



St Vincent's College
Potts Point



Under the stewardship of

MARY
AIKENHEAD
MINISTRIES

Scientia cum Religione

Semester 1 2019





Scientia cum Religione - Semester 1 2019

Vincentia - Newsletter of the Ex-Students' Union

*Contact the Advancement Office
community@stvincents.nsw.edu.au*

**Rockwall Crescent, Potts Point NSW 2011 Australia
stvincents.nsw.edu.au | Phone: +612 9368 5398**

Cover image - Year 12 Leadership Team 2019



Content

- 4. From the Principal**
- 6. Introducing our new Chair of the College Board**
- 8. Distinguished Achievers: HSC 2018**
- 10. From the College Co-Captains**
- 12. Celebrating 135 Years of Boarding**
- 14. From the Head of Teaching and Learning**
- 18. We Are De Lacy!**
- 20. First Nations Partnership**
- 22. Duke of Edinburgh**
- 23. Ten Years of Mary Aikenhead Ministries**
- 24. Performing Arts**
Rime of the Ancient Mariner / Staffroom: The Musical
- 28. International Womens' Day Symposium**
- 30. Meet the Teacher - Monica Jarman**



32. Foundation News

Elisabeth Carey Scholarship / The Gift of a Lifetime

34. What's News

*Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre / Garcia Building Plaque Project
Parents and Friends Association News*

Vincentia | Newsletter of the Ex-Students' Union

38. From the Ex-Students Union President

42. Where Are They Now? Alumnae Profiles

Simone Larmer / Brenda Colahan / Emily Contador-Kelsall

48. Life Beyond the College Gates

49. 2019 Alumnae Dates / Generations Afternoon Tea / LinkedIn and You

50. Alumnae News

Condolences / Vinnies Bub Bib / Congratulations



From the Principal

Mrs Anne Fry



Dear Friends and Associates

Thank you for taking the time to read the first edition of *Scientia cum Religione* for 2019. This year the College is focussing on the Value of **Respect** and I know that as you read about the featured people and events in this publication you will appreciate the many ways St Vincent's College students and staff are trying to live out this value. Respect comes from the Latin word "regare" meaning to look back or observe (regard). Not as simple as it sounds! I often find it difficult to look at another person's wholeness or to look with direct regard at their beliefs and circumstances.

At St Vincent's College we try to immerse our students in a culture where they do have "regard" for themselves, others and the environment. We have in particular tried to increase the regard students have for the pedagogy and psychology of learning.



“Respect for our heritage is very strong at St Vincent’s and the co-responsibility is held for this by current and ex-students”



There is so much we can and do learn from neuro-science about the extraordinary capacity of the brain and how best to gain and retain knowledge and skills. We also have a very well-developed cura personalis program that is facilitated across the whole student community that helps care for the whole person.

Environmental respect has been another priority this first semester with wonderful student leadership around recycling, composting, energy conservation and eliminating one-use plastics.

Respect for our heritage is very strong at St Vincent’s and the co-responsibility is held for this by current and ex-students. A particular way of expressing that respect has been through establishing a Scholarship for a beloved Vinnies girl, Elisabeth Carey, who died aged thirteen in 2015. In her short life she won the respect of so many with her positive disposition and considerable talents. We want to respect her legacy. The co-operation and support of this initiative by the Ex-Student’s Union, the P & F Association and the current families has been a great expression of our shared Vinnies spirit.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.





Introducing our new Chair of the College Board

***Mrs Mary Ronzani has officially taken the reins
as Chair of the College Board.***

Mary recently retired from her valued and valuable work as a radiation oncologist at the Peter McCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. In her twelve years there she cared for children and teenagers in their battles against a range of cancers. She also supported long-term survivors of cancer and worked with women with breast cancer.

Mary reflects on her career and says that her patients have given her a perspective on life. *“They are wonderful people. When you go to work and see what they are going through, you realise that any little problem you might have is trivial.”*

It’s almost as if Mary was destined to come to St Vincent’s College and lead our Board. She began

her medical career at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, where her father and brother also practised. *"This opportunity to give back to St Vincent's is very exciting for me,"* says Mary. *"The Sisters of Charity have been connected with my family for decades."*

"Education has always been important in my family. And especially education for girls! My grandfather was a country solicitor and he saw women whose lives were blighted because they were forced to stay in toxic relationships. He wanted something better for his girls and he encouraged my mother to go to university." This was in 1941 when it was extremely uncommon for women to undertake tertiary education.

"Mum did an arts degree and she was a most fantastic teacher. Her nine children didn't go to preschool, but Mum taught us about numbers and counting as she sliced up the vegetables."

"Your working life is too long to be in a job that you hate. Whether it's a sideways step, a work-around, or a back door, there's always a way."

My dad's grandparents were teachers too. You couldn't escape the idea of a good education in our house!"

Mary has four adult children and several grandchildren. *"The grandchildren bring me so much joy,"* she says emphatically.

"My four-year-old granddaughter showed me her preschool photo the other day. She was listing off the kids and came to a girl she couldn't name. She said to me, 'she's a friend I don't know yet'. I love how children are so open to life's possibilities."

"My husband and I always told our children to follow their heart," she says. *"Your working life is too long to be in a job that you hate. Whether it's a sideways step, a work-around, or a back door, there's always a way,"* she says wisely.

"I didn't decide to specialise in radiation oncology until I was 42. I asked my mum what she thought and she said 'go for it'. I realised how it was still so important that I have the approval of my 72-year-old mother."

Such is the eternal respect and admiration in the relationship between child and parent.

"I don't have a 'bucket list' for retirement. I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had and to have healthy children. Now I'd like to give back and put my energy into achieving Phase 2 of the Masterplan for the redevelopment for this wonderful College."

Great teachers need great spaces. Through great teachers, children flourish."

2018 HSC Distinguished Achievers

Students who achieved the top band (Band 6) in one or more courses

Bronte Funnell



ATAR
99.65

Grace Robinson
Prize Recipient
MAM Prize for
High ATAR in a
MAM College

Biology
Chemistry
English (Advanced)
Physics
Studies of Religion 2

Maddison Durham



College DUX,
2018

ATAR
99.45

English (Advanced)
Legal Studies
Modern History
History Extension
Studies of Religion 2
Textiles and Design

Sophie Aoud



Community and
Family Studies

Emily Barclay



Biology
Earth and
Environmental
Science

Allana Boyd-Boland



Studies of
Religion 1

Izabella Brzozowska



Biology
Legal Studies
Polish Continuer
(4th in State)

Sarah Collinson



Mathematics
Extension 1
Studies of
Religion 1
Textiles and
Design

Ruby Doyle



PD/H/PE

Annika Durante



English
(Advanced)
French
Continuers
French
Extension
PD/H/PE
(4th in State)
Studies of
Religion 2

Loren Fanale



Music 1

Sarah Kate Ferguson



Biology
Community and
Family Studies
Society and
Culture

Sally Gerrard



English
(Advanced)
Legal Studies
PD/H/PE
Studies of
Religion 2

Kathleen Griffiths



English
(Standard)

Grace Hayes



Society and
Culture

Emma Henry



Biology
Studies of
Religion 1
Visual Arts

Ally Hunter



English
(Advanced)

Rachel Iorfino



Visual Arts

Eliza MacDonald



Visual Arts

Cealan MacDonnell



Legal Studies
Modern History
Textiles and
Design

Eugenie Maynard



Biology
Legal Studies

Mia Mergler



Legal Studies
PD/H/PE
Studies of
Religion 2

Charlotte Murray-Nobbs



Mathematics
Mathematics
Extension 1

Georgia O'Dea



Design
and
Technology

Scarlett Odgers



PD/H/PE
Studies
of
Religion 2

Georgia Pulvirenti



Legal
Studies

Niamh Reghenzani



Studies
of
Religion 1

Anna Sanders



English
(Advanced)
Visual Arts

Jessica Sertori



Mathematics

Emily Smith



Music 1

Maddison Smith



Mathematics

Antigoni Strangas



Legal Studies
Music 1

Josie Toakley



French
Continuers
French
Extension

Morgan Twigg



Textiles and
Design
Visual Arts

Stella Wailes

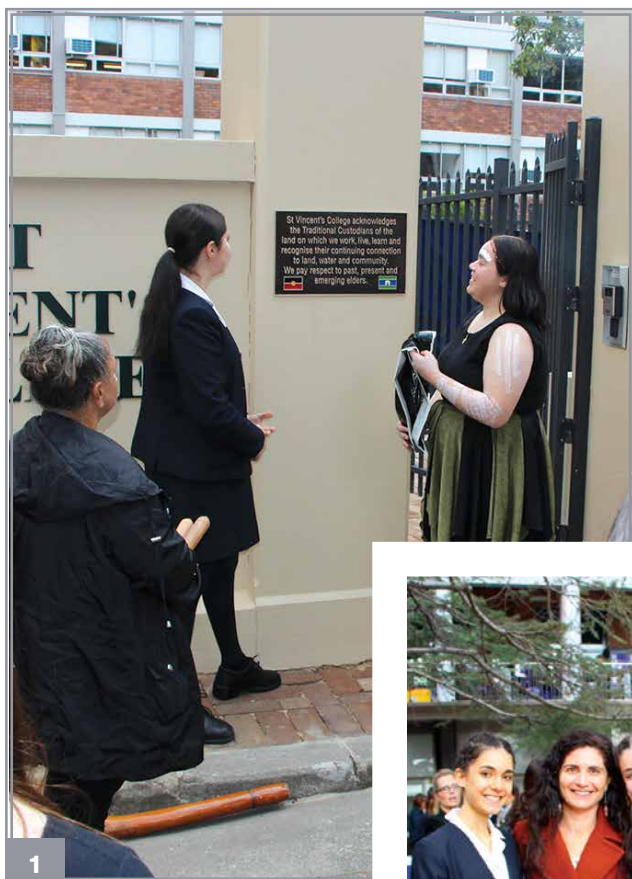


Mathematics
Mathematics
Extension 1

Juanita Wan



Mathematics



1



2



3



4



5

1. Unveiling and blessing of the plaque acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land
2. House Dance celebrations

3. Mother's Day Liturgy and Breakfast
4. Social Justice collecting funds for Red Cross
5. Year 7 Camp

From the College Co-Captains

Emily O'Brien and Rosa Blakemore



“The Vinnies community is the embodiment of what respect feels like. Whether it is in our outreach work of social justice or even within the constraints of our College gates, respect permeates.”

