

# cor unum

Stuartholme School

Winter Edition 2016



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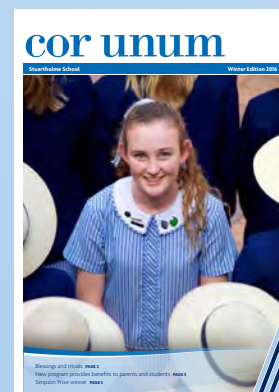
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### DISCLAIMER

The Cor Unum 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.

‘Cor unum et anima una in corde Jesu’  
**One heart and one mind in the heart of Jesus**



## Message from The Principal

**As I reflect on my first six months at Stuartholme School, I acknowledge the most striking features of our community.**

When a school is as confident in their own sense of community as Stuartholme, they catch you when you 'fly in' and gently and firmly place you in their hamlet. The spirit of Stuartholme is deeply known and valued by students, staff and parents, as well as 'old girls' – our alumnae. In my preliminary interviews of our staff, their perceptions identify the highly valued strengths as:

- the spirit of the school: whether the spirit of the natural setting or the spirit of the Sacred Heart education tradition
- the sense of community, the sense of belonging – the unconditional support of staff and students.

As a progressive international Sacred Heart School, Stuartholme is committed to educating the whole person. Stuartholme is acknowledged for its academic success, yet never at the expense of the wellbeing of each girl. While we strive to have the girls achieve to the best of their ability, we are teaching them how to engage with the world and the pressures which come with a full and challenging life. Our graduates believe in themselves, they are not afraid of the unknown and question their social norms. Our Student Wellbeing approach is multi-layered and innate in every aspect of the school. Stuartholme is small enough for every girl to be known and valued, yet big enough to be able to offer an extensive and dynamic range of academic subjects. The staff ownership of the students and their investment and deep understanding of each child is evident in the relationships between students and teachers.

Personally and professionally, I am passionate about girls believing in themselves. I do not mean confidence nor ambition; I mean to know they are of value in their world, they can make a difference and deserve to be respected. We do not want our girls to be: invisible, to go under the radar, to shrink back from participation or engagement, we do not want them to opt-out or to be passive. It is a privilege to belong to a community where young women exuberantly air their enthusiasm and joy in living fully. Not many people would associate a Catholic girls' boarding school as having an atmosphere of freedom. We aspire to 'Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom' - our fifth Goal of Sacred Heart Education. We teach our girls to be responsible, discerning and capable so they may access informed choices beyond their school days.

I have taught in Catholic Education in three States, in boys' and girls' schools, in Independent and Catholic Systemic schools, I am delighted and enlivened by our Stuartholme teachers' distinct quality of valuing intelligent reflection and professional learning. The intellectual quality of the staff is inspiring and invigorating.

As we enter the new chapter of the Stuartholme story, I feel embraced by the community, I treasure my sense of belonging in a dynamic caring and challenging educational village, where we can empower our girls to believe in themselves, led by teachers who hunger to understand more.

**Kristen Sharpe**  
Principal



# Installation

**On Friday 12 March the Stuartholme community officially welcomed Ms Kristen Sharpe as the 18th Principal of Stuartholme School.**

We were honoured to have his Grace, Archbishop Coleridge as Presider and as con-celebrants our much loved Fr Peter Quin SJ and Fr Gaetan Pereira SJ from St Ignatius Parish, Toowong.

We were also delighted to welcome:

Sr Pender rscJ, Provincial ANZ province  
 Sr Bannon rscJ, Sr Breen rscJ, Sr Carroll rscJ, Sr Hayes, rscJ  
 Ms Sandie Cornish, Province Director of Mission  
 Counsellor for Toowong, Mr Peter Matic  
 Member of Parliament Mt Coot-tha Hon Dr Steven Miles  
 The Law Family  
 Mr Daryl Hanly, current Chair of Stuartholme School Board and Directors of the Stuartholme School Board  
 Principals from the ANZ Province, Mrs Hilary Johnston-Croke from Kincoppal Rose Bay, Mrs Sandy Pasley from Baradene College Auckland, and Ms Maureen Ryan from Sacre Coeur, Glen Iris  
 Marist Ashgrove, Principal, Mr Peter McLoughlin  
 Mrs Anna Katter, Chair of Duchesne Board and Mr Denis Brosnan, Dean of Students – Duchesne, Goals & Ethos Stuartholme Board Sub Committee  
 Mr Peter Franks representing Bond University and Mr Steve Forster representing UQ  
 Mr Jesse Green and Mrs Cheryl Mortimer representing Cape York Institute  
 Ms Diane Neve, president of the Stuartholme Sacre Coeur Association  
 Alumnae of Stuartholme  
 Mrs Helen Sinclair and Mr Michael Sinclair.

We acknowledged once again our commitment as a Sacred Heart School to embracing the five Goals of Sacred Heart Education.

This year, our focus goal is Goal 5, 'Personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom' and we chose the theme 'Flourish' as a way to bring life to Goal 5.

Throughout the Mass, Kristen was presented with gifts from the Stuartholme community as a way to welcome her and acknowledge her as the new Principal.



# Blessings and Rituals

At the dawn of creation, we read in the Book of Genesis that after the creation of Adam and Eve "God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply'". The tradition of blessing has continued since then in many cultures and in many forms. It is part of the Catholic tradition to begin any important event by invoking the Holy Spirit for inspiration and blessing on the work ahead. In Sacred Heart Schools blessings and rituals have always been part of our culture, from the time when Madeleine Sophie Barat founded her first school in Amiens in 1800.

In keeping with our tradition we chose to formally present Ms Kristen Sharpe to the school as our new leader in the context of the Eucharistic Liturgy and to bless her. We were fortunate to have Archbishop Mark Coleridge as the celebrant on this important occasion as it reminded us that the education we offer at Stuartholme is a work of the Church.

The elements of the blessing ritual reminded the whole community what we value here at Stuartholme. After a smoking ceremony

and special blessing presided over by Uncle Eric Law and the introductory rites and readings of the Mass, Kristen was formally introduced by the Stuartholme School Board Chair, Mr Daryl Hanly, as the governance of the School is entrusted to the Members of the Board. The presentation of a cross was a symbol that we gather as followers of Jesus in the Spirit of Cor Unum. An added dimension of symbolism was that it was designed by Nikita Law, an indigenous artist who is a member of our extended community. It was our Provincial, Sister Joan Pender, an Alumna, who presented Kristen with a copy of *The Life of Saint Madeleine Sophie*, entrusting to her care the continuation of Sophie's legacy. Symbols of the Goals of Sacred Heart Education, a list of all the students and a copy of the history of the school, all spoke of the elements that are part of the spirit of Cor Unum. Finally, Helen Sinclair handed over to Kristen the heart brooch which is worn by the Principal on formal occasions.

**Sister Rita Carroll rscJ**

# New program provides benefits for students and parents

**'To be the best she can be'. This has been Stuartholme's motto for a number of years. The philosophy around the motto is based on the Goals of a Sacred Heart Education.**

The Goals are based on Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat's vision: **"to educate the whole woman with a view to her own vocation in the circumstances and the age in which she has to live".**

The philosophy around a Sacred Heart Education is also guiding our work with Student Performance and the introduction of TrackOne Studio, a program specifically for student tracking.

Student Performance Data Coordinator, Shannon Lacey explains how Stuartholme will use the program.

"Stuartholme has a huge amount of data about our students, this program is a way of using that data to gain insights into student performance.

"We not only have data on academic performance, national and external test results, but also classroom observations and attendance records."

Including observations and attendance records in the program adds another dimension to a student's performance that is not just based on results.

"You can never look at data without looking at the child behind it; observations on attitude and engagement form just as big a part to the picture as the grade they received."

The program also allows for longitudinal reporting, which records observations made about performance over time.

"Of course subjects change as students go through secondary school, however having the longitudinal data highlights any anomalies," Shannon said.

One of the key outcomes for implementing this type of program is not just on student performance, but also teacher performance.

In Shannon's role she can extrapolate data and make observations that can be used to open up professional discussions between a student's teachers.

"We're not just about improving the performance of our students, but also that of our teachers.

"If a student is performing extremely well in one subject, we have the opportunity to look at examples of lessons where the students differentiated and open up professional discussions for learning."

The TrackOne Suite is being developed further, with a view to offering parental access through the Portal in 2017.

"For parents, being able to see student performance over time is a great way to assess progress at a glance.

"They will also be able to see correlations in performance across different subject areas which may give them a new perspective about their child's strengths, and possible senior subject selection options," Shannon said.

To provide a fully holistic picture, parents will also be able to access data relating to behaviour and attendance.

...being able to see student performance over time is a great way to assess progress at a glance.







# The artist behind the window

For generations, Stuartholme girls and their families have been inspired by the magnificent stained glass window in our Chapel.



The window was designed by renowned English-born artist, Andrew Sibley who, at one time in his career, was an art teacher at Stuartholme.

The theme of the window is the sacrifice of the Mass and is composed of three elements:

- The lower panels depict Creation and the whole of Time.
- The central panels deal with the Institution of the Blessed Sacrament and recalls the origin of the Mass.
- The upper panels give a mystical representation of the Crucifixion.

Although Andrew had a passion for art from a young age, he did not have any formal qualifications. It was while working in Papua New Guinea that Andrew was inspired by the colours of the area and immersed himself into his art.

