

1932

IOGD

Our Lady Star of the Sea,
Watch over us and our Stella sisters.
You are a light to guide our way so that
in all things may God be glorified.
Amen.

Years ago there was an exstudents' newsletter. Now seems like a good time to revive the tradition so welcome to the very first issue of IOGD - our very own Stella Maris Ex-students' Association newsletter. This is the place where we celebrate who we have become as we've grown beyond our Stella years and discovered who we are in all our perfectly imperfect glory!

My name is Donna Stimson, HSC class of 1979. I've been working at Stella since 2005 and SMESA Coordinator is one part of my current role in College Development. My daughter, Savannah, also attended Stella (HSC 2012).

Since I took on this position it has been heartwarming to see how many alumni have reconnected through our Facebook page and their own reunions, and how much it obviously means to them. It's been an eye-opener to meet so many former students and I love hearing stories about school life, especially from our 'Old Girls' from the 1940s, 50s and 60s. I am always learning more and more about what it means to be part of the Stella Maris tradition and I'm so proud to be a Stella 'Old Girl'.

People want to connect in one of two ways, or both - connect with each other and connect with the College. Both pathways have their benefits - finding old friends, making new ones, bringing back good memories, or perhaps resolving issues from the past. I urge you to complete the Membership Application form so I can keep you informed of upcoming events and activities that might interest you.

Through SMESA (the best acronym I could come up with!), I hope that many of you will also gain a way to benefit from your connection to the Association and be prompted to consider giving back to the College in a way that is interesting to you and beneficial to the College and its current students.

When we are through the worst of the Covid restrictions there will be opportunities to connect in person. Being on the verge

2021

of launching our first annual event, a lunch at Club Totem, it was so disappointing to have to put it on hold. I am hoping to secure a date for October or November and praying that it can proceed. There are two Stella Tours of the campus coming up in October and November for reunion groups that will be open to everyone - if Covid is brought under control in time - so I hope to meet more of you there.

This being our first publication, nearly all the input has come from me. That has to change! A newsletter full of fun and interesting information from you will make this publication a huge success. There is a link on the last page where you can submit anything you like (except advertising) - stories, photos, interesting facts, memories of school days, births, deaths and marriages of our alumni, 'where are they now' stories, school girl confessions - it's all interesting!

I'm always going to be interested in hearing from you so please don't be shy if you have any contributions or suggestions. Email me or message me via our Facebook group. I look forward to it.

Yours, Donna



**JOIN
SMESA
HERE**

Stella Maris College Ex-students' Association (SMESA)

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in association with

Stella Maris College

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Join Us!

Warning: This publication contains images of people who may be deceased.

Acknowledgement of Country We acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples who were the traditional custodians of the land on which the College stands; those people who called the wetlands of Manly Lagoon their home. We pay respect to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal people.

From the Principal



Dear Stella Alumna

Last year was an unprecedented year for the College, and for Australia. In Term 1, the College had to close its doors and move to on-line learning. The courage and determination of both our students and staff, ensured the fabric of

our community remained strong. Once we returned to school, everyone had new protocols around sanitizing and keeping the community safe with social distancing. Key events such as Year 12 Graduation and end of year awards had to be done differently.

Now, as we look out at the rest of the world, we are alert to the changing environment around us. The world has faced a pandemic, rising tension between the leaders of great nations, renewed calls for action on climate change and the spread of the #MeToo and #BlackLivesMatter movements. Our world, our future, needs people with vision and courage to take us forward as community.

When John Bede Polding (who co-founded the Good Samaritan Sisters with Mother Scholastica Gibbon) arrived in Australia in 1835, he imagined a better world where, like the Good Samaritan, we safeguard those who are more vulnerable. Polding challenged the colonial community to

respond to concerns he raised about the first peoples of Australia, 'the aborigines of the country, the first occupants of the lands over which your flocks and herds now roam have a very strong claim upon you. Nor will the Lord hold you innocent if you have not used your best endeavours to promote their temporal and eternal wellbeing.'

