

Alma Mater

2019 EDITION



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE



One Face Beyond...

CONTENTS

From the Principal	2-3
Prefect report	4
Pedagogy report	5
Building works	6
A holistic education	7
Student success stories	8-9
Staff in the spotlight	10-11
Term 1-2 in photos	12-13
Community outreach	14-15
Class of 2018	16
Arrivederci Gianna	17
Alumni Association news	18
Reunions and alumni AGM news	19-20
Anecdotes from the archives	21
Alumni memorabilia	22-23
150 Faces extract	24
Alumni - staying in touch	25-26
A new age for Maryknoll	27
Building fund and contact form	28



From the Principal

What I discovered about St Mary's College last year

It is no secret that I am in love with St Mary's College. It seems the more I come to know her, the more I come to love her! Last year as we celebrated her 150 years we had many opportunities to come together and celebrate, and through those celebrations we seemed to also define our 'self'. Not define our 'self' as in creating a new image of who we are, as might be done through redefining or reinventing. It was more that a truth emerged through the celebrations that rang

out the 'self' of St Mary's College.

Firstly, it was abundantly clear that the College is, and seemingly always has been, greater than the students and the staff who exist in the present. At every event, even the events solely created for the students, there was a connection that reached back in time. At the blessing of the 150th badges for the students, Archbishop Emeritus Adrian Doyle told of his happy memories of being a St Mary's boy. He described a world which was nostalgic for people my age, but for our students, hard to imagine, let alone comprehend.

Editor: Melissa McLeod. Articles and photos a combined effort from students, staff and parents. Cover image: Chloe Gray and Quinn McKenzie



**ST MARY'S
COLLEGE**

164 Harrington Street,
Hobart, Tasmania 7000
GPO Box 1476,
Hobart, Tasmania 7001

T (03) 6108 2560 F (03) 6234 8073

E stmarys@smc.tas.edu.au

www.smc.tas.edu.au



*It is no secret that
I am in love with
St Mary's College.*

Secondly, at the Governor's Reception, in the most inhospitable weather Hobart has seen in decades, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania, made reference to Cecily Verrier's and Margaret Roote's histories of St Mary's College. Cecily and Marg, are of course, esteemed alumni of the College. In going to the heart of their work, Her Excellence concluded in her address "Most noteworthy ... is the College's continuing focus on the importance of working for social justice in society. The wheel has therefore come full circle. In 1868 there was an urgent need to create a school to generate education among the deprived and disadvantaged. And now this great College is reaching out to help those Tasmanians in need. That alone is cause for celebration. And for continuing reflection on the 'Presentation

touchstones of hospitality, compassion and simplicity."

This is the St Mary's self 'defined'. It was so obvious at the Gala Dinner, when Marg took us through a small selection of 150 Faces: alumni across time have gone on to serve others. Again and again, the stories told of doing good, not for glory, but as a vocation. It wasn't limited to one generation either, it transcended.

The Senior School was treated this year to an address by one such previous scholar, Christine Jeffries, now from Western Australia. Christine didn't stand up and tell us how great she was. She could have, because by any measure, she is great! Just look her up in *150 Faces of St Mary's College*. Instead, Christine stood up and told us how poisoned water was critically impacting renal health of Indigenous Australians and what we could do about it. She embodied that attitude of vocation, without even a hint of self promotion or pride. It was so obvious to me, that Christine was - and is - a St Mary's girl.

I've worked at four other Catholic Colleges, all of which foster

community service, espouse Catholic values and teach Catholic social teaching. I've not struck the same degree of a socially conscious and active alumni before. I do believe it has everything to do with The Presentation Sisters. As the connection between the Sisters and current students lessens, we need to ensure that we embody the Charism of Nano Nagle, shine the light for others, and go 'One Pace Beyond'. The connection between current students at St Mary's and their alumni - their ancestry - if you will, is increasingly imperative. Next year we will be constructing our next Strategic Plan. It will be important that we ensure this culture-creating connection is enshrined within it and future St Mary's girls and boys will come to deeply know and understand, albeit somewhat mysteriously, what it is that is the 'self' of the College.

Helen Spencer
Principal

This page: Mary Smith and Cecily Verrier at the Alumni AGM. Opposite page (top-bottom): Christine Jeffries at work in WA. Helen Spencer and Governor of Tasmania, Kate Warner.



In the spirit of kindness

Kindness is a value that has become a pillar in our grade throughout the many years we have been together. It is a value that is often underestimated and underappreciated in our society. In the spirit of this, we have chosen to focus on kindness as our theme for 2019.

Together we aim for everyone in the College community to be accepted. We want to ensure that the College is the best it can be, by embodying the true St Mary's spirit of kindness and compassion. Starting off the year with 'Galentine's Day', we wanted to show that all are supported and loved within the school community.

This year the prefects have chosen two charities to continue this theme with one being Share the Dignity. This Australian charity works to help women in domestic violence or homeless situations have access to clean sanitary products. As a mostly all-girls college we believe it is important to empower and help women who are less fortunate. The second charity is Rare Cancer Australia, an Australian-based charity, which works to raise funds and awareness for the many types of rare cancers.

We believe it is of vital importance, that as a College community, we continue the hard-fought legacy of previous generations of St Mary's women.

Chloe Cooper
Head Prefect



(Top-bottom): raising funds for Prefect charities. Leaders' Commissioning. Year 12 Mother's Day Breakfast fundraiser. Year 11/12 common room celebration wall.

Transforming the classroom

There is a gradual transformation across Australian school classrooms, and St Mary's College is no exception. Up until 5-10 years ago the biggest physical change most schools experienced was likely to have been the inclusion and emergence of computers and technology, possibly including an electronic whiteboard or some form of digital display. Walking through many schools today, it is hard not to notice the often smart interiors, flexible furniture, and very modern-looking, comfortable environments that schools are investing in for their students. Such varied and vibrant furniture is an important aspect of educational design.

Over the past 12 months the Parents and Friends' Association has helped support the College with the refurbishing of several classrooms across Junior and Senior learning spaces. Classrooms for Years 3-5 (including break-out spaces) now boast a range of purpose chosen tables, storage solutions, stools, benches, cushions and chairs. In addition, a makeover occurred in the old computer lab opposite the canteen, which now functions as a multi-purpose technology hub and classroom for all year groups.

When students start Kindergarten we often need to draw attention to the fact that although it looks like 'play', every aspect of the class set-up is a carefully crafted opportunity to develop some skill or social learning. Likewise, our newly furnished classrooms might look like a café or modern lounge and playroom, though in reality, modern furniture options are opening up opportunities for teachers to more easily set up their classrooms in alignment with the varied ways they know student learning occurs. Ultimately this creates inviting spaces that students want to learn



Such varied and vibrant furniture is an important aspect of educational design

in.

Furniture design that takes into account the variety of ways students learn is why classrooms are often arranged in a number of ways. Teachers have been doing this for years: arranging tables, shelves and any other suitable items to create group spaces, quiet zones, places for individual work, creative areas, messy areas and so on, within the confines of their space and with the available furniture on hand.

Learning happens in so many ways with much less emphasis these days on the teacher being the importer of knowledge from the front the room. Teachers recognise the power of constructing learning opportunities for students where they are co-contributors or constructors of their own learning. They actively create opportunities for such learning to

happen, working alongside students, allowing students to work in groups and independently. In addition, the access to learning through the use of individual devices has also drastically changed the classroom dynamics. Teachers work very hard to create spaces for learning that can facilitate all of this, and ultimately, the new furniture is a bonus, not the thing that makes the most difference.

