

1997

CARPE DIEM

Mount St Benedict College

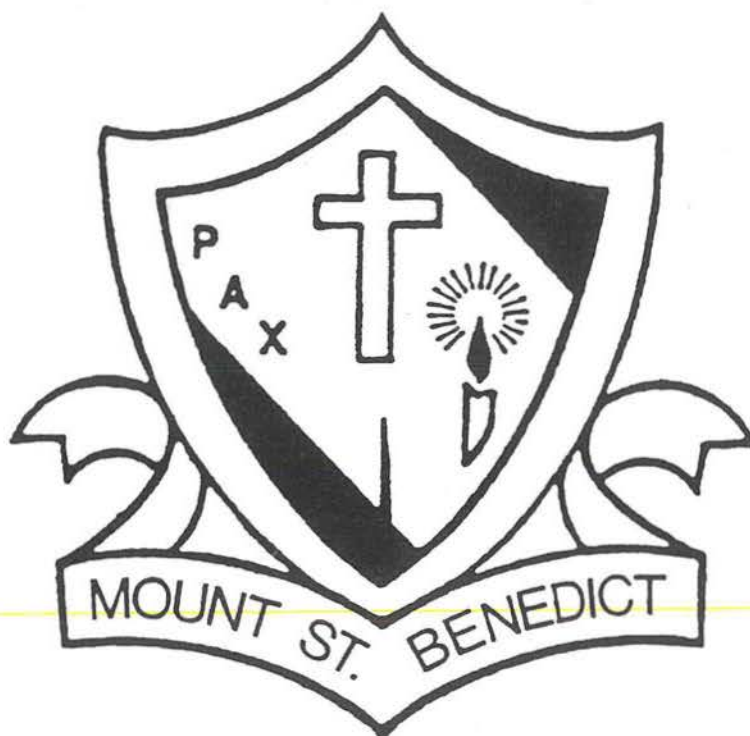


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Front Cover Design: Sarah Farago and Mrs C Metcalfe.

Mount St. Benedict College



Year Book **1997**



Mount St. Benedict College
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Standing at the edge of a new year is invigorating for some and nerve racking for others. All those months stretching out before us hold many answers to the questions that are found within one year.

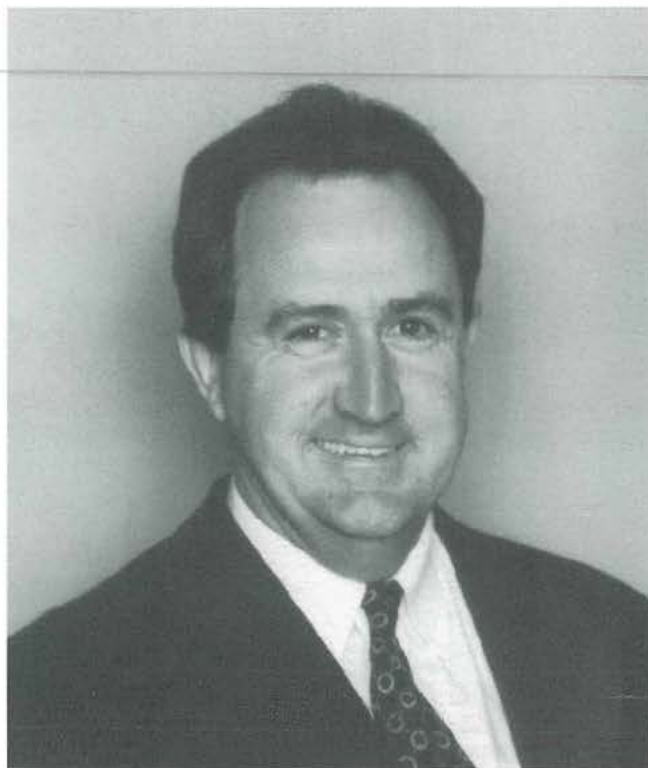
As summer turns to autumn we begin to see that most of the things that characterized our lives last year have come back this year. "There is nothing new under the sun." (Eccl.1:9). The events of 1997, from reading the calendar, look pretty much the same as any other year. The swimming carnival, the Opening Mass, Mount Saint Benedict day etc. It's not so much the events of the year that makes any one year special or different but rather the people who touch our lives through those events.

Events like the swimming carnival were made special by the enthusiastic involvement of all concerned, by our Year 12 leaders giving all they had to motivate and lead their houses. Our Opening Mass was made special by Bishop David Walker who blessed our year as he began his ministry in Broken Bay. Mount Saint Benedict Day was also made special by a simple sharing of the Eucharist by past Principals and School Captains, who joined with us to remember and marvel at the changes.

1997 will also be remembered by those who left, no longer a part of our daily living in a physical sense. My own mother died in early July. Many within our community have lost loved ones throughout the year. Life being what it is, birth like death has been a part of our year. New beginnings and endings in 1997 like other years have made it a year to remember.

National and international events like the loss of life at Thredbo and the untimely death of Diana, Princess of Wales, have coloured our year. Each of us have grown, each of us will remember 1997 for different reasons.

Educationally it has been like other years in recent times. A year of change. The White Paper on educational reform in N.S.W, and "Securing Our Future" has left us gasping for breath and preparing for a time of great change. The focus of learning can often be distracted by politics. Let us hope that 1997 was a year when individuals within our classes learnt something of the knowledge they need to lead them to greater things.



So often the year can be made or destroyed by our words or the words of others.

*"Like apples of gold in settings of silver
Is a word spoken in right circumstances."*

(Prov.25:11)

The days, weeks and months fly by so quickly. Before you know it, it's too late, don't let those words go unspoken, unwritten, unsaid.

*"Like cold water to a weary soul
So is good news from a distant land."*

(Prov.25: 25)

As Principal of Mount Saint Benedict it is important to look back over this year and say thank you to the staff, students and parents who have made 1997 what it has been. It has been your word, your gestures, your involvement which has made this time special.

Thank You.

Mr Alan Moran
PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is with mixed emotions that I write my final report for the Mount St. Benedict yearbook. My reports over recent years have focused on the curriculum changes that have been constantly with us. This year has been no exception.

We spent most of the first half of this year waiting for the white paper from the government concerning changes to the HSC. This waiting period was a difficult time, as all syllabus development from the Board of Studies was put on hold until the release of the White Paper. This was particularly difficult for the English and Visual Arts staff.

Still once the White Paper was released, it was obvious that all the ramifications of the document were still to be discovered. Many of the first details of the course structure and programs are to be developed by working parties set up by Mr Aqualina. So another difficult waiting time has arisen, particularly for the Religion staff, the staff involved in teaching 3 unit courses and the History and Geography teachers in Years 7 to 10. Still the Board of Studies statement on the 19th of September is reassuring as it specifies wide consultation on, and a reasonable time frame for, course developments.

During my reports I have also taken the opportunity to thank various members of the School community. As I prepare to face the new personal challenges of 1998 at St. Mary's, Liverpool, I wish to express my gratitude to all members of the Mount Saint Benedict Community for what you have given me over the last five years:-

To the students - I thank you for your friendship, your sense of fun, and your drive to be involved in the decision making of the College. I congratulate you on your dedication to doing your best, something that I have always felt to be a feature of Mount St. Benedict.

To the staff - whether it be class room teachers, ancillary staff, Year Co-ordinators, Studies Co-ordinators or members of the Executive, I have benefited from your warmth, consideration, professionalism and readiness to work with me. I guess I should add a thank you for putting up with my bad handwriting!

To Mr Moran - one of the features of being an Assistant Principal is that you are really able to appreciate all the facets that contribute to the role of



Principal in the College. Mr Moran has given me more than this appreciation; he has involved me in all that was happening so that everyday was a professional experience for me. When this is combined with the trust with which he delegated tasks to me, his giftedness as a leader is obvious. Finally his friendship and support over the last five years has been invaluable.

The new Assistant Principal in 1998 will indeed be a fortunate person to join such a community. I wish you all well as the changes in 1998 unfold and may your God be with you.

Miss Robyn Glover
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sr. Joan Sexton, Chairperson
 Mr Leo Hart, Deputy Chairperson
 Mr Paul Stubbs, Secretary
 Mr Anthony Gerathy
 Mr Christopher Firmstone
 Dr Lyn Tulevski
 Sr Therese Quinn
 Mr Alan Moran

COLLEGE STAFF

PRINCIPAL

Mr Alan Moran

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Miss Robyn Glover

ADMINISTRATION**CO-ORDINATOR**

Mr Clive Davis

STUDIES CO-ORDINATORS**Creative Arts**

Mrs Bronwyn Ward

English and ESL

Mrs Cassandra Allan

History

Mrs Carmel Kelleher

Human Society and Its Environment

Mr Rob Barrett

Languages Other Than English

Mrs Ingelore Gyory

Mathematics

Mrs Irene Abbott

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Ms Michelle Murphy

Religious Education

Sr Catherine McCahill

Science

Mrs Sue Millar

Technology and Applied Studies

Mrs Louise Weißen

TEACHERS IN CHARGE**Careers**

Mrs Lucy Elgood

Computing Studies

Mrs Annabelle Pascoe

Dance and Drama

Mrs Marisa Stennett

General Studies

Mrs Carmel Kelleher

Librarian

Mrs Adrienne Gorme

Music

Ms Vesna Hatezic

Remedial and Special Education

Mr Peter Ferguson

School Counsellor, Pastoral Care

Mrs Carmel Dunn

YEAR CO-ORDINATORS**Year Seven**

Mrs Adeline McGuire

Year Eight

Mrs Di Davis

Year Nine

Mrs Felicia Brogona

Year Ten

Mrs Margaret Michie

Year Eleven

Mrs Kay Whowell

Year Twelve

Mrs Joan Marsh

TEACHING STAFF

Mrs Irene Abbott

Mrs Cassandra Allan

Mrs Jenny Amys

Mr Rob Barrett

Mrs Felicia Borgona

Mrs Cath Coghlan

Miss Joanne Cooper

Mr Clive Davis

Mrs Di Davis

Dr Mireille Descoedres

Mrs Carmel Dunn

Mrs Jane Easterbrook

Mrs Lucy Elgood

Miss Tracey Elkington

Mr Peter Ferguson

Mrs Lynne Gibson

Miss Robyn Glover

Mrs Adrienne Gorme

Mrs Ingelore Gyory

Mr John Hamey

Miss Vesna Hatezic

Mrs Kristin Hather

Mr Nick Hoogenboom

Mrs Anita Howard

Mrs Christine Hunter

Mr John Jackson

Mrs Louise Jones

Mrs Wendy Jones

Mrs Carmel Kelleher

Mrs Sandra Lang

Mrs Sue Lennox

Mrs Rebecca Lewis

Mrs Maureen Mahon

Mrs Joan Marsh

Mrs Judith Martin

Mrs Liz May

Sr Catherine McCahill

Mrs Catherine McCallan

Mrs Linda McGowan

Mrs Adeline McGuire

Mrs Catherine Metcalfe

Mrs Margaret Michie

Mrs Susan Millar

Mr Alan Moran

Mrs Miwa Moriwaki

Ms Michelle Murphy

Mrs Cheryl O'Loan
 Miss Lynette Osborn
 Mrs Annabelle Pascoe
 Mrs Penelope Phillips
 Mr Andrew Quinane
 Ms Dympna Reavey
 Sr Joan Sexton
 Mrs Marion Smith
 Mrs Marisa Stennett
 Mr Bruce Stephen
 Mrs Mala Vellani
 Mrs Skye Wachter
 Mrs Julie Walsh
 Mrs Bronwyn Ward
 Mrs Louise Weißen
 Mrs Kaye Whowell

INSTRUMENTAL TEACHERS**Drums and Guitar and Bass**

Ms Michelle Blythe

Piano and Flute

Mrs Dorothy Cockburn

Miss Vesna Hatezic

Flute and Saxophone

Mr McHutchinson

Voice

Mr Andrew Quinane

BURSAR

Mr John Day

ADMINISTRATION STAFF**Principal's Secretary**

Mrs Heather Johnstone

Secretaries

Mrs Maureen Berkley

Mrs Kaye Moloney

Mrs Christine Dennis

Printing

Mrs Jill Fraumeni

SUPPORT STAFF**Laboratory Assistants**

Mrs Christine Grant

Mrs Jennifer Morgan

Library Assistants

Mrs Ruth Stewart

Mrs Patricia Sutton

Mrs Jennifer McLeod

Ms Jane Elliott

Home Science Assistant

Mrs Dianne Hinds

MAINTENANCE

Mr Des Howard

GROUNDSMAN

Mr John Lennon

UNIFORM SHOP

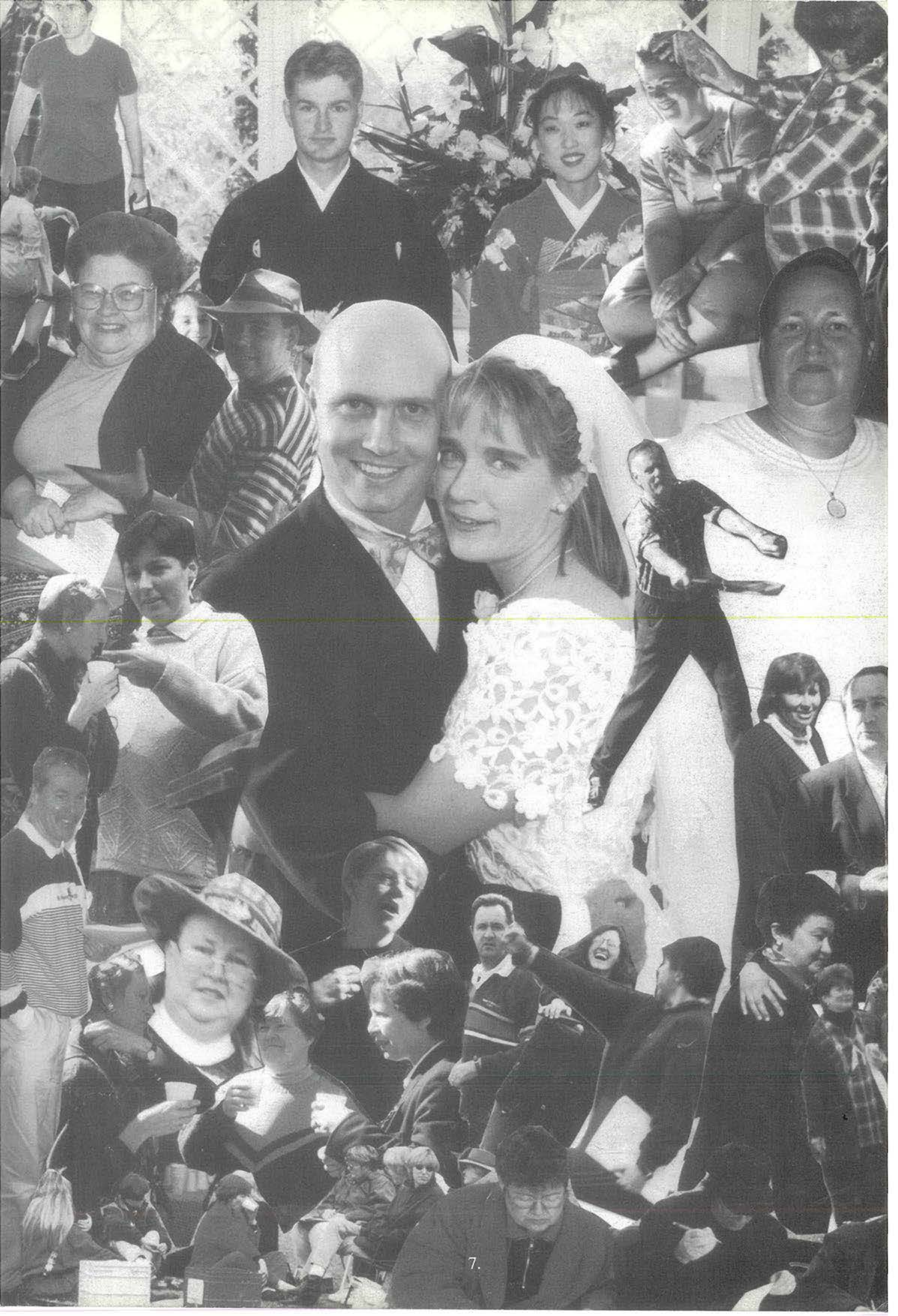
Mrs Jan Franco



SIXTH ROW (L-R): J Day, A Quinane, J Jackson, R Barrett, B Stephen, N Hoogenboom, D Howard, J Hamey, P Ferguson.
FIFTH ROW (L-R): C McCallan, L Weiher, J Amys, M Murphy, V Hatezic, M Stennett, J Lennon, S Lennox, C Grant, M Berkley, J Fraumeni, D Davis.
FOURTH ROW (L-R): A McGuiire, L Gibson, J Walsh, J Martin, J Easterbrook, S Wachter, L Osborn, C Metcalfe.
THIRD ROW (L-R): M Descoeudres, C Kelleher, C O'Loan, A Gorme, J Franco, F Borgona, P Sutton, J Elliott, C Allen, P Phillips, M Vellani, W Jones, R Lewis.
SECOND ROW (L-R): D Reavey, C Dunn, K Moloney, C Coghlan, M Michie, H Johnston, P Macalyk, M Mahon, L McGowan, L May, C Hunter, A Pascoe.
FRONT ROW (L-R): K Whowell, J Cooper, I Gyory, S Lang, A Howard, R Glover, A Moran, C Davis, M Smith, L Jones, J McLeod, B Ward, C Dennis.

STAFF PHOTO





COLLEGE CAPTAIN'S REPORT



Well I hate to sound a little cliché but this year, in fact my whole school life, has gone with the wind. The day you dream of or dread has finally arrived, the gates to the wide world have been opened. To be quite honest I'm ecstatic! The worst part of schooling life (so I'm told) is over. For six years you've worked for this moment and it has finally arrived.

Being College Captain has given me a variety of experiences. One of my first duties was being the Master of Ceremonies at the 1996 Performing Arts Concert. I found myself tongue tied but still had fun. Later in the year Karen and I were invited to spend a day at the New South Wales Parliament and Government House. May I just say that we left that day thoroughly aware of how the government works and its history.

As College Captain, this year has been quite demanding. Meetings for this and that occupied many a lunchtime and beyond. Organizing a variety of projects and who's going to do what prefect afternoon tea took up a significant amount of time. But believe it or not, even though I was stressed out of my mind, trying to establish some kind of equilibrium between study and captain duties, I've enjoyed every minute. I would especially like to thank Karen, Jackie, the House Captains and the rest of the prefect body for their undying support. As a team I think we were pretty good!

The Year 12's also deserve a thanks because prefect or not, someone was always there to help you through. The staff have also been tremendous in their support, especially Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. McGuire, Ms. Reavey, Mr. Moran, Miss Glover, Mr. Davis and Mrs. Allan. All have been a font of advice and support. I shall miss Mr. Davis' daily greeting, as his delightful humour set you on track for the day. As for Mrs. Allan, her concern on delegation was in force, resulting in her being the source of stress relief via the means of practical jokes.

Thanks also to the SRC for their devotion and enthusiasm. You have been the best council I've seen! In all sincerity, a big thank you to everyone. Your help and friendship has been greatly appreciated - your hands have made an imprint in my heart.

In conclusion, I wish Monique and her prefects the best of luck. I'm sure you will 'seize the day' and hope that your experiences will be as memorable as mine. Good luck also to Mrs. Marsh and the Class of 1998. On behalf of Year 12 1997 we wish you all success. And to the class of 1997, good luck to you also, pursue your dreams. It will be interesting to see you all again when we reunite in 2007!

Lisa Brincat
1997 College Captain

PREFECT'S REPORT

Okay, it's time for the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth...

Being a prefect is certainly no easy task; one is constantly expected to fulfill great expectations and must be prepared to undertake any task. But it is a worthwhile, rewarding experience with many privileges, especially wearing the illustrious badge. Our Prefect Afternoon Tea was a blast, providing an opportunity for us to share ideas with other schools (not to mention the social benefits!).

Our motto for 1997 was "No hand is too small to make an imprint". This was effectively carried out in our active involvement in all spheres of school life. This commenced with our rostered yard duty, enabling us to meet with other students throughout the school. The return of school radio was a roaring success, with many students bopping in the courtyard.

For the DJ's, however, it was a tad hectic with the introduction of requests. The Prefects' enthusiasm continued with their undying devotion to various committees - Amnesty International, Environment, Noticeboards, Garden and Liturgy.

The Trivia Night Committee was perhaps one of the most demanding tasks. And, boy, were all those efforts worthwhile, as the evening was highly entertaining. A special thanks to Jody Louie for all her help.

Last but not least, the prefects were also involved in preparation for school celebrations, spending numerous lunchtimes setting up, serving, singing, and....singing!

So, as you can see, 1997 was an extremely busy yet fulfilling year for all of us. A hint to the incoming team - delegate and don't give up. We are confident that you shall 'seize the day'. Good luck and thanks for your support.

Karen Gomes and Lisa Brincat



Third Row (L-R): Joelle Lagunzad, Nina Crause, Carly Hemmings, Erin Sparkes, Olivia Sheppard, Jody Louie, Donna Tulevski.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs McGuire, Romina Ricciardi, Christina Tassone, Rachel Cronin, Ms Reavey, Frances Hanna, Amelia Hutchinson, Greta Bacon, Mr Moran.

Front Row (L-R): Elizabeth Griscti, Catherine Ryan, Jackie Duckett (Sports Captain), Lisa Brincat (College Captain), Karen Gomes (Vice Captain), Catherine Taggart, Paddy Jessing.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



The Student Representative Council is elected every year by the students with two representatives from each house in each year. The Council meets every Thursday lunch to discuss matters raised by the students. The SRC members run activities for the school and with the help of the College community raise money for different organisations. Some of the matters discussed this year included the changing of school bags, the school diary and identification cards.

A number of members from the Council investigated school bags from various schools. These bags were modelled at the school assembly. The matter of new school diaries was raised at one of the meetings. The new diary will be more effective and robust.

Identification cards for bus and train travel as well as movie entry was another issue raised and discussed. The School Radio returned for a short time after a rave review from the students last year.

Each SRC member, with the help of their form, raised money for a special cause :-

- Year 7** *helped organize an Easter Hat Parade and a Cup Cake Stall to raise money for the Daly River Mission;*
- Year 8** *helped raise money for charity;*
- Year 9** *helped organise a Mother's Day Raffle to help the Good Samaritan Mission in Kiribati;*
- Year 10** *were involved in a Community Outreach program that was part of their religion curriculum;*
- Year 11** *help collect clothing and raise money for St. Vincent de Paul;*
- Year 12** *held a 'flower day' to raise funds for the House garden project.*

This year's Student Representative Council has been a keen and committed group of students who are willing to help. Thanks to Lisa Brincat, Karen Gomes and Jackie Duckett for running such smooth meetings. We don't know what we would have done without you.



Year Seven Subiaco

Fourth Row (L-R): Andrea Scott, Cassie Kirkman, Theresa Clasquin, Tanya Roumanus, Erin Giumelli, Serene Limaye, Katrin Games, Jeannette Cook, Julia Tropicano.

Third Row (L-R): Sasha De Melo, Caroline Frelek, Theresa Davies, Lisa Smyth, Erin Martin, Claire Porter, Cheryl Fernandes, Adriana Giuffre, Dianne Mouyat.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs A McGuire, Felicity Hyde, Sinead Deevy, Tarelle Hywood, Elizabeth Watkins, Vanessa Zuccala, Laura Friery, Lauren Vieyra, Nadia Habkhouk, Natasha Walls, Mrs S Lang.

Front Row (L-R): Vivienne Traynor, Melina Manago, Jomana Jreige, Rosanne Brincat, Amanda McIntosh, Janine Ashby, Melissa Rodda, Rachel Macumber, Nicole Alldis.



Year Seven Monte Cassino

Fourth Row (L-R): Bernadette Kenny, Eve Kenny, Sara-Joy O'Connor, Ellen Vaughan, Naomi Cronin, Samantha Sese, Emma Peters, Elise Miller, Cadence O'Reilly.

Third Row (L-R): Julia Gazzard, Laura Glasby, Kathy Hong, Nicole Roberts, Michelle Lulan, Juliet Rho, Amanda Condon, Ruth Werner.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs A McGuire, Bernadette Donoghoe, Justine Portelli, Kirsten Haig, Diana Popic, Caroline Kaldas, Lauren Miller, Sinead Byrne, Mrs C Dunn.

Front Row (L-R): Michelle Brown, Katie Lee, Jennifer Yeo, Amy Fiveash, Amanda Ralph, Marisa Burgess, Erin Jeavons-Fellows, Meghan Simpson, Brianna Train.



Year Seven Terracina

Fourth Row (L-R): Angela Kavanagh, Milena Gozzo, Gemma Watts, Carmeling Pollicina, Marcela Ordonez, Megan Rees, Amy Junkiewicz, Tina Gabriel.

Third Row (L-R): Melinda Ferris, Nicole Box, Kathryn Malempre, Elizabeth Lukunic, Amy Wood, Rabea Khan, Jean-Marie Ruhan, Amanda Kish.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs A McGuire, Alexandra Engel, Katelyn Donnelly, Emma Howcroft, Leah Dundas, Katherine Gairanos, Elizabeth Viski, Gillian Williams, Monica Ungsuprasert, Mr J Jackson

Front Row (L-R): Jennifer Mountford, Katrina Huxley, Nishmi Gunasingam, Elizabeth Gulczynski, Annette Siddle, Sarah Gray, Erin-Jean Bonnet, Katrina Fox, Lauren Burt.



Year Seven Maredsous

Fourth Row (L-R): Lorely Iacullo, Magda Sujecki, Kristina Jackson, Krystle Keller.

Third Row (L-R): Jessica Centenera, Casey De Souza, Olivia Usien, Claire Bull, Kristen Delutis, Monika Kenig, Jemma Stehr.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs A McGuire, Ria Tamone, Coby Walter, Lauren Holden, Jennifer Griffin, Karen Lim, Nadia Mahamood, Narelle Raïss, Mrs E May.

Front Row (L-R): Kristine Walker, Nicole Sigmun, Vanessa Maroon, Michelle Barillaro, Nicole De Caria, Amy Barker, Vanessa Tarfon, Lara Palma, Anna Dickson.

YEAR SEVEN

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SEMESTER ONE

Religion

First in 7VNicole De Caria
First in 7WRosanne Brincat
First in 7X.....Nishmi Gunasingham

English

Equal First in 7VLeah Dundas
Emma Howcroft
First in 7WRosanne Brincat
First in 7X.....Laura Friery
Equal First in 7YAmanda McIntosh
Amy Wood
First in 7ZErin Martin

Mathematics

Equal First in formNicole De Caria
Annette Siddle
Third in formAmanda McIntosh

Science

Equal First in form.....Erin Martin
Annette Siddle
Ellen Vaughan

Music

First in 7Q.....Annette Siddle
First in 7S.....Rosanne Brincat
First in 7U.....Tanya Roumanus

Visual Arts

First 7PNicole De Caria
First in 7R.Adriana Giuffre
Equal First in 7TSasha De Melo
Lauren Miller

History

Equal First in 7VNicole De Caria
Monika Kenig
First in 7Y.....Amanda McIntosh

Geography

Equal First in 7WRenata Fabisiak
Lauren Miller
First in 7X.....Nishmi Gunasingham
First in 7ZElise Miller

Languages Other than English

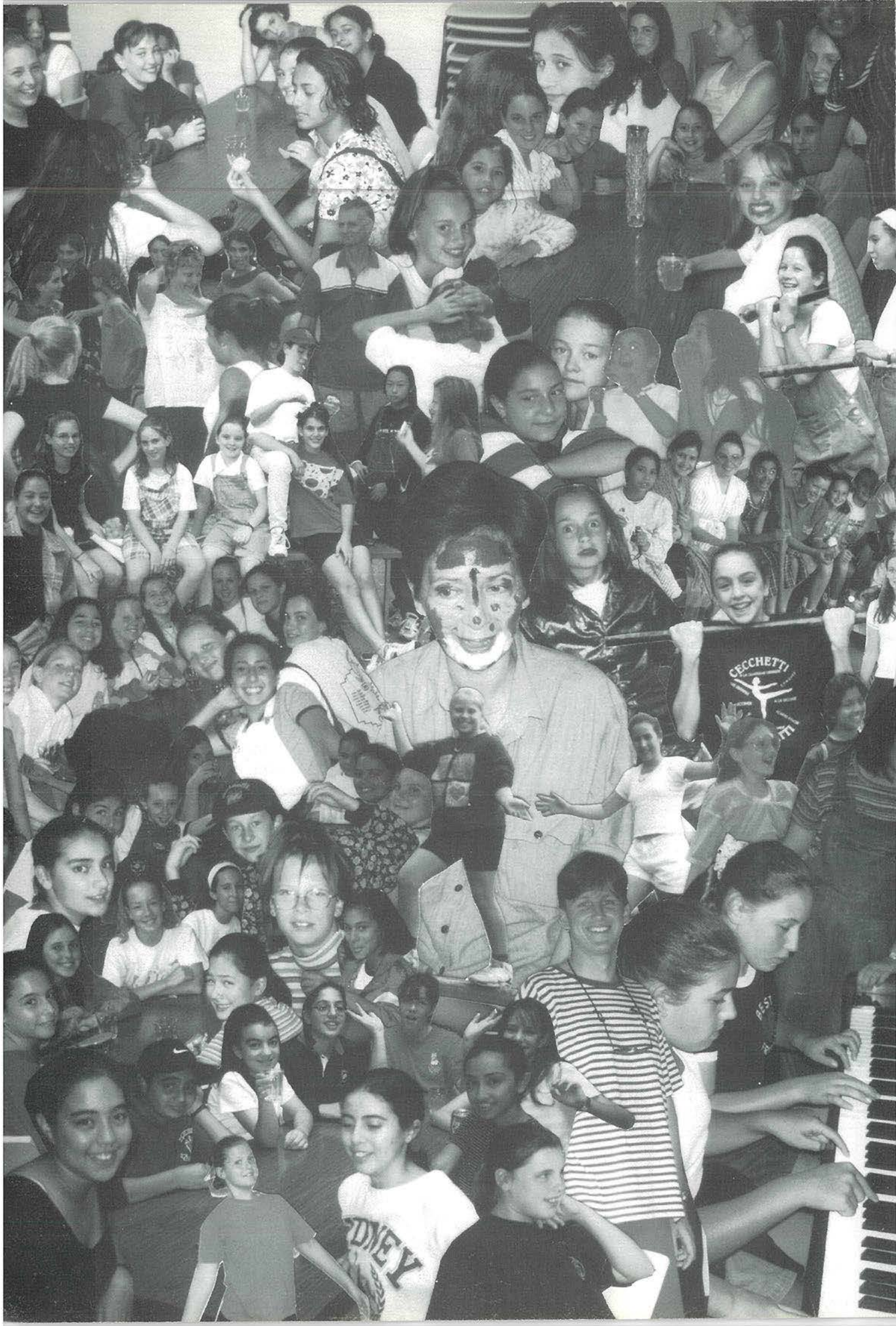
First in Croatian.....Dina Popic
First in French K.....Nicole De Caria
First in French M.....Lara Palma
Equal First in German N.....Annette Siddle
Elizabeth Gulczynski
Equal First in Japanese L.....Justine Portelli
Nishmi Gunasingham
First in Japanese O.....Rosanne Brincat

Design and Technology

First in 7PNicole De Caria
First in 7QLeah Dundas
First in 7RAdriana Giuffre
First in 7TMegan Rees
First in 7USara-Joy O'Connor

PDHPE

First in 7PCheryl Fernandes
First in 7QAmy Wood
First in 7RBernadette Kenny
First in 7SElizabeth Gulczynski
First in 7TSasha De Melo
First in 7UTanya Roumanus



YEAR 7 CAMP

DAY 1

Laughter and chatter filled the air as we headed towards Lane Cove, Naamaroo. On arrival, we collected our bags and moved in the direction of the hall. The teachers told us our plan for the day and which cabins we were to stay in. We were asked to place our luggage outside our cabin doors and move back to the hall. Once everyone was in the hall we played a few 'Getting to Know You' games. One of the games involved the teacher playing some music and when the music stopped the teacher would call out a number. Everyone would have to get into a group with that amount of people in it and eventually we ended up staying in those groups for activities. Each group was given a 'groovy' name, such as Banksias, Boronias, Flannel Flowers, and many more. The next item on the agenda was morning tea and then we set off in our groups for different activities, which were either swimming, tabloid activities or 'The Quest'!

Tabloid activities were a range of different sporting activities where we had to give ourselves and our group points. Some of these games were egg and spoon, target throw and over and under. 'The Quest' was a variety of problems you had to solve. They were great fun and often very hard, but the solution ended up being easy!

Later, we played 'Sale of the Century' and most questions were so easy you just had to get in first. Mr Hoogenboom was our model adding the points, while Mr Hamey was Glen Ridge. After dinner, we watched the classic movie 'Grease'! Everyone had a great time singing along (well, nearly everyone). Supper followed, then we moved back to our cabins for bedtime. Overall, the first day of camp was filled with fun and excitement.