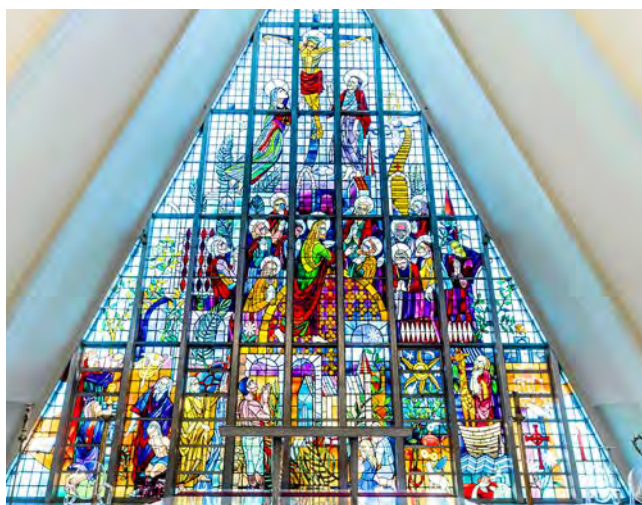
A year later, Andrew was back in Brisbane and determined to be a full time artist. After his hugely successful first exhibition at the Queensland Art Gallery, he went on to win the Transfield Art prize. It was around this time that he started working at Stuartholme School.

While at Stuartholme, he was commissioned to design a stained glass window on the new Chapel. Andrew was honoured to have his art recognised in this way and not long after another commission for windows at Holy Family Church, Indooroopilly followed.

After leaving Stuartholme, Andrew went on to lecture in fine arts at RMIT and was head of painting at the Monash University Faculty of Art and Design.

Andrew passed away on 3 September 2015. He is survived by his two sons, three grandchildren, a brother and sister.

Andrew's work can be seen in most major galleries throughout Australia, and of course, on the beautiful Chapel stained glass window here at Stuartholme.



## Australia Day Honours

### Young Australian of the Year 2016



For the first time in history the Young Australian of the Year award went to two people, Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett who are the social entrepreneurs behind Orange Sky Laundry (OSL). Established in 2014, their vision is a world where people who are homeless are positively connected with the community.

Lucas Patchett's younger sister Georgia is currently in Year 12 at Stuartholme.

Leader of Mission, Sarah Daff said when she found out about the connection she invited Nic and Lucas to present to the Year 11 cohort on Servant Leadership, which was part of their Leadership retreat.

"Since then OSL also helped out with Stuartholme's Sony Camp by washing the companions' and campers' clothes, and this year the students have started volunteering with them.

"A group of girls go out every Monday morning from 6.30-8am to

wash clothes, but more importantly, they talk with the patrons, listen to them and treat them with dignity and respect," Sarah said.

Stuartholme is now one of the first three schools in Queensland to be part of the School Ambassadors Program run by OSL.

"We believe Nic and Lucas are outstanding young men and an inspiration to children all over Australia on how a simple idea of providing clean clothes to the homeless can have such a huge impact on our society."



### Professor Carol Dickenson

We would like to congratulate Professor Dickenson, the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Queensland University of Technology on her appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2016 Australia Day Honours.

This appointment is in recognition of her significant service to tertiary education as a senior administrator, and to professional academic standards and development.

Professor Dickenson was Chair of the Stuartholme School Board from 2004 to 2006.





# The Simpson Prize

**When we talk about the spirit of the Anzacs nothing sums it up more than the story of Simpson and his donkey.**

John Simpson enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1914 and went to Gallipoli the following year as part of the 3rd Field Ambulance, Australian Medical Corps.

From the moment he landed, Private Simpson relentlessly transported wounded men from the fighting in Monash Valley to the beach on Anzac Cove using one of the donkeys as a stretcher.

Private Simpson was killed by machine-gun fire while trying to get two men to safety, he was 22 years old.

Each year, Year 9 and 10 students across Australia are invited to take part in The Simpson Prize, a national competition focusing on the significance of Anzac Day and what it means to them.

Stuartholme's Hilary Briggs, Year 10 is the Queensland Simpson Prize winner for 2016 with her thought provoking answer to the question 'The landing at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 is often given prominence in accounts of the Gallipoli campaign. What other experiences of the campaign would you argue require more attention? Why?'

Hilary said she thoroughly enjoyed researching and writing the essay as part of her Year 9 history assessment, that was then expanded upon to enter The Simpson Prize.

"I think that my passion for understanding our nation's past and the role played by so many young Australians in the service of their country has come from attending the dawn service at Brisbane's Anzac square each year with my family," she said.

Hilary received her award at Parliament House during a three-day trip to Canberra. While there, she was able to visit several of the

capital's museums and institutions as well as attend a formal dinner at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

"It was very exciting to be in Canberra and to receive my award at Parliament House.

"I was also selected to read an excerpt of my essay at the awards ceremony. Although the reading was a bit intimidating, it was an honour to read in front of Australian Senators, Government Ministers, Parliamentary officials and representatives from Veterans Affairs and the Australian War Memorial," Hilary said.

Hilary was due to travel to Turkey in April to take part in the commemorative Anzac Day ceremonies, however due to the high travel risk, the trip was cancelled and a replacement overseas trip to another location later in the year will be scheduled.

"Although the trip to Gallipoli was cancelled and this was very disappointing, the experience of the Canberra trip was amazing.

I learnt so much at the guided tour of the Australian War Memorial and it was a pleasure getting to know all of the other winners. I would strongly recommend Year 9 and 10 students to enter into this year's competition."



**The Simpson Prize**



# Girls challenge stereotypes

**Stuartholme School is challenging the stereotype that boys are better suited to maths and science, with a program designed to develop the skills of girls in the STEAM areas of science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics.**

The STEAM or STEM acronym is used to describe the curriculum choices of a school with the aim of improving competitiveness in science and technology development and especially promoting these subjects for young women.

Over the Easter school holidays, Stuartholme, in conjunction with Clearing Skies, ran the first of two STEAM Residential Programs for 2016. Gifted girls currently in Years 5 and 6 came to Stuartholme from all over Queensland and northern New South Wales to take part in the three-day Residential Program.

Principal, Kristen Sharpe, said the Residential aims to offer high ability students an intensive program of learning in the STEAM areas.

"Gifted and like-minded girls have an opportunity to learn innovative and challenging concepts.

"As an educator of girls, we know how important it is to develop their knowledge and skills in the STEAM areas. The reality is within the next 15 years, many jobs will not exist, and they will be replaced with career options that require a high degree of STEAM thinking and problem solving skills.

"STEAM is already part of our everyday lives. It drives innovation

and allows us to prosper. The key is to ensure science, technology and maths are not disconnected from innovation and creativity," said Kristen.

Over the three days, students took part in a number of workshops depending on their particular strength or interest. In the technology workshops, girls looked at coding and learnt how to design, construct and program various projects.

In engineering, students looked at how machines work and the actions of force and motion through gears, levers, wheels and pulleys. They then tested some variables in what makes cars go fast or slow.

"The workshops are all hands-on which allows the girls to be immersed in their learning," explained Kristen.

The STEAM program is an extension of Stuartholme's educational philosophy which is designed to extend and enrich every student so she can be the best she can be.

"We are proud our graduates are successfully pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics," Kristen said.

For more information on the STEAM Residential Program contact [communications@stuartholme.com](mailto:communications@stuartholme.com).



# Mère Gabrielle Renard

**The renovations during the Christmas holidays led to many changes to the interior of Stuartholme, changes that have meant that rooms have had to be renumbered.**

Before the 1970s our classrooms and dormitories were named after saints – the names St Aloysius and St Francis Xavier still survive on the doors of two classrooms. Over recent years the students have learnt to find the classrooms in Joigny and Spruson by the prefix of the letters 'J' and 'S' before the number. When Ms Sharpe said she would like to give a name to the original building, it did not take me long to propose the name 'Renard', as it was Mère Renard who supervised the building of Stuartholme.

I did not know a great deal about her apart from the story that, when the School was being built, she was hauled up to the roof top in the barrow they used to get bricks up to each level so she could inspect the work. It is recorded in the house journals that the workmen thought she was a 'good sport'! It seemed that it would be good for us to know a little more about this foundress of ours so I have done a little research in our archives.

Gabrielle Renard was born in Anvers, Belgium on 27 May, 1874. Her father and uncle were wool merchants who had dealings with England and Australia and had a comfortable income. Sadly, her mother died after a long illness when she and her sister were very young and later her father suffered financial difficulties. The two girls were sent to the Society's school in Bois l'Evêque, France in 1885. Her father died the year she left school and she joined the Society the following year. As a young religious she taught for a few years until she showed a great aptitude for business and spent the rest of her life responsible for finance and property in a number of places.

Mère Renard would have been completely at home here over the Christmas holidays as it was her task when the Society faced expulsion from France to clear the convent at Conflans. She had eight days to empty a building that had been in the Society for fifty years and she managed the packing and departure of nine wagons to be sent to Belgium. The sisters took over an old chateau in Flône, in Belgium, where Mère Renard managed the refurbishment with sensitivity and know how.

As she had always had a desire to go to the missions, she came to Australia in 1907 and spent a few years in Sydney and Melbourne before coming to Brisbane as Superior. In 1917 she came to Queensland with the first group of sisters and was involved in the choice of the Stuartholme site. She realised her great desire to

have the foundation stone laid on the Feast of Saint Madeleine Sophie, 25 May 1919 so the project would be under the Saint's protection.

While Mère Renard had never enjoyed really good health it became a grave concern and in April 1921 she underwent a serious operation. While she still kept account of the costs and supervised every detail of the building, resolving difficulties with 'extraordinary lucidity', she was replaced as Superior by Mère du Pradel. Sadly, Mère Renard's health deteriorated in spite of various treatments and she died on 21 August, 1922. She did not live to see the building finally completed two months later. She was buried in our cemetery the day after her death and her requiem was attended by many priests and sixty of the workmen who were working on the building; it is recorded that they were all Protestants. Archbishop Duhig and all who knew her held her in high regard as a woman of prayer with an extraordinary practical ability and understanding of finance. Clearly, she was greatly loved by all who knew her and it is fitting that our beautiful historic building should in future bear her name.

