

The cover features a large, stylized graphic element resembling a leaf or a drop, composed of overlapping shapes in blue, green, and purple. The word "esprit" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and "de corps" is written in a smaller, cursive script below it. The background is divided into several color blocks: a blue rectangle at the top left, a white area in the center, a green area at the bottom right, and a tan area at the bottom. Two black and white photographs of smiling students are placed on the cover: one in the top right corner and another in the bottom left corner.

esprit

de corps

IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE MAGAZINE • ISSUE 2 • WINTER 2010



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Acknowledgments

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Editorial

I welcome you to the latest edition of *esprit de corps*, the magazine that celebrates the Iona Presentation College community. “Esprit de corps” translates to community or group spirit, and so it is an apt name for a publication that aims to capture the sense of union, purpose and comradeship that our College community shares.

As a relative newcomer to Iona, the esprit de corps of the College community was evident from my first encounter. The energy of the busy school morning I observed when I came for my interview affirmed what I have since been regularly told, by all kinds of people who hold a passion for this College: “There is just something special about Iona.”

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition, particularly to Georgie Fernandez for her hard work and enthusiasm. Thank you also to my predecessor, Hannah Baker, who has left a notable mark on the Community Relations and Development culture of the College. Finally, thank you to the many people who offered a story idea, a photograph, background information or some simple encouragement!

I invite you to contact me with any news or feedback at espritdecorps@iona.wa.edu.au.

Rachel Munro

message from THE PRINCIPAL



Our focus this year is on “community” and *esprit de corps* certainly captures the spirit of community by reporting a kaleidoscope of events, activities and stories that mirror our journey living as Presentation people through our involvement in Iona.

Nano Nagle’s spirit of generosity, her spirit of compassion and, above all, her ability to hear the cries of the poor and respond to the needs of her time are an inspiration to all Presentation people. As members of the Iona community, we are called to continue her mission by re-dreaming and re-envisioning the challenges confronting Iona in the secularised Australian society and, indeed, the globalised world of the 21st century.



As a Presentation College, we need to be conscious of how we generate our identity. It springs from a clear sense of who we are and how we came to be. Pondering the word “Iona” is instructive. The tiny island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland became known as “the cradle of Christendom”, from which Celtic monks journeyed to Christianise Europe. Our College was called Iona because of the geographical similarity to the small isle – located between river and ocean. The call to evangelise, to be disciples of Christ like the Iona monks of yesteryear, is no less urgent today.

Ionians are called to be the face of Christ for others, befriending and educating the poor and exploited. To keep Nano Nagle’s lantern burning brightly, it is to be prayed for and hoped that our young women will be leaders in compassionate service, whatever their profession.



“It is here at Iona that minds are opened, dreams are imagined and our Presentation values of Excellence, Community, Social Justice, Love of Learning, Integrity and Tradition establish foundations for the future”

It is here at Iona that minds are opened, dreams are imagined and our Presentation values of Excellence, Community, Social Justice, Love of Learning, Integrity and Tradition establish foundations for the future. These are the lodestones for our time.

The 2010 school year is bubbling along at a rapid pace. We began by congratulating our Class of 2009 who distinguished themselves with excellent final academic results, and with Years 7 and 10 resplendent in new uniform, with the original Iona colours of navy blue and white. Both the Ballygriffin upgrade and the Building Education Revolution project are also underway.

Along with the continuing range of learning opportunities, we have seen the many activities and events that facilitate the full participation of students in College life. Together, these contribute to their sense of belonging to a community where they are valued and feel that they have an important role to play.

By recognising the importance of community and the need for a strong and ethical voice, which will speak for the collective voiceless, each Iona student can make a positive difference to the lives of others.

In the now immortal words of the heroic Nelson Mandela, which characterise him and pick up the vital Presentation light symbolism:

“We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It’s not just in some of us; it’s in everyone.”

Welcome to the *esprit de corps* 2010 winter edition!

Anne Pitso BAAppSc, GradDipEd, MEdL, MACE
Principal

“There are many stories that shape the rich history of the Presentation Sisters ...”

There are many stories that shape the rich history of the Presentation Sisters, and each story contributes to our understanding of the women who live and serve in this community. Some of the stories are joyful, some triumphant, and then there are the stories of adversity and disaster. Each tale speaks volumes of the faith of the Presentation Sisters.

Perhaps the most tragic chapter of the Presentation Sisters of Perth unfolded in 1959. This was the year three Presentation Sisters and a Catholic Priest lost their lives in a boating accident in Mandurah.

Sister Aquinas McMahon was one of the survivors of the accident, and continues to live and serve at the Presentation Convent at Iona Presentation College. At a Professional Development day in 2009, Sister Aquinas generously shared her story with the College staff.

When speaking with Sister Aquinas, it is impossible not to feel encouraged by the gift of faith she has carried throughout her years. The memory of that day and the subsequent loss is

still clear in Sister Aquinas' memory, but she carries with her an unshakeable faith in Jesus' presence in her life.

Sister Aquinas was twenty-six years old in January 1959, and one of six Presentation Sisters who had just made their profession. Following their profession, the Sisters went on a “holiday of a lifetime” to the Presentation Convent at Mandurah. Sister Aquinas speaks fondly of the recreation the Sisters enjoyed on their holiday, which including singing and enjoying the warm summer weather.

On 28 January 1959, a picnic had been arranged for the Sisters at South Yunderup. The plan was for half of the group to go by boat to the location, with the other half travelling by car. On the journey home, they would swap so that all could enjoy some time on the water.

Father Joseph Gerard O'Hara (aged 29), a young Irish Catholic Priest, was on the boat for most of the day. On the journey back to Mandurah, he was joined by Mother Patricia Lynch, Mother Finbarr Tarrant, Sister Joachim Delahunty, Sister Aquinas McMahon and Sister Augustine Goodchild.

They left South Yunderup at about 4.30 pm to return to Mandurah. Sister Aquinas describes the day as “beautiful.”

“The sun was shining brilliantly,” she said. “But when we got further out to the estuary, it became very rough. However, if anyone sensed anxiety, their feelings were not expressed.”

The conditions became increasingly rough and waves were splashing against the side of the boat. At about 5.15 pm, a huge wave came and the boat was overturned, fully submerging them all in the water.

While grappling underneath the water’s surface, Sister Aquinas recalls hearing Mother Finbarr calling out to Father O’Hara for absolution, and hearing his voice above the water saying: “Ego te absolvo.” (I absolve you.) Sister Aquinas also remembers making her own act of contrition.

When Sister Aquinas resurfaced, she saw the bodies of Mother Patricia and Sister Joachim in the water. Mother Patricia (aged 50) died instantly of a heart attack. Sister Joachim (aged 26) also died immediately, as her lungs filled with water.

The rest of the group found a way to cling to the over-turned boat. The women were all in their religious dress, which had become heavy from the water. None of them were swimmers.

Father O’Hara absolved and blessed Mother Patricia and Sister Joachim, absolved the others, and together they prayed to obtain a Plenary Indulgence, which is available at the hour of death for those resigned to die.

“It was a great consolation,” said Sister Aquinas. “We thought it was moments before we all went.”

They offered up their sufferings for the persecuted Church, particularly in Russia, and began praying the rosary together. It was about 5.30 pm.

“We knew we would be missed by 6 o’clock,” Sister Aquinas said.

