Volume 33, December 2016

**With Great Freedom** Loreto College farewells Sister Margaret Sculley ibvm as Mary's Mount Community Leader

**Bree White Flies High with the Magpies** Past Pupil, Bree White is drafted for the AFL Women's League for 2017.

Maddison Fogarty is Moving Mountains Current student, 14 year old, Maddison Fogarty is taking on Cerebal Palsy. Her 'Dear Cerebal Palsy' speech won first place at this year's Royal South Street Competition.

**Arts Fest Twenty Sixteen** The annual Arts Festival has showcased the vast range of Loreto College's Performing Arts Talent.







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DILLEGE BALLARAT | EST. 1875

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Cover Photo Ms Liz Crothers- 2016 – Arts Captain, Grace McGuigan performs at Arts Fest Twenty Sixteen

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## From the Principal Ms Judith Potter



As I look back upon the 2016 school year, in my mind I picture a tapestry that could illustrate daily life at Loreto Ballarat. Many strong threads would be required to form the framework for the embroidery, including those representing our spiritual and faith life, the academic program, the commitment to social justice (including community service), personal development, the co-curricular program, the House program. The colours for the threads weaving under, over and across would need to be vibrantly coloured to create a sense of the energy, enthusiasm and engagement of students and staff. There would be a need to showcase the individual as well as the collective stories, the quiet moments of personal achievement mixed in with the collective achievements of a diversity of groups. The images depicted would need to show the struggles and deep thinking required to achieve a growth in learning of self, of the world in

which we live, of knowledge, skills and strategies. Collaboration between students, between students and staff, between staff, with many groups within and beyond the walls of the school would be depicted.

Some of the big scenes would include the Blessing and Opening of The Mulhall Centre, with Year 9 students settling into this contemporary and flexible learning centre, designed for individual, flexible and collaborative learning. Other big scenes would include the interactive Easter Picnic wherein students, staff, parents, past pupils and friends of Loreto joined together for a delightful day in the school grounds. Important to illustrate would be glorious whole school events, including the Opening School Mass, the Welcome, Academic and Leadership Assemblies, Walkathon, Gonzaga Barry Day, Sports Carnivals, Music Concerts and "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."

Loreto Schools of Australia Mission Statement

the acclaimed Loreto College and St Patrick's College production of Les Miserable. The tapestry would need to be extended to include scenes highlighting the active engagement and success of our students in a range of fields, including BAS sports, Royal South Street Competitions, environment action, debating, public speaking, and subject based clubs. Threads woven into all scenes would depict the vibrant Faith life and the absolute commitment cross our school to addressing injustice, from local to global arenas. It has been a joy to witness the focus of students, staff, families and past pupils on raising funds for the newest Loreto school, Loreto Gari-uai in Timor Leste.

The dedication of staff supports cyclical review of programs and activities, with a sustained focus continuing on strengthening the wellbeing of our students, engaging each more deeply in her learning with the ongoing goal of improving learning outcomes for all students. The threads required in our tapestry to depict all the initiatives implemented to promote and guide the wellbeing and learning of our students would be many and varied, leading to a rich and full tapestry. Threads would include the implementation of the new Year 10 academic structure, the training for a team of staff in coaching, the development and implementation (at the Years 7 and 8 level) of the Felicitous Life program (a positive psychology way of thinking which includes a focus on a growth mindset), the inaugural Space Camp held in the September school holidays, the implementation of a Study Skills program for students in Years 7-10 and the review of staff positions of leadership.

Mother Gonzaga Barry wrote of the importance of leaving something after you upon which others can build. A full set of threads would need to be set aside to create images of the strong leadership of our students, formal and informal, inviting and encouraging their peers to participate actively to provide opportunities for others and to have great fun whilst so doing. Our College Captains, Hannah Armstrong and Eva Gillett, have joined together as a dynamic team and have modelled the attributes of felicity within a leadership in which the glorious Loreto spirit has shone through. Each of our House Captains and Vice-Captains, House Arts and Vice-Captains, House Sports Captains and Vice-Captains and House Assistants along with JPIC Leaders and Captains in arrange of co-curricular programs have contributed colourful and strong threads to the tapestry through their passion and sustained diligence in motivating, engaging and leading their peers.

Threads linking with earlier years would illustrate the many activities and extra support given to students by their teachers before school, at recess or lunchtime, after school and during the holidays, including Space Camp, the Music Tour to Queensland, excursions, connecting with students in our sister Loreto schools and assistance to Year 12 students in completing folios and in preparing for exams. I express my gratitude to each staff member and acknowledge that all that is achieved for our students is through the collective endeavours of many.

I acknowledge the contribution of staff who have joined us, from shorter to extended



periods. In particular, acknowledge three of our quiet achievers, Mrs Maree Lenehan, Ms Suzanne Robinson and Mrs Jo Sisson whom we farewell this year. We are the richer for their presence and active contribution.

Much can be achieved for our students through an active partnership with parents. The section of the tapestry highlighting the contribution of parents would be significant.

I thank Mr Shane Carey (Chair of Council), Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Deputy Chair of Council and Chair, Property Committee), Mrs Maria Myers AC (Chair, Marketing, Community Relations and Fundraising Committee), Mr Matt McCabe (Chair, Finance & Audit Committee) and all members of Council and Council Committees for their consistency in always keeping what will best enhance opportunities for our students at the centre of all deliberations. I extend our wholehearted appreciation to Mr Shane Carey and Mrs Geraldine Frantz for their sustained commitment and leadership in ensuring that all governance responsibilities are fulfilled effectively and ably. In conclusion, I draw upon the influential threads that have been interwoven since the first day the school opened in 1875. These threads illustrate the faith, vision and commitment to mission that stand as a shining example to each of us. I thank the Loreto Sisters for their unceasing prayers, support and encouragement.

I express our immense gratitude and an abundance of good wishes to Sr Margaret Sculley ibvm as she concludes her role in leading the Loreto Ballarat Community. Students, staff, families and pastpupils have been blessed again and again through Sr Marg's prayerful and active contribution across every facet of life at Loreto. Her encouragement has sustained and energised one and all. We pay a deep tribute to Sr Marg as we extend our appreciation, gratitude and good wishes.

