FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Howard Gardner wrote that schools are under pressure to compete to produce high achievers. Internationally, comparisons and rankings dominate the thinking of education ministers and distort what is taught and how it is taught.

Gillian Tett, British author and award-winning journalist and US Editor at the Financial Times, argues that our society should adopt a new paradigm that entails a holistic, transformational shift toward a different vision of success based on community, equity, values of spiritual awareness and reverence for the planet. This vision presents new challenges for how schools define success and in turn, how they motivate and connect with young people today.

According to Chesterton, it is human agency that catalyses refinements to ‘the soul of a society’. It is human agency in education that fires students’ passion, inspires compassion and mentors professional practice. Archbishop Desmond Tutu teaches us: “You can’t exist as a human being in isolation. You can’t be human all by yourself. We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.”

Success asks, “How can I add value to myself?”

Significance asks, “How can I add value to all?”

Success is about doing; significance is about being. We are not human “doings;” we are human “beings.” Success is external; significance is internal. Success aims to acquire external objects; significance aims to harness inner qualities. Success is acquired, while significance is discovered and embodied.

Many people believe they are successful because they have everything they want. They have added value to themselves. Contrast this with the people that use their knowledge, resources, and experience to serve others. By my standards, this constitutes significance. The result is a legacy defined by the number of lives impacted. We cannot expect that students will become passionate about injustice unless they know that injustice exists and that they have explored the consequences of that injustice. At Monte, Service Learning provides a way forward.

There is no greater turn off for a teenager than to be lectured in what they should value. Better that we find ways for students to discover the worth of having a critical values framework and offer experiences to galvanise their thinking and challenge their assumptions.

The Mercy values embedded in the Monte Community and Service Programs and our College’s mission go beyond traditional community service to Service Learning. The development of our immersion programs, social justice initiatives, the work of the Mercy Action Group, and the empowerment of our young women, provide educational experiences that are life changing, and are significant in forming individuals and inspiring them.

In June this year, Ms Jo Cooper, Ms Caroline O’Sullivan, and Ms Katie Hogg and myself will be leading 17 students to Timor-Leste as the next initiative of the Monte Immersion Program. After ten years supporting the work of the Sisters of Mercy North Sydney in Peru, we are now looking forward to joining Sister Helen Nolen RSM and establishing new connections with the community and students at the Collegio in Maliana, Timor-Leste where Sister Helen has been working for the past few years.

Achieving both success and significance is a life’s work. Our goal at Monte is to help our girls live a life that is imbued with success, significance and meaning.

Nicole Christensen
Acting Principal

SUCCESS AND SIGNIFICANCE IN SCHOOLS – WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

In Timor-Leste: 
L to R Ms O’Sullivan, Sr Helen Nolen RSM, Sr Mela SSps and Ms Cooper 

L to R: Mrs Christensen, His Excellency Mr Guterres (Ambassador of Timor-Leste), Ms Cooper, Mia McDonald (Year 11), Ms Hogg
embrace Mercy values and feel privileged to have the opportunity to serve the Monte
been raised a Catholic and having attended a Convent School for twelve years I
success comes from building sustainable “win – win” relationships. “Having
recently Deanne worked at Australian Catholic University as the Associate Director –
Group Marketing Manager and 10 years experience in the education sector. Most
marketing, communications and development expertise including as Fairfax Media
The College warmly welcomes Ms Deanne O’Shea to the position of Director of
Development and Community Relations. Deanne has more than 20 years senior
marketing, communications and development expertise including as Fairfax Media
Group Marketing Manager and 10 years experience in the education sector. Most
recently Deanne worked at Australian Catholic University as the Associate Director –
National Marketing and Development for the Faculty of Business. Deanne believes the
greatest success comes from building sustainable “win – win” relationships. “Having
been raised a Catholic and having attended a Convent School for twelve years I
embrace Mercy values and feel privileged to have the opportunity to serve the Monte
Community to help the College achieve its desired goals, mission and vision.”
We celebrated the outstanding achievements of the Class of 2013 at our annual Laureate Assembly held on 6 February.

The year group performed admirably and should be congratulated on their outstanding work ethic. 131 out of 180 students undertook the HSC while the remaining 49 students all successfully met all the requirements for the IB Diploma Programme.

Congratulations to Alexis Moran who achieved the highest possible ATAR of 99.95. 47% of the year group gained an ATAR over 90. 18 students (10%) achieved an ATAR of 99+

Claire Atkinson
Alisha Arora
Isabel Bailey
Ariane Demetriou
Rachel Evans
Lauren Flint
Rose Hartley

Sixteen students achieved a Premier’s Award for All-Round Achievement in the HSC (10 units at Band 6 and equivalent)

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<td>Elena Anceva</td>
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<td>Rose Hartley</td>
<td>Imogen Stevens</td>
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The College congratulates two students who achieved published State placings: Katherine Penny who achieved First Place for Design and Technology, and Imogen Stevens who achieved 7th Place in Community and Family Studies.

Design and Technology

The following students were nominated for possible inclusion in DesignTECH, the annual exhibition of outstanding major Design Projects developed by HSC Design and Technology students: Alexandra Honan, Sian Kennedy and Katherine Penny.

Drama

Eloise Monteiro was nominated and selected to have her work exhibited at OnStage – a performance and exhibition of outstanding HSC Drama performances and projects. Eloise’s outstanding ‘Rhinoceros’ Promotion and Program Design was exhibited at the Seymour Centre in February.

Music

Lily Partridge’s outstanding musical composition (HSC Music II) was nominated for ENCORE. ENCORE is a program of outstanding performances and compositions by students from the Higher School Certificate Music examinations. It is held annually at the Sydney Opera House.

Society and Culture

Rose Hartley was one of only 10, out of 4,000 candidates to achieve a High Distinction in her Personal Interest Project (PIP). Her project was entitled “Racism! It’s not a Black and White Issue: A study into the unconscious prejudice embedded within Australia’s ‘egalitarian’ society that accepts Aboriginal identity”. Rose’s PIP will be accessioned into the permanent collection of the State Library of NSW.

Visual Arts

Lucy Sharman completed the Visual Arts Intensive Studio Practice (from the National Art School). Lucy was externally selected for participation in this prestigious course on merit (submission of selected portfolio of artworks) and completed the course whilst completing her Preliminary course in Visual Arts. It is recorded as part of her overall HSC achievement.

A further 11 students (7%) achieved ATARs exceeding 98

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From Eileen Jones
(Brennan Class of 1964)

Congratulations on such excellent results. The recent graduates of Monte will go well equipped onto their further education and careers. As a school leaver of 50 years ago I appreciate the academic background I took with me to the University of NSW after leaving Monte. Despite being a lazy student, a capacity for writing and analysis filtered through and has helped me through my life. Now heading towards my 70’s I still work as a member of a Board of Directors of a large children’s hospital and am involved in a number of community organisations. I can trace many of my better formative experiences to Monte and am grateful for the grounding it gave me. I reflect with gratitude on the dedication of the nuns. Again congratulations and long may Monte continue to shape the lives of many generations of Monte girls.
La Bell’Italia was ours to discover for just three weeks as we immersed ourselves in the history, culture, language and traditions that greeted us at every corner.

We began in Milan on New Year’s Day and continued through to the cities of Padua, Venice, Pisa and Florence before arriving at our base in Siena where the girls attended classes at the Dante Alighieri Language School. This was a wonderful opportunity for the girls to further develop their knowledge of the Italian language.

From Siena, the journey south continued to Perugia, Rome, Monte Sant’Angelo and Lecce. It was in the hidden gem of Lecce that the girls were able to meet their ePals and spend two unforgettable days learning from their Italian peers.

