INTERNATIONAL MINDDEDNESS
A recent survey conducted on the social-emotional wellbeing of our students showed that overwhelmingly we have a generation of happy, optimistic girls who enjoy learning and who understand it is important to try one's best.

What was also interesting in the results of this study, was that when asked to respond to the statement: “Outside of my school and family, I have an adult who I can go to if I have a problem”, some students disagreed. It is a challenging thought that as a community we may not have been paying close enough attention to the value of the connections between students and adults in our community outside of school and family, and as a result, some of these connections may have been lost.

In hearing stories shared by the students and staff returning from the Central Desert, Wreck Bay and Chiang Mai one only has to look at indigenous cultures and the sense of belonging and community that they share, to realise the fundamental importance of fostering relationships. The value of belonging transcends culture, as it is a fundamental need. Our students identified this commonality which is strongly supported by Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs and Martin Seligman’s work on protective factors. Within all cultures there is a need to ensure a strong sense of belonging and connectedness. Our students’ reflections illustrate how important it is and indeed, what a responsibility we have towards the youth of today, in ensuring that we take the time to foster authentic relationships with adolescents. As Seligman says “Human beings, ineluctably, want meaning and purpose in life. The meaningful life consists in belonging to and serving something that you believe is bigger than the self.” The survey therefore presents the opportunity for both parents and staff to continue to foster meaningful relationships to build the platform for becoming the trusted adult.

So what are the opportunities for adults to engage with our students? What value do adults (outside of teachers and uncles and aunts) provide for an adolescent in this world?

As the survey statement that was given to the students suggests, the value of another adult provides for someone removed from their day-to-day world that they can ask for help. Perhaps it is someone who knows them in a different context, who is less judgmental and more open to seeing their concerns in a broader context. Perhaps they have more time to listen.

Sharing a problem with another has at its core the concept of trust. It may not be that adolescents are mistrusting of other adults but that in the business of life, the opportunity to develop meaningful connections with adults outside school and family is difficult.

If there are limited opportunities to develop meaningful connections with other adults in a child’s world, the role and trust put into a teacher becomes evermore important. In response to the statement: “I have a teacher who cares for me” in the same survey it was heartening to see that the overwhelming majority of students agreed.

The work of Dr Martin Seligman in “positive psychology” is very empowering. From his research into wellbeing he has developed his assertion that the elements of wellbeing that we should attempt to build are: positive emotion, engagement, positive relationships, meaning and purpose, and accomplishment. The goal of parents, teachers, counsellors and adults when they become involved or are asked to intervene when a child is seeking help, is to not just attempt to minimise and reduce unhappiness but it is an opportunity to build on the elements of wellbeing that allow a child to flourish.

While we recognise that building on the elements of wellbeing will assist a child to flourish at Monte, we also recognise that their wellbeing requires deeper engagement from a whole community. It is a truism therefore that it does take a village to raise a child, and what a wonderful opportunity we have to build stronger connections to ensure that we all belong and continue to flourish.

Nicole Christensen
Acting Principal

FROM CATHERINE ALCOCK

This edition of the Monte Gazette allows me to connect with the Monte community before the end of 2013. As everyone knows, the year has been challenging for me following a stroke in April. I’ve since received good rehabilitation and am currently at home. I’m very much looking forward to returning to work and to the people of the College. There is still plenty I can do for Monte, and I deeply value the community of students, ex-students, parents and staff.

I take this opportunity to thank the College community for all your prayers and wishes for my return to health. I have been assisted greatly by the spirit of the community. The generosity of people has been encouraging but not surprising.

I wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas and look forward to being with the College community in 2014.

Catherine Alcock
FROM THE
COLLEGE CHAIR

After 10 wonderful years, Principal Ms Catherine Alcock’s contract with the College concludes in December 2014. Given the length of time to recruit this role, and with Ms Alcock’s support prior to her getting ill, the Board has begun the process of commencing a search for a new principal.

Ms Alcock’s rehabilitation and recovery is progressing very well and the Board and the Monte community will continue to support her. I have no doubt Ms Alcock will have an ongoing role at the College in 2014 if her health continues to improve.

In the meantime, Mrs Nicole Christensen will continue as Acting Principal.

Thank you to the Monte community for your support of Ms Alcock and the College this year and I wish every community member a safe and restorative break over the Christmas season.

Mr Steven Rubic
Chair, College Board

ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMON

There has been significant progress on the building of the Arts and Cultural Common. The first major concrete pour for the Level 0 Theatre slab has been completed and a viewing panel has been set up outside the Congregation Dining Room, in the Stormanston car park.

The Capital Campaign has been running in Terms 2, 3 and 4. We have held 12 dinners, four breakfasts plus several cocktail parties. We thank the families who have accepted our invitations and joined us and we look forward to continuing the campaign in 2014.

NAMING CEREMONY

The ongoing program of improvement of College facilities has continued with the refurbishment of the McLaren Street buildings and gardens.

A naming ceremony and blessing of the buildings, conducted by Father Tom McDonough, was celebrated by staff and Parents and Friends representatives.

No. 5 McLaren Street – Kinsmore Business Centre, (Business Office and IT), was named after Sr Eugene Kinmore, a brilliant mathematics teachers for over 60 years, she was known for her patience and genuine love of her students.

No. 9 McLaren Street – Callaghan Cottage, (Religious Education and Languages), named after the Callaghans whose inheritance enabled Catherine McAuley to build the House of Mercy.

No. 11 McLaren Street – Casey Cottage, (Development Office), was named after Sr Mary Aloysius Casey who was for many years Congregational Leader whose foresight and planning were two of her key attributes.

Nos. 21-23 McLaren Street – Geary House, (Heads of Year, Sport, Student Support Services, Higher Education & Careers and Director of Mission), named after Mother Ambrose Geary who was Monte headmistress in 1912 and who changed the culture of Monte to a successful academic environment.
Activities the group participated in included a homestay in a hill tribe village, cooking classes, art and photography classes and visits to an elephant sanctuary, markets, temples and COSA (Children’s Organisation of South East Asia).

In preparation for the visit to COSA, Sisters came in and talked to the group about their work with victims of human trafficking in Australia. COSA, which is located in Chiang Mai, works to prevent human trafficking for children at risk.

The tour group kept us up-to-date on their travels through their Blog:

“We visited the Healing Family Foundation – a foundation for the intellectually disabled. We were amazed by how happy and friendly they all were. The young adults with physical and intellectual disabilities showed us how they weave their handicrafts and we were so impressed we bought nearly all their products. Hearing from the parents of the disabled young adults it struck us how, despite different cultures, parents always want the best for their children. The parents run this Foundation so that their children are productive members of society and have a sense of belonging and connectedness to others.”

“We were given a tour of the farm associated with Traidhos (the group who helped organise our trip) where they keep pigs and goats as well as grow vegetables. We were very impressed with their sustainable methods of farming. Then we learnt how to make fire over charcoal pits and prepared and barbequed chicken, pork, sweet potato and omelettes cooked in banana leaves. At our feast we appreciated the food more because we had prepared and cooked the food ourselves.”

“When we went to visit the girls at COSA we had an introductory talk about human trafficking and the philosophy of the COSA organisation. This includes an upstream approach, which educates communities and works towards preventing human trafficking. When the girls returned from school we were introduced to them, played ice-breaker games and shared a meal. The place was full of laughter, volleyball, swings and piggybacks. We were most impressed by how happy and welcoming they were. Spending time with the girls was thoroughly enjoyable and we were amazed at how quickly we bonded. On reflection we all appreciated that you are defined by your future and not by your past. We discovered that despite the differences in our background and culture we share similar aspirations and hopes for the future.”

