

# The Quarterly

**STUART HOLME SCHOOL**  
AUTUMN EDITION | MAY 2014

**PREPARATIONS  
BEGIN FOR YEAR 7**

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**&**

**WHAT'S THE  
STUART HOLME  
SPIRIT?**

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**FROM  
JOURNALISM...  
TO CHOCOLATE**

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# The Quarterly

AUTUMN EDITION | MAY 2014

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Many thanks to everyone who contributed stories and photos to make this edition possible.

### Disclaimer

The Quarterly publication highlights the stories of our current and past students. Material in this Publication is gathered from a range of sources and does not necessarily reflect the policies and opinions of Stuartholme School.

To submit content for the next edition, please email Jessica Moran.



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*By Helen Sinclair*

'Times change and we must change with them...' - Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat. This mantra for ongoing development permeates all that we do at Stuartholme. In this inaugural edition of The Quarterly you will share in the stories and achievements of our girls, parents and staff, both past and present.

This is a most fitting opportunity for me to acknowledge the work and the legacy of the rscJ. The Sisters have forged the vision of Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat and the articulation given to this by Mother Janet Erskine Stuart has provided great focus to Stuartholme over its 94 year history.

On 6 April 2014 Sister Margaret Toohey rscJ died. As the last rscJ Principal of Stuartholme her contribution cannot be underestimated. I share some extracts from the Eulogy delivered by Sr Anne McGrath rscJ and I trust you will gain some appreciation of what her story reveals and typifies in her role as a Sacred Heart Educator.

*"In this year marking the centenary of the death of Janet Erskine Stuart, it is fitting that we celebrate the educational vision of Margaret who, like Janet, saw a depth and a breadth in the privileged task of awakening young minds and hearts. She understood intellectual values as embracing not only cognitive growth but also the awakening of imagination and creativity."*

A new chapter began for Margaret in 1971 when she was appointed Principal at Stuartholme School in Brisbane, a position she held till 1983. An rscJ who was there at the time wrote: Stuartholme was a small school during Margaret's time as Principal, numbering just over 200, so there was a sense of family with staff and students at home in a loosely structured environment. Staff meetings saw the female staff working on their

tapestry while Margaret herself took out her knitting. This smallness allowed her to take to heart the character development of students whose behaviour was less than perfect. One former student recalls with gratitude the trust Margaret placed in her after a misdemeanour which made her feel she had forfeited respect. This marked a real turning point in her life.

An rscJ has sent this tribute: I arrived at Stuartholme in 1976 and looking back I think I was very lucky as a young teacher to have Marg as a role-model. Somehow I grasped the breadth of her vision as an educator as well as her intelligence and her compassion. There was nothing small-minded in her attitude to education for girls. She had a great sensitivity for the families of Boarders who came to Stuartholme from outback Queensland and Papua New Guinea.

Marg had the loyalty of the staff who respected and trusted her enormously and also enjoyed her lovely sense of humour and her foibles. The girls also had her mannerisms summed up. In a School Magazine photo from that time she is featured in a typically pensive pose with her finger poised against her lips and a caption that read, I think, therefore I am."







Spruson multi-use classroom

# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

For many students, the school grounds are their home away from home. A space for relaxation, comfort and peace.

Construction of the Year 7 floor of the Boarding House has begun in preparation for the new year level in 2015.

Semester One will also see refreshed gardens, new paint work and upgraded classrooms in other areas of the School. Director of Business Operations, John Fitzgerald, said the updated changes will make way for a productive and progressive year.

"These changes will have a remarkable impact on the School and our new Year 7 Boarding students and their families," he said.

Stuartholme School is currently the only Catholic Girls Boarding School in Brisbane.

"The girls will wake up to city views out one window and the pool and mountains out the other," John said.

This year will see a visiting doctor join the Boarding House's Health Centre to provide one-on-one medical care for the girls.

A new team of Supervisors will also join the staffing team to support the Boarding students with anything they need.

"The new Supervisors will be a great addition to the House. They'll support the girls both academically and personally," Director of Boarding, Nonie Ayling said.

In other areas of the School, the Design and Technology Department has also undergone a facelift with several new additions.

"We've upgraded the kitchens and sewing rooms to keep up with the demand for the subject," John said.

The Science Department will also be home to improved labs and flexible multi-use classrooms.

"A lot of our students are interested in the sciences and wish to do further study upon leaving secondary school," Head of Science, Wendy Macdonald said.

To learn more about these changes and how Stuartholme can open doors for your daughter, register for a Stuartholme in Action tour via the School website.



E Floor Boarding House

"The girls will wake up to city views out one window and the pool and mountains out another..."



Science laboratories





# CareerDevelopment

What does Stuartholme's Programme look like?

By Sandy Maynes

## Why does Career Development matter?

The focus of an effective Career Development Programme for girls should start at a young age with a focus on self-development and an attitude towards success in an educational environment. According to the Australian Council for Educational Research, there are many benefits of single sex schooling for girls. Studies have shown that single sex girls' schools have a higher university and tertiary education entry rate than that of co-education. This is said to be due to girls having developed life-long learning skills in single-sex schools and wanting to continue this development into the tertiary sector.

Tertiary education provides girls with many life and career options. They can pursue individual passions through continued study and contribute to society with skills and experience.

## What does Stuartholme's programme look like?

Success at school can be facilitated by professional staff implementing a holistic programme catering to the needs of the individual. This encourages students to assess and ascertain their strengths, interests and abilities and managing the transitions occurring in senior schooling. Stuartholme's Student Services Centre provides a range of programmes and support which equip students to ask the right questions when given information opportunities such as the Careers and Tertiary Expos held throughout the year.

The Career Development Programme has an individual approach with the Student Services Centre being the hub. All students are encouraged to feel confident about accessing information and assistance for their academic

**“Women who attend single-sex schools are more likely than co-educated women to gain their highest qualification by age 33...”**

Sullivan, Joshi & Leonard 2010

success through this Centre, which is well stocked with current print resources from tertiary institutions and private providers.

Today, the education system allows articulation to tertiary study through several pathways, including the traditional OP (where five Authority subjects must be studied) and the Tertiary Rank pathway (where Certificate III & IV qualifications provide the student with a Rank). Student Services aims to assist students, parents and staff in making decisions and accessing educational opportunities that supports each girl's individual learning. The Centre offers Career Guidance, Vocational Education and Training, Diverse Learners (Learning Support, Gifted & Talented, Indigenous Education and English as a Second Language (ESL) and Counselling.

## How does Student Services help?

Student Services assists Years 8 to 12 students in planning towards their Senior Phase of Learning and their articulation into tertiary study. This comprehensive support programme is orchestrated through many avenues:

- *The Year 10 Career Avenues Programme:* All Year 10 students undergo career interest and aptitude testing that is coupled with academic results. This is followed by an interview with the student and a parent with the Careers Advisor, Sandy Maynes, who provides relevant advice on subject selection and academic pathways.

- *Vocational Education & Training (VET):* Students have the opportunity to be involved in VET, which allows students to choose from a variety of vocational pathways. An interview with the student and her parents takes place with Laurence Somerset, VET Facilitator, to explore available options.

- *Individual career counselling sessions:* Students can identify courses and possible career pathways which would suit their skills and abilities. They are encouraged to set goals, both in terms of their academic performance, and longer term goals. When students are able to understand how they learn, they feel that they have more control of their studies and they often exceed their own expectations.

- *Year 11 and 12 Mentoring:* Each student is monitored and mentored every semester by a Head of Department, a Year Level Coordinator or a member of the Leadership Team who discusses progress and gives feedback on ways to balance their academic, sporting and social commitments.

- *Year 12 QTAC Support:* QTAC selection is a significant time for our Senior students. During Term 3 every student has an interview with Sandy Maynes to talk through and select tertiary preferences according to each girl's talents and passions.

- *Diverse Learners' Department:* For students with specific needs, the Diverse Learners' Department

provides specialist information and support services to maximise learning opportunities for these students. This includes providing programmes for learning support, language enrichment for students with English as a second language and individualised programmes for students who are recognised as gifted and talented.

- *Supportive School Counsellors:* The role of the School Counsellors is to promote the emotional well-being of students. Counsellors, Kylie Butler and Bob Ulcoq, are available to assist students who wish to discuss matters of importance to them so that there are successful resolutions. A specific focus is aimed at Boarding students as they transition into life at Stuartholme. Specific times are assigned to assist the Boarders helping them to adjust to a Boarding lifestyle and their 'second home.'

- *Peer Helpers Programme:* The Counsellors also lead the Peer Helpers programme and have recently introduced The Desk which can be seen as a toolbox for use in helping students deal with some of the common issues that get in the way of success – like stress, procrastination, feeling down, relationship issues or managing worries.

By the end of their final year our aim is that each girl has developed the necessary skills to become confident, compassionate and capable women who are empowered to achieve!

## References:

Sullivan, A., Joshi, H. & Leonard, D. (2010). Single-Sex Schooling and Academic Attainment at School and Through the Lifecourse. *American Educational Research Journal*, 47 (1): 6-36.



**“Single sex environments reduce the tendency of students to conform to gender-typical stereotypes and norms...”**

Sullivan, Joshi & Leonard 2010







**“It’s the underlying current of acceptance that flows through the school grounds and into the classrooms to allow us to grow, develop and be all we can be.”**

Seneva Newman  
Cover Girl



# THE STUARTHOLME SPIRIT

What does the Stuartholme Spirit mean to you?

