary's Mount Centre has been home to a year of memorable performances with the promise of many more to come.

Graduation Mass _____ 18

2015 Graduates celebrate their accomplishments with this time-honoured event. Father Justin Driscoll shares his homily with us.

The Courage to Move _____ 21

Part 3 of our three-part series by Province Archivist, Robin Scott, celebrating the 140th anniversary of Loreto in Australia.

Fond Farewells _____ 26

We sadly say goodbye to staff members who have helped shape Loreto College Ballarat into what it is today.



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ABN 60 934 887 077

Cover Photo
Mr Ian Stowe - Michelle Payne visits Loreto College, November 2015

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Principal Ms. Judith Potter with 2015 College Co-Captains Lucy Flynn and Rose Murphy

From the Principal

Ms Judith Potter

'This is Verity – to do what we have to do well'

(Mary Ward)

Looking back upon the dynamic and fast-paced 2015 school year brings many a smile to my face, as I recall the array of special events and achievements, both individual and collective, that have shaped our 2015 story. The common thread in each page of this story is the commitment, collaboration and cheerful hard work of staff and students in dynamic partnership. Underpinning all that has been undertaken day in and day out, has been the glorious Loreto spirit which flows from a living out and modelling of the Gospel values. The energy and enthusiasm of students and staff has been sustained throughout the year, resulting in another vibrant year at Loreto College. Students have had opportunity throughout the year for reflection, prayer and thanksgiving at Liturgies and Masses. The Mass celebrating Mother Gonzaga Barry and 140 years of Loreto education in Ballarat and Australia was reflective and joyous.

In this Loreto year of Verity, the challenge to each of us has been to speak and live the truth; in 'helping students discern the real values in the choices they make ... we enable them to develop a sense of authenticity and a capacity for commitment that will enrich their lives with meaning.' (Loreto Schools of Australia Mission Statement)

The energy, enthusiasm and glorious Loreto spirit of our wonderful students and staff has ensured a vibrant atmosphere which has enlivened each day, guided by and living out the value of Verity, which, to Mary Ward, meant integrity and truth. Mother Gonzaga Barry's advice to have 'enthusiasm for your cause ... nothing of much worth is attained without enthusiasm' has been brought to life in 2015 by students and staff. I note our appreciation for the contribution of the many students across Years 7 to 12 who have quietly and ably taken on a range of formal and informal leadership roles in 2015, giving great example through their respectful and encouraging interactions. I express my whole-hearted gratitude to our committed and hard-working staff who, time and again, have shown their dedication to guiding, supporting and encouraging students to achieve all of which they are capable. The focus of staff has continued to include regular review to ensure the deep and broad Loreto education we so proudly offer to our students is contemporary, relevant, engaging and informed by current research and practice.

In reflecting back upon 2015, images of a multitude of highlights take hold. The constant in these highlights is the embracing of opportunities by students and the guidance, teaching, encouragement and support of staff. It is always a delight to witness the great satisfaction that comes from a student achieving through diligent application, practice and a willingness to 'have a go'. I have had the very great pleasure of observing this - week in and week out - throughout the year, across a very broad range of programs and activities.

From the day of the Blessing and Opening of The Mary's Mount Centre in March, our wonderful students and staff have very quickly settled in, using every facet in the provision of the diverse opportunities for learning, performing and

presentations that are now possible through this wonderful facility. The Loreto Abbey Theatre has provided a modern and professional setting for Parent Information Evenings and Guest Speakers.

Sparkling in my memory is the 2015 Loreto Federation, including the innovative FedFest, which saw many students, staff, past pupils, Loreto Sisters and friends of Loreto from across Australia, joining together. The feedback we received was very affirming of the warmth of the hospitality offered by our students and staff.

It has been a delight this year to witness the establishment of the Friends of Loreto, our Parents' and Friends' Association. This year their focus has been on discerning their focus and approach. I thank all who have participated and have given support with hospitality at special events. The Friends of Loreto join with the Friends of Loreto Music and Performing Arts, the Friends of Loreto Rowing, parent volunteers in the sport program and the canteen volunteers in giving great example of supporting all of our students within their busy personal schedule, through their kind sharing of expertise and time.

Working diligently and with focus throughout the year has been the College Council and Council Committee members. I thank Mr Shane Carey (Chair of Council), Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Deputy Chair of Council and Chair, Property Committee), Mrs Maria Myers AO (Chair, Development Committee), Mr Matt McCabe (Chair, Finance & Risk Committee) and all members of Council and Council Committees for their generous sharing of time and expertise, always with an eye to what will provide the best learning and well-being opportunities for our students. I express our appreciation to Mr Shane Carey and Mrs Geraldine Frantz for their thoughtful and considered sharing of their expertise, insights, wisdom and presence.

Finally, I thank the Loreto Sisters for their unceasing prayers, support and encouragement. We are truly blessed. And, now, we close the final pages on another glorious year and look with great anticipation to the promise of the 2016 school year.

From the Chair of Council

Mr Shane Carey



The old hall; contemporary learning spaces in the making.

Loreto College Council, in its governance role, has a major responsibility of ensuring our school continues to grow and provide a full and comprehensive education for each and every student. A key objective for the Council is therefore high level strategic planning. This year has seen major projects associated with strategic goals in the areas of the Performing Arts and the addition of an extra stream, which commenced in 2012, brought to completion or currently being brought to completion. The Mary's Mount Centre is a state-of-the-art facility with a 500 seat theatre, ensemble room, studios and multi-media lab. The

hall is currently being transformed into a year level centre which will offer light-filled, contemporary and flexible learning areas; the extension of the Gonzaga Barry Centre will see an additional change room and an internal staircase. Whilst management of these projects is by school staff, the College Council Committees and College Council have taken a key role in this project from inception to completion, particularly with regards to high level financial and building management. Whatever the focus, at the centre of all review and planning is the holistic education of our students.

