

VERITY

DECEMBER 2016



ST MARY'S COLLEGE
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE



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Front cover: The St Mary's pilgrimage group at *Cruz de Ferro* (Cross of Iron) on the summit of Monte Irago, Spain.

Back cover: Onward... four of the St Mary's pilgrims crossing a stream on their journey towards Santiago de Compostella.

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL



DR DARCY MCCORMACK

It is hard to believe that we are near the end of 2016. It has been a year of significant efforts and achievements by many; it has been characterised throughout by a spirit of generosity, enthusiasm and optimism that augurs well for the future.

This has also been a year in which the college has experienced significant loss: we learned with great sadness of the serious illness and then the death of Ms Angela Gehrig, Director of the Allan and Maria Myers Academic Centre. Angela was much loved by everyone at St Mary's and her smiling, enthusiastic and generous presence is deeply missed. May she rest in peace.

There have been some changes in the way that college operates. For the first time, students were able to stay in college during the mid-year break in July – this proved to be popular and will become a permanent feature of St Mary's. Also, for the first time, a group of second year students went on pilgrimage to Spain to walk nearly 300 kilometres along the renowned Camino de Santiago de Compostella. The Camino proved to be challenging physically and psychologically but, at its heart, this was a spiritual journey and it delivered in abundance. It had a profound effect on the students and myself and I intend making this a regular part of college life.

I have been encouraged throughout the year by the care our students display for one another and for those less fortunate than themselves – this care is genuine, sensitive, and real. It is based on a recognition that each of us faces our own challenges and that there is much that we can do to support each other, even when we do not face that particular challenge.

The annual alumni cocktail party was enjoyed by over 80 people in October - the cold and wet day did not deter attendance! Particularly encouraging was the number of young alumni attending for the first time. The annual alumni Mass the next day was followed by afternoon tea in the Loreto Room. I am also grateful for the efforts of the alumni working group to plan events for the college's alumni.

The students recently elected their new General Committee (GC) for 2017. As a college community we thanked the 2016 GC, led so effectively by Lucy Joel, for their significant contributions to college life and welcomed the new president, Dale Beeton, into the role.

Over the last few days I have farewelled individually several students leaving college. Without exception they have expressed deep gratitude for their time here, and for the opportunities and the support they have received during years

of significant transition in their lives, in addition to their academic studies. I have no doubt they realise how fortunate they have been to experience life in this college community!

I wish to acknowledge here the notable achievement, and ongoing significant contributions, of Dr Ian McDonald, who for 25 years has been the college's chemistry tutor. Ian's wisdom and ready willingness to help students and staff alike is an inspiration to us all!

The college approaches its centenary in 2018 with confidence. Although society has evolved and changed significantly, the vision of the Loreto Sisters who established St Mary's Hall nearly 100 years ago remains as relevant and important today as it was then. We hope to celebrate this significant milestone appropriately.

Finally, I am delighted to welcome *Verity's* new editor, Mrs Brenda Renfrew. Brenda brings a deep appreciation of the college's ethos and vast experience in Catholic education. She has settled well into her role as the college secretary.

I wish you all a Christmas that is richly blessed with family and friends, and all that really matters!

Dr Darcy McCormack
Principal

FROM THE EDITOR

As a new member of the St Mary's College community, I would firstly like to thank the staff and many students who have warmly welcomed me to what is clearly 'home away from home'. From all accounts, Semester 2 has run smoothly and the various events held throughout this time have been celebrated in true St Mary's spirit.

The pages to follow provide an insight to the past few months in college. Among the content is a reflection by Dr Ian McDonald on his 25 years as the college's chemistry tutor; a moving tribute to the late Ms Angela Gehrig, Director of the Allan and Maria Myers Academic Centre, who died at the end of the semester; an account of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage in Spain undertaken by a group of ten second year students and the principal, Dr Darcy McCormack, in July; a report on an Academic Dinner with college alumnus, Dr Tim Moore of the Faculty of Business and Economics; and reports on several activities by the student club.

Mary Ward encouraged her followers to take risks and to forge new paths, but to be wise and discerning in the choices they made. By 'referring all things to God' they would recognise where the needs were greatest. As we move into the Christmas season, may we be inspired by her words and while we enjoy the festivities, be mindful of taking care of each other.

Best wishes for a new year full of wonderful surprises!

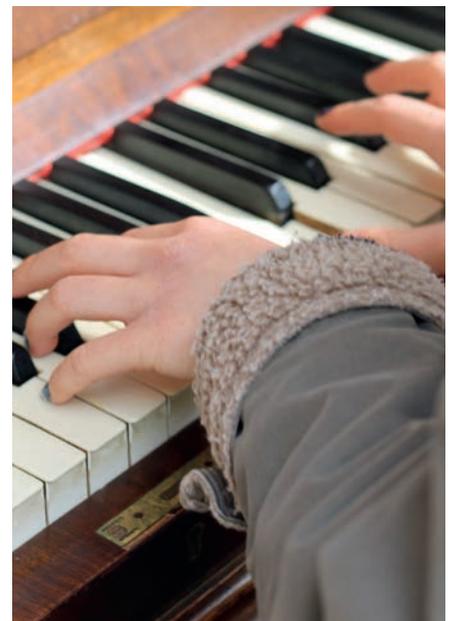
[Brenda Renfrew](#)



STUDENT CLUB NEWS



Semester 2 saw a continuation of the fantastic start to the year. Formal dinners were well attended and everyone enjoyed taking the time to acknowledge and appreciate the achievements of the college community.



At the Christmas in July dinner held in the first week back, both the Principal and I reflected on how college has become a de facto family for many and the student club took the chance to thank the college staff for all they contribute to creating that warm and welcoming environment we love so much. This continued with the Dean's dinner the following week where we recognised the substantial academic achievements many of our students had made the prior semester.

Guardian Angel week allowed us to relieve the ever mounting stress and surprise our allocated 'mortal' with chocolate, coffee or other sweet gestures. It is always a nice way to break up the semester and it gives students the opportunity to try and discover a little bit more about someone they may not know too well in an effort to surprise them with something they will really appreciate.

The college production of *Legally Blonde the Musical* and the oratory competition were both highly entertaining and allowed us see some of the other talents that our students have been hiding.

It has been a highly enjoyable year and I am incredibly proud of what has been achieved by both my peers, and the student club. It has now been 50 years since the incorporation of the student club and in that time we have worked hard to establish a community of hard working, socially minded individuals who try to embody the college motto of being seekers of truth and doers of justice. The friendships and the memories we have created here will stay with us for life and I will always be incredibly glad to have called St Mary's home.

