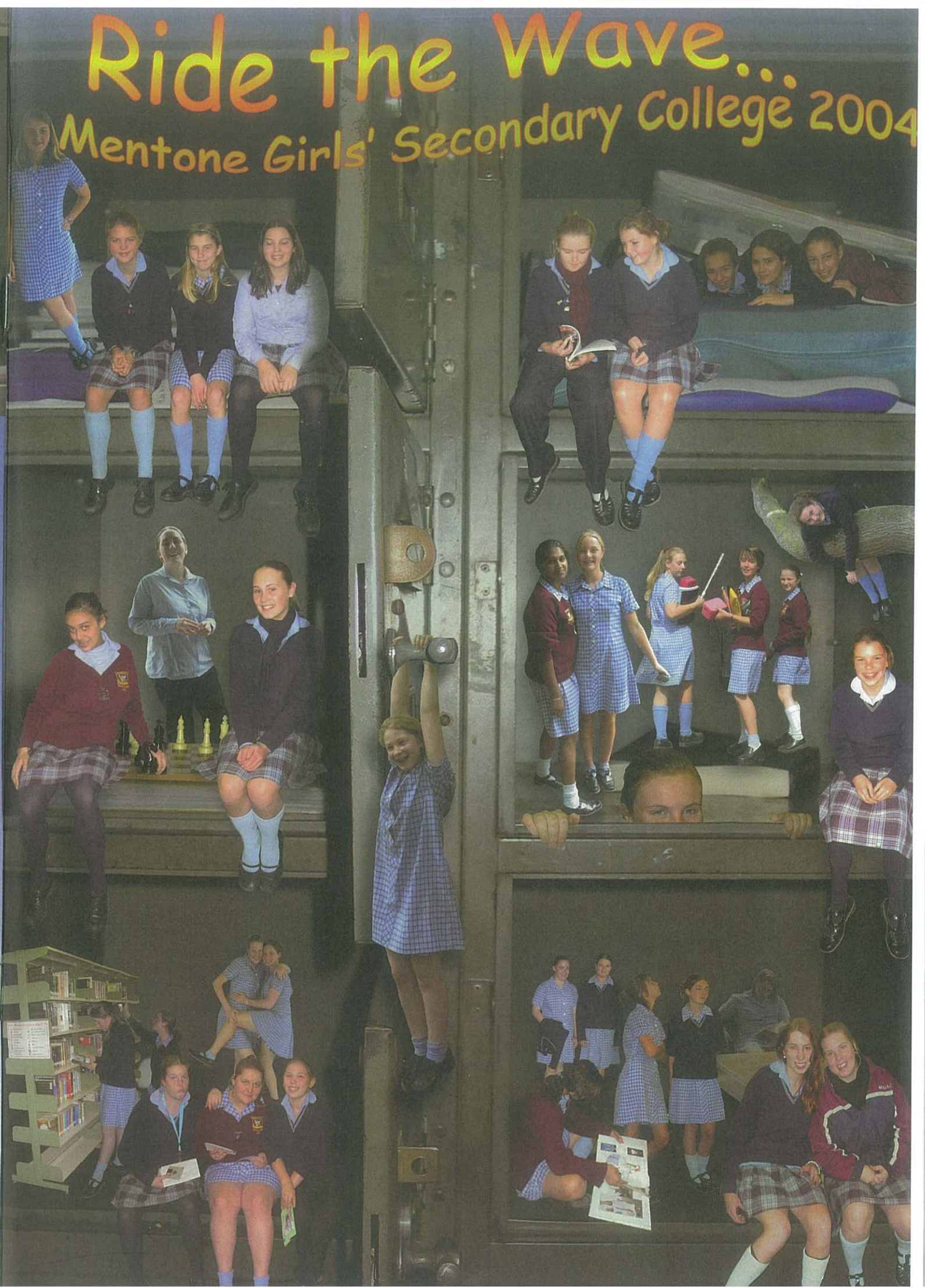


# Ride the Wave...

## Mentone Girls' Secondary College 2004

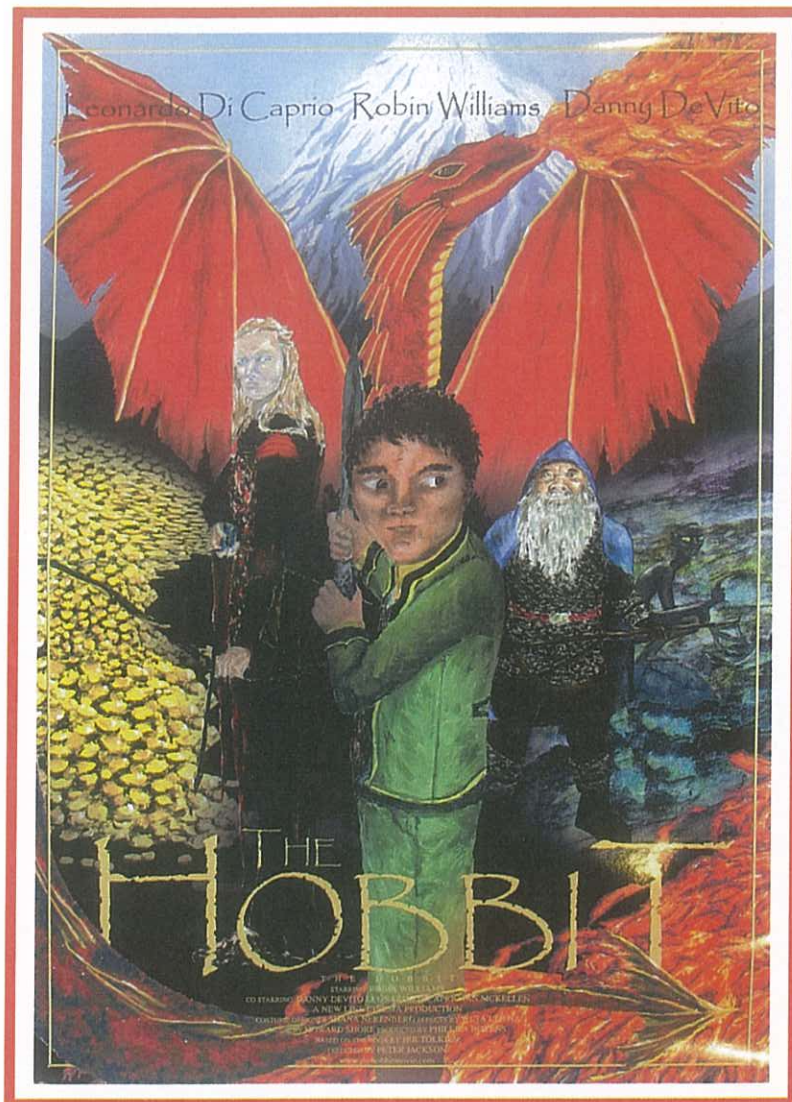


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Mentone 3194

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Cover Design by Helen van't Hof 10A 2004





## R. Malcolm Art Award 2003

The eagerly awaited R. Malcolm award for 2003 once again yielded some outstanding artworks from our talented and hardworking students as well as providing an enjoyable and entertaining night for students, proud parents and our equally delighted teachers. This generous annual award is sponsored by Mr Frank Hellier on behalf of the real estate firm, R. Malcolm. This is an acquisitive award, providing the school with inspirational examples of student art works as well as giving individual students recognition for their artistic achievements.

The 2003 R. Malcolm Award was held on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> November in the Visual Arts Building, which gave visitors a chance to experience the creative ambience of our working spaces. The light filled foyer and classrooms complemented the artworks in an impressive exhibition of paintings, drawings, graphic designs, ceramic sculpture and photography. These works represented the culmination of a challenging year's work in VCE years 11 and 12 Visual Arts.

The multi-talented Shana Nerenberg of Year 12 won the Award for artworks exhibited from her

folios in Visual Communication and Art. Shana's Visual Communications folio was a colourful and imaginative collection of designs for the marketing of a proposed film of the "Hobbit", while her art folio explored shadow on fabric textures and patterns in subtle and fascinating varieties of colour and tone.

Two Encouragement Awards are also presented each year. Fiona Melvin of Year 12 and Cassie Smout of Year 11 were awarded these – Fiona for her folio exploring cityscapes using fibres and mixed media; and Cassie for her photographic figure studies.

The judging panel for 2003 comprised Ms Deborah Lehner, our College Principal; Mr Frank Hellier from R. Malcolm; Mr Colin Simpson, Principal of the Victorian College of the Arts and Mrs Judy Sullivan who is a former art teacher from Mentone Girls. As is ever the case in judging the work of the diverse and talented students of the Visual Arts at Mentone, they had a difficult but rewarding task!

Representative works from the award winning folios will now take their place in Mentone Girls' Secondary College's very impressive collection of student art works.

Ride the Wave 2004

In 2004 we have seen an enormous increase in leadership positions available to girls across the College. While we have empowered girls within our school community, our next challenge is to empower and prepare them for situations that will occur in other settings, such as in the workforce or in negotiating demands on them personally.

Developing self-leadership qualities is an important part of the educational journey. These qualities include being fully accountable for your actions, taking responsibility for yourself (but not for other people) challenging assumptions and seeking collaboration. Expectations need to be checked with reality, and self-leadership means that we must allow ourselves to

have a state of mind that is expansive and allows for all possibilities. We need to have an open mind, and to develop an ability to successfully negotiate a state of no fixed positions. This means having commitment and faith in yourself, in the sense of achieving your full potential.

The challenge is to have the courage and confidence to seek, find and maintain an authentic path, whatever form that takes. I hope all students take the opportunities offered at Mentone Girls' Secondary College to develop their self-leadership qualities as well as undertaking the formal leadership roles.

I would like to thank all the students who have been

leaders this year. In particular, may I wish students in Year 12, 2004, all the very best as they negotiate the next phase of their education. I look forward to reading their tales of success, and seeing them next year at our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

Deborah Lehner  
Principal



An athlete spends 4 years (sometimes a lot more) preparing for their ultimate challenge which is to win gold at the Olympics. They spend hours training, working with coaches, preparing themselves both physically and mentally and when they finally compete less than 1 sec can be the difference between achieving their ultimate dream or not. But have they lost if they didn't win the gold? Many of our athletes regularly achieve their personal best when they compete. Shouldn't we be just as proud of those athletes?

It is fortunate that working hard at school and striving to achieve your best results is not all dependent on a split second in one event! Instead all students have the opportunity to build their skills, work with their teachers, set goals and celebrate their achievements regularly and all the time building their confidence and readiness to be successful in their adult life. I am very proud of our girls here at Mentone Girls' as they are always giving their best and achieving their personal best in a very broad and challenging range of activities.

I was spellbound by the quality of the Kismet production. All performers, back stage crew, lighting and sound personnel, make up, costume and of course the staff involved are to be congratulated on the magnificent production that we are all very proud of. We continue to achieve state wide success in sport, Top Arts designs, English, Mathematics and Science national competitions and music performances. Our relationship with the Shiga Girls High School is a very precious one and thanks must go to the host families who so warmly welcomed our visitors into their homes. Another special feature of 2004 was the welcome of Princess Mike from Letsibogo Girls High School in Soweto, South Africa to our school. Princess has had a wonderful year-long experience in Australia, supported by some wonderful families from Mentone Girls'. Hearty thanks must go to these families who have made a special effort to showcase some spectacular parts of Melbourne and Australia. I will be very sad to see Princess return to her family at the end of the year but we wish her all the best and look forward to another student arriving early

next year.

It continues to be a great delight to work in a school with so many positive people and so many things to be proud of. Thank you to all the parents for their support, particularly those on school council and parents and friends. Best wishes to all the students, I hope that you achieve a personal best this year. Good luck to all the Year 12 girls for their upcoming exams and best wishes for the next stage of their lives. Don't forget where we are, keep in touch.



Heather Sarau  
Assistant Principal

I have been proud to work as part of the Principal Class team at Mentone Girls' Secondary College. We receive many compliments from the community about our College – its students, the quality of the teaching, the facilities and the grounds. I continue to be impressed and amazed at the fantastic work the students at our College produce, both in the classroom and through our co-curricular program. This is, in no small part, because of the dedication and hard work of our teaching staff, many of whom devote countless amounts of time and energy providing opportunities for our students.

I have worked closely with the Senior School to ensure our VCE students are supported to achieve as well as they can in their final two years of study. I have also supported the development of College facilities

and information technology resources. More recently I have focused on the area of College staffing and workforce planning issues.

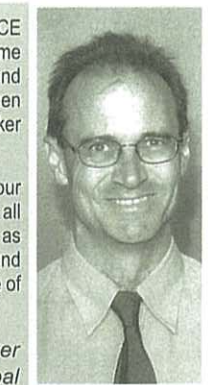
During 2004 the College commenced work on upgrading its front entrance, general office and teaching staff work facilities. This project is nearing completion and will ensure the College has a visible front entrance, an entrance foyer that allows for better display of student work and improved working conditions for our administrative staff.

The College has been funded in the State Budget to complete Stage 2 of its Master Plan and much of my work this year has been in developing the design for this project. Construction should start by the end of this year. When completed we will have an appropriate

study facility for our VCE students, refurbished Home Economics kitchens and textiles rooms, a new canteen and improved student locker and toilet facilities.

I would like to wish all our departing Year 12 students all the very best for their future as they finish their schooling and venture into the next phase of their lives.

Mr Simon Frazer  
Assistant Principal



Some exciting educational initiatives have occurred in 2004. The year 2004 has seen major initiatives in the Middle School aimed at improving student motivation to learn. The 'You Can Do It' Program was introduced at Year 9 run weekly by significant teachers at this level.

All 2004 Year 9 students were encouraged in their 2005 Year 10 course to take up the challenge of a VCE subject and the Year 10 student counselling day focussed on the advantages a study of an accelerated subject can provide. The College aim in introducing these changes was to help students gain a clearer sense of a connection between their studies and their future directions.

Third term was particularly hectic as I led a small planning team to develop an innovative proposal for acceptance into the Leading Schools Fund, an initiative in Minister Kosky's 'Blueprint for Education'. This proposal if accepted involves further major changes in teaching practices in the Middle Years particularly Year 9 and the building of a purpose built Middle Years Centre.

As well, teachers working in curriculum innovation teams developed the Year 8 Challenge Camp, the Year 7 Athena's Agora cross curricular project and the Year 9 City Project. From Year 7 to Year 9 the new projects focus on the development of adolescent thinking and their needs. Each set of activities encourages and

requires a higher level of independent thinking and student responsibility for their own learning. I congratulate all of the staff on their willingness to engage in the continual process of change and reflection in curriculum practice, the outcome of which is great teaching and teachers.

Mary Jo Putrino  
Assistant Principal



### Mentone Girls' Secondary College

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# Student Responsibility Positions 2004

## College Captains

**College Captain:** Ganga Ranjit;  
**Year 12 Vice Captain:** Chloe Payne  
**Year 11 Vice Captain:** Jennifer Wainwright

### Form Captains

7A Eily Politis  
 7B Carly Draper  
 7C Tilly Le Faou  
 7D Megan Boland  
 7E Amanda Aridl  
 7F Louise Nelson  
 7G Sarah Southward  
 7H Keira Montgomery

### Vice Captains

7A Zoe Walsh  
 7B Michelle Kulkus  
 7C Ueidi Reis  
 7D Anastasia Margaritis  
 7E Maddie Lee Gow  
 7F Talissa Shekelton  
 7G Amelia Delaney  
 7H Sophie Cook

### Form Captains

8A Lucy Ballantyne  
 8B Tori Cameron  
 8C Sasha Kerdel  
 8D Katelyn Hutton  
 8E Celeste Newman  
 8F Carolyn Hutchins  
 8G Sarah Dennehy  
 8H Bonnie Perris

### Vice Captains

8A Jessica Leggett  
 8B Holly Gilligan  
 8C Vivienne Law  
 8D Jessie Dean  
 8E Ashley Ward  
 8F Kleo Cruse  
 8G Brooke Fowler  
 8H Sharni Kearney

### Vce Committee

**Year 11**  
 Joanne McKenna  
 Vicki Antonopoulos  
 Noosha D'Cruse  
 Kate Waller  
 Lisa Bambery  
 Mary Ngomamiti  
 Jennifer Wainwright

### Form Captains

9A Laura Smedley  
 9B Kelly Roberts  
 9C Lauren Orlando  
 9D Laura Theobald  
 9E Sarah Strong  
 9F Laura Dobbie  
 9G Olga Taranenko

### Vice Captains

9A Natalie Rogers  
 9B Melanie Draper  
 9C Courtney Sullivan  
 9D Cherie Conway  
 9E Joanne Vaughan  
 9F Georgia Kay  
 9G Joanna Politis

### Form Captains

10A Saskia Oosthuizen  
 10B Carolina Vanegas  
 10C Kim William  
 10D Teagan Webster  
 10E Ashleigh Voce  
 10F Geeta Shortt  
 10G Jessica Rlordan  
 10H Jacqui O'Reilly

### Vice Captains

10A Sarah Budge  
 10B Ellie O'Brien  
 10C Tess de Munk  
 10D Alana Hoggart  
 10E Madeleine Gabron  
 10F Mieke Car  
 10G Alexandra Dacy  
 10H Kathryn Caplygin

### Year 12

Lani Craven  
 Nikki Ziagas  
 Christine Chamberlain  
 Ashlee Collins  
 Erin Lijja  
 Laura Wilkie  
 Caroline Webb  
 Ganga Ranjit  
 Chloe Payne

### Performing Arts Captains

#### Choral Captains

**Kenny** Anya Nerenberg  
**Melba** Jessica Carrascalao Heard  
**Jackson** Helena Cangadis-Douglass and Clare Redshaw  
**Mackellar** Claire Valentine

#### Instrumental Captains

**Kenny** Jessica Brady  
**Melba** Rose Kennedy and Elizabeth Honing  
**Jackson** Jennifer Mapleston  
**Mackellar** Claire Heath and Eloise Johnstone

#### Music Captains

**Senior** Jessica Brady  
**Senior Vice** Claire Heath  
**Middle** Megan Lowe  
**Middle Vice** Sarah Navarria  
**Junior** Laurel Bonner  
**Junior Vice** Julia Eppingstall

#### Drama Captains

**Senior** Erin Lijja  
**Senior Vice** Jemma Hilliard  
**Middle** Annabel Green  
**Middle Vice** Alex Madigan  
**Junior** Sharni Kearney  
**Junior Vice** Kristina Doucouliagos

#### House Captains

**Kenny**  
**Senior Captain** Helen Wilkie  
**Vice Captain** Lauren Morecroft  
**Middle School Captain** Luana Groves  
**Vice Captain** Natalie Aramian  
**Junior School Captain** Maddy Cameron  
**Vice Captain** Mia Ivey

### Melba:

**Senior Captain** Georgia Evans  
**Vice Captain** Sharni Layton  
**Middle School Captain** Jane Dow  
**Vice Captain** Kate Steinfort  
**Junior School Captain** Olivia McConchle  
**Vice Captain** Julia Curcio

### Jackson:

**Senior Captain** Lindsey Rouette  
**Vice Captain** Kelly Rouette  
**Middle School Captain** Emily Redmond  
**Vice Captain** Jemma Nowak  
**Junior School Captain** Sarah Brewer  
**Vice Captain** Tanelka Evans

### Mackellar

**Senior Captain** Lani Craven  
**Vice Captain** Lauren Steinfort  
**Middle School Captain** Tessa McKay  
**Vice Captain** Alice Stewart  
**Junior School Captain** Chelsie McLeod  
**Vice Captain** Sarah Heath

### KLA Captains

#### Maths Captains

**Senior** Yee-Ling Low and Jasmin Bardel  
**Middle** Jennifer Ashburn and Rebecca Vorwerk  
**Junior** Jessie Pearce and Laura Stuart

#### English Captains

**Senior** Rebecca Hutton and Georgina Glanville  
**Middle** Shana Stewart and Alice Maier  
**Junior** Ellen McDermott and Rosie Sheppard

### SOSE Captains

**Senior** Cathryn Gilberthorpe and Rebel Allen  
**Middle** Rachael Ivison and Alex Lewis  
**Junior** Eleanor Opie and Sarah Morrow

#### Science Captains

**Senior** Teagan Dobbie and Shelley Frost  
**Middle** Sophie Tudor and Evie Hamilton  
**Junior** Lucy Schrader and Angie Zhang

#### LOTE Captains

##### French

Jessica Vale  
 Jaqueline Younger  
 Jamie Waterland

##### Japanese

Melissa Riemer  
 Caitlyn Hoggart  
 Georgia Nowill

#### Visual Arts Captains

Jemma Phillips (captain)  
 Sara Smith  
 Lauren Johnston  
 Rachel O'Keefe  
 Jessica Raubenheimer  
 Kara Vale

#### Learning Technologies Captains

Victoria Likhova  
 Jazmine Bradley  
 Chloe Page  
 Amelia Page

#### Magazine Committee

Peta Ryan (co-editor)  
 Rebecca Hutton (co-editor)  
 Emily Laidlaw  
 Eloise Johnstone  
 Helen van't Hof  
 Ellen Hollowood  
 Sharon Flitman  
 Joanna Politis  
 Kleo Cruse  
 Tess Ryan

### SRC VCE Representatives

**Year 11**  
 Alaa Bondok  
 Rachel Flitman  
 Kate Halliday  
 Claire Heath  
 Belinda Hallinan  
 Jasna Medojevic  
 Mary Ngomamiti  
 Elizabeth Stafford  
 Riana Tucker  
 Kate Waller

### SRC Executive Committee:

**President:** Krista Seddon; **Vice President:** Elizabeth Stafford  
**Secretary:** Rachel Flitman; **Treasurer:** Carolyn Jones

### SRC Representatives

7A Katrina Kourbeis	8A Michelle Stephens	9A Tatum Stewart	10A Michelle Vuat
7B Caitlyn Powell	8B Hayley Pitman	9B Carly Aird	10B Belinda Buksh
7C Berit Richardson	8C Olivia Wichtowski	9C Kavitha Burge	10C Stephanie Burgess
7D Jenna Rosser	8D Alice Prowse	9D Luci Georgeson	10D Megan Kiteley
7E Beth Mammos	8E Amy Kivell	9E Caitlin Montgomery	10E Melanie Ryan
7F Amanda Rickard	8F Ellie Ganella	9F Cassandra Maddocks	10F Jessie Skaffourous
7G Samantha Howard	8G Cheree Hamilton	9G Genevieve Ayre	10G Georgia Nowill
7H Tess Durham	8H Fiona Lawman		10H Nicole Price

When I was first elected College Captain, I was absolutely dumbfounded. It was the most amazing feeling and the feeling has remained within me throughout the year.

When looking back on the year, I don't know where to begin to describe the highlights. These include the Year 7/12 "Fancy Dress Night" (with a special appearance of Ali-G a.k.a Mr Kan), "Re-live Grade 6 Day", Year 12 camp and of course, the night all Year 12s count down to, the VCE Ball.

Mr Kan, Ms Wainwright and Mrs Egan, your positive outlook and vibe throughout the year has assisted the Year 12's to stay in line. Mr Feben, your long hours of counselling on our behalf has impacted on all of us in Year 12 tremendously.

To say that this year, as Vice College Captain, was fantastic, would be the biggest understatement of the century.

The things and people that I have encountered in my last year of schooling as a Captain of the College will be treasured forever.

Working with Ganga and Jen has been an absolute pleasure and I would not have traded them or their personalities for anything. Whilst there was a lot of ongoing fun and mischief brewing with the three captains, we have worked together this year to create the best year possible for all of the students at Mentone Girls'. I can certainly say that the endless fundraisers and community service projects have benefited

When the Year 11 Vice College Captain was announced early this year, and I heard my name read out to all of the eager year elevens, I felt a rush of mixed emotions. I was delighted, shocked, nervous and anxious. I had put so much effort into my speech and had taken the process rather seriously, as I felt very strongly about this school and what it has to offer young women. Being given this role was a huge challenge and responsibility that I wanted to take on from day one of year eleven and I was honoured to have been chosen by my peers to represent them at Mentone Girls'.

To complete such a unique senior team, a special thank you goes to Mr.Wallace, for the endless nights of entering our sac marks into the VCAA authority. Thank you for your unconditional support throughout the year, we couldn't have made it through this year without you.

Year 12s, through the tears and laughter we finally bonded. I truly believe that we are an exclusive bunch, who like to have a different perspective for the future. I would like to take this chance to thank each one of you individually for your ongoing friendship and support.

On a personal note, I knew taking on this role of College Captain would be a great deal of responsibility, but a responsibility I feel privileged, honoured and most fortunate to

the school and the organisations in which we all helped. I cannot express how much help and support has been given to the VCE girls this year from our trusting and caring VCE co-ordinators, Mr Kan, Mrs Wainwright and Mrs Egan. Their ongoing concern and willingness to help has made this year a whole lot easier to get through.

The memories of my last year will include events such as the Fancy Dress Ball with the Year 7's and 12's, the Swimming and Athletics days and of course the VCE Ball. I had a fantastic time at the Ball which turned out to be a great success due to the great work and efforts of the VCE committee, Mr Kan and Mrs Wainwright.

The year has been busy but extremely rewarding and workthwhile. Working closely with Ganga Ranjit and Chloe Payne has been a wonderful experience and both of the girls have taught me a lot about being a school captain and the role we play within the school community. I would like to thank the girls for guiding me through the year and being there if I ever needed their help or advice.

I have been able to take part in a number of different school based occasions, both within the College and in the wider community, from speaking at College Assemblies to being part of

have been given. Once again, thank you to the Year 12s and the entire teaching staff for putting your faith and trust in me.

Finally, Chloe and Jennifer - it has been absolutely mind blowing working with you two. It was fantastic sharing the experience with you.

To the class of 2004, just remember, "There will be a time when you believe everything is finished. But that will be the beginning".

To the rest of the school, "the best place to be is here, and the best time to be here is now". Good luck to everyone, and I wish you all the best for the future.

Ganga Ranjit  
 College Captain 2004

All of my emotions are mixed, as I prepare to leave the place that has been my second home for the past 6 years and enter the "real" world. I feel happy that all of the hard work and constant pressure will be over but absolutely devastated at the thought of leaving all my friends and all of the teachers and students that I have formed friendships with. After I leave Mentone Girls', I will remember one thing as I start a new beginning. "Time waits for no-one. There is no better time than right now to be happy. Happiness is a journey, not a destination."

Chloe Payne 12E  
 Vice College Captain, 2004

committees, welcoming the Shiga Girls' and celebrating women in the community with other local female leaders.

The year is coming to an end and as I reflect on 2004, I realise how much I have learnt about team work, leadership, making new friends and the importance of contributing to this wonderful school. I would like to thank my Year Elevens for giving me the opportunity to represent them this year and I truly hope that I did them proud.

Jennifer Wainwright  
 Year 11 College Captain 2004



(l-r) Ganga Ranjit,  
 Jennifer Wainwright  
 and Chloe Payne.

School Captains' Report

2004 has been yet another busy year at Mentone Girls' Secondary College. With so many things accomplished, and so many new friends made, we know this year has created memories that will last a lifetime. So come along on a journey and explore the events of this magical year.

Come Ride the Wave with us...



As president of the Student Representative Council (SRC) for 2004, I have had the pleasure of watching the SRC team grow and develop throughout the year. The transformation of the forty nervous girls who entered the Conference centre at Genoa street on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March for our training day this year, into the group of confident young women actively discussing the uniform changes a few weeks ago, has been amazing. The executive team and Ms. Liakos (student leadership coordinator) were all newly elected to the roles so we approached the task of running and organising the Student Council with no expectations, but with firm aims. These were to voice student opinions, queries and concerns and organise and support activities within the school and the local community. I feel that we have been very effective in giving a positive voice to the student body.

**Casual Days:** Throughout the year the SRC has organised several greatly anticipated casual days. The first was the colourful International Women's Day casual day where girls dressed in purple, white and green in celebration of the economic, social, cultural and political achievements of women. In Term two we held a school Pyjama Day to raise money for the work of the Melbourne City Mission, which supports homeless people in and around Melbourne. In Term three we held two casual days. On the first casual day the girls dressed up in 'pink' clothes and donated \$1.00 each to the Piggy Bank Appeal. The girls looked fabulous, as no one had much trouble finding something pink to wear! The money raised from the second casual dress day went to the State Schools Relief Fund. The SRC was delighted to be able to donate \$500.00 to the organization.

**Fundraising:** the Fundraising efforts of this years SRC have been absolutely fantastic! As our contribution to 'Australia's Biggest Morning Tea' each member of the SRC brought a cake or biscuits to the teachers' staff room and the staff donated money for cancer research. We also organized a 'Shave Day' where our very own Mr Kan, Mr Corbett and Mrs Sarau decided

they would have their heads shaved if the school raised a certain amount of money. The students 'dug deep' for the Leukemia Foundation, enjoyed a barbeque and danced the lunchtime away to the local band. Over the year the SRC has donated money to 'Jeans for Genes' day, the Friends of Manatuto (girls sent over stationery to a school in East Timor), the Smith Family, the City Mission, the State Schools Relief Fund and the Piggy Bank Appeal just to name a few.

**Conferences, Leadership training and development:** One of the main aims of the SRC is to help girls to reach their full potential. The year started with the annual International Women's Day (IWD) assembly on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March when all the SRC representatives received badges in recognition of their leadership role. Two year ten girls, Megan Kiteley and Melanie Ryan were on the organising committee for the annual Year 10 State Girls School Conference. This exciting and inspiring Conference was held in our new lecture theatre and drama space for the first time this year. "Take the front seat: Celebrating our drive for life" was the theme which our two members certainly took literally! The girls organised an outstanding day. Ganga Ranjit (College Captain) worked together with the executive team to arrange the first VCE Leadership Luncheon. The purpose was to interact and meet with VCE leaders from surrounding schools. The lunch was extremely successful and many new friendships and networks have developed between local schools. We hope this tradition will continue. SRC representatives also attended the Amnesty International Conference and MUNA (Mock United Nations Assembly) and an end of term luncheon for all the SRC representatives.