As all good things must come to an end, so too did the weather as we spent our final day in La Bell’Italia attempting to stay dry as we travelled to the UNESCO city of Alberbello before catching our flight from Bari back to Milan in order to make the long journey back home to Australia.

Maria Gaudioso and Annalisa Ramundi
Language Teachers

And whilst the journey may be over, the learning continues as “learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.”

– Flora Lewis

I had the opportunity to participate in the Italian Language and Culture Tour. From our arrival in Italy, we were immersed in the lifestyle, customs and traditions of this wonderful country. From North to South, our group was fortunate to see, taste and discover the endless wonders of Italy.

Overall the Italian tour was a wonderful experience and the four accompanying teachers made the trip thoroughly enjoyable. I know I speak for everyone else on the tour when I say that I cannot wait to venture back to Italy.

Sophia Musgrove, Year 10
MONTE’S FAIRTRADE CAFÉ HELPING RAISE LITERACY LEVELS IN COLOMBIA

A core philosophy of Mercy is the education of women.

As a College founded in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy for the education of young women, we believe it is our responsibility to share this wonderful gift of education with others much less fortunate. Through the funds generated by the Fairtrade Café organised by the Mercy Action Group, we have been able to support the work of a courageous and generous ex-student Margaret O’Brien (Class of 1995).

Margaret’s personal efforts to raise the literacy levels for the children in the slums of Cartagena, Colombia, through the introduction of the library and literacy program she has designed is an initiative the College is proud to support.

The Fairtrade Café at Monte is run by the students for the students. Its aim is to raise awareness of unjust trade practices in the coffee, tea and chocolate production industries. Promoting the use of and purchasing Fairtrade products in everyday life allows workers to have better working conditions, fair pay and a better quality of life. Monte students love a cup of hot chocolate or homemade brownie and the Fairtrade girls run the popular café two mornings a week.

Junior girls are encouraged to take an active part in the Café and this is what makes it so popular.

With the money raised over the past three years the students were thrilled to announce that they have donated $5000 to open the ‘Monte Library’ in Cartagena, Colombia, South America, supporting the work of a Monte ex-student Margaret O’Brien.

Margaret O’Brien’s story:

In January 2012, Margaret embarked on a six-week volunteering assignment to Bogota. After three weeks, Margaret resigned from her marketing management role in Australia and signed on for another six months – this time to develop the volunteer operations on the Carribean coastal city of Cartagena. Working in conjunction with two local NGO’s, she spent the next year developing programs for children and adults and managed over 17 volunteers. Whilst teaching English, she became aware of how many children couldn’t read and write in Spanish.

In June and September 2013, Margaret and her team opened the first two libraries and literacy programs. In November, Margaret received the news from Monte that the Fairtrade Café run by the Monte girls had made sufficient funds to sponsor another library and literacy program for six months.

“La Biblioteca Monte” (The Monte Library) opened in the Barrio (neighbourhood) of San Francisco in February 2014. The Library is within a local house that has operated as a school for local children in the area for 28 years.

Margaret explains, “The first time I entered the house, I saw kids everywhere. Crammed around old desks and sharing chairs. Some had notebooks, most had nothing. The children ranged in age from 5 to 18 years using ripped, water-logged and outdated textbooks. It is common to find kids with nothing and desperately wanting to learn.”

The Monte Library has pictures of the Monte girls on the walls and there is a sign displaying the name of the library, ‘La Biblioteca Monte’.

“I am thrilled that Monte is a sponsor of one of our libraries and literacy programs. Firstly because we are so lucky to have received a Monte education and this project represents us paying some of that forward. Secondly, the way that the money is raised is inspiring – the double effect of Monte’s Fairtrade Café is fair working conditions and pay for adults working in the chocolate and coffee industries and now literacy education for children.”

The sponsorship runs from February until July 2014. Margaret is currently looking for sponsors to help the kids continue in the program. You can make a donation to the Monte Library in Cartagena via the website at www.fundacionafrocaribe.org.

Volunteers are also required both in Australia helping to raise awareness and funds and in person in Colombia assisting in the programs. If you are over 18 and interested in participating please contact Margaret at margaretobrien77@yahoo.com.au
Reflections from students who run Monte’s Fairtrade Café:

Why did you join the Fairtrade Café?
I joined the Fairtrade Café because I thought that Fairtrade was a good cause and I enjoy volunteering my time to help raise funds for those less fortunate than myself.

Dara Slarke-Griffiths, Year 10

What does Fairtrade mean to you?
Fairtrade is a chance for me to get out there and in my own simple way make life better for people, through a simple easy choice. It doesn’t cost me much in time or effort but it is a small step towards making the world a better place.

Kyra Jenkins, Year 11

Why did you decide to support the Monte Library in Colombia with your donations to the Café?
We decided to support the Monte Library in Colombia because the library will help to provide the children with a chance to be educated and hopefully learn new skills that will allow them to have more of a choice in what they want to do and how they wish to support their families.

Dara Slarke-Griffiths, Year 10

Do you feel like you are making a difference?
Yes, as I know that I am helping to raise awareness of the Fairtrade initiative and I am helping to raise money for young children in Colombia.

Adelaide Holms, Year 9

The simple answer to that is yes, it is nothing major but every small step is one step closer to a better world.

Kyra Jenkins, Year 11

I feel like I am making a difference, every dollar or two that I put in the money jar from hot chocolate sales I think of how much other people need it.

Danni Edwards, Year 11

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices, Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their position and have more control over their lives.

What is Fairtrade?
GIFTED AND TALENTED IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

At Monte, all students are encouraged to realise their potential and to use their gifts and talents to make a positive contribution to their world. It is a privilege to be studying at a school such as this where, both physically and philosophically, the right of gifted students to receive a differentiated education that suits their academic needs is supported at all levels.

The spirit of the G&T program is one based in theory and research. Esteemed gifted education academic Lannie Kanevsky in 2011 surveyed gifted students for their desires in the classroom. The most important factor to emerge was the appropriate pacing of content. These students also reported a wish for collaborative learning, choice in material, access to expert knowledge, deep student/teacher relationships and an environment focused on the sharing of knowledge. These are elements based on high expectations and appropriate modifications embracing the needs of gifted students.

Enriched curriculum in Extension classes

Kanevsky’s research results were detailed and instructive. Gifted students like learning different topics to others in their cohort, enjoy understanding complex ideas and exploring how ideas are connected. They dislike learning small chunks of new information presented at a slow pace, accompanied with substantial practice time, and often, they also dislike asking anyone for help.

Our Extension classes in English, Mathematics and Music from Year 7 allow for our talented students to work at an appropriate pace on challenging material from the start of Middle School. In English, for example, students study additional texts in units and work on modified tasks. Year 7 completed a unit on “sharing stories from the past” in first semester, with the extension class reading the Diary of Anne Frank and completing additional writing tasks. In Maths, students work to develop a deeper understanding of the content and explore the links between concepts, particularly focusing on problem solving skills. The Year 7 and 8 Extension classes will compete in the APMO (Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads), a series of five problem solving papers delivered over the course of Terms 2 and 3. In Years 9 and 10, Science extension classes allow for passionate students to work together and develop their abilities.

The MYP Personal Project, undertaken by all students in Year 10, is another vehicle that allows our G&T students to explore their passions. Whilst some can be overwhelmed by the choices available to them, it is an opportunity for girls to embrace a topic or aspect of their learning that they haven’t had the chance to delve into in the classroom. It is also an endeavour that undoubtedly leads to stronger student/teacher relationships and can foster links with experts beyond the classroom setting.