By Jessica Moran

People often ask, “What’s the Stuartholme Spirit?” They wonder about what it means to be a ‘Stuartholme Girl.’ What it means to be a part of the ‘Sacred Heart Community.’ What it means to be loved, valued and nurtured.

So often in today’s busy and hectic society, people forget to pause and reflect on their choices and connections. Are your connections that of choice or convenience? Are you surrounded by people who foster your growth and rally behind you for your success? At Stuartholme, our girls would say yes.

The Stuartholme Spirit is intrinsically entwined in everything we do. It cannot be measured. It can only be seen and felt in the experiences of Stuartholme School and its wider community. It is what makes the School a community, and what makes the community a home.

Chaplain at Stuartholme and Religious of the Sacred Heart, Sister Rita Carroll describes the Stuartholme Spirit as something specifically connected to the Cor Unum message. Cor Unum is Latin and means one heart.

“The School motto is part of the longer version of the Society of the Sacred Heart’s Cor Unum et Anima Una in Corde Jesus - one heart and one mind in the Heart of Jesus. Our School aspires to be a place where each one person is loved for who they are and so comes to know that God loves them,” she said.

“The Stuartholme Spirit embodies itself in our community connections. People often think the Spirit is only seen on the sporting field in the red and gold teams but it can be found in everything.”

“In coming to a School of the Sacred Heart like Stuartholme, you are entering both a family and a home.”

The Society of the Sacred Heart was founded by Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat on the eve of the Reign of Terror. This was a time of great political turmoil in France and saw the brutal killing of thousands of people in the period after The French Revolution. These circumstances did not make Sophie give up, but empowered the young French woman and gave her drive and passion to lead a group of young women to be impelled to action. They started to rebuild and

transform French society by discovering the renewing and healing power of God’s love and sharing this through the work of education.

“Her aim was to share through education the personal love of God,” Sister Rita said.

“She saw this education then as a work of faith, and gave priority to this supreme value.”

As a School of the Sacred Heart, Stuartholme is committed to Saint Madeleine Sophie’s example of challenging both the mind and the heart. Her example was to instil in young women a generosity of spirit and a strong desire to act for the betterment of their local communities.

Head of the Stuartholme Cor Unum Committee, Billie Bridger, said the Cor Unum Spirit is something other school’s notice as distinctively Stuartholme.

“They notice our never-ending cheers at sporting games, they notice our support and love for each other and most of all they notice how connected we are as a school community,” she said.

“Being at Stuartholme and experiencing the Spirit everyday amongst my friends is really special.”

“If I had to describe what the Stuartholme Spirit means to me, I would say it’s the underlying current of acceptance that flows through the school grounds and into the classrooms to allow us to grow, develop, challenge and ultimately, be all we can be,” Year 10 student, Seneva Newman said.

“It’s about educating the whole person and encouraging their talents,” Head of English, Donna McGrath said.

“It’s embodied as unconditional love and support between the students, staff and teachers,” Year 11 student Emma Duce said.

“It’s more than just a good feeling or a positive vibe, it’s a lifelong connection to the global Sacred Heart Network and it doesn’t end when you graduate. It’s a family for life,” Advancement Director, Amanda Houston said.

This is the Stuartholme Spirit. In the spirit of Cor Unum, creating young women with strong minds and gentle hearts... women who are empowered to be the best they can be.



# The Term that was...

Every Stuartholme girl is unique. Her experiences are her own and her successes are celebrated for the richness they bring to our community. Term One at Stuartholme saw some amazing accomplishments around our School...

...this is the Term that was.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.

- Colossians 3:23



This year Stuartholme School launched its Heart and Action Service Learning Programme.

This Programme aims to offer students in all year levels the opportunity to learn through service to others.

Stuartholme's educational philosophy aims to challenge both the mind and the heart of its students.

Heart and Action will operate as an award system recognising student efforts annually, based on the number of volunteer hours the student participates in.

Four categories have been formed; Bronze for 30 hours of service, Silver for 50 hours, Gold for 70 hours and a Platinum for extraordinary contributions.

Head of Mission at Stuartholme, Andrée Rice, said she hopes the Programme will change students' attitudes to and knowledge of

It is an invitation to learn with your heart about the world from the perspective of those who suffer inequality, injustice or who live on the edges of our society. As we encounter this learning 'beyond the classroom' we will begin to build relationships that enrich everyone involved.

disadvantaged people.

"I hope they're moved by their experiences and inspired to use their education to make the world a more just place," she said.

Stuartholme enjoys a growing partnership with Yeronga State High School's Homework Club.

"It's a wonderful learning experience for our girls who have the privilege of helping students from refugee and immigrant backgrounds with their homework tasks," Andrée said.

"The relationship is two-way because Stuartholme students are able to be part of Yeronga's vibrant and diverse Multicultural Day, and Yeronga students attend Harmony Day at Stuartholme."

Homeless Connect, run by the Brisbane City Council, is also supported through Stuartholme's Heart and Action Programme. Stuartholme girls are trained to meet and greet the guests who attend.

"This experience teaches the students that many of the stereotypes and myths about

homeless people are incorrect," Andrée said.

"It allows them to reach out compassionately to Brisbane's homeless community."

Other service learning opportunities will be offered to the girls as they arise during the year.

Year 12 student, Meg Spain is very excited about the Programme and plans to participate in as much as possible.

"I am currently involved with Rosie's Youth Mission, Homeless Connect and Yeronga Homework Club," she said.

"Now that we have the Heart and Action Programme I think more students will get involved."

Heart and Action encourages students to be global citizens who can critique the world around them, walk in solidarity with the poor and work in collaboration with others to create a better world.

For more information please email [servicelearning@stuartholme.com](mailto:servicelearning@stuartholme.com)





# THE TEMPEST

As William Shakespeare said,  
"We are such stuff as dreams are made on."

## By Jessica Moran

15-year-olds, Emma Duce and Olivia Watkins have recently been a part of The Tempest production at the Brisbane Powerhouse.

The Tempest is said to be the last play written entirely by William Shakespeare and follows the journey of Prospero, Duke of Milan, who plots to restore his daughter to her rightful place in the royal family using illusion and skillful manipulation.

"It was such an amazing experience to be a part of such a high calibre performance," Emma said.

The performance, adapted by the Shake & Stir Theatre Company, was the first official production the girls have been involved in.

"It was so professional; we were treated like working actors instead of students," Olivia said.

Co-Artistic Director for Shake & Stir Theatre Company, Ross Balbuziente, said both Emma and Olivia have promising careers ahead of them.

"They were awesome to work with and are going to make our industry a richer place in the not-so-distant future. We were blown away by their professionalism in the rehearsal room and on the stage," Ross said.

The youth-focused contemporary theatre company aims to motivate, educate and relate to youth through theatre and live arts. The cast were all hand-selected from the 2013 QLD Youth Shakespeare Festival

Competition which saw over 5,500 entries from across the state.

"The top 30 students were invited to be a part of The Tempest at the Brisbane Powerhouse," Ross said.

"The Competition uncovered a storm of fresh talent and we as a Company were so proud to play our part in allowing the students to grow as young actors."

"Directing The Tempest was an absolute pleasure."

Former Drama Teacher at Stuartholme School and now Education Projects Officer for the Sydney Theatre Company, Hannah Brown, said this is definitely one of her proudest moments as a Drama teacher.

"Performing The Tempest on stage with company members of Shake & Stir is an amazing accomplishment for Emma and Olivia," Hannah said.

"It is an absolute credit to their enthusiasm, attention to detail and creativity as Drama students. Well done girls! You'll both go far."

Emma advises other students wanting to be involved in live arts, to be passionate and learn as much as you can about all areas of theatre.

"Get involved, go to shows, attend workshops; do all you can to be the best you can be," Olivia said.

The talented pair plan to further pursue their dramatic aspirations after finishing school.



"We were treated like working actors instead of students..."

Emma Duce



Photos: Supplied by Jessica Lamb



# Paris, I love you

If you could be anywhere during the Christmas holidays,  
where would you be?

By Jessica Moran

For Jessica Lamb in Year 11, her Christmas holiday exchange to France was a childhood dream come true.

She spent six weeks travelling abroad taking in all the sights, sounds and smells of Europe. Four of those weeks, she spent on a cultural immersion travelling to and from La Perverie School in France with her host sister, Lucie. Jessica's host family lives in Nantes in West France. The city is the country's sixth largest and has a metropolitan area of around 900,000 people. The picturesque city is located on the Loire River and has a rich cultural and historic background.

Jessica quickly noted all the many cultural differences that made France and Australian unique.

"There was a lot to take in at first," she said.

"When I first arrived, I wasn't very confident with my French and often spoke in English just to avoid confusion."

"After a few weeks though, it became a lot easier and I was quickly able to speak to my host family and their friends with ease."

Two weeks of Jessica's exchange were spent in beautiful Paris for Christmas. She especially liked the Christmas market stalls and wandering through the quaint streets lit up with festive fairy lights.

"It was a magical experience to be in Paris for Christmas; a dream come true!" she said.

"I really enjoyed sampling all the different festive food."

"It's quite different to our traditional Aussie 'turkey

and salad' Christmas dinner."

Jessica encourages anyone thinking of going on exchange to give it a go and make the most of every day away.

"I think a lot of people are scared by the language barrier but it's not that hard, everyone can speak English if you get stuck," she said.

"You'll also find your language skills will improve dramatically just from being immersed in the language 24/7."

"There were many cultural differences that I didn't expect though which made everything exciting."

One of the main changes Jessica noticed was the different school hours. Many schools in France run their school day from 8am until 4pm to align with the natural daylight hours.