In 2019, the Year of Respect, we have had the privilege in leading the College as Co-Captains.

With *Respect* by Aretha Franklin we, together with the Leadership Team and the College, are finding out what it means to us in 2019, the Year of Respect. What we have discovered is the Vinnies girls' holistic approach to life, that centres around the development of relationships with others and themselves, are built on respect. It is this respect within our community that allows us to have such rich relationships and strong support systems.

The myriad of opportunities given to us are cherished by all students. Within the Social Justice facet of the College, which is led by Charlotte Murray-Nobbs (Social Justice Captain) and the Social Justice Advisory Council, we are provided with an opportunity to raise awareness on issues of disrespect of human rights and towards our environment such as human trafficking, the climate change crisis, education inequality, gender inequality, the refugee crisis and many more. Our girls are encouraged to advocate through raising awareness in social justice clubs and through educational experiences. This Year of Respect has emphasised the importance of relationships being built on respect for all

people regardless of race, gender, age or socioeconomic status and developing a respectful relationship with the environment.

The Vinnies community is the embodiment of what respect feels like. Whether it is in our outreach work of social justice or even within the constraints of our College gates, respect permeates. In events such as the annual Inter-House Dance Competition we see the community flourish in respectable relationships and dance moves. We were so proud to see how well everyone carried out the whole process of House Dance with a great sense of inclusivity and unity and the spice of House Competition. We were all encouraged to try our hardest and support each other.

Respect is also felt through in the liturgical life provided by

the College. This Semester as a College community we celebrated Sorry Day and physically acknowledged the Indigenous community (The Gadigal people) as the traditional custodians of this land through the unveiling and blessing of a plaque. The ceremony was led by the Garraway Dancers with the guidance of Auntie Viv. The experience of a smoking ceremony and fire dance greatly enriched the blessing and saw Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous Australians walking together, with the opportunity to better understand the culture and traditions of the indigenous traditions. It is these experiences of dialogue amongst our community where Respect is emulated.

We are half-way through the year and we are continuing to evolve in our understanding and expression of respect in our community life. Respect of oneself and between others builds our community to truly live the charism of Mary Aikenhead Ministries.



Smoking Ceremony on National Sorry Day

Celebrating 135 Years of Boarding

Maryanne O'Donoghue
Director of Boarding



St Vincent's College started as a Primary School in 1838 and continued to flourish as a high school. In 1858, the decision was made for St Vincent's College to become a Boarding School. This brave decision changed the future of the College. Boarders since 1884 have come from far and wide – from Bourke to Walgett, from Sydney to Papua New Guinea, from Wagga to Hay.

At our recent 135th Anniversary Long Lunch to celebrate Boarding, alumnae thoroughly enjoyed the tours given by current boarders to show how boarding has evolved over the years. In my tenure as Director of Boarding, only four out of the amazing 135 years, this represents a mere 3% of Boarding at the College. Last year, 25% of the total Class of 2018 cohort were Boarders. This percentage might not be

a large amount compared to when alumnae were boarders, but it is a big deal in the current state of education. Boarders currently make up 10% of the College population, which puts us on track to continue the great legacy of Boarding at St Vincent's College.

As a Maths teacher, I do love statistics and here are some stats for you in what makes a Boarder:





30% patience, 20% resilience, 15% courage (could be more depending on the meal plan when you were a Boarder!), 25% teamwork, 10% communication, 30% humour and 80% love for yourself, your family and your community. Now, I did say I was a Maths teacher, and yes, this adds up to more than 100% but that's because you need to give more than 100% to be a boarder.

Our boarding community are happy. National Boarding Week is a yearly event in May

and is always a fun week for the boarders where they get to showcase their homes – be it a fifteen-hour drive or ten minutes away. Boarders are always proud to be a boarder and they enjoy talking about their experiences as a boarder. The stories of the boarders and their families are what make our boarding community strong and vibrant.

“...this adds up to more than 100% but that's because you need to give more than 100% to be a boarder.”



From the Head of Teaching and Learning

Mrs Jasmin Mano

*Inspiring our students to be:
Independent in Thought,
Compassionate in Attitude, Confident
to Act*

We began the academic year with a Learning Colloquium at the College where all members of the College Leadership Team, as well as members from our College Board, joined to collaborate on the future directions of learning for the College in the immediate and long-term future. Much robust and positive energy was established over these two days which culminated in the College setting the goals for the academic year as we continue to embark on invigorating our learning culture to reflect the diverse academic and pastoral needs of our 21st century learners. Thus, the College goal *'to challenge and improve our practice in learning and pedagogy'* was established.

Improvements to the ways in which we provide feedback to our students post assessments, has been the focus of our work, where we have established a College wide common assessment template for every subject and every stage so that our students increasingly draw connections to their learning



between the subjects they study. Much evidence abounds from educational research that students who can apply their knowledge to different contexts, increase their cognitive function considerably and as our graduates will enter changing workplace landscapes, we consider this notion of knowledge transference to be a vital capability of 21st century pedagogies to enable deep learning. Having recently gained the approval from NESA for St Vincent's College to be an endorsed provider of Professional Development, I was inspired and heartened by my colleagues commitment to join with me in partaking in applying learnings from UNSW Global about how we may adopt the 'Hess Cognitive Rigor Matrix' into our Assessment



2

1. *Students at work*
2. *Students launching their solar boats*
3. *Speech and Drama students at the Inner West Eisteddfod*

Activities, so that we continue to drive our deep commitment to ensuring there is much rigor in our academic programs and assessment strategies.

Our new Reflective Learning Model has been a key focus in teaching and learning at the College this year. Research from educational experts in this field have enhanced our SVC model of formative feedback and all our practioners have adopted this model and nuanced it to suit their particular specialist areas. We at SVC know, that the cycle of formative feedback to our students is crucial to teacher reflective practice, as it deepens the relationship of learning for both students and teachers as we constantly assess *What we did and what our students learnt?*

As part of our commitment to the 'Year of Respect' our challenge and priority now, is to ensure that our courageous women of action know that by receiving feedback that requires improvements in learning to be made, a mind shift and pragmatism is required on their part. Therefore, more than

ever, the resilience and tenacity of our students who are enlivened by our legendary 'Vinnies Spirit', is apparent in their learning and as they aspire to fulfil their post-school dreams, this same enigmatic spirit will guide them in their lifelong learning, more than ever before.



3



1



2

Developing 21st Century Thinking

Our Gifted Education (High Potential) Program is flourishing at St Vincent's, College under the guidance of our new Gifted Education Co-ordinator, Ms Donna Ginzburg. The College recognises that students can possess a diverse range of gifts. We know that students require a supportive, nurturing environment for exceptional achievement.

At St Vincent's, the nurturing of these gifts in young women is seen as central to our student growth model and is essential for the development of well-rounded individuals. In addition to our formal Gifted Education Program, students are able to take part in a

diverse range of cognitively stimulating programs. A couple of highlights from our High Potential Program have included the participation of six of our Year 11 students who were part of a live studio audience at ABC studios in Ultimo to partake in a Q&A debate on drug reform. A highlight of the evening was that one of the carefully planned student questions was selected by the show to be asked live to the panel that consisted of Chief Superintendent Stuart Smith, Kerryn Redpath (a former drug user), Dr David Caldicott (an advocate for pill testing), Dr Marianne Jauncey (the founder of the Medically Supervised

Injecting Centre in Kings Cross) and Mick Palmer (the former AFP Commissioner). Lauren Carr of Year 11 spoke of the medically supervised injecting room harm minimisation strategy, which led to her perceptive question on the lack of them in NSW despite their past success rate. Her courage to speak on Q&A, demonstrated poise and spirit and represented the insightful consideration of social issues by our St Vincent's students.

Another notable achievement for our intelligent and compassionate young students was the attainment of a silver medal at the Sydney Ethics Olympiad. In May, Lilas-Mae Njoo, Ella Humphries of Year 9 and Millicent Welling and Bibi O'Loughlin of Year 11



went to Rosebank College to participate in the Sydney Ethics Olympiad. Using ethical theories such as utilitarianism, deontology, consequentialism and intellectualism a range of arguments and views were deliberated and rehearsed. On competition day these St Vincent's College students had the opportunity to be judged for the quality of their discussion techniques, their mode of inquiry and their capacity to engage in thought-provoking debates against many other schools. It was hugely encouraging and rewarding for the St Vincent's team to be awarded a silver medal for their efforts.

At St Vincent's College we pride ourselves on our inclusive education program

and as such we ensure that each of our students who require additional support are provided with the best possible attention and assistance to support their specific learning needs. The Diverse Learning Team ensures that all students requiring their support receive the 'reasonable adjustments' they are entitled to according to NESA's guidelines, and the nurturing that is so integral to our pastoral care model. I can honestly attest to the commitment our staff have to ensure that each of our students with additional needs, is fully enabled to access their learning on the same basis as their peers.