**Sister Rita Carroll rscJ**



*Mère Renard is on the right in the front row.*



## From the archives

**Stuartholme girls didn't always arrive to school on a big blue bus. In the 1930's Stuartholme was gifted a car by Archbishop Duhig.**

With the School's badge on the side, the car, also known as Pegasus, could take 12 passengers. Mr Giuseppe di Betta was the liveried chauffeur and in addition to his gardening duties, he would transport the day-boarders and visitors up the steep hill from the Toowong tram station.

At the outbreak of World War II, the community moved to Canungra. Giuseppe was not able to accompany them however. He had his licence cancelled as an enemy alien, and was called up for defence work.



# In the Nest

Stuartholme boarding's motto this year is **"Be Kind, Be Inclusive, Be Involved, Be Independent and Be Your (Academic) Best!"**



**BE KIND  
BE INCLUSIVE  
BE INVOLVED  
BE INDEPENDENT  
BE YOUR BEST**

**STUARTHOLME BOARDING 2016**

These words inspire the boarders to build a community where each girl can feel at home, secure, supported and motivated. When girls feel like this, they can do absolutely anything! They are free to grow and develop to their full potential. To be the best young women they can be. My hope is that each boarder will make a profound difference to the families and communities from which they come, as well as wider society.

This year, we have had a special emphasis on enhanced academic care. We provide the girls with carefully supervised study sessions in which they have a choice of how to study; they can work on their own, collaboratively or with the support of one of our teacher-librarians. We have run study sessions focussed on the boarders' needs, invited the Heads of Department upstairs during study times and started a Homework Help Club for Year 10s.

Another particular focus has been communication with our families, many of whom live far away, as far as Madagascar and Dubai! We maintain a Stuartholme Boarding Facebook page that updates parents each week on what's happening and our parents also receive a weekly online newsletter, *News From the Nest*. Mrs Marie Copley chairs our *Boarder Parent Support Network* who meets each term to ensure that parents are able to participate in improving the boarding experience. Visits to rural communities are another important cog in the boarding wheel and Lyn Robinson, Kristen Sharpe and I were fortunate to be able to be present at the Goondiwindi Show this term. We experienced the great gift of outback hospitality from so many of our families as well as interviewing prospective students.

Unhappy girls cannot learn, so another crucial focus for us has

been ensuring the recreation program and catering services are of a very good standard. Miss Amy McDonald is new to the Recreation Officer position this year and she has done a brilliant job in providing the girls with a diverse range of age appropriate activities that link us with the boys' schools as well as many of the cultural and sporting events in Brisbane. Mr Kester Biggs, our Catering Manager has lifted the level of our meals to quite exceptional gourmet experiences including themed dinners monthly (Chinese New Year, PJ Party, Cowboys, Hawaii to name a few!)

Health and wellbeing are always central when caring for 154 adolescent girls and we have been delighted to welcome Sr Kylee Brain to the Nurse Manager role. Kylee comes to us from the Mater Hospital and she has integrated beautifully into her role here at school. We have started Yoga classes on Monday afternoons for our Seniors to be able to unwind and a cooking program called Need to Feed has just begun thanks to Mrs Nicole Bradford.

Research points out the positive psychological effects of giving to others and our Year 11 and 12 boarders are doing an outstanding job in being part of Orange Sky Laundry on Monday mornings as well as Homeless Connect and the Yeronga State High School Tutoring program. Boarders are living out "Be Kind, Be Inclusive, Be Involved" one kind act at a time.

The girls bring joy and happiness to the Boarding House every single day, even now, in the midst of winter! Laughter abounds and it is a great place to be.

**Andrée Rice**  
Deputy Principal Boarding





# Cooking for Life

A recent article in *Nutridate*\* (Volume 27, March 2016) asked the question 'Are cooking skills essential to improving public health?'

The article looked at the relationship between those who cooked meals and making healthy food choices.

An interesting outcome was the evidence that showed people who prepared their own meals reported a higher intake of vegetables and enjoyed the cooking process.

Design Technology Teacher, Nicole Bradford fully supports the idea that improving cooking skills leads to better overall health through better food choices.

"Cooking is an essential tool of life. Like any skill, the more you use it the better you become and cooking is no different.

"In Design Technology, we teach the students about food, how it can be prepared, how you can cook it and most of all, I give them the forum to experiment."

Once students become familiar with food and how to prepare it, they can start to design their own meals.

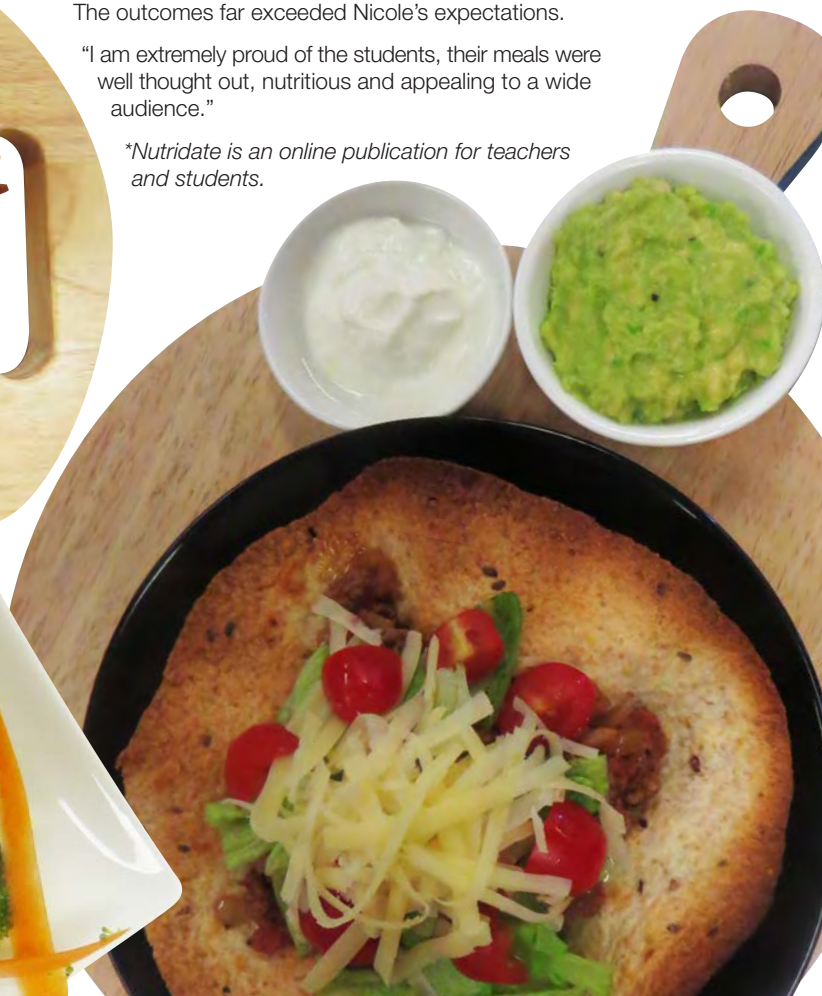
As part of their Term 1 assessment, the Year 9 Design Technology students were asked to design a meal that could be sold in the School's Café.

"I wanted the girls to think about the purpose of eating a healthy lunch at school and design and prepare a suitable solution," Nicole said.

The outcomes far exceeded Nicole's expectations.

"I am extremely proud of the students, their meals were well thought out, nutritious and appealing to a wide audience."

*\*Nutridate is an online publication for teachers and students.*





# The girl effect

**In the lead up to International Women's Day on 8 March, Cor Unum Head, Jane McDonald delivered a power speech to the students about her thoughts on why every day should be treated as International Women's Day.**

Let me hit you with some facts. Did you know that there are more CEOs in the world named David than there are female CEOs in total? In Australia, 1 in 5 women will experience sexual violence after the age of 15. Thirty-one million girls worldwide of primary school age are not enrolled in school. Two-thirds of the world's illiterate population are women. There are 196 countries in the world, but only 33 have ever had a female leader. Globally, women account for 80% of the world's farmers, producing 50% world's food, but own 1% of the world's land. Women work two-thirds of the world's hours, but earn 10% of the world's income. 80% of all people trafficked across borders are women. Every minute a woman or child dies during childbirth. I woke up at 6:45 this morning, it's now about 8:30, that's at least 105 minutes, and at least 105 sisters lost. In Australia, the gender pay gap accounts for a full-time average earning difference of \$284.20 per week. The average age of a child bride is eight years old.

I could go on and on with numbers, but I think you get my point.

I am up here speaking today as a 16 year old girl in front of a pretty big bunch of other girls around my age in a school dedicated to the education of women and women alone. This is a privilege that unfortunately not many young women, or women in general have the opportunity to attain. And while that's not our fault, we have the means to be able to act upon that injustice and it is our duty to do so.

As Stuartholme women we are lucky enough to have the opportunity to prosper in an environment where we are not discriminated against because of our gender. You're not going to see your friend in Year 7 leave school to be forced into marriage and have children, you're not going to see your best friend walk on average seven kilometres to collect water for her family, you're not going to see one of the Year 8s selling herself on the streets to pay for dinner. We need to understand just how lucky we are to live in this society, but we also need to be the voice for our silenced sisters who are discriminated against worldwide.

International Women's Day is next Tuesday and it comes around once a year, but we should treat every day as women's day. Those who know me well will vouch for my extreme passion surrounding gender equality and would have heard my many feminist opinions that I am proud to express.

Feminist. That's a huge word with so many connotations. But may I take this opportunity to remind you that the literal definition of feminism is "the belief that women are, and should be treated as intellectual and social equals to men" and "the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities". It's pretty simple when you put it like that.