Polding understood the responsibility we have to protect the rights of others in our community. With the rise of the #BlackLivesMatter protests last year it is clear we still have much to do to meet the needs of our indigenous sisters and brothers here in Australia. The challenge is there for us all to live up to Polding's words.

I encourage you, as a valued Stella Alumna, to remain connected to our thriving Benedictine Good Samaritan community. Follow us on Facebook and connect with us through alumnae activities as they arise.

This year is our 90th since the College opened in 1931. We are doing some conservation work in the Chapel and we would love you to visit once that has been completed.

Over the next ten years we will be holding milestone events which we will let you know about through our Facebook site, emails and IOGD.

Elizabeth Carnegie, Class of 1978

Celebrating 90 years
SMESA
Let's Do Lunch
11th September 2021
12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Stella College, Balgowlah
\$50
Two courses
Guest Speaker

Postponed

Book here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSOPF>

Only 70 tickets available - first in best dressed!
Plans are in place in case of Covid restrictions.

Order your 90th Anniversary SMESA wine

We have released a special range of wines to celebrate the College's 90th Anniversary this year. After much 'research' the SMESA Tasting Team decided on

Watermark Shiraz
Watermark Pinot Grigio
Zilzie Sparkling Prosecco

Get your orders in and you'll be notified when they are ready to pick up from the College. Details and orders via <https://www.trybooking.com/BSMTY>

Our first delivery arrived recently. A great lockdown drop for those early birds!



**Great for
Reunions**

**Casual catch ups
Gifts**

Branded Hunter Valley & SA
wines - not generic blends.

FUN FACT
Sr Collette was known for
making her own 'Baileys'!

Express your interest in future events by clicking [HERE](#)

A Vital Part of Stella

In recent years a number of former students have been involved with the College and their presence, which is so much appreciated, has added a great deal to the College community.

Former students have shared their knowledge, passion and experience with the current girls as guest speakers at assemblies and at the annual Academic Awards Presentation Night. Journalist and news presenter Marguerite McKinnon 1988, charity founder Krystal Barter 2001, RAN Commander Bernadette Alexander 1987, Roxy Rogan 2014 and Bronte Halligan 2014 are among them.

Carol Vaughan 1963(?) helped enormously with the College [Wikipedia](#) entry. The museum could not have happened without the participation of Sylvia Millner 1979, Amanda Bisset 1996, Siobhan Nealon 2014, Anne McEncroe 1958 and Robyn Lyell (a past parent). They have helped create a valuable resource for the College where different Year groups come to learn about our history, the Good Samaritan Sisters, the role of prayer and how to live a Benedictine life, among other things. Amazingly, Anne stitched the habit from a pattern made by Siobhan from an original habit owned by the Good Sams, and she flawlessly stitched it all by hand! Sylvia, Amanda and Catherine Tauro 1980 have also been a great help with the College Archives.

There are a great many ways you could contribute to current College life.

- You might have an area of expertise that would make an interesting topic at a Year Group or Whole School Assembly
- The Archives/Museum is always looking for volunteers both onsite and remote
- Sign up as a mentor or a Careers contact person
- Join the SMESA Committee or Social Committee and help organise events when we can have them again
- You're also welcome to take on the editing of IOGD! (Thanks to Savannah Stimson 2012 for helping with this first issue.)

[Email SMESA](#) if you would like to volunteer or would like to know more about how you can help out at the College or SMESA.

SMESA Annual Award

Since 2014 the ex-students currently on staff at Stella have chosen a Year 12 student to receive the Ex-students' Association Award at the Year 12 Academic Presentations during Graduation Week. The criteria for the award is a student who epitomises inclusion, innovation and inspiration, who has a strong connection with the College and who will be a fine ambassador for Stella in the future.. *'Inclusive, Innovative, Inspiring'* is our College tag line, succinctly articulating our vision of the nature of quality learning and leadership.