Our students possess many talents in a foray of creative and dramatic art forms, and their creative talents never cease to amaze me in the form of our College productions under the direction of our highly talented Creative Arts Co-ordinator, Ms Catherine Johnson. This year our small art deco heritage hall was transformed complete with

a thrust stage to capture and articulate an adaptation of the '*Rime of the Ancient Mariner*'. Year 11 Drama class kept the staff and our parents/cares in stitches with their rendition of *Staff Room: The Musical*, with some of us staff a little disturbed by the precision of the characterisation that may have channelled a few of our own personalities a little too closely. Many students also used their powers of persuasion to take part in an inaugural Inter-house debating competition which proved highly successful and affirmed the capacity our students have to be highly articulate and convincing.

I am truly inspired by the independent thoughts, compassionate attitude and confident actions our students possess and all of our teaching community look to the immediate and long term future of learning at the College brightly, as we commit to ensuring that everyday 'is a perfect day to learn something new'.

1. Students at the Ethics Olympiad
2. Year 11 students who were part of a live studio audience at ABC studios
3. Year 11 Drama Play Staffroom: The Musical

We Are De Lacy!



Introducing The Big Red De Lacy Dog!

determination.

De Lacy House always looks forward to our annual House Dance competition and again were competitive. The girls were extremely respectful in their choice of the theme music for the dance. The song chosen was "World Hold On" which raised many contemporary issues in relation to how important it is for us all to work towards achieving world

peace and care for our environment. The competition also allowed us the opportunity to reveal our House Mascot...the Big Red De Lacy Dog. Our thanks and gratitude to our Year 12 De Lacy Leaders and our House Captain Jade Veljanovski and Jacqueline Cotter who choreographed our dance and have done for the past five years.

“In this the Year of Respect, we have in all things tried to live out the mission of Sr Baptist De Lacy by responding in a respectful way to the needs of others.”



De Lacy House has been particularly busy this Semester in attempting to see a need and not walk past it as Sr Baptist De Lacy has inspired us to do.

The members of De Lacy House have endeavoured to do this by respectfully supporting one another's gifts and achievements as demonstrated in our recent Athletics Carnival win. It is an incredible feat to be the consecutive winners of the College's Athletics Carnival for the last five years. De Lacy girls revel in being involved in many areas of the College's curriculum. Debating is another area that the girls have enjoyed the friendly competition in this year, at an Inter-House level. The De Lacy team comprised of our Year 10 Coach Hannah Thomas and the Year 7 team of Lauren Menuier-Stone,

Cate McGregor, Eliza Anderson and Alice Murcutt. We are proud of their achievements as they made it through to the semi-final round.

St Vincent's Day this year was celebrated by the College in a different format to previous years. This year as it aligned with the 10th Anniversary of Mary Aikenhead Ministries, we felt it was most appropriate to acknowledge the work of all of the founding Sisters and the inspiration that they had gained from St Vincent in their own way of discerning their own mission. It was important for all of the students from each of the Houses to share the experience of each of the House Patrons (Aikenhead, Cahill, Cater, De Lacy, O'Brien and Williams). The day was a huge success and all students embarked on the day with a

real sense of purpose, action and fun. In particular I would like to thank the De Lacy ambassadors who helped with leading activities, presenting on the day, mentoring the junior students and helping by seeing a need and acting to solve it.

The Year 12 leaders who were involved in running the "Master Chef" and "My Cyclone Kitchen Rules" were Pippi Cullinan, Charlotte Kenny, Caitie Ryan, and Sophia McKinnon who shared their Waralong immersion experiences of a very joy-filled video with the Years 10, 11 and 12 students of Aikenhead, O'Brien and Williams Houses. The girls then cooked in a *Master Chef* style competition with limited ingredients and learnt to appreciate the little that some have and the respectful way of learning to support others to achieve self-

First Nations Partnership

Rachel McLean
Director of Faith and Mission



Voice. Treaty. Truth.

The United Nations has declared 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages. In May, Reconciliation Australia announced that the theme for Reconciliation Week (beginning with the commemoration of Sorry Day on 26 May) as Grounded in Truth, Walk Together with Courage. Now, as I write this reflection, Australia is celebrating NAIDOC week with the theme of *Voice. Treaty. Truth.* (three words that were the three key elements to the reforms set out in the *Uluru Statement from the Heart 2017*).

St Vincent's College First Nations students, staff, parents and community work collaboratively each year to acknowledge, engage in truth-telling and stand in hope during National Reconciliation Week beginning with our annual Sorry Day Commemoration. Sorry Day is an important day in our civic calendar



and at the College our commemoration is profound, reflective and hope-filled. Our commemoration always ends with the First Nations students sharing ochre with the community as a sign of solidarity and connection, a hope-filled mark that we will work in partnership to right the wrongs of the past and build a future that is strong.

This year, I asked the students to go home and share with their families and friends what they experienced at the Sorry Day commemoration and start a conversation about what

Reconciliation means for them and our broader community. As Mr Weaver started playing the Yothu Yindi song “*Treaty*” from 1991, I asked the students to think about why Treaty is important and what we could do to make it more than a song that we sing from the past and a reality for our present.

As the theme for NAIDOC week attests,

it is only through Voice. Treaty. Truth. that we will be able to provide a “*fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for [First Nations] children based on justice and self-determination.*” The Uluru Statement powerfully and prophetically calls for “*constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.*”



We are privileged that the First Nations students at the College are willing and able to share their stories and their hope; their knowledge and their courage; their history and their future.

On St Vincent's Day, as we celebrated the ten-year anniversary of the establishment of Mary Aikenhead Ministries, we also installed and blessed an acknowledgement of land at the Rockwell Crescent gates. This was an initiative of the First Nations students of the College who have been working with Aunty Viv Freeman and the College leadership team to continue

to improve our visual commitment to reconciliation and recognition with and of our First Nations peoples. An excerpt of the meaning of the plaque written by Clare Leinecsh (Year 10) and read by Tamarla Bell (Year 12) follows:

"The plaque acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Gadigal Land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future. The plaque pays tribute to our continued survival and cultural practice on country and has a symbolic meaning for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders here today. Today's unveiling of the plaque is one small but important example of

how we can close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples."

In Term 3, we will lean into the theme of NAIDOC week and work towards publishing an SVC Reconciliation Action Plan. This is an opportunity for students, staff and parents to connect with each other and commit to reconciliation and recognition with and for First Nations peoples. My hope is that we will "walk with [the First Nations peoples] in a movement of the Australian people for a better future."

To find out more visit 1 Voice Uluru 1voiceuluru.org or NAIDOC naidoc.org.au.

Duke of Edinburgh at St Vincent's College

Sophie Robson
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator



The Duke of Edinburgh Award program is offered to students in Years 9 to 12, designed to enrich their school experience through external activities and challenging adventures. 2019 saw a wonderful addition of 43 Bronze participants, the graduation to Silver for twelve, and registration of three Gold students. Each member commits regular participation to accomplish the goals of achieving their relative award badges. Across the three award stages, students take part in a range of challenges to immerse themselves in voluntary services, new skills, physical recreation and adventurous journeys. The Bronze and Silver awards require a minimum of six to twelve months of one hour per week devoted to each of the goal activities.

To broaden their appreciation, Gold level members must also complete a Residential Project, in which they spend a period of time living, socialising and experiencing the life of other young people. Chynna Blakeman of Year 12 had the fortunate opportunity to travel to Cambodia this year to volunteer with children at a local school. Not only did Chynna commit her time and skills as an English-speaking teen, she was able to inspire young people in a remote community to strive to reach their own "dreams and goals".

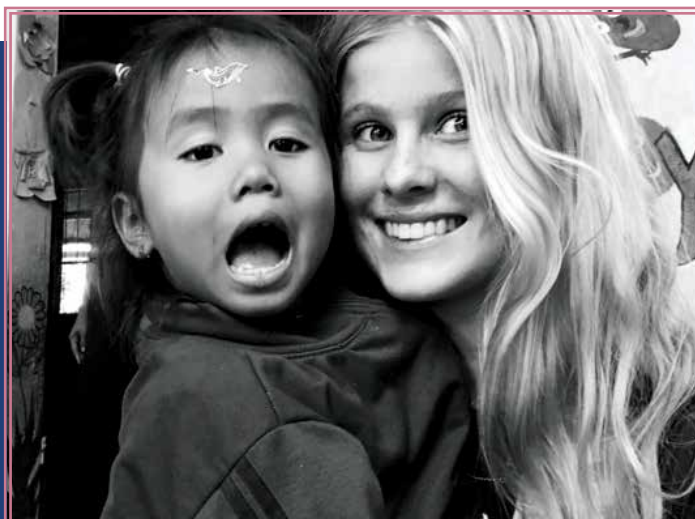
Chynna, along with all of the Duke of Edinburgh participants at St. Vincent's College, has begun her journey to developing a deep respect for her community, as well as those distant from her own.

A recognition and appreciation for their own fortunes, strengthens the ethos of the "Vinnies" girl. Becoming more independent

through the management of their activity log book, compassionate in their dedication to volunteering to a variety of services, and confident through their self-governing of adventurous journeys.

"My residential trip to Cambodia, was an experience that words will never truly be able to describe, explain or recount on the incredible opportunities that I was able to be a part of...[it] allowed me to become aware of the injustice and suffering of the greater world."

With the Duke of Edinburgh program recognised in more than 130 countries, participants are qualified with skills that give them greater career opportunities, higher education options, as well as personal achievements in capacity building. Students are encouraged to join at any time of the year, as they will be provided with lifelong benefits.





Ten Years of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

On the afternoon of St Vincent's Day, 20 June 2019 we had a wonderful Liturgy and blessing of the two new crests on the Rockwall Crescent gates.