Co-curricular opportunities

Optional co-curricular activities are plentiful and unfortunately, there are just too many things on offer to do them all! Many G&T students find satisfaction in activities like Green Team, Mercy Action Group, sport, peer tutoring, public speaking and Duke of Edinburgh. Similarly, a range of subject based activities, such as the Maths Enrichment program led by Ms Taras, provide students with the chance to specialise in their fields of interest.

Currently, the Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator oversees events including Monte Minds, Knox’s Da Vinci Decathlon, GATSTA Philosophy days and other special excursions, including a G&T Maths Forum at Trinity Grammar School and a G&T Conference at Riverview. Ms Walker takes responsibility for the wonderful Model United Nations and Global Young Leaders programs.
Monte Gazette

Being in Maths extension is really good for me because it is fun and challenging at the same time. It encourages me to do well and take part in the challenges and opportunities given like Da Vinci Decathlon, Maths Olympiad and the Euler Enrichment program. The best thing is that you’re around people at your level and you get to learn extra things.

Christine Ha, Year 8

It means a lot to me that I can try something new and explore different things I might enjoy at the Da Vinci Decathlon. It also means a lot that I can stretch my learning to try and understand new challenges which can help improve my studies and other academic challenges later in life. The best thing is working in a team and knowing your input will help all these other people around you a little more.

Sascha Zenari, Year 7

I really enjoy the enrichment program at Monte as it really allows me to grow as an individual and to explore different areas of learning that I did not think I would ever get the chance to. I participate in extension Science and Maths, which helps me to push my abilities further than I thought I could. These classes are enjoyable and you get to be around like-minded people whilst being in a room full of different ideas and opinions.

Olivia Smith, Year 9

The English enrichment really focuses on how you can learn at your best, and shine. You can achieve your personal goals and learn advanced subjects. You have the opportunity to extend and challenge yourself – which is an extremely important aspect of learning.

Adelaide Hayes, Year 7

Monte students represent Malaysia and Canada at Rotary MUNA 2014

In April Anna Inkson, Chloe Douglas, Jacinta Milenkoski (Year 9), Katrina Milliner, Madeleine McDonald and Sophia Wakeling (Year 10) headed to Knox Grammar School for the annual Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) competition. Over 36 teams of 108 students from Years 9-12 representing schools across Sydney participated in the competition to discuss and debate relevant United Nations resolutions with a focus on solving 21st century international issues. A model United Nations Debate is a simulation of the real UN General Assembly. Each team represents a country in various debates on a particular topic or resolution. Resolutions outlined problems of international significance and then detailed the proposed action to solve them. The Rotary MUNA debate involved negotiating with other Nations to create blocs, speaking, asking questions, making amendments and passing notes to promote and further our country’s interests.

Sophia Wakeling
Year 10

Evaluating, enriching, evolving

The G&T provisions at Monte are in no way intended to be static. As staff and student skillsets and interests change, so should the opportunities presented. A number of initiatives for the second half of 2014 and beyond are under consideration, including co-curricular activities encompassing programming and robotics and participation in the Future Problem Solving program. Heads of Department are constantly evaluating their curriculum, with MYP Extended Mathematics and project based learning targeting G&T cluster grouping in Humanities as examples. Fresh ideas are always welcomed, often trialled, evaluated and then refined. It is always a pleasure to see such enthusiastic participation from the Monte girls in their endeavours.

on offer. Activities such as these give students the opportunity to work, often in teams, with (or competing against!) students from other schools. These interactions, collaborative or competitive, allow for new relationships to develop whilst evaluating a diverse range of materials and information.

STAFF PROFILE

Miss Lauren James is the new Co-ordinator of Gifted and Talented, having previously taught at Ravenswood School for Girls and North Sydney Girls High School. A Mathematics teacher, she has experience teaching girls to Extension 2 HSC level, as well as in pastoral teams having been a Head of Year. It is an exciting position giving her the opportunity to work with staff and students across the school. Having completed postgraduate study in Gifted Education at UNSW and holding the position of treasurer in GATSTA (Gifted and Talented Secondary Teachers Association), she is excited to have the opportunity to turn theory into practice for our Monte girls.

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YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Ella Butler, Year 12 was awarded Young Citizen of the Year by North Sydney Council at their Australia Day Award Ceremony in January. Ella was acknowledged for her service work with Aboriginal communities and creating a mini-documentary “Through Indigenous Eyes.” The documentary was made as a Community and Service Project with fellow Year 12 students Chiara Anselmi and Maddie Mytkowski. Its premier screening and discussion took place at the Coal Loader on 31 May as part of the Guringai Festival.

Ella talks about the documentary:
In brief, our project investigates Indigenous cultures in Australia, embracing how culture is passed on, maintained and strategies for protecting culture. The core of the documentary is the interviews with Indigenous people and their words and opinions about their culture and experiences.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY (IWD) BREAKFAST

As a College we celebrated IWD on Tuesday 4 March with a breakfast. This event was led by the Mercy Action Group. This year the focus was the empowerment of women through education. Our guest speakers were:

- Sarah Steele Former MAG and College Captain 2002 who has just returned from studying at Oxford
- Colleen Zurowski, advocacy champion for a not for profit organisation Room to Read whose focus is improving the literacy skills of girls so as to lay the foundation for all future learning.

Being in a Mercy school we are committed to a socially just world. Catherine McAuley was courageous and led transformational change through the education of women. We have ex-students who are inspiring change as women of compassionate action. With our developing relationships in Timor-Leste; in Colombia through the work of ex-student Margaret O’Brien; our continued support of the ongoing work in Peru; and the work of students current and past, we are working towards the creation of a future that will see the value of women as the community builders and change agents through education.

CELEBRATING FATHERS

The annual Year 12 Father/Daughter Dinner Dance was held on 7 March. The evening was filled with a wonderful spirit of laughter, engagement and moves on the dance floor not witnessed in many years.

MONTE WELCOMES 200 YEAR 7’S

The future of Monte is well represented in our new Year 7 students, and as a group they are full of life, vitality, positivity and hope. The Welcome Mass and Dinner was held on Sunday 16 February to officially welcome the 200 Year 7s and their parents to the College.

Adelaide Hayes, Year 7 delivered the Student Reflection and her message was one of accepting all opportunities: “It is all ahead of us, and it is so exciting. I know that our years at Monte will be filled with many memorable experiences, and that we will grasp every opportunity we can. But for now, as Monte girls, let’s embrace today.”

At Year 7 Camp the students connected with new friends. Activities included canoeing, raft building, riding the waterslide and the patience of archery. Some activities, such as taking on the Flying Fox across the valley and the “Leap of Faith” (stepping off a pole 20 metres high supported only by a rope and a trustworthy instructor!) tested girls’ own boundaries but they overcame their fear with squeals and shouts of support from below.
BLUE AND BLUE SCHOLAR

Congratulations to Jasmine D’Arcy of Year 11 who was awarded the Blue & Blue Scholarship 2014-2015. Each year, the Scholarship is awarded to a student who exemplifies the College motto: Religio, Scientia, Cultus. In being awarded the Blue & Blue Scholarship, Jasmine has been recognised for her academic achievement, her participation across a range of co-curricular activities and her contribution to the spirit of the College.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERS

The following Year 9 students are to be congratulated on their appointment as Middle School Leaders:
Kate McNamara – Rankin
Brigit Hides-Pearson – McGuirk
Ines Paxton – McQuoin
Jasmine Robertson – Aquinas
Ornella Byak – Xavier
Sarah Davino – McAuley

Being a student of Monte is all about being inspired by a legacy dating back to 1875 whilst being supported by teachers, friends and the world around you.