**Events:** The Year 10 Social is an event annually organised by the Year 10 SRC representatives and the SRC executive. The theme for 2004 was 'Black and White'. The decorations, red carpet and most importantly the girls, all looked spectacular! A fantastic evening and an excellent effort from the main organisers, Jess Watson, Belinda Buksh, Katrina Anasatassiou and Ms Liakos. The SRC Talent Quest in Term four was

organised by Claire Heath and the Year 10 and 11 representatives. They did a smashing job.

**About the SRC:** A student survey was conducted during term two. Carolyn Jones wrote a fascinating report on the results, which revealed interesting results. Surprisingly students stated that they did not know they could make suggestions to the SRC or how to go about it. The results also showed that students were more interested in community and social issues, rather than discos and similar activities. There was also an overwhelming interest from student in setting up connections with a boys' school. The SRC executive team, with the support and encouragement of Mrs Liakos and Mrs Sarau, has considered the results of the student survey and put into place ideas for improvements to the structure of the organisation and training for future members of the SRC. Although the report is still in the research stage, we are hoping to have the changes in place for next year. The SRC aim this year to advance the role and voice of students within the College and to make the SRC more of a forum for debate and the exchange of opinions and ideas. I hope that students in future years will continue and extend the work of the 2004 SRC.

I would like to thank every single person who dressed up in pink or pyjamas on the various casual days, who bought a sausage or simply had a good time at an SRC event. To all the SRC representatives this year - you have done a great job! Ms Lehner and the Assistant Principals - thank you for your guidance and support this year and for always backing up our ideas and suggestions. Ms Liakos, you are our Angel, I know that I could not have survived year 12 without you - and the SRC would not function without your constant encouragement. And finally, to the SRC executive of 2004; Rachel Flitman (Secretary), Carolyn Jones (Treasurer) and Lizzie Stafford (Vice-President); you are truly inspirational and the driving force behind all the work and achievements of the 2004 SRC. On behalf of myself, and the Student Representative Council thank you all for your support and friendship.

Krista Seddon  
SRC President 2004



The SRC Executive team, 2004  
(l-r) Carolyn Jones, Krista Seddon,  
Rachel Flitman and Lizzie Stafford.

Student Representative Council



SRC Events 2004



# Swimming Sports 2004

As the wind blew and the icicles formed on the grass, busloads of girls dressed in purple, blue, yellow and green arrived for the annual MGSC Swimming Carnival.

Each Year 12 girl arrived clad in "op shop" clothing, which was their "theme" for this year.

As girls huddled together under large beach towels the first trials of the day began. The most enthusiastic Year levels were the Year Sevens and Eights, who had to run three trials for each age group in each house! Finally the sun began to shine and as the weather started to heat up, the Vietnam team got everybody up and moving towards their stall where they were selling mouth-watering ice-cream cones for only one dollar to raise money for their venture!

Congratulations to the age group champions this year who were...

U/13 Emmajo Grahame

U/14 Monique Mac

U/15 Sarah Grahame

U/16 Yasmin Roos

U/17 Kate Steinfort

U/21 Lauren Steinfort

Lauren Steinfort, Sally Buckley, Lara-Jane Stevenson, Monique Mac, Olivia Hoare, Tori Cameron, Yasmin Roos and Sharni Layton all broke records on the day.

The overall scores for the day were:

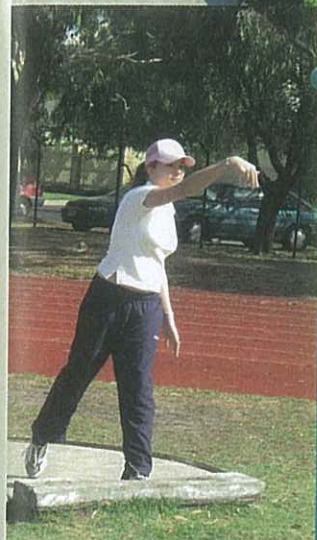
1<sup>st</sup> Melba - 531

2<sup>nd</sup> Jackson - 432

3<sup>rd</sup> Kenny - 408

4<sup>th</sup> Mackellar - 372

Sharon Flitman 9E



## Athletics Carnival

It was a foggy April morning at Dolomore Oval when the whole of M.G.S.C. met to participate in the annual Athletics Carnival. However, even through the fog, the bright and loud costumes that some dedicated and keen students donned were easy to see. There were traditional tutus aplenty, as well as balloons, sequins and even pyjamas!

As well as the fashion off the field, the work on the track was also sparkling. Well done to everyone who got involved, and especially to the age-group champions, who this year were-

U/13: Madeline Lee Gow (Mackellar)  
Vivienne Law (Jackson)

U/14: Emily Southward (Mackellar)

U/15: Catherine Wilkie (Kenny)

U/16: Luana Groves (Kenny)

U/17: Naomi Floyd (Kenny)

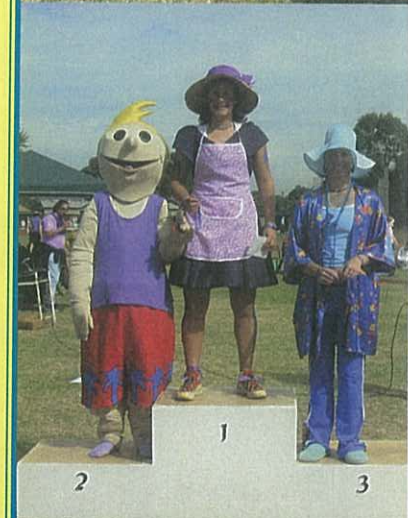
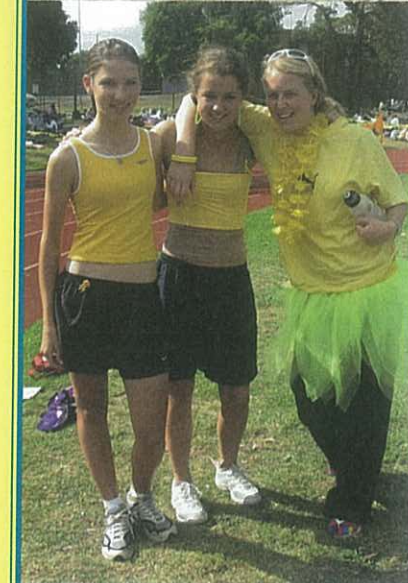
U/21: Helen Wilkie (Kenny) - who came first an amazing nine times with one second place.

Overall the house winner was Kenny with 1,138 points. Melba came second with 957 points, Mackellar came in third with 947 points and last, but not least, was Jackson with 673 points. Congratulations Kenny!

The highlight of the day had to be the whole-school 400m walk. Whilst it may have got a little crowded on the track at some points (which is not surprising considering there was probably 1000 people participating!), it was lots of fun and everyone benefited from the extra exercise.

Thanks must go to all the teachers and students who worked hard all day to make it run smoothly. We all look forward to next year!

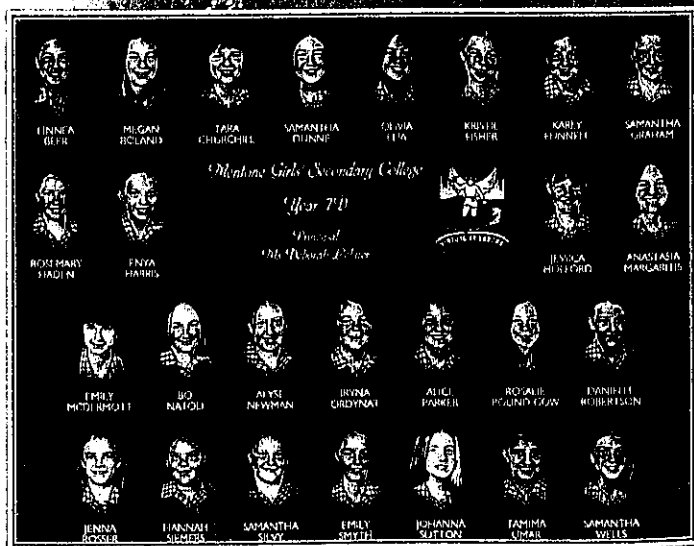
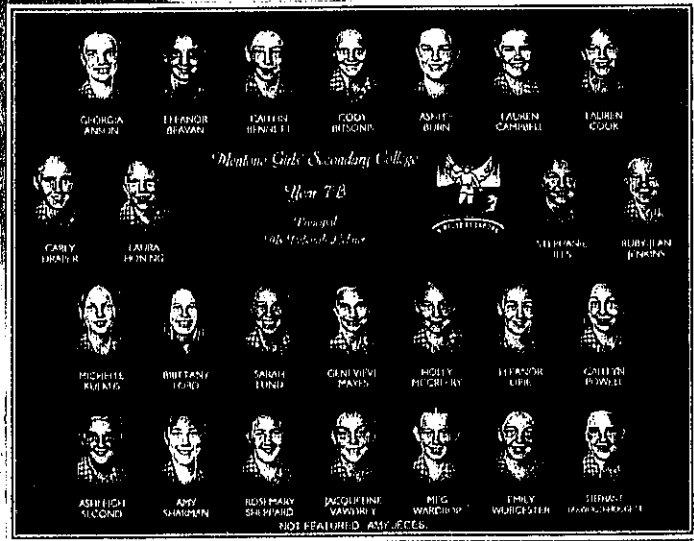
Eloise Johnstone, 11D.







Having a great time at the Year 7 and Year 12 Fancy Dress Party in term one!



From the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of February all the year seven students went to camp. Forms A, B, C and D went from Monday to Wednesday and forms E, F, G and H went from Wednesday to Friday. We all went to Arrabri Lodge in Warburton. The food was great and the teachers were really nice to us.

While we stayed there we did seven activities. They were swimming in the pool, transition which is a discussion about bullying, trampolines, archery, damper making, flying fox and the ropes course. We also had some night activities. They were relays, mini games, plays, a night trail and some bush dancing. All of the activities were really fun.

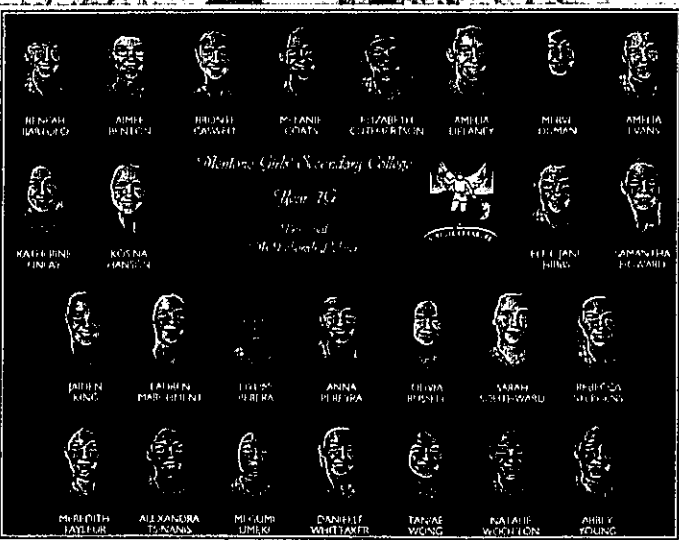
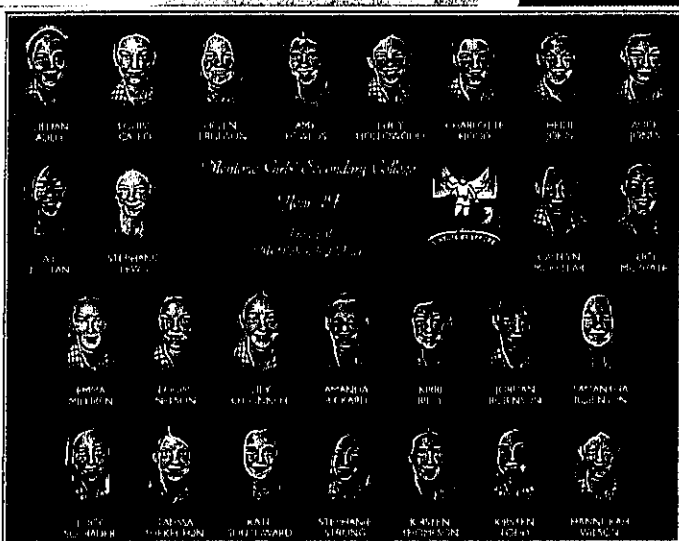
On the second day we also went to the Yarra River. Some people went panning for gold and some people just walked in the cool water. Some of the girls found some gold but unfortunately some of them lost their gold!

On the last day we went to a rainforest and had a peaceful nature walk. Later on in the day we stopped for lunch at Warburton shops. We all got to split up and look around for something to buy. There weren't many shops but we all found at least one thing to buy.

The year seven students would like to say thank you to all the teachers who spent their nights outside our cabins and their days making sure nothing happened to us. We had a good time and it was a great experience.

Tess Ryan 7A





### Unicorn Without Her Horn



Once upon a time there was a unicorn named Shimmer. Shimmer was no ordinary unicorn – she was missing something, something special to all unicorns. It wasn't big but it wasn't small – it was just right, but life without it could be almost impossible. It was her horn. Living on Cloud 700 was hard for the little unicorn. Being constantly teased and not able to go to school made her so upset that she asked herself;

"Why me, why?" everyday, but she couldn't figure it out.

One day Shimmer asked her parents:

"Why must I be the only unicorn on Cloud 700 to have no horn?" but they were too ashamed of their daughter so they didn't answer.

One day Shimmer decided to investigate so she went out looking for clues – maybe a friend to help her find her horn. She looked everywhere and asked everyone but no-one answered – they just looked away and laughed at her. So she ran as fast and as far away as she could. Then she stopped. She listened. She could hear something. She looked around – but could see nothing!

"Is anyone there?" she said in a shaking voice. "I'm here" said a small soft voice. "But no-one wants to see me."

"Why?" said Shimmer.

"Because I'm missing something, something special to all fairies"

"What's that?" asked Shimmer.

"My wings! Without them I can't fly, and if I can't fly I can't get up to see my friends – the fairies with wings."

"Well, I'm missing something, something special to all unicorns. I am missing my horn."

"Really?" said the fairy, walking out from behind a tree.

"Well, I guess I can help you look for it!" she said in a much more cheerful voice.

The unicorn was confused but enjoyed looking around the land.

Then the fairy said "Wait a minute. Have you looked in the Lost and Found Shop yet?"

The unicorn, as confused as ever, said "No! Let's go."

Finally they got there. Out the front of the

shop there was a big sign reading "LOST and FOUND". The fairy and the unicorn walked in.

"Okay, we need to find horns", the fairy told Shimmer.

They looked everywhere until they came to the very last aisle – "This must be it", thought Shimmer.

"Okay, what do we have? Prince Charming's charm? No. Pinocchio's nose? No. Here they are – Unicorn's horns. What are you waiting for? Try them on" said the fairy.

Shimmer tried them all on until she came to a very shiny and shimmery one. She knew it was hers and she became attached to it straight away.

But there was still one box left. The fairy opened it and a pair of wings flew out and attached themselves to her. "At last!" she thought, but she didn't want to act surprised in case the unicorn laughed at her.

The unicorn and the fairy said goodbye and hoped they would meet again. They were friends forever.

Sarah Southward 7G

### Mum Oh Mum!

Mum Oh Mum!  
Look at that toy!  
Oh how it gives me such joy.  
It looks so sweet  
Can I buy it for a treat?

No! No! No!  
I think not!  
We came here to buy your dad a pot.

Oh please! Oh please!  
I'm begging you!  
I'll help you cook veggie stew.

Oh Mum! Oh Mum!  
Look over there!  
I really want that teddy bear.

No! No! No!  
I told you so  
We are searching for pots high and low.

Mum Oh Mum!  
Let's go and eat.  
Can I buy some lollies and some sweets!

No! No! No!  
It isn't so!  
I told you to get some vegies though.

Oh please! Oh please!  
I'm going to freeze!  
Can I get a hot chocolate please?

No! No! No!  
I said no!  
I told you that it isn't so!

Oh Mum! Oh Mum!  
Oh please! Oh please!  
I'm begging on my hands and knees!

No! Get up you silly child  
You are very, very wild!

No! I'm not  
I'm well behaved  
But I'm not your slave.

No you silly child  
We are going home  
You are going to your room  
And it will be very, very soon!

Jacqueline Vawdrey and Sarah Lund 7B



Gemma Lonsdale 7A "Miniature Landscape"

### Summertime

The waves bash against the rocks as I watch the sun go down,  
I look at the horizon,  
The ocean wearing a crown.

The flowers bloom,  
Left from Spring,  
The feeling makes me want to sing.

The whole world glows,  
The whole world knows,  
The feeling of summertime always shows.

Amelia Delaney 7G



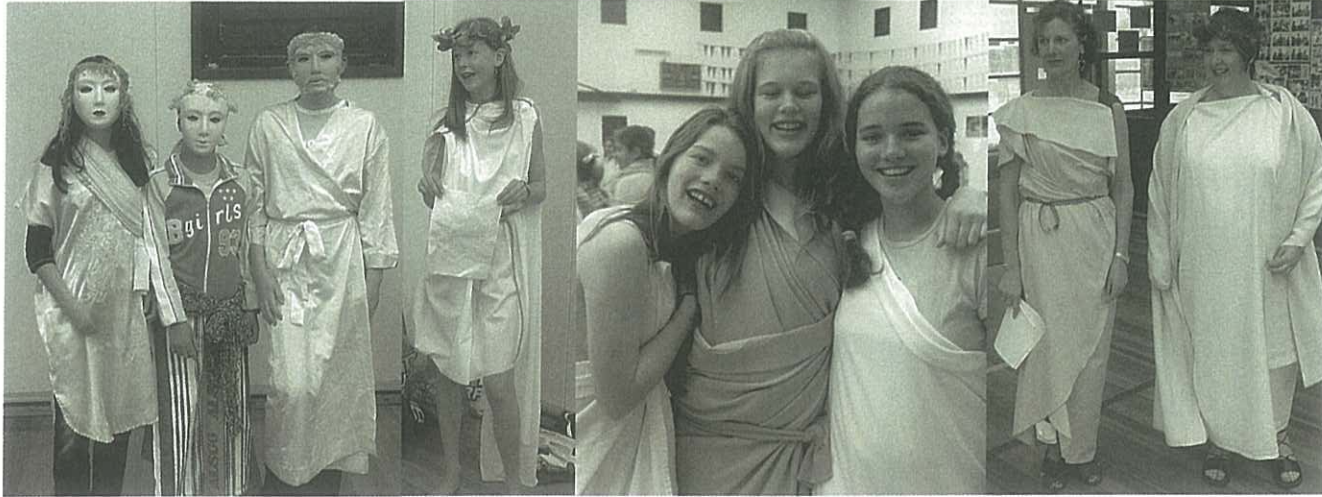


Ride the Wave 2004



Athena's Agora was the day that every Year Seven student dressed up as a Greek god or a Greek person. This year instead of doing Cleopatra's Bazaar, the year seven students had a special Greek day called Athena's Agora. The gymnasium got transformed into Athens' Olympic stadium. During the day we had a number of events. We had some Greek dancing, Greek speaking, and Greek plays. Many of the forms decided to perform some plays. There were plays about Archimedes the famous inventor, Greek gods, Greek Myths, and even a Greek idol. At the end of the day everyone had fun participating in the Greek Olympics. There were many events and lots of first place ribbons given out. The day was a great success, and everyone had a fantastic time being in Greece for one day.

Tess Ryan 7A



## Lost in the Snow

Help! Is anybody out there? I yell in a faint, desperate voice. I could feel that my fingers have frostbite, my nose is dripping like a tap and the only things I can hear are the sound of my teeth chattering as I lay there in the cold snow, lost with nothing but a backpack and ski clothes. I struggle to move as my leg is caught under a fallen branch. I've been out here for several hours, but it feels like days. The wind is picking up and the light snow is turning into sleet. I think I'm in trouble! Help! I yell once more, my voice being carried away by the wind. The cold sleet is now beginning to sting my face. I shouldn't have been so careless. The weather wasn't looking good when I left but I went out skiing anyway. Now I'm lost in the mountains, freezing cold, no food and trapped on the side of this cliff with a broken leg. I try once more to move but it's hopeless, I'm never going to see my family and friends again. Hot tears filled my eyes as I thought about how great this skiing holiday could have been. I'm going to die, I thought to myself, in agony.

Jodie, Jodie. I could hear a faint calling in the wind. I tried peering over the cliff. That's my name! I thought happily. As quickly as I could, I grabbed my stocks and waved them around to let them know where I was. I could hear that the sound of my name was getting closer. The light of their torches was shining on me. I've never felt so relieved in my life. I was saved! The sounds of voices filled the air around me. By now I'm almost passing out with the cold. I could feel rope being tied around me, and a jolting motion as I am hauled back up the cliff on the stretcher. I was tired. My eyes were stinging, and before I knew it I was sound asleep. SAFE!

Danielle Whittaker 7G



Roller Blading!  
Brooke Plymin, Ashlee Hoare, Emily Southward



Greek Dancing in Year 7 PE

## Fancy Dress Party

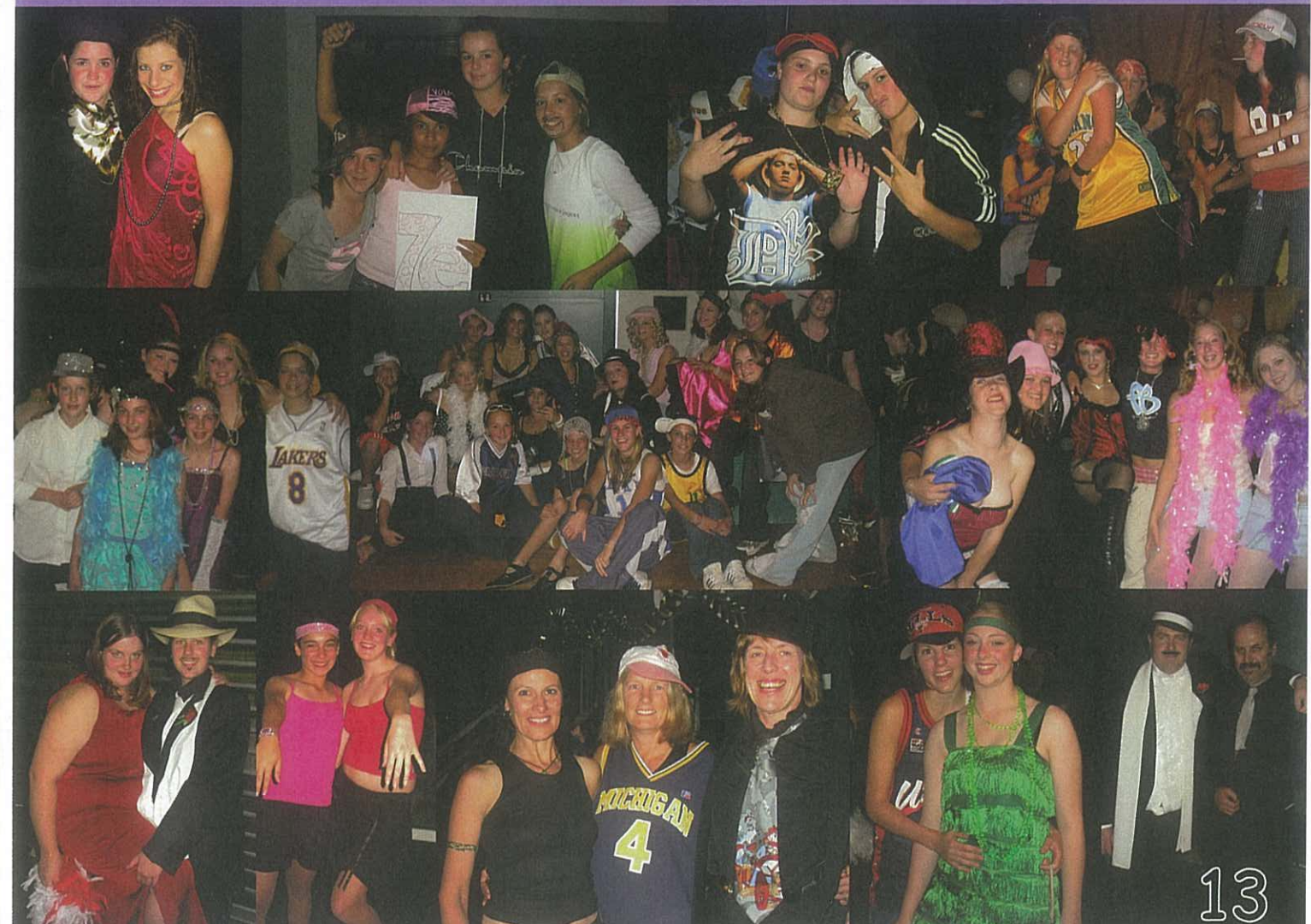


On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March the girls of M.G.S.C. went to war – the Gangsters and Flappers of the Roaring Twenties versus the Gangsters and "Chicago Chicks" of today. There were cigars, guns and outrageous hemlines as all of Years Seven and Twelve packed the Nina Carr Hall for a night weeks in the making. Over the course of the night each of the Year Seven forms performed, making their Year Twelves proud. 7H's dance war finally won out over mini Michael Jackson's, Can-Can dancers and a mass of Al Capone's minions. Our College Captain, Ganga Ranjit, and Vice-Captain Chloe Payne were MC's for the night, along with Mr Kan's identical but somewhat stranger twin Ali G. In Year Twelve Caroline Webb won best costume, with Holly Jepson winning most original costume. Along with the wonderful outfits and music there was a heap of food, which rapidly disappeared halfway through the evening and even a professional photographer. Congratulations to 7H and a huge thank-you to all of the Year Sevens and Twelves for working so hard, especially everyone who helped to set up and clean up afterwards. Most importantly an even bigger thank-you to Mr Kan who did an unbelievable amount of work to make it such a wonderful night for all of us, it was a really great night.

Rebecca Hutton 12D

During term one all the Year Seven and Twelve's were learning and preparing the dances their forms were going to perform on the night of the Fancy Dress. The theme this year was Gangsters and Chicago chicks. When the night finally arrived, it was very exciting to see everyone's costume – even the teachers dressed up! First of all the teachers asked the forms to come up one by one to show off their costumes. The teachers then put the form names in a hat and drew them out one by one to work out the order of performance. All the dances were fantastic. No one messed anything up! Afterwards we went outside to have some food and drink and when we came back in the decision of who was going to win had been made. First of all they read out who won the best dressed awards. Four lucky students won a mini trophy for their great effort in dressing up. Out of the teachers Mr. Williams won an award for his costume. Then the big result was announced. The winner of the 2004 Fancy Dress was 7H. After seeing 7H's dance one more time everyone got up and had a dance to some music. Thank you to all of the people who put in their time to make The Fancy Dress Party such a great success.

Tess Ryan 7A







roducing masterpieces in Art class



## Year 8 Maths Games Day held at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar



Back row: Jessica Pearce 8C, Carolyn Hutchins 8F, Keethi Ravi 8G, Jacqueline Woodlock 8H.  
Front: Bryley Quinton 8C, Rianna Tucker 8G.  
(absent: Kristie Vaughan 8A, Nicky Petzke 8F)

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of July, eight Year 8 students; Kristie Vaughan 8A, Bryley Quinton 8C, Jessie Pearce 8C, Carolyn Hutchins 8F, Rianna Turner 8G, Keethi Ravi 8G, Jacqueline Woodlock 8H and Nicky Petzke 8F traveled out to Penleigh and Essendon Grammar to participate in the Year 8 Maths Games Day. When we arrived we went inside and split into two teams of four to battle it out with the other schools.

We started off with a set of questions that we worked out as a team inside a time limit of 30 minutes, then we moved on to play one on one against another school in fun games. At lunch time there was food provided and the school band was playing. After lunch we made our way back into the hall for the next session. We had received another booklet of questions to finish.

When that was over the answer sheets were taken up. Although neither of the teams got a prize we did do really well as we were up against around 150 other schools. Team 1 obtained 66 points which was a good result.

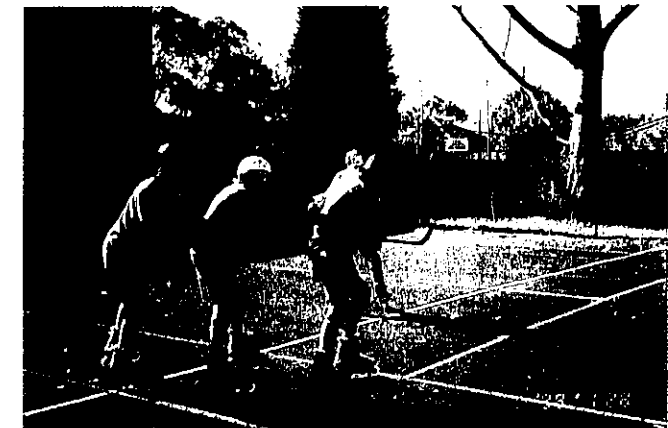
Everyone had a great time and we'd all like to thank Mrs Perks for organising the competition and Mr. Shillabeer for taking us to and from the venue and for all his help on the day.

Carolyn Hutchins 8F

## Year 8 French Drama Activity: "Leap into Language"

The Year Eights this year participated in the Leap into Language program. Assistants from a drama company came to the school and played French games with the students and did French plays. The students were intrigued by the French and gave it a go making their own French skits. Overall it was a huge success with all the year eights having a great time.

