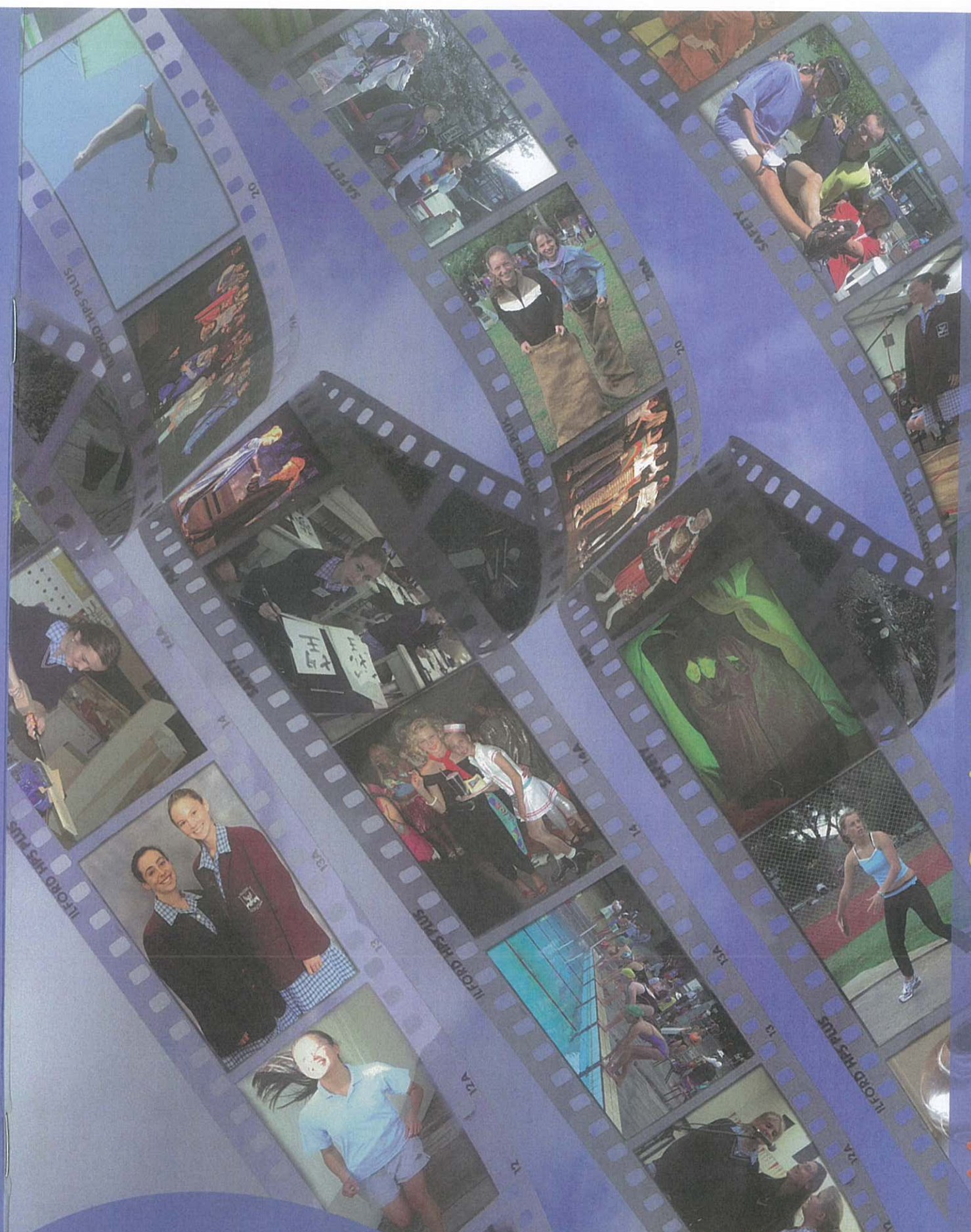




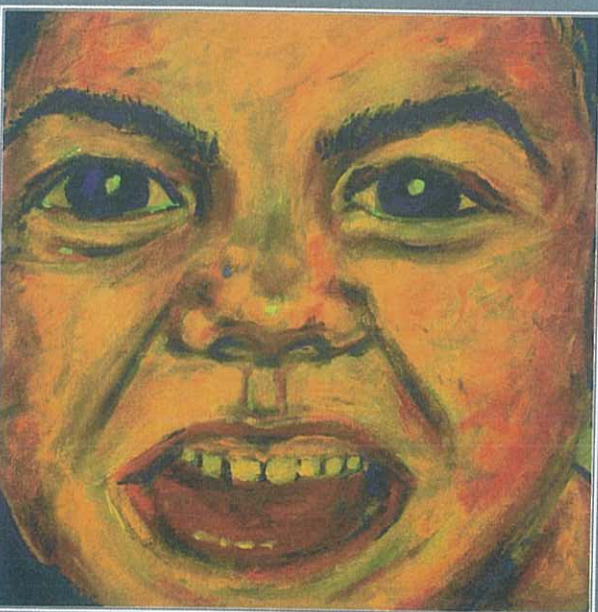
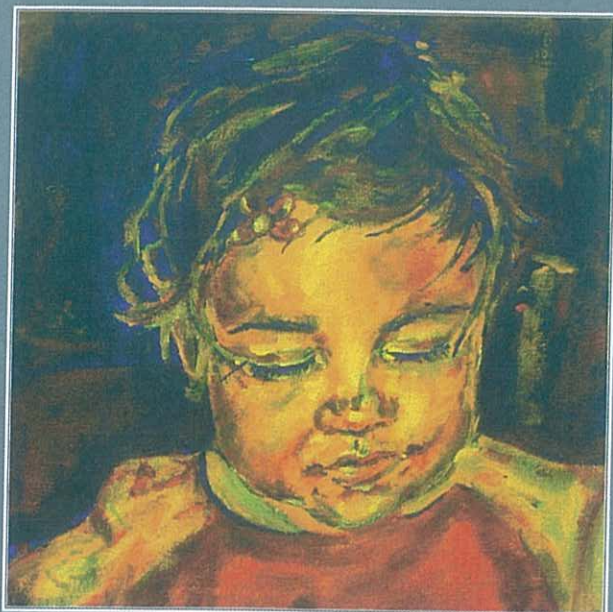
Mentone Girls'
Secondary College
Cnr Balcombe and
Charman Roads
Mentone, 3194

www.mgsc.vic.edu.au



Mentone Girls' Secondary College

Making waves 2003



Emily Raubenheimer Year 12 2002

"R Malcolm Art Award" 2002

The "R Malcolm Award" and exhibition is an annual event eagerly awaited by VCE students of Art, Studio Art, Visual Communications and Media. This acquisitive award recognises the fine achievements of our art students and provides the school with outstanding artworks to add to our "R Malcolm" collection.

In 2002 the exhibition was staged in our new Visual Arts building. The beautiful foyer and light filled art rooms complemented the artworks in an impressive exhibition, which included some wonderful examples of painting, drawing, photography and graphic design.

The winner for 2002 was Emily Raubenheimer for her painterly and sensitive portraits of family members. Two encouragement awards are presented each year. In 2002 these were awarded to Sandra Batinica for her impressive work in Visual Communications and Design. Also awarded for outstanding work was Natalie Hutton for her imaginative and beautifully rendered paintings and drawings.

The judging panel for 2002 comprised Ms Deborah Lehner, our College Principal. Mr Frank Hellier, now President of the Real Estate Institute of Victoria and Ms Margaret Stephens, Project Manager for the Asia Education Foundation, University of Melbourne. They had a difficult but pleasant task as they surveyed the works of the diverse and talented students of Visual Arts at Mentone Girls' Secondary College.



This year, students have had a greatly increased role in leadership across the College. As ever, the School Captains have run College Assemblies, with Sports Captains and SRC executive members making regular reports on the SRC activities. The Music Captains have also played an increasing role at assemblies and other school functions.

Key Learning Area Captains have also taken on roles new to the College, and have assisted Heads of Learning Areas in such things

as subject competitions and management of activities right across the College.

With the completion of Stage 1 in our building Master Plan, students and teachers have been able to work in surroundings that accommodate the many new curriculum directions we see as important to prepare girls for their futures.

For those girls who leave us this year, I hope it has been worth the wait for the new science and art rooms. The renovated Nina Carr Hall has lived up to our expectations being in constant use. I invite the girls who are leaving us this year to return in 2005 for our school's 50th anniversary to see the fully renovated school, and wish them success in whatever they do in the future.

Deborah M. Lehner

College Principal

As the newest member of the Principal team at Mentone Girls' Secondary College it gives me great pleasure to share my impressions this year. I have taken enormous delight in being involved in a vast range of co-curricular activities such as music performances, both instrumental and choral, drama productions, Macbeth and Cosi, sporting competitions, from district level right through to State finals, debating, public speaking, talent quests, peer tutoring, Year 7 camp, Cleopatra's Bazaar, Year 7 and 12 Fancy Dress, World Challenge Vietnam expedition meetings, Student Leadership training, SRC, College Assemblies where we see a constant parade of talented girls being rewarded for their efforts and course counselling. These are only a sample of the fantastic opportunities that all of our girls have each year.

Rewards are not only for the girls who achieve the highest scores in their test or win the sporting event, but what has really struck me about this school is the positive atmosphere that exists and the strong relationships that students have with their teachers. All students are

encouraged to be involved, attempt new challenges and be proud of their efforts no matter what the end result.

An enormous number of hours are given by staff to offer all the extra activities, outside their normal teaching duties and the students are the ones who benefit from participating in them. Having a sense of success can be achieved by having a go, not necessarily being the best. I would like to thank everyone who has made me very quickly feel like part of Mentone Girls' and I encourage all students to continue to strive to be 'the best that they can be.' Good luck to the Year 12 girls as they venture into the next chapter of their lives.



Heather Sarau

Assistant Principal



The year 2003 was one of change for myself and the other Assistant Principals. I was delighted to form part of a new leadership team with Deborah Lehner, Heather Sarau and Simon Frazer.

My role changed from managing our fantastic co-curricular program and the wonderful daily work of teachers to focus on the area of staffing, curriculum planning and professional development. One change I particularly noticed was the change from supporting the

Junior School and Transition to the Middle School. After 4 years of re-assuring parents that we would look after their girls anxious about the change to secondary college, I now spend a good deal of time re-assuring parents that "pushing boundaries" is quite a normal and expected part of adolescent behaviour.

In Term 2, in Ms Lehner's absence, I particularly enjoyed the role of Acting Principal and the opportunity it afforded to see all of the "big picture".

The best part of this was my increased understanding of how lucky I am to be part of the dynamic community of staff, students and parents at Mentone Girls' and I look forward to continuing my contribution to our achievements in 2004.

Mary Jo Putrino

Assistant Principal



Mentone Girls' Secondary College

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2003 saw the completion of Stage One of the College Master Plan...

This project comprised the following:

- Nina Carr Hall renovation
- New Visual Arts building construction
- Complete refurbishment of all Science classrooms
- Refurbishment of classrooms in the Junior Corridor and on the Verandah
- Construction of a computer POD and locker area.

The College was expecting all these projects to be completed in time for the start of the 2003 school year. You can imagine the disappointment when we were told in January that our builder had gone out of business and was defaulting on the contract with only a few weeks work to go.

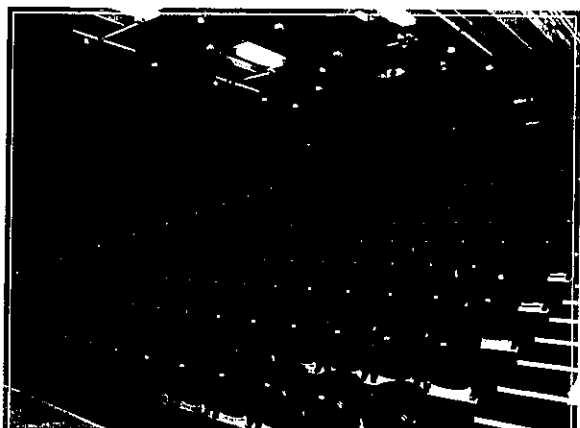
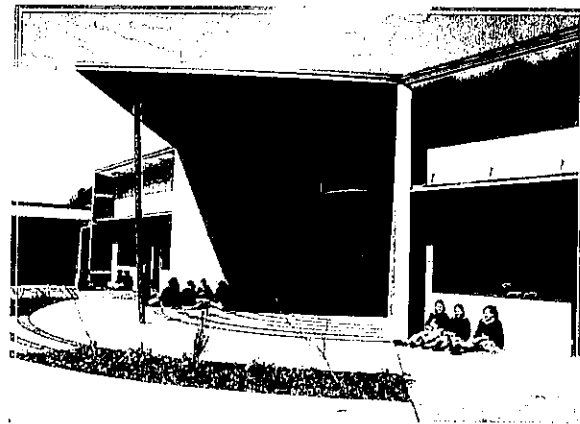
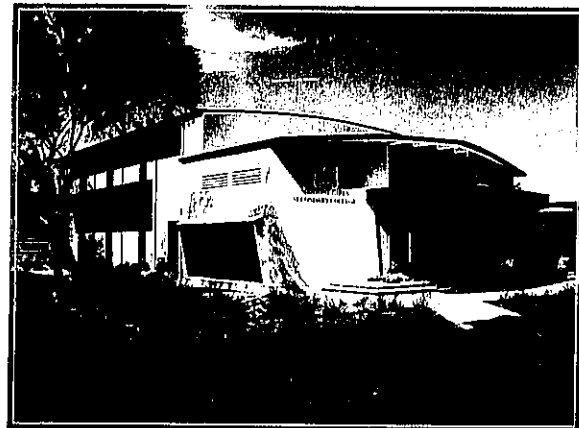
The 2003 school year began with eleven classrooms not available for student use so we had to make do as best we could. This meant many classes were held wherever they could fit. The Drama and Music rooms

and parts of the library became temporary classrooms for Term one. Students and staff coped extremely well with all this disruption, which lasted for all of Term one.

Fortunately the College was able to negotiate for another company to complete the building works and we were able to have full use of all our new Science classrooms from the beginning of Term two and the rest of the classrooms from Term three.

We have also developed detailed plans for our next building projects. These include refurbishment of the Home Economics, Textiles and Canteen facilities, construction of a VCE Centre, improved toilets and locker areas and improved staff work areas.

Simon Frazer
Assistant Principal



Parents and Friends

The Parents and Friends' Association aims to promote a sense of extended community at Mentone Girls' Secondary College. With an emphasis on sharing ideas, acquiring knowledge and gaining insight into the day-to-day school life of our girls, the Association fosters a friendly and welcoming environment. The monthly meetings offer a forum to discuss and play a genuine part in issues relating to the broad picture of education at Mentone Girls. In this 2003 school year the close relationship with the staff and school council has been fostered with the support of Heather Sarau and Frances Thompson, for which we are grateful.

The Parents and Friends Association is also proud to support the school community by offering the services of the Second Hand Uniform Shop and the Second Hand Book Sale. We would like to acknowledge and thank the volunteers who helped facilitate these valuable contributions to the school community.

To our retiring members, we would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to you and acknowledge that the time you have spent working with Parents and Friends has made an enormous difference to the life of Mentone Girls' Secondary College and the many individuals you have worked with along the way.

Bridie Murphy

President - Parents and Friends Association.



This will not be the first time I have mentioned that leading the students of Mentone Girls' is an honour and a privilege.

I would like to acknowledge the Year Twelves for your total support and friendship. Working alongside such an energetic, positive group has proven to be more than rewarding as memories formed this year will last forever. A special thank you to Hayley, Chloe and Helena - it's been fantastic working with you!

It is the teachers to whom we truly owe our thanks. Teachers, you have done more than educate us. Your guidance,

encouragement, support, friendship and respect have got us through to the end.

To the Senior School Office: you've been our 'school parents.' You've picked us up when things were tough. The biscuits, Milo, lollies and hot chips arrived right when we needed them! We all value your dedication. Thank you so much.

As we began Year Twelve we did so with three unfamiliar faces. Ms Sarau; you are an asset to the school; your positive vibe is overwhelming. Mr Feben; as Careers Counsellor your dedication has helped us immensely. And Ms Egan; you've smoothly managed to keep the VCE girls under control. Congratulations!

The year has itself brought laughter

(the talent quest at Year Twelve Camp), excitement (Fancy Dress Party), glamour (VCE Ball) and achievement (Common Room working bee). Our Year Level was visually bonded with our beautifully designed "hoodies" and we made our mark with the Year Twelve Pyjama Day.

Year Twelves; we've shared a wonderful year together. Good luck to everyone for the future.

For the girls with Year Twelve still ahead of you; make the most of your school days, they'll end before you realise!

Thanks, guys, for making my job as School Captain such a wonderful experience.

Maddy Prowse Year 12



Year Twelve has been by far the best year of my school life, despite the schoolwork involved! As I reflect on all the year's events I realise just how really full it has been. However, all these events would not have been such highlights if it weren't for the unique and fabulous individuals who make up our year level. It was sharing the good times and the tough with such an inspiring group of people that has made the year so special. The friendships that I have made in the six years at Mentone have been truly amazing and I look forward

to maintaining these. Memories that the class of 2003 have gained from attending Mentone will always be treasured. Working with Maddy, the School Captain and the VCE Committee has been great and we are proud of everything we have achieved this year.

A special thank you to Mr Kan whose good mood always kept our spirits up and to the incredible dedication of the Senior School Co-ordinators. Thank you to all the wonderful teachers who have supported us so passionately throughout the year.

Good luck to all the Year Twelves as we enter this exciting new stage of our lives.

Hayley Black Year 12

This year I was lucky enough to be one of the Year Eleven College Vice Captains.

At first I was afraid and wasn't sure what was expected of me as a leader, not just of the Year 11's but also of the College. As soon as I became acquainted with Maddy and Hayley, I felt confident that this year was going to be one of the best so far.

Throughout the year, the College Captains and the VCE Committee have worked together to create a fun filled and productive agenda for the students. My favourite part of the year was organising the VCE Ball and seeing the fantastic end results and how much everyone enjoyed it. The decorations were superb and the Brighton International

looked stunning. It was a memorable night for all.

I feel very privileged that I was selected to represent my peers, enabling them to put forward ideas about the school's facilities and improvements for the VCE curriculum. I know that we have made changes that all the students have benefited from and have used to their advantage.

I just hope that next year will be as eventful and fun-filled as this one.

Chloe Payne 11F



Wow. That's all I can say. Wow. This year has been absolutely AMAZING!

Mentone Girls' Secondary College has provided me with an immense amount of fun this past year, and the new friends I have made through being part of a huge VCE family is awesome.

Without the constant support of our teachers, VCE would be impossible. Senior schoolteachers are not only our educators, but our allies and most of all, our friends.

Ms Wainwright is one special person who deserves our thanks and respect. Not only has Waivey Babe spent hours and hours helping, counselling, reassuring and preparing us, she provides hours of laughter and gossip to get Year

Eleven's through homework, sac's and exams.

As a Year Eleven College Captain I no longer see school as a jail cell, but a place of freedom and opportunity. I feel very proud to have been part of a remarkable team. Thank you, Maddy, Hayley and Chloe.

Good luck to those gorgeous girls about to embark on a new life; I hope all your dreams come true and your future is filled with success and happiness.

I can't wait to embark on my final year ahead!

Helena Cangadis Year 11



Building Friends

School Captain

Student Responsibility Positions 2003

Making Waves 2003

College Captain: Maddy Prowse
Vice Captain: Hayley Black (Year 12)

Year 11 Vice Captains: Helena Cangadis-Douglass and Chloe Payne

Form Captains

7A Alana Gadsby	9A Saskia Oosthuizen
7B Holly Gilligan	9B Sophie Cangadis-Douglass
7C Jennifer Ferrett	9C Jessica Burns
7D Ilana Merrick	9D Jacqui O'Reilly
7E Jacqueline Escott	9E Megan Lowe
7F Eleni Ganella	9F Lauren Muir
7G Kleo Cruse	9G Jemma Nowak
7H Laurel Bonner	9H Lauren McLean
8A Cassie Head	10A Noosha D'Cruze
8B Claire McCurdy	10B Julia Knight
8C Emily Morrice	10C Joanne McKenna
8D Emma Clark	10D Tayce Austin
8E Gowri Dandagi	10E Sara Haden
8F Anita Ratten	10F Kelly Rouette
8G Felicity Wyatt	10G Belinda Sanger

House Captains

Senior	Middle	Junior
Kenny		
Captain Carly Chapman	Co-captains Emma Funnell Lauren Morecroft	Captain Jenny Ashburn
Vice Captains Meghann Geschke Deborah Jarvis Brooke Sadler	Vice Captain Mieke Carr	Vice Captain Jacki Tuiatua
Melba		
Captain Susan Cadman	Captain Nataliya Friend	Captain Sally Buckley
Vice Captain: Georgia Evans	Vice Captain: Tess de Munk	Vice Captain: Lisa Friend
Jackson		
Captain Erin Daly	Captain Emma Winkler	Captain Sarah Grahame
Vice Captain: Su Yee Cheong	Vice Captain: Sarah Raff	Vice Captain: Kim Melvin
Mackellar		
Captain Joanne Tumiatu	Captain Natalie Alexander	Captain Cailin Montgomery
Vice Captains Lani Craven Alana Plymin	Vice Captain Camille Peucker	Vice Captain Sharon Flitman

VCE Committee

Year 11	Year 12
Helena Cangadis-Douglass Chloe Payne Shelley Frost Laura Day Ekaterina Shchukina Stephanie Gabron Clare Murray Bonnie Dreher Ganga Ranjit	Stephanie Cloak Taryn Chapman Amy Shaheen Kelly Robertson Miranda Grundy Meghann Geschke Megan Page Maddy Prowse Hayley Black

S.R.C Executive Committee

President: Natalie Barnett Vice President: Su Yee Cheong
Secretary: Ganga Ranjit Treasurer: Jing Jing Gao

V.C.E. Representatives

Year 11	Year 12
Rebel Allen Sarah De Munk	Lisa Humpage Ganga Ranjit Lauren Steinfort Melissa Wicks

SRC Representatives

7A Clare Burgess	8A Shalini Sundararaj	9A Madison Lawson	10A Mary Ngomamiti
7B Lucy Ballantyne	8B Lauren O'Keefe	9B Georgia Nowill	10B Belinda Hallinan
7C Megan Blake	8C Kelsey Budge	9C Bindhu Rajendra	10C Kate Halliday
7D Alice Prowse	8D Loretta Lee	9D Katie Salmon	10D Jasna Medojevic
7E Sarah Brewer	8E Erin O'Connor	9E Hannah Jones	10E Rachel Flitman
7F Nicky Petzke	8F Kimberley Mouritz	9F Melisa Karakurt	10F Brittany Harding-Farrenberg
7G Mahbooba Syed	8G Sarah Milliken	9G Louise Hutton	10G Erin Cook
7H Bonnie Perris		9H Emily Weston	

Magazine Committee

Editors
Ingrid Brink (Yr 12)
Kelly Hughes (Yr 12)
Sub-editors
Kelly Reed (Yr 11)
Eloise Johnstone (Yr 10)
Emily Laidlaw (Yr 10)
Alice Algie (Yr 9)
Melanie Ryan (Yr 9)
Sharon Flitman (Yr 8)
Emily Harrison (Yr 8)

Drama Captains

Senior Victoria Murley
Erin Lilja
Middle Letitia Kearney
Sarah Paterson
Junior Jamie Waterland
Sarah Strong

Sound and Lighting

Senior
Erin Lilja
Krista Seddon
Ashlee Collins
Middle
Kirsten Page
Rachel Flitman
Alanna Matts
Rose Kennedy
Elizabeth Honing
Junior
Loretta Lee
Jamie Waterland

Performing Arts

Choral Captains	Instrumental Captains
Kenny Ornela Rampal	Kenny Anya Nerenberg
Melba Katie Howlett	Jessica Brady
Jessica Carrascalao-Heard	Alicia Drew
Jackson Jessica Oakes	Jennifer Mapleston
Helena Cangadis-Douglass	Sarah Gough
Mackellar Ebony Birch	Emily Beeston

KLA Student Leaders

Maths
Senior Jessica Carrascalao-Heard
Middle: Yee Ling Low
Quinnie Trinh
Junior Sarah Strong
Kirthika Kannan

English

Senior Natalie Barnett
Kelly Reed
Middle Alanna Mattson
Sarah Sharman
Junior Sharon Flitman
Kirsten Stewart

Learning Technologies

Senior Kirthana Rajendran
Ismat Syed
Middle Kathryn Caplygin
Junior Tameika Evans
Bonnie Perris

Arts

Senior Cassie Smout
Middle Lauren Hudson

LOTE

Senior Jennifer Dawes
Kelly Reed
Bop Leas
Middle Lauren Rui
Marcelle Zidich

Science

Senior Jamie Apostolidis
Carla Simpson
Middle Meaghan Rennison
Helen van't Hof
Junior Kelly Taylor
Jackie Hempshall

like to think that the SRC provides its members and the College with two things; firstly we are involved in arranging many of the exciting and interesting events that occur during the school year. The hardworking and dedicated SRC team organises Casual Days and the Talent Quest for the whole school and special events for the different year levels such as the Year 10 Social and the Year Seven Pizza Lunch.