And now, as we close the final pages on another glorious year we give thanks and we look with great anticipation to the promise of the 2017 school year.

## College Board Mr Shane Carey

The Loreto College Board has continued to give full attention to fulfilling all aspects of its governance role, taking on increased responsibility in 2016 with the Loreto College Council now known as the Loreto College Board, and the College's corporate identity now Loreto Ballarat Limited, a Company Ltd by Guarantee. The member of the company is Loreto Ministries Ltd. With major projects being completed in 2016, including The Mulhall Centre and the up-grade to the Gonzaga Barry Centre, the attention of the Board has turned to strategic planning for the next ten to fifty years. Considered oversight has been given to many facets of the broad education offered at Loreto College, including educational outcomes, diligent oversight of fiscal management and the development of a broader and comprehensive online risk management framework.

Members of Board Committees have worked diligently on behalf of our school community, giving oversight at a governance level to a broad range of functions. 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 Board members, the members of our Board Review, Marketing, Community Relations & Fundraising, Finance & Risk and Property Committees who do invaluable work, and finally Ms Judith Potter, her Leadership Team and all of the Loreto College staff.

I farewell and thank Mr Peter O'Connell for six years of dedicated service to the Finance & Risk Committee. Peter's strong financial background was complimented by a deep knowledge as a parent at Loreto College. We thank Peter for his contribution over the past six years.

We thank Brett Foote for his involvement in the Property Committee over the past two years. Brett's contribution to the variety of ideas and thoughts put forward was appreciated.

#### **College Board**

Mr Shane Carey (Chair), Mrs Geraldine Frantz (Deputy Chair), Mr Luke Dunne, Ms Janet Freeman, Mrs Trudi Kannourakis, Mr Matt McCabe, Mrs Maria Myers AC, 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 (concluding May 2016), Ms Nicole Loader (commencing March 2016), 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), Mr Gerard Viccars (Finance Officer, Semester 1) and Ms Elizabeth Till (joining October 2016).

### Marketing, Community Relations and Fundraising Committee

Mrs Maria Myers AC (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: Wellbeing & Organisation) and Ms Judy-Ann Quilliam (Director of Marketing, Community Relations and Fundraising).



## College Co-Captains

### By Eva Gillett and Hannah Armstrong

When we last wrote for Verity, we were anticipating our final GB Day, when the entire Class of 2016 dressed up as Dalmatian puppies. The joy we all gained from transforming into spotty dogs and the pleasure it brought to so many people, absolutely captures not only the quality of the graduating class of 2016 but the experience of a Loreto education. An ability to "not take ourselves too seriously", combined with creativity and an understanding of the imperative to serve others, offers anyone associated with the College a recognition that we have something very special happening behind the brick wall that encircles our school.

As a result, we have been able to lead the College with confidence, underscored by the knowledge that we

have the full support of the whole school. Signature events in the second half of the year that we have enjoyed leading and we feel truly promote what a wonderful school Loreto is, include; the Senate lead Netball Match for Breast Cancer research, the Arts Festival, and the collective effort of staff and fellow students to prepare Year 12's leaving and Graduation.

As we sign off, we know Maddie Veal and Ella Higgins, the 2017 College Co Captains will be just as inspired and well supported as we were. More than anything, we would like to say thank you; to our parents and families, our teachers, our wonderful friends and to a remarkable woman who, 400 years ago, made sure that young women in time to come would do much.

## Setting New Standards

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

## *"Aim at something excellent: our life is largely influenced by what we aim at - our ideals often make our realities..." - Mother Gonzaga Barry*

Loreto College was proudly awarded the 2016 Federation Business School e-Commerce and Online Award in the 2016 Federation Business School Commerce Ballarat Business Excellence Awards. This is the third consecutive year that Loreto College has been a finalist in the Awards and the second time that Loreto College has been presented as the winner of the e-Commerce and Online Category. We now look forward to extending our relationship in 2017 as an official category sponsor.

In true Loreto spirit, we are proud to have been the only school in this region to have adopted the process of evaluation, continuous improvement and scrutiny offered by these Awards; and reached consecutive finalist status. This process has enabled us to recognise the extraordinary work of our staff and promote our core business of education. From humble beginnings in 1875, Loreto College now employs 139 staff and has just over 900 enrolled students. There are over 18 different digital, online and e-Commerce platforms currently used by the school to operate our core business, including our wonderful new website and over 1000 laptops to service and maintain!

Our founder, Mother Gonzaga Barry's (ibvm) lasting influence on primary, secondary and tertiary education was profound. Moreover, her initiatives to improve the quality of teacher training and in-service went far beyond Loreto. Today Loreto Schools are part of an international network and educating and empowering young women for their global future is as relevant today as it was in 1875. This Award and recognition is something to which every staff member and student past and present can be proud.



## Graduation Mass

#### By Mrs Mandy Carroll, Year 12 Coordinator

The 2016 Graduation Mass and Ceremony was held at St Patrick's Cathedral on Thursday night of November 17. It was the final event in the end-of school-calendar for Loreto College graduates and notable for the deeply symbolic rituals that make up the ceremony that follows the mass.

Father Justin Driscoll once again offered a stirring homily. His respect for the founding sisters of the IBVM is palpable and we have seen the impact of their tenacity and passion for girls' education reflected in the Class of 2016.

If the presentation of Graduation Rings is a highlight of the Graduation Dinner, then the crowning of each graduand with a Jubilarian crown of flowers is surely the penultimate symbol of completing a Loreto education, dating back to the graduates of 1910 and possibly earlier. It is a deeply moving moment in the ceremony, as each student processes forward to receive her crown, made that morning by a Year 10 student in a wonderful foreshadowing of what is to come for her. The cathedral is then transformed, from a picturesque kaleidoscope of Loreto colours, to a darkened space, as the lights are turned off and the soft glow from the Loreto candle each graduand holds permeates the darkness.