Jamie Waterland (Year 9 French Leader)



8G Rollerblading  
Jacqui Au, Sam Kewley, Lauren Ferro



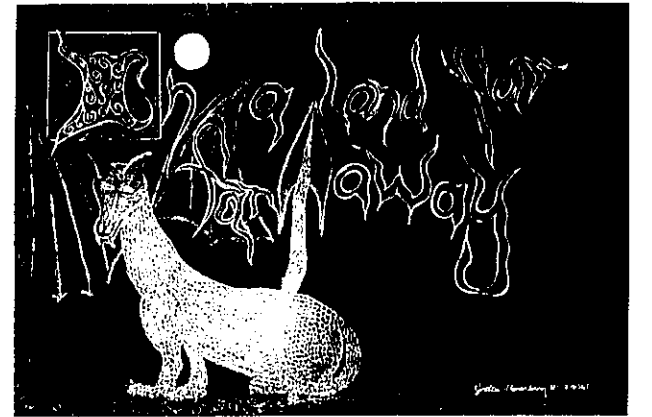
8G PE Uniform Challenge winners  
Roller Blading prize



Jessica Leggett 8A



Emma Clapperton 8A



Gretta Neremberg 8C





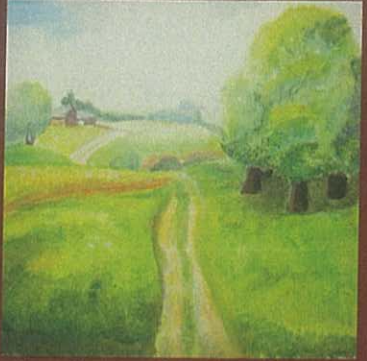
# Art 2004



Year 8 Fish Sculptures



Bethany Oakes 8A



Alice Maier 9E



Sarah Cusak Year 10



Catherine Woods 10C



Suzannah Murley 8E



Jessica Leggett 8A



Bridey Sabin 9A



Lyn Hoang 10E



Calani Knight 10B



Elyse Hodges 10D



Holly Marshall 7A



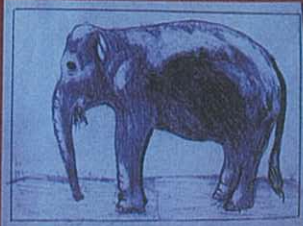
Tess Ryan 7A



Vanessa Fyffe 7A



Ellie Dix 7A



Emma Holford 8A



Libby Charles 7A



Georgina Karavasil 10G



ELiza Coats 10G

## The Phantom Printer

(inspired by my dad)

Keisha never thought anything of the old computer store on the corner block. It just wasn't anything special, only cheap, second hand computers and accessories. She only took an interest in it when she needed a printer for school work. Now, Keisha didn't have much money and her mother could never afford it so she had to pay for the printer out of her hard won earnings from her part time job at the newsagency, which wasn't very much at all, so you can guess where she went.

As Keisha stepped into the store, she smelt a waft of musty air. The door creaked shut behind her. Keisha walked up to the counter and asked for what she was after. The old lady at the counter didn't say a word, only pointed a long, frail finger in the direction of a single printer draped with cobwebs and dust. "\$69.99", the sign read. "Wow, is that jinxed or something?" Keisha joked. The old lady just grunted and replied, "Take it or leave it." Keisha decided she wasn't going to stay in the shop any longer and shoved the printer in the box it was resting on, paid the lady and left, without taking a second glance at the lady's intimidating face.

The printer worked surprisingly well for such a low price and Keisha wondered why someone had wanted to get rid of it. She had had it for about three months now, and the cartridge that came with the printer still hadn't run out. It wasn't worrying Keisha though, it just meant less expense for her.

A few weeks later and the printer was still going fine, until one day. Keisha was just finishing an assignment when a page came out of the printer. "That's funny", Keisha thought, "I don't remember printing anything." She looked at it anyway. It was a cartridge test, like the ones that print out when you've just put in a new cartridge. "I never told the computer to test my cartridge" she thought out loud. "What's that Sweetie?" her mother asked. "Oh nothing Mum" Keisha replied. She didn't want to bother her mother over this, it was probably nothing anyway.

A few days later, Keisha was playing games on her computer one morning when it happened again. This time it printed out her essay on road safety. Keisha was getting anxious now, "What the hell is going on here?" she questioned herself. But she couldn't deal with it at that moment, she was already late enough for school as it was. She left the house in a frenzy; shoving toast in her mouth, while dressing herself and brushing her hair.

While walking to school, Keisha was so preoccupied with thinking about the trouble she would get into for being extremely late that she hardly noticed the car when it backed out. Luckily the driver noticed her - he slammed his foot down on the brake and beeped his horn, shocking Keisha out of her train of thought. The driver, who turned out to be a family friend, stayed with Keisha until she calmed down. He drove her the rest of the way to school.

## The Bush

The bush is kookaburras laughing hysterically at their own jokes,  
 The bush is the heavy thump of kangaroos at dusk,  
 The bush is the bark of the sheep dog rounding up the herd,  
 The bush is aboriginal paintings and dances,  
 The bush is beautiful red sunsets on the tall gum trees,  
 The bush is beautiful.

Hannah McElhinney 8B

Ride the Wave 2004

When Keisha returned from school she checked the printer for any problems - it was fine. So why was it printing things without being asked? Was it just coincidence that a page on road safety had been printed out and Keisha was involved in a close accident the same day? Who knew? Keisha didn't

Over the next month pages kept coming out of the printer, being more meaningful each time. Until one day a page came out, giving her a warning. The message said: "Make sure you catch the train this morning." Keisha was scared...and so she didn't. It turned out that the train Keisha normally caught had de-railed and crashed, killing the majority of passengers.

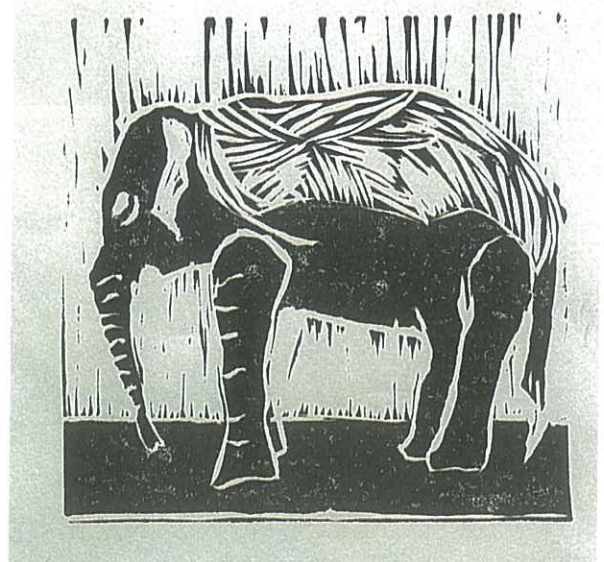
Still worried that night, Keisha decided to go to bed early. Her mother was at a friend's place. Keisha had just finished brushing her teeth when she noticed the house was quiet, unusually quiet. While making her way to the bedroom, Keisha walked past the study. "No computer games tonight" she thought to herself, "I'm leaving that thing off forever!" Just at that moment, she heard a faint consistent, mechanical sound that only a printer could make. With her heart galloping as fast as a race horse, Keisha took a few steps backwards. It was just enough to see through the gap in the study door. Sure enough, there was the printer doing its job. She looked at the computer - it was turned off. She looked back at the printer - the page was sitting there, just waiting to be read, but there was no way it was going to be. The page dropped so suddenly that Keisha had no time to think and look away. It simply read:

"BLOOD"

Keisha stayed awake all of that night. She heard her mother return, but didn't speak a word to her. When morning finally came, Keisha disconnected the printer and put it back in its box - she was returning the printer. As she was leaving, her mother asked her where she was off to. She got no reply from her daughter as she walked away from the house. Just as Keisha reached the gate she glanced back at her mother, standing there in her dressing gown. A puzzled look came to her mother's face as she watched a single tear roll down Keisha's cheek.

That was the last time she ever saw her daughter. She took her case to the police and they looked into it. They went to the old computer store and asked the lady if Keisha had recently been there to return a printer. "No" was all the old lady said- but just as they were about to leave, they heard a consistent, mechanical sound that could only be made by a printer. They looked to see where it was coming from. Out of a printer came a page reading: "She's in the river." Astonished, the police trusted the printer's words and checked the river. Sure enough, there Keisha's body was, but surprisingly, no wounds were found. Murder, suicide or something completely different? Well I guess it's up to you to decide.

Alice Ghazarian 8B



Casey Espie 8A

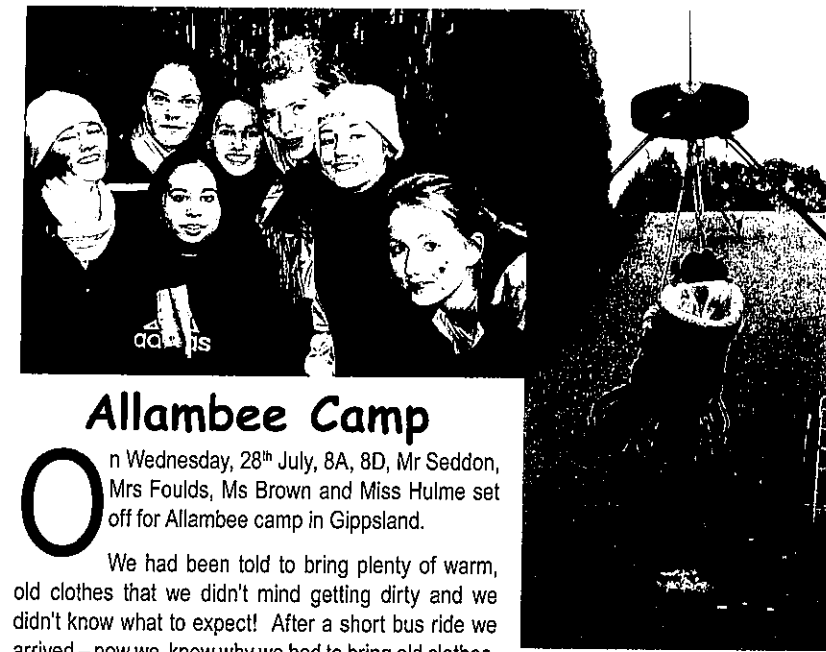
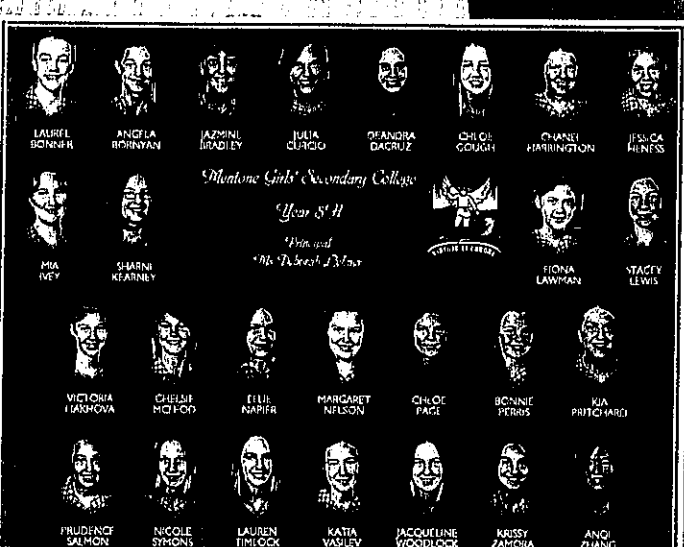
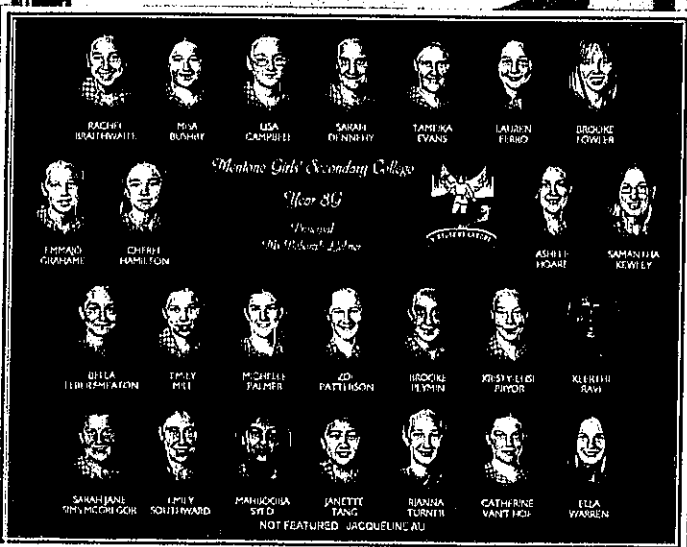
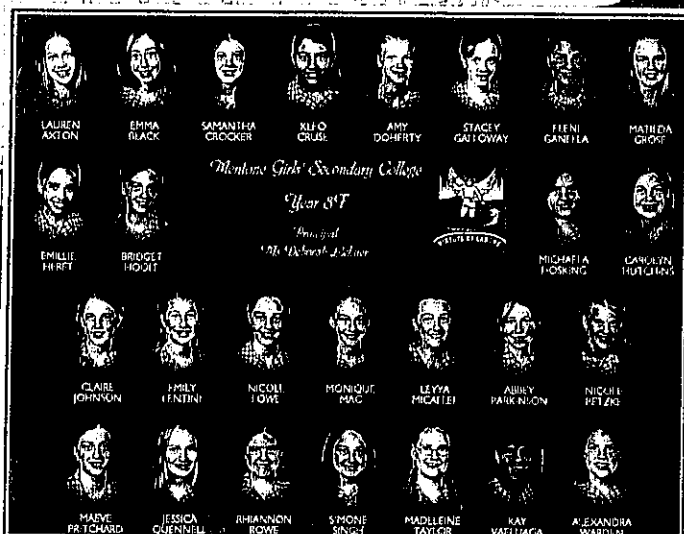
Year Eight Stories







Browsing in the library



### Allambee Camp

**O**n Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 8A, 8D, Mr Seddon, Mrs Foulds, Ms Brown and Miss Hulme set off for Allambee camp in Gippsland.

We had been told to bring plenty of warm, old clothes that we didn't mind getting dirty and we didn't know what to expect! After a short bus ride we arrived - now we knew why we had to bring old clothes. It was raining and the ground was covered in mud. One person fell over and a lot of us almost did.

This was a challenge camp and that meant that we had to cook, clean and do most things for ourselves. On the first morning we went on a two hour bush walk in the rain. There were tracks like giant mudslides. We ended up in the secret garden (which wasn't so secret). When we got back we had free time, morning tea and activities. My group went on the giant swing, which was so fun, and the rock-climbing wall. For dinner we had a delicious barbecue. We were supposed to have a cops and robbers night that night but it didn't go through so we watched "Win a date with Tad Hamilton", which was really funny. For supper we had chocolate fudge cake and hot chocolate, which was so yummm. That night my cabin did not get much sleep!

The next morning I was on duty group, so instead of getting up for breakfast

at nine, I was up at seven-thirty. After breakfast we had a rotation of activities and my group had a two hour session with local artist John Burge. We learnt different styles of painting and how to make it look effective, and even gave our opinion on his book illustrations. For lunch we had a large selection of pizzas and then it was off to self-defence. A professional self-defence artist trained in the art of Taekwondo showed us lots of ways to defend ourselves in different attack situations.

Then our group tried out the activities we had missed earlier, like the giant swing and the flying fox. Afternoon tea and free time before dinner followed - except that I was on duty again! For dinner we had lasagne, which was really nice and then had a disco. The disco was so funny because all the teachers dressed up in hilarious outfits and pulled some great moves on the dance floor.

The next morning we were all packed up before breakfast. We had toast, porridge and baked beans and then we got down to the dirty stuff. We scrubbed

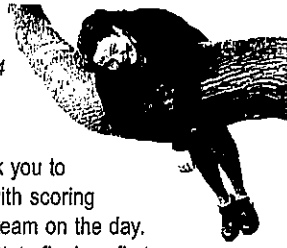
our cabins from top to bottom. We vacuumed, cleaned the toilet and bathroom, made our beds and mopped the tiles. We had a little bit of extra time before we had to leave so we went on the ropes course and some people went to archery. It was a half hour drive to Yarragon village, where, on the way, Miss Hulme thought she saw a dead cow. So, naturally, we turned back and found out that it was very much alive. In Yarragon there was a café, restaurant, fish and chip shop and a takeaway food shop to choose where we wanted lunch. There were lots of little souvenir shops and the best shop of all was the lolly shop, by far! It had everything from starburst sucks lollypops to packets of salted liquorice. For about the next two hours we sat and watched a movie called "Now and Then" on the bus ride home. We arrived back around 3 o'clock and were completely exhausted after a jam-packed three days of challenges and excitement. Camp was really fun and enjoyable, and, although muddy and tiring was a great experience.

Lucy Ballantyne 8A





# 2004 Cross Country



The cross-country this year, was as every year, an exciting event for most. Although the weather left a lot to be desired at the beginning, as the under 14 winner says "It was a cold day, but once everyone was running, they warmed up and the sun came out!"

It was a new course this year, so the following results also serve as a new record:

- Under 13 winner, Emma Milliken
- Under 14 winner, Monique Mac
- Under 15 winner, and also with the fastest time, Sarah Grahame
- Under 16 winner, Tess de Munk
- Under 17 winner, Sharni Layton
- Under 21 winner, Lauren Steinfort

Congratulations Girls!

## Cross Country Champions



(l-r) back:  
U21 Lauren Steinfort  
U17 - Sharni Layton  
front: U 15 Sarah Grahame, U13 Emma Milliken  
U 16 Tess de Munk,  
U 14 Monique Mac - absent

## Year 7 Softball Southern Zone Finals Report

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May twelve excited and keen Year 7 girls, two helpful Year 11 girls and their coach were driven by Mr de Munk to Dandenong to participate in the Southern Zone softball finals. The team had 3 matches to play and were quite anxious before the games started. The team was led by a very competent student named Rachel Curnow who was the Captain of the team. Rachel warmed the team up and encouraged all girls to do their best. The first game was against Mornington Secondary. Our team was fielding first and our Captain Rachel, who is our pitcher struck out their first 3 batters, with the help of Samara Cook who caught every ball that flew past the bat. The final score was 9 - 0 in our favour. The second game was against Koo Wee Rup and we got off to a flying start again striking out their first 3 batters and then making 7 runs in the first innings. We kept them to 1 run for the match and made 21 runs with all girls making it around the bases. Our third match was against Carwatha. A win here would see us gain a place in the State Finals. The team, once again began extremely well striking out their first 3 batters. We then made 8 runs in our first innings and went on to finish with a 16/1 score line. Congratulations to all girls in the team. You all contributed to this history making result. In particular, Rachel Curnow and Samara Cook who made

it so difficult for the other schools to score. A big thank you to Sara Haden and Amelia Marriott for their assistance with scoring and coaching and to Mr Curnow for his support of the team on the day. We look forward to December when we will play in the State finals, a first for a large number of years for a Mentone team. Good luck girls.

Mrs Sarau



## Softball



Back (l-r): Danika Alt, Megan Blake, Olivia McConchie, Kelly Tobin, Lauren Geschke, Alice Prowse, Stephanie Reed-Marshall, Rachel Curnow. Front (l-r): Maddy Cameron, Kate Budge, Cheree Hamilton, Emma Black.

The Year 8 softball team played in March this year, coming second after a close final with Cheltenham. The best players on the day were Lauren Geschke and Maddy Cameron. Thanks to parents Jenny Cameron and Suzanne Geschke for attending on the day and Mrs Barnett for her work in organising the team.

## Intermediate Tennis



Intermediate Team  
(l-r) Lyndsay Dalton, Cassie Head, Ainsley Perry, Jess Wotherspoon

The District Competition was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March at Dendy Park and Narre Warren Stadium. Mentone beat McKinnon Secondary College, Cheltenham Secondary College and Narre Warren Secondary College very convincingly. The girls lost only one set in two days of play. Outstanding players of the competition were Cassie Head, Alicia Thompson, Ainsley Perry, Jane Dow and Lyndsay Dalton.

The girls played extremely well and displayed great sportsmanship. It was a great shame that we had to forfeit at Southern Zone as the date clashed with Work Experience and Camp Week.

Mrs Gayle Steinfort

Cross Country and Nike Fun Run 2004

## Nike Fun Run



A group of enthusiastic students, parents and teachers participated in the Nike Fun Run on Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup>. Our group was somewhat smaller than previous years but it was good to see the comradeship and fun, displayed by the students involved. Some students have been competing for six years and there were former students running in the event. It was also great to see a number of mother and daughter combinations!

Thanks to Ms Clark, Ms Janka and Mrs Bainbridge for your help on the day.

Mrs Joan Barnett  
Co-ordinator.



## Intermediate Netball



On the 17<sup>th</sup> June, our intermediate A and B netball teams played in very wet conditions at Davis Park against neighbouring schools. Play was eventually abandoned due to dangerous conditions. At that stage neither

team had lost a match. Our B team then played a semi-final against Brighton Secondary College at our school. We were up by three goals at half time but Brighton SC came out extremely determined in the second half and were just too strong for our team.

Our A team played Parkdale Secondary College and Cheltenham Secondary College in the district finals at Mentone GSC and won very convincingly. The 'A' team then received a forfeit from Westall SC to move into the Southern Zone rounds.

After winning the Southern Zone finals, MGSC headed off to Jell's Park, Glen Waverley on 17 August for the State finals. The format was round robin and then finals between the top 4 teams. MGSC beat MacRobertson GSC 31 - 11, Wanganui Park SC 29 - 17 and Ballarat SC 24 - 20 which meant that we finished on top of the ladder in our section. We then played Wantirna SC who came second in their section. Wantirna was a very strong, physical team and although we had our chances, they were too good on the day. Our girls displayed terrific sportsmanship and were a great team to coach. Perhaps we'll get there next year!!

Mrs Gayle Steinfort

Sporting Teams 2004





Year Nine



Cooking up a Storm!

## Lost in Darkness

One small room. The gathering darkness slowly extinguishing what little life is left. But as light leaves the room, sorrow enters it, leaving a deep depression lingering in the minds of the parents of four children as they reflect on what they have been forced to do. The father sits, absentmindedly playing with one of his sons. His face is drawn, indicating that he is physically weak and broken down, exhausted from exerting himself in days past. He has the appearance of one who has lost a lot of weight in a very short space of time. Food is scarce and with five other mouths to feed he is deprived of nutrients. His face wears a calm expression, but underneath the mask painful thoughts and feelings are concealed. Feelings of guilt overpower him and thoughts persuade him to believe that he is a failure. Unable to provide for his family he feels powerless, as there is nothing he can do, except wait.

The mother stands in the corner, pretending to attend to the baby in her arms. But her thoughts are miles away as she reflects on what might have been. She is younger than her husband and might once have been called beautiful. But her beauty has faded, like a flower that had died. The flower is still there but the scent has vanished. Her features are lined giving the impression that age had reached her early. Her innermost thoughts show in her face. Weighed down by the responsibilities of so many children and denied a decent life she is disturbed, depressed and confused. But she knows there is nothing she can do.

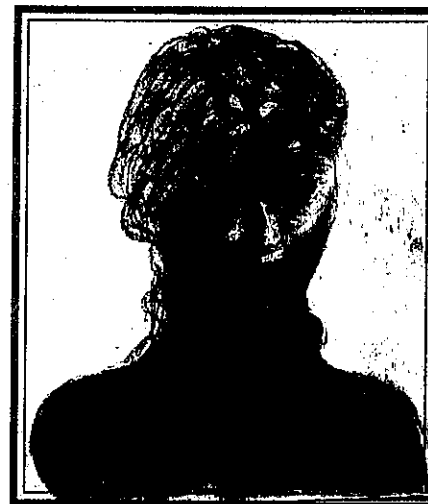
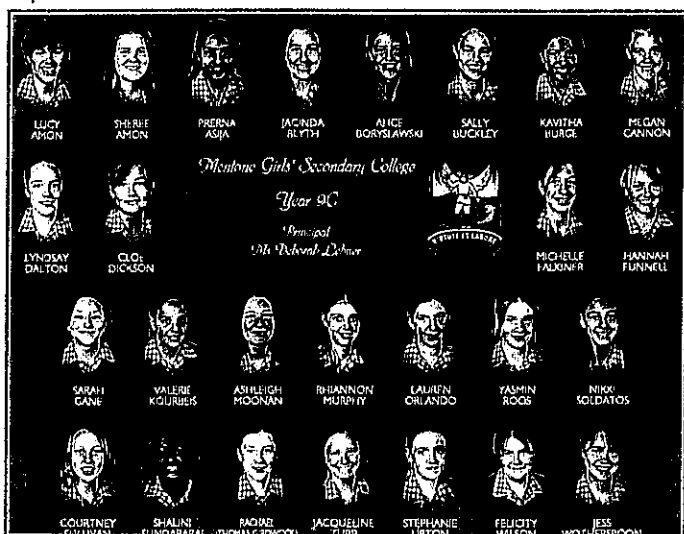
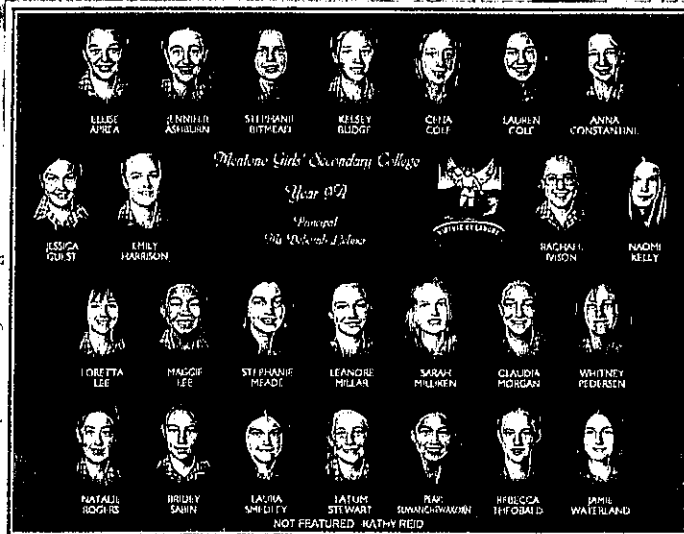
The little boy playing with his father is untroubled and unconcerned. Unlike his parents he has a wholesome appearance, and although his clothes are unkempt, his mind is completely free of the suffering his parents are experiencing. In the corner two more boys crouch. Like their brother their clothes are ragged and worn, but unlike him they seem to sense their

parent's apprehension so they keep quiet. The whole family is wrapped in a blanket of misery. They are oppressed and suffocated. Lost in a life that they have no wish to live.

But if I look beyond this family's poverty, I see that other families around them are equally derelict. During the 1930's the unemployment rate was high, creating disastrous effects for families everywhere. Employment was scarce, but for those who were lucky enough to have a job their wages declined by 25%. There was no unemployment benefit and so many had to rely on the food handout organised by charities. People sold their possessions to pay off loans or credit and if they could not meet their mortgage payment their homes were repossessed and if they failed to pay the rent they were evicted. Then there came the drought. Farmers in the South and Midwest were strongly affected by the dustbowl and the vicious winds and little rainfall that turned the soil into dust. The land became like a desert. The farmers lost everything. They were ruined. There was nothing left.

A light slips away from the room, its main features become slightly indistinguishable. But the family have no control over the light. It comes and goes as it pleases. When night falls the room is banished in darkness. But they cannot prevent this for they have no means of obtaining an oil lamp or a candle. They have little furniture. A few boxes and a small table are all the affordable articles they require. The walls are unpainted and the floor is hard. They have no beds, but make do with what they have. A small window allows a slight breeze to pass through, but otherwise they hardly ever see daylight. They are trapped with no means of escape. They have no power to change their situation. They are quite helpless, with nothing to do but sit in silence.

Annabel Green 9G



Jessica Flude 9G

## Is There a Catwalk in the Staffroom?

From shoulder-pads, purple lipstick and mini-skirts to a funky pair of green specs, some teachers at Mentone Girls' Secondary College have a very unique fashion sense. I'm not saying that they don't all look wonderful in their casual clothes, but in a recent survey, students and even the odd teacher agreed that uniform could be a good idea. When asked, Allan Trigellis-Smith said that he thought uniforms, "Aren't a bad idea. That might be something for the school to consider".

Lets face it. We've all seen some unusual attire coming down the corridor.

We've seen fishnet stockings ending in pointed fairy shoes, potato sacks and we've been inundated by a never-ending swarm of red blazers. There has even been a sighting of a M.G.S.C. sports teacher T-shirt walking through Southland.

I know our teachers are comfortable in their creative apparel, but sometimes creativity isn't such a wonderful thing.

Laura Theobald 9D

Once upon a time there was a Drama class who performed popular fairy tales to Beaumaris North. After two terms of vigorous rehearsals, script writing and prop making we, the 'Drama Script and Performance' class performed a variety of fictitious stories to preps and grade ones. These stories included 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Hansel and Gretel', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Sleeping Beauty'. After getting laughs, high-pitched shrieks, oohing and aahing we were sent a beautiful book of portraits that were especially drawn for the year nine class, which we all thought 'was very cute' from our new little friends. Thankyou to Mrs Sarau for being our 'taxi driver', Mr. Perks for his patience and all his assistance throughout this year, the gorgeous students and the friendly staff from Beaumaris North and of course the year nine girls! We all did a fabulous job and had such a wonderful time putting all our effort towards this one special day and we all shared a laugh when watching the performances on video. To all the future year nines I would highly recommend you choose this subject as one of your electives because you definitely won't regret it and we all lived happily ever after!