The second function of the SRC is to provide students with a voice in the school community and to develop the skills of those girls who have been selected as leaders in the College. The Alliance of Girls' Schools Leadership Conference, the National Association of Student Councils Conference and the Hailebury SRC Conference were just a few of the many opportunities that allowed the girls to develop their leadership and personal skills.

Year 10 Social

On the 8th August the Year Ten girls glammed up for what was a very successful social – thanks to the efforts of the fabulous Social Committee who planned, decorated, catered and sold tickets for the event. The night was fantastic and gave the girls a bit of a challenge as well as something to look forward to.

Friends of Manatute

As part of a Kingston City Council initiative, the SRC has been active in establishing a friendship with the East Timorese city of Manatute. Sarah De Munk and Kirthika Kannon created a wonderful photo display that will show the people of Manatute what life is like in Australian schools. We have also sold East Timorese coffee beans, raising money to provide financial assistance to the people of Manatute.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

This is an annual even which gives the students an opportunity to treat the staff to a delicious morning tea while raising money for the Anti-Cancer Foundation. Over \$200 was raised by the generous teachers and hard-working students.

Forty Hour Famine

In May this year over one hundred girls deprived themselves of food, TV and (worst of all!) mobile phones for forty hours. Thank you to the girls for their dedication and the generosity of their sponsors we raised a total of over \$2000.

Blood Bank Visit

Though a scary experience for some, every girl who donated blood this year said that it was well worth it. Providing the girls with this opportunity allows the VCE students to contribute to the community and raises awareness of the importance of donating blood within the College.

Talent Quest

Whenever the SRC holds a Talent Quest we always discover new stars. This year was no exception, with impressive performances by students from all year levels. Congratulations to the winners and Megan Lowe, Hannah Jones and Jessie Skaftouros of 9E who organised the Quest.

Casual Days

All Casual Days held in 2003 were a great success, raising money for many different causes. Of particular importance was International Women's Day held in Term One. Students showed their support for women world wide by displaying the colours of green, white and purple. Jennifer Wainwright, Sarah Paterson, Claire Valentine, Kerry Dawes and Claire Heath's performance of their own song, "International Women's Day" was moving and inspiring.

The many fundraisers organised by the SRC are important not just because they provide money for many worthy causes, but also because they teach the students to develop a social conscience.

This busy year would not have been possible without the enthusiasm of the entire SRC team. I would particularly like to thank the SRC Executive and Mrs Firestone whose support and dedication was both a motivation and a life saver!

Natalie Barnett



Ganga Ranjit, Natalie Barnett (President), Su Yee Cheong (Vice President), Jing Jing Gao (Treasurer).



Swimming Carnival 2003

"Hi ho, hi ho, its down the pool we go
We'll go fast, we'll kick your *
Hi ho, hi ho, hi ho, hi ho!"



The atmosphere was one of the best MGSC had ever seen. Members of all the cheering squads were outdoing themselves, led by their House Captains.

The entrants in the Aqua Olympics and the Swimming events were equally outstanding:

In the under 13 age group the **Champion was Monique Mac**. Well done, Monique! **Kate Storr** of Mackellar was the **under 14 Champion**. Kate broke records in the 50 metres butterfly and 50 metres backstroke. The **Under 15 Champion was Yasmin Roos** who performed some breathtaking dives from the high diving board. The **Under 16 Champion was Amelia Chintook** while the **Under 17 Champion was Briony Cargill** - congratulations!

The **Open Champion was Stacy Hopkins** of Jackson who broke records for the 50 metre freestyle and the 100 metre freestyle.

The Swimming Sports were attended by great swimmers, divers and other participants and those who simply enjoyed the sun while vigorously supporting their house. **Mackellar** took out the trophy for best overall.

The Aqua Olympic scores:

- 1st Melba
- 2nd Jackson
- 3rd Kenny
- 4th Mackellar

The Final scores were as follows:

- 1st Mackellar – 441.5
- 2nd Jackson – 394
- 3rd Kenny- 363.5
- 4th Melba – 357

Cheering Scores:

- 1st Mackellar
- 2nd Melba
- 3rd Kenny
- 4th Jackson



A great effort from everyone!

Sharon Flitman 8G

Athletics Carnival 2003

The sky may have been creased with bleak clouds and fog, but underneath the masses of eager young athletes, dressed in their most vibrant, sporty attire were oblivious to the weather. Excited chatter, jovial laughs and encouraging cheers punched through the air like an Olympian's shot put as the first races began!



Body paint, capes, ribbons, streamers and wigs were the latest fashions being "sporting" on the tracks of Dolamore Oval and of course the traditional fairies showed up as well! The Senior House Captains lived up to their outrageous reputations by dressing as creatively and marvellously as they could in their house colours – blue, yellow, green and purple. Prizes were awarded to those who could come up with the zaniest costumes.

The fences of Dolamore Oval seemed to fluctuate with the applause of fellow students as they gave their peers cheerful support throughout the athletic activities. Many students who participated in the track and field events also enjoyed the novelty events which included gumboot throwing and tunnel ball.

At the end of the day we all happily toddled off home – that extra bit fitter!

An enormous round of applause to Kenny who won the athletics – for the first time in seventeen years!

The Overall results

- 1st Kenny – 916
- 2nd Melba – 868
- 3rd Jackson – 646
- 4th Mackellar – 511

Age group champions

- U/13 Emmajo Grahame
- U/14 Sally Buckley
- U/15 Luana Groves
- U/16 Kelly Rouette
- U/17 Helen Wilkie
- U/21 Carly Chapman

Thank you very much to Mr De Munk and Mr Bartlett. The day could not have been what it was without their incredible help. They organised the entire occasion right down to the last cheerleader's pompom string. Thank you to all the students who participated and cheered for their houses – making the 2003 Athletics Carnival truly enjoyable.

Emily Harrison 8G



On the 19th of February, four of the year 7 classes (E to H) arrived at school, very excited as we were leaving for camp. The bus ride was long and tiring. I'm sure everyone would agree, we were very pleased when we reached our destination where we would spend the next three days, at Arrabri Lodge.

On the first night, we enjoyed an evening of fun and games, and after dinner, we had a drama activity in the hall. We all had a BLAST! When it was time to go to bed, everyone was disappointed, and lots of us stayed up past lights out, although the teachers told us repeatedly to go to sleep!

When we arrived, we were introduced to the staff members and given our cabins and group numbers. After we had settled down, we went straight into our activities. First the whole group participated in an initiative course to get to know each other. Activities included the rope course, archery, orienteering, having a swim in the pool, swinging on the flying fox, jumping on the trampoline and playing tennis and many other exciting activities!

The second day was even better than the first, for we had a WHOLE day to run around and have fun! The highlight of the day was walking to the river and panning for gold, although some of us were too busy trying not to get drenched by our friends! That night we had an awesome bush dance in the hall and everyone had heaps of fun!

On the third and final day, we got a dreaded wake-up call from the teachers as we all had to get up early to pack up our things. After we had packed we said thanks to the teachers who had dared to accompany us on the camp and to the camp staff.

Our next destination was Mount Donna Buang, where we hopped off the bus to take a walk through a temperate rainforest. Although it was very cold, the scenery was beautiful. Our last stop was the town of Warburton. The teachers allowed us to go into the town by ourselves and have a look around the different shops, and the most popular were definitely the stores with hot chocolate and hot chips bought by all!

Unfortunately soon it was time to get on the bus again...back to school. Although we were sad to say goodbye to Arrabri Lodge and the kind locals in Warburton, we were also happy to finally arrive home. As the bus pulled up outside the school, parents were awaiting our return with welcoming smiles. We had a great time at camp and we'd like to thank all the teachers and staff who made it possible for us!

Tameika Evans, Misa Bushby 7H



Ozspell interview, live with Kleo!

How did you first hear about Ozspell, and how long did you study for each night?

Mrs Bainbridge told us about the competitions and then we had an impromptu spelling test of 10 words from the official OZSPELL book. I studied for about an hour each night, but I sometimes slacked off (she adds sheepishly!) My mum, and step dad helped me by testing me on random words. Mrs Bainbridge also helped by getting the class to call out words for me to spell. It was really worthwhile, but very embarrassing too!

Approximately how many people were in the district competition, and from which schools?

There were about 23 people, from different schools, but I was too nervous to really take account of what schools were there, I was busy with a last minute cram!! I had to go through three rounds, and the words I had were insomnia, microscopic, and the last one was follicle. (at this point Kleo corrects my spelling of follicle...hey, give me a break Kleo, it's been a long time since last year!!)

How did you feel after you won the district competition?

The moment that they told me I won, I went AAARGH, and almost started crying. Then I went to Sydney with my mum and we were there for four nights and three days. On the Saturday when we left it was sad, because I had made so many friends. I got all their email addresses!

How many rounds did you "survive" for?

There were three days of rounds and I "survived" for one. The word that I spelt correctly was lichen, and the word I misspelt was isosceles. It was annoying because I knew how to spell it, but it was the pressure of everyone watching, listening and waiting for me to spell it...when the bell rang at the 60 second mark, (we had ninety seconds to spell the word) I just got so freaked out that I spelt it in a bit of a panic. I spelt it iscoceles (pretty close if you ask me!!)

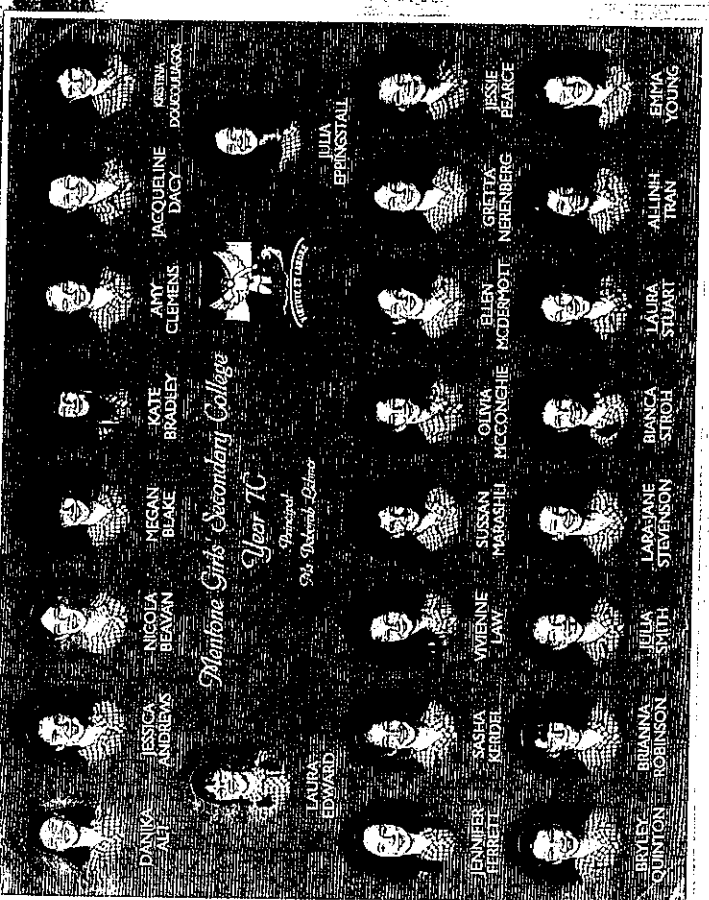
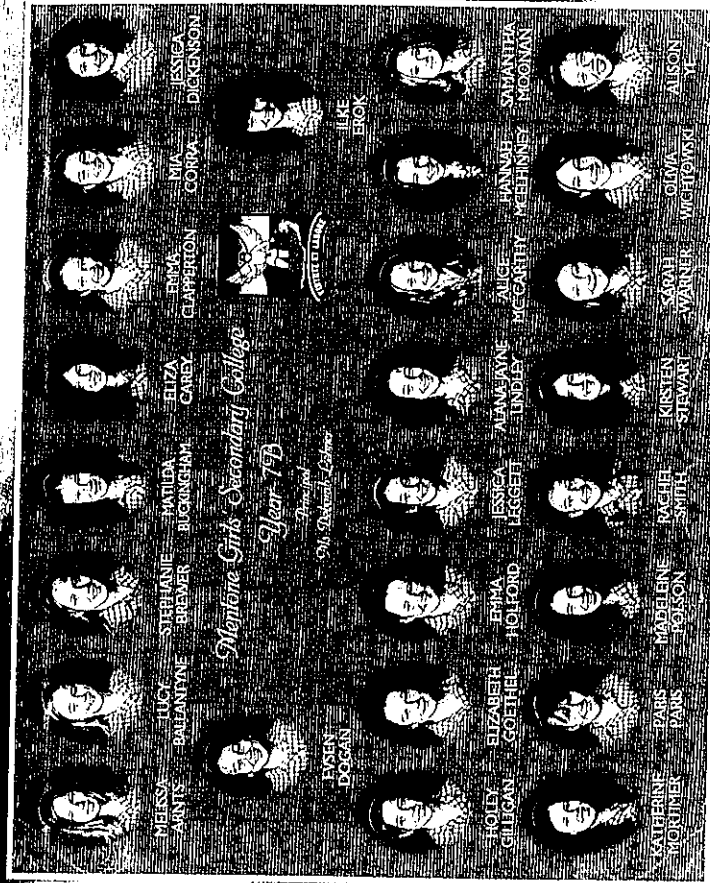
What happened after you spelt your word incorrectly?

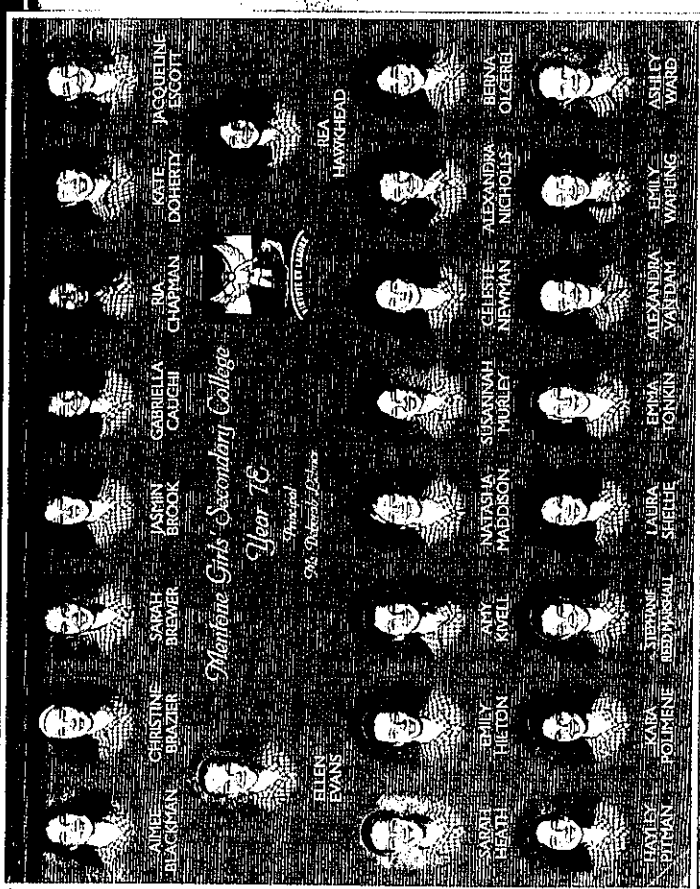
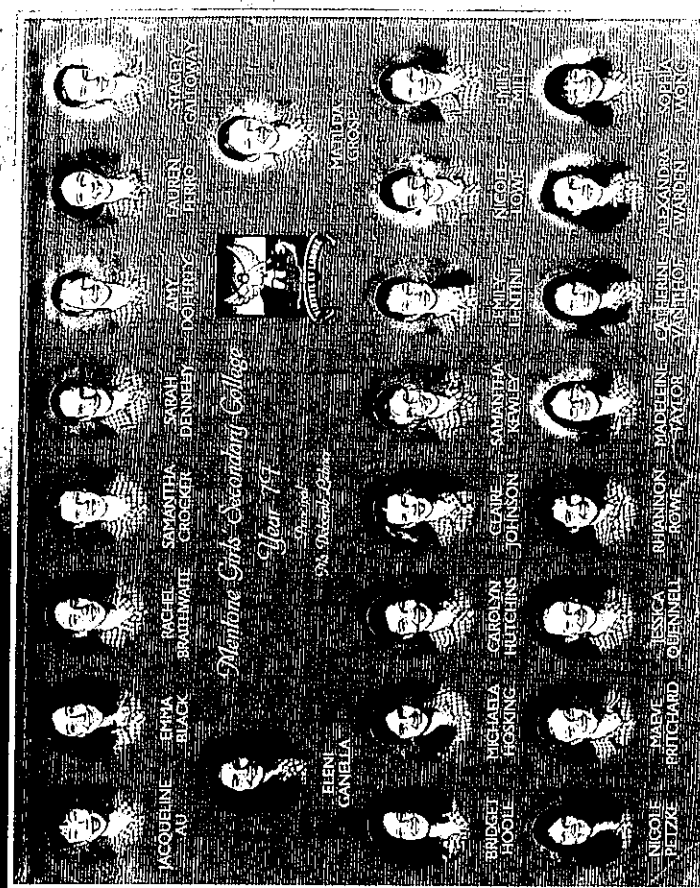
I had to go up these stairs at the side, it was like the 'walk of shame' from the 'Weakest Link'. Then I went to a special room so that I could collect myself. I got a Harvey Norman lunch bag filled with goodies- and I got a \$75 gift voucher to spend at Harvey Norman!

Advice that you would give the Year 7's next year?

ALWAYS study, make sure you practise with the 90 second time limit and Relax! Make sure you really think about the spelling- don't get too caught up in the moment. It was a fun experience...good luck to the Year 7's next year, I know you'll hold up our great tradition!!

Sharon Fillman,
Spell checked by Kleo Cruise





Lara's Feelings

Loneliness is what it is,
 Breathing every breath, not knowing what will emerge,
 Feelings are torn, somehow love is all gone,
 No one there, to trust, to talk to,
 To share our thoughts or stories,
 Making a friend seems impossible,
 Nothing to do, no one to hug,
 Feeling cold, no blanket, no rug,
 The heart says run,
 The head says stay,
 All she can do is pray...and pray,
 Words cannot explain the reason for her sadness,
 Her world is muddled and full of madness.

Gina Alderson - Hicks 7D

My Poem

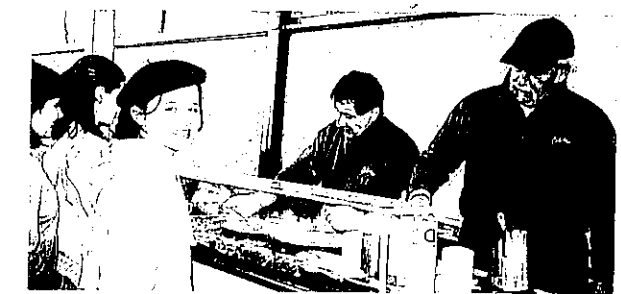
Life was beginning to become very bad
 And very, very sad
 When Lara moved to her new school
 She thought it wasn't very cool
 The mean boy Gowd
 Looked like a coward
 Lara found Gowd too hard to face
 Because she needed her own space
 Lara needed to run away
 But then she found a way
 She met her own dog
 In lots of fog
 She called it Thunderwith
 But found out that the name was a myth
 Gowd found a way to annoy her
 By getting the silver dollar from her
 Lara was under lots of pressure
 With lots of pain to that measure
 Pearl tried to talk her into talking to someone
 Someone didn't like Pearl's Mum
 She thought she was a bit dumb
 Even though to this day
 People feel the same way
 We can help stop that
 If we have fun with the next door neighbour's cat
 Instead of being mean to people
 We can all just have FUN!

Maddy Cameron 7D

These poems were inspired by reading the Year 7 text "Thunderwith" by Libby Hawthorn.

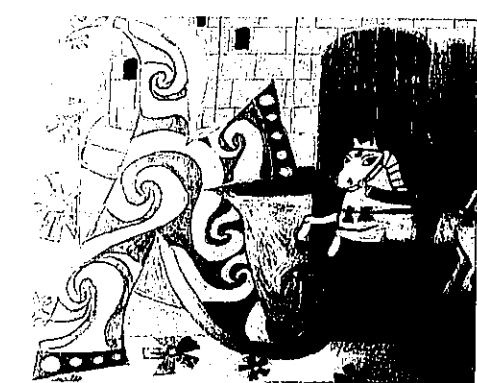
**Year Seven French
 The Crêpe Man**

On the 20th of August, the Crêpe Man came to MGSC. The crêpe were available during lunch and recess, but our class got them during 5th periods. We had to ask for our crêpes in French and they were delicious. I enjoyed the crêpe day!
 Amy Clemens 7C

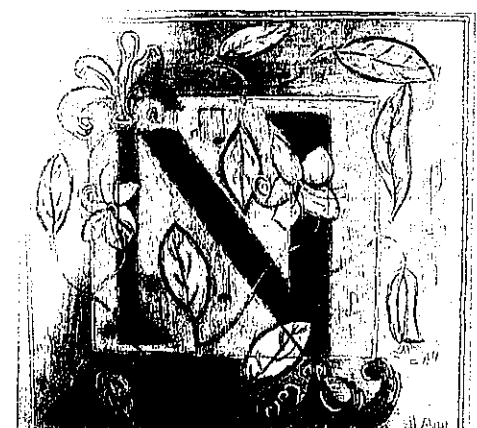


Year 7 Cheese Tasting Day

The Cheese Tasting Day was a great success. We set up our room like a café with tablecloths, flowers and non-alcoholic wine. We played French songs and dared each other to taste the stronger French cheeses. It was a great day and "merci" to our French teachers for organising this for us.
 Jessie Pearce 7C



Emily Wapling 7E



Jacqueline Au 7F

Year 7 French Treats



Year 7 Netball A



Back L-R: Kristy Pryor, Amie Blackman, Alice Prowse, Kate Withers, Sarah Heath
Middle: Brooke Plymin, Tori Cameron
Front: Lauren Geschke, Alana Gadsby, Bonnie Perris

Mentone won its fifth consecutive Beachside and Southern Zone pennants in Year 7 'A' Netball. The team easily won the local Beachside Competition then had terrific victories over Berwick and Frankston in the Southern Zone Finals. The team finished 5th in the State Finals, narrowly losing to the eventual winners, Vermont.

Year 7 Netball B



Back L-R: Erin Freyer, Julia Curcio, Sarah Morrow, Sacha Kerdel
Middle: Ilana Merrick
Front: Alex Baum, Katelyn Hatton, Carolyn Hutchins

The Year 7 Netball 'B' team remained undefeated throughout the season, winning both Beachside and Southern Zone Finals.

The team was superbly coached by Mrs Steinfort. Unfortunately this year there were no State Finals in the Netball 'B' competition.

Year 8 Netball A



Back L-R: Melanie Dunstan, Michaela Knight, Lucy Amon, Loretta Lee, Jaquie Tubb, Melanie Dowling
Front: Kristie Withers, Sally Buckley, Cassie Head.

Mentone progressed through the Beachside District and Southern Zone finals undefeated. In the State finals the girls reached the semi-final stage where they lost after double over time. A terrific effort! A big thank you to Mrs Merrick for coaching.

Year 8 Netball B



Back L-R: Hannah Funnell, Loretta Lee, Rebecca Orlando, Alice Boryslawski, Stephanie Valcanis
Front: Jenny Ashburn, Jamie Waterland, Paige Carroll, Lauren Orlando.

The year 8 team completed a clean sweep of all the 'B' netball pennants at Beachside and Southern Zone levels. A terrific effort by all students involved. Thanks to Mrs Merrick for coaching.

Intermediate Netball A



Back L-R: Talita Haddad, Lindsey Rouette, Courtney Voss, Naomi Floyd, Sharni Layton, Julia Knight
Front: Evie Blackman, Emma Funnell, Kate Steinfort.

The Intermediate Netball A team won our 4th consecutive Beachside and Southern Zone pennants, remaining undefeated. At the State Semi-finals we were narrowly defeated by Vermont, the eventual State Champions. Thanks to Mrs Steinfort for coaching.

Senior Netball A



Back L-R: Brooke Sadler, Bonnie Dreher, Briony Cargill, Michaela Davis, Jenna McCombe
Front: Megan Geschke, Jo Tumiali, Jess Gazzo

The Senior Netball Team defeated all schools in the Beachside district. They progressed to the Southern Zone finals where they defeated Frankston and Dandenong but narrowly lost to Berwick in the Southern zone final. Thanks to Mrs Sarau for coaching.

Senior Netball B



Back L-R: Lauren Hudson, Laura Rosser, Stephanie Graham, Alana Plymin, Hayley Carroll, Mrs Sarau
Front: Amy Haselmore, Linda Rancie, Louise Comerford.

The Senior Netball 'B' team remained undefeated throughout the school netball season. They collected the Beachside and Southern Zone pennants but unfortunately this year there were no state finals for Netball 'B' teams. Thanks to Mrs Sarau for coaching.

Inter School Gymnastics 2003

Making Waves 2003

The format for the inter-school gymnastics was changed for this year and the private schools and state secondary schools competitions were combined. We had four teams and individual participants. It was a great effort by all team members who were competing in a high standard competition.