Students and staff across the College have been enjoying the opportunity to put this new furniture to good use and are appreciating the chance to have these vibrant learning environments as a part of their practice.

A big 'thank you' must go to the P&F, and all those who support their fundraising efforts. It is truly appreciated and is making an ongoing difference to the learning spaces around the College.

Tameika Grist
Director of Pedagogy

New furniture in the Year 5 classrooms, courtesy of the P&F Association.

BUILDING WORKS



New master plan

The last 10 years has seen some significant building developments at St Mary's College, with the final touches of the building plan implemented in readiness for the return of students at the commencement of 2019. This brings to a close our current master building plan.

Our Junior School students were delighted to see new play equipment and play surfaces waiting for them at the start of Term 1, along with modern educational furniture for the Year 3, 4 and 5 classrooms, courtesy of the P&F.

The College has been working on a new 10-year master plan for the past 18 months which we anticipate will be presented to the College Board and the College community towards the end of year.

A significant priority of the College is to improve wheelchair access to all buildings within the College, especially from the ground level. To overcome the limitations of a landlocked CBD location, we're working creatively with architects to maximise all spaces around the College with special consideration of the linkages and access between buildings.

We also plan to examine our outdoor areas, allowing more spaces for our students to interact in different ways outside of class and continue to explore all opportunities available to us.

Due to a growing demand for enrolments, the plan will also focus on the need to create new classrooms for the Senior School area.

We're looking forward to sharing our new master building plan with you soon!



This page: (top-bottom): new play equipment near St Peter's Hall. Modern educational furniture in the Year 5 classrooms. Opposite page: (L-R) Tanaz Knott, Claire Raward and Daniel de la Motte.



Modern society is changing and therefore so must schools and the roles of staff in 21st century learning. St Mary's College aims to give students a holistic approach to learning, educating the whole person to go 'One Pace Beyond' in academic, sporting, leadership, outreach and spiritual pursuits.

In aid of this holistic educational approach, at the start of 2019, the College introduced three new staff roles: a Sustainability Officer, a Youth Minister and an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives Officer.

Principal Helen Spencer, said that educating the whole person is a big job, and is therefore best served by a collaborative approach from a strong team.

"These appointments, which reflect our dynamic society, underpin students' personal wellbeing, social competence and learning success," Ms Spencer said.

"The College was fortunate enough to appoint people to these roles whose passion for their respective areas are obvious."

For Sustainability Officer Tanaz Knott, this role means more than just developing sustainable practices and policies, it gives students the opportunity to develop a sense of leadership and environmental stewardship, assisting them in becoming responsible global citizens.

"Our students already have an immense capacity to care and are passionate about the world in which they live," she said.

Mrs Knott said students, as tomorrow's leaders, were passionate about lessening their ecological footprint.

Daniel de la Motte believes his role as Youth Minister, like teaching, is student-centred.

"In my role I act as a connector and caretaker and help students looking for answers on how religion fits into their lives," Mr de la Motte said.

"This spiritual direction and connection is most effective in those moments where there are no learning expectations for students or success criteria."

Having walked the Lurujarri Dreaming Trail with the Goolarabooloo indigenous community, Claire Raward's passion for Australia's indigenous culture has seen her appointed as the College's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives Officer.

"I have the pleasure of continuing my learning journey in Aboriginal history and culture by supporting others in connecting with such a critical part of who we are that makes us Australian," Ms Raward said.

Ms Raward has been working to develop effective partnerships between St Mary's College and the local Aboriginal people, implement programs, initiatives and school-based support to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

These roles help flesh out our mission as a Catholic school, as we help students understand the dignity of all, our spiritual nature and our role of stewards of the earth.



School-based TRAINEESHIP

St Mary's College secondary students are preparing themselves for life beyond the classroom by undertaking a range of innovative and collaborative Vocation and Education Training (VET) courses that cater for each student's needs and abilities.

For Year 12 student Nancy Bidiongo, who is completing her Certificate III in Individual Support, The District Nurses' practice has become her classroom as she embraces the program's placement opportunities in her final year of schooling.

"I've always been interested in a career in nursing, so I was thrilled to learn I could start training while still at school," Nancy said.

Nancy's enthusiasm saw her invited to undertake intensive work experience during her school holidays and she has since secured a school-based traineeship to work with The District Nurses two days per week.

The remainder of her time is spent completing the Tasmanian Certificate of Education at St Mary's College.

"It's been a great experience to work with qualified nurses to learn technical skills and see exactly how things are done in a hospital."

"I'm learning so much about

how to look after patients in the community, as well getting a greater understanding of the healthcare industry.

"You can really benefit from this program if you want to be a nurse because it gives you the opportunity to get first-hand industry experience," Ms Bidiongo said.

Spokesperson for The District Nurses, Emily Balmer, said that these placements provide a safe and nurturing way for students to make informed choices about their future career path and demystify the community care industry.

"The District Nurses have a strong history of 'growing our own', working with Hobart's schools and colleges, and are proud to support and partner with St Mary's College to offer school-based traineeships and placements," Ms Balmer said.

St Mary's College is a member of the Southern Tasmania Catholic Colleges Trade Training Centre and currently offers Certificate I in Business, Certificate II in Tourism, Certificate III in Individual Support, Certificate I in Hospitality and Working with Children (Level 2) and works with students to ensure all learning pathways are met.

VET Learning Coordinator and

Student Pathways Planner, Angela Mitchelmore, said St Mary's College courses are recognised nationally and cater to industry specific requirements that allow students to develop a practical understanding that can lead to paid placements.

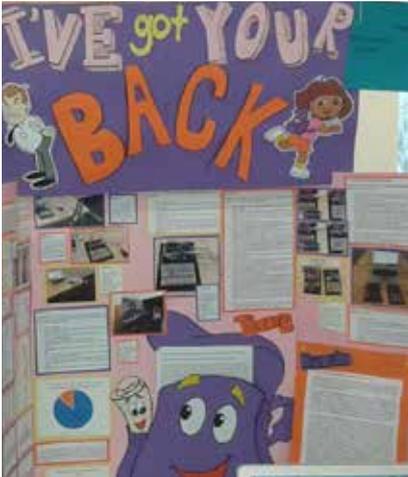
"At St Mary's we understand that no two students' educational needs are the same," Mrs Mitchelmore said.

"Our Pathway Planning sessions start in Year 10, giving the College an excellent understanding of how we can work with students to find educational options that will see them excel in their endeavours."

In addition to the current courses on offer, the College has always connected students to their passions by working with the community to ensure students can study their preferred subjects.

(Left-right): Nancy Bidiongo in the SMC nursing classroom. Nancy at the District Nurses Office where she is completing her Certificate III in Individual Support.

Lucy's GOT YOUR BACK



Our students could soon be carrying a lighter load thanks to the invention of a Year 11 student whose device ensures backpack weight meets safety guidelines.

Lucy Eade said seeing students struggle with heavy backpacks inspired her to create 'I've got you're your back: Safety Backpack' for an independent Science Engineering Mathematics and Technology (STEM) project.

"There are many studies out there that prove children carrying backpacks that are more than 10 per cent of their body weight can receive serious injuries that not only affect their current health, but also their long-term health into adulthood," Lucy said.

"I surveyed students from St Mary's and discovered 87 per cent of them carried backpacks more than 10 per cent of their own body weight."