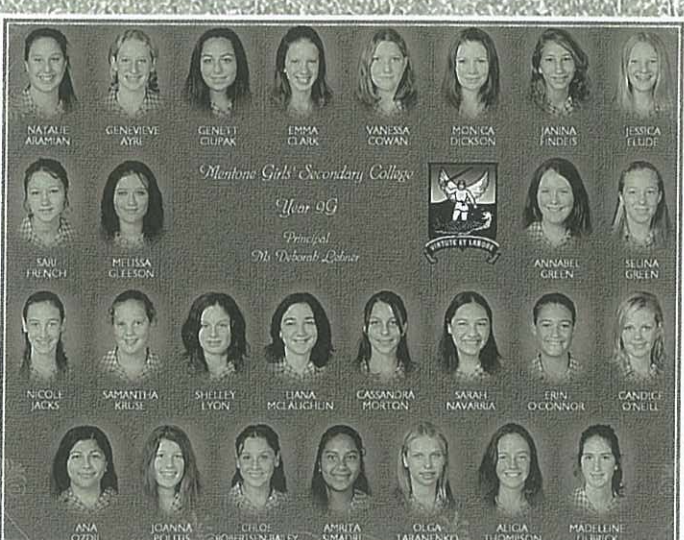
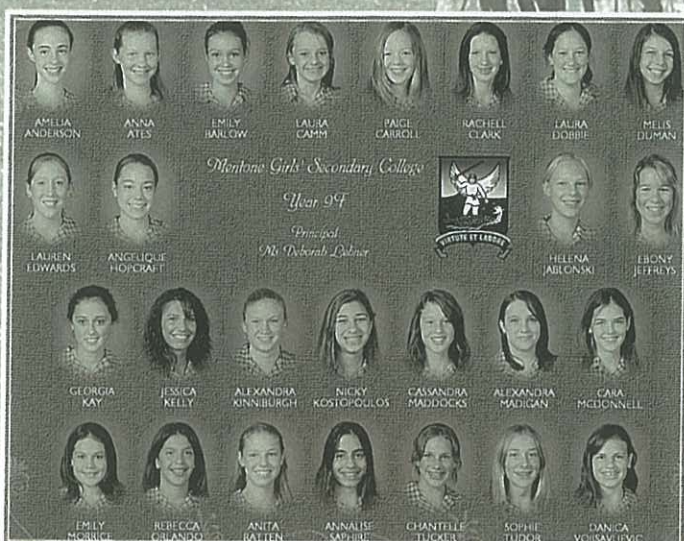
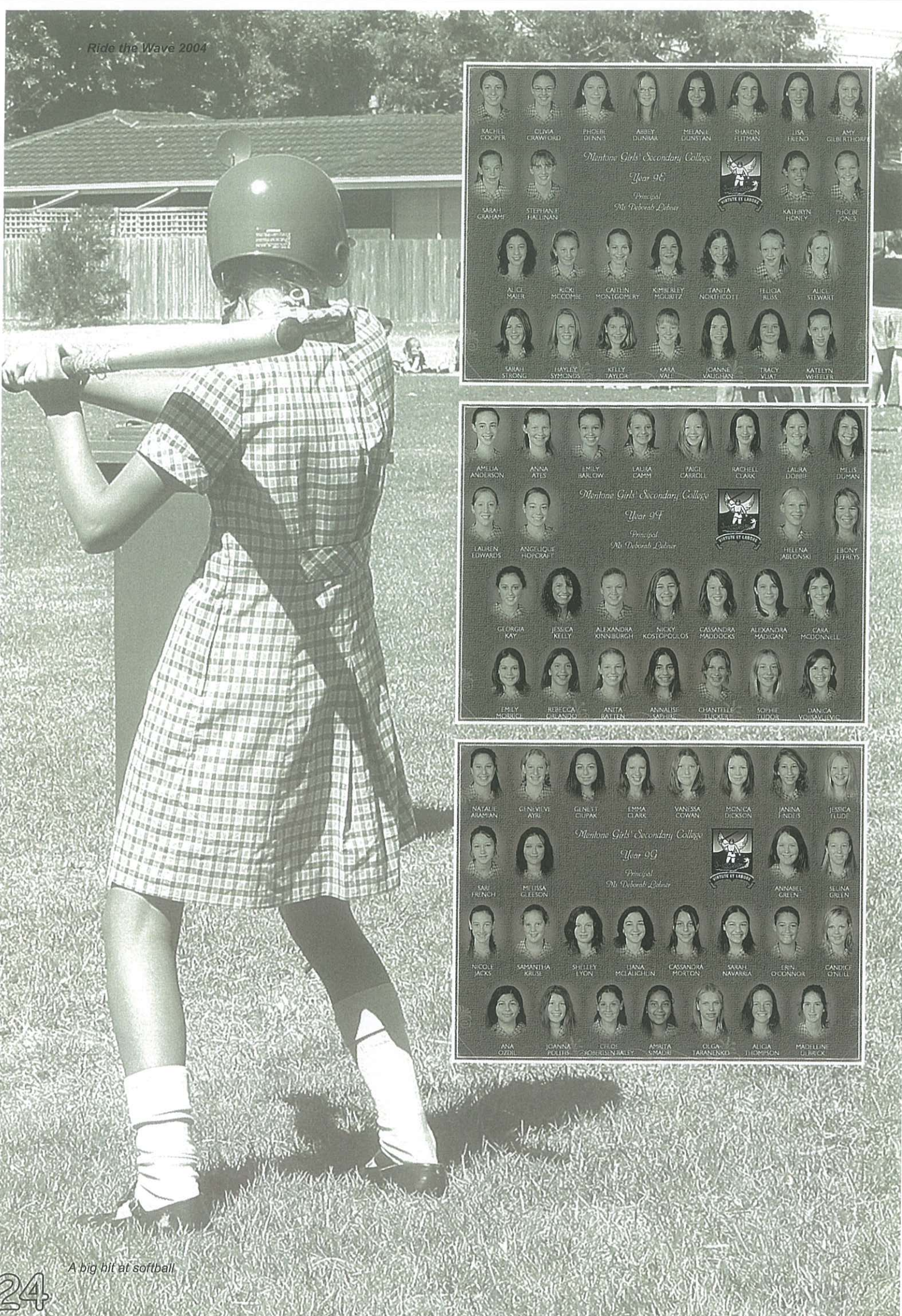
Joanna Politis 9G



Sharon Flitman 9E







# Shiga Girls' High 2004



On the 19<sup>th</sup> July, twenty-three bubbly and excited girls from Shiga Girls High School, eager to meet their new host sisters and to experience life in Australia, arrived from Japan with their two equally delighted teachers for what became eight fantastic and memorable days.

For all of us it was an exciting time as we welcomed them into our homes. The first night was spent trying to communicate with and learn about each other. When our Japanese failed we resorted to electronic dictionaries (which were a life saver!), writing things down and role playing – which mostly resulted in the Shiga girl becoming even more confused!! When things started to become too hard to explain, a nod and a smile from the student would do.

The experience was not just for the host sisters; everyone had a chance to meet with our visitors at lunch-time, after school and on the weekend. Mr. Trigellis-Smith organized an array of activities for them to do in the afternoons, including going for a walk along Mentone beach, visiting Black Rock Primary School and joining in on a textiles class where they made Australian brooches.

Outside school we were on our own to think of ways to entertain them. Host families took the girls to various places, including Healesville Sanctuary (I've never seen so many people from MGSC up there!), Melbourne Zoo, Luna Park, the Melbourne Observation deck, football matches and of course Southland! – the most amazing place of all for our Japanese visitors who just love to shop.

The farewell ceremony was filled with tears, hugs and lots of good-byes, as well as last minute photos. The tears and hugs showed the bond that we had all created in the short amount of time that they were here.

The trip was a great success for the Shiga girls as well as the host families and students! We now have lots of great memories, ranging from teaching them Aussie slang to high fives and to seeing their faces when they tried vegemite for the first time!

Thank you to Mr. Trigellis-Smith and all the teachers involved, for making it such great fun as well as being an enjoyable learning experience!

Ellen Hollowood 10F

Throughout the year many other events were held by the Japanese KLA. We had a year 8 cultural/ obentou lunch day, which provided many LOTE students with a delicious traditional Japanese lunch.

We also had several girls from Tokyo visit our school. They performed a fishermen's shanty, and taught us how to make a chopstick rest.

Melissa Riemer Year 12  
Caitlyn Hoggart Year 11  
2004 Senior Japanese KLA leaders





## A Matter of Conscience

She climbed the concrete stairs. She felt completely hopeless, yet somehow triumphant at the same time. She pushed her shoulder heavily against the door marked 'EMERGENCY EXIT ONLY' and swung it open. The wind roared around her, whipping her coat behind her like a cape. Her thin cotton dress was rippled by the wind and her fragile frame fought the gale to reach the edge of the building. Her rose coloured stilettos, she sadly realised, were no longer needed, so she placed them beside the low brick wall on the roof. She peeled off her coat, folded it neatly and placed it on top of the shoes. She reached behind her head and tugged out the bronze butterfly clip holding back her long, curly brown hair. She stepped towards the edge once more and, as the wind made one final attempt to stop her, she jumped...

*Two days previously...*

Her hands turned white and began to shake. She wrapped them tighter around the coffee cup and stared intently into her lap. He was furious. She'd known he would be, but she had hoped that if they were in a public place he would try to control his anger. Perhaps, but she had been wrong. She snatched a look at him. His face had turned an ugly, blotchy purple and several veins in his neck were visibly pulsating. His clenched fists were stuck to his sides and he was casting filthy looks at the other patrons of the small café. She saw him gulp, and braced herself for what she expected to be a tirade of insults.

"Is he here?" he calmly asked.

She was surprised at how restrained he was. "Who?" she asked, trying to seem just as calm.

"Him," he hissed. "You know who. *That* man. Is he here?"

"Who?" she repeated.

"*Him!* That reporter I saw you with." She froze. She had been hoping that he only had suspicions, but if he had seen them...it was worse than she thought. He continued. "You know he's the one who keeps hounding me. Reckons I'm guilty. What were you doing with him, huh? He's got it in for me." He leaned back and stared at her. "You *knew* that!" His fist banged on the table, making her coffee spill into her saucer. Tears stung her eyes; she felt a lump rising in her throat.

Quietly, almost whispering, she replied, "I told you, I just ran into him, that's all. I didn't say anything, honest. I'm...I'm sorry...and, yeah..." she finished, lamely.

"And why should I believe you?"

"Because I love you Danny, you know I do. Why do you think I told them you were with me?"

His face turned pale. "Shhh!" he hissed at her. "Do you wanna get us both arrested? Keep your bloody voice down. God you're a moron sometimes. I practically had to walk you through those interviews..." he muttered. She knew what he meant. He had spent hours and hours coaching her, telling her the right things to say when the police questioned her; where they had been; what they were doing. Her answers didn't sound very convincing at first and he seemed to have had a lot of patience with her then, so why had he been getting so angry lately? The trial was over and he was found innocent. He should be happy. Nobody would believe his real alibi anyway, or so he kept telling her, and that was why she had to help him. So why did she find herself thinking about the evidence more and more lately? Was there even a slight chance he may have attacked those women?

"Are you listening to me?" His words brought her thoughts back. "God Lacey, sometimes you've got the attention span of a two-year-old. No wonder you didn't even finish high school. Hah..." he chuckled to himself softly. Normally his insults didn't affect her too much, but today had been a particularly bad day. She'd overslept and been late to work. If she was late again she knew she'd be fired. Then after work she bumped into that journalist near the café and once again he'd made accusations about Danny's guilt and her shaky alibi. "Why are you still with him?" he'd asked. "You could be next. But then again, you probably deserve it. Thanks to you the families of those poor dead girls will never get justice. How can you live with yourself?"

The meals arrived and for a while everything seemed normal. But then he started with the reporter again.

"So, what were you and him talking about anyway?" he quizzed. "Did he want to go over your old statements? Or did you want to give some new ones?"

"Don't be stupid, Danny..."

"Ha! That's rich, coming from you," he snorted. "You are the stupid one. Hey, are you even listening to me? Oi, spastic, over here...geez, I thought I might win a bit of sympathy if I had you, you know, that whole dumb, innocent little baby thing but I never realised just how bloody boring it could get. Oh for Christ's sake, don't look at me like that, you know it's true."

"What? Danny, how could you do this to me? What about us? What are you saying? That you don't love me?"

"Hah! What do you think I'm saying, you moron?"

"I don't deserve this Danny" she whimpered.

"You don't deserve this? *You don't deserve this?* What about *me*, huh? Did I deserved to be charged with all that? Did I deserve to be slandered by the press? *Did I? Did I?* God, Lacey, sometimes you can be so selfish. You know what, I'm leaving. I've had enough of your stupidity for one day." He got up, wrenched open the door and stomped angrily outside.

A deep blush had spread up to her ears. She hastily gathered her bag and coat and wound her long chenille scarf around her throat. She flung herself into the street. Tears and eye-liner left long black streaks down her face. As she stumbled down the path, a blubbing wreck, she heard giggling and snorting. Angry and frustrated, she spun around. But no one was there. She was probably imagining things. Sobbing, she turned away.

A face greeted her suddenly in the damp dinginess of the lane beside the café. She started to scream, but a large, calloused hand clamped itself over her mouth and dragged her deeper into the alley. It was a few seconds before she recognised the hand, the burly arm, and, ultimately, the hairy, sweaty body attached. Another hand reached for an end of her scarf and pulled it tighter. It burned and choked her, making her splutter and gag repeatedly. The terror that ran through her body was overwhelming. It felt as if icy water was rising from her lungs up her oesophagus and frothing into her mouth. She fought to scream, but the arm kept her pinned against a wall. A fist launched itself at her. The pain seared through her head as she heard the left side of her skull thud against the wall. Another fist came at her, and another, and another. A further wave of terror engulfed her and she blacked out.

She came too a while later, bruised and bleary eyed. She pushed herself up and scanned the dark lane for a sight of him. Some boxes, a dumpster and...Danny. He was leaning against the wall, staring down at her. She expected him to punch her again but this time he just leant down and whispered,

"Thanks, I couldn't have done it without you..."

Laura Smedley 9A

## Envy

*(3<sup>rd</sup> Prize in Write4fun Poetry competition)*

Green as the grass, though not nearly as pretty,  
Green as the pastures, so far from the city,  
Green as the third ribbon,  
wanting so to be blue,

As green as the person, who wants to be you.

The more that you look, the more  
you want for yourself,

Like that tantalising toy, too  
high up on the shelf,

There will always be smart people,  
who you'll envy and hate,

But what you don't realise is the gift life creates,

Look at your life now; there is nothing you lack,

Look in the mirror at the person looking back,

Look at the people, lonely  
and cold on the street,

Don't complain you've no shoes,  
for some don't have feet.

We have food, and a home,  
and someone we love,

We have the blue sky, shining  
down from above.

There's enough green in the meadow,  
enough green in the tree,

So don't wish to be others,  
say I'm glad to be me.

Sharon Flitman 9E

## Alone

In the dark of the night

As the rain falls fast

A lonely, ragged child

Clutches her teddy close.

Afraid of the rain

The thunder, the lightning

No-one hears her cries

No-one sees her tears.

The thunder rumbles

The lighting flashes

A lonely, ragged child

Clutches her teddy close.

Rebecca Theobald 9A

## Dogwalkers!

Dog walkers stroll,

Down to the park,

The leads in their hands,

The dogs, all bark.

The strong dogs pull harder,

The little ones yap,

Because in the alley way,

There is a cat.

They get past the alley way,

Pull their leads tight,

They get to the park

Before day, turns night.

Rebecca Vorwerk 9D

## Old People

They're wrinkled, they smell,

They read and play bowls.

The reaper is coming

To banish their souls.

They sleep, they fart,

They're all going blind.

Death is coming

To mess with their minds.

One day, friend,

You'll be old too.

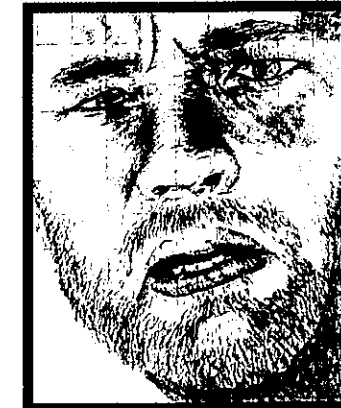
And then the Grim Reaper

Will come after you.

Laura Theobald 9D



Angelique Hopcroft 9F



Stephanie Volcanis 9B

## Sonnet

### The Reality of Liberation

Let live the people of Iraq,  
Free them from this deadly oppression.  
For them, the future is stark,  
A life of deep depression.

Their lives have been torn apart,  
By men in search of oil.  
All they want is a brand new start,  
Instead they have to toil.

Their towns are bombed and  
their houses raided,  
Everyday there's murders and killing.  
Very quickly their hopes have faded,  
Thanks, Coalition of the Willing.

This was never our fight,  
Through the dust and rubble,  
is there hope in sight?

Kavitha Burge 9C

## Journeys

Life isn't as predictable as it seems.

It's one big question.  
I wait for the bus

When will it come?

I look down the road,

Waiting, wondering

Will the bus driver be kind?

Will he be nasty?

Nobody can tell me

I'll have to wait and see.

It's the same as the

Journey

of

life,

I suppose.

Loretta Lee 9A



Sharon Flitman 9E





## Central Australia



**G**'day G'day! How's it going?" On the 2004 Central Australia Camp, "G'day, G'day" was the most over-sung song on the bus...and believe me, we listened to plenty of songs whilst covering 2,500kilometres in three days.

Everyone really enjoyed passing through Coober Pedy and visiting an underground church, an underground home, the old opal mines and amazingly, sleeping underground. Some of the locals didn't seem to like us that much and egged us while we were eating dinner...but it didn't spoil our underground experience.

I thought our scenery for eight days would consist mainly of red earth, but there were so many trees as we drew closer to the real Uluru. The land surrounding it was simply covered in trees, with the Olgas a blurred vision in the distance.

It is a very personal decision whether or not you climb Uluru, but for me, just to stand and look at it was enough. We also saw the Olgas, which were so mysteriously beautiful. We saw them at a time of day when the sun shines on half and casts the rest into shadow. To top it all off we saw the sunset at Uluru. Wow, what a day!

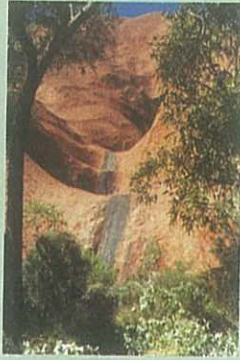
Kings Canyon in a thunderstorm! Now I know where the word breathtaking was invented – on top of King's Canyon, whilst looking at the view. Wow!

Most people were lucky when putting up tents. Tragically this was not for me and a few other non-professional tent putter-upperers. Our tent fell down and was flooded... it was great!

Our Camp Concert on the last night was a highly entertaining event. For example, we never realised our teachers were so multi talented – they can sing (cough, cough!), act and be ruthlessly efficient while in charge of 44 Year 9 students. Mr Stewart, Mrs McLeod, Mr Williams, Mrs Merrick and Ms Hannon – were all great, as was Robyn, our cook and our bus driver Graham. Many thanks!

I highly recommend this camp to anyone who loves the outdoors, wide open spaces and wants to see the real Australia. You will really appreciate the beauty of places like the breathtaking King's Canyon, the Olgas and Uluru. This camp was one of the best experiences of my life.

Annabel Green 9G



## Bound for Bogong

**H**undreds of Year 9s awaited the start of their camps. The lucky twenty-five students who were selected to go to Bogong were about to undertake an unforgettable experience. We were all eager to jump on the bus and head to Bogong – although some of us forgot that there were already students on the bus. Westernport Secondary College was to attend Bogong with us. We boarded the bus and found out (horror!) that we would be undertaking a six hour trip. Our destination was



the Victorian Alps, home of the highest mountain in Victoria, Mount Bogong, which stands at 1,986 metres.

For many of the other girls and myself it was our first time ever in the snow. Squealing with excitement, girls shot out of the bus and bolted to the white gold. Everyone was a target as the snow fights began. Even the teachers weren't safe. We made snow men and snow women (giving them distinguishing features). Between protecting snow men and belting the teachers with snowballs we went to the oldest hut in the Victorian Alps and left our mark in the logbook.



The event everyone was waiting for finally came. The High Ropes Course. We practically skipped all the way there. After suiting up in our harnesses and helmets we began the fun. The hardest challenge was the "Dangle Duo's". The Dangle Duo was like an enormous ladder. Each rung was stretched the length of an average fourteen year old. At the top of the sixth rung we got an immense feeling of fulfilment. Sarah, a Westernport student, said, "It was one of the scariest things I had ever done. But I'm glad I did it!" The views from the ropes course stretched far and wide and were the bonus for reaching the top.

Every morning there was something new, from chasing Danielle down the hallway for stealing lollies or listening to the singing coming from the showers. It was all fun and lasting friendships were made. As we pulled in at Mentone Girls' Secondary College at the end of the trip the waterworks started. There were hugs, tears and people exchanging phone numbers and emails. We stood on the nature strip waving them off and began to miss them. I will certainly keep in touch with the friends I made because life wouldn't be the same without them.

Jamie Waterland 9A



## The Terrific Tassie Trip



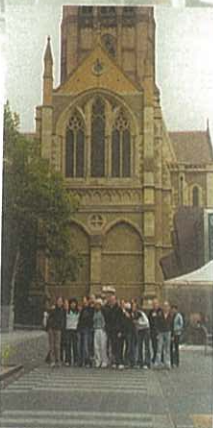
**D**id you know that the town of Richmond in Tasmania has the best lolly shop...oh, and the oldest bridge AND Catholic Church in Australia?

At 6.00am on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, the year 9 Tassie tourists set off to tour Tasmania. Group A had left the previous day by plane, and group B was taking the Spirit of Tasmania to spend five days touring around and seeing the sights. After a choppy night on the boat, everyone piled out to find that the temperature had dropped ten degrees or so since they had left Melbourne the previous night.

Much of the time in Tassie was spent on the bus, and it didn't take long before everyone grew to know and love our bus driver, Mike. He took us to places such as Orford, Richmond, Port Arthur, Hobart and Launceston,



## Melbourne - the World's Most Liveable Camp



**O**n the third of March twenty-three Mentone Girls' Secondary College students and two teachers began a weeklong journey of discovering why their state's capital is called the World's Most Liveable city.

As we left Finders Street Station we were greeted by swooping trams, with space shuttle-like interiors, ancient buildings being guarded by the more humble coffee shops and the towering presence of the abstract Federation Square. It was a bubbling brew of old and new and we wanted to explore it all!

Our first destination was the world famous Rialto Tower. On the top floor we rushed to the rounded windows and squished our noses against the glass. It was the only thing separating us from our beautiful city. The contour of the city rose and fell like an ancient island treasure map. From our 824-foot pedestal we could see such places as Parliament House, the MCG and the Telstra Dome.

The most popular activity on the camp was orienteering. It provided all of us with the opportunity to move about the city independently. Not much could have been made of our map-reading skills though – on our second clue, we ended up catching a tram to the place where we had begun! Trying to hide our bright red but hysterical faces behind our maps, we hurried past our teachers and fellow students, hoping they wouldn't see our blunder. The rest of the activity ran pretty smoothly, but we could not help giggling about our initial orienteering, or lack of, skills. When we reached our final

giving us a running commentary as we went. Sometimes we watched movies, but whenever we reached a town, Mike would stop the video and tell us some interesting things about it. The really funny thing was that he had a knack of stopping it at the most nail biting parts!!

Some of the highlights of our tour were the beautiful views, both coastal and inland, the cruise of Port Arthur, the scaaaary ghost tour at night and seeing the Tassie Devils. Not to mention shopping at Salamanca Market, the great snowball fight we had at the top of Mount Wellington, and of course the tour of the Cadbury Factory!

Overall, the trip was fantastic, and everyone learnt – that one knot = 1.83km/h (Mrs Liakos, our Tassie maths teacher didn't let us forget that one in a hurry!)

Sharon Flitman 9E

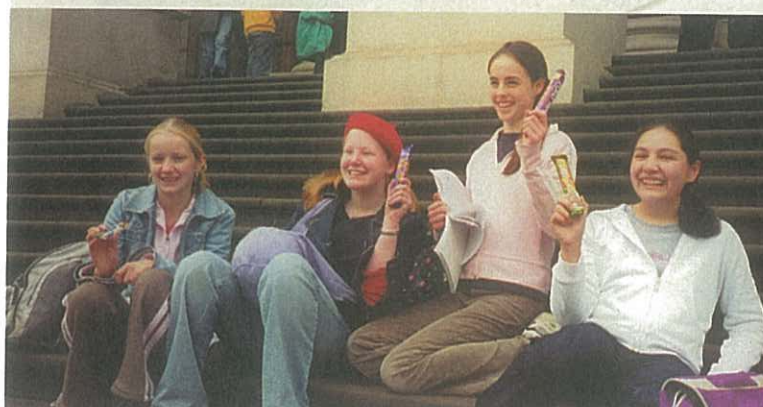
destination – the steps of the Parliament House we all received a reward of a chocolate bar. Although it was a thoughtful prize, the real reward was experiencing even more highlights that the city had to offer, as well as making some great friends.



The train ride home each day, although not an official activity of the camp, was still a fantastic chance to make some new friends, and strengthen friendships we already had. You would have thought that a group of schoolgirls who had been trekking around the city for the entire day would have been too exhausted to have fun, but we chose to defy expectations. Instead we made ponchos and paper hats out of the MX newspapers and tried on numerous occasions to start up "My Baby Takes the Morning Train". We laughed the whole way home, and so did a few of the other passengers!

All up, the city camp was a great success. The students learnt a lot about Melbourne, made new friends, and brought home memories that would last a lifetime...quite unlike the paper lanterns we made in China Town!

Emily Harrison 9A





### Alliance Française Exams

During term 3, French students from years 11 and 12 participated in the Berthe Mouchette exams organised by the Alliance Française. The exam included an oral section on general conversation as well as the recital of a French poem. Reading, writing and listening sections were also part of the exam however they were completed on a different day. For year 11, taking part in the exams helped to improve our language skills in writing, reading and speech. I'm sure that the students from year 12 found the exam to be invaluable experience as it gave them the opportunity to practise for their external examinations at the end of the year.

### La Princesse et La Revolution

In term 2, French classes from years 9 – 11 were given the chance to see the production "La Princesse et La Revolution". While presenting facts about Marie-Antoinette and the French Revolution, the play succeeded in not only entertaining the students but also increasing their knowledge of the history of France. The two performers were fantastic and the whole production was very well done. The use of simple French, with the occasional bit of English, made it easy to follow as well as learn new vocabulary. The play was very amusing and I'm sure my fellow students enjoyed it also.

### Un Air de Famille

During the year, French students from year 12 saw the production "Un Air de Famille". The play presented issues that arise within families and was set in a bar owned by one of the sons. It outlined family relationships and brought up the notion of favourite siblings and how these factors affect the family unit. Although the entire play was performed in French, there was a screen that displayed English subtitles in order to make the play easier to follow. The play was enjoyed by the students and they found it to be quite entertaining.

### VCE French Camp

Earlier in the year, some students from year 11 were able to participate in a French Camp in Rawson Village that was organised by the Alliance Française. The camp mainly included activities where the students spoke in French in order to improve their vocabulary and conversation skills. VCE French students from many different schools participated and the girls who went made new friends as they practised their speaking skills. Everyone had a fantastic time and the girls felt that the experience improved their French.

### Fondue

Earlier in the year, the year 11 French class made fondue, following our studies of the French Swiss. Several of the girls were able to bring in fondue sets and as a class we made chocolate fondue. Madame Glenn was kind enough to organise this experience for us, bringing chocolate, marshmallows and fruit so that we could dip them in the fondue. We all thoroughly enjoyed making (and eating) the fondue, so, a big thanks is due to Madame Glenn for arranging this for the class.

Jess Vale- Senior French Leader



Sarah Paterson Year 11

### Students at TAFE 2004



Belinda Sanger and Sheree Bartolo of Year 11 at Holmesglen TAFE, participating in the VET Hospitality course – and having fun!

### Kismet

As I stood outside M2, waiting for my group to be called in for the first auditions for "Kismet", I have to admit that the only thing going through my head was blind panic. Would I remember the lyrics to the songs? Would I sing in tune? How would I deliver my lines? My group was called in, and I swallowed with apprehension...here goes...

It was unlike any other musical I had done before. Based on a play by Edward Knoblock, *Kismet* is set in eleventh century Baghdad, a time of beggars, princes, brigands and poetry. The story is about a poor poet and his daughter, who, all their lives, have been incredulous that people are willing to buy poisons but not poems. However, fate intervenes and in the course of one day, through mistaken identity, love at first sight, murder and not a small amount of "Turkish Delight", the Poet and his daughter transform from being the poorest of the poor to the highest of the high.

It was a great success. The talent of all the actors, dancers, orchestra and backstage crew were consistently displayed every night, with the backstage crew swiftly changing scene settings, the orchestra performing perfectly, the dancers defying the laws of physics and the actors singing or delivering archaic lines with ease.

The team behind this production were brilliant: Choreographers, Jade Rowley, Shelley Frost, Jessica Lau and Megan Kiteley; Sound and Lighting, Mr Michael Stewart; Production Consultant, Ms Leeann Engblom; Backstage Coordinator, Mr Geoff Earle; Voice Coach, Mrs Judy Firestone; Production Manager, Mrs Georgia Smith; Conductor and Musical Director, Mr Henry Silver; and finally, our Director, Mr Geoff Perks. Without these outstanding people, the show would never have been a success, and the cast are eternally grateful for their efforts throughout.

Jessica Carrascalao Heard 12A



### Environment Report

The first activity organised by the Environment Committee was to organise a 'Keep Mentone Clean Day'. The committee were involved in cleaning up the school grounds and the surrounding streets. A 'No Litter Day' saw a big reduction in the amount of litter usually left lying around.

The first working bee for the year was held on March 20<sup>th</sup>. An enthusiastic group of parents, students and teachers completed a number of tasks. Drains were cleaned, garden beds planted, pruned, mulched and weeded. The \$220 gift voucher won for Mentone finishing first in the Southern Zone Schools Garden Competition last year was spent on a water feature placed in the canteen quadrangle.

Schools Tree Planting day on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July was celebrated by the planting of six flowering gum trees. The roses were pruned and some garden beds were mulched and weeded.

Over 3000 corks were collected for the Support the Elephant Program at the Melbourne Zoo. The money raised in this program will be used to build housing for the bull elephants, to help with training and to purchase some female elephants.

World Environment Day was celebrated on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The theme this year was 'Seas and Oceans – Dead or Alive'. A guest speaker from the Melbourne Aquarium spoke at Assembly on the environment and the problems created in our waterways. The Poster/Poem competition was won by Olivia McConchie and Olivia Wichtowski. Committee members sold pancakes and maple syrup and the money raised was donated to 'Support an Animal at the Zoo' program. Three St Bede's Rock bands entertained the students and their support on the day was appreciated.

On Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, Melanie Ryan, Jessica Raubenheimer and Alicia Drew represented the Environment Committee at an Environmental

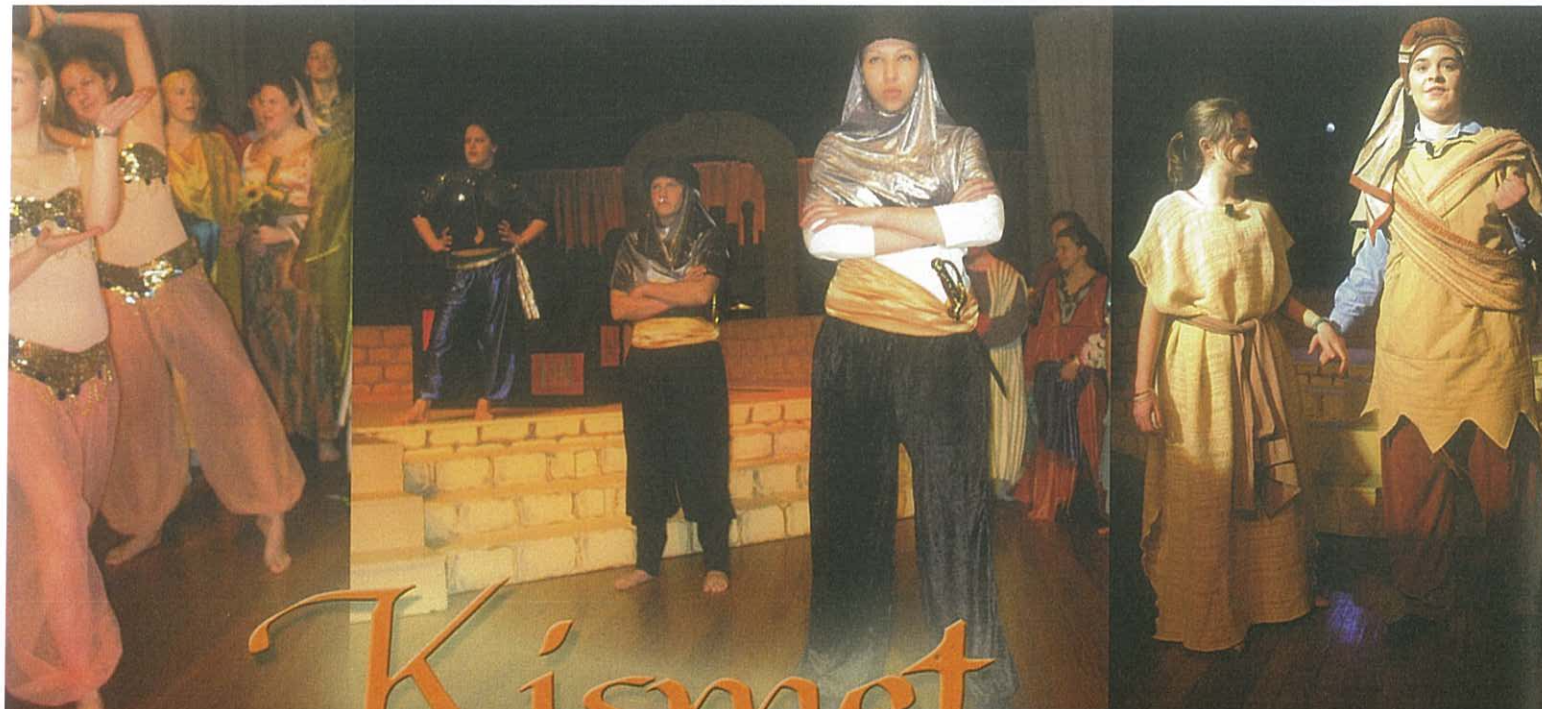
Conference run by a committee of student at Melbourne College. It was a most informative conference with four guest speakers. The issues discussed ranged from career choices, logging of old growth forests, the green house factor, sustainable energy and wind farms. Peter Malcolm, a team leader of numerous global environmental projects including involvement with Green Peace, gave an inspirational talk on his dream to retrace Shackleton's trip to the South Pole. His message is to look forward into the distance and to follow your dreams.

The last activity for the year will be 'Green Day' to be held after the publication of this magazine. The students enjoy this day and dress up in a green theme, join in a 'best green hat' competition and eat green food.

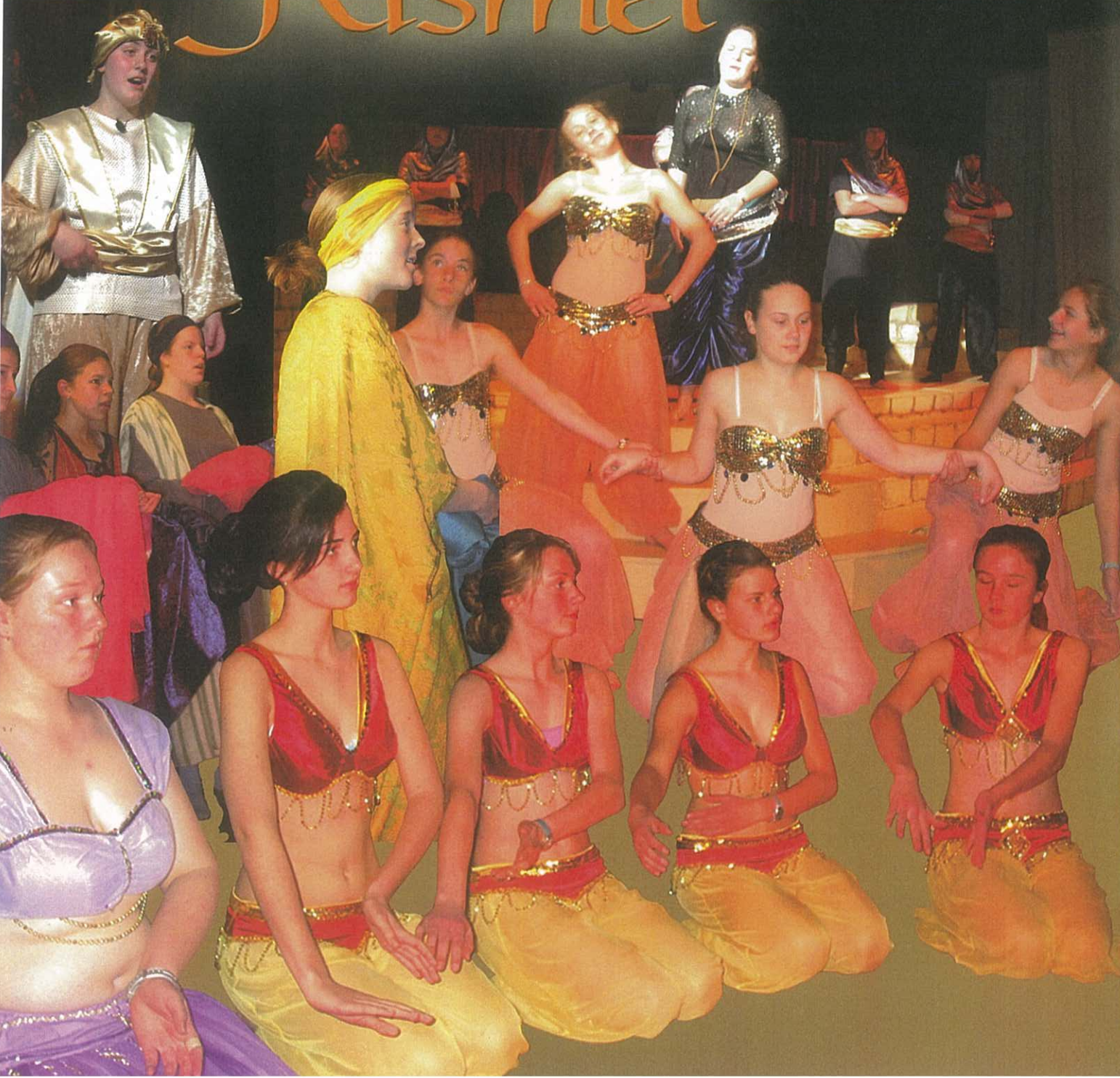
Alicia Drew Environment Committee.







# Kismet



2004



## Double Glory For Mentone

**MGSC** completed an historic double this year when our Junior Football team defeated Norwood Secondary College to win the Victorian Secondary Schools Sports Association State final at Sandringham Football Ground. Two weeks earlier, Mentone's Senior

Team also captured the State title by defeating Box Hill Senior Secondary College at Oakleigh Football Ground. This is the first time that the two Football State titles have been won by the one school in the same year.



### Junior Footy

Coaches Peter Bartlett and Luke de Munk were very proud of the girls' performance and they are looking forward to defending the title next year. It was back-to-back titles for the junior team (after a famous victory on Whitten Oval last year) with many of the team now having stretched their winning streak to 22 games straight.

The best players for Mentone in a terrific team effort were Shannyn Floyd, Sally Buckley, Bridey Sabin, Alana Gadsby, Cath Wilkie, Claire Burgess, Emma-Jo Grahame and Cassie Head. Team members were:

B - Natalie Aramian, Jess Warren, Laura Lansdowne; HB - Jamie-Lee Royal, Hannah Funnel(vc), Louise Nelson; C - Claire Burgess, Alana Gadsby, Cath Wilkie; AF - Emma-Jo Grahame, Michelle Palmer, Bridey Sabin; F - Cassie Head (c), Julia Curcio, Aimee Benton; FOLL - Sal Buckley(vc), Shannyn Floyd, Sarah Sims-McGregor; INT - Aimee Blackman, Kristy Withers, Lucy Amon, Tori Cameron, Brea O'Neill, Sarah Dennehy, Emily Southward, Pip Tucker.

### Year 8 Soccer Team 2004 State Champions!



Top: Nicky Petzke, Bella Lebersmeaton, Kim Melvin, Vanessa Stewart, Michelle Palmer, Sarah Dennehy, Claire Burgess.

Middle: Mr Santos, Rebecca Ograzden, Maddy Cameron, Ella Warren.

Front: Sarah Brewer, Emily Southward, Brooke Fowler, Sarah Sims-McGregor, Stephanie Brewer, Ashley Ward.

Congratulations to the Year 8 Soccer team who defended the title of State Champions. In the Finals we beat Northcote (2-0), Belmont (4-0) and Mitchell (4-0). After a 2-2 draw against Williamstown, Mentone won the final on penalties (3-1).

We wish to thank all the parents for their support throughout the tournament. (Glen and Lisa Southward, Peter Cameron, Barbara Sims and "Grandpa", Leigh and Mark Melvin and Craig Warren).

Thanks to Mr Santos, we won!



### Senior Footy

Our team comprised students from Years 10, 11 and 12. For many of the Year twelves it was the culmination of a six-year contribution to sport at Mentone. Six of the year ten students created their own bit of history by being the first students to play in back to back premierships.

The final score was Mentone Girls' Secondary College 7-9 -51 defeating Box Hill 4-4 -28. Goal kickers- Lauren Morecroft(4), Brydee Dullard(2), Maddy Moschetti(1). Mentone coach Luke de Munk was exceptionally proud of the girls' gritty performance. Team Members were:

B - Naomi Floyd, Cassie Smout, Georgia Evans; HB - Ashley Gasperino (c), Evie Blackman, Brooke Sadler; C - Luana Groves, Ashley Fennell, Tess de Munk; HF - Claire Weiss, Lauren Morecroft, ( Best on Ground medal), Lauren Steinfort; F - Brydee Dullard, Maddy Moschetti, Julia Knight; R - Shami Layton, Kate Steinfort, Lani Craven (vc); INT - Leonie McCombe, Bianca Tucker, Emily Redmond, Cassie Millar, Lauren Stein, Amanda Miller, Liz Stafford

Peter Bartlett  
Head of Health and PE

### Year 7 Soccer Champions 2003



Top: Fiona Lawman, Sophia Wong, Nicole Petake, Monique Ferguson, Kim Melvin, Mr Santos, Janette Tong, Bella Lebersmeaton, Lisa Campbell, Maddy Cameron, Ella Warren.

Bottom: Rebecca Ograzden, Kate Budge, Claire Burgess, Stephanie Brewer, Sarah Sims-McGregor, Emily Southward, Brooke Fowler, Cheree Hamilton.

Congratulations for a fantastic effort from our Year 7 Soccer team as the State Champions for 2003. Mentone did not lose a game throughout the preliminary rounds and on the final day. They scored 56 goals and only conceded 1. After a one all draw against Mitchell, Mentone won a penalty shoot out 5-4 ( our goal keeper Bella stopped the 5<sup>th</sup> penalty and then scored the winning goal for Mentone). The Champions of 2003. Well done!

## Aerobics 2004

At the beginning of term two, it was that time of the year again for Ms Clark to choose the MGSC aerobics team for 2004. This year there were two teams. The 'B' team was Amelia Delaney, Kelly Tobun, Olivia McConchie, Lillian Addle, Kirri Riley, Katelyn Hutton, Tanita Northcote and Alice Maier. The 'A' team was Shelley Frost, Renee Browning, Laura Day, Maddie Evans, Lauren Muir, Hayley Symonds, Ashleigh Voce and myself.

After learning the routine and practicing twice a week before school we were ready for our first competition on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May which was a qualifying final. It was a very successful day as the 'A' team came fourth which meant we moved on to the State Finals. The 'B' team also did really well but unfortunately just missed out on a spot in the State Finals as they came ninth.

Well, it was another month of training for the 'A' team as we had our before school practices and even lunch time practices ahead of us. We had improved dramatically in that month of training and felt very ready for the State finals on the sixth of June.

The day finally came and the team performed really well, the best we'd ever performed the routine. We came fourth, which meant unfortunately we just missed out on going to the Nationals in Adelaide. We were a bit disappointed with our result, but we were proud of our performance on the day.

A few months later another opportunity came up for the 'A' team. The Spring Challenge was to be held on the twelfth of September and we wanted to train hard to do well in our final competition. Ashleigh was in France at the time of the competition, so Amelia (from the 'B' team) helped us out as we didn't have enough people. The day arrived and was definitely a successful one as our hard work paid off. We came first!

Overall aerobics has been really fun and its all due to the awesome coaching from Ms Clark. She was always there to support both teams and we are all very thankful for that. We are also all very excited for next year, when once again we will hopefully get the chance to compete again.

Megan Kiteley 10D



## Sports Stars

Congratulations to Briony Cargill and Yasmin Roos for receiving a Victorian School Sports Award (Sporting Blue). The girls received their awards at a very special gathering at the Hilton Hotel on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2004. Briony received her award for netball from famous basketballer Larry Sengstock and Yasmin received her award for diving from Matt Welsh the swimming champion. There were many famous sporting personalities at the presentations and it was a very proud moment for Ms Lehner and myself to witness these presentations.

Thank you to Mr de Munk for nominating the girls for these awards.

The girls won these awards because of the following achievements in their sports:

### Briony Cargill

Member Melbourne Kestrals, National Netball League

- Representative National Talent Squad - 17yrs and under age group
- Member Victorian Netball 21yrs and under



- Vice Captain Victorian Netball Team 17yrs and under
- Full Victorian Institute of Sport Scholarship

### Yasmin Roos

- Member of the "2008 Beijing Olympics Squad"
- Diving Australia's Female Diver of the Year Award Junior B
- Australian Team Member at First Western Pacific Rim Championships
- Gold Medallist 1m and 3m Junior National Championships in Elite Junior B
- Member VSSSA State Diving Team.



Mrs Heather Sarau  
Assistant Principal





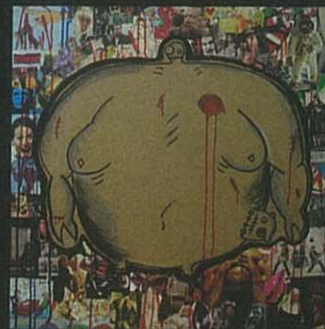
Carla Simpson Year 12



Eiko Kinukawa Year 12



Nicole MacDonald Year 12



Hayley Anderson Year 12

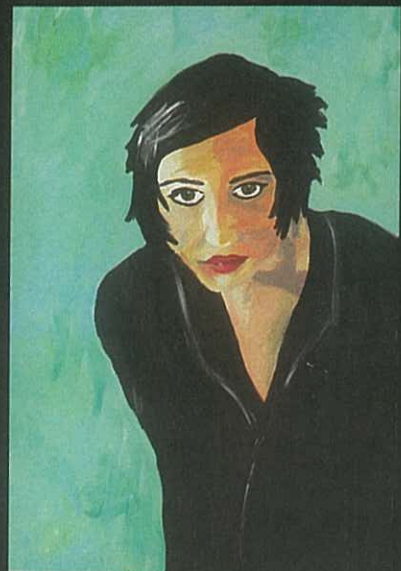


Anna Lee Year 12



Ashlee Collins Year 12

# VCE Art 2004



Sara Smith Year 12



Hayley Anderson Year 12



Hayley Anderson Year 12



Meghan Cunningham Year 11



Ellen Collins Year 12



Alex Stott Year 12



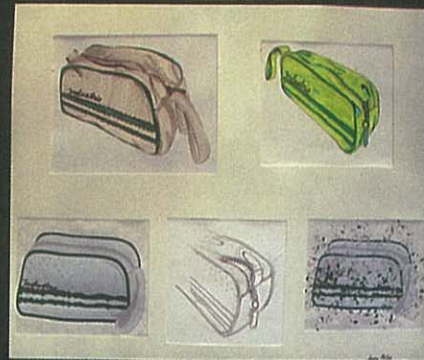
Anya Neremberg Year 12



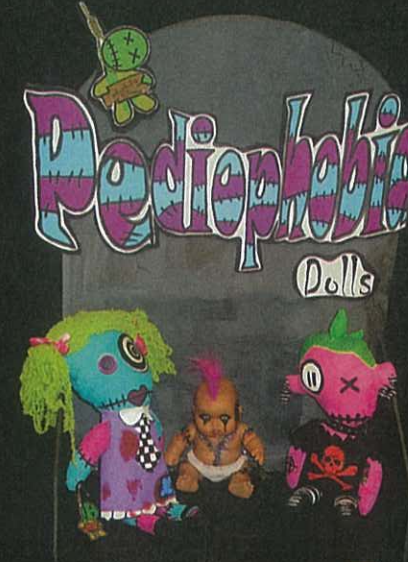
Veronica Duran Year 12



Anya Neremberg Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 11



Hayley Anderson Year 12



Georgia Young Year 12



Rebecca Ebb Year 12



Lauren Stein Year 12



Claire Murray Year 12



Eiko Kinukawa Year 12

# VCE Visual Communication and Design



# Jungle World

A hidden corner at the edge of the room, invisible to fixed smiling faces; a girl on the sidelines. She is slumped over the end of her chair and frilly black lace crumples around her unmoving feet. Her head rests deeply in her hands and cords of long black hair curtain her pale, frail, disappointed face. She blends into the lonesome dark of her caged corner. The bright coloured sounds and sweet whiff of perfumes do not stretch to her; she is left to slowly suffocate in the bleakness.

Disarranged along the back wall; bundles of monkey-hearted boys and girls lie, sit, stand and stumble in a tangled circle. Their laughter echoes and washes over the room. Like tiger cubs on a summer's day they play wildly, despite their formal manner of dresses and suits.

Two undaunted teachers stand tall, like gnawing giraffes, in their authoritative stance by the long trench of colourful candy against the side wall. They make quick spiteful glances at the tiger cubs against the back wall, and then turn to chat in envious turmoil.

Through the crowded jumping apes on the dance floor, a tribe of primitive boys act out being cool. The top button of their shirts left undone to expose the top half of their well-built chests, obviously gained from long hours at the gym. They chant and cheer in a circle as if they are Indians parading around a fire during a ritual.

Hundreds of mangled bodies become hyperactive on the dance floor; they shout the

words to songs they obviously do not know and are determined to cram together like sardines, despite half the room not being in use. Their sweat fills the air and creates a pungent blanket around them.

A young man at the back of the room is hardly distracted by the deafening wolves that savage the room. He keeps his head lowered, concentrates hard on the songs he's playing and stays calm. He is not welcome to join the electrifying fun that shocks the room.

All animals in the jungle play their role well and each makes the show as amazing as it is. This scene, like a busy morning street, brings all the creatures together. They forget their usual petty differences as they come together and make a world where they can celebrate as one.

Holly Crain 10G

## Teenage Poem

I am a teenager, I am tired  
I am a teenager, I am lazy  
Exercise isn't as tempting as it used to be.  
I am a teenager, I am hungry  
But everyone has different views  
on what you should eat.  
I am a teenager, I am self conscious  
Even though you shouldn't  
care what people think  
I am a teenager, I am disrespectful  
While trying to earn respect  
from my parents.  
I am a teenager, I am broke,  
And waste all my money on little things.  
I am a teenager, I am selfish,  
While trying to be a good person.  
I am a teenager, I am stressed,  
It's easy to let little things bring you down.  
I am a teenager, I am bored,  
Even though teenage years  
are supposed to be  
The best of your life.

Calani Knight 10B

## I am a secret

I am a secret/mystery yet to be discovered  
I am different yet exactly the same  
I live a life of opportunity, a life without regret  
I eat, live, breathe and sleep my ambition,  
Determination is my best asset,  
Commitment my single focus,  
I believe in the impossible,  
I achieve the unimaginable,  
My family is my guide,  
My friends are my support,  
My mind is my success  
I WILL BE A CHAMPION!

Rebecca Bran 10C



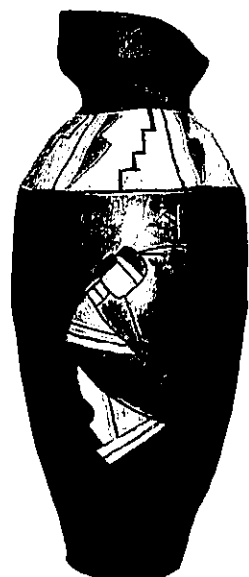
Melbourne Tigers  
Lunchtime basketball training



Gabi Bolton 10C



Laura Camm 9F



Kristina Pavlis 10D

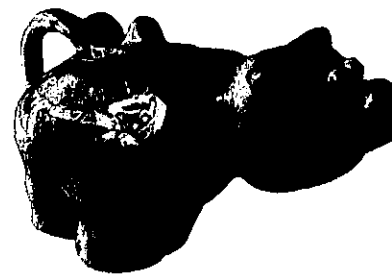


Tanvi Chalke 10A

## I am who I am

I am a girl  
I am becoming my future  
I am one person in the world  
but I am the world to one person.  
I am all I smell and touch  
I am all I remember  
I am all I forget  
I am the sunshine in my father's eyes  
I am my mother's one and only me  
I am who I am.

Steph Brennan 10C



Natalie Nanayakkara 10H



Jun Ye 10D

## Nameless

I am the outcast,  
The one you come to,  
Talk about,  
When you want to feel normal.  
I am the shadow,  
The dark shadow  
that hangs over classrooms  
Houses, gardens  
That makes you  
squirm with discomfort.  
I am under-appreciated in a world  
that loves the shameless  
In a world  
that loves an extrovert  
A world  
that loves the normal  
In a reassuringly  
transparent masquerade of oddity.  
I am the one you love to ignore  
I am the unusual flower  
Choked by weeds  
Whose strength lies  
only in their number  
I am the dead  
whose body  
refuses  
to let go.  
Sarah Higgins 10C

## Cream

The sun is beaming down on me,  
Like someone torturing an ant  
with a magnifying glass,  
It could burn me in an instant  
But it prefers to boil me making  
it impossible to rest.  
The ice cold sun screen touches my finger as I  
pour it out,  
Then the tube sucks me in.  
Sliding down the inside of the sky blue tube,  
My body smothered with white cream  
I lick my lips, it tasted like banana  
Diving through the cream and  
swimming around  
I get bored.  
I build a snowman. Tall and  
slimy with a white hat  
He looks like my uncle Pete.  
My stomach rumbles and I suppose I'm hungry  
No, it was the tube that rumbled,  
its tipping.  
I start speeding down the  
tube with the massive,  
white waves hot on my tail.  
I pop out the end, just as I hear the click of  
the cap, close shut.  
I tumble over my friend Charli,  
and we run off towards the ocean.

Emily Daniel 10D



Alexandra Robinson 10A



Shiina Ito 10E

## My Greek Yiayia

My Greek Yiayia  
Came to a new land  
by sea.  
Far away from Imvros  
Her island home.  
With her family,  
Pupu, John and Peter,  
One is my father.  
She brought her love  
Of Greek traditions,  
Her religion,  
And her traditional Greek food,  
Mousaka, Dolmades and Pites.  
My Yiayia's hugs and kisses  
Make me warm  
I love her  
Because she's  
YIA YIA.

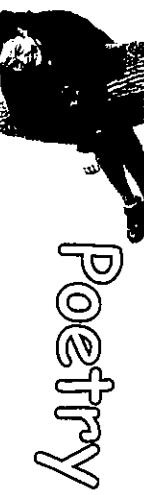
Georgina Karavasil 10G  
(Yiayia means grandma in Greek).



Maddie Gabron 10E



Maddie Evans, Nicole Price  
Aimee Milne, Jessie Hawksworth  
10H PE uniform challenge  
winners at Laserforce



Writing and Poetry



## Business Week

During the second week of the Easter school holidays, from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, I and fifty other year 12 students from all over Victoria were awarded scholarships to attend Australian Business Week, which was held at the Business Management Centre at Deakin University, Waum Ponds Campus, in Geelong.

The week started with the official opening by Professor Philip Clarke, Dean of the Faculty of Business and Law making the opening address. It was quite touching and overwhelming when we were described as the "Crème de la Crème" of all year 12 students, and that over one thousand students had



applied for the places that we filled. After the opening it was time to say goodbye to our parents and to join the nine other people who made up our team (these were named after colours – Blue, Gold, Green, Orange, Purple and Red), along with our two mentors and embark on a week full of business and legal related projects. We were to compete for a State title.

Each team competed in three major tasks, which were the Business Policy Game, a Mock Trial and a Trade Display.

The Business Policy Game is a simulation of a business in the Australian economy that we run for four quarters, or the equivalent of two years, selling products that would retail for \$10. Each quarter as a team we made over fifty decisions on price, volume, marketing strategy, advertising, quality, production process, staffing, funding, distribution and many more aspects to gain the highest market share and share price, without being penalised for having too much stock left over, or paying heavily for not having enough. To make the job easier, each team divided into three groups, each taking on the role of finance, production or marketing. Stephen, Corinne, Ashlea and Dave (our team's CEO) took finance and estimated how much money we had. Todd was in charge of marketing and he estimated how much stock we needed each quarter. His skills in this area were incredible as each time he was only one to two thousand units off the correct amount of stock needed. I, with my team mate Huy, took the role of production and it was our job to make sure that enough stock was produced to satisfy customer demands and to coincide with Todd's estimations. Unfortunately for us we were \$2 million in debt at one stage and never fully recovered until the last quarter when we had \$6,000 in the bank. At the end of the week we had to compile our profits and losses in a company report and an oral presentation performed in front of a panel of judges and our parents.

James and Sarah took the roles of lawyers and presented a case at the Geelong Magistrates Court which was heard by a judge. Each team argued their case against another team. They took the side of either 'Grosso' or 'Fantasia Motors'. Grosso was suing Fantasia Motors for unfair dismissal, after having been fired because he had HIV/AIDS. Sadly, James and Sarah's case to defend Fantasia Motors was not strong enough to win. They were fantastic anyway!

Tara and I took on the Trade Display activity. We had to create a product and market it using a trade display and a television commercial. We came up with a hair gel that not only styled your hair but made it blue! We had a great time creating the TV commercial in Deakin University's Media Centre. We were fortunate to be able to use the editing suite to edit the commercial. Each team demonstrated their product and trade display on the final day in front of everyone's parents and a panel of judges.

After each team presented their oral, presentation medals were awarded for best trade display and TV commercial, best oral presentation and annual report, best legal case for the mock trial, best team performance, winners of the business policy game and eventually State Champions.

My team won the medal for the best oral presentation and best annual report. Congratulations to the Green team who were the State Champions and will compete in Queensland in early December against teams from New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

Australian Business Week is one of the most beneficial things I have ever done. I've gained so much more confidence and knowledge and have met some amazing people and formed friendships that are incredible and will last for years. I now feel much more optimistic about my future and am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to participate in the program.

The Music Key Learning Area at Mentone Girls' Secondary College is a very hard working body – here is a list of most of the events, including concerts at school and various performances in the wider Mentone Community. Students have amazing opportunities to pursue music on many levels, which they take up with enthusiasm.

## Major Music Ensembles 2004

**Year 8 and Year 7 Bands:** Open Evening Performances

Conductors Mrs Judy Firestone, Ms Janet McCutcheon and Mr Henry Silver

**Senior Wind Ensemble**  
Mr H. Silver

**Concert Band:** Conductors Jessica Brady [Senior Music Captain], Claire Heath [Senior Vice Music Captain] Managers Mr H. Silver and Ms S. Cook

**Senior Stage Band:**  
conductor Ms Sue Cook

**Madrigal Conductor**  
Ms Blanka West

**String Ensemble**  
Ms G. Shafir and Ms R Slavsky

**All Star Choir director**  
Mrs Judy Firestone

**Small Chamber String Ensemble**  
Ms S. Cook

**Flute Ensemble**  
directed by Ms Viv Tate

### Music Events 2004

#### Music Camp

[a 3 day camp which singers and instrumental students with at least one years experience attend]

Music Camp Concert

Past Students Association International Women's Day Dinner - Madrigal

Southern Metropolitan Region Women's Day Dinner - Madrigal

International Women's Day Assembly

Conducting Workshop

General Assembly and Year Level Performances

Dandenong Choral Festival Guest Performance  
Mentone GSC Madrigal

Sing Fest [A regional 2 day non-residential camp for vocalists]

House Music Competition  
Wed. 19 May 7.30pm  
School Hall

Southern Region Music Festival

Mentone RSL

2 Vocal Evenings

Recital for Brass Students

Winter Concert Mon. 21<sup>st</sup>  
June School Hall 7.30pm

2 Year 7 band concerts

Musical 'Kismet' September performances

Malcolm Art Show Award performances

Middle School Music Performances

Mentone Traders Performance

Year Level Assembly Performances

General Assembly Performances

2 V.C.E. Music Concerts

A.M.E.B Music Exams

Presentation Evening Musical Items

2 Information evenings for incoming year 7 Students interested in learning an instrument or voice



"and the winners were : Mackellar!"