Roseanne Brincat

DAY 2

After a very short sleep we all went to the dining room to have breakfast. Then we all ran to our rooms to clean up all the mess before room inspections were made! When we eventually heard 'O.K., your room is clean, you can go', we put our bags outside and had free time. Some of us went swimming, others went on walks, some played basketball and some practised their plays.

At 10.30am all the performers put on their costumes and everyone went to the hall before the Year 7 concert began. There were The Granny awards, The Price is Right, The Weirdo's, Ribbon Dance, Director Director, Young Hearts, Marshall Action, The Spouse Girls, Who Dares Wins, Teacher Karaoke and There's a Hole in My Bucket. All the acts were original and entertaining! Mrs McGuire ended up with her face painted, Ms Osborn acted like Elvis and Mr Hamey tried to be The Corrs! Overall, it was lots of fun!

After the concert we all filed off to the dining room to have quiche for lunch and a beautiful chocolate cake for dessert. Then it was back to the hall to watch a video of the camp. There were some very funny moments but the video was mainly about the way we co-operated to complete the various tasks set the day before. We had learnt to get along with others and we made new friends.

Sadly, after the video we had to say good-bye and take the bus back to school. It had been a very enjoyable 2 days at Namaroo!

Sasha de Melo

PEER SUPPORT

As a Year Seven student this year at Mount St Benedict, Peer Support was one way to mix and get to know other students. Peer Support was formed to help Year Seven students settle into a new school environment, with help from Mrs. Whowell, Mrs. Dunn and a specially trained volunteer group of Year Eleven students.

All students participated in a large range of activities designed to help and give advice when needed. It helped us increase our self-esteem and confidence; we found out more about ourselves and it was a group where we could talk about anything. Peer Support helped our communications - we came to know more about each other and made great friendships, but most of all it was a place where we felt we were accepted, needed and wanted.

Peer support was many things to me. I learned a lot about friends, friendships, my family, making decisions I should make, and me. I learned how to cope with peer pressure and how to accept people for what they are and what their qualities are. I have thoroughly enjoyed this very exciting experience. I think we all owe a huge 'thank you' to those involved with the Peer Support program.

*Amy Junkiewicz
Year 7*

And from a Year Eleven point of view...

Peer Support gave us the opportunity to do just that - support our peers.

Even though we had experienced two days of intense training we were not prepared for the strenuous schedule of talking, parties, games and parties. In between these exhausting necessities we took the time to learn about each other and reflect on ourselves and the College environment. It was a great experience which gave us the opportunity to form relationships with the younger members of the College community.

We enjoyed being able to do something positive for the Year Seven students by helping them feel more at home in their new school and more relaxed with the whole school routine.

All in all it was great fun and a very worthwhile experience which we thoroughly enjoyed.

*Clare Buttner
Laura Brady
Katie Killian
Year 11*



YEAR 12 1996 - THE TOP 16



Our Year 12 students of 1996 are to be congratulated on their excellent HSC results. 60% of the girls from our College were placed in the top 40% of the state - a result that reflects all the hard work and effort that was put in by both teachers and students.

Of the ninety three students from Mount St. Benedict College that sat for their HSC last year, sixteen were placed in the top 5000, a result that we should all be proud of.

Our top 16 students were:

Ophelia Au Young	99.90
Camille Lagunzad	99.80
Alison Everdeen	99.05
Laila De Melo	98.75
Arlene Forker	97.75
Helen Kearney	97.60
Sarah Ryan	96.65
Cindy Chu	95.55
Angela Lee	94.80
Joanne Pulis	94.40
Amanda Glover	93.75
Jocelyn Estyphans	93.70
Sarah Legaspi	93.60
Elisa Spano	93.55
Smriti Sacheva	91.85
Ada Poon	90.15

These excellent results were consistent with the results of the last five years.

Jessica Lukunic

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF MOUNT ST. BENEDICT

Retreat Program

The greatest focus of energy in the planned spiritual life of Mount St. Benedict College in 1997 has been the Retreat Program. In October 1996, Br Graham Niest, a Marist Brother with extensive experience in school and youth retreat work, spent a morning working with all the teachers who were involved in the 1996 program. Graham had read all our programs and documentation. He provided some theoretical input as well as the opportunity to reflect on our own experience. After lengthy discussions and consultation it was decided to make some rather important changes. In essence these meant:

- each year level (except Year 10) would be divided into groups of 40 - 45 students going to separate venues;
- a teacher would be asked to facilitate the process at each venue;
- the emphasis would be on providing an opportunity for spiritual awareness and development, with community building being a secondary aim.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have each had a Reflection Day with opportunities for quiet time, praying with various media (paint, clay, writing, drawing) and liturgical prayer. We have used a number of local venues, giving the girls an opportunity to enjoy the beauty and space of a different environment without the constraints of school.

Years 10, 11 and 12 have had longer Retreats with an overnight stay or two nights for Year 12. Change is always difficult for students and many of the senior students were not happy with the proposal but the feedback was very positive indeed. The smaller groups allowed for better use of the facilities, more quiet time, greater sense of community and removed the awkwardness of "managing" 120 - 130 students at once.

Students have written about Year 11 and 12 Retreats elsewhere in the Yearbook. The Retreat Program calls for a great deal of commitment from the entire staff - those who go and those who stay behind and carry the burden. About 35 teachers have actually participated. I want to publicly acknowledge their dedication and expertise, their generosity and joyfulness in approaching this challenging work.

I believe we have worked well but it is important not to be complacent. To this end Br Graham Niest will work with us again in December to overview the program.

Liturgies

This year we were pleased to welcome the new bishop of the Broken Bay Diocese, David Walker, to celebrate our Opening Eucharist. A group of dedicated students prepared an excellent liturgy around the theme of Journeying Together.

On Mount St. Benedict Day we also gathered in Eucharist to celebrate our Benedictine Tradition. Each Roll Call group brought forward a symbol of their group as part of the Gathering Rite. A specially scripted dialogue highlighted key aspects of St. Benedict's life and writing, emphasising their application in our school - praying together, serving one another, sharing our lives. Fr David Maguire, parish priest of St Bernadette's, Castle Hill was the celebrant.

Louise Shepherd wrote about the Ash Wednesday liturgy:

This year the Religion Department took a different approach to the Ash Wednesday liturgy. Seniors took on the role of distributing the ashes in a reflective ceremony in each roll call group. Students from different year groups took on the role of reading and all participated in singing. After receiving the ashes, each group received a Project Compassion Box and promised to contribute throughout Lent to the missions. All in all it was a very special and reflective beginning to Lent.

During the following six weeks over \$ 500 was donated to Project Compassion.

On the final day of Term One, we had a Paschal Liturgy to celebrate Jesus' final days, his death and resurrection. In roll call groups the students shared bread in commemoration of Holy Thursday, we read of Jesus' death and resurrection. In roll call groups the students shared bread in commemoration of Holy Thursday, we read of Jesus' death and resurrection. Each student received a candle prepared by Year 7 students to take home in acknowledgment of this mystery and a reminder of the link between school liturgy and our spiritual life which goes far beyond school.



Years 12 and 10 students will have end of year liturgies. The students have worked well to prepare meaningful Eucharistic liturgies.

Of course sacramental liturgies would be impossible without the generosity of the local priests who have come for so many occasions - whole school liturgies, Year 10 RE class liturgies, Reconciliation on the Year 8 Reflection Day, Year 11 Eucharist.

Religious Studies

On a daily basis the Religion Faculty continues the work of Religious Education. We have had a few changes in staff. At the end of 1996 Mrs Chris Lindley and Miss Maureen McCluskie left Mount St. Benedict after a number of years, Mrs Sandra Lang moved fully into English and Mrs Julie Walsh into Science. We were fortunate to employ Mr John Hamey who has a specialist degree in Religious Education. Mrs Carmel Dunn also joined the Religion Faculty. Mrs Trish Macalyk replaced Mrs Joan Marsh in Term Two. The full group of 15 Religious Studies teachers is hardworking and dedicated.

As a faculty we are committed to fortnightly meetings for each year level. This requires commitment, but it means we can work together on developing programs and a wide variety of classroom resources.

Years 9 and 11 students were fortunate to have excursions. Year 11 visited The Great Synagogue, St Andrew's Anglican Cathedral and the Baha'I Temple, as part of their foundation studies in the meaning and place of religion in society. Year 9 visited the Mary MacKillop Museum and either St Mary's Cathedral or the Good Samaritan Sisters Archives and Congregational Centre, as part of their unit on Australian Church History.

This year all Year 11 students are enrolled in Studies of Religion, a Board endorsed course. This means they can claim credit for this subject in their TER. They are enjoying the challenge of the course and have been encouraged to think about their own beliefs.

With the White Paper of the McGaw Report "Securing Their Future", there will be changes to the way Religious Studies is delivered from 2000. We will need to consider the most appropriate course of studies for all students at Mount St. Benedict.

At faculty meetings we have been considering the AIMS of Religious Studies in the school curriculum. We have considered the aims of the three dioceses from which our students come, and our own experience and education. Once we have completed this task we can continue the ongoing evaluation of our outcomes and programs.

As we come to the end of the year let us thank God and each other for all that has been, and ask a blessing on our undertakings for 1998.

Sr Catherine McCahill
Religious Education Co-ordinator



ENGLISH REPORT

English has always been an area in which students at Mount St. Benedict have excelled and clearly the tradition continues to be upheld.

In the 1996 HSC the Means of all English Courses were well above the State Means: 3 Unit students attained a mean of 43%, 2% above the State Mean, 2 Unit Related - 81%, 2 Unit General - 68% and 2 Unit Contemporary - 77%.

Our English grades in the School Certificate were also pleasing with 59% of students receiving either an A or B and 37% gained a C.

All students in Years 7 to 10 competed in this year's Australian Schools' English Competition. Emma Howcroft in Year 7 and Therese Kenny in Year 9 attained High Distinctions. 37 Certificates of Distinction and 91 Certificates of Credit were awarded.

Students from the College submitted entries for the Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year Competition. Once again, we had one of the highest number of students highly commended for their stories. Congratulations to the following students: Megan Bate, Jennifer Barrett, Katherine Dempsey, Pru Engel, Emma Hogan, Laura Jack, Amie Kirsten, Linda Popic, Dana Stewart. Frances Hanna was a North Sydney Regional Winner. This is the first time a student from our college has been so successful in this competition. Frances was also **Very Highly Commended** in this year's National Poetry Competition organised by the Dorothy Mackellar Memorial Society. This means her poem, *Obituary to Mystery*, was in the final selection from which the National and Sectional winners were determined. Sarah-Kate Makila was **Highly Commended** and Rebecca Griffin, Erin Martin and Janelle Rees were **Commended**.

Classes in Years 7, 8 and 9 had double English periods once a cycle so that we could have performances by companies as varied as performance poets, story-tellers and performing street artists. At the end of Term 2 we celebrated Shakespeare's writing with performances by The Troubadours who explored Shakespeare's Supernatural-*The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet* and Something Wicked - *Macbeth*. Year 7 enjoyed seeing *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* and Year 9 students attended a performance of *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream as part of the Festival of the Dreaming, which was performed by an all Aboriginal cast. Senior students have attended performances of *Pygmalion*, *Hamlet*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* and *Educating Rita*.

It has been a busy year with lots of exciting activities - one note-worthy example was when the convent chapel, filled with atmospheric organ music, courtesy of Mr Jackson, was the setting for Mrs Smith's Year 9 class when they dramatically read obituaries created as a result of studying the film *Dead Poets' Society*.

Students and teachers alike have enjoyed exploring texts and attending performances this year and we look forward to another great year in 1998.

Mrs C Allan

ENGLISH CO-ORDINATOR

FADED FACES

His eyes faded *sepia tinge*
His skin looked soft and new
His hat dipped to one side
And the brown strap tucked neatly under his chin.

Her cheeky eyes *gleaming,*
Dark, brown locks hung freely.
The printed skirt faded brown,
Her delicate arms held *framing her.*

"What was her name?"
'Dawn.....I never saw her after The War.'
Where is she *I wonder?*
The blue, tattered album closed.

Sarah-Kate Makila Year 9

MATHEMATICS REPORT

The time has come for the 1997 Year Book report! This year has passed so quickly, that in some ways it still seems like first term.

In 1997, we have welcomed Mrs Lennox into some of our mathematics classes. Mr Davis is taking long service leave during fourth term. His Years 7 and 8 Mathematics classes will be taught by Mrs McDermott during his absence.

The new mathematics syllabuses for Years 9 and 10 have at last been introduced. We are implementing the changes in three courses - Advanced, Intermediate and Standard.

During first semester, each girl in Years 7, 8 and 9 completed a maths project. These projects formed the base for our Open Day display. Many of these, together with assignments completed by senior students as part of their assessment in Mathematics in Society and Mathematics in Practice, were displayed in rooms 12 and 13. It was exciting to see the high standard in the variety of topics chosen by the girls.

Staff at Mount St. Benedict continue to be involved in the Northwest Maths Group, which provides the opportunity for Maths teachers in the area to exchange ideas and resources. Our focus this year has been the new 9/10 syllabuses.

At the end of July, *Westpac* and *Bennie's* Mathematics competitions were held. On this day, every student in the school participated in a Mathematics competition. Unfortunately, the results have not yet been received.

During this year, senior classes have used the graphing calculators in the classroom. This resource has been used for curve sketching and in trigonometry. It is hoped that their use will be extended next year. Students in the junior school continue to use the Task Centre and other group problem solving activities.

As 1997 draws to a close, we look to 1998 with its challenges and opportunities.

Mrs I Abbott
MATHEMATICS CO-ORDINATOR

Task Centre

Task Centre is a "unique way of playing" and at the same time learning about different aspects of Maths. It's a time where you can throw away your normal everyday Maths books and have a break from traditional learning. It is extremely "mind boggling" and challenging, and enjoyable to solve. There is a great variety of different tasks given to solve.

Task Centre is made up of different categories, including Algebra, Chance/Data, Logic, Measurement, Number and Space. Because of the variety of categories it encourages learning.

Year 8 Maths 1 class have been using Task Centre every Friday throughout the year. We look forward to it every week and enjoy the fact that it's different from learning from a text book. It helps you to think through logical problems and you learn a lot. "It facilitates group work and everyone can give their own ideas about how to solve the problem", says the teacher, "and through each person giving ideas the problem is easily solved." In fact, some girls wish they had it at home and others think of it as exhilarating.

The whole class think the 30 hands-on items provided in the Task Pack help with solving the problems. The levels range from easy to hard, so it suits all abilities. Overall, it is just fun learning for students.

Alexandra Craig and Belinda Lee
Year 8

SCIENCE REPORT

This year, Year 9 Science classes took part in Streamwatch monitoring a stream at the end of Hull Road. It wasn't long before pollution was discovered coming from a stormwater drain. The Water Board was notified and is now trying to track down the source of pollution. During the year, representatives from the Hawkesbury Nepean Trust presented Year 9 and their teachers with certificates for their contribution to cleaning up waterways in the area.

On Open Day, Mr Stephen held a lesson for parents and prospective students for which there was the usual long queue. Mrs Michie assisted people to make large mosquitoes that made very convincing mozzie noises. All Year 7 to 10 classes displayed their Spectra projects. These included models, experiments and information from a wide range of scientific topics. Mr Hoogenboom created a Streamwatch display complete with plants and running water, assisted by students.

Most students in Years 7 to 11 entered the Science Competition this year. Students from Years 10 to 12 took part in the Chemistry Competition and senior Chemistry students entered the Titration Competition, attaining excellent results.

Students took part in a number of excursions. Year 7 spent a day observing 200 animals, senior Biology students investigated ecology at Crosslands and classification at the Aquarium and Botanical Gardens. Science for Life and Physics classes studied nuclear science at ANSTO and circular motion at Australia's Wonderland, and Science for Life also investigated natural disasters.

Mrs S Millar
SCIENCE CO-ORDINATOR

CHEMISTRY TITRATION

Any keen Chemistry students looking for fun? Well, the Chemistry Titration Competition is the ideal place to go. After training ever so hard - about twice in two weeks! - the Year 11 and 12 girls were armed with their pipettes and burettes fully loaded and ready to beat those Pacific Hills brains.

We arrived early Saturday morning at Macquarie University, ready for action. Each team worked by themselves in an enormous laboratory.... some teams secretly recording their results, whispering now and then.... but the Bennies girls sure had fun.

Mixing up solutions was our team's speciality and we sure did celebrate when our indicator turned that lovely pink colour. This lasted for a few hours and then it was time to find out the true concentration of the solutions.

Boy did we get a shock. Most of our calculations were off by only 0.0002. So we didn't beat those brains, but we sure had some fun in the process....all thanks goes to Mrs Easterbrook and her son for coaching us, encouraging us and transporting our weapons!

All the best to next year's team... I hope you have as much fun as we did!

Karen Gomes Year 12

WONDERLAND

With great expectations, the Year 12 class of 1997 approached the DAY. For weeks that was the only topic of conversation: the excursion to Australia's Wonderland.

The moments that will stay with us forever are not those experiences dealing with the principles of Physics but rather getting drenched on the Snowy River Rampage, the ten-rides-in-a-row on those "swing things" and the hours of fun running from one ride to another, experiencing our childhood all over again.

But apart from all the fun, the fact that we were able to experience the principles of Physics in action really helped us with our preparation for the HSC and supplied us with happy memories of the most exciting day all year, for years to come.

Stephanie Jaros Year 12

HISTORY REPORT

I am writing this report on a weekend when many thousands of people around the world are musing about the historical events which have occurred during the week. The lives and deaths of two women, Mother Teresa and Diana, Princess of Wales, have caused a ripple in the consciousness of many, and it seemed important to note that these two individual women had made a difference for many 'forgotten' people, in a world where male power is still very pervasive, and is often used to enhance its possessors, rather than empower others.

This is the stuff of history. This is what we in the History Department at Mount St. Benedict are constantly trying to bring to our students, the realisation that individuals can make, and have made, a difference, and that the 'masses' can be used by others, or as was the case in Britain this week, they can make themselves heard, and also make a difference.

We hope that our students are learning about people, and recognising from their study of the lives of others, whether they lived in ancient, mediaeval or modern times, that while situations change, human beings react in much the same way as their predecessors. Thus it is possible to recognise those situations which have been for the advantage of mankind, and those which have caused great suffering and needless upheaval, and, in our own time, if faced with like challenges, make a difference.

The History Department would not function at the high level it does without the dedicated and effective teaching of Mrs Metcalfe, Miss Osborn, Mrs O'Loan, Mrs Martin and Miss Elkington, and I would like to thank each of them. As well, we wish to acknowledge the enthusiastic and excellent work of our students.

Mrs C Kelleher
HISTORY CO-ORDINATOR

YEAR 9 HISTORY

We all arrived at the first lesson of history with excited apprehension. This was it. History, one of our chosen electives. We were stuck with it for years nine and ten. And we were all asking the same question. What had we let ourselves in for? We soon found that the answer to this question was a fun filled and educational year, ...well, history!

What better way to start our history course, than to start at the er.....well, just after the beginning. With Ancient Greece of course! We studied this for the first term and a half, learning everything there was to know (and a little more!) about the Ancient Greeks. We learnt about their dress, their homes, their food, their religion, and even about their temples, and of course, their Gods and legends.

But it wasn't all writing. We made colour travel brochures, and even got a practical project! Yep that's right, no writing!! (That's just the sort of project I like!) Then we moved on to our study of Medieval Times. We learnt about knights in battle, and peasants, and Ladies, and Lords and Kings. We were grossed

out by our learning about the kinds of punishments, such as being hung by your hair and whipped (resulting in scalping!) and being hung, drawn, gutted and quartered. Wives could even be punished for nagging! And you could be labelled a witch just for having green eyes, and be burnt at the stake !! Alive. After learning about medieval food, we held our Medieval Day, where we all came to school dressed up as a person from medieval times, and spent the day engaging in medieval activities, culminating in a Medieval feast!!

The next topic happened to be American Indians. During this final topic for Year 9, we learnt all about the culture of the Indians, paying particular attention to their beautiful stories and legends as well as their hymns, and the rest of their colourful culture.

So that was Year 9 history. It was lots of fun. A big thank you to Mrs O'Loan, Mrs Kelleher and Miss Elkington for providing us with such a great year.

Janelle Rees

VISUAL ARTS REPORT

As the Year 12 Art students prepare for their written HSC examination they have the confidence in knowing they have completed their major art work to the absolute best of their ability. I always breathe a sigh of relief when the courier picks up those wonderful masterpieces and delivers them to the art marking centre.

This year, as in the past, the girls have excelled themselves with their imagination and eye for detail. Humour is always prevalent in Mount St. Benedict's major works, a sure indication of the positive attitude of our girls. Jodie Louie's sculpture "Lurid Addition" portrays with a whimsical touch, the temptations that are out there in society. Jodie has chosen fishing lures as a basis for her art work. There were several such art works in our 1997 exhibition; Nina Crause's "A Breast of Time", Celeste Tiamzon's "Jeepney Grande" and Sarah Redimerio's fantastic send up of the role "Television Series" play in our day-to-day lives.

Frances Roberts, Estelle Ottolina and Lisa Brincat chose a more conventional media, nevertheless, they added just a touch of the less conventional. Lisa wove doll's hair into her tapestry which was based on a portrait of her mother. Year 11 students have a hard act to follow, although as you can see by their 'mini major' works from term 3, they look to have the expertise to meet the challenge.

Brown paper head-dresses caught the imagination of Year 10 students this year along with their excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW. The girls seem to be enjoying the visual art cultural experience at M.S.B. We are all aware of the role Visual Arts play and it is the Visual Arts Syllabus that gives the students the opportunity to develop their own skills in both making, and the study of images and objects.

It is team spirit, however, that sets and maintains the high standard of achievement in our department, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Metcalfe, Mrs Howard and Ms Elliott for their fine contribution to date.

Mrs B. Ward Creative Arts Coordinator

It's the morning after, the morning after our major artwork exhibition. Most of us have managed to catch up on some sleep after the rush. But I must say that the finished artworks are fabulous and I'm sure that anyone who has seen them will agree.

The range of works has been vast and impressive. From 'spare' body parts to 'human lures' to intricate drawings and photography. The range of materials used was also innovative. Latex appeared in several works in a variety of forms and magnets were used as a 'puzzle' in 'magnetic surgery'. But there is one common element throughout the artworks, this being the high level of humour and sophistication. It will be intriguing to know who from our Year 12 Art class, will have their work exhibited in the prestigious Art Express. Good luck to all the students, and hopefully there will be more than one!

I cannot go on without congratulating and thanking Mrs Ward and Mrs Howard. Your infinite support has been incredible and we all thank you very much. None of this could have been achieved without you. Thanks. Lastly I would like to end with some advice for art students and potential art students. Be prepared for the time ahead. Time organisation is a must as is strength of endurance. This is not for the 'faint hearted' - dedication and creativity are a necessity, and with these art is perhaps one of the most enjoyable and rewarding subjects.

Good luck and thanks very much.

Lisa Brincat Year 12.

When I first thought of Art, the initial definition that came to my mind was 'painting'. However, since I have been doing visual arts as a subject, I have learnt that art is not just simply painting but a lot more. It deals with texture, design, sculpture, styles, graphics, colour, uniqueness and creativity. And all this we learn in the one subject, through past and present artists. We look at their work, their inspiration, their styles and their techniques.

This year, in Year 8, so far we have been looking at Aboriginal art work. We have been making containers which we decorate using paint, with their styles as our inspiration. However this time we are using contemporary colours besides the natural colours they would normally use.

Art is an exciting subject and I believe is one where we can, through our work, express our feelings and emotions. We get an opportunity to use our creativity. Every time we enter the art rooms, we see the best piece of artwork - Mrs Wards outfits! Through her outfits we see how she has used her creativity. She has taught us a lot. Thank you Mrs Ward.

Shruti Sachdeva Year 8



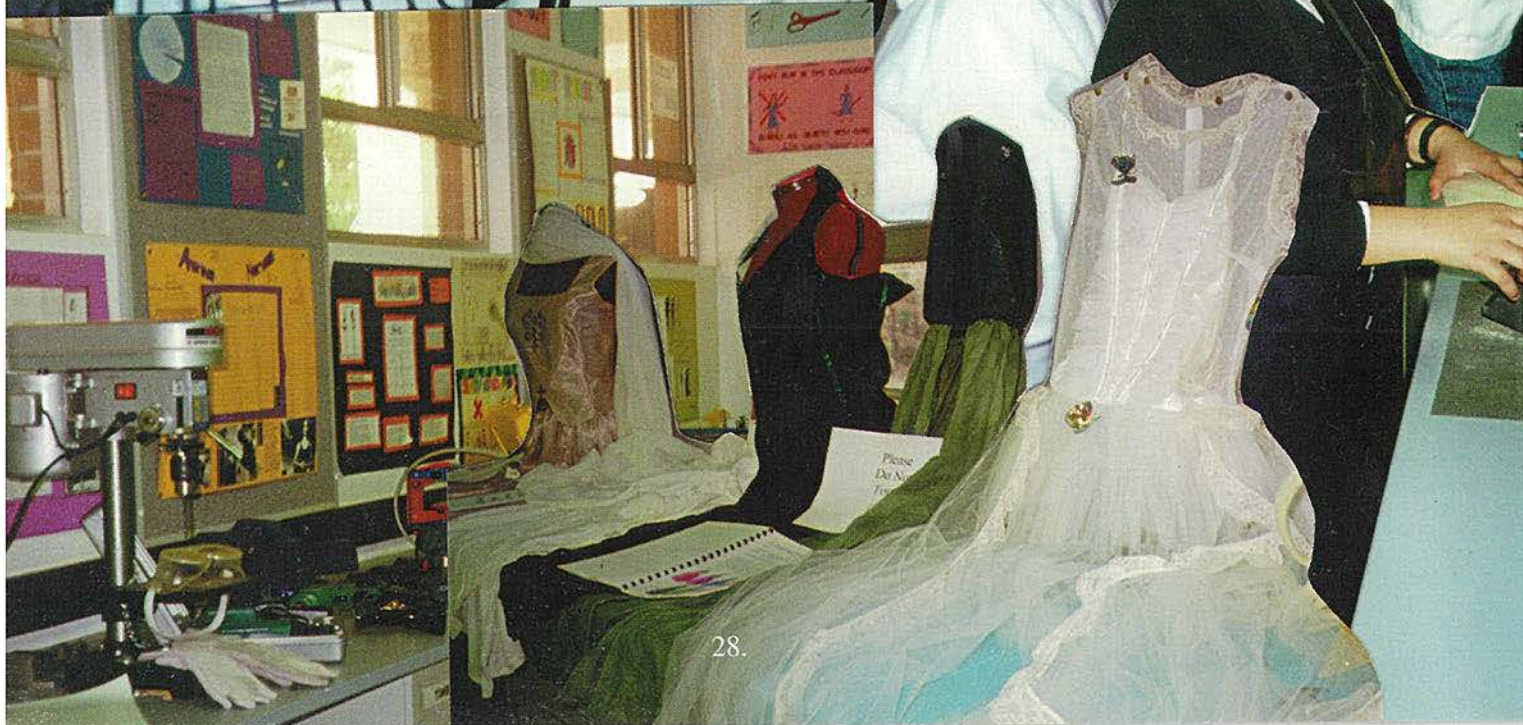


MOUNT ST. BENEDICT



PERFORMING ARTS





TECHNOLOGICAL and APPLIED STUDIES REPORT

It was with great excitement that we entered our new multi-purpose Design and Technology rooms - T3, T4 and T5 - to begin the year's work with all classes, especially our first Year 11 Design and Technology group. Both staff and students agree that the rooms have made work much more satisfying and manageable and again, I would like to thank all those families who contributed to the building and furnishing of the rooms. As the year has progressed new equipment, upgraded resources and lots of enthusiastic effort has produced some diverse and excellent projects across the year groups, including playground designs, road safety puzzles, personalised name plaques, tourist products, home storage units ... and all the other quality projects and portfolios from our budding designers! As our final Year 12 Textiles and Design class, the girls in this year's group have maintained an excellent standard of work, showing particular flair in their portfolio presentations.

This year sees the graduation of our first Hospitality class, a hardworking and trail-breaking group of girls who have undertaken both practical and theoretical components in a positive way. The production of alluring aromas and tantalising tastes has been balanced with in-depth studies in nutrition, food processing and marketing, customer relations, Australian food habits and other food-related areas across all years. The Year 12 Life Management Studies class has shown similar commitment with a wide range of interesting and well prepared Independent Research Projects being presented - themes of Birthing Options, Role Allocation, Nuclear Families and Organ Donations being just a few of the topics on offer. The Year 11 class are showing similar efforts as they prepare to start on their projects for next year.

Mrs L Weiher
TAS CO-ORDINATOR

This year Computing Studies was offered to Year 9 for the first time. The response was so great that two classes were formed. The girls have enjoyed the experience of learning about programs in more depth. They have also learnt much about computer systems in the real world. The Year 10 General Computing classes have enjoyed desktop publishing and animation. The senior Computing Studies girls have experienced excursions to the RTA Traffic Control Centre and Intensity as part of their course. The major projects produced by Year 12 were of a very good standard. After some false starts and a great deal of anticipation we at last have the Internet available for a full class to use at a time.

Mrs A Pascoe
COMPUTING STUDIES

During Term 1, 7Q started a programme called *Let's Start Design and Technology* from the context area of Manufacturing. During the time period of three weeks each of us designed our own Valentine's Day card and we also researched St. Valentine. The next programme we started was *So Glad You Can Make It*; we made lots of delicious types of food and prepared a dish to be served at a morning tea for teachers. We learnt about hygiene and safety in the kitchen, we practised using different kitchen equipment, working as a team and entertaining guests. Another programme we're working on is *Make It Right!* We have each made a jewellery rack, photo frame and a key ring. We learnt how to use machinery correctly and safely, and we researched the environmental impact of plastic and how materials are used. We are looking forward to our last programme for the year, *That's My Name*.

Angela Kavanagh and Gillian Williams, Year 7

Hospitality was an interesting experience. How can we ever forget Carly's famous sticky date pudding and our attempts at poisoning the teachers at the Parent-Teacher interviews? Not to mention the struggle to tie our neckerchiefs and turn potatoes! As a team we learnt everything there was to know about the industry and about what to do in cases of fluorescent bandaids. We learnt how to cope as our team became considerably smaller, when everyone Rebecca worked with left school to further their careers in the Hospitality Industry. We also got a chance to get some first-hand experience on our work placements at various hotels, motels, retirement homes and restaurants. Our course ended with two scary markers judging our performance for the HSC, but we will always remember the past two years with smiles on our faces.

Dana Sarich and Rebecca Willoughby

PERFORMING ARTS

Music, dance and drama! What more could anyone want from life? 1997 has, as always, been a productive year for the musicians, dancers and actors of Mount St. Benedict. There have been performances during year assemblies, at Open Day and during classes, as well as at other more formal events.

The music department put on a music night early in term 3. On this evening we heard a number of soloists, as well as some of the larger groups, such as the Band, Choir and Junior Vocal Ensemble.

Also in term 3 was the HSC performance evening for Year 12 dance, drama and music students. This was a roving concert (from music rooms to hall to drama rooms - we like to keep our audiences active....). The standard of performance was extremely high (our musicians, dancers and actors are rather talented as well!).

Of course the night of nights was the Performing Arts Concert, or as was the case this year, Concerts. We stayed at home this year and transformed our humble hall into a theatre with the help of hired sound, lighting and decking. It was a concert with community spirit, not to mention entertaining and thought providing acts.

Term 4 will see a number of our musicians being involved in the Hills Music Festival in either the concert bands or the combined schools choir. Year 11 drama students will be presenting a production of "Living with Lady Macbeth". This promises to be an evening full of power and intrigue.

We have had a number of performing groups visit the school to put on concerts for the students. We have also ventured out into the world to see a Sydney Symphony Orchestra rehearsal, do a composition workshop with film music composer Guy Cross and to see productions such as "What's the Matter with Mary Jane" by the Sydney Theatre Company, "Suit Slipped" by the One Extra Company, "Sweet Charity" at the Capitol Theatre and last but not least "Dags" at the Ensemble Theatre.

All in all the performing artists at Mount St. Benedict have enjoyed what 1997 has offered us.

Now we have to start thinking about 1998. How on earth are we ever going to think of more items for the next performing arts concert?

Miss. V Hatezic

On Thursday 24th July, Miss Hatezic was lucky enough to receive an invitation from her Year 12 music class to accompany them to a special screening of 'Antartica' at the IMAX, Darling Harbour.

After a narrow escape from strange robbers with coloured tanks on their heads we decided that a leisurely stroll through China Town would calm our nerves! We then headed to Yoram Cross Studios at Camperdown, where we witnessed a composer in action. Guy Cross is a film music composer of children's cartoons, Dot and the Kangaroo, as well as the composer of the film 'Frauds'. Guy showed us the importance of computer technology in his profession and allowed us to help him compose his latest project. After a tour of the studio it was time to take Miss Hatezic home.

Bree Mawson and Leah Pelling Year 12

The Year 11 Drama class performed "Thirty Storeys Up" which expressed five different scenarios regarding the effects and reasons of individuals resorting to attempting suicide.

Vanessa Comisso, Katarina Ugarkovic and Megan Krekelberg Year 11

Performing Arts Concert!