It is a great honour to be elected by our peers and teachers to serve the College as Middle School Leaders for 2014. This year, Year 9 quickly embraced the day by having the largest number of candidates running for Middle School Leader to date, with around a third of the year group putting themselves forward! This enthusiasm and competence will be a driving force as Year 9 takes on the challenge of leading the Middle School by example.

Working with 42 SRC Representatives from Years 7 to 9 will be a fun and productive venture with many new and exciting projects already underway; one being the promotion of positive behaviour on public transport.

To be given the opportunity to be a voice for the student body, is an opportunity that we do not take for granted. We embark on this new journey as Middle School Leaders to serve the College in a spirit of community, in the proud tradition of the Sisters of Mercy.

Kate McNamara and Jasmine Robertson, Year 9

CELEBRATING MOTHERS

The Year 8s celebrated their Mother’s Day Liturgy with their mothers and other significant women in their lives. This is always a memorable occasion for girls and their families and celebrates the special and ongoing role of mothers and their relationship with their daughters. Michelle Spring, Year 8 and her mother Maryanne Spring (Ryan, ex-student and College Captain 1989) provided a moving reflection during the Liturgy.

Year 12 celebrated with their mothers and women in their lives at the Year 12 Mother Daughter High Tea on 18 May on a balmy Sydney Sunday.
Welcome to the 60s

Hairspray the College musical for 2014 was a HIT! What a wonderful production which reminded us never to judge by race, colour, shape or size. It was a timely reminder to us all to work towards unity, respect and harmony across the world.

The Hairspray cast and orchestra consisted of many of our talented Monte girls together with some fine young gentlemen from AIM High School, Marist College North Shore, Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, Normanhurst Public School, St Ignatius’ College Riverview, St Mary’s Cathedral College, Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore) and Sydney Grammar School.

A wonderfully dedicated and creative team of students, staff, parents, community members and accomplished musicians started the beat in July 2013 and led the College on an eight month journey. There were people sewing, building and painting until all hours and on weekends to help produce our dazzling set and costumes. Volunteers helped as stage hands, technical crew, ushers, hair and makeup artists, dressers, ticket sellers, supervisors, design, promotion and much more.

It really does take a whole College community to put on a whole College production.

Sarah Thompson
Producer (and Head of Performing Arts)
The following students have been selected so far in 2014 into NSWCCC Representative Teams:

**Swimming:** Sophie Shaw, Angela Tremain, Juliette Amate, Ainslie Scott, Nina Baker, Jacqui Schafer, Kate Biviano, Amy Baker, Charlotte McKewen, Jami Prowse, Bernadette Flannery, Johanna Biddle, Lucy Egelton, Clare Hopkins, Isabella Ward and Claudia Stromnes

**Basketball:** Alysha Skerritt, Sara Anastasieska, Maddie O’Hehir and Bree Delaney

**Volleyball (U/16):** Charlotte Lloyd and Harriett Gillson

The following students have been selected so far in 2014 into NSW All Schools Representative Teams:

**Swimming:** Jacqui Schafer

**Basketball:** Alysha Skerritt and Emma Woods

**Tennis:** Jacinta Milenkoski

**Touch Football**

Monte 1 secured the Easts Touch Competition Division 1 premiership in Term 1, as well as retaining the Harbour Cup. In an odd set of events that saw the girls play Kambala three weeks in a row they won all three games to secure both trophies. Congratulations to Kate Ryan (Year 7), Maddie O’Connor (Year 9), Maddie Elliott (Year 11) and Lily Houbert (Year 7) who all received Best and Fairest Awards in the Divisions in which their teams were entered.

The Monte Netball Umpires program has improved substantially in the last 18 months. The acquisition of NSNA Life Member Eileen Hukins to the coaching team has meant that the College is seeing a number of students each week increase their qualifications. In the past 12 months the following students have achieved their “National C” badge: Sarah Antico (Class of 2012 and current Netball Umpires Coach), Lucy Dirou (Current Sports Captain and Netball Umpires Captain in 2012/13) and Liz Russell and Sam Curtis who are both the current Netball Umpire Co-captains.

**NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Representatives**

The following students have been selected so far in 2014 into NSWCCC Representative Teams:

- **Swimming:** Sophie Shaw, Angela Tremain, Juliette Amate, Ainslie Scott, Nina Baker, Jacqui Schafer, Kate Biviano, Amy Baker, Charlotte McKewen, Jami Prowse, Bernadette Flannery, Johanna Biddle, Lucy Egelton, Clare Hopkins, Isabella Ward and Claudia Stromnes
- **Basketball:** Alysha Skerritt, Sara Anastasieska, Maddie O’Hehir and Bree Delaney
- **Volleyball:** Casey Lloyd
- **Waterpolo:** Kate Biviano, Imogen Ruberg and Emma Tuite
- **Netball:** Alysha Skerritt and Emma Woods
- **Tennis:** Jacinta Milenkoski

**NSW All Schools Representatives**

The following students have been selected so far in 2014 into NSW All Schools Representative Teams:

- **Swimming:** Jacqui Schafer
- **Volleyball (U/16):** Charlotte Lloyd and Harriett Gillson

**Swimmers Blitz The Pool**

The SwiMonte team continued its fine form from recent years finishing 5th out of 27 schools at the IGSSA Championships and equaling our previous best overall result achieved in 2013. The girls then went on to ‘clean up’ at the CGSSSA Carnival winning that event by over 200 points. Their performances at the CG event meant that a staggering 21 Monte students qualified to represent the Association at the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Carnival. From this Carnival a staggering 16 Monte students were selected to represent NSWCCC at the NSW All Schools Championships – a truly phenomenal effort.

At the NSWCCC Carnival the Senior 4 x 50m Freestyle and 4 x 50m Medley Relay teams won Gold Medals setting a meet record in the medley. Remarkably, the same girls combined to make up both teams and they were, Kate Biviano, Amy Baker, Charlotte McKewen and Jacqui Schafer. These girls then went on to represent NSWCCC and Monte at the NSW All Schools Championships. In an outstanding effort the girls won both events again, making them the fastest team out of all NSW Schools.

Jacqui Schafer was tremendous at both Carnivals finishing with Gold Medals in the 17 years 100m and 200m Backstroke events at the NSW All Schools Carnival. Nina Baker also medalled, earning a Silver medal in the 16 years 200m Backstroke and a Bronze medal in the 100m backstroke. Bernadette Flannery continued her fine form in the SWD events when she earned a Bronze in the 50m Breaststroke.
The champion swimmers on the day were:
12 Years – Sophie Shaw (Xavier)
13 Years – Angela Tremain (Rankin)
14 Years – Jami Prowse (Rankin)
15 Years – Ainslie Scott (McAuley)
16 Years – Nina Baker (McGuirk)
17+Years – Jacqui Schafer (McGuirk)

The special events champions were:
100m Freestyle – Jacqui Schafer (McGuirk)
200m Individual Medley – Nina Baker (McGuirk)

There were some remarkable swimming performances in the day. There were six records broken at the meet:
Jacqui Schafer (Year 11) broke a 23-year-old record in the 17 Years 50m Freestyle, a 24-year-old record in the 17 Years 50m Butterfly and the 17 Years Breaststroke Record.

Nina Baker (Year 11) broke a 24-year-old record in the 16 Years 50m Breaststroke and then just pipped out Jacqui when she broke the record in the 200m Individual Medley.