In the first week of the September holidays, 39 Year 8 and 9 students and six teachers embarked on the first Monte Global Citizenship Tour to Chiang Mai, Thailand. The tour was designed to enhance the students’ intercultural awareness.

Eliza Larkey’s poem about the visit to a Hill Tribe:

More aware of the issues in Thailand
An eye opening experience at the local community
Keep trying to convince myself it wasn’t a dream
Have never felt more blessed about the life I have
A community shouldn’t have to live like that
Motivating experience, I want to make a difference
People need to become more aware of this issue
One person can make a huge difference
My goal is to make a difference
The beginning and the end: the circle completed.

“On our last night we were treated to a traditional Thai Khantoke banquet dinner to celebrate Monte’s visit and time spent at Traidhos. We ate the delicious authentic Thai food with our hands sitting on a mat. After our meal we experienced four different Thai dances, a drumming dance, a female umbrella dance, a male dance with fire and a sword and war cry dance.”

“The lanterns we made at the beginning of our trip were lit up and let off into the night sky with accompanying firecrackers. This symbolised the beginning and the end of our experience in Thailand. On reflection, the lanterns also represented the knowledge we gained on this trip. When we made the lanterns on the first day we didn’t know very much about Thai culture; however, when we lit up those lanterns and they became bigger and brighter it struck us how much our knowledge and understanding of Thai culture has grown over the last week.”

“Overall we agreed that we have taken away from this experience a greater appreciation for what we have in our lives. We didn’t anticipate we would be grateful for things such as clean water from a tap, good health care and education. When we gave our pamper packs to the girls at COSA they were so excited and grateful for the gifts in a way we didn’t expect.”

“While it is immediately noticeable to us that we have things that the people we have encountered in Thailand don’t, this experience has also taught us that the Thai people also have things we don’t have. The people here have a more positive outlook and are welcoming towards complete strangers. They live in the moment and have a greater appreciation of the little things. The children at the Hill Tribe community make games and toys from their environment showing great creativity. This attitude to life is something we can learn from and we hope we won’t forget all the lessons learnt here in Thailand.”

“I’ve not just heard, but seen now how spirituality, kindness, strength and positivity all play a big part in the lives of these people” – Meg Kanofski, Year 8

GLOBAL YOUNG LEADERS

In July, 16 Monte delegates from Year 11 attended the Global Young Leaders Conferences which were held both in Europe and America.

Fourteen students spent 10 days in Washington D.C. and New York, meeting 200 or so delegates from around the world. The Conference simulated the challenges for the United Nations. The negotiation and debate, the forming of resolutions and voting for their implementation ensured a varied and intensive study of Global Issues.

Matilda Unwin comments on the experience:

It was a trip where we were able to discuss recent global issues and responsibilities, see many of America’s most famous attractions and probably most importantly, meet many amazing teenagers from countries all over the world. Essentially GYLC was an incredible experience on an educational and personal level and we were all so glad that we were given the opportunity to attend.

“The trip was a real eye-opener to the world around me and how I am a global citizen and all of my actions can help change the world for the better” – Caitlin Plesek, Year 8
NAIDOC WEEK

The week began with the Biamunga Community Sunday where the entire Monte community was provided with opportunities to learn more about the culture of our Indigenous peoples through participating in workshops on Indigenous cooking, weaving, art, dance and storytelling.

The day began with a smoking ceremony for the naming of the pond by Uncle Max Harrison and Aunty Elaine Walker. The name of the pond is Bindarray Ga. It is a deeply respectful term related to the power of water from this country. It is connected with honouring water and honouring the river and the ancestors from where the stones were given by Aunty Elaine and Uncle Max and now placed in the pond.

Our College Assembly during NAIDOC Week showcased the ongoing connection between Monte and the Indigenous Communities at Mutitjulu and now Wreck Bay with Anangu Elders, Rene Kulitja, Judy Trigger and Elsie Wantatjurra opening the Assembly with a beautiful song of prayer in the Pitjantjatjara language. Monte students then performed the Inma Dance of the Seven Sisters, accompanied by traditional singing by our visitors, reflecting the Dreaming stories of the Central Desert, followed by the Whale Dreaming dance, having a South and North Coast connection, Yuin and Gumbaynggirr together in Cammeraygal/Guringai country.

NAIDOC Week at Monte culminated in the Maruku Marketplace in Mercy Hall, showcasing original work by artists from the communities of Mutitjulu, Kaltukatjara and Impana. This is the seventh year the Maruku Arts has bought their works to the College and it is a valued intercultural relationship.

WALKING AS ONE

Monte joined with Indigenous people from Sydney and beyond in a celebration of Indigenous culture during NAIDOC Week.

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WRECK BAY

July 2013 saw the first Monte program with the Wreck Bay Aboriginal community. Sixteen Monte students and three staff undertook this inaugural visit. The program grew from increasing demand from students to be involved in the programs with Aboriginal communities and from the desire to build one closer to home. Like the service activities in the Central Desert program, the Wreck Bay Mob trained to support childcare, arts and land care activities. Training also involved learning of the Whale Dreaming, as well as a Whale dance, which the group performed at the Wreck Bay NAIDOC Ceremony.

These connections with the land, the sea and traditional culture were enhanced when the group went whale watching and witnessed a large pod of humpbacks and by also creating a whale mural in the community.

Monte is very appreciative of the welcome the group received from the community as well as the guidance they received during the trip from Uncle Max Harrison and Teresa French aka Mumma T. As part of their South Coast journey they visited the Yuin Sacred Sites of Gulaga and Biamunga and the whole group benefited and were deeply moved by the teachings and ceremony which Uncle Max shared.
REFLECTIONS FROM WRECK BAY …

One of the main things that stuck with me throughout the trip were Uncle Max’s sayings and one liners such as; “There are no bad days”, “Today is the first day of the rest of our lives” and particularly, “You have to give it away to keep it”. When Uncle Max mentioned this I really started to think hard about how I will share what has been taught to me.
– Grace Hartley, Year 10

The journey to Wreck Bay was a positive one that enhanced and developed my connections with the land and water. I feel as if I am more aware and conscious of the resources around me rather than taking them for granted. My connectedness has developed through the many teachings from Uncle Max, and also my experiences in Wreck Bay. One experience in particular that stood out was the long and silent walk up Mount Gulaga.
– Samantha Chow, Year 11

It made me stop and think about everything that I had been missing out on, not only walking up the mountain, but in life. On the bus I always have my back leaning against the window, in the car I’m always looking at my phone and when I walk I look straight ahead. I never take the opportunity to look around me and enjoy nature. In that moment I was angry with myself for missing all the important and organic parts of life. On the bus I always have my back leaning against the window, in the car I’m always looking at my phone and when I walk I look straight ahead. I never take the opportunity to look around me and enjoy nature. In that moment I was angry with myself for missing all the important and organic parts of life. Then and there I vowed that I’d look up in life. I would take notice of the things going on around me. Sadly around the next corner of the mountain I had reached the top but on the way down I slowly dawdled back down the mountain making sure to take note of the amazing scenery and the gifts that the land provides for us daily that we constantly take for granted.
– Maddy Murray, Year 10

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– Samantha Chow, Year 11

One afternoon, a couple of us went up to watch the Central Desert Elders paint the Seven Sisters. It was such an incredible experience. The room was filled with silence as they were fully engaged in the artwork that they were completing. I could feel the power in the silence, which embraced me and I could feel a connection with the Elders. Then they started singing the Seven Sister song. This was so different to the silence before, being incredible but in such a different way. It was very moving and I felt privileged to be part of it. From this point, I could feel my relationship with the Elders developing.
– Olivia Beck, Year 10

Sense of community and family is a very strong aspect in Indigenous communities, and the community of Wreck Bay has definitely shown me that being part of a bigger whole is important. Having family, whether they be blood related or not, is one of the things that you are guaranteed to have in an Aboriginal community because they have a sense of community that is beyond anything I have experienced or seen. They have faith in one another, they are there for one another, they are a tight unit of people that work together for a bigger outcome, and that is really important because Aboriginal culture is being lost every day and it needs to be passed on to the next generation.
– Chiara Anselmi, Year 11

Yuin words
Biamunga – Place of learning /journey to the mountain
Gurawal – Whale
Bingi – Pregnant
Munyip – To go
Gadu – ocean
Miri – dog
Koori words
Gubba – White Fella
INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS

As a school and community Monte promotes international mindedness, interfaith dialogue and intercultural understanding.