As the Class of 2016 gathered around the central pews to receive a blessing from the choir, one could not help but feel a swell of emotion for these young women who then filed out into the night, with Queen of Loreto ringing in their ears. Their first crucial stage in becoming Loreto educated women is over and they passed into the evening, with their families and teachers watching them leave. The words to the Blessing perhaps best capture all our hopes for these wonderful young women.





May the feet of God walk with you, and God's hand hold you tight.

May the eye of God rest on you, and God's ear hear your cry.

May the smile of God be for you and God's breath give you life.

May the Child of God grow in you, and God's love bring you home.





## Twenty Sixteen

By Mrs Marcella Crowley, Director of Co-Curricular Performance

The Loreto College Arts Festival is the jewel in the crown of the many performing arts activities that take place during the year. Throughout the year students participate in a vast range of performing arts events and occasions, all of these lead up to the Arts Festival. The event, a must see on the Loreto College Ballarat calendar, showcases the expansive school of talent that exists within the College, also enabling the wider public to share in this performance treasure trove.

The sold out shows held over two nights in September, utilise the state-of-the-art Loreto Abbey Theatre, the perfect venue to enhance the vision and sound of all the performances. The stage is graced by quality performances in music, singing, dance, public speaking and performance, making it a dynamic and engaging evening.

Congratulations to the winner of the Junior House Choir Competition – Mulhall, singing Hall of Fame and the winner of the Senior House Choir Competition – Ward, who performed a mash-up of Beautiful Girl and Stand By Me. The overall Performing Arts Trophy winner this year was Mulhall, led by Grace McGuigan, Lucy Nolan, Quinn Muller, Tori Waters, Olivia Elliot and Emma O"Keefe. Congratulations to our talented students and the leadership team of Arts Captains who ably facilitated all of the Performing Arts activities this year.



By Ms Tamara Vandenburg, Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator

## "Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do" - John Wooden

Maddison Fogarty is an inspirational 14 year old student who is the epitome of the Loreto Spirit. Maddison has Cerebral Palsy on both sides of her body, this restricts her ability to perform physical activity that requires coordination and muscles to work together, and restricts her participation in sports, but not her team spirit. It is important to understand that Cerebral Palsy is a physical condition with some limitations on breathing and speech, however in no way, an intellectual or emotional impairment for Maddie, who has worked hard over the years to 'prove' her herself in intellectual pursuits.

When asked who inspires her? Maddie is thoughtful in her response. "My class mates inspire me every day when they are faced with challenges but persevere and achieve their goal. Even nature inspires me. Trees that look almost dead for months in winter can suddenly come back to life and look stunning in spring. My life is immensely challenging but I refuse to give up. If I did that, then my condition would have defeated me, I don't want to be a victim, I want to be conqueror."

Maddie is honest about the challenges that she faces on a daily basis, from tying her shoe laces, to hitting a tennis ball; it is letting others down, that concerns her the most. At only 14 years of age, her journey is only just beginning, however when asked what advice she would give others faced with obstacles? Maddie was adamant in her response; "Be yourself. Don't pretend it's ok if it's not, ask for help. That has made all the difference here at Loreto."

Since starting at Loreto, Maddie has discovered a love of performing. She was quick to join the Junior Choir and begin Speech and Drama lessons. Maddie participated in the 2016 Royal South Street Society Competitions in Choir, Debating, Speech and Drama and Public Speaking; where she placed with seven items in the Speech and Drama section, including a character recital, poetry, improvisation and a prepared reading. It was the Public Speaking section that prompted Maddie to write her inspiring Cerebral Palsy speech. The speech began as words about beauty, however it evolved into a very special speech reflecting on her own life. Maddie was awarded first place and a score of 90 for this mature and sensitive speech at the prestigious South Street Competition.

What does the future hold for this bright, funny, enthusiastic and sensitive young lady? Maddie plans to continue to follow her passion for performing and would like to create a YouTube channel as an ongoing reflection and support for others. Long term, she would like to study Criminology and Law. However, Maddie is always open to whatever new possibilities arise and believes that anything is possible!



#### Dear Cerebral Palsy,

Isn't it amazing how one's life can be so perfect, even if it is for just a moment, even if it is stricken with fantasies and dishonesty, whether that untruthfulness lie in the form of a gorgeous imaginary boyfriend or a well-functioning, able body? Then I remember you, my worst enemy, who runs through my veins and clouds my mind. Then I remember all the rubbish that you've put me through, all the rubbish no young girl should have to think about let alone experience.

We have known each other since I came out of the womb. You have always been there, not a foot step behind me. As a young child I never quite understood what you were, let alone how much you would affect and impact my life. Now I'm an adolescent I can comprehend that you will never be gone and that I will never be able to escape your presence. I can now apprehend that you will forever be suffocating me, you will forever be intoxicating me with your disease.

You are always on my mind, I can never stop thinking about you. The nights are often the hardest. I lay awake drowning myself in my tears. I imagine the miserable future ahead of me. I listen to you tell me that boys will not love me, that I have no place on this earth, that I would be better off dead. I think back to the countless times I have named myself the sad girl, the mistake, the girl with nothing for her. I think back to all those times you have insulted me, isolated me, constricted me.

I think about all those times you have tried to introduce me to depression, tried to intertwine us as one.

I replay all the cruel things you say to me, informing me with such a despised and disgusted manner, that I am useless, worthless, a waste of space, unlovable.

My life has been bombed with oceans of obstacles, skies of despair and millions of questions at the hands of your mission to make my life a living hell. My life has consisted of your taunts, your orders and your ugliness.

But you, cerebral palsy, you will not defeat me, you will not rule and ridicule my life. I will take your presence as a gift because I know that you are a part of me for a reason. I will take your presence as a gift because you are what has shaped me into the bright, bubbly, determined, caring, compassionate, resilient girl I am today. You will not destroy me, you will empower me to be the best person I possibly can be.