One is the crest of the College and the other is the crest of Mary Aikenhead Ministries. It is a highly distinctive crest with many symbols that were explained beautifully by Sr Elizabeth Dodds:

- the cross is the hope of the resurrection
- the signature is that of Mary Aikenhead
- the flame represents compassion
- the heart reminds us that love is the foundation of all we do
- the wave represents the journey of the five original Sisters of Charity who came to Australia, and our journey of life.

Many of you will already be familiar with the crest as it sits proudly on the St Vincent's Hospital facade and many other health related agencies

across Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales.

This year is the tenth year of Mary Aikenhead Ministries. As a College, we are very proud that Sister Elizabeth, who is a proud Vinnies ex-student, was the Congregational Leader at that time and showed remarkable courage in creating such an innovative, new governance structure.

She is indeed a "courageous woman of action"!



Performing Arts News

Rime of the Ancient Mariner

*Reviewed by
Veronica Wong, Year 12*

*As previously published in the student
Newspaper, 'The Hearth'*



On Monday 6 May, I had the absolute pleasure of experiencing a production truly unlike anything St Vincent's College has ever put on before. *Rime of the Ancient Mariner* was a play filled with intensity and anticipation accompanied by refreshing moments of hope and serenity. As a student who has attended almost every production whilst I've been at the college (often multiple nights of each show) and known by some as the number one fan of St Vincent's Drama department, I can safely say that this Production was one of the most interesting and certainly unexpected of them all.

The production was based on a poem written by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in 1797-98 which follows the story of a sailor who has returned from a long sea voyage. At 7pm the audience was introduced to an exuberant wedding scene. A glistening light illuminated the stage scattered with pastel skirts, a trellis of flowers and the amusing grey-bearded faces of our friends. This tone was swiftly interrupted by "The Mariner" whose footsteps echoed through the hall as he approached "the wedding guest". As the Mariner recited his trials and tribulations, the wedding guest's reaction shifted from bemusement, to impatience, to fear, to fascination.

We then meet a young mariner and his loyal crew who journey through cold antarctic waters and are met with starvation, thirst, and the spirits of death. As the spirits approached the ship the room was engulfed in a mist - clouds of white fog so dense the lower half of my legs were undetectable. "Death" and the "Nightmare Life-in-Death" (a deathly pale woman) were carried by dark figures onto the ship and engaged in a game of death with each crew member - all were killed, but the Mariner survived. After days of lonely travel, the Mariner prayed for clemency and part of his guilt is lifted as the corpses rose to steer the ship, returning the Mariner to his homeland.

The play was a testament to the creative genius of Miss Johnson, the dedication of each actor and the hard work of every set of hands backstage who truly form the backbone of each

production. The set was absolutely incredible, and the physical expression of every actress left me speechless. I am impressed more each year with the talent concentrated in all of these girls and their ability to command the atmosphere of an entire room without a word uttered. Needless to say, *Rime of the Ancient Mariner* was in every sense of the word, magnificent.

*"We then meet a young
mariner and his loyal
crew who journey
through cold antarctic
waters and are met with
starvation, thirst, and
the spirits of death."*



Performing Arts News

Staffroom: The Musical

Reviewed by Elizabeth Tax, Year 12

As previously published in the student Newspaper, 'The Hearth'

Staffroom: The Musical, created completely by the Year 11 Drama class has been long awaited by students, teachers and families. The piece was incredibly creative, incorporating musical elements to give an insight into the world of teachers and relationships within the staffroom as unique as they all may be.

The play displayed each and every one of the students' gifts whether it be set or costume design, sound, lighting, directing, managing or advertising, the show was made possible completely by the girls under the guidance of Ms Johnson.

The show was a clear demonstration of the class's incredible dedication of time and effort. The Play follows the ins and outs of the PD/H/PE, English, Art, Religion and Maths departments, under the leadership of the Principal and Vice Principal. After a sudden lockdown causes the staffroom to dissolve into absolute chaos the staff are forced to go to any length to entertain themselves.

I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say the show was a major success. The Year 11 Drama students' hard work, commitment and enthusiasm really paid off.



International Women's Day Symposium

In celebration of International Women's Day, the College hosted a symposium with three inspirational and influential alumnae on Thursday 7 March.

Cathy Kovacs (1987), Joanna Nash (1996) and Lorenn Ruster (2003) joined journalist (and current parent) Michelle Stone in discussion of inspiration, empowerment and equality.

To set the scene, Michelle reminded the audience of students and families that right now, women make up 80% of people living in poverty. *"They earn less in their lifetime, and will retire with much less in superannuation. And that's the product of inequality,"* she said.

On the topic of strong women, Michelle quoted an indigenous woman who said, *"may you know one, may you be one and may you raise one."*

Lorenn Ruster, currently a director at PWC Indigenous Consulting, undertook broad undergraduate and post-graduate study after leaving St Vincent's College, and has followed a diverse professional path.

Lorenn acknowledged there is a great deal of pressure on young women today to 'make a difference' with the opportunity and education they have.

"When I was in Year 12, I felt the weight of 'what am I going to do?' and that can be paralysing," she said.

Her advice to students was to take their time and not place too much pressure on

themselves, or feel they must 'do everything in one go'.

Joanna Nash explained how she loved the recognition she received for working hard at school and university. Her study at Yale University and the University of New South Wales earned her outstanding academic credentials.

Now the Vice President of Acadian Asset Management, Joanna manages \$1.5 billion in superannuation funds.

"I didn't ever doubt I could do a job," Joanna says. *"When I started work, I did my job well but didn't get recognised as I did at uni. Doing my job well didn't get me promoted. As young women, we need to be willing to speak up for ourselves and put ourselves forward."*

Joanna spoke passionately about believing and demonstrating self-worth. *"It's a case of showing others that you respect yourself, so that they respect you. And of course, you need to have respect for others."*

Strangely, as a stockbroking graduate Cathy Kovacs still

got offered the jobs that were *"more suitable to women, like assistant roles to men,"* she said.

Now the Head of Business Development at Westpac, Cathy admits, *"they were definitely hard years early on...I got six weeks paid leave when I had my first child and felt I had to go straight back to work."*

"At school you learn you can be anything you want to be," she said. *"I went into a heavily male-dominated industry and suddenly faced conscious and unconscious bias and that was a shock,"* Cathy said.

Although gender pay-parity is still a long way away, Cathy believes things have changed and the workplace is now more respectful than it was.

"Being a parent wasn't respected – that's changed. And the bias is more unconscious these days. I'm glad I was resilient and have worked through the challenges – in fact it was empowering to go harder and enable a successful career."

All three alumnae agreed that hard work and family support



“It’s a case of showing others that you respect yourself, so that they respect you. And of course, you need to have respect for others.”

Joanna Nash (1996)

are important for young women to achieve their goals. Optimism, curiosity and open-mindedness are other valuable traits for success.

Michelle Stone added ‘persistence’ to the list. *“Keep banging on doors until someone opens them,”* she said.

The final word of advice is to grasp the opportunity to work in different environments and gain exposure to different people. Even volunteering is a valuable experience and

connects you with people you might not otherwise meet.

Principal Anne Fry concluded the symposium with heartfelt thanks, affection and admiration for the College’s former students. She noted the discussion was a *“statement of the enduring good health of St Vincent’s College, with women*

of such calibre coming to share their stories with honesty and wisdom.”

Mrs Fry also thanked the many men in the audience, who are *“joining the fight for justice and dignity of women, and helping to build a balanced world based on respect.”*

David Osborne
Director of Advancement

Meet the Teacher

*Monica Jarman
Head of English*



Ms Monica Jarman joined St Vincent's College in 2019 as Head of English. We asked her to share a few insights about the woman behind the role.

Sitting in Year 10 English, somewhere in the Vincentia building, somewhere in the late 1980s, I decided that I would become a teacher. Mrs James was taking us through Samuel Taylor Coleridge's 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner' (ironically this year's College production) and I was really excited by the idea that a text, or even a word, could have more than one meaning because words were always in conversation with other words around them and with the greater world around them. And it struck me how wonderful it would be to have a job that allowed me to be in conversation with other people about books and words and ideas all day, every day!

Conversation is the most exciting element of teaching. It is through conversation that teachers and students learn about ourselves, about others and about the world around us. And there are so

many different conversations to be had about so many different things. Conversation demands that when we make statements, we choose our words carefully, but conversation also allows us to ask questions out of curiosity, interest, and fellow feeling; to demonstrate understanding, empathy and humility; to solve a problem creatively. It is through conversation that we affirm that we are all lifelong learners.

The students make a school and I am very happy to be continuing conversations with young women in a single-sex educational environment, and one that is in the Catholic, and Sisters of Charity, tradition. I do believe that this is the best environment for our girls because they can have conversations with their peers and teachers fearlessly. And I do believe that this is transferrable into those harder conversations that will be characteristic of future life.

I am equally happy and excited to be part of a vibrant and intelligent group of women in the English department who are so thoughtful about what they teach, the way they teach and how best we can facilitate the students to expand the boundaries of their potential. I really do look forward to growing the English department over the next few years.

Jane Austen tells us that women should run mad as often as they choose, but that they should not faint, and I think this is very sage advice. It suggests that women should be fearless in their conversations, that they can stand up to the Lady Catherine de

Bourghs of this world and wear the label of 'obstinate, headstrong girl' as proudly as Elizabeth Bennet does, but that women should do so with control, with awareness, and like Jane Eyre, with an inner voice that cares for oneself.

And so here I am, having graduated nearly 30 years ago, walking the same halls with those teachers who inspired me to become a teacher, and walking and talking with those teachers who are inspiring our students to become their best selves today. And so the conversation, the challenge to inspire as I was inspired in this wonderful school, continues.