Coinciding with His Holiness The Dalai Lama’s visit to Australia in June, Monte welcomed Tibetan Monks and Nuns for a three-day residency and the creation of a sand mandala. The visit was organised by members of the Visual Arts faculty, Ms Kate Watson and Ms Angela Swadling, however the event was truly interdisciplinary, with learnings across the Arts, Music, Religious Education, History and English disciplines.

Monte is the only school to have been afforded the privilege of being observers in the creation of a sand mandala over three days. During the visit, Monte students were also involved in meditation, calligraphy lessons, Q&A sessions on Buddhism and conversations with the Monks and Nuns whilst observing the creation of the mandala.

In Tibetan Buddhism, a mandala is an imagined place that is created by the monks in contemplation and meditation as well as in physical form. The monks create the mandala to remind us of the cycle of life and death and to generate positive energy for the benefit of all beings. The design is carefully recreated according to ancient texts, which the monks memorise. Every aspect of the mandala has significance and is crucial to the overall design. After it is completed, the whole beautiful creation is swept away in a matter of seconds in the dissolution ceremony which symbolises the impermanence of all things and teaches us that all things undergo change.

Sand mandalas are one of the most magnificent types of mandala construction and are associated with the most profound elaborate Buddhist ceremonies in Tibet.

A moving and deeply spiritual interfaith experience was also witnessed as staff prayed the following prayer whilst the Monks chanted:

Prayer for Common Ground

Today may I be open to others’ ideas and beliefs, respectful of our differences, not threatened by them. May I grow in understanding of my own motives, knowing that people often act out of their own fears.

May I be a force for replacing fear with insight, helping us all to be patient and kind as we talk. Strength, real strength, can always find compromise, working together, may we find a common ground, enable us to move forwards with a shared purpose.

May we see what is truly important and unites us, focusing on that, to banish roadblocks of ego and fear. Today, may I be open to others’ ideas and beliefs.

Lord hear our prayer.
MERCY DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Feast of Our Lady Of Mercy – the feast celebrated by all Mercy communities across the world held on 24 September, was instigated in 1827. It marks the day when Catherine McAuley opened the House of Mercy on Baggot Street, Dublin, a building designated for the education of the poor children in Dublin and a shelter for young women and girls who had no place to live.

Mercy Day celebrations at Monte for 2013 included the celebration of the Eucharist attended by 18 Sisters of Mercy, followed by a lunch for the Sisters and afternoon guest speakers on various aspects of social justice.

The theme of the liturgy and the focus for the afternoon’s speakers was “Mercy at the Service of Human Dignity”.

A major focus for social justice action and advocacy this year has been respecting the right of people seeking asylum in Australia to be treated with dignity and fairness. Students were invited to volunteer to sit in detention over a lunch period and reflect on the experience as if they were detained for a lengthy period. All the girls were invited to write messages of hope and support which were then attached to the wire fence.

The following statements were written as reflections by the students in detention.

There is an isolation between us and those outside the centre.

– Eliza Cahill Year 9

It is uncomfortable and restrictive in this centre. I can hear and see everyone around me talking, moving around, playing on their phones. I just have to sit here and I think refugees and asylum seekers must feel lost.

– Katrina Milliner Year 9

I am surprised by the extreme boredom I feel. I have only been here for a quarter of an hour and already I am thinking of all the things that I could be doing elsewhere. To be living with so little purpose in life would be detrimental to the health of any person.

– Grace Morahan Year 9

At the Mercy Day Liturgy the Catherine McAuley Awards were presented to the following students and staff in recognition of the way they live out the values of service, mercy, justice, respect for human dignity and option for the poor in their everyday life.

The recipients of the 2013 Catherine McAuley Awards were:

- Year 7 Madison Ueland
- Year 8 Kate McNamara
- Year 9 Claire Miller
- Year 10 Madeleine Edwards
- Year 11 Eugenie Dale
- Year 12 Ashley James
- Staff Norma Harrington

REFUGEE STORY: HOW MY FAMILY MADE IT

Charlotte Akopian, Year 11 student, spoke at last year’s MYP Personal Project Exhibition about her project which explored her own family refugee story and from this exposure was asked to speak at the 4D National Conference (Diversity, Disadvantage, Discrimination, Development) in July, providing a teenage perspective on refugee arrivals to Australia.

Charlotte explored the topic: What does a refugee look like? I believe there is a distinct image people have in their minds, which is generally unjustified. I would never have guessed that my father was a refugee.

To me a refugee is a person who is courageous enough to leave their old life for a chance to be free in a new one. My father’s sole intent was to escape from religious persecution in his homeland. His family escaped from Iran for a chance to succeed in a new life in Australia, a welcoming multicultural society. I couldn’t imagine leaving my life in Australia behind. Luckily for me, we live in a society where we are able to voice our own opinion, to vote for who we want, to follow our own religion. For my father, and for many others, this wasn’t the case. I believe I am an activist; I support the rights of refugees coming to Australia.*

Following her talk at the 4D Conference, Charlotte was invited to speak at NSW Parliament House in August at an evening seminar and launch of Doctors 4 Refugees. Charlotte has now been invited to speak at an international conference in Denmark in 2014.
CHANGING OF THE GUARD

FINAL FAREWELL TO YEAR 12

The occasions of the Year 12 Graduation Assembly and Graduation Mass are two of the most important days in the College year where the Monte community celebrates the educational and spiritual commissioning of young women who have been committed to their secondary schooling in the Mercy tradition and are getting ready to take up the next stage of their lives.

The 180 graduates of the Class of 2013 were recognised for their academic achievements as well as for their participation and service achievements. The Year 12 students have readily identified opportunities to contribute and will be contributors to the betterment of their world, to the next generation and to their gender.

The major awards presented at the Graduation Assembly 2013 were:

- HSC Dux of the College – Clare Atkinson
- IB DP Dux of the College – Emelia Milliner
- The Mother Ignatius Award for the Girl who most personifies the School Motto – Katherine Penny

The Graduation Mass at St Mary’s was full of emotion and provided a time for reflection on the past six years of schooling.

The College wishes the Class of 2013 every success in their examinations and the road they will travel beyond Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College.

THANKS AND GOODBYE...

Year 12, it has been an absolute honor, and a lot of fun, to complete the Monte journey with each and every one of you. Simply saying ‘thank you’ to the amazing people who have contributed to us becoming who we are today, is not enough to express the gratitude we feel.