"Many of the lessons were an hour long so you needed a lot of concentration," she laughed.

"Driving was also a very interesting experience in the morning."

"Often the car windows would be covered in snow or ice from the night before so a lot of people drove with their heads poked out the window."

"It was both scary and funny, but mainly just very efficient and practical!"

Jessica plans to head back to France after she finishes school. Her host sister Lucie will be at Stuartholme for the June holidays this year.

"I've told her to pack for a European summer," she laughed.

"Lucie definitely won't need her snow boots for winter in Brisbane!"

# THINKING OUTSIDE THE SQUARE

By Jessica Moran and Sally Adams

Stuartholme's Business Management students are learning the tricks of the trade with new 'real world' learning activities.

In Term 1, students learnt the foundations of business in a retail management context where they applied concept theories to everyday business scenarios.

Head of Business, Sally Adams, said the main reason for the revised syllabus was to allow the students a greater understanding of what business looks like outside of the classroom.

"The girls need to see that the theory they're learning has an authentic and relevant application to business situations," she said.

"We hope it will also help those students who plan to study business after school to know what business entails and how it's relevant for many different industries and workplaces."

The students recently had an excursion to Toowong Shopping Centre where they gained an insight into the retail business environment.

In teams, the girls completed a research observation task and were asked to clarify the different types of retail systems.

"It was really good to work in teams because we could share notes and bounce ideas off each

other," Year 11 student, Harriet Thomasson said.

The excursion is in preparation for a piece of assessment based on their observations of the Toowong retail precinct.

"We hope this Semester will see the girls find a deeper appreciation for the complexities of the business world," Sally said.

Year 11 student, Charlotte Stephens, plans to study Marketing when she leaves Stuartholme and said she found the excursion to have a lot of real world relevance.

"While this was mainly for an assignment, it was really relevant for me to see what retail marketing looks like and how it operates behind the scenes," she said.

"I don't think many other schools have such practical classes; we're pretty lucky."







## It's Summer Camp time!

By Peter Rosengren and Jessica Moran

Starting high school can be a challenging experience for many students. They've left their comfort zone of primary school, moved classrooms, changed friends and now have many new faces to learn.

At Stuartholme School, things are made a little easier with the annual three-day Summer Camp. The Camp is aimed at helping new students make lifelong friends in a safe and fun environment before school starts.

The ice-breaker Camp started in 2011 with 40 students in attendance. Now, four years later, 250 students registered to attend the jam-packed, fun filled and adventure laden camp.

The Camp is open to students from Years 7 to 12 and runs in the week prior to school starting.

Peter Rosengren is the Coordinator of the Camp and believes the programme provides vital foundations for the girls as they start their secondary school life.

"It's a lot of fun; the girls are always laughing together and enjoying each other's company," he said.

"A lot of the games were designed to help the girls discover and develop their skills and talents," Co-curricula Director, Louise Jackson said.

Charlotte Adam-Dobbie will be in Year 7 next year and said she's been looking forward to Summer Camp for weeks.

"I've heard so many great things about it from friends in other grades and I couldn't wait to come," she said.

Day one was about making friends and having a good look at what will become the girls' second home for the years of their secondary education. A highlight of the day was the Summer Camp Hike with the girls and supervisors walking to the top of Mt Coot-tha and back. The day ended with our new students camping with all their friends in the Auditorium for the night.

Summer Camp 2014 introduced Tough Mudder Stuartholme-style on Day two. All camp participants

were invited to swim, run and crawl their way around an obstacle course complete with its own mud pit. Never has it been more true that a picture tells a thousand stories!

"Thursday night is the traditional Summer Camp Challenge and sleepover for our Senior students. We can't tell you too much about it other than to report that the girls were woken in the early hours of the morning and shortly thereafter left the school grounds on an adventure, returning both tired and excited around 8am," Peter said.

After three days of swimming, running, tennis, pilates, zumba, boxing and athletics talent identification, an exhausted crew of participants, our wonderful volunteer parents and camp leaders gathered to share a presentation of the girls' Summer Camp activities with parents and friends.

"We were honoured to have our special guest speaker Matthew Ames, his wife Diane and family join us. Matthew, a young father of three, tragically lost both his arms and legs two years ago as result of a blood infection," Peter said.

"Matthew shared the story of his journey with courage, humour, and most of all inspiration. I'm sure I was not the only one who thought - whenever you are having a bad day - think of Matthew."

Summer Camp is organised and run almost entirely by volunteer parents. A sincere thanks to everyone who makes Summer Camp happen. Special thanks to Wendy Heffernan, Fe Raftery and our team of volunteer mums who worked 20 hours a day to feed our hungry girls.

Our thanks also to our camp mums - Anastasia Ellerby, Gaynor Pinn, Katrina Williams, Christine Dyer and Liz Faulkner - as well as our team of 2013 Alumnae who worked as our Camp Leaders.

Until next year...

## Equestrian Success

Congratulations to Brittany Murphy in Year 12 on her successful selection into the Show Jumping discipline at this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show.

"The show is an extremely prestigious event in the Australian Equestrian calendar and we are very pleased to have Brittany competing this year," Equestrian Coordinator Anna Starosta said.

"It is even more exciting as only 20 riders from Australia are selected to compete in the Junior classes."

Her selection by the Royal Easter Show Jumping Committee is based on her broad bank of results from 2013 and also from the start of this year.

The four Junior classes that she will be competing in start at 1m20 but some of the jumps will be in the 1m30 range.

"Her horse 'Peace Image' was extremely successful under Britt's guidance at the Interschool Nationals in Perth and has recently won the 1m10 (A2 and A5) at the Millmeran Show," Anna said.

"Her second horse 'She's a Diva' is also coming to the fore with wins at 1m10 and 1m15 at both Shows."



## Look out Melbourne!



Congratulations to Phoebe Roche (Alumna of 2013) who has been selected to represent Queensland in the Equestrian Team at the Special Olympics in Melbourne!

Phoebe has Cerebral Palsy and Spastic Quadriplegia (which means it affects all four limbs), Epilepsy and ADHD. Upon graduating from Stuartholme, she started a horse breeding course.

While at Stuartholme, Phoebe completed a Certificate in Children's Services and a Certificate in Animal Studies. Phoebe has been riding since she was five years old.

Following the Special Olympics this year, Phoebe hopes to be selected to represent Australia in the Special Olympic World Games, Los Angeles in 2015.

"I am one of the very lucky 202 athletes who will represent Queensland at the Special Olympics," she said.

Help Phoebe raise \$3,500! To donate and read more about her incredible journey, visit <http://www.gofundme.com/7cpuv8>



# Running With The Wind

By Jessica Moran

## Congratulations India!

Congratulations to India Williams in Year 10 for representing Queensland at the 2014 Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Sydney from 12 to 16 March!

India competed in the 1500m and 3000m events and secured new personal best times for both events. In the 1500m, she came 12th out of 24 runners and in the 3000m she came 13th.

"It was a wonderful few days in Sydney representing Queensland," she said.

"I really liked being able to watch other athletic

**"I was really happy with both my events. It was a great experience to compete against such amazing athletes."**

events too and see everyone doing their best."

India's mum, Katrina went to Sydney with her and said the event was really encouraging.

"It was really nice to be able to support India and cheer her on from the stands," she said.

India was the only girl from Stuartholme to attend the competition and plans to one day compete in the World Youth Championships.



# School Captain Dinner

In February, two members of the Cor Unum Committee – Billie Bridger and Madeleine Midgley accompanied the Deputy Principal - Pastoral Care, Andrea Reddan, to the School Captain's Dinner hosted by St John's Anglican College.

The evening began with a tour of 'The Cube' – Australia's premiere large-scale digital and interactive display centre for promoting interests in science, technology and engineering.

The function had generous support from the Queensland University of Technology's (QUT) Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Coaldrake and this year's dinner was held in Room Three Sixty at QUT's Gardens Point Campus.

The evening provided vision and opportunity for young leaders from schools around Brisbane to network with their peers, develop or renew friendships and strengthen and forge beneficial partnerships between schools. The students were able to share their leadership dreams for 2014 and beyond.

The guest speaker for the evening was Rosemary Vilgen, Chief Executive Officer of QSuper and winner of the 2013 Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year. She has shown commitment to social justice and provided the students with valuable insights into the challenges and responsibilities that come with undertaking leadership positions.



## Recycling Fun

Over the Christmas holidays, the IT Department and Music teacher, Danika Saal, were busily preparing all the new tablets that were rolled out to Stuartholme students for the start of Term 1.

Each of these tablets came packaged in a cardboard box and a variety of synthetic materials such as plastics and foam. All of which are recyclable materials. The resulting mountain of this packaging was sorted and placed in appropriate recycling bins over many lunch hours by several Year 11 students including: Josie White, Anna Reid, Jessica Lamb, Emmaliese Barbagallo, Megan Robotham, Rachael Aston, Georgia Cramer, Charlotte Stephens and Jess Deere.

A big thank you goes to these students from the Environment Committee of Stuartholme (ECOS) for their interest in eco-justice, helping Stuartholme reduce its consumption of resources and its impact on landfill.





# A CREATIVE AT HEART

By Jessica Moran

Yasmine Alroe is far from your average teenage artist.

The 16-year old creative wonder from Stuartholme School has recently had a range of her portraits sold at Our Corner Store in her home town of Bangalow.

"I just walked in with my sketch book and asked if they liked any of my drawings and if they wanted to sell them," she said.

"Luckily for me, they said yes!"

Over Christmas, Yasmine sold over 30 individually hand-crafted greeting cards and numerous portraits.