Lucy Joel
2016 President





MS RACHEL LECHMERE

A WORD FROM THE DEAN AND DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Excerpt from Dean's Dinner Speech, August 2016

To begin, I would like to acknowledge the Wurrundjeri People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and pay my respects to their Elders both past and present. I would also like to acknowledge past and present Australian Loreto Sisters, the order of Catholic Religious Sisters who founded St Mary's in 1918 and who led this College until 2013. We are the recipients of their original vision, hard work and commitment to quality education.

The purpose of our gathering tonight is to recognise students who achieved highly in their studies last semester. In an academic setting such as ours here at St Mary's, we value high academic achievement and the effort that it involves.

Some of the greatest stories of human achievement come from the pursuit of sporting and athletic excellence, and none more so than those that arise from the Olympic Games. For hundreds of years human beings have sought to challenge body and mind, probing the limits of human performance, breaking the records (and the occasional leg) of those who have gone before. Already, amidst all the drama and colour of Rio in the past four days we have heard and seen extraordinary tales of success.

How can you not but admire the good hearted banter and competitiveness of Cate and Bronte Campbell, sisters who are strong and determined in the pool and in life, but whose love for their brother Hamish, as they describe, outshines all of their achievements? Hamish has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair. Bronte explains: "he can't do anything for himself, yet he's the happiest kid in the world. You don't really have the right to be upset about a swim race when your little brother can't feed himself, talk or speak". They are down to earth, humble, smart and authentic women. Their achievements are all the more inspiring for this in my view, because they have not forgotten about what really matters, despite their extraordinary accomplishments.

So too of the first ever Refugee Olympic Team, surely one of the best feel-good stories from the Olympics so far. Why do I find this story inspiring? Perhaps because against the background of the breakdown in peace and harmony in the many parts of our world, the human spirit and global cooperation have restored the hopes of these athletes. The vision of the modern Olympics, namely to promote peace and build bridges between nations, cultures and people, is still every bit as relevant now as in 1894. While each of us enthusiastically support the athletes of our respective countries, cheering them on, injected us

with national pride when they have success, the athletes of the refugee team have been forced to flee the very nations that they would proudly seek to represent. Of the 43 members of the team most were extracted from unhappy circumstances in refugee camps; hardly conditions that would nurture an ideal Olympic preparation. You may have followed the story of Yusra Mardini this week. Yusra is an 18-year-old swimmer for the refugee team. She swam competitively in Syria and she and her sister were considered to be the country's rising stars until they fled their country when the war intensified two years ago. Eventually arriving in Turkey after fleeing Damascus, they paid people to take them to Greece and after several failed attempts, they boarded a small inflatable dinghy just on nightfall. There were 20 people on the dinghy and after half an hour the boat had started to take on water. They threw off all of the passenger's belongings, and eventually the only three who people on board who could swim: Yusra, her sister and one other, entered the water to give the boat more buoyancy. They kept the dinghy afloat for three and a half hours until it reached an island in Greece. This 18-year-old woman metaphorically swam her way to the Olympics, and saved 17 other lives in the process. According to the UNHCR, nearly 50 percent of the refugee population was under 18 years old as of 2013. Fifty percent

of the world refugees are younger than most of you. It's hard not to be inspired by Yusra and the vision of those who brought the Refugee Olympic team into being.

A less well known story of inspiration emanating from the Olympics greets us every time we enter and move around this dining room and has done so for years. Have you ever wondered about this photo to my left on the wall? What moment does it capture? What sport is it? What year? Who are the individuals? Where are they from? What badges and medals are they wearing? What is their story?

This picture was given to Sr Liz Hepburn when she was Principal of St Mary's in 2012. It was given to her by our long serving, highly respected and semi-residential Chemistry tutor, Ian McDonald. He's the one with the long hair and glasses that you see here on Tuesday and sometimes Thursday nights. Ian is in his 25th year of tutoring here and has helped decades of St Mary's students perform to their best in Chemistry. In addition to having a PhD in Chemistry, Ian works full time for the organisation Australian Volunteers International as the Recruitment Manager, facilitating highly skilled Australians to go overseas and work on development projects that will have a lasting positive impact on others. He says he does this work "because he had the privilege of being an Australian Volunteer (chemistry teacher) in the Solomon Islands 30 years ago and it was an extraordinary life changing and career defining experience". He "believes every Australian should have the opportunity to have such an experience should they wish because bringing people together of different cultures – living, working and learning alongside of each other is simple recipe to making the world a better and fairer place for all."

So what is the photo? It is a very iconic image. It was taken at the medal ceremony of the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City for the Men's 200 metres athletics final. It shows two African Americans, John Carlos and Tommie Smith with their bowed heads listening to the US National Anthem "Star Spangled" banner, being played. Most notable is their rebellious raising to the air of their black-gloved fists,



Image courtesy of Google

Photo hanging in the St Mary's Dining Room.



Inscription below the photograph hanging in the St Mary's Dining Room.

a gesture in support of African American civil rights in the very year that Martin Luther King was assassinated. You can see it in the photo, but they received their medals barefoot, to represent the poverty facing people of colour. The action taken in support of human rights by these two men was courageously in defiance of the Olympic charter which stated that 'no kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted in the Olympic areas'. As Riccardo Gazziniga tells it "the head of the American delegation vowed that they would pay for this defiance

for their entire lives; they were immediately suspended from the American Olympic Team and expelled from the Olympic village... once home, the two fastest men in the world faced heavy repercussions and death threats". Of course, the passing of time has validated their actions, and their reputations have been restored to a place of national pride, where they should always have been.

Yet, the story of the third, white man in the photograph is less well known. This is Peter Norman, an Australian man, who

won silver in the same race. Norman knew that something was about to happen before the medal presentation, for the word had spread amongst the athletes that Carlos and Smith were going to use this moment for a gesture of solidarity and activism. Norman was sensitive to the injustices that Aboriginal people in Australia faced. Gazziniga continues:

“The two Americans had asked Norman if he believed in human rights. Norman said he did. They asked him if he believed in God, and he said he believed strongly in God. Of this moment John Carlos, the bronze medallist remembers, “we knew that what we were going to do was far greater than any athletic feat, and he said “I’ll stand with you”. I expected to see fear in Norman’s eyes, but instead we saw love.” Norman said “I believe in what you believe.” He then asked to wear the same Olympic Project for Human Rights badge that the others were wearing on their chests saying “that way I can show my support for your cause.”

The three went out on the field and got up on the podium: the rest is history, preserved in the power of the photo. “I couldn’t see what was happening,” Norman recounts, “[but] I had known they had gone through with their plans when a voice in the crowd sang the American anthem but then faded to nothing. The stadium went quiet.”