Just when you thought that these two girls may have done enough damage for the McGuirk House – they went on and smashed the 4 x 50m Relay by some nine seconds. A truly remarkable effort well done!
The Monte P&F Association strives to create a caring and supportive community. Along the way we have lots of fun by providing many opportunities for parents and carers to be involved. In early 2014 we distributed the 2014 Monte calendar, providing a list of not only the many social activities organised by the P&F but also the many events hosted by the College during the year.

Term 1 was all about welcoming back the school community and introducing the 2014 Year 7 families to Monte. The Annual Welcome Drinks Party held on 1 March in Mercy Hall was one of the few ‘all of school’ social events. It was a fun night, well attended by parents/carers across all year groups, with a great representation of Year 7 and Year 12 parents. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and many parents were keen to share information on many topics, including their daughters’ choice of co-curricular activities; choice of language subject; overseas exchange and adapting to high school life.

All new families who joined Monte in Years 8 to 12 were invited to attend a small private function organised by the Monte P&F. Our thanks to the Upfold family who have hosted this important event for two years. They create a friendly environment where parents have the chance to meet other Monte families early in the term.

A memorable event for Monte families is the Year 7 Welcome Mass and Dinner in February. The P&F Presidents are grateful for the opportunity to attend this event and to communicate to new families about the goals and objectives of the Monte P&F.

Another well-attended event is the annual Father & Daughter “Under the Stars Movie Night”. Previously, due to inclement weather, this event has been held indoors. Luckily this year it was an outdoor event where more than 150 dads and their daughters relaxed on their beanbags, camping chairs and picnic rugs to enjoy the surprise movie “Cool Runnings”.

Additional social activities were organised at year group level including Morning Teas and Cocktail Functions. Class Tutor group activities were also organised particularly for Years 7 to 9, including walks, lunches, picnics, cocktail functions and gallery tours.

Our parent/carer community is very generous in volunteering their time to support many school activities, including the Year 8 Mother’s Day Morning Tea, House Plays, Year 12 Mother & Daughter High Tea and Year 12 Father & Daughter Dinner Dance.

The culture of ‘giving’ was highlighted during Monte Open Day in March when Year 7 families delivered an amazing array of cakes, biscuits and sandwiches, and provided efficient and friendly service at the café. Year 10 volunteers worked relentlessly, producing a vast quantity of food at the BBQ on the day. Thank you for your amazing contribution.

We would like to thank Acting Principal, Nicole Christensen, the College Executive, the Development Office and all the staff and teachers, for their ongoing support and engagement with the parent body.

The P&F Executive together with past members continue to enjoy a relationship with Catherine Alcock, whose dedication and leadership during her time as Principal created many leading edge opportunities that inspire all students at Monte.

Finally, we would also like to recognise the support of our P&F Executive, who provide vision and unique skills to deliver the great sense of community we value at Monte.

Principal, Nicole Christensen presented a comprehensive report on the academic results from 2013, including the HSC, IB DP, IB MYP and NAPLAN results. Over the past two years the P&F Executive has hosted a series of parent forums. These have been well attended with very positive and encouraging feedback. At our Parent Forum in June, Jill Arkell, an experienced business and leadership coach, spoke on “Influencing with Impact” – how to use leadership skills in the home to promote and nurture relationships with our daughters.

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Anna Willis and Lauren Heath
2014 P&F Presidents

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

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We would like to thank all the Year Co-ordinators and Class Parents who constantly support all the College events. Their enthusiasm imbued a great atmosphere across all social functions and ensures a united Monte community.

Another objective of the P&F Association is to work co-operatively with the College to promote education. At the March P&F General Meeting Acting Principal, Nicole Christensen presented a comprehensive report on the academic results from 2013, including the HSC, IB DP, IB MYP and NAPLAN results. Over the past two years the P&F Executive has hosted a series of parent forums. These have been well attended with very positive and encouraging feedback. At our Parent Forum in June, Jill Arkell, an experienced business and leadership coach, spoke on “Influencing with Impact” – how to use leadership skills in the home to promote and nurture relationships with our daughters.

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Anna Willis and Lauren Heath
2014 P&F Presidents
The Mercy Foundation is a work of the North Sydney Sisters of Mercy. The Mercy Foundation has a special interest in homelessness especially where it concerns women. One of the goals of the Mercy Foundation is to advocate for and support policy responses to homelessness based on evidence and current research.

Women represent 46% of the total number of people who were counted as homeless on census night 2011 (ABS). Often, women are described as the hidden homeless, staying with friends or relatives or sheltering in homeless refuges. There is anecdotal evidence that suggests some older women are falling into homelessness for the first time in their lives. In order to understand this issue better, the Mercy Foundation commissioned the University of Queensland to investigate older women's homelessness and research effective pathways out of homelessness for older women.

There are a variety of reasons why older women may become homeless. These include shortfalls in public and affordable housing, high cost of rental accommodation, domestic violence, the increase in single person households, increasing longevity, gender pay groups, lack of superannuation and savings, decreased employment prospects and a lack of service options for women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Like all types of homelessness, the primary reason is always poverty. To quote the researchers, homeless older women have become a poignant symbol of housing insecurity in Australia.

Of concern is the fact that the largest proportion of older women presenting with a housing crisis in Australia have led conventional lives, whilst working and raising a family. Some may have rented all their lives, others may have lost their homes through divorce and have been unable to buy back into expensive housing markets. Few have previously had involvement with welfare and other support systems.

In April 2014, the Mercy Foundation launched the findings of the research report to the public. The Hon. Anna Bligh, CEO YWCA NSW, officially launched the report. Dr Maree Peterson, one of the researchers, presented the findings. The research revealed that older women's risk of homelessness can be lessened by the way welfare and housing systems work and interact with older women. However, there remains a lack of evidence that considers issues of specific concern to older women.

There is a lack of attention to older women’s homelessness internationally despite recognition of demographic changes, increasing numbers of older people living in poverty, as well as the ageing of people who are already homeless.

A range of policy, service and housing responses are needed. These include rapid re-housing as well as supportive housing and aged care housing options.

The Mercy Foundation remains very grateful to the generous support of the students and staff at Monte. Monte’s efforts in developing students with a strong social justice conscience and willingness to act for justice are clearly illustrated by their generous response when we ask for assistance with our projects.

If you would like to support the work of the Mercy Foundation, tax deductible donations may be made online at our website. Your support ensures that we can continue to advocate for systemic change and to help those in need into the future.

Sue Mowbray
Business Manager
Mercy Foundation
www.mercyfoundation.com.au

THE MERCY FOUNDATION
WOMEN AND HOMELESS

X-MONTE NETBALL

The X-Monte Netball Club was formed in 2009 under the organisation of Bernadette Hekeik (Class of 2005). That year the club consisted of just one team, playing in the competitive A1 Division at the Northern Suburbs Netball Association Winter Competition. Members of the team were largely a group of passionate Ex-Monte students who dedicated their time on Saturdays to coaching the Monte School teams. Since then we have entered an A1 team every year and have now grown to having four competitive teams spread across the A to C Divisions. The Club attracts players from not just the Monte Ex-Students network, but also the wider Monte community including friends, family and staff.

Contact Hannah McDonald (Class of 2009) on 0449 528 144 or Caitlin Richards (Class of 2007) on 0413 093 528 to express interest in playing for X-Monte Netball in 2015.

Follow us on Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/exstudentsnetballclub
A MESSAGE FROM THE EX-STUDENTS’ PRESIDENT

The start of the year has been a busy one for the Ex-Students with reunions overseas and at home, and the launch of what is planned to be, an annual Careers Insights Evening at Monte.