Lucy's system, which used an electronic prototype, allowed students to test their backpacks with either the purpose-built LCD board displaying the words 'safe weight' or a LED light illuminating when a bag's too heavy.

"Not a lot of people are aware

of the damage that can occur to students who carry heavy bags, so it's important to educate students and help them to avoid this risk."

Having written the device's code, creating hardware and an LCD extension system, Lucy said the next challenge will be making a wireless model that could be placed into students' lockers so they can easily weigh their bags before they left school.

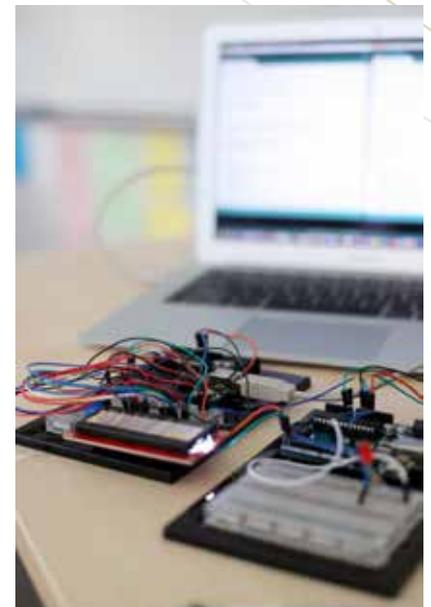
St Mary's Principal, Helen Spencer, said Lucy's project allowed students to see how STEM learnings were rolled-out from theory through to real-world practice.

"Our Science program, and dedicated teachers, means that students are capable of tackling and solving issues both inside and beyond the classroom," she said.

Lucy 'Safety Backpack' was recently selected as one of 26 finalists from around the country in one of Australia's most prestigious STEM competitions, the BPH Foundation Science and Engineering Awards.

She recently won the Pretty Foundation's 2019 award for Innovation, placed first in the engineering division of the Tasmanian Science Talent Search and received

a merit award in the investigation section. The University of Tasmania also awarded her first place and the Technology Special Award in last year's Science and Engineering Awards.



(Clockwise top-bottom): Lucy Eade's award winning Science project. Lucy Eade demonstrating her purpose-built LCD board. Lucy's electronic prototype.



Staff in the spotlight

Past and present

Annie Jordan

Year 5 teacher and SMC alumna

As an alumna, what is your most memorable (or fondest) moment of being a student at St Mary's?

As a student, the SMC community feeling between the girls across the years is what has left me with the fondest memories. Returning as a teacher I still feel that sense of welcome and community at St Mary's, albeit with an entirely different group of students and staff!

When did you attend St Mary's?

Year 1 to Year 12, 1999-2010.

How long have you been a teacher here? Have you taught elsewhere?

This is my second year teaching at St Mary's. I also taught Year 1 for three years at Dominic College. I taught Year 1 at St Mary's last year and I am now teaching in Year 5 for the first time.

Why did you want to be a teacher and what do you enjoy most about teaching?

I grew up wanting to be a teacher as I had family working across different areas of education. When it came to finishing school and applying for university, becoming a teacher was still my first choice. I just love working with children. There is nothing better than seeing something new, or something tricky, 'click' for my students.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I love to travel, walk my dog Harry and read in the sun with a good cup of tea!

Annie's also connected to the College through her family. Her mother, Joanne Holborow, is an Administration Officer in the Junior School and her grandmother, Ann Stanfield is an ex-Principal of SMC.

This page (L-R): Year 5 teacher and SMC alumna, Annie Jordan. Teacher Assistant and long-serving staff member, Julie Stokes. Opposite page (L-R): Jane Clark and Barbara Edwards at the 150th Anniversary Staff Reunion. Jane and the SMC equestrian team in the 90s.

Julie Stokes

Teacher Assistant at SMC for 21 years

How long have you been working at St Mary's College?

I've been a Teacher Assistant at St Mary's College for the past 21 years, focussing on the progress of Kindergarten and Prep children to prepare them for Year 1 and beyond.

You're also a familiar face over the road?

When I'm not at St Mary's, you'll find me at St Virgil's College Junior School, where I've worked for 14 years.

Where did you work prior to SMC?

My work life started in hairdressing and after I had my two girls, Isobel and Madeline, I worked in family day care for four years. Once the girls started as students at St Mary's College, I began as a Teacher Assistant.

What do you love about SMC?

My husband Brian and I feel blessed



to have chosen St Mary's to educate our girls. Isobel was one of the first 'originals', starting in the very first St Mary's Kindergarten class in 1996 and completing her studies in Year 12. Working at and having my children attend St Mary's has allowed me to form a connection and long-lasting relationships with students and families who have progressed through the College.

I love the way older students still come by to say hello and give me a hug. I think of many St Mary's families fondly. One family in particular, after my dog passed on, gifted me a Christmas ornament of an angel holding a dog which I still bring out every Christmas to hang on our tree. The gesture meant so much to me, knowing that they got to know me and cared for me beyond my work at school.

I enjoy helping the minds of our youngest students and facing challenges together to best prepare them for the rest of their schooling years. I really love my job and working with the younger children.

Jane Clark

Retired from SMC in 2008

When did you teach at St Mary's College?

I started at SMC in 1982 where I taught until retiring from teaching in 2008.

What are your fondest memories of St Mary's College?

My highlight was teaching pre-tertiary Religion to Year 11 and 12 girls which was fulfilling and enjoyable as it was aligned with my own interests. I also enjoyed being Careers Advisor and encouraging the girls to realise and use their talents. Best of all, I loved teaching Philosophy. I still see students now, who have grown into beautiful women with their own careers.

What inspired you to start a teaching career?

I fell into teaching almost by accident. I went to Papua New Guinea and I had an arts degree and wasn't sure what to do next. I decided to start teaching there

when I was 25-years-old, staying three years and having two children there before returning home to Hobart. I taught part-time at St Virgil's but I found the boys to be quite naughty, so after a year I moved to teach at St Mary's, my alma mater.

Teaching wasn't your first experience of SMC - what was student life like at St Mary's?

I was a student at St Mary's College in the 50s, graduating in Year 10 in 1960. I remember it being a tough time and very strict; however, Sr Barbara was very kind and I've never forgotten her. Returning to visit St Mary's, I love how it has developed and the warmth of the place.

What do you enjoy now?

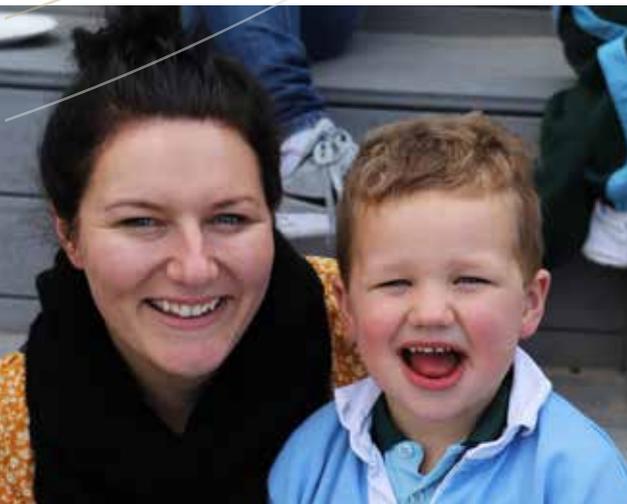
After teaching I worked as a marketing manager at the Wombat Springs Vineyard, which my husband Ralph ran. The vineyard closed and I retired from that in 2007. I live in Franklin on 30 acres and I keep busy with my horses and grandchildren.