They were missed, and the Sisters who had returned to the Convent called Anne Coughlan, a young woman who knew the Sisters and had taken them to the picnic site that day. Anne told the Sisters on the phone that she thought she could see the boat coming in on the estuary. However, it was a different boat.



“... she carries
with her an
unshakeable
faith in Jesus’
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her life.”

As the Sisters and Father O’Hara tried to hold onto the keel, they continued to pray the rosary. At about midnight, the water became exceedingly rough. Sister Aquinas said she knew it was about midnight, because Father O’Hara’s watch had stopped. Once again, they were all submerged.

Only Sister Aquinas and Sister Augustine resurfaced. They did not see Father O’Hara and Mother Finbarr again after this time.

In the middle of the night, the two Sisters continued to hold on to the boat. The moon rose, casting light across the water, and raising hopes that they would soon be seen and rescued.

“It was beautifully simple,” Sister Aquinas said. “The moon gave us hope.”

She was assured that Jesus was there with them at that moment.

“His presence was very tangible,” she said. “That’s what has stayed with me, all my life.”

The Sisters continued to pray throughout the night, with an “inexplicable calm.” Although the night was long, the morning was even longer, and Sister Augustine became very weak.

At 10.00 am, after seventeen hours in the water, they spotted a boat coming towards them. With one arm holding on to the keel and one arm supporting Sister Augustine, it was difficult for Sister Aquinas to use her arms to get the attention of the other vessel.

Fortunately, the boat continued to come closer. A search party had been looking for the group throughout the night. Earlier that morning, two fishermen had found the bodies of two of the Sisters and had alerted the police.

Sister Augustine, whom Sister Aquinas describes as having given “courageous companionship” throughout the ordeal, and Sister Aquinas were taken to hospital. The remaining bodies of those who had died were soon recovered.

The tragedy of the accident impacted widely on the Mandurah, Mosman Park and Presentation communities. Mosman Park had lost their Assistant Priest. The Presentation Sisters had lost three members of their congregation. Families had lost their daughters and a son.

After recovering from the accident, Sister Aquinas came to the

Presentation Convent at Iona and, after some time, began teaching again. She had been a teacher at Collie, and her work load at Iona was “very part-time” initially.

She speaks of her profound gratitude towards the students at Iona during that time. The students of 1959 and the successive years gave her “a quiet support.”

“I do not know how much they knew, they never said anything to me,” she said. “But they gave a silent understanding.”

The Congregation also offered Sister Aquinas and Sister Augustine (now Sister Rita) immeasurable support. As the Congregation dealt collectively with the great loss, they offered kindness, understanding and patience to the surviving Sisters.

“They walked the journey with us,” Sister Aquinas said. “And they have continued to do so.”

The community support given to the Sisters, and the presence of Jesus during and after the ordeal are the pillars of strength that have supported Sister Aquinas. When asked if she was ever angry at God for what happened, she is clearly far from any such anger.

“I have never been angry. I’ve never asked why,” she said. “He (Jesus) was there. Once you feel that, you never forget it.”

In the 1990s, Sister Aquinas returned to Mandurah to work for the local Parish. With the generous support of the O’Hara family and the Presentation Congregation, she helped to arrange a memorial to commemorate the lives of those who had drowned, and as a tribute to those who searched for them during the night.

In 1994, a stained-glass window was created for the Church of Our Lady’s Assumption in Mandurah. The window captures images that are central to the Presentation Sisters, including Nano Nagle’s lantern as a symbol of the rescuers’ search throughout the night. The window depicts the Celtic cross, representing the birthplace of the Sisters and Father O’Hara, as well as the Southern Cross, which signifies their adopted country.

The window also includes a pelican, which is emblematic of Mandurah but is also a Eucharistic symbol. When a pelican cannot feed its own young, it will shed its blood.

Central to the window is the figure of Jesus, walking on the water with his arms outstretched in protection. This image is of great significance to Sister Aquinas and her perspective on the tragedy. She has generously shared her story on a number of occasions because she believes that representation of Jesus on the water has a deep connection to all of us.

As depicted in the stained-glass window, Sister Aquinas firmly believes that everyone’s life story is about Jesus, reaching out to them with open arms in their daily storms.

“Jesus is always there, calming the waters of all our lives.”

“... everyone’s story is about Jesus, welcoming them, with outstretched arms ...”

“We also learnt an incredible amount about ourselves and the endless possibilities we have ...”

2010

leaders



Head Girl
Bree Sambell



Deputy Head Girl
Philippa Eaton



Head Boarder
Brittany Hunter



Deputy Head Boarder
Bonnie Stacey



Liturgy Prefect
Sarah Hicks



Community Services Officer
Jasmine Morris



Executive Officer
Megan O'Grady



Music Captain
Mairead McClosky



Performing Arts Captain
Catherine Pearce



Sports Captain
Katherine Loughnan

college news LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

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Philippa Eaton and Bree Sambell assisting at a recent College reunion.

As told by Bree Sambell and Philippa Eaton:

During the summer holidays, we were very privileged to attend a five day conference held at St Hilda's School in Southport, Queensland, by the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia. We were joined by 130 other school leaders of girls' schools from Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States.

Throughout the conference we attended a series of workshops, focusing on self-development and confidence. We were encouraged to reflect on the skills we possessed that would enhance our roles as Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl. We attended a panel discussion where we were able to share our ideas on various aspects of school life, such as fundraising and school spirit. It was great to hear what the

girls had to say, and we were introduced to a range of different points of view.

One of the highlights was spending a perfect 39 degree day participating in our own "Amazing Race" around the Gold Coast. We developed our team work skills and learnt what it was like to work under pressure! Another memorable experience was attending a formal dinner hosted by Bond University. At the dinner we were privileged to hear a panel of inspirational women, each successful in their own fields, and whom possessed very admirable leadership qualities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Pitos and the College for providing the opportunity for us to go to the conference. It was an unforgettable experience, which has so far proved very beneficial to our leadership roles. Not only were we exposed to a range of new ideas and leadership skills, we also learnt an incredible amount about ourselves and the endless possibilities we have, if we only believe in ourselves. We will cherish these invaluable lessons for life.



Year 7 Representative
Mikaela Devenish



Year 8 Representative
Emily Du Toit



Year 9 Representative
Gabriella Re-Matthews



Year 10 Representative
Olivia Dawson



Year 11 Representative
Kira Dunstall



Year 12 Representative
Mimi Rodriguez-Litjens

“The various achievements of the girls pay tribute to the contribution of the many teachers and parents who supported them ...”

Congratulations are extended to the Class of 2009 who performed exceptionally well in both examination and wholly school-assessed subjects last year.

In 2009, Iona was ranked twelfth in the state based on Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER) results. Our graduation rate was 100% and 54% of students achieved in the top third in Western Australia. Iona ranked first among Catholic schools, with 50.44% achieving a subject mark of 75 or higher.

Rachel Giudicatti scored the highest TER (99.40) and Iona's median TER was 87.40.

Iona was placed among the leading schools for Tertiary Entrance Examination (TEE) courses in Applied Information Technology, Biology, English, English Literature and Human Biology. The College also achieved the highest mean score of all Catholic schools for Italian, Political and Legal Studies, Biology and Discrete Mathematics. Early Childhood Studies and Senior Science placed in the leading schools for Wholly School-Assessed Subjects in 2009.