The Ex-Students AGM and Mass were held this year in conjunction with the Monte Open Day. Many ex-students with daughters who are currently enrolled at the College came along to the Open Day and were able to see the school in action and visit the Ex-Student’s stall to sign up to our database and keep up with events during the year. During the AGM the current committee was re-elected – Kate Anderson (1992), President; Alexandra Cowie (1992), Vice President; Bernadette Gemmell (2003), Vice President; Jade Dixon (Brennan 2004), Treasurer; Dee Perry (Quirk 1953); Sr Anna Koeneman (1957); Annette Benaud (1974); Catherine Kernot (Clear 1975); Michele Vanest (1980); Katja Jefferys (Sidoti 1985); Sr Anna Koeneman (1957); Annette Benaud (1974); Catherine Kernot (Clear 1975); Michele Vanest (1980); Katja Jefferys (Sidoti 1985); Nicole O’Donnell (Deady 1990); Vanessa Lei (2001); Caitlin Richards (2007) – Netball Committee; Hannah McDonald (2009) – Netball Committee.

In April Sr Carmel McDonough RSM and I attended two overseas reunions in London and New York. They were absolutely wonderful events. In New York we caught up on all the exciting careers and lives of 12 ex-students from a diverse range of year groups at Public Restaurant and Bar in NoHo.

In London we meet up at The Burlington Arms Hotel, again with a very broad range of ex-students. We had four ladies from the Class of 1970 who turned up independently of one another and had a great catch-up on their lives in London. The night ended with the ladies singing the College Song and the Suscipe with Sr Carmel.

One of the most well attended ex-students events of the year was been the inaugural Careers Insights Evening that was held at Monte on 21 May. The aim of the event was for ex-students to provide advice and information about their careers in order to inspire and inform current Monte students in Year 10 to 12. It was also an excellent event to highlight the talents and expertise of the large Monte ex-student body. 250 Monte students and parents from Years 10, 11 and 12 were treated to a very diverse range of guest speakers from the Ex-Students’ Association. The areas of expertise ranged from nursing and teaching, to aeronautical engineering and events management. We had such wonderful feedback we are hoping to make it an annual event. Thank you to all the ex-students who gave up their time to help us out in this endeavor. Thank you also to Sally O’Keefe and Nicole O’Donnell for their tireless effort in organising such an ambitious event.

Kate Anderson (Ford, 1992)
President
Ex-Students’ Association

EX-STUDENT CAREER INSIGHTS EVENING SPEAKERS

Thank you to all the Monte Ex-Students who were guest speakers at the inaugural Careers Insights Evening held on Wednesday 21 May at Monte.

Melissa Ashcroft (Macalyk 2000)
Business/ Fashion – Business Management

Antoinette Balnave (1960)
Health – Complementary Therapies

Rachel Bradbury (1990)
Health / Science – Scientific research / PhD studies/
Medicine / Specialty medicine / Clinical research

Sonia Brennan (Artico 1983)
Business – Accounting

Sophie Brown (2002)
Business – Human Resources Management

Cindy Brown (1976)
Information Technology – Information Management

Pippa Cadwallader (Cameron 1992)
Health – Nursing – Paediatrics

Rachel Carroll (1993)
Design / Visual Arts – Artist/ Curator/ Teacher

Kate Carruthers (Greene 1981)
Information Technology – Information Systems

Fran Chavasse (Wilson 1975)
Health – Infant Mental Health Nurse

Stephy Cole (1992)
Humanities & Social Sciences – Travel, Tourism & Hospitality

Kathleen Cowan (Watts 1997)
Engineering, Aviation & Surveying – Aeronautical Engineering

Alexandra Cowie (Austin 1992)
Design/ Visual Arts – Event Design / Production

Anna Crews (Bellantonio 1977)
Business – Human Resources

Catherine Dean (1983)
Health – Physiotherapy

Danielle Delaney (1990)
Health – Paediatric Urology

Christine Descallar (2001)
Business – Accounting

Ashleigh Devlin (2010)
Performing Arts – Dance / Choreography
SISTER CARMEL RENEWS MERCY VOWS IN DUBLIN

I recently had the opportunity to participate in a pilgrimage to the House of Mercy in Baggot Street Dublin, the place established by Catherine McAuley in 1827 to provide a school for poor girls, a shelter for homeless servant girls and women, and a residence for women helping Catherine in her works.

In 1831 at the age of 52, Catherine took her religious vows at the Presentation Convent in Georges Hill Dublin and then returned to Baggot Street as the foundress of the Order of the Sisters of Mercy. From that day, the Baggot Street residence became the first convent of Mercy and is now a place of pilgrimage for all Sisters of Mercy, their associates and co-workers across the world.

I was professed a Sister of Mercy in the North Sydney Congregation in 1966 and until now I had not had the opportunity to visit Baggot Street and to immerse myself in the heritage and history, so it was indeed a privilege to have eight days in which to follow in the footsteps of the extraordinary woman Catherine McAuley, whose vision and passion for justice has inspired thousands of women like myself to become Sisters of Mercy.

There were six Sisters of Mercy in the group of 28 pilgrims from Australia and New Zealand. The day we visited the Chapel in Georges Hill where Catherine made her vows we were invited to renew our vows standing in the same place Catherine stood in 1831. It was a special moment for all of us. The group then sang the Suscipe, which is the prayer of trust written by Catherine McAuley. On returning to Baggot Street we were invited to a special service of reflection in the room where Catherine died. Each of us had the opportunity to hold Catherine’s profession ring.

I sincerely thank the College for the opportunity to attend this wonderful event.

Sr Carmel McDonough RSM
Congratulations to Anna Lau who, in January, was named as one of Forbes Magazine’s 2014 “30 under 30” – the brightest stars in 15 different fields under the age of 30. Anna was named in the Science and Healthcare category. She lives and works in the USA as a microbiologist and is currently the Co-Director of Bacteriology, Parasitology & Molecular Epidemiology at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center. Her work in developing new tests to rapidly diagnose infections has been groundbreaking.

Fungal infections are deadly and hard to treat. Having completed her PhD at the University of Sydney, Anna has developed novel diagnostic tests to detect these microbes, culminating in a new and comprehensive NIH database that may allow doctors to quickly and accurately identify pathogenic fungi by mass spectrometry. This database has been shared with numerous laboratories worldwide, including many in Australia, to help improve disease management and patient care.

Anna also received the NIH Clinical Center Directors Award in the Patient Care category at the end of 2013, bestowed on her for improvement in patient care by the development of a mass spectrometry mould database.

Dr John Gallin, Director, NIH Clinical Center has written “Dr Lau, congratulations on your outstanding accomplishments. Thank you for the tremendous skill and effort you contribute to the organisation every day.”

We add our congratulations to Anna on her innovative and rewarding career.

Life is good here amongst the mountains of post-Soviet Central Asia. We have just emerged from long ski-season and are contemplating the summer.

Heading to Sydney University straight after school I had no particular career or direction in mind. I started a Science-Law degree ending up majoring in geophysics. Employment with Rio Tinto followed exploring for minerals in far north Queensland. A career in geophysics offers a very broad scope of opportunities and at its best the enjoyment of being part of a treasure hunt. Gold in Western Australia, diamonds in Alberta, copper in Peru and nickel in Siberia, mineral exploration almost by definition involves travel and I have been fortunate to be able to live in many exotic parts of the world. Years in Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Botswana have been highlights though I have also spent extended periods in Canada and South America advising clients where to look for various commodities. The high risk - high reward nature of my work leads to it being very cyclical in nature. When commodity prices are high there is enthusiasm for innovation though this can be costly so when the cycle turns the money dries up.