Foundation News

Launching the Elisabeth Carey Scholarship



When we farewell our Year 12 students at the end of Term 3, the graduating Class of 2019 will be missing a very special and much-loved Vinnies girl – Elisabeth Carey.

This would have been her final year of secondary school. But sadly, Elisabeth lost her battle with leukaemia when she was in Year 8 at just 13 years of age. We can only imagine how our gifted and gracious student would have grown up.

The Gift of Trust

For many of the St Vincent's community – including ex-students, families and friends of the College, a bequest is a very convenient way to make an enduring gift to express their appreciation or affection for their alma mater. The Tarmons Trust is a newly established recognition society through which we will honour those who have decided to support the College through their Will.

From the outset of St Vincent's College, Tarmons has been an important name. Tarmons was the name of the grand house purchased by the Sisters in which they established the first St Vincent's Hospital and then school. Then Tarmons was used as the Convent. The name is now enshrined in the major teaching block that stands where the original house once stood. The name evokes

different memories for different generations of graduates of the College but for all current and ex-students, Tarmons is the most highly revered place-name on the campus, and it has therefore been bestowed to this newly created recognition society as a sign of deep gratitude.

Through the generosity of those who join the Tarmons Trust, St Vincent's College will be able to continue to provide the scholarships and bursaries necessary to retain the diversity and capacity of our student body; and to make provision for the building and refurbishment of the College to ensure it retains contemporary, versatile and inviting learning spaces.

Your trust in the future of the College is greatly appreciated.

David Osborne, Director of Advancement

At the time of her passing, the College community found solace in the Chapel which was filled with thousands of beautiful and individual cranes made by her classmates.

Each crisp, colourful piece of paper was transformed into something unique. It was a tangible way we could express our grief and give tribute to Elisabeth's short but treasured life.

Elisabeth was an outstanding student – but not just academically. She demonstrated genuine care and interest for everyone and everything around her. She lived our values and was posthumously honoured with

the Scientia cum Religione award at Speech Night in December 2015.

The origami cranes we made were a symbol of hopefulness and they helped us through our grief back in 2015. But now, we have a new and more powerful symbol to remember Elisabeth's generous nature and love for life.

This year I'm proud to confirm we have established the Elisabeth Carey Scholarship. This scholarship will help another girl to realise her dreams as she embarks on her own journey at St Vincent's College. The first award will be made to a student commencing in 2020.

She will be a well-rounded girl, just like Elisabeth. Someone who will contribute positively and enthusiastically to our community. And she'll be a girl with a heart for social justice and compassion for others, just like Elisabeth.

This is a fitting and enduring commitment to Elisabeth Carey and her family. Elisabeth brought much joy to our school community. Her memory will live on through this scholarship.

I am most grateful to all the members of our Vinnies family who have contributed to this important community initiative.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Anne Fry
College Principal

Tarmons Trust members

Anonymous † Class of 1930

Carolan, A †

Carrick, Angela † Class of 1945

Conrad (nee Bourke), Leonie Class of 1944

Donnelly, Mary Frances Stephanie †

Foley, Lucy Winifred †

Kennedy, John Patrick †

Mabey, P †

McRae, Joanne Class of 1993

Morrell (nee Collingridge), Patricia †

Rolfe, Patricia †

Tiley, George †

Vickery, Marian † Class of 1943

Williamson (nee Saxon), Valda † Class of 1936

† Deceased

We are proud to acknowledge previous benefactors.

All care has been taken to ensure accuracy of this list. However, if any error has occurred, please accept our apologies and notify the Advancement Office so that we can amend our records.

If St Vincent's College is in your estate plan, please contact the Director of Advancement and you will be invited to join the Tarmons Trust, allowing us to acknowledge and thank you in your lifetime.



What's News?



Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre Opening

On 6 June the Sisters of Charity of Australia, members of the Mary Aikenhead Ministries, St Vincent's College staff and their friends attended the Opening and Blessing of the Sisters of Charity of Australia Heritage Centre and Archives Building, celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP.

This beautiful Centre took six years of dreaming and meticulous planning to become reality and is an outstanding celebration of the story of the Sisters of Charity in Australia, beginning at Potts Point.

Indigenous artist, Lisa Buxton (assisted by Julieanne Manson), was commissioned to produce a piece depicting Mary Aikenhead sending forth the first five Sisters to this land. This stunning piece now adorns the entrance wall of the Centre.

The Heritage Centre has been designed as a place to provide connection to the history and charism of the Sisters of Charity. The Centre showcases their significant contribution and achievements since the arrival of the five Pioneer Sisters in Sydney in 1838. The Centre also includes a meeting room and contemplative spaces including the St Vincent's Chapel and





“The Heritage Centre is designed to tell the story of the Sisters and the work they have done since arriving in Australia 181 years ago.”



courtyard. “The Heritage Centre is designed to tell the story of the Sisters and the work they have done since arriving in Australia 181 years ago. The Heritage Centre celebrates the Sisters of Charity story and that of religious women,” said Sr Clare Nolan, the Congregational Leader of the Sisters of Charity of Australia.

The Sisters have continued to read the signs of the times, and to respond to need not only in education, health, and aged care, but also in social welfare and social justice; the work of the Sisters of Charity has been nothing short of remarkable. Today, the Sisters of Charity-established ministries continue under the stewardship of Mary Aikenhead Ministries. However, Sisters continue to be active in many fields as advocates for the prevention of human trafficking; running the House of Hospitality in Sydney for the families of patients staying at St Vincent’s Darlinghurst, counselling in the Prison Ministry in Melbourne, working at the Jesuit Refugee Service in Parramatta and helping through St Vincent’s Hospital to provide transport services to those in remote rural communities across NSW who need to come to Sydney for specialist treatment, to name but a few.

For further information on the Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre please contact Rachel Mensforth, Heritage Centre Manager on 02 9138 0835 or rachel.mensforth@rscoffice.com.

What's News?



Garcia Building Donor Plaque Restoration Project

Throughout the College's history many generous benefactors have contributed to the Garcia Building to ensure their passion for the Arts remains alive and strong. We have recently committed to restoring the plaques, honouring the spirit of generosity in acknowledgement of these heartfelt donations.

James Fairfax Room

This Music Practice Room was refurbished through the generosity of Mr James Fairfax, AO.

Gretta Callow Room

This Music Practice Room was refurbished through the generosity of Mr George Tiley in memory of his wife.

Madame Christian Recital Hall

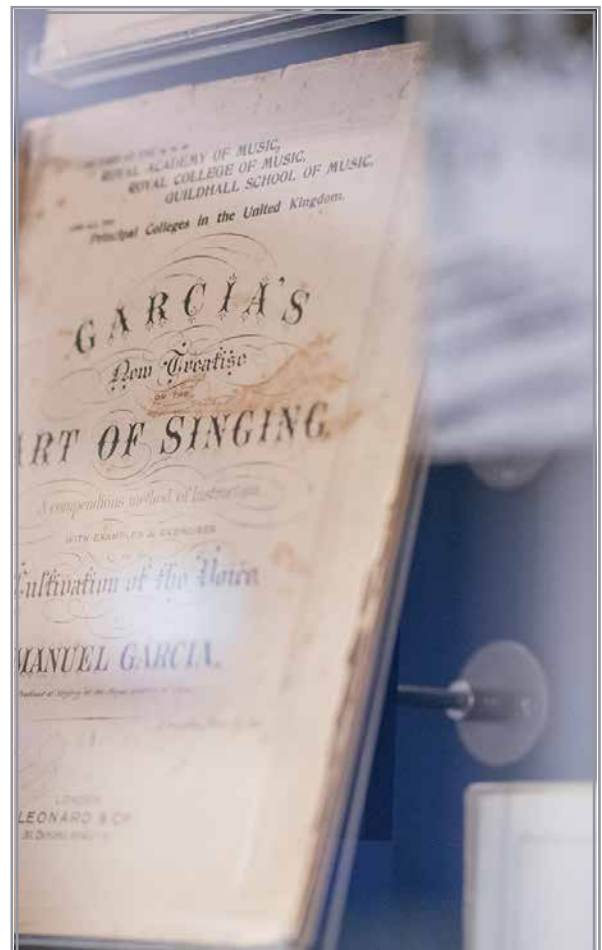
Mary Ellen Christian (Madame Christian) founded the Garcia School of Music, which was located in Bethania House. This room was refurbished through the generosity of Perc, Pauline and Louis McGuigan.

Anne Carolan Room

This Music Practice Room was refurbished through the generosity of Anne Carolan.

Sylvia McGuigan Room

This room was refurbished in memory of Sylvia McGuigan, a lady who loved music and children.





Parents and Friends Association News

The annual cocktail party kicked off the 2019 school year for the P & F. As always the event was a great success and provides an opportunity for new and established parents to meet and socialise under the stars in the courtyard.

Over the last few months the projects around the school that the P & F have contributed to have been finalised resulting in improvements to the library, the roof terrace and the change rooms as well as a few smaller projects.

Our next big event is the annual Spring Fair on Sunday 8 September, which is a great school and community event. Planning is in full swing to ensure it's even bigger and better than last year. Put the date in your diaries now!

The popular Dog Show will be back, along with all the food, entertainment, carnival stalls and fun you know to expect from this fantastic community event!

This event's success relies on the generosity of and participation by our St Vincent's Community. Please keep an eye out for communications about preparations, volunteer rosters and donation requests.



St Vincent's College
Potts Point

Spring Fair





Vincentia

Newsletter of the Ex-Students' Union

Our Motto

Girls of St. Vincent's,
Girls old and new,
Have gathered and parted,
All the years through;
To the motto that ever binds us to you,
"Scientia cum religione", let us be true!