The Junior modified Level four team finished eighth against the private schools and second in the state schools competition. Team members – Ellen Evans, Ellie Ganella, Bridget Hoole, Hannah McElhinney, Kelly Tobin and Jacqueline Woodlock.

The Senior modified team Level four finished fourth in the private school section and first in the state school section. Team members – Natalie Alexander, Maddy Evans, Megan Kitely, Katie Salmon and Lauren Muir.

In the Level four competition the team finished third in the private school section and second in the state school section. Team members – Tess de Munk, Stephanie Brennan, Yasmin Roos and Georgina Karavasil.

The Division A Team finished third against the private schools. This result was particularly good as Mentone only had two team members instead of three. Team members – Talia Alt and Alana Lindley.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved very good results in the individual championship section. Alana Lindley 2nd, Tess de Munk 5th, Stephanie Brennan 6th, Talia Alt 9th, Yasmin Roos 11th, Felicity Jenkin 13th, Maddy Evans 17th, Jacqueline Woodcock 18th.

The Junior team was coached by Alana Lindley with help from Miranda Jenkin and Felicity Jenkin. Well done girls, your help was appreciated. The competition was run over three days and would not have been possible without the help of Mr de Munk and parents, Janet Lindley and Suzanne Jenkin.

Mrs J M Barnett
Gymnastic Coordinator.



Senior Modified Level Four

L-R: Katie Salmon, Maddy Evans, Lauren Muir, Megan Kitely, Natalie Alexander.



Junior Modified Level Four

Back L-R: Alana Lindley (Coach)

Middle: Hannah McElhinney, Ellen Evans, Bridget Hooks, Kelly Tobin, Ellie Ganella, Jacqueline Woodcock.

Front: Kara Poloimene (emergency).

Mentone Girls' Cross Country Team 2003



Mentone won the Beachside Junior, Middle, Senior and Overall girls' aggregate at the Beachside Level. The teams progressed to the Southern zone finals where the senior team finished 4th, the intermediate team 3rd and the junior team came 2nd. The junior team progressed to the State finals where they came 3rd overall.

Well done to Emmajo Grahame, Clare Burgess, Ricki McCombe and Monique Mac.

Fancy Dress 2003!

Fancy dress was what some people would call GROOVY! I would say it was fantastic, fun and cool! The theme this year was 60's, 70's and 80's...it was psychedelic!! The dances were very well choreographed, and the costumes were...original and funky! From afros to tutus, fancy dress was definitely enjoyed by everyone, the highlight of the year for both year 7Sevens and Twelve's! But the main thing was that we all made new friends and had heaps of fun!!

Brooke Fowler 7G

On Wednesday the 9th of April, the rowdy year Sevens and even rowdier year Twelves came together for the very well known and long awaited night of the Fancy Dress Party. This year's groovy, funky and totally radical theme was "Retro 60's, 70's and 80's".

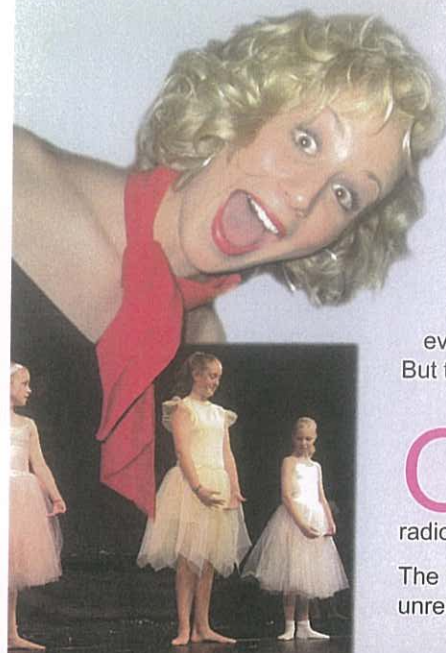
The night had many strange and wonderful characters who were almost unrecognizable, most of whom were the teachers! Mr Kan made a great Elvis I must say, and he also did an excellent job of vacuuming at the end of the night. Thanks Mr Kan!

The night proved to be a success with every year Seven form from A-H performing their dance routines to the funky tunes of the 60's, 70's and 80's. They were all very enthusiastic and did a marvellous job of performing upfront of the entire population of year Sevens and Twelves. Of course, if it wasn't for the Year Twelve's' hard work in the weeks leading up to the night, not to mention all the loose threats, the year Seven's brilliant dance routines would have been non-existent! Well done Year Sevens, you were unreal!!

With the atmosphere of flower power, disco and electronic dance, hippies, afros and sweat bands, not forgetting celebrities, such as, Elvis, Madonna, and KISS, it was definitely a night to remember for everyone and I'm sure the teachers absolutely loved it. Brought back memories, eh?

On behalf of all the students involved, I'd like to thank the Year Sevens for the effort they put it in, the Year Twelves who gave up time from their busy schedules to get involved by helping with dance routines, food and drink preparations, music and decorations, and of course the teachers who organised the night and helped to make it possible. Thank you very much, we all greatly appreciate it! YOU ROCK!!

Amy Shaheen 12G



CLEOPATRA'S BAZAAR



On Wednesday 10th September all Year Seven girls and their form teachers participated in a whole day event called 'Cleopatra's Bazaar'. It was a fantastic day and each form displayed some of the work that they have been doing in many of their subjects. The morning was spent setting up the market stalls and then wandering the market, bartering with our lolly snakes to buy things that others had prepared. Then the performances began, and they were great. Each class had some small acts to perform and lots of parents came to watch. We would like to thank Mrs Foulds and all the Year 7 teachers who dressed up and took part in the day.

Here are some comments from Year 7 girls;

"The costumes were great; ranging from poor servants and slaves right through to queens, kings and famous pharaohs". Keerthi Ravi 7H

"We learnt belly dancing in PE and it was fun." Laurel Bonner and Kia Pritchard 7H

"The day was to celebrate a term's work on Ancient Egypt and the stalls were very interesting with beauty products, fortune telling, a colouring competition, hieroglyphics and a mysterious tomb tour." Bianca Stroh, Jessie Pearce and Ellen McDermott 7C

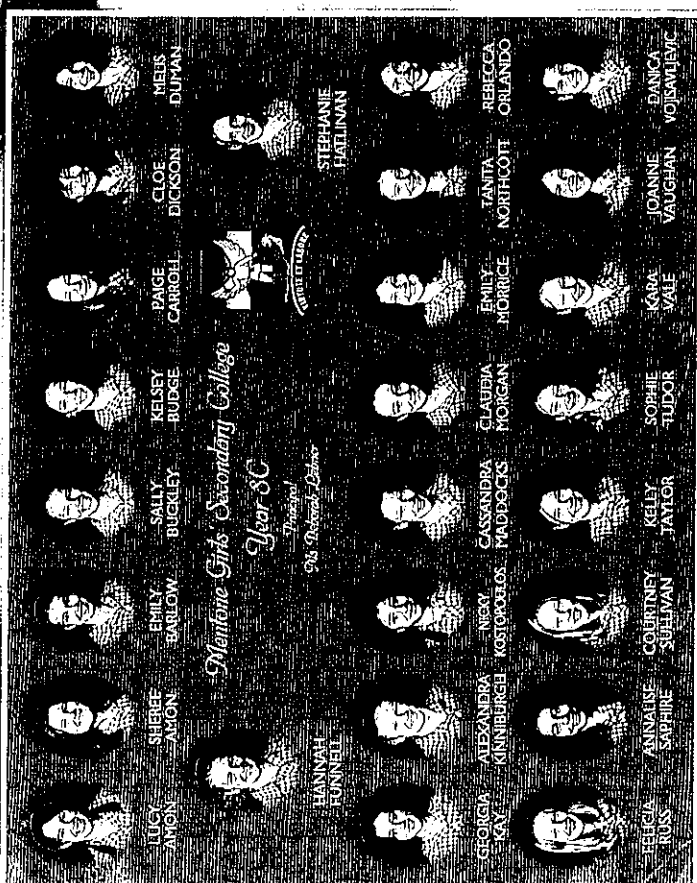
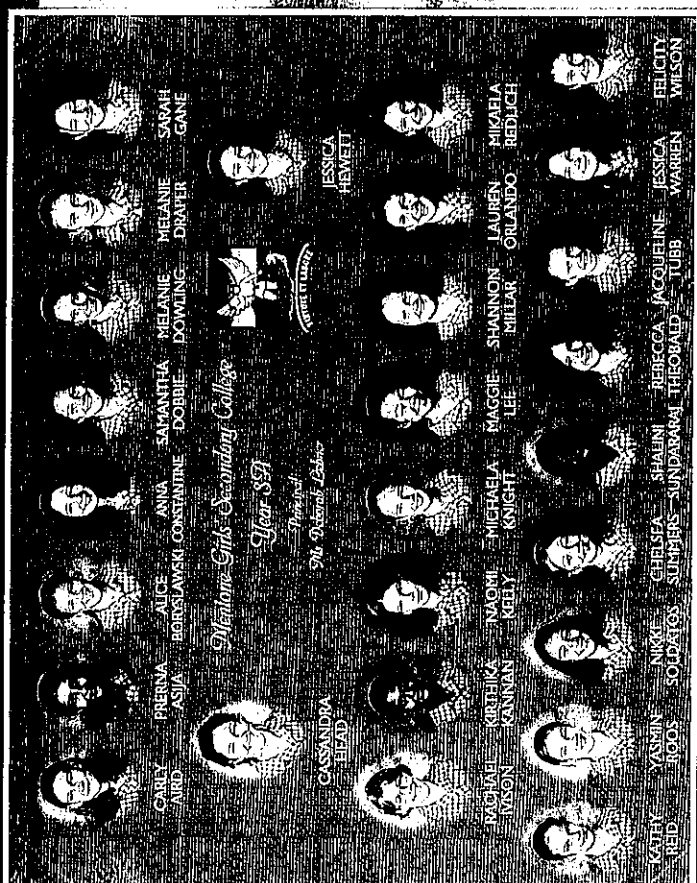
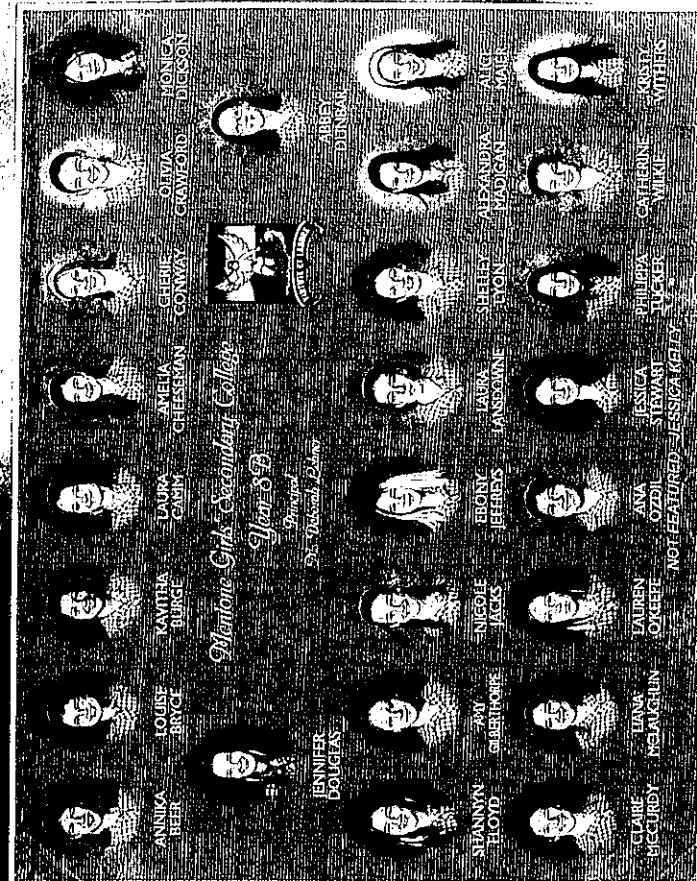
"Some of the stalls were cakes & lollies, jewellery, name tag making, spooky haunted house and feeling the organs from mummies". Tilly Buckingham and Evvy Dogan 7B

"Classes performed instrumental songs, belly dances and plays all based on the Egyptian theme". Alex Baum 7A

"Everyone had loads of fun and laughs and the costumes were great." Brooke Fowler 7G

At lunchtime the girls had pizza for lunch (not quite Egyptian).





Slip Slop!

My sister owns two ducks,
Which sit upon her feet,
Only active in the evening,
They just sit there looking sweet.



Emma Clark 8D

I bought them for her birthday,
But mum and dad don't care,
Cause they're so soft and cuddly,
Just the two of them, a pair!

Unlike other water creatures,
They don't swim with fins or flippers,
In fact, they do not swim at all,
Cause they're a pair of slippers!!

Sharon Flitman, 8G

Tournament of Minds



(l-r) Isobel Feben, Carolyn Hutchins, Amy Doherty, Sarah Milliken, Stephanie Bitmead. Front: Nicole Petzke, Back: Mrs Louise Rienits.

Have you ever wanted to work in a team, solve challenging problems and think spontaneously? Then next year you should consider joining the Tournament of the Minds.

Tournament of the Minds (T.O.M.) is an annual event all around Australia for Primary and Secondary Levels (7-10). It involves working in a small team, working out a long term problem and solving a spontaneous problem. There are three different sections: English/Literature, Maths/engineering and Social Science.

This year we were in an English/Literature team and our long term problem was called "Going Bananas". Amy Doherty, Carolyn Hutchins, Nikki Petzke, Stephanie Bitmead, Sarah Milliken and Isobel Feben were the members of our team.

We had six weeks to complete our problem, write the script and learn our lines. We practised a lot at lunchtimes and prepared ourselves for the spontaneous problem.

We had a lot of fun working as a group, solving problems and making new friends. We encourage all students to try out next year; we can't wait!

Sarah Milliken, Stephanie Bitmead and Isobel Feben 8G

Violin Practice

Screeeeeeeeeeeech!
Cutting through the still night air,
With a screech, a wail and a groan,
Like a sick cat trying to serenade,
Just a pitiful, high-pitched, shrieking moan.

When the sound is heard, the cats start to yowl,
Flowers curl up their petals in fright,
The birds roosting peacefully on the ground,
Leap up, flap their wings and take flight.

A girl walks into her sister's room,
Raising her voice up above the din,
Shazz stop, put it away can't you see,
You're killing that poor violin!!

Ugly!

If you feel that you are ugly,
You look at yourself and want to barf,
At least you know you're lucky,
That mirrors cannot laugh!

You can't be serious!

Are you the sort of person who never smiles,
Who hears laughter and just feels confused?
Well if you can learn to laugh at yourself,
You'll never cease being amused!!

Sharon Flitman, 8G



Aimee Miller 8D

Year 8 Maths Games Day

On Wednesday 23rd July, a group of year 8 Einsteins travelled to Penleigh Essendon Grammar School for a Maths Games Day. These talented girls were Kirthika Kannan, Jennifer Ashburn, Rebecca Vorwerk, Naomi Kelly, Laura Theobald, Lisa Friend, Isobel Feben and Claire McCurdy, accompanied by Mr Shillabeer who drove us to the event.

When we arrived we were separated into two teams of four, because we were just too talented to stay together. We had to give the other schools a chance! We received little booklets which had ten questions for us to answer. We finished them (of course!) and we hope we got them all right. There's not really any question about that!

Then we had to sit at the benches so that we were facing a person from another school. Then we played our first two games. They were strategy games and were a little bit difficult, but interesting. It was good to play against people from other schools and have a bit of a chat at the same time.

Then we had lunch. It was an hours break from the Maths and everyone was very, very hungry! Maths takes



concentration, even for the talented like us! The school's band was playing in the background and one of their teachers was a good singer and proved good entertainment. It was good to have something to listen to while you waited in a line of five hundred to get your complimentary lunch. After everyone was fed it was straight back into the Maths. YAY!!

Again we played more games (I thought it was going to be a Maths Day?) but then we got another series of questions to answer. More work! These questions proved harder than the first set which was good because we needed a challenge, that is why we were there! After we were all done and finished it was time to go back to school...

I enjoyed the day and would recommend current year Seven's who enjoy a challenge to take part in the event next year. I would like to thank Mrs Perks, Mrs Dreher and Mr Shillabeer for organising the event as well as Penleigh Essendon Grammar School for hosting the event.

Jennifer Ashburn 8E



Jamie Waterland 8D

A Child Without Rain

In a world of thirst and hunger
Full of pain and lies
Whilst I sleep in silent slumber
A thirsty child cries.

I step into the shower
The child cries again
I do not understand
All this child wants is rain.

I turn on the TV
I switch it off again
I do not wish to see
A child in such pain.

I read about a woman
Who will walk for miles
Just to get a jug of water
To give her dying child.

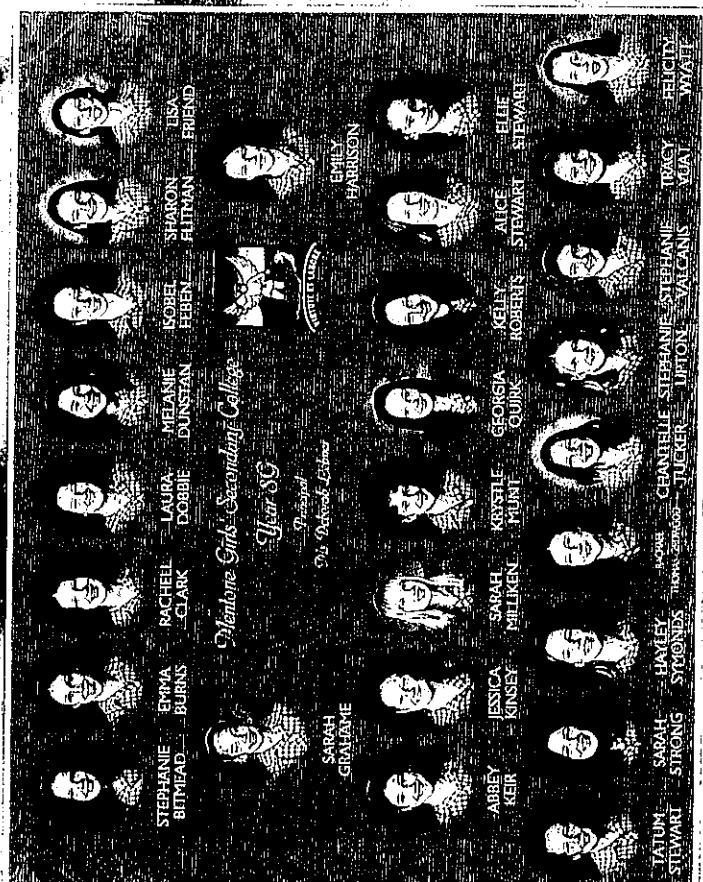
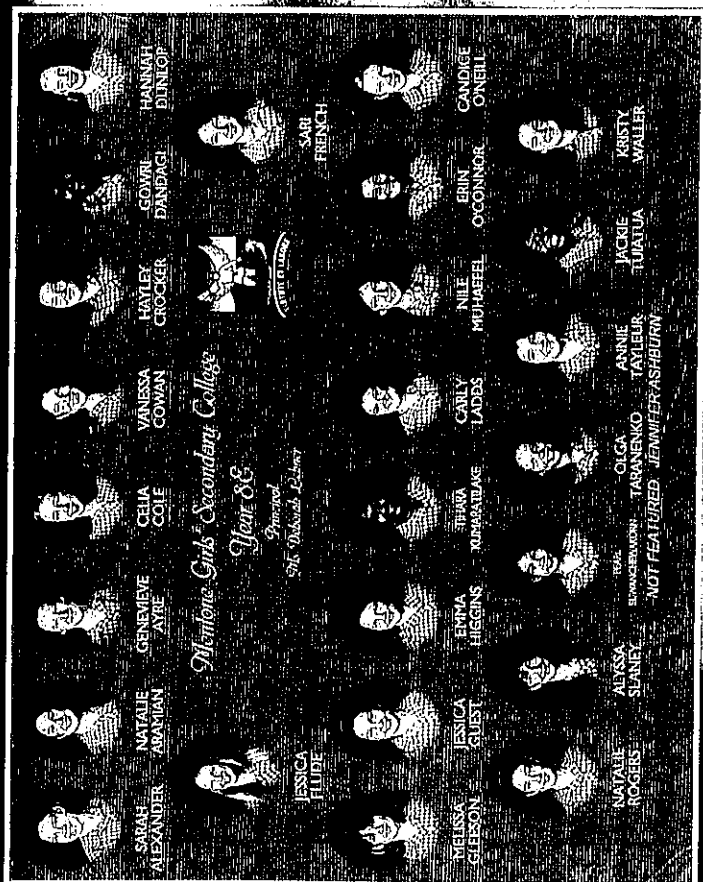
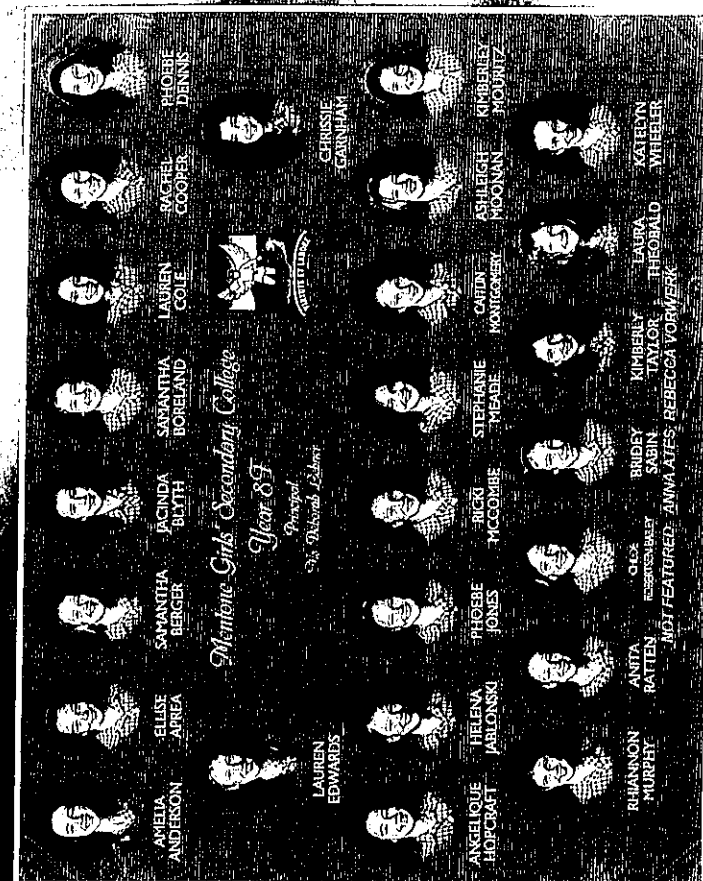
The water is not so good
It makes her child sick
What can she do?
There is nothing else to drink.

I pour a glass of water
I do not even think
About that dying child
Who has nothing to drink.

I want to be a shouting voice
I want to give this child a choice
Oh I feel like I will surely burst
If I don't quench
This child's thirst.

In a world of thirst and hunger
Full of pain and lies
Whilst I sleep in silent slumber
A thirsty child cries.

Alice Maier 8B



Maths Games

During a double period of wood technology, Mr Seddon picked out three students: Shannyn Floyd, Jessica Kelly and Emily Morrice. We were the ones who would put together the pieces of a delicate puzzle.

The mission was to build a bridge out of 20 pieces of thin wooden sticks and 1 tube of araldite. The aim was to make the strongest bridge, the bridge that holds the most weight wins. Connell Wagner (an engineering company) organises the event every year. 2003 was the biggest year so far.

We had big shoes to fill; Mentone Girls' Secondary College came 1st in 2001 and 2nd in 2002. But we got to work straight away.

The three of us worked closely with Mr Seddon and started organising lunchtime and after school Bridge Building sessions. We had only a few days to complete the task, and we needed all the time we could get. After the fourth day of working on our masterpiece, it was time to put it to the test.



We played "golden oldies" CD's all the way to Scienceworks.

As we walked in everyone was looking at everyone else's bridges, eager to see what technique they used to make their bridge. Some schools worked more on making the bridges 'pretty' rather than 'strong'.

Around 20 schools participated. We got used to the atmosphere and soon enough it was our turn to load our bridge with weights.

Our bridge held the most weight – 24.5 kg.

But due to rules and regulations, we fell back to second place. We were all given Connell Wagner show bags, a hat, a \$50 Myers voucher, along with \$400 for the school.

The man who presented us with our prizes was a familiar face. He had worked for the company before he took part in "Big Brother" – he is Vincent!

Thank you Mr Seddon, for giving us this fantastic privilege and for giving up your time for us.



Emily Morrice 8C, Jessica Kelly and Shannyn Floyd 8B

Shannyn Floyd, Emily Morrice and Jessica Kelly

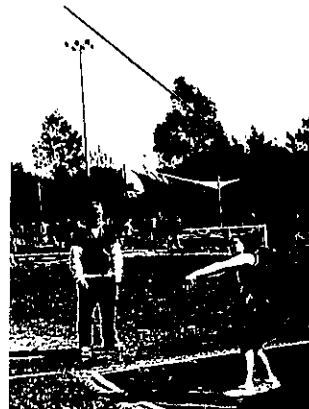
Beachside Athletics 2003



Sally Buckley of Year 8 wins the 100m and 200m double at the Beachside Finals.



