

Summer Luncheon Reunion - 50 to 60 Years



Ms Carmel Maxwell, Ms Marie Keneally and Ms Paddy McEvoy at the Summer Reunion Luncheon for past scholars who attended SAC over 50 to 60 years ago



Mrs Doris (Dot) Horrocks (nee Murphy) who was an SAC student in 1929

In February 2014, a group of old scholars, women who had attended St Aloysius College 50 or more years ago, met at the Mile End Hotel for a long overdue reunion luncheon. Most of those in attendance were 70 to 80 year olds, although special mention goes to Mrs Doris Horrocks, who at 93 years of age braved the extreme heat of the day to join the celebrations. Some even travelled back to Adelaide from as far as Victoria, New South Wales and the ACT to be a part of the day.

We were honoured to be joined by Ms Paddy McEvoy, the then newly appointed Principal of SAC, who spoke about the college today. We were inspired by her enthusiasm and vision for the current students and were proud to know that the values we were taught during our time at SAC were still being encouraged today. In her thank you speech, Mrs Carmel Maxwell reflected on the spirit and values of Mercy Education, both today and yesteryear.

In all it was an afternoon of reminiscence and renewal of long standing friendships. Everyone had a lovely time and most look forward to catching up again at future SACOSA functions.

Marie Keneally
 Class of 1951

"We don't change as we get older - we just get to be more of what we've always been".

Joan Chittister, *The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully*

Interested in joining the SACOSA Committee?

We meet approximately four times a year and much of our communication between events is done via email. There is not a heavy workload associated with SACOSA committee membership and we need new members to keep the association running.

For more details please contact:

Chris Adams 0412 510 892

Gisela Hamel 0412 312 769

Catherine George 0429 836 825

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Some of those present on the day included:

Margaret Brady (nee Stevens)
Kate Conley (nee RSM)
Mary Cusack
Beth Fairlie (nee Backshall)
Maureen Fry (nee Clifford)
Patricia Fuller (nee Cash)
Jennifer Goodfellow (nee Hawkes)
Jacqueline Hama (nee Campbell)
Frances Doris Horrocks (nee Murphy)
Patricia Jackson (nee Campbell)
Geraldine Juniper (nee Judd)
Marie Keneally
Carmel Killian (nee Davoren)
Carlien Kimber (nee Fahy)
Maxine Kitschke (nee Smart)
Margaret Kuerschner (nee O'Dea)
Bessie Lane (nee Higgins)
Carmel Maxwell (nee Bugeja)
Nathlaie McBride (nee Smith)
Margaret McDonald (nee Dayman)
Paddy McEvoy
Marie McMachon
Clare Medlin (nee Cusack)
Deirdre Minar (nee Condon)
Joan Mitra (nee Davoren)
Joan Moyle
Frances O'Loughlin
Mary Pelgrave (nee Altschwager)
Margaret Reid (nee Lyall)
Pat Riordan (nee Maloney)
Carmen Rodda (nee Moore)
Mary Ryan (nee Bartley)
Geraldine Sheridan (nee Morrissy)
Valerie Staggs
Pauline Thomson (nee O'Dea)
Pauline van der Jeugd (nee Comas)
Betty Waddy (nee Burnham)
Fay Waters (nee Barrington)
Mary Way (nee Miller)
Joan Wellman (nee Hepenstall)
Beth White (nee Smart)

Apologies

Carmel Burley
Patricia Heffernan (nee Kennedy)
Patsy McGrath (nee Morrissy)
Pat Lewis (nee Fahy)
Carmel Whiting (nee Slattery)
Beth Ward (nee Abernethy)
Dianne Anderson (nee Hamra)

*Lorice Raphael (nee Hamra)

**before this issue was published, we were saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs Lorice Raphael RIP.*



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Upcoming Reunions

Class of 1985 Reunion

Can you believe it's been 30 years since we stormed Adelaide with the SAC military academy ?!

Some of us have thought we should have a reunion. Nothing definite has been organised yet but we are putting the call out there to try to find as many of us as possible.