"When the first order sold out, they called me

asking for more; it was so exciting."

Owner of Our Corner Store, Aneka Sidoti said Yasmine's work is an inspiration to younger artists and was very well received by customers.

"When we told people Yasmine's story and her age people were so excited to support her," she said.

"Everyone loves to know more about the person behind the art work."

Yasmine is the Year 12 Art Captain at Stuartholme this year.

"My teachers were very encouraging of me selling my art and sharing my pieces with the community," she said.



"Everyone was really happy and excited when I told them how fast my work sold."

When asked if she plans to find a store in Brisbane to stock her work as well, she replied with: "Hopefully! That would be great."

Yasmine is currently working on a compilation book of inspirational female artists, illustrators and writers for her mid-year senior assignment.

"I have started interviewing a range of women who inspire me," she said.

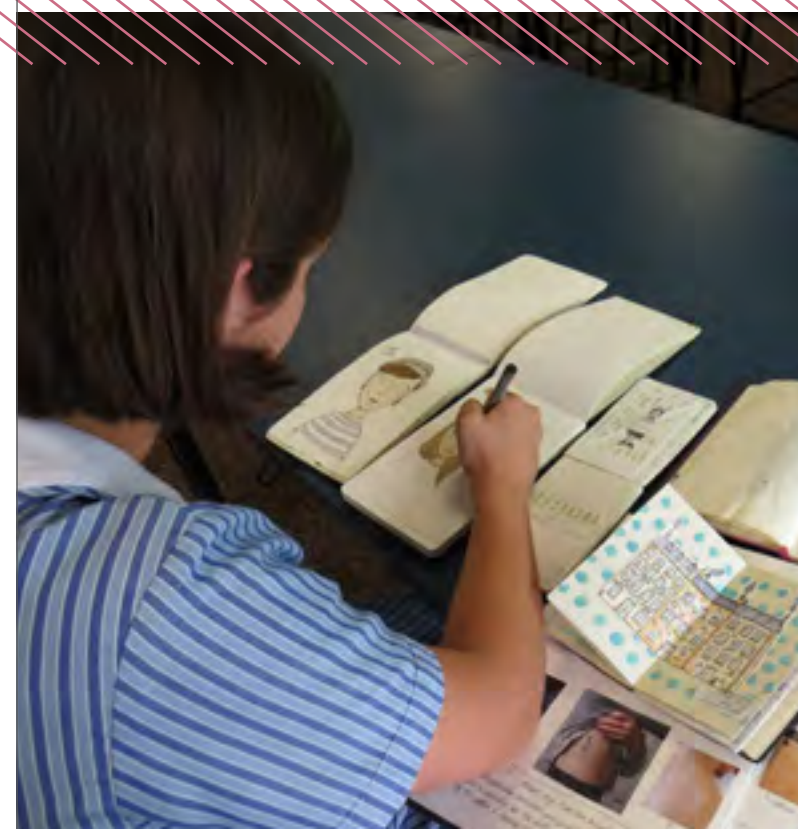
"I feel like they're my friends now after drawing their portraits and spending time with each of them."

"I plan to title the collection 'Girls' and Our Corner Store have said they'll help me sell it."

Head of Art, Georgina Hooper, said she couldn't be more proud of Yasmine's passion and success.

"Yasmine is a very hard working student and I can't wait to see where her talents will take her," she said.

Yasmine plans to follow her love of Art when she finishes school and study Illustration at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.



"I just walked in with my sketch book and asked if they liked any of my drawings and if they wanted to sell them..."





# Music To Your Ears

**By Andrew Mear**

The musicians at Stuartholme have been busy rehearsing throughout the first part of this year for a wide variety of performances.

These events included the Opening Mass, Ash Wednesday Mass, St Paul's Retirement Villa Opening Ceremony, Open Day, lunchtime concert and the Music & More Concert.

A series of large ensemble workshops were held for all the band, choir and string members in early February.

The workshops were led by Andrew Mear, Danika Saal, Emma Nixon and Jane Willington to support the development of repertoire for performances throughout the term.

The Music Support Group assisted the event by hosting a sausage sizzle and providing refreshments. The workshops were a positive way for many of the new musicians to discover how to present themselves in their respective ensemble.

In February, the Vocal Ensemble performed at the opening of the new facilities at St Paul's Retirement Villa in Bardon.

In attendance at this event was the Archbishop of Brisbane, The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge who congratulated the students on their delightful singing.

The Vocal Ensemble and members of the Concert Band performed in the Opening and Ash Wednesday Masses.

For the first time in many years, the music was presented from the Tribune of the Chapel. Despite the summer heat, the new location was very popular and the students and staff look forward to participating in future Masses from this location.

In March, Sarah Bendall (Music Captain, 2014) and members of the Senior Music Committee (Charlotte Russell, Isabelle O'Keefe, Alice Robinson and Annabelle Rossi) organised a lunchtime concert and bake sale. The girls are to be congratulated for the spirit and enthusiasm they showed towards this event.

The final event of this term was the Music & More Concert. The students and staff are to be congratulated for presenting a delightful concert, with many thanks to the Music Support Group for hosting the pre-concert dinner and refreshments.



# Year 10 Poets

*The following poems were written by students in Year 10 as part of their poetry assessment for English.*

**By Amelia Coonan**

## Calm

She moves slowly  
Her slender body like the  
Movement of a slug  
Her weightless shoulders slide  
Gently up and down  
As she breathes

She sits down on a field of long  
Overgrown grass

Her long body flops back barely  
Making a sound

She closes her eyes and listens  
To the swish of the grass,  
Like the hiss of a snake

She is at peace and she gently drifts  
off  
Into slumber

**By Zali Matthews**

## The Schoolyard

Laughter,  
Chiming across the schoolyard  
Like little Christmas bells.

Hats off  
Zips down  
Basking in our young teenage glory.  
Sunlight dapples our outstretched limbs  
Warming us from the droning absolution  
Of our wrinkling Fates  
In the classroom.

Teacher!  
Hats on  
Zips up  
Pasted smiles and flitting formalities  
To those watchful faces.  
We succeed – no suspicion.

They leave and we rest,  
Laughing and murmuring again  
About the girl with the list.

But freedom does not last for us,  
And lust for summer is exclaimed.  
As the pining dog calls us back  
To the lessons.  
To the droning absolution.

## Angry

He moved quickly his face red  
Like a splotch of blood on a marble  
surface

His anger streaming from his face  
Looking like a character from a  
cartoon  
With steam pouring from his ears

He hits his hands against the wall  
Thump, thump, thump

He begins to walk in circles  
His brows in an ever-lasting furrow

The anger ready to explode

## Deforestation

There is a walking track  
On the hill.  
A long brown ribbon beckoning us  
To follow.  
Its secrets, age old secrets,  
Lie beyond the copse  
In the cool, ethereal air.

What beauty!  
Birds sing their trilling tunes,  
And the land animals scurry  
amongst the decaying floor.  
The trees rise like giants,  
Branches reaching for the sky.  
I sigh.

Friend, why did we leave it?  
Why did we not see the invaders  
Sink their teeth into the giant's  
calves?  
Toss them onto their stiff backs  
with a satisfied growl?  
And pile up the bodies?  
Unceremoniously thrown to their  
merciless mistress,  
And carted away?

PHOTO: PINTEREST



PHOTO: REDORBIT.COM





PHOTO: BY LIVING.MSN.COM

# The Legend

The following Short Story was written by Madeleine Midgley as part of her assessment for senior English.

**Friday, 23rd April 2010, 2.37am**

His eyes were beginning to sting from hours of staring at the screen - it hurt to blink. Fighting back the pain, he forced his eyes open even wider. This was no time for gaming fatigue. He wondered what time it was- 2am? Maybe 3? He had to wake up in five hours and go to rugby training. Brilliant.

'Chris, far out! Focus on what you're bloody doing, will you?'

'I am-'

'You've got a rocket launcher! You could have easily shot down that helicopter!'

'Oh. Sorry.'

'Yeah, you will be.'

Geez, Mike was snappy tonight. If those psychiatrists were right about video games and violence, Chris was sure he'd have been murdered by now. Forcibly bringing his mind back to the game, he manoeuvred his soldier into the abandoned building, swiftly shooting a Russian in the back of the head as his brother reloaded.

'Nice,' Mike noted casually.

Chris smiled as he watched the soldier fall. He'd just beaten Mike's kill streak. Mike the Legend.

**Saturday, 16th December 1967, 6.28pm**

He was taking her to see the new James Bond movie - Micky advised him to pick one with just the right recipe of action, romance and comedy. Action for him, romance for her, comedy to break the ice and give them something to talk about after the film. Christian had been warned, and he'd gone through all the motions; complimenting her bouffant, enduring her nervous giggling, paying for her ticket and popcorn. But sitting next to Susan in the dark for two hours was something Micky could never have prepared him for.

Midway through the film, he had long abandoned the task of following the plot, all of his attention and awareness centred on her upturned palm, resting daintily on the armrest between them. What did it mean? Did she want him to hold her hand? Why did he have to be the one who did it?

His thoughts were interrupted by a loud crash. Sean Connery - James Bond, that is - had just been awoken by a Chinese hitman. The fight scene that followed was impressive, complexly choreographed and incredibly realistic and Christian watched on in awe and gobsmacked admiration as Bond recovered from being thrown through a wall, dodged a samurai sword and lifted an entire sofa before resourcefully using it as a weapon.