Debbie Jarvis of Year 12 wins the 100m hurdles at the Beachside Finals.



Cassie Head of Year 8 wins the Javelin at the Beachside Finals.



Helen Wilkie of Year 11, the Under 17 Athletics Champion wins the high jump at the Beachside Finals.

Mentone Girls' Detention Centre

It was Tuesday and I was at the lockers waiting for my turn to put my books away and finish up for the day. I was feeling tired and dreary.

I can remember gazing at a "Kick Me" sign that had found its way to someone's back, feeling sorry for myself because I had an assignment due as well as a test the next day.

After exchanging some maths books for some science ones I slammed my sticker clad locker shut.

As I traipsed towards the large doors I saw the one thing that changed my opinion of life forever. A group of wicked looking soldiers armed with rifles that from afar looked like black poles of death.

They were disciplined by their own strictness, enraged by their own beliefs and infuriated by those who were different from them. Wearing only black they moved about like ants on a rainy day and their eyes twitched to the slightest sound. I was confused. I wanted to run and rescue myself from their controlling presence but there was no rational way. I knew there would be soldiers guarding the entire school. Any Tom, Dick or Harry would know to do that. It was too late anyway. Two had already started to head my way. I stiffened like a child caught by parents doing something they shouldn't have.

"You girl, where you form room?" one of them inquired fiercely. His English was pretty bad and it was difficult to understand his strong accent.

"M6," I quivered. I was scared stiff but I looked straight into his eyes. He had such deep brown, serious eyes.

"You go now, you try escape we shoot you."

The room was a murmur of anxious voices and a sea of tangled eyebrows. Studded randomly were clusters of friends all engaged in grim conversation. Over in a corner arranged in a peculiar little bundle were my friends chatting.

The only person who did not join the discussion was Monica who was weeping mutely. Ella and Eliza looked up from their solemn chat to notice me, their now wrinkled fore-headed, droopy-socked friend. They ran to greet me with indisputable delight.

"Are you okay?" Ella asked me, one stout arm reaching around my shoulders.

"Yeah, I'm fine," I said collapsing next to Amy.

"You wanna Skittle?" she offered in usual affable voice. I held out a clammy hand.

"Did you catch a glimpse of the soldiers?" asked Charlotte. Her eyes looked so eager for information they could have burst out of her skull and hit me in the head.

"All I know is that they're from Asia," I replied, popping a green Skittle in my mouth. I felt too feeble to talk. "I also saw them setting up portable toilets and stuff."

We all reacted to the situation differently. Charlotte and Eliza spent most of their time planning their dramatic escape together, Ella sang cheerful little songs to herself, Monica sobbed, her head in her hands and Amy, Amy just ate.

"Want some cherry lip gloss?" she asked gesturing a bright pink cylinder in my direction.

"Amy, how on earth could you think about the state of your lips at a time like this?" I mumbled.

"No, I meant to eat."

"Huh?"

"Well they won't feed us much you realise. They're catering for over a thousand girls. This may be all you're getting for a while."

"Hand it over."

Emily Harrison 8G

MGSC School Aerobics 2003



In term one this year, Ms Clark held tryouts for the MGSC Aerobics team. Heaps of students from all year levels tried out but only eight were successful. Emma Clark (Year 8), Rachel Clark (Year 8), Maddie Evans (Year 9), Tanita Northcote (Year 8), Hayley Symmons (Year 8), Ashleigh Voce (Year 9), Kristy Vaughan (Year 7) and myself, were the lucky eight that were chosen to be in the team. The next day we were given Choreography notes, a video of the routine and the dates for the competitions. We designed our own costumes; they were quite simple but looked effective (blue T-shirt, black bike shorts). We were set to go!

After weeks and weeks of before school training sessions, we were finally ready for our first competition; at the

Camberwell Civic Centre on Saturday, 1st of May. We were nervous, but really excited at the same time. There was a great atmosphere – looking a lot like a scene from "Bring it On". We performed our best and our hard work paid off – we came 4th and we were through to the State Finals.

The State Finals were held at the Dallas Brooks Hall in the city on the 15th of June. Aside from the sequins we added to our costumes, we approached the State Finals in the same way as our first competition; to have fun and to do our absolute best.

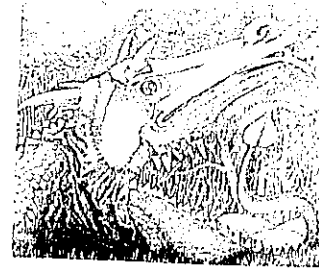
We missed out on going to the Nationals in Sydney by just one spot. They took the first three place getters to Sydney and we came fourth!

Ms Clark recently entered us in another competition, the Aerobics Spring Competition. We have started training again and are hoping for the best. The Competition will be held at the Camberwell Civic Centre on October 18th.

On behalf of the whole team I would like to thank Ms Clark for being an absolutely fantastic Aerobics coach. Thanks for being so supportive of us.

Megan Kiteley, Year 9

Dragon's Misery



It was the usual dark as death, misty night, as Giandor walked up to the castle door.

"So it is true," said Soralious, walking out of the shadows, "Man has found Isgiaris"

"Y-y-yes - it is true we have found it."

The dragon had been sleeping soundly, until he had heard footsteps and shouting from the entrance

"Why do you enter my castle? Do you come for my gold? Or do you come for my blood?" Soralious said, pronouncing each word strongly and showing great anger on his face.

to his castle. He sniffed at the air; and silently walked through the door on the side of the giant hall. He knew what the creature wanted; his gold. But if it was a human, he decided, it was after him.

"N-n-n-o-o! Of course not! I, ...erm..I-I-I, I just come to ...erm...see how you were!" Yeah, he thought to himself, that'll do.

He heard the footsteps head towards his chamber and quickly withdrew into the shadows. He had heard a whisper on the breeze that the humans had found a sword, a very unique sword. It was whispered that the humans had found the sword of Isgiaris. If this was true, the dragons of the Trantuap Mountains would only be safe from the sword if they hid.

"YOU LIE" yelled Soralious. "You come here to kill me, but it is your mistake; as it is YOU who will not leave tonight!" Soralious had begun walking forward; Giandor, the knight was slowly backing up. Then he hit the wall.

The sword of Isgiaris had been an invention of the Galfogs, a very powerful ancient race destroyed by their own hands. The sword had been buried along with their bodies; to live only as Legend and tale; but it seemed that Legend had come true.

"Not good, Mr Giandor" Soralious whispered as he took a deep breath... and felt a large sword enter his chest, piercing right through his heart. He let out a long, loud groan and fell to the ground with a big "whump".

Giandor was still lying on the floor where he had fallen, shaking with fear as he looked from the now frozen dragon to ... "Giros? W-w-w-wh-are you doing here?"

A knight walked into the room. He was wearing sparkling silver armour with gold plates and diamonds encrusted into the gauntlets.

"I'm baking cookies," Giros said with a wide grin.

"Wow!" the dragon thought. "This guy looks like a pro!"

"Actually I heard you had come up here looking for the sword of Isgiaris, but I knew you wouldn't find it. I already had it and luckily for you. It looks as if I came at the right time!"

The dragon looked closely and saw that, no, he didn't have the sword of Isgiaris. Just a normal two handed broad blade. The sword of Isgiaris was twice as long as the sword the knight had drawn; long enough to be able to pierce the dragon's heart.

While Giros had been saying this, Sornandious, Soralious' brother, had silently walked up behind Giros.

Then the knight spoke,

"G-g-Giros!" was all that Giandor managed to get out as Sornandious grabbed him and bit down, effectively killing him. Giros only had time to let out a blood-curdling scream that quickly turned into a faint gurgle, as Sornandious dropped him on the ground and slowly walked towards Giandor, grinning.

"E-e-eexcuse me Soralious (for that was the dragon's name);

"You haven't seen a big sword have you?"

Helen van't Hof 9B



Stephanie Brennan, Felicity Jenkin and Talia Alt enjoying an early morning breakfast at at the Outdoor Education Camp.

(L) Stephanie Brennan on a steep climb at the Outdoor Education Camp.

Mantone Girls Secondary College
Year 9B
Principal: Mrs. Margaret Egan
94 St. Margaret's Drive

OSAGE BALCH	ELLEN BRUNDELL	ROBYN CRAIN	ALEXANDRA DACE	NISSA CRAIG	NICOLE GILLIAN	RYANN MATHIAS
ROBYN JORDAN	CALANI KNIGHT	ELIERS MARTIN	BOJANIE MCGERGAN	SEANIE PHILL	GEORGIA NOVWILL	EMILY COURTNEY MARK
SRUTHI SRIDHAR	ABIRAMU SURESH	ALEXANDRA TERRY	GEHANNA THABALI	CAROLINA VANEGAS	JESSICA MASON	MONICA WILSON

Mantone Girls Secondary College
Year 9D
Principal: Mrs. Margaret Egan
94 St. Margaret's Drive

LAURA BOAL	GABRIELLE BOLTON	ALEXANDRA BUTLER	AGLIE DAWSON	MEAGAN DILLON	CASEY EGAN	MADOLIN LEVANS
STEPHANIE GIBBS	JESSICA GOUGH	TESS HANDLEY	EMMETER MACKENZIE	AMIE MILN	EMMA MURPHY	ASHLEIGH NIMBERY
JACQUI O'REILLY	GEORGINA PARK	NICOLE PRICE	LARIKA RILEY	KATIE SUTTON	HANNAH THOMPSON	NIGOLE WOODROGGE

Mantone Girls Secondary College
Year 9A
Principal: Mrs. Margaret Egan
94 St. Margaret's Drive

AMANDA BRAN	MICHELLE BRAZER	ASHLEY BRUNDELL	TANVI CHALKE	KERRY DAWES	RACHAEL DOHERTY	AMANDA DUTCHMAN	JOANNA GEE
SHIRAZI ITO	ADELE LACIS	MADISON LAWSON	ALEXANDRA LEWIS	SASKIA COSTIULZEN	ANIELA PAGE	CAMILLE PEUCKER	FISKA MALDENBERG
ALEXANDRA ROBINSON	SARAH SHARMAN	COBRINNE SYCER	SHANA STEWART	MICHELLE VIEHLE	MICHELLE YGAT	KATHERINE WARNER	CATHERINE WOOD

Mantone Girls Secondary College
Year 9C
Principal: Mrs. Margaret Egan
94 St. Margaret's Drive

JORDANA BEDFORD	KARA BOARD	REBECCA BRAN	JESSICA BURAS	JOANNA CAMPION	SARAH CANNON	KATHRYN CAPLYGIN	GENIEVE DALL
HONOLIE DONALDSON	REBECCA DYKAS	HOLLY EDWARDS	AGREEGH FAWKS	NICOLE LEWIS	LAUREN MEULAN	KRISTINA PAVLS	CLARE PHILLIPS
HINDHU MAENDRIA	CAROL RISSOTTO	BREANNA ROBINSON	HOLLY SLATER	AGLIE WESTWOOD	EMMETER WILLIAN	KIMBERLEE WILLIAN	JACQUELINE YOUNGER

ART 2003

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 9F
Principal: Mrs. Deborah Dobson

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 9H
Principal: Mrs. Deborah Dobson

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 9E
Principal: Mrs. Deborah Dobson

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 9G
Principal: Mrs. Deborah Dobson



Alex Dacy 9B



Yeeling Low 9G



Naomi Floyd 10G



Emily Daniel 9H



Stephanie Hallinan 8C



Caitlyn Hoggart 10F



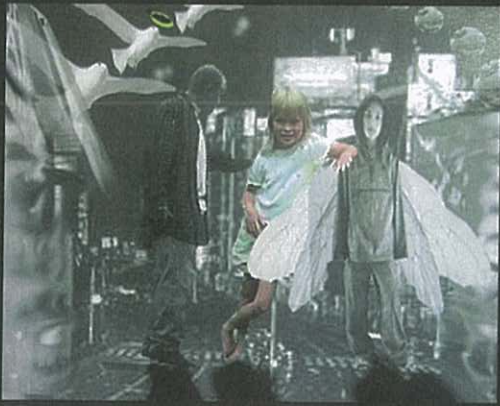
Sheena Bouch 9H



Loretta Lee 8D



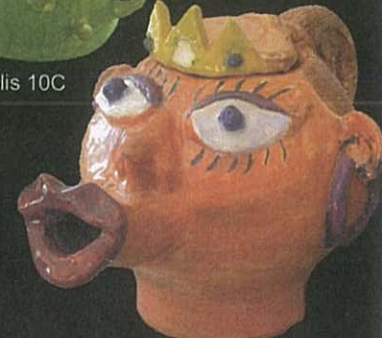
Jessica Kallis 10C



Rachel Flitman Year 10 Multi Media



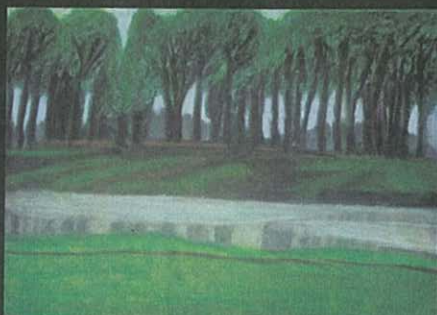
Kara Vale 8C



Sarah Sharman 9A



Amanda Stanford Year 10 Multi Media



Alex Lewis 9F



Alex Lewis 9A

Music 2003

House Chorals

The highly anticipated House Music Competition was held for the first time in the refurbished Nina Carr Hall on 22nd of May.

All four houses sang the set song: Monkees hit "I'm a Believer" and one they had selected themselves. Along with the usual angelic singing, a new addition to the night was an instrumental section for each house. Senior Wind Ensemble, Senior Stage Band and Madrigal also performed.

Jackson were the victors of the night with their song *Goodbye* (choral) and *Moondance* (instrumental), second was Kenny with *Father and Son* (choral) and *Tears in Heaven* (instrumental), third place went to Mackellar with *When You Believe* (choral) and *Pavane for the Earl of Salisbury* (instrumental) and last but not least was Melba with *Tears in Heaven* (choral) and *Sounds of Silence* (instrumental).

By the end of the night, everyone agreed that the night was both a huge success and a great accomplishment for the teachers and students involved.

The performing arts captains and results for House Music

Jackson-90 points

(Choral Co Captains: Jessica Oakes, Helena Cangadis-Douglass. Instrumental Co Captains: Sarah Gough, Jennifer Mapleston)

Kenny-85 points

(Choral Captain: Ornella Rampal; Instrumental Co Captains: Jessica Brady, Anya Nerenberg)

Mackellar-82 points

(Choral Captain: Ebony Birch ;Instrumental Captain: Emily Beeston).

Melba-80 points

(Choral Co Captains: Katie Howlett, Jessica Carrascalao Heard; Instrumental Co Captains: Alicia Drew, Diana Rigg).

Emily Laidlaw

House Music



Chamber Brass Ensemble playing at Assembly



House Music



The Wind Ensemble performing at the Winter Concert

Powerstrings Workshop!

On Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th of June, Mentone Girls' string players were privileged to be invited to "Powerstrings workshop". Thirteen schools and forty five primary and secondary school students from all over Melbourne came together to form an orchestra containing violins, violas, cellos and a double bass. Our conductor was Karen Kyriakou, a professional violinist who currently works as a violin teacher at a local school. During these two days, we rehearsed four songs and put on a concert for year eight students, teachers and parents.

It was a great workshop, and I would highly recommend it to all string players, I know that I'm going to participate again next year! Thank you to all the music staff who made the "Powerstrings workshop" possible!!

Joanna Politis, 8D



Music Camp

On Friday 28th February, music students from all year levels set out to Arrabri Lodge for a three day music camp. We produced a fantastic amount of music. Although the weather was cold and wet, we all thoroughly enjoyed the weekend.

Once back at school a concert was held on Thursday 6th March to display all our hard work from the camp to our friends and families.

Thank you to all the staff involved – Mr Silver, Miss Cook, Mrs Firestone, Miss Tate, Miss McCutcheon, Mr Earle and Mr Blythe.

Claire Heath, Middle School Music Captain.



Music Camp 2003

Vocal Night

Vocal night was yet another stunning success. Performers ranged from year 8 singing students to the Madrigal, from the All Star Choir to year 12 solos. But no matter who was singing, the night was fantastic, and was thoroughly enjoyed by teachers, parents and fellow students alike. Well done girls, you did a great job, and Brittany Spears had better watch out!!

Sharon Flitman Year 8

Music Captains 2003

Ebony Birch – Senior

Claire Heath – Middle

Annabel Green – Junior



Annabel Green, Ebony Birch, Claire Heath.

Original Composition Competition for International Womens' Day

"Never Been Loved" – Ornella Rampal 1st place

"International Womens' Day" – Jennifer Wainwright, Claire Valentine, Sarah Paterson, Claire Heath and Kerry Dawes.



Music Ensembles 2003

Senior Stage Band – conductor Ms Sue Cook

Senior Jazz Band – director Ms Blanka West

Madrigal conductor – Ms Blanka West

Senior Winds – Mr Henry Silver

State School Spectacular – Mrs Judy Firestone

All Star Choir – Mrs Judy Firestone

Concert Band – Mr Andrew Blyth, Mr Henry Silver

Flute Ensemble – directed by Ms Viv Tate

Saxophone Ensemble – Mr Geoff Earle

Year 8 Band (timetabled) Conductor – Mrs Judy Firestone

Year 7 Band (timetabled) Conductors – Mrs Judy Firestone, Mr Henry Silver

Chamber String Ensemble – Mr Sue Cook

String Ensemble – Mrs G. Shafir and Mrs R. Slavsky

Chamber Brass Ensemble – Ms Sue Cook

Music Events 2003

Music Camp

Music Camp Concert

Composition Competition for

International Womens' Day

Past Students Association

International Womens' Day Dinner

House Music

Recital at Mentone and District

Nursing Home

Hollingworth Foundation Dinner

Open Evening Performances

Retrospect 2003 State Schools

Spectacular

Guest Speaker J. M. C. Academy

General Assembly Performances

Regional Councillors' Retirement

Function

Tower Hotel Jazz Evening

Year Seven band concerts

Piano Recitals

Vocal Evenings

Winter Concert

R. Malcolm Art Show

Performances

Middle School Performances

Seven Deadly Sins Arts

Festival

Seven Deadly Sins

Composition Competition

Year Level Assemblies

Performances

Guitar and Band Concert

V.C.E. Music Concerts

A.M.E.B. Music Exams

Springvale Bicentennial Band

Wine and Cheese Evening

Presentation Evening

Lots to smile about - MGSC music students and their teachers, September 2003



Can't Take Me (Molly's Story)

Written and performed by Marlese Bovenkerk, Renee Parker and Melanie Ryan, Year 9.

Guitar chords

Verse One

When I was born, my father didn't give a damn,
G **Em**
 He got up and left me, a little girl just wasn't in his plan,
G **Em**
 But my mother loved me, and I knew that I had a home,
G **Em**
 Because I have her spirit, I know I'll never be alone.
C **D**

They came and told me, that I did not belong,
G **Em**
 They took me away from my life, my home, in Jigalong,
G **Em**
 They took my kin, and they shipped us to an unknown land,
G **Em**
 But we stuck together, because our love could be taken by no man...
C **D**

Chorus

'Cause you can't take me,
G
 And you can't break me,
Em
 And you can't make me, into something else.
C **D**

'Cause you can't take me,
G
 Just try and break me,
Em
 'Cause you can't make me, into something that I'm not,
C **D**
 I'm gonna give it all I got. (spoken)

Break

G, Em, C, D

Verse Two

(same chords as Verse One)

The journey was brutal, but we survived,
 We came by train, by truck, and we arrived.
 We were so scared, lying there in the dark and cold,
 But they looked to me for comfort, so I knew I had to be bold.

The beds were cold, and the clothes were worn,
 The food was unbearable, I felt as though my hope was torn.
 He looked me over, and with one word he condemned
 Me to a life unworthy, I knew this had to be the end...

Chorus

Break

Verse Three

We had to get out of there, so we escaped with the rain,
 We walked for days then weeks, we were in so much pain.
 But we knew we could not give up, for our destination was so near,
 And with the fence to guide us, we conquered all our fears.

The journey ended and, we were finally home,
 In my mother's warm embrace, I knew I'd never be alone,
 'Cause we had fought and we had struggled,
 We had tripped and come undone,
 Now that I am home again, I'll be haunted forever...
 Because I lost one ...

Break

Chorus to finish.

Dear Molly Craig

I'm sure I speak for everyone
 When I say what courageous things you have done.

Your fighting spirit and will to survive
 Helped keep you and your family alive.

As a half-caste child you had it real tough
 You were taken away as if you weren't enough.

From your family and friends you were stolen away
 Taken to a place far, far away.

You were told how to live; you were told what to do
 And nobody cared about you.

Your skin colour determined what lay ahead
 And by now you really wished you were dead.

You couldn't understand why these people were so cruel
 And this anger gave you a magical fuel.

This magical fuel inside of your heart
 Got your brain ticking and gave you a start.

You remembered the good things and blocked out the bad
 And thought of your homeland, your Mum and your Dad.

When the rains started falling and no one was in sight,
 You gathered your things and started your fight.

You conquered the rivers and you conquered the sand
 In your miraculous journey across the great land.

You thought of the fence and the end became nearer
 The images in your mind became so much clearer.

You were starved, you were thirsty, and you needed
 a rest,
 And yet still you considered yourself as third best.

Daisy and Gracey were numbers one and two
 And just knowing this says a lot about you.

You were followed, and tricked, and very nearly caught,
 And while others would give up, you stood up and fought.

Though what happened to Gracey was a terrible thing,
 It made your will to make it stronger within.

It was all through the newspapers, it was the talk
 all around,
 That the two half-caste children are nowhere to be found.

You made it home, to the safety of your mother,
 The world didn't matter anymore, because you had
 each other.

Just watching your journey, it was amazing to see,
 How clever and wise a young girl can be.

You righted the wrong, you made the evil fall,
 To make what you believed in matter to all.

You made the world cry, feel blissful and tense,
 Throughout your grand story of the Rabbit Proof Fence.

Lots of love always
 Lauren Muir 9F

Capture

I walk through the bushland,
 Covering my steps as I go.
 I know he's following me, always one step behind.
 The day turns to night and I'm lost.
 Will I be left out here or found and taken
 Back to my jail-like new home.
 Days go on as I feel like I walk for miles
 And still I know I haven't moved an inch.
 I walk on,
 Although to no avail.
 I can hear the tracker near me, behind me;
 I am caught.

Jasmine Bardel 9F

The Book

Jemma was looking for a book. Any book. Something different, unusual. Something no-one had ever seen or read before. Something that had a story that no-one else knew. A book that had never been opened before. A book that changed lives.

Slowly walking down the passageway between the ceiling high shelves of books, Jenna read each title on the spines, hoping that a title would leap out at her, wanting, begging to be read.

Suddenly, loud chimes coming from the antique grandfather clock brought her back to reality. It was almost closing time at the old stone library where she spent almost all of her time – constantly looking for a book to dissolve into, to become part of the story. A slow shuffling of feet turned Jemma around to see an old man beckoning for her to follow him down a passage in a wall she had never noticed before. Spiral stairs led down deep under the library, worn from use and covered in a blanket of dust. The walls were built of big slabs of stone, making the space cramped and giving her a claustrophobic feeling.

Finally at the bottom of those forbidding stairs, the old man raised his arm and pointed across the room to an old bookcase with thick-spined leather bound volumes.

Jemma, full of excitement at seeing these centuries old books, stopped herself from running over and pulling every book off the ancient shelves. She calmly walked over and read the titles. One book *impelled* her to take it from the shelf – it wanted to be opened, to be read again. Jemma reached for the book, while opening her mouth to thank the old man – but he was gone. Guessing he had returned upstairs to the library, she followed. But when she looked down at the dust on the stairs there was only one set of footprints marking the path to the secret room – her own.

The terror slowly building up inside of her forced Jemma to run up the stairs, missing every second step. Back inside the library, Jemma rushed outside into the gathering darkness of night.

Jemma was confused when she arrived home. Why had she run all the way home? But the excitement of reading the book she still clutched in her hands washed all questions from her head.

Slowly Jemma opened the cover and turned the title pages. The writing was small and handwritten, much of it hard to make out at first. However, Jemma was soon inside the story – living out the lives of the characters, her own life forgotten.

"Jemma, time for bed!" her mother called up to her. Jemma blinked her eyes once. She must have been asleep, because she couldn't remember any of the story. Only one sentence stayed in her mind, the message from the author. 'This is a book that will make even the best people who read it want to forget this book ever existed. Just opening it will bring them nothing'.

Jemma wanted to read more, she read and read all through the night, eventually falling asleep with the book wide open. Open, the book let all the story in it grow, outside of the book, destroying everything in its way, so it could truly make its story real. By opening the book, Jemma had allowed the people about whom the story had been written to live outside the book, to re-play the horrors within, in real life again.

Kath Rigg 9B

Linear Graphs!

Drawing linear graphs can make people queasy

But if you know the rules its relatively easy

The first step is to draw two crossing lines

Horizontal lines label x, and vertical ys.