If you are interested in attending or even help to organise, please let us know.

You can contact Claire McInnes (nee Brogden) at:
cemcinnnes@yahoo.com.au or 0420 532692 and we'll add you to the list!

Looking forward to a great *Class of 1985* reunion !

Please give us your email address

In future, we are hoping to email information to as many members as possible rather than post. So, please email sacosa@sac.sa.edu.au with the email address where you would like to receive our communications and we'll do the rest!

Looking back...

An extract from the speech by Claire McEvoy, guest at the recent SAC Dux Assembly:



“Sometimes, when you feel a bit uncertain, it’s helpful to look back on the things you have picked up along your way in life. There is certainly a lot that I took from my five years at St Aloysius College. One physical thing was the beautiful Celtic cross which we were all presented with at our graduation. The four points of the cross weave in and around the central circle. Below are the following elements I took away with me and have continued to weave their way through my life. I hope some of them resonate with you as well.

1. Creativity:

For me, the creative arts opportunities I had at school fostered a deep love of the performing arts. I was involved in the orchestra, rock band and Catch 22. All these things got me excited about performing. We were well supported by the Music department and given fantastic opportunities to perform in and outside the school, feeling not just like students, but like young women making our mark through making music.

Being part the school’s musical in Year 9 kicked off a big love of performing on stage for me. These days I am involved in the local musical theatre and cabaret scene and I still feel as excited every time I step on a stage.

2. The excitement of being energised by exploration:

It is about exploring and being energised and excited. I remember a local history lesson in Year 9, traipsing around Adelaide city, spouting facts and dates. Stepping beyond the boundaries of the school grounds for our learning was exciting.

At the end of Year 11, I went to France as an exchange student. It was my first trip overseas. I learnt so much - about France, about a culture that operates differently to my own, about how to get through in times when I felt a bit alone or silly. They are pretty big skills to pick up at the age of sixteen or seventeen; I think the resilience I gained from that experience made me braver. The brilliance of new foods, new people, weird smells and new climates also kick-started an excitement around seeing more of the world. I went on to travel with uni friends through South America between second and third year of my physio studies. More recently I travelled to Asia and Europe, and also lived and worked in London. I missed home, especially the people I love, but I

relished the opportunity to be somewhere new and stepped away from the comfort zone of home.

3. Social justice in action:

It’s the understanding of what ‘social justice’ means in action, on small and big scales, that I really got from my time at SAC. I know the Mercy spirit is alive in the school. I hear reports about the amazing things girls are doing to support local and global causes. I feel proud to know SAC girls are out there making a difference, standing up for things that are important to them. You don’t necessarily need to be on the social justice committee to do that stuff. You don’t have to go and study to be a human rights lawyer or work for an aid organisation - small, everyday actions make a big impact too.

I have learnt that it’s really important and really difficult to be a good listener: to listen to people, especially those who might not always be listened to and value what they have to say. This can start anytime, especially in a school like SAC.

Talk to people from different walks of life, look out for each other, be kind and that’s where it starts...

4. The ability to be a paper doll:

The final point of my Celtic cross is the ability to be like a paper doll. I really dabbled in my time at SAC. I threw myself into a range of activities and pursuits in and around my studies. I did debating, flute lessons, cross country, school productions. I was on the leadership board, in various committees, went to Music Camp and played tennis. I wasn’t necessarily an absolute ace at any of those things, but I was never told that I needed to restrict myself to just one area of interest. I could be sporty *and* musical.

I have continued to dabble. Sometimes I work as a physio, sometimes as research assistant and still do lots of performing and cross country-ing. Yes, sometimes it means I don’t have a whole lot of free time on my hands, or I do some things slightly last-minute and I’m not really great at them all, but I think the combination of jobs and interests keeps different areas of my brain firing, brings a whole lot of interesting people into my life and perhaps makes me a fairly well-rounded individual. I really have to thank SAC for allowing me to explore different interests, for not making me be one thing or another, for allowing me to be a ‘paper doll’ with a variety of outfits. So, don’t feel restricted in the ways you can shape your life.