Empowering women to become equals is one of the most effective tools for improving the lives of families, communities and nations worldwide. You educate one woman, and you educate a community. This is the girl effect. It requires us to tap into the potential of adolescent females, and allow them to prosper. Madeleine Sophie is the perfect example of this. She was one woman, and if it weren't for her you would not be sitting here today. We would not have a network of 140 Sacred Heart School sisters worldwide. She



recognised the importance of education and if there is only one thing you do in your life to give back, it should be to help another woman have the opportunity we do.

It's something we take for granted but we must realise that we have the power to lift one another up. We cannot continue cutting each other down as many women do. It's almost as though the years we were silenced have brought out a competitive nature amongst us, where we wish a sister all the success in the world, but we're secretly hoping she'll fail. We must abolish that attitude, and raise each other's voices because out in the real world, we are silenced far too often.

So how do we, a pretty big bunch of girls, change the world's view on women? How do we empower other women? How do we reform the statistics? Well, I'm 16, I don't have that many years under my belt, I honestly have no clue. But I do know how we can start to make a small difference. Don't take for granted the opportunities we have as women in this environment, reach out to other women who have been victimised and objectified, lift them up, support them, be the voice of our silenced sisters in daily conversation. Don't hesitate to call out your friends, family, boyfriend or girlfriend on any misogynistic comments they may make. I know I never tolerate it. Please don't hesitate to educate yourselves and others about gender discrimination and feminism. Show people the statistics, force them to open their eyes and be aware. But before you do these things, realise your own potential and please do not let any preconceived ideas about our gender hold you back. Remember that your value does not decrease based on someone's inability to see your worth.

I'd just like to steal the words of feminist and poet, Rupi Kaur, for a second. "I want to apologise to all the women I have called pretty before I've called them intelligent or brave. I am sorry I made it sound as though something as simple as what you're born with is the most you have to be proud of, when your spirit has crushed mountains. From now on I will say things like, you are resilient or, you are extraordinary. Not because I don't think you're pretty. But because you are so much more than that."



# Sister Young-hyun Son rscJ

Stuartholme had the pleasure of welcoming Sister Young-hyun Son rscJ from South Korea, who is a member of the International Sacred Heart Society. Sr Young-hyun lived in Ireland for a year and a half, and is now in Australia and New Zealand before her preparation for her final profession in Rome.

The path to be an rscJ (Religious of the Sacred Heart of Jesus) was not an obvious one for Sr Young-hyun Son. There was no drive from an early age, no voice 'calling' her to her vocation.

She describes herself as 'ordinary', and wondered if she had anything worthwhile to offer the organisation.

"I come from a very spiritual house, my mother is a pious Buddhist and my father is Confucian, so I have been around religion all my life," Sr Young-hyun explains.

"In South Korea, you are allocated a school based on your address and, in middle school, I was sent to a Catholic School."

Once Sr Young-hyun reached high school she decided she wanted one religion, and chose to be Catholic, she can still remember the exact moment she made that decision.

"I was at a School Mass and the music teacher sang a hymn from Psalm 23, The Lord is my shepherd. It was such a peaceful moment; I knew at that time."

Sr Young-hyun was baptised at the age of 17, and is the first and only Catholic in her family.

After high school, she went to University and remained very faithful to her Catholic teachings.

"I had to move to Seoul to attend University. While I was there I started to serve as a Sunday School teacher in my parish and that's where I first met some rscJ Sisters. The rscJs were full of passion for Christ and humanity.

"After graduation, I worked in the Youth Ministry Department of the Archdiocese, but I had not considered entering religious life.

"I thought, I am an ordinary person, what could I offer?"

After speaking regularly with rscJ Sisters, Sr Young-hyun decided to enter religious life, but it was short lived, leaving after only six months.

"I found community life quite challenging and I was lacking self-understanding, I think I was still trying to find my way in life, and at that time it was not for me."

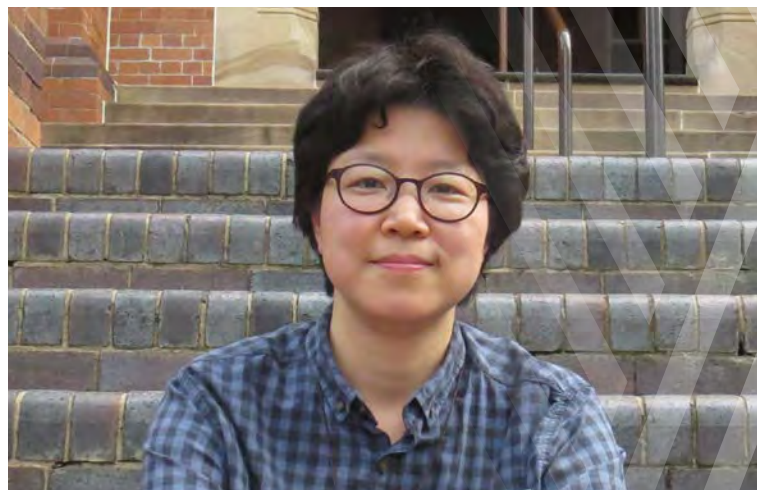
Returning home to live with her family, Sr Young-hyun began studying and preparing for the entrance exams for Korean Traditional Medicine Studies.

"I prepared for three years, and failed three times," laughed Sr Young-hyun.

During this time, Sr Young-hyun was living with her eldest sister, who had just given birth to a son. She relished the chance to help look after her new baby nephew.

"It was actually through spending time with him that I had another realisation. I wanted to be loved as he is loved – unconditionally. I wanted to help the youth who were seeking their authentic identity as the beloved child of God.

"I began speaking with the rscJ Sister again, and over a period of a few months I was encouraged to make my own retreat and left to spend time at the Retreat House."



With her mind still struggling with whether she had anything to offer religious life, Sr Son contemplated her future.

"I began walking in a field of three-leaf clovers. I thought to myself, maybe if I find a four-leaf clover, something special amongst all the ordinary clovers, I would be able to find my way.

"And then I just started crying, I realised there is beauty in the ordinary, a three-leaf clover is enough, and I am enough just as I am. I could see myself, how lovely and unique I am. I accepted my limitations at that moment."

From this September to next January, Sr Young-hyun will prepare for her final vows in Rome. There will be eight Nationalities-China, Korea, India, Congo, USA, Poland, Peru and Venezuela with her. The Korean Sacred Heart Sisters provide vital care for young children whose parents are often forced to work long days in the areas factories. The Sisters provide care, food and education to this vulnerable group in an after-school study centre.

"Sadly, there are also a number of young, run-away girls who are escaping from violent homes.

"We help by providing shelter and education programs. We also have a café, Coffee Zoo (<https://www.facebook.com/coffeezoo2009?fref=ts>), which is a rehabilitation centre for the girls. Here, they have the opportunity to socialise in a positive environment, they can learn a skill to get a job and become disciplined and, most of all, they learn that they have a value.

"Of course, there are Sacred Heart Middle and High Schools in Korea and a preschool will open in September."

We wish Sr Young-hyun all the very best as she continues her journey to become an rscJ Sister. The Society and her community in South Korea are blessed to have such a caring and spiritual person.

I realised there  
is beauty in  
the ordinary, a  
three-leaf clover  
is enough...



Philip Spence



Susanne Hopkins

# Our great teachers

## A SPOTLIGHT ON MATHS

**Philip Spence** has 28 years experience at Stuartholme and holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Maths), Bachelor of Educational Studies, Bachelor of Mathematics and a Bachelor of Education.

**Susanne Hopkins** has been teaching at Stuartholme for six years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Arts Honours (Mathematics) and a Diploma of Education.

### WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BE A TEACHER?

**Philip:** I just loved Maths as a student and I loved school, the decision to be a teacher was a very easy one for me. I did a Mathematics Degree and followed that with a Bachelor of Education.

**Susanne:** I also loved Maths. I like the logic of it and its practical application to everyday life. I originally thought I would like to be a lecturer so I completed two Mathematics Degrees. Being a lecturer, though, is more to do with research than it is teaching, so I did my Diploma of Education and chose teaching.

### WHAT MADE YOU APPLY TO BE A TEACHER AT STUARTHOLME?

**Philip:** I had taught in Brisbane before being relocated to North Queensland for four years. As my contract was ending I knew I would be moved again, so I decided to find a school in Brisbane where I could be more settled. I had a meeting with the Principal at the time and was instantly taken with Stuartholme. Not only is it a beautiful school, but the students were wonderful, I knew I could make a difference here.

**Susanne:** I was teaching at another school and had seen Stuartholme girls at various sports carnivals. I was so impressed with their school spirit, the way they cheered for each other and the obvious way they were united, almost like a family. When the opportunity came up to apply for a position I had no hesitation that this was the school for me.

### WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT TEACHING AT STUARTHOLME?

**Philip:** The students. There is a sense of pride with the students too that you don't see at many other schools. There is a culture of wanting to do your best and that culture makes it easier for me as a teacher to encourage students, especially as a Maths teacher. There can be a preconceived notion amongst girls that Maths is too

hard, but I find with a little encouragement girls can, and do, prove that notion wrong and they are taking Maths subjects they never thought they could.

**Susanne:** The students. For me, I see the school spirit going beyond the sporting field. It can be seen in almost every interaction within the school. It is a wonderful place to work, we call it 'heaven on the hill'.

### WHAT TYPES OF CAREERS CAN STUDENTS HAVE AFTER STUDYING MATHS?

**Philip:** There is almost no end to the careers you can have after studying Maths. Maths is part of science, economics, engineering, marketing, environmental modelling and statistics just to name a few.

**Susanne:** The principles you learn in Maths can be applied to so many industries. I encourage my students to never limit themselves when it comes to career options, and studying Maths is certainly one way to keep those options open.