Look at the equation that has been set.

Hey, pay attention; I'm not finished yet!

If the equation sticks to the rule,

Y=mx+c don't look like a fool;

Plot a dot on the y line,

The number that is where c should be is fine.

Then look at where the m should be,

This could be any number, even three!

If it's not whole put it over one,

Then use the rule: rise over run.

If it's not then don't despair,

Use the fraction given there,

Raise the point by the number on top,

Run the new point by the bottom one, then stop,

Join the points that you now have got.

If the equation doesn't stick to that rule,

Don't worry about it, everything's cool,

Find out the x point by doing this,

Solve the equation using backtracking,

Which is not a hard thing.

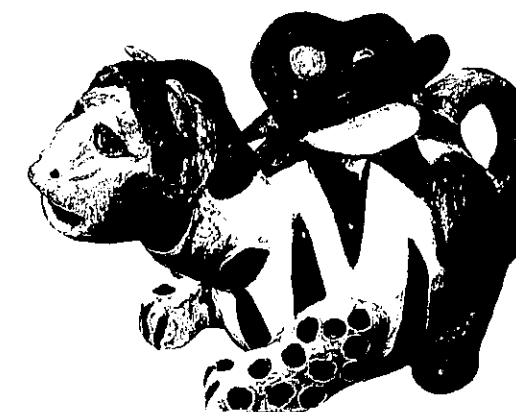
Do the same to x for y,

See it's easy, easy as pie

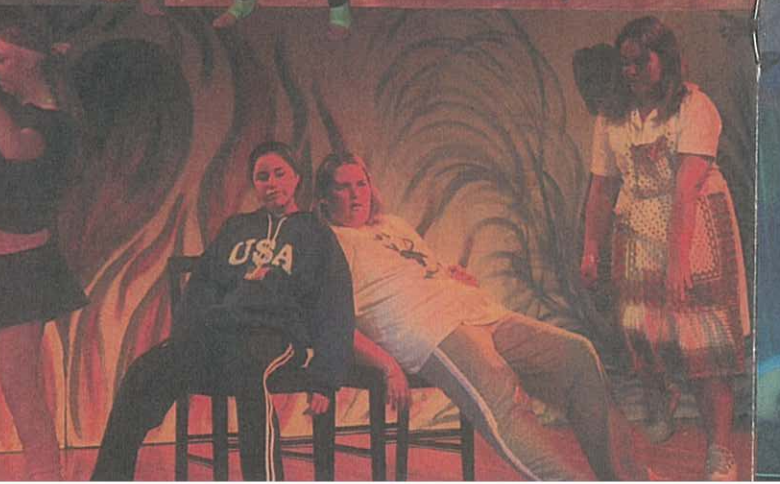
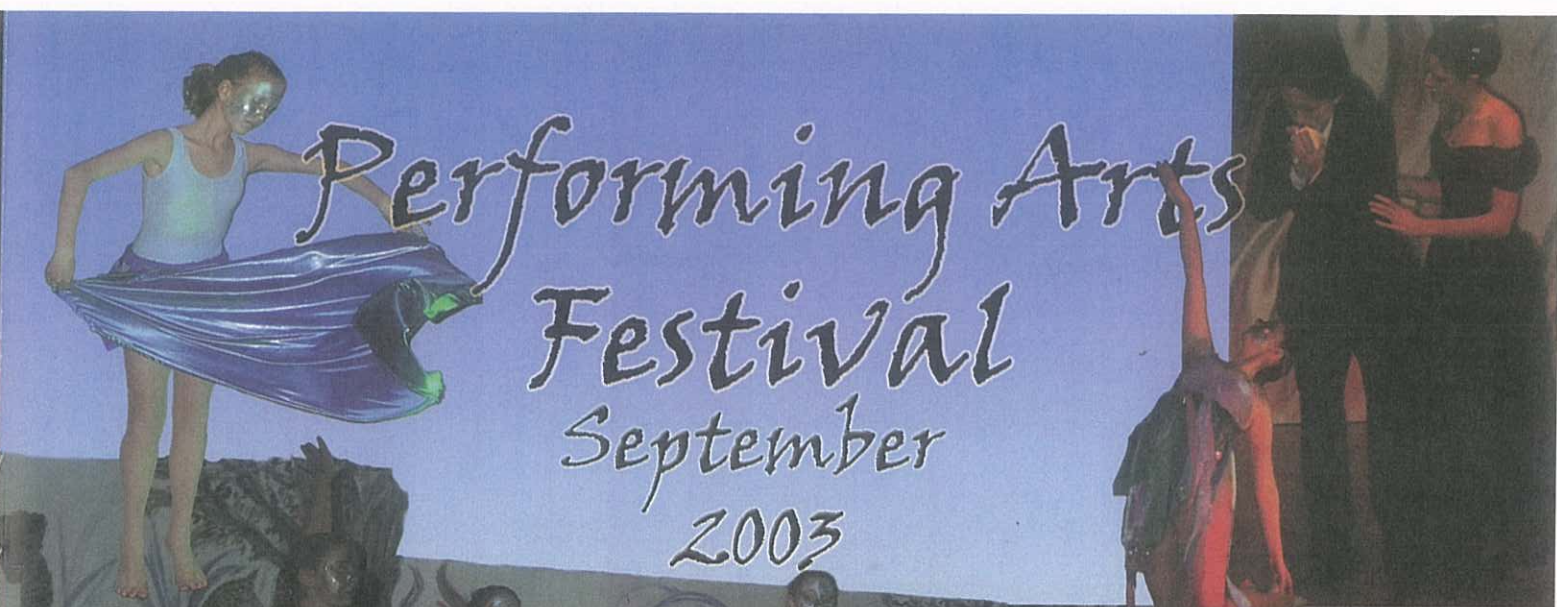
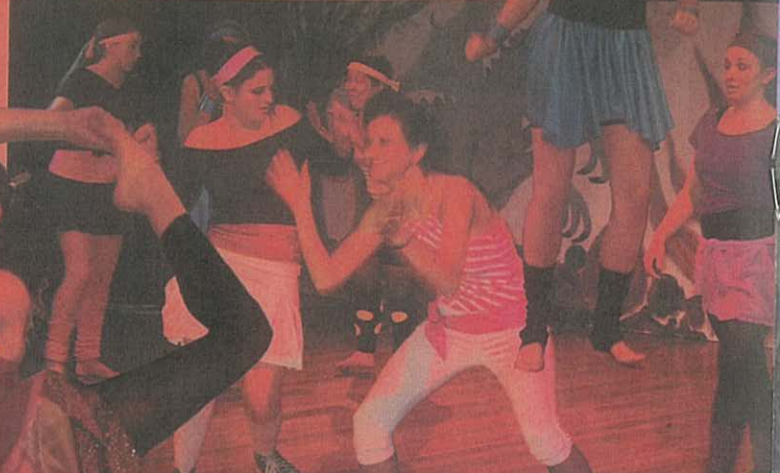
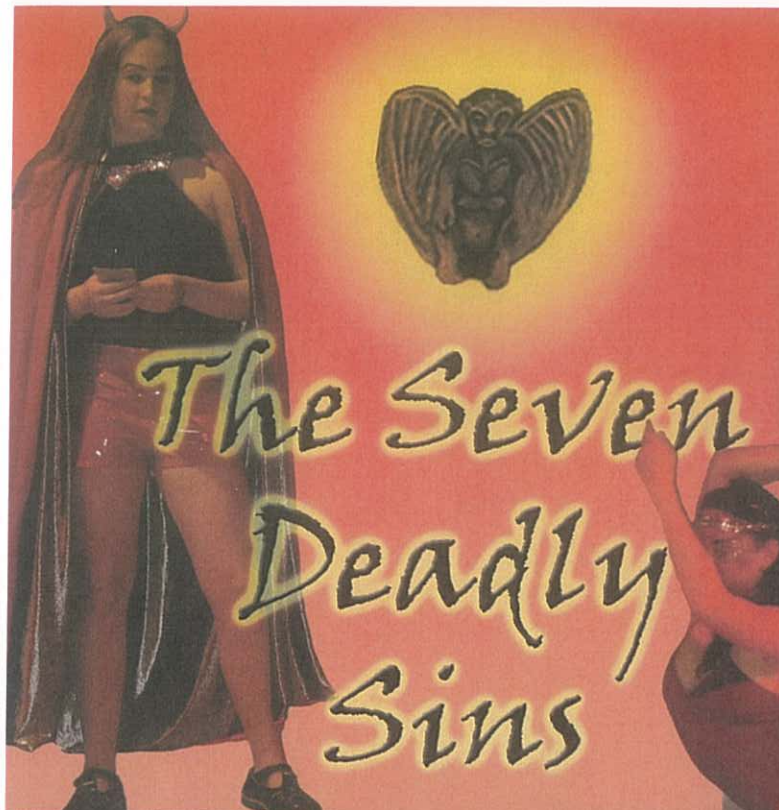
Now you know how to plot,

A linear graph from the top!

Eveline Hamilton 9B



Sarah Cusack 9F

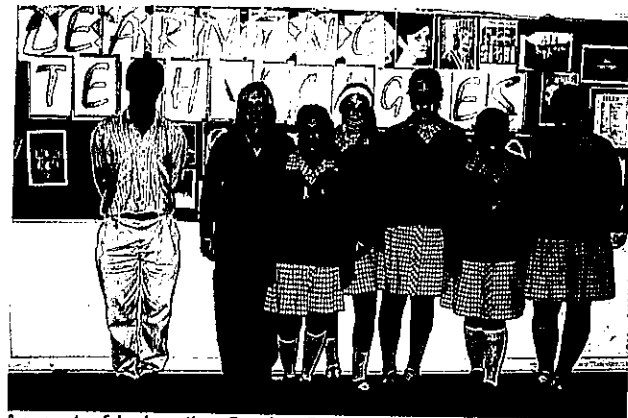


Learning Technologies

This is the first year Mentone Girls' Secondary College has appointed five girls to be the Learning Technologies Leaders. This was a great opportunity for us to improve our computer skills and gain leadership skills. Ms. Peterson (the Director of Learning Technologies) co-ordinated our team which included Kirthana Rajendran 12F, Ismat Syed 12G, Kathryn Caplygin 9C, Bonnie Perris 7H, Tameika Evans 7H.

First we organised a set of tasks to get through each term. In term 1 we started organising our own noticeboard to communicate with students as well as the staff. At the same time we planned and conducted a workshop "Understanding our school's Learning Technologies". There were 25 students who took part in our workshop, which was conducted at the beginning of Term 2. This workshop gave the girls a chance to extend their knowledge in areas like scanning, e-mailing and printing.

In term 3 we worked with Mr Warden who is also part of the Learning Technologies team in updating and formatting the school Intranet. We wrote instruction manuals for the printers and new scanners and these instructions are displayed near the scanners and printers all through the college. In doing so we used different programs like 'Snag it!'



As part of being the Senior School Learning Technologies Leaders, we have been given the opportunity to take work experience at "Apple Australia" in the Multimedia department. Apple Australia is one of the leading computer companies internationally.

Today women occupy only 24% of the ICT industry. As females we too can contribute this growing industry. As Learning Technologies Leaders we gained confidence and encouragement to pursue careers in ICT. We would strongly encourage students who would like to take up a leadership position and have an interest in Technology to look into this next year. It is an enjoyable way to learn and to gain leadership experience at the same time.

There is no beginning or end to learning about this fascinating world.

Kirthana Rajendran and Ismat Syed



Courtney Voss, Lauren Banham and Emma Winkler enjoying a great surf!

Environment 2003

The Environment Committee started the second year with their enthusiastic participation in "Keep Schools Clean Day." They also helped organise "Keep Mentone Clean Days" by awarding Chupa Chup Awards as an incentive for the students to be more responsible with picking up their rubbish. In July the committee members participated in Schools Tree Planting Day where trees were planted at the front of the Drama Centre, and they also established a garden bed at the front of the Technology Centre. The committee's main event for the year was to organise activities for World Environment Day. The day was most successful with the students enjoying a sausage sizzle, which raised money for the provision of clean drinking water in Likimse, Ethiopia. The senior Mentone rock band from Melbourne Boys' High played at lunchtime and the committee members collected money that was donated towards the Likimse project. The theme for World Environment Day was "Water People are Dying For". A competition to depict the theme was held and students designed posters, stickers and created paintings and poems. The winning entrant was for a moving poem "A Child Without Rain" by Alice Maier. Badges were awarded to the committee at a school assembly and were presented by Michelle Gale, a guest speaker from



World Vision. The committee also helped prepare the school grounds for the Schools' Garden Competition by mulching and cleaning the school grounds. Congratulations to the following committee members for your efforts throughout the year. Ashley Brundell, Kelly Hughes, Ingrid Brink, Kerry Dawes, Racheal Doherty, Jessie Raubenheimer, Melanie Ryan, Marlese Borerkerk.

Mrs J M Barnett

Audrey Hepburn and I Consider Our Assets

I crook my elbows at my table
angling out like a chicken with the bones
bared and bent and all for breasts
bigger than my bottom dividing me
from my desk.

I keep them cupped up in seamless
bras to pretend I'm flowing when
I'm spilling out these cups are lavish
lumps of flesh that can't be contained
by Berlei.

I would have liked to have burnt my bra
and carried signs in the streets
about the compression of my body
in man-made clothes
but the truth is

my breasts are too heavy
and have to be held up
or else I'd be floppy as a rabbit
dragged around the house
by a two year old

my nipples falling off
like buttons do for eyes.

I'd be weighed down like a woman
at a well who carries her bucket home
in front of a chest that's small.

As a teenage girl, I tried to tape them down
the way they did with Judy, her strange flat
bosom almost bursting through her pinafore
as she skipped off down the yellow brick road.
I had no tape

only cunning, I was careful
and went around asking my brother: "Do you think
I look busty?" I spent my adolescence in disguise.
I didn't want to be opulent, like a Chinese opera,
or overdone, like a pavlova.

But Aunts would come and undo my top
button and cry: "When you've got 'em, flaunt
'em!" and admire my figure, telling me
I looked like Sophia Loren
when I wanted to be Audrey Hepburn
singing *Spring is busting out all over*

in my own voice.

© Gaylene Garbis

This poem was selected for inclusion in
"Australia's Best Poems".



Emily McKay 10F

Sopha's Heart

A story about my first teaching round

All of a sudden, Sopha takes something from her pencil-case and holds it out to me. But her hand is closed over it, as if she doesn't want anyone else to see. She tells me: "My sister made this for me" and opens out her hand towards me. I look down and see a gold and silver heart on a very fine thread. The heart has a hole – it looks like gold and silver foil wrapped round a piece of wire shaped into the rough shape of a heart.

Sopha repeats: "My little sister – she made it for me. You can have it."

But I'm still looking down as Sopha pushes the heart into my hand, my mind slow, taking a while to catch up with what Sopha has said, that she is giving me a gift. To take with me.

In the flurry of the classroom – Mohammed and Anis calling out and swinging on chairs, and Elvisa and Grace giggling and arguing in a mixture of English and Croatian, and little Anel quiet and solemn at his desk, unsure of what to do at this farewell party – it's hard for me to hear and follow what any one person says.

So Sopha repeats: "I want you to have it."

I think of Laura, my little sister, how I treasure every little thing she has ever given me, her pictures on my walls, her paintings of seashells on the windows for the sun to shine through. I can't give anything away at the best of times, let alone anything Laura might give me.

"Are you sure?" I say uncertainly.

"Yes. You can have it," says Sopha. "I give it to you. For good luck with your teaching."

I thank Sopha, I tell her it's beautiful and I'll treasure it, always.

But the words seem hollow, emptier than the space in this fragile heart I clutch in my hand.

I wear the heart all day, it hangs on a fine thread from a button at my neck. I worry that it might fall, or break, and be lost forever. But it stays.

I take it off, finally, at home. I hang it on the handle of the closet in my study, right beside the desk where I write this story about Sopha.

You can barely see the thread as it hangs down, the heart seems suspended, as if it has a life, a will of its own. But on the first day of second teaching rounds, suddenly, the thread breaks and the little heart falls to the floor. It seems so small and when I pick it up, I see for the first time it is the crude work of a child.

Suddenly I wonder: is this a sign? Some ominous sign. I'm about to embark on my second teaching round, not just heading off into the world but into a world very different from Noble Park Secondary College with its working class kids, its immigrants and refugees, like Sopha, into the world of prestige and privilege in a private school.

I put the little heart inside the top drawer of my desk, just for the meantime, until I find a new place for it. Sopha's broken little heart, and me leaving her behind as I set off for St Michael's Grammar.

It's only as I'm walking past the wrought iron gates of St Michael's that I realize: the heart's not broken, only the thread.

I see a sign ahead that says: "Are you sure you're heading in the right direction?" and decide to follow it.

It seems as good a way as any.

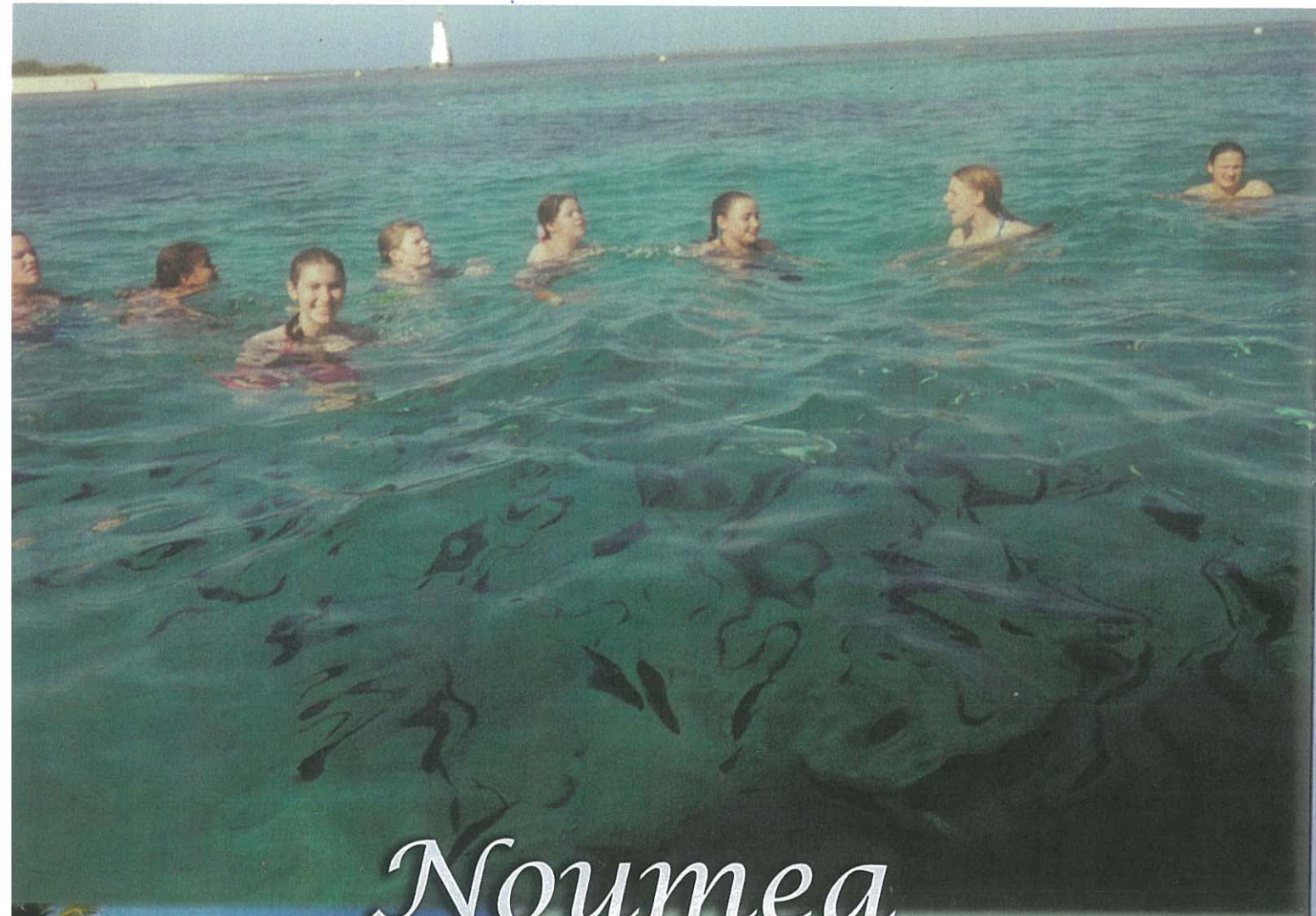
© Gaylene Carbis

Gaylene Carbis is a year 10 English teacher at our school. She is also a published playwright and poet, having won a number of awards for her writing. A new play by Gaylene has been selected for the International Womens Playwrights Conference in Manila this November.



Writing

Technology and Environment



Noumea

Reflections

On the 25th of June, 9 students from Years 10 & 11 jetted off for eight beautiful days in New Caledonia, a French island in the Pacific. The weather was a nice change; it was hot and humid and the views were fantastic.

We spent our days lying on the beach – working on our tans – and spending time with our French host families, trying our hardest to communicate with them without looking like idiots!

We spent one day at a local high school, experiencing French culture and the students were so excited to meet us. We felt like celebrities. The rest of the time was spent shopping in Noumea, getting to know each other, and learning to speak French better in our daily classes. Our favourite day was when we took the ferry to Amedée Island, an hour off the coast. We swam with the fish from a glass-bottomed boat, climbed to the lighthouse and then had a traditional buffet lunch with a Polynesian show afterwards.

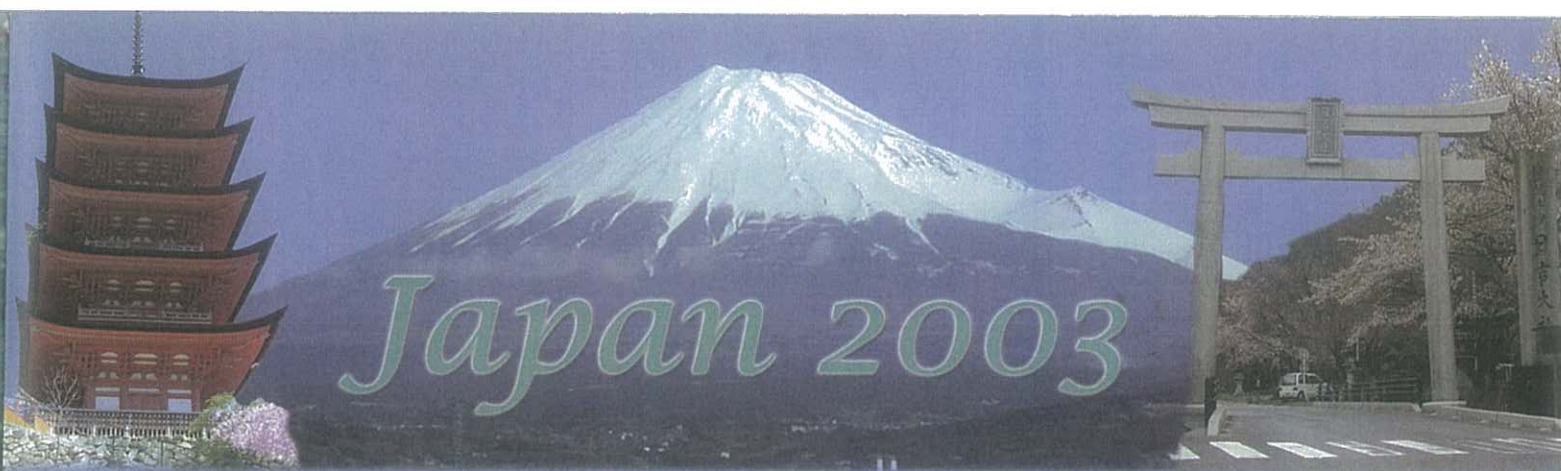
We are all grateful for such a fantastic opportunity and would like to thank Mrs. Goldis and Mrs. McLeod for organising such a great trip.

Felicity Lester and Laura Fettes, Year 10

Life in the homestay

On the second day we sat around anxiously outside the hotel, waiting for our homestay families to pick us up, one by one slowly to our home for the week. With nerves building up we tried to rev up our French so we were able to ask where the toilet was without failing. But really it wasn't that complex. We stayed 5 evenings with our families and a whole day on Sunday to experience French life at home, and to enjoy wonderful French cuisine, French television and just French everything. Finally, on leaving, with our goals met of not having to consult our French phrasebook, we left feeling proud of our achievements and with a better knowledge of French island life.

Isabelle Domingue, Year 11



It is an interesting experience being completely lost in Japan's biggest train station. It is fun at the start, until the realisation kicks in that you really have no idea how to get back to your hotel...

It just goes to show that Japan is full of surprises. From having strangers coming up and stroking your hair, to being harassed by people at shopping centres, to being offered presents we really didn't want, we had an absolute ball, but how could you not in one of the world's craziest places?!