There are my four points. It’s been a pleasure to reflect on some of the ways SAC helped shape the person I am today. I’ll take my Celtic cross with me as I step forward into new places and new experiences, reminding me of where I’ve come from..... I think SAC women make some of the best ones I know... and it’s been great to be here amongst so many of you today.”

Claire McEvoy
Class of 2004



What are they up to now?

Emma Burchall Class of 2000

A graduate of SAC in 2000, Emma has used her teaching degree to travel the world, teaching in international schools in Suzhou, China, Singapore and now Rabat, Morocco.



Emma graduated from UniSA in 2004 with a Bachelor of Education (Junior Primary and Primary Teaching) and major in Chinese (Mandarin), completed through University of Adelaide. She taught at Jervois Primary School in South Australia before embarking on her global teaching adventure in 2009. She shares some insights into the life of a globe-trotting teacher.

“I chose junior primary teaching because I enjoy working with younger children. The vibrancy and zest for life brings me such joy and happiness each day. I am proud to be guide and mentor to these young ones. Teaching this age-group can have such a positive impact in their lives and builds the foundations for their learning, success and future.

I decided to work and travel because I was seeking adventure that was rewarding, fulfilling and challenging. I was also looking for something different. Working abroad

has opened the doors to the rest of the world and has given me so many opportunities to experience new countries, languages and cultures. I believe one of the best ways to experience a country is to live it!

The proudest moments of my work in international schools so far are watching the growth of my children each year; not just academically but also socially and emotionally. Building a network of my colleagues from around the world, gaining a range of experiences in British, American and IB curriculum's and becoming an *Apple Distinguished Educator are also proud moments!

My favorite things about living in Morocco are the gorgeous sunny blue skies and the warmth and friendliness of Moroccan people. I've never eaten a bad dessert either! North Africa is a fascinating part of the world, and so different to Asia. I can't start the day without a cup of good coffee, a hot shower and the warmth, smiles and greetings of my second graders!”

When asked what advice she has for new teaching graduates looking to combine travel and teaching, Emma says “Go for it! Most good international schools require 2-5 years of teaching experience first. Even if you are a little unsure about moving abroad (like I was), you'll probably realise it was one of the best things you've ever done. I've grown a lot personally and professionally and now have a greater appreciation for home and my loved ones. Although I travel home about once every one or two years, the life experiences you get by living and working overseas is one of the most memorable. It's not always easy, but its worth it!”

Wedding Bells in SAC Chapel

On Sunday 1 February past student Rani Nugraha and Mr Andrei Mayer chose to seal their love in the presence of family and friends in the SAC Cunningham Memorial Chapel. Guests were provided with booklet of the service, where Rani and Andrei wrote:

We'd love it if you could give us the true gift of being fully present with us during this special and sacred ceremony...

Their wedding was a splendid ceremony, enhanced by the Renaissance design of our chapel.

Sr Pat Feehan



Rani Nugraha, her mother and bridesmaids walking towards the entrance of our Cunningham Memorial Chapel

If you are recently married, we would love to share your special day with fellow SAC old scholars. Please send a photo and brief paragraph detailing the event to sacosa@sac.sa.edu.au

What are they up to now?

Channel 9 Young Achiever Awards 2015



Suzanne Mashtoub

The University of Adelaide Faculty of Sciences, Science & Technology Award Winner

Dr Suzanne Mashtoub, of Linden Park was awarded a highly competitive National Health and Medical Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship. Her PhD research was to determine whether orally-administered Emu Oil can reduce the severity of acute and chronic Crohn's and ulcerative colitis and prevent the development of colorectal cancer. Suzanne has published six first-authored research papers, four non-first authored research papers, thirty conference abstracts, presented at thirteen international conferences and twenty-seven national conferences. She has also undertaken three international laboratory placements. In addition to her passion for science, Suzanne serves as a youth advisor on committees and associations representing culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Emily Thwaites-Tregilgas

Awards Australia Community Service & Volunteering Award Finalist

Emily Thwaites-Tregilgas, of Henley Beach started volunteering at her local Goodwill Op Shop at the age of fifteen. She continues to volunteer her academic and administrative skills for a number of Government agencies, undertaking research, public speaking and organising events. Emily worked for the Australian Refugee Association, towards empowering new arrivals to Australia. She does this through education support of primary and high school aged students and a more intensive general support through the Social Support Program. She is completing her Masters in Social Work and has a passion for supporting people with intellectual disabilities and developing quality programs for vulnerable people.