Members of Council Committees have worked diligently on behalf of our school community, giving oversight at a governance level to a broad range of functions, including excellent fiscal and facilities management. On behalf of all in our school community, I would like to thank everyone who contributes to managing the many and varied aspects of running this wonderful school. In particular, I would like to thank my fellow Council members, the members of our Council Review, Development, Finance & Risk and Property Committees who do invaluable work, and finally Ms Judith Potter, her Leadership Team and all of the Loreto College staff.

College Council

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. Ex Officio: Ms Judith Potter (Principal) and Mr Jeff Primmer (Business Manager).

Finance & Risk Committee

Mr Matt McCabe (Chair), Mr Stephen McArdle, Ms Cathy Oakley, Mr Peter O'Connell, Mrs Tracey O'Neill, Mr Richard Robinson, Ms Judith Potter (Principal), Mr Jeff Primmer (Business Manager) and Ms Elizabeth Till (Executive Deputy Principal).

Property Committee

Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Chair), Mr Luke Dunne, Mrs Carmel Flynn, Dr Brett Foote, Ms Min Myers, Ms Erin Templar, Ms Judith Potter (Principal), Mr Jeff Primmer (Business Manager) and Mr Gerard Viccars (Finance Officer).

Development Committee

Mrs Maria Myers AO (Chair), Miss Meg Barry (President, Loreto Past Pupils' Association), Ms Janet Freeman, Mrs Trudi Kannourakis, Sr Margaret Sculley ibvm, Ms Jan Stephen, Ms Judith Potter (Principal), Mr Pat O'Shea (Deputy Principal: Well-Being & Organisation) and Ms Kerry Foss (Fundraising & Community Relations Manager).



College Co-Captains

By Rose Murphy & Lucy Flynn

Our College Co-Captains prepare for life after Loreto and reflect on what it means to be a Loreto girl.

2015 marked a significant year, celebrating 140 years of Loreto in Australia, the Blessing and Opening of The Mary's Mount Centre, the Gala Concert and Loreto Federation, just to name a few. It is with absolute gratitude that we were able to lead the school during such an important year. Along with our fellow Senate members, we hope we have fulfilled our role as leaders and demonstrated the value of verity in all that we did.

At the beginning, we were bursting with ideas to make 2015 an exciting year for everyone. Our aim was to further unite the school by connecting students from all year levels. The idea of unity ran through all of our activities and we hope that somehow we made a difference in bringing all students together.

Looking back over the year, not only are we extremely proud of the Senate's achievements, but also of the Year 12 cohort and the leadership displayed by many of the students as they moved towards graduating. Whether it was offering help or support to those in need, or just a friendly smile, the Class of 2015 demonstrated what it truly means to be a Loreto girl, showing immense spirit and gratitude throughout the Year of Verity.

We believe that the Loreto connection is so strong and important. It is one of the things that is so special about this school; no one can really understand how significant it is until you actually experience it. It enables us to make a difference within the school community and also the broader community. From fundraising and assisting the community, to the enthusiasm seen across all year levels, we are proud of what we have achieved.

As we bid farewell to 2015 and all that the year has offered us, it is with extreme sadness that we leave Loreto, or in other words, our 'home away from home'. We have faith that incoming College Co-Captains Eva Gillett and Hannah Armstrong and their fellow Senate members, will continue the enthusiasm, determination and Loreto spirit that the 2015 Senate has demonstrated.

If we were asked to do it all over again, there is no doubt that we would. Loreto is such a warm and welcoming environment that nurtures each student to reach their full potential, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

So while we give thanks and say a heartfelt farewell, we look forward to being welcomed back as alumni.



Memories of Michelle

By Kelli Baird & Roger Morris

A 9 year old sits on her couch in Miners Rest and answers the interviewer's question of what would be her greatest dream, her answer, "to win a Melbourne Cup. Fast forward 20 years and Mary Ward's statement of 'Women in time will come to do much' could not be more fitting. On the first Tuesday in November 2016 that little girl's dream became a reality. Michelle Payne will always be the first woman to win a Melbourne Cup. Imagine being able to say that you were the first woman to win a 155 year old race that has the entire nation watching. And much of the world.



Kelli remembers...

They say that there are certain moments in history where you remember exactly what you were doing at the time. At 3.00pm on that day I wasn't listening to that race, I couldn't hear the PA in the PE office, but as soon as I read Mrs Natalie Howard's email; "A Loreto girl has just become the first woman to win the Melbourne Cup", there were instant goose bumps.

Our celebrations had begun. We all watched in student reception with pride and several tears as Michelle mentioned her Loreto friends in Year 9 ribbing her about her dream and then in the next breath gave a strong message to the non-believers. The story as we all know is a movie script in the making, what we would like to share with you are our reflections of a young woman who epitomises what Mary Ward and Mother Gonzaga Barry would have hoped for.

Roger remembers...

Michelle arrived in 1998, she was met with "What are you doing here?" – Paddy (her Dad) had forgotten to enrol her. With some retrospective enrolling we ensured Michelle a place in Year 7. Thank goodness we did otherwise we would have missed out on having this endearing and delightful student being a part of our community.

I was fortunate enough to teach Michelle and I will always remember how she would ask frequently to be excused to go to the toilet during class. After growing suspicious, I soon discovered she was sneaking out to her locker to listen to race meets on a portable radio. She offered tips in lieu of her uncompleted homework. It was always obvious when Michelle was confident with the tips she was passing on as she would suggest when asked how much should be wagered "Put your house on it"!

Kelli remembers...

My memories of Michelle are of a vibrant, happy, talented student (though Michelle disputes that she was anything but awkward) who loved being active. She would have been up at 4.00am helping with the horses, come to school and then attend cross country training where she was a natural aerobic athlete. The other girls would be quietly complaining about the length of Mr Roden's warm-up whilst Michelle would be jogging along chatting to everyone and not even puffing.