As the performing arts concert approached, to be honest, I believe everyone's thought were on a pre-occupied tangent (regarding the big three letter word). So we entered the stage relaxed - intent on enjoying ourselves for the 'last time' at Mount St. Benedict. The arrangements for the way in which the hall was to be used was a big success and I think we all left smiling.

Bree Mawson and Mel Manning Year 12

HUMAN SOCIETY IN ITS ENVIRONMENT

1997 has been most rewarding, with a variety of interesting school-based activities being undertaken, as well as some challenging excursions, plus major successes in both Australia wide and State wide competitions.

Excursions are essential in many of the HSIE subjects. Year 7 Geography students enjoyed a study of Sydney Harbour and its environs which included Bradleys Head, the Harbour Bridge and The Rocks. Year 8 Geography were entertained by the attractions of Bicentennial Park, while the combined Year 9 and Year 10 excursion to Nowra spanned two days and finished with a multitude of lessons learnt. Senior Geography have benefitted enormously from trips to Bantry Bay and Mt. Kiwa, Wollongong.

Our Year 10 Asian Studies girls were fascinated by the sights of Chinatown and the Year 9 Commerce students thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Coca Cola. The complex activities of our legal system were investigated when the Year 10 Commerce students visited Parramatta Court and the Year 11 Legal Studies group visited the Supreme Court of NSW.

Sydney Tower Restaurant provided our Year 11 Business Studies students with a valuable insight into the operation of a successful business in a unique environment (plus, of course, the wonderful food and the view).

The **AMP Investments Economics Competition** is organised by the University of NSW and this year attracted almost 10,000 entrants from Australia, Singapore and New Zealand. Our girls performed exceptionally well to achieve these results:

Luciana Tosolini - **High Distinction**;
Nicole Solly, Cindy Chou, Maryrose Mifsud and Lisa Leotta - **Distinction**;
Carol-Ann Matijasko and Jackie Duckett - **Credit**.
An impressive result from a class of 11 students!

The **Australian Geography Competition** attracted a record 25,277 students from 472 schools across Australia. Our results in this competition were most pleasing with every one of our 35 entrants from Years 9 and 10 being placed in the top 50% of all candidates. Girls with the best results

included: Marisol Cincunegui, Ruth O'Connor and Ursula Traynor - top 10%;
Nadia Kurukulasuriya, Katie Lucas, Belinda Irwin, Lauren McCunnie, Janine Dennis, Jaclyn Durham, Lucy McDonald, Belinda Giuliano, Paula Ardino, Breanna Barker and Alexis Wood - top 20%;
Therese Kenny and Fenella Mahoney - top 30%

*Mr R Barrett,
HSIE Co-ordinator*

From a student perspective....

On Monday 28th July, Year 10 Asian Studies students and Mrs Davis set out for a day of Chinese culture.

Gathered on the steps of the Town Hall, it was a unanimous vote to catch the monorail to the fifth stop to alight behind the Powerhouse Museum.

With clipboards and pens out, we were ready to take notes from our guided tour of *Evolution and Revolution: Chinese Dress 1700's to Now*. We were in awe of the changes which have occurred, especially due to the different Chinese Governments and amazed by how the 'Han' women would want to bind their feet as a symbol of beauty - even if it prevented them from walking!

Lunch at Darling Harbour was followed by a walk around the Chinese Gardens where we experienced the Taoist and Buddhist influence of their culture. A short walk to Chinatown and our clipboards were out once more, this time to draw the Chinese street lights and a shop front which attracted much attention from passers-by.

It was at Chinatown that our cultural experience ended as some of us stopped in at MacDonalds before catching the train home.

Belinda Catorall

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

Last year's HSC results were again very good, with our 3 unit students scoring 89% and 47/50 in French and 95% and 47/50 in German. This mark was obtained by our accelerated student, Stephanie Jaros, who is in Year 12 this year. The other 3 unit German students scored 46 and 43/50. 1997 was the first year for a continuing Japanese class to sit for the HSC, and our students performed very well.

The year passed very quickly with many activities. In July, the Year 12 students attended schools night at Sydney University, to help them prepare for the HSC. The Year 11 German class practised their speaking skills at the Goethe Institute, and the Year 12 German class participated in an Option Capsule, also at the Goethe Institute. The Year 10 French class went to the city to watch a French film and eat a delicious French lunch, and the Year 10 Japanese students participated in Japan week activities for a day.

All Year 8 students had a language afternoon which began with an ethnic lunch (provided by the girls), followed by games, quizzes, dances and profiteroles. In October, we'll have our Language Day for Years 9, 10 and 11, which will include games, quizzes, a special lunch and cultural activities, relating to the three countries whose language the girls are learning.

Olivia Sheppard (Year 12) visited her exchange partner in Germany and came back not only with much improved language skills but also very excited about the experience of having lived in Germany for a while and attend school there. In September this year, Siobhan Tapia (Year 11) will travel to Cologne to visit her exchange partner for 6 weeks.

Mrs. I. Györy
LOTE Co-ordinator

LANGUAGE AFTERNOON

Year 8 experienced a wonderful afternoon (thanks to the Language teachers), consisting of a variety of foods and games from different countries. We started off with a gourmet lunch where everyone brought their individual dish. After we had had our feed, we were split into groups and played games such as Pétanque (bowls), Völkerball (poison ball) and a fun jelly bean/chopsticks race. Last, but not least, we danced a polka and were treated to scrumptious profiteroles provided by the teachers. We had a great day. Thank you!!!

PRETZEL BAKING

What's big, crunchy and delicious? - Pretzels!
On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Györy's Year 8 German class were fortunate enough to make and cook their own tasty pretzels. With the help of Mrs. Györy, we were able to successfully shape and bake pretzels. It took our lesson and most of our lunchtime to prepare them and left a delicious smell lingering around the D.T room. Thank you very much, we found them to be very tasty.

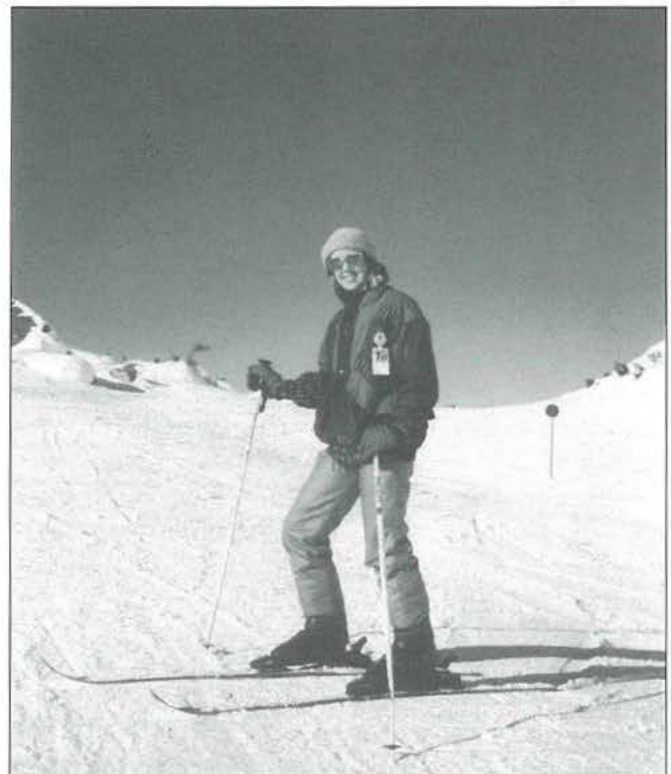
Andrea Mansfield and Sarah O'Brien
Year 8

EXCHANGE STUDENT

I was lucky enough to have spent 10 weeks in Germany during the last summer holidays. I had a wonderful time, made great friends, saw a lot of the

country, went skiing in the Austrian Alps, experienced a different way of celebrating Christmas and spent 6 weeks in a German school. It not only improved my German beyond belief but I also gained a lot of confidence. It was the greatest experience of my life and if you ever get the opportunity to do the same, go for it!

Olivia Sheppard





PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1997 has been another exciting year in the P.D.H.P.E. department. We welcomed Mrs. Wachter as an innovative and hard-working addition to the department this year. She has taken on the role of sports co-ordinator within the school and has helped raise the profile of sport, convene excellent carnivals and fit in getting married! We welcomed back Mrs. Hather during term one, only to lose her again briefly for term 2 while she had her baby daughter, Emma.

One of the highlights of this year has been working closely with such an enthusiastic group of Sport and House Captains. Their energy and enthusiasm have been highly motivational and many assemblies have been enhanced by their health promoting activities.

In terms of curriculum, the Year 7 students had an Ancient Games Day and Mini-Olympics afternoon. A member of the 1996 Australian Para-Olympic team visited and shared his experiences in winning gold medals at the Atlanta Games. Year 8 had a visit from speakers from Spine Safe to supplement their unit on sports injuries. The Year 9 earned a life saving award, engaged in different types of fitness activities and acquired practical self-defence skills - not to mention an overnight excursion to Narabeen to experience "The Great Outdoors". Year 10 students had a very interesting talk from a member of the 'HIV Positive Speakers Bureau' to help understand the human side of this disease. Their visit to the beach in term 4 is bound to be a highlight of the year.

Year 11 and 12 have supplemented their study with visits to Sydney University for advanced fitness testing and resistance training methods. We are confident that the 1997 HSC class will continue the past success of our senior students in this subject area.

Our sporting successes continued in 1997 with premiership wins in hockey, soccer and netball. Our athletes also experienced success in Broken Bay competitions, notably athletics and netball. Touch football started as a new sport in 1997 and is sure to grow in popularity.

I would like to thank all students who have been involved in extra curricula activities in 1997 and the very hard working P.D.H.P.E department that enabled these activities to take place.

Ms. Michelle Murphy
P.D.H.P.E.. CO-ORDINATOR

Welcome to P.D.H.P.E. That's what the note said at the beginning of the year. And what a welcome. First of all we found out that this year we didn't have to put up with those annoying single pracs, plus term 1 we were off to the pool. But it wasn't all fun and games. We had to study lifesaving techniques, and even get to test them out on dummies. It was all part of the 'Great Outdoors' unit.

Then the weather changed. It was cold, too cold to swim, and so in our next double prac, we huddled together in the hall to learn jazz dance. 'Kylie' came to teach us. For some, (the ones with coordination) it was easy. But it was fun, and all our uncoordinated moves somehow fell together to form something vaguely resembling jazz!!

While this had been going on, in class we had been studying 'Relationships'. That just about covered first semester and carried through to the topic 'Fitness Fanatics'. And what better way to complement this topic, and to exercise our fit (or rather unfit!) bodies with an aerobics class. We went to a number of these, with the aim of raising our heart rates and burning those kilojoules, by doing circuit training and high impact classes. It was exhausting. Protective Behavior was next on the list, and self defence classes.

1997 was an exciting and fun year. Thanks to all the P.D.H.P.E staff for making it a better year than others by far!

Janelle Rees Year 9

For the past 3 terms Year 7 has covered many topics, from health education to the Ancient Olympic Games. Our first topic was on 'healthy lifestyles' where we learnt all about how to live a healthy life. Things like eating correctly and exercising were emphasised. The Olympics came next, which included the Ancient Olympic Games and our year 7 Mini-Olympics, which was a lot of fun. During this unit we were also very privileged to have a Para-Olympian come and speak to us. Fabian Blattman, a tetraplegic Olympian, has won gold and silver olympic medals and is now aiming for the 2000 Games. We have just finished the unit 'Growing and Changing' where we learnt to cope with 'teenage life' and how our body works.

The past terms have been fun, particularly during our practical lessons.

Amanda McIntosh
Year 7

LIBRARY REPORT

RIB-IT Reading Programme

Year 7 and 8 participate in a compulsory guided reading programme, which is held in the information resource centre once each fortnightly cycle.

The programme aims to encourage a love of literature by providing selected fiction at varying levels of reading competence.

Parental involvement is essential, as home supervision determines that students receive awards for the number of books they have read through RIB-IT.

The girls are enthusiastic and discriminating readers and their recommendations are encouraged to provide a dynamic and quality fiction collection.

Adrienne Gorme
Teacher Librarian

RIB-IT stands for "Read In Bed - It's Terrific" In Year 7 every child gets a booklet in which you record all the books you have read this year. It encourages you to read in bed everynight to become a better reader. Certificates and prizes are given to people who have read a certain amount of books.

Serene Limaye



In Year 8 we continue on with the RIB-IT programme. Our reading knowledge is broadened even more. We read books, get awards, watch videos and learn about different authors. Books are recommended and quickly snapped up.

Diane Butfield





Year Eight Subiaco

Fourth Row (L-R): Diane Butfield, Rachel Sutton, Kelly Woomack, Naomi Farrall, Sarah Perkins, Corinne Roberts, Nicole Charles, Bronwyn Lansley.

Third Row (L-R): Shirley Yu, Renee Mifsud-Ellul, Laura Bond, Lena Habkoug, Veronica Miccoli, Kelly Gaffney, Samantha Rush, Selina Vartanian.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs D Davis, Georgette Youakim, Fiona Barakat, Brenna Tullett, Julia Kidd, Rebecca Kidd, Helena Reljanovic, Nicole Hunt, Mr N Hoogenboom.

Front Row (L-R): Gabrielle Craig, Linda Rapisarda, Bernadette Windeyer, Nerida Wong, Jennifer Pallath, Crystal Moloney, Sandra Hakim, Andrea Mansfield, Katie Marks, Alexandra Craig.



Year Eight Monte Cassino

Fourth Row (L-R): Amy Gordon, Katheryn Platts-Baggs, Katie Rudolph, Caitlyn Stubbs, Emily Minns.

Third Row (L-R): Nicole Kaldas, Olivia Blumire, Rebecca Streithorst, Belinda Habkoug, Lauren Ford, Katherine Trees, Charlene Mascari, Belinda Roberts.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs. D Davis, Jean Hou, Joan Habkoug, Jacqueline Lees, Marianne Trees, Emma Hogan, Shannon Bailey, Shruti Sachdeva, Joanne Paul, Mrs M Mahon.

Front Row (L-R): Laura Jack, Sarah O'Brien, Danielle Kurukchi, Nicole Rich, Jacqueline Potter, Czarina Flores, Anthea Mammoliti, Rowena Hau, Amanda Fahim, Lauren Hollis.

Absent: Catherine Coorey.



Year Eight Terracina

Fourth Row (L-R): Rebecca Watson, Christine Stewart, Elizabeth Noney, Joanne Commissione, Belinda Knipler, Angela Brittliff.

Third Row (L-R): Roslyn Farrugia, Kellie McDonald, Kate Thomson, Ashleigh Grice, Nicole Freer, Rhonda Hanna, Melissa Hansen, Dimity Clancey.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs D Davis, Katherine Benson, Nerindah Smith, Genevieve Wiley, Stephanie Worrall, Kristen Doring, Alex Craft.

Front Row (L-R): Selina Cauchi, Belinda Lee, Leona Robinson, Maree Mouhayet, Prue Egan, Maxine Fung, Emily Streat, Helen Katsoulis, Erin Rhone. Absent: Mary Macaluso, Claire Mahony.



Year Eight Maredsous

Fourth Row (L-R): Renae Ryan, Fiona Moon, Megan Bate, Rachel Clissold, Katrina Farquhar, Yvonne Maxwell, Dayna Bacon, Lauren Sparkes.

Third Row (L-R): Rachel King, Tara Rushton, Melissa Khoudair, Melissa Hughes, Caroline Davoren, Kylie Davis, Nickola Pick, Helena Curic, Simone Catorall, Natasha Fairs.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs D Davis, Caroline Ebert, Joanne Francis, Sayna Rezainia, Katarzyna Sujecki, Elena Gray, Catherine Johnson, Alexandra Nadwie, Danielle Carmeci, Mr J Jackson.

Front Row (L-R): Tanya Kurukulasuriya, Lauren Stonnill, Natalie Strgar, Sarah Snelgrove, Antonia Calabro, Laura Carlino, Sarah Caruana, Karen Morgan, Ciara Tapia, Susan Pronk.

YEAR EIGHT

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SEMESTER ONE

Religion

First in 8POlivia Blumire
First in 8QRachel Sutton
First in 8RCrystal Moloney
Equal First in 8SEmma Hogan
Christine Stewart
First in 8TLauren Stonnill

English

First in 8MLaura Carlino
Equal First in 8NTara Rushton
Christine Stewart
First in 8OBelinda Roberts
First in 8SLAntonia Calabro
First in 8JJCatherine Rudolph

Mathematics

Equal First in formAntonia Calabro
Elizabeth Noney
Equal Third in formGabrielle Craig
Erin Rhone

Science

First in formAntonia Calabro
Second in formFiona Moon
Third in formKathryn Marks

Music

First in 8LBelinda Lee
Equal First in 8MNickola Pick
Stephanie Worrall
First in 8ORachel Kung

Visual Arts

First 8KCatherine Rudolph
Equal First in 8NAmanda Fahim
Tara Rushton
First in 8OJacqueline Potter

History

First in 8LAntonia Calabro
First in 8MAlexandra Craft
First in 8OJacqueline Potter

Geography

First in 8KKatherine Trees
First in 8MDayna Bacon

Languages Other than English

First in French. 1Laura Carlino
First in ItalianLaura Carlino
First in French 2Antonia Calabro
First in German 1Nickola Pick
First in German 2Erin Rhone
First in JapaneseCrystal Moloney

Design and Technology

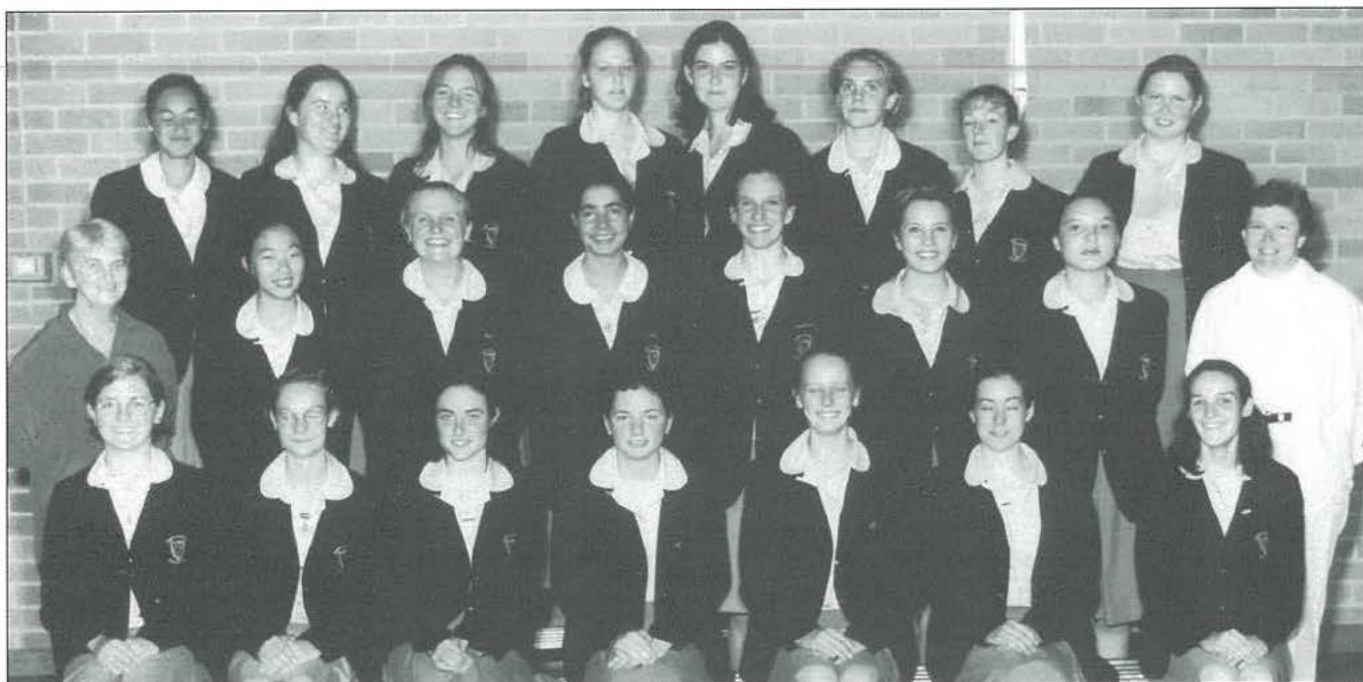
Equal First in 8PJulia Kidd
Susan Pronk
First in 8QLaura Carlino
First in 8RAntonia Calabro
Equal First in 8SGabrielle Craig
Sarah Snelgrove
First in 8TPrue Egan

PDHPE

First in 8PJulia Kidd
First in 8QTara Rushton
First in 8RMaxine Fung
First in 8SChristine Stewart
First in 8TJennifer Pallath



DEBATING



Throughout Terms 2 and 3 many of our students represented Mount St. Benedict College in the wider community through participation in the Catholic Schools Debating Competition.

Debating has always enjoyed a high profile in the College and this was evident by the large number of students who presented themselves for the trials. Mrs Kelleher and myself were astounded by the grace, confidence and talent of so many of our students. The girls eagerly attended coaching sessions and presented themselves in an exemplary manner during the various debates. Debating would not be possible at Mount St Benedict without the support, motivation and dedication of staff, students and parents. I would like to extend my appreciation to the coaches, Mrs Gorme, Mr Hamey, Mrs Smith, Mrs Howard, Miss Osborn, Mrs Kelleher, Ms De Melo and Ms Nowlan. Thanks must also go to Mrs Phillips and our ex-students for their adjudication throughout the season, and to Mrs Metcalf, Mrs May, Mrs Lang, Miss Glover and Mr Moran for their support.

All teams performed well in the competition and were complimented on their appearance and speaking ability. Congratulations, particularly, to the 8B team who were successful in making it through to the Preliminary Finals. Congratulations on a wonderful and successful season.

Mrs C O'Loan



ORATORY



Front Row (L-R): *Caroline Eyles, Soseh Yekanians, Dimple Limaye, Katheryn Platts-Baggs, Alex Engel*
Back Row (L-R): *Mrs Allan, Laura Carlino, Sarah Takchi, Linda Popic, Tiffany Jones, Amy Wood, Mrs P Phillips.*

Well, another year, another round of that oratory competition that the girls of Mount St. Benedict College love to participate in.

The English staff conducted the annual interhouse oratory competition from Years 7 - 11 with topics of speeches ranging from "Ants" to "Why You Should Not Get Married". Twelve students were selected to represent the college in the first round of the Catholic Secondary Schools Public Speaking Competition at Stella Maris College, Manly. Alex Engel (Year 7), Laura Carlino, Kathryn Platts - Baggs (Year 8), Caroline Eyles, Gillian Quarmby (Year 9) and Tiffany Jones (Year 11) impressed the adjudicators so much that they were selected to go on to the second round.

Tiffany Jones was successful in reaching the final round, delivering a very entertaining speech on "Crying, Compassion and Old Men In Singlets". Tiffany was awarded third place in the competition.

Congratulations must be extended to the rest of the College community for their co-operation and participation in the oratory competition. The talents in oratory within the school have once again been proven. Special thanks to all the staff who helped organise the oratory and dedicated so much of their time helping the girls and giving them advice.

Sarah Takchi Year 11

MOCK TRIAL

Mock Trial this year saw a balance of exciting wins and disappointing losses. But for all of this, the atmosphere and reality of the situations allowed for stimulating evenings.

A Mock Trial is the recreation of a real court case, tailored to the needs and abilities of Year 10 and 11 students. It has all the important personages, two barristers for each side, a solicitor for each, witnesses and court officials, as well as a magistrate to judge the teams. We found that life as a barrister is perhaps not as easy as it looks and that a witness can have a very difficult time too, learning a two page statement word for word, and being cross-examined by opposing barristers. However, we managed to pull it off with some spectacular successes and a lot of good humour thrown in.

Our first and hardest case was against Marist Eastwood, which we lost with enviable ease and good grace. Our contest against SCEGGS Redlands was our biggest win, and again we accepted this with grace and good humour.

Our final case was against Loreto, Kirribilli. The trial was very tense and the atmosphere was exceptional, added to by the superb view of the harbour and the early evening skyline. This was a wonderful final mock trial and a fitting end to the season.

We would never have succeeded as we did without the constant support and advice of Mrs Kelleher, Miss Vicki Gallagher, our solicitor coach, and all those who came to support us at each trial.

Melissa Robertson



Left to Right: *Dynielle McCullough, Tiffany Jones, Alicia Fernandez, Melissa Robertson, Rebecca Paterson, Luisa Vumbaca, Mrs Kelleher*

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS



Term two saw the initiation of the Training Team for this exciting and challenging competition. Eager girls from Years 7 to 10 came to weekly practice sessions of drama games, creative, critical and flexible thinking - skill games, viewing videos of clever programmes such as, *Whose Line is it Anyway!* and just plain fun.

The last week of term was V-Day - where every member had to vote for the seven members who would make an all round team of actors, singers, set builders, script writers and quick thinkers. This team combination fell onto the heads and minds of : Amanda Ralph, Erin Martin, Rosanne Brincat, Jean - Marie Ruhan, Sarah O'Brien, Diane Butfield and Elizabeth Jenner.

Day one, term three. The problems arrived at the school...would it be Language - Literature, Maths - Engineering or Social Science? The team deliberated, pondered and discussed in audible tones the pros and cons of each problem: Language - Literature won the day.

With six weeks to go, the team immediately began working out a scenario for the problem - it was a tricky one:- the City of Rhetoric, where all the citizens spoke in formal English, had been taken over by a rebel group of 'Slangoes', yes they spoke in - hey man, cool, doh...lower than colloquial, and this caused a major problem - that of communication - making it impossible for them to know how to(have babies!). Then the Rota Quota person arrived, who, armed and mouthed with quotes from across the centuries, taught and sang to the Slangoes who then learnt to communicate and, we hope, solve the problem of(babies!). The dastardly Slango mistake was worded out of town by spears of quotes hurled by the citizens of Rhetoric. The ending was wordy, but happy.

On the competition day, at Macquarie University, the team performed the short and long term problems with panache, but alas were pipped to the post by a most worthy opponent.

Mrs A. Howard and Mrs M. Smith



Year Nine Subiaco

Fourth Row (L-R): Fiona Davies, Linda Sestito, Natalie Ottolina, Janelle Bonsall, Maria Ugarkovic, Bahija Habkhouk.

Third Row (L-R): Lucy MacDonald, Caroline Chan, Joanne Dineen, Rachel Games, Yasmin Cole, Lauren Probin, Evellyn Ahal, Elizabeth Jenner.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs F Borgona, Sonia Hallal, Megan Woodward, Kay Hetherington, Lauren Robinson, Jacqueline Hook, Alexis Tully, Mr B Stephen.

Front Row (L-R): Ashleen Lundy, Katherine Maningas, Sascha Toopitsin, Louise Mayhew, Jana Pittmen, Joanna Cardino, Jacqueline Forker, Eveayne Raffoul, Meagan Lansley, Fadwa Saad.



Year Eight Monte Cassino

Fourth Row (L-R): Amy Gordon, Katheryn Platts-Baggs, Katie Rudolph, Caitlyn Stubbs, Emily Minns.

Third Row (L-R): Nicole Kaldas, Olivia Blumire, Rebecca Streithorst, Belinda Habkhouk, Lauren Ford, Katherine Trees, Charlene Mascari, Belinda Roberts.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs. D Davis, Jean Hou, Joan Habkhouk, Jacqueline Lees, Marianne Trees, Emma Hogan, Shannon Bailey, Shruti Sachdeva, Joanne Paul, Mrs M Mahon.

Front Row (L-R): Laura Jack, Sarah O'Brien, Danielle Kurukchi, Nicole Rich, Jacqueline Potter, Czarina Flores, Anthea Mammoliti, Rowena Hau, Amanda Fahim, Lauren Hollis.

Absent: Catherine Coorey.



Year Nine Terracina

Fourth Row (L-R): *Caroline Surace, Lisa Mouhayet, Monique Fermin, Alexis Collins, Kimberley Pearson, Amy Teasdale, Breanna Barker, Grace Chuck, Liz Hansen.*

Third Row (L-R): *Kylie Nicholls, Bernadette Lennon, Janelle Rees, Carla Griffiths, Jessica Burns, Katherine Szabo, Rebecca Herring, Sadia Khan.*

Second Row (L-R): *Mrs F Borgona, Betty Chen, Rosalee Parrino, Samantha Machin, Nicole Espinoza, Kerry Buckley, Jennifer Greenfield, Samantha Vumbaca, Mariarosa Di Costanza, Ms J Cooper.*

Front Row (L-R): *Caroline Eyles, Hayley Ahearn, Angela Graham, Suzanne Reid, Pru Engel, Jennifer Cropper, Tanya Abraham, Carmen Bajuk, Alexis Wood, Hannah Vozzo.*



Year Nine Maredsous

Fourth Row (L-R): *Kathryn Walsh, Lucy Reading, Joanna Gocking, Stefanie Dunncliff, Jackie Durahm, Rebecca Diercks, Leia McGrath.*

Third Row (L-R): *Elise Milne, Sunaina Pinto, Laura Tamone, Laura Goggin, Vanessa Vitali, Kate Freyburg, Joanne Hallal, Dorothy Ofierzynski.*

Second Row (L-R): *Mrs F Borgona, Louise Swaney, Sarah Fuller, Justine Reid, Anna Brownette, Simone Bujdoso, Alessandra Pagni, Mrs W Jones.*

Front Row (L-R): *Jessica Sciaratta, Fiona Hughes, Aracelli Ore, Astrid Lim, Sarah-Kate Makila, Gillian Quarmby, Joanne Saade, Emily Brisciani, Sindy Sulistija, Yvonne Koblar.*

YEAR NINE

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SEMESTER ONE

Religion

First in 9KLeia McGrath
First in 9L.....Andrea For
Equal First in 9MSunaina Pinto
Janelle Rees
First in 9N.....Ruth O'Connor
First in 9OPrudence Engel

English

Equal First in 9AIvanka Barisic
Fiona Davies
First in 9B.....Therese Kenny
First in 9C.....Lauren Horne
First in 9D.....Jacqueline Hook
First in 9E.....Sunaina Pinto

Mathematics

First in AdvancedAndrea For
First in Intermediate.....Caroline Surace
First in Standard.....Jade Young

Science

First in formLauren Horne
Second in formLucy MacDonald
Third in formMarisol Cincunegui

Creative Arts

First in DanceEvelyne Raffoul
First in DramaCaroline Eyles
First in MusicPrudence Engel
First in Visual Arts 2.....Marisol Cincunegui
First in Visual Arts 3.....Jessica Burns

History

First in History 1Prudence Engel
First in History 2Therese Kenny
First in History 3.....Janelle Rees

Human Society and its Environment

First in CommerceAlicia Portelli
First in GeographyMarisol Cincunegui

Languages Other than English

Equal First in FrenchCaroline Surace
Sarah-Kate Makila
First in German.....Marisol Cincunegui
First in JapaneseAndrea For

Technological and Applied Studies

First in Computing Studies 1Janelle Rees
First in Computing Studies 2Alexis Wood
First in Design & TechnologyAndrea For
Equal First Food Technology 1Evellyn Ahal
Stefanie Dunncliff
First in Food Technology 2Alicia Portelli

PDHPE

First in 9K.....Anne-Marie Miccoli
First in 9L.....Armaghan Morshedizadeh
First in 9MJanelle Rees
Equal First in 9NBelinda Irwin
Ruth O'Connor
First in 9OPrudence Engel

YEAR 9 and 10 GEOGRAPHY EXCURSION

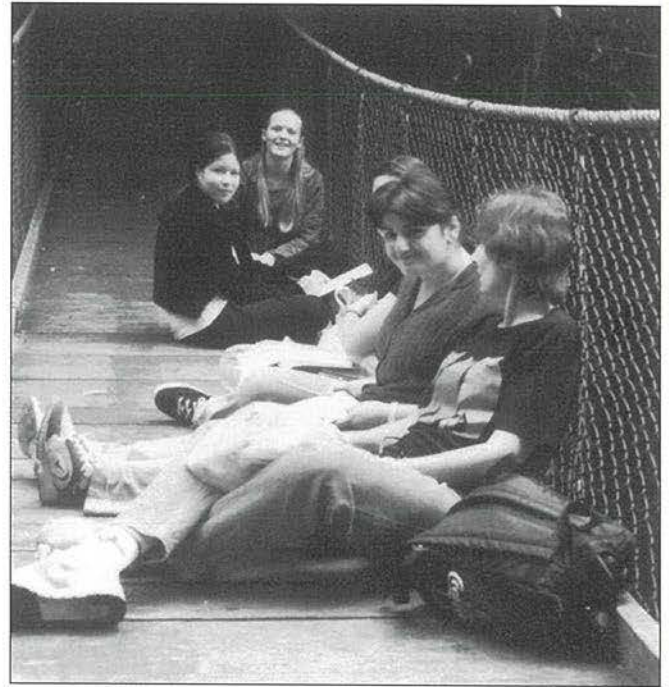
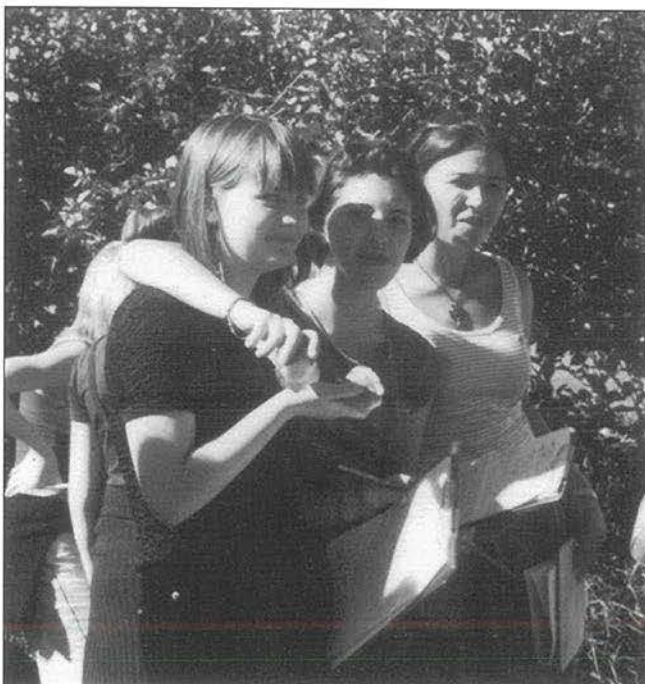
Horse and buggy rides, a trip to the beach, viewing paper production, an unexpected encounter in the middle of the night, an afternoon in the rainforest. Only a geography excursion could offer you all this. Year 9 and 10 Geographers enjoyed this interesting overnight excursion in May 1997.