During one of these downturns at the end of the 90’s I went back to university and completed a PhD in geophysics and mathematics. Subsequently I founded Fathom Geophysics; a business focused on developing software and algorithms used to discover mineral wealth. This business has grown to have offices in the USA, Perth, Singapore and Kyrgyzstan - where I currently live with my husband and three young children. It is likely we will return to Australia in the not too distant future to settle in the Margaret River region of Western Australia.

We wish to congratulate Justice Jacqueline Gleeson who was sworn in as a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia on 22 April 2014.

As quoted about Justice Gleeson by her Monte teacher more than 30 years ago ….

‘Jacqueline’s academic achievement... has been outstanding. She is a talented and charming young woman with a warm, friendly personality and an ability to relate to people of all ages. Her interests are broad and her involvement deep and genuine; she is highly intelligent, alert and self-motivated, yet patient and considerate of the rights and needs of others. She has rightly earned our respect and affection … and we feel her potential to achieve great success in her chosen career will be the source of great pride to the community of the Monte Sant’ Angelo College’.

At Justice Gleeson’s swearing in ceremony, Pauline Wright, Law Society Treasurer noted: “Your Honour is not only the source of great pride to the community of the Monte Sant’ Angelo College, you are the source of great pride to your family, women lawyers and the wider legal profession, and many have benefited from your wisdom, experience and representation.

Today’s appointment is a tremendous accomplishment and I have no doubt that you will discharge your duties with the great ethical sensibilities, integrity, passion and generosity of spirit for which you are both renowned and respected.”

We also acknowledge The Honourable Justice Kathleen Farrell, Class of 1973 who was sworn in as a Federal Court Judge on 5 December 2012. Before her appointment, Justice Farrell practised as a Solicitor specialising in corporate law and has been involved in some of Australia’s most high profile corporate law actions.
CLASS OF 2004
GEORGINA EXTON

In 2008 I completed a Bachelor of Management in Sport and Exercise, sub-majoring in Events Management at the University of Technology, Sydney. During that year I was very fortunate to be accepted for an internship role with the NSW Olympic Council (NSWOC), the same year as the Beijing Olympic Games. I was given the opportunity to assist in the co-ordination of major fundraising events for the 2008 Australian Olympic Team. At the time I did not know that this would be the beginning of a six-year journey working for the NSWOC and the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC).

Some of the highlights during my time, besides meeting and working with many amazing athletes and Olympians, includes the Sydney 2000 10th Anniversary Celebrations through which I quickly learned the reality of working on major events; the fundraising campaign for the 2012 Australian Olympic Team was a challenging time but very rewarding; and greeting the Olympic Team was a challenging time and campaign for the 2012 Australian Olympic Committee (AOC).

One of the most challenging experiences I faced was the co-ordination of the 2012 Welcome Home Celebrations National Tour. With more than 30 events over 10 days across the country, it was a sizeable task but one that I consider a huge achievement in my career and personally.

My time with the AOC and NSWOC sadly came to an end in 2013 when I decided to pursue full time study to complete my Master of Teaching (Primary), which I will finish in October 2014. With a vision to live and teach overseas I am considering further study to develop my skills in Project Management.

I am currently playing OzTag and I am in my ninth season with UTS Hockey Club. I also coach junior sport year round.

Above: Georgina Exton (right) with Anna Meares OAM Gold and Bronze Medallist in cycling at the London Olympics.

CLASS OF 2009
ALEX RAHME

After graduating from Monte, I undertook a Performing Arts course followed by a degree in International Studies at Macquarie University. As soon as I commenced my degree, I felt completely lost, I knew in my heart that university wasn’t for me.

During university I worked part time in the kitchen at a local café. I was mentored by a qualified chef and in every shift my passion flourished. I fell in love with the energy of the kitchen and making people happy, providing them with beautiful food. This was incredibly fulfilling and a huge part of why I’m so passionate about having a career in hospitality.

I commenced at William Blue College in September 2012. My passion has grown the more I have been exposed to the industry. This includes my job at ARIA Catering at the Opera House, made available through William Blue’s industry connections. I work in the kitchen as a casual cook.

I have been privileged to serve the Prime Minister, the Navy Fleet, The Royals, including the Duchess of Cambridge, Bulgari, TedX and many others. A moment I will never forget was being chosen to work with Matt Moran and our Executive Chef on an event for some other celebrity chefs.

ARIA Catering has provided me with so many opportunities. My Executive Chef continuously challenges me, which strengthens my skills and ability. My dream is to open my own business, combining two of my greatest passions – food and nutrition.

As part of my work placement for William Blue this year, I will be working alongside a Michelin Star Chef in the Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni in Lake Como, Italy for three months. This will provide me with a great job opportunity and an immense learning curve. I look forward to breaking language barriers and improving my skills and knowledge as a chef.

(Extract from article written by Melinda Hutchings, PR & Internal Communications Manager at William Blue/Think Education Group. For more information on College and Courses of Think Education email enquiries@think.edu.au.)

CLASS OF 2010
TESS KELLY

Congratulations to Tess Kelly for being awarded the ANU Undergraduate Student of the Year, 2014. As her citation read:

“Tess has changed the way that ANU residence John XXIII College contributes to Indigenous reconciliation.

A resident of the College from 2011 to 2013, Tess gave to the College community through her roles as Sports Representative in the College Residents’ Association in 2012, as a member of the College Senior Resident Team in 2013 and by maintaining an active and dynamic presence in the College’s charity efforts. She organised events to promote the tolerance of homosexuality and gender diversity within the College and the wider ANU community. Tess’s passion for social justice was infectious, and she was able to persuade the Head of College of the need to make a greater contribution to Indigenous reconciliation. With the support of her friend and fellow resident Isabel Doralisarny (Class of 2010), Tess helped to deliver a program that saw ten College residents venture to Mutitjulu, in the Northern Territory, in September 2013.

Tess’s passion for Indigenous culture and her generous spirit are what linked John XXIII College and the Mutitjulu Aboriginal community together. Tess doesn’t need to be in Mutitjulu to give to the Indigenous community. In May she organised the inaugural Maruku @ ANU marketplace and exhibition, showcasing the talents of some of Australia’s premier Central Desert artists and promoting awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal culture. Tess’s kind heart and charitable nature are also focused closer to home. She gives each and every day through her family-founded charity, The JSK Fund.

Created in 2010 in memory of her late father John Skipper Kelly, Tess, alongside her brothers and mother, raise money to create leadership opportunities for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. One of the most notable events run by The JSK Fund was last year’s City2Surf run where more than 150 people, most of them ANU students, formed the “Running for JSK” team, running or walking to raise funds and awareness for the cause.”
CLASS OF 2004 – 10 YEARS

On a blamy Saturday night, 22 March 2014 around 70 students form the class of 2004 held their reunion in the Generalate Courtyard at Monte. There were plenty of laughs and memories revisited.

MELBOURNE REUNION

Monte Ex-Students’ Association hosted its first Melbourne reunion at the San Telmo Restaurant in March and we were thrilled to have 13 ex-students attend. Everyone mixed really well and enjoyed the opportunity to meet up and hear about the Monte of today and reminiscence of shared experiences. Everyone is very keen to keep in touch. Special thanks to Catherine Robson (McCormack 1990) for assisting with this event.

CLASS OF 1988 – 25 YEARS

On Friday 15 November, 65 classmates met at The Union Hotel North Sydney. It was wonderful to be able to catch up and reminisce. There were lots of laughs while stories were re-told regarding sporting rivalry, school camps and our wonderful friendships formed 25+ years ago. We had girls travel from overseas and interstate to attend, and many were seen later on the dance floor at The Crows Nest Hotel.