Michelle was part of an enthusiastic, close knit and involved friendship group. Michelle is still very close to her Loreto 'mates' many of whom have been quoted in the papers since her famous victory. Many of these friends made up the Junior Hockey Team. One memorable morning involved Michelle getting hit in the face with a stick from an opposition player. Instantly blood was

running from her nose onto the pitch. We gathered around, handing Michelle a top to soak up the blood. Her nose looked broken! I rang home "Hello Mr Payne" I said, "We think Michelle might have broken her nose. I am going to take her to the hospital for an x-ray just to check that she is OK." Paddy listened intently and then said, "When she has finished having the x-ray send her home in a taxi". On the way to the hospital there was not one tear or complaint – except as I rolled the seat down for her – Michelle did mention feeling somewhat faint.

We had the privilege of attending the City of Ballarat's Civic Celebration. As soon as Michelle saw the Loreto uniforms she spoke fondly of her time here. She recalled asking her Dad in Year 9, "If she could stay at school and also attend jockey school because she loved the school so much."

Michelle had to seek special permission to leave Loreto before her 15th birthday in pursuit of her dream. We remember being very sad to see her go, but equally excited that she was determined to follow a passion that was such an important part of her life.

Throughout the years, those of us who taught Michelle have followed her closely. We have celebrated the wins and crossed our fingers when she fell. What you have all seen over the past few weeks is the Michelle that we taught, albeit a little more poised and polished. A genuine

kid from the country with a loving, supportive circle of family and friends who believed that she would one day achieve something no other woman has. In a quiet moment at the civic reception I said, "It was fate that you did this" she said "Yes, it was!"

Michelle returned to visit Loreto to share her win where staff and students had the privilege of listening to Michelle reflect on what had happened since her win and to reminiscence about the journey along the way. She mentioned relentless hard work as a key to success and simply just continuing to show up. She talked about her faith and belief that you need to try to make a positive out of things that happen and she spoke with wisdom when offering the next generation of Loreto girls some advice, "Everything you do has consequences so I have always carefully considered those".

Her appearance at school was deeply appreciated by all who were there. The girls who I have spoken to about this simply said, "Inspiring!"

Michelle's first words to us on that day of the civic reception were, "Can you believe it". Yes we can Michelle. You have inspired a generation of women (young and old!) that they can do whatever they believe is possible.

**A Loreto College exclusive filmed interview with Michelle Payne can be viewed on the Loreto College website.*



Yours Truly

By Ms Steph Greet, Head of Arts

An exhibition of VCE Art & Technology showcases the talent of our Loreto girls.



The Loreto College VCE Art & Technology Exhibition is an annual event presented by the Arts and Technology Faculties to showcase and celebrate the art works created by current students studying Art, Studio Arts and/or Production Design and Technology in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE). This year, we are pleased to include Media Studies in this exhibition and for the first time, present the Fashion Parade in our new Loreto Abbey Theatre.

It was with great delight that we welcomed back fashion designer Ms Anna Pipkorn (Class of 2010), to open the Exhibition and give an address during the Fashion Parade. Graduating with first class honours from the Bachelor of Fashion Design at RMIT, Anna is now one of the faculty staff. While studying, Anna completed an internship with Australian label 'Life with Bird', and was offered a graduate position with Forever New in her final year of studies; this gave her the opportunity to design and produce a capsule collection which will be in stores late this year.

Loreto College highly values the processes students work through to create their artworks and this exhibition

is a fitting celebration of a year's hard work. Students explore their concepts and pursue ideas, sketch and develop ideas, collect inspiration materials, explore many mediums and techniques and document their process in their folios. They construct their artworks, always considering their theme, message, medium or concept. They follow production processes, organise talent for photography shoots or for their film set. It is a lengthy, practical and intellectual process, which is highly challenging and requires creativity and problem solving skills. These skills are life skills that travel with the students into their tertiary studies and the workforce.

Artworks are personal and students share much of themselves and their views of the world in their work. At this exhibition we were privileged to be given insight into the hearts and minds of our senior students, as to how they see the world and what they consider important to contemplate.

Works from this exhibition regularly move on to be part of the Ballarat Next Gen Exhibition, as well as the Top Arts and Top Design Exhibitions in Melbourne. Remember that you saw it here first!



Digital Futures

By Michael Walsh, Digital Learning Leader

“The future starts today, not tomorrow”

Pope John Paul II



When it comes to digital learning at Loreto College, we are embracing the challenge of change. We believe that in meeting the needs of students today, it is important that we cast our eye to the future, developing knowledge and skills that will allow our girls to create, communicate and collaborate with technology in their working lives.

One of our initiatives is the Digital Resources Centre, which is built on the foundations of the Antoinette Hayden Library, providing an online link to key learning resources, web tools, information databases and video tutorials that are designed to assist students with their study and completion of class work. It can be accessed at any time, from any internet enabled device, and is categorised for student and staff use so that resources can be found at the click of a button. The Digital Resources Centre enables learning to continue long after the school bell has gone, allowing students to take greater ownership of their studies.

The Mary's Mount Centre has also opened up an array of opportunities for students to develop their skills in the practical application of technology. The upstairs Multimedia Lab is a purpose built studio and classroom

space featuring a green screen wall, editing workspaces and sound recording booth. These facilities have benefited students from a range of subjects, including: Media, Multimedia and Photography, and have allowed for the creation of exciting audio visual productions.

In embracing technology, there is also a need to develop awareness around the challenges provided by digital technologies and online environments; it is a responsibility of the Loreto College community to ensure that we promote safe practice among students. Through cyber safety workshops, integrated classroom teaching, and network reporting that can identify areas of need, the values of cyber safety are strongly developed.

In developing a culture of digital learning at Loreto College, we are acknowledging current trends, while also demonstrating our flexibility to adapt to a technological landscape that is changing rapidly. While there is much to be done, and the way ahead is not always clear, we continue to explore the wonders of digital learning and seek ways to better the outcomes of our students, for now and well into their futures.



Performing Arts Reaches a High

By Mrs Marcella Crowley, Director of Co-Curricular Performance



This year, the Loreto College Performing Arts Faculty has opened and celebrated, through performance, the new Mary's Mount Centre.