The year so far
IN PHOTOS





Photos – (top-bottom, left-right): P&F Mother's Day Breakfast. Rowing regatta. Year 10 Welcome to Senior Studies Dinner. Grandparents' Day. Cross Country. Belling-in. New students on the first day of school. Kinders at play. Big Splash Carnival. Senior Athletics Carnival. Relay for Life. Junior School Swimming Carnival. 'The Bleeding Tree' performance by Year 12 Theatre Performance Group. Scooter Day. Harmony Day. P&F Mother's Day Breakfast. Belling-in. Celebrating the end of NAPLAN testing with a hot chocolate. Big Splash Carnival. First day of School. Having fun in Kindergarten. Making bath bombs in Year 7. Nude Food and Scooter Day. First day of school. Walk Safely to School Day. Palm Sunday. Kindergarten Mother's Day afternoon tea. Green Thumbs in the garden.



Community & OUTREACH



WELCOME NEW PARENTS

The St Mary's College community came together in March to officially welcome new families to the school. The evening provided an opportunity for new families, teachers and staff to meet, connect and learn about the College and our community.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

The Junior School took a multigenerational approach to learning when grandparents and special friends were welcomed to the College for a morning of hands-on activities in April. Welcomed with hugs and smiles, our guests' mornings were jampacked with craft, puzzles and reading as they joined students in their classrooms. Concluding with a special assembly and morning tea, the day gave our special guests a taste of College life, enjoying time with students.

PROJECT COMPASSION

The College community dug deep throughout Lent to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Students sold freshly toasted hot cross buns in the lead-up to Easter, helping to raise funds to end world poverty. Thank you to the many in our community who also sorted our 'bunraiser' by purchasing a delicious pack of hot cross buns for Easter.

Year 3 Bottlebrush learnt more about how Project Compassion helps the needy when they gave up their lunchtime to participate in the 2019 Water Challenge. The students, and some staff members, attempted to transport five kilograms of water by balancing containers on their head, reenacting a fraction of the journey that many families living in poverty must make to source clean water each day.

MOTHER'S DAY

Although a cold start to the morning, mums, daughters and sons turned out for the P&F's annual Mother's Day Breakfast. With hands warmed by cups of hot chocolate and cappuccinos, mums were treated to pancakes with warm blueberries, fruit salad and yoghurt on the College Green. Judging by the smiles, and some messy faces, it's pretty clear that the morning was enjoyed by mums and students alike.

PRESENTATION SISTERS' MISSION

Throughout the year, Homerooms work together to raise funds for the Presentation Sisters in the Philippines.

Nagle House's fundraising efforts have begun with an old tradition, the coin drive. Following the whole school Nagle Mass, Nagle House students spelt out 'Nano Nagle' in gold and silver coins and filled a Celtic heart raising a total of \$434.25.

HARMONY DAY

There was a pop of orange at St Mary's College in March as students joined their hearts and hands together for the school's annual Harmony Day celebrations. Starting with an assembly, the students learnt what Harmony Day is about and celebrated Australia's diversity with an ancient Aboriginal song and Chinese lion dance performance.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING

Originally only offered to Year 11 and 12 students as a subject, Year 7-10 students now have the opportunity to explore and experience real-world outreach through the College's Community Service program.

The program has also allowed the College to formally recognise the service students may have already undertaken and plays a role in the decision-making process for the end-of-year Faith in Action awards.

Students have engaged with a number of not-for-profit organisations, with others choosing to volunteer in the school canteen.

Imogen Faltusz (Year 10) has spent time volunteering with the Hobart Huskies, the Southern Huskies and the Revellers. She's even travelled to Launceston to assist with training, refereeing and ushering. Imogen said volunteering has been a challenging, yet rewarding, experience and allows her to give back to a sport she loves while making new friends.

BLANKET DRIVE

Students have again been spending their spare time generously making blankets to be donated to charity. The group, run by Luzie Gillard (Year 10), has sewn squares together which were knitted by ladies awaiting testing at BreastScreen Tasmanian. Luzie said she hopes the project, which is now in its third year, continues well beyond her time at the College. Last year the group donated 29 blankets to St Vincent de Paul.

The Young Vinnies student group continued their winter woolies drive again this year, encouraging students to wear their pyjamas to school for a day and donate a blanket or warm item of clothing for those in need.



This page (top-bottom): coin line for the Presentation Sisters' Mission. Winter Woollies drive for Vinnies. Opposite page (top-bottom): Grandparents' Day. Welcome Evening for new parents. Harmony Day. Project Compassion 'bunraiser'. P&F Mother's Day Breakfast.

Farewell CLASS OF 2018



Congratulations to the class of 2018, who we now welcome as our newest SMC alumni. With our 150th anniversary celebrations in 2018, it was a very special time to be leading the College as Year 12 students.

Our graduates enjoyed all the traditional rites of passage that they had looked forward to for so long as young students. They saw out the year with the Graduation Mass, Leavers' Dinner and Belling-Out, which were celebrated with tears both happy and sad. A particularly special treat for the graduates was seeing an artistic video projected onto the convent building as they finished their Graduation Mass – a dedication to our Year 12s in our 150th year.

With the celebrations also came the exams, and our Year 12s continued to make us proud with their strong academic results. Congratulations to Olivia Eade, who achieved the highest ATAR score for St Mary's College at 99.45. Olivia was also awarded Dux of the College. Prue Huntington was next in line with 99.35. These are both excellent results, which placed them in the top 100 students in the state. 15% of our students received an ATAR above 95 (placing them in the top 5% of the Tasmania), 23% were above 90 (top 10%).

The class of 2018 graduates have gone on to a number of pathways this year with many pursuing a degree locally at UTAS. Congratulations to Prue Huntington who received the Vice Chancellor's Scholarship for Excellence for her Bachelor of Science degree at Monash University.



This page (top-bottom): Year 12 Leavers' Dinner. Belling-out. Graduation Mass. The 2018 'Originals'. Last day for Year 12s. The Convent Project projection after Graduation Mass. Opposite page (L-R): Gianna Staples as a teacher at SMC. Gianna as a young SMC girl in the 60s.



After 10 years as a teacher at St Mary's College, it was with a heavy heart that the College said 'arrivederci' to Gianna Staples as she began her well-deserved retirement at the end of 2018.

Of course, Gianna has been part of the fabric of St Mary's College much longer than 10 years, having attended the College as a student in the 60s and 70s before generously spending time on both the Old Scholars' Association and College Advisory Board.

With a connection to St Mary's College spanning six decades, Gianna has many stories to tell and we're delighted to share some of her memories with you.

My first visit to St Mary's was for my enrolment interview as a 5-year-old Italian migrant, accompanied by my mother and the Italian priest who came as a referee and interpreter. Mother Madeleine, in full habit with rattling rosary beads tied at her waist, opened the convent door to us and I was in! My earliest memories of school include the excitement of learning new English words and my first taste of meat pies, of which I was not too fond. In high school, I was introduced to

Australian cuisine: stew, fricassee, blancmange and scones. My taste buds had been more used to the flavour of 'exotic' foods such as lasagne, prosciutto and olives! They were foods that were not part of the Australian diet.