The journey began in April when our plane landed at Narita Airport in Tokyo after a ten-hour flight. My first impression was that it was very, very clean, and that there were a lot of people! It took me a while to get used to being so different to everyone else, as I was much taller and had different hair and eye colour. Once settled in, we spent the next three days exploring the sights of Japan's capital, which included visiting the Imperial Palace, shopping at trendy, and very crowded shopping strips like Ginza and Asakusa, and spending one fantastic day at Disneyland. For me this was the highlight, as how often do you get to go to Disneyland with your friends? It was exactly as I thought it would be like - Mickey Mouse and other Disney characters welcomed us as we came in, the Castle formed an imposing sight in front of us and there were, of course, all the rides.

Hiroshima was the next place to visit on our agenda. Hiroshima is best known for the Atom Bomb that was dropped on it in World War II. We visited the A-Bomb Dome, the A-bomb museum and the Peace Park, which was very moving. Our Junior and Middle School Japanese students had folded 1000 origami cranes and we placed them in the Peace Park, as is the tradition. Well to be truthful, ours looked a bit clumsy sitting there next to the skilfully crafted ones of the Japanese, as ours were about double the size of theirs. But it did

give us a sense of achievement. As a treat from the teachers, that night we had okonomiyaki, a savoury Japanese pancake, and the best thing about it was it was free!

Homestay lasted for six nights, and although it was very scary, it was also rewarding and fun. The teachers at our sister school, Shiga Girls' High, had organised lots of activities for us to do, such as ikebana (flower arrangement), script writing and tea ceremony. At our host homes, we all had a great time with our families and they took great care of us and made sure that we had lots of fun things to do. They cooked us some really delicious traditional food, like sushi and curry rice, and made sure we learnt about the area around Shiga and more about the culture and language of Japan. In return, we provided them many a chance to laugh at our chopstick skills, or lack thereof...

We spent the last three days in Japan in Kyoto. We saw temple upon temple, and marvelled at the technology on offer. Trying to make the most of the last three days, we went to a Karaoke bar, which was lots of fun, and spent a little bit too much at Mister Donut, the ¥100 stores, Japan's equivalent of the \$2 shop.

The teachers, Mrs Witt, Ms Lehner, Mr Trigelis-Smith and Mr Shannon, who came were really fun, and it was really great to get to know them as people, rather than just 'teachers.' We know that their families would have missed them and we really can't thank them enough for giving up some of their holidays to take us to a foreign country.

With the rain falling down as we left the country, we realised that we had learnt much more than a little bit of Japanese, but also independence and cultural awareness, how \$2 shops are great all around the world, and most importantly, we now have better senses of direction! Eloise Johnstone, 10C.



What an exciting night!

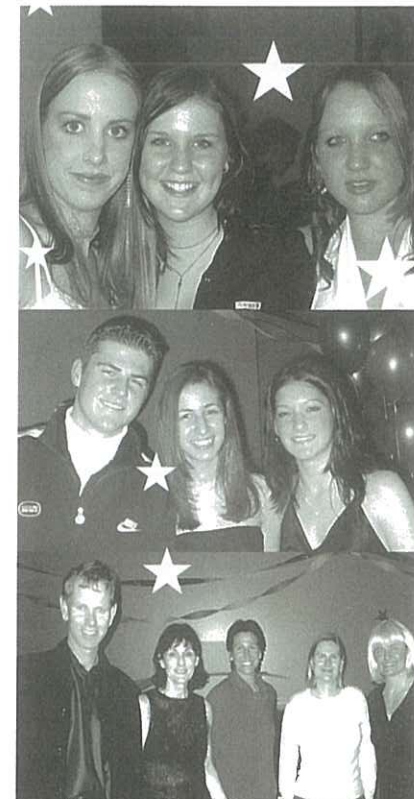
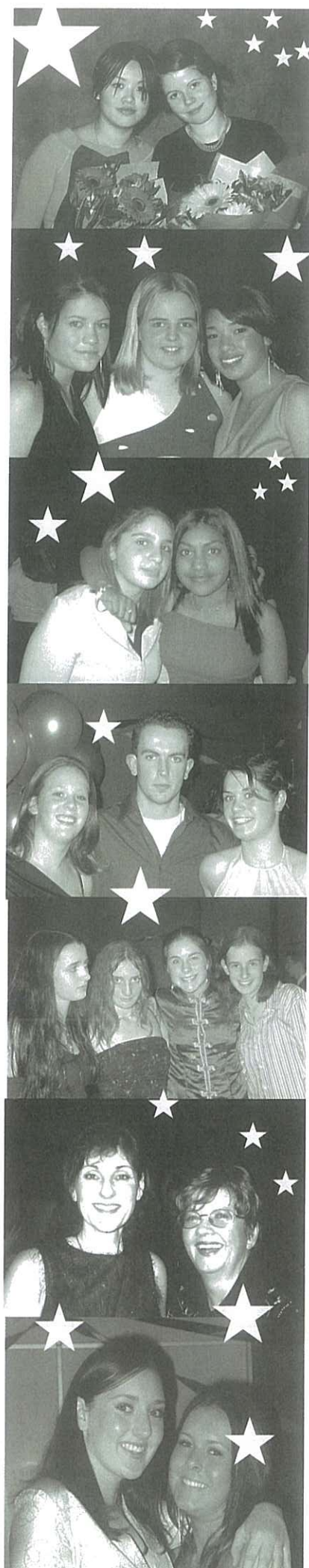
The highlight of the Year Ten Calendar, the Social, was held in August in the Nina Carr Hall and – even with the high expectations we had set, we weren't disappointed. Months of preparation and planning went into making this a great night, with much deliberation on those virtually unanswerable questions; 'How should I do my hair?' 'What am I going to wear?' and the big one – 'Who will I take?'

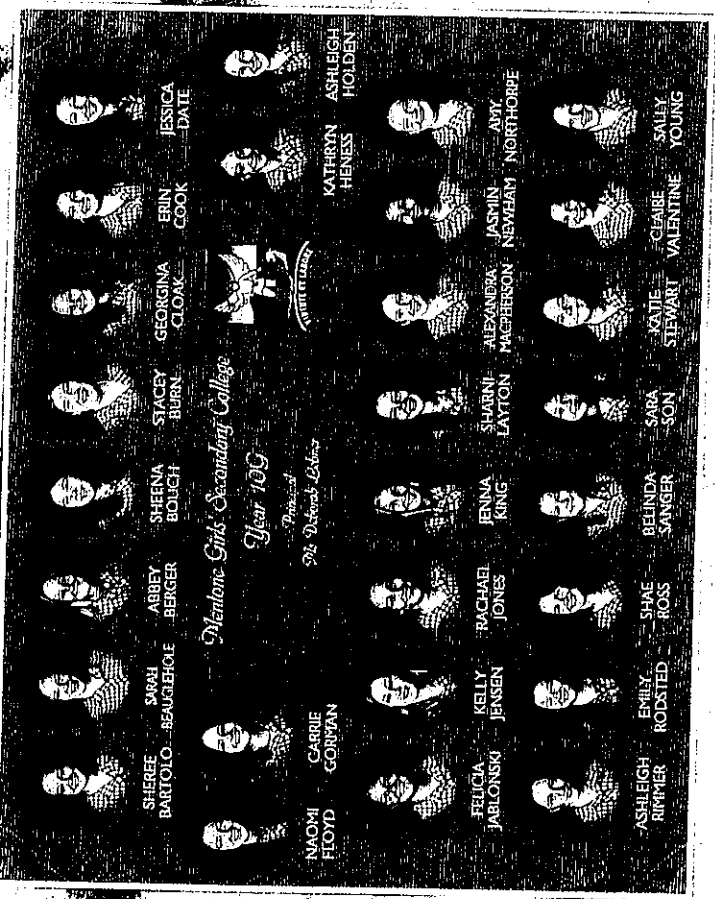
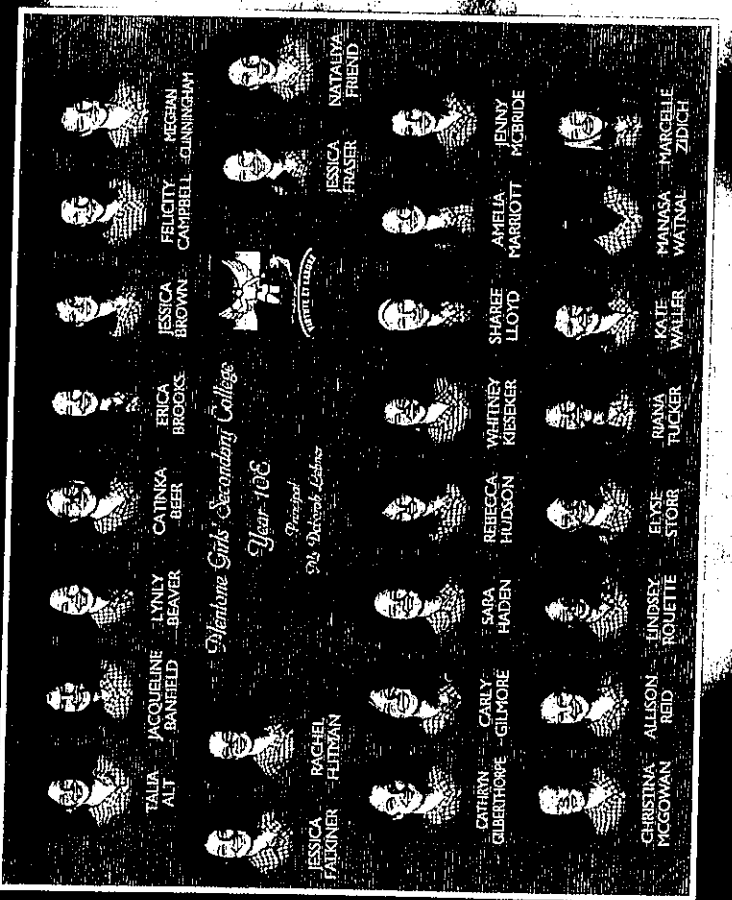
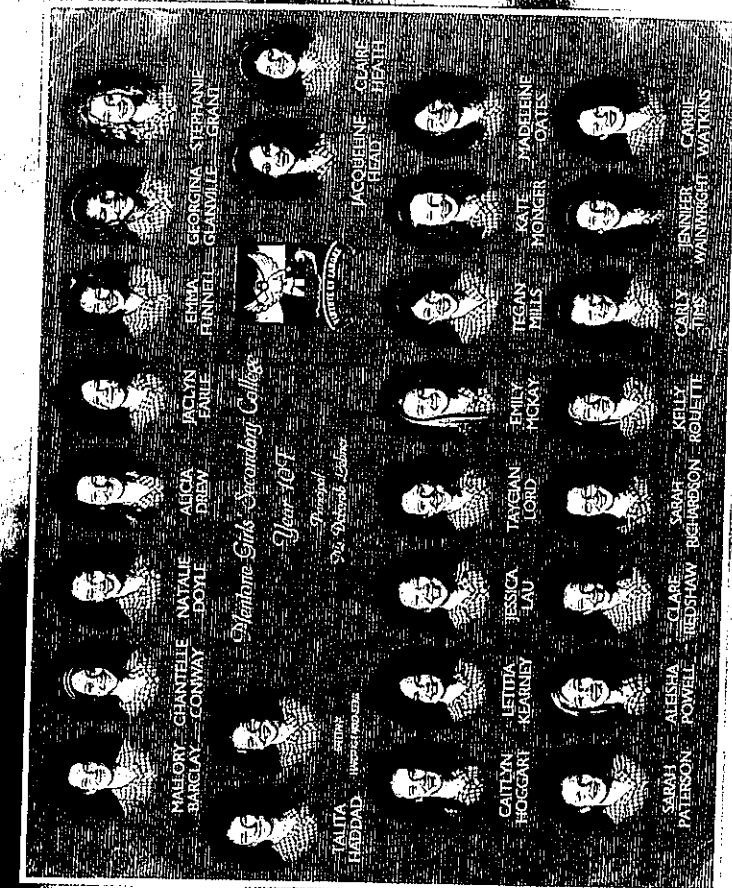
Well, all the effort was worth it, because everyone looked gorgeous and the professional photographer who roamed around captured some great shots. The dance floor started a little bare, but before long the DJ got everybody up and dancing, playing everything from old classics to modern music. No-one had an excuse not to show off their skills on the dance floor, even the teachers! As always, there were awards given. This year Jenna King and Gerry Sakas won the awards for 'Best Dressed', Chantelle Conway and Peter McGettigan won "Best Dancer" awards and the 'Cutest Couple' award went to Natalie Doyle and Troy Bawden.

Around the room were tables of nibbles set up earlier by the SRC, who did a fantastic job in organising the night.

We came, we danced, we left – and the music lived on forever.

Eloise Johnstone 10C





The saddest thing I ever did see stretches, and stifles a yawn. I don't know why she bothered to come to the social at all. Sitting against a wall, in a chair put there as an afterthought, stroking her shoe. She must really like that shoe. I wonder what she's thinking. Probably something shoe related. She is unnoticeable really. Mouse hair, grey eyes. The kind of person who could wear a bright red tomato costume and not be noticed. She's not tall, she's not short. She blends into the background.

Ah, here's something. Another scantily dressed bimbo disappearing under her peroxide blonde boyfriend. Charming, how flexible some people can be when spurred on by social encouragement and hormones. Her friends giggle while pressing themselves deeper into the folds of the overlarge jumpers worn by his companions, Loud 'R and B' suddenly prompts them to pull off as many professional moves as possible while staying away from being a "try hard". The only areas kept sacred are the crutch and the happy land of "between cleavage and my flat stomach." Finally, the perfect expression is needed. A mix of "I'm having fun" and "Jump me."

The resident mockers are in position, blatantly pointing and laughing at the writhing mass of teen today, "dancing" to their favourite brainkill songs. Black is their preferred colour, but pretty much anything different goes. One has red hair, cut short under an old denim hat. Black shirt with a red eagle, normal jeans and yellow boots complete this. She sits next to a friend, an average girl with brown hair. Her clothing of choice is simple; green shirt, dark big jeans, big black boots. Together they laugh openly at the scene in front of them. Another two, both male, one with curly brown hair, pause their conversation to observe.

Two girls, one aghast with horror, the other, dripping with disdain and Fanta, stand deadly still in the pounding dance

floor of their peers. The former holds a cup, painfully empty. Shock and indignation turns to panic and rage as the orange stained girl shoves the offender hard in the chest, sending her flying into a group dancing nearby. Regaining her balance, she starts to apologise while at a safe distance. She is extremely tall, and this dawns on the angry girl. She makes a noise of disgust, turns on her heels and storms away, her once white minidress now wet, orange and sticky.

A small table is honoured by the presence of two guys. One is thin, with black hair and a quick smile. The other is tall, strongly built, with long brown hair and an easy presence. Though bored with the event, and disgusted by the music, they sit, contentedly enough with the company of each other. They are dressed casually, in shirts and long shorts. Indeed, these are extension of the above mentioned observing, mocking girls, they are of the same kind. An attitude of "our time to laugh" resides in the air. The guys check watches and fetch drinks if only to pass the time away.

A hot and stuffy hall, surely a paradise for any young girl who loves to dance. There cannot be a place on the floor that this girl hasn't stepped upon. A singlet top and fisherman type pants do this twirling 'thing'. She has brown eyes, plaited dark brown hair, slight figure and a will to live. Torrents of energy pour from her very being. No song is too much, no beat too quick. The light in her eyes does not see the people move from her, her ears do not hear the mumbled excuses of people avoiding her conversation. But the camera sees it all.

I rewound the security tape and ejected it. Take it away, make some copies, replace it before it's missed and I'm rolling in it. There is nothing quite like the feeling of people's excitement. And I love it.

Liz Ryan 10D

Thinking about Tomorrow

How many times do I have to walk past you?
 You sit there, deep in thought, lost to the world.
 Have you noticed me? It seems like an hour has passed
 Since this sad affair began.

Can love at first sight happen a second time?
 Because I'm in love, but you've already seen me!
 Non-perturbed, you stand and walk away
 Along with my eyes, following you out of focus.

This is what I see...What do you see?
 Do you love me and wish there was love at second sight
 Because I haven't noticed you? We undress each other's
 Minds searching for what we want to find...

A snapshot stored away in your mind of me
 A quick thought of my smile and laughter
 A sign of any thought spared for me
 But I know I'll never get that satisfaction.

Kate Monger 10F

(Kate won equal first prize in Year 10 English for best poem).



Sheena Bouch 10G

Snowflake

The girl awoke with tears streaming down her porcelain face, staining her cheeks and dribbling down her neck. Her tears quickly became icy drops of moisture collecting in the lapel of her coat. April sat up and adjusted her seatbelt, the left side of her face was numb from leaning against the car window, her hands were cold and stiff. Luke offered her a tissue and turned up the music; he didn't speak. As the soft piano chords drifted through the thick air, light flakes of snow landed on the windscreen creating intricate patterns and shapes before dissolving into nothing. That's how April felt, like a fragile snowflake slowly dissolving.

Even in her brother's company she felt vulnerable and weak, trapped. It was Luke's idea to do this, go home for the holidays. It was the last thing April wanted to do, go home. The memories, the smells, the people, the snow. Everything about her past was stale and reeked of imperfections, but unlike her once colourful future April knew that she too was now stale. In the beginning she hadn't noticed the pleasant, idealistic life she'd been living, her whole existence was like an episode of "Gidget", until the wool was removed from her eyes. She was once perfect like the intricate snowflake and now she was just as fragile.

Since that day there had been something missing in exchange for something more. That something more was the dreams, the fear and the inability to trust someone again. She didn't even know the man. Behind the façade of lies and deceit, he'd promised her the world, taken her away from the life she once loathed

WAR

Your guns, your knives, your bombs, your hate
 This world, it suffers from all the pain
 You shock, you stab, you hit, you fight
 Innocence destroyed, in day, at night
 You come, you claim, you leave, you make
 All you are, and all you hate
 You know you win, you lose, you fight
 For nothing but pain, hate and fright.

Sarah Beauglehole 10G



Kelly Rouette 10F

and given her what she believed was everything before ripping it from her and tearing it into little pieces.

Luke had been there. When she wanted to go, when she finally did, and when she betrayed her family for a man she thought she knew. He never let go. He was there in the beginning and he'd be there in till the end. He may be a little rough around the edges, poorly educated and simple but he was more of a gentleman than any of the high-class businessmen and women she called her friends.

How could her family ever forgive her? She'd betrayed them like he'd betrayed her. For six years she pretended not to care about them or their basic lives. To her they were a bad lot she didn't want to remember. Now April was just that girl he so easily forgot. But she had a constant reminder of him and as each day began that reminder grew. Luke looked at April with his affectionate eyes; he didn't need to say anything; she knew what he was thinking, and for no reason she smiled for the first time in months. As the song ended they pulled up to the snow covered farm house. April wiped the last of her tears away and got out of the car.

"Ready to forgive and forget?" she nodded and as she walked towards the old oak door a small, delicate snowflake drifted past her eyes and landed on the tip of her nose.

"Hey Luke?"

Her brother turned to face her.

"Thank you."

Letitia Kearney 10F

My Forbidden Face

I watch the world sail by, with my forbidden face
 I see lives thrown away, gone without a trace
 I feel my patients' suffering, their hurt and their pain
 My family's opportunities lost again and again.

The sound of whips in every street,
 No friendly faces to talk to and greet
 The white flag that sends a shiver down your spine
 That represents a life that is no longer mine.

My body covered in black from head to toe,
 With tiny eye slots, so only they will show
 The loss of identity, just a body without a soul
 No future, no prospects, no dreams, no goals.

This is my world, my life and my case
 Seen through the eyes of
 My Forbidden Face.

Jennifer Mapleston 10C

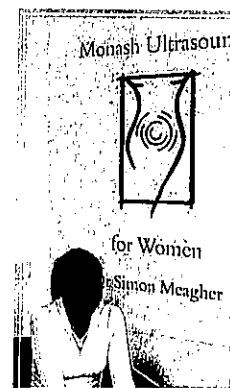
Work Experience (...and what an experience it was!)

From the 12th to 16th May, the Year Tens took part in what was seen very much as a reality check- work experience. With our positions booked months beforehand (well, maybe for some of us!), we hesitantly left our comfort zones of school bells and 3:05 finishes and headed out into the real world to become independent, hard working "adults" for the week.

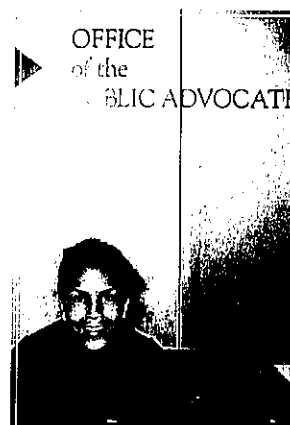
So, what did you think of your time in the workforce?

"I've always liked animals so I thought it would be interesting to go to a veterinary hospital. It certainly was! I learnt a lot about caring for animals and although it was great, it is a very messy occupation. A job definitely not for the feint hearted"

Jennifer Mapleston 10C Hampton Veterinary Hospital



Katie Rae



Georgina Glanville



Eloise Johnstone



Lindsey Rouette



Rachel O'Keefe

At my work experience placement I had a swell time! Working at MOJO gave me a fantastic insight into the ins and outs of the advertising industry. Thankfully, I now know what I want to be when I grow up. Oh, and I got lots of free chocolate.

Letitia Kearney 10F-MOJO Advertising

I have always had an interest in journalism and sport, and a place like the Footy Record ties those interests together. I learnt about all aspects of journalism- from the preparation, to the writing and the editing. I was also lucky enough to interview one of my favourite players from my team St Kilda, Xavier Clarke. That article was published later so thanks to work experience, I am now a published writer!

Eloise Johnstone 10C- AFL Record
 Compiled by Emily Laidlaw 10C



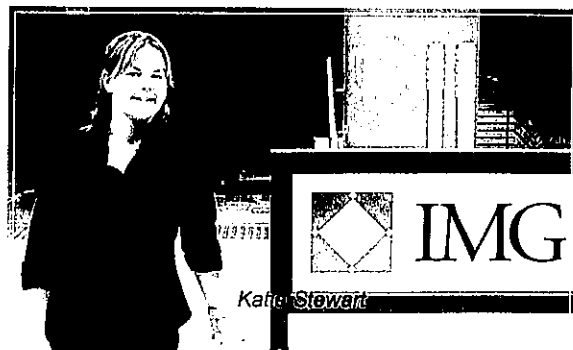
Kelly Rouette



Sarah Raff



Sarah Son and Kelly Jensen



Katie Stewart

Merritone Girls' Secondary College
Year 11
Principal: Ms Catherine Baird

REBEL ALLEN	JANE BOREHAM	DENISE BOWENKERK	JESSICA BRADY	CARLY BROWN	KATRINA ANASTASSIOU	HAYLEY ANDERSON	RACHEL ANNAS	JAMIE APOSTOLIDIS	RIZA ARDINO	LANA AREAITI	ANGELICA ANDOULOS	CATHERINE BAIRD	ESMAY BANISTER	JESSICA BEAUMONT	LEAH BEAULAKAS	ANIL BOADZIC	STEPHANIE BONNING	JESSICA CAMPBELL	ELIZABETH CROZIER	VERONICA DUJAN	ASHLEY GASPERRINO	LISA HUMPAGE	JANE BOREHAM	DENISE BOWENKERK	JESSICA BRADY	CARLY BROWN	KATRINA ANASTASSIOU	HAYLEY ANDERSON	RACHEL ANNAS	JAMIE APOSTOLIDIS	RIZA ARDINO	LANA AREAITI	ANGELICA ANDOULOS	CATHERINE BAIRD	ESMAY BANISTER	JESSICA BEAUMONT	LEAH BEAULAKAS	ANIL BOADZIC	STEPHANIE BONNING	JESSICA CAMPBELL	ELIZABETH CROZIER	VERONICA DUJAN	ASHLEY GASPERRINO	LISA HUMPAGE	JANE BOREHAM	DENISE BOWENKERK	JESSICA BRADY	CARLY BROWN	KATRINA ANASTASSIOU	HAYLEY ANDERSON	RACHEL ANNAS	JAMIE APOSTOLIDIS	RIZA ARDINO	LANA AREAITI	ANGELICA ANDOULOS	CATHERINE BAIRD	ESMAY BANISTER	JESSICA BEAUMONT	LEAH BEAULAKAS	ANIL BOADZIC	STEPHANIE BONNING	JESSICA CAMPBELL	ELIZABETH CROZIER	VERONICA DUJAN	ASHLEY GASPERRINO	LISA HUMPAGE
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Macbeth

"By the pricking of my thumb, something wicked this way comes..."

Months of preparation, endless rehearsals and a whole lot of hard work all paid off when the Year 11 Theatre Studies class presented "Macbeth" in May. The dark story of a power mad king and his beautiful wife came to life in front of audiences of families, friends, teachers and lovers of Shakespeare, amazing them with powerful performances from every single actor. The lead actors Ekaterina Shchukina and Holly Jepson stunned the audiences as the two Macbeths and both Camelia Tan and Hannah Parker were amazing as the enchanting Lady Macbeths, all of them giving their best to their roles. The class itself did everything from constructing the set, to designing and making the costumes, to ticket sales for the production with help of course from Ms Engblom and a number of family and friends. As well as performing for three nights at the school they also took their performance down to a local Adult Day Activity Centre to perform it for the elderly. "Macbeth" as a whole was an amazing experience for everyone, cast and audience alike, and will be something all of us will remember for the rest of our lives.