Loreto College has always had such a proud tradition of performance, but it was hidden and fractured in the confines of eclectic spaces around the school - drama in the cottage, freezing cold band rehearsals in the Church of the Little Flower, music tuition in our much loved, but worn rabbit warren of music cells, drama and dance in the brown carpeted two-staged hall, a keyboard here, a Steinway grand piano there.

Loreto College Council, under the leadership of Ms Judith Potter, had a vision to bring all of our performing arts programs together under one roof; this couldn't be more of a success! We now have a home where music can be taught in state-of-the-art facilities and concerts can be enjoyed in comfortable seats with perfect vision and wonderful acoustics.

Dancers can explore new choreography on spacious sprung floors. Multi-media students can film and edit their work in a specially designed studio. Drama students can explore performance on a stage using the fully functioning theatre with lighting, multi-media and sound.

Performing Arts staff are now able to collaborate on performance projects, which this year has included the Blessing and Opening of the building, the Gala Concert, Loreto Federation, the production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', Loreto Arts Festival 'Past, Present and Future', the VCE Product Design & Technology Fashion Parade 'Yours Truly', as well as drama, dance and music concerts. Winston Churchill once said, 'We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us'. We look forward to The Mary's Mount Centre shaping all of our future performance projects.

The Next Chapter

By Father Justin Driscoll

Within St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat the Class of 2015 celebrate their achievements with the proud Loreto College tradition of Graduation Mass.



What a great celebration we had Thursday 19 November, when we celebrated our Graduation Mass with the class of 2015 and their families. The singing, under the direction of Simone Jans and Marcella Crowley, added another dimension to this gathering. The continuation of the tradition of floral crowns and lit candles left memories that will last a lifetime. We wish the girls well as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

The House Leaders of Ward, Jennifer Leigh and Roger Morris were given the task of speaking to and about the Class of 2015. This is the conclusion of what Roger had to say:

‘More than likely you will have battles and from time to time you may lose sight of your dreams, face hurdles and obstacles which can, if you let them, inhibit you and limit you from achieving your dreams. Understand that whatever else may fail you, your personal integrity is always in your own hands and it can never be taken away from you.

Whatever your beliefs, I hope you honour your creator, not by passively waiting for grace to come down from on high but by doing what you can do to make grace happen – yourself right now, right here on earth.

Congratulations to you all; to your families that love you and have supported you during these important years. With the self-confidence you have earned, it is now time for you to go out and make your families even more proud of you. I hope you all remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and look to the future with confidence. May the courage of Mary Ward, Stanislaus Mornane, Stanislaus Mulhall and Gonzaga Barry be yours and may you walk humbly with your God!’

Below is an abridged version of Father Justin Driscoll's homily entitled 'Facing a Goodbye', given at the Graduation Mass.

Tonight these young women of Loreto College Ballarat face a goodbye. They face much else at this time, but goodbye is part of leaving, and tonight we farewell them, send them to their futures and commission them for service of our world. What a time to send you to the world- how the world needs you and all that your Loreto Education has offered you. The world needs women such as you to give yourselves to it and for it.

We are all called by God to give ourselves to this world, which is what we are asking of this 2015 graduating Year 12 group from Loreto College.

The path we seek for you...is a path of sacrifice, generosity, sharing and love- and that can be the narrow path that is no easy way, but it is a very defined direction that requires a personal determination to live life one way rather than another. It means that we must resolve what we want our lives to be like- and then we must decide what it will take to achieve that. Life is not an accident. What happens to us either because we did choose it- or we did not. Choosing this road less travelled is not an easy way. It has a purpose. It demands preparation. The followers on this road do not think of success here is this life as the success they seek. They do not think of power as a reason to do anything. They do not seek profit alone when they are poor. They nourish their souls more than their senses. They live lives that have meaning for others as well as joy for themselves and they are happy with “enough”, happy with serving, at peace with one another and full of the kind of love that makes the whole world one.

Each of us is just one more step to the fullness of the kingdom, or reign of God. We may not see its fullness, but that is irrelevant, what counts is simply that we be part of enabling it to come.

May God who has begun the good work in you, bring it to fulfilment.

Space Camp 2016

By Mrs Natalie Howard, Head of Science

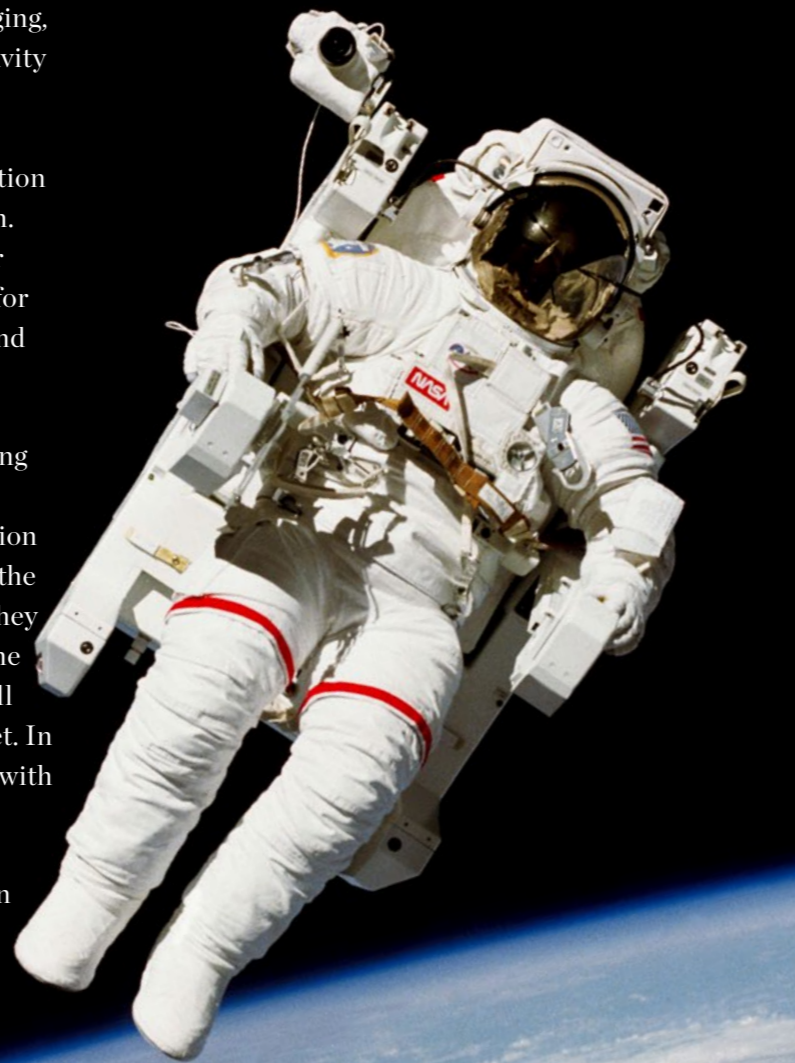
Students are set to embark on an 'out of this world' experience