Susan's hand, long forgotten in the excitement, had shyly retracted back into her lap. Christian was on the edge of his seat now, gasping in surprise when

the assassin was struck hard in the back of the head by an ornamental Buddha statue. The stone crumbled in two with impact. Ouch.

As the closing credits rolled and the theatre was slowly illuminated, Christian turned to face Susan, a slow smile creeping across his face. She stared back, hurt and frustrated.

'What?' she snapped.

James Bond was so effortlessly suave, charming yet deadly, taking out the bad guys with such incredible skill. What a legend. 'That was... wow.'

'Yes, ground-breaking cinema,' she quipped, voice dripping with sarcasm. 'Can you take me home now?'

**Sunday, 7th November 1937, 4.59pm**

The two toddlers screamed battle cries hysterically as they chased each other in circles around the tree, each boy holding a long stick in their hand. One boy, the bigger of the two, flailed wildly in the excitement of the moment and whacked his brother in the back of the knees.

'Gentle!' a melodic, cautious voice rang out from the garden.

The distraction of his mother's voice caused the smaller boy to trip over a tree root, and he toppled to the ground, his tiny arms struggling to respond in time to soften his fall. The elder took this opportunity to poke him a little too sharply in his pudgy infant belly.

'Ha ha! The crown is mine!' announced the champion, giggling as he did his victory lap around the tree.

'That's quite enough, Michael, it's tea time. Take Christopher up to the wash room before supper.'

After watching Michael, the Legend dart up to the house, his loyal subject trailing behind him, she turned to her group of elegant friends, who politely commented on how charming her young sons were.

'Yes,' she agreed, her tinkling laughter echoing around the tea table. 'Aren't they so sweet with their little games!'

**Saturday, 8th February 2013, 12.46am**

'Watch where you're bloody going, kid.'

'Sorry mate, I'll buy you anoth-'

Mick appeared out of nowhere, huge arms grabbing the Stranger's shoulders and forcibly turning him around to face away from the bar. Eyes heavily bloodshot, pupils dilated and his expression one of a madman, he puffed his chest out and asked in a

dangerously quiet voice, 'What was that? What did you just say?'

'Calm down mate, your little retard friend just spilt my entire-'

Something snapped, and the Stranger was punched with such force that he lay sprawled out on the surface of the bar, upturning and smashing several glasses. His body seemed close to going limp and sinking down onto the floor, but Mick grabbed him by his collar and held him upright.

Recovering from the initial shock of his brother's intervention, Chris finally managed to speak up. 'Mick, that's enough-' he began, placing his hand on Mick's shoulder.

*'Don't you bloody touch me!'*

The bar fell silent as the bartender signalled to the bouncers. Seeing the men from the doors walking swiftly towards him, Mick took the opportunity to lay into the Stranger, slamming his head against the bar.

'Mick, stop-'

Again.

'Mate-'

Again.

'Mick, stop it-'

The bouncers finally reached the bar, grabbing Mick under both arms and dragging him towards the door as he jerked and struggled in their grip, swinging wildly and shouting obscenities. Big Brother Mick. Mick the Legend.

The Stranger slumped to the floor, settling in a puddle of sweat and beer and God-Knows-What. Chris crouched down, rolling him over to reveal a freshly disfigured face, streaked with blood. His mouth fell open, spilling more blood down his chin. The Stranger's eyes were wide, his breath coming in infrequent, ragged gulps. And then the noise stopped, and his eyes rolled backwards into his head. A patch of wetness grew slowly on the Stranger's trousers as his bowels emptied themselves, and suddenly he was empty, lifeless. No breath. No pulse. No expression.

Feeling his stomach lurch, Chris dropped the man to the floor, his body bouncing slightly as it made impact. Hands trembling, Chris pushed through the small crowd that had gathered around the body and ran out the back door of the pub, barely making it outside in time to vomit bourbon onto the cement.



# SNAPSHOTS FROM Term One

## BUSINESS

The Business Department welcomed the Commonwealth Bank Foundation to deliver their financial education StartSmart workshops to our Year 11 Accounting and Year 10 Enterprise Education students.

Our facilitator presented information on money management and she helped equip students with the confidence and competence they need to make smart decisions about money.



Shannon Baker from Year 10 Enterprise Education said "She made us aware of some little and big tricks that companies use in order to make us buy a product, whether we actually need it or not. Through being aware of these tricks, and also thanks to the tips she shared with us about saving money, we might just be able to have the willpower to stop ourselves from buying those unnecessary lollies or those never-to-be-worn shoes."



## TAIWAN EXCHANGE

Each year Stuartholme is invited to send a student representative to our sister school in Taiwan to participate in their two week cultural immersion exchange.

Twenty girls from Sacred Heart schools around the world are invited to the camp which is specifically designed to introduce the girls to Taiwanese culture. The girls will have the opportunity to attend classes on Taiwanese folk dance, art, cooking, calligraphy, basic Mandarin and much more.

The trip runs from 4 to 15 August and is open to girls in Years 10, 11 and 12. For more information or an Application Form please email [kmoran@stuartholme.com](mailto:kmoran@stuartholme.com)

## LION'S YOUTH



Madeleine Midgley and Caitlin Brown from Year 12 represented Stuartholme at the Lion's Youth of the Year in February. The girls were interviewed individually at School during the day by a panel of three judges in regards to their contributions to the community and knowledge of local current affairs. On the night, the girls presented a five minute prepared speech as well as being asked to answer two impromptu questions regarding alcohol fuelled violence and sporting heroes. The girls did exceptionally well and were both strong speakers. Congratulations girls!

## SCIENCE

Congratulations to Kasia Rafalski in Year 11 who is Stuartholme's UQ Science Ambassador for this year. The Science Ambassador role involves raising the profile of Science within our School community. This will involve Kasia writing updates for the Weekly Bulletin, facilitating Science Club and supporting National Science Week.



## JAPAN TRIP

Interested in going on the 2014 Japan Trip? Don't miss your chance to visit historical sites, eat authentic foods and make life-long friends with your host family. Places are limited and open to all grades. For more information please email [bwebb@stuartholme.com](mailto:bwebb@stuartholme.com) or visit the Portal for an Expression of Interest Form.



# EDUCATING WOMEN



By Sister Rita Carroll rscJ

Since its foundation by Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat over 200 years ago, members of the Society of the Sacred Heart have been educating women in many countries of the world. These works of education were usually attached to boarding schools and took the form of free schools and classes in sewing and other skills that would help women to provide for their families. After the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s their work spread beyond formal educational institutions to many other kinds of developmental work to give women opportunities to control their own destiny.

Halfway through the story of the Society of the Sacred Heart, during the late 19th and early 20th Century, Mother Janet Erskine Stuart was proving herself to be a gifted educator and spiritual director. As the daughter of an Anglican priest and descendant of the Royal House of Stuart, she herself was educated privately by German and French governesses. She converted to Catholicism in 1879, just 50 years after the passing of the Catholic Emancipation Bill in 1829, which was followed by the repeal of the Test Act in 1932 which allowed Catholics to attend University for the first time since 1559. It was in this environment that Janet wrote her well known book 'The Education of Catholic Girls.'

We find from Janet's letters and writings that she took a great interest in the holistic education of women, her insights were visionary and based on an image of God who wanted all to have "liberty of spirit and freedom in the House of God." Janet emphasised the importance of the individual and "being oneself" but this necessitated

developing a spirit of self-discipline, sacrifice, commitment, dedication and service. Janet thought that: "The strength of women is in their character; their mission is civilization in its loftiest and widest sense...In two things we must establish them fundamentally, quiet of mind and firmness of will." This strength that Janet hoped to draw out in those she educated is something she knew Madeleine Sophie valued.

"Every letter that came from her pen, every page of her teaching, bears that same stamp; strong in its courage, earnestly pressing home the necessity of rising above natural weaknesses, and conquering faults of pettiness and impulsiveness; but, with the 'man's heart' and courage, comes ever the insight of 'women's thought.'"

In this era of globalisation it is interesting to note that Janet had thoughts about this as well. When writing of the international training given to each religious she said: "The mingling of nationalities tends to bring out the best in each, to make for mutual understanding, for seeing the good in all, for tact, for a right reticence; and it imposes the obligation of knowing enough of each nation to be aware of what should not be said." In another context she speaks of "those conciliatory ways of thought which the blending of nationalities calls for."

Janet Erskine Stuart, a woman of outstanding gifts: mystic, poet, educator and daring horse rider, found a place to exercise and model leadership on a global scale as the Superior General of the Society of the Sacred Heart from 1911 to her premature death in 1914. In 1946 the cause for the Canonization of the Venerable Janet Erskine Stuart was introduced.



# Getting to know the COR UNUM Committee

By Jessica Moran

At the heart of every school, there are the Year 12 student leaders. A peer selected group who act as role models for younger students and a friendly face when in need. At Stuartholme School, a Committee of five talented and well-rounded ladies work together to support the goals of the student body. They are the Cor Unum Committee which means one heart and one mind in the Heart of Jesus.

As Cor Unum Head, Billie Bridger says, being a part of the Cor Unum Committee is about so much more than a badge on your school uniform. Billie along with Madeleine Midgley, Tara Coates, Georgia Perkins and Larissa Miller make up the five-person strong team.

Deputy Principal - Director of Pastoral Care, Andrea Reddan said the experience of being a student leader is very special.

"It provides the girls with many opportunities to show strength of character and excel outside of the traditional avenues of class work," she said.

"It is my hope that as they journey through the year, they are enriched as individuals and as members of the community."

I recently had a chat with the Cor Unum Committee about what they love, their advice for younger students and their plans for after

school.