Rebecca Hutton 11D



Year 11 Theatre Studies



Rachel Moore Year 12



Rachel Moore Year 12



Bonnie O'Reilly Year 12



Joanne Marashli Year 12



Rachel Moore Year 12

VCE Art 2003



Fiona Melvin Year 12



Carla Simpson Year 11



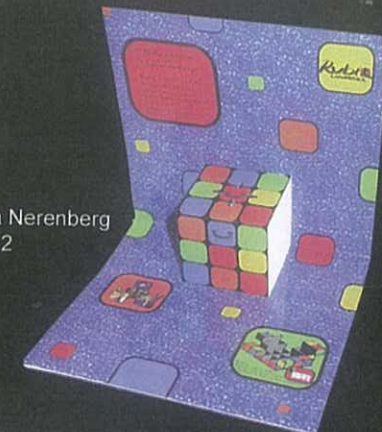
Shana Nerenberg Year 12



Shea Austin Year 12



Diana Rigg Year 12



Shana Nerenberg Year 12



Shana Nerenberg Year 12

Visual Communication and Design



Shae Higgins Year 12



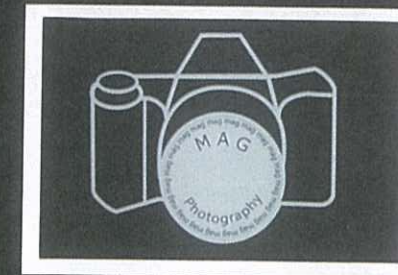
Riza Ardona Year 11



Erin Kimberlin Year 11



Sarah Skillender Year 11



Ashley Gasperino Year 11

January 3rd 2002. This is the day I felt death.

What I am most afraid of is that I will lose someone or something close to me.

I had a dog as a pet. His name is Golby. He is a husky and each of his eyes is a different colour. The left eye is a clear blue. It looks like a marble. When I see him just left side, he is cold, delicate and mean. But the right eye looks like a brown sugar candy, warm, serene and forceful. He has long and black eyelashes. The colour of his fur is black and dingy white. So when I pat him, my fingers always become brownish and smelly.

I still remember the night that Golby was taken to my house. That was early August, middle of the summer vacation. Hot, humid, lazy summer day. I live in the countryside near Hiroshima. So we can see heaps of stars in the sky. I was ten years old. My aunt had had Golby for about two years. But she couldn't keep him for some reason. And my dad had wanted a dog for a long time. So she gave us him. On that night, Golby was so scary. Whether he knew the situation or not, he was so mad and he gave deep barks. My dad was trying to get along with him. But he was staring in disturbance and fear at us.

It took about one year for me to get along with him. Actually, his character was very mild. He never bit and barked except at strangers. He was very friendly. When I felt something annoying or felt down about something, I always went and patted him and talked to him all about it. Of course he never said words. But he always solaced me by snuggling to me. He was my best friend. When I was that age, I was shy. It was hard for me to get along with friends. I had many friends, but I didn't have a best friend that I trusted to talk about what I really think, what I really felt. They were just like formal friends. I didn't understand what real friends are like. Golby was a real friend for sure.

But I didn't think that Golby would go since that day.

In the November before last, Golby was getting coughs a lot. I thought that is just a cold. So we just gave him some blankets. But even after a few weeks his coughs hadn't stopped. One day I went and fed Golby outside and after he ate his food he then threw up everything. He started shaking. His fur rose up like a cactus and then he fell into a fit of convulsions. I was in a state of panic and I didn't know what I should do. I was screaming, beating the window of the kitchen where my mum was.

"Mum!! Mum!! Golby!! Golby!! Muuuum!!!"

I was crying wildly. I couldn't believe that scene I was

watching. It was a dark night, silent. Only my shouts echoed around my house.

It emerged that Golby had a disease. A vet told us that this disease came from mosquitoes and was not easy to remedy. I was so shocked. My dog, my Golby is full of tiny, tiny mosquitoes! They were trying to kill my baby! What foul, stupid bugs! I prayed for my sick baby every night.

The new year started. Golby became weaker, his cheeks seemed like sinks compared with before he was sick and he could not even walk.

Three days after the start of the new year, my dad, mum and I went to the shopping mall near our house to get some warm clothes for kids so that Golby could be warmer. When I got home I rushed to Golby's doghouse. He gazed at me. I patted his forehead. His body was warm. I call his name softly like a mother calls her child. He didn't move. I called his name again. He didn't move, he didn't blink. But his body was still warm. "He should keep body and soul together, shouldn't he?" I thought to myself rocking Golby.

"Mum, Golby, Golby", Aloud I said "Dad!! He...He is de..dead?"

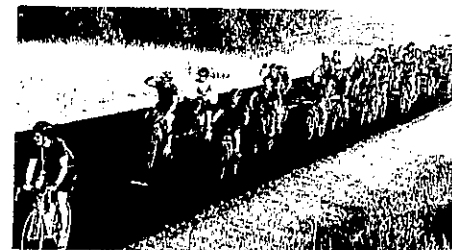
My dad checks whether Golby is breathing or not.

Then my dad's eyes are wet with tears.

There was a distance between me and the dead body. I felt like this is not real. I didn't want to go back to the doghouse. Because I was afraid of making up my mind. I rushed to my room and cried, cried and cried. I didn't want anyone to come into my room. It was too sad. I have seen "dead body" before twice before. But they were remote relatives or something, so I didn't feel like lamenting. What I felt was - we are mortal. I was like an on-looker. But now, the body I just watched is the body of my friend. His soul has gone to somewhere. I didn't want to think anything. I couldn't. Snow started falling thick and slowly, gently. Outside was becoming a white view. It was still afternoon. But my room was full of loud music. As I closed my eyes, my heart filled with sorrow and my heart was torn with grief. I wept bitterly. I felt like it was dark, heavy, wet. I was sitting on the floor with concrete holding my knees. There was only me - I was surrounded by black walls. There was no door. I couldn't move. I didn't want to move. I became alone. My friend had gone too far away from me. He will never come back. He will never come back, never. I didn't know how to understand the death of my friend. I was scared. I thought that if I opened my eyes again I would have to come back to earth. He was a dog, but he was my friend.

That was the first time I faced the death of someone close to me. That was the worst day I ever had.

Yulo Kimura 11E



small town near Hamilton, to participate in the 2002 Great Victorian Bike Ride.

During 560km over nine days we were forced to brace the always changing weather and battle some freezing temperatures, while living out of an overnight bag and lining up for everything from food to washing your own dishes.

The very hilly terrain through the Grampians, strong headwinds and icy conditions proved to be torture for some, but the new (and old) friendships that we made helped to take our minds off the challenging conditions. After a typical day of around 80km, arrival into the campsite couldn't have been more welcoming. Unless, of course, the wind takes your tent away while you're still setting it up, or it buckets down with rain at dinnertime. What can I say? The weather just wasn't on our side this year.

Waking up at 5:30 am becomes a daily routine. It's still dark and you and 3000 other happy campers are packing up tents and hauling them, with the rest of your belongings, into the back of a truck to be taken to the next overnight location. And all of this to the sound of kookaburras while the sun rises.



**Australia 2003
The best time of our lives!**

What can we tell you about our time in Australia?

First of all, we had a lot of new experiences:

Vegemite, crumpets, footy, meat pies, wombats, school uniform, koalas, Cadbury chocolate.... We love it all!

Our time "Downunder was wonderful and we love the country and the people. We really enjoyed going to your school. It was a great experience for us, because school in Australia is different to the kind of school we're used to. Now, you're probably wondering; "How are German schools different to ours?"

We think the biggest difference is that we do not have a uniform! It was quite funny and unusual for us to look at ourselves in the mirror on our first morning. But we soon

Early on the 30th November, a team of 25 departed Mentone Girls' Secondary College bound for Warrock, a

Apart from riding, there is also time for shopping and strolling through the towns as well as in-camp activities and the very popular talent quest. The last night is very enjoyable with a live concert and getting T-shirts signed by friends.

Finally, a HUGE thankyou to Ms Miller who did so much work to organise such a big group from Mentone. Without her, the "fluoro orange" group would not have been such a success. Her leadership and inspiration benefited us greatly. She gave up some of her nights to take care of some of the girls who were sick, while still getting us up early and riding the next day. We were all very grateful and showed her our appreciation by nominating her for the "Spirit of the Ride Award" - which she won!

Thank you very much for helping to make this year's ride another success!

Kathleen Delaney 12B



got used to it and now we think it'll be strange for us going back to our school in Germany and having a "casual day" everyday.

A really dangerous difference is your traffic system! Why do you have to drive on the left hand side??? We nearly got hit by a car on our first day. It took us ages to get used to this!

What we really enjoyed was your weather. Although we missed our summer your winter wasn't that bad. We never had such a warm winter before! So, if you want to come to Germany in December or January, make sure that you bring along lots of warm things to wear. 0°C and snow shouldn't be a problem for you.

Another great aspect that we love in Australia are your animals - koala, wombat, emu, echidna, wallaby, dingo...

They are all wonderful beings and we will miss them, because none of them exist in Germany!

We also enjoyed your enthusiasm for sports. Footy (including our first meat pie) was something we definitely had to do!

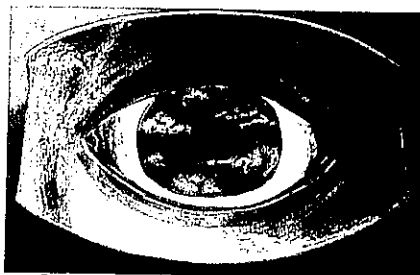
All these things and lots more made our stay in Australia an unforgettable experience. We had the luck to stay with the most lovely exchange students we could have ever wished to have and to go to a school full of nice and helpful people.

The only thing we can say is "Thank you"! And we hope to welcome you in Germany some time.

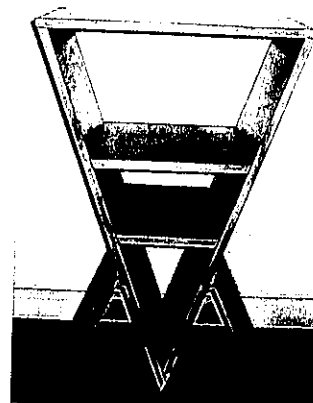
Janina Neumann and Jenny Jungbluth

Great Victorian Bike Ride 2002

Writing



Samantha Tully Year 11 Studio Arts



Hayley Anderson Year 11 Wood Technology



Elaine Poulter Year 11 Studio Arts



COSI



Our Year Twelve Theatre Studies class presented a terrific season of Louis Nowra's semi-autobiographical play, "Cosi" during May (20th - 24th).

Set in 1971, Melbourne, Australia, Cosi is the story of Louis, a first time theatre director hired to direct a play at an asylum. The inmates are to form the cast.

And an extraordinary cast it is - consisting of Roy, who has bi-polar disorder; Henny, with post traumatic disorder; Doug, a sex obsessed pyromaniac; Cherry, also with bi-polar disorder; Julie, a drug dependent junkie, Ruth; who has obsessive compulsive disorder and Zac, psychologically lithium dependent. Their play of choice is Mozart's Italian "Cosi Fan Tutti". Some of the inmates can hardly speak, not to mention speak Italian, not to mention sing opera.

Outside the asylum lived Lucy, a law student and also Louis's girlfriend, and Nick, an actor and Louis's best friend. Lucy and Nick are both into free love and anti war moratoria and create pressure on Louis when he begins to neglect his "social and political obligations".

Louis's life is touched by these extraordinary characters. As he trudges through performing the opera with them, Louis learns that when you chase your dreams it helps to go a little crazy. We did too! After months and months of rehearsal and vanilla coke, we made it through to our final week and performed as well as we could. Overall our performances were a success. The audience was great every single night and people who returned to see the play

again lifted our spirits when we needed it.

On behalf of the Year Twelve Theatre Studies cast a tremendous thanks to Mr Perks for putting up with us the entire time and giving us assurance and confidence when we needed it, not to mention the odd bit of discipline here and there. He assured us it was okay to go a little crazy sometimes. Other thank yous go to people without whom our play could never have happened. Miss Mac, Ms Engblom, Alan Guest, Deborah Yanz, Suzannah Murley, Julius Perks, the audience and especially Mr Perks. His unremitting support and dedication to us and the play were second to none. We owe you one! Thanks, Perksy!

Amy Shaheen 12G



Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 12
Principal
Mrs Deborah Quinn

SHANNON ALEXANDER	CECILIE ALGIE	DOMINIQUE APREA	SHEILA AUSTIN	KIMBERLEY BARKER	NATALE BARNETT	NICOLE BARRETT	KLOVER BARRI	EMILY BEESTON	KRISTIE BERGER	EBONY BIRCH	HAYLEY BLACK	EMMA BLAKE	JESSICA BLEES	ANIELA BOAL	MARIA BONICA
INGRID BRINK	ANDRA BROWN	JESSICA BROWN	JAYDE BRUNDELL	LUCY BUCKNALL	TARYN CHAPMAN	CARLY CHAPMAN	LAUREN CHAMBERS	PALLAVI CHALKE	TARA CARROLL	HAYLEY CARROLL	MICHAELA DAVIS	JENNIFER DAVIES	MICHELLE DAWSON	KATHLEEN DELANEY	SARAH GOUGH
MELISSA DANIELL	AMANDA GIBB	SARAH GLENISTER	KATHERINE GLENITHWORTH	STEPHANIE GRAHAM	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	KATE HEALEY	MELISSA GANONIER	JESSICA GAZZO	JESSICA GIBSON	MONICA GUERRERO	JANIEE GUEST	ASHLEE HASTIE
MEGHANN GESCHKE	AMANDA GIBB	SARAH GLENISTER	KATHERINE GLENITHWORTH	STEPHANIE GRAHAM	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	KATE HEALEY	YVONNE IOANNIDIS	ASHLEE IRVINE	YVONNE HUGHES	KELLY HUGHES	LAUREN HUDSON	ANISLEY HUDSON
MIRANDA GRUNDY	MELANIE GROSE	KATHERINE HOWLETT	TAVARA HOWARD	CHRISTINA HOULLIS	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	KATE HEALEY	MELANIE GROSE	KATHERINE HOWLETT	TAVARA HOWARD	CHRISTINA HOULLIS
TERESA GIBSON	AMANDA GREY	JESSICA GRAY	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	KATE HEALEY	TERESA GIBSON	AMANDA GREY	JESSICA GRAY	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO	EMILY HINA
MONIQUE PUDLEY	SALLY DICKSON	RACHEL DESUMMA	JESSICA GRAY	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	MONIQUE PUDLEY	SALLY DICKSON	RACHEL DESUMMA	JESSICA GRAY	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO
STEPHANIE CLOAK	TANYA CLARKE	LISA CLAPHAM	SUYEE CHONG	RACHEL DESUMMA	JESSICA GRAY	STACEY HOPKINS	FIONA HO	EMILY HINA	SHAE HIGGINS	RACHEL HIGGKY	LAURA HEWSON	KATE HEALEY	MELANIE GROSE	KATHERINE HOWLETT	TAVARA HOWARD
LOUISE COMBEFORD	EMMA COOKS	LISA FOSTERNALLY	DESRINA GANELLA	MONICA GUERRERO	JANIEE GUEST	ASHLEE HASTIE	YVONNE IOANNIDIS	ASHLEE IRVINE	YVONNE HUGHES	KELLY HUGHES	LAUREN HUDSON	ANISLEY HUDSON	TAVARA HOWARD	CHRISTINA HOULLIS	STACEY HOPKINS
REBECCA BURKSH	RICHMANNIE BURTON	SUSAN CADMAN	RHODA CAMERON	BETINA CAMP	EMMA COOKS	LISA FOSTERNALLY	DESRINA GANELLA	MONICA GUERRERO	JANIEE GUEST	ASHLEE HASTIE	YVONNE IOANNIDIS	ASHLEE IRVINE	YVONNE HUGHES	KELLY HUGHES	LAUREN HUDSON

NOT FEATURED: JEMMA EVANS, NICOLE JACKSON

Monash Girls Secondary College
Year 12

Principal: 2002 Debating Captain

DEBORAH JARVIS	MIRANDA JENNIN	VICTORIA JOHNSON	EMMA JOHNSON	JACQUI KANNEMEYER	MEAGAN KATERS	KELLY KEIR	LUCY KENNEDY	AMIE KING	EMMA KNIGHT	CHRISTIE KNOX	JAYASREE KUMAR	JOHANNA LAURENT	GEORGIA LAVEN	BOB LEAS	HEATHER LEGGETT
REBEKAH LLOYD	SARAH MACYLLAN	JOANNE MACGHERSON	MARASHIEL MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL	LEAH MAISHALL
MAYLEE MILLOTT	KATRINA MIRABITO	JOCELYN MOLONEY	RACHEL MOORE	NICOLE MOURITZ	VICTORIA MURLEY	LENA NAIN	SHARA NEPENBERG	LANNHI NGUYEN	XUEDAN NIU	JESSICA NORTHMORE	JESSICA OAKES	EMMA O'NEILL	BONNIE O'REILLY	MEGAN PAGE	DEBBE PAPADOPULOS
MEGAN PATTERSON	WYETTE PAULJAK	KYLE PEELE	LILLIAN PERKIN	ALANNA FLYNN	ELOISE POWELL	CLAIRE PROBST	MADELINE PROWSE	SIMONE RUYOL	MEGAN QUAYE	ORNELLA RAMPAL	ASHLEE RAYNER	AMY REA	EMMA REID	DIANA RIGGS	DIANA RIGGS
MELINA RIZOS	KERRY ROBERTSON	JAMIE ROSS	LALURA ROSSER	AMY RYAN	GARLA SALLON	AMY SHAHEEN	CABRIELLE SHARPE	LARA SIMPSON	KIM SINGH	NERA SOLJIC	ANGELA SOLDATOS	THEBRY SON	NIKOLE SULLIVAN	JESSICA SUTHERLAND	SMAT STEED
KERRY STACY	SUSAN TINSLEY	AMANDA TROTMAN	JOANNIE TUMIATI	CATHERINE TUXEN	KATE WARBURTON	EMMA WATKINS	MADHU WATKINS	ELIZABETH WHITFIELD	MONIQUE WICKS	KHARILA WILLIAMS	RACHEL WOOD	STEPHANIE WYATT	OZANUR YILDIZ	ANNE ZINPOULOS	ANNE ZINPOULOS

NOT FEATURED: NICOLE JACKSON, CASSANDRA SEEGH

At the start of the year all year 12 students participated in a three day camp, which was held at Mannix College. The camp was great fun and provided an inspiring start to the year. Every day was filled with informative activities, including listening to the 2002 School Captain, Sandra Batinica, speak as well as listening to a public speaker who informed us on how to "party safely". Every student also participated in a careers test that helped us to understand what vocations would best suit our individual personalities and interests. We discussed future career



options, including tertiary education and learnt about how the Enter System works. We also talked about how to cope with the workload of year 12. However, the camp was not all educational. On the last night every year 12 had the opportunity to express their talents in a talent show, which was a real highlight of the camp. It was funny to see all the teachers dressed up in costumes and trying to sing and dance on stage.



Staying overnight at Mannix College was a beneficial experience because it gave all of us an insight into what it is like to live on a university campus. On the last day we gained further knowledge of tertiary education by using Monash University's sporting facilities and by participating in a guided tour of the campus.

The information we learnt on camp proved to be positive and relevant and has helped us to support each other this year as well as to enjoy ourselves.

Hayley Black 12A

Year 12 Camp

Debating 2003

I have been part of the debating team for five years and have struggled through what now seems to be the more simple topics in Year Eight (although at the time were quite challenging) to the incredibly mind-expanding and difficult topics of Year Twelve. If someone asked why I chose to debate for five consecutive years, I would have trouble answering. I mean, who is their right mind would

choose more work? Some would think crazy, some would think deranged, other simply "Loser" (I know I often have). But somewhere in between, the need to throw up before a debate and the hours spent researching one, I found satisfaction in the fact that I could debate. I can think on my feet, I can write a coherent speech in one hour flat and I can put



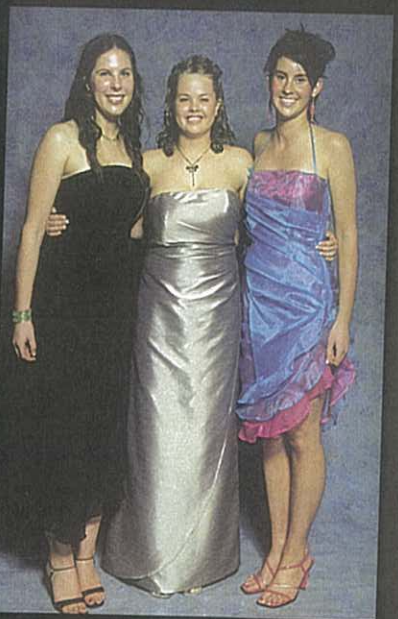
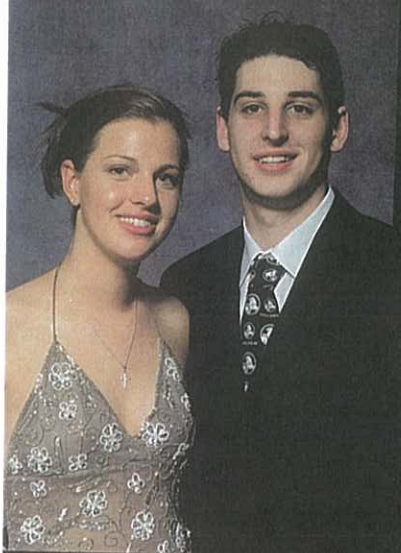
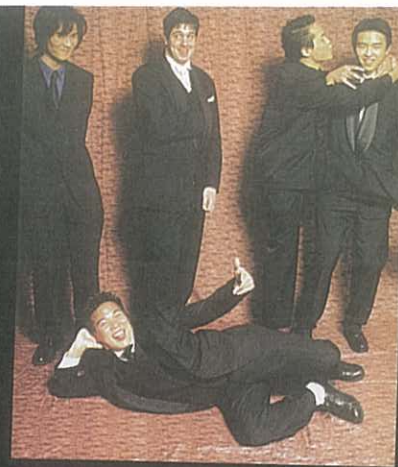
Ainsley Hudgson, Kendall Grierson, Despina Ganella, Kelly Robertson, Natalie Barnett, Lannhi Nguyen, Lilli Perkin.

debating on my resume. It hasn't been easy, hours of preparation were put into each debate, but I look back now and realise the pain was worth the trouble. Giving a speech doesn't frighten me anymore and the pride of beating Haileybury always brings a smile to my face. Debating has helped me establish team work skills and helped open my eyes to current affairs. I know in the future, whether I am arguing in court, or giving a presentation I won't dissolve into a sweating, shivering, nervous wreck!

Thanks to Mrs Ayres and Ms Koperszmidt, their dedication and positive attitude has been a great help. Also thanks to all my team mates over the years, who prevented me from throwing up on numerous occasions.

Lilli Perkin

Year 12 Debater



VCE BALL

Finally, Thursday July 10th, the evening of the VCE ball arrived. Weeks of preparation went into this long awaited night. What were we going to wear? Would our shoes match our dresses? How would our hair be styled? Would my shoes make me taller than my date?!?

The ball was held at the International of Brighton. From 7pm onwards chauffeured cars of all shapes and sizes pulled up into the driveway. Doors were opened by M.G.S.C's personally hired doorman and gorgeous girls and their spunky dates stepped out into the cool air. It was a magical evening that made every girl feel like a princess.

Inside the atmosphere was electrifying and we had professional photographers running around, begging to take our photos! After many happy snaps we stepped into the main hall to find our tables scattered with rose petals. When the entree arrived, I think a lot of people had trouble determining whether you used the cutlery on the outside first and then worked your way in, or was it the other way around?!? There was a lot of debate at the tables on this topic. Not to mention the trouble we had with determining if our bread roll was to our left or right!

The evening started with a band from Mentone Boys' Grammar School followed by dinner. The DJ started up shortly after food was served and the dance floor became awash with people all showing off their dance moves. Excitement arose when the awards were about to be announced. Queen of the ball was awarded to Fiona Melvin and Princess to Genevieve De Nys. Dancing dominated the rest of the evening until feet were too sore to dance any more. As the evening came to an end the Year Twelves realised that this would be their last M.G.S.C school ball. I think we all felt a bit envious of the Year Elevens, as we knew they would have next year's ball to look forward to.

Thank you to the VCE committee, teachers, parents, "Happy Medium Photography", the International of Brighton and everyone else who made the evening possible and a very memorable event.

Kelly Hughes and Ingrid Brink Year 12

Thursday 10th July, was the night that saw our VCE students dressed up in stunning dresses with some just as stunning dates on their arms. The night started off perfectly with groups of gorgeous girls and guys streaming into the front of the Brighton International, pausing only briefly on the front steps to flash smiles at the professional photographer. I truly have never seen so many limousines in my life, and I even glimpsed some Year Twelves arriving grandly in a horse-drawn carriage, just like in the movies.