Since graduating, students from the 2009 class have taken a range of paths including university, TAFE, apprenticeships and travel. The various achievements of the girls pay tribute to the contribution of the many teachers and parents who supported them throughout their years at Iona.



2009 achievers

Students who achieved a TER of 96 or higher

Tessa Carmody
Jennifer Chantler
Katrina Creighan
Merredith Cully
Rachel Giudicatti
Tess Griffiths
Louisa Harris

Sophia Kaiko
Gemma Kelly
Kelsey Lazarakis
Alana Macpherson
Sally-Anne Malone
Elizabeth O'Shea
Danielle Page

Bella Peacock
Sarah Pearce
Alice Tormey
Sarah Walsh
Ellen Weekes
Lauren-Marie Wiszniewski

Certificates of Distinction (Top 0.5% in the State)

Lisa Preston (Applied
Information Technology)
Merredith Cully (Art and
Design)

Certificates of Excellence (Ten A grades over Years 11 and 12)

Tessa Carmody
Jennifer Chantler
Louisa Harris
Elizabeth O'Shea



Gabriella Re-Matthews

On the morning of Tuesday 27 April, the College gathered to commemorate the ninety-fifth anniversary of the Anzacs landing at Gallipoli.

The Year 12 leadership group led students and staff in a prayerful service that included reflection on the gift of laying down one's life for another.

The College was privileged to be joined by special guest Flight Lieutenant Elizabeth Surrey, who spoke about both the history of Anzac Day, and the significance of its commemoration to all Australians.

Flight Lieutenant Surrey, who enlisted into the Australian Army Ready Reserve Scheme in 1993 and now serves as the base legal officer at Pearce, spoke proudly of the Anzac spirit.

"The Anzac spirit is about having the courage to stand up for something you believe in, whether that be freedom, a fair go, your mates or your country," she said. "It's about taking on a task, no matter how difficult, and seeing it through to the end."

Flight Lieutenant Surrey encouraged those gathered to give thanks, not only for those who died tragically at Gallipoli, but also for the Australian soldiers who have served in battles during the Second World War, and in Korea, Malaya, Vietnam, Cambodia, Somalia, East Timor and Afghanistan.

"The Anzac spirit
is about having
the courage to
stand up for
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believe in"



Bree Sambell and Philippa Eaton

Over 600 students from across the State applied for the Premier's Anzac Student Tour competition last year. Entrants had to write an essay about the effects of war on Western Australia, deliver a speech and attend an interview with a selection panel. Breanna Hollow (10D) wowed the judges in all areas and won herself a ticket to Gallipoli. Breanna travelled to Turkey for two weeks with twelve other Youth Ambassadors.



As told by Breanna:

The idea of travelling to a country as amazing and full of history as Turkey really excited me, as did the thought of going to the birth place of the Anzac legend and our current Australian identity. My family's involvement in war also motivated me to learn more about conflicts of the past.

My grandfather, William (Bill), fought in Greece and was captured in Crete during World War Two, becoming a prisoner-of-war.

He and all of his brothers joined the Australian Imperial Force and fought in the War. Many other relatives also fought in Gallipoli and on the Western Front, and two of my uncles joined the Navy. My late grandmother was a proud member of the Returned Services League War Widows, organising and attending events even in her final years. Wars had always played a massive part in her life and continued to do so until the day she passed away.

I felt that I really understood and could relate to the essay question, as the effects of war still live on in my family today.

Through my research I learned so much about the Australian military, our economy and the social fabrication of society during periods of war.

“I shared tears, infectious belly laughs, moments of awe and silent respect with wonderful people”

“The experience has helped me gain so much respect for history”

My Society and Environment teacher, Mr Lindsay Simon, was a great encouragement to me.

I did many incredible things on my trip. I wish I could say everything was a highlight because it really was. Lone Pine, Gallipoli, is the most beautiful and moving place. The view is nothing short of breath-taking. The lone pine that stands proudly amongst the rows of grave markers reminded me of how fortunate I am to be an Australian, free to stand proud in a democratic nation that values life, justice and a “fair go”.

We walked on the pebbles of Anzac Cove. To think that ninety-five years ago so many young men with fears and aspirations sacrificed their lives on that small piece of beach makes the experience hard to put into words.

I visited the sites of Gallipoli’s major battles, where I noticed just how untouched some parts of the Peninsula were. You can still see shrapnel and bullets along some of the paths. I heard stories about the good in people, even at times of conflict.

The Turkish people were so hospitable and fantastic. I was lucky to get both a historical and cultural experience in one trip. The food was delicious, with each meal consisting of about five courses. I was extremely well-fed and savoured every flavour! I even got to share my Western dance moves with the locals.

My memories of the Anzac tour will stay with me forever. I shared tears, infectious belly laughs, moments of awe and silent respect with wonderful people. I urge any Iona student to apply for such a tour, as it really is a life-changing opportunity.

The experience has helped me gain so much respect for history, the Anzacs and my fellow human beings who, on the other side of the world, living in different surroundings and in a different culture, are really just like me. I realise how big the world is now and how much we are able to contribute to it, so that the sacrifices of the Anzacs were not in vain, and so that the peace and prosperity we experience in Australia now is preserved and replicated across the globe.



"I am grateful to have had the privilege of talking to people with knowledge far greater than most, who were willing to share the amazing gift of knowledge with me."

Brittany said her favourite guest-speaker was Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, who spoke on climate change.

Brittany Hunter (12A) has a passion for science, which has been fuelled further by participation in the National Youth Science Forum in January 2010.

She was selected, after a rigorous interview process, to participate in the forum at the Australian National University in Canberra. Like-minded students from all over Australia came together with successful scientists to gain insights into such fields as Geology, Paleontology and Astronomy.

A highlight of the experience for Brittany was having the opportunity to meet so many world-class scientists.

"I have met mentors to whom I can turn for guidance throughout my academic life," she said.

"It was obviously his passion," Brittany said. "It inspired me and many of my peers to take up the torch and begin to fight climate change, even if that was only in the comfort of our homes."

Participating in the forum also prepared Brittany for the challenges of Year 12.

"I feel that the forum has impacted my ability to study. It has developed me personally and I now find that I am more willing to learn and am more able to study effectively."

Brittany hopes to study Physics at the University of Western Australia in 2011. Her long-term goal is to complete a PhD in Astrophysics, and she hopes one day to work at the Square Kilometre Array, to study the universe.

"It has developed me personally and I now find that I am more willing to learn"



“Working
at the Regal
Theatre was an
unforgettable
experience”



“The other aspect
that I found very rewarding

History was made in 2010 when Iona’s annual drama production left Nagle Hall for the first time. More than fifty cast members performed the Tony Award winning 42nd Street on the big stage at Subiaco’s Regal Theatre, to sensational reviews.

42nd Street was directed by Mr Matthew Aris, Director of Performing Arts, who said the opportunity for students to perform a quality show in a professional theatrical venue was the highlight of this year’s production.

was working with such an enthusiastic and creative team of professionals,” he said.

This included choreography by Coby Brant, musical direction by Alistair Smith, and costumes by Kathryn Smith, as well as the numerous professionals in set, sound and lighting who worked alongside the College.