House Chorals



House Music Captains 2004



The Madrigal singers performing at School Assembly



## House Music

Trumpets trilled, flutes flitted, horns hooted and clarinets crammed the M rooms on the night of House Music. Students pranced around, proudly displaying emblems of varying size, colour and extravagance. Each choral group performed the set song 'Fame', adding in their own sparks of originality such as drums, movement and other percussion, plus one song of their own choice, and the instrumental groups performed one song each.

Kenny chorals performed 'May it be' and their instrumental group presented 'Somewhere out there'. Jackson came in as the favourites as they had won every House Choral night for the past five

years, their choral group performing an original composition by Helena Cangadis-Douglass, and their instrumental section performed 'The Sound of Music'. Mackellar chorals sang 'Wade in the Water', their instrumental section playing us a catchy 'Surfin' USA'. Melba chorals sang 'You'll be there' and their instrumental section performed 'Music from Chicago'.

### Final results:

1<sup>st</sup>: Mackellar – 100 points

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jackson – 98 points

3<sup>rd</sup>: Kenny – 96 points

4<sup>th</sup>: Melba – 95 points

Sharon Flitman 9E

## Power Strings 2004

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June our school was very pleased to be hosting the 'Power Strings'. Many string students from Primary and Secondary Schools around the Southern Metropolitan Region came together in a two-day workshop. We had a great turnout with thirty violins, one viola, ten cellos and two double bass students. The workshops were very successful and the music produced at the end in such a short time made for a great concert. I would like to thank all the music staff for organising 'Power Strings 2004' and look forward to more such terrific events.

Sarah Navarria  
Middle School Vice Music Captain

## Winter Concert

The 2004 Winter Concert held on 21<sup>st</sup> June was another fine example of the dedication to music at M.G.S.C from both students and teachers and a true testament to their high standard of musical talent. From Madrigal to Year Eight Concert Band, Chamber Strings to Senior Winds, all 12 groups managed to impress the packed Nina Carr Performing Arts Centre with songs ranging from Dolly Parton to N Rimsky-Korsakou.

Thanks go to all those who spent many lunchtimes and after school rehearsing to ensure an enjoyable evening and to those who helped with front of house duties and set up.

Emily Laidlaw 11D

## Music Camp 2004

Music Camp was again a success this year, with a terrific amount of music being learnt. Held in March, Music Camp is a great opportunity for students to extend themselves in all aspects of music, especially playing with a band, performing and not losing your music. Music Camp also allows students from all year levels to come together and play music. Many thanks to all the teachers who attended.

Eloise Johnstone







### Sailing Team excels at State Championships

This year has seen the establishment of Mentone's inaugural sailing team. Our team's impressive performance at the docklands regatta earlier in the year was rewarded with a wildcard entry into the Victorian Schools Teams Racing State Championship held at Black Rock Yacht club on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of May.

Our team worked very hard on the first day against bigger stronger and more experienced opposition. Despite their light frames being unsuited to the heavy seas and strong winds, our team battled hard and remained very competitive.

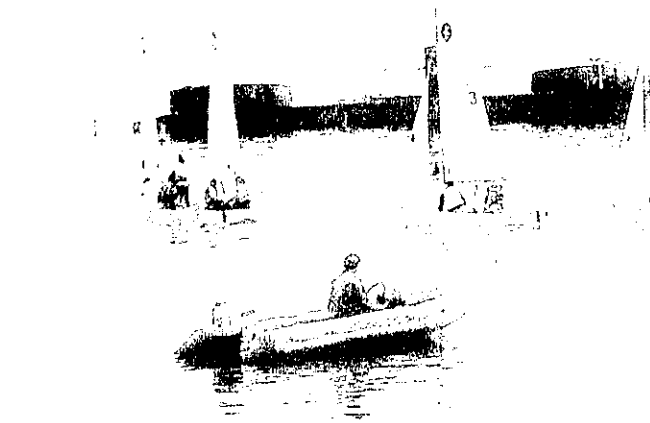
On the final day of competition the girls excelled in the lighter winds to remain undefeated on the day with three straight victories. Overall our team finished second in their half of the pool. This is an outstanding result, particularly considering that this is an open age group event and that it's open to every school in the State. Congratulations to the following students who were fantastic representatives of our school.

Kate Aulich Year 10, Sarah Strong Year 9, Amy Kivell, Nicole Petzke, Michelle Palmer Year 8 and Stephanie Strong Year 7

A big thank you to Steve and Amanda Aulich, Phillip and Carolyn Strong and Dianne and Michael Petzke for the terrific support they provided by attending the event and managing the team.

Peter Bartlett

Head of Health and Physical Education



### Inter-School Gymnastics 2004

Four teams competed this year at the Inter-School Victorian Championships this year.

The Junior Modified Team finished seventh in the private schools section out of twenty-one teams. They were second in the State Schools section.

Kelly Tobin, Abbey Young, Kirri Riley, Holly McCreery, Bridget Hoole, Ellie Ganella.

The Senior Modified Team finished second in the private schools section and first in the state school section.

The team was: Maddie Evans, Katie Salmon, Lauren Muir, Megan Kiteley, Tess de Munk.

In the State Schools Individual section Maddie finished first, Lauren second and Tess third.

The Level Four Team finished in sixth place in the private schools section and second in the state schools section.

The team was: Eleanor Beavan, Caitlin Bennet, Jackie Woodlock, Hannah McElhinney, Ellen Evans. Caitlin finished first in the state schools section.

The A2 Division team narrowly missed first place by .05. Members of the team were: Genevieve Mayes, Berna Olcerel, Jade Northcote, Talia Alt. Genevieve finished first in both the private and state schools individual sections.

Congratulations to all the students involved.

Thanks to Stephanie Brennan, Tess de Munk, Talia Alt and Alana-Jayne Lindley for your help with coaching the teams.

Mrs Joan Barnett Team Co-ordinator



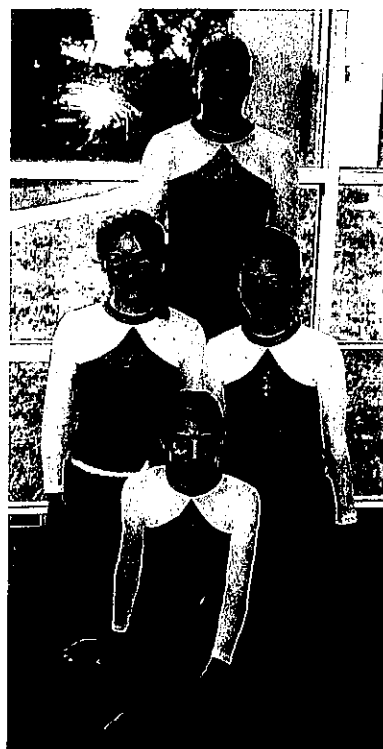
The Three Musketeers:  
Caitlin Bennet, Eleanor Beavan, Tess de Munk



Level 4  
Back (l-r): Tess de Munk (co-coach), Ellen Evans, Hannah McElhinney, Alana Lynley (co-coach)  
Second row: Caitlyn Beavan, Jackie Woodlock  
Front: Eleanor Beavan



Back (l-r): Maddie Evans, Katie Salmon, Megan Kiteley  
Front: Lauren Muir, Tess de Munk



Level 6-8  
Top: Talia Alt  
Second row: Berna Olcerel, Jade Northcote  
Front: Genevieve Mayes

### Senior Soccer Team State Finals 2004 Runners-up.



A team to be congratulated on their skills and overall effort. Mentone reached the final without losing a game and without conceding a goal. We wish to thank the parents for their support throughout the competition. Mentone lost the Final 2-0 to Bendigo, a team that is currently in the Victorian Soccer Federation League. A tremendous effort. Well done.

Mr Santos

Pictured at left:

Top: Cathinka Beer, Cassie Miller, Genevieve White, Nataliya Friend, Amelia Marriott, Liz Ryan, Nicole MacDonald, Mr Santos.

Bottom: Lauren Steinfort, Bhey Orwin, Ash Fennell, Lani Craven, Rose Kennedy, Krystal Youakim, Lauren Morecroft.

### Middle School Soccer

Shin guards in place, boots firmly tied, and countless goals scored, though not one against us. After three rounds of soccer (districts, district finals and zones all of which were played in the rain) the MGSC middle school soccer team still remained undefeated, ready and raring for State Finals.

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August, the team arrived at Keilor Park Reserve. Unfortunately the first two games were tied meaning the team was out of the finals, but in the final game of the day they won 2-0 against Geelong who played in the final! Overall, a top season, and although they didn't win the final, the middle school soccer team was never defeated!

Sharon Flitman 9E



(l-r): Mr Bill Murray, Sheree Amon, Sharon Flitman, Jo Gee, Greta Shorst, Melissa Karakurt, Aria Illiov, Rebecca Warren, Natalie Amarrion.

Front Row: Courtney Sullivan, Caitlyn McKenzie, Natasha Giarratarra, Ellie Stewart, Lucienne Georgeson.

Front: Caitlin Montgomery.

Missing: Sarah Graham, Saskia Oostenhuizen.



Our Sports Couches with Janine Ilitch



Year 11 PE

### Senior Hockey Report



Top(l-r): Claire Heath, Jacqui Banfield, Malorie Barclay, Sarah Nicholson, Ashlee Collins, Caroline Jones, Anna Lee, Jazmine Narayan.

Bottom: Ganga Ranjit, Clare Redshaw, Claire Murray, Nandini Sundararaj.

Our Senior Hockey team represented our school enthusiastically and with great team spirit. We came up against extremely strong opposition and although we did not win Beachside, led by Claire Murray as Captain, we were a formidable opposition. Many of our girls have represented the College every year from Year 7 onwards, so I thank them for their valuable contribution. "You are the best!"

Mrs Faye Bainbridge.





# 18

I'm waiting to be 18, considered to be an adult.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, able to vote.  
 At 18, I am like a bull let loose.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, let out on my own.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, able to drive.  
 At 18, I can make my own decisions.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, finished school with endless possibilities.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, to be free, to be me!  
 At 18, I am a butterfly, free from its cocoon.  
 At 18 I will see the world as my party.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, you are taken seriously.  
 Being 18 is like a loose thread unravelling the rest of my life  
 At 18 I'll be wishing I was young again.  
 I'm waiting to be 18, soon that time will come.

Amy Hagger 10D



Nicole Gilham 10B

## Sleepless Monsters

They won't lie down, they won't go to bed,  
 "Don't want to" "I'm not tired" the voices ring  
 in my head. "Mummy doesn't make us". My  
 head is swirling round and round, "Just leave  
 them, they'll calm down" they don't "Can you  
 read us a story?" "The Cookie Monster went to  
 see his friends Elmo" they go to bed, but I know  
 they're awake, "Michael's out of bed" they tell  
 on each other "Ashleigh's not sleeping" I give up.  
 "Fine! Just sit there and be quiet" they fidget,  
 they talk "Right! That's enough! Everyone's going  
 to bed NOW!" there's silence they mumble  
 "don't want to" "not tired" but they go anyway,  
 quiet at last

they  
 are  
 asleep.

Hayley Williams 10D

## My Favourite Charm

Shiny ruby, gold and silver, the glistening, shimmering,  
 special jewel in the shape of a little girl. Even now that I am  
 fifteen years old, my much-loved gem means so much to me.  
 As I hold the delicate charm in my hand, I remember...

The familiar smell of hairspray was wafting through the air as I sat  
 patiently while getting the hot curlers taken out of my short blonde  
 hair. 'Ouch' I thought to myself as my coach pulled a curl here and  
 pinned a bit there - I was too shy to ever tell her that it was hurting.  
 When all the grooming was done, and the eye shadow, blush, mascara,  
 eyeliner and lipstick had all been applied to my young, nervous looking face,  
 the disguise to make me look and act like Shirley Temple, this was the aim  
 from the beginning.

Deep breath in, deep breath out.

"Stretch those toes," "Those splits have improved," "Good girl,"  
 Now, we have been over this many times." The coach's instructions kept  
 floating in through one ear and out the other, as I was only concentrating on  
 what was being done around me by the other hopeful seven year olds like  
 myself. There were little mermaids, cow girls, lion kings, and many other  
 disguises that the girls had, but we were all trying to achieve the same thing;  
 to be the best seven-year-old dancer in Victoria. I was oblivious to the prize  
 the winner would receive, and only thought about one thing, making my coach  
 and my mum happy.

Deep breath in, deep breath out.

Sequins, glitter, costumes; dedicated, determined mothers all wanting their  
 daughters to win, "You've come this far, you may as well keep working hard  
 and win this competition as well!" All of the mothers had the same attitude  
 towards their daughters' talents because social status improved as your  
 daughter's ability did. All mothers were the same...except mine.

Deep breath in, deep breath out.

She pulled me aside, smiling calmly, proudly. A gift she had behind her back,  
 to wish me good luck, I thought. I closed my eyes as I put out my small anxious  
 hands. A small charm was gently placed in them. The glistening, petite jewel was  
 a young girl in a red dress, just like the one I was wearing at the time. "Not for luck  
 my darling, because you don't need luck, just have fun on stage and I will always  
 be proud." Confidence was beginning to build up inside me, like the growing  
 sound of applause after a great show. The nerves were slowly disappearing;  
 a sailboat tranquilly drifting away from the shore. The butterflies that were  
 constantly fluttering in my stomach had turned into much needed thoughts  
 of self-belief.

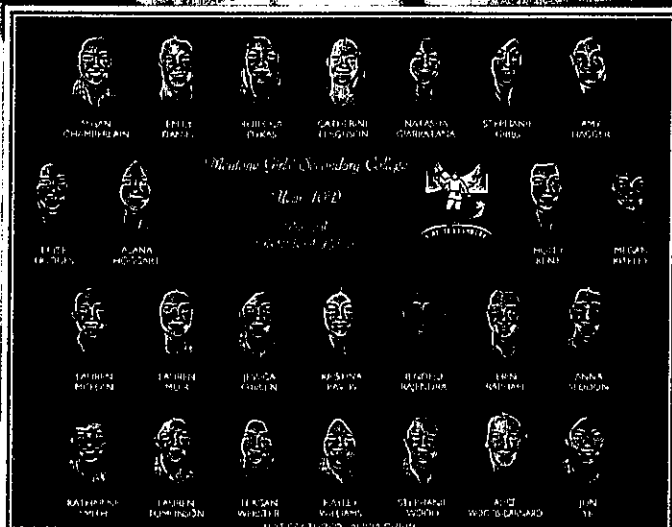
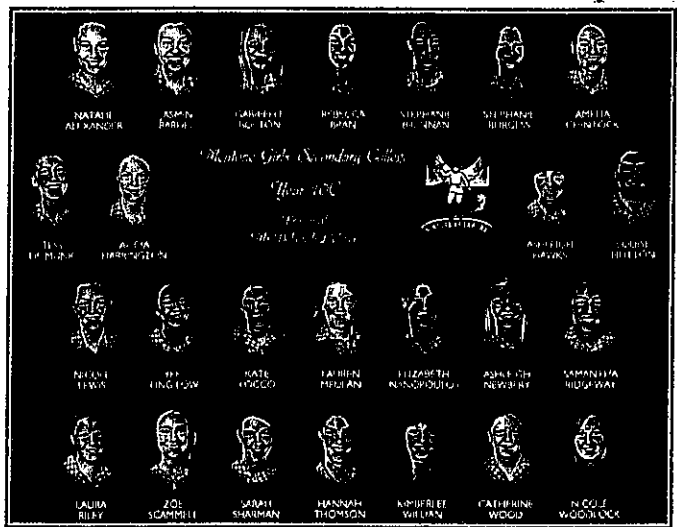
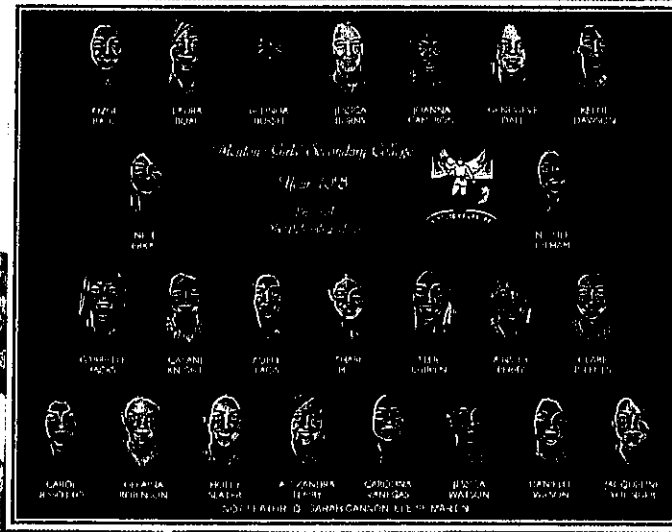
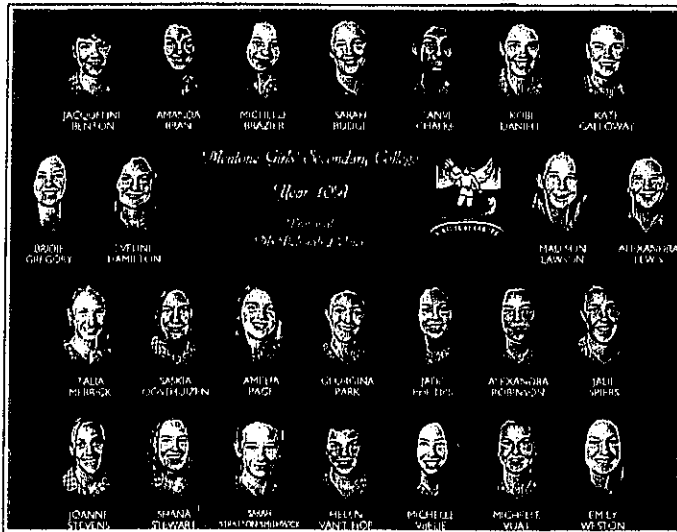
The long, brisk walk through the audience to backstage was almost the most  
 nerve-racking. This time, though, I was not afraid. All heads turned in unison  
 as I walked down the side of the auditorium, I felt like an elephant in a room full  
 of tiny mice.

"Are you ready?" the words seemed to echo in my head as the music  
 started. All I remember is coming off the stage, smiling. Not because of the  
 performance, but because of the amount of fun I had on stage. Not worrying  
 about winning or coming second, I just had fun. It was all because of the small  
 charm my mum gave me, symbolizing the way she just wanted me to enjoy  
 myself and no matter what, I would make her proud.

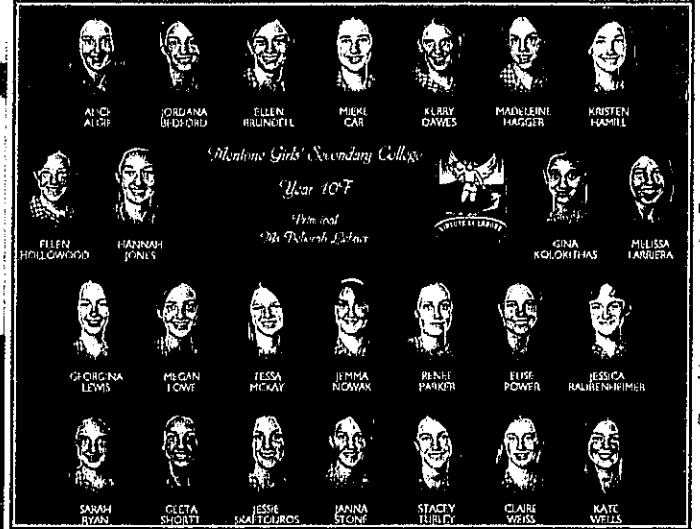
Megan Kiteley Year 10



Maggie Lee 9A







Early in May our Year 10 students ventured out into the world of work, gaining valuable experience in a great variety of jobs; inspiring ideas and plans for possible future careers. The girls enjoyed their new responsibilities and independence and set out with enthusiasm. They were industrious and reliable, according to the reports of their employers, who were on the whole delighted with their efforts. Here are a few of their stories from this exciting week of work experience.



Ashleigh Voce



Alicia Keem



Samantha Taylor



Tess Handley



Abi Suresh

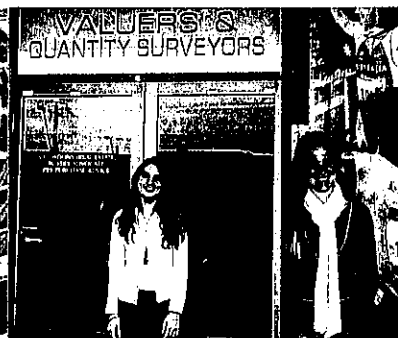


Luana Groves

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Elise Power and I were at Cheltenham Station at 9.00am to catch the train into the city. We had to catch public transport to get to Fitzroy St, where our work experience placements, at the Triple R buildings, were situated. Triple R (102.7 FM) is a community radio station that broadcasts different kinds of music across Melbourne. It was an amazing place to work. All the employers were great and we saw and did a lot of interesting stuff we wouldn't get to do in everyday life. We worked until Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>, and everyday our hours were 11-3pm (with an hour break!) Elise and I saw presenters live on air as well as a few celebrities who came in to be interviewed. Most of the time we did administration duties like filing, but we also got time in one of the studios to learn how they work. We were allowed to record our very own show filled with our favourite music. We also got to keep heaps of new release CD's and we listened to the radio all day!

It was amazing to be in the city everyday, working with interesting adults and learning about the radio business. Work experience is a great opportunity and I urge everyone who will do it in the future to try and make the most of their time. Do something fun and entertaining and learn as much as you can!

Melanie Ryan 10E



Jordana Bedford



Maddy Gabron and Emily Redmond



Jo Stevens

For work experience I went to Black Rock Primary School. I was there to help with the physical education classes, but I also helped in the Japanese classes and in a grade two class. In P.E, all year levels were doing gymnastics. I helped to supervise, set up and I also took a group for an activity. I also umpired the inter-school netball. It was good helping out in the Japanese classes and I put my Japanese to practise! I loved being in the grade two classroom because all the kids were so cute! I really enjoyed helping them with things like writing in their journals, spelling and making Mothers Day presents!

The kids were all great and I had lots of fun. I found it strange sitting in the staffroom with all the teachers! I had a really good week and learnt lots of new things about teaching.

Ellen Hollowood 10F

On the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of April during the school holidays, I went to the set of 'Neighbours' for work experience.

I met most of the cast and got to hang out with them in the green room. They were really friendly and just like you and me!

Apart from getting their autographs and taking heaps of photos, I was also able to watch them film. I even got to walk through the sets!

It was great to see how it all works and I'd go back there any day!

Jenna Trakas 10H



Alice Algie



Luana Groves





One of the nights the year 10's had been looking forward to most since the start of the year was the Year 10 Social, and what a night it was! Held in the Nina Carr hall, the theme for the night was "Black and White". Weeks of planning went into every aspect of making the night great, from the fantastic decorations and refreshment provided by the Social Committee, to the fashion, hairstyles, and dare we say it, dates.

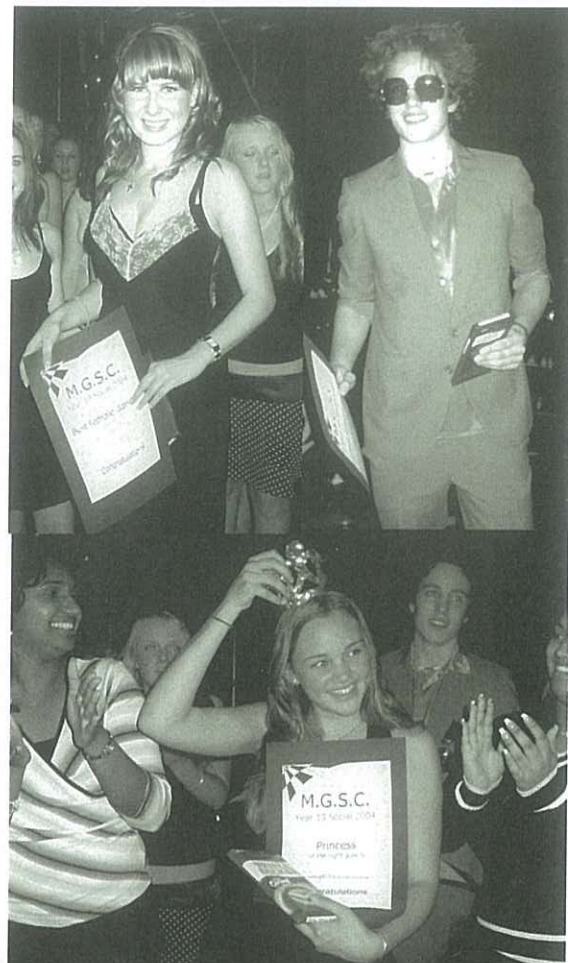
The effort was definitely worth it on the night. Everybody who attended looked amazing, and the professional photographer set up in the foyer was kept on his toes all night. The dance

floor never saw a dull moment, with the DJ providing a mix of modern music and old-time favourites. Everyone had a chance to get up and show off his or her dance talents...even the teachers!

As always, there were prizes awarded on the night. The title of 'Princess' went to Megan Kiteley, 'Prince' went to Andrew South, 'Best dressed' went to Matt Knupple and Joanna Cameron, and 'Best Dancer' was awarded to Toby Morrison and Ashleigh Hawks.

By the end of the night, everyone was all danced out. Everyone who attended had a brilliant night, and I'm sure that the Year 10 Socials that follow will be just as good.

Alex Lewis 10A





### Debating 2004

Should live animal exports be banned? Does the internet do more harm than good?

This year Mentone Girls' Secondary College boasted some of the best talkers of all time. Although this is a skill many teachers find disturbing, when the creative nattering is directed towards debating, suddenly it's a great skill to have.

All teams were very successful, all the way from D to B grade. It was the year 8's first introduction to debating, and group 1 won two out of a possible five debates, with Stephanie Reed-Marshall getting best speaker once and Ellie Ganella achieving best speaker twice. The second year 8 team won one out of a possible four debates.

Princess Mike

The three year 9 teams had a fantastic season. Team three won three out of a possible four debates, Sarah Strong, Alice Maier and Lisa Friend each achieving best speaker. Team four won one out of a possible three debates, and team five won two out of a possible three debates.

The C grade debaters made up of year 10 students won three out of a possible four debates, with Bindhu Rajendra attaining best speaker twice! Unfortunately B grade did not manage to win any of their debates, but Claire Valentine was awarded best speaker twice.

Congratulations everyone on a fantastic season!

Sharon Flitman 9E

### Overseas Exchange - Germany 2003



I thought the hardest thing to do was to leave my family and friends, the ones I love, for one whole year. I never realised that it would be even harder to return to them.

In August 2003, I went on exchange to Germany. I knew leaving my friends and family would be hard, but it was too late to back out. The one thing I never forgot, and never will, were the tears streaming down my little brother's cheeks.

I went to live in Neustadt, a small town in the south of Germany, where the school I attended was called Kurfürst Ruprechts Gymnasium. The

first few months were hard. The language and unfamiliarity were exhausting, the emails I received from everyone in Australia made everything so much harder. I would spend most of my time after school sleeping.

I found it hard to talk to people because of the language barrier and trying to understand would drain me of any energy I had. Though after a



Kirsten Page, Princess Mike, Catherine Gilberthorpe Year 11 'B' grade debating team.



Lisa Friend, Alice Maier, Sarah Strong Year 9 'D' grade debating team.

while I was able to understand what people were saying to me and I could speak to people in my classes and ask questions. It became easier to communicate and I now had friends. We did so much together - dancing, going out (especially to wine festivals) and visiting other places.

The most memorable part of my experience was meeting my best friend. She too was an exchange student, but from Hungary. Together we went to Berlin and Munich. Christmas time was also a great memory. The snow, the presents and being with my host family is something I will never forget.

From the experience of being alone at the start, I was able to understand myself more than I ever had and my life was accompanied by the changes within myself. I found by the end of the year I didn't want to leave my friends and family again. But this time it was different. I wasn't returning to the home I had left, I was returning to a place that might not suit the transformation I had undergone. I felt that I had found a life that agreed with who I really am.

I made sure to make the most of the last few months, weeks and days left to me in Germany. Apart from my family and friends in Germany, I really miss the food and eating a huge meal for lunch and the bread for dinner (even though I was sick of it while I was there!) I will also miss the snowball fights between the two schools at recess and walking home and picking cherries off the trees.

An exchange year is the best experience anyone could have. It may sound scary, but the friends you make you keep forever, even when they are so far away. I would never change my year away for anything and I hope that others will also take this opportunity to go on exchange.

Tamara Howard 12C

### My Changing but Same Mind

I'm in year 10 now. I feel so sure, so complete. I feel as though I have the world all figured out, and exactly what I am going to do with my life. I am happy now, with the people I am surrounded by, the relationships I maintain and those that will continue to deepen.

But I look back to my year eight diary. I felt so sure, so complete. I felt as though I had the whole world figured out. I thought I would never get sick of Sean Kannan. I filled my school record book with cute pictures of E-cards because that's what my older sister did, and that must be 'cool'. I wanted to buy stickers from the newsagency so I could make my record book look nice. I still loved the band 5ive, and wanted them to make more songs. I wanted to read every 'Sweet Valley' book every written and thought the school should buy all the 300 books ever written! I loved watching 'Neighbours', but not 'Home and Away'. 'Home and Away' is a bad show and weird, so I will never watch it. I would never betray 'Neighbours' for that cheesy Channel Seven show. Only now do I realise how simple I was. Those feelings and thoughts were so immature, so naïve and just so childish.

I look back to my grade six year. I felt sure, so complete. I felt as though I had the whole world figured out. I thought my annual productions were the best, I thought I did a really good job of my role. I thought I would never get over 'Sailor Moon' not playing. I thought the 'Baby Sitter's Club' books were so awesome, I really wanted the library to buy every book in the 200 book series. I thought I could avoid using the Internet because it looked

complicated to use, and email wasn't as good as people said it was. Only in Year Eight did I realise how silly I was.