Peter Norman still holds the Australian record for the Men’s 200m, 47 years later. But he was punished for standing in solidarity with Carlos and Smith, and he suffered alone, without the support of the broad movement for change that the Americans had. In the Olympics that followed four years later, Norman was not chosen for the Australian team, despite qualifying thirteen times. He was forced to leave competitive athletics behind. He was treated like an outsider and his family outcast. Disappointments take their toll, and Norman endured many personal problems as a result. He was told he could receive a pardon and perhaps find a stable job on the Olympics Committee but only if he condemned Carlos and Smith’s gesture. He refused to do this, and never condemned them or their choice. When the Sydney Olympics were held in 2000.

Norman, the fastest Australian sprinter in history was not invited. When he died 10 years ago, the two men beside him in that photo, were his pallbearers. They said of him “Peter was a lone soldier, he consciously chose to be a sacrificial lamb in the name of human rights. He paid the price with his choice. It wasn’t just a simple gesture to help us, it was His fight. He was a white man among two men of colour, standing up in the moment of victory, all in the name of the same thing. There is no one more than him that Australia should honour, recognise and appreciate.”

Only four years ago in 2012 did the Australian Parliament acknowledge and apologise to him, recognising his bravery and the ‘powerful role that Peter Norman played in furthering racial equality’.

In recounting the event years before his early death, Peter himself said:

“I couldn’t see why a black man couldn’t drink the same water from a water fountain, take the same bus or go to the same school as a white man. There was a social injustice that I couldn’t do anything about from where I was, but I certainly hated it. It has been said that sharing my silver medal with that incident on the victory dais detracted from my performance. On the contrary. I have to confess; I was rather proud to be part of it”.

The inscription from Ian on the bottom of our photo frame says:

“To Sr Liz and the staff of St Mary’s College. In recognition of your inspiring commitment to the Mary Ward tradition of justice for all people.”

I expect that those who chose to hang it in the dining room, the heartbeat of our college, did so quite intentionally. The Catholic faith traditions of St Mary’s are built on the foundations of activism and social justice. For the Loreto sisters, coming to St Mary’s to live while you get a good education is worthwhile to the extent that the individual can give back to the community in greater measure and make it more just. Each time you walk into the dining room and your eyes land upon this photo, I hope you will see the extraordinary respect for dignity and justice that lie

behind it, and that it will inspire you to be your best, knowing that nothing of true value comes without a cost.

In each of the stories just told, what is remarkable is the way the each of them have used their talents to promote human dignity and elevates our entire global community to strive for what is good and just. It is personal achievement that serves others, with humility and an open heart.

And so too it is hoped, for our award winners tonight. We acknowledge your effort and the commitment that has led you to achieve so highly. In the same manner that our country feels proud of and celebrates its medal winners, we celebrate with you too, and may it compel each of us to strive for our best in all that we do, in study and in life, and to always stand up and speak out for what is right and good.

Our intellectual achievement is not a measure of our intrinsic human worth. Yet living in this academic environment as we do, we recognise and celebrate those among us who make the most of what they have been given, in both achievement and effort.

[Ms Rachel Lechmere](#)
The Dean and Deputy Principal

ACADEMIC CENTRE



REFLECTION ON THE LIFE OF MS ANGELA GEHRIG 1966 – 2016

Angela Gehrig was Director of the Allan and Maria Myers Academic Centre from 2008 until her death on 16 October 2016. We are a small staff, so her death leaves a particularly deep hole. Angela was much admired on a professional level. As Director, she had a wonderful vision for the library and Academic Centre. She always kept abreast of library trends. She attended conferences, conferred with colleagues (including those from University of Melbourne where she had previously

worked) and was always on the lookout for new initiatives that would enhance the library service. Above all, she wanted the wonderful resources of the Academic Centre to be shared with the wider community and the world. She was the driving force behind our migration to the OCLC WorldShare Library System in 2012, which stores our library holdings in the 'cloud' for all to discover.

Angela had a wonderful rapport with students of both St Mary's College and Newman College and was always ready to help a student who needed research help and advice, or who was simply looking lost. She also encouraged us to look for new and interesting ways to facilitate the engagement of our students with not only the library and its resources, but also with the wider community.

Angela was a lady of many gifts and interests. Tuesday evenings she would eat her home cooked meal and rush from work to practice with a gospel choir of which she was an enthusiastic member. Angela loved baking, yoga, Bali, book clubs, going to concerts and music festivals, weekends at the beach and spending time with family and friends. Hers was a very full life.

In her last few months we admired her fortitude and calm acceptance of what lay ahead. She is and always will be, greatly missed.

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

Geraldine Woodhatch
Rhonda Gordon-Brown
Damian Halloran

REFLECTION FROM DR IAN MCDONALD

25 Years at SMC

That sense of connectedness and family was palpable from day one and took me to my roots in northern Victoria where I was raised.

As a callow boy from the bush at Ormond College in the mid to late 70s my understanding of St Mary's College was limited to: (a) that it was Catholic and (b) full of girls. My experience of the former was shaped primarily by a sequence of stirring narrow losses to Newman at footy on the Uni Oval and of the latter – let's just say somewhat limited.

That state of blissful ignorance was put right – thankfully – in late 1991 when I had the very good fortune to be appointed by the then Dean at St Mary's, Sr Liz Hepburn, as the non-resident chemistry tutor. Now, 25 years hence, I am delighted to provide a few insights on what this association has meant to me.

When students valedict from St Mary's they usually comment on the sense of family and connectedness that St Mary's affords; on the privilege of having met so many of their ultimately lifelong friends whilst at College and, finally, on the personal growth and learning that they underwent.

For me, the experience has been no different. That sense of connectedness and family was palpable from day one and took me to my roots in northern Victoria where I was raised. At St Mary's I was teaching chemistry to Ingrid Lewis at the same time her mother was caring for mine whilst a patient at Rochester Hospital; I also taught

Erin Lawford whose father had bested me many times whilst playing junior cricket and footy against each other at Rochester. I had the privilege of teaching a young Natalie Houlihan who is one of a long line of Houlihan's who came to St Mary's and who has since distinguished herself by joining the Loreto Order and applying her extraordinary talents to the education of Timorese children. The education system in Timor has benefitted from a number of Loreto Sisters but two in particular, Srs Anne Kelly and Diaan Stuart, originally went there under the auspices of my daytime employer, Australian Volunteers International. I had the somewhat daunting experience of interviewing Anne and Diaan on behalf of AVI prior to their assignments in Timor Leste. Sr Trish Franklin, who recently gave an inspiring Valette Dinner address at St Mary's is another who has served as an Australian Volunteer under AVI's banner, in Viet Nam.

Other friends from those early days also need mentioning. Has there ever been a College or University Chaplain better able to relate to students better than Fr Michael Elligate? I came to know Michael well and I was honoured when he accepted an invitation to officiate at my wedding to Ann (still my wife!) in 1996. And of course, the wonderful O'Grady's who had their own, literal, interpretation of creating a sense of family at St Mary's!