June Munro, 1st Year A

The new design of Vincentia features plants from the Myrtle family which are native to Sydney

From the Ex-Students' Union President

Mrs Mary Doyle

Every girl who attends the College is unique, her background, personality and talents. A specific combination of girls in a single year creates a unique class, with its own identity and experiences.



One of the many things about the Ex-students' Union is the breath of generations who form its membership. For the Union, this represents a challenge to provide each cohort with opportunities to be active in the ex-students' community. Class reunions are always popular and we have found that a combined years dinner every five years is well attended. The Annual Vincentian Mass and High Tea, which has replaced the Annual Reunion is also very well-liked. Occasionally there is a special event that brings ex-students together and this year being the 135th Anniversary of the boarding school a special lunch was held for ex-boarders.

Many ex-students keep in regular contact with their old classmates via social media or by simply catching up together. However, a class reunion is a different occasion. This year Emily Mann (nee Byrne), daughter of Jane Elliot - Class of 1974, arranged a very successful 15th year reunion for the Class of 2004 while the

Class of 1979 enjoyed their 40th reunion in March. These Classes enjoyed returning to the College as part of their reunions. Ex-students, who have not visited the College in recent years, are amazed at the changes.

Still to come this year are the Class reunions for the Class of 1969, (contact Gerardine Grace) Class of 1989, (contact Jenny Kovacs) Class of 1999 and Class of 2009. Please contact us if you require any information about reunions.

We would love to see you at the Vincentian Memorial Mass and High Tea, which will be held on 3 November. This is a special event during which we honour our schoolmates, who have passed during the last year. Family members who attend find it comforting to see that their loved one is remembered by their classmates. If you know of the recent death of an ex-student, please let me know so that we can include them in our memorial service and invite their family members.



Mary Doyle and Eileen Donohoe arriving at The Long Lunch

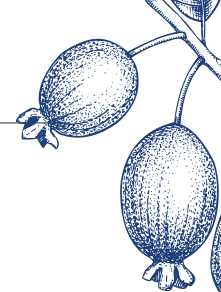


Photo of Boarding Alumnae at The Long Lunch

International Women's Day Symposium

Joanna Nash (1996), Cathy Kovac (1987) and Loren Ruster (2003) spoke at the International Women's Day Symposium, held at the College in March. They spoke of their career paths and what they have learnt worked for and against them. They discussed the many factors

effecting women's career choices and pathways. It was a very informative evening and I encourage ex-students to attend next year's event. Our thanks go to these ex-students who donated their time to make this College event successful.

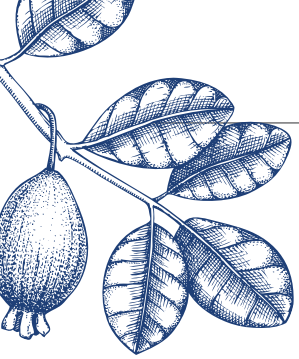
Every girl is unique

Every girl who attends the College is unique, her background, personality and talents. A specific combination of girls in a single year creates a unique class, with its own identity and experiences. But when they come together, they create a unique experience. That's what makes a combined ex-student function so special and different than a class reunion.

One of the goals of the Ex-students' Union is to raise funds for scholarships. We are happy to announce that this year the Ex-students' Music and Drama Scholarship was awarded to Polly Grindod and the Mary Aikenhead Scholarship was awarded to Chloe Conway. We congratulate both girls on being awarded the scholarships. We also contributed to the Elisabeth Carey Scholarship which was established this year by the College in her memory.

Hope to see you at the College soon.





The Long Lunch

“Sitting in the Mark 2:22 Atrium, where the lunch was held, I couldn’t but be aware of how greatly the College buildings and their usage have changed throughout the last 50 years.”

On 25 May I attended the Boarders’ Long Lunch, which was organised by the College to celebrate the 135 years of boarding at St Vincent’s. I always find these functions, where “old girls” from different years come together, to be especially encouraging and thought provoking. Sitting in the Mark 2:22 Atrium, where the lunch was held, I couldn’t but be aware of how greatly the College buildings and

their usage have changed throughout the last 50 years. As I looked at the varying ages of the faces in the room, I couldn’t help but think of the changing roles of women throughout those same 50 years. How the College has had to adapt and evolve to meet those changing needs of young women. I was torn between the part of me that is nostalgic for the old dormitories and classrooms

I used and the part of me that is gratified to see the development of the College. I am always amazed at how the buildings change, the teachers change, the principals change, the girls change but somehow the spirit of the College remains a constant. One can feel the fellowship and warmth that magically crosses the age barriers and the years, and everyone simply feels part of the same Vinnies team.



Where Are They Now?



Nothing Changes if Nothing Changes

Simone Larmer, Class of 1984

What have you been doing since finishing school?

I knew Uni straight after school wasn't for me but also knew I wanted to work in the media. I did some work experience over the summer at NBN Newcastle (TV) then I started a Secretarial Course at MBC Business College in the city. While this wasn't the funnest year, I acquired a solid skill set to enable me to get my first job – a secretary/PA for the Head of TV Sport, ABC. It was a fantastic experience in learning more about TV, earning a good income and feeling super independent.

After three years with ABC, I then worked in Advertising for a year before landing the job at The Walt Disney Company – still as Secretary but it also included some marketing – the area I learned was my passion. I began studying PR at TAFE and became their PR Manager before running a couple of agencies and eventually setting up my own.

What was your most memorable experience at St Vincent's College? Do you remember your first day?

I was a boarder from PNG, so I certainly recall the complete contrast of arriving to Kings Cross Station and walking to school and thinking 'what were my parents thinking'! My first room mates (in the boarding school) were Dawn Fraser's daughter Dawn and another girl called Tracy and I will always remember that first night – it was all a bit surreal. I didn't mind boarding and found the schooling supportive – especially compared to the alternative in PNG.

What quality do you most admire in a woman?

I admire women that believe in themselves and who set and work to goals with a vision to always be moving forward. I also value compassion and respect in people – both for themselves and others.



What best describes your most recent job:

- It was tough
- I loved it
- The boss made me cry?

I set up my PR business 17+ years ago with my twin Michelle, so while the boss doesn't make me cry, sometimes trying to get a story over the line with the media can! My most recent campaigns have included Disney On Ice in 2018 and working with gorgeous wellness resort Kamalaya Koh Samui in Thailand. In a PR consultancy you can work across multiple clients, assisting them in achieving awareness in the media and in turn consumers via interesting editorial stories, social media campaigns, events, competitions and



promotions. Every client has different needs, and usually taps into different media and target audiences, so it never gets boring or predictable. Creativity is something I love to add to a campaign.

What has excited you most about being part of the Vinnies Community?

The friends you make, the knowledge you gain and the growing up experience with a group of amazing people is something that is truly special about being at Vinnies and ongoing from school days.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself, something about you that most people don't know.

I'm a twin and we work together!

What is your favourite saying or quote?

Trust in the process of Life – Louise Hay

Nothing changes if nothing changes – John McGrath.

What are your study, work, travel plans for 2019 and beyond?

I obtained my yoga teaching qualifications last year, so this year has been about teaching and providing a free class to the Manly Community (where I'm living). I also took six months off from PR so have been pursuing blog writing and just enjoying time out. I'm about to head to Kamalaya and planning a trip to Europe later this year – so feeling blessed!

What is something about yourself that you could totally brag about, but usually don't?

Well it's not fun but I was stung by a Boxfish Jellyfish when I was very young (in PNG) and survived to tell the story (as they are known to be deadly).

What is the most critical thing you have learnt about yourself since leaving school?

Set goals for yourself – big or small – and aim high!

What would your advice be for a young girl starting at Vinnies today?

Take every opportunity given to you, be proactive and a team player. And just know that you are surrounded by a wonderful caring community that wants you to succeed in your life! Enjoy it!

"I also value compassion and respect in people – both for themselves and others."



Where Are They Now?

Art is for Everyone

Brenda Colahan, Class of 1983



What have you been doing since finishing school?

I attended Sydney University immediately after finishing school and undertook a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (1984 - 1987) with a double major in fine art and archaeology. Immediately after completion, I travelled to the Middle East for twelve months where I worked for Sydney University's archaeological excavations at Pella in Jordan. I also travelled through Egypt, Syria and Turkey. I have since returned many times to Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, and have worked for Sydney Uni excavations in Italy, and visited sites in Cyprus and Greece. I lived again for twelve months in Italy in the late 1990s and travelled to the UK where I undertook research at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford University for a Master of Philosophy in Archaeology. I returned to fine art as a career and have worked for leading international auction house, Phillips de Pury, and Sydney-based fine art galleries. I opened my



own fine art consultancy in 1998 and have been self-employed for 20 years. I am now the Director/Owner of a Sydney-based fine art gallery (Brenda Colahan Fine Art), and I am an approved valuer for the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program

What was your most memorable experience at St Vincent's College? Do you remember your first day?

I remember my first day very clearly and have very many fond memories of St Vincent's College. My most poignant memories were working in the art room, particularly during lunch times and free periods. Anyone wanting to find me would look there. I also have

great memories of my time as House Captain of Carmel.

What quality do you most admire in a woman? Do you have a hero or role model?

I admire tenacity and perseverance. One of my role models is Dr Gene Sherman AM - a philanthropist, academic and expert on art, fashion and architecture. Dr Sherman was founder and Director of Sherman Galleries for 21 years (1986 - 2007), and closed Sherman Galleries to create the Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation (SCAF), which ran from 2008 - 2017. In 2018, she founded the Sherman Centre for Culture and Ideas.



What was the last company you worked for and what were you doing?