“It’s such a valuable experience for a school to have the expertise of such people,” Mr Aris said. “It just seems to lift the whole experience.”

The hard-working crew and cast brought to life the story of a famed director trying to stage a musical extravaganza during the Great Depression.



Gifted Year 10 student Mackenzie Dunn (10C) made her lead debut as Peggy Sawyer, a young up-and-comer who dreams of making a home for herself amongst the bright lights of Broadway.

Mackenzie said it was the “innocence and pure spirit” of her character that she most enjoyed, along with having the opportunity to perform in a professional theatre.

“Working at the Regal Theatre was an unforgettable experience,” Mackenzie said.

“The sense of professionalism was really exciting and the backstage crew were brilliant.”

Catherine Pearce (12B), Performing Arts Captain, played Mac, the stage manager of the “show within the show.” Catherine said performing at

the Regal brought a new level of excitement to the production for all the cast and crew.

“There was something about standing on that stage and knowing hundreds of people were watching that made it very surreal,” she said. “Being in such a big space really was quite outstanding and special, particularly for those of us in our final year.”



Emma Pignatiello



The artistic flair of the Iona community has been shared beyond the grounds of the College in 2010. A number of students, as well as a talented staff member, have seen their artwork on display for other West Australians to enjoy.

Students have been presented with a number of unusual artistic opportunities by Mrs Lisa Fay, Visual Art Coordinator, and Art teachers Ms Judith Robinson and Ms Holly Pepper.

Julia Carmody (11A) spent hours over the Christmas school holidays designing "Moodles", a life-sized fibreglass cow. Julia won a competition,



Julia Carmody and Moodles the Cow

organised for Iona students by the Art Department, to create an eye-catching design for the cow.

"Moodles" has grazed in Margaret River since March, as part of CowParade 2010. The cows will be auctioned for charity in July.

Another opportunity to create art using an unusual canvas arose for students in Years 8 to 10. Students were asked to bring a blank surfboard to life, utilising the theme, "Earth Day".

The surfboards were on display at Claremont Quarter during the April school holidays. Emma Pignatiello (10D) was declared the winner by the judging panel.

It is no wonder that Iona art students have had so much success, with the influence of such talented teachers. Ms Holly Pepper was selected to exhibit at the prestigious Sculpture by

the Sea exhibition at Cottesloe Beach. Her eye-catching piece, Spinifex, was woven from recycled plastic strapping and took hours to create.

Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts students had the opportunity to visit and admire the sculpture as part of a College excursion.

Breanna Hollow, Tayla Ryan,
Jasmine Ferguson



Julie Bishop and Kate Lamont are just two of the successful people who have shared their stories as part of the Legends at Lunchtime series.

As part of the series, interested students have the opportunity to attend presentations over lunch to hear from people in the community who are successful in their chosen path.

“Often, the people who know what it is they want to do have been inspired by another person”

Professionals who will visit Iona throughout the year come from a variety of industries, including mining, sporting, health sciences and fashion.

Miss Kathleen O'Shea, Career and Enterprise Coordinator, highlighted the fact that some students take time to decide about future career paths, while others know as a child what they want to do.

“Many girls come to me and say ‘I have no idea what I want to do!’ she said.

“Often, the people who know what it is they want to do have been inspired by another person. It may have been a good teacher, a kind nurse or a professional in the community. Guaranteed, it was those people who were successful at what they do or seemed to really enjoy it who provided the most inspiration.”

Legends at Lunchtime began in Term 1 with the Honourable Julie Bishop MP, Federal Member for Curtin, Deputy Leader of the Federal Opposition and Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Year 11 and Year 12 students who showed interest in following a legal or political pathway were invited to attend Ms Bishop's presentation.

Olivia Dawson (12D) found the presentation very beneficial, as she learned about the rewards and difficulties that come with a career in politics and law.

“Ms Bishop shared with us a lot about her past, and significant events that led her to a career in Federal politics,” said Olivia.



Gwynette Govardhan, Jacinta Gumina, Lisa Falso

FRENCH TOUR 2010



Every two years, Iona's French students have the opportunity to participate in a three-week exchange program to France. The 2010 tour set off on Good Friday, taking sixteen Iona students, accompanied by Mrs Rosanna La Verghetta, Head of Languages, and Mrs Robin Shepherd, Technology and Enterprise teacher. They were joined by staff and students from Christ Church Grammar School.

Mrs La Verghetta believes the value of the exchange program is immense, significantly improving students'

skills in the French language,

while enriching culture and understanding of French history.

The 2010 tour began in Paris, where students visited iconic sites such as the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, the Palace of Versailles and the Champs-Élysées. Students were also lucky enough to attend Easter Sunday Mass at Sacre-Coeur Basilica.

"They described their week in Paris as the best week of their lives"



After basking in the beauty of Paris, the coach headed for St Quentin, a large town in the North of France that would be home to the students over the next two weeks. During their stay in St Quentin, students got the chance to attend a French school, go on excursions to places including Belgium and visit local attractions such as Parc Asterix, a fun-filled theme park.

The students felt honoured to commemorate Anzac Day in France, where they attended the Dawn Service at the Australian War Memorial in Villers-Brettonneux. After an unforgettable experience exploring various museums, the journey had come to an end. The students had a teary goodbye before embarking on their journey home.

Two Year 11 students who were lucky enough to participate in the tour were Monica Doyle (11F) and Pascale Ketelaar (11C). They described their week in Paris as the best week of their lives. They were so grateful for the opportunity to participate in the exchange, and said it has been very beneficial for their French studies.



college news **BOARDERS' ADVENTURE**

On the first weekend of the school year, the boarders had a fun day in the sun at Adventure World. This traditional event is a great opportunity for the girls to get to know each other a little better and to enjoy each others' company.

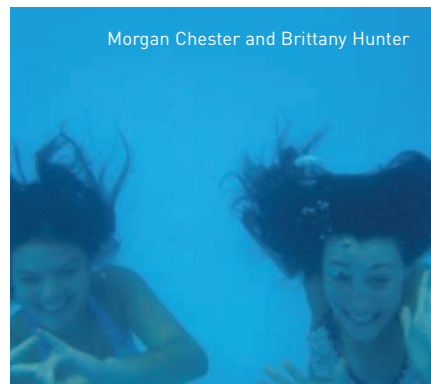
The girls enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by the Boarding House, as well as swimming and racing each other on the water slides. The not so faint-hearted also conquered some of Adventure World's more terrifying rides, including the *Power Surge* and *The Rampage*.

Nara Shioji and Tegan Bedford



Morgan Chester, Elizabeth White, Rebecca Morgan and Marlee Hutton

Morgan Chester and Brittany Hunter





Katarina Schnell, Grace Rompotes

In Term 2, the Year 10 students embarked on their annual camp. The girls travelled to Forrest Edge Recreation Camp in Waroona and enjoyed three days of activities focusing on building confidence, friendships and team work.

Once again, the camp was a great success due to the enthusiasm of the students, and the thorough planning and commitment of the teachers involved.

Ms Kristy Smith, Head of Year 10, said the highlights of this year's camp included "the hilarious acts in the Fun Concert, and a fantastic group of students and teachers!"



Emily Bullock



Claudia Gardner

“They have gone beyond my expectations and taken everything before them”

2010 is a year for the record books for the Iona Swim Team. The girls asserted their ongoing dominance in the pool, winning all the major events of the swimming season.