I have been lucky to serve under an amazing group of Loreto Sisters who have been Principals of St Mary's: Srs Jane Kelly, Deirdre Rofe, Maureen Burke, and Liz Hepburn have all worked tirelessly and with great compassion and understanding to make the College what it is today. As



have their lay successors: Alec West, Paul Gallagher and now Darcy McCormack.

Through the Sisters and Fr Michael, my understanding of the mysteries of Catholicism has improved from non-existent to passable, a process that was enhanced when Loreto Provincial, Sr Chris Burke invited me to join the fledgling Loreto charitable and development organisation, Mary Ward International Australia. Now in my tenth year at MWIA I have met a whole new cohort of Loreto Sisters and supporters who are all doing great things to help make the world a more just and equitable place for all – but especially for women and girls.

In 2002 my family and I moved to the rolling hills of Central Victoria south of Castlemaine and Sr Maureen was kind enough to allow me to stay over one or two nights per week when I was teaching to alleviate the travel to/from the bush. This has been a great support to me but it has also allowed me to better get to know many of the other members of college staff – including talking to Chit and learning of his family's remarkable journey from Myanmar; to chewing the fat with Greg in the morning about Collingwood's latest draft pick; or with John about pretty well anything such is his knowledge of the world; or having Roy's jokes or Zora's smile light up my day.

So what have I learnt at St Mary's? Well, I've learned a lot about chemistry – every year there is some element of quantum mechanics or thermodynamics or (God forbid) organic reaction mechanisms that I need to brush up on. I've learnt a lot about students' learning styles and it has been a rare privilege to have gotten to know a whole generation of chemistry students

FACULTY DINNER

at St Mary's and marvel at their level of academic excellence. I am equally proud though of those who were not so gifted in the world of atoms and molecules but still gave it their all and are now excelling in other fields. I've also learned a lot from fellow tutors during the myriad impromptu and often claret-catalysed late evening discussions in the Senior Common Room.

In 2009 St Mary's hosted the Victorian launch of Mary Ryllis Clark's book, *Loreto in Australia*. I dutifully purchased a copy but never expected it to captivate me so. I had gotten to know so many of the leading Loreto Sisters in Australia and this book was a rare insight into their world. And to understand Loreto in Australia you have to understand the story of Mary Ward and that has perhaps been the greatest area of learning for me at St Mary's. Her story of doggedly marching across Europe to convince the powers in Rome of the rightness of her cause is simply inspirational and gives a sense into what drives that extraordinary group of Loreto sisters in Ryllis Clark's book – many of whom have shaped St Mary's College into what it is today. It is a place of inclusion, of academic excellence, of social justice and of compassion. I like to think that it is also my place.

I expect that my chances of ever having the Loreto moniker *ibvm* after my name are somewhat limited but if they have a category for not so callow, lapsed Presbyterian, alchemists I'm putting my hand up! Thank-you SMC for a wonderful, fulfilling and enriching 25 years.

[Dr Ian McDonald](#)



St Mary's College Commerce Faculty Dinner was hosted by Dr Darcy McCormack with special guest Dr Tim Moore and St Mary's Bachelor of Commerce students in attendance.

Dr Moore is currently a professor in the University of Melbourne's Economics Department and is an alumnus of St Mary's College. Dr Moore was able to share his experiences working with the University of Washington to analyse public data of the United States of America and use economic models to predict future outcomes whilst also using these models and policy strategies to prevent some future adversities for the United States economy. Both Dr Moore and Dr McCormack (both having PhDs in economics), are motivational role models for the opportunities available to those undertaking further

studies in the area of Commerce. It is also assuring to know someone within the Economics Department who we can consult concerning our decisions for further studies in the area of Commerce and Economics. On behalf of the Bachelor of Commerce Students from St Mary's College I would like to thank Dr McCormack and Ms Rachel Lechmere for organising this event, the experience was extremely valuable.

Joanna John

(1st year Bachelor of Commerce student at the University of Melbourne)

COLLEGE BALL



The annual St Mary's College Ball was held on Wednesday 31 August. The 'Mary Go Round' themed ball took place at Leonda by the Yarra in Hawthorn.

The venue looked spectacular dressed in the vintage circus theme complete with popcorn centrepieces on each of the tables, vintage posters and a red carpet which lined the entrance to the venue. The food was a highlight for many, as was the Photo Booth where many interesting photos were taken throughout the night. The dance floor proved a hit for many of the guests, with the DJ playing all the classics. The ball was enjoyed by all and one of the highlight events of the year. After months of preparation the ball came together at the last minute and was a success thanks to everyone who was involved in the ball committee and also everyone who helped with the clean-up.

Rebecca Porte







CAMINO PILGRIMAGE

In July, ten second year students and Dr Darcy McCormack, travelled to Spain to walk 260 kilometres along the historic Camino de Santiago de Compostella. The journey from Astorga to Santiago de Compostella challenged each member of the group physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. In short – an extraordinary experience!

This time last year I had never heard of the Camino de Santiago. However, now one year later, having taken up the opportunity to walk it, I am baffled that I had been so ignorant of the immensely popular ancient and life-changing tradition that is the Camino de Santiago. The history of the Camino is long and enriched. But for each person, they gain something different from their own experience. We came to see that it is so much more than a walk but a moment in your life that allows you to stop and reflect.

The history of the Camino dates back to the 8th century with the legend that the bones of St James were brought to Compostella across the Mediterranean Sea from Jerusalem. His remains were then

buried and the cathedral of Santiago de Compostella was erected above it in 1211. The French path of 798km is the most popular and the path I walked, although only a fraction of it. The original purpose of the pilgrimage was to atone from your sins, thus as punishment, many criminals were sentenced to walk the Camino. Believe you me, now having walked it myself I now understand how it can be a punishment. In modernity, it no longer has the highly religious motivations, but rather there are numerous incentives for completing it by a range of people from many counties. It is a fantastic feeling knowing you are part of such an old tradition with millions of others. These momentary pilgrim relationships you form as you walk, make it a unique and special experience.

Naively, before we embarked upon this opportunity, we did very little if no training, and research. I was of the opinion that, yes of course it will be difficult, but all we are doing is walking so it cannot be that challenging. Additionally, I thought myself as being relatively fit so would be able to handle it. We all began with positivity and a spring in our steps and after the first day we thought we would just simply breeze through it as it was only 18km from Astorga to Rabanal across flat terrain. This was the calm before the storm.

Snell's handy guide book identified the second day, 28km mountainous path as a 4/4 difficulty ranking. We made the assumption that once this day ended that we would be strolling into Compostella. Well, were we incorrect. Day three tested every one of us. This was a 32km day when I injured my knee, Carla got a stress fracture in her foot, Katie ruined her achilles, Snell got lost in the vineyards and walked an extra 7 km, we got stuck in the fatiguing afternoon heat, blisters were erupting left right and centre and lastly, the signage in Spain was never reliable. Just as we thought we had climbed the last hill before Villafranca we saw a small sign telling us that we had another 3-4 km to go. A classic Spanish stitch up, the first of many that was to come. That evening Darcy gave the option to send our bags ahead of us as we were obviously struggling. For me this was a big personal compromise as I felt like I was giving up and that I wasn't doing the real Camino which I had set out to do.