Past winners

2019	Mia McLean-Smith	2016	Hollie Taylor
2018	Claudia Watmough	2015	Nicole Saldern
2017	Olivia Hunt	2014	Emily O'Connell

2020 Award - Congratulations Annika Barton

"This young woman is the epitome of inclusion, innovation and inspiration. She is energetically involved in all community events, always reliable, willing to take on responsibility and to support others. She collaborates very easily with girls from other Year groups, her own cohort and her teachers, and it is said of her that she is a 'kind soul'. She has a very mature work ethic and often brings new and original ideas to her work. She also contributes her growing expertise and originality to any team of which she is a member. This student is a proud Stella Girl, in fact a proud third generation Stella Girl, with a genuine desire to make a positive difference to her world."



90th Anniversary Mass

Some SMESA members were able to attend the 90th Anniversary Mass at St Mary's Cathedral in the city on Friday, 31st May, celebrated by Bishop David Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay. Numbers had to be severely restricted so only a few invitations went out, mostly to some students from the classes of 1957 to 1960 who knew Sr Lia van Haren, Class of 1957 and last Religious principal of Stella in 1995. Their attendance was to be a pleasant surprise for Lia but unfortunately on the day she couldn't attend. Nonetheless, everyone was impressed with the event and felt a renewed connection to the College. Afterwards, a group enjoyed a vegan dumpling lunch together at the restaurant under the Cathedral forecourt.



Above back row: Grace Devaney 2015 (staff), Amanda Whitfield née Cargill 1974 (ex-staff), Yvette Mihelic née Tierney 1989, Christine Tierney née Dowling 1967, Janet van den Broek née Perry 1960, Anne McEncroe née Stephenson 1958. Middle row: Anna Riley 2004 (staff), Elizabeth Carnegie née Wyburn 1978 (current Principal), Mary Ryland 1968 (former Deputy Principal), Collette Searl née Kirby 1969 (staff), Donna Stimson 1979 (staff), Jiani Chen 2007 (staff), Christina Clancy 2017 (staff), Natalie Cavallaro 2011 (staff), Elyse Connolly 2011 (staff), Anne O'Sullivan née Prendergast 1958, Denise Thompson née Perry (1957), Marina Haines née Frazer (1960).

Below left: Anne O'Sullivan wore her mother's school badge with no small measure of pride! Anne is the daughter of Marie Prendergast née Weston, Number 9 in the enrolment register, February 1931. Below middle: Emily Mihelic Year 11, her grandmother Christine Tierney 1967 and her mother Yvette Mihelic 1989. Three generations of Stella women. Emily's great grandmother is also a Stella woman, making it a four-generation Stella family! Below right: Gospel procession with our current students.



Stella Socials

This is the page we want to fill with interesting life events of our members and information about your reunions. It can be about you or about another Stella Woman - marriages, births, awards, travel, work. Help us keep up with whatever our SMESA community is doing. I haven't included any in this issue but of course this is also a respectful place to acknowledge and honour those of us who have passed away. Send your news to exstudents@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au any time.

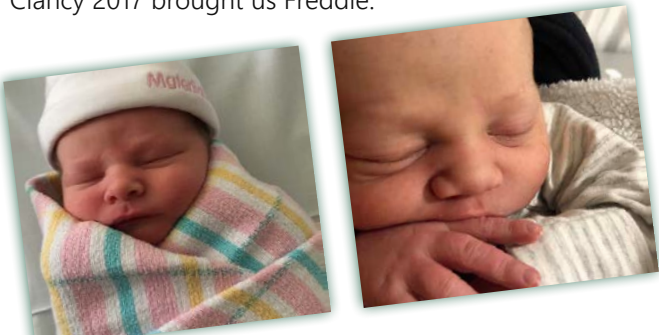
Matched & Hatched!

Kristie Ferguson, who left Stella in 1996 to pursue a ballet career, made a beautiful bride in early 2020 and in early 2021 brought us a very sweet Lachlan Beau Robinson. Kristie has been a member of staff since the mid-2000s. Her mum, Jeanette Ferguson, was a member of staff until she retired last year. She began life at Stella as Mrs Armansin in 1981.



More Beautiful Stella Babies

In 2020 Jess Curry née Byrne 2004, gave birth to a gorgeous young lady named Evelyn and this year Christina Clancy 2017 brought us Freddie.