One of the things I value most from my days as a student at St Mary's is being told that a woman could do anything she wanted in life; marriage or becoming a nun weren't the only options. Of course, we were still taught Home Economics (cooking and sewing), but we were also encouraged to fulfil our potential and to sit university scholarship exams. I remember the Sisters, especially Sr Mary (Gertrude) Morgan, championing women's rights. Even though most of my classmates became teachers or nurses, traditional roles for women at that time, we left SMC with the confidence that we are equivalent to men, something that girls today take for granted.

The 70s were times of change for society, women and the Sisters. One day the Sisters appeared at school in short dresses which showed their legs and small veils which revealed their hair! We, as young women, were beginning to see the humanness of the nuns but

as a Year 7 student at the time, I did not understand the full implications of the recent Vatican II Council and the changes that were happening. The Sisters were teachers, mentors and friends and they were integral in strengthening my faith through their role modelling and guidance.

During my teaching career with Tasmanian Education Department schools, I remained in contact with St Mary's through my friendship with the Sisters, in my involvement with the Old Scholars' Association, appointment to the Board and as a parent. I had always contemplated returning to St Mary's as a teacher, to give back what the school had given me. The opportunity came in 2008 when I was appointed Head of English and Languages. My last 11 years of teaching were fulfilling and rewarding, working with a most dedicated and committed staff and wonderful students.

Recently retired, I do not miss the early morning traffic, the bells and meetings, but I do miss the students I had the privilege of teaching and the camaraderie of colleagues. My plans are to travel, bushwalk and to do some volunteer work. My hobbies: knitting, sewing, piano playing and gardening have replaced lesson preparation and marking.



Alumni Association report

Dear Alumni,

For some of the planning years leading up to the school's 150th anniversary, Vicki Turvey, Secretary of the Alumni Committee, was invited to attend the planning meetings, to ensure that the voice of past scholars was being heard.

During 2018, the Alumni Committee decided to stand back from its regular activities and participate instead in a positive and active way in assisting the College in all its 150th Anniversary celebrations and milestone events. The first of these was the glorious Community Fun Day celebrating our Irish roots. The committee ran a very successful merchandise stall, selling products by artist Esther Shohet, 150th Anniversary wines purchased from the vineyard of alumna Jane Clarke,

and aprons and tea towels produced by the Junior School, as well as other sundry items.

The alumni were also represented at the Mass and the 150th Dinner on 19 May 2018, with the committee members generously manning the merchandise stall at the dinner.

The Association was again well-represented at the launch of *150 Faces of St Mary's College* in October, which was very much a celebration of all the people of the school and their many contributions to its life.

The Association held its annual Mass and reunion at the College in early November, which was well attended. At the AGM that day, we gratefully farewelled our dynamic duo, Brigid Shea and Brigitte Galak and voted Alyssa Cantrell as President, Anne Morrison as Vice-President, our stalwart Vicki Turvey as Secretary and Megan Rootes as Treasurer. We are now about to farewell Alyssa, who is moving interstate, so Anne Morrison has graciously stepped up

as President, assisted by Margaret Rootes when required. At our committee meeting on 7 April 2019, we discussed our plans for this year, hopefully including a fundraiser, and following up on revamping our financial arrangements and developing a business plan.

Acting Co-Presidents

Anne Morrison and Margaret Rootes

(Clockwise top-bottom): Marg Rootes, Lucinda Casey and Kathleen Casey at the Alumni AGM in 2018. Bernadette Large and Bev Norton at the Alumni AGM. A delicious afternoon tea spread at the Alumni AGM.

North West Alumni SAY FAREWELL



The North West Branch of SMC Past Scholars commenced in April 1958, and had its final meeting in June 2018, after 60 years of operation. The final meeting was attended by 13 members, two of whom had attended the inaugural meeting 60 years previously: Mesdames Margaret Reece (nee Leary, a boarder from 1935-1939) and Maureen Gale (nee Maguire, a boarder from 1951-1953).

Most members of the branch were ex-boarders of the College, so had wonderful memories to share and regale us with at meetings. The closure of the boarding dormitories in 1971 meant that the steady stream of potential new members became a trickle, made up of people relocating to the north-west coast as adults. Due to an ageing membership the branch has officially closed, but will continue to have social gatherings in June and November each year.

Over the years the branch enjoyed keeping in touch with the events that were happening at our alma mater. Shortly after forming the association, members agreed to donate a prize to the most cooperative boarder, which they sent annually until the boarding dormitories closed. Some

acknowledged that they would never have been eligible for this award! This support was then converted to a book donation to the library; and finally as a contribution to the awarding of Originals Medals from their inception in 2002.

The branch also donated to the Novitiate Building Fund (1964), the Betty Bowes Memorial Fund (1988), and the Archbishop Adrian Doyle Chapel Stained Glass Window Appeal (2016).

Three members were nominated for the *150 Faces of St Mary's College*, and we were pleased that Mary Binks was selected for inclusion. In 2011 five members were also nominated for inclusion in the Women in Science Honour Roll.

The branch was vocal in its opposition to the Archdiocese plan to remove Years 11 and 12, and called an Extraordinary Meeting in 1992, writing a strongly worded letter to Archbishop Eric D'Arcy and Fr John Williams. Archbishop D'Arcy met with a contingent, when he visited Devonport, and members of the Branch were extremely pleased that SMC continued to offer a complete education on one campus.

We have been proud to have had such a long association with the school and remain interested in the events as they unfold: keeping

informed by receiving issues of *Alma Mater* and visiting the school's website.

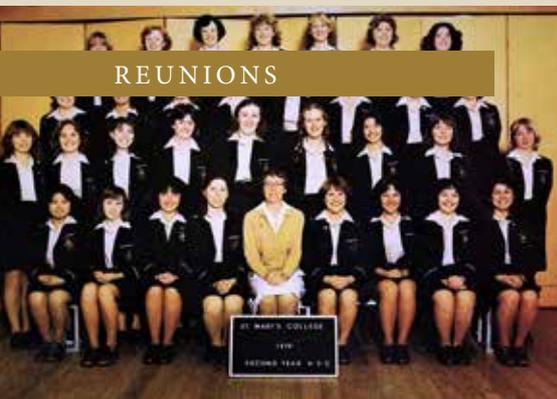
Felicity Sly

President (2017-2018)

The group has generously donated the remainder of its funds to the College and Southern Alumni Association, along with its valuable records gathered over the years.

Our North West Branch members are encouraged to stay in touch and join us at Southern Alumni Association events in the future if they're in the mood for a road trip to Hobart!

This page (L-R): Inaugural Members Maureen Gale (Maguire) and Margaret Reece (Laskey) cutting the celebration cake at the North West Alumni Association's last AGM. The last official meeting of the North West Alumni Association in 2018 (back row L-R): Wendy Holloway, Sharine Johnstone, Juliet Smith, Josephine Kelly, Cecily McWaters, Elizabeth Nickols, (middle row L-R): Felicity Sly, Margaret Reece, Margaret Hiscutt, Elizabeth Cox, (front row L-R): Maureen Gale, Maureen Bennett.



REUNIONS

Reunions galore!

CLASS OF 1979 (40 YEARS) COMBINED WITH SVC

Date: Saturday 3 August 2019.

Where/When: 6.30pm at the Derwent Sailing Squadron, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay.

Cost: \$20 per head. Purchase your own drinks.

RSVP: To confirm your attendance and payment, please contact Michelle Boutchard (Garnham) at boutchard477@outlook.com or Rose Grano (nee Galligan) at rose@mrge.com.au.

College tour: A tour of St Mary's College will depart at 3.00pm sharp from outside Reception (lower Brisbane Street entrance).