Sincerely, Maddison









*"The people I met made the whole trip so much better"* 







*"The memories made will last a lifetime!" Ella van der Voort* 



## To Infinity and Beyond

*"It was such a unique experience and I don't think I could have done it anywhere else!" Emmi Gale* 

By Ailish Murphy McKay and Remie McMaster

On the first day of the September school holidays a group of Year 9, 10 and 11 students and a few intrepid teachers embarked on the journey of a lifetime. It wasn't quite interstellar travel but for twenty-eight of our Loreto girls it was almost as spectacular, as we embarked on the inaugural Loreto College Space Camp to the United States of America (USA).

Our journey began with a week-long immersive program at the Huntsville Space Academy, USA. We climbed walls, SCUBA dived, learnt about the history of space exploration, we rode scientifically relevant rides, including the multi axis trainer, the one sixth gravity chair and the G Force as well as having engaged in simulation missions that took us to Earth orbit and even Mars. We had girls in Mission Control, Flight Deck, the International Space Station and Phobos. We were able to experience what it was like to be involved in the space program. The week was informative, exciting and awe-inspiring for the two groups.

The next stop for the mission was the beautiful Washington DC. Here we explored the wonders of the Smithsonian Air and Space, as well as the Natural History Museum, immersing ourselves in the past as well as the future. We also explored the rich history found in the Capitol Building, seeing where American history was made and learning about the people who helped shape the nation. Jeanette Rankin and Alexander Hamilton were amongst the favourite figures to be discovered. We also were fortunate enough to go on a night bus tour of the great city, seeing the White House, Washington Monument, Abraham Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and the Iwo Jima Memorial, just to name a few. The atmosphere and excitement on the bus that night is one of the most memorable moments from the trip.

Our final destination was Orlando, Florida. Here, despite humidity and thunderstorms we tried our hand at indoor sky diving, explored the river system on a guided air boat tour, visited the renowned Kennedy Space Centre, dined with an astronaut and spent the day at Universal Studios. All of these experiences were unbelievable, and we are incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to see such things. The Kennedy Space Centre was bevond compare, with interactive exhibits allowing us to not only learn about space flight and the work involved, but in some ways also experience it. Our lunch with Bruce Melnick was exciting and incredible, he shared his insights into his time in space as well as where the space program may go in the future.

Our final days were bitter-sweet, as homesickness had begun to set in yet we wanted to see so much more! Never the less, it was time to return home to Ballarat. This experience isn't one we will forget any time soon, and I'm sure the stories we have will continue to be told for many years to come.



## Flying high with the Magpies

#### By Ms Kelli Baird, Year 9 Active Learning Coordinator

It is an exciting time for women's sport in Australia. At the forefront of greater opportunities and increased participation of women of all ages is the establishment by the Australian Football League of an elite women's competition. Eight teams, four Victorian, four Interstate, seven matches with the top two playing off in a Grand-Final. Loreto College will have the distinction of having one of our past pupils, Bree White (class of 1999) playing for the Collingwood Football Club.

I had the privilege of teaching Bree and followed her sporting life whilst at Loreto and beyond. A State representative in Cricket in Year 12, a skilful hockey, soccer and softball player during her days at Loreto. There was hardly a sport that Bree did not dabble in.

I jumped at the chance to catch up and chat to Bree about her AFL success and the pathway she took to achieving this childhood dream, one that most of us, including Bree thought would never happen.

**Kelli:** Did you think you would ever get the chance to play in a fair dinkum AFL competition?

**Bree:** No I didn't. You never know what's going to happen but I guess for me where cricket and football were, were worlds apart. AFL has taken a while to catch up but I think the other sports might be catching footy in the next few years as the AFL expands the resources that they are putting into it. It is pretty exciting.

**Kelli:** It must have been so exciting to get drafted at #38 to Collingwood – describe how it felt?

**Bree:** It was interesting because the draft was State based so I knew that I could only go to a Victorian team. On the day of the draft I was attending some professional development. I came out to check what was going on and they had only named the top 10 and were having a break; I went back into the PD and a few minutes later my phone started going crazy so I knew something must have happened.

**Kelli:** Your Mum, Anne, barracks for Collingwood doesn't she?

**Bree:** Yes she does. Mum was probably the most excited because she is a mad Collingwood supporter. I was a Richmond supporter growing up, I played for Melbourne in the Exhibition Series so barracked for them and now I am at Collingwood. At the end of the day it didn't matter where I went to in the draft, I was one of the lucky ones whose name got read out.

**Kelli:** You are the only girl in your family with two older brothers, Paul and Brenton. Where did your passion for footy start?

**Bree:** Paul and Brenton use to play junior football for Dunnstown. I would boundary umpire for them and got paid \$5 a game which was pretty good money back then. Whenever their U/14 team was short of numbers, Dad would bring the jumper

out and get me to play. I was 8 years old playing in the U/14's. Mum wasn't too happy about it and I can understand why now. I jumped at the chance anytime I got to pull on the boots and run out with them. Brenton wasn't that keen on me playing so if I got tackled hard, I would have to get on with it and make sure the tears didn't come out or I wouldn't be able to play again.

I can't remember learning to kick a footy. I always loved it and having my brothers there and a big family where most of the cousins my age were boys you didn't have much choice but to get out and get amongst it.

**Kelli:** I still say to this day that "Bree White" had one of the best left and right foot drop punts on the run from 40m out of any player (male or female) that I have seen. Would you say that your level of skill development was always one of your strengths?

**Bree:** My skills have always been pretty good, yes, probably one of my strengths. Growing up and having that exposure to sport meant that I developed those skills pretty early. I was also lucky enough to have Mum and Dad support me along the way and let me do whatever I wanted to do sport wise.

**Kelli:** After leaving Loreto and attending ACU to study Primary Teaching, majoring in PE teaching where did life take you and your passion for AFL?

**Bree:** I spent three years playing football for St Albans whilst I was at University and then I went to London on my own. I spent five years there and lived with some of my Loreto friends; Emma Kennedy and Catherine Leahy. I got a job in a good school teaching PE and because there was no AFL competition at that stage, tried my hand at Gaelic Football. I went on to represent London in the All Ireland Championships where my team were runners-up in 2007 and premiers in 2008. This competition is the biggest female spectator sport in the world with 28,000 people filling Croke Park in Ireland.