SMESA Business Network

This is a new initiative so we are looking for our first contributors. If you would like to add your business to our Business Network Directory, please complete the form by clicking the button below. The Directory sits on the SMESA pages of the College website and is pinned to the top of the SMESA Facebook page. We ask that potential customers please consider how the pandemic has impacted certain businesses when seeking special offers or discounts. Now is the time to be helping each other stay afloat.

**REGISTER YOUR
BUSINESS HERE**

"You'll Never Guess Who I Ran Into!"

It's a big world out there - places to go, people to meet. But occasionally the world can catch you by surprise!

Where is the most unlikely place you've ever heard or said the words, 'Did you go to Stella Maris?' Send in your story for our next IOGD with a photo if you have one. Here's one to start...Donna Stimson ran into Alicen van Bokhoven (then Burrell, Class of 1976) on an overland truck in Nairobi, Kenya.



Reunions

IOGD is the place to tell us about your reunions - before and after the fact!

Advertise your reunion then send us a fabulous photo or two after the event.

Reunions can also be advertised in the College newsletter and on the website.

FUN FACT
In 1957 there were 15 girls
in Form 5 Leaving Certificate.

Recent Building Works 2018 - 2021

Chapel Restoration 2020/21

The Chapel has been plagued by water problems for many years. Rising damp and a leaking roof brought it to the top of the 'to do' list. The structural problems along with some very unsympathetic updates in the 1960s and later had to be addressed in accordance with its heritage listing, so today the Chapel is almost fully restored, including re-leading the stained glass windows, interior painting, woodwork and a new slate roof.



A Much-Needed Makeover 2018

Remnants of the original sandstone nine-pointed star remain in situ beneath the timber-decked quad. The heritage-listed Port Jackson figs are still the heart of Stella, having stood for over 150 years. (See photos on page 1.)

Scholastica Building 2018

Our Science labs hadn't been updated since the 1960s and 70s, the Library was way too small for the current number of students, the Staff have been making do with inadequate work space and common area for decades and IT services didn't have a proper home at all. And so was born 'Scholastica', built on the footprint of the old hall/D block. Three storeys of heaven!



Iluka Avenue streetscape



Eurobin Avenue



What's New?

*A school is a dynamic living organism that grows with the needs of the times.
Stella is very much alive!*

Houses 2014

As the school population grew it became necessary to create more Houses that were easier to manage by their Year 12 House Captains. In 2014 eight women who have made a substantial contribution to Stella Maris or to Australian society in general were chosen as the role models for our Houses.

Bashir



Chisholm



Mackillop



Noonuccal



Wood



Smith



Shinnick



Egan



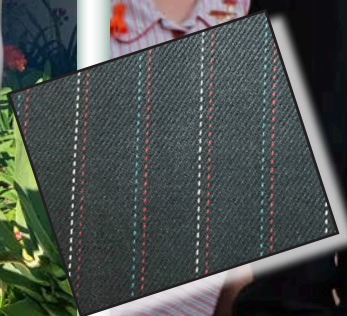
College Crest 2014

As part of a wider refresh the crest received a makeover. The design committee were concerned to modernise the image but also honour the long history of the original crest. Some elements were retained and modernised - the star, shield, banner and name. The Benedictine cross was added, sitting atop the 'Mound' and the focus of the school colours shifted to the maroon, which was adopted in the late 1990s, but also kept the dark green, the core of our colour palette.

Pants, hat and shorts! 2020/2021

Long gone are the days when society deemed that a woman wasn't dressed properly unless she was wearing a skirt or dress. Back in the late 1970s the Sisters were way ahead of the times when they allowed senior girls to wear long green pants and a beige polo neck jumper. Our current Principal was part of that era and now the pants have returned along with a new style shirt, dress shorts for summer and a very stylish hat, which the girls think looks great. The pants are dark green with a very fine cream and maroon pin stripe - that unfortunately doesn't show up well in photos so there's a close up of the fabric here for you! Shorts are the same.

And the young lady in the photo? That's Eva Duemmer of Year 7, whose mum is our Assistant Principal Wellbeing - Amy Smith, Class of 1992.