CLASS OF 1968 (51 YEARS)

Date: Saturday 3 August 2019.

Where/When: 6.30pm - 9.30pm at the Royal Yacht Club, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay.

Cost: \$50 per head for finger food and a welcome drink.

School tour: 3.00pm, Saturday 3 August 2019. Meet outside the St Mary's College Reception from the



lower Brisbane Street entrance.

For those interested, there will be a get together breakfast on Sunday 4 August. Details will be arranged at the reunion.

RSVP: by 20 July 2019 to Helen Sarfalvy by email: hsarfalvy@gmail.com or mobile 0438 055 666.

Please make payment to BSB 017010 and Account 580482711.

CLASS OF 1989 (30 YEARS) COMBINED WITH SVC

Saturday 16 November 2019

Details TBC - search for SMC 30 Year Reunion on Facebook

Contact Rosie Barry for more information: rosie_bergerbarry@yahoo.com or 0401 565 648

CLASS OF 1999 (20 YEARS)

Date: Saturday 23 November 2019.

Details TBC.

For more information contact: Brigitte Galak (Wooton) brigitte.galak@gmail.com or Alison Lovell (Harvey) alovell@live.com.au or join the Facebook page 'Class of '99 20 Year Reunion!'.

CLASS OF 1978 (40 YEARS)

The class of 1978 40 year reunion was held on November 25 last year in the beautiful setting of

The Farm House Kitchen at Wattle Grove, which is owned by SMC alumni class of 1979, Guilanna White (Longo). Guilianna kindly opened her home to the 25 guests, where she holds Italian cooking classes throughout the year. It was a wonderful afternoon, with many people not seeing each other since school days - many of the girls even started Junior School together - so a little re-introducing was needed! While the weather was bad, the warmth and atmosphere inside was very vibrant and friendly; the class even broke into song with the *Alma Mater* at the end of the day. The star of the class was Anne Gillian who managed to wear her school uniform (pictured top right in the front row).

CLASS OF 2008 (10 YEARS)

In November last year the graduating class of 2008 celebrated their 10 year reunion at the Italian Club. Many stories and laughs were shared as they reminisced about their time at St Mary's. It was a great chance for them all to catch up and see where life has taken them. It didn't take long to pick up where they left off all those years ago, and it felt as though no time had passed. To those who could not make it, you were missed, and we hope to see you at the next big reunion!



St Mary's College Alumni

WINERY LUNCHEON

Saturday 7 November

**COST: \$50 PER HEAD WHICH INCLUDES WINE
TASTING, LUNCHEON AND FREE BUS TRIP
LEAVING ST MARY'S COLLEGE AT 11.00AM
RSVP: BRIGID SHEA ON 0409 886 193
BY FRIDAY 16 AUGUST**

Saturday 9 November

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION

**12.00PM MASS IN THE SMC CHAPEL
1.15PM LUNCH AND AGM IN THE STAFFROOM**

**COST: \$20 INCLUDING A GLASS OF BUBBLES!
MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE
DAY, SO COME ALONG, SIGN UP & FIND OUT
WHAT WE DO. ALL WELCOME!
PAYMENTS MADE BY 1 NOVEMBER
ENQUIRIES WELCOME: MARGARET ROOTES
MROOTES@SMC.TAS.EDU.AU**

**FOR BOTH EVENTS, PLEASE PAY AT THE SMC
SCHOOL OFFICE OR MAKE A DIRECT DEPOSIT:
ST MARY'S COLLEGE ALUMNI
BSB 067-000 ACC 1087 6505
(PLEASE USE YOUR NAME AS A REFERENCE).**



Anecdotes FROM THE ARCHIVE

Our archives and Heritage Centre are now in their seventh year and firmly ensconced in Fermoy Cottage in Brisbane Street. Each day when I settle in to work here, I soak up the ambience and count myself lucky to have the best workplace in Hobart!

My little cottage used to be known as Cook's cottage, as it once belonged to Mr Cook, of Cook's Buses fame, whose family home it was for many years. There are a number of former scholars who remember boarding with the Cook family after they left St Mary's and went into employment. One lady told me that when her fiancé brought her back to the cottage after a date, they were only allowed to linger on the verandah for a few minutes before Mrs Cook let her know it was time to come in.

It has been through listening to the stories of others that I have gleaned my most interesting tales about St Mary's and its past. I read in a *Santa Maria* that there was once a Brownies pack at St Mary's, but was unable to find much further information about it. Then magically, Mrs Mary Smith (McManus), Head Prefect 1951, and a great friend of the school, turned up at the cottage one day last year with a photo of

the Brownie pack as it was in her time, and some anecdotes about their activities.

Recently, I took up the subject again with Mary and thanks to her wonderful memory, she has helped fill the gaps. Mary joined the St Mary's Brownies in the early 1940s, when she was in Year 4. About six of the Brownies had been in other packs, while the rest, like Mary, were new to Brownies.

As it was war-time, there was only light brown material available for their uniforms, which had to be bought with their clothing coupons. Meetings were held weekly on Saturdays in the Assembly Room (now the staff dining room), and one year they held a display in St Peter's Hall for parents and the Sisters.

Mary recalls that Gwenda McVilly (later to become Sr Joseph), was the leader of the Elves, with two stripes on her uniform, and Janet Haywood was the leader of the Fairies, with two stripes on hers. Carmel Case and Moya Doyle (sister of Adrian, future Archbishop), were their seconders. Mary recalls that Moya received the highest possible Brownies award.

On Thinking Day, the Brownies were allowed to wear their uniforms to school, to show people that they

belonged to an organisation which tried to act well and do good things.

In Year 7, Mary joined the St Mary's Girl Guide troop, which met on Friday nights at the Congregational Hall. The St Mary's Guides were allowed to wear a brown tie with blue stripes across it. Some of her fellow Brownies went on to join the Guides with her. Once the Guides went on a camp at Tarroona, but they laughed and giggled so much during the night, that the next morning they were sent home!

It is poignant that even after many decades, Mary remembers a prayer which the Guides used to link their arms to recite:

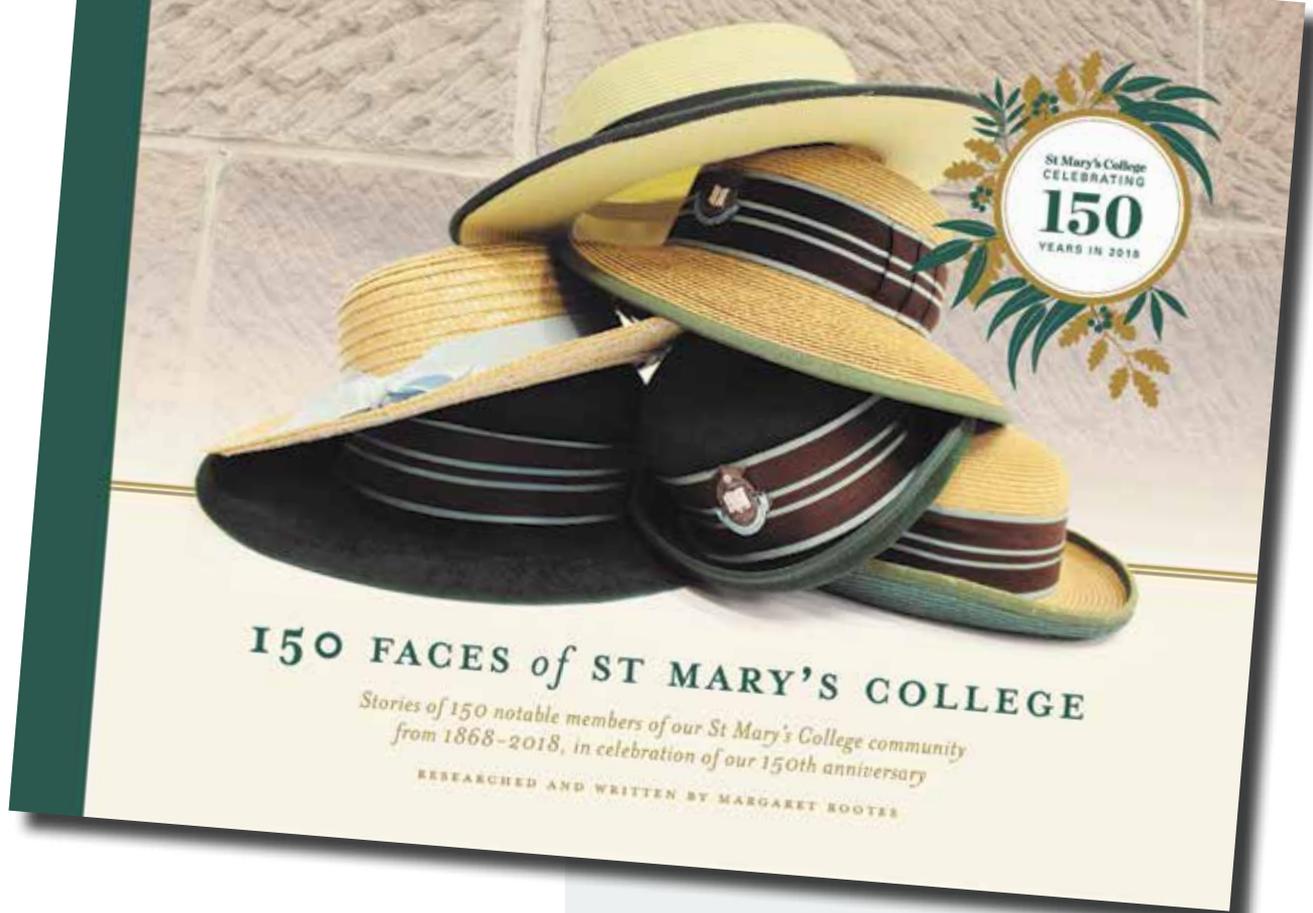
On the strength of each link in the cable, dependeth the might of the chain.

Who knows when thou mayest be tested,

So live that thou bearest the strain.

Margaret Rootes
College Archivist

A room of memorabilia in Fermoy Cottage. The SMC Brownies in the 1930s.



150 FACES of ST MARY'S COLLEGE

Stories of 150 notable members of our St Mary's College community from 1868-2018, in celebration of our 150th anniversary

RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY MARGARET ROOTES



GENERATION PINS FOR SALE

At the conclusion of our anniversary year, the College thought it was fitting to acknowledge the many generations that have passed through St Mary's in its 150-year-history by introducing a series of generation pins. The pins currently extend to six generations.

The generation pins are now available to purchase for \$8.00 at the Student Services Office, once proof of family attendance has been verified through completing the form available on the College website: <https://www.smc.tas.edu.au/past-scholars-association/> and sending it to the College Archivist, Margaret Rootes: mrootes@smc.tas.edu.au

150 Faces of St Mary's College

Still haven't gotten around to ordering yourself a copy of the *150 Faces of St Mary's College* book? It's not too late! There are still a few copies available to purchase. This beautifully written coffee table book is a thoughtful gift for any SMC alumni who still holds St Mary's close to their heart. You're bound to see some faces you recognise in one of the 288 pages!

To get your hands on a copy of the book, download an order form from the SMC website, send us an email, or give us a call.

Website: www.smc.tas.edu.au/150th-anniversary/

Phone: (03) 6108 2560

Email: communications@smc.tas.edu.au

Both cash and credit cards are accepted and for an additional \$15 we can send your copy in the post.



150 Faces of St Mary's College An extract - Margaret Gard

Margaret Gard was born in New South Wales in 1892. When she was 10 years old, her father, an engine driver, moved the family to Hobart. Margaret and possibly her siblings, began school at St Columba's in 1903. Very little is known of her time there, but as there was always a very strong leaning throughout the history of St Columba's School towards musical performances and participation in competitions, there is every probability that Margaret's gift of singing was encouraged and celebrated.

According to newspaper reports from the time, Margaret came to the attention of some prominent Hobart citizens as a singer in the cathedral choir. Her patrons included the Tasmanian Premier Sir John Evans and Monsignor Gilleran of St Mary's Cathedral. They used their influence to establish the Margaret Gard Committee, raising funds to send her to Europe to further her singing education.

With the generous financial assistance of her sponsors, Margaret

Margaret made her professional debut in London in 1939 singing Verdi's 'Lady Macbeth'

left Hobart in 1911 to study at the Royal Conservatory of London. In 1914 she won a scholarship to remain at the Conservatory until her debut as a mezzo-soprano in Paris in 1917.

Whilst working in Italy, Margaret met and married a set designer, Giovanni Grandi, with whom she had a daughter Patricia.

Now performing as Margherita Grandi, she made her debut in Milan in 1932, singing Verdi's *Aida*.

Margaret made her professional debut in London in 1939 singing Verdi's *Lady Macbeth*. She was regularly engaged by the Royal Opera

House from 1947-50.

In the 1948 movie *The Red Shoes*, Margaret's singing voice is heard.

Margaret Gard had three sisters Josie, Kathleen and Molly. Josie became Mrs Humble, the mother of Maureen who attended St Mary's College. Maureen became Mrs Tulk and her daughter Fiona (1977) was also educated and later became a teacher at St Mary's College. Fiona's brother, Anthony, attended the College and later sent his daughter, Olivia (2009), there to be educated.

Sadly, Margaret died in 1972 without ever having returned to Hobart. Her story however completed a satisfactory circle in the continuous connection between her extended family and St Mary's College.

Margaret Rootes
College Archivist

This page (L-R): Margaret Gard. The London Opera House. Opposite page (L-R): Vale Mary Binks (Laskey, 1951) OAM. SMC alumna and culinary success, Brigid Mallett (2012).

Staying in touch with OUR ALUMNI



BRIGID MALLET; A CULINARY SUCCESS

Brigid Mallett and her elder sisters Emily and Ruth were all educated at St Mary's College. In her senior years at school, Brigid began to set her sights on the hospitality industry for her future career.

After graduating from Year 12 in 2012, Brigid commenced an apprenticeship as a chef at the New Sydney Hotel. After a year there, she transferred to Smolt, where she completed her apprenticeship over the next several years. She also completed her Certificate III at private training organisation IndustryLink, which at the time was run out of the kitchens at Guilford Young College.

After qualifying, Brigid was employed at Smolt as a chef.

Brigid has been very successful in her fledgling career: in 2014 she was runner-up Apprentice of the Year, and in 2018 was the runner-up for the Terra Madre Slow Food scholarship. She has also won a Nestle Golden Chef's Hat award. These are wonderful achievements so early in her career.

For some time now, Brigid has worked for Wattlebanks, a catering organisation working

from commercial kitchens and two mobile vans to cater for weddings, festivals and other occasions around the State. Brigid has catered for weddings at Pumphouse Point, Lake Barrington, Bruny Island and many points in between. Wattlebanks has recently opened a restaurant in Richmond, where Brigid will be working in the future.