**Kelli:** Your experience playing Gaelic Football led to one of the biggest challenges you have faced in your sporting career.

**Bree:** Yes it did. One of the things was I had a coach, Johnny Wilson, who told me that I had to learn to

kick the ball properly (a Gaelic football is round not oval). I thought, "Why? It is going where it needs to go". He really challenged me on it and so I went away and practiced, practiced and practiced and eventually learnt how to kick the ball like the Irish do. I actually became one of the players in the team who was designated to penalty kick. Taking this feedback on board taught me a lot about what it takes to get better.

**Kelli:** What type of training is involved in being an elite female footballer?

**Bree:** Three gym sessions a week which is strength based and includes a large focus on core & gluteal activation to prevent injury etc.

- A couple of longer slower runs : 30-45mins
- One other interval session : 1 min on 1 min off type of running
- Swimming/ bike sessions as well on recovery days

When pre-season starts we will be at the club nine hours a week; training Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays from 6-9pm and then games on top of that when the season properly starts.

**Kelli:** You have described yourself as a player who likes to run all day. What is the highest score you have achieved on the 20m shuttle run?

**Bree:** Level 12.1 but I haven't done it for a while. I was in the top 10 at the Academy for the 2km time trial with a time of 7.40 mins.

**Kelli:** What is your most satisfying sporting achievement?

**Bree:** I guess that would be at St Albans where we won two premierships, they were massive highlights. Our club hasn't been doing as well, lately. We lost a lot of players and have had to stick together through some tough times and defeats. The Club has managed to turn this difficult time around and we are starting to win a few matches now. This is really satisfying because you learn so much during the more difficult times.



**Kelli:** Do you see yourself as a role model to young people?

**Bree:** My job as a PE teacher has always meant that I see myself as a role model. In the last couple of years as the status of women's football has grown you become more conscious of how you are and the messages that you give.

**Kelli:** What are some of your favourite sporting memories of Loreto?

**Bree:** I played in the Loreto Senior Football team when I was in Year 8 in 1995. There was only one other school, Damascus, in the competition that year and the following year more schools joined in. Mr Ryan use to give some ripping speeches, he was the John Kennedy of our football team. So passionate about sport, we were pretty lucky to have teachers like that who were willing to put in the time and support girls in whatever they wanted to do. Throughout the years we had a good rivalry with College in football but never pipped them. The last final that we played in Year 12 we lost by only a couple of points and we were pretty upset.

Kelli: What are your fondest memories of Loreto?

**Bree:** Lots of my memories are sporting related. However, our year level in general was lots of fun (Ms Emma Wakeling was also in this year level). There was always lots of fun to be had, lots of banter & we never really took each other too seriously. Everyone could be who they wanted to be and our year level was really accepting of that. It was just a fun place to be, school was fun to be at, which is what you want.

**Kelli:** Who have been your biggest inspirations apart from your family?

**Bree:** I have been really lucky and had exposure to lots of different people with different things to offer. Johnny Wilson, my Gaelic coach, had the mentality that you gave it everything and there were no excuses. Debbie Lee has also had a big influence on me. I played with her for ages and now she coaches my St Albans team. She is the person that has made all of this possible, she has pushed the AFL and pushed the boundaries. Debbie has provided so many opportunities for so many girls.

**Kelli:** What are you most looking forward to about the opportunity to play in this competition?

**Bree:** I am looking forward to the first game. Collingwood is such a passionate Club and their supporters love the game and all that footy has to offer. I am excited about how big the crowd could be.

Kelli: Where will life after playing football take you?

**Bree:** I really enjoy coaching. The development side of things in particular, not so much the Head Coach role. I have done some work with the U/18 Girls' Youth teams and will be doing further courses on player wellbeing.

**Kelli:** Finally, what advice would you have for young women asking themselves "How do I get to where Bree is?"

**Bree:** I have had two bits of advice from people along the way that have stuck with me.

The first being; if it's no longer fun don't do it because you won't get anywhere doing something that you don't enjoy.

And as you get further up in your sport, you can have all the skills in the world but then it's your work rate and how you apply yourself that makes the difference. The person who works the hardest will stand out.

Authors note: It was a pleasure to spend almost 1 ½ hours talking to Bree about her sporting achievements and memories of Loreto College. Her strength, determination and honesty shone through. As a community we wish her all the best in her future AFL endeavours. It might just be the one time that I barrack for Collingwood!

## With Great Freedom

## Sister Margaret Sculley (ibvm

Interview conducted by: Caitlin Hetherington & Madolyn Canny

Written by: Judy-Ann Quilliam, Director of Marketing, Community Relations and Fundraising

*"I will do this with great freedom, or I won't do it at all" – Mary Ward* 

> Sister Margaret Sculley ibvm



Sister Margaret Sculley, highly respected Mary's Mount Community Leader and adored affiliate of Loreto College Ballarat, will end her term as Community Leader in Ballarat at the end of this year. Sr Marg (as affectionately known) will move to Melbourne to take up her next appointment.

In an interview conducted by current Year 10 students, Caitlin Hetherington and Madolyn Canny, Sr Marg speaks candidly about her life and the special place that Ballarat holds in her heart.

#### Sr Marg, have you lived in Ballarat your entire life?

"I was born in Buninyong and moved to Redan when I was 6 years old. In 1958 I went to Sydney to enter the convent and came back to Ballarat in 1989. My work has taken me many places... "

Margaret Sculley was educated at St. Aloysius Primary School, Redan and attended Commercial College before working for three years in the office at David Pratt and Sons, Ballarat. Margaret followed her heart in 1958 to become a young Loreto novice at Normanhurst, Sydney and has since taught Home Economics, English and Religion at Mary's Mount, Loreto Normanhurst, Loreto Kirribilli, Loreto Claremont, Loreto Nedlands, Loreto Thornlie, Blackburn, Loreto Coorparoo and Loreto Toorak.