Class of 2020

Some Class of 2020 dropped in to say hello and pick up their 2020 school magazines (Stellabration). We asked them what they are doing now and what they miss most about school...

Isabella Pelaez-Sanchez: I'm at Billy Blue studying graphic design. I miss my friends from Stella.

Emily Foresto: I'm doing midwifery at UTS. I miss seeing all the teachers and my lovely Year group!

Talia Robinson: I am currently doing a Bachelor of Law and Arts at Macquarie University. I'm missing Stella so much. I miss my teachers, friends and routine every day.

Eloise Smith: I am currently in my first year of a primary education degree at ACU. Stella was such an amazing experience and I miss it every day. It all went way too fast.



Lilly Warfield: Presently I am studying a Bachelor of Information Technology. I was lucky to receive the Co-Op Scholarship at UTS. I truly miss many of the teachers and the Bennies atmosphere.

Annika Barton: I'm doing a Double degree – B. Arts/B. Linguistics & Language Sciences at Macquarie. I miss the routine of seeing the same friends every day and having that consistency in every day life. We are all online at uni and I miss the in-person interaction but I love the focussed work on the area I'm interested in.

It's clearly the relationships with their classmates and with their teachers that mean the most to our students as they move out into the world. Good reason to stay in touch with SMESA! We wish them all the very best whatever path they choose.

Go make a difference!

Mentoring

Are you a recent university/college graduate who can offer support and study advice? Are you established in your career and ready to encourage others with similar aspirations? Would you like a mentor who can advise and support you through uni or your early career?

The first year of university can be disorienting and getting started on a career can be very challenging. In today's workforce, networking and marketing your professional and personal skills are central to building a successful career.

Many of our young graduates would benefit greatly from having a mentor to give them advice and support on their journey through university or in their early career. You don't have to be the perfect mentor or mentee. We're starting small! This program is brand new and we are finding our way together. If you would like to be a support person for one of these beautiful young Stella graduates or you are a Stella graduate who would benefit from some advice and networking opportunities, please email exstudents@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au to register your interest in receiving more information.

FUN FACT
Everyone in the photo below is a Stella Girl! Even the teachers.



We make a difference! Some of the careers our Class of 2020 are pursuing include nursing, development studies, communications, paramedicine, law, media, science, commerce/law, fine arts, midwifery, data science, engineering, speech pathology, architecture, design, psychology, economics, dance, IT, event management & cognitive brain science.

Making a Difference



Rachel Nunn 2012, Vice Captain

Rachel is a graduate of Sydney University with a degree in Political, Economic and Social Sciences and is now the Manager of International Development at Equity Economics and Development Partners. She is also the founder and host of Good Will Hunters, producing podcasts on development and foreign policy through her communications agency, Good Will Media. Previously, Rachel was a Senior Consultant at EY, and a Social Development Specialist at the World Bank, working in Papua New Guinea and throughout the Pacific.

<https://goodwillhunterspodcast.com.au/>



Caris Bizacca 2005, School Captain

Caris is content producer at Screen Australia where she creates feature articles, analysis pieces and podcasts about Australian film, television and online projects. She also moderates panels, covers red carpets, and conducts video interviews. She is shaping opinions and in the film & television industry!

While at Stella, Caris discovered her love of writing and the possibility of making it her career when she came first in a NSW Creative Writing Competition in Year 9. From school she went straight into studying journalism at Charles Sturt University. Her advice to current students? "Never become complacent - always strive to be the best version of yourself."



Roxy Rogan 2014

CEO and Founder, WILD Education. A while back Roxy visited the College to speak about her conservation and film work. Roxy is an award-winning conservationist and documentary film maker. Her first major project, Orangutans: Guardians of the Forest, premiered in New York at the Wildlife Conservation Film Festival and was voted Best Endangered Species film. Her next film, Keepers of the Forest, was selected in 2019 for several conservation film festivals. One of her recent initiatives is WILD Education, Northern Beaches Beach Cleanup, part of Wild Clean Up - Global facebook group.