### HOW DO YOU KEEP THE STUDENTS ENGAGED AND INTERESTED?

**Philip:** I am currently only teaching Maths C, which is the most challenging, so my students have a natural interest in Maths already. That said, I certainly think students, especially girls, will be more engaged in a class when their teacher is enthusiastic about the subject, and interested in their performance.

**Susanne:** I teach all year levels, but regardless of the age, I find using real life problems keeps the students interested. I also use Maths tools and games to keep them engaged. Being enthusiastic though is certainly the key.

### HOW DO YOU EXTEND YOUR STUDENTS?

**Philip:** Maths seems to have this effect on girls, they often come with the idea that they can't do it, that it will be too difficult. You don't see that in boys. Most boys I've taught have a fundamental belief that they can do Maths. The way I extend my students is simply to tell them they can do well. When I see a girl who is obviously capable of the next level, often all it takes is a conversation with her that she can do well.

**Susanne:** Unlike some schools, Stuartholme is very fortunate to have four teachers who can all teach Maths C. To teach at that level you need two qualifications in Maths so some schools simply cannot offer that subject. Our Maths options start at Pre-vocational,





Ben Hegerty

Maths A, Maths B and Maths C, so we are able to offer a Maths subject that suits every student. It also means we can extend our students across the whole range with subject offerings.

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY USEFUL TIPS FOR PARENTS?

**Philip:** Encourage your daughter to do the highest level of Maths she can for as long as she can.

**Susanne:** I agree with that. We already have 70% of our Maths students doing the harder option. There is no need to take the easy option, our girls can do it and they are doing it well.

#### PISA REPORT

A recent article in Teacher Magazine supports comments made by Philip and Susanne. The article quotes a Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) report saying Australian girls are less likely than boys to be interested in Maths. (Thomson, DeBortoli, & Buckley, 2013)

Even more startling is the finding that girls in Australian schools have lower average achievement in Maths where they are, on average, approximately one-third of a school year behind male students.

Philip is not surprised by the findings, but believes Stuartholme students do not fall into this category.

"The PISA report looked at reasons behind why girls do not perform as well as boys, and reinforced our belief that poorer Maths achievements tend to be associated with anxiety about Maths, and that young girls are more likely to underperform if their mothers' endorse negative gender stereotypes."

"I think one of the benefits of a single-sex school is that we can approach teaching in different ways, to get the best out of our students.

"There are no gender stereotypes at Stuartholme, our girls are just as capable of achieving high marks across all the Maths subjects as boys are – and they do!"

If you are interested, the full report can be read here <https://www.teachermagazine.com.au/article/i-think-i-can-motivation-and-the-maths-gender-gap>.

## A SPOTLIGHT ON HISTORY

**Ben Hegerty** has been teaching at Stuartholme for seven years. In addition to completing his Masters, Ben is the Vice President of the Queensland History Teachers Association. In June, Ben will be taking a group of students on an Antiquities Tour of Greece and Italy.

#### WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BE A TEACHER?

I wanted to be part of a teaching community. I love history and the discussions you can have with people, so teaching made perfect sense for me. I teach classes from Years 7 to 12 so am able to have a range of discussions at every level, every day.

#### WHAT DO YOU TEACH?

I teach general History to the Year 7s and 10s, and Ancient History to the Year 11 and 12s.

#### WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT TEACHING AT STUARTHOLME?

It's really rewarding and enjoyable for me to be able to work every day in a happy, friendly classroom with students who are so interested in learning and comfortable with expressing themselves intelligently. At Stuartholme, achievements and striving to achieve are normal. You don't get that in every school. Recognising and celebrating achievements is also something the Stuartholme girls do well, so there is no 'tall poppy' syndrome here. I spent some time in London working in schools and thoroughly enjoyed it. That said, I could see how much more at Stuartholme we teach in an environment where learning is so valued. The Stuartholme environment is very well set-up for that, and allows us to teach at a high level.

#### HOW DO YOU KEEP THE GIRLS ENGAGED AND INTERESTED?

It might sound odd, given what I teach, but I survey the students to find out what they like. Based on their feedback I am able to look at the curriculum and find subject matter that will interest them and have relevance to their lives. You can take a current issue in the news today and see the similarities with events that happen hundreds, if not thousands of years ago. Each year our History teachers try to refresh our courses by responding to current events and discoveries around the world, and we consistently look for opportunities to reinvigorate and improve our teaching practice.

#### HOW DO YOU EXTEND YOUR STUDENTS?

History has the ability to naturally extend students. As their interest and passion for the subject grows, so does their desire to learn more and be involved in complex questioning and discussions. We also encourage students to pursue their interests more deeply through participation in state and national History competitions. In recent years, a number of our students have made us proud by winning state-wide History competitions such as the Simpson Prize, National History Challenge and QHTA Historical Writing Competition – multiple times! We're very lucky to be able to work with so many talented students who are open to embracing challenges that take them out of their comfort zone.

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY USEFUL TIPS FOR PARENTS?

When talking to their daughter about subjects I would encourage parents to consider what their daughter enjoys and what she is good at. Of course there are skills that students will gain from studying subjects such as History, such as research skills and critical thinking. But I think our subjects can offer so much more than that. As well as gaining knowledge and skills to prepare them for their future lives, students can learn where we come from and what makes us who we are, and I think it's these kinds of lessons that truly enrich our lives and give us a sense of perspective for our own experiences.





# Cor Unum badge presentation

Every year a very special tradition takes place in the Stuartholme Chapel, the presentation of Cor Unum badges to the Year 12 students.

During this Assembly, the Year 12 students make a pledge to the School.

"As the Senior Class of 2016, we accept these Cor Unum badges and the responsibility that we recognise goes with them. We welcome our responsibilities and commit ourselves to nurturing our faith life, dedicating ourselves to our learning journey, building the community of Stuartholme, being active global citizens and growing in personal wisdom. With God's grace, we will strive to live out our school's motto, COR UNUM, and to fulfil our obligations as servant leaders of our Stuartholme community."

In response to their pledge, the teachers all stood with a pledge of their own.

"Recognising the gifts we have to offer, we have accepted the call to serve this school. Facing the year that lies ahead, as Disciples of Christ and with the support of this community, we welcome our responsibilities and commit ourselves to live out and promote the Goals of Sacred Heart Education, working together in the spirit of Cor Unum. We will serve the Stuartholme community with a spirit of humility and generosity."

At the same Assembly we recognised students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who received first places in subjects from the Term 4 results, 2015. Well done girls!

Finally, we were delighted to welcome back representatives from the 2015 Senior Cohort and acknowledged those who received an OP 1-3. Special thanks to Margaret James, Cor Unum Head 2015 who delivered another inspiring speech to the students. We are very proud of all our Almunae!



# Bush Dance



# Parent Daughter Breakfast





# Mother's Day





# Open Day





# Madeleine Sophie Day







# Equestrian Report

The Stuartholme Equestrian Team won the *South East Queensland Regional Champion School Trophy* for the 7th year, cementing its excellent reputation as one of the strongest schools in the Interschool Association.

The team placed overall first in Dressage, Show Jumping, Combined Training and Showman with numerous individual champions, reserve champions placings and qualifications which allow them all to nominate for the 2016 State Titles.

The 2016 Regional competitors were: **Year 12** Shannon Baker – Captain, Madison Searle, Dakota Woerner; **Year 11** Issie Gilley, Shannon Owens (Para), Julia Rathie; **Year 10** Emily Ballard, Emma Bickford, Olivia McSwan, Phoebe Menzies; **Year 9** Remy Conescu, Zoe Henderson, Phoebe Menzies, Piper Searle (boarder); **Year 8** Grace Beatty, Skye Baldock, Lily Lockhart, Abby Munro; **Year 7** Bella Anthony, Aalia Lucchetta, Ellie Turnbull.

The notable team results over the past five years reflects the interest and commitment, of not only our coaches, but everyone involved with this exhilarating sport.

**2016 – 2010** Champion South East Regional School.

**2015** State Combined Training Champions. Emily Rink National Reserve Champion Pre Novice Eventing.

**2014** State Champion Secondary School awarded the Loretta Wigan Trophy, State Eventing Champion School, Awarded the Summer's McDougall Trophy for Team Spirit.

Equestrian Federation of Australia – Queensland Branch (EFAQ) Interschool 'Team of the Year'. Four Riders in State Squad.

**2013** Winners of Derek and Rita Dobson Trophy for State Champion Highest Aggregate School, State Dressage and Showman Champion School. Eight Riders in the State Squad.

**2012** EFAQ Interschool 'School of the Year'. Winners of the Derek and Rita Dobson Trophy for State Champion Highest Aggregate School. Six Riders in the State Squad.





# STUARTHOLME SPORT

**The sporting year at Stuartholme is well underway and mirrors that of the past few years where we have a record number of girls availing themselves of a myriad of activities.**

It is wonderful to see so many girls actively involved in teams, individual sports and, in some cases, assisting with coaching.

Within our various programs we are able to cater for all levels of ability, as well as extend and provide pathways for our more advanced athletes, as you will see from the extensive list of achievements below.

The girls' commitment to their training and games is only surpassed by the ever-present school spirit, so closely linked to all our teams on the hill.

Thank you to our parents who so greatly support our programs and in doing so, help build the wonderful community here at Stuartholme.

## QUEENSLAND SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Molly Nasser won silver in the 12 years 400m freestyle.

Taylah Tyerman-Webster came 1st in the 14 years 50m freestyle and 3rd in the 50m butterfly.

## AUSTRALIAN AGE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Taylah Tyerman-Webster placed 6th in Australia for the 12-13 years girls 50m freestyle. Taylah was named on the Queensland School's Swimming Team and will go to the National School Swimming Championship in Darwin during September.