For the third consecutive year, Iona Presentation College took home the prestigious Boans Trophy, as overall champions at the Independent Girls' Schools Sporting Association (IGSSA) Swimming Carnival.

In addition to winning the overall prize, the Year 7, Year 9, Year 11 and Year 12 girls took home their age group pennants.

The girls followed up the IGSSA win by taking the Girls' Division A trophy at the Associated and Catholic Colleges (ACC) Carnival, for the sixth year in a row.

Iona was also successful in securing the Schools and Colleges Relay Championship in February, and the prestigious Lyn McClements/Watson Trophy for the fastest 6x50m swimmers in school swimming.

Mrs Sue Wiener, Director of Sport, said 2010 could only be described as “the perfect season” for the swimmers.



Hannah Girling, Brielle Jarrett, Katherine Loughnan

Molly Valentine and Chloe Nella

Michela Winters and Olivia Neesham

"They have gone beyond my expectations and taken everything before them," she said.

The team was ably led by Captains Brielle Jarrett (12B) and Katherine Loughnan (12F), and Vice Captain Hannah Girling (12B).

Brielle and Katherine, along with Olivia Benoit-Spargo (10B), also competed in the National Age Championships in Sydney during the April school holidays.



Brielle Jarrett, Katherine Loughnan, Hannah Girling

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college news

INTERHOUSE CROSS
COUNTRY RESULTS
2010

INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Moynihan House	749 points
O'Dowling House	657 points
Treacey House	613 points
O'Halloran House	600 points

RESULTS:

Year 12 Champion:	Kathryn Dawes	Moynihan	11.58
Runner Up:	Jennifer Toms	Moynihan	12.54
Year 11 Champion:	Natalie Kaiko	O'Halloran	13.12
Runner Up:	Bess O'Neil	Moynihan	13.15
Year 10 Champion:	Kyana Collard	O'Dowling	12.10
Runner Up:	Emily Burton	Moynihan	13.23
Year 9 Champion:	Nicole Clark	O'Dowling	11.58
Runner Up:	Matilda O'Neil	Moynihan	12.58
Year 8 Champion:	Olivia Cookson	O'Dowling	12.49
Runner Up:	Tayla Nash	Moynihan	13.50
Year 7 Champion:	Summer Walters	Treacey	12.23
Runner Up:	Sarah King	Moynihan	13.09



Abbie Devenish, Shupiwe Chongwe



Ruth Sangster, Amy Fitzgerald, Sheridan Glossop



Lucy Mitchell

college news 27 INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS 2010

RESULTS:

Year 7 Equal Champions:

Kirsten MacAdie	Moynihan	72 points
Emily Macainsh	O'Halloran	72 points
Jessica Peters	Treacey	54 points

Runner Up:

Year 8 Champion:	Taylor Nash	Moynihan	76 points
Runner Up:	Winter Cotton	O'Dowling	68 points

Year 9 Champion:	Madeleine J Kelly	O'Halloran	68 points
Runner Up:	Dorottya Szilagyi	O'Dowling	58 points

Year 10 Champion:	Olivia Benoit-Spargo	Moynihan	80 Points
Runner Up:	Amy Crawford	Moynihan	64 points

Year 11 Champion:	Lidia Mrsa	O'Halloran	70 points
Runner Up:	Kassia Ralston	O'Halloran	62 points

Year 12 Champion:	Katherine Loughnan	O'Dowling	78 points
Runner Up:	Brielle Jarrett	O'Dowling	72 points

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

O'Dowling House	1593.5 points
Moynihan House	1563.5 points
O'Halloran House	1451.5 points
Treacey House	1188.5 points



Sheridan Glossop
Vienna Schnell



Alexandra Sarre
Mikaela Devenish



As told by Sister Mary Mackin:

The Foundress of the Presentation Sisters was an outstanding Irish woman, Nano Nagle. Consequently, Saint Patrick's Day has throughout the years been a day of special celebration for the Iona community.

In earlier eras there would be a big gathering of Catholic school students at Subiaco Oval to commemorate the day. Mass was offered, followed by entertainment acts performed by some of the schools. When these gatherings ceased, it was decided to inaugurate a unique celebration at Iona Presentation College

This annual function at Iona was initiated in the 1970s. It consisted of a Family Mass with a number of priests con-celebrating. After the Mass, families would enjoy a picnic lunch plus singing and Irish dancing.

Major elements of this special festivity are perpetuated each year. The mass is celebrated on Shire grounds at Memorial Park, adjacent to the College, with kind permission from the Local Council. Memorial Park forms a picturesque "Natural Cathedral" for the celebration of the Eucharist.



Sarah Mangan



The College's Music Department leads the musical accompaniment, with Iona Primary School providing beautiful and reverent liturgical dancing. Afternoon tea and Irish jigs complete the day's proceedings and, as always, there is plenty of fun, food and laughter. Past and current students fondly remember their experiences of Saint Patrick's Day at Iona.

Iona Presentation College and Iona Presentation Primary School warmly welcome current students, past students and their families to participate in the special celebration each year.

“Saint Patrick's Day has throughout the years been a day of special celebration for the Iona community”

community news

IONA AUXILIARY MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH

A picturesque day on the river set the perfect scene for this year's Mother's Day Luncheon.

The Auxiliary hosted the event at The Red Herring in East Fremantle, and all the women in attendance enjoyed delicious food and wonderful company.

Each year, the Auxiliary generously host and support a number of events to serve and strengthen the College community. This lunch provided the opportunity for the hard working mothers of Iona to relax and celebrate Mother's Day together.



Melissa Kerr, Jo Fleming, Helen Miller



Jenny Giudice, Kylie Kenyon, Jane Sutherland, Carolyn Martin



Jane Anderson, Merinda Rigoll,
Julie Paul, Rebecca Crellin



Suzanne Momber, Quona
Litchfield, Susan Davies,
Tamara Clarke



Melissa Kerr,
Amanda Stonehouse

Orientation Day is a significant event for the Iona Boarding community, as students and families come together to begin the new school year. The culmination of Orientation Day 2010 was a sundowner, hosted by the Iona Boarder Parent Support Group. This relaxed event provided an opportunity for boarding families to meet and reconnect.



Helen Stemp and Miriam Krouzecky



Carissa Ball and Janine Blake



Phillip Davies, Carl and Lynette Kleyhans

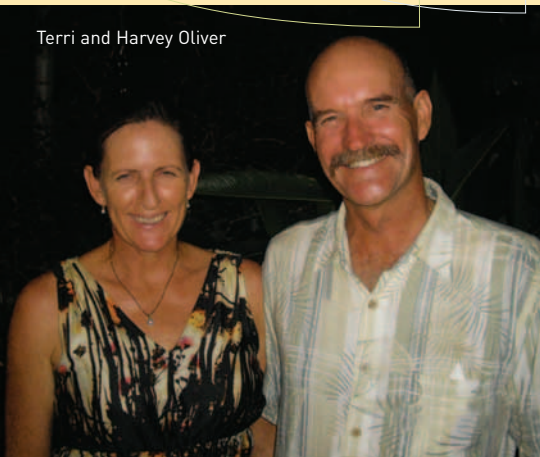


Anne Pitos, Morgan Chester, Julie and Steven Chester

Deborah Peacock and Joan Easton



Terri and Harvey Oliver



Iona Presentation College was once again showcased at the North West Expo in Broome. Mrs Deborah Peacock, Registrar, and Mrs Joan Easton, Head of Boarding, travelled to Broome at the end of April to represent Iona at this popular event.