<https://www.facebook.com/wildededucation.info/>

Our Olympians



Rowena Meredith 2012
Rowing

Bronze medallist in the Women's Quad Sculls. Perhaps our very first Stella Olympic medallist. Congratulations Rowena! After school Rowena began studying at ACU to be a paramedic. When not rowing, competing or studying, she also coaches. Rowena is clearly giving back and giving it all she's got. Follow her on Instagram @roorows.

Does anyone know any other Stella Olympians from years past?



Bronte Halligan 2014
Water Polo

Having represented Australia since 2013, Bronte is a key member of the Aussie Stingers who gained 5th place in Tokyo. She is studying Psychology with a minor in Disability Studies at the University of California (LA campus). Follow her on Instagram @iwant_bront. In addition, her older sister, Devon 2011, competes for New Zealand in surf life saving and her younger sister, Indie 2017, is at Harvard University playing water polo!



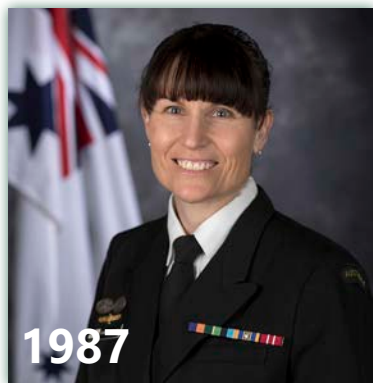
Kiri Tontodonati (née English-Hawke) 2012
Rowing for Italy

Kiri went all the way to the B Finals in the Women's Pair. She moved to Italy on a whim in 2013 and joined the Italian rowing team in 2016. She is also studying psychology and working in the Italian police force. Kiri is also a published author (The Handkerchief Map, 2010) and speaks four languages. Her first degree was in Language Mediation. She lives in Turin.

Stellars

There are so many Stellars out there making a difference that it was very hard to choose just a few! We are so proud of all our ex-students and would like to congratulate you all. Here are just a few. From little acorns do mighty oak trees grow!

If you would like to be included in the next issue of IOGD, or know someone you think should be, please email exstudents@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au with the details.



Bernadette Alexander

Commander Alexander is currently Commanding Officer of HMAS Penguin. She joined the Navy in 1988 and is dual qualified (Masters) as a Maritime Warfare Officer and Management Executive (Capability Development) officer. Commander Alexander's operational experience includes border protection operations in Northern Australia and she has served as Navy Women's Strategic Advisor to the Chief of Navy.



Marian Baird AO

Marian is a Presiding Pro-Chancellor at the University of Sydney, Professor of Gender and Employment Relations and has been twice named in the Top 100 Most Influential Women in the World in Gender Policy by Apolitical Magazine. In 2014 she received the Edna Ryan Award for making positive change for women in the workforce, in 2013 she received the AFR/Westpac Women of Influence Award in Public Policy and has been a visiting scholar at MIT, and the London Business School, among others. And that's just the tip of the iceberg!



Michelle Crockett OAM

"I love going to work every day, being able to help people and make a difference", and that's exactly what Dr Michelle Crockett has done throughout her career. Michelle is a GP Principal, a fellow at the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, president of Nepean Medical Association since 2008, and a senior GP Clinical Editor for HealthPathways Western Sydney, among many other things.

Nancye Hayes AM

One of our most treasured Stella Women is actor, dancer, singer, choreographer and director Nancye Hayes, Class of 1959 and legend of Australian theatre since the 1960s! Nancye has achieved at least sixteen awards including three Lifetime Achievement awards (Variety Club, Green Room Awards, Sydney Theatre Awards), three Helpmanns and JC Williamson Award for outstanding Contribution to the Australian Live Performance Industry. In 1981 Nancye received an OAM and in 2014 an AM for significant services to the performing arts. The Hayes Theatre in Potts Point is named in her honour and she is still commanding full houses at theatres around Australia.