Our early departure is best described as a 'blur', as rising in the dark didn't suit anyone but our teachers. As our sleepiness decreased and the bus trip continued, our enthusiasm grew. Our first port of call was Fruitworld. This proved to be not only an educational experience, but an entertaining one as well. We learned about the growing methods which make Fruitworld a profitable orchard and were given the opportunity to milk cows, feed farm animals and take a horse and buggy ride.

Our second stop was Chittick's dairy. Here we listened to a lecture by Mr Chittick about the management of his farm and observed the technology which enables him to operate productively.

Our second last stop for the day took us to Shoalhaven Heads. Ploughing through soft sand, behind Mrs Davis, we learnt about beach reclamation and observed progress in restoring the beach ecosystem.

Our final stop, before the motel, was Coles where we ran a riotous marathon to clear the shelves. Within 10 minutes our hands were laden with shopping bags full of chocolate and we were set!



After dinner, our final expedition of the day was to the bowling alley. Watching Mr Barrett defeat Mrs Davis and Mrs Borgona provided us with all the entertainment we needed after we lost interest in our own games.

The new day brought with it sore eyes and many tired students. After breakfast we departed for Shoalhaven Paper and Pulp Mill. Here we witnessed the making of paper and were each given a large stack of coloured paper.

From here we travelled to the Minnamurra Rainforest, a beautiful, ancient rainforest growing in rich, volcanic soil. The dark trees, hanging creepers and the sound of a trickling creek combined to produce an inspirational atmosphere. Eating lunch here was truly an experience of perfect harmony.

Our final stop before our return to Sydney was BHP, Port Kembla. We walked around some of the complex, equipped with hard hats, glasses and radio receivers so the wired tour guide could be heard above the noisy industrial background. The immensity of the site was daunting (one building was a kilometre long!), as was looking down into a blast furnace.

We got back to school at dusk, thankful for our two good days. We slept very well that night!!

*Therese Kenny, Belinda Irwin
and Belinda Catorall*

CHOIR AND BAND



Choir is on every Tuesday after school. Here we enjoy a different variety of songs ranging from traditional Latin (*Gloria Deo*) to more modern and lighthearted pieces such as *A Whole New World*.

Choir isn't just a boring place to go and sing. In fact, everybody you speak to would say how much they enjoy it, because we all have so much fun! And we are allowed to have a few laughs now and then. It gives us all an opportunity to get to see the lighter (darker) sides of teachers that you usually wouldn't see in the classroom. Being part of choir is like being part of the *Brady Bunch*. Everyone gets on extremely well and stands by each other, even when we make the occasional mistake! Choir is great fun. Ask anyone!

Elisa Szittner



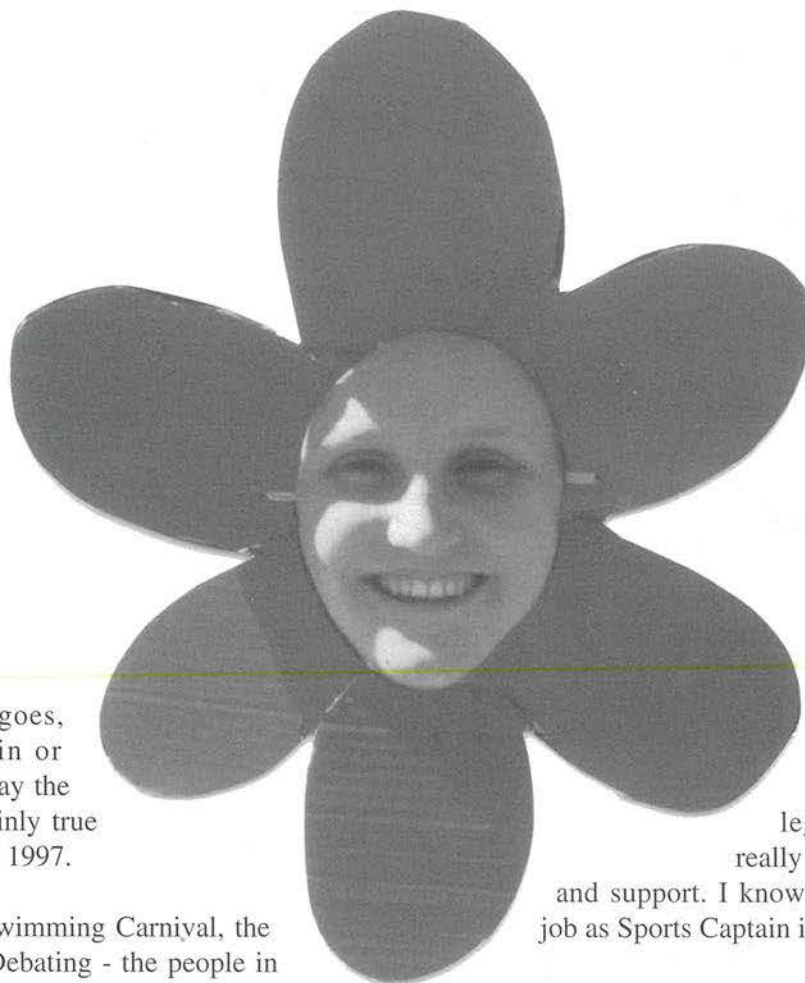
Band is what you could call an interesting mix of sounds. Our Brass section is rather on the small side and so is our String section but this is compensated for by our abundance of woodwinds and keyboards. The overall effect of this produces a very different sound.

Throughout the year we have performed pieces such as *America*, from *West Side Story*, *The Flintstones* and *Tequila*. We even had our very talented percussionist (Laura Brady) conduct *The Flintstones* at the Performing Arts Concert. We may not be virtuosos in the making, but we certainly have a lot of fun.

Erica Jaros

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT

MONTE CASSINO



As the old saying goes, "It's not if you win or lose, it's how you play the game". This is certainly true for Monte Cassino in 1997.

In all events - the Swimming Carnival, the Athletics Carnival, Debating - the people in Monte are just so talented that this list could go on forever! The enormous amount of House spirit spread throughout the whole school - even into assemblies! You could see those red faces shining through, and when they joined forces, boy, did they make some noise.

A HUGE congratulations goes out to each and every Monte member for their enthusiasm and participation throughout the year. It was FANTASTIC and it made me very proud.

A very, very special THANK YOU to my co-House Captains, Tagg, Liz and Paddy, and our Sports Captain, Jackie. Without your endless help, support and "healthy rivalry" my job as House Captain would not have been so much fun! Also, thank you to all the staff, especially the PD.H.PE staff for all their help and encouragement.

Finally, to Vicki, thank you for being such a legend as Vice-Captain. I really appreciated all your help and support. I know that you will do a great job as Sports Captain in 1998.

Well, my little Monte people, my reign as House Captain has unfortunately come to an end, but the journey along the way was a memorable one. It was because of each Monte member's enthusiastic participation in all school events throughout the year. THANK YOU!! But, as any good "mother" would say, I'm leaving you in very good hands. Clare will take extremely good care of you. She knows about all of your little tricks, so next year there will be no excuses.

Whether it was in the sporting arena, or just letting the devil out of you, debating, gardening or just charging to the finish line, Thank You! You have made Monte Cassino "perfect in every way".

MONTE CASSINO ALL THE WAY.

Catherine Ryan,
House Captain, 1997

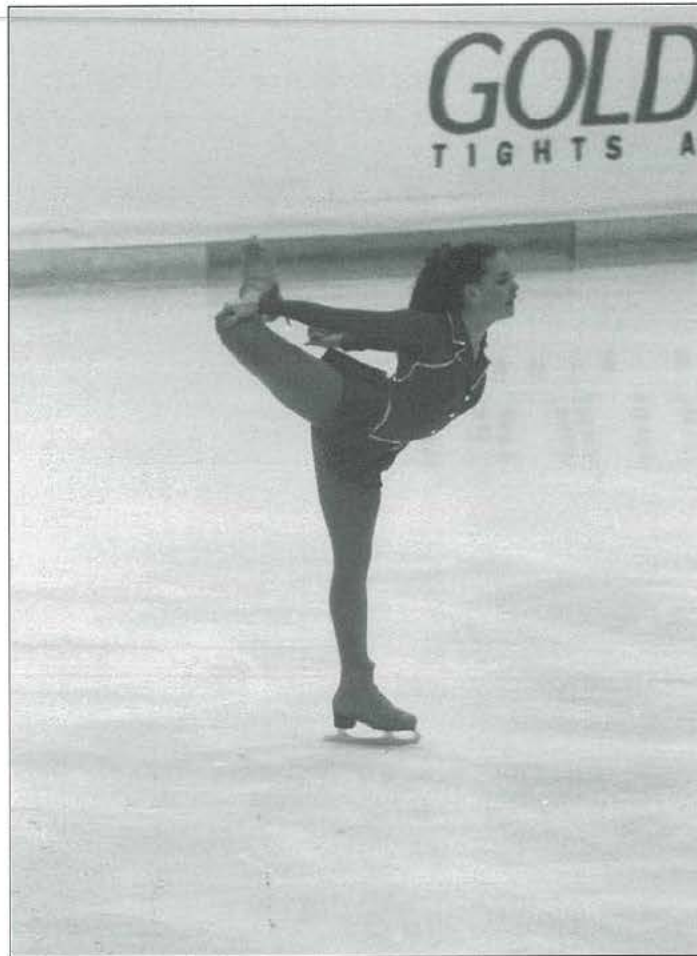
DANCE ENSEMBLE



Dance Ensemble is an extra curricula activity that gives students from Years 7 to 12 the opportunity to learn dance outside the school syllabus. Dance Ensemble aims to give everybody a chance to dance - we are not concerned if students do not participate in dance outside the school. The girls rehearse two times a week for an hour after school. During this time we work on improving dance technique in a number of different skills. The focus this year has been on Jazz Dance. Dance Ensemble works towards the Performing Arts Concert at the end of term three. This year they performed a five minute, highly energetic routine called "Try Me Out" by Lee Marrow. It is not easy staying back after school but the girls are to be congratulated on their hard work this year.

Mrs. M. Stennett

JOANNE CARTER - OUR FUTURE OLYMPIAN



How were you encouraged to take up ice skating?

I was encouraged to ice skating from an early age because my mother just took me to the ice skating rink once and then I just kept on going until I wanted to do it as a sport.

Do you have many friends who encourage your talent and sporting abilities and how do they help you achieve your goals?

The whole Year 12 and my own friends have been supporting me throughout this year. They are all a great encouragement.

Is it hard to handle both components of school and ice skating?

It all just falls into place and you don't really become conscious of it, but it is hard.

How many days a week do you train and compete?

I train for two hours before school, Monday to Friday and then two hours after school. On Saturday I have three hours of different exercises like weights.

How do you parents feel about your sport and do they support you all the way?

Well they are happy because I achieved 11th in the World and I was selected for the 1998 Winter Olympics team.

Are there any goals which you have set yourself for the future?

Plans for the future would involve a Gold Medal at the Olympics, but I am happy just to be selected.

Natasha Manuelpillai

JUNIOR GEOGRAPHY PROJECT

AWARDS

Every year, the students who study Geography in Year 10 must do a Junior Geography Project. This assessment is completed over a period of about ten weeks and is a major part of the Geography School Certificate mark. Each girl decides on a question about a certain area which interests them and their aim is to then try and answer this question by using as many geographical skills as they can.

At the end of 1996 Mrs. Davis and Mr. Barrett decided to send a few of the projects into the Geography Teachers' Association of NSW for the Governor Phillip Awards for field work. This competition is open to every secondary school in NSW and was marked in two sections: Local Biophysical Environments, and Local Social Environments.

Of the ten awards given in these areas, the Mount St. Benedict assignments won five of the prizes. In the Biophysical Environment Fieldwork, Rebecca Johnstone received first place and Gemma Blain received fifth place. In the Social Environment Fieldwork, Laura Brady received first place, Katie Killian received second place and Sarah Takchi received fourth place. Each girl received a cash prize, book prize and a certificate.

The Year 10 1996 Geography class would like to thank Mrs. Davis for all her hard work and effort.

Laura Brady



Successful Geography students (left to right): Mrs D Davis, Rebecca Johnstone, Laura Brady, Katie Killian, Gemma Blain, Sarah Takchi.



Year Ten Subiaco

Fourth Row (L-R): Dimple Limaye, Mari Tomic, Kate Golotta, Fenella Mahoney.

Third Row (L-R): Anita Matijasko, Antoinette Anderson, Anja Schulze, Alana Fitzgerald, Dina Saad, Rima Zaouk, Mary-Louise Cuy.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs J Martin, Belinda Giuliano, Barbara-Ann Ballecer, Anita Dowling, Kate Worthington, Vivian Hui, Joanne Wu, Mrs M Michie.

Front Row (L-R): Rosemarie Saad, Paula Ardino, Deborah Abate, Clare Woodward, Tanya Gomes, Melanie Wong, Ursula Traynor, Amanda Badger, Amy Cheung.



Year Ten Monte Cassino

Fourth Row (L-R): Zoe Minns, Kate Miller, Zoe Friend, Deborah Sangster, Marinka Barisic, Natalie Gabriel.

Third Row (L-R): Rosalie Yeung, Ella Cronin, Alix Beattie, Bethany Logan, Lauren McCunnie, Kate Gordon, Katherine Dempsey, Bridget Anlezark.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs C Allan, Carly Burgess, Cathy Lynch, Melissa Strong, Christen Stubbs, Rebecca Griffin, Juliet Hovsepian, Mrs M Michie.

Front Row (L-R): Margaux Mascari, Suzanne Cole, Janine Dennis, Leanne Gilfedder, Rachel Murphy, Soseh Yekanians, Sara Anlezark, Karen Henry, Sandra Ayrout.



Year Ten Terracina

Fourth Row (L-R): Erica Jaros, Bree Tanner, Donna Ridings, Catherine Collins, Alyson Schmid, Karen Onley.

Third Row (L-R): Lyndal McDonald, Elisa Sztitmer, Melissa Host, Elaine Kennedy, Darksha Nadeswarran, Ellen Jones, Allison Sheffield, Natalee Peak.

Second Row (L-R): Ms V Hatezic, Leigh Farrugia, Eleanore Abela, Sarah Coulter, Nina Spano, Petula Macedo, Katie Lucas, Mrs M Michie.

Front Row (L-R): Rebecca Glover, Sarah Lagana, Danielle Lock, Gian Clancey, Carla Solomons, Celine Hanna, Gemma Tay, Mary Moit, Angela Ho.



Year Ten Maredsous

Fourth Row (L-R): Diane Wang, Elizabeth Ebert, Joanne Hemmings, Susann Prokop, Sarah Henderson, Emma Broomfield.

Third Row (L-R): Sharon Rayhanabad, Laura Caruana, Belinda Catorall, Rhonda Karakira, Renee Davis, Anjanette Parsons.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs P Phillips, Maree Morales, Belinda Nakad, Anna Biddle, Natalie Khoudair, Johanna Kerin, Amy Powell, Mrs M Michie.

Front Row (L-R): Nicole Leves, Kelly Warner, Lyndall Kretschmar, Melanie Carmeci, Anna Calabro, Nadia Kurukulasuriya, Heidi Lam, Sabina Mahamood.

YEAR TEN

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SEMESTER ONE

Religion

First in 10PKatherine Dempsey
First in 10QRebecca Griffin
First in 10RAmy Cheung
First in 10SMarinka Barisic
First in 10THeidi Lam

English

First in formMelanie Carmeci
Second in formBelinda Catorall
Third in formErica Jaros

Mathematics

First in AdvancedAngela Ho
First in IntermediateCatherine Collin
First in GeneralKate Worthington

Science

First in formErica Jaros
Second in formBelinda Catorall
Equal Third in formMarinka Barisic
Leanne Gilfedder

Creative Arts

First in DanceRenee Davis
First in DramaSoseh Yekanians
First in MusicErica Jaros
First in Visual ArtsMarinka Barisic

History

First in formMarinka Barisic

Human Society and its Environment

First in Asian Social StudiesBelinda Catorall
First in GeographyBelinda Catorall
Equal First in CommerceVanessa Iacovella
Carla Solomons

Languages Other than English

First in FrenchMarinka Barisic
First in GermanLeigh Farrugia
First in JapaneseBelinda Catorall

Technological and Applied Studies

First in Design & TechnologyHeidi Lam
First Food TechnologyGian Clancey

PDHPE

First in formEllen Jones
Equal Second in formBelinda Catorall
Alison Schmid
Third in formEmma Broomfield



ST VINCENT de PAUL

The Mount St. Benedict St. Vincent de Paul Society aims to raise funds for those in our community who are in need. We also hope that with our school involvement greater awareness and understanding of the less fortunate is achieved.

In keeping with the Easter spirit, term one saw Vinnies girls of Year 11 busily making Easter chocolates to sell at school. The temptation to test the treats were overcome as we made approximately \$100 on the day. The Easter Guessing Competition, always a favourite, brought in \$50.

Winter time saw the heavy rain, grey clouds, icy winds and the Vinnies Winter Clothing Appeal. Staff and students were willing to donate a total of 517 articles of clothing. It took eight girls and an afternoon to sort and count the generous donations.

Our multi-day, in term three, was very successful with \$700 being raised for various centres in the area who are in need of financial support.

A big thank you goes to the fine efforts of Miss Cooper, who saw to the smooth running of our projects, Mr Day for the sorting of our financial problems, the staff for their help and the Year 11 student members of St. Vincent de Paul. Vinnies would not be able to hold fundraising and future events without the hardwork, willingness and support of the whole College community. Thank you so very much.

*Dynielle McCullough
Year 11.*



ENVIRONMENT CLUB



1997 has been another busy year. We have continued with all recycling activities and added several new ones. At the end of last year our group was runner up in the Hornsby Council Environmental Awards for schools.

We also won the award for the most innovative programs. Early in the year our Streamwatch group was awarded \$400 by Hornsby Council for the contribution to Streamwatch. This enabled us to purchase extra equipment and replace chemicals. Before Easter we sold 2400 chocolate Easter bilbies as an alternative to the rabbit. With these funds we purchased \$500 shares in Earth Sanctuaries Ltd., a number of wild life parks which breed endangered species.

Our worm farms have worked very productively. "Worm Wee" raised over \$200 this year and now we have a unique label for our containers.

Planting has continued with Greening Australia and the Hawkesbury-Nepean Trust. At present we have 500 eucalypt and acacia trees growing. These will be planted on the banks of the Hawkesbury Nepean River to prevent nutrients in farm run-off from reaching the river.

In Autumn numbers of our group took part in the Autumn Bug Survey for the Water Board. We found that a stormwater drain that empties into *our* stream reduces the water quality from fair to poor. Two students attended the Hornsby Council's Environment Youth Forum which provided some new ideas to think about for the future.

Mrs Sue Millar

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



It's been a big year for Amnesty. Between writing letters and making things and organising fund-raisers we've hardly had time to say *human rights*. We've made friendship bands to help those who need friends, we sold fortune cookies for those less fortunate, candles for people in darkness, cards for those who need greetings and masks to send expressions of hope.

Year 7 to Year 12 involved themselves in Christmas craft and the Art Room became increasingly crowded with new members, especially from Year 11 and 12. With all these new members we were able to send off twice as many letters to places such as England, the Philippines and Colombia.

Thank you everyone for supporting Amnesty.



Literature

Last Race

Bang! The gun goes off. About a dozen girls race down the track. Number 13 pulls out in front. Heart racing, lungs bursting, she races her hardest. She reaches the tape. The tape snaps. She wins! She looks for her dad. Cold, hard eyes meet hers.

"I told you to win that race in under 15 seconds."

"B-B-But I won," the girl replies, not understanding.

"I told you to run that race in under 15 seconds," the man is saying, "You ran it in 15.2 seconds."

The girl begins to cry. The man walks away in disgust. The girl is me.

This is my story.

My dad used to be an athlete. He trained himself too hard one morning and ruined his back. Now he wants me to be an athlete. He wants me to be famous.

Every morning I get up at six o'clock to train down at the track with dad. After school dad picks me up and takes me back to the track to train until seven o'clock. I have no life. I hate running. I hate him.

One evening after training, dad went to talk to mum in the kitchen.

"I don't think she's improving," he was saying, "I'm increasing training hours."

I couldn't hear what mum was saying. I was only aware of dad. He came into the lounge room and began talking to me. I was vaguely aware of what he was saying. Then it suddenly hit me. He was increasing training hours.

I grabbed a vase and threw it at the wall. It smashed all over the floor. Pieces of vase, like shattered fragments of my life, littered the floor.

"I'm so sorry," I whispered.

Bang! The gun goes off. About a dozen girls race off down the track. Number 13 pulls out in front. Heart racing, lungs bursting, she races her hardest. Suddenly she falls to the ground, clutching her knee. A man races to the front of the spectators. Tears are running down his face. For he has run his last race.

Diane Butfield Year 8

MASK

*Dark colours that make up a face.
Expressionless eyes that hold a hidden meaning.
Look into the deep pools, and see the soul.
Speak to the lips,
but receive no answer.
The mask holds and hides the person inside.
It covers up light,
and sometimes darkness.
The wearer becomes the underneath.
The mask takes control.*

Alessandra Pagni Year 9

Armour of Stealth

Joan pulled her hair out of her eyes. She wiped her brow, and began to re-focus her eyes on the object swooping, soaring and flying towards her

She stood her ground as the noise increased. Sweat poured at a faster rate down her brow now, as in front of her the blur of colours intensified.

The object, now fully in focus, made her quiver with anticipation and tense up all her body joints. She moved her head a little, to get a better look, a sharper focus perhaps, of the action going on around and within her, but her body like the ground, stayed frozen. She felt like a scarecrow, an ice sculpture waiting to melt. She was too nervous to move or respond at this stage.

Suddenly she turned and focused, as another image appeared out the depths on her right side. She was surrounded, confused. She panicked. What to focus on first - colours and bodies which were scattered everywhere? One by one, she kept telling herself they would have to be dealt with, but was there enough time?

A sudden flash of colours, heads, sticks appeared once again, but this time on her left hand side. The colours blurred, fought and clashed together making Joan's eyes focus on the left hand side altercations rather than what was going on right in front of her. A noise attracted all her attention back to the left hand side once more. She had time to focus her eyes and soon she found that colours of the engaging enemy could be quite clearly scene through many swarming obstacles in front and all around her. She caught a glimpse of her target, but it wasn't more than a few seconds later that she lost sight of it again. She searched and looked again, from one side to the other, until finally, minutes later, she caught one quick glimpse before it was launched full pelt towards her. Again the rest of her body stiffened, but she found the energy to raise her left arm, which for a split second sustained a short yet powerful pain.

Colours came towards her as well as heads and bodies. It was quite clear that they were after the little black object, but she covered, and smothered it until she heard the sweet whistle sound.

She caught her breath as her fellow team mates came up to her, she could clearly now see her friends amongst familiar colours. Joan looked up at the score-board to see how much longer she would have to take these threats. The adrenalin was rushing through her, engulfing every part of her body like a volcano with its hot red pool of destruction.

Through all the strange noises of cheering and screaming, all tension in Joan's sore muscles relaxed as the siren signalling the game went off, piercing every ear in the entire rink.

Joan could feel all of her breath coming back now as she caught a glimpse of the happy faces gliding towards her and the net.

Just as swiftly they left the icy surface, the black object however was still being caressed in Joan's left glove. All fear was lost as she stumbled into the change room, to rid herself of the bulky mass of armour she bore.

It was back home now to dry the gear out, till the next challenge, the next clash of the so called warriors.

Joan thought to herself how marvellous it would be if everyone could see the game the way she did. The way the colours fought and the way the sounds travelled through her helmet at an intense yet slow speed.

She looked down to her hand. The object had left its mark in her hand, and now all that was left was a black and purple bruise.

Joan was quiet as usual on the way home. She never had anything to say, if she did, she would just think it. Emotions flew, swirled and tunnelled in her head, but words, words were hard to find through her actions let alone her thought and feelings.

Joan never spoke. Never said a word. The only images she was concentrating on were those that she had just encountered.

Her armour was her secret wall, to protect her and even hide her if needs be, from her troubles. She enjoyed the challenge of defending what seemed to be herself, and when she did well, she always had a grasp on it, so that nobody could catch or share what she had.

Her helmet seemed another face, an unfamiliar face, the face of the aggressive furious Joan who was there to protect the team but more so herself. The other face of Joan, told a different story. It showed signs of struggle, of independence, of needing and wanting but never having or owning. Her life seemed so inescapable, yet the mask, her helmet she put on, seemed to hide that girl with the struggles and turned her into the Joan she always wanted to be.

Joan's will behind the mask is that of a strong, outgoing girl who, despite the struggles can always put on a happy face. The smell of fear, of taking on the impossible on the ice, gives her the inspiration and confidence she will one day release in the real life she lives behind the mask.

Ellen Jones Year 10

Hidden Treasures

*Under a sleepy, sandy, wind swept dune, in a desert far from man.
In one towering, old, abandoned Oak, where the roots grasp tight the land.
Deep beneath a rippling river, embedded in a rock,
Are a thousand tales and mysteries that wait to be unlocked.*

*Over the twisting, twining tunnel of time, these mysteries have been trapped,
By the rapidly, evolving Earth, that never hinders to look back.
Many questions and enigmas wait in time for us to find.
As we comb the Earth for answers, to the mysteries that torment our minds.*

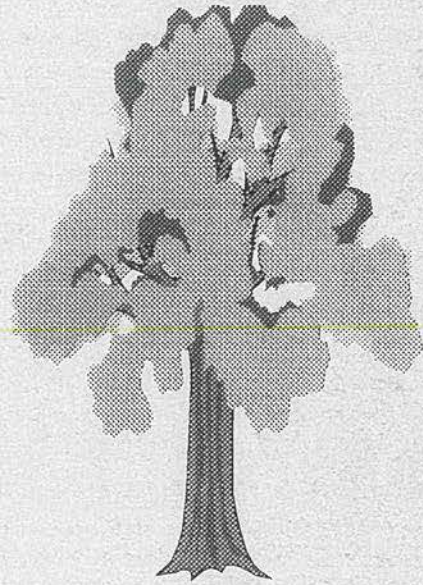
*The aging, old abandoned Oak, was a sapling long ago.
Its' crooked back and wrinkled skin, withhold the answers we do not know.
The long and friendly outstretched arms have played witness to the facts,
But the Oak will never reveal them, it prefers to hold them back.*

*The now eroding sandy dune, was once an ocean bed.
In an ocean that was filled with life, the land here now lies dead.
Oh what a man would give, if each grain of sand could speak,
All the answers it could give, to the mysteries that we seek.*

*And to the weaving river, where below lies proof of time.
Embedded our answers, but we might as well be blind.
To unravel all life's mysteries, seem a task too great for man,
But will still persist to search, on this vast and unknown land.*

*We are hungry for knowledge, we know not when to stop.
We search the deepest oceans, to the highest mountain tops.
But when we find an answer, our desire pursues to grow.
To unravel all the mysteries, that we demand to know.*

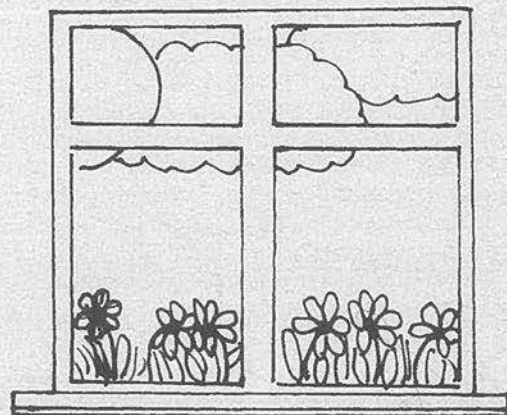
*Why can't we have acceptance, and leave the mysteries hidden?
Why do we go to great expense, to explore what is forbidden?
Each day we find a way, to search an unknown place,
And each day we find an answer, to feed our hungry race.*



Rebecca Griffin Year 10

A Room with a View

*As I look out of my bedroom window,
My view is obscured
Lace curtains
A spider web.
Move aside and reveal the frame on the glass;
A crucifix on a church wall
As the last rays of sunlight shine
A torch glaring in one's eyes.
The clouds journey
Painting the sky a pink dusk.
Where the luscious green tops can no longer be seen.
As the darkness of night settles
The world is suddenly darkened
The lights have been switched off!
All trace of daylight gone
All pencil marks rubbed from the page.*



Katrina Brown Year 9

Deja Vu

A boy, no older than sixteen or seventeen, sat cross-legged and motionless on the bare rocky cliff. The icy wind from the ocean whistled around his head, playing with his shoulder-length pitch black hair, whipping it against his pale face and emerald green eyes. The waves crashed against the jagged rocks below the cliff, sounding like the roar of lions. In the distance the far off sound of thunder could be heard, splinters of lightning split the heavens in two. A storm was brewing.

The nightmare of what had been the past year danced in the wind.

Joe often came to this place just to sit and think, with no counsellor telling him that his mother was the cause of his constant battle with insanity, no relatives telling him, "Not to worry dear, everything will be all right." Nobody understood, least of all his father. They all thought he was angry with her for doing it. They didn't understand that he wanted to go, to be with her.

This was where she did it. This was where she literally "took the plunge." The picture of that fateful morning was still so vivid in his head that it seemed like only yesterday that he came running out to find her. He could still see her delicate body in the white dress she loved so much, lying lifeless on the green mossy boulders. Her body was twisted unnaturally, with her head lying at an awkward angle to the rest of her body. He could still remember sobbing his heart out, cursing the wind and the rain and even the sun, wondering why, wondering how anyone could take her away from him. Now it seemed like a movie he had just seen yesterday - a movie about his life one year ago. A movie that just kept playing over and over again in his mind.

"Come away from there," they would scold.

They didn't understand that he liked this solitary place.

"Forget about it," they would murmur. They didn't understand that he couldn't and didn't want to forget her.

Suddenly, Joe was colder than he had ever been in his life. A shiver crawled up his spine. He lifted his eyes to the greying sky. There before him stood a figure that he had thought he would never see again. The white cotton fluttered in what seemed to be a light breeze that surrounded her. Her body was mangled, her back twisted, but her face was still perfect.

"Mum," he whispered.

She smiled and glided toward to him, then stopped. Her face twisted into a frown. She started drifting slowly away from him.

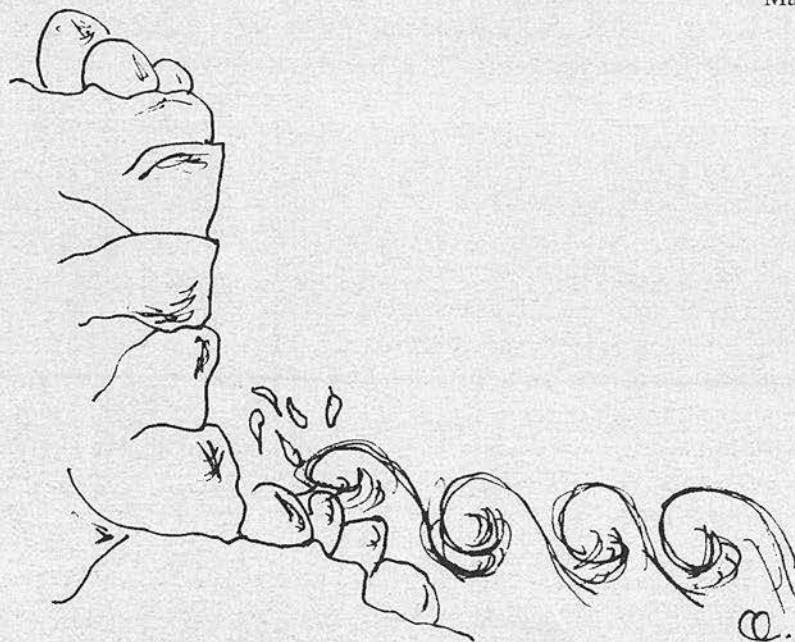
Joe clambered up. His stiff joints popped. He took one step, two steps towards her. She kept backing away, and he kept following, unconscious of anything but her.