The North West Expo is one of several regional exhibitions attended by the College throughout the year to connect with boarding families, past, present and future.

A social sundowner was also held for members of the Iona community living in Broome. The Oliver family generously hosted this event.

It is not every day that you get to enjoy a delicious breakfast with your mum at a venue overlooking stunning views of the beach.

The Year 7s did exactly that on Friday 7 May at a Mother Daughter Breakfast organised by the Iona Auxiliary. Over 150 mothers and daughters attended the breakfast at The Blue Duck in Cottesloe, where they enjoyed great company, spectacular views and a mouth-watering breakfast.

Raquel Rebelo (7A) said she was very excited that morning, knowing she was going to enjoy a lovely breakfast in a beautiful restaurant.

"It was really special having my mum there, as well as my friends and their mums," she said.

"I was excited introducing Mum to new people. She is so friendly so there was a lot of conversation around the table."

Raquel was able to serve her mother a coffee at the restaurant and give her a Mother's Day card.

"She was very touched by my words in the card and said that she would remember this day forever," Raquel said. "We usually have breakfast together at home, but the rest of the family is there too. This was a nice outing for just me and Mum."



Jayme Garrett, Lorraine Garrett,
 Raquel Rebelo, Catherine Rebelo



Jessica Peters, Michelle Peters



Anne Pitos, Laken Reid, Yasmin Khadembashi,
 Jaimee Porter



Matilda Peat, Jessica Waudby (back), Kirsten
 MacAdie, Taylah Druce (back), Ashtyn Simpson

“Anyone can become that powerful superhero they always fantasised about when they were young”



Snowboarding in Japan with husband Michael Tjuew

Angela Nguyen

(1994) wants to change lives. She recently started her own business in personal development coaching to complement her work as a General Practitioner.

Learning about other people's lives has always been of great importance to Angela. In 2002, she graduated from the University of Western Australia with a degree in Medicine. Her work as a General Practitioner and her passion for people motivated Angela to start her own personal development business, The Superhero Academy.

In the medical profession, Angela constantly met patients who were not taking responsibility for their physical health, and she could see this was negatively affecting other areas of their lives. She believed she would be more effective in helping her patients if she could coach them using her medicine background.

Completing a Coaching Development course allowed Angela to begin treating her patients using both medicine and coaching skills. Angela has seen a huge improvement in her existing patients. She said they have become much healthier and

happier people, now that they are in control of their lives.

The Superhero Academy helps people “unleash” who they are and to accomplish their goals. The Academy aims to increase confidence and help people reach their full potential.

Angela said the most rewarding thing about The Superhero Academy is helping those who use her services become who they were designed to be.

“Anyone can become that powerful superhero they always fantasised about when they were young,” she said.

“They can improve their relationships with family, understand who they really are and become happier, healthier people.”

Angela's passion to help others comes from her own experiences in overcoming obstacles.

“We are all faced with obstacles in life, but it is how we overcome these obstacles that makes us stronger,” she said.

Academic excellence was common to Angela throughout school and her early days at university. In her second year of Medicine she faced a new life challenge, failing her studies because she rebelled. Repeating that second year was the hardest thing Angela ever did, but it encouraged her to work harder and redefine her identity.

Angela also faced challenges when her family arrived in Australia. She can't remember the journey from Vietnam in 1980, but recalls the struggles her parents faced as refugees. Their previous qualifications were not recognised in Australia, so they had to work extremely hard to support their family.

“My brother and I had very hard-working role models in my parents,” she said. “I think that's why I'm always looking for ways to break the boundaries.”

To learn more about Angela's Superhero Academy visit www.thesuperheroacademy.com.au

While other Year 12 students were celebrating graduation and the end of exams, **Harriett Bougher (2009)** and **Ayeesha Fredericksen (2009)** were eagerly awaiting their flight to Japan.

The two Iona graduates were awarded the American Field Service (AFS) Scholarship and given the opportunity to participate in the "Experience Japan" (EJ) program. The AFS Scholarship is awarded to a number of secondary students Australia-wide, as part of the Japan-East Asia Network for Students and Youth program (JENESYS).

The Japanese Government fully fund the EJ program, meaning students are able to experience all of the attractions that Japan has to offer and retire in the comfort of Japan's finest five-star hotels.

Harriett and Ayeesha departed Perth on 2 December 2009 and spent two weeks in Japan. Their first week abroad was spent travelling throughout Southern Japan, where they had the chance to experience Japanese culture first-hand and engage in truly unique Japanese activities, such as cooking and craftwork.

They were also able to explore the renowned city of Hiroshima, where the infamous atomic bomb was dropped, ending the Second World War in 1945.

After their tour of Hiroshima, the two girls set out across Japan to meet their short-stay host families. They describe this as the best and most rewarding part of the trip.

Harriett and Ayeesha spent a short time in the care of a host family, and during this time they went to school, made friends and were able to practise their Japanese. Their families were extremely hospitable and at the conclusion of their home-stay they returned to Tokyo, bags overflowing with gifts, amazing stories to tell and unforgettable memories to reflect on.

In Tokyo, Harriett and Ayeesha visited famous landmarks such as the Daibutsu "Great Buddha", before gathering for a closing ceremony in central Tokyo.

Harriett and Ayeesha describe their experience as both wonderful and fulfilling. They encourage all Iona students who are interested in languages or curious about other cultures to consider participating in an exchange program, especially Experience Japan.



Ayeesha
Fredericksen



Harriett Bougher



Kerry Chong at the
 Australian Interior Design
 Awards ceremony in Sydney

“... a response to
 circumstances and
 the opportunity
 to have more job
 satisfaction,
 by working on
 projects under my
 own direction”

Kerry Chong (2001) is making a name for herself as a highly successful Architect. Kerry won the “Best of State – WA” award for Residential Design in the Australian Interior Design Awards 2010. She was the only finalist for Western Australia in the prestigious awards, and has been garnering much media attention for her amazing work.

The award nomination was for a project that involved revitalising a warehouse apartment in the centre of Perth. The apartment captures Kerry’s passion for promoting fresh ways of living and working in Perth city.

As well as being recognised at a national level, Kerry’s other great accomplishment has been establishing her own business, Kerry Chong Design. She offers a full service architectural and interior design practice, specialising in small to medium scale projects.

Kerry described starting her own business as being partially determined by circumstance.

“I never really decided as such,” she said. “A turn of events in the economy meant larger firms were no longer employing, and my experience in smaller boutique firms had given me the understanding of how to manage a practice.”

“It was really a response to circumstances and the opportunity to have more job satisfaction, by working on projects under my own direction.”

The biggest challenges for Kerry in her chosen career have been proving that she is able to successfully run her own business, and “getting past the negativity and apprehensiveness of my peers and potential clients due to my age and gender.”

Kerry said she had been presented with “doubts over my capability in what can sometimes be a male dominated climate.”

She is certainly overcoming any doubts, as her hard work pays off with national recognition of her designs.

Kerry Somerville-Brown (Kirby 1972) is passionate about improving the quality of education in Africa, and last year started a charity to help meet the need of some of the poorest schools in Ethiopia.