Christina Tremain (1988)
FAREWELL

Our community is saddened to announce the passing of the following Monte Ex-Students and send our heartfelt condolences to their family and friends.

PATRICIA SPRY-BAILEY
(McNally Class of 1951) died on 23 October 2013 after a short illness. Wife of Philip, mother of three and grandmother of five, sister of Maureen (McNally Class of 1948). Much loved and so dearly missed.

PATRICIA CAMERON
(Mayne Class of 1946) passed away on 11 November 2013. Her funeral was held at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy on 14 November 2013. Pat was the much loved daughter of Myra Mayne (Ahearn Class of 1912) and mother of Margaret Moreau deceased (Cameron Class of 1976) and Helen Cameron (Class of 1982).

BETTY BOWDEN-SMITH
(Sykes, Class of 1935 Year 9) passed away on 14 January 2014. Upon leaving Monte, Betty attended secretarial college and then entered the commercial world, ultimately rising to the position of Company Secretary for one of Australia’s leading advertising agencies. She married Bert Bowden-Smith (RAAF) in 1942 and they shared a happy life together for 60 years until his death in 2002. Bert and Betty had three daughters - Suzanne McEvoy (1963), Jennifer Coras (1968) and Margaret Bowden-Smith (1973), all “Monte girls” as were their daughters, Rebecca Dearing (Coras, Class of 1993), Samantha Coras (1995), Kate Montgomery (McEvoy, Class of 1997)) and Alexandra Wilson (2009). Betty’s love of Monte and its ethos was ongoing and until recently, she was a familiar face at Reunion Days and Days of Recollection. She worked tirelessly for the College (such as in the Swimming Club) and serving at different times as the Treasurer and Vice-President of the Ex-Students’ Association. Throughout her life, Betty was very proud of her relationship with Monte and glad that her daughters and her granddaughters had the benefit of a Monte education.

JEAN BROWN
(Cogan, Class of 1936) passed away on 10 December 2013 aged 91 years. Jean and her older sister, Dorothy McLenann, deceased (Cogan, Class of 1932) were boarders at Monte. Their two elder brothers John also attended Monte’s Junior school before going on to St Aloysius’ College. Jean married Frederick Brown in 1945 and had a daughter, Pamela. They had four grandchildren Alyssa, Scott, Ryan and Mikaela. Both granddaughters were educated at Monte. Alyssa Poulos, (Fuller, Class of 1998) and Mikaela Fuller (Class of 2004). Jean was proud to be a Monte old girl and often spoke of her many happy memories spent as a Monte boarder.

JEANNE MARIE GORDON
(Class of 1975)

PAULINE KING
Mother of Pauline, Class of 1976), Joanne (Class of 1978) and Louise (Class of 1979) passed away in March 2014.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Members of the year groups celebrating anniversaries are encouraged to update their contact details via the Monte Online Community which will greatly assist the organisers.

MASALOU LUNCH – 50+ YEARS
Wednesday 8 October 2014, 12.00 noon
Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College
Contact: Patricia Clarke
pclarke@monte.nsw.edu.au

CLASS OF 1964 – 50 YEARS
Saturday 11 October 2014
Contact: Trish Fraunfelter (Vesperman)
Trish.Fraunfelter@eastbourneart.com.au

CLASS OF 1974 – 40 YEARS
Date and venue – tbc
Contact: Annette Benaud
benauda@optusnet.com.au

CLASS OF 2009 – 5 YEARS
Information to be provided

CANBERRA REUNION
Wednesday 27 August 2014, 6.00pm
The Drawing Room, University House, Australian National University
Contact: Nicole O’Donnell
nodonnell@monte.nsw.edu.au

CLASS OF 2013 – YEAR 13
Wednesday 26 November 2014, 6.00pm
Contact: Patricia Clarke
pclarke@monte.nsw.edu.au

CAN YOU HELP?

We are seeking volunteers to assist with organising the following anniversary reunions for 2014:

Class of 1984 – 30 year reunion
Class of 1994 – 20 year reunion

If you are interested in forming a committee please contact Pat Clarke, Monte Development Office, 9406 6242
pclarke@monte.nsw.edu.au for a copy of ‘How to Plan a Successful Reunion’. We would love the opportunity to meet with you and explain how we can assist you to plan your reunion using the Monte Ex-Students Online Community.

MONTE EX-STUDENTS RING

Rings are available for purchase from the College Shop by ex-students only. The cost is $40, three sizes are available (L,M,N) – all sizes are available to try on before purchase.

MONTE GAZETTE | JUNE 2014
FROM THE MONTE ARCHIVES

LOOKING BACK 40 YEARS – BOARDING AT MONTE

Vale Monte Boarders (Angelus 1974). 1974 marked the official end of boarding at Monte – the end of a century old tradition, although a few students did remain after that date to complete their education.

On 2 October each year (the Feast of the Holy Angels) the boarders celebrated their special day entitled “Our Own Day”. This day was set aside each year as a free day, with no study, no music practice and students could dress as they pleased.

From the 1974 Angelus article written by Anne Redden, Fifth Form she notes: “My mother’s memories of her Class of 1938 are very different to my impressions of my Class of 1974. There were many more boarders in her day, yet life seemed much more leisurely. Did she really lie under the peach tree and eat apples and read library books? We haven’t time. We are too busy enjoying the wonderful competitive sports – tennis, basketball, softball, swimming, which used to make the boarders’ weekend so enjoyable.”

In the early 1900s “the majority of Monte students were boarders and inclined to disdain the day girls as only partly belonging to the life of the school. Perhaps the distinction between the two was emphasised by the fact that while the boarders wore black dresses and white lace collars, the day pupils wore navy skirts and white blouses. Their hat-badges, too were different, the boarders being a shield, the day girls a star. Whatever the distinction, the boarders found day girls very handy when it was a question of buying fish and chips or rabbit from the shops on the Shore, small purchases which discipline restrained the boarders from making.”

Sr M Bernadette Cahill, one of the first Sisters to be professed in the Chapel in 1915 took charge of the boarders when quite a young nun. “By her gentleness and quiet gaiety, her care and love for each individual child, she soon won the hearts of all. Sister M Bernadette was interested in the whole person; she listened to the woes of all and gave wise counsel, always with the added advice to pray about the matter. Even to the smaller ones it was evident that for Sister, prayer was an integral part of life. She heard the prayers of the younger ones each night and with motherly affection would watch over them until they were asleep.”

Extracts from “The History of Monte Sant’ Angelo College” Sister M. Baptista Rankin, RSM, MA (Hons), Dip Ed, MACE Published 1975.

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**THE 2014 BLUE & BLUE LUNCHEON**

The 2014 Blue & Blue Luncheon will be held on Tuesday 12 August 2014 at NSW Parliament House from 12 noon. Guest speaker is Lucy Perry, CEO of Hamlin Ethiopia in Australia. Lucy is an inspirational, passionate and entertaining speaker and will provide an expert insight into women’s health and maternity challenges in Africa.

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**JOIN THE MONTE EX-STUDENTS ONLINE COMMUNITY**

To keep up to date on ex-student news and events:

www.internet-alumni.com/nsw/monte/ or access via the Monte website www.monte.nsw.edu.au

LinkedIn: search on Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College Ex-Students’ Association

LIKE our facebook page: www.facebook.com/MonteAlumni

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**MONTE SANT’ ANGELO MERCY COLLEGE**

128 Miller Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
Australia

T: (02) 9409 6200
www.monte.nsw.edu.au

Edited by: Ann Buchanan,
Monte Development Office
abuchanan@monte.nsw.edu.au

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