**What do you love about being in the Cor Unum Committee?**

B: Being approached by the girls and just having them know that they can come talk to you anytime. It's a privilege.

G: The family aspect of it, that's what I love. Everyone loves each other and that makes the school really special.

L: We all have different personalities but we all work together.

M: Yeah I feel like they could put any five girls in our grade together and they'd make a really good team.

B: A lot of other schools are quite exclusive but at Stuartholme we change the prefix to be inclusive and that's one of the main things I love about being in the Committee.

**What are the main roles of the Committee?**

T: Supporting the School and each year level, we attend a lot of different events and help spread the 'Spirit of Stuartholme.'

B: We're also really aware of the girls' needs and how to make their year a good year.

**Let's say a Year 8 student was struggling with an assignment and needed some extra help, what advice would you give them?**

G: Just ask! Don't be afraid to ask for help.

B: There are so many extra tutorials here to ensure everyone knows the content, there is always help available. Plus all the teachers are really approachable and caring and they actually want you to do well, so just ask if you're having trouble.

**What makes the teachers different?**

M: The teachers are a big part of what makes Stuartholme different to other schools. I've heard some pretty interesting stories from friends about their experiences. It just makes me feel so fortunate and blessed to be able to attend Stuartholme and have the teachers that we have.

L: They're so passionate about their subjects too which really helps us learn and feel comfortable asking questions in class.

G: They are always there for us and able to sit down and help us talk through any problems we may have.

**What do you love about Stuartholme?**

B: I play netball and one of the things I love is the sea of red and yellow at sporting games. There's just something magical about having the support of your school behind you at a game; it's beautiful.

G: I love the size of the School. The teachers know

us and I feel I could easily walk up to anyone in the School and talk to them.

L: And it makes such a huge difference to have the teachers know our names and our stories too.

B: I really love Dance-Off Fridays! (laughs)

**Where do you girls think you'll be in a year?**

L: I'm hoping to study Journalism or Creative Writing. That's where I'm passionate. I'm thinking of doing a dual degree with Public Relations or something like that. I also want to learn Spanish!

T: I really want to learn another language. I'd like to study French and Law at The University of Queensland and be a French Lawyer.

G: I've like to go to UQ and study either Nursing or Speech Pathology. I'd also like to do Paediatric Nursing.

M: I think about studying Human Rights Law all the time and I'm really passionate about it so I might try that, but I'm not too sure at the moment. I also love writing and would love to be a Travel Writer.

B: I was really interested in Dermatology but I'm not too sure at the moment so I'm planning to go to some university open days and be more informed about what I can study. I'm passionate about so many things! It's hard to just pick one (laughs).

"Our main aim this year is to be as approachable as possible."

Cor Unum Committee

"When I was in Year 8 I remember looking at the Cor Unum girls thinking, one day, I want to be like them..."

Tara Coates,  
Cor Unum Committee





# YEAR 8 GOES ON CAMP

By Katie Dummett

The Year 8 girls have had plenty of time to recover from their very exciting and at times very humid 'Getting to know you' camp at Alexandra Headlands in February.

Many new friends were made and everyone had lots of fun bowling, swimming, playing pool games, learning how to body board and surf, expressing their artistic talents and visiting sea creatures at Underwater World.

Many thanks go to the dedicated staff who supported the

students 24hrs a day on camp.

An extra big thank you to our Senior representatives who joined us: Billie Bridger, Celina Scott, Charlotte Russell, Sarah Bendall, Emma Henry, Maggie Pinn, Georgia Maclean, Elissa Steedman and Ally Vasta .

The Year 8s and staff valued their support immensely. Congratulations Year 8 on a fabulous camp.

I am sure it is an indication of a successful year ahead.



## What was it like?

The students tell all...

This year's Year 8 camp was great and we all had so much fun! On camp we did lots of enjoyable activities including sand sculpting, bowling, going to Underwater World, swimming at the beach, making notebooks, Glee activities, bush dancing, trivia, and loads more. Everyone met heaps of new people and got involved in the activities. A big thank you to all the teachers for organising the camp and the Year 12s who came to help as well!

Lauren Gunther, 8.2

We were told before we went on camp that Year 8 camp was the best camp. Camp was awesome and we learnt, experienced and created so many things during our time. One of the main things we did was make new friends, which a lot of our time there helped us with. We got creative with making notebooks, creating dance routines and doing some synchronised swimming. And of course, because of our location and how hot it was, not going to the beach was not an option! We learnt to surf, how to be safe when we are at the beach, did some boogie boarding and had sand castle building competitions. The drive there and back took some time but it passed quickly because we never stopped talking! We went ten pin bowling and at night had a bush dance, meditated, trivia and did a newspaper fashion parade. We all had an awesome time on camp and came home with great stories to tell, memories and a better bond between all of us.

Georgia Bailey, 8.3



Year 8 camp was an incredible eye-opener to the things that we didn't know about our peers. We got to learn so much about each other, play games and have heaps of fun all while being surrounded by the beautiful scenery of Alexandra Headlands. We got to do heaps of fun and new activities that got our hearts pumping and our minds thinking, but we also got to relax and talk about how we were feeling about Year 8. Camp was an extraordinary adventure, but it was boiling hot! Everyone was wishing for a swim every second of every day, and when we finally got to go down to the amazing beach it was worth the wait! I'm sure everyone had a lot of fun on camp, even though it was hot and tiring! I know I had a lot of fun and will always remember my Year 8 camp.

Alex Cramer, 8.1







# FORMATION TO MISSION

## A DAY OF REFLECTION SHARED WITH THE SACRED HEART NETWORK

Stuartholme hosted the ANZNet Formation to Mission Conference from March 7-8. The Conference theme was Educating Minds, Opening Hearts and Transforming Lives.

By Andrée Rice

The theme was framed not only by the inspirational work and legacy of Mother Janet Erskine Stuart rscJ whose centenary the Society and its schools are commemorating this year, but also by International Women's Day (IWD). The UN's theme for IWD was *Inspiring Change* and it was fitting, indeed, that our Conference highlighted ways in which our institutions could be places of transformation, inspired by Gospel values.

The Conference opened with a walking liturgy. Participants were part of a special smoking ceremony conducted by Uncle Eric Law and his family at the Outdoor Heritage Learning Centre. This included a traditional Torres Strait Islander welcome dance by Stuartholme Boarders. Guests then moved to the Madeleine Sophie statue and to the Chapel, where the inspiring voices of Janet Stuart and

Malala Yousafsai reminded us that education can transform the world.

Dr Dale Spender provided a challenging and witty address on the topic, *It's a Girl! How are women tracking according to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)? Why is education critical?* Dr Spender highlighted the urgent need for schools to be engaging female students in creative and cutting-edge uses of technology: women being currently grossly under-represented in this industry. She outlined the historical context of the relatively 'new' phenomenon of educating women, and she emphasised her belief in the advantage of single sex education for girls.

Sister Geradette Philips rscJ, Area Leader of the Society of the Sacred Heart in Indonesia, was the keynote speaker of the Conference. Sister Gera, as she became quickly and

affectionately known, gave addresses on *Carrying on the Transformative Education Tradition of Janet Erskine Stuart in the Asia Pacific Region Today* and *Interfaith Dialogue: Transforming the World*.

Sister Geradette posed the very serious challenge to our institutions to engage in genuine interfaith dialogue. She stressed the importance of presence, listening and respect. She outlined not only the Sisters' and the Church's imperative of interfaith dialogue but she situated this challenge in the context of Australia's Asian-Pacific geographical location, and its changing demographic and religious profile. Sister Geradette's personal commitment to interfaith dialogue, even in the face of threats to her personal safety, was inspiring! What she wants is for each of us to be the best 'religious' person we can be: if we are Muslim, to be the best Muslim we can be. If we are Christian, to be the best Christian we can be – the point is not to convert but to see our differences as paths to the one God. This can only create a more peaceful world.

Staff and guests selected two workshops to attend and these were inspired by the chapters of Janet Erskine Stuart's *The Education of Catholic Girls*. The workshops were: 1) *Religion*: interfaith dialogue and being a Catholic School by Sister Peta Goldberg RSM; 2) *Character*: formation in a faith that does justice by Brother Damien Price CFC; 3) *The Realities of Life*: education for global citizenship by Alisa Cleary from The Global Learning Centre; 4) *Manners*: education for interculturality and partnership with Indigenous peoples by Auntie Joan Hendriks; 5) *Higher Education of Women*: the transition to University & the role of colleges by the Principal of Duchesne College, Dr Nanette Kay and 6) *Lessons and Play*: music and art therapy and the lives they are changing at Milpera State High by Jane Griffin.

The workshops gave practical suggestions for ways our institutions can become more transformative. Stuartholme is excited about the possibilities for further engagement with Brisbane's Global Learning Centre which will enable us to build Peace and Justice Studies into our curriculum in a more structured manner. We are also exploring ways of entering into interfaith dialogue and further partnerships with Milpera State High School and Yeronga State High School, two schools with significant Islamic/refugee populations.

The Conference Mass and Dinner at Duchesne College offered a wonderful opportunity to connect with the rscJ community at The University of Queensland and the post-school world of so many of our students. This partnership will be one that Stuartholme will continue to build on into the future.

Another highlight of the Conference was the presence of so many of the rscJ Sisters who had travelled from far and wide to be with us. Their insights and wisdom added a special dimension to the Conference. They often gently reminded us to *"stop and breathe...to stop and contemplate.."*

The Conference began where it started, with a focus on the wisdom of our Indigenous Sisters and Brothers through the concept of Dadirri and its link to the rscJ understanding of contemplation.