Schools for East Africa is a non-profit organisation that strives to provide quality education for children in rural areas.

A visit to Ethiopia in early 2009 helped raise Kerry's concern for the state of education, particularly for girls. In Teyima, where the charity supports a primary school, fifty-seven percent of girls are married by the age of fifteen.

Kerry said the quality of education for girls in Ethiopia is not the result of lack of government support, but rather a result of the culture.

"Girls traditionally start school, then get to puberty, get married and leave school," she said. "Our main concern is improving the quality of education, particularly so that girls will stay on at school. They can then improve the lives of their families when they have their own children, and their communities."

One of the initiatives of Schools for East Africa is The Girls' Association, which supports small business enterprises for girls to help end the

cycle of poverty. The Girls' Association operates a number of small business enterprises from the school's premises at Teyima, including helping girls package and serve nutritious snacks at an aluminium canteen.

Kerry said The Girls' Association aims to help "bolster the position of girls in society." In addition to promoting enterprise, The Girls' Association has provided clothing to particularly needy students.

Fundraising ventures in Perth allow the work of Schools for East Africa. Fundraising has included a movie night, quiz night and a number of Mother's Day stalls, including one run by the Year 7 students at Iona. One hundred percent of money raised goes directly to Teyima.

It is important to Kerry that young people in Perth are educated about the "endless need" in places such as Teyima. She often speaks with school, church and community groups about the difficulties faced in sub-Saharan Africa.

While working tirelessly for the cause, Kerry also works full-time as a solicitor for Legal Aid, training lawyers in advocacy and ethics. She

has been married for thirty-five years and is a mother to seven children. Her two youngest children were adopted from Ethiopia.

When asked how she balances such a busy life, Kerry has a matter-of-fact answer.

"I have always modified my career so that my family is first," Kerry said.

"And when there is a need, you meet the need."

If you would like to support the work of Schools for East Africa, or to receive their newsletter, please contact schools4eastfrica@yahoo.com

Kerry is also happy to speak to school, church or community groups about the issues confronting school-aged children in Africa. She can be contacted on 0428 895 210.

The Somerville-Brown family.



past pupil UPDATES

Grace Fielding (2008) was recently accepted into the Marie Walton-Mahon Dance Academy and the National College of Dance in Newcastle, New South Wales. Grace delved straight into the Second Year Diploma class at the prestigious classical dance school. Grace was also a finalist in the 2009 Australian Institute of Classical Dance International Ballet Awards.



Grace Fielding

After working as a registered perioperative nurse, followed by a move into nursing leadership and management, **Karen Clark-Burg (1994)** decided to complete a Master of Business Administration. While studying, Karen embarked on some tutoring and lecturing work. She is now the Undergraduate Course Coordinator and Assistant Dean for the School of Nursing at Notre Dame University in Fremantle, and is undertaking research study to complete her PhD.

Katherine Curnow (2005) has recently been accepted into the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) to study contemporary music. On completion, Katherine would like to pursue studies in Jazz Performance. Katherine has also completed a Bachelor of Mass Communication at Curtin, and recently started a new band.

Nicole Burchett (Clifford 1989) studied Journalism at Curtin before embarking on overseas travel for three years. On her return to Australia, Nicole moved into sales and marketing for the hospitality and tourism sector, where she held management positions at The Melbourne Hotel, Aarons Hotels and Resorts and Mirvac Hotels and Resorts. In these roles, Nicole worked with INSTEP students from Iona. Nicole was also involved in the set-up, opening and operations of Little Creatures Brewery in Fremantle. Nicole is currently the Membership Sales Manager for the University Club of Western Australia, has been married for thirteen years and has two children.

Krystal Graham (2008) currently lives in Sydney working as a trainee in social media for boutique digital agency, Mighty Media Group. Krystal started her schooling at Iona Presentation Primary School in Year 1.

Roseanne Humphreys (Leahy 1974) started her career as a teacher, but has been working for the Department of Education and Training for the past five years. Roseanne is currently working on the A-E Exemplar Project, which provides online examples to support teachers with assessment and grading for the new National Curriculum. Roseanne has been married for twenty-eight years and has two sons.

Sarah Forster (2005) is in her final year of Health Promotion at Curtin University, undertaking professional practice at the Injury Control Council of Western Australia. Sarah has also enjoyed travelling overseas. Sarah's sister, Rachel Lange (Forster 2000), is due to give birth in July 2010. This will be the first grandchild for Mrs Jennifer Forster (current staff) and her husband.

Shannon Burke (1999) completed a Bachelor of Primary Education at Notre Dame University, and has worked in both primary and secondary schools in the north and south of Western Australia. Shannon has been involved in the organisation and choreography of Wakakirri National Story Festival competitions, which are creative arts competitions for schools across Australia. Shannon is currently the Year 9 Coordinator, as well as a teacher of English and Society and Environment at Armadale Senior High School. She is thoroughly enjoying following her passion for teaching.

Stella Hodgson (Buswell 1981)

is currently teaching Home Economics and Food and Textiles Technology at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls. Stella completed a Bachelor of Applied Science and a Graduate Diploma in Education, and has been busy teaching at a number of schools in Western Australia, the United Kingdom and Europe. Stella married in 2001, and welcomed identical twin girls in 2002 and a third daughter in 2004. Stella's daughters are enrolled at Iona and are really looking forward to going to "mummy's old school."

Congratulations to **Shevaun Cottrell (Kyte 1998)** who married Andrew Cottrell on 22 May 2010. Shevaun completed a Bachelor of Science in Extractive Metallurgy at Murdoch University, and has worked in the mining industry since. After spending two years working in West Africa, flying in and out of London, Shevaun has returned to Perth and is now a Catastrophic Risk Management Analyst for BHP Billiton. Shevaun and sister, Holly Kyte (2000), shared an apartment in London.

Tamasin Simon (2004) participated in a student exchange through Murdoch

University last year, where she had the time of her life enjoying the sights of Europe and studying Swedish Law and History. She lived in Lund, Sweden with five other flat-mates from different parts of Europe. Tamasin described Lund as a pretty town with lots of "blondes and bicycles."

past pupil UPDATES



Tara Vermeersch and
her husband Jason

Congratulations to **Stephanie Crews (2008)** who was the top Mining Engineering student in her first year at the University of Western Australia in 2009.

Raquel Tassone (Badaraco 1991)

is keeping busy with her three children, four-year-old Lucinda, two-year-old Alexandra, and five-month-old Antonio. Raquel has already enrolled her daughters at Iona.

Congratulations to **Tara Vermeersch**

(Brand 2001) who married Jason Vermeersch in

February 2009. After working as a governess on a remote sheep station in the Gascoyne, Tara completed a Bachelor of Commerce and Arts at the University of Western Australia (UWA). Tara then worked for UWA's Business School, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA and BHP Billiton Nickel West, before falling in love with her husband.

Tara and Jason now live on their family farm in Cascade, north-west of Esperance, and are expecting their first child in October. Tara currently consults in employee relations from her home office, believing that "technology saved the farmer's wife!"

Olivia Outtrim (2009) is thoroughly enjoying her first year of university life, studying Interior Architecture at Curtin University. Olivia says the best thing about her course is that she gets to create internal designs for houses and buildings, and is learning to appreciate architecture in a new light. Olivia hopes to be an open-minded architect when she graduates.