We woke at 4am hoping that this day would not be as hard as the last but it seemed that the universe had other plans. Only 1km into the walk. We, the crippled, were already 200 metres behind them and slowing when we saw the group stop. We knew what was coming, an intervention. They insisted that we stop and prevent further injury. In hind sight, I am glad that they were looking out for us and forced us to stop. At that time, I felt like I was a huge disappointment as I had travelled across the world to part-take in this historic walk and I couldn't.

After the rest day, I was more determined than ever to continue on. It was imperative that I walk into Compostella. Day 4 was La Laguna to Triacastella, a total of 28 km

and mostly descent, which I was to learn was the opposite of what my knee needed. Once again we set out in the black of the early morning and it became evident very soon that I was struggling as my odd stager gave it away, my knee wasn't bending so I was forced to swing my leg around like I was a pirate with a wooden leg impacting on my hip and ankle and throwing everything out. All of these things then began to chip away at my frame of mind. Each and every step was a conscious effort. The last 10km being extremely trying. Luckily I had my friends around me supporting me, even the other pilgrims that seemed to be racing past me, offered me encouragement that I needed. Finally, we reached Triacastella, this to me felt like the arrival into Compostella. Releasing the tension, emotion and pain I kept bottled up while I was walking, needed to escape, and I broke down in the reception of the albergue. The albergue owner was incredibly compassionate most likely seeing the pain we pilgrims pushed ourselves through and offered me her kindness and sympathy.

At this point you are most likely thinking what exactly is the purpose of putting yourself through so much pain and discomfort? And what is the point of the Camino when all it does is pull you down? Let me tell you that it was by far the hardest day, but it does teach you things about yourself; the huge internal strength that lies in all of us to keep on pushing and reach the final destination, as everything does eventually come to an end. The 20km, 28km or the 32km walk eventually does end, each step no matter how small got us that one bit closer to the Compostella. It makes the end that much more special and rewarding. Furthermore, it doesn't matter how you get to your goal but that you get there, whether, you can't carry your pack one day, need a stick to help you walk, need to pop your blisters with a needle and thread or must sit out one day, it's the fact that you will eventually get there in the end, no matter how battered you are from your journey. And who would want it to be easy anyway?!

Alyssa McIntyre

A PILGRIM'S REFLECTION...

I was fortunate enough to be one of the 11 peregrinos (pilgrims) who undertook El Camino De Santiago earlier this year.

The Camino was one of the most incredible and unique experiences I've had in my life. I found the Camino to be an individual journey, but also equally and paradoxically a collective journey undertaken as a group and thus a shared experience.

It was an experience that is difficult to describe to anyone who hasn't lived it first-hand.

One of the things I personally learnt was the power of empathy and compassion. Some of us were more fortunate than others with varied injuries or weights on their shoulders and we found that, while everyone was undertaking the same walk, each person's circumstances and motivations for undertaking the Camino were different, and thus that no two pilgrimages were ever the same. Having empathy was key in being able to help each other through it and still be able to laugh, enjoy each other's company and lift each other's spirits despite however tired and in desperate need of a long siesta we were.

The pilgrims I met along the way inspired me. I will never forget meeting a young pilgrim Daniel who had two clubbed feet. We met Daniel on what was, by far, our hardest day on the Camino. We had been hit by a wave of heat 30 kilometres into our walk, not entirely sure of however further we had to walk. With a fair few complaints here and there we struggled up a hill overtaking a young British guy called Daniel who was doing the same

walk as us but with a full pack and on crutches. I was amazed at the smile on this young man's face when he looked up at us overtaking him and wished us a "Buen Camino!" It was one of the most genuine smiles in the most dire of circumstances that I have ever encountered and will surely never forget.

Whether it be pushing your body to walk the last few kilometres in the middle of the hottest part of the day after a 5am wake-up and 30 kilometres already behind you, or simply to have the ability to still smile and wish a fellow Pellegrino "Buen Camino" at the end of the day; the Camino was a challenge - both mentally and physically - but it is through this challenge that we learnt and grew as individuals.

It was also a very eye-opening experience to the living circumstances of some of the people in these quite poor, small towns in rural Spain. It was definitely a different way of travelling and we met many people and saw many places that you would not usually see if you were to visit Spain as a tourist. I am so grateful for this.

At a time of many changes in my life, I found the Camino to be an incredible way to reflect deeply. Coming back to my busy lifestyle I try not to forget the importance of really disconnecting and reflecting regularly, which the Camino taught me.

Undertaking El Camino De Santiago was definitely one of the highlights of my time at St Mary's College and I am so grateful for this opportunity, the people I grew closer with along the way, and all I learnt about myself and the world around me.

Julia Crowe

VALETE

As is tradition, the festivities took place over two nights. On Wednesday 12 October the evening commenced with a College Mass in the Frewin Room celebrated by the College Chaplain Fr Michael Elligate. After the Mass, the whole college gathered for a dinner and were addressed in turn by a college member who spoke warmly, and also humorously, of each valetant. We were also addressed by Loreto Sister Trish Franklin who shared her personal experience in helping disabled children in Vietnam for the past 20 years. Her speech was truly inspiring and reassured us that we all have our own talents and will shine in the future. The spirit of camaraderie was alive and well in the Dining Hall that night.

The celebration continued on Saturday 15 October; this time Principal Dr Darcy McCormack invited us to the Langham Hotel for a lovely dinner. The dinner commenced with Dr McCormack toasting the unique contributions each of us has brought to the college throughout the three years. The night was filled with joy as we shared some of our memories at Mary's and also discussed our ambitions for the future.

It was not until after these dinners that I realised three years have gone by so fast. Mary's has given me unforgettable memories, great friends and also a lovable puppy Patrick. I want to thank Dr Darcy McCormack, Ms Rachel Lechmere, Dr Paul Gallagher, Ms Elizabeth Burns, staff and friends at Mary's for their trust, guidance and friendship.

When I was a fresher in St Mary's in 2014, I remember the former Student Club President Matthew Connolly talked about how he addressed the college: it was "St. Mary's" in his first year, then "Mary's" in his second year, and in his third year---"home". Without even noticing, I myself stayed at Mary's for three years and I cannot be prouder to call Mary's---my home.