We all arrived at these front gates with nerves, apprehension and a genuine fear of what was waiting for us at Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College. I remember rocking up to the front gates on my first day for Year 8 camp, in brown flared jeans, a tee-shirt saying “I ♥ the environment” and greasy slicked back hair!

I’d like to think of us as little caterpillars, cute and naïve, with Monte as our cocoon. After six years, we now emerge as butterflies – transformed into young ladies with the College’s values ingrained in us and in our future endeavours.

In saying this, we still have one final hurdle to complete – one that accumulates all the challenges that we have faced for the past six years (or the past 6,900 classes), the late nights, the assignments, the assessments and the orals - and I wish you all the best of luck in the coming months.

I am so proud to sit alongside you beautiful girls as we graduate, where we may not officially be Monte students anymore, but will always be Monte girls.

Thank you.

Riley Cahill
College Captain
2012-13
Welcome to our new Student Leaders

The commissioning of the new 2013-14 Monte Student Leaders was held in a special liturgy on Thursday 18 July.

The new College Captain is Madeleine Arnold.

The Team of Student Leaders is:
Gabrielle Chantiri
Veronica Costi
Isabella Horne
Sophia Shatek
Isabelle Sidery
Jessica Soulsby

House Captains:
Aquinas – Paris Bleechmore,
Andrea Chin
McAuley – Ruby Hartley,
Rachael Callister
McGuirk – Phoebe Chester,
Elizabeth McKeon
McQuoin – Lara Patel,
Margaux Cowley
Rankin – Claudia Harris,
Bridget Dawson
Xavier – Samantha Cheok,
Rachael Cain

Co-curricular Captains:
Community Service – Dayna Spink
Debating – Isobel McDonald
Drama – Sasha Meaney
Duke of Edinburgh – Caitlin Risk
Environmental – Michelle Vo
Liturgy – Lucy Mathias
Mercy Action Group – Annabelle L'Estrange
Music – Amy Bowyer
Sports – Lucy Dirou
Technology – Kiya Siutz
Visual Arts – Carly O’Sullivan

These girls are to be congratulated on their selection as College Leaders. The College staff are confident that they will continue the tradition of young women who serve and lead in dedicated and individual ways at Monte Sant’ Angelo.

They are called to uphold the mission of the College and act in accordance with our values. They are called to be respectful, just and compassionate and to always seek the good for all people.

ACCEPTANCE ADDRESS BY MADDIE ARNOLD…

“Standing up here today, looking out to the masses of blue and white, although slightly nervous, I feel completely honoured. What makes Monte so special is that we have such an incredible sense of community. To be a Monte girl is to be a person who is encouraged and guided to be the best person you can be – no matter what your strengths. This school has a long and rich heritage and to be elected to lead an entire student community all striving to be the best they can be makes me feel privileged and humbled.

In the words of Ms Addicoat “To lead is to serve and to serve is to love.” “I believe that service is an opportunity and I am so grateful for this opportunity to serve a community I love. With this attitude, Catherine McAuley’s guidance and the Mercy values leading my way over the coming year I promise to serve the College with enthusiasm and work as hard as I can for all of you.”
IB MYP – PERSONAL PROJECTS

Year 10 students undertake a Personal Project as part of the IB Middle Years Programme. On 25 July these projects were showcased in a wonderful exhibition of creativity and sustained effort.

Students were asked to select an interest in an Area of Interaction, create a product that reflects understanding of this interest, and to then reflect on their approaches to learning. This is an integral part of the awarding of their MYP Certificate.

This year-long project resulted in the diversity of products on display at the exhibition: i-movies, websites, ipad apps, animations, paintings, quilts, clothing, cookbooks, awareness raising on environmental issues, dolls for refugees, a puppet show and the list goes on.

Students who addressed the audience at the Exhibition were Samantha Chapman, who created nine paintings inspired by stories of the holocaust; Mikaela Ellis, who wrote a soundtrack for a short movie on racism and Kate Jenkins, who taught pre-schoolers dance movement.

Congratulations to all of Year 10 for their engagement and innovation.

VISUAL ARTS

The Monte Community witnessed the outstanding talent and commitment by Visual Arts students during several recent exhibitions to showcase their work: the Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts Exhibition; the Year 11 Installation Night and the IB Diploma Visual Arts Exhibition. All exhibitions were extremely well attended.

The Year 11 Installations are temporary artworks responsive to the sites they are located in that encourage audience engagement. Students were required to use ceramics and other media to explore elements of their identity in their installation.

YEAR 11 RETREAT

In early August, Year 11 headed off around Sydney to engage in a three-day retreat. Each student was asked to give something of themselves to the experience. It was about approaching this experience with an open mind and spirit to accept, challenge, question and have an opinion and share with other group members.

Sr Carmel prepared the girls for the retreat and spoke about ‘action’. Each of us has unique qualities that are valuable in a world that is ever-changing. It will be in creative solutions, seeing the world through different lenses and problem-solving using imagination rather than just knowledge, that will enable us all to respond to the challenges and opportunities we are facing as a community, a country, a globe.

PROUD GRANDPARENTS

A wonderful day on campus is the day Grandparents visit. They love the opportunity to be escorted by their Year 7 granddaughters for a morning at Monte.
A RUNWAY SUCCESS
The Monte Design Showcase, held on Wednesday 21 August combined an exhibition of the work of students who are studying Technology and Applied Studies with a catwalk show, and an opening address by Design Industry specialist and ex-student Hollie Baigent, Class of 2007.

MIRROR BALL AND MOVES
Oh what a night! – 300 Year 7 Dads and their Daughters had the McQuoin Centre shaking at the annual Year 7 Father Daughter Pizza Night. The mirror ball spun as the Dads danced with their girls to the Temptation’s “My Girl”. The eighties classics were hits with all. The Dads displayed some “out there” moves during the Father-Daughter Dance competition and our Year 7 Monte girls danced with great spirit and energy, led by a group of talented Year 11 girls.

“WE’VE GOT SPIRIT HOW ABOUT YOU?”
A refrain heard loud and clear all over the College during Spirit Week in late August. With flash mobs, bake sales, teacher splashes and House picnics the College was awash with colour and spirit.

ALOYS VS MONTE LEADERS NETBALL
Monte Senior Leaders had little chance against the Aloys ‘Giants’ but never gave up during the 2013 Annual Leaders Netball clash. The support for both teams was overwhelming and all proceeds went to Monte’s Mercy project in East Timor.

A FATHER’S REFLECTION
For Monte fathers, their significant role in their daughter’s lives was well-acknowledged during Monte’s Father’s Day Liturgy. The girls offered prayers and were ready to appreciate the ‘love, support and guidance’ of their fathers. Mark Chester and his daughter Harriet, provided a extremely moving and personal reflection at the Liturgy – a true insight into the unique and loving relationship that fuels the formation of daughters’ lives.
ORDER OF AUSTRALIA – EMMA GAVAGHAN

The College is proud to announce that Emma Gavaghan has received the Order of Australia Commendation for Service to the Community (as presented by the NSW Branch of the Order of Australia Association). She was one of only 21 NSW secondary students to receive this youth community service award from the Governor Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO at a ceremony at Government House in November.

STUDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD

Each year, the Archbishop’s Awards for Student Excellence are presented to one Year 12 student from each of the 48 schools in the archdiocese.

This year’s recipient was Ellise Lim. Ellise was nominated by the Acting Principal, Nicole Christensen for the award. Ellise was the College Liturgy Captain 2012-13.

The following citation was read at the St Mary’s Cathedral ceremony on Tuesday 3 September 2013.