Sr Marg was Principal of All Saints' Primary School in Portland, Victoria between 1981 and 1988 and was Principal of St. Aloysius' Primary School, Redan from 1989 to 1995.

## *What drew you to becoming a Loreto Sister? How old were you?*

"Lots of things.....I grew up in a family home where prayer and faith were lived out every day. Faith filled our house, prayer and God were part of the fabric of our home. Both my parents were Catholic... we had strong Catholic faith on both sides of the family...we had a family Rosary every night, if someone visited, they simply joined us."

"I was taught by the Loreto Sisters at school and was part of a Catholic social group for the three years I worked in the office ...that group really increased my faith. I wanted to "enter" when I was just sixteen years of age...however, my parents advised that I should wait until I was twenty-one. This was good advice!"

Sr Marg recites a lovely story about the day she left for Sydney with her friend Cynthia Wright. On Monday, 10 February 1958 the pair excitedly arrived at the Ballarat Railway Station and enjoyed a celebratory morning tea with the many friends and family who had gathered to wave them off. They stood in the door of the train and posed for a photograph as they waved goodbye....Fifty years later, same time and same day, Sr Marg and her dear friend Sister Cynthia stood in the door of the train for a photograph and enjoyed a delightful morning tea once again...this time with all the Loreto Ballarat Sisters.

Before leaving for Sydney, at twenty years of age, Margaret Sculley was torn between a career of Faith in nursing or teaching. She was actually on her way to visit the Mother Superior at St John of God Hospital about nursing when she hopped off her bike and stopped to see Mother Lucy at Loreto College. Mother Lucy warmly invited Margaret in and gave her some of her favourite red cordial and raspberry jam biscuits, whilst listening intently to her turmoil. It was Mother Lucy who finally said to her, "Well if you are going to be a nun, you are going to do it here with us! (Loreto ibvm)."

For Sr Marg, it was never too much about a choice of nursing or teaching...it was about giving a life of service to God. When professed, the Provincial of the time selected which area you would teach and Sr Marg was chosen to teach Home Economics, Religion and English. Her first appointment was to Loreto Claremont in Perth, where she was in charge of seventy boarders.

## *Can you share the joys and the challenges in your life as a Loreto Sister?*

"The joys are many and varied....from the places I have worked and the communities that I have belonged, to the variety of jobs I have performed along the way. I have made many life-long friends along the way, many more friends when my work became Parish based, rather than Institute (ibvm) based. My Parish work opened me up to a whole new world of wonderful friends."

"Challenges were often when asked to do jobs that I did not feel capable of – however, I always managed to do them....and the fact that you never knew where you might be sent next. We would receive a little brown envelope called a "brownie" and inside would be your next post. You could be comfortable and cosy....and you would have to up and go. However, looking back, I learned that every new place was an opportunity for "growth", and that there is always an outcome, ... it may not be what you most expect!"

Sr Marg shared a poignant memory of an outcome that she did not expect. After a successful and very comfortable period in Perth, she received the call that she would be returning to Victoria to a school in Portland. She had been away for 24 years and saw this as a great challenge because she was very happy in Perth. However, on her arrival back in Victoria in 1981, she noted how unwell her aging Father appeared. His health declined rapidly and sadly, he passed away three months after her return to Ballarat. Sr Marg declared she remains eternally grateful that this change brought her home to her family, at that point in time.

## What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? Can you tell us about your favourite footy team?

"I don't have a lot of spare time....in saying that, I believe it is bad management to not have spare time! It is important to have a balance in your life."

Sr Marg enjoys an early morning walk every day, except Sundays, and enjoys quite times listening to classical music and the company of friends. However, with a glint in her eye, she also shares her love of the Geelong Football Club and the Spring Racing Carnival! The Cats have given her great pleasure for as long as she can remember – and those that can remember, will recall the Loreto Convent being decorated in Cats colours the year they won the Grand Final.

## What challenges do you think the Loreto Sisters will face in the future?

"There are fewer young people in Australia interested in what we (Sisters) are doing now. However, in saying that, there are more Loreto Girls out there than ever before. Our Loreto Girls are leaving our schools and they are "doing good" themselves!"

Sr Marg states that a religious life was never meant for the masses and that this is a time in the Church, where lay people are now doing what the Sisters may have been done in the past. She is proud of the work that people like Ms Potter, Principal of Loreto College Ballarat, are doing in our schools and can see that our Loreto Schools are stronger than ever before. Whilst growth may be slowing in Australia for the Sisters (ibvm), there is significant growth in other parts of the world, such as Vietnam, Kenya and Peru.

#### What are you most proud of?

"I have been graced to be able to stay the distance! I have always tried to do my best at whatever I had to do. I feel privileged and grateful to have been in positions where I have had the ability to create change"

Sr Marg was instrumental in the concept and building of the Loreto Archives Centre in Ballarat and the concept of the Mary's Mount Centre. She has maintained a wondrous legacy of jobs well done, and... "Upon which others can build". Appropriately testament to her favourite quote by Mother Gonzaga Barry.

Loreto Province Roles:

- Community Leader, Community Bursar, Provincial
  Consultor
- Mary's Mount Community Leader 2004 2009, 2013 - 2016

Loreto College Ballarat roles:

- School Council 2004 2009
- Council Review Committee 2004 2009
- Finance Committee 2006 2009
- Development (Marketing, Community Relations and Fundraising) Committee – 2006, 2007 (Chair), 2008 (Chair), 2009 (Chair), 2013 - 2016

## Blissfully Creative













# Treasure from the Past

### By Fiona McKenny, College Archivist

Clara, Naomi (Mid), Honor (Queen) and (Mary) Kathleen (Girlie) Bell, along with their two brothers, Harold, and John (who died in infancy), were the children of John Calvert Bell and Frances Ellen Bell (nee Wilson), both descendants of prominent Teesdale families.

The girls were sent to boarding school at Loreto Abbey Mary's Mount; Clara, Naomi and Honor attending from February 1900, followed by their much younger sister, Kathleen in 1908.

In 1901, the girls' mother, Frances died. Following her death, John Calvert Bell, purchased 3000 acres of farming land and a homestead, Addiscot, near Geelong.