Adrian Wong
2016 Valetant



INTRODUCTION SPOKEN BY DALE BEETON

Trish Franklin was born and raised in Ballarat and is the youngest of five siblings – three brothers and one sister. She graduated from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of

Education and has since received a host of other qualifications including teaching English as a foreign language, Educational Counselling, Intercultural Studies and a RSA Cambridge Certificate in Teaching English at RMIT University. In 1979 Trish made her final vows at Mary's Mount Chapel in Ballarat and became a Loreto Sister.

Sr Trish has received many awards including an Order of Australia in 2005 and recently was presented with the highly prestigious Vietnam Friendship Medal, signed off by the President and Prime Minister of Vietnam. The Friendship Medal is the highest official recognition that a foreigner can receive in Vietnam.

VALEDICTORY DINNER SPEECH

by Sr Trish Franklin
ibvm



Thanks for the opportunity to be with you all tonight: it is a real pleasure to be addressing you on this truly significant occasion.

Valete – or farewell – does provide the perfect chance to reflect on the adventures of your past years here at St. Mary's – for those leaving and even for those staying. The memories which ascend will undoubtedly be inspirational and appreciative. Maybe you recall when your journey started the day you walked into these hallowed walls – dragging bag after overstuffed bag up numerous steps and into your rooms. Hopefully your first year taught you the words of Snow White: *'it is when we are most lost that we sometimes find our truest friends'*. And surely first year went on and upwards from there. Perhaps second year empowered you with the feeling that you owned the place! And then your third year – undoubtedly a whirlwind of activity and trying to balance everything – along with maybe blindly fumbling to appear to the freshers that you knew what you were doing! Also – you probably found yourselves becoming closer than ever. All in all – you've formed bonds, you've shared a journey, crazy stories, jokes, discrepancies and secrets. St. Mary's as a building is

more than furniture, painted walls, stairs and the front door – it is a real reminder for you all that this place, which has been your home, will always be a collection of feelings, emotions and memories. You might be aware of that enlightening song from the movie/stage show of "Sound of Music". Maria – the nanny to a glorious family of kids – sings about her favorite things and mentions a plethora of much loved partialities and she ends the song with these words: *'when the dog bites, when the bee stings, when I'm feeling sad, I simply remember my favorite things – and then I don't feel so bad'*. So – as you disperse on more individual paths and move to the next phase – meaningfully gift wrap the favorite memories of your days here at St. Mary's, put them away in a special place – and take this gift out at times and dwell in loving reminiscence of being here.

And because I'm old and grey – and as you take leave today, I think I'm permitted to give you all some shared wise words. I do have the utmost respect for budding young people like yourselves: I'm going out the back door now and delight in the thought that, with your dynamism – you are very capable of redeeming our world!

I recently gave an address at the Loreto Mandeville Hall Past Students Annual Dinner. And I spoke a lot about how we are really called to be catalysts in our world today. Some of you may have heard of – or even watched documentaries - headed by David Attenborough: he is a wonderful catalyst in opening our eyes to the wondrous fascination of the natural world. I also recall that the Beatles were catalysts to a whole new flavor of music and it's one that has emerged from their charisma. They were catalysts for the world to move out of the conventional way of rhythm and express different ideas through revolutionary words - because they emotively touched many of us to the core. Mary Ward – the Foundress of the Loreto Sisters was a catalyst for religious women to put their abilities and aptitudes into practice – rather than being locked up in enclosed convents. A website/blog can be a catalyst for propelling people with so many new ideas– and they look or feel a little different because of something that has been written.

Being a catalyst is not something we do to show off! We all have this innate, intrinsic ability embedded into our personalities and characters! Synonymous words with a

catalyst are activator or accelerator. It can be an event or person causing a change – and reactions usually occur faster and with less energy. It can be somewhat ordinary, like a hot day being a catalyst for getting your hair cut really short. Or it can be major, like how the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of the Austro-Hungarian Empire is said to be the catalyst of World War 1. Catalysts are not comfortable with the status quo, they are not stuck in corporate bureaucracy, they have a sense of urgency, they are part of the solution – not the problem and they lead change by their own example.

I have just returned from Australia – after spending 30 years in SE Asia: ten of these years I spent in refugee camps in Thailand – being a catalyst for Cambodian, Vietnamese, Burmese and Laotian escapees so that they could gain freedom. The other 20 years I spent in Vietnam as CEO of the Loreto Program there whose vision was to deliver innumerable opportunities for very poor children, along with vision-impaired students and kids with special needs. They were utterly entitled to have an education but they totally lacked any prospect to do so. The Loreto Program was a catalyst to this ideal.

The vision-impaired kids were only blind! I was shocked the first time I saw a blind child who literally had no eye-balls (ΛΛΛΛΛ): someone once asked me – ‘*how does he cry?*’ However, the Loreto Program was a catalyst for that little kid to become a famous singer. We also introduced computers for ‘our’ vision-impaired kids – and with an ingenious software called “jaws” – it enabled the kids to listen to the screen – and enter the fascinating world of technology. We also had a Swimming Program for these kids: immersing them within another medium in which they could be successful and confident. By the end of the School Year, we had these kids swimming lap after lap: so look out for the 2020 Paralympics in Japan – as Vietnam may take out all the gold medals. We went into the streets to seek out kids who were intellectually challenged – as Loreto Program had built and equipped a beautiful new school for them. I remember meeting one of these kids – and he was tied to a tree whilst his mother sold salt from an

old cart on the side of the road. He was one of many disabled kids in my art class at this school. Someone said to me: ‘*these kids can’t paint!*’ I replied that I didn’t think like that and even if they put paint on the end of their noses – these kids could paint! I remember a lesson when I read a story about a farm: one little down syndrome kid couldn’t speak. But when I asked him what his (very abstract) painting was all about, he did this..... A catalyst is not comfortable with the status quo: intellectually challenged kids can be exceptionally creative!

Loreto Program over the past 6 years has moved to very remote and far flung Provinces in Vietnam..... We made changes at schools with shocking unhygienic situations: schools with 350 children and 15 teachers – and they had only two toilets (and I don’t mean toilet blocks): the kids were too frightened to go to the toilet.... So we built new, hygienic, water safe toilets for many schools and this was a catalyst for improved health, greater self-esteem and a feeling of dignity. Fishing families or itinerant agricultural laborers earn only \$50 a month and couldn’t afford to send their children to school. Loreto Program provided new school/kindergarten blocks, scholarships, uniforms and school supplies. We also gifted many kids with new bicycles/helmets because they had to walk 5 kms a day to school (and the same distance back home at the end of the day) and, of course, after a few weeks of doing this in the two drastic seasons of this part of Vietnam (the Wet and the Dry) – these kids dropped out of school – because it was too hard. I have seen grandparents weep beside the kids and their new bikes – because now, getting to school and maintaining attendance for their grandchildren would be much easier. Additionally, might I add that the majority of kids in rural areas are (not malnourished) – but undernourished so maintaining school presence was very difficult – because most of these little kids are scrawny and fragile . In these same rural, far-away places, Loreto Program also built and equipped Libraries (the kids have no books at home), Computer Rooms (no computers or other technological equipment in their homes) and Music Rooms. One little kid had to stay home from school one day to mind her younger siblings – and it was computer lesson day! This young girl took her very

young brother and sister to school with her that day so that she wouldn’t miss her lesson!