Photos and articles courtesy of Channel 9 Young Achiever Awards

Stephen Crook Memorial Prize Recipient

Congratulations to Associate Professor Fran Collyer (SAC student in the 1970s) who was awarded the Stephen Crook Memorial Prize in November 2014. This esteemed prize is awarded biennially to the best Australian sociological manuscript.

Professor Collyer won the prize for her book *Mapping the Sociology of Health and Medicine: America, Britain and Australia Compared* (Palgrave 2012) and is the first female sociologist to be so honoured.

During her academic career, Professor Collyer has sustained an interest in the health care sector, focusing on the invention and development of medical technologies, the relationship between the state and the private sector, the privatisation and contracting-out of public assets and services, and the tensions inherent in marrying private with public services.

Professor Collyer recently returned to continue her research at the University of Sydney after spending time as a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology, Northwestern University, Chicago.



Photo courtesy of University of Sydney website

In Memoriam

SACOSA is always saddened to hear of old scholars who have passed away. We acknowledge their contribution to our college community.

Our condolences to their families and friends.

Lorice Raphael (nee Hamra)

Jan Jarratt (nee Cunningham)

Maureen Edwards (nee Strizel)

Moira O'Neill

Cecilia Pritchard-Bevelander (nee Pritchard)

Shirley Coombe (nee Mitchell)

Eileen Deed (nee O'Connor)

Patricia Cmielewski

Rosalie Comas (nee Russell)

Sr Lucy McConachie

Margaret Smith (nee Hogan)

Jeanette Gilbert (nee McCabe)

Eileen Barter (nee Smith)

Joan Adey (nee Habel)

Angela Heath (nee Boylan)

Patricia Pinkus, mother of Jenny, Lyn, Chris & Sue

*Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace. Amen*

Tub of Love Project


Jessica Bezzina and Leahna Vandenheuvel (Class of 2007) who work in community development organisations have created the 'Tub of Love' Project, a not for profit community initiative, supporting disadvantaged families across Adelaide. Together with support from local communities they hope to provide assistance to those who are less fortunate. Jessica and Leahna's passion for helping those in need began when they became friends in Year 8 at SAC. "We organised a production called 'Fairy-tales Down Under' and we were able to raise funds that we donated to the Women's and Children's Hospital.

"When we began 'Tub of Love' in October 2014, our first project was to provide 20 families with Christmas gifts to help ease the stress the festive season.

We were so overwhelmed with the support we received we have now started organising more projects such as fundraising for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and sending 'Tubs of Love' to an orphanage in Nepal. We hope to continue supporting local communities and to inspire others to lend a helping hand!"



St Aloysius



Old Scholars Association (SACOSA)

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION (SACOSA)
53 Wakefield Street Adelaide SA 5000
T: 08 8217 3200 E: sacosa@sac.sa.edu.au

Registration Form

Registering with SACOSA is **FREE** and is open to **ALL** old scholars

Register or update your details:

Current surname		Given names	
Preferred name			
Address			
Home telephone		Email	
Mobile		Facebook name	
Occupation (current or retired)			
If student, what are you studying?			

Enrolment details:

Surname at enrolment		Given names at enrolment	
Calendar year of entry		Entry year level	
Calendar year of exit		Exit year level	

As a member of SACOSA, you will automatically receive the annual SACOSA newsletter

If you would **ALSO** like to receive the St Aloysius College fortnightly newsletter via email, please tick the box

News since leaving SAC:

Please mail completed form to: SACOSA, St Aloysius College, 53 Wakefield Street Adelaide SA 5000 or email to: sacosa@sac.sa.edu.au