Ellise has been very active in the spiritual life of the College and in her local parish. Her HSC Personal Interest Project explores issues of future directions in the Church and the impact of declining numbers of priests. It also questions the ascribed gender roles in this context. Her thoughtfulness and integrity throughout the Project’s process has been inspiring to her peers and to staff. Ellise reveals her own faith and spirituality through her leadership role as Liturgy Captain, and has been a positive role model to all Monte students.

YOUNG ICT EXPLORERS

Congratulations to Sarah Upfold and Madeleine Pagett of Year 9, who came second overall at the Young ICT Explorers Judging event in August. This statewide competition had over 80 schools competing against each other to show off their ability to use technology. Their short animation named “Relic” was up against some strong competition, but their dedication to the animation ensured that they impressed the judges and other students. Their short animation consisted of over 66,000 individual frames that were drawn by hand. Aimed at younger audiences, Madeleine and Sarah creatively conveyed Mercy values through the message of “Give and you will be given” (Luke 6:38) as the main theme for the animation. Well done to both of the girls.

“Heads Held High” as reported in the July 2013 Gazette….

After breaking a Guinness Book of Record for the most number of people to simultaneously walk with a book on their heads, the books collected from the Monte community during the walk have now been distributed.

Over 1200 books were sent to an East African Mission Orphanage. Their Library is only half built but the books are ready to fill it and the children’s smiles say it all…. thank you.
The strength and uniqueness of our Monte community and the strong partnership between parents and the College provided a wonderful foundation for the work of the Parents’ & Friends’ Association during 2013.

The generosity and contribution of Monte parents was evidenced through their tremendous support of the many events and activities held in the course of the school year. The overwhelming care and concern expressed by current and ex-parents and their families for our outgoing Principal Catherine Alcock, was simply amazing. It is this community spirit, underpinned by the Monte values of hospitality, compassion and service to others, that sets the Monte community apart.

With this in mind, the P&F worked hard to create opportunities for parents to be involved in and contribute to the Monte Community. It was wonderful to see so many parents attend events such as the Welcome Drinks, Father-Daughter Movie night, President’s Cup Golf Day, Trivia Night and Melbourne Cup Luncheon as well supporting the Annual Rugby Lunch and Blue & Blue Luncheon.

The P&F’s Annual Parent Forum in Term 3, featuring international cyber safety expert Brett Lee, attracted more than 200 parents, all keen to learn about keeping their daughters “safe in cyber world”. This was just one of a number of parent forums held throughout the year aimed at keeping parents informed and connected. Our thanks to the College for their assistance and support of these important educational initiatives.

Ongoing support from the parent community enabled the P&F to continue to provide funds to the College for the benefit of students currently at Monte. In recent months the P&F provided $55,000 for a much-needed upgrade of the Year 12 common room and landscaping in the Nura Kammeraigal Courtyard as well as $16,000 for the Monte Bursary Program.

All of this could not have been achieved without the generosity and work of our parent volunteers, Parent Year Co-ordinators, Class Parents and P&F Executive who give their time and energies with such enthusiasm and generosity for the benefit of our daughters.

We would like to acknowledge those members of the Executive Team who finished their term at the recent P&F Annual General Meeting: Matthew Hamra, Craig Jackson, Peter Ward, Kerry Hunter and Neil Schafier. We thank them all for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the parent community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Acting College Principal Nicole Christensen and the Executive for their ongoing leadership, continued support and willingness to engage and consult with the parent community during what has been an extraordinary school year.

We also acknowledge the Development Office Team including Karen Gair, Pat Clarke and the Ann Buchanan for their ongoing assistance and advice. We finish by acknowledging Catherine Alcock, whose support of the P&F has been crucial to its success. We have missed her familiar presence at our meetings and events, we feel blessed to have worked with her prior to April this year and we wish her well in her continued recovery.

Sue Boudakin and Anna Willis
2013 P&F Presidents
BASKETBALL
STATE CHAMPIONS

After demolishing all before them in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Basketball Championships the Monte 1 girls earned our first invitation to the NSW Tri-series. The Tri-series pits the best Catholic (CCC), CHS (public) and CIS (independent) schools against each other to determine the strongest Basketball school/team in all of NSW.

Our girls came out firing in the early game against Loreto Normanhurst (CIS) and after shooting away to an early lead went on to win by an astonishing 96-58. The next game was against Westfields Sports High School (CHS) and a win to Monte would see our girls take out the crown of Champion school. This game was tougher and the regularity of the Westfield team training was evident throughout the first half. By the end of the third quarter though the Monte girls had stamped their authority on the game and lead by 11 points. They went on with it in the fourth quarter finishing with a resounding 72-49 win.

What makes the achievement even more remarkable is the fact that the Monte team is made up of 10 girls only one of which is in Year 12. Alex Delaney (Year 12 and Basketball Captain) has had a stellar year and has been the backbone of the Monte 1 team for several years now. The Year 11 players are Sara Anastasieska, Katerina Diamant, Alysha Skerritt and Emma Woods. The year 10 players are Maddie Bounds, Ali Gorman, Maddie O’Hehir and Amy Quirk and there was one Year 9 student Bree Delaney. Well done to all involved including coach Gail Henderson who has worked tirelessly over the past five years towards this goal.

IGSSA NETBALL

For the first time ever Monte entered two Netball teams into the Term 3 IGSSA Netball competition. Monte 1 was entered into the top Senior Division and after losing their first three games recovered to finish runners up after meeting a very strong Pymble team in the Grand Final.

Our 15A team was entered into the Senior 2 Division and as such were up against the ‘first’ team from seven other private schools. The girls were outstanding, making the semi finals but went down narrowly. They immediately then had to trek from Normanhurst to Willoughby to play in the Northern Suburbs Competition Grand Final where they defeated Loreto Kirribilli.

The girls from both of these team undertook two games each Saturday in Term 3 so a huge effort all around.

NETBALL UMPIRING

The 2013 Netball season could be referred to as the ‘Year of the Umpire’. Ably mentored by Umpire Co-ordinator’s Rebecca Stewart and Eileen Hukins the program produced the highest number of levelled umpires in years. Well over 25 Monte students progressed through various levels over the year. Top of the list was recently appointed Captain of Netball this Year 9 student Bree Delaney. Well done to all involved including coach Gail Henderson who has worked tirelessly over the past five years towards this goal.

MONTE 1 WATERPOLO

On 21 June the girls from Monte 1 Waterpolo competed in the Grand Final of the Northern Suburbs Schools Waterpolo Association competition. Progressing to the semi finals was an amazing achievement in itself let alone being the first time the Monte senior team has made it through to the Grand Final. The girls played Brigidine St Ives who they had recently defeated 4-3 in a very intense and close game.

With a large supporting team, Monte dived into the pool with confidence and hope. The game was tough and full of excitement. By the second quarter Monte was up by two continuing to not give up and playing to their best ability. Monte finished with a fantastic 7-4 win. This result is a huge achievement for Monte Waterpolo. The coaches were very proud to see the girls push themselves to their best ability proudly representing their school. A huge congratulations to the girls in Monte 1 and a big thank you for the families and friends that came and supported us. One last thank you, to our coach Polly Williams (Class of 2009), for all of her hard work which certainly paid off and we are so grateful to have had her as coach.

Ruby Hudson
Waterpolo Captain 2012/13

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Ruby Hudson
Waterpolo Captain 2012/13
The change of venue to ES Marks Track at Moore Park enabled the girls to run on a brand new $1 million all-weather track.