Kate Ellerby placed coming 10th in the 200m butterfly final.

## AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Stuartholme was well represented at the Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Perth.

India Williams achieved a personal best, finishing 5th in the Under 18 1500m.

Brittany Yarde competed in the Under 18 3000m, coming away with a personal best and finishing 9th in Australia.



2016 Swim Team

## SCHOOL SPORTS

### Swimming

Stuartholme won the Percentage Cup at the Catholic Secondary Schoolgirls Sports Association Swimming Carnival (CaSSSA) for the second year in a row. This was a great effort and some wonderful performances were recorded.

### CaSSSA Tennis

This year Stuartholme took home both the Aggregate Cup and Percentage Cup with nine teams competing in the finals.

### Cross Country

Stuartholme placed third in the Percentage cup at the Catholic Secondary Schoolgirls Sports Association Cross Country Carnival.

### Netball

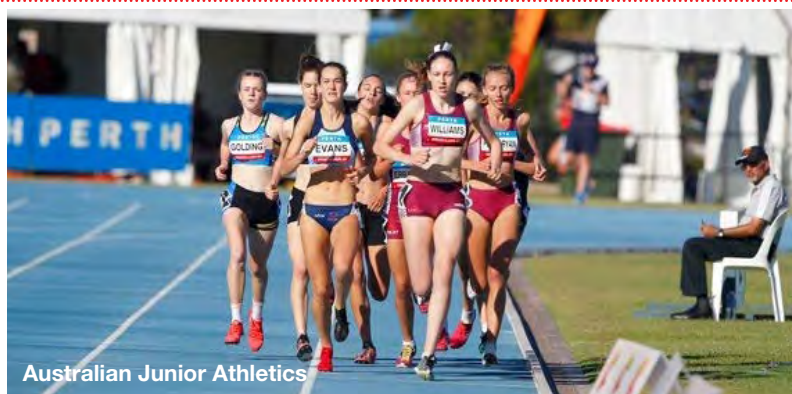
Stuartholme School has, in 2016, moved from Western Districts Netball Association to the Downey Park Netball Association at Newmarket. The competition is held on Saturday and we are fielding 14 teams this season. The competition at Downey Park is very competitive which is fantastic for the growth of our players at Stuartholme. As a new Club we're adjusting well in playing in our new environment, and look forward to displaying some more great Netball for the rest of the 2016 season and beyond.

### Water Polo

Three teams won their divisions in the 2015/2016 QWPI season: 13A, 18A and 18B. The 14A's attended the National Club Championships in Albury Wodonga over Easter and finished 6th out of 28 teams which was a great achievement. The 16A's attended the State Championships in Brisbane over the Labour Day long weekend, finishing 4th out of 16 teams.

### Hockey

In 2016 we have one hockey team playing in the BWhA competition. The team caters for students in Year 7 through to Year 12 and is having an excellent season! The Stuartholme hockey team are currently sitting on top of their ladder.



Australian Junior Athletics





Netball Team 11



U14 Water Polo

## STILL TO COME...

Our touch and basketball seasons are yet to begin for 2016. We have no doubt they will add to success of the sporting year so far.

## METROPOLITAN WEST REPRESENTATIVES

### Water Polo

The following girls were selected to represent Met West at the State Titles; Caitlin Rosengren, Year 12; Hannah Dyer, Year 12; Jordi Stephenson, Year 11; Gemma Rose, Year 11; April Edwards, Year 10; Molly Cranitch, Year 10; Jess Bartlett, Year 10; Phoebe Leech, Year 9.

April Edwards was also selected for the State U16 Water polo team and will travel to Auckland in the July school holidays to take part in the 2016 Pan Pacific Youth Water Polo Festival.

Sophie Fern has been selected in the U14 Queensland State Water polo team.

### Athletics

India Williams, Dominica Fitzsimon and Brittany Yarde. India will travel to Fiji next month to compete in the Australian Junior Athletics Championships.

### Basketball

Congratulations to April Laurikainen, Year 7, who was selected in the Met West 12 Years Basketball Team. April will play in the 12 Years State Basketball Championships from the 2 to 5 June in MacKay.

### Cross Country

Brittany Yarde, Dominica Fitzsimon and India Williams were selected in the Met West Cross Country team. They will be competing in the State Championships to be held in Maryborough – Sunday 17 July 2016.

## CaSSSA WEDNESDAY SPORT

Our Wednesday sports, volleyball, cricket and soccer had record numbers of participation this year. It is so wonderful to see so many girls representing the school and enjoying great experiences in our Wednesday fixtures.

## ROWING

Although the Rowing Competition Season has not officially started, rowing activities have been underway since the beginning of the year. The crews have been training for 10 weeks and improving their performance at each session. As a passionate rowing school, we held a Parents / Staff 'Learn to Row' event in May. This was a great way to show parents, staff and students what rowing is all about.

This year we have five Year 8, five Year 9, three Year 10 and four Year 11 and 12 crews rowing for Stuartholme, with numbers surpassing 100 students. The girls are very much looking forward to the start of racing and hope to equal, if not surpass, the success of last year.

**Matt Marden**  
Rowing Director



## IT'S TIME TO CALL HOME

Just like any family, we love it when our Alumnae stay in touch. When we put out a call for everyone to 'call home', we were thrilled when so many of you did! Here are more updates from our Alumnae.



### I'M AIRDRIE MAKIM, CLASS OF 1990.

I work in the fashion industry in Melbourne. I have my own label, Joolz, and am partnered in another, Temps Perdu.

My favourite memories from school are many. I loved growing up at Stuartholme. There were (and are) so many wonderful women in my year, some of whom I've caught up with after many years have passed, and we pick up the thread as if we'd just seen each other yesterday. Plus some very memorable teachers and boarding staff who I must thank for their kindness, humour and patience with the insufferable teenager I'm sure I was.



### HI, I'M KIRSTEN BRESCIANI (NEE CORBETT), CLASS OF 1993.

On graduating from Stuartholme, I completed a degree in photography at Queensland College of Art (QCA) which has led me down a photographic career path in Australia, London and San Francisco working on advertising, food, interiors and travel shoots.

I married in 2009 in Melbourne where I now live with my husband Lorenzo and our two sons, Lino and Luca.

I am currently working on my first solo photographic exhibition 'Florasopic'. Stuartholme were accommodating of my passion for photography and helped me by facilitating extra-curricula courses which were pivotal in my success, securing a position at QCA. I also have very fond memories of the art department lead by Nan Chesterman. Above all, the best thing about Stuartholme has to be the friends I've made for life. We've always kept in touch and are able to pick up where we left off with ease.



### HI, I'M OLIVIA ROGERS (NEE CORBETT), CLASS OF 1995.

Since leaving school I studied to be a dentist at the University of Queensland and then an orthodontist at The University of Sydney. I spent six years living in the UK, and enjoyed travelling around the world during that time. I married in 2007 in the Stuartholme Chapel and

I now live in Brisbane with my husband Craig, and two beautiful girls, Eva and Stella. The best thing about Stuartholme was the rounded outlook on life, the beautiful and peaceful surrounds and the amazing friends I made.



### HI, MY NAME IS LOUISE AULD, CLASS OF 1998.

Since leaving Stuartholme, I have represented Australia at the Senior World Rowing Championships, gained a Bachelor of Education from the

Queensland University of Technology (QUT), and mother to my three beautiful daughters. I am a House Pastoral Leader and teacher of mathematics and physical education at Lourdes Hill College. A memory I will never forget from Stuartholme was the moment my 1st VIII crew won the Head of the River and I looked up to see a sea of red and yellow on the banks of Wivenhoe Dam.



### HI, I'M TERESA HENDERSON, CLASS OF 2002.

Since leaving Stuartholme, I have been working on major infrastructure projects including the recently completed Legacy Way tunnel in Brisbane.

My favourite memory from Stuartholme was Madeleine Sophie Day – taking the time to prepare our outfits and making sure we all matched. But really, what makes me smile at these memories are the people who made them with me. My closest girlfriends are still my best friends today, who on my wedding day, did the same thing – took the time to prepare our outfits to make sure we all matched.



### I'M JANE MORAN, CLASS OF 2002.

Since leaving Stuartholme I have been working as a civil engineer in the transport unit of Aurecon. I have now relocated to Sydney with work. I also played at the 2012 London Olympic Games in water polo, and won a bronze medal. I have since retired from international sport, and now enjoy some social games. My favourite memory from school was running around the school in our Senior year after winning the Duhig Cup - for it only to be taken away from us one week later due to miscounting of the scores. We still got to celebrate like champions!



### HI, I'M KATHERINE RULE (NEE WEBB), CLASS OF 2002.

Since leaving Stuartholme I went to the University of Queensland and qualified as a pharmacist - a profession which I really enjoy! My husband and I are now enjoying the expat life and are currently living in Indonesia. We lived in Zambia prior to this and love the exciting locations that this lifestyle takes us to.

My favourite memory from my Stuartholme days is the school and House spirit that was shown at sporting events.



### I'M JESSICA MELLOR, CLASS OF 2002.

Since school I've progressed through the construction, property development and funds management industries, and am now an executive director on the board of a number of companies in the Aquis group, including the ASX listed Aquis Entertainment.

I think my favourite memory from Stuartholme is of times spent sitting under the Jacaranda trees talking and laughing with my friends and the ibis!



### I'M KATHRYN MCMILLAN, CLASS OF 2003.

Since finishing school I've been working as a lawyer in Geneva, Melbourne and now Brisbane. My little sister Alyce (left), Class of 2011, is working as an accountant in Brisbane. I'm very proud of her!

We were both boarders and so our favourite memories are of the fun times we used to have in the boarding house with our other sisters!