Suddenly he lost his footing and began half tumbling, half sliding down the cliff face.

The next morning a black Mercedes pulled up. A man in his forties got out and slowly walked to the edge of the cliff top, where he sometimes came for peace and tranquillity, away from his hassles of work and relatives.

Looking down, a sight too horrible for words met his eyes. Down below him were the twisted remains of his son, the waves lapping at his head, his body twisted and mangled. His eyes in the morning sun had a peaceful far-off look in them and in his hand, he clutched a white ribbon.

Marie Tomic Year 10



Dreams of Tomorrow

Most children can be friends with anyone. It doesn't matter what another child looks like as long as you have fun playing together and getting into mischief. The world is a magical place when you're a child. As you begin to lose the innocence of childhood, you start to see the world in a different perspective. The protective shield of childhood is destroyed and life isn't the wonderland you believed it to be. You now find yourself in a world filled with hate, violence and injustice.

I was born and raised in a small country town in Western N.S.W. I lived on a farm with my parents and many farmyard animals. At the age of five, I began my school life at the small public school in the centre of the town. On the first day of kindergarten, I met a little Aboriginal girl called Katherine. We had a wonderful time together and it wasn't long before we became best friends. As the year floated by, our friendship deepened. We were always in each other's company at school and we felt like the world was at our feet.

It was the last day of Year Four when a terrible thing happened - something that would change both Katherine and my life forever. It was this incident that made us realise the world we were living in wasn't the perfect place we had believed it to be.

Katherine and I were happily playing at lunchtime. We were very excited as the Christmas holidays were due to start the next day. Towards the end of lunch, a girl in the sixth grade approached us. Before we knew it, the girl began saying awful things to Katherine about the colour of her skin. The words rolled off her tongue so easily and became louder and more obscene. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. It sounded like the devil was confronting us with evil words of venom and anger. Tears began streaming down Katherine's face. The only thing left for us to do was run. I grabbed Katherine's hand and we bolted like lightning to the school administration office. I wanted her to tell the principal what had happened, but she flatly refused. This was the first of the many racist taunts Katherine and her family would endure.

Two more years passed before Katherine and I were to start Year Seven at the local high school. I was nervous about moving on to high school, but Katherine was a nervous wreck. She was a very timid girl and was really scared that the kids would taunt her because of the colour of her skin. I realised then the emotional trauma she must have been going through. I hated everyone that had ever said anything racist or cruel to her. If only they had seen her as the intelligent, beautiful person that she was.

Things didn't improve at high school - in fact they got worse. There was one gang in our grade that constantly tormented her. She would tell me how she would get home from school and cry bitter tears of frustration, but she never let her parents know what was bothering her.

Then, one afternoon, a side of Katherine was revealed to me that I hadn't seen before. She was obviously fed up with this vicious circle of taunts and humiliation, so she decided to stick up for herself. The leader of the gang, Caroline, began swearing and making racist comments toward her, as she usually did. Katherine finally stuck up for herself and gave Caroline the verbal bashing she deserved. Caroline, for once was lost for words. Katherine informed her that she was proud to be an Australian Aboriginal, and no matter what anybody else said or thought, she deserved to be treated with respect and equality. I was so happy for her and I'm sure she was quite pleased with herself also. Caroline and her gang retreated without a word.

The next day, Katherine was absent from school. I decided to visit her on my way home from school, but no one was home. When I arrived home my mum was standing at the front door with a worried look on her face. I could tell from her expression that she had bad news to relate. Mum told me that late the previous night, Katherine's father had been severely beaten by Caroline Gray's father over a racial argument they'd had. Katherine's father had passed away some hours later. I was struck numb. I felt like my heart had jumped through my throat and that a ton of bricks had been dropped on me. Then I thought of the misery Katherine must have been going through. A part of her would have died with her father.

The next day I visited Katherine. She was terribly upset and I felt so angry and helpless. She retold the whole incident and described how scared the rest of her family were, as they watched helplessly as the drunken Mr. Grey beat her father until he was unconscious. Then she broke down into a flood of tears. She told me that the remainder of her family would be moving to Darwin. They had been very unhappy living here and now that her father was dead they had no reason to stay. She told me that I would be her only good memory of this town. Katherine couldn't bare to stay here and face the memories of her father's brutal murder.

I was so outraged that such a loving family had been pushed out of our small country town. I hated life for being so cruel. It was then that I realised that Katherine's childhood had been destroyed long ago, by a worldwide hate called racism.

Ursula Traynor Year 10

Beaten

David sat there, staring out the window. He picked up his pen, then dropped it again. It just wouldn't come to him. He'd been there now for just over two hours, sitting there.....thinking. David lifted his pen again, nothing. He looked around and saw everybody else writing intensively. He looked out the window again, praying for the thoughts to flood into his head, knowing very well that that just doesn't happen. He looked at his watch - five minutes to go. He'd written only his name in a two and a half hour exam! The teacher walked up to the board and wrote "Five minutes to go". David was paralysed. He knew he had to write, had to answer at least a few questions but he couldn't move.

"Okay, exam's over. Hand your papers to the front," announced the teacher. David remained still. His brain was working overtime. The answers were flooding in. He remained paralysed. The exam was over. He had failed. That didn't matter. His whole life was a failure anyway.

The class got up and moved out of the classroom, all discussing what answers they got and laughing at the silly mistakes that they had made.

"At least they wrote something," thought David.

Slowly he stood up and filed out of the classroom with the rest of the students but he wasn't discussing answers with anyone. He had no answers to discuss.

David made his way out of the school and down the street, heading home. He knew the second he walked in he would hear screaming and the crying of his mother.

David wasn't like all the other kids. He was very different. He always kept to himself even though people tried to include him. He didn't trust anyone, not even his own parents. He couldn't, not after what they had done to him. They'd ruined his entire life. Ruined him.

He walked into the house and went straight to his room walking past his crying mother who was covered in bruises and grazes. There he was, sprawled out on the lounge like a contented cat, fast asleep with empty bottles around him. David closed his door quietly so as not to disturb him. He dropped down onto his bed and cried. He finally let it all out. David cried and cried. It was the only way he could let his anger out. David could never be like him. He eventually calmed down and felt a lot better.

David was trapped. He didn't know what to do. This had gone on long enough. He had caused David to lose his trust. He had exposed violence and hate to David. He had ruined everything.

David loved his mother very much but couldn't understand why she told him to leave it alone, tell people he'd fallen down the stairs or got into a fight on the football field. Anything but the truth - that his own father bashed him and his mother, that they were poor because of his alcoholism, because of his selfishness and that their family had fallen apart because of him. David had lost his only brother because of him. He told his brother Luke to leave. This morning David woke up to find his brother gone. He received no explanation from his mother or him. He was just told to get to school, sit his exam and pass - or else. David had to find him. He had to find Luke. Surely he'd come back for David. He knew his life was hell. He was there only yesterday. David left the house and set out to find his brother. He went down to the local shopping centre where Luke and all of his friends normally hung out. He had to be there. David went to the usual place but found no one. He didn't know where else to go. This was the only place Luke ever went. So David turned around and went home. Maybe Luke would come and get him and his mother and take them away from him.

David arrived home to find a police car parked in the driveway. He could hear him screaming from the street. David stopped for a minute, not sure whether he could go in there or not. Maybe it was Luke...He ran to the door to see two policemen dragging him away. David turned to his mother and saw his teacher and Luke standing there. He ran over, eager to know what was going on.

"They're locking him up," explained Luke.

"Miss Murray saw me down at the shops and told me about your huge response to your exam. I figured it was because of Dad and I told her everything," he said, turning to David's teacher.

"I then suggested that you boys had better do something about it and called the police. They're taking him away. He'll probably get charged and be told to stay away from you for the rest of his life. You're safe now," stated Miss Murray.

"Taking him away? But he's my father. He made me who I am today." David stopped and thought about what he had just said. He was no one. His own father had made him no one. His own father had never been there for him. Why should he be there now? David broke down and cried. He didn't know if they were tears of joy or sadness. He felt as if a whole lot of weight had been lifted from his shoulders. He couldn't believe it. They'd beaten him not physically but emotionally. He learnt one thing from his father, what it was like being on the receiving end of abuse and David knew he would never be the cause of such a thing.

He knew it would take a while for all the scars to mend, but it would definitely be worth it in the end.

Melanie Carmeci Year 10.

Darkness

Darkness, light. Darkness, light. Freedom, suppression. Darkness, light. A giant wheel was set into motion that summer. I didn't see it then, but it started the same time I met Griffin - or was it because of Griffin that it started? We were two wheels slowly beginning to turn side by side, together? I don't know.

For summer, it was cool in the park that afternoon. The southerly brought the crisp smell of the salty waves and carried the sound of the traffic on its pilgrimage from the town. I remember thinking how peaceful it was and yet I had a premonition that it couldn't - that it wouldn't last as I lay on the grass looking at the white dragon in the sky.

A shadow fell over me. I opened my eyes expecting to see my "dragon" cloud hiding the sun. No, it was something much more real. A boy about my age stood there. A tall, long limbed boy who looked very angular in his black jeans and black skivvy. The ears beneath the black hair also seemed pointy. Out of politeness, I avoided staring at them. I'd never seen anyone with such pale skin and dark hair before. All the people in the town were like me - olive skinned and fair haired.

I don't know what it was that alarmed me about this strange boy, alarmed me so much that it fascinated me . . .

I found myself following him. We were walking across the square to the old part of town, where I lived.

A strange expression fixed itself on my mother's face when the boy introduced himself, bowed formally and asked for a light. He held her hand as she raised a match to the home-made cigarette dangling from his mouth in a "James Dean" style.

I'd been mistaken before. Despite his youthful appearance, he was at least four years older than I . . .

He walked through the door and arched an eyebrow at me. I heard the echo of his footsteps on the stairs.

With my friends gone, I'd expected the holidays to be long and lonely. Long they were, but hardly lonely. I found him waiting at the end of the street almost everyday.

Griffin had an old blue VW and we'd drive around. One day it was to the old oil refinery on the edge of town; another day to the lake where my friends and I would swim; another, the old stone ruins of an early church outside the town past the river; another the pool hall.

The days I was alone, I went to the park where I first met him. No longer did I see pictures in the clouds as I had before, because now my thoughts were occupied.

I thought a great deal about this Griffin who had such an unsettling effect on me, yet whose friendship I valued more than any other. It was a strange friendship. It wasn't as though we shared secrets or ever talked a great deal, yet there was a connection, this bond that made words seem futile and unimportant.

My mother stopped asking me where I'd been and who I was with early that summer, nor did I volunteer any information. I knew he unsettled her as he did me and I'd come to enjoy the new found freedom of not needing to explain absences.

Please do not be mistaken into taking those lines to mean I was growing distant from my mother. Distant I was, but that I had grown that way is false. She and I had never been very close. In the new silences between us, in the brief but no longer rare smiles we shared acknowledging the other's presence, we were closer than when we talked about the weather and laughed at Mrs Yeoman.

That I have not mentioned my father, you may think me cold and self absorbed, but there was no need to mention him till now...

Despite the holidays the ship yard workers were busy with the trawlers in port, so my father thought himself fortunate to be let off half a day.

I stayed at home, having not seen Griffin the past week and grown weary of the park. Finding me in front of the television, my father sent me downstairs to fetch a bottle of red wine.

I opened the door to the apartment's cellar and felt my way along the corridor. Though my hand was on our handle, I did not push it. A dim light was shining through the crack of the open door.

Griffin was there, talking to an older woman. She held a palm against his cheek and stepped forward. My mother kissed Griffin's forehead and put her arms around him. They looked at each other; I looked at them. I returned without the wine.

Griffin was waiting at the corner the next day and the next and the next. I'd watch him wait and I'd watch him leave. Then I'd go out and walk around the town, up and down the narrow cobblestone.

One day I waited for him. I wanted to shout and to swear and to scream and to fume, but I did not. I stared at him and stared. He asked if something was wrong. I did not reply. I gave him a letter that told him what I thought of him. And I ran away.

I didn't see him after that. For a while I heard nothing, till Mrs Yeoman told me my "strange friend" was in trouble with the police.

The Silent Story

Every time that my memory strays back to that terrible night so many years ago, I re-live the stages of fear that I went through. I feel the pain throughout my body, burning so strongly, as if once again my bones were breaking and my skin was being torn violently from my flesh. Memories so vivid like none I have ever experienced. I can hear the sounds of the metal crunching and the glass smashing and spreading all over the small, country road. Who ever would have thought that one terrifying minute can seem so long and be permanently imprinted on a persons memory.

The thing that is strange, is the day of the accident is lost to me. They are never to be re-lived, the joy of those last, precious hours spent with my family, their smiling faces. All that I ever see is their blood and their bodies. The bodies of my mother, father and my older brother and sister. How ironic that the one with the least to gain from living is the only one who survived. What am I, without the love and guidance from the only family that I have ever known and loved? I could never bear the thought of losing one of them and the punishment that I never felt I deserved. My only consolation is that they do not feel the pain I feel now, have felt and will feel for what is left of my life.

I have been seen by many experts on psychology and none can fathom my inexplicable reaction to my family's tragic death. They can only reach one conclusion and that is that I chose it myself and I did. There has never been a medical case such as mine in the history of their records. They never tried to find a reason or a cure for my benefit, to ease my suffering, they only wanted me to replay the gory details of that cool, winter afternoon. I will not succumb to their interrogations. I hold the key to the accident that stunned and reached the heart of the nation. I remember the headlines, "11 YEAR OLD GIRL ORPHANED IN MYSTERIOUS CAR CRASH". It wasn't a mystery to me. I saw the lights flash in my fathers eyes as the car came careering towards us. I saw the slime that drove the car and I remember the gleam in his eyes and the smile on his face as he swerved the car into our path. I know and understand that he was intending to kill himself, but why take my family as well? They had done nothing to deserve that horrible death. They had never murdered or raped like the other driver had - I know that as well, although they think I don't. Adam McBride mysteriously disappeared that evening. The Government had made a very big mistake in releasing him from the sanitarium and my family paid the price. He was to be the model of their rehabilitation program and in spending so much money the Government decided to cover their mistake and said, "Mr McBride was, most likely, the innocent victim of an ill directed revenge attack." They went to great lengths to remove all the evidence, the car, the body, and whatever extra debris had been created. They then called the police and ambulance. By that time my family was gone and my life would never be the same.

Besides the psychological damage I suffered, I also received eight broken bones and permanent tissue and skin damage to 74% of my body. Because of the damage I suffered I couldn't walk for three months and once I recovered I chose not to walk anywhere except to the bathroom. I never spoke to anyone and became catatonic. I am twenty years old and have a live-in nurse, Lydia. I would love to thank her and will do so in my final letter. I am planning to spend my twenty-first birthday with my family, where I should be. On the ten year anniversary of the accident I will take my dinner knife to the bathroom and slit my wrists. On my dinner tray I will leave a letter to explain my accident to my nurse, thank her and request that she inform the media immediately. Tell them that I am sane and could not bear to answer the questions that I knew I would be asked. I only have eight months and twenty three days to suffer in this terrible life.

My salvation arrives and the letter is placed where Lydia will see it. The smile that I'll see on my face, will be a smile of relief. Finally after ten long years of grieving and nightmares, I will be free. When the knife slides down the wrist, I'll feel a tingle of joy, as I know soon I will be reunited with my only loves. Tears of absolute ecstasy will be coursing down my damaged skin. I won't feel the pain that is supposed to accompany my drastic actions. Tears and joy and my family approaching. I will hold out my arms and before stepping over the threshold of life and eternal joy, I will yell, "Lydia, I'm finally free" and she will smile at me from the door way of the bathroom and I will smile at her tears of joy as I run to the awaiting arms of my mother and then, my body will fall limp.

Rachel Mathieson Year 11

A Puppet on a String

*You may think I'm a puppet, but that you have got wrong.
Just 'cause you control me, those strings are still too long.
They should be cut right off, so you can see me dance.
You could watch me all day long, watch me sing and prance.*

*When you've finished playing you throw me on the floor,
I get cuts and bruises, but you don't care any more.
You run away, do something else, forget about me till...
You come back into your room and see me sitting still.*

*I love it when you play with me, and move those strings about.
Although it's very awkward, I love to hear the shout.
"Mum, come and look what I can do, just see how I can play."
"That's very very good dear but show me another day."*

*Adults just don't seem to see, what kids can really do.
Adults don't believe in dreams, but for kids they always come true.
I'm a puppet in your eyes - for me that's just for now.
My dream is in the future I'll live and take a bow.*

*You and I we'll be best friends, we'll do everything the same.
All day long we'll have great fun and play at wonderful games.
Once you learn how to use me, you'll do something great.
And that's when people will come from far, to watch this little mate.*

*I know that I am small, and my eyes don't seem too real.
But I see everything you do, and hear every squeal.
When you come into the room, I can't make a sound.
Except for when you knock my feet, upon the wooden ground.*

*When you've gone I'm free to move, however I may please,
But I like it better when you're here and when you do leave
I wish that I could talk to you, and break all the rules there are.
That say toys can't talk to humans no matter who they are.*

*One day I'll be a real child, just like you are now.
You just wait and see, my child, I'll figure out how.
You know, it's a mystery - why can't all humans be toys?
Or else why can't toys be girls and boys?*

*It's a mystery, no-one knows, why toys can't be like you.
Real girls and boys with dreams that all come true.
It's a mystery, why can't us toys have birthdays that are real?
One day we'll work it out and all the toys will be real.*

Sara-Joy O'Connor Year 7

The Eyes of Persuasion.

Across the table, I could see his eyes fixed on me. His piercing stare had been on me all night, and at first I had tried to ignore it, but that was impossible now. I couldn't understand why he had chosen me to stare at. I didn't even know the guy personally, only that his name was Daniel and he had recently broken up with his girlfriend, Tracey. He continued to stare. Did I have a huge pimple on my face, diverting his attention from the conversation towards me?

Confused, I began to feel extremely uncomfortable. I did not want to stare back at him and give him the satisfaction of seeing the fear that was starting to grow in my eyes, so I joined in the conversation with my friends in the hope that he would turn away. Out of the corner of my eye, I could still see him gazing at me. His friends were talking to him, but he shut them up. Daniel had other things on his mind and what those things had to do with me was what was so puzzling.

I heard through Sarah, my closest friend, that he had got himself into a bit of trouble with the local police for stealing goods from an electrical warehouse, but while he was going out with Tracey, she had changed him, and he no longer participated in those sort of illegal activities. However, everyone said since the breakup, he had been acting extremely strangely, so weird was he that sometimes people were too scared even to talk to him.

I once again looked from the corner of my eye and once again found Daniel staring at me. I had to show him that his continual staring was not bothering me at all. So, I sat there nonchalantly for a while, gathering my thoughts. With growing confidence, I slowly turned around and stared back into his eyes. For a moment in time, I could see through his eyes and into his mind to find pain and suffering. What this suffering was that I was supposedly seeing, I did not know. The whites of his eyes were no longer white, but filled with red rivers, his pupils small dots in an ocean of grey. I could sense evil in his eyes and I knew he could sense fear in mine. Everything around me seemed no longer to exist and it was as if Daniel and I were in a world of our own.

I could no longer hold my gaze on him and turned away. He smirked, knowing he had won this game.

No longer being able to stand his presence, I grabbed my pack of Benson and Hedges and bag and headed for the bathroom. I walked briskly. I could feel a presence lurking behind me and turned around quickly. There was no-one there, but as I looked at the table where I had been sitting, I noticed that not only was my seat empty; so was Daniel's. With increasing alarm, I ran to find sanctuary in the bathroom.

On reaching the bathroom, I locked myself in. This guy was really freaking me out. He wanted something from me. A chill crept through my spine as I had a flashback to his gaze. I shuddered. No, I thought. No. I'm not going to let this creep get to me. I reapplied my make up in front of the mirror and took a deep breath. Turning the door handle, I stepped outside. To my surprise, Daniel was there waiting for me. I ignored him and walked past, but he grabbed my wrist in a firm grasp. I tried to shake him off, but it made him hold on tighter.

"Uhhh, let me go!" I cried.

"It's okay, Stephanie. It's not like I'm going to hurt you," he replied. "I really like you."

He pulled me closer.

"You know what I want, Stef, so the sooner you give it to me the better," Daniel said in a sly way.

This scene was so familiar. I had seen it in so many movies I had watched, I just never thought I would be in this situation.

"Fine," I yelled, "have it!"

With that, I handed him my last cigarette!!!

Janine Dennis Year 10

Is There Anybody Out There?

*We know there are other planets,
Suns and moons too,
But are there other people,
Just like me and you?*

*What would they look like?
Black, purple or blue,
Red, green or multicoloured,
Would they look like you?*

*Would they be called alien,
Venusian or Martian?
Or would they have a new name,
Like mello kinz or lingfartian?*

*What would you do if you met one of these?
Run away and hide?
Or would you face them with a greeting,
Welcome to earth, I'm Sally Slide.*

*Would you have a heart attack,
If these things invaded us,
Or would you try to leave the city,
By train, ferry or bus?*

*If their language was English,
Would you stop and talk?
Or would you pretend mum was calling,
And leave in a powerwalk?*

*Would they wear clothes?
Would they walk around naked?
Would they have a god?
Or something else sacred?*

*Are there other things out there
Beyond the clouds and moon?
And if you're really out there guys,
Are you visiting soon?*

Erin Martin Year 7

What Would You Do?

What would you do if you were on stage in front of 300 people and your left breast fell out? It happened to me!!! You see I was in a school play and being a boy, naturally I wanted the boy's part, but instead, I had to be a girl and that was the beginning of the whole embarrassing ordeal!

Being a boy and obviously boobless I had to borrow my mum's bra and stuff it full with shoulder pads and tissues. I should have known that those same actions of 'bra stuffing' would later become the most disastrous event in what was to be my acting career!

We moved around a lot because of mum's job. In my family, mum worked and dad stayed at home to baby sit and when we were at school he would house sit. I suppose to a normal person like you, my family sounds pretty weird.

The school I went to for some reason never had little plays or talent quests, so when I finally reached high school I jumped at the first chance to star in a play.

I've always wanted to be an actor, the next 'Mel Gibson' - yep that's me! From an early age I was always putting on little shows for my family and their friends, and let's not forget those continuous triumphs of 'Stand up Comedies' and local talent quests. They never got me anywhere and because of my continuous change of address, town, city, state (wherever mum's job would take us) I was never able to get a professional agent. So when I tried out for the part that I so desperately wanted and was stuck with the female bit and my great speech of about one line, I couldn't be disappointed. I told myself that all great actors started out with stingy parts in stingy plays! The next play I would play the lead. No doubt about it. If only they could see my talent. I'd show them. I'd show them alright. I'd show them what should have been part of my female anatomy!!!!!!! I went to every practice, gave up my lunchtimes, after school activities for that play! And for what?

Indecent exposure!!!!

Opening night soon approached and before I knew it the auditorium had slowly filled up except for a few seats at the back, which was a good sign really. They were all eager to watch the performance, and what a performance it was! - Until my part of course. My part! Good lord, of all the lines, mine was smack bang right in the middle of what should have been the most important part of the play.

Jerry said his line and gave me my cue. I pushed him aside and shouted to him in my most furious voice,

"You liar, You cheat, You...." Jerry began to laugh, first quietly, but soon it became louder! I couldn't understand why? We'd practised the scene ten times at least, and laughing in a serious scene was most definitely not in the play.

I looked at my shoes, a habit I have when I am embarrassed and don't know what to do.

On my foot, staring at me, was a familiar skin toned shoulder pad and a bunch of scrunched up tissues. My mind began to race! Shoulder pads, tissues, shoulder pads, tissues, shoulder pa.....Oh my God, I thought, my boob! It's fallen off! How could this be? Hadn't I stuffed them in hard enough? Whatever I chose to do I had to think quickly. Should I kick it, or perhaps just leave it and hope the audience hadn't seen it. I stood there dumbfounded! Time was ticking on. I must have looked like a stunned mullet. Discreetly I reached down and picked up the shoulder pad, the tissues could stay there! I grabbed my shirt with one hand and put the shoulder pad back into place. But when I put it back in, it was around the wrong way, meaning one boob was bigger than the other!

My face was burning! I was SO embarrassed!!!! Here I was, a year seven in my first school play and I'd made a memorable disaster.

I quickly said the remainder of my line and left the stage at a quick pace! I could feel salty tears of anger roll down my cheeks. I couldn't have been more upset. I didn't wait around for the finale! As soon as I collected my stuff and had undressed out of my stupid floral dress and bra with uneven boobs hanging out of it, I was out of there.

Looking back now, it would have been funny, but for a thirteen year old devoted actor, it was far from it. I always believe in learning from mistakes and being famous as I am today I'm glad it happened in such a small production when I was thirteen and not one of great importance such as Beauty and The Beast at the grand old age of thirty!

Amie Kersten Year 11



Year Eleven Subiaco

Third Row (L-R): Lorna Smyth, Alicia Fernandez, Suzana Vratovic, Katarina Ugarkovic, Alexandra Cadick, Antoinette Reynolds, May Lee, Sherene Tieste.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs M Mahon, Melissa Robertson, Melanie Merlino, Marie Simunovic, Laura Brady, Victoria Scott, Melinda Ferguson, Joanne Jasser, Mrs K Whowell.

Front Row (L-R): Sarah McLaughlin, Roslyn Vallejo, Luisa Vumbaca, Melissa Probin, Rebecca Paterson, Mary-Anne Mouyat, Cathernie Cheng, Sara Ghazi, Angela Manago.



Year Eleven Monte Cassino

Third Row (L-R): Sarah Farago, Louise Clayton, Clare Butner, Jessica Birtwistle, Linda Popic, Amy Fung, Tanya Roberts, Sarah Jack, Vanessa Valenti.

Second Row (L-R): Dr. M Descoedres, Ondy Luk, Ameer Callaway, Carla Medway, Holly Mak, Katie Killian, Jackie Nguyen, Marina Furukawa, Mrs K Whowell.

Front Row (L-R): Mandy Lee, Jennifer Jackson, Jessica Valenti, Stacey-Anne Thoresen, Vicki O'Donnell, Kate Rigney, Eliane Youssef, Colette Asmar, Doris Wong.



Year Eleven Terracina

Third Row (L-R): Natalie Streat, Dana Stewart, Angela Junkiewicz, Danielle Luscombe, Monique Whealing, Musette Griffiths, Geraldine McDonagh, Melissa Ski.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs L McGowan, Rosa Huang, Keirilee James, Christine Collins, Jessica Lukunic, Alison Sherd, Rochelle Long, Mrs K Whowell.

Front Row (L-R): Dianne Hansen, Vanessa Commisso, Sally Lizier, Tiffany Jones, Cassandra Streat, Dynielle McCullough, Elsie Kan, Natasha Manuelpillai, Fiona Vella.



Year Eleven Maredsous

Third Row (L-R): Victoria Papandrea, Shelley Huber, Rachel Morris, Amie Kersten, Alison Helm, Rachael Mathieson, Rebecca Khoudair.

Second Row (L-R): Mrs A Pascoe, Sarah Takchi, Gemma Blain, Ivana Curic, Katie Tognetti, Elena Domenici, Sharon Turner, Mrs K Whowell.

Front Row (L-R): Emily Poon, Rebecca Johnstone, Caroline Tilbrook, Siobhan Tapia, Claudia Kassab, Lynette Wicks, Melanie Butterworth, Annabella Hui.

YEAR BOOK COMMITTEE



Wow! We have finally finished the year-book for 1997!! It has been a big year for the Year-Book Committee, and the Year Book, as there have been quite a few changes. Some of the changes include the new name, *Carpe Diem*, which means *Seize the Day*. This was chosen because the Year-Book Committee felt that this reflected the students' attitude to how they approach school. Another change to the Year-Book is that it now comes out in fourth term, instead of the following year, so that the present Year Twelve students can get their Year-Book before they leave school. This means they can get their friends and roll call group to autograph their book before they leave school. This change created quite a problem as now we can only record events up to the end of term three.

Now for the big Thank You's. A big thank you must firstly go to Mrs McGowan, who constantly pulled me aside whenever she was about to have an anxiety attack. She was the one to keep the ball rolling even when we felt a little lazy, or a lot lazy, and this is why the Year-Book was finished on time. I would also like to thank Mrs Dennis (that's right, the lady in the office who never gets any recognition), who did all the typing, formatting and the reading of the atrocious handwriting which we gave to her.

Last but not least I would like to thank the wonderful, exciting, energetic, amazing, marvellous, awesome and how could I forget, the definitely "kewl" Year-Book Committee. Without the help of our elite group and their specialised teams the reports, collages and photos could not have been finished.

Well, that's it for another year, and I would just like to leave on this note:

"Seize every moment"

Natasha Manuelpillai Year 11 1997 Student Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have contributed to the yearbook. A special mention and thanks must go to the following people; Mrs Chris Dennis, a genius with the word processor; Mr John Day for sharing 'our' office with us and all the proof reading; Mrs Liz May another proof reader and skilled juggler of English; Mrs Cath Metcalfe for her artwork and support; Rebecca Paterson, the unflappable photographer; Christine Collins and Sarah Farago for their art work and the outstanding Year book committee who really worked as a team.

Without an editor there would be no magazine. Natasha has done much more than was expected of her and I am very grateful for all her help, support and hard work in trying to get the yearbook out before the end of the year.

Mrs Linda McGowan

JENNIFER JACKSON

How did your involvement in ballet begin?

I was born into it - Mum was a gym instructor and a ballet teacher. I grew up in the gymnasium and at the age of three I started to attend ballet classes.

Do you have many friends who encourage your talent, and how do they help you achieve your goals?

Everyone always behind me. Support from your friends would be the most important part of any sport. They boost my confidence and always reassure me that I'm good at what I do.

Is it hard to handle both components of school and ballet?

Very! One or the other gets left behind sometimes! I get what needs to be done and then focus on ballet. I have to prioritise things sometimes.

How many days a week do you train and compete?

I train six days a week and compete on various weekends, usually every third weekend.

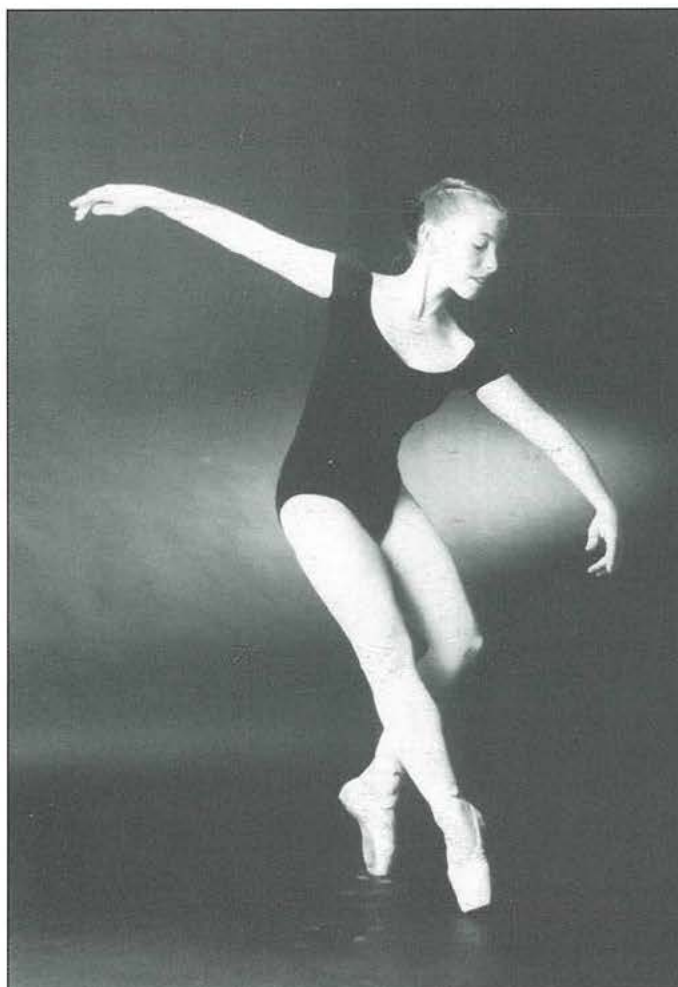
How do your parents feel about your sport and do they support you all the way?

Both are very supportive, especially Mum who drives me around to all the classes and competitions, and puts up with my nonsense(Thanks Mum).

Are there any goals which have set for your future in ballet?

I would like to go into the field of theatrical dance and musicals and all that sort of thing. I would also like to do some teaching. The main thing is to continue to enjoy it.