I always look back to my past, in regret and cringe when horrible flash backs come back to haunt me. I cringe even more at the thought that at the time it felt so right. It is almost impossible to believe that the mind where everything I did felt so right is the same mind with which I now completely disagree.

We've all made mistakes, but somehow mine seem to be the most stupid and idiotic. Am I being too harsh on myself? I don't know, but the fact is those mistakes have made me who I am. They have taught me things better than any person or book could do. I've grown from them and I will continue to grow as I make more mistakes. I have to learn to look at my mistakes and my past differently, and realise that for my age, what I did and thought was normal.

So now I am in year ten. I would like to be a lawyer, to travel the world and I think I have found the place where I belong. I love watching 'Home and Away', but I still watch 'Neighbours'. I can't live without the Internet, and I love using email. I think I have figured out this confusing world and its people. I realise why the library can't buy 200 books from the same series. I know that I eventually will get over things and move on. I think I know who my real friends are and who will be there through thick and thin. I don't know if I am right or if I will still believe that in the future. But what I do know is that I cannot change the past, but I can change the future.

Bindhu Rajendra 10D

### Teenage Poem

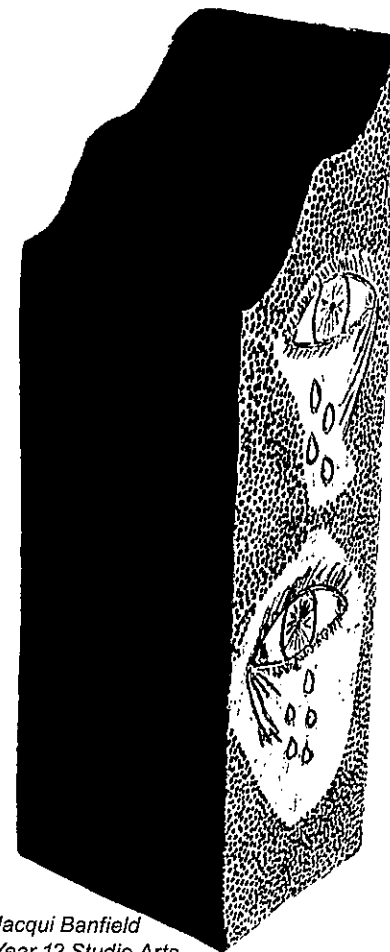
When you're growing up  
People say the ugliest thing is a pimple,  
But when you're growing up,  
They also say the prettiest thing is a dimple.

When you're growing up  
everything is so hard,  
With all the work you have to do.  
But when I think about it, I wouldn't make it because the most important thing to me is you.

When you're growing up, you care so much about image,  
Boyfriends, family and friends,  
But the older you get while growing up,  
You don't want the partying to end.

So I guess growing up is a way of life,  
When all the things bad and good  
But if I had a choice,  
I would stay young for as long as I could.

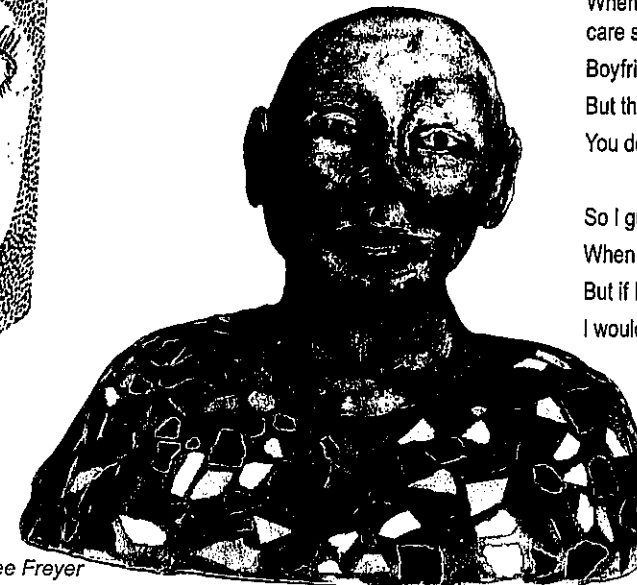
Jordana Bedford 10F



Jacqui Banfield Year 12 Studio Arts



Jessica Falkiner Year 11 Studio Arts



Tahnee Freyer Year 12 Studio Arts



## 'The Man from Mukinupin' Year 12 Theatre Studies

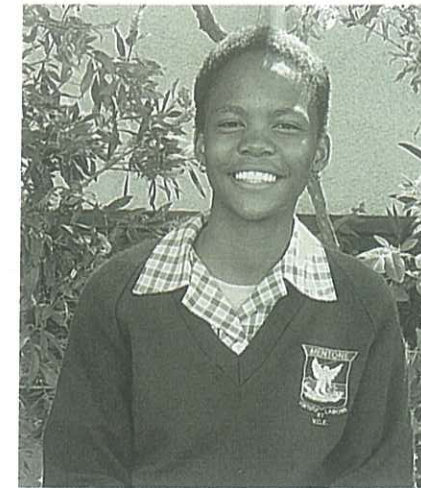


In the final week of Term One, the Year 12 Theatre Studies class performed an Australian musical play 'The Man From Mukinupin' by Dorothy Hewett. This enchanting and at times eerie play was about the exploration of the dark and light sides of human nature. The story is set in the town of Mukinupin. It is the story of Polly Perkins, the General Store keeper's daughter and her love for Jack Tuesday, the unsuitable grocer boy. Polly only has eyes for Jack which displeases her parents – Edie and Eek – and Cecil Brunner, a travelling salesman. He, although much older, believes he is in love with young Polly and would make her a far better husband than Jack. The whole proceedings are watched over by Clemmy and Clarry Hummer, two elderly spinster sisters who add their own thoughts on most matters all the way through the play. The deceptive cheeriness and 'cheesiness' of the play at the beginning was misleading and the audience were shocked as the play grew darker and took a turn in an unexpected direction. When the play was chosen, we were a little nervous to find we had a grand total of six weeks to get the show up and running. This meant days and days and nights of after school and Sunday rehearsals, countless hours spent on what turned out to be an awesome set, and of course rehearsing songs. Oh, yes – songs! Did we mention it was a musical play?! That was another problem – we had scripts, we had lyrics to songs but no music! Thankfully we were thrilled to discover that one of our new class members, Rachel Flitman, was a talented musician, who wrote amazing original music for all the musical numbers in the play. With the help of our teacher Ms Engblom, after six weeks of hard work and dedication, we finally reached opening production night. Each of the four shows were a huge success with plenty of great feedback received from the teachers, parents, friends and other eager audience members.



All in all it was an experience none of us will ever forget and the friendships formed will last forever and ever and ever... and ever...

*Ekaterina Shchukina and Sophie Hollins (Future Movie Stars)*



### My Experiences in Australia

*Princess Mike came from Letsibogo Girls' High School in Soweto, South Africa. It has been an absolute pleasure to have her attend our school this year.*

When I was first told that I was coming to Australia I was really excited and felt really proud of myself as I was to represent both my school and my country. I started doing some research about Australia and it turned out to be a wonderful place. I didn't have a lot of expectations as the girls who have been coming down here in the previous years told me about Australia. Before they had told me about Australia I thought of it as a peaceful, dignified and marvellous place where everyone's standard of living was the same – unlike in my country where everyone's standard of living is different and there is a lot of crime.

When I first arrived here I saw many people and I was really nervous about living with people who have a different lifestyle compared to my family. I was really shy when I arrived here as I didn't know anyone, but my host family, which was Mrs Sarau's family, welcomed me and made me feel really at home. I was very nervous about going to school as none of the girls from my school came to Mentone so I had no idea what Mentone was like.

My first day at Mentone was really exciting as I met many generous people and the teachers were really nice to me. Mentone is very different from my school where school goes from grade 8 to grade 12. My school starts at 8.00am and finishes at 2.30pm, but the grade 10 to grade 12's finish at 3.00pm. We have College assemblies every morning and don't have a lot of extra curricular activities as you do here in Mentone. The day went by really quickly and the next day was my birthday and the Swimming Sports Day. I had a lot of fun at the Swimming Sports as we don't have days like this at my school. Everyone made my birthday awesome and I received many presents for which I was very grateful.

Settling in class was not that easy as the teaching method is different and everyone is allowed to talk during the lessons whilst in my school we are not allowed to do that. I was really surprised by the small number of students in classes and the enormous number of teachers. In my school there are up to thirty-seven students in one class and a couple of teachers compared to Mentone. As time went on I settled in really well and I made many friends.

The other exciting day of school was the Athletics Day as I took part in a couple of events

and it was really cool because Kenny won. Being in the school's debating and volleyball teams was terrific because I really enjoyed taking part. I was very privileged to represent Mentone and I had a lot of fun.

Having to change host families each term is really challenging as I have to get used to different lifestyles, but with the love and support of my host families my stay in Australia has been marvellous.

During my short stay in Australia, I have managed to visit many interesting places. So far I have been to the Great Ocean Road, Phillip Island, Tasmania, Echuca and Queensland and they are all awesome and I had the greatest time ever.

I was very privileged to attend school in Mentone and I would like to thank everyone for being so nice to me. I would like to thank all my host families for having me and Mrs Sarau for being a wonderful guardian. I would also particularly like to thank the School Council for allowing me to come to Mentone – without them I would not have been able to come and meet everyone. For that I am very grateful and appreciative.

Being part of the program was really good as I learned many things and had wonderful experiences. My aim is to complete Year 12 next year, go to University in 2006 to complete my degree in Bio Technology and come back to Australia to visit everyone whom I have met and probably move here with my family.

I really value Australia and I am looking forward to coming back. This was an experience of a lifetime and it will be an everlasting memory.

*Princess Mike*

### Eyes are Blind

Young and free,  
Happy and sweet,  
This little girl,  
Now so incomplete.  
Tragic happenings  
Stuffed up her life,  
Has changed her forever,  
Cuts deeper than the knife,  
So messed up now,  
Though her cover is strong,  
Bitterness and anger take over,  
Why and for how long?  
Mixed emotions,  
Jumbled thoughts,  
Memories of confusion,  
Images inside contorts.  
A prisoner of her own thoughts,  
Lost inside her mind,  
Alone in a dark black fury,  
Around her...eyes are blind.

*Carrie Gorman 11C*



*Alana Corra  
Year 11 Studio Arts*



*Jemma Phillips  
Year 11 Studio Arts*

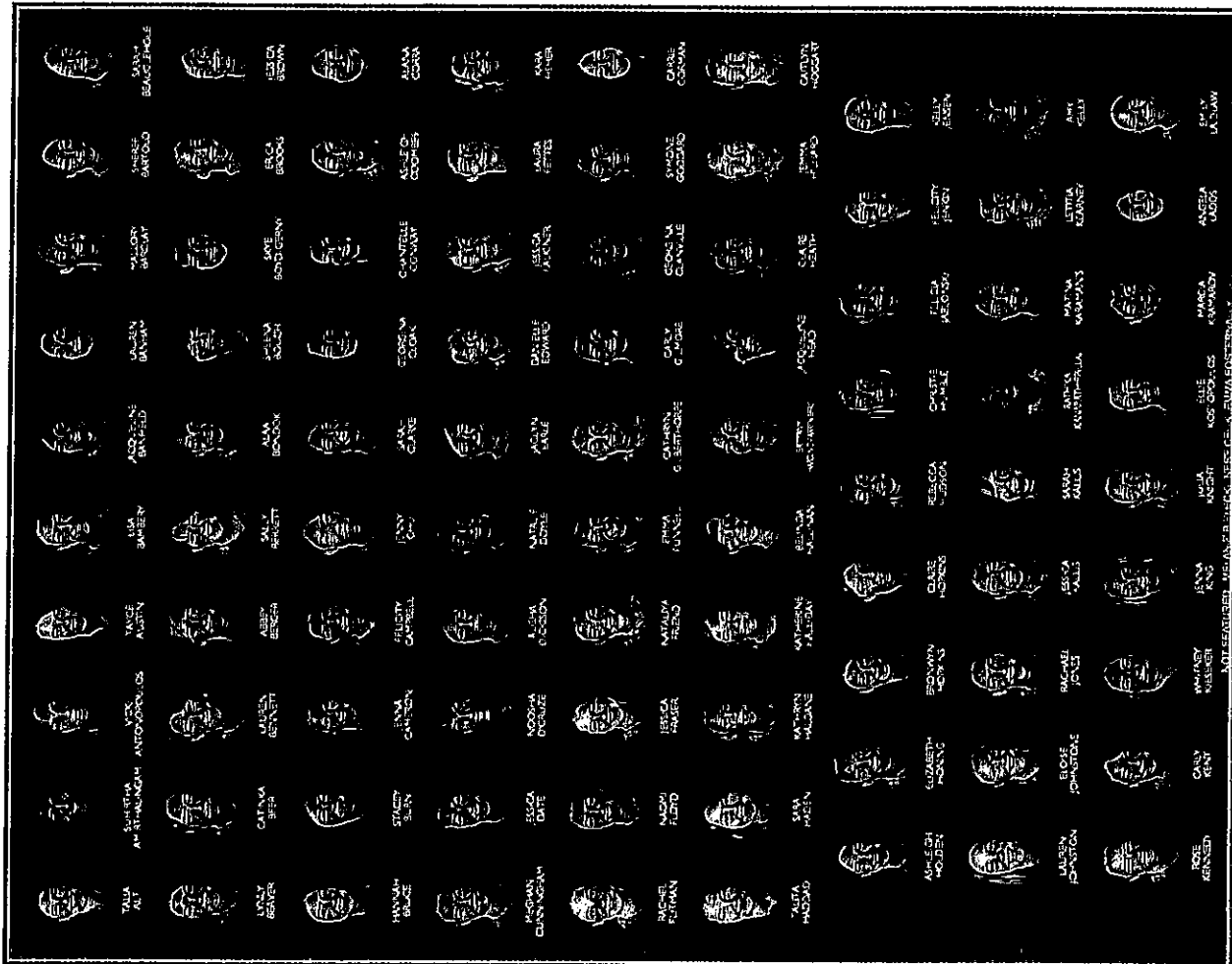
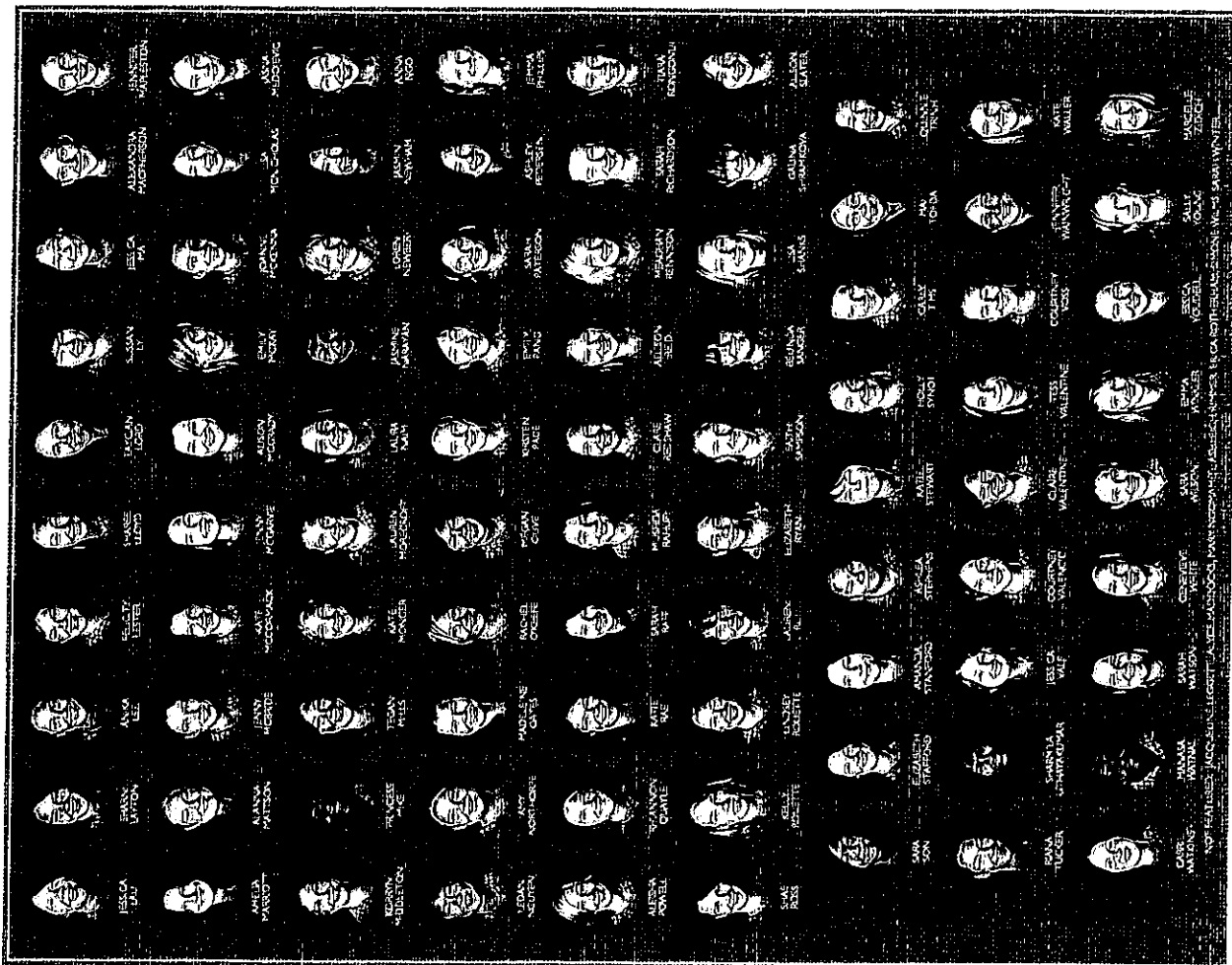


*Year 11 Blood Pressure Lab  
Jenny Cameron, Felicity  
Jenkin, Nataliya Friend*



*Loz Morecroft Year 11 PE*





### Twelfth Night

At the beginning of term two, we had to decide what play we wished to perform for the end of semester. This was a long and arduous decision but finally Mr Perks came up with the idea of doing *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare. After reading about it, we chose this as our play.

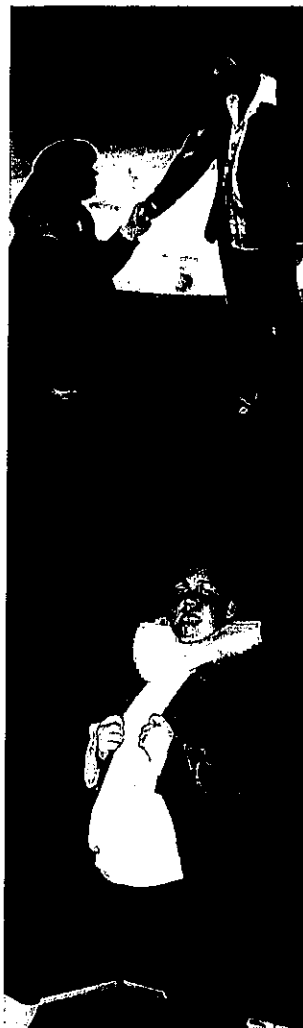
From then on we had to get used to weekend rehearsals, late nights and (not to mention), learning all of our character's lines. We designed and constructed most of our set last minute to be honest, but it came out for the better. Every girl's part in the play was as important as the other, big or small, and we all put in the work necessary to pull it off.

Now, in case you don't know and didn't come to see the performance, here's a little about "Twelfth Night". It is all set in a place called Illyria where separated twins, practical jokers, pining lovers and a comic villain run the show. When the fraternal twins, Viola and Sebastian, independently wash ashore in the city from a shipwreck, unbeknownst to each other, each assumes the other is dead. With Viola disguised as a man, the Duke Orsino, the lovely Lady Olivia, and the kind Antonio intermittently confuse the identity of the twins. Meanwhile a practical joke, set in place by the drunk Sir Toby Belch, his loyal sidekick Sir Andrew Aguecheek, and the ever mischievous fool Feste, finds its victim the priggish Malvolio who therefore acts so peculiarly that he is confined to a mental institution. What a tangle of events!

Thanks to Mr Perks we pulled off a magnificent show that I believe everyone who saw it, loved and enjoyed it. And in the great words of Feste:

"Wit, an't be thy will, put me into good fooling! Those wits that think they have thee, do very off prove fools; and I, that am sure I lack thee, may pass for a wise man: for what says Quinpalus? 'Better a witty fool than a foolish wit.'"

Sarah Watson 11H





### Year 11 Creative Writing

I met him a year ago; I didn't like him at first. Everybody liked him and he could get away with anything. He got away with most of the girls just once though, he didn't want to get too attached. I never could see what everyone saw in him.

Yes, he was always polite and extremely smart but he was an art student and his clothes were old and covered in paint and they always smelled of turpentine even when he went out. Maybe the chemical fumes of his clothes made the girls dizzy so they didn't know what they were doing.

I never used to understand why he would turn up to every party I went to. It never made any sense: why would an art student want to hang around with a group of Psychology nerds? At the time I believed it was because he thought us an easy catch as every male doing our course spent his free time in the library becoming the next Einstein. I can see now just how wrong I was.

At times, when I'm feeling low, I tell myself 'I should have seen it coming' but I know I couldn't have; he was just too clever. It was my first year at university and I was ready to take on any opportunities that came to me. I was going to start afresh, make as many friends as I could. So when he asked me out to dinner I accepted.

That night was the beginning of the end. I was early arriving at the restaurant so I sat down and ordered a drink. I looked around at all the dolled-up women and neatly dressed escorts and realised how embarrassed I would be when he turned up in his torn jeans and holey T-shirt. When he walked into the restaurant it was the shock of my life. I didn't even recognize him. His jeans looked as though he'd just taken them off the store shelf and his brand new shirt was neatly ironed.

"Carla, what do you think?, he asked as he sat down. "I bought them especially for tonight"

"Wow, have you washed your hair?". I couldn't comprehend why he had made such an effort, maybe it was because I'd made it obvious I didn't like him?

"I got it cut actually, thank you very much". He pouted his bottom lip then picked up the menu, "What will you have?".

The same sort of thing happened every second night for two weeks and I started to fall for it. He was just too nice. We laughed and talked, he seemed so intelligent. He knew everything I didn't and soon I knew almost everything he did.

I started going out to pubs with his friends and drinking a lot. Most of his friends were Philosophy students and after a few drinks I couldn't understand a word they were saying. Looking back, I see what they were trying to tell me; I was just too stupid to see it.

He'd hung around the flat I share with some friends so often it had become his second home. I never realised how strange it was that I'd never seen his place. All I knew was that he lived off-campus in a place he called "The Shed".

A couple of weeks after realising this, a couple of beers gave me the courage to ask him why.

"You want to see where I live do you? Ok, jump in the car and I'll take you there".

I got into the passenger seat of his blue Toyota Corolla and let him speed drunkenly out of town.

I never realised just how much he had changed me in those four weeks. I would never have drunk that much if I'd not met him and would never have got in that car and let him drive me drunkenly out to nowhere. I'd become freer and what's more I was enjoying myself for a change.

During the fifteen minute drive to his house, he narrowly missed killing us

both twice and drove in to a sign, scratching the car all down the passenger side, so when I went to get out after driving up to "The Shed's" front door, I had to climb through the driver's side because the door wouldn't open.

The name "The Shed" described exactly what his house looked like. The tin walls and roof of his square shed were surrounded by magnificent trees and flowers and many of his sculptures were placed around the garden. He opened the front door and I stepped into the darkness. I still remember the smell of turpentine and old oil paint mixed with wood shavings and old marijuana smoke. He shut the door and grabbed me by the waist.

"The light switch is over the other side of the room", he whispered in my ear before slowly guiding my feet across the mess-ridden floor.

He switched on a lamp and I found myself standing directly in front of his bed. I looked at the pictures he had on his wall; there were millions of them. I recognised most of the people and saw a couple of me smiling apologetically into the camera. I didn't realise then but in every photo, except the one of his family, there I was standing in the background, hiding in the corner with a friend discussing the last lecture we attended.

I turned around and opened my mouth to speak, but when I saw the painting behind his shoulder, my mouth stayed open but no words came out. I walked around him and gazed at the orange locks on the lady he had painted.

"It's me?"

"Do you like it?"

I looked around the room and saw a lino print of my face with my fringe blown back by the wind. There were pictures and sculptures everywhere.

"How long have you been doing these?"

"Since I first met you Carla. You're beautiful. I had to recreate your lovely face. I needed to have you all to myself".

He picked me up like a doll, chucked me on to his bed and lay down on top of me, his cold, hard hands holding me down. I was helpless. I looked around the room and all I could see were his reproductions of me.

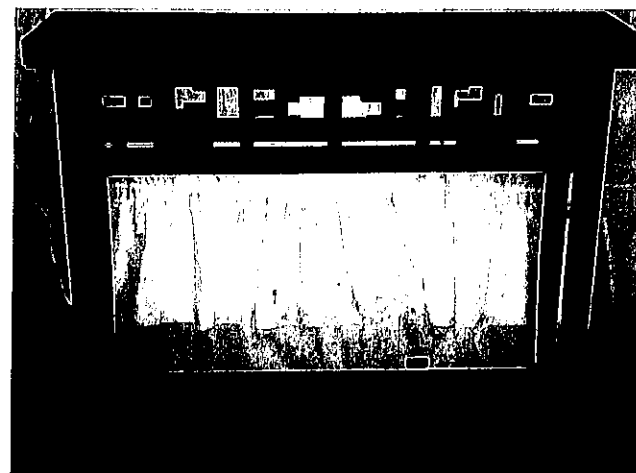
I'll never forget that night. Haunting my dreams everytime I try to sleep, every image of me swirling in front of my face as I lie helpless, the hands of tiredness holding me down to my pillow.

I will never forget him. He could have talked Hitler into surrendering the war. Never again will I say his name, the artist of my nightmares and now the artist of my little child, my little girl. Hopefully she won't be as stupid as I was.

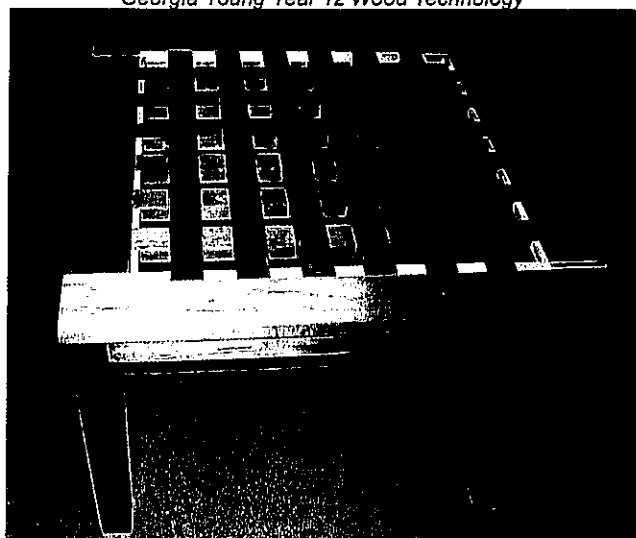
Rose Kennedy 11D



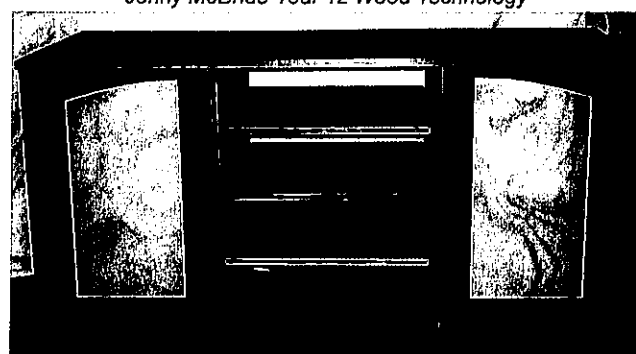
Jessica Ma 11E  
Studio Arts



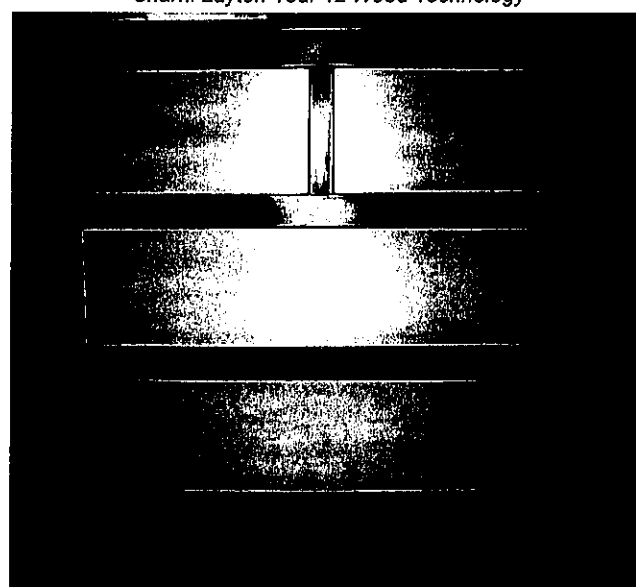
Georgia Young Year 12 Wood Technology



Jenny McBride Year 12 Wood Technology



Sharni Layton Year 12 Wood Technology



Shelley Morecroft Year 12 Wood Technology

### Persuasive Writing

Years ago it was widely accepted that boy children would get more advantages in life than girls. Women were seen as nothing more than house slaves, tied to their residence all day in order to make it presentable for the man of the house when he came back from an oh-so-harrowing day at work. If the woman was particularly driven, she would be a teacher or a nurse. There was not much for a woman out in a man's world. However, with the feminist movement came freedom for women, and people started to believe that women could do what men do. Women started to leave the house and strive for a career. The man began to cook, clean and look after the children. Yet, even in today's modern society, there is still a clear and distinct advantage in being born a man.