### I'M EMMA BUTTON-SLOAN, CLASS OF 2003.

Since leaving Stuartholme, I have embarked on many exciting adventures. Professionally, I hold a Bachelor of Business and am currently working in a hybrid role as an Executive

Assistant / Business Analyst at a global engineering consulting firm in Melbourne.

Personally, I am enjoying all Melbourne has to offer in the way of coffee, food, and culture. I recently became engaged while on holiday in New York City and we are now planning a wedding in the Yarra Valley.

My future plans include doing more travel: the next trip I have planned includes the Amalfi Coast in Italy, followed by completing postgraduate study and hopefully having a family!

Standout memories from my time at Stuartholme include the Year 11 Business Week competition and Year 12 Retreat, I reflect on both experiences with great fondness! But above all else, the life-long friendships I made trump everything.



### I'M MELISSA MITCHELL, CLASS OF 2003.

Looking back my favourite Stuartholme memories are of time spent in the Vocal Ensemble – practices, training camps, performances and particularly our tour of Europe in 2002. We were incredibly lucky to have the wonderful Mrs Parker as our Head of Music. But it was my modern history class,

taught by Mr Wright, which led me to develop a passion for politics and the international sphere. I went on to study Peace and Conflict Studies at university and joined the Australian Agency for International Development in 2012. I've since moved to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and recently commenced my first diplomatic posting as Second Secretary and Consul at the Australian High Commission in Samoa. Sending my sincere thanks to Mrs Parker, Mr Wright and all the other great teachers I was fortunate to have at Stuartholme!

### HI I'M KATHERINE LAMONT, CLASS OF 2005.

Since leaving school I have worked in England as a graphic designer. I'm now home in Brisbane working in communications for Legal Aid Queensland. My most cherished memories of Stuartholme are having lunch by the pond and working away in the art studio.



### I'M CLAIRE GOLDSWORTHY, CLASS OF 2006.

After graduating I travelled and worked in the fashion industry abroad. I now live in Melbourne and run my own businesses. I am the Editor of The Fashion Advocate, an online magazine, Director of The Dress Collective, an online store for emerging designers, Head Designer

of my own label - Harriette Hill and also Director of Emerge Australia (fashion PR), all of which support and promote the Australian fashion industry.

My love of the fashion industry developed when I studied Home Economics at Stuartholme; my teachers really nurtured my passion for fashion design and always encouraged me. My boarding school years were also some of my most memorable and I am still best friends with my dorm-mates today, all of whom are an incredible support network.



### DANIELLE KEYS, CLASS OF 2006.

Since graduating I've received a Bachelor of Laws from UQ and have worked in energy policy and regulation. Right now I'm working as an Associate to a Federal Court Judge and get to travel all over Australia. My best memories of Stuartholme were Mr Wright's

modern history classes, stirring up trouble in home room with the lovely Mrs Statham and being Geek-In-Chief as Debating Captain (my bestie was Chess Captain so... we were awesome #geeksinschool #successinlife #stillageek).

### HI I'M RACHEL OSBORNE, CLASS OF 2008.

Since leaving school I've completed a university degree and have been working in HR for Lorna Jane and more recently, Tatts group. I loved Stuartholme and still remain close with all the girls in my group.



### HI, I'M CARA NOLAN, CLASS OF 2010.

Since leaving Stuartholme I've studied science and international relations at the University of Queensland, and am currently living in Vietnam conducting research on development policy. My favourite memories from Stuartholme are the locker room and lunchtime chats and pranks we used to play.

### HI, I'M MONIQUE BARTKOWIAK, CLASS OF 2010.

Since leaving Stuartholme I've been on exchange in Estonia, studied a Bachelor of Music and played in the Australian Youth Orchestra. Some of my favourite memories from school are all the fun and crazy times we had in the music department, and the opportunities I got out of it. I think having that positive experience with music has carried me through everything I've done since. It's good to be able to look back on that time, and remember the real reason I chose to chase a music career.



### I'M GRACE DAVIDSON, CLASS OF 2012.

Since graduating from Stuartholme School I have been studying at the University of Queensland undertaking a Bachelor of Secondary Education, majoring in english and drama.

I was motivated to pursue teaching as a career because I wanted to give back the inspirational education that I achieved, to others.

Stuartholme provided me with the best possible experience and education anyone could get. I am incredibly grateful for the love and support the school provided me, throughout my five years.



### I'M TAYLOR O'NEILL, CLASS OF 2013.

Since leaving school I have attended the University of Queensland majoring in archaeology where I'm currently in my second year. I recently topped one of my classes in the social sciences, and have been accepted to attend an international field school at the beginning of next year in Cairo, Egypt.

My favourite memory from school would have to be our classes, especially Study of Religion, and the Stuartholme Choir. I would like to thank Stuartholme for everything it has done for me and all the help I was given to pursue my dream of being an archaeologist.

## FIONA'S WORK TO PROTECT ECOSYSTEMS

It's fair to say that Fiona Soper (Class of 2004) is passionate about science. As a student at Stuartholme, Fiona was interested in science and studied all three disciplines, physics, biology and chemistry.

In Year 12, Fiona was awarded the Academic Medal, Biology and Physics Prize.

"I was drawn to the problem solving aspect of science, I liked to know how things worked. Now, I'm trying to apply that curiosity to problems like understanding the effects of climate change," Fiona said.

Fiona has taken her passion to a whole new level and is now a plant ecologist and biogeochemist, recently completing a Ph.D. at Cornell, an Ivy League university in Ithaca, New York.

"I did my undergraduate degree at the University of Queensland in Botany and studied abroad in Sweden. I then worked for the CSIRO before deciding to make the move to the USA."

Her Ph.D. research investigated the effects of human-driven landscape change on plant and soil nitrogen cycling and greenhouse emissions in savannas. From there, she is now looking at how climate change affects dry landscapes, like deserts and grasslands, in order to predict how these ecosystems will function into the future.

"Climate change and other human effects on ecosystems are only accelerating, though there is still a huge margin to limit the damage. It's essential to understand as soon as possible what the effects might be so we can manage and protect ecosystems."

Fiona visited Australia recently and spoke to a group of Year 10 science students at Stuartholme about her experiences, career path, current research, and opportunities that current students can pursue both now and as they move to university.

"I couldn't imagine a better job than research science; it's a great mix of being outdoors, hard thinking, interacting with diverse, brilliant people and teaching young scientists. Even getting up before dawn to sample in a shrubland full of thorns and rattlesnakes in Texas grows on you pretty quickly!"

"I think that the quality of the teaching at Stuartholme influenced my decision to continue on in the field of science, and I believe that foundational skills in basic science and maths are invaluable for every career."

"While I was here, I was encouraged to pursue opportunities like university internships and attend the National Youth Science Forum, which cemented my enthusiasm for research. Being on the school debating team also taught me skills in speaking and reasoning that are essential to what I do."



**...I liked to know how things worked.  
Now I'm trying to apply that curiosity  
to problems like understanding the  
effects of climate change.**

Fiona has also maintained strong connections with the girls she went to Stuartholme with.

"Four Stuartholme friends have been to visit me in Ithaca, and I catch up with others in New York City, London, or back in Australia. One friend (Charlotte Clark, also Class 2004) and her mum are even coming over for my graduation! Those friendships are for life."

"When I finished my studies, I also got a lovely note from Sister Nancy Fitzgerald, rscJ, who was our beloved boarding mistress in Year 8."

Ultimately, Fiona is working towards becoming the director of a research institute or a Chief Scientific Officer in industry, in order to influence the future of environmental research and action.

"Our Year 12 Debating team ended the season by picking our career goals, including High Court Judge (Verity Doyle, Class of 2004) and Chief Scientist of Australia (me). We're not there quite yet, but we're working on it!"

Fiona served as President of the founding chapter of Sigma Xi: the Scientific Research Society and also coordinates science outreach and training events on campus. In her spare time, she teaches rock climbing, kayaks and writes for a travel blog.

You can read more about Fiona's work and past research on her website [www.fionasoper.com](http://www.fionasoper.com)



## ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENTS

### GRETCHEN CARRIGAN CLASS OF 2000

It has been a very exciting start to 2016 for Gretchen Carrigan (Class of 2000). On 19 March, Gretchen and her fiancé, Allan McElroy were married in the Stuartholme Chapel (see Births, Deaths and Marriages for the announcement). Also this year, Gretchen graduated with a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from INSEAD, which was ranked as the #1 business school this year ahead of Harvard and Stanford.



### DR ABBY KAMALAKANTHAN CLASS OF 1998

Congratulations to Dr Abby Kamalakanthan (Class of 1998) who has been nominated by the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law (BEL) at the University of Queensland in the 2016 UQ Alumni Awards. Abby has been entered in the Distinguished Young Alumni category, which recognises young alumni (35 years or younger) whose early accomplishments inspire and provide leadership to students and alumni.

Dr Abby Kamalakanthan completed all of her tertiary education at The University of Queensland, completing a dual degree, Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Business Management (Information Systems), Master of International Economics and Finance, and PhD in Health Economics. Following completion of her PhD, Abby embarked on a consulting career and over the last six years has worked at various Top Tier consulting firms including AECOM Australia and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC Australia). She is currently a Manager - Growth Advisory at Grant Thornton Australia in Brisbane. Abby is the current President of Young Economists (Qld) and is an Executive Director on the Board of the Economic Society of Australia (Qld). She is also the Grant Thornton Australia representative on the Advisory Board for the Sri Lanka and Australia Chamber of Commerce. Abby has given interviews nationally on ABC Radio and for Business Review Weekly (BRW) magazine on important health policy issues and has written for Crikey.com. Abby is also a published author. Her book titled "The Supply of General Practitioners in Australia: An Economic Analysis" can be purchased online from all leading international and Australian book retailers.