Natasha Manuelpillai





WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Year 12 1996

Sarah Legaspi	Bachelor of Engineering, Electrical P/S at UTS.
Lilika Limaye	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Macquarie University.
Kirsty Lowe	Visual Arts, Macquarie University.
Tracy Luk	Accountancy, TAFE.
Samantha Lukunic	Bachelor of Social Work, Sydney University.
Edelweiss Macabenta	Bachelor of Business, UTS.
Sarah Machin	Nursing, UWS.
Amie Makila	Business Studies, ACU
Nicole McCarthy	Hospitality Management, TAFE.
Evelyn McHugh	Bachelor of Nursing, Sydney University.
Rebecca Meryment	Textiles, TAFE.
Lauren Mesiti	Working.
Jennifer Mizzi	Humanities, UWS.
Felicity Moody	Bachelor of Economics, Macquarie University.
Joanne Mouyat	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Macquarie University.
Kathryn Murphy	Nursing, Sydney University.
Katherine Nadwie	Bachelor of Applied Science (Food & Nutrition), UWS.
Fion Ng	Macquarie University.
Selina Orton	Nursing, Sydney University.
Rosanne Pace	Primary Education, ACU.
Natalie Paciullo	Primary Education, ACU.
Georgia Panetta	Tourism, Ryde TAFE.
Ada Poon	Bachelor of Economics/Commerce (Accounting) Macquarie Univ.
Kathy Popic	Bachelor of Arts/Communications, UWS.
Joanne Pulis	Bachelor of Science, Sydney University.
Alison Rubic	Working.
Carmen Rutter	Nursing, Sydney University.
Sarah Ryan	Bachelor of Arts/Law, Macquarie University.
Smriti Sachdeva	Bachelor of Commerce at UNSW.
Jennifer Salinas	Bachelor of Arts (Graphic Design), Charles Sturt University.
Suzanne Schmid	Childcare, TAFE.
Joanne Spadaro-Dutturi	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Macquarie University.
Elisa Spano	Primary Education, UTS.
Gloria Symin	Apparel Manufacturing, Sydney Institute of Technology.
Susan Tay	Childcare, TAFE.
Elizabeth Tiamzon	Visual Arts, Sydney University.
Louise Tibbitts	Bachelor of Applied Science, Sydney University.
Joanne Turner	Working at OPSM.
Christine Wicks	Clerical training.
Felicia Yong	Industrial Design, UNSW.
Christine Youssef	Bachelor of Commerce/Marketing, UWS.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Year 12 1996

Fiona Allison	Speech Pathology, Sydney University.
Jacinta Ankus	Bachelor of Arts (Social Work), Sydney University.
Kim Anley	Child Studies, TAFE.
Joanna Arneman	Diploma in Applied Science (Food Technology), UWS.
Opehlia Au Young	Bachelor of Economics/Commerce (Actuary) Macquarie Univ.
Lauren Birchall	Leisure Studies, TAFE.
Kylie Bragg	Town Planning, UNSW.
Sharon Brincat	Health Studies, UWS.
Kim Burgess	Bachelor of Business, UTS.
Fiona Callaway	Bachelor of Arts/Communications, UWS.
Rebecca Camus	Nursing, ACU.
Elizabeth Challenor	Bachelor of Science/Commerce, Sydney University.
Fiona Chan	Bachelor of Applied Science/Physiotherapy, Sydney University.
Ellen Choy	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Macquarie University.
Cindy Chu	Pharmacy, Sydney University.
Claire Cole	Bachelor of Primary Education, Macquarie University.
Julianne Commarmond	Bachelor of Economics (Social Science) Sydney University.
Alexia Constantinou	Hospitality Management, TAFE.
Natalie Curic	Advanced Diploma in Asian Pacific Marketing, TAFE
Concetta D'Andretti	Working full time.
Kirsten Dalby	Business Studies, UTS.
Laila de Melo	Arts/Law, Sydney University.
Samantha de Souza	Chemical Engineering, Sydney University.
Samantha Delaney	Business Studies, TAFE.
Chantal Dowling	Bachelor of Arts/Communications, UWS
Jocelyn Estephans	Bachelor of Arts/Design, UTS
Michelle Evans	Childcare Course, 'My Little Friend'.
Alison Everden	Speech Pathology, Sydney University.
Karyn Farrugia	Computer Science, UTS.
Louise Finocchiaro	Nursing, ACU.
Allison Folkes	Health Studies, UWS
Arlene Forker	Deferred studies to travel overseas.
Ailsa Fox	Bachelor of Arts, UWS.
Kelly Freer	Childcare, TAFE.
Jessica Fung	Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Sydney University.
Constance Gacitua	Bachelor of Commerce, Macquarie University.
Kylie Geoghegan	Bachelor of Business, Southern Cross University.
Amanda Glover	Bachelor of Arts, Sydney University.
Omali Gunatilaka	Bachelor of Arts/Communications, Newcastle University.
Judy Habkoug	Accountancy, TAFE.
Karen Harris-Walker	Australian Academy of Beauty Therapy, Castle Hill.
Amanda Healy	Health, Sport and Fitness Training, TAFE.
Jizette Irvani	Bachelor of Economics/Commerce, Macquarie University.
Colleen Kassab	Business course, TAFE.
Helen Kearney	Bachelor of Arts/Commerce, Sydney University.
Yasmin Keen	Hospitality Management, TAFE.
Natalie Knipler	Social Ecology, UWS.
Emmanuelle Kutschukian	Primary Education, UTS.
Camille Lagunzad	Bachelor of Economics/Commerce (Actuary), Macquarie Univ.
Angela Lee	Bachelor of Commerce, Sydney University.
Stella Lee	Bachelor of Commerce, Macquarie University.

And what an evening it has been! Everything was just as one could wish, and I talked three times to Sir Derby. I must say he seemed rather pleased to see me. Ann sat by Mr Winthrop and they looked extremely elegant together. And Miriam played her harp - it was really charming. The sun has not yet set, and I am at my window, enjoying the last moments of this most perfect day.

Where has that old woman got to now? There she is, by the window again. A long, crooked shadow stretches away from her hunched figure. How pathetic. And yet she is smiling again. God knows, she's got nothing to smile about.

Frances Hanna Year 12



**JOINT WINNER OF THE NORTHERN REGION OF
THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD YOUNG WRITER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION 1997.**

The Sydney Morning Herald ran the inaugural Young Writer of the Year competition in 1986. Since then it has become very popular with students as it gives every student the opportunity to display creative ability. In 1997, the competition attracted 4,000 entries and for the first time, a student from Mount St. Benedict, Frances Hanna, was a Regional Winner in the Competition. Frances submitted a story entitled *A Day in the Life...* which impressed the judges. Frances was then invited, with 14 other finalists, to submit a portfolio of her writing for the final judging of Young Writer of the Year. Frances' story *Dusting* as well as a story written by Roslyn Lai of PLC, Pymble, were singled out for special mention. The winner was Mark Bolotin of Sydney Grammar School.

HAZLEWOODS LEGAL STUDIES PRIZE

As part of their continuing commitment to the local area, Hazelwood Solicitors, Epping, award a prize to the student from a number of local schools who achieves the highest mark in the subject Legal Studies in the HSC Trials and, thereafter, a further prize to the candidate who achieves the highest mark in the final HSC. This year, the Legal Studies award was presented to NINA KHATRI on Friday 17th October, 1997. Congratulations Nina!

A Day in the Life....

A new morning, and ah! such a day of potential! Such perfect weather for riding in the grounds, or perhaps strolling across to Moreland Hall to visit with the Misses Curtis.

The old lady is awake. The other patients stir as a distant beeper sounds, many corridors away.

It seems a shame to waste such sunshine breakfasting. To be sure, the dew is glistening and the trees are all in blossom. Yet some tea must be had. And perhaps a little toast. But how slow Betsy is to come and dress me this morning! Hmm, what is right for today - the blue satin? No, surely the pink poplin is the thing. I shall need my parasol.

The nurse bustles in, takes the tray, clicks her tongue in disapproval at the breakfast barely touched. Time for your pills, old woman.

At last, I am laced, puffed and combed. The air tastes delicious today. There is nothing so glorious as walking on a fine day. Nothing so glorious as walking alone, despite all Betsy's protests. Ah, I see Isaac is already in the gardens. His vegetables have come along well this year. And such beautiful primroses.

Where is that old lady going now? She's always wandering off somewhere. Slippers squeak down the halls. The flannel gown has a frayed hem.

A carriage? Why yes, I see it now, heading to the village. I wonder if the new vicar is come. Perhaps that is he - but four horses? How interesting! I must tell Ann. Ah, there is Mr Denning, tipping his hat. Good morning to you too, sir. How is your sister, pray?

Moaning from Ward 4. A red light flashes, silently. He's not breathing. Emergency, second floor. Somebody get a doctor. The wandering patient is smiling. But of course, she doesn't understand what's going on.

Moreland looks particularly grand today. I hope that Miss Ann will walk with me, Miss Miriam makes me uncomfortable. Ah, here is the maid. Hello Meg, yes indeed I shall come in. How well Ann looks today. So lovely to see you! Shall we walk into town?

The TV room is crowded. Full of checked blankets and blank stares. Nobody is watching the television, but the coloured images are reflected in the shining spectacles around the room. No noise except the game show host.

Indeed, walking in company is just as pleasant as strolling alone. The weather is too fine to be ignored in our discussion. And what of Mr. Winthrop, Ann? He is to come to dinner? This very night indeed! - and myself as well? Why yes, the invitation is most welcome.

She is moving on, shuffling past the kitchens. Clattering and yelling, a cloud of steam. The daily, boiled smell - lunchtime soon.

Shall we call in at the vicarage and see if our new man is come? Surely someone has arrived, for I saw a carriage. Yet all is quiet here, and the drive quite empty. I thought four horses rather too many for a vicar. I feel a breeze dear Ann, should we not turn back?

The lunch is there, but once again the old woman is gone - the narrow bed lies empty. Who's going to look for her this time? Let the new nurse do the honours.

A shorter walk than I anticipated. But how can one enjoy the outdoors when a dinner party approaches? And how can one possibly eat? But then I must be dainty at dinner and had better take some sustenance now. Such a prospect! I wonder if Sir Derby shall be there....

Nap time. The old lady's eyes are closed, but she doesn't seem asleep. The sound of snoring and the ticking clock will no doubt soon lull her.

YEAR 12 REFLECTIONS

*Mrs Allan's Year 12 English class: crazy loud and tireless,
united some of the oddest forms of existence, and lived nearly two years in the world with very little to depress or calm us.*

*That's Fiona' Last Word for the Day' printed on the board,
looking as if it should be censored; we call that "Emma" a wonder; now -
our little minds worked busily a day, and there it stands - rewritten.*

*Yet we essentially are not in madness, but mad in class,
Forty thousand classes could not, with all their quantity of wisecracks, make up our sum.*

Can we know that ours was a world of chapter naming, of visiting theatre and hating Paul Crabbe - a world of skiing videos - and still love it?

*Why do you ask?
Are you addressing me?
Is there anyone else?.....*

Frances Hanna

For me Year 12 was a very busy and stressful time having four major works due, two from Textiles and Design and two from Art. Trying to juggle these with all the other assessments and prefect duties was very difficult. All I can say is start now in Year 11.

In general, Year 12 was a good year and a fast one. Next thing I knew I was sitting for my half yearlies and trials with the thought finally dawning on me that I was in Year 12 - my last year. The thing I noticed in Year 12 was that throughout the year everybody changes a lot and the friends you knew once, became strangers or became closer to you.

The highlight of the year was the retreat, though this started off being very negative because we were separated from friends, but it ended up being great and lots of fun.

All I can say is HSC here I come. Year 12 was a major learning experience.

Nina Crause

Finally it is my turn to do the HSC. All these years I have been looking up to the Year 12's and thinking one day it would be me. Now that day has come.

In Year 12 friends have become closer as we supported each other through our many stressful situations.

For me, year 12 was about wanting to get out beyond the 'gaol' walls and taste the sweet sensation of freedom, but a part of me wanted to stay in this small piece of the world where I had security and where I knew my friends would always be. As I venture out into the wide world I will never forget the stress of Year 12 or the good times that I have had in school.

Amanda Fung

*A dirty Senior Study
And Prefect Avo teas
Mrs Marsh and Ms Reavey
And trying to get our P's.*

*With tests, more assignments
and orals galore
The one thing I learnt:
Plutarch's a bore!*

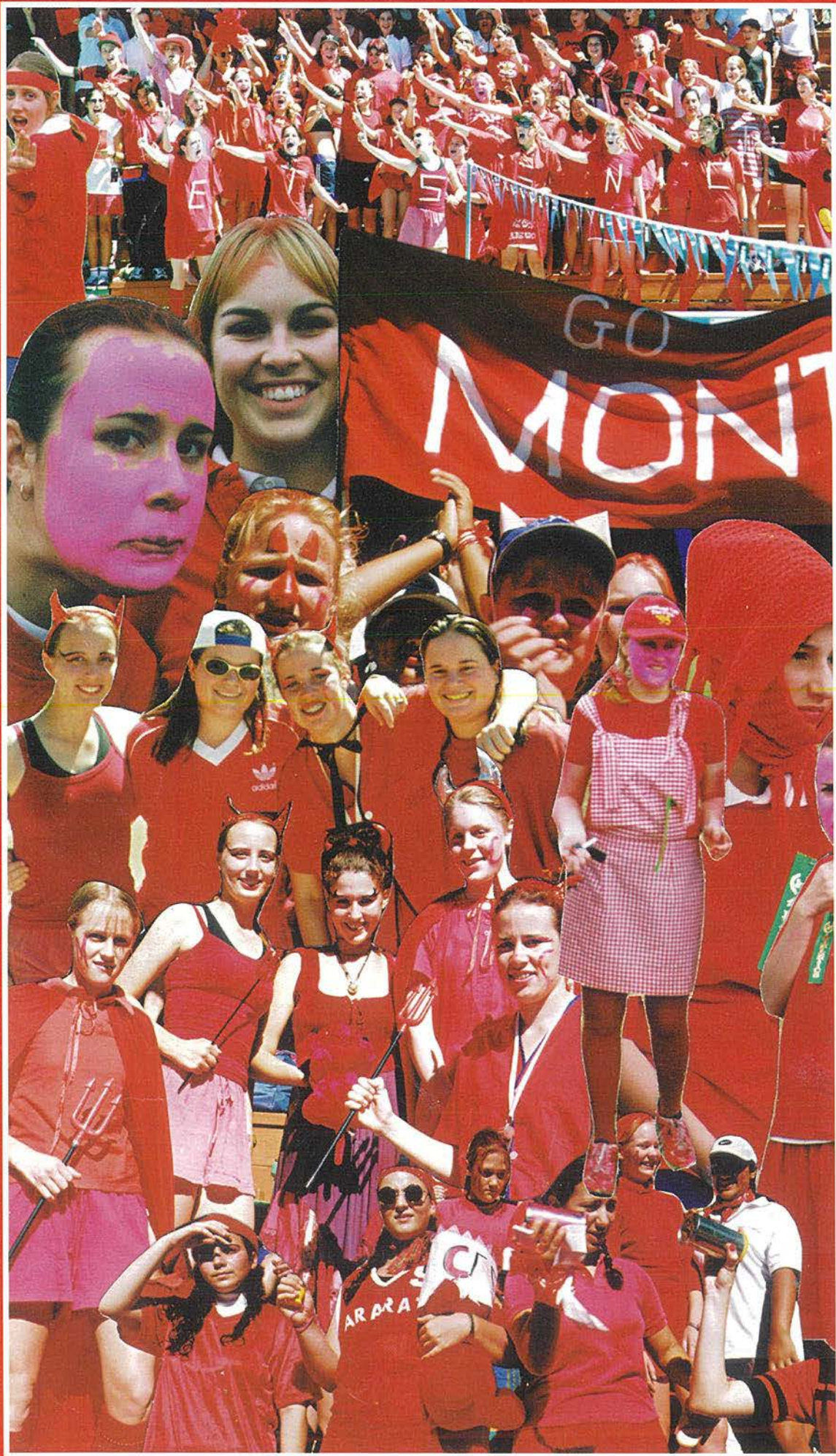
*Soon we'll be gone,
We'll be out, we'll be free
Just don't mention
the Big HS.....!!!!*

Anon (O.S.)

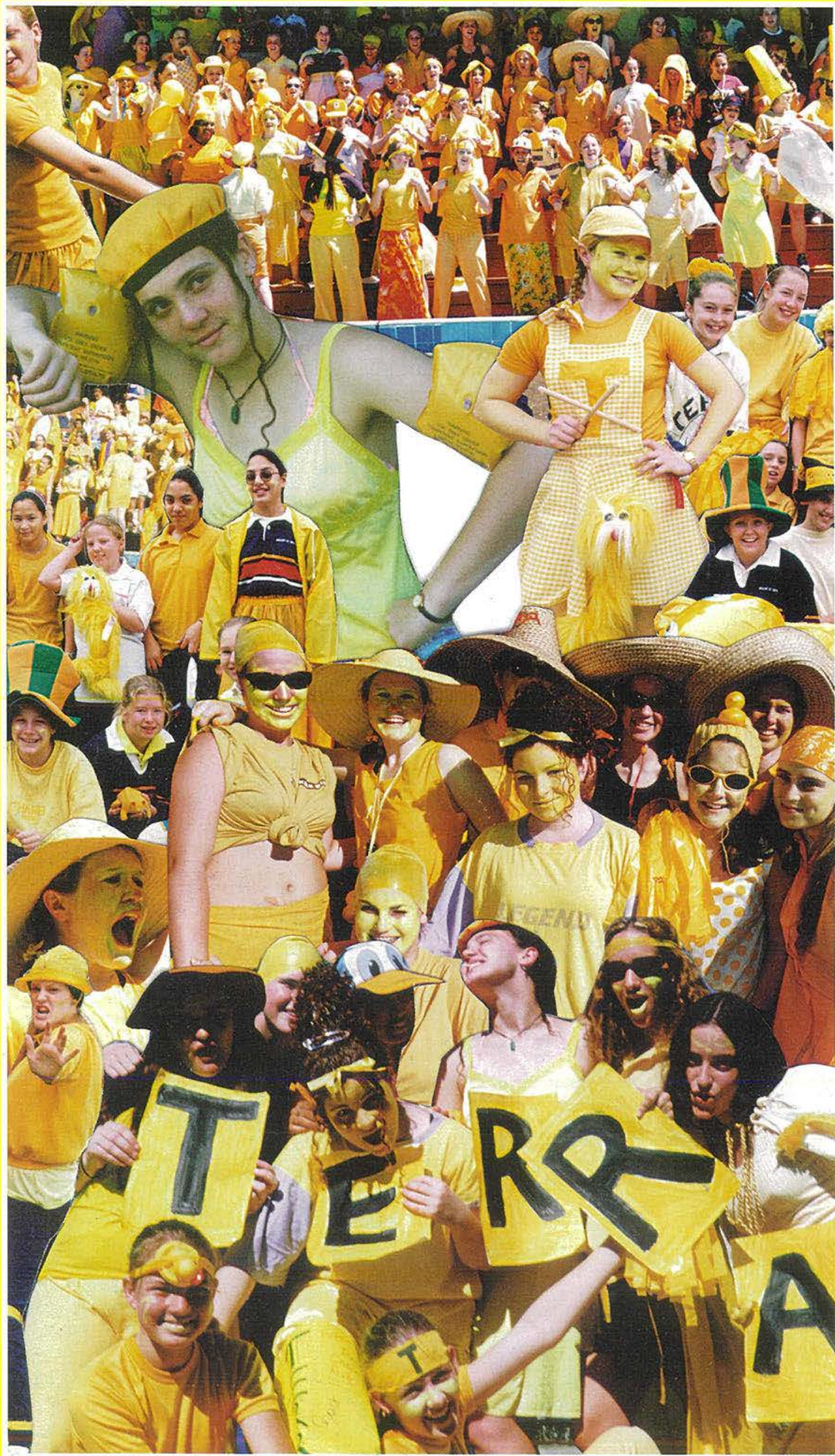
When looking back at my final year at MSB, one of the things that stands out in my memory is the involvement of the School Captains at Friday assemblies. The amount of school spirit that these five girls were able to arouse from dressing wildly, singing loudly and being themselves was admirable.

Whether it was a congratulations to Joanne Carter, a Happy Birthday to Mr Moran or a message from the flower rangers regarding the garden competition, Jackie, Paddy, Catherine, Tag and Liz were able to have the whole school laughing hysterically at their latest song. The time and effort those girls put into assemblies made it a pleasure to have them in Year 12, 1997.

Sigrid Gollob











Rebecca WILLOUGHBY: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Hockey 1993; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1995; Peer Support 1996; "Top Girls" Drama production 1995; Drama Day 1995.
Ambition: Chef.



Analise ZUZARTE: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Dance Ensemble 1993-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1996; Red Cross 1993; Drama Performance 1995.
Ambition: Undecided.



Renee WOOLFORD: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Rep. Football 1995; Rep. Swimming 1992-1997; CGSSSA Swimming 1992-1997; Dance Ensemble 1994-1997; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1997; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1993; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat 1993; Drama Day 1995, 1996.
Ambition: Early Childhood/ Teaching.



Kelly WYATT: 1994-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Dance Ensemble 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1994, 1995; Liturgy Committee 1995; Red Cross 1994; Peer Support 1996; Drama Ensemble 1995; Drama Performance 1995; Aerobics 1994, 1995.
Ambition: Undecided.



Adriana ZAMPROGNO: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Travel/Tourism.



Jacinta ZIINO: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1994, 1995; Formal Committee 1997; Dance Ensemble 1995.
Ambition: Hospitality.

OBITUARY TO MYSTERY

A boring world, if all was known,
A dreary place to be.
No puzzles for the scientists,
And no more dreams for me.

I know that we'd be thirsty
In the Desert of All-knowing,
For mystery and maybes
Are the things that keep us going.

Much darker days, if so much light
Exposed our dreams as lies.
No myth to sugarcoat the truth
We see before our eyes?

And what would dreamers feed upon?
What fodder for the wistful?
They say that ignorance is bliss
I say, let us be blissful.

A shallow place, if there was not
A reason to dig deep.
A waking up to make us wish
That we had stayed asleep.

*Frances Hanna
Yr 12*



Christina TASSONE: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1993-1995; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Stream Watch 1996; Formal Committee 1995, 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Sports Tour 1995; Blood Bank 1996; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992, 1993, 1995.
Ambition: Stage Manager.



Veronica VUMBACA: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Trivia Night Committee 1997.
Ambition: Travel.



Celeste TIAMZON: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1995, 1996; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Vocal Ensemble 1993, 1994.
Ambition: Graphic Design.

Claire WADDELL: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997; Rep. Volleyball 1992; Rep. Gymnastics 1992; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1994; Choir 1992-1994; Environment Committee 1992-1994; Dance Ensemble 1994.
Ambition: Undecided.



Luciana TOSILINI: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993, 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Successful Business Woman.



Joan WANG: 1993-1997
(Maredsous)
Ambition: Undecided.



Shannon Tracey: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993.
Ambition: Undecided.



Carolyn WARNER: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1993-1995; Environment Committee 1992-1994; St Vincent de Paul 1996; St John Ambulance 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; White Cane Day 1995; Red Cross 1993; Year Book Committee 1996; Amnesty International 1996; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Early Childhood.



Donna TULEVSKI: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino) **Prefect**
Achievements: House Vice Captain 1996; SRC 1992, 1993, 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross Appeal 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992; Rep. Football 1994, 1995; Rep. Swimming 1995; CGSSSA Athletics 1995, 1996; Catholic Schools Debating 1992-1997; Catholic Schools Oratory 1992-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Liturgy Committee 1997; Uniform Committee 1995
Ambition: Office work.



Belinda WATKINS: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: CGSSSA Athletics 1992-1994; Drama Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1995; Red Cross 1993; Drama Day 1995.
Ambition: Childcare.



Olivia SHEPPARD: 1992-1997
(Maredsous) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Uniform Committee 1996; Toastmasters 1995; SRC 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Can Day 1994; Red Cross 1993; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Orchestra 1993-1995; Choir 1995.
Ambition: Physiotherapy/Nursing.



Erin SPARKES: 1992-1997
(Maredsous) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Red Cross 1993; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Early Childhood. teacher



Khadija SHERIFF: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1994-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1995; Liturgy Committee 1995; Formal Committee 1995, 1997; White Cane Day 1995; Red Cross 1994-1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Primary school teacher.



Zoe STEVENS: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Gymnastics 1992-1994; Catholic Schools Debating 1992-1997; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Environment Committee 1992-1996; St John Ambulance 1996; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992, 1993; Tournament of Minds 1995; Rep. Netball 1992-1994; Netball Umpire 1993-1995.
Ambition: Undecided.



Courtney SMITH: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1995; Toastmaster 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992.
Ambition: Undecided.



Deneale STUBBS: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: Dietitian.



Georgina SNOWDON: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep Netball 1992-1996; Rep Gymnastics 1992; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1994; Liturgy Committee 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Lara SZITTNER: 1994-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Catholic Schools Oratory 1995; Dance Ensemble 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Royal Blind Society 1994; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Communications/ Teaching.



Nicole SOLLY: 1996-1997.
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1996; Rep. Swimming 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996.
Ambition: Business Career.



Catherine TAGGART: 1992-1997
(Terracina) **House Captain**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993; Rep. Hockey 1993-1996; Formal Committee 1997; SRC 1994, 1995, 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; St John's Ambulance 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; White Cane Day 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1995; Stream Watch 1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Romina RICCIARDI: 1992-1997
 (Maredsous) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Hockey 1993-1997;
 Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1993;
 Formal Committee 1995; SRC 1993; Peer
 Support 1996; Choir 1993; Rep Soccer
 1996.
Ambition: Undecided



Amy Salib: 1992-1997
 (Terracina)
Achievements: Toastmasters 1994; Rep.
 Tennis 1992.
Ambition: Undecided.



Frances Roberts: 1992-1997
 (Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Gymnastics 1993;
 1994; Dance Ensemble 1995, 1996;
 Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1997;
 Orchestra 1992-1994; Choir 1992, 1993;
 CGSSSA Diving; Joseph and the
 Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat 1993.
Ambition: Undecided.



Michelle SALINAS: 1992-1997
 (Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1995;
 Performing Arts Concert 1992; Red
 Cross; Amnesty International 1996, 1997.
Ambition: Travel and Tourism.



Catherine RYAN: 1992-1997
 (Monte Cassino) **House Captain**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993, 1994;
 Catholic Schools Debating 1993-1997;
 Liturgy Committee 1995, 1997; SRC
 1994; 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; St
 John's Ambulance 1996; Fiji Sports Tour
 1995; White Cane Day 1994; Peer
 Support 1996.
Ambition: Primary school. teacher.



Dana SARICH: 1992-1997
 (Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994;
 Rep. Volleyball 1995; Catholic Schools
 Oratory 1995; Performing Arts Concerts
 1992, 1993; Formal Committee 1997; Fiji
 Sport Tour 1995; Red Cross; Peer
 Support 1996.
Ambition: Hospitality.



Chantal SAAD: 1992-1997
 (Subiaco)
Achievements: CGSSSA Athletics 1993,
 1994; Formal Committee 1995; Red
 Cross 1993.
Ambition: Secretary.



Laura SESTITO: 1992-1997
 (Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994;
 Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; St
 Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day
 1994.
Ambition: Undecided.



Sally SAAD: 1992-1997
 (Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992, 1993.
Ambition: Business/Marketing.



Louise SHEPHERD: 1992-1997
 (Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Formal Committee 1997;
 St Vincent de Paul 1996.
Ambition: Occupational Therapy.



Rebecca MURPHY: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep Gymnastics 1992-1994; Dance Ensemble 1992; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross 1992; White Cane Day 1005; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Photographer. Graphic Artist.



Angela PEROSIN: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Drama Day 1994.
Ambition: Pre-school/Primary school teacher.



Jillian MURRAY: 1996-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Representative Netball 1996; Amnesty International 1997.
Ambition: Paralegal Studies.



Laura PORTO: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1994, 1995; Liturgy Committee 1994, 1995; Environmental Committee 1992-1996; Dance Papal ceremony 1995.
Ambition: Teaching.



Estelle OTTOLINA: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1994.
Ambition: Graphic Design.



Brion QUARMBY: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Netball Umpire 1995; CGSSSA Hockey 1994; Catholic Schools Oratory Finalist 1996; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1997; Year Book Committee 1996; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1994-1995; Vocal Ensemble 1994-1997; Interdistrict Finalist Plain English Speaking Award (SMH); Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat 1993; Exchange Student host 1996.
Ambition: Journalism.



Elizabeth PARK: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992-1995; Choir 1992-1993; Amnesty International 1997; Red Cross.
Ambition: Designer.



Christina RAZ: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1994; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Fundraising.
Ambition: Career in business.



Leah PELLING: 1996-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1996, 1997; Formal Committee 1997; Amnesty International 1997.
Ambition: Business Manager.



Sarah REDIMERIO: 1996-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Amnesty International 1997.
Ambition: Interior Design.



Erin LUNDY: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993.
Ambition: Business/Commerce.



Amanda McCANN: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993; Fiji Sport Tour 1995; CGSSSA Athletics 1992-1995; Dance Ensemble 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Liturgy Committee 1995, 1996; Year Book 1996; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Psychology.



Claire MAMO: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: SRC 1994; White Cane Day 1994; Amnesty International 1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Kris McNABB: 1994-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Dance Ensemble 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1997; Dance Week 1995; Liturgy Dance 1995, 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Year Book Committee 1996.
Ambition: Disabled Child Care/Nanny.



Melanie MANNING: 1993-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1995; Mock Trial 1995, 1996; Dance Ensemble 1993; Amnesty International 1997; Performing Arts Concert 1993-1996; Vocal Ensemble 1994, 1995; Orchestra 1993; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Landscape Design /Architecture.



Ana MEDINA: 1996-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Amnesty International 1997.
Ambition: Architect/Interior Designer.



Carol-Ann MATIJASKO: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996.
Ambition: University.



Maryrose MIFSUD: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1993, 1996; Mock Trial 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; French New Caledonia Tour 1995; White Cane Day 1994; Red Cross 1993; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Breanne MAWSON: 1996-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Vocal Ensemble 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1996; Liturgy Committee 1996, 1997.
Ambition: Undecided.



Diane MILICEVIC: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: Early Childhood Teacher.



Monica KENNA: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Gymnastics, 1992-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1995-1996; Rep Aerobics 1995-1996; Gymnastics Coach 1995-1996; Fundraising.
Ambition: Primary teaching.



Louise LAWRENSON: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Formal Committee 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Peer Support 1996; Netball 1992-1995; Netball Coach 1995; Volleyball 1994-1995; White Cane day 1993; Red Shield Appeal 1993; 'Top Girls' production 1995; Opening Mass 1994 - 1996; Red Cross 1993; Drama Day 1995.
Ambition: Primary teaching.



Samara KHAN: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Formal Committee 1995.
Ambition: Undecided.



Jamie LE CLERE: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Formal Committee 1995, 1997; Choir 1994; Drama Production 1995; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1995; Liturgy Committee 1995; Environmental Committee 1992-1995.
Ambition: Dietitian.



Nina KHATRI: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fundraising.
Ambition: Business, Commerce.



Virginia LEE: 1996-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1996-1997.
Ambition: Undecided.



Joelle LAGUNZAD: 1992-1997
(Terracina) Prefect
Achievements: Catholic Schools Oratory 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Liturgy Committee 1996; Formal Committee 1995; SRC 1993-1994; Amnesty International 1996-1997; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992-1993; Fundraising.
Ambition: To be successful. Travel.



Lisa LEOTTA: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: CGSSSA Athletics 1992-1994; Red Cross 1993.
Ambition: Dietitian/psychology.



Alicia LANSLEY: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Rep. Softball 1995; Rep. Basketball 1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1993; Formal Committee 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: Child Care.



Jody LOUIE: 1992-1997
(Maredsous) Prefect
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1994; Rep. Hockey 1996, 1997; Catholic Schools Debating 1992-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1993, 1996-1997; Environment Committee, 1997; Rep Soccer 1994; 1995; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1995; Year Book 1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Vocal Ensemble 1996, 1997.
Ambition: Architecture.



Carly HEMMINGS: 1992-1997
(Maredsous) **Prefect**
Achievements: House Vice-captain 1996; Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Rep. Softball 1992-1995; Rep. Hockey 1992-1997; Rep. Football 1993; Rep. Basketball 1992-1997; CGSSSA Athletics 1993-1996; CGSSSA Swimming 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; SRC 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: PE Teacher/ Hospitality.



Louise HENRY: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Year Book Committee 1996; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Occupational Therapy.



Amy HUANG: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1993-1996; Liturgy Committee 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Year Book Committee 1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1994-95; Vocal Ensemble 1995-97; Environmental Committee 1992-1993; Dance Ensemble 1995; College Newspaper 1995; Blood Bank 1996; Fundraising.
Ambition: Police force.



Michelle HOOK: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993; Netball Club 1993-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Amnesty International 1996; Peer Support 1996; Open Day 1992-1997; College Fete 1992-1997.
Ambition: Pre-school teaching.



Paddy JESSING: 1992-1997
(Subiaco) **House Captain**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-97; Rep. Football 1993-96; Rep. Basketball 1994; CGSSSA Athletics 1995; Catholic Schools Debating 1993; Performing Arts Concert 1995-1996; Liturgy Committee 1996; Formal Committee 1997; SRC 1993, 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Blood Bank 1996-97; Peer Support 1996; Uniform Committee 1995-96.
Ambition: Oncology.



Ainslie HOMES: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievement: Rep. Gymnastics 1993, 1994; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1995; Environmental Committee 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992; Blood Bank 1996, 1997.
Ambition: Intensive Care Midwife.



Stephanie JAROS: 1995-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Hockey 1995-1996; Rep. Swimming 1995-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1995-1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross Appeal 1995; Amnesty International 1996-1997; Choir 1995; Vocal Ensemble 1995-1997.
Ambition: Engineering.