These examples are not boasts from me: many people are embroidered within the tapestry of these stories – and by this I mean our donors, supporters and companions who backed us incessantly. Every person who was a catalyst in this long story caused change by providing educational opportunities for over 60,000 kids in my time in Vietnam: as a result – enormous changes will emerge in the future of that country.

So – I encourage you all to be star catalysts as you take divergent tracks and as you continue your study and career paths. Choose uncharted waters for your change plans, learn as you go and don’t let unnecessary rules and regulations get in the way. Have faith in your plans and do everything you can to move it forward.

And I have one final message for you all! When I graduated initially from Teacher’s College – the speaker at this event told the graduates that they were and must continue to be donkeys!!!! These words had a great impact on me at the time though possibly I may have thought to be told I was a donkey was a little offensive!

Here are some points about donkeys that I now understand – because I’ve been journeying for quite some time.

- for thousands of years donkeys have been the “helping hooves” of the world and despite popular misconception they are highly intelligent
- donkeys also have an incredible memory (I’m not sure that that skill is as sharp within me now – as it was when I was younger)
- donkeys are not startled (unlike horses) and they have a keen sense of curiosity
- donkeys are really independent in their thinking (this is sometimes interpreted that they are stubborn). But they do reason and then make decisions based on safety
- donkeys learn what it is we want them to do – if we take time to show them
- donkeys also don’t like being kept on their own – and even a single donkey will live quite happily with goats

- donkeys are a lifeline to families in many regions of the world: they help with water/wood/fuel collection, land cultivation and transportation of produce to the market..... And this final point I love so much -
- donkeys are often fielded with wild horses due to the perceived calming effect that they have on nervous horses. If a donkey is introduced to a mare and a foal – the foal will often turn to the donkey for support after it has left its mother.

So I'm passing these thoughts onto you today: I'm also telling you that you are donkeys – and I advise you to continue to be donkeys. Remember this and don't be offended. Be 'pasture pals' on the next steps of your new journey: be strong by carrying packs and burdens too heavy – wait for it – when it's for others: don't respond to forceful behaviour – and take time to carefully establish trust and good relations: stick together over large distances – and wait for it again – when it's for those around you. You know donkeys also have the ability to hear 'calls' from far away – (though we don't need to grow large ears like them) – but listen to, hear and be attentive to the many kinds of noises around you! I urge you to have durability and longevity wherever you are and in whatever you do – so that you can make the most of your new journey – and wait for it – for the times it's with others: be guardians who carry the warmth and care of intelligence, calm and amusement. And you know - the final charm of a donkey is its unusual loud ability to call out. Develop this ability to tactfully call loudly – when – wait for it – it's for others.

I wish all of you the very best (even those staying at St. Mary's) – as you move on and take refreshing pathways. You can google for an answer; you can google for a career. But you can't google to find the catalyst in your heart – the passion that lifts you skyward! Walk slowly – but never walk backwards. There will be failures – this is a part of life. If you don't fail – you don't learn. And if you don't learn you will never change. And my final advice is - 'just be a donkey!!!! And a donkey with a high score in being a catalyst!

Thanks for having me with you tonight.....

SPORTS AND ART DINNER AWARDS



The Sean Dooley award is presented to the Best Sportsman and Best Sportswoman throughout the year. The winners of this award for 2016 were **Stephanie McMullin & Angus Murray.**

The St Mary's College Award for Contribution to Music is awarded to a student who has given freely of their time and talents in the field of music. The winner of this award for 2016 was **Ciaran Ross.**

The Sr Elizabeth Hepburn Award for Service to Sport is awarded to an individual who has given of their time and energies to support sport in our College. The winner of this awards for 2016 was **Joanna Fitzgerald.**

The St Mary's College Award for Contribution to Visual Art is awarded to a student who has given freely of their time and talents in the field of visual art. The winner of this award for 2016 was **Wasinee Phornnarit.**

The St Mary's College Award for Contribution to Drama is awarded to a student who has given freely of their time and talents in the field of drama. The winner of this award for 2016 was **Julia Crowe.**





COLLEGE MUSICAL

Between Thursday 18 and Saturday 20 August, the St Mary's College Student Club presented *Legally Blonde: The Musical* as the 2016 production. In just over five weeks, a dedicated production team and cast worked tirelessly to create a marvellous show.

of first year students and starred Amelia Vullermin as Elle Woods, Will Howard as Emmett Forrest, Matilda Gibbs as Paulette Buonafonte, Ryan O'Grady as Warner Huntington III, Angus Murray as Professor Callahan, Sofia Laursen Habel as Vivienne Kensington, Lily Dale as Brooke Wyndham and Eleanor Davey as Enid Hoopes.



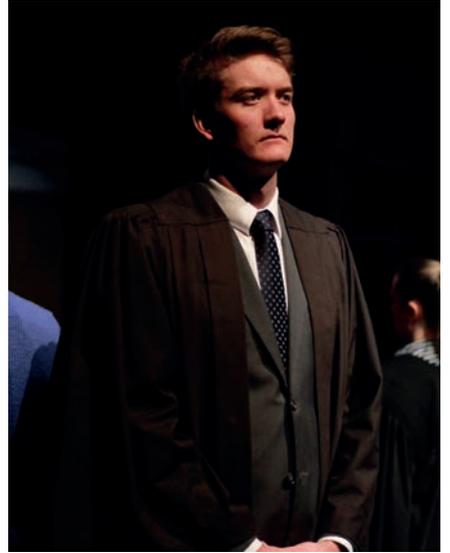
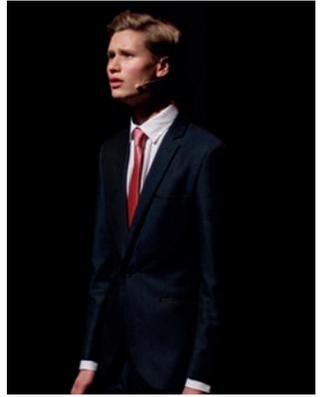
The Drama Committee, lead by Bevan Madden and Loretta Martin, should be commended for their ability to make this show 'stage ready' in such a short amount of time. For those of you who are unfamiliar, *Legally Blonde: The Musical* is 'a fabulously fun international award-winning musical based on the adored movie, following the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. This action-packed musical explodes on the stage with memorable songs and dynamic dances'.