Recently Brigid was engaged to her partner and together they have bought their first home. We wish Brigid the best as her career and her private life continue to blossom.

Margaret Rootes
College Archivist

VALE MARY BINKS

Mary Binks (Laskey) OAM was a loved and valued member of the St Mary's College Past Scholars Association, North West, from the time the family relocated in the late 1970s. She was a wonderful teller of stories, and kept us entertained over many years, until her move to Evandale in 2015. Mary was selected to be one of the '150 faces of St Mary's College', and more details about her contribution to Tasmania can be read there.

Mary Binks was educated at St

Brigid's Catholic School (New Norfolk) and St Mary's College (1946-1951). She married teacher, Chris Binks, in 1958 and they have four children: Peter, Catherine, Mary and Jenni; and eight grandchildren.

Mary made an impact on the Devonport community and Tasmania through her involvement in organisations such as the Catholic Women's League (State Secretary); founder of Gran's Van (2006); Inaugural President of the National Council of Women (Devonport Branch); and most notably the Devonport City Council (Mayor 2000-2004) to name a few. Mary accumulated awards for her good works and achievements: Medal of the Order of Australia (2005) and Honour Roll of Women (2005). She cared for and championed those who needed a voice: the homeless, the marginalised, women, and the ageing.

Mary Binks died at her home in Evandale on Tuesday 12 June, 2018. She leaves a legacy carried on by volunteers who have taken up her causes. Her grace, humour, drive, concern and thoughtfulness will be missed.

Felicy Sly
North West Alumni Association
President



Alumni Achievements from near and far

HUGHES-WARRINGTON LEARNING HUB

At the end of last year the College officially opened the Hughes-Warrington Learning Hub – a professional learning and meeting space for staff. Named after SMC alumna and Rhodes Scholar **Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington (class of 1987)**, St Mary's College is rightly proud of its only Rhodes Scholar in the 113 years of the award. We were delighted to have Marnie present for the opening of the centre at the end of 2018.

Marnie's career has taken her to the University of Washington, Macquarie University, Monash University and finally Australian National University (ANU), where she served in the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic for seven years.

Marnie has now returned to her great love of teaching and is currently working on her three-book contract (to add to the seven books she's already written in the field of

history).

You can read more about Marnie's achievements in our book *150 Faces of St Mary's College*.

We were delighted to also reconnect with Marnie's mother, **Bernadette Hughes**, at the opening of the Hughes-Warrington Learning Hub. Bernadette is a very welcome and familiar face at the College and can be found helping out in the Year 1-3 classrooms twice a week, as an aid, craft helper and friendly, helpful presence.

MORE ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Taylor Mole (class of 2017) is well on her way to going pro! Taylor has just completed her freshman year at Colorado State University (CSU) as part of a four year athletic scholarship. There she plays for the Rams basketball team in front of huge crowds. Taylor moved to the US in August 2018 following two years at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) on a basketball scholarship.

Janaya Smith (class of 2013) has completed her four-year tennis scholarship in the United States and returned to Tasmania last year with a Bachelor of Education (K-8) and Bachelor of Physical Education (K-12) with Honours. She's now a teacher at Bowen Road Primary.

Alyce Piper, Kelsea Welch, Casey Batchelor (class of 2013) completed a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Teaching together at UTAS, graduating in 2018. You can find them all teaching in primary schools in greater Hobart this year.

Lucy Rose Cooper (class of 2012) has become the first female wool buyer in the state, which is no mean feat given her age, especially in a male dominated industry. Lucy became a certified wool classer, winning a traineeship with Roberts Rural Co. Lucy has placed second in national wool handling competitions and learnt her craft in the shearing sheds of Tasmania and New Zealand.



A new age for MARYKNOLL

A new age is on the horizon for the beloved Presentation Sisters' property of Maryknoll in Blackmans Bay.

Remembered fondly by St Mary's alumni and the Catholic community as the location for many religious retreats and beach picnics over the years, the new destiny for Maryknoll will continue to give to the community, but now in the form of community housing.

The three-hectare parcel of land will be developed into 22 lots that include a mix of private ownership, affordable and social housing.

Rather than selling, the Presentation Sisters are gifting the land for the purposes of providing housing options for the community – there is no commercial advantage to the Sisters.

Congregational Leader of the Tasmanian Presentation Sisters, Sr Gabrielle Morgan, said the constant media coverage about the lack of affordable housing was the inspiration for the new direction.

"It started back in 2015 with me

cutting out articles I found in the newspapers about the increasing need for affordable housing - the huge social need was evident," Sr Gabrielle said.

"We have a property, we saw a need and the solution would fit in with our Charism of what the Sisters were founded to do."

Presentation Foundress Nano Nagle was naturally an inspiration for the project.

"We want to leave a long-term legacy that will continue to benefit the vulnerable, disadvantaged women and families for decades into the future, just as Nano did."

The Sisters have teamed up with Catholic Care and employed the services of JMG consultants, spending over two years grounding the vision and working on how the idea could be realised.

It was a lengthy process, working with consultants and council officers through the audit process ensuring the local wildlife would be preserved and engaging with the public in consultation meetings.

"We want this development to be an open, sympathetic space," Sr Gabrielle said.

In January this year, the Kingborough Council approved the initial proposals. The public consultation period has ended and the project currently sits with the Tasmanian Planning Authority.

Purchased by the Presentation Sisters in 1929, Sr Gabrielle said the property was developed into a House of Prayer, a centre for religious retreats and a living quarters for some of the Sisters.

"The Presentation Sisters are very appreciative of the support we have received from SMC alumni and members of the general community," Sr Gabrielle said.

This page (L-R): Sr Gabrielle Morgan at Maryknoll. Maryknoll gates - both photos courtesy of Mark Franklin. Opposite page (L-R): Taylor Mole. Bernadette Hughes with daughter Marnie Hughes-Warrington.

How to STAY CONNECTED

Update your contact details

Haven't heard from the College in a while? Maybe you've recently moved house? Or perhaps you're keen to hear if your graduating year is planning a reunion? Make sure we have *your* current contact details (not just your parents' old address) so you don't miss out on any news! Just fill out the contact details form on the College website or send your new details to communications@smc.tas.edu.au

Tell us about your achievements

We always love to hear what our alumni are up to after graduating from SMC, so if you have any news or achievements to share, or know of someone we should follow-up, please get in touch.

Be a part of our mentor program

Can you remember what it was like as a Year 10 St Mary's student, wondering about what you wanted to be 'when you grew up'? The College is always looking for ways to help students find their passion and be inspired and guided on the path to their dream career. Students particularly love when St Mary's alumni visit the College with stories of their own career journey.

If you're open to becoming a mentor or to answering questions our students might have about your industry, we would love to hear from you! We are looking for mentors from a large variety of industries. Find out more information by emailing communications@smc.tas.edu.au or calling 6108 2560.

building our future

BUILDING FUND DONATION

With a new master building plan on the horizon, a donation to help your beloved College grow into the future would be warmly welcomed. All donations are tax deductible.

Name of donor: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

Payment method

Credit card:

Visa Mastercard

Name of cardholder: _____

Card number _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _

Expiry: _ _ / _ _ CCV: _ _ _

Cheque: can be made payable to St Mary's College and posted with this form to the address enclosed

In person: Payments can also be made in person by cash, cheque or EFTPOS at the College Office.

Thank you for your generosity!