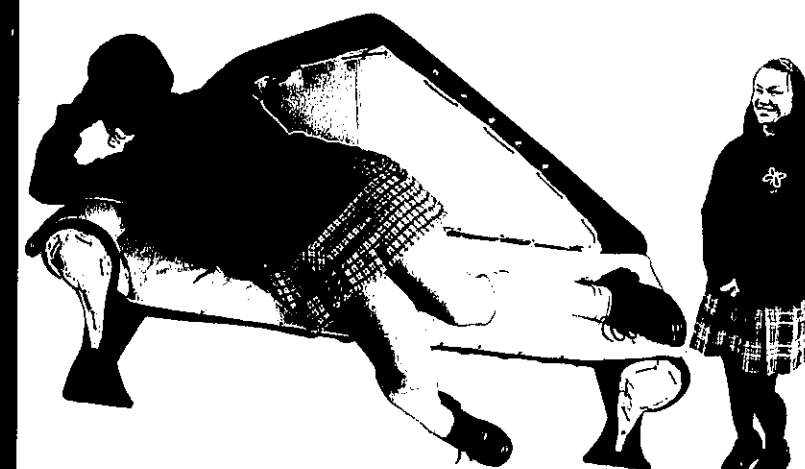
Let's start with the basics. Physically, men are the stronger sex and are allowed to be more adventurous. From a young age boys are encouraged to go outside and play, climb trees, discover the outdoors. Girls are expected to stay inside and play with dolls and tea sets. Boys are allowed to play contact sports such as Aussie Rules. They have more freedom and are not seen as vulnerable. It has evolved that boys should be adventurous and girls not. Therefore, men generally live a shorter life than women. However, even though women have a greater life expectancy, it is also expected that they will suffer from disability for more years than men.

Career-wise, there are more job opportunities and higher education possibilities for men. It is a fact that the Chief Executives of large companies in Melbourne are men. Although 75% of teachers in Australian schools are women, only 8% of Principals are women. For evidence of the inequality in high-powered jobs, we need to look no further than the Australian parliament, which is dominated by men. Surely there are many women that are capable of these jobs. Why is it that the public chooses to appoint men in such positions, rather than women? Why do women not apply for these jobs? Intimidation would have to be a large reason for this. Intimidation and the fact that it is in our psyche to expect men will get the highly paid jobs.

However, Australia is a much fairer society than most other countries when it comes to women's rights. In many Arab countries, the husband owns the wife, and the wife cannot disagree with what the man says. They are merely second rate citizens that are there entirely to tend to the men and their every demand. In countries such as China, where the one-child policy exists, boy children are so desirable that little daughters will be killed just so the couple will have another chance to have a boy. In those countries, it is a clear disadvantage to be born a woman, as women are simply there to look after men.

Although the general views about women have changed greatly in the past few decades, especially about their role in society, women are still discriminated against, even in Australia. It is harder for a woman to attain a top job or represent our society in parliament, and it's not because there aren't women that are capable of it. Generally from a young age boys are given more freedom, whereas girl's choices are restricted. Therefore, it is of an advantage to be born a man.

Eloise Johnstone 11D



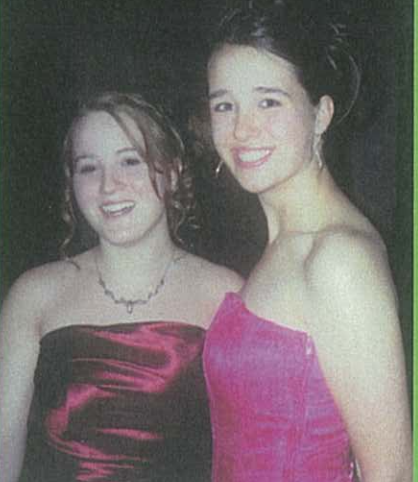
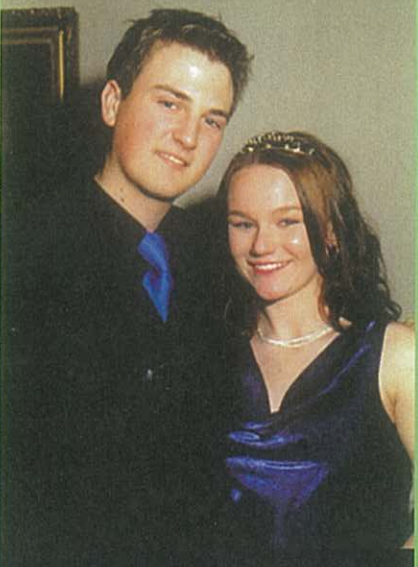
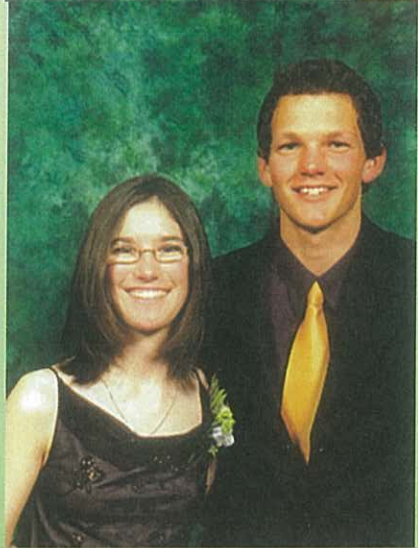
Peta Ryan Year 12 Wood Technology

Writing and Wood Technology

Creative Writing







# VCE Ball 2004

It's amazing to think that we spend so long waiting and preparing for just one night. After all, there is make-up to consider – heavy or light? The never-ending quest for the perfect dress – fairy princess or stunning movie star? The shoes, the transport, the boy? It's a wonder we don't all give up long before the night actually arrives.

The VCE Ball is the one night each of us waits for and when it finally arrived it was beautiful. From the moment we walked in the door we were struck by the music flooding the room and the masses of tea light candles dotted around the tables. The quest to find the right table, followed closely by the frequent scanning of the room for a familiar face, a flash of fabric that you helped to pick out.

The dance floor was almost never bare. Despite the valiant efforts of the teachers and waiters alike, it was impossible to contain the masses of both Year Elevens and Twelves (and their various counterparts) for very long. While some seemed content to simply sway a little, attempt a slight bob or even move their arms in a wave-like fashion, there were some who just couldn't get enough (the Nutbush especially, drawing in a rather large crowd).

Beyond the music, first a live band, then a DJ, there was the food – special praise coming from most on the spring rolls. The choice between chicken or lamb later causing many plate-swappings and the exchange of choice vegetables.

Awards went out later in the night, the coveted 'Most Likely to get Married' award going to Jess O'Brien of Year 12 and her date, Scott Mansell. The 'Queen of the Ball' was Rachel Annas of Year 12, 'Princess' going to Tess Valentine of Year 11. The 'Movie Star Look-alike' award went to Carly Gilmore, who bore a startling resemblance to Charlize Theron.

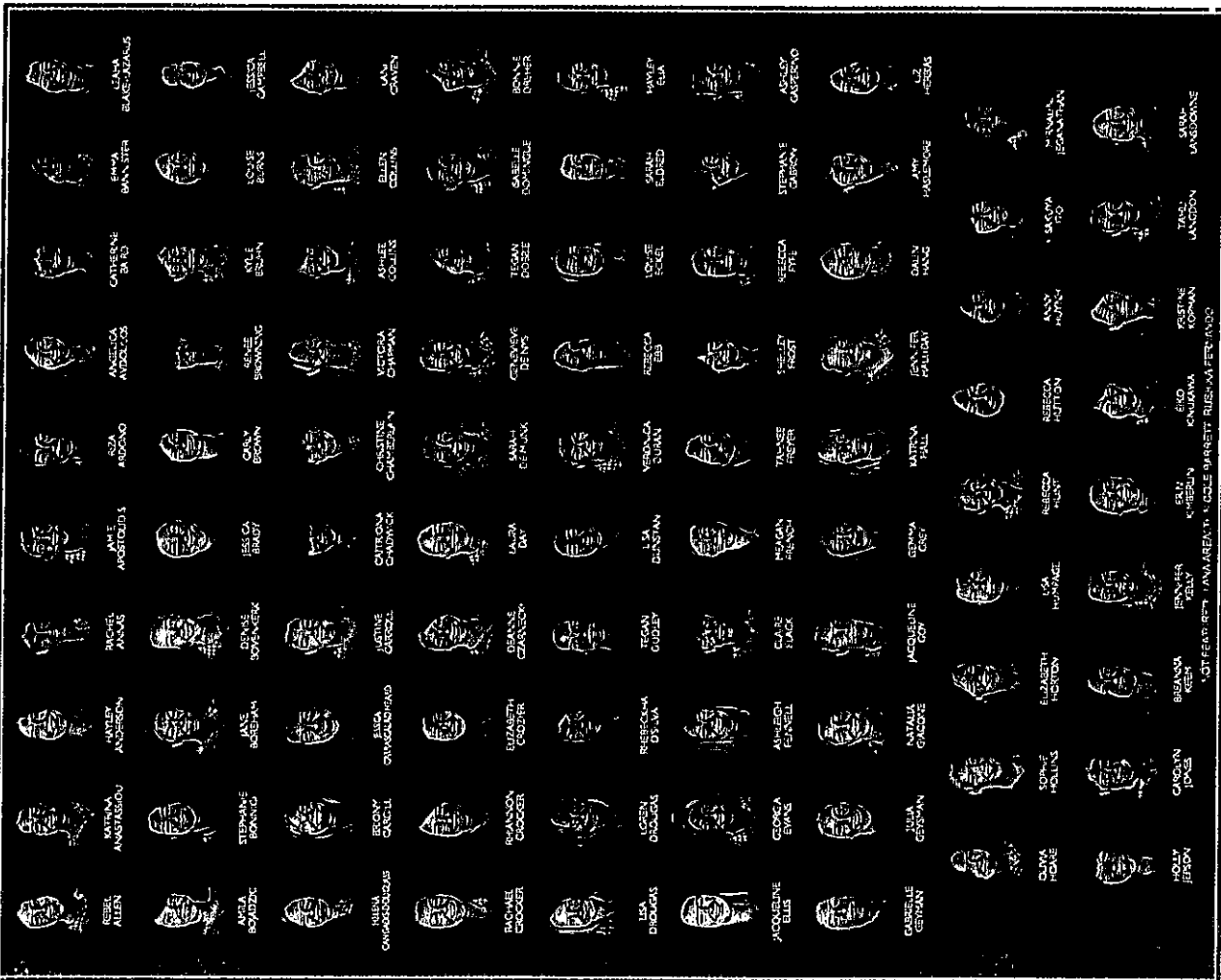
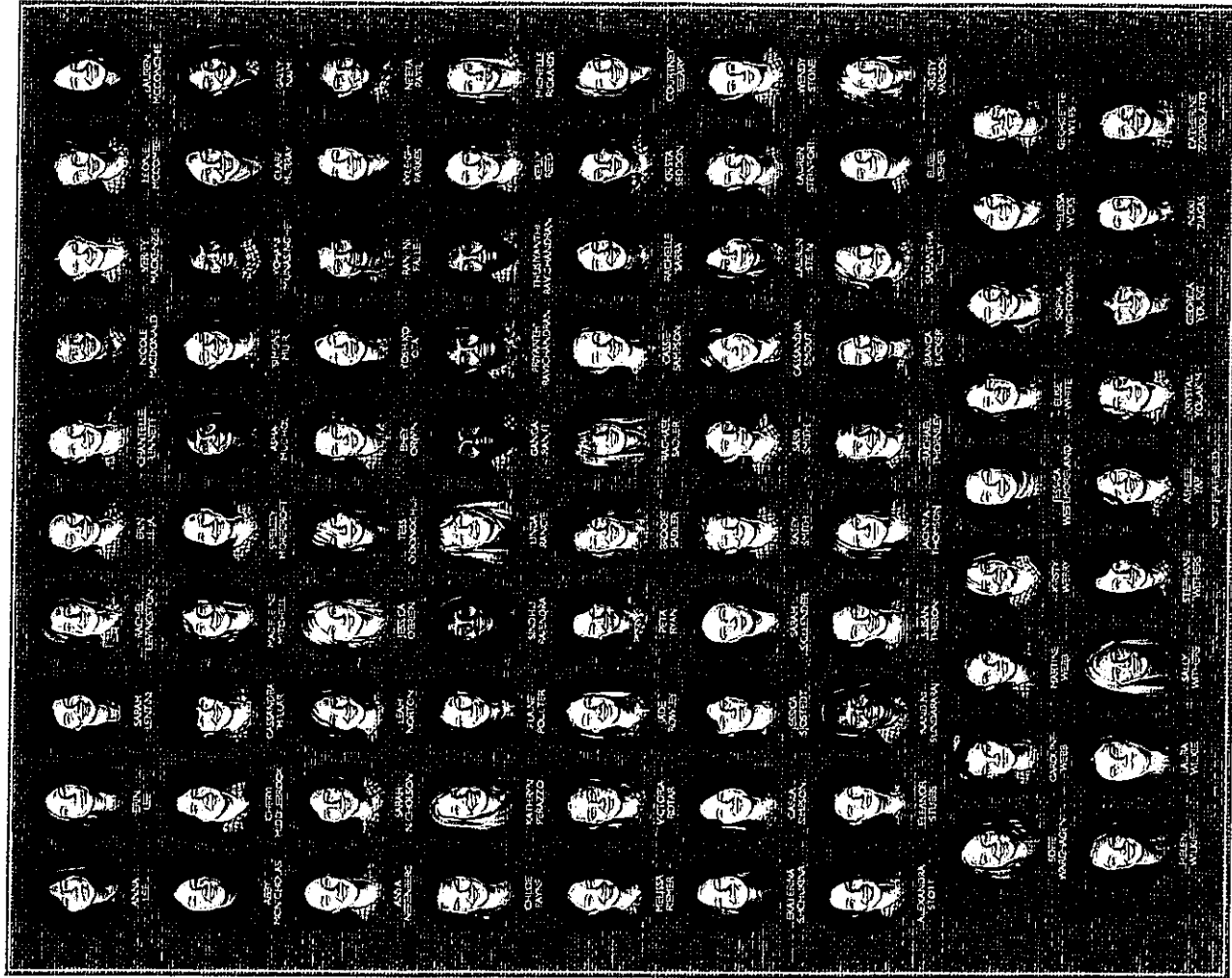
Finally, a big thank-you to the VCE Committee, the VCE Ball Committee and to Mr Kan and the Senior School Team for putting in so much time and effort to make the night as beautiful and memorable as it was. We had all been waiting so long for this night and you made it all worthwhile, so a huge thank-you from everyone who went.

Rebecca Hutton 12D





Year 12 Photos



"I wish you enough.

*I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to make you appreciate the sun.*

*I wish you enough gain to satisfy your ambitions. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.*

*I wish you enough success to make you proud. I wish you enough failure to keep you humble.*

*I wish you enough independence to accomplish your goals. I wish you enough dependence on others to keep your goals from being selfish.*

*And finally, I wish you enough hellos to help you get through the final goodbye."*

Ms Lehner

*Pudding not satisfactory.*

**B**eginning Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2004, the Year 12 class of 2004 spent three days at Mannix College, sleeping over in the live-in dorms on the Thursday night, listening to everyone telling us just how big this year was supposed to be. Study, study, study; work, rest and play; bear's now asleep.

On that Wednesday we were treated to a day of listening as a collection of speakers told us all about the wonders of Year 12, as well as the advice of an exceptional speaker, Sonja Cameron, on safe partying.

Thursday morning we were back again, this time weighed down by the overstuffed bags that only girls could find a way to rationalize for a single overnight stay. Our rooms were allocated and so it began; we were officially College girls from the moment we found the number on our door. After that it was another day of speakers and activities, including an interesting presentation from Mrs Gillet on personality in relation to the way we work. The next activity on the agenda was over to Monash University to make full use of their sporting facilities for a couple of hours of swimming, badminton, tennis or even squash. On our return we were given almost an hour to prepare for our big dinner with the teachers, the loaded bags we had shuffled in with in full use.

After dinner Ms Lehner delivered a speech highlighting what we could achieve this year and what would lie beyond our time at school. Then

followed the event that we had all been waiting for – the talent show. We had an hour to prepare and then it was on, an eclectic show of singing, a strange attempt at dancing and even a striptease or two. (Our School Captain, Ganga Ranjit, giving us a real sense of confidence in our school leaders as she stripped along to Christina Aguilera's 'Dirty' - partially, anyway!)

But, as you would expect, it was the teachers we were waiting for, or at least for that night, the VCEgiggles. It was a rainbow of coloured shirts up on the stage along with Captain Feather-Sword (Mr Wallace), and everybody's favourite, Dorothy the Dinosaur (or, at least, Mrs Hackwill in a green shirt, floppy hat, and a whole lot of energy!)

Mr Kan even stunned us with two solos on the guitar, a talent I'm sure many in Year 12 were amazed to find he possessed. Rebecca Ebb won first prize with her beautiful rendition of Aladdin's 'A Whole New World', the teachers (or the VCEgiggles) winning second place and Anny Huynh and Steph Withers coming third with Green Day's 'Time of your Life.'

It was off to bed soon after, not that anyone really expected us to curl up in our sleeping bags and turn out the lights after all that caffeine! Despite the valiant efforts of the teachers to quell the excitement, a Karaoke party in one of the dorm common rooms drew many until after midnight.

Friday morning came all too soon for most, the ban on pyjamas at breakfast meaning that there were many hungry and weary girls stumbling around the dorms looking for their shoes. After packing our bags it was time for our tour of Monash. First, a university style lecture, then breaking into smaller groups to be led around the campus, our guides pointing out many of the buildings and the events that were held there. Finally, after lunch it was time to go; the buses soon loaded and pulling away from the college, taking us back to school.

It was an amazing experience, enabling us as a year level to take some time away from the approaching stresses that we would soon have to face, and helping us to understand what this year would be. A big thank you to Mr Kan and Mrs Egan for organizing everything for us, it was fantastic, and thank you also to all the teachers who came along with us.

*Pudding always satisfactory.*

Rebecca Hutton 12D



Year Twelve Camp

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# Interview with Mrs Pat Chanter-Hill

(Mrs Chanter-Hill is a much loved English teacher who retired at the end of last year. We were delighted to have her back for a short time this year as a replacement teacher and took the opportunity to have a chat with her about life and teaching at Mentone).

Q. How long have you been teaching?

A. Longer than I care to remember. I'm pretty sure the motor car had been invented though because I remember having one.

Q. Did you always want to teach?

A. I just really fell into teaching. In those days there were teaching scholarships called studentships which paid your university fees and gave you a living allowance while you were studying. That seemed pretty good to me. I spent all the money on clothes. Once I went out into a school however I found that I enjoyed the whole process of teaching and learning. I liked being part of a school community and I found my subject and my students an endless source of inspiration. My love of teaching and respect for the profession have grown over the years. It's a rewarding and honourable way to spend your working life.

Q. What other careers have you had an interest in?

A. I had a fleeting interest in archaeology because I am intrigued by ancient cultures and how the human race has evolved. I also think it would be exciting to work in the media doing research or writing screenplays. Imagine making "The Dressmaker" into a film!

Q. What other schools have you taught in?

A. I taught the obligatory few years in the country and then in Frankston for many years, first at what is now the Karingal Park Secondary College and then at the Catholic Regional College, John Paul College.

Q. Why did you choose English teaching as your profession?

A. I suspect that I chose English as teaching subject because it was easy for me at school. I've always been a reader and I love talking about people and ideas. Well, I just love talking, really. English is such a rich subject too. You can do so much in an English classroom and make a difference to people's lives. I hope so, anyway.

Q. You recently went away. Where? For how long? What was it like?

A. We went up through Central and Northern Queensland to the Cape York Peninsula for seven weeks earlier this year. It was an adventure. The landscape is stunning - fields of towering, rustling cane with dark green foliage in the background, blue mountains and enormous skies. There were some environmental oddities too, such as a mountain of black boulders outside Cooktown. It was also fascinating to see how, in such a young country, communities have developed their own distinctive characteristics in response to their environment.



Year 12 PE Laserforce - Adrenaline game

At the end of term we are crossing the Nullabor to explore the Southern part of Western Australia - Albany and the Margaret River region, etc. I'm looking forward to it.

Q. Do you have any pets?

A. I'm sorry to say that I haven't. Since our dog was killed on the road we haven't had the heart to acquire another. I do have a husband though. He can be cuddled and also does the dishes.

Peta Ryan Year 12

Co-editor "Ride the Wave".



Mrs Pat Chanter-Hill with daughter Alexandra and son Jonathon

## Hope

Always new  
Timeless old  
A secret kept  
Against the cold  
Born  
Steeped in bitter rain  
Bending to your will  
Nothing left, but still  
Clutched  
Now deep within your soul  
Never known a whole  
Nothing you can know  
Nothing here can grow  
Still  
It cannot breathe alone  
So aching to be known  
Believing from the start  
The light within your heart  
Cost  
But holding on so tight  
Found in this restless night  
Never lose the fight  
Never lose the light  
Stayed  
Nothing holds its glance  
Slipped into a trance  
Nowhere left to go  
Nowhere left, but hope...

Rebecca Hutton 12D



## Irit Silver

Over the July holidays I conducted an interview with a Mentone Secondary College past student, Irit Silver. You may be familiar with the surname of this year's interviewee as she is the daughter of one of our fantastic music and English teachers, Mr Henry Silver.

Irit was a student at Mentone Girls' Secondary College five years ago. She attended the College until year ten and then took a giant leap to instead attend a Performing Arts College and further her training in a more musically focused environment. "It was difficult leaving my friends but it was also good to meet new people and it really helped me to realise that I wanted to focus on music.

While at the College Irit's favourite subjects included sport and surprise, surprise, music; one of her least favourite subjects was science. Irit's favourite teachers at the College included Mrs Wainwright, "because she's hilarious and great for a laugh" and Ms Engblom "because drama was fun."

## Kelly Defina

After leaving Mentone Girls' in 1999, Kelly Defina was unsure of the path she wanted to take, only that it would take her places. She undertook studies in photography and fashion design, travelled through Europe to places like London, Paris, Italy and Germany, before returning to study Graphic Design at Swinburne. She moved to Sydney and spent a year working before returning once again to Melbourne and now intends to complete a degree in Fashion Design at RMIT in 2005 in between waitressing and dancing. Since finishing Secondary school she has done more than many of us could ever dream, and in doing so, believes that it was right for her to follow such a varied path as it gave her the chance to realise what it was that she wanted to do with her life as well as valuable life experience that has influenced many of her life decisions. "Life's not as simple as it may seem and it's perfectly okay to go out and get some experience and try different things before you get a more defined path."



Of the teachers at the school, Kelly admitted to admiring Mr Stewart especially. Firstly because he was not afraid to give constructive criticism and was always honest, but also because he was prepared to put a lot of effort into helping you learn something. "In the end I learnt a lot from him and really respected him." Along with Mr Stewart, Kelly also found Mr Dunkley a very memorable teacher simply because he was always up and bouncing and "really made classes fun."

Irit kept herself busy while at the College by participating in extra curricular activities such as the jazz band, stage band and also playing in the orchestra in some of the school productions. With the other interests of hers being sport, she was also part of the football, soccer and cricket teams.

Being the daughter of a music teacher it was no surprise for me to hear that Irit's love for music started at a young age. She was playing piano at the early age of just three years old and at the age of nine moved on to play clarinet. She is now completing the third and final year of her course, Bachelor of Music and performing arts, at the Victorian College of the Arts; training to be a classical musician, she has also done chamber music and orchestral music.

When asked to name a few milestones in her career Irit replied, "getting into the Sydney Symphony" which she is currently in training for. Another achievement that Irit has behind her was being chosen as one of one hundred and twenty people from throughout Australia to go to Canberra and be a part of the Australian Youth Orchestra where she played in small ensembles with the other chosen representatives.

In another five years Irit hopes to be studying overseas in either Germany or America and on behalf of the Magazine Committee of 2004 and the rest of the College we wish her the best in achieving those goals and dreams and adding to the list of tremendous achievements throughout her lifetime. To all the readers out there keep your eyes and ears open and remember you saw her here first!

Peta Ryan 12F  
Co-Editor "Ride the Wave"

During her time at school Kelly participated in many of the sporting activities, including athletics, basketball and netball. Even now she has resumed her participation in sports, going to the gym, running, dancing and even a little boxing training, and at one stage doing some back-up dancing for a rapper.

Along with her co-curricular activities, she also did some work helping to organise Victoria Youth Week and hosting forums, but when it came to leaving school she said that while it had been hard leaving her friends she had kept many that were important to her and made new ones, and it had been exciting to get out into the real world and explore the possibilities. "My dream I guess is to own my own fashion label and that's what I'm working towards."

While she still wants to travel, Kelly admitted that what she is doing now was not really her first choice in career paths, but maintains that since leaving school one of her real milestones has been "just going overseas and discovering who I am and what I'm about."

But it was my last question and perhaps hardest that really showed how far Kelly has come since her time at school. When I asked her where she hoped to be in five or ten years she answered, "at a hip hop concert in New York where the rappers are being dressed in my label and just sitting back and enjoying the show."

What struck me perhaps most about Kelly Defina was her confidence and open friendliness as she told me, a total stranger, all about her life and her hopes and dreams, and also the fact that while she may have chosen to follow a much more scenic path towards her dream, she has really made every moment in her journey count, something that I hope we can all do one day.

Rebecca Hutton 12D  
Co-Editor "Ride the Wave"

Where are they now?



Mrs Chanter-Hill





# MOVING ON FROM MENTONE



At present, I am divided between feelings of excitement at the new challenges I will face as Principal at Wellington Secondary College and the tremendous sadness I feel at leaving Mentone Girls' Secondary College after eight years.

I arrived at Mentone Girls' as the newly appointed Head of Curriculum in 1996. Previously, I had taught English and History at two co-educational schools in

the Noble Park North and Keysborough areas, Carwatha P-12 College and Chandler High School, respectively. I had been at each school for nine years and held a number of responsibility positions including English Co-ordinator and Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator.

I was Head of Curriculum at Carwatha and was responsible for the amalgamation of all the curriculum programs when Noble Park North Primary School and Noble Park North Secondary School combined forces to become the new Carwatha P-12 College. This was both an exciting and difficult challenge! One example of the type of problem I faced at that time was when the staff at the primary school voted to continue teaching Italian, while the secondary school staff voted to teach French and Mandarin. As well, the local parents represented 32 different community languages! This type of issue certainly improved my negotiating skills and prepared me for my work as Head of Curriculum at Mentone.

In this position, my role was to balance the competing demands of the 8 Key Learning Areas and their staff to ensure that the programs taught at Mentone were appropriate, provided students with a range of developmental experiences and were adjusted to changing educational concepts and theories.

Some innovations that I am particularly proud to have initiated were the 'significant teacher' role at year 7, the introduction of the motivational 'You Can Do It!' program at Year 9 and the broadening of the student leadership roles to include KLA leader positions.

It was a standing joke for many years at all the schools in which I have worked, that if there was a meeting on - that was where you would find me.

I found teaching at Mentone a joy! The girls (mostly!) were keen to learn and there was far less time wasted on discipline issues than in some

other settings. Teachers also are inclined to do that little bit extra for their students and hence the college has developed an extremely broad co-curricular program.

In 1998, I was appointed as one of three Assistant Principals at the College. As the 'junior' Assistant Principal, I was given some of the really demanding jobs, such as lighting the gas heaters in the portables in the morning and checking the toilet paper supplies in the girls' toilets for the cleaners!

In order to retain some educational balance, I returned to study at Melbourne University, taking a Graduate Diploma in Educational Administration and then a Masters of Education degree which included subjects such as 'Educational Leadership' and 'Marketing in Education'. I found the study particularly interesting because I had the opportunity to apply many of the ideas I was learning about in my daily work.

Assistant Principals do everything in schools! In my 6 years as Assistant Principal my areas of responsibility have included employing staff, overseeing reporting and assessment to parents, supporting Junior and Middle School co-ordinators and staff in issues of student discipline and welfare, advising and liaising with architects on design briefs for the new buildings and repairing every aspect of the old buildings. In the central office, opposite the main entrance, I ensured that all major daily events and student excursions ran smoothly including the key annual marketing events, Open Night in May and Presentation Evening in November.

Presentation Evening was a particular trial, as it all had to be planned and co-ordinated away from the venue, Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash and any mistake on that evening was a very public one, evident to over 2000 students, teachers and parents! I was particularly proud of the year 2000 Presentation Evening program with its theme of Community participation represented by the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

Despite the frantic pace and long hours involved, the major delight of my work has been the enormous range of people with whom I have worked in this time. These have included students, office staff, the Parents and Friends' Association, the Past Students' Association, the Principal team, student leaders, individual parents and individual staff members, school council members and primary and secondary Principals in the Bayside area.

It has been a joy and a privilege to work with these dedicated and committed people whose main concern, as is mine, is to ensure that our girls receive the very best education available in one of the very best schools in the State.

I will miss Mentone very much.

Mrs Mary-Jo Putrino

## Magazine Report 2004

Every year this magazine just keeps getting better and better, with more colour and life than ever before, and this year is no exception. The entire Magazine Committee has put so much time and effort into making this work (possibly due to chip bribery, but that's not the point). What we really want to say is thank-you to all of the amazing and talented girls on the committee this year; you have made the magazine interesting and alive, and a special thank you to Helen van't Hof for working so very hard (and staying up so late!) to make the cover for us this year. Mrs Kinneally, you deserve just as big a thank-you because without you we could not have done this. You put in countless hours and deserve much of the credit for how amazing the magazine is, this year and every other. And lastly, we think we need to give a big thank-you to everyone who has written for us this year, donated their photos, and to everyone who reads this magazine. This magazine is for you, and without you we would not be able to make it as amazing as it is. Enjoy.

Peta Ryan 12F and Rebecca Hutton 12D



### Magazine Committee 2004

(l-r): Peta Ryan 12F(Co-Editor), Ellen Hollowood 10F, Kleo Cruse 8F, Helen van't Hof 10A, Mrs Sue Kinneally, Jo Politis 9G, Sharon Flitman 9E and Rebecca Hutton 12D (Co-Editor).