This area is now named Bellbrae and Bell's Beach after the Bell family.

Correspondence indicates that a love of bush and sea was deeply instilled in the Bell children and their beloved new home, Addiscot.

In later years, students would recall Clara Bell, "speaking of ..... galloping their horses along the top of the cliffs and swimming in summer at the now famous Bell's Beach."

Clara and Honor continued their lifelong association with Loreto by entering the IBVM community; Clara entered as a postulant in 1909 and Honor, in 1916, the last postulant to be accepted into the Institute by Mother Gonzaga Barry before her death.

Clara, Mother Aluigi Bell, was Superior at Loreto Kirribilli, but spent most of her religious life at Loreto Abbey Mary's Mount, teaching English and history, with history classes described as ".. pure delight." Former student, Betty Parker (Arundell) on Mother Aluigi's death, wrote in Lakeside 1971 that; "A very loyal old Mary's Mount girl herself, Mother was always talking of the Loreto Spirit. She wanted us to be our very best selves, to use our God given talents to grow in love of God, in our responsibilities towards others, to take our place in the community as strong Christian women – M. Aluigi was a born leader."

Honor, Mother Andrew Bell, taught at Loreto Toorak, Kirribilli, Loreto Dawson Street and Mary's Mount where she died in 1967.

Sr Mary Muirhead recalls of M. Andrew; "She was greatly loved by her pupils and this love was reciprocated. She had also much humour and a capacity for friendship. Her love of beauty, whether found in nature, literature or the arts, was dynamic...

"She was a greatly loved Superior both at Dawson Street and Mary's Mount and she spent many years in both houses. She had a great sense of humour."

And what became of the other Bell siblings?

Harold, their brother, as was sadly all too common of the times, died aged 26 on the battlefield at Ypres, Belgium in 1917.

Naomi, the only sibling to marry, travelled extensively and married Captain Paddy O'Byrne, an Irish merchant navy captain. Naomi moved to Ireland but tragically died in 1920 from complications post appendectomy.

Kathleen (Girlie) Bell, the youngest sister, would remain for many years at Addiscot . Gradually the landholdings were sold and in 1938 with the



sale of the Addiscot homestead, Kathleen moved to a tin cottage on the remaining property, without electricity or any modern comforts, living an isolated life as a "mystery recluse" before her death in 1976 in a Geelong nursing home. Kathleen was buried in accordance with her wishes at Mt Duneed, with her baby brother, John.

Kathleen was the last survivor of this branch of the Bell family and on her death, her legacy was the sale of the remaining land (400 acres) in 1981, the proceeds of which formed a discretionary perpetual trust - the Mary Kathleen Alexander Bell Memorial Fund, established in recognition and in memory of her parents, to benefit Victorians in need of assistance. Apart from the significant legacy of the Bell sisters to Loreto through their participation in Loreto life, initially as students and subsequently as devoted members of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, tangible evidence of their contribution to Loreto College Ballarat's history can still be seen today on the school grounds.

A plaque in the Mary's Mount Chapel cloister lists the "The Misses Bell" as donors who contributed to the building of the western sanctuary window; a statue of St. John Berchmans donated by John Bell in memory of his wife Frances Ellen is located in the Chapel ; and a painting in memory of Frances also hangs in the cloister.

## A High Tea and a Barbeque Our Golden Girls and Old Boys' Come Back to School

By Mrs Shona Hendley, Communications Officer

*"Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It's not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything." Muhammad Ali.* 

Perhaps not a part of the lesson plan, but most definitely one of the most treasured parts of being a Loreto College past pupil are indeed the friendships that were made at school, and remain today.

The history of Loreto College transcends generations: over 140 years of educating men and women, with a spirit of generosity and a loving nature that is evident in all the past pupils who return to the college for the annual 'Old Boys' and 'Golden Girls' Reunions. The two events create the perfect opportunity for old friends to reunite and reminisce about their Loreto memories.

The 'Old Boys' BBQ, held in late October, was an opportunity for old mates to catch up on a relaxed spring evening in the Loreto College grounds. The first 'Old Boys' Reunion was held in 2014 and for many has now become a much anticipated annual event. "We love having the reunion to look forward to each year," said 'Old Boy' Brian Gallagher.

The fond memories of their first communion held in what is now the College's front reception was a highlight, reflected John Conaughton. The communion was followed by a breakfast where the milestone was celebrated by both those who had just made their communion and the Sisters. The 'Golden Girls' High Tea was attended by over forty pre Class of 1966 Loreto Girls. Attending from as far as Adelaide, the group toured the College, viewed photos of their time at the College put together by the Archives center and chatted to other Loreto Girls over cups of tea.

In a sea of laughter and smiles the 'Golden Girls' recollected their experiences, sharing these memories as if they had only happened yesterday.

One story which brought smiles to many was the experience of having to wear their hats and gloves at all times. If you lost a glove, to avoid getting into trouble from the Sisters you would share your glove with your friend and hide your other hand in your pocket, the 'Golden Girls' recalled.

The fond memories and shared experiences make these events important to so many. "I was so pleased that I came. I had a lovely day. I loved seeing all the young students and that they are all so happy at Loreto," Jill Evans remarked.

Our past pupils are a fundamental part of our Loreto community and maintaining the strong connections with the College through these specialty reunions allow these connections to flourish



## Past Pupils' Association

#### By Miss Meg Barry - President

Greetings to all as yet another year draws to a close. On 2 November, 2016 a group of women who had finished their education at Loreto prior to 1966 - our "Golden Girls", gathered in the foyer of the Mary's Mount Centre for the annual High Tea. There was much laughter and the sharing of memories as they watched the visual presentation of photographs from the Archives. Across the years they were schoolgirls again, with long plaits and long tunics and young faces.