Rankin won the double – winning the Cheering Competition as well as becoming the Athletics Champion House for 2013. The Rankin House Captains, Teressia Carr and Eleanor Dawson were justifiably proud of their House.

The individual age athletics champions for 2013 were:

- **12 Years**: Hannah Peric (McGuirk)
- **13 Years**: Molly Quoyle (McQuoin)
- **14 years**: Mia Duggan (Aquinas)
- **15 Years**: Maddie Bounds (Rankin)
- **16 Years**: Jacinta Fisher (McGuirk)
- **17 Years**: Emma Woods (Xavier)
- **100m Invitational Champion**: Jacinta Fisher Year 10
Congratulations and welcome to the Class of 2013 as our newest ex-students. On behalf of the Ex-Students’ Association we wish them all the best with their future studies and careers, please keep in touch! At their graduation on 17 September, the Class of 2013 received their Monte Ex-Students sterling silver ring.

2013 has been a big year for reunions, we rely on representatives from individual years to take on the responsibility of initiating and organising these events. Thank you to all those who have organised anniversary reunions in 2013.

The Canberra Reunion, hosted by Karen Gair, Director of Development and Community Relations and Sr Anna Koeneman (1957) was a great success and very well attended. A particular highlight was the broad age group represented and the way the women all shared their Monte experiences and bonded as Monte women.

In May, we invited 30 ex-students to join us to review the strategic direction for the Monte Ex-Students’ Association. A major outcome was a desire to “give back” to current and younger ex-students through involvement in careers talks, networking and mentoring programs etc. The Association is now working more closely with College staff to involve ex-students in their programs. Reunions will still continue to be a focus, and following on from the success of the Canberra reunion it is planned that in 2014 general reunions will take place in Canberra, Melbourne and London.


The Association has aligned itself with the Mercy Foundation and will continue to support their fundraising efforts through events and community support activities like the ‘Knit In’ and the ‘Dressing not Stressing’ event held at Monte.

Ex-students are encouraged to share their ideas or tell us about upcoming events they are involved in, that may be of interest to the community.

It was wonderful to meet more of the “Masalou Ladies” at our annual Masalou Lunch held on Wednesday 23 October. This lunch is for ex-students who have left Monte more than 50 years ago. It’s always a fabulous day and many ladies travel long distances to join us, occasionally partners join us as well. Congratulations to Mary Ingall (Hartman, 1946) and her husband Ted who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

In 2014, due to the renovation of the College Chapel, our Annual Reunion and AGM will be held in conjunction with the College’s annual Open Day/ Back to Monte Day on Sunday 16 March 2014. We hope many ex-students will take the opportunity to join us on this day, which provides an opportunity to see the College at its most lively and see what the Monte girls of today are up to! As well, the College will present the musical “Hairspray” in 2014, ex-students are invited to attend.


On behalf of the Committee, I would like to wish the Monte Community a very peaceful and safe Christmas. I also take the opportunity to remember ex-students and community members who have passed away in 2013. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Kate Anderson (Ford, 1992)
President
THE MERCY FOUNDATION AND MONTE COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TO ASSIST DISADVANTAGED WOMEN

In September, the Monte Ex-Students’ Association and the Mercy Foundation hosted an event, ‘Dressing not Stressing’, to raise funds for Mercy Foundation projects that assist disadvantaged women.

Over 80 guests enjoyed a delicious high tea and glass of champagne, and learnt the tricks of dressing from stylist Dijanna Mulhearn.

On a more serious note, guests were asked to bring along an outfit suitable for an interview to donate to the Mercy Foundation to assist formerly homeless and disadvantaged women. Dijanna has volunteered her time to help style the women using the donated outfits in preparation for a job interview or special occasion.

Another special guest was Melissa Ashcroft (Macalyk, 2000) General Manager of Leona Edmiston. Melissa shared the journey of her career with the audience, from being a young law graduate to General Manager.

The Mercy Foundation is a work of the North Sydney Sisters of Mercy, set up to carry on the legacy of Catherine McAuley. The Mercy Foundation is committed to addressing homelessness in our community and ending chronic homelessness. The Mercy Foundation also funds community projects that address social injustice at the grass roots, particularly where women and children are concerned. The Mercy Foundation greatly appreciates the continued support from the Monte community.

This year, the Mercy Foundation will be selling the popular stained glass themed Christmas Cards. They will be available from October onwards, from our website (www.mercyfoundation.com.au) or contact the office on 02 9911 7390.

If you would like to support the Mercy Foundation’s work please donate online at www.mercyfoundation.com.au or call 02 9911 7390. Donations over $2 are tax deductible.

The 2013 Blue & Blue Luncheon held on 6 August at NSW Parliament House was a sell-out with student leaders, staff, parents and ex-students enjoying Class of 1972 ex-student, Katherine Thomson’s amusing tales of her full life as a multi-award winning playwright and screenwriter.

Monte’s Bursary Rugby Lunch this year raised a massive $74,574, the most successful event yet, with every dollar raised going towards the Monte Bursary program that assist young women to finish their education at Monte despite a change in their circumstance.

Sterling Silver with Monte Crest

Available to Ex-Students Only

Three sizes (L, M, N)

Price $40
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

HOLLIE BAIGENT CLASS OF 2007

Hollie Baigent is not only imagining a better world for all, she is taking action and changing the world for the better. Hollie was recently awarded winner of the next 50 Emerging Young Entrepreneurs who will transform the world and shape the future.

Hollie’s award winning project was a VACCi Pak Outreach Vaccine Backpack and Motorcycle Rack – designed to provide vaccinations to children in remote Asia Pacific villages. At Monte, Hollie was a design student and her work was selected for DesignTech at the Powerhouse Museum in 2007. The Year 12 work is featured on her website alongside her prestigious award. This is truly inspirational, as her creativity has continued to flourish into something that has been recognised internationally.

Hollie studied Industrial Design at UNSW and during her studies received the prestigious Nissan Design Scholarship. Hollie received her award in Montreal, Canada at the C2MTL, a conference that explores the relationship between commerce and creativity, and its potential to redefine business. She was competing against the top 20 young innovators from around the world. Hollie shared the stage with the likes of Sir Richard Branson, Fred Dust, Diane von Furstenberg, Phillip Starke and Fast Company.

Hollie said of her win “I feel empowered. I didn’t at all expect to win. I wasn’t working on my product full-time like the other finalists. This is why it’s so life-changing, because now I see myself as an entrepreneur and want to be an entrepreneur. I’ve got good ideas, I foresee a future for my ideas. C2-MTL really brought this awareness to life, because you never know when you work on these things – you think it’s a good idea but it’s not until someone spots it and brings it to the global stage. C2-MTL kickstarted my thinking of myself as an entrepreneur.”

LINDA SCHOFIELD CLASS OF 1988

I left Monte in 1988 and headed straight for UNSW to study a Bachelor of Commerce. Commerce was my favourite subject and I have always felt very passionately about values such as service and justice. I found out pretty quickly that accounting was not the career for me. I changed to industrial relations and began work in research for the Commonwealth Bank Officers Association. It was the mid-90s and a time when many banks were undertaking major restructuring resulting in job losses, so it was a great time to be representing members and looking after their rights. While working there I became interested in communications, completing a Masters in Communication at UTS and moved to work at Sydney University in a start-up role in communication in human resources. I stayed at Sydney University for 10 years and it was a great privilege to work for such a wonderful organisation. I had an opportunity to do a range of work from human resources, to quality assurance, policy and strategy. I am currently at Macquarie University as General Manager for the Faculty of Human Sciences where I have responsibility for operations in the faculty including Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, Marketing and Property. It is a fantastic organisation and I love being part of the higher education sector and part of a team that enables students to aspire to reach their potential through learning. In 2012, my partner Jeff and I were blessed with a baby girl, so I am now busy balancing this with the joy of being a mum.