The show was held at the Guild Theatre which is a part of the Melbourne University performing arts complex, with each of the three performances selling out. The stellar cast was predominantly made up

Special mentions should also be given to the Vocal Directors (Eleanor Davey and Sofia Laursen Habel), Choreographers (Lily Dale, Rhoanna Smith, Jenny Parker, Georgina Pitson and Eliza Goode) and the head of promotion (Bethany Lee). Finally, commendations to our head set designer, Julia Crowe who worked incredibly hard to create a stage design which complemented the production and performance space we had.

Thank you to all who attended and supported the show and to our major sponsors Mirror Paints, Pirate Life Brewing and AMCAL Pharmacy Carlton. We look forward to your continued support in 2017 as we undertake another spectacular musical.

[Loretta Martin and William Howard](#)



CULTURE REPORT

It has been yet another fantastic semester for Culture here at St Mary's. We have had a multitude of ICAC events, starting with Debating in Week 2, where we held our own by winning the first debate and narrowly losing the second. Theatre Sports was an extremely fun but very often strange night of entertainment in the Frewin Room.

Film Festival at Nova Cinema saw the reveal of the long-awaited cinematic masterpiece that was the 2016 St Mary's Lip Dub. Filmed on O Week, the music video featured some very young and excited freshers in their cadet groups which was a great flashback for them all.

At the time, the grandest and arguably most exciting event of the semester was Battle of the Bands in September. This event sees bands from 11 colleges take the stage in a real live 800-capacity music venue in the city. The St Mary's band performed three songs as part of their 15 minutes of fame. These songs were played to perfection by the 12 members - Hannah Burchell on drums, Bevan Madden on bass, Ciaran Ross on lead guitar, Liam Jess on guitar, David Smith on keyboard, Dominique

Holland with a solo on the saxophone, Xav Burton on solo vocals to channel his inner Bruce Springsteen and Sofia Laursen Habel, Amelia Vuillermin, Matilda Gibbs, Eliza Goode and Catherine Gay who took on the Queen hit 'Somebody to Love' - and won. Not really, we didn't place but we certainly gave it our all.

But when October came around, Battle of the Bands was pushed out of the limelight with our shock win at Quidditch. Thanks to Will Howard's incredible recruitment abilities, the St Mary's team beat Ormond in the grand final on their home turf to claim the 2016 ICAC Cup. Despite the winner being announced as JCH at the annual Quidditch dinner in Ormond's Hall, we reclaimed our rightful accolades and trophy. The trophy is now engraved and sitting proudly alongside the sport trophies in the trophy cabinet.

On the home front culture has been fairly quiet given the sheer extent of ICAC events but we did manage to sneak in a few performances at the Destress and Refresh Afternoon. The one-man show Ciaran Ross got the crowd excited as usual. This was followed by some slower tunes by Eliza Goode & Cat Gay, Leticia Atkinson's haunting vocals, a debut performance by Miranda Ho and the rock n' roll we've all come to love from Liam Jess and Xavier Burton.

But for now, it has been a pleasure being your 2016 Culture Representative and I cannot wait to hear about the talent and enthusiasm that St Mary's will bring next year.

[Eliza Goode](#)
Cultural Representative

INTER-COLLEGIATE QUIDDITCH TOURNAMENT

On Sunday 9 October, St Mary's College were victorious in the annual Inter-collegiate Quidditch tournament.

Quidditch may sound familiar to those of you who are Harry Potter fans. The game is in fact an adaption of that played in the Harry Potter movies, and as David Smith explains, it is not easy to play.

"The trio of 'Chasers' and defensive 'Keeper' pass around a volleyball (Quaffle) and attempt to score in the hoops at the opponents' end, much as you might expect if you have seen the Harry Potter films. Of course, that's easier said than done. Quidditch is a full contact sport when you must remain astride a PVC 'broom' and you're under a rain of dodgeball 'Bludgers' courtesy of the opposition Beaters. Being struck by an opponent's Bludger, or otherwise dismounting, is penalized with a retreat to your own hoops. In close fought games, with complex offenses that need all hands, this often tips the balance between scoring and losing possession. The game ends, like in the films, when the 'Snitch' is caught by a 'Seeker', which awards the winning team with three extra goals. However, instead of having wings, which might make catching it a little bit impossible, the Snitch is mounted on the belt of a cross-country runner with a reputation to maintain. This makes a Snitch catch only marginally less impossible!"

—David Smith.

Over the course of the day, Kyrra Rea, David Smith, Maddie Archer, Nick Wood, Nick Francis, Angus Murray, Stewart Thornton, Emma Scott, Sarah Mousley and myself defeated Queens, Whitley, International House and then Trinity in the Grand Final.

This is St Mary's second Inter-Collegiate victory of 2016, and it was such a thrill to accept the Quidditch Cup from the Master of Ormond at a dinner that evening.

Thank you to all who participated and to those who made the trek around University Oval to Ormond and supported us. I look forward to many more Quidditch triumphs in the future.

[William Howard](#)
Culture Representative



SPORTS REPORT

St Mary's students rode the highs and lows in Semester 2 with a mixture of great victories and heart-breaking losses.

The highlight of the semester was with the men's football team. They easily progressed through the group stage and qualified for the final against University College (UC) on Sunday 28 August at Melbourne University Main Oval. A huge turnout from the Mary's faithful had the lads pumped up but UC flew off to a fast start. The Mary's boys clawed their way back through standout performances from Jack Lang, Joel Wilkinson, Eddie Harrod, Angus Murray and Nick Barlow bringing Mary's within a point in the last quarter. Unfortunately, controversial decisions and missed opportunities at the end went against the boys ultimately resulting in a heart wrenching one-point loss. The boys can be proud of their efforts and the experience and friendships formed on and off the field will hold the boys in good stead for 2017.

The girls had a strong semester with competitive results in netball and chooty (chick's-footy). In chooty they made the semi-final with captains Hannah Burchell and Lily Corboy leading the way.

A special thank you was made to everyone who coached, supported or participated in Mary's sport this semester. Best of luck to Nick Wood and Sarah Mousley who were elected sports representatives for 2017.

Tom Chalkley





ALUMNI NEWS

Annual Francis Frewin Alumni Cocktail Party

The Annual Francis Frewin Alumni Cocktail Party was held in the Frewin Room on Saturday 22 October. Despite a freezing cold day, approximately 80 people attended the event and it was heartening to see the joy shared between them while reminiscing with friends from the past. Wasinee Phornnarit, a 2nd year resident student at St Mary's, shared her talent as a pianist, creating a lovely ambience throughout the evening.

Annual Alumni Mass

The day following the Annual Frewin Alumni Cocktail Party, the Annual Alumni Mass for the Deceased was held in the College Chapel. The Mass allowed time to reflect and give thanks and pray for all former members of the St Mary's community. Refreshments were served afterwards.







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