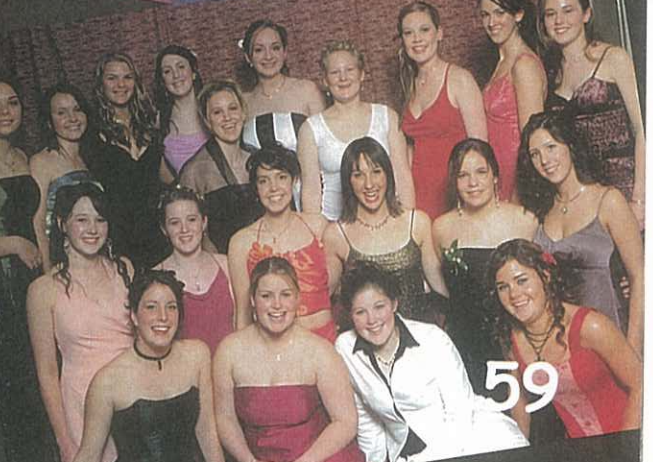
When the camera flashes had stopped briefly, we made our way to our tables to talk. Some of us were instantly attracted to the dance floor, where a live band from Mentone Boys' Grammar were playing. Soon the delicious three-course meal began with spring rolls as an entree, followed by either chicken or lamb for the main course, and finishing with brandy snaps, fruit and ice cream for dessert. The food was perfect, and was enjoyed by all.

Throughout the night, the dance floor was packed with gorgeous girls and guys all dancing the night away and having the time of their lives. So many photos were taken, both professional and non-professional, that I'm sure everyone's mouths were stuck into permanent smiles, and eyes were still seeing the extremely bright flashes from all the cameras.

The atmosphere was full of excitement, and this excitement did not leave even as the night drew to a close. However towards the end of the night, there were definitely fewer people on the dance floor, and many of us girls were cringing and pointing to our ridiculously high, but very stylish heels.

Ultimately, the night was a complete success, and was enjoyed by all. I'm sure, like me, my fellow Year Elevens are now looking forward to our Year Twelve ball next year. It truly was a night to remember.

Kelly Reed Year 11



Senior Athletics Relay Teams November 2002



L-R Emma Coats, Briony Cargill, Helen Wilkie, Jo Tumiat, Lani Craven, Carly Chapman, Bhey Orwin.
(absent Debbie Jarvis).

The under 16 and 17 relay teams 4x100m have remained undefeated over the last 5 years. Both teams have won Beachside, Southern and All High Finals. A remarkable effort over such a large time period. The girls are on course this year to maintain their impressive record and bring home the medals once again for Mentone.

Mentone Girls' Secondary College wins State Football Final!

MGSC's Junior Football team recently won the Victorian Secondary Schools Sports Association State final by defeating Pascoe Vale Girls' Secondary College. This was an outstanding achievement considering that over four hundred secondary schools statewide have the opportunity of fielding a team in this competition.

The Mentone team comprised students from Years 7, 8 and 9, many of whom had only played their first game of competitive football this year.

The girls were undefeated over ten games to earn their spot in the State final. This included impressive victories in the semi-finals against Swan Hill, Geelong and Canterbury Girls' Secondary College.

The grand final was played on the famous Whitten Oval. After getting changed in the old 'Bulldogs' rooms, the girls were able to run down the race and through their own banner. An enthusiastic crowd of families and friends made the trip over to Footscray and they were not disappointed by Mentone's strong

start. An attacking first quarter saw the girls pile on three goals, six behinds, whilst keeping Pascoe Vale scoreless.

Pascoe Vale responded with a couple of early goals in the second quarter, but failed to kick another goal as Mentone again worked hard to gain the ascendancy. It was a terrific team performance with all players making strong contributions. The final score was Mentone Girls' Secondary College 8-14-62 defeated Pascoe Vale Girls' Secondary College 2-3-15. Vice Captain Kate Steinfort received a medallion for best player on the ground.

Goalkicker: Michelle Palmer 3, Cassie Head 2, Sally Buckley 2, Sarah Sims-McGregor 1. Best players were Kate Steinfort, Shannyn Floyd, Sarah Sim-McGregor, Michelle Palmer, Alana Gadsby, Luana Groves, Brydee Dullard.

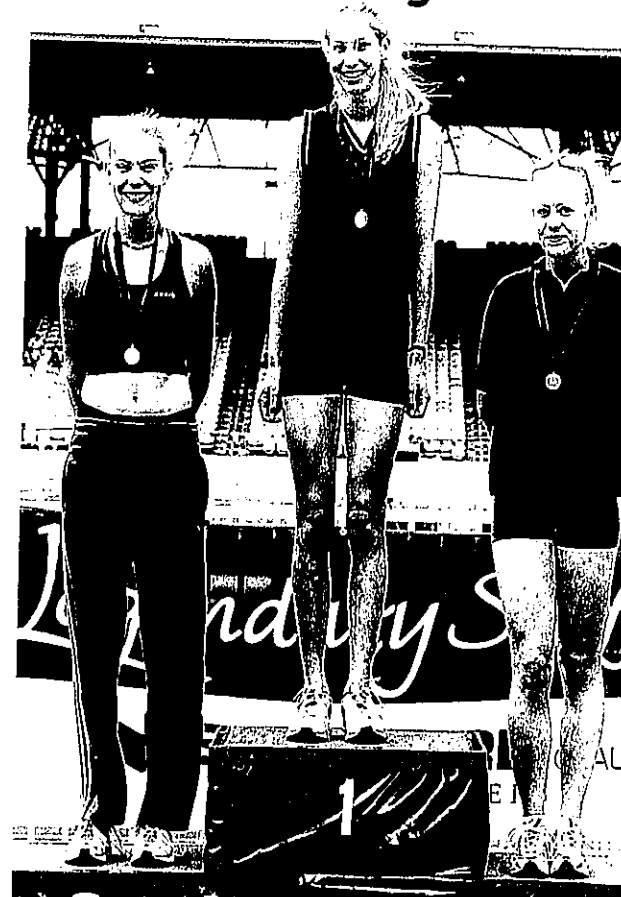
A big thank you to Mrs de Munk for her role as trainer, Mr Seddon and Mr de Munk for their help with the team, Mrs Groves for making the banner and to all the parents and friends for their terrific support.

Peter Bartlett

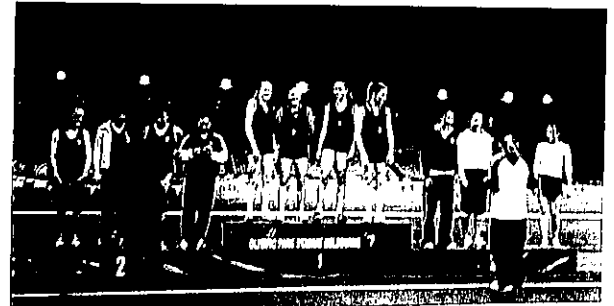
Junior Football Coach.



All High Athletics October 2002



Under 16 4x100m Hurdles State Champions Bhey Orwin, Briony Cargill, Helen Wilkie, Rachel Sadler.



State Champions Under 13 4x100 Relay.
L-R Alice Stewart, Alice Boryslawski, Sally Buckley, Shannyn Floyd



Luana Groves
State Champion 80m Hurdles

Emma Knight (Year 12)

Emma Knight has been an outstanding athlete, representing the College with distinction over the past six years. She is pictured receiving the gold medal for the triple jump at the V.S.S.A. State Athletics Final.

Emma currently holds records at local, zone and state levels for the long and triple jump. She has also been a member of winning 4x100 metre relay teams at the State Finals. She has also finished in the top three in the 100 and 200 metre finals at the State Championships. Emma has been School Sport Champion a number of times during her years at the College and the Sports Faculty will miss her contribution next year.

Year 7 Basketball December 2002 State Champions

Mentone won its first ever State Basketball title when the team defeated all opposition on their way to a State grand final win by 1 point over Lillydale Secondary College. In a see-sawing match Mentone was 1 point down with ten seconds to go. Cassie Head saved the day with a buzzer beating basket to claim the title. Thanks to the coaches Miss Miller, Emma Funnell and Lauren Morecroft.



Back: L-R Miss Miller, Sally Buckley, Lauren Morecroft, Natalie Aramian, Stephanie Hallinan, Hannah Funnell, Emma Funnell.
Front: Laura Gamm, Cassie Head, Lucy Amon, Rickie McCombe, Sarah Milliken.



Open 3000m Steeplechase
Sarah Grahame (then in Year 7) finishes Second.
A fantastic effort!



College Champions

College Champions

Interview with Kelly Rattle



Kelly in Year 7, 1993

Kelly Rattle completed her VCE at Mentone in 1999. She enjoyed being at school, with her favourite subject being Art. Kelly's other subjects were Visual Communication and Design, Maths, English and Biology, but it was her love of Art which pulled her through the year. During VCE, Kelly spent nearly all of her time in the safe haven of the art room – even on weekends and before school.

Throughout high school, Kelly won many awards for her artistic achievements, but surprisingly Kelly did not go on to do art at university. At the end of school, Kelly applied for a concurrent award, which consisted of a Bachelor of Communication majoring in Public Relations and Journalism at Monash University and a Diploma of Arts in Professional Writing and Editing at TAFE. Kelly chose this course as it was very broad and as she had no set career path in mind. "There were so many things I wanted to do and I wasn't too worried about where I was going, just as long as I was happy."

Currently Kelly is employed with the Department of Infrastructure on a Public Relations internship, works as an administrative assistant for an accounting firm and writes CD and concert reviews for *Inpress* magazine, all while completing her university degree! Kelly is also a volunteer at 90.7 SYN FM, and writes and presents radio news bulletins. Kelly has had a lot of experience with radio as one of her final assignments at university consisted of a half hour live radio show. All these work experience placements are very important to Kelly, as she believes that doing extra activities, including volunteer work and internships, shows commitment and gives you a better chance at getting a job.

Kelly finished her university degree this year, and her TAFE diploma last year. When she started at Monash, Kelly found the campus big and daunting, and it was hard to make friends as there were so many people

around and the lecture sizes were huge. Kelly was lucky though and made life-long friends at TAFE, which really helped the transition process between secondary school and tertiary education.

But enough of university, how did Kelly find life at M.G.S.C.?! For Kelly, a memorable moment at high school is difficult to pinpoint... particularly one that wasn't naughty. In year 9, Kelly spent one afternoon at the doctor's having bristles removed from her eye socket after an accident in the art room amongst friends. But even that didn't deter Kelly from the art room, and Art continued to be her favourite subject all through VCE.

In year 12, Kelly was Co-Editor of the school magazine, Kenny house captain, Editor of the year 12 magazine and an SRC Representative. Kelly is so glad that the school magazine is still called "Making Waves", as when she was involved in naming the magazine in 1998, the committee really hoped that the name would stick.

At the moment, Kelly is in no hurry to figure out a career path that is right for her. To quote Kelly: "I think that you have to just start living and things fall into place. I strongly believe that people should ultimately do what makes them happy at the time and what feels right. I have always been a very driven self-determined person and I know that I will be successful in whatever I do. Work to live, not live to work... and why not enjoy it at the same time?!"

And with those words of wisdom, we wish Kelly all the best for the future and good luck in the career path you choose to pursue!

Kelly Hughes
Magazine Co-Editor



Kelly today in 2003

Bianca Kelsall

traineeship she completed through Target, "It was the best thing ever". Bianca loved sport and was always part of the cricket, hockey and soccer teams. She got along well with her teachers, as they were always ready to share a laugh with her. Mr Thomas was her favourite teacher. Bianca said she would "Go back (to school) in a second. I loved school."

Just like most of us Bianca wasn't sure what career she wanted to pursue so that is why she did the retail traineeship course and evidently fell in love with all aspects of retail industry. From then on Bianca wanted to work in a Pharmacy. She started working at Barts the Chemist straight after high school, undertaking more training to better her knowledge and skills in Pharmacy. Such courses included: Lancôme, Estee Lauder, Vitamins,

Nutrition, L'Oreal, Analgesics, coughs and colds, hay fever, Revlon, Fragrance and baby formula training. Wow, an amazing achievement in just 4 years of being in Pharmacy. Leaving school was a real eye-opener for Bianca. She said "You realise you have to grow up a lot faster to earn money and get what you want in life." She currently works at Terry White Chemist in Southland and her pharmacy has just been nominated for 'Pharmacy of the Year'. Bianca's life has just started; she bought a house this year and has plans to open her own retail business in the future, "perhaps in fashion." She has so much ahead of her and we wish her all the best of luck in the future. Next time someone has a cough or cold be sure to visit Bianca at Terry White Pharmacy in Southland.

Ingrid Brink
Magazine Co-Editor



Bianca completed her VCE at MGSC in 1999. She loved coming to school, seeing all her friends and catching up on the weekend just passed. In Year 12 Bianca did Maths, English, Electronics, Human development and a VET course in retail traineeship. Her favourite subjects were electronics and the Vet retail

"Having moods can be painful but at least people notice us."

The purpose of this piece is to describe the situation of a student who, after being isolated by peers at school, withdraws from socialising and her realisation that people notice her when she finally does show some emotion. This piece is written in expository form, from observation as well as personal experience.

Paranoia is a funny thing. It sharpens the senses – whispered conversations and snatches of gossip hang in the air, becoming so easy to eavesdrop on, tightly huddled cliques around the lockers at school now seeming so visibly impenetrable.

But, as compensation for these superhero skills, paranoia also numbs the heart, restricting it, suffocating it, until the hurtful comments and jibes one was once so aware of don't matter any more. Every new rumour or insult, designed to get a rise out of the victim, just slaps on another padlock and chain, until nothing goes in, and nothing goes out. Once you start keeping things to yourself, its hard to stop. It becomes a habit, and the world stops noticing you.

Her face is set in grey stone. Her expression is blank. Not even as dramatic as the stereotypical "Ice Queen", the personality she shows us is the beige of the colour wheel. Neutral. She must have so much to say, and yet she sits every lunchtime, recess, class, in the furthest possible corner from the group, imposing on no-one. Her scarf wound round her neck, eyes cast downwards, she is invisible to the hordes of chattering girls around her.

It is a heavy, hot moment somewhere in the middle of an endless school day in an endless school term. The heat, sweltering at noon, has settled into a muggy, humid feeling in the red faces and swollen hands of the English students. Tempers are beginning to fray, everyday comments morphing into verbal stings, lashes of an invisible whip.

The loud, bitchy girls of the form are throwing insults back and forth across the room, batting at flies and making paper fans that merely push the heavy air from one place to

another. The teacher has given up, slumped back on his chair with his whiskers twitching, oblivious to the irritation humming in the classroom.

Once again, she's sitting at the end of a row of tables. Quietly contemplating the cracks in the ceiling and the dead flies on the windowsill.

All of a sudden, an insult hits her. ~Smack between the eyes. She jolts. Looks up. Her face is startled into an expression. The heat closes around her as questioning faces, jeering mouths crowd her table. Claustrophobia chokes her as she has nothing to say – no 'comeback' to repel this sudden flood of negative attention, this Amazon in the wet season, full of crocodiles and cattiness and verbal abuse.

The whole class can feel her discomfort and the writhing pain of humiliation. They can also see her tears. Hot, salty, scratchy tears pricking the eyes of this girl who never speaks. Although for the past three years they have never known once what she was thinking, the sudden realisation of her loneliness hits them and the dam wall bursts. The collective conscience of twenty-nine not-quite adults begins to cry.

Like a row of dominoes, all it took was one individual to succumb to the heat, and the rest had no choice but to follow. Like a ritual cleansing, the tears of twenty-nine washed the past away and relief engulfed the stuffy room.

Not invisible anymore, she stumbled across the carpet and took refuge outside the door, away from the inquisitive, tear reddened eyes. She felt her heart beating in the wood of the wall as she pressed her back against it and caught her breath in the dark, empty corridor. Away from the harsh fluoro lights the crowding of a few concerned faces didn't matter. Ice coldwater put out the fire in her burning cheeks as she realised what had just happened – a realisation of too many moments lived in limbo, of not enough feelings expressed, of an isolation no-one else knew about.

An uncomfortable discovery at least, throbbingly painful at most, but at least that pain means that you're still alive.

Diana Rigg Year 12

Magazine Committee

We have had a busy but exciting time putting together the magazine this year. It's been a lot of hard work, but we made it!

For the cover we opted for a theme which really represents what our school has to offer, such as leadership positions, athletics and swimming carnivals and exciting events like the Year 7 and 12 Fancy Dress party.

This year we had more colour pages to work with and we hope that this makes for a more vibrant and interesting magazine. It was tough deciding what events and activities were going to take pride of place on

the coloured pages. We hope you like the colourful double page spreads on the VCE Ball, Music, the Performing Arts Festival and the international trips.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the magazine and the amazing committee members who helped put it together.

Special thanks go to Mrs Sue Kinneally whose dedication was priceless and whose encouragement paid off in times of stress. Without her help this magazine would not have been possible.

Ingrid Brink and Kelly Hughes,
Co-Editors.



(Back:L-R) Kelly Hughes Year 12 Co-Editor, Emily Laidlaw, Year 10, Mrs Sue Kinneally, Alicia Algie Year 9, Ingrid Brink Year 12 Co-Editor.
Front: Emily Harrison Year 8, Sharon Flittman Year 8.
(Absent: Eloise Johnstone Year 10, Kelly Reed Year 11, Melanie Ryan Year 9)

Who are They Now?

Moods and the Magazine





Miss Carolyn Nield arrived as a newly appointed Assistant Principal to Mentone Girls' Secondary College in 1993.

During her career she taught English and History at several metropolitan and country secondary schools. These included Waverley High School, Chadstone High School, Moorabbin High School and Kerang High School. She commenced her teaching career in 1970 at Kerang High School having completed her

qualifications of Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at Monash University between 1966 and 1969. She later completed a Graduate Diploma in Curriculum at Melbourne University in 1991.

As Assistant Principal, with a pivotal central office opposite the main entrance, she was for many years the key to the smooth running of major school events. The whiteboard in this office was the tool used by her to maintain control over the huge, varied and constantly changing co-curricular program. She coined the phrase, still used by staff today "If its not on the whiteboard ... it is not on!" (recited in a suitably emphatic tone).

One of the major college marketing events associated with her role was the organisation of the annual

Presentation Evening which she carried off with aplomb for a lively seven years. In this time, she worked very closely with the music faculty of the college showcasing the best of the annual ensembles at this important college event.

Carolyn also worked closely with the College Student Managers, chairing this Committee and guiding senior coordinators through the difficult issues associated with the daily management of 1100 adolescent girls. She was particularly keen to ensure the correct wearing of school uniform as many girls will remember! She even took to wearing the sport uniform herself, when she picked up the teaching of a Sport Education unit in later years.

Carolyn made a major contribution to the long-term planning of College direction through her development of three College Charters, which reflected the key educational targets and priorities for each 3 year period.

Additionally her ongoing liaison with the Past Students' Association has ensured the development of a terrific International Women's Day Dinner as an annual event during which past and present students exchange, (often exaggerated!) stories of College life.

Carolyn has retired to 'fish' at her holiday home at Inverloch and to travel around her beloved Australian outback.

She says she has not had time to miss her busy working life, as she has organised so many activities for her retirement!

Both staff and students wish her happy travelling.

Mary Jo Putrino
Assistant Principal

Laurie arrived at Mentone Girls' Secondary College in 1983 as Head of Business Studies. He recalls that computers had just been introduced to education (Mentone had 6 computers) and students were still learning to type on manual typewriters.

Laurie taught Accounting and Business Studies for many years and his students always achieved outstanding results. He also excelled at coaching school softball teams including one to an All High Schools Championship in 1990.

As Daily Organizer for six years he had the important job of ensuring all classes were covered when teachers were absent as well as undertaking much of the future planning for staffing at the College.

In 1994 Laurie was selected to participate in the Teacher Release to Industry Program and worked in finance and accounting at Ericsson Mobile Networks.

In 1995 Laurie returned to Mentone Girls' and was appointed Assistant Principal. His main duties were listed as facilities development, assessment and reporting, senior school, workforce and personnel management. In reality this often meant ensuring the antiquated plumbing and heating systems at the College did not completely collapse and that the roof did not leak when raining.

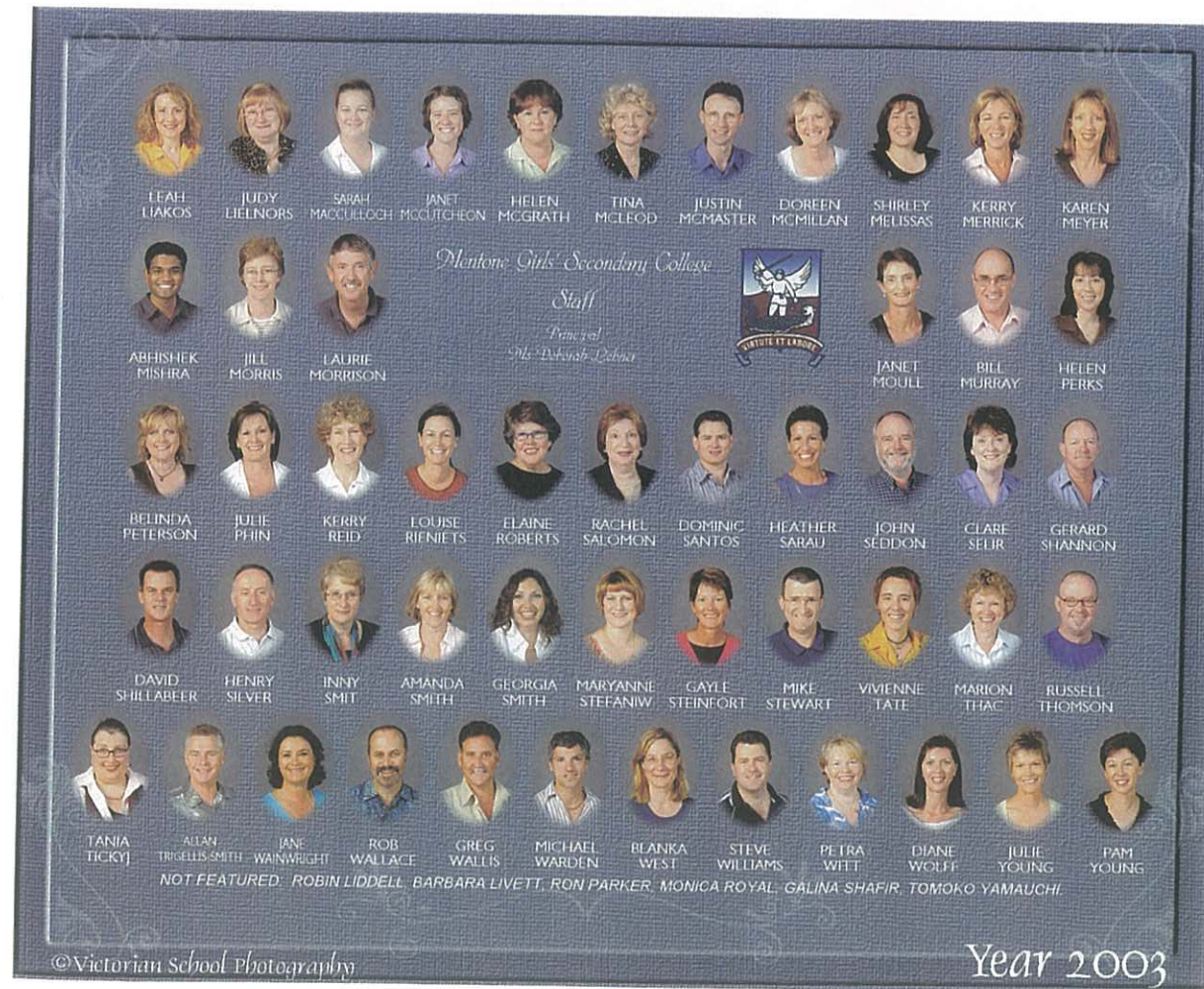
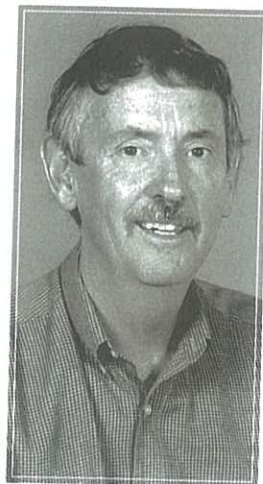
As Assistant Principal Laurie's main achievement was the development of the Vision 2000 Master Plan to improve facilities for the College over an 8 year period. Completion of the Master Plan led to construction of the Gymnasium, the Performing Arts Centre, the new Visual

Arts building and the refurbished Science wing. Everyone will agree that these are outstanding facilities for a State Government School and their existence is due in no small part to Laurie's vision for the College and his efforts in managing the College's building projects.

Laurie was also a great proponent of developing student leadership and introduced changes to our College assemblies, which ensured increased student involvement.

Laurie resigned from the teaching service in May 2002, but continued to be employed part time at the College to oversee the completion of the building program until August 2003. He is currently tutoring in Accounting at Monash University, teaching part time at Wesley College and completing a Diploma of Financial Planning. He says his journey at Mentone Girls' has been an enjoyable one. His fondest memories are the wonderful student leaders the College has had over the years and the strength and expertise of the teaching staff. He will always look back on his years here with great pleasure and satisfaction and will start thinking about golf and travel soon!

Simon Frazer
Assistant Principal



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