May the legacy of the Conference be our increased ability to "...wait on God. His time is the right time. We wait for him to make his Word clear to us. We don't worry. We know that in time and in the Spirit of Dadirri (that deep listening and quiet stillness) his way will be clear."

Miriam Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann.







# SAYING NO TO BULLYING

## TAKING A STAND AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE

By Kylie Butler

Stuartholme School takes the issue of bullying very seriously. Our community is based on strong Sacred Heart values which leave no room for harmful behaviour.

Our School participated in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, which this year was held on Friday 21 March. We encourage students to behave positively and safely every day but on the National Day of Action we shine the spotlight on our anti-bullying strategies. The focus this year was on the important role of bystander action in stopping bullying in its tracks.

The 'bystander effect' is a psychological term referring to the phenomenon in which the greater the number of people that are present, the less likely people are to help. This has huge bearing on school bullying. If only one student speaks out to support a victim of bullying we can more than halve the number of incidents of bullying in our community. When so much bullying occurs between students online it is essential that our students understand the role they play in observing and taking action.

The conversation to define bullying and highlight the importance of positive action began with whole School prayerful reflection on the issue. It continued with class time discussions that aimed to define and identify positive and practical steps that our students can take when they witness bullying, either online or in person. During lunch our Peer Support Team distributed wrist bands to students as a way to open the conversation, reinforce the messages heard through the day and extend an invitation to students to seek help from the Team if they ever need support. Finally, the girls celebrated with activities like jump rope, hula hoops, ball

games and twister on the lawn in front of the Joigny Café.

Bullying is an often misunderstood concept. It does not include occasional arguments between friends or poor social behaviour stemming from a lack of understanding; typical during adolescent development. Bullying is a repeated pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour which involves the misuse of power. Bullying is typically categorised as either overt or covert and can happen in person or through any form of communication technology, such as social media or mobile phones.

Whilst teenage girls are not immune to acts of physical violence, they tend to engage more in behaviours such as social exclusion and intimidation. This makes the work of educators and parents more complex as often the behaviours go unnoticed or undefined. It is essential that students understand the crucial role of the bystander in stopping bullying before it escalates.

The *Bullying. No Way!* website has information about the National Day of Action and how we can all help create a supportive school environment free from bullying, harassment and violence.

A copy of Stuartholme's Peer Relations Policy is available on the School's website.

(Right) Our staff wore orange to show their support for the national day of action against bullying and violence.



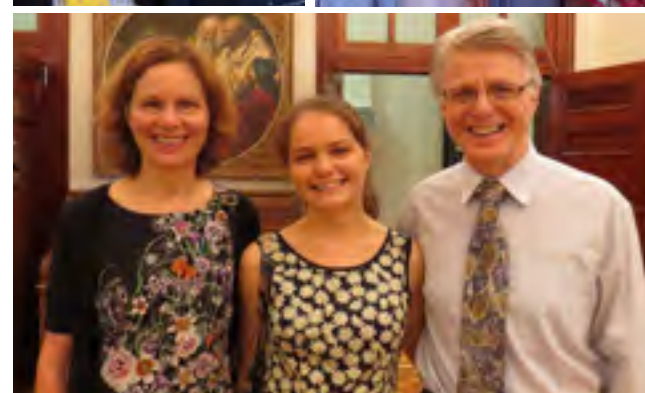
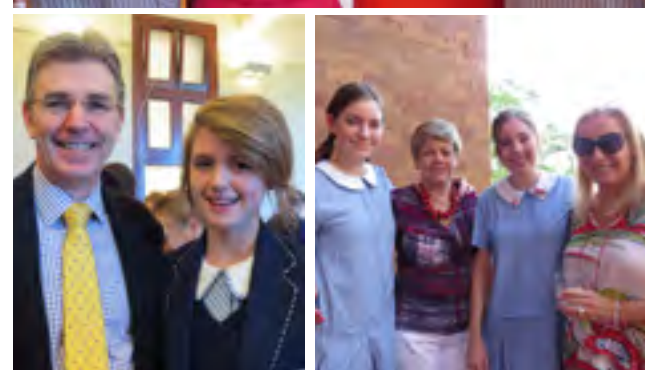


# Open Day

Stuartholme School opened its doors on Saturday 22 March for its annual Open Day. The day was a great success and saw over 1,200 people visit the School. Principal Helen Sinclair's midday address in the Auditorium was filled with interested families wanting to learn more about Stuartholme's educational programme. Please visit our Facebook page for a video of photos and quotes from families who attended: [www.facebook.com/StuartholmeSchool](http://www.facebook.com/StuartholmeSchool)







# Parent Daughter Breakfasts

On Friday 14 February, the Year 11 and 12 parents and students had their Parent Daughter Breakfast in the Australian Room. Approximately 300 people attended and joined together over breakfast to catch up with friends.

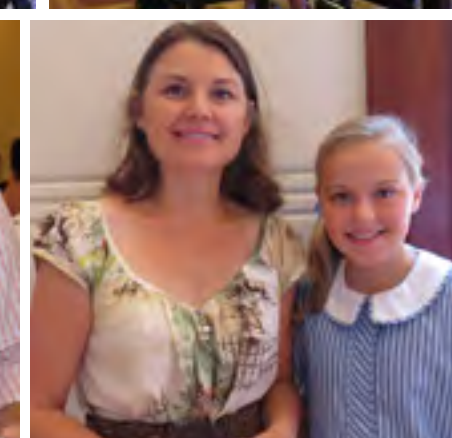
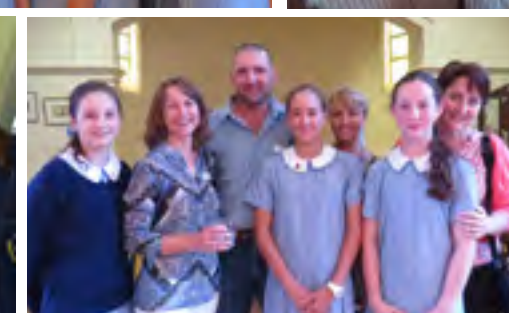
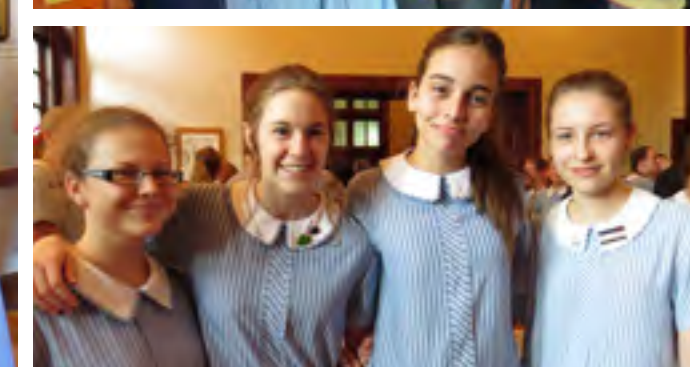
Class of 2002 Alumna and Wildlife Veterinarian and Business Director, Corissa Miller, was the guest speaker and delivered a motivational message to the girls.

To learn more about Corissa's story, view <http://www.stuartholme.com/oursuccessstories/corissa-miller/>

The next Parent Daughter breakfast was for Year 8 students and their parents on Friday 28 February. The Australian Room was a beautiful venue for the 100 parents and students.

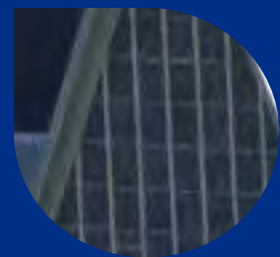
Guests were delighted to hear from Cara Nolan, Class of 2010. Cara is currently in her fourth year studying Science and Global Issues at The University of Queensland.

Year 9 and 10 families had their Breakfast on Friday 9 May. Ellie Foxcroft delivered a thought-provoking message about her time at Stuartholme and journey to becoming a Mathematician.





# Stay IN Touch



Our Alumnae are important to us.  
We are proud of what you have achieved.  
Connect with Stuartholme and share  
your successes.



Stay in touch with Stuartholme School. Tell us your stories, share your photos and connect with lifelong friends.

Ensure you don't miss an event or reunion by updating your details when they change. It's easy - visit Alumnae on the School Website to keep up-to-date.

We look forward to hearing about your life journey!

The Stuartholme Sacré Coeur Association (SSCA) maintains links to the global network of the Sacred Heart.

With over 10,000 members in over 40 countries worldwide, the International Society of the Alumnae of the Schools of the Sacré Coeur offers ongoing support and different opportunities for you and your family.

Whenever you travel in the world, you will find a kindred spirit.

To find out more, contact the Advancement Director, Amanda Houston via email [ahouston@stuartholme.com](mailto:ahouston@stuartholme.com)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Stuartholme was used as a Hospital in World War II.

IT'S MORE  
THAN A  
NETWORK...  
IT'S A  
GLOBAL  
FAMILY



# Couverture:

## From the french word for coating or covering

When Jessica Brookes left Stuartholme in 2002, she wasn't quite sure where life would take her. A career as a Nurse perhaps... or maybe a Designer? She had secured a position at one of Queensland's top universities, which opened more doors than she expected...



## FROM JOURNALISM... TO CHOCOLATE

By Jessica Moran

The University of Queensland (UQ) allowed Jessica to start her academic career in a Bachelor of Arts studying subjects from a range of faculties. After a year at UQ, she realised Journalism was her calling and transferred to the Bachelor degree with a focus on print journalism.