It is with great anticipation that a group of 31 girls and three staff are preparing for the adventure of a lifetime. Next September they will embark on a journey to the US in the pursuit of scientific knowledge. They will begin their adventure with a week long stay in Huntsville, Alabama at the NASA Space Academy, where they will enjoy a challenging, space life experience with scuba-based microgravity orientation, advanced missions and engineering training. Trainees are immersed in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education with a focus on university and career progression. Extended duration missions also provide greater teamwork opportunities for trainees to prepare for becoming the next generation of space leaders and explorers.

They will then venture to Orlando, Florida visiting the Kennedy Space Centre, having lunch with a current astronaut and hopefully watching a mission launch. Housed in the Kennedy Space Centre is the space shuttle Atlantis which flew 33 missions. They will also have an 'up close' tour of launch sites, the Vehicle Assembly Building where rockets are still built, landing facilities and Saturn V moon rocket. In Florida, they will also let their hair down a little with a trip to Universal Studios.

The final leg of the journey will be to Washington where they will tour the Capital visiting the Smithsonian Space and Aeronautics Museum, Washington Monuments and viewing the White House.

The tour will be exciting and challenging for the students. It is designed to give the girls a much greater understanding of the variety of career choices that stem from the study of the sciences, hopefully encouraging them to continue with these areas of study.



The Courage to Move

*By Ms Robin Scott – Province Archivist, Loreto
Australia & South East Asia*



Mary's Mount Staff 1974

Mother Gonzaga Barry and the Loreto Sisters who followed her, built, administered and staffed their secondary schools as well as kindergartens, parish primary schools, teacher training colleges and a university college. By the 1960s, there were Loreto schools in all the mainland States and Loreto was providing a respected and sought-after education for girls and women.

In the 1960s and 1970s, society and church were undergoing change and this challenge was embraced

by the Sisters. Outwardly, the traditional religious attire of habit and veil, familiar to all convent girls, was gradually modified and then completely replaced by secular dress. Returning to the vision of their founder, Mary Ward, the Sisters diversified their mission to explore new ways of answering their call. Education was still the priority and the schools continued to be the focus, but with the increasing involvement of lay staff.



Loreto Kindergarten children in 1963 with Mother Brendan Regan.



Mary's Mount Junior School students 1970s.

At Mary's Mount, profound structural change was taking place to accommodate the expanding demand for local education. The kindergarten, opened in the 1940s, was expanded in the 1960s with new wings to the building and the extension of the playground.

At Dawson Street, a Commercial College was opened to provide vocational training for local girls. In 1970, the junior school was phased out, the parish primary schools taking this role.

In 1966, the Mary Ward Wing was completed at Mary's Mount with extra classrooms, dining room, dormitory, kitchen, tuck shop and shower block. The old St Cecilia's Hall, the Infirmary Cottage and music rooms were demolished to make way for the Mary Ward Wing and the redesigned oval. In 1975, the Gonzaga Barry Centenary Wing was built with the Antoinette Hayden Library, science laboratories, music department and the multi-purpose hall.



Typing from Dictaphone.



Commercial College computer room.

“the educational philosophy established in Australia- through to – remains at the heart of the College.”



The Antoinette Hayden Library

As well as building expansion, major organisational change was taking place with the amalgamation of the Mary's Mount and Dawson Street campuses in 1978; the Dawson Street site becoming the Year 7 and 8 campus. The closing of the junior school and boarding schools at Mary's Mount in 1982 provided much needed space for the expansion of the secondary day school. A significant change in administration took place with the appointment of Loreto College Ballarat's first lay principal, Mrs Anne Fry, in 1998.

The consolidation of the school on the Sturt Street site, with the opening of the Mary Ward Centre and the

closing of Dawson Street in 2006, made the structure of the school the one that we are familiar with today.

Building and educational changes continue as the Sisters, lay staff and community guide Loreto College Ballarat into the future, but the educational philosophy established in Australia by Mother Gonzaga Barry and her companions 140 years ago, remains at the heart of the College.

Loreto and sister branch, the Congregation of Jesus, continue to have the courage to move today, as they support new work where the need is greatest.



Sr Christine Burke ibvm locking the door of Dawson Street at the Dawson Street Closing Ceremony.



Mrs Anne Fry, Principal

Past Pupils' Association

By Miss Meg Barry - President

What a wonderful year 2015 has been for Loreto in Ballarat as we have gathered and embraced the past, present and future. From the official opening of The Mary's Mount Centre on the centenary of Mother Gonzaga Barry's death, to the 29th Loreto Federation conference in April, to the many events on the College calendar, we have celebrated with gratitude and admiration the presence of the Loreto Sisters in Ballarat for 140 years.