CLAIRE BURGESS CLASS OF 2008

During my much loved time at Monte, it was hard to decide a career path when I chose my subjects for Year 12. I ended up doing mostly arts subjects such as music, dance and ancient history, but despite this was accepted into Macquarie Uni to study a BSc in biology. Since I was young I have been fascinated by wildlife and through Macquarie I was given the opportunity to participate in volunteer work at Wild Life Sydney Zoo, Darling Harbour. It was an amazing experience to be able to transition what I had learned in the classroom to a real life context which involved many hands-on tasks for ensuring the exhibits were kept clean and the animals healthy. Being able to hand-feed ‘Diesel’ the short-beaked echidna, handle large snakes and release freshly hatched butterflies into their exhibit were definitely my fondest memories. This experience has since inspired me to pursue this passion for animals and I am now registered as a rescue and foster carer for both domestic and native Australian wildlife. In addition I have applied for post-graduate Honours in Zoology next year in South Africa and hope to conduct a research study on captive lion behaviour! Always remember – if you imagine with all your mind, and believe with all your heart, you will achieve with all your might!
ASHLEIGH DEVLIN CLASS OF 2010

Ashleigh started dancing at the age of three at All Stars Performing Arts in North Sydney, studying jazz, tap, ballet, contemporary and hip hop. By the age of nine, Ashleigh moved to The McDonald College to further her studies in the performing arts. In 2007 Ashleigh moved to Monte and fitted straight into the CGSSSA Dance teams. For Ashleigh’s final years at school she chose Dance as an HSC subject in which she excelled and found a real passion for the movement and history of dance.

After finishing her school studies, Ashleigh chose to go to Melbourne to further her new found knowledge and passion and joy for dance. She studied for two years at the well-known Jason Coleman’s Ministry Of Dance, in which she majored in Technical Jazz, Contemporary and Commercial Jazz/ Hip Hop. During this time she also completed her BA of Education (Dance) through Deakin University. Ashleigh finished with wonderful grades.

Ashleigh is a sought after dancer and teacher due to her ever-growing experience dancing for various singers and at major events. Ashleigh returned to Monte this year to be head Dance coach.

ANTIONETTE BALNAVE (SMITHERS) CLASS OF 1960

Starting my Monte life when I was 4 ½ years old walking up the driveway to meet my new friends, who are still my friends some 64 years later, became the foundation of who I am today. Because I was a very exuberant child the nuns were always thinking of extra subjects for me to do on Saturdays, like sewing or history which was my favourite subject and is still today. I have tried many things in my career because the nuns told me I could do anything I wanted to do, which was the best career advice you could give such a child. I didn’t know the word NO I just said YES which has opened up career paths and business opportunities all over the world.

My career for over four decades has been in the health industry Nursing, Naturopath, Medical Herbalist, Certified Hemaview™ Practitioner with Clinics both in Australia and Internationally.

I was truly blessed to have forward thinking parents who worked two jobs to send me to Monte Sant’ Angelo which enabled me to be the person I am today.

FAREWELLS

MARIE (CONSTANCE) MCGOVERN (Watt, Class of 1942 Year 9)

MARGARET MARTIN (Ryan, Class of 1959)

A wonderful, much loved grandmother, Margaret lived most of her married life in Townsville. Margaret was originally a primary school teacher who later became President of the Catholic Women’s League, a member of the Cathedral Choir, a Friend of the Theatre, and a star in the trivia group! There wasn’t a crossword she couldn’t solve. Margaret and her sisters, Christine Langton (Ryan, 1968) and Trish Macalyk (Ryan, 1972) all attended Monte. Margaret revisited Monte only last year to attend niece Melissa Macalyk’s (2000) wedding in the Monte Chapel. Margaret’s goddaughter Lara Macalyk (2005) was a bridesmaid on this memorable occasion. Margaret died suddenly in Townsville upon returning from a wonderful overseas trip. She is survived by her husband, Arthur; son, Allan and four granddaughters, Ella, Hollee, Kahlee and Tia. Margaret is very sadly missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONORS FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all our ex-students, parents and staff who responded to our call for donations to the Annual Appeal 2013. Donations are directed to the Bursary Fund or the Building Fund as requested.

Thank you again to our donors:

Alexia Bembrick (Class of 1988)
Amy O’Neill
Anique Mana (Class of 2006)
Anne O’Connell (Class of 1962)
Anna Van Beer & Stockpool (Rebecca, Rachel & Lizzie)
Anonymous
Anonymous (Class of 1941)
Anonymous (Class of 1950)
Anonymous (Class of 1952)
Anonymous (Class of 1957)
Anonymous (Class of 1972)
Anonymous (Class of 1976)
Anonymous (Class of 1990)
Anonymous (Class of 1990)
Anonymous (Class of 1994)
Anonymous (Class of 2000)
Barbara Morrison (Class of 1949)
Belinda Clark (Class of 1991)
Carmel Milne (Class of 1957)
Caroline Wolkenstein (Class of 1981)
Catherine Frankish (nee Johnson, Class of 1977)
Catherine Mamo (Class of 1970)
Dolour Meagher (Class of 1956)
Dominique Tubier (Class of 1987)
Elizabeth Leighton
E.M. Small
E. Williams
Felicity Culless (Class of 1951)
Florence Tsang (Class of 1977)
Freda McLellan (In memorium)
Gabrielle Bookallil (Class of 1959)
Geraldine Magarey (Class of 1986)
Giogonda Augimeri (Class of 1956)
Gloria Carroll (nee Leaver, Class of 1937)
Helen O’Neil (nee Edwards, Class of 1963)
Jillian McCormick
Joanne McNamara
In Memory of Jocelyn Bartlett (Class of 1983)
Judith Bryant (Class of 1947)
Julienne Pettell (Class of 1959)
Karen Murphy
Linda Steinborn-Richter (Class of 1969)
Lisa Ng (Class of 1992)
Maggie Bowden-Smith (Class of 1973)
Margaret de Landelles (Class of 1954)
Margaret Walsh (Class of 1969)
Mary Doughty AM (Class of 1947)
Mary Ingall (Class of 1946)
Mary-Lou Thorpe (Class of 1971)
Michelle Mizzi (Class of 1982)
Sr Patricia Kerin (Class of 1938)
Otylia Radeiwn
Prudence Bramwell (Class of 2009)
Rebecca Zoppetti Laubi
Robert & Jane Cusack (current parents)
Shane Madigan
Susan Taylor (Class of 1967)
Suzanne McEvoy (Class of 1963)
The Patronax Foundation
Vaux Family Education & Learning Foundation
Veronica M Cornelly (nee Cooper, Class of 1945)
EX-STUDENTS

HAPPY 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

What a birthday celebration was had on 13 September when 24 classmates from the leaving class of 1960/Intermediate 1958 met for lunch to celebrate their 70th birthdays. Whilst “you haven’t changed a bit” was a familiar refrain, as they caught up and chatted it was clear that the young girls they once were have transformed into strong, resilient women who have met and survived the challenges of the last 50 or so years – a tribute indeed to their Monte heritage. Denny Lucius (Ryder) and a wonderful committee have, over the years, organised many happy reunions. Thanks go to Coralie Yates (Walters), Clare Turner (O’Byrne), Diana Couper (Batty) and Judith Madden (Street).