The 2016 UQ Alumni Awards winners will be announced in August 2016.

Our Alumnae are important to us. We are proud of what you have achieved. Connect with Stuartholme and share your successes. It's more than a network... It's a global family.

Update your contact details so that we can stay in touch with you.

You can update your details anytime via the Stuartholme website [www.stuartholme.com/community-and-alumnae/alumnae/update-your-contact-details](http://www.stuartholme.com/community-and-alumnae/alumnae/update-your-contact-details)

## ERSKINE STUART ALUMNAE RECOGNITION AWARDS



*Maree Gillott (nee Slingsby), Class of 1978 and Outstanding Alumna of the Year 2016*



*Alexis Lake, Class of 2003; Georgina Ingham-Myers, Class of 2003 and Susannah Lyons (nee Ingham-Myers), Class of 1996.*



*Christine Ferrero (nee Redhead), Kylie Miklashek (nee O'Donohue), Alli Coubrough (nee Christopherson) and Amy Lynes (nee O'Sullivan), all Class of 1989.*

Stuartholme School's Erskine Stuart Alumnae Recognition Awards aim to recognise the achievements and successes of our past students. The recipients of the awards were honoured at the annual Alumnae Cocktail Party, held on the Friday 20 May.

This year's winners were:

### OUTSTANDING ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Sustained exceptional success in the area of chosen professional/industry and substantial contribution to the community. This may be as part of employment or may be related to voluntary or charity work.

**Elissa Freer, Class of 1983.** A graduate of 1983, Elissa has gone on to achieve outstanding success as a specialist orthodontist, with her own multi-clinic practice. Elissa also works very closely with the University of Queensland Dental School which is her way of contributing to the dental community. Elissa is also involved in the postgraduate teaching for the current DClinDent program. She graduated from the University of Queensland in 1988 with BDSc (Hons). She was awarded her MDSc (Orthodontics) in 1997. This is her 6th year on the teaching staff at University of Queensland. Elissa has run her own private orthodontic practice since 1998 and is a reviewer for the Australian Orthodontic Journal.

**Lieutenant Colonel Fern Thompson (nee Mitchell), Class of 1991.** Lieutenant Colonel Thompson has been appointed as the Commanding Officer of the 6th Aviation Regiment in Holsworthy, Sydney. She is the first female to command an Australian Army Aviation Regiment and an Army Combat Command. Fern is a senior Army officer and currently commands one of the most vital Defence units in Australia. She has demonstrated the highest standards of leadership and mentorship throughout her career, and is a role model for all in her commitment to her organisation and the people in it. In particular, she is an outstanding role model for women in any industry but especially for women in the Australian Defence Force.

**Helen McCosker (nee Jago), Class of 1988.** Helen and her husband Mike have turned a traditional agricultural model into a business with a strong focus on farming sustainability. Helen's interest in sustainability crosses over into community sustainability. Farming communities hit hard by alternating periods of flood and drought, and suicide rates in rural communities continue to be high. As part of her efforts to create a culture of wellbeing in local communities, Helen inaugurated the Wallangra Festival in 2015, which saw a crowd of more than 250 people attend workshops, masterclass and a gala performance held over a weekend at Wallangra Hall. Helen is an outstanding role model for rural women, for women leaders, for mums thinking about transitioning

back into work having taken time out of the paid workforce to have children, and for any woman on the path to figuring out how to turn her qualifications and experience into work that deeply expresses her passion and her gifts.

**Maree Gillott (nee Slingsby), Class of 1978.** Maree studied Law at the University of Queensland. In addition to a successful career, Maree is also an advocate for giving to the community. She leads by example, offering legal services Pro Bono to help with community issues. Maree and her husband opened their farm at Logan Reserve to the Karenni community (refugees from Myanmar, formerly Burma), to use as a community farm. As Maree has said "These guys largely come from subsistence farming backgrounds, and there is not a lot of employment opportunity for them, given educational, and language issues." This farm provides not just food for their families, but soup for their soul. The sense of community and giving is wonderful. It provides a social meeting place and a chance to improve their English skills. Maree says that "she hopes the farm can help improve their life, improve their lot".

**Shevaune Conry (nee Caspari), Class of 1989.** Shevaune was the inspiration of Youngcare. Her husband David Conry began the charity with a small group of friends following the absolute devastation of seeing his beautiful young wife deteriorate quite aggressively from Multiple Sclerosis. Along with David's friends a small group of Shevaune's closest Stuartholme friends experienced and supported her along the journey. Shevaune passed away in 2012 at the age of 42.

On their website, Youngcare said "Everything Youngcare has done, or will do in the future will be guided by Shevaune's wishes or what she could have benefited from to make her life better and subsequently the lives others. Shevaune's legacy lives on through Youngcare's programs, and the Youngcare Founders brave actions cast light on a previously hidden problem. Shevaune brought new hope to families, showing that it is possible to offer choice, independence and dignity to young people with high care needs."





*Amy Lynes (nee O'Sullivan), Class of 1989; Jo Westaway, Class of 1984 and Sue Kemp (nee Speedy), Class of 1986.*



*Georgina Ingham-Myers, Class of 2003 and Young Alumna of the Year 2016*

### YOUNG ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Nominees must be 35 years and under, with at least five years work experience. They should have exceptional success in the area of chosen profession/industry and substantial demonstration of contribution to the community. This may be as part of employment or may be related to voluntary or charity work.



*Ally Vasta and Bethany Fitzsimon, both Class of 2014.*

**Dr Fiona Soper, Class of 2004.** Dr Fiona Soper is a biogeochemist and plantecophysiolgist working with Professor Jed Sparks at Cornell University. Her PhD research (finished Jan 2016) encompassed land cover change, nitrogen cycling and nitrogen trace gas emissions in natural systems, with a focus on biological nitrogen fixation and novel stable isotope applications. Her ongoing research is focused on carbon and nitrogen dynamics in arid land soils. Fiona is actively involved in science outreach and leadership both on and off campus.

**Georgina Ingham-Myers, Class of 2003.** Georgina has been working in the broadcasting industry since 2008, initially beginning as an announcer in Perth and has been Music Director at Nova Brisbane since 2011. In 2015, Georgina's skills were recognised and she was headhunted to become Music Director at Nova Sydney. Whilst in Sydney, Georgina was nominated and won Music Director of the Year 2015. Georgina is involved in mentoring and fostering young talent within the music and broadcasting industry, having been a guest speaker at several music conferences and guest lecturer to broadcasting students at QUT and AFTRS.



*Amy Lynes (nee O'Sullivan), Class of 1989; Natalie Armstrong (nee O'Sullivan), Class of 1986; Kristen Sharpe, and Robert Ingham-Myers.*



*Kellie Day (nee Hunter), Class of 1979; Maree Gillott (nee Slingsby), Class of 1978; Diane Neve, Class of 1978; Jo Westaway, Class of 1984; Barbara Forde (nee Murphy), Class of 1978; Julia Gaines (nee Gallagher), Class of 1979 and Deb McDonald (nee Sayers), Class of 1978.*



## BIRTHS, DEATHS, BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

### *Births*

**8 Oct 2015** Annabelle Barton, daughter of Jane (nee Muirhead), Class of 1998 and Sam Barton



Annabelle Barton

### *Deaths*

**8 February** Therese Mary Moller, Class of 1964 (nee Sally Muirhead as she was known)

### *Baptisms*

**23 January** Annabelle, daughter of Jane (nee Muirhead), Class of 1998 and Sam Barton

**23 January** Finnegan, son of Fleur (nee Muirhead), Class of 1996 and Andrew Webb

**15 February** Rosie, daughter of Brooke Carrol, Class of 2004 and Ben Elliot

**14 May** Penelope, daughter of Lara, Class of 1995 and current teacher, and John Rich

**14 May** Rose, daughter of Juliette, current teacher, and Michael Johnson

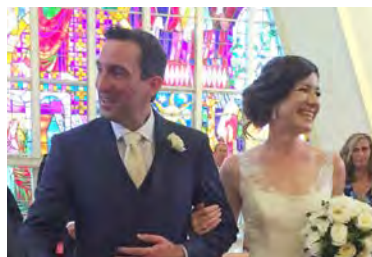
**14 May** Lilian, daughter of Georgina Hooper, current teacher, and Edgar Choy



Penelope, Rose and Lilian with their families

### *Marriages*

**19 March** Gretchen Carrigan, Class of 2000 to Allan McElroy



Gretchen Carrigan and Allan McElroy



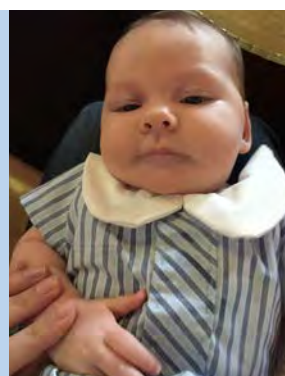
Finnegan Webb

## MASS & MORNING TEA – 22 MAY 2016



A future Stuartholme girl, Ellen (Nelly) Lagerroth, made her debut in the Stuartholme uniform at a recent reunion for the Class of 2006.

The dress was made by Cathy Cloake, a mother of five Stuartholme girls, to wear for the party.








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STUARTHOLME SCHOOL

## 100year Photo Anthology



Your family  
is a part of  
Stuartholme School's  
history.

To celebrate 100 years of Stuartholme history, the School has partnered with Kiss Photography to produce a limited edition Photo Anthology hard cover book, to be released in 2020.

As you are an important part of Stuartholme's history, we invite your family to participate in a beautiful family portraiture session and share your Stuartholme story.

**Don't miss out! For more information and to register, visit [www.stuartholme.com/events](http://www.stuartholme.com/events)**



STUARTHOLME SCHOOL

To be the best she can be





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