Elizabeth Brennan (2003) is currently volunteering in Kokopo, Papua New Guinea, as a Volunteer Tourism Project Coordinator. Elizabeth graduated from university with a Bachelor of Business, working at a biodiesel company and then a golf club before finding herself in Papua New Guinea.

"Tourism is still a relatively new industry in Papua New Guinea, and general understanding of how tourism can strengthen local and international economies has yet to be fully realised," she said.

The "beauty and charm" of her new surrounds and the "amazing community" give her inspiration and motivation, and make her time in Papua New Guinea "the most unbelievable experience."

Congratulations to **Louisa Harris (2009)** who was awarded a University of Western Australia Excellence Award in March this year. UWA presents these awards to students who are most likely to succeed at university, guaranteeing them their first preference course.

Louisa is thoroughly enjoying studying a Bachelor of Law and Arts.

Congratulations to the following past pupils who were recipients of the 2010 Prize Giving Ceremony for the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Work at the University of Western Australia:

Sandra Abraham (2005) – University Choral Society Prize for Music

Alana Bennett (2008) – University Choral Society Prize for Music

Victoria Loughnan (2006) – Pynt and Partners Prize in Contemporary Australian Literature

Alexandra McGushin (2005) – Nicholas Searcy Prize in Australian Literature

Susan O'Grady (2005) – Edith Cowan Prize in Music

Aneta Ward (Rybak 1989) began her education at Iona in 1985 after fleeing war-torn Poland, as an English as a Second Language student. She graduated from Murdoch University with a Bachelor of Science, then took some time off to be a mum to her four sons, Zac, Max, Joel and Aiden.

In 2008 Aneta completed her Post Graduate Diploma in Education, and is currently teaching Science, Mathematics, Information and Communication Technology and Religion at Peter Carnley Anglican Community School in Wellard. She also runs a specialised basketball program at the School. Aneta is an active member of her local Fire Brigade, working as a fire-fighter and secretary.

Aneta believes the standard of education and pastoral care she received at Iona has helped her get to where she is today. She passes on the values she learnt to her current students, as well as her four children. Aneta says her love for sport was ignited by the opportunities offered at Iona. Her fondest memories of Iona are the visits from the Irish President and Pope John Paul II, St Patrick's Day, and the Fun Concerts.

Simone Fleay (Johnson 1990)

completed a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Japanese and Psychology. She then spent a year in Osaka, Japan, working at Hirakata Park, a popular amusement park. Upon her return to Perth, she completed a Diploma of Education, receiving the Thomas Sten Prize for the best student in the course. Simone followed this achievement with the completion of her Honours, writing a thesis on Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Self Concept.

Simone taught Japanese at All Saints College from 1996 to 2004, taking on the role of Head of Languages for four of those years. She went on a number of school trips to Japan during her time at All Saints. Simone is currently teaching Japanese part-time at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls.

In January 2004, Simone married Scott Fleay, partner of Munro's Accountants and Business Advisors. Her first daughter, Chloe Elise, was born in February 2005. Georgia Holly followed, in July 2007.

Class of 1985



Danielle Churack,
Sister Mary Mackin,
Anne Pitos (Principal)



Natarsha Rawlins (Robinson),
Sister Mary Mackin,
Danielle Churack



John Hibble (Deputy Principal, Teaching
and Learning), Fernette Jones (Livesay),
Tracey Burling, Carolyn Scanlan,
Leesa Plester (Boulden)



Jane Kargotich-Parish,
Sister Kathleen (Colette),
Danielle Woodhouse (Gusterson)

1985 was the year AM stereo broadcasting was introduced in Australia, Mike Tyson made his professional boxing debut in New York, and Microsoft released the first version of Windows.

It was also the year that a number of Iona graduates started the next chapter of their lives.

The Class of 1985 were welcomed back to Iona Presentation College on Saturday 22 May for their silver reunion.

With champagne bubbling and conversation flowing, the ladies reminisced about the past and updated each other on happenings since their last reunion.

Mrs Anne Pitos and Sister Mary Mackin led formal proceedings and shared some recent news and achievements from the College.

Principal of the College in 1985, Sister Consuela Worthington, expressed how grateful she was to see the past students and hear about their life experiences to date.

Anne-Maree Cook (O'Sullivan), Class of 1985 Deputy Head Girl, made a toast to absent friends and reminded her past class-mates of the importance of attending reunions and keeping in touch.

The evening's celebration was held in the Sports Centre overlooking Iona's swimming pool. Past pupils were pleased to see that current Iona students have such fantastic facilities.

Class of 2000

The Class of 2000 gathered for their ten year reunion on Saturday 29 May. A morning tea was held at the Sports Centre, where past Ionians were able to catch up with old friends and teachers.

Sister Mary Mackin shared updates on life at Iona since the group graduated. Courtney Draper, Class of 2000 Head Girl, made a toast to absent friends. The morning concluded with a brief tour of the College.

Morning tea was followed by a lunch at Matilda Bay, organised by the past pupils, and celebrations continued on into the night.



Christine Novak, Kora Jefferey,
Annalise Vujcich (Wohlsein),
Angela La Rosa (Perna)



Courtney Draper,
Kelly Arthur (Carruthers)



Vanessa Margetts, Kate Reeson, Phoebe Scook



Jessica Lee, Renae Gibson (Kinsman),
Anna Martella, Monica Kehoe

Imogen Seirlis (Allen), Erin Whitehurst,
Rachel Lange (Forster), Jane Clohessy

“The more you
 give, the more
 you receive”

HELEN STEINER RICE



Dr Margaret Pember with
 volunteer Therese Bowyer

**Would you like to become a
 Volunteer in the Iona
 Presentation College Archives
 Centre?**

The importance of volunteers in the life of Iona Presentation College is not underestimated. Volunteers extend and enrich the delivery of services within the College, and we would like to hear from you if you are interested

in joining our team of volunteers in the Iona Archives Centre.

The Iona Archives Centre is the official custodian of all archival and heritage material that is pertinent to Iona Presentation College. The centre has a large collection of unprocessed material that is currently not accessible for research or display. The involvement of trained volunteers to process this backlog of material would be of enormous benefit to the Centre, and to those trying to access and research our history.

We would like to recruit and retain a committed group of volunteers who will be engaged on projects such as listing, sorting, digitising and re-housing records. Volunteers are only engaged in tasks that, without their assistance, would not be

completed for a considerably long period of time. Volunteers will not be used to replace paid staff positions.

Volunteers may offer their services for specific short-term special projects or a long-term commitment. Volunteering is a matter of choice and volunteers are free to leave the program at any time.

Examples of typical volunteer projects include:

- records of the Iona centenary
- records and research relating to the evacuation of Iona girls to the country during World War Two
- records and research into the Polish girls who came to Iona around the time of World War Two
- 20th century plans of Iona buildings and grounds
- photograph collection
- art collection.

If you would like some hands-on involvement in the history of your College, please contact me at mpember@iona.wa.edu.au or 9285 5232. I am at the College on Tuesdays and Thursdays during term time.

**Dr Margaret Pember
 College Archivist**



IONA
PRESENTATION COLLEGE

Established in 1907 by the Presentation Sisters. A Catholic secondary day and boarding College for girls.

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