Just as Mother Gonzaga and her intrepid group left their homeland and moved into the unknown, we have been challenged to embrace change and accept opportunity in our lives. At the Saturday morning prayer at Federation, one of the hymns asked of us 'Who will speak if we don't?' It is with these words calling us to be women of action and justice, that we farewell the girls who have completed their education at Loreto and wish them every blessing in the years ahead. The message from Federation - Dare to be True - can be applied to all our past pupils, from the 18 year old school leavers to our

senior 'golden oldies', as we go about our daily lives. To all members of the Loreto family, may we find a gentle peace during the Christmas season. May it be a time of reunion and sharing with family and friends as we approach a New Year with its offer of new challenges and opportunities.

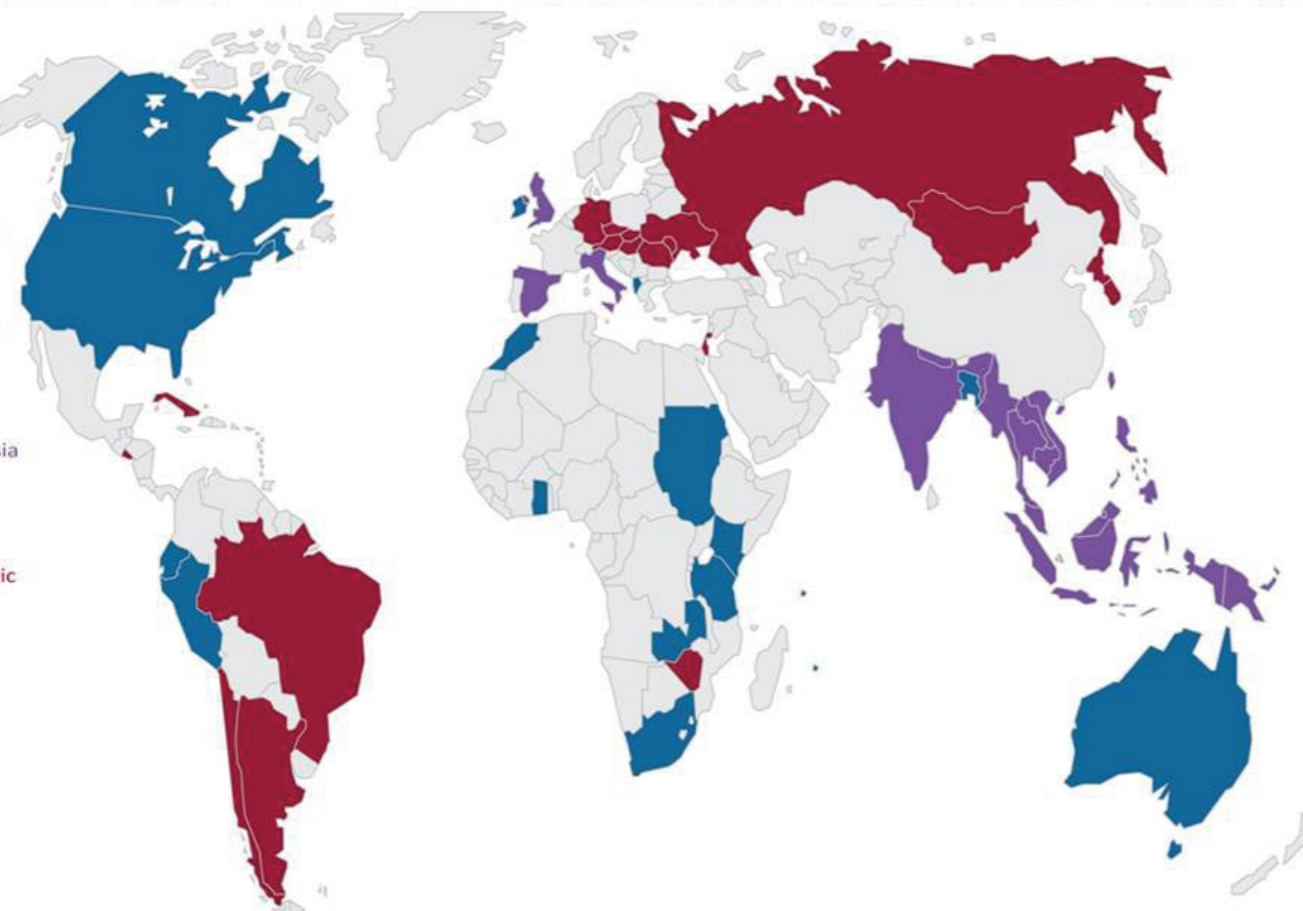
I look forward to seeing many past pupils at the annual International Women's Day Breakfast on Tuesday 8 March 2016. Keep in touch with Loreto Ballarat through our College website and tell the Development Office of your news of careers achievements and births, deaths and marriages. Send your contributions to development@loreto.vic.edu.au

As we farewell 2015, may we continue to be inspired by the last line of the prayer for the Year of Verity, 'Help us to recognise Your Divine Presence within ourselves and those around us, as we do the ordinary things well, in the footsteps of Mary Ward.'



LORETO AND CONGREGATIO JESU

- Albania
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Canada
- Darjeeling
- Ecuador
- Ghana
- Ireland
- Kenya
- Mauritius
- Morocco
- Peru
- Seychelles
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- USA
- Zambia
- Great Britain
- India
- Italy
- Nepal
- Spain
- South East Asia
- Argentina
- Austria
- Brazil
- Chile
- Czech Republic
- Cuba
- El Salvador
- Germany
- Hungary
- Jerusalem
- Korea
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Romania
- Russia
- Slovakia
- Ukraine
- Zimbabwe





Fond Farewells

By Pat O'Shea

In 1993 Nola Kersley submitted an enrolment application for her daughter at Loreto College. The end result of her interview with the then principal Sr Dianne Stewart ibvm was a place for her daughter in Year 7 in 1994 and a job in the Office at Dawson St for herself. From this unusual starting point, a rewarding relationship spanning over twenty years has flourished.

After giving dedicated service at Dawson Street for several years, Nola moved to our current campus in the early 2000s to work in Student Reception.