Shortly after graduating, Jessica took her love of writing and reporting overseas and started writing for an oil and gas publication. Jessica worked overseas for several years before her desire to return home kicked in. At this time the journalism field was not hiring in Australia but Jessica's wish to return home to her friends and family overpowered that.

"I remember thinking, 'Well, if I can't be a journalist, what else do I love doing?'" she said.

"I love chocolate and I love cooking so I approached Melissa Atkinson who owned Bittersweet at the Barracks Paddington and worked with her for two years before branching out on my own and opening Couverture & Co."

Couverture & Co. is an artisan chocolate shop producing batches of handcrafted traditional and unique chocolates onsite every day. The decadent treats are made using traditional methods including hand tempering, dipping and piping. Jessica and her team create their truffles and bars in small batches in an onsite kitchen, to ensure customers receive the freshest possible product.

"All of our chocolates are made from the finest Belgian Couverture chocolate and are free from artificial preservatives," she said.

"Couverture chocolate contains a minimum of 32 percent cocoa butter. Unlike other types of chocolate confection, Couverture chocolate does not contain vegetable fat which is used as a cheaper substitute for cocoa butter."





PHOTOS: SUPPLIED BY COUVERTURE&amp;CO.

We recently caught up with Jessica to get the inside scoop on her life as Owner and Chocolatier of Couverture & Co. in Red Hill.

**It's quite a shift from Journalism to chocolate, what were the most significant lifestyle changes?**

Well there's a certain amount of stress associated with Journalism and while I love it and will probably return to the industry one day, chocolate is very calm, relaxed and creative. I can take my time developing a recipe and I love seeing the joy on people's faces when they take their first bite of a new flavour combination. It is pure magic to see that deliciously decadent melt-in-your-mouth feeling personified.

**What's your favourite chocolate?**

Oh, that's a hard one! It changes every week (laughs). I always seem to go back to chilli and dark chocolate though or raspberry. I really enjoy the dark chocolate truffles, but then again I also really like our new flavours like banoffee, white chocolates and tonka, and stuffed dates. I just love chocolate (laughs).

**If someone had told you two years ago this is where you would be today, would you have believed them?**

No, not at all! This is definitely not where I expected to be. I love it though! It's such a change and it makes me happy to make other people happy. When I was younger I wanted to be a Nurse at one point and then I wanted to be an Interior Designer... I never would have expected to own and run my very own chocolate

shop. It's everyone's dream but it's my reality.

**I bet your friends and family love all the samples!**

(Laughs) Yes, yes they do! I always make them try new recipes and whenever I'm asked to bring-a-plate to a party, I always bring chocolate! I'm still friends with a lot of the girls I went to Stuartholme with and it's nice to catch up and get their feedback on the chocolates. They get paid in chocolate when they volunteer to help at the store on the weekends (laughs). They love it!

**What was your time at Stuartholme like?**

It was great – I still have so many quality friendships from my time there. Stuartholme also really fostered my creative spirit and belief that I could do anything I wanted to do. The teachers were all so supportive of our individual talents. Going to Stuartholme was a great experience for me.

**What advice would you give to someone wanting to start up their own business?**

The greatest advice I received when starting Couverture & Co. was don't be afraid to take risks. The worst thing that can happen is it doesn't work out and then you just try something else. I think a lot of people are scared to take that initial jump but that's the hardest part, it gets a lot easier after that.

To get your chocolate fix, see Jess and the team at 19A Enoggera Tce, Red Hill. Chocolates are available by the piece or can be individually selected to fill a gift box. For opening hours and a full menu visit [www.couvertureandco.com.au](http://www.couvertureandco.com.au)



**“I would never have expected to own and run my very own chocolate shop... It's everyone's dream, but it's my reality.”**

JESSICA BROOKES







SHE'S  
BEAUTIFUL,  
SHE'S  
CONFIDENT  
AND SHE'S IN  
CONTROL OF  
HOW SHE VIEWS  
HER BODY...

PHOTO: TALENT MANAGEMENT

# Loving the skin you are in

By Jessica Moran

23-year old Georgina Burke or Geo, as she's affectionately known, is turning heads and making people see that a woman's beauty comes from within.

"Love yourself, be yourself and wear clothes you love," she said.

The former Stuartholme girl (Class of 2007) is the first ever model to be signed as the official face to United States plus-sized clothing retailer, Torrid.

"It's just so exciting. A plus-size model going under contract with a brand hasn't happened for years, and it couldn't be with a better company," she said.

Torrid, whose clothing caters for women between sizes 12 and 28, describe Geo as "sexy, sultry and irresistible."

The gig will see her feature on the cover of their summer swimsuit catalogue, website and in over 230 stores worldwide.

Geo's agent Chelsea Bonner from Bella Model Management said it's a hugely positive step and one that

shows confidence in their brand.

"By signing Geo, Torrid is showing a deep understanding of who their customer is and what women want, which is a realistically-sized model," she said.

But it's her fresh and real attitude about body image that's shaking up the fashion industry.

"If I can help women feel great about their bodies then I'm doing my job."

In an interview with Women's Wear Daily about the partnership with Torrid, she expressed her frustrations at plus sized models not appearing on magazine covers more often.

"Sixty-eight percent of women in America are over size 12," she said.

"Why can't we be put in the magazine as well? Who's to say we aren't good enough to be in there in a fashionable way?"

Geo aims to use her position at Torrid to show women



PHOTO: VOGUE ITALIA



the true beauty of loving the skin you're in.

The future looks bright for Geo who is hoping she will be signed with Torrid for another year.

"I'd love to continue with Torrid," she said.

"I love the atmosphere, I love travelling and I love working with the Torrid team; they are wonderful and supportive people."

Geo encourages anyone thinking of entering the modelling and fashion industries to give it a go, you never know if you don't try.

"I really didn't expect to be a model when I was younger. It was always something that I'd had in the back of my mind but I didn't really think it was possible," she said.

"It wasn't until I was in my mid-teens that I became comfortable with my body. I was always a larger build when I was in high school and I used to eat the same portion size as my dad."

"I remember wanting to lose weight and be more healthy and active so I joined the School's Equestrian team and started to exercise and eat balanced meals."

"It was tough, but also really rewarding. I have a very supportive family who helped me stay focused on my goals."

After graduating from Stuartholme, Geo started modelling for her friends clothing line. After that she auditioned for the Miss Teen Australia Competition and ended up winning the Queensland heat.

"For the sportswear round all the girls wore tiny shorts while I opted for my riding gear. That little touch of individuality worked and I won," she said.

The confident and poised woman then set off to London to work and model. She has worked all over Europe and America and is now based between Los Angeles and New York.

"It's hard to believe I once struggled with body issues and I'm so pleased to be presenting a positive image to other women," she said.

"I hope that by sharing my story, other girls can see that it doesn't matter what people think of your body shape. As long as you're healthy and happy with yourself, it's how you feel inside that counts."



"I want to empower women to love and enjoy being themselves. You don't have to be a size 8 to be happy... and you don't have to be unhappy if you're a larger size either... It's about loving your own skin."

GEO BURKE



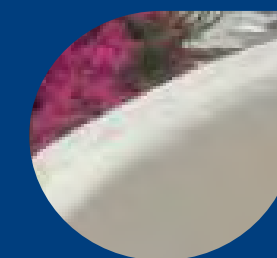
PHOTOS: BELLA MODEL MANAGEMENT

# THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

"Recently I was lucky enough to travel to Europe for the first time with a group of my fellow Stuartholme Alumnae. It was wonderful to finally get to see sights that I have wanted to visit since I was very young, from the Eiffel Tower to the Colosseum, all of which lived up to my expectations."

ELLIE FOXCROFT  
CLASS OF 2007

It was the trip of a lifetime...  
And we got to go together.  
We're Stuartholme girls which means  
we're friends for life.







One of the highlights of my trip was cycling through Paris one afternoon. It is an incredibly beautiful city and seeing it from a bike was a great way to take it all in at once.

Lucerne in Switzerland was also wonderful. We made the train journey to the top of the Alps to experience the breathtaking views, and it was well worth it.

We also spent time in Italy, and I finished my trip in stunning Santorini in Greece with my family. I couldn't have asked for a better group of girls to travel with.

We met in Year 8 in 2003 and have been friends ever since, and we are already planning our next Europe trip!



**"I could not have asked for a better group of people to travel with... we're already planning our next trip!"**

ELLIE FOXCROFT



# Births, Deaths and Marriages

If you are an Alumna of Stuartholme and would like to be married or have a baptism in the Chapel, please email [alumnae@stuartholme.com](mailto:alumnae@stuartholme.com)



Laura (Frisby) and Elliot M<sup>c</sup>Carthy

## Weddings

**1 February** - Laura (Frisby) and Elliot M<sup>c</sup>Carthy

**26 April** - Peta (Schreenan) and Lachlan M<sup>c</sup>Kenna

## Baptisms

**9 March** - Darcy Salvatore Granato, child of Hayley (Mitchell) and Peter Granato

**4 May** - Jebediah Bennett, child of Rebecca (Forde) and Chris Bennett



Sister Margaret Toohey

## Deaths

**8 February** - Patrick Dempsey (Former Stuartholme Board Director and Tennis Support Group President)

**27 March** - Dr. Peter Yeoh Tiong Yong JP, OAM (Former Stuartholme Foundation Director)

**6 April** - Sister Margaret Toohey rscJ (Former Stuartholme Principal)

**15 April** - Jon Doyle (Former Husband and Father)



Patrick Dempsey





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