Brigitte HUGHES: 1994-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1994-1995; Rep Volleyball 1994-1995; Drama Ensemble 1997; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1997; Fiji Tour 1995.
Ambition: Undecided.



Amelia HUTCHINSON: 1992-1997
(Terracina) **Prefect**
Achievements: House vice captain 1996; Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Rep. Swimming 1992-1997; CGSSSA Swimming 1992-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992; Formal Committee 1997; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Blood Bank 1996; Peer Support 1996; Cross Country 1992-1994; Aerobics 1994; Aerobics Junior Coach 1995.
Ambition: Physiotherapist.



Rachel HUTCHINSON: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Rep. Football 1993; Rep. Basketball 1994; Rep Swim ming 1992-1997; CGSSSA Swimming 1992-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Blood Bank 1996; Peer Support 1996; Aerobics 1994; Aerobics Coach 1996; Netball Coach.
Ambition: Photographer.

**Rupa GHEDIA: 1993-1997**

(Terracina)

Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1993-1995; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Orchestra/Band 1995; Rep Soccer 1995; Fete 1993-1995.*Ambition:* Travel, University.**Joelle GUILLARD: 1994-1997**

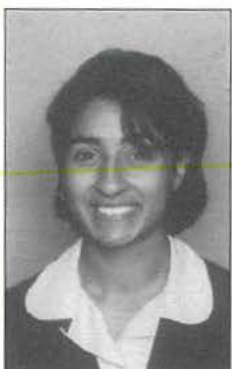
(Terracina)

Achievements: Drama Ensemble 1994-1996; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1996; Blood Bank 1996, 1997.*Ambition:* Undecided.**Sigrid GOLLOB: 1992-1997**

(Subiaco)

Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992-1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; White Cane Day 1994; Red Cross 1993, 1994; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; Fete 1992-1997; Open Day 1992-1997; Liturgy participation.*Ambition:* Business College.**Dawn GYFORD: 1992-1997**

(Monte Cassino)

Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1994, 1995; Liturgy Committee 1995; Environmental Committee 1992-1996; Peer Support 1996; Drama Production 1995.*Ambition:* Law.**Karen GOMES: 1992-1997**(Subiaco) **College Vice-Captain***Achievements:* Rep. Netball 1994, 1995; Catholic Schools Debating 1995; Tournament of Minds 1992; Dance Ensemble 1994-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Liturgy Committee 1996; SRC 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Noumea 1995; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992-1993; Vocal Ensemble 1994-1997; Blood Bank 1996; White Cane Day 1994.*Ambition:* Medicine.**Frances HANNA**

(Monte Cassino)

Achievements: Catholic Schools Debating 1992-1997; Toastmasters 1995; SRC 1994, 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; Orchestra 1993-1995; Mock Trial 1995, 1996; SRC 1995; Eucharist Minister 1997.*Ambition:* Secondary Teaching.**Kathryn GRAY: 1992-1997**

(Terracina)

Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1996; Performing Arts Concert 1992; St Vincent de Paul 1996; St John's Ambulance 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996.*Ambition:* Nurse.**Georgina HANNA: 1992-1997**

(Maredsous)

Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Formal Committee 1995; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; Red Cross 1993.*Ambition:* Photographer.**Elizabeth GRISCTI: 1992-1997**(Maredsous) **House Captain***Achievements:* Rep. Netball 1992-1997; CGSSSA Athletics 1993-1996; Dance Ensemble 1994-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Liturgy Committee 1995; SRC 1994, 1995, 1997; Blood Bank 1997; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Cross Country 1993-95; Assembly Committee 1997; Rep. Aerobics 1994-1996.*Ambition:* Dietitian.**Kathryn HART: 1992-1997**

(Maredsous)

Achievements: Rep. Hockey 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Formal Committee 1997; Toastmasters 1995; Red Cross 1993; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1994; Vocal Ensemble 1995.*Ambition:* Undecided.



Rebecca DAVIS: 1996-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Catholic Schools Oratory 1996.
Ambition: Adult Education.



Lorna EVIO: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Dance Ensemble, 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1994, 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: International Business.



Siobhain DAVIS: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Swimming 1992-1997; CGSSSA Swimming 1992-1994; Dance Ensemble 1995, 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1997; Peer Support 1996; Aerobics 1996.
Ambition: Marine Biologist.



Melissa FIRMSTONE: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; Open Day 1992-1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Maria DENIGAN: 1996-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Amnesty International 1996, 1997.
Ambition: Fashion Industry.



Amy FOXTON: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992, 1993; Dance Ensemble 1994, 1995; Performing Arts Concert 1992-1997; Liturgy Committee 1996, 1997; SRC 1994; Peer Support 1996; Choir 1992-1994; Vocal Ensemble 1993, 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1995, 1996; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat 1993; Red Cross 1993.
Ambition: Performing Arts.



Jacqueline DUCKETT: 1996-1997
(Subiaco) **Sports Captain**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1996, 1997; CGSSSA Athletics 1996; Catholic Schools Debating 1996; Catholic Schools Oratory 1996, Performing Arts Concert 1996; SRC 1996, 1997; Trivia Committee 1997.
Ambition: Marketing.



Naida FRAUMENI: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Swimming 1996; Dance Ensemble 1994-1997; Performing Arts Concert 1994-1997; Red Cross 1993.
Ambition: Journalist.



Carmel DURANTI: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: CGSSSA Tennis 1993, 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Liturgy Participation 1992, 1995, 1996; Peer Support 1996; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: Play tennis, Business.



Amanda FUNG: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993, 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Ash Wednesday Liturgy 1995, 1997; Opening Mass 1997.
Ambition: Business College, Child Care.



Diane CABOCHE: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1997; Dance Ensemble 1997; Performing Arts Concerts 1994-1997; White Cane Day 1994; Sports Committee 1997; Trivia Quiz Committee 1997.
Ambition: Archaeologist. Travel.



Joanna COWIE: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; Peer Support 1996; Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1993.
Ambition: Travel.



Joanne CARTER: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1996; St John's Ambulance 1996; Peer Support 1996; Aerobics 1995-1996.
Ambition: Physiotherapist.



Nina CRAUSE: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992; Rep. Volleyball 1992, 1993; Rep. Gymnastics 1992, 1993; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1997; Formal Committee 1995, 1997; SRC 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1996, 1997; Peer Support 1996; Orchestra 1992; Choir 1992-1995; White Cane Day 1995; Red Cross 1993, 1995; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat 1993.
Ambition: Interior Design, Fashion Design



Chantal CASTELLARIN: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1992-1994; Tournament of Minds 1993; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Soccer 1994-1995; CGSSSA Hockey 1993; Tennis 1992.
Ambition: Primary Teaching.



Suzanne CRONAN: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Gymnastics 1994; Performing Arts Concert 1992, 1993; Peer Support 1996.
Ambition: Psychology.



Cindy CHOU: 1994-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert; Amnesty International 1996-1997; Vocal Ensemble 1995.
Ambition: Business.



Rachel CRONIN: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1993-1997; Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Tour 1995; Peer Support 1996; Fete 1992-1997; Red Cross 1992-1994.
Ambition: Movie/Film industry.



Rachel COTTER: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: Rep. Gymnastics 1992, 1993; Catholic Schools Debating 1992-1997; Catholic Schools Oratory 1992-1993; Dance Ensemble 1993-1995, 1997; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1995, 1997; Liturgy Committee 1994, 1995; Formal Committee 1995; St Vincent de Paul 1995; White Cane Day 1994.
Ambition: Veterinary Science. Zoology.



Kate DAVIS: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Performing Arts Concert 1992-1995; Red Cross.
Ambition: Dietitian.



Danielle ABRAHAM: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Environmental Committee 1993; Toastmasters 1994.
Ambition: Business Management



Fiona BARRY: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Catholic Schools Debating 1996-1997; Catholic Schools Oratory 1992-1993; Soccer 1994-1996; CGSSSA Hockey 1994-1995
Ambition: Business.



Gretta ANDERSON: 1995-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Formal Committee 1997; Environmental Committee 1995; Dance Ensemble 1995.
Ambition: To be an Executive Chief.



Belinda BLACK: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992, 1994; Performing Arts Concerts 1993-1994; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Peer Support 1996; Orchestra 1993-1994; Opening Mass 1997.
Ambition: Psychology/Business College.



Greta BACON: 1992-1997
(Maredsous) **Prefect**
Achievements: Rep. Volleyball 1993-1994; Rep. Hockey 1993-1996; CGSSSA Swimming 1996; Performing Arts Concert 1993; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Year Book Committee 1996; Peer Support 1996; Rep. Soccer 1994; CGSSSA Hockey 1993-1996; College newspaper 1995-1996.
Ambition: Undecided.



Lisa BRINCAT: 1992-1997
(Subiaco) **College Captain**
Achievements: Rep. Hockey 1992-1993; Rep. Soccer 1994; Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1995, 1997; SRC 1992, 1994-1996; Year Book Committee 1996; Peer Support 1996; Orchestra 1995; Subiaco Vice-Captain 1996; Eucharist Minister 1997; CGSSSA Hockey 1994.
Ambition: Copywriter (Advertising).



Marjory BALANGON: 1992-1997
(Maredsous)
Achievements: St Vincent de Paul 1996; Amnesty International 1996-1997; Peer Support 1996; Dance Ensemble 1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1995; Fund Raising (White Cane Day).
Ambition: Career in Computing.



Kate BRITTLIFF: 1992-1997
(Terracina)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1995.
Ambition: Child Psychology.



Jennifer BARRETT: 1992-1997
(Monte Cassino)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1994-1997; Rep. Hockey 1993; Performing Arts Concerts 1992, 1996; St Vincent de Paul 1996; Fiji Netball 1995; Red Cross 1993; White Cane Day 1994; Year Book Committee 1996; Amnesty International 1997; Peer Support 1996; Band 1996.
Ambition: Nursing.



Joanne BUTLER: 1992-1997
(Subiaco)
Achievements: Rep. Netball 1992-1993; Rep. Gymnastics 1992-1995; CGSSSA Athletics 1993-1995; Performing Arts Concerts 1992-1994; SRC 1993; Red Cross 1993; Dance Ensemble 1992.
Ambition: Child Care/Law.



Day 3

Day three of our retreat at Kiah Ridge began in a state of confusion as we tried to recover our things that had been buried under lolly wrappers the night before. Panic set in when we realised that we had ten minutes before brekky and there was a distinct lack of showers. This hectic pace was soon changed with a bare footed "earth dance" led by Miss Cooper. Free time and clean up left us all wondering how on earth we all managed to get all our stuff into our bags in the first place and "How on earth did my bra get there?" Our morning session included opening our affirmation letters and writing letters to ourselves, which was an unusual experience for all. Lunch together, as with the other meals, strengthened the bond amongst the group before we got ready to leave, and after the last jump on the trampoline and our group photos we said goodbye to Kiah Ridge. I think everyone really enjoyed our time on the retreat as we became closer to nature, closer to ourselves and, mostly, closer to God.

Some questions were answered and some remain for the next time, such as where on earth did Stephanie's bells disappear to? what is the best way to get lipstick off the mirror? and who owned those huge white underpants?

The Year Twelve Retreat will certainly leave us with wonderful memories of great hair-do's, time with friends, fun, laughter, and, of course, who could forget, latex gloves!!!

Olivia Sheppard



YEAR 12 RETREAT

Day 1

As we arrived at our beautiful rural retreat all the worries about HSC assessments, group dynamics and exams began to dissolve. Our fearless leaders, Ms Reavey, Mr Hamey, Mrs Dunn and Mrs Lang, were already anticipating our desires and led us straight to the chocolate cake! This fortified us for our first duty, locating our cabins and unpacking our supplies for the next three days of Retreat.

Small groups were the order of the day as we traced the journeys of our lives. After a hard day's journey we had about two hours 'free time' where some of the more enthusiastic of us played cricket with Ms Reavey and Mr Hamey, while others posed for those "Kodak moments."

After so much energy had been expended the time for meditation, led by Mrs Lang, was a time for contemplation. We imagined we were statues and that we were talking to Jesus. We then had the opportunity to display our artistic talents through paintings and clay sculpture which was a bit difficult for those who fell asleep during meditation!

With the first day's activities behind us it was time to retreat to our "houses" where some people demonstrated the powers of the mind through levitation. Ms Reavey kept watch for a couple of hours while major pig outs occurred in each room. Lights were out but the buzzing batteries in each room were a long way from flat.

1.30pm saw our valiant leader retreat to the comfort of her bed - a temporary sojourn as 4am saw her rise to do a reconnaissance. By this stage all were sound asleep except for one group and two stowaways who insisted on being noisy and staying awake!

Finally, all was quiet, except for the snoring sounds emanating from the teachers' cabins, and the first day of our Retreat was over.

Nina Khatri and Erin Lundy

Day 2

After a night full of sleep(??), teachers on patrol and the comforting thoughts that we were going to be fed, we began day two. This day can be remembered as the day of face painting and FREE TIME!

Breakfast was the first thing on our agenda. Our next appointment was with our small groups where we discussed what we value in our lives at present. As a result of these discussions friends in each group painted each other's faces with symbols that described them such as butterflies for innocence and fragile beauty and waves were a sign of gentleness. Even the teachers didn't escape the flour face paint. Sister Catherine's clown face was a memorable symbol of happiness and Mr Moran's was a little more subtle with trees symbolising strength.

After this activity we all received boxes which we later decorated. Inside each of these boxes was a personalised letter from Jesus and a prayer. When we read these we were all alone in a place we had chosen and had a short time of personal reflection. After this we enjoyed lunch and for four hours we got what we wanted - free time!!

In our next session we planned our liturgy which was to be held after dinner. The liturgy was comprised of readings and songs specially chosen by each group. The most memorable part of this ceremony was the strengthening and sealing of friendships, and as a sign of forgiveness or love oil was placed in the palms of our hands. After the liturgy we were led through meditation and this concluded with our impressions of our experiences through painting and sculpture.

The main event - The Finale - of "Day Two" was yet to come. The Concert! Much effort (not to mention hair spray and blue eye-shadow) was put into the preparation of this. We were entertained by mega - mixes, a rendition of the song "Pony", a "head - shoulders - knees - and -toes backwards and the girls at Mulgoa will never forget that "OOh heaven is a place on earth."

Donna Tulevski

YEAR 12 ACADEMIC AWARDS

DUX OF MOUNT ST BENEDICT *Joelle Lagunzad*

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP AWARD *Elizabeth Griscti*

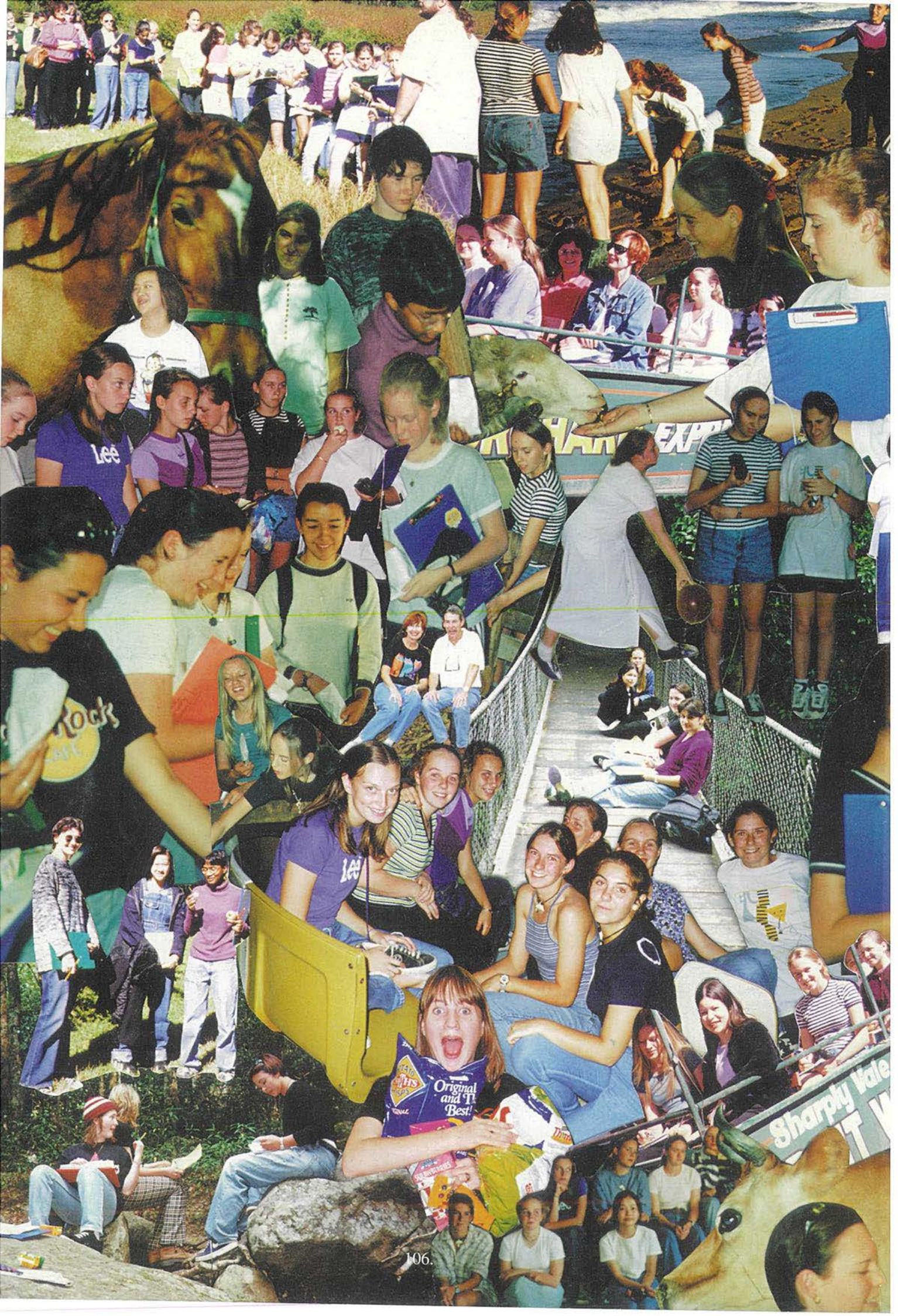
SUBJECT AWARDS

<i>Religion Special</i>	<i>Maryrose Mifsud</i>
<i>Studies of Religion</i>	<i>Joelle Lagunzad</i>
<i>English</i>	<i>Frances Hanna</i>
<i>Mathematics</i>	<i>Joelle Lagunzad</i>
<i>Biology</i>	<i>Jennifer Barrett/ Olivia Sheppard</i>
<i>Chemistry</i>	<i>Joelle Lagunzad</i>
<i>Physics</i>	<i>Karen Gomes</i>
<i>Modern History</i>	<i>Frances Hanna</i>
<i>Ancient History</i>	<i>Louise Henry</i>
<i>General Studies</i>	<i>Claire Mamo</i>
<i>Business Studies</i>	<i>Nina Khatri</i>
<i>Economics</i>	<i>Luciana Tosolini</i>
<i>Geography</i>	<i>Louise Shepherd</i>
<i>Legal Studies</i>	<i>Nina Khatri</i>
<i>Computing Studies</i>	<i>Erin Sparkes</i>
<i>French</i>	<i>Joelle Lagunzad</i>
<i>German</i>	<i>Frances Hanna</i>
<i>Japanese</i>	<i>Joan Wang</i>
<i>Food Technology</i>	<i>Lisa Leotta</i>
<i>Textiles and Design</i>	<i>Nina Crause</i>
<i>Life Management Studies</i>	<i>Sally Saad</i>
<i>Industry Studies : Hospitality</i>	<i>Dana Sarich</i>
<i>Dance</i>	<i>Siobhain Davis</i>
<i>Drama</i>	<i>Jacqueline Duckett</i>
<i>Music</i>	<i>Breanne Mawson</i>
<i>Photography</i>	<i>Rachel Hutchinson</i>
<i>Visual Arts</i>	<i>Sarah Redimerio</i>
<i>Personal Development, Health and Physical Education</i>	<i>Amelia Hutchinson</i>

<i>Sports Girl of the Year</i>	<i>Jacqueline Duckett</i>
<i>Citizenship Award</i>	<i>Jacqueline Duckett</i>
<i>Reuben F Scarf Award</i>	<i>Chantal Castellarin</i>
<i>Ampol 'Best All Rounder</i>	<i>Paddy Jessing</i>









ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The 1997 Athletics Carnival was once again held at Pennant Hills Park. The enormous hike up the hill and down again from Pennant Hills station led to 'the ground' where the running events would take place. The Open 800 m was held first thing in the morning for those who could get up early enough!

Basically, the day involved 7 rotations of long jump, shot put, javelin, discus, 100 m sprint, and 400m marathon. In age groups we trudged around, with the smell of sausages cooking driving us on. After a free lunch, we finished the competitions and retired to the main grandstand for the final events.

The Invitation 100 m Sprint was won by Jana Pittman; the Senior Relay by Monte Cassino; The Intermediate Relay by Subiaco; and the Junior Relay by Terracina. **Terracina** eventually won the day with 1697 points, **Subiaco** was second with 1562 points, **Monte Cassino** was third with 1511 points and **Mareldsous** was fourth with 1454 points.

The weather was kind, and all in all the day was a very enjoyable one. A big thanks must go to the PD.H.PE staff who made the day so much fun.

Alex Cadick

RESULTS

1500 m	J Cropper C Tapia E Gray K Walker	Javelin	12 yrs N Sigmun 13 yrs K Johnson 14 yrs B Lansley 15 yrs J Greenfield 16 yrs R Murphy 17 yrs A Sherd	Invitation 100 m	Junior S Gabrael Inter J Pittman Senior J Duckett
100 m	12 yrs J Ashby 13 yrs R Ryan 14 yrs S Gabrael 15 yrs J Pittman 16 yrs E Broomfield 17 yrs D Wong	Discus	12 yrs F Hyde 13 yrs P Egan 14 yrs S Gabrael 15 yrs J Pittman 16 yrs G Clancey 17 yrs A Sherd	Relays	Junior Mareldsous Inter Subiaco Senior Terracina
400 m	12 yrs J Ashby 13 yrs N Mahamood 14 yrs S Gabrael 15 yrs J Pittman 16 yrs R Murphy 17 yrs J Duckett	Shot Put	12 yrs M Sujecki 13 yrs P Egan 14 yrs D Riitano 15 yrs D Sangster 16 yrs S Jack 17 yrs A Sherd	Junior Championship	1st S Gabrael 2nd A Kish = 3rd J Ashby R Ryan
Long Jump	12 yrs J Ashby 13 yrs C Mahony 14 yrs S Gabrael 15 yrs J Pittman 16 yrs E Broomfield 17 yrs D Stewart	High Jump	Junior S Gabrael Inter J Pittman Senior J Duckett	Intermediate Championship	1st J Pittman 2nd R Murphy 3rd E Broomfield
				Senior Championship	1st A Sherd 2nd D Stewart 3rd S Tapia
				School Championship	1st J Pittman 2nd S Gabrael = 3rd R Murphy A Sherd

REPRESENTATIVE SWIMMING

Following another very successful school swimming carnival, Mount St. Benedict entered a team to compete in the Broken Bay Swimming Carnival. As in previous years, our swimmers excelled both in the pool and in spirit. The team consisted of Naomi Farrall, Jackie Durham, Siobhain Davis, Amanda McIntosh, Alex Craft, Melissa Strong, Emma Broomfield, Amie Kersten, Janine Ashby, Jeannette Cook, Meghan Simpson, Gillian Williams, Nicole De Caria, Laura Friery, Elena Gray, Rebecca Watson, Belinda Irwin, Denee Davis, Louise Swaney, Sarah Coulter, Jessica Birtwistle, Renee Woolford, Rachel Hutchinson and Alison Sherd.

Naomi Farrall (Year8) was then selected in the Broken Bay Diocese team to compete in the Combined Catholic Colleges Swimming Carnival. Naomi swam in the 200 m freestyle, 50 m butterfly and the junior relay. Although she did not receive any placings, she did extremely well to be selected in this elite team of swimmers.

RESULTS OF BROKEN BAY CARNIVAL

- Naomi Farrall:** 1st Junior 200m freestyle;
3rd 50m breaststroke 14 yrs;
2nd individual medley;
1st 50m butterfly.

- Siobhain Davis:** 2nd Senior 200m freestyle;
2nd 50m breaststroke 17 yrs;
2nd 100m freestyle 17 yrs;
3rd individual medley.

- Alex Craft:** 3rd backstroke 13 yrs.

- Jackie Durham:** 3rd 50m backstroke 15 yrs.

- Amie Kersten:** 2nd 50m backstroke 16 yrs.

- Amanda McIntosh:** 3rd 100m freestyle 12 yrs;
4th 50m freestyle 12 yrs.

- Siobhain Davis:** 17+ Age Champion



BASKETBALL

JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Renae Ryan, Prue Egan, Emma Howcroft.*

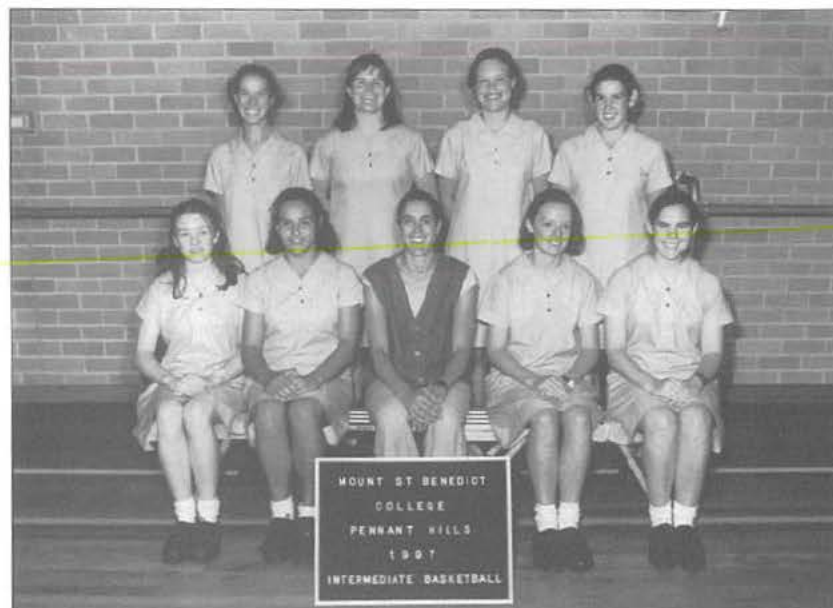
BACK (L-R): *Joanne Hemmings, Lauren Ford, Christine Stewart, Mrs Stennett*



INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Lauren Probin, Sandra Gabrael, Ms Murphy, Belinda Catorall, Elizabeth Ebert.*

BACK (L-R): *Alana Fitzgerald, Joanne Hemmings, Kate Golotta, Sarah Coulter.*



SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Alicia Lansley, Carly Hemmings, Mrs Walsh, Amie Kersten, Ivana Curic.*

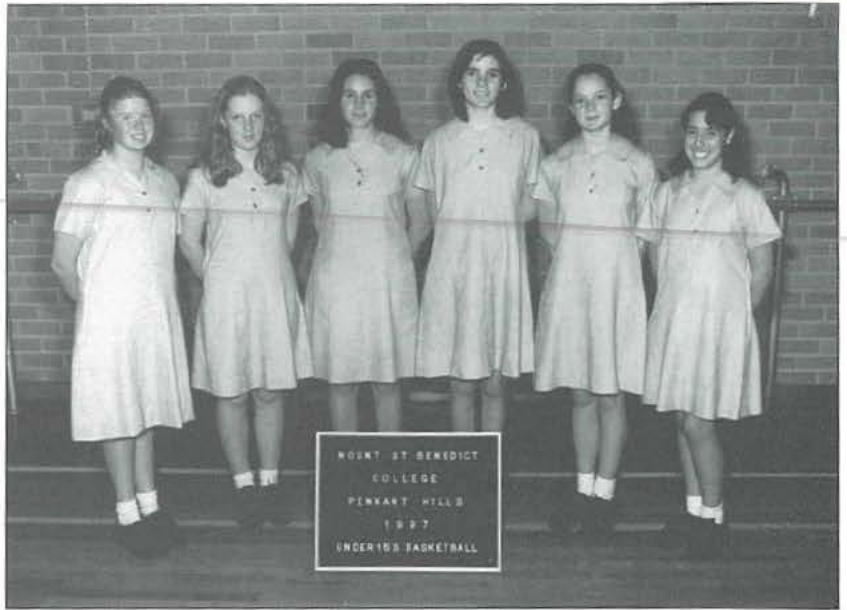
BACK (L-R): *Siobhan Tapia, Dana Stewart, Katrina Ugarkovic, Cassandra Streat, Melissa Probin.*



BASKETBALL

UNDER 15 BASKETBALL

(L-R): *Emma Howcroft, Diane Butfield, Melissa Hughes, Katrina Farquhar, Genevieve Wiley, Julia Tropiano.*



UNDER 16 BASKETBALL

(L-R): *Renae Ryan, Lauren Ford, Armaghan Morshedizadeh, Lauren Probin, Joanna Cardino.*



UNDER 18 BASKETBALL

(L-R): *Belinda Catorall, Alana Fitzgerald, Kate Golotta, Elizabeth Ebert, Sabina Mahamood*



NETBALL

15/3 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Andrea For, Tanya Gomes, Suzanne Reid, Lucy Reading.*

REAR (L-R): *Samantha Machin, Kay Hetherington, Nicole Medway, Janelle Rees, Jacqueline Hook.*



B4 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Michelle Hook, Catherine Taggart, Diane Caboche, Elizabeth Griscti.*

REAR (L-R): *Catherine Ambrosoli, Renee Woolford, Rachel Cronin, Alison Helm, Jennifer Barrett, Nicole Freer, Sarah Snelgrove.*



C1 NETBALL

(L-R): *Alicia Lansley, Sarah Anlezark, Fenella Mahoney, Carly Hemmings, Joanne Hemmings, Bridget Anlezark, Monica Kenna.*

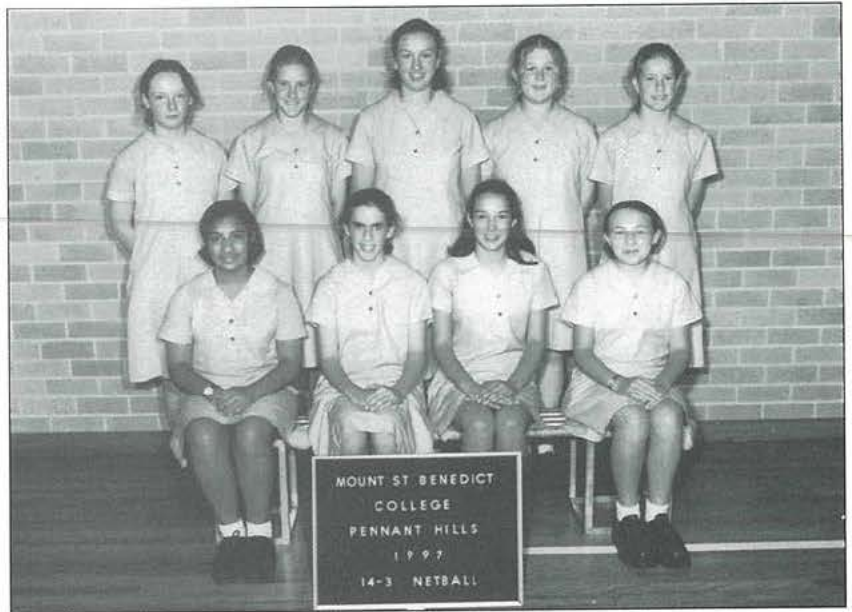


NETBALL

14/3 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Shruti Sachdeva, Brenna Tullett, Angela Brittliff, Helen Katsoulis.*

REAR (L-R): *Simone Catorall, Rebecca Kidd, Ruth O'Connor, Kylie Davis, Julia Kidd.*



14/4 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Alexandra Craig, Belinda Roberts, Nerida Wong, Gabrielle Craig.*

REAR (L-R): *Natasha Fairs, Nerindah Smith, Sarah Perkins, Nicole Freer, Sarah Snelgrove.*

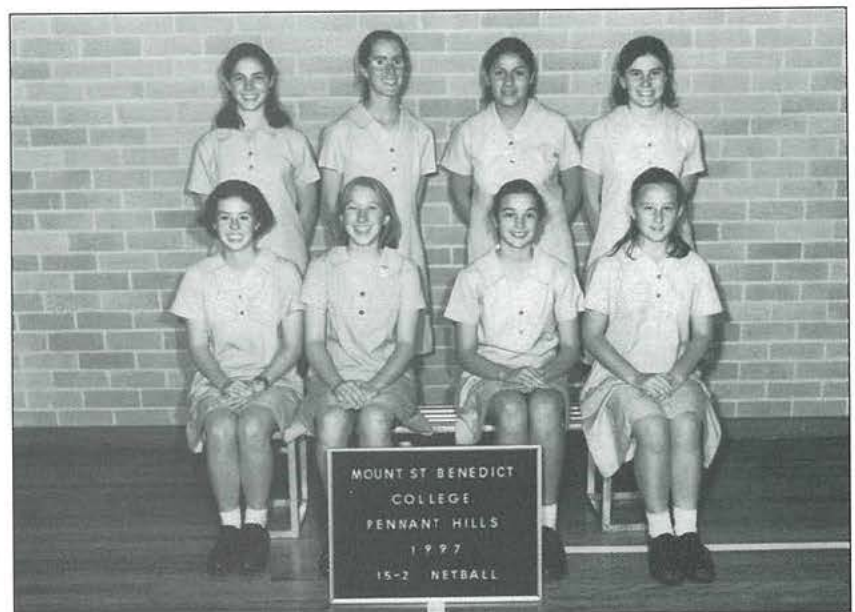


15/2 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Kathryn Walsh, Pru Engel, Laura Tamone, Cassie Ralph.*

REAR (L-R): *Joanne Dineen, Rebecca Griffin, Linda Sestito, Megan Woodward.*

ABSENT: *Anne-Marie Miccoli*



NETBALL

13/3 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Vanessa Tarfon, Amanda Ralph, Jean-Marie Ruhan, Cadence O'Reilly.*

REAR (L-R): *Megan Rees, Tarelle Hywood, Claire Porter, Renae Ryan, Annette Siddle.*



13/4 NETBALL (team 13)

FRONT (L-R): *Erin Rhone, Susan Pronk, Lauren Stonnill, Sarah Caruana.*

REAR (L-R): *Sara-Joy O'Connor, Nicole Hunt, Shannon Bailey, Nicole Roberts, Eve Kenny.*



13/4 NETBALL (team 14)

FRONT (L-R): *Erin Rhone, Susan Pronk, Lauren Stonnill, Sarah Caruana.*

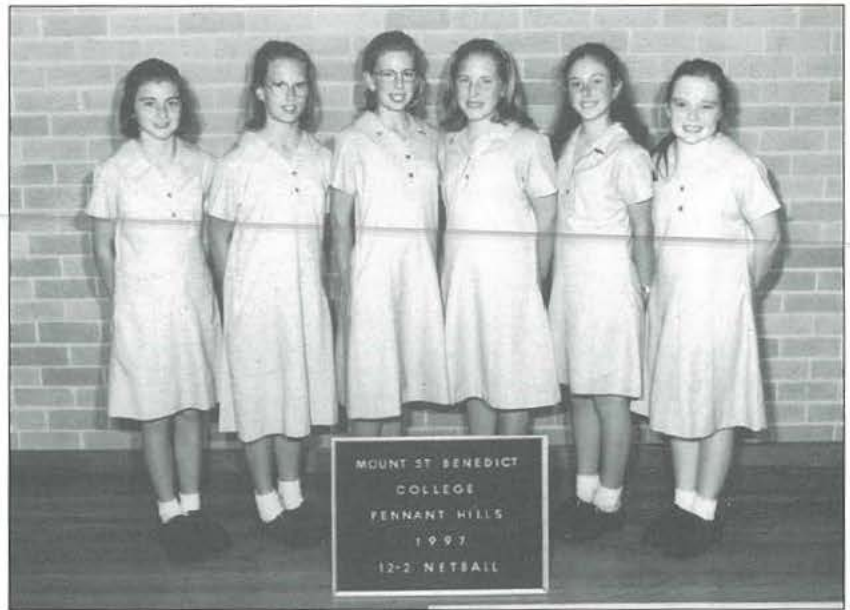
REAR (L-R): *Sara-Joy O'Connor, Nicole Hunt, Shannon Bailey, Nicole Roberts, Eve Kenny.*



NETBALL

12/2 NETBALL

(L-R): Felicity Hyde, Nicole Box, Kirsten Haig, Amy Junkiewicz, Jeannette Cook, Sarah Gray.