I was consulting gallery manager and independent valuer for Art Equity (now Nanda Hobbs) from 2003 - 2008, whilst also running my own consultancy. It was my last on-going large contract working for a single client. I established their gallery space and continuous exhibition program. I undertook many thousands of valuations during this time. It was a very demanding, busy role and I am proud to have helped establish this gallery, which is now one of Australia's leading commercial galleries. I learnt many valuable lessons in there towards establishing my own gallery.

What has excited you most about being part of the Vinnies Community?

I am a proud Vinnies girl and I am so grateful that my parents gave me the opportunity to attend St Vincent's College. The gift of an Ignatian education is invaluable throughout one's life.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself, something about you that most people don't know.

I have a sense of humour and laugh a lot at life.

What is your favourite saying or quote?

Art is for everyone.

What are your study, work, travel plans for 2019 and beyond?

I currently travel with my partner and 12 year-old son and am enjoying seeing the world now through his eyes. We all love New York and are planning more travel to the East Coast of the US in 2019 - 2020.

Work is all about my gallery in 2019 - 2020

What is something about yourself that you could totally brag about, but usually don't?

All of the above.

What is the most critical thing you have learnt about yourself since leaving school?

I chose a very difficult career. I did not expect this and I did not know that I would need to struggle so much to arrive at a career after University. I have had to really work at forging my path. However, it has been rewarding, and I can truly say that I am self-made.

What would your advice be for a young girl starting at Vinnies today?

Try as many things as possible and then specialise in your strengths. Meet as many contacts as you can; have mentors; hard work will get you far.

"The gift of an Ignatian education is invaluable throughout one's life."



Where Are They Now...

Women's Fight in the Climate Crisis

Year 11 student Gisel Weishan interviews

Emily Contador-Kelsall, Class of 2013

As previously published in the student Newspaper, 'The Hearth'



Climate change is one of the biggest crises we are facing today with increased temperatures, droughts and flooding, however, with this there's been a global awakening and call to action. Emily Contador-Kelsall, (Class of 2013) and Content Creator at 1 Million Women, is one woman who answers this call every day through her lifestyle and work. In her interview she spoke of the climate crisis and how we as women can respond. The fight against climate change is only beginning and it must start with us.



How would you introduce yourself and 1 Million Women, what is their movement?

I've been working with 1 Million Women for around a year now and was interning for a few months before then. At 1 Million Women my role is very communications-based. I create articles, images and videos for our digital channels and also do some work on our soon to be released app. 1 Million Women is a global movement, empowering women to fight the climate crisis through everyday actions.

Can you elaborate as to what the climate crisis is and the profound effect it is having on our world today and that it'll have on our future?

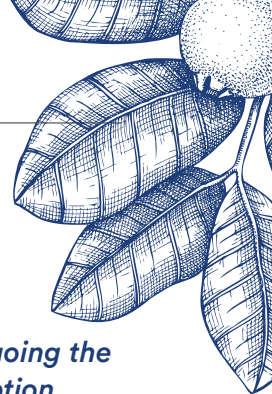
The climate crisis is the greatest challenge we're facing and it requires a complete rethinking of everything. Paul Hawken, who edited Project Drawdown, speaks about how we should shift our way of thinking from seeing the climate crisis as this awful thing happening to us to seeing it as an opportunity to completely reimagine everything. It can be hard to do that but when we look at things like AOC's Green New Deal that do just that,

there's definitely hope for the future. At the end of the day, we have less than eleven years to curb warming so it won't tip to catastrophic levels. A 1.5 degree celcius temperature rise will have devastating effects on biodiversity, coral reefs and indeed our pacific neighbours are already battling the effects of climate breakdown. We are approaching a point of no return and it's definitely frightening. Listening to Greta Thunberg speak brings this home. Amongst all that however, it is important to remember that there are solutions out there but they require political will and we can all act to influence politics in one way or another.

Why does 1 Million Women orientate itself specifically to women and girls?

Women are the change makers. If you look to leaders in climate movements and activism you'll find this space is overwhelmingly occupied by women and girls. There are a million reasons you could pick from to explain why, but Nat, the founder of 1 Million Women, recognised the power women have and wanted to lift this up. For her it all started with

*“1 Million Women is a global movement,
empowering women to fight the climate crisis
through everyday actions.”*



trying to reduce her electricity consumption in the household and she managed to do so easily and in a way that made a difference and this got her thinking about other ways women can act in their daily lives. Also, the climate crisis impacts women and women in the developing world especially, more than anyone else.

1 Million Women say that they are “Women and girls from every corner of the planet building a lifestyle revolution to fight the climate crisis”, can you elaborate as to what it means to live a sustainable lifestyle and the impact changing one’s lifestyle can have in fighting this crisis?

Living a sustainable lifestyle is about reducing your impact. Whether that be cutting single-use plastics from your life, reducing your food waste, voting for politicians committed to climate action or eating a plant-based diet. Changing your lifestyle is a powerful way to fight the climate crisis. So often individuals feel disempowered and hopeless in the face of an existential crisis like climate damage. By changing the way you live not only are you doing everything you can to help solve the climate crisis but you are sending the message that climate action matters and become part of a collective action. Change has to come from somewhere and when individuals band together it can have a big impact, living our values is a powerful communication tool and has a ripple effect. When you live in a way that actively engages in solving the climate crisis you also show others what is possible and encourage them to engage with the issue. We as individuals are so important, and the power of Greta Thunberg and her immense influence is testament to this. We do need political action and will to solve this crisis.

For many the idea of completely foregoing the unsustainable world of meat consumption, plastic use...seems near impossible, what advice do you want to give readers who aspire to live a more sustainable lifestyle but find themselves challenged by the feat?

To start small, be prepared and know why you’re doing it. There are a million things we can all do, starting with researching the climate crisis to understand it and what we can do. All our social channels are continually posting images, videos and blogs about different actions individuals can do to fight the climate crisis. Reducing your meat consumption and eating a vegetarian diet is a big step individuals can take, as well as curbing waste in all areas of their lives and voting for climate action. It can be daunting to take on something like cutting down on plastic when it’s everywhere or stopping eating meat when your family eats it all the time. Start in one area, maybe you’ll pick fashion first and commit to stop buying fast fashion. Then you might move to food and reduce your food waste, buy package-free foods. Figuring out why you want to take these actions - whether it be to live a life that align with your values, show your commitment to reducing global warming or to protect marine life - will help you stay motivated.

How can girls get involved in 1 Million Women’s movement and what impact would they be making by joining the collective?

Everyone can follow us on Facebook and Instagram and share our content and message. When we run campaigns there is always the opportunity to join in, whether it be having a conversation about voting for climate action or pledging to leave plastic-wrapped fruit and veg on the shelf. We are a tool to help people live low carbon lives so by joining the movement and sharing our message you’ll be helping fight the climate crisis and encouraging others to. We also have some exciting fundraising projects coming up that everyone can participate in!



Life Beyond the College Gates



Our sincere thanks to
(L-R) Brenda Colahan, Cate Smith, Simone Larmer, Kathryn Massa, Katy Berg, (seated) Sharon Collins and Joanna Golotta

On Thursday 27 June, our Years 11 and 12 students were invited to spend time with ex-students of the College from a broad range of professions, discussing their career paths.

This initiative of the Year 12 SRC was enjoyable and helpful to our senior girls as they begin to think seriously about their transition from secondary to tertiary and beyond. Agility and creativity featured broadly in the conversations.

Katy Berg: Brand and Reputation Manager, Google
Katy is a passionate marketer with experience in both business and consumer marketing. She currently leads a range of Google's outreach programs and initiatives as part of the brand marketing team. In 2016, she led the Google Impact Challenge, a social impact competition in which Google gave over \$5 million

in grants to ten non-profits with big ideas for a better world. She has worked as a senior consultant at global, award-winning marketing communications agency, Weber Shandwick, where she gained in-depth experience in implementing innovative marketing programs, including social media, video and digital marketing strategies for a variety of brands.

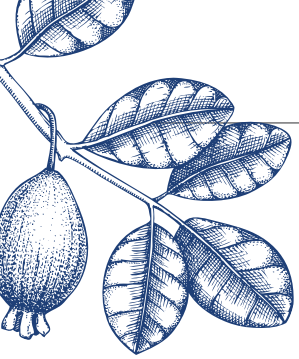
Joanna Golotta: Head of Faculty - Drama.
Joanna studied Media Communications at Sydney University and planned to work as a journalist or in public relations. After working in both fields, she returned to complete her Master of Teaching - Head of Drama at PLC Sydney.

Kathryn Massa: Accounts Manager at Northrop Consulting Engineers.
Kathryn has found her niche in Engineering following exploration of a number of different careers including nursing and interior design, she is an enthusiastic supporter of women in STEM and STEAM.

We look forward to holding more of these evenings. It is a great opportunity for our young women to learn about different industries and create networks which are so important for life after school.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the Community and Alumnae Relations Manager, Mrs Jane Palin on (02) 9368 1611 or at palinj@stvincents.nsw.edu.au.

We look forward to sharing Cate Smith's story with you in the next edition.



2019 Alumnae Dates

Spring Fair
Sunday 8 September
10:00am to 3:00pm

Vincentian Memorial Mass and High Tea
Sunday 3 November
1:30pm to 3:30pm

*We look forward to welcoming back our alumnae
from the Classes of 1969, 1989 and 1999*

Class of 2014 5-Year Reunion Saturday 21 September 4:00pm to 6:00pm	Class of 1969 50-Year Reunion Saturday 19 October 11:30pm to 2:00pm	Class of 1989 30-Year Reunion Saturday 19 October 4:00pm to 6:00pm	Class of 1999 20-Year Reunion Saturday 2 November 3:30pm to 5:30pm
--	--	---	---

Reunions for other Class years are currently being organised,
please check the College website for details as they are confirmed.