It would be interesting to try and write a job description for Nola. She maintains our student rolls, identified by the SIMON personnel as the most accurate in the district. She is a nurse, catering and administering to a diverse range of student medical conditions. Nola is a counsellor, frequently called upon to solve a personal problem or to provide emotional support. Nola is a surveillance officer; try ringing in pretending to be a parent to pass on an

absence! If that is not enough, she is usually helping with the staff association entertainment.

Nola has never let the confines of her desk constrain her. She has travelled with students to Alice Springs, Japan, Cambodia and Roses Gap. Her role on these trips has often incorporated special duties with students with medical issues. Her common sense and calmness under pressure has made her a valuable asset to these trips.

It is with great sadness that we will farewell Nola. We thank you Nola for the care and guidance you have provided to the thousands of students who have passed your desk in your time here. Your personal touch and intimate knowledge of each student will be solely missed.



Peter Rix arrived at Loreto College in 1988, where in his own words, he felt he would stay a couple of years to be a bit closer to his wife Joanne's work place. Twenty eight years later he is actually leaving and a very sad day it will be for all of us. Peter will be missed for his organising and he will be missed for the strong presence, leadership and charisma that is his hallmark.

It is difficult to know where to start to summarise Peter's contribution to the school as his influence has been in so many different areas. Peter has been, amongst other things,

- Mornane Head of House, providing a watchful eye over a generation of young 'Mornanians', offering praise for achievements or guidance for a student under scrutiny.
- Director of Faith and Mission. Peter was not daunted by the fact that this was a new role. As with everything he does, he instinctively pictured what was possible and how it might be achieved. The styles and themes of our liturgies have been varied and they have been moving. Graduation masses, funerals, end of school year liturgies and staff reflections have all been Peter's domain.

• Arts Festival co-ordinator. I think it would be fair to say that Peter's theatrical experiences are limited but he did not hesitate to step into the breach in this role when asked. Nor did he hesitate in making changes to adapt the Arts Festival to a more successful format.

• Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation convenor. Under Peter's guidance, students and staff have deepened understanding and sense of spiritual service among the Ballarat Community

Peter stated his philosophy at his final school assembly; 'If students can do it, let them'. This is simple but powerful strategy. Student enjoyment of the Walkathon is an obvious example of this strategy at work. Students do much of the planning, food is sold by students, the fashion parade is student run and the end result is a sense of satisfaction and achievement by all involved.

It is, however, not what Peter has done that will make him so hard to replace. Rather it is his presence, his sincerity and his ability to come to the fore in difficult circumstances that will be most missed. Staff and students alike responded to this calm and direct demeanour. His love of students was always evident.



By Sue Bagnall & Julie Martin

Jill Morgan has been an exemplary role model for students and staff alike during her 14 years at Loreto College. She is a woman of great integrity. She is gentle, dignified and sincere and she cares deeply about the education of young women. She has worked with great endeavour to ensure that all students who have been entrusted into her care have been given the opportunity to become empowered through skilful use of language and to experience the power of literature. Jill has been tenacious in always expecting the very best from her students.

Jill has played a significant role in educating young Loreto women through her teaching in English classrooms across all levels. As Head of the English Faculty,

she has led her team through the many changes in the curriculum. She has also worked with our Debating and Public Speaking teams, who have experienced great success under her guidance. Jill has been a valued House Group teacher, working with students of all levels.

The Loreto College community is losing a teacher, colleague and friend whose profound love of language has inspired many students, past and present. Her beloved family, however, will be the benefactors, particularly Jill's most precious grandchildren.

And so it is with great sadness that we bid Jill farewell. We wish her every happiness as she approaches the next exciting phase of her life.



Alex McKenna

Alumni Updates

Where are they now

Alex McKenna received and accepted a job offer from Leightons Construction into their Civil Engineer graduate program starting February 2016, she was one of 1000 applicants. Studying in a nearly all male environment has had its challenges and working as a Civil Engineer will provide many more challenges. Alex was assured throughout her time at Loreto, of the valuable role women have to play in society and intends to follow the ethos of “women in time will come to do great things”.

Births

Stacey Sherman (Noonan, Class of 2001) and Darren welcomed Lucas William on 31/03/2015

Marriages

Linnea Kelly (Class of 2007) married Timothy Byrne on 8 March 2015 at Kirks Reservoir

Deaths

Leonie (O’Doherty) Weaver (Class of 1975) passed away 21 October 2015

Patricia (Shanahan) Clarke (Class of 1962) passed away 20 October 2015

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

Or

The Development Office

Loreto College Ballarat

1600 Sturt Street BALLARAT VIC 3350



Memories of Sr Veronica Brady ibvm

By Sr Margaret Sculley ibvm

Sister Veronica Brady ibvm entered the Loreto Novitiate in Ballarat in 1950. Prior to coming to the Novitiate, Sister Veronica was a teacher at Loreto Toorak. Her students loved her; they loved the way she showed deep interest in each of them, and the stories and the flights of imagination she encouraged in each one. During her time in Ballarat, Sister Veronica taught at Mary’s Mount. There are students from this period who remember her particularly for her creative approach to the curriculum.

Following her Profession, she returned to Loreto Toorak where she enthralled her senior classes in English Literature and History. One student remembers the journeys she took them on, through Arabia with Lawrence, through Medieval England with Chaucer and into Shakespeare’s magnificent plays and sonnets. Poetry, novels and literature had never been so magical. She gave to so many of her students a love and passion for English Literature. Many are aware of her pacing up and down the verandas in Toorak and later in Kirribilli doing her corrections.

In 1964, Veronica left Australia for Toronto for her Doctoral Studies. On her return from Canada, Veronica became a Lecturer at Christ College Melbourne. In the early 1970’s she joined the Faculty of English at The University of Western Australia; she remained there until her retirement. One of her students from that time recalls, ‘She was an unorthodox empiricist, with a grand appetite for mischievous joy: this was a feature of her complex and precious spirituality. She cherished above

all, life and liveliness in others; hers was an instinctive solidarity and love.’ (Gail Jones, author).