13/1 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): Sasha De Melo, Prue Egan, Tara Rushton, Alex Engel.

REAR (L-R): Jacqueline Lees, Elizabeth Noney, Ashleigh Grice, Erin Martin.



13/2 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): Jennifer Mountford, Monica Ungsuprasert, Ria Tamone, Jemma Stehr.

REAR (L-R): Julia Gazzard, Naomi Cronin, Michelle Lulan, Emma Howcroft.

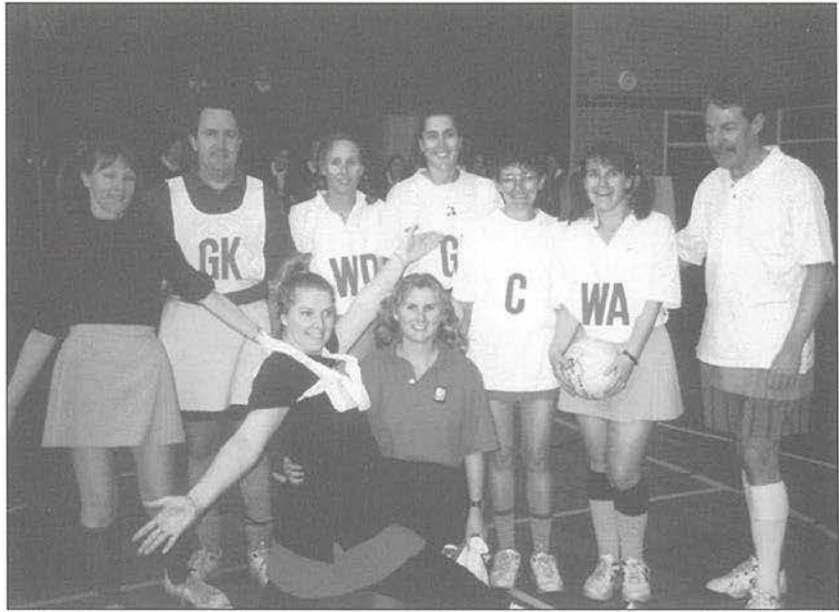


NETBALL

STAFF NETBALL TEAM

KNEELING: *Mrs M Stennett, Miss T Elkington.*

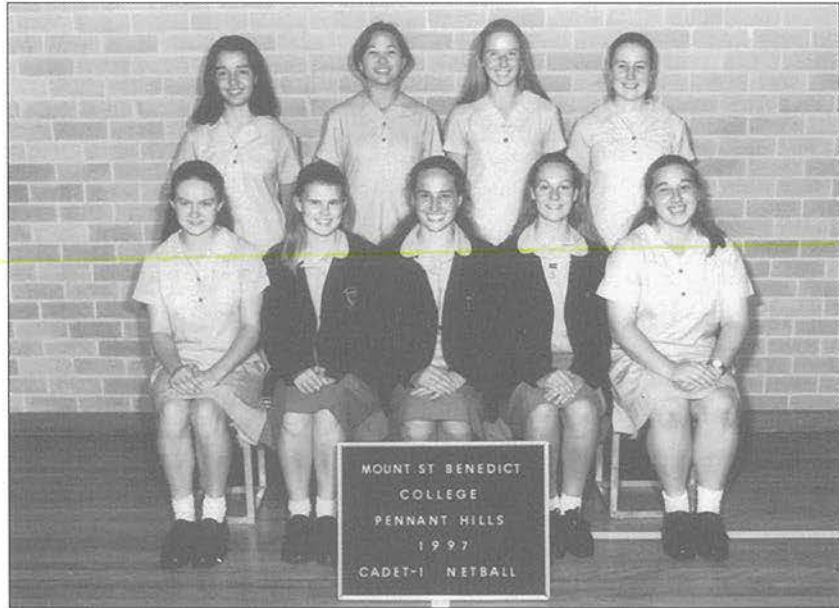
BACK (L-R): *Mrs A Howard, Mr A Moran, Mrs K Hather, Ms M Murphy, Miss R Glover, Mrs S Wacher, Mr R Barrett.*



CADET 1 NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Emma Broomfield, Tanya Roberts, Laura Brady, Rebecca Paterson, Leigh Farrugia.*

BACK (L-R): *Allison Sheffield, Anja Schulze, Elaine Kennedy, Ella Cronin.*



SENIOR NETBALL

FRONT (L-R): *Melanie Merlino, Louise Clayton, Vicki O'Donnell, Lynette Wicks.*

BACK (L-R): *Jessica Birtwistle, Jackie Duckett, Angela Junkiewicz, Joanne Hemmings.*



SOCCER

UNDER 15 SOCCER

FRONT (L-R): Alex Engel, Elise Miller, Lauren Holden, Elizabeth Viski, Milena Gozzo, Dianne Mouyat.

MIDDLE (L-R): Jennifer Cropper, Shannon Bailey, Rebecca Kidd, Elena Gray, Julia Kidd, Rosanne Brincat.

BACK (L-R): Sandra Gabrael, Katheryn Platts-Baggs, Elizabeth Noney.



UNDER 16 SOCCER

FRONT (L-R): Margaux Mascari, Maree Morales, Natalie Spicer, Carly Burgess, Elizabeth Viski, Sandra Ayrout.

BACK (L-R): Rachel Murphy, Elaine Kennedy, Donna Ridings, Bethany Logan, Alex Beattie, Kate Dempsey.



REPRESENTATIVE SOCCER

FRONT (L-R): Romina Ricciardi, Fiona Barry, Mrs Easterbrook, Cassandra Streat, Caroline Tilbrook.

MIDDLE (L-R): Sandra Ayrout, Elaine Kennedy, Alex Beattie, Ellen Jones, Rachel Murphy, Margaux Mascari.

BACK (L-R): Bethany Logan, Donna Ridings, Alyson Schmid.



TOUCH FOOTBALL

JUNIOR TOUCH TEAM

FRONT (L-R): Alex Engel, Emily Streat, Jacqueline Lees, Julia Kidd, Nicole Hunt, Jemma Stehr.

BACK (L-R): Rebecca Kidd, Jacqueline Potter, Katheryn Platts-Baggs, Elizabeth Noney, Magda Sujecki, Elena Gray.



INTERMEDIATE TOUCH TEAM

FRONT (L-R): Kylie Lynch, Rebecca Diercks, Johanna Kerin, Mrs Lewis, Melanie Carmeci, Jennifer Cropper, Lucy Reading.

BACK (L-R): Leigh Farrugia, Elaine Kennedy, Bethany Logan, Jaclyn Durham, Megan Beencke, Cathy Lynch, Rachel Murphy, Gian Clancey.



SENIOR TOUCH TEAM

FRONT (L-R): Rebecca Paterson, Katie Tognetti, Vicki O'Donnell, Anee Callaway, Geraldine McDonagh, Keirilee James.

BACK (L-R): Alison Helm, Laura Brady, Jessica Lukunic, Monique Whealing, Victoria Scott, Christine Collins, Mr Quinane.



HOCKEY

DIVISION 1 HOCKEY

FRONT (L-R): *Romina Ricciardi, Jackie Nguyen, Keirilee James, Stephanie Jaros, Gemma Blain, Jody Louie.*

BACK (L-R): *Rachel Murphy, Ellen Jones, Sally Besanvalle, Alex Cadick, Cathy Lynch, Monique Fermin, Erica Jaros.*



DIVISION 3 HOCKEY

FRONT (L-R): *Anna Dickson, Casey De Souza, Carmen Bajuk, Sarah Lagana, Narelle Raiss.*

BACK (L-R): *Jennifer Cropper, Laura Goggin, Sandra Gabrael, Darksha Nadeswaran, Elizabeth Lukunic, Samantha Rush.*



VOLLEYBALL

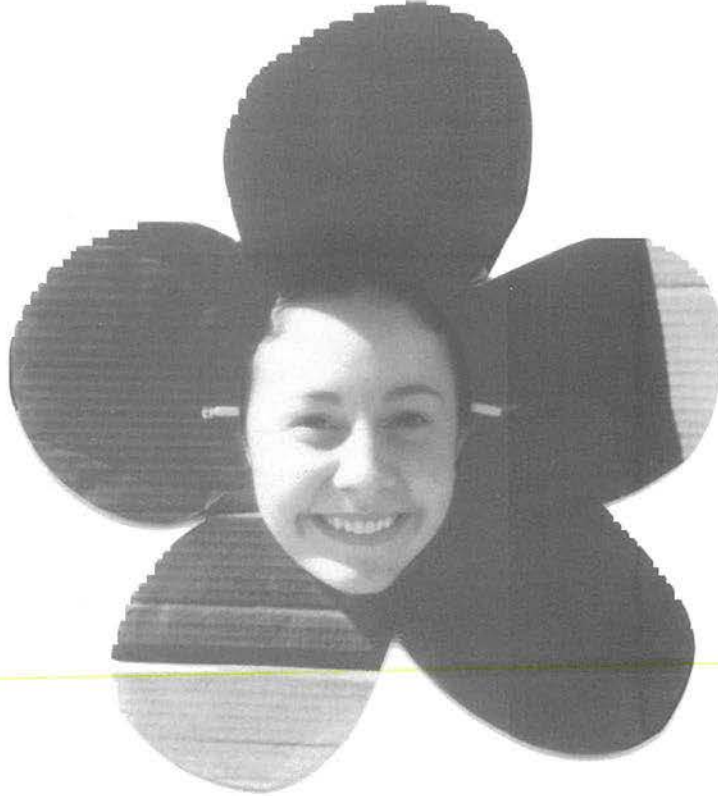
FRONT (L-R): *Pru Engel, Dana Stewart, Caroline Eyles.*

BACK (L-R): *Elise Milne, Christine Stewart, Linda Sestito, Joanne Dineen, Suzanne Reid.*



HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT

MAREDSOUS



1997, a year of fun, enthusiasm and spirit. What can I say, but how proud I am of you, girls! As House Captain of Maredsous, I have had a marvellous year and thoroughly enjoyed my role. Maredsous has been a terrific, supportive and outstanding group of talented swimmers, cheerers, and athletes, and we have showed the other colours what we can achieve.

Well, we started off with a bang! Firstly, winning the poster competition for 1997, making our school glow with green. At the swimming carnival at Hornsby Pool Maredsous stood out with their green tops, shorts, spraypaint and hairspray, all cheering until we lost our voices! For the whole day everyone contributed to at least one event and that made us 2nd by 20 points to Terracina, which proves the talent we have under that green paint!

Throughout the year, the support of Jackie, Tag, Paddy and Catherine was unreal, and I wouldn't have been able to get by without them. Our brainstorming exercises at recess on Fridays before assembly, and then our total embarrassment during the assemblies were an attempt to raise school spirit, and somehow I think we achieved our goal.

Thanks everyone!

The Athletics Carnival was, I think, the fastest day of our lives; the lollies I used as bribery continued to encourage Maredsous to go in all races, and the efforts of Maredsous continued to shine. Well done.

Overall, 1997 has been a Mighty Maredsous year. We have strived and done our absolute best and showed the school our maximum potential. Continue to have fun throughout your school years, support what you are proud of and remember that we are always Number 1!

Siobhan Tapia, my terrific vice, you have been a great help - what would I have done without you?

Vicki, good luck with Maredsous, look after my girls in 1998.

GO MAREDSOUS!!

Liz Griscti
House Captain, 1997

SPORTS CAPTAIN'S REPORT



Congratulations and thank you Bennie's girls! You have made 1997 a most sporty, bouncy and enjoyable year, and I'm so very grateful to you.

First there was the swimming carnival. Wow! I felt like I was living in a rainbow. And I learnt three things that day.

One: How many talented swimmers there are at Bennies. I am in awe!

Two: That Bennie's girls have the most powerful set of lungs and know how to use them. What spirit...I am so proud of you!

Three: I learnt that I should never put skittles in my hair again!

Mighty Terra came home with the shield with Maredsous, Subi then Monte following respectively. Subi girls also came home with the Best Cheer Squad title. Congratulations overall, it was a great carnival and many thanks to all those who participated.

The athletics carnival was another opportunity for the girls to display their talent and spirit. And sisters, did we see plenty of that! Many talented athletes ran, jumped, threw and BBQed (thanks Year 12) and made the day a success. Again, Terra stormed home to win the day followed by Subi, Monte then Maredsous. Congratulations again to all those girls who made it a great day.

This year the House Captains came up with the idea to revive the Miss MSB Quest! At first it was hard to recruit entrants as it was considered 'uncool' to enter. However, on the day it proved to be a most groovy

event and the courageous and talented candidates were rewarded with appreciation and praise for their efforts. From Purple People Eaters with funny head gestures to a colourful Priscilla ensemble headed by the amazing Monique Whealing, to the beautiful voice of Vanessa Vitalli....the event was jammed pack with entertainment of all kinds! It was narrowed down to;

Miss Maredsous *Miss Subiaco*

Miss Monte Casino *Miss Terracina*

and then finally a Miss MSB was chosen. Congratulations to Amanda McIntosh, Year 7, of Subiaco. A big thank you to the judges Miss Glover, Mr. Davis, Lisa Brincat and Karen Gomes and to all those who participated in the event.

Many Bennie's girls are also involved in Saturday sport of all kinds and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate them upon their display of school spirit and wish them well for future competitions.

Representative teams have also been successful in their respective sports. Such success reflects upon the level of student participation and also the high level of talent present at Bennies. Congratulations.

How can I not mention staff - student games! I guess I don't want to rub it in! Oh what the heck!.....Students beat the teachers two games to one! Yahoo! But I must say the teachers whipped us in baseball! Thank you to all those students who supported us.

As you can see, this year has been a most active one. The PD.H.PE. staff are so very worthy of a huge round of applause. Without their positive guidance and tremendous support it would have been a most unruly year. Thank you.

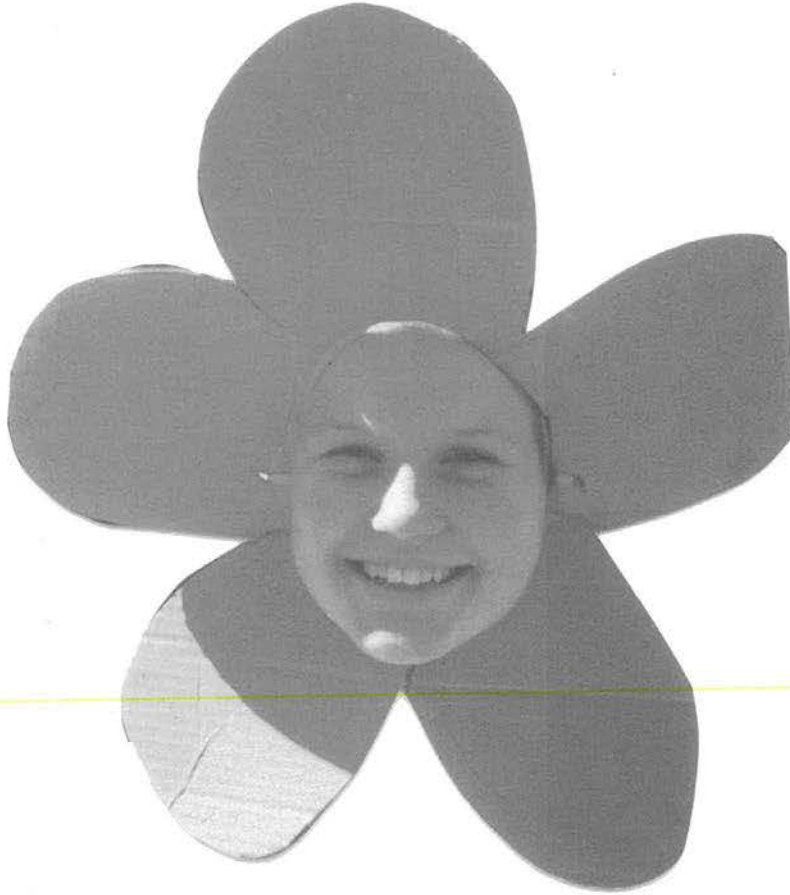
Now I am utterly amazed by the infinite amount of time and effort the House Captains, Cath, Tag, Liz and Paddy, put into all their endeavours. Without your help, enthusiasm or bounce this year would have been most dull. I'll never forget our assembly skits. Thank you so much. Thank you also to the Vice Captains whose assistance and devotion to the House captains was much appreciated.

Good luck to Vikki and the 1998 House Captains. I wish them all success and hope they enjoy it as much as the House Captains and I did. Thank you!

Jackie Duckett

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT

TERRACINA



What do you get when you have a person who's proud, enthusiastic, involved, committed, has a loud voice, yellow hair, yellow face, yellow clothes and a yellow spirit? You get a Terracinian! When over 200 of these terrific girls are put together it creates a strong and fantastic team - it creates Terracina..

When the roosters are crowing and the cows are spinning circles in the pasture - DUCKS STICK TOGETHER!!

1997 has been the year of the Terracina ducks and just like a flock of ducks, together Terracina has risen and soared to amazing heights, showing the school how great we are. With every single Terracinian's enthusiasm, involvement, commitment and house spirit making our tremendous team shine through, it is no wonder that we won the swimming carnival AND the athletics carnival. Our efforts were extraordinary. Not only did we show our excellence in these events, we excelled in all school activities.

Oh my ducklings, I love you all. I have been so proud of you all year and I would not change a single one of you. I feel honoured that I have had the privilege to be your Captain and I want you to know that I have loved every minute of it.

Jacks, Liz, Pad and Cath we have been a great team. We have had so much fun, been so supportive of each other and have been great rivals. I thank you all so much. To Cassie, my terrific vice-captain, I thank you for all your help. Finally, I thank the staff who have supported and encouraged us all year. Mrs Wachter, you are a great cook and host terrific parties!

Keirilee, look after my girls and good luck next year. I know you will be great.

QUACK, QUACK, QUACK, QUACK

Catherine Taggart
House Captain, 1997

1997 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Once again the whole of Mount St Benedict trudged off on our yearly pilgrimage to Hornsby Pool for the 1997 Swimming Carnival. The day started off with roll call and the dressing-up in the four noble colours. Zinc, face paint, makeup, hair spray and the good old St Vinnies clothes all appeared and looked fabulous! The enthusiasm this year was the highest yet, in all aspects; the swimming, the student officials and of course the screaming!

As the day drew to a close it was time for the final warcry. Monte Cassino, Maredsous, Subiaco and Terracina all yelled, danced and put on a great show. But in the end the sensational Subiaco reigned in the warcry department. The overall winner on the day was the terrific Terracina.

A big thank you must go to the PD.H.PE teachers, and all other teachers, students and parents who helped to make it a great day for all.

*Alex Cadick
Year 11*

CARNIVAL RESULTS

<i>House Champion</i>	Terracina	<i>Records</i>	
<i>College Champion</i>	Naomi Farrall	14 Years 50 m Freestyle	Naomi Farrall
<i>Junior Champion</i>	Naomi Farrall	17 Years 50 m Freestyle	Siobhain Davis
<i>Intermediate Champion</i>	Jackie Durham	18 Years 50 m Freestyle	Rachel Hutchinson
<i>Senior Champion</i>	Siobhain Davis	15 Years 50 m Backstroke	Jackie Durham
<i>100 m Freestyle</i>		17 Years 50m Backstroke	Siobhain Davis
Junior	Naomi Farrall	18 Years 50 m Backstroke	Rachel Hutchinson
Intermediate	Jackie Durham	12 Years 50 m Breastroke	Amanda McIntosh
Senior	Siobhain Davis	14 Years 50 m Breastroke	Naomi Farrall
<i>200 m Freestyle</i>		16 Years 50 m Breastroke	Emma Broomfield
Junior	Naomi Farrall	17 Years 50 m Breastroke	Siobhain Davis
Intermediate	Jackie Durham	18 Years 50 m Breastroke	Amelia Hutchinson
Senior	Siobhain Davis	Junior 50 m Butterfly	Naomi Farrall
<i>200 m Medley</i>		Junior 200 m Freestyle	Naomi Farrall
Junior	Naomi Farrall	Intermediate 200 m Freestyle	Jackie Durham
Intermediate	Jackie Durham	Senior 200 m Freestyle	Siobhain Davis
Senior	Siobhain Davis	Junior 200 m Individual Medley	Naomi Farrall
<i>Open Invitation 50 m Freestyle</i>		Senior 200 m Individual Medley	Siobhain Davis
First	Naomi Farrall		
Second	Siobhain Davis		
Third	Jackie Durham		





FORMATION RAFFLE

LEBANESE FOOD
KEBABS \$3.00

SIZZLER

SIZZLER

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

FORMATION RAFFLE

Haunted Castle

Willow 25L COOLER

1997 DEBUTANTE BALL



1997 DEBUTANES:

Front Row (L-R): Amee Callaway, Melanie Merlino.

Seated (L-R): Marie Simunovic, Shelley Huber, Danielle Luscombe, Cassandra Streat, Natalie Streat, Mrs. Whowell, Antoinette Reynolds, Caroline Tilbrook, Lorna Smyth, Sally Lizier, Sarah McLaughlin.

Back Row: Debutantes' Partners', Mrs Denise Phillips, Guest of Honour (Director of Schools, Broken Bay Diocese), Mr A Moran.



MOUNT ST BENEDICT DAY

Tuesday, 24th June, was a very special day for the students and staff of Mount St Benedict College. Away with the books, and away from the desks, for the day set aside to celebrate Mount St Benedict Day.

This 'day with a difference' commenced with much enthusiasm and excitement as each homeroom worked very hard to win the challenging Trivia Quiz, skilfully prepared by our Counsellor Mrs Carmel Dunn.

Students and staff then moved to our College Hall which had been tastefully decorated by our Religious Education Co-ordinator, Sr Catherine McCahill and helpers. Father David Maguire, Parish Priest of St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill, was the celebrant, and he used his talk to develop the theme of Sharing, Loving, Helping, Praying. Our special guests included nine of our past College Captains, plus four of our past Principals, Sr Christopher Burrows (1966 - 1973), Sr Agnes Farrugia (1980 - 1981), Sr Helen Foley (1982 - 1986), and Sr Lia Van Haren (1987 - 1991). We were truly honoured and extremely thrilled to have these special people, who had contributed so effectively to the growth of Mount St Benedict, present with us.

The morning tea which followed, held in the hall courtyard, was indeed a wonderful occasion for joyous greetings and heart-warming reminiscences. Our sincere thanks are extended again to these ever-welcome guests.

Then followed the Academic Assembly. With all happily gathered again in our College hall, the top performers in all subjects were called forth by the respective Subject Co-ordinators to receive their well-earned certificates, to the applause of the College community. A very special feature of the Academic Assembly was the announcements of special scholarships:

- The Sister Christopher Burrows Scholarship, won by Eileen Black.
- The Sister Helen Foley Scholarship, won by Marinka Barisic.
- The Sister Hyacinth Roche Scholarship, won by Katrina Vella.

Other presentations were made by the past College Captains.

By this time students and staff were eager to partake of a tasty sausage sizzle, skilfully prepared by Mr. John Lennon and his assistants. An exciting softball match, with the student team registering a narrow win over the teachers, followed. Also held at this time was a Coin Line which raised a princely sum for the purchase of library books.

After lunch we all moved back to the College Hall for the judging of the Miss Mount St Benedict contest. Presentations and performances were of a particularly high standard and were thoroughly enjoyed by all. After much serious deliberation, the judges named Amanda McIntosh (Year 7) as the worthy winner.

And so our special day came to a satisfying end.

Mr Clive Davis



HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT

SUBIACO



Simply Sensational SUBIACO!

A sensational sea of blue many say,
as Subiaco lead the winning way.
'97 proved to be a mighty blue year,
with Subi excelling in every school sphere.
Subiaco's spirit did always shine
as we covered the school in mighty blue signs.
From swimming, athletics, and Miss M.S.B.,
to gardening, debating, and oratory.
For neither Monte, Terra, nor Maredsous,
would ever conquer the mighty Blue!

In swimming Subi spirit was certainly seen,
all dressed in blue and mighty keen.
We swam and cheered to our heart's content,
everyone knew we were Heaven sent.
As we took out the title for the best War Cry,
and our own school champion - Subi spirits were high.
But most importantly we all had fun
and in Subi hearts we were all Number One!

Athletics was no exception - we were placed No. 2
but No. 1 in my heart, through and through.
"Sensational" and "Spectacular" others would cry
as around the track Subi would fly.
With school champion from Subi, to be expected of course,
what else would you get from the Mighty Blue force?

Our talent shone throughout the school,
the Subiaco family are definitely cool!

We excelled in Debating, Mock Trial and Oratory,
and our own Amanda McIntosh was crowned Miss MSB.
And who could forget the great coin line,
Outside charges and the Subi blue signs?

To Rebecca, my vice, what would I have done without
you?
You've made such a contribution to the Family of Blue.
I thank you for your efforts and constant support,
in keeping together the Subiaco fort.

To my fellow flower rangers, Liz, Cath, Tag and Jack,
What a fantastic multicoloured pack!
Thank you for your strength love and friendship,
and for your inspiration during my Subi leadership.

As I hand down my role to my blue friend Suzy,
I think about our family of Subi.
And how each star works together as one,
to make Subiaco always Number One!
Good luck, Suzy, I know you'll be great.
Make Subiaco shine again in 1998!

Paddy Jessing
House Captain, 1997

ELLEN JONES



How were you selected for the scholarship in the United States?

In July the Representative Australian National Team played a team from Assebet in the United States and the coach saw me play. He approached me and asked me to try out for it. Then on the 17th of November I was told that I had won the scholarship.

How many people tried out for the scholarship?

Seevn hundred and twenty eight students tried out for it and then fifty nine of those were chosen. I was amongst those few.

How much is the scholarship worth?

The Scholarship is worth around \$26,000 and that just pays for the schooling which I will be having over there. I think the value of this scholarship proves how prestigious ice hockey actually is in the United States.

Is it hard now to balance both components of school and ice hockey?

I found it hard to remain focused on all the assessment tasks which have to be completed as well as focus on going to Boston to play hockey, and the training gets hard as well. But other than that it's fine.

What days of the week do you train and play ice hockey?

I train on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and then I play on Saturday and Sunday.

How do your parents feel about you going to the United States and playing ice hockey?

They feel it will be a good experience, and also its good because while I am over there the Representative Australian Team, for which I play, will come over and I can play with them. Also, my parents feel that it will improve my ice hockey playing.

Are there any goals which you have set for the future?

Well, I play for an under 18's team at the moment and the coach is hoping to keep that together. If we are good enough we may be able to play in the 2002 Olympic Games, but I think we have to get up to a certain standard before that goal will become a reality.

Where will you be living whilst over in the United States?

First semester I will be living with a teacher, and on weekends I will be living with girls from the team I will be playing with. In the second semester I will be living with a girl from the team I am with now, who also won a scholarship.

Natasha Manuelpillai



YEAR 11 RETREAT

This year the form was separated into two groups, one was to head off to Elanora Heights and the other to Picton.

While the Picton group were graced with the luxurious comfort of a double decker coach, the Elanora Heights people were able to take advantage of the breathtaking scenery, which included a spectacular waterfall.

The theme for the Year 11 Retreat was "Circle of Friends". This enabled the students to renew and strengthen existing friendships and open the door for new.

The small group activities allowed students to reflect upon relationships within their families and their relationship with God. Within these groups, tears, laughter, the good and the bad times were shared, thus bringing our form community, both teachers and students closer together as a "Circle of Friends".

Free time was always eagerly welcomed by the students, and this time was always used well with various activities, such as a game of cricket, a scenic bushwalk or endless photo shoots, not to mention snacking endlessly on campers survival food - junk!

Some students at Elanora Heights found that they were not the only guests in their cabin. Mr. Hamey, armed with tweezers, removed ticks, the uninvited guests, from several cars and necks. One Year 11 girl was even treated by Mrs. Whowell to a midnight trip to the hospital where she was confronted with a tetanus shot!

Meanwhile over in Picton, the students gathered round to hear many amusing anecdotes from the likes of Ms Osborn whilst engaging in a most interesting game of cards.

All the events, plus more, made the 1997 Year 11 Retreat a memorable one, for both staff and students present.

Monique Whealing and Vicky Papandrea



YEAR ELEVEN

ACADEMIC AWARDS

SEMESTER ONE

Religion

Equal First in
Studies of ReligionLaura Brady
Joanne Jasser

Equal Third in
Studies of Religion.....Linda Popic
Monique Whealing

English

First in formTiffany Jones
Equal Second in formClare Buttner
Dana Stewart

First in Supplementary
EnglishSuzana Vrataric

Mathematics

First in 3 Unit.....Holly Mak
First in 2 Unit.....Dana Stewart
First in Mathematics
in Society.....Dynielle McCullough
First in Mathematics
in PracticeDianne Hansen

Science

First in BiologyLinda Popic
First in ChemistryDana Stewart
First in Physics.....Jackie Nguyen
First in Science for LifeAmea Callaway

Creative Arts

First in DramaVictoria Papandrea
First in Music Course 1Laura Brady
First in Visual ArtsVictoria Scott

History

First in 2 Unit
Ancient History.....Rebecca Paterson
First in 2 Unit
Modern History.....Clare Buttner

Human Society and its Environment

First in Business Studies.....Katie Killian
Equal First in GeographyLinda Popic
Clare Buttner
First in Legal StudiesColette Asmar

Languages Other than English

First in French.....Jackie Nguyen
First in GermanErica Jaros
First in Japanese.....Clare Buttner

Technological and Applied Studies

First in Design &
Technology.....Angela Junkiewicz
First in Computing
Studies.....Angela Junkiewicz
Equal First in
Food Technology.....Jessica Lukunic
Colette Asmar
Equal First in Industry Studies:
HospitalityColette Asmar
Joanne Jasser
Sarah Takchi
First in Life Management
Studies.....Alison Sherd

PDHPE

First in 2U PD.HPEMonique Whealing

Autographs