Generations Afternoon Tea

If you have a family of generations of Vinnies girls, the Advancement Team are looking for you!

In 2020 we are seeking new ways of staying connected with our alumnae, one of which is the Generations Afternoon Tea. To ensure your contact details and family's links are in our database, please contact community@stvincents.nsw.edu.au.

We look forward to hearing from you.



LinkedIn and You

One of the great benefits of being an ex-student is the network of support available to you. As you establish and advance your career, or your sphere of influence for the cause you are passionate about, the Vinnies network can really help.

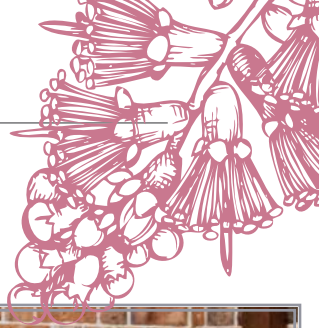
We have recently transitioned our LinkedIn profile from a company page to an educational institution page. We feel the latter better reflects our status and enhances support for our expanding alumnae community. We encourage you, as an alumna of the College, to update your LinkedIn profile, ensuring that your St Vincent's College

education is correctly recorded. Of course, we'd like you to be aligned with the College's new profile.

The Advancement Team is planning a series of LinkedIn workshops for ex-students. If you are located in the Sydney area, you may like to register your interest by emailing community@stvincents.edu.au. We will be in touch with details during the second half of the year. We look forward to helping you further connect and collaborate – leveraging the Vinnies spirit.

Jane Palin
Community and Alumnae Relations Manager





Alumnae News

Condolences

The Ex-students Union extend their sympathy to the families and friends of the following members of our community:

James Adamovich To Paula and Alex Adamovich and their family on the loss of their son, on 20 May. Many members will remember Paula from the time she taught at the College. Paula was also the President of the Ex-students' Union in the 1960s.

Judy Day (nee Southan) - Class of 1954.

Kerry Finegan (nee Greer) - Class of 1971, passed away from Motor Neurone Disease.

Fiona Kennedy - Class of 1982, passed away unexpectedly in Germany, while visiting her niece Juliette Kennedy - Class of 2016, who is studying there. Fiona was the daughter of Diane Kennedy (nee Scahill) - Class of 1956 and cousin of Sandra Johnston - Class of 1977.

Pamela Melvina Smith (nee Jay) - Class of 1948.

Rosheen O'Hare - Class of 1974, passed away Motor Neurone Disease. Rosheen was the sister of Erin O'Hare who is an ex-student.

Dorothea Rodi - Class of 1953.

"May we learn to accept of what is bitter to nature, with equal conformity as when it pleases our heavenly father to visit us with what we feel to be blessings."

Mother Mary Aikenhead

Engagements and Babies

Please let us know about your Engagements and the births of your babies, so we can share your joyous news with the Vinnies community!

We are excited about sending out our first 'Vinnies bub bib'!





Congratulations

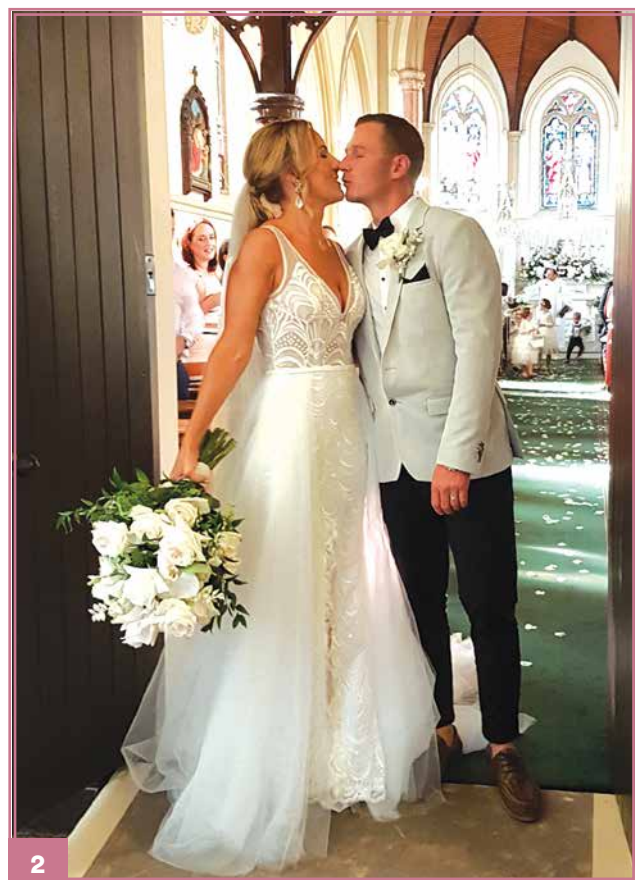
Jessica Ellen Brincat - Class of 2006, married George Stephan Hawa at the St Vincent's College Chapel on the afternoon of Saturday 9 March 2019.

Amie Lindsell - Class of 2003, married Glen Arena at the St Vincent's College Chapel on the afternoon of Saturday 20 April 2019.

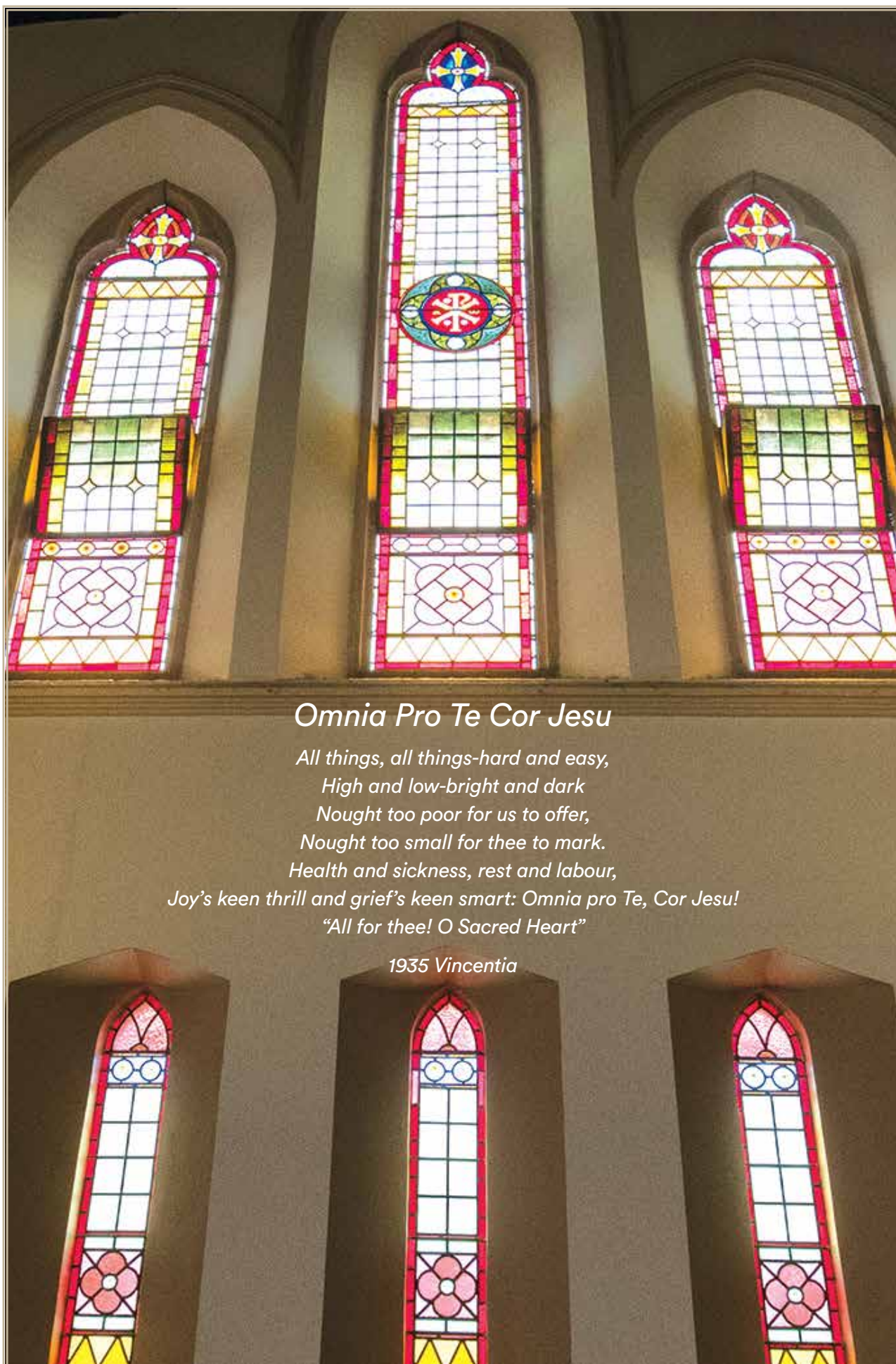
Jessica Frances Light - Class of 2007, married Christopher John Neads at the St Vincent's College Chapel on the afternoon of Friday 26 April 2019.

Bianca Madeleine Barry - Class of 2007, married Osarenkhoe Frederick Uyi at the St Vincent's College Chapel on the afternoon of Saturday 4 May 2019.

Bianca Maria Piras - Class of 2010, married Matthew Cappelli at the St Vincent's College Chapel on the afternoon of Saturday 8 June 2019.



4. Bianca an Uyi
5. Bianca and Matthew



Omnia Pro Te Cor Jesu

*All things, all things-hard and easy,
High and low-bright and dark
Nought too poor for us to offer,
Nought too small for thee to mark.
Health and sickness, rest and labour,
Joy's keen thrill and grief's keen smart: Omnia pro Te, Cor Jesu!
"All for thee! O Sacred Heart"*

1935 Vincentia