High Tea was followed by our annual Mass of Remembrance in the Chapel when we remembered all past pupils, IBVM sisters, teachers and family members who have gone before us. At the conclusion of Mass, past pupil Eileen MacIntyre nee McGrath (Mary's Mount 1921-1930) was honoured with the dedication of a plaque in thanks for her generous bequest to be used for the ongoing maintenance of the Chapel; and a scholarship to enable a girl to have a Loreto education which Eileen valued so highly. After a light supper we were entertained by the Year 8 students who were awarded the Past Pupil's Association Visual and Performing Arts scholarships, so much talent and so much potential! We wish them and the girls who have graduated this year many blessings as they follow their dreams.

At our Annual General Meeting we reviewed the past year and elected office-bearers for 2017. President: Meg Barry Secretary: Lyn Browne Treasurer: Lindy Procaccino Committee: Jan Stephen, Rosa Hill, Evie McColl, Noela Morgan, Anne Porter and Faith Austin

May Christmas be a time of joy and peace and may 2017 be a very happy year. We look forward to welcoming you back to Loreto for your "Year" reunions, the International Womens' Day Breakfast and the Easter Picnic. And a date for your diary, the next Loreto Federation conference will be held at Loreto Normanhurst in Sydney 18 -20 May, 2018.





#### **Births**

Michaela Murphy-Engeler (nee Murphy, Class of 1987) and her husband Karl welcomed Mattias Engler into their family in California on July, 13 2016.

Linnea Eve Byrne (Class of 2007) and Timothy John Byrne welcomed their daughter Pippa Nea Byrne into the world on December, 26 2015 – "Best Christmas present ever!"

#### Marriages

Katharine Francis (Class of 2006) married Ben Brennan in Charlton on Friday 30 September, 2016.

Amy Browning (Class of 1995) married Greg Dubberley in the Loreto Chapel on Saturday 8 October, 2016.

Jodie Long (Class of 1995) married Shaun Liston in the Loreto Chapel on Saturday 15 October, 2016.

Nicole James (Class of 2007) married Tom Considine in the Loreto Chapel on Saturday 5 November, 2016.

#### Deaths

Marian Ward (Dunn - Class of 1962) passed away on 3 October, 2016. Marian attended Loreto College between 1950 and 1962. She completed Matriculation as Dux of the Class of 62.

Robyn Mason (Class of 1969) passed away on 14 October, 2016. Daughter of Mickey (dec) and Dorothy Mason, sister of Sally and mother of Will. Passed away peacefully at Gandarra surrounded by family.

Janet Gibson (O'Loghlen – Class of 1958) passed away 16 January, 2016. Loved and loving wife of Greg. Much loved mother and mother-in-law of Natalie and Rob, Katie and John, Michael and Mina, Annie, Margie, Lizzie and Darren.

Peg Guiliano (Carroll - Class of 1940) passed away on 5 March, 2016. Dearly loved wife of Bill Cann (dec) and Frank Giuliano (dec). Devoted sister of Moira (dec), Evelyn and Rosa. Cherished mother of Trevor, Maree, Graham, Annette and Margaret.

Catherine Laffey (Parrot – Class of 1955) passed away on 17 July, 2016. 'Catherine was gracious and courageous, dignified and intelligent. A woman of substance.'

Sr Mary Murray, Beloved member of the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary passed away on 5 October, 2016. In her 55th year of Religious Profession. Loving sister of Betty (Sister Bernard Mary CSN), James (deceased), Peter (deceased), Nell and John. Beloved aunt and grand-aunt of her nieces and nephews.

Angela Lazzo (Robertson - Class of 1987) passed away on 24 September, 2016. Dearly loved wife of Paul. Much loved and cherished mother of Allanah and Tayla.

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

## Staff Farewells

By Ms Belinda Evans



**Suzanne Robinson** will retire from Catholic Education at the end of 2016. Suzanne has had a rewarding career in Catholic Education spanning a period of 27 years. During this time she has taught at Dooboobetic and Loreto College Ballarat.

Early in her career, Suzanne taught Humanities, Religious Education and English, with her final year as Head of the English Faculty at Loreto. Suzanne has demonstrated a great passion for both teaching and for creating wonderful curriculum resources.

Suzanne has played an important role in the education of many Loreto Girls and her resignation will leave a gap in the heart of the English Faculty at Loreto College, however all staff extend our best wishes to Suzanne as she embarks on this next exciting phase of her life.

### By Ms Sally-Ann Young



**Maree Lenehan** commenced in a casual administration role at Loreto College 13 years ago, providing administrative support to the College Reception. Maree then moved into a full time role in Student Reception, working on the critical school database and compiling important College information for the census.

Maree has always been a very efficient and reliable support to all staff at the College. Nothing has ever been too much trouble; and Maree has always been known to "cross her T's and dot her I's".

Maree will be missed amongst the school community by all staff, students and parents. However, we wish her all the very best in her retirement, knowing she will be enjoying lots more quality time with her family and loved ones.

### By Ms Alexandra Bourke-Finn



**Jo Sisson** has been an integral part of the Art Department at Loreto for over 13 years. Jo initially came into teaching after many years as a highly respected practicing artist and has continued to paint and exhibit throughout her years at the College.

Jo has passed on to many of our girls her love of painting and professional approach to Art. Jo was Art Coordinator throughout the early discussion and development of the Mary's Mount Centre and the new art room, and oversaw many changes in the structure of the College Art Program. Jo involved herself in all aspects of College life where her artistic talent were gratefully utilised, such as helping painting sets for College. Jo is already preparing for a major solo exhibition in 2017 and we wish Jo all the best in her future endeavours.



## Reunions 2017

We look forward to welcoming back Loreto girls from across all generations at one of our 2017 Reunions.

## Save the Date!

Class of 1987 - 22 April 2017 Class of 1997 - 22 April 2017 Class of 1977 - 29 April 2017 Class of 2007 - 29 April 2017 Class of 1967 - 6 May 2017 Class of 2012 - 6 May 2017

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 26 March 2017 from 11am -2pm

Bring the family along to celebrate Easter in the beautiful grounds and gardens of Loreto College Ballarat.

There will be fun activities for the kids, coffee, food, entertainment and the BIG Easter Egg Hunt!

Register by Tuesday 21 March 2017 www.loreto.vic.edu.au/events





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