Geraldine Gavin (Burke, 1960)

CLASS OF 1973 – 40 YEARS

It was a truly successful day on 13 October with over 50 ladies, who travelled from country NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland; with Sr Maureen McGuirk, Anne O’Brien, Gabrielle McArdle; and Mrs Rosa Kazmer attending.

Maggie Bowden-Smith (1973)

CLASS OF 1978 – 35 YEARS

About 55 attended our reunion on 17 August and a great time was had by all. We were delighted to see Sr Anne, Sr Bernadette and Rob Candy even made a guest appearance.

We had people from far and wide, Simone Young from Germany fitted us into her busy schedule, Louise Thompson from Geelong VIC, Debbie Newton from Charleville, QLD, Lisa Freeman from Toowoomba QLD, Shelley Gage from SA, people from ACT, Central Coast, Newcastle, Northern NSW, Goulburn and Southern Highlands and a special thanks to Cathie Sawyer from Condobolin who made an amazing video presentation. If you are on Facebook please find the ‘Class of ’78 Monte Sant’ Angelo’ page and ask to join. There you can see more great pics and find old friends.

Julie Summerville (1978)

MASALOUL LUNCH – 50+ YEARS

The annual lunch for ex-students celebrating 50+ years since leaving Monte was held on Wednesday 23 October. Close to 70 ex-students attended the luncheon held in the McQuoin Centre. Guest Speaker was The Honourable Jennifer Boland AM.

CLASS OF 1993 – 20 YEARS

Upon a hill by Sydney Harbour’s northern shore we grew..... indeed we did and on Saturday 12 October the Class of 1993 gathered together to commemorate our 20 Year Reunion in the Mercy Hall. Many years have passed, but the Hall, although looking a little smaller than we remember, was the perfect spot for our group to gather. Over 60 very familiar faces ate, drank and were merry, amongst lots of “oh my gods!” and laughter. It was lots of fun. We even had the pleasure of Mr O’Rourke and Mrs Kazmer’s company. There were photos and memorabilia everywhere which brought back so many wonderful memories. Thanks very much to Sarah Jane Grove (Head Girl 1993) for her speech and help on the night, and to Kristina Torlakovic (Hidas) for all help towards the evening.

Patricia Rowling (Cotter, 1993)

MONTE BOARDERS REUNION

Earlier this year a group of Monte ex-students met in Tamworth. All were boarders at the same time during the 1960s and are now scattered across the country. Kathleen Reynolds (Johnson, from Gilgandra), Margaret Constable (Hamilton from Burren Junction), Dorothy Wong (Sydney), Kerry Mitchell (Williams from Bingara), Anne Beneke (Drake, from the Central Coast) and Narelle Piazza (Witts, from Sydney) all agreed that they share a lasting bond having lived together as boarders.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Members of the year groups celebrating anniversaries are encouraged to update their contact details via the Monte Online Community (this will greatly assist the organisers with issuing invitations).

CLASS OF 2003 – 10 YEARS
On 24 August over 60 ex-students from the Class of 2003 gathered at Small Bar in the city for a wonderful evening of reminiscing and catching up with old friends. There were a lot of laughs over old school photos and our general lack of fashion sense! Although many of us hadn’t seen each other in 10 years, it was as though no time had passed at all.

Bernadette Gemmel (2003)

CLASS OF 2008 – 5 YEARS
On Saturday 19 October, over 100 girls from the Class of 2008 celebrated their five year reunion at the Commodore Hotel. We shared stories of overseas trips, final years of uni and first experiences out in the ‘real world’. There were a lot of laughs watching our graduation video which summarised six years of photos into 20 minutes of embarrassment. Luckily our fashion sense and grooming choices have improved in the last five years. A great night was had by all and we left looking forward to the next five years ahead with friendships reaffirmed.

Nicky Levy (2008)

Do you have an interesting career/life story to share?
We are looking for ex-students to motivate and inspire current students. If you are interested in being involved in the 2014 Monte Ex-Students Career Insights Talks please email nodonnell@monte.nsw.edu.au and include a brief biography.

CLASS OF 2013 – YEAR 13 REUNION
Wednesday 26 November 2014

INTERSTATE/INTERNATIONAL REUNIONS
For all Monte ex-students living/working/studying in Melbourne, Canberra or London.
Montreal Reunion – 26 February 2014
Canberra Reunion – August 2014
London Reunion – April/May 2014
To ensure you receive an invitation and to register your interest in attending, please contact Nicole O’Donnell nodonnell@monte.nsw.edu.au with full contact details.

MELISSA MACALYK
Class of 2000
married Adam Ashcroft
on 29 September 2012

STEPHANIE MEASOR
Class of 2000
married Paul Dolso
on 31 August 2013

MICHELLE WONG
Class of 2001
married Damien Zarb
on 21 September 2013

CELESTE CORNWELL
Class of 2007
married Justin Pan
on 21 September 2013

ELISE KIRKHAM
Class of 2002
married Lachlan Whittaker
on 28 September 2013

ANNUAL REUNION & AGM
Sunday 16 March 2014, 1.30pm at Monte
Due to the closure of the chapel there will be a short liturgy, no mass.

MASALOU LUNCH – 50 + YEARS
Wednesday 8 October 2014, 12.00 noon at Monte

CLASS OF 1964 – 50 YEAR REUNION
Saturday 11 October 2014
Contact Trish Fraunfelter (Vesperman)
0418 498 000. Please spread the word amongst the classmates you are in touch with.
THE CHAPEL

The Monte Chapel was blessed and opened 3 January 1915 by the Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Dr Kelly. It was built in memory of Mother Ignatius McQuoin, who established the Sisters of Mercy in Sydney, 15 November 1865 and was designed by Joseph Sheerin of Sheerin & Hennessy who designed other Catholic Institutions among them being St Joseph’s College Hunters Hill. It is in the gothic style and is an excellent example of ecclesiastical architecture of the transepts forming the arms of the cross.

The great sanctuary is of white Carrara marble and was made by Pellegrini & Co in Genoa Italy. The magnificent alter, a sold block of marble featuring Leonardo da Vinci’s Last Supper, was a gift from Mr & Mrs Maurice O’Regan, parents of Mother Beatrice, Mistress of Novices, Mother Malachy, for many years a local Superior and Mother Wilfred, Superior General for 12 years. The O’Regan family also purchased and donated the O’Regan Building in 1917. Many of the stained glass windows were in the original Chapel built in 1883, and were transferred to the new Chapel in 1915.

Intricately carved choir stalls lined the walls of the main Chapel, leaving the centre free to accommodate processions which were part of the ceremony for Reception and Profession in the Mother House.

When the original property Masalou was purchased, the owner the Hon Francis Lord, refused to sell to the Church. However the Sisters called on a great friend from the Rocks, Mr George Whiting who acted on their behalf. Respecting Mr Whiting’s wish to remain anonymous, the new stained glass windows were made of Australian glass and included in small blue glass circles the design of a fish – a whiting, as well as incorporating the initials – GRW & LMW, commemorating their wonderful friend and benefactor.

The organ dates back to 1830 and has been restored.

The Monte Chapel is the heart of the College and is used for Year Group morning prayers, meditation, liturgies, weddings, and for the Sisters of Mercy celebrations.

CAN YOU HELP?

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

- Class of 1974 – 40 year reunion
- Class of 1994 – 20 year reunion
- Class of 2004 – 10 year reunion
- Class of 2007 – 5 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.

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