As well as a gifted teacher and lecturer, Veronica was passionate about social justice. She worked tirelessly to alert us to the need of our Aboriginal people and refugees and a ‘fair go’ for all. For a time, Veronica was on the Board of the ABC, as well as the Board of the Brotherhood of St Laurence. Veronica was well known and appreciated on the world stage for her expertise in Australian Literature, travelling to many countries for literary conferences. A woman with a cause and on a mission!

Sadly Veronica’s health began to fail and she needed to go into care. About this time she wrote, ‘*Where I am now is not my cup of tea but I have much time for reading and music and for prayer ...so I am keeping on and I look forward to joining my ancestors, to say nothing of heaven.*’

During her time in care, Veronica was heard to quote, ‘*old age is not for sissies*’. (Betty Davis)

Veronica was true to her baptism, a devoted daughter of Mary Ward, a wonderful member of our Loreto Community and a loyal Australian. Veronica passed away on 20 August 2015 in the MercyCare Aged Care Facility in Perth, W.A.

Rest in peace Veronica - your good deeds go with you.



In Memory of Sr Cynthia Wright

By Sr Margaret Sculley ibvm

Cynthia belonged to Ballarat. She was born here and educated at Loreto, Dawson Street. Cynthia, always the party-goer and fun loving person had desires for marriage, but life unfolded differently for her.

On leaving school she worked for T.J. Coutts; during that time she became a member of the National Catholic Girls Movement (NCGM). Cynthia enthusiastically embraced all that was offered, the weekly meetings with a gospel discussion and an 'action' from the reflection. Cynthia was elected a leader, then the President of the Cathedral Branch of the NCGM. She travelled around the Diocese promoting Catholic Action through the NCGM.

Cynthia's faith deepened and she began to realise her 'mission' was to help others, especially young women. The work she was doing in the NCGM nurtured thoughts of a religious vocation. She loved the parties, the NCGM and tennis, but felt something was missing, God was asking her for something more.

In 1958, Cynthia entered the Loreto Novitiate in Normanhurst, NSW. For the next 57 years she showed the same enthusiasm, joy, generosity and passion for Mission, as a member of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, ibvm (Loreto Sisters).

Cynthia was a gifted teacher, a leader, a counsellor, a mentor and a loyal friend to so many. Cynthia's ministry took her to St Peter and Paul's in South Melbourne, St Aloysius and St Thomas More in Ballarat, and to Sacred Heart, St Mary's, and John XXIII College in Western

Australia. She became Community Leader at Mary's Mount, Vocations Director, Ballarat and then finally her 'ministry' to those around her in residential care.

Cynthia died on 8 July at Kirralee Aged Care Centre, where she had called home for the past eight months. Thereafter, the Loreto Sisters supported by priests, relatives of Cynthia, past and present pupils and staff of Loreto College and many, many friends gathered in the Loreto College Chapel to celebrate and reflect on Cynthia's life.

Cynthia met every challenge with confidence in God. She believed we retire from ministry but never from mission. As her health began to cause her concern, she launched on a new mission - fundraising for the new Loreto school in East Timor by saving and selling stamps. Over the years, she raised \$20,000 in this way. (The work of saving stamps will continue with Sr Hilary Blackie ibvm.)

Communication was high on Cynthia's agenda. In later years, she relied heavily on her ipad, email, skype and mobile, while sending cards reassuring her friends of her prayerful support. Cynthia fulfilled her Baptism commitment to the end, living fully her Catholic Action motto 'See, Judge and Act' in the spirit of her Vows and never failing to lose her trust in God.

"I will give Him what I have; and all that I need I will find in Him; and in humble self-surrender I will wish for what His providence arranges for me..." (Retreat notes, Mary Ward 1619)



FORM 4, 1965

Back (l-r): Joy Shanley, Maureen Franklin, Joanne Byrne, Cecilia Prunty, Miranda Marnica, Cheryl Hay, Carmel Twomey, Robyn Hunt, Bernadette Madern, Brenda Hart, Margaret Martin.

Middle (l-r): Nola O'Loughlin, Gail Clegg, Dianne Gordon, Eileen Armstrong, Joan Cleary, Pat O'Brien, Cathy Morrison, Judith Arthur, Jill Kennedy, Janiece Coxall, Merle Piggott, Peggy Ryan.

Front (l-r): Jan Quish, Teresa Naus, Christine Smerdon, Elizabeth Condon, Kate White, Denise McDermott, Teresa Beckers, Anne Phillips, Pauling McCartin, Mary Pywell, Shirley Munday, Patricia Nestor, Anne Pitman.

Reunions 2015





'75



'85



'65



'95





2005



2010



Reunions 2016

We look forward to welcoming back Loreto girls from across all generations at one of our 2016 Reunions.

Save the Date!

Class of 1966 - 13 February 2016
Tour at 11am with lunch at 1pm at a venue TBC

Class of 1976 - 27 February 2016
Tour at 11am with lunch at 1pm at a venue TBC

Class of 1986 - 27 February 2016
Tour at 2pm with cocktail party at Hop Temple

Class of 1996 - 27 February 2016
Tour at 4pm with cocktail party at Golden City

Class of 2006 - 13 February 2016
Tour at 2pm with cocktail party at Golden City

Class of 2011 - 13 February 2016
Tour at 4pm with cocktail party at Hop Temple

Formal invitations will be mailed out shortly. If you do not receive one, or know someone who misses out, please contact the Loreto College Ballarat Development Office on (03) 5329 6137



EASTER FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 20 March 2016 from 11am -2pm

Bring the family along to celebrate Easter in the beautiful front gardens of Loreto College Ballarat

There will be fun activities for the kids, sausage sizzle and the BIG Easter Egg Hunt!

Register by Tuesday 15 March 2016
www.loreto.vic.edu.au/events





Loreto
COLLEGE BALLARAT | EST. 1875

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