Krystal Barter

In 2009 while recovering from her double mastectomy, Krystal Barter founded the charity, Pink Hope, a community dedicated to inspiring, supporting and informing women at high risk of breast and ovarian cancer. Krystal has featured on 60 Minutes, the Today Show, Madison, InStyle, Harpers Bazaar, A Current Affair, The Morning Show, Sun Herald, Cleo, Cosmo and SBS Insight, to name a few.

Krystal was a 2012 finalist for the Young Australian of the Year and NSW Woman of the Year, 2012 Finalist for InStyle Audi Women of Style Awards, 2012 Madison Inspirational Woman, 2011 Harpers Bazaar Woman of Influence and 2010 Warringah Young Citizen of the Year. The Lucky One is Krystal's first book.

"Stella is and always will be a part of my story and life. I still keep in touch and I am proud to be an ex-Stella Girl. I can't wait for it to be part of my daughter's story as well."



From the Archives

FUN FACT
In 1961 the Sports Carnival
was held on a Sunday



1997 Mock Trials with Mrs Marie Wood

Do you have any
memories or photos
you'd like to share?

Send an email
to [exstudents@
stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:exstudents@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au)

Snapshots in Time

Did you know that originally Stella Maris was called Star of the Sea and it was an industrial school and orphanage? The Stella Maris we know came into being in 1931 but from 1881, when the estate was purchased, the Sisters cared for orphans and neglected girls. Before the age of 14, the official school leaving age, the girls were taught all the usual subjects. After finishing school they were trained in domestic tasks as this was their best chance of gaining employment and a way out of poverty. Here is an extract from an interview with one of the Sisters and observations by a journalist, Daily Telegraph, 1904:

“And what becomes of them when they have passed through the school?”

‘We take them to the laundry. They are also taught cooking and housework. It is our aim to make them thoroughly competent and self-supporting.’

The big well-ventilated workroom was lined with bright-faced girls, working the sewing machines under the direction of an energetic Sister, who seemed to infuse her own enthusiasm into her young disciples. One of the girls was busy cutting out shirts with the skill of a practised hand. Piles of garments were heaped on the upper tables waiting to be pressed. Every detail was managed by the girls themselves.

In another room, girls were employed on hand-sewn articles. Sheets, hem-stitched and embroidered, an order from a Sydney shop - were proudly displayed. They undertake any kind of work - hand or machine - house linen, under-clothing, shirts, layettes, etc. And the knitting! All sorts and sizes of hose were shown - warm, ribbed, useful socks for winter wear; plaids and tartans and heather mixture, and the finest open work, looking as if fairy fingers must have held the needles.

‘Where does the singing come from?’

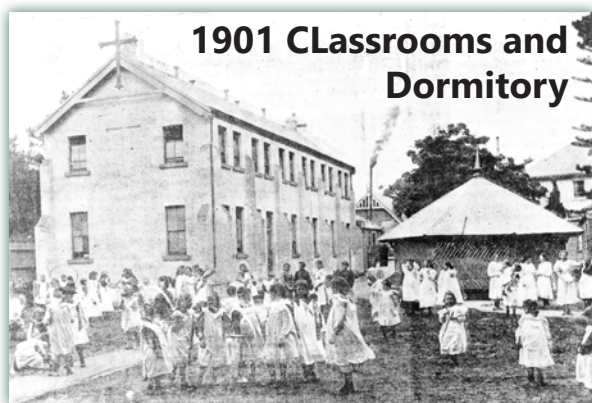
‘From the work-room. The girls often sing at their work. Come and see.’

The Sister-in-charge had gone out of the room, but the girls were still working at their machines, and, above the whirr of the needle, came the rich full tones of beautifully-trained voices. Moving away to the laundry, the tuneful sounds followed us. They seemed very happy and to love their work. To be excluded from the work-room is the worst punishment they know.”

Each edition of IOGD will feature part of the Stella Maris story that you might not be familiar with. If you have any questions you can submit them by email to exstudents@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au for future publication.



1901 Sewing Room



**1901 Classrooms and
Dormitory**

History Closeup

In 2020 this small hand-cobbled shoe was found buried under the Chapel. The best date we can give it is around 1888 from a photo we have, meaning it would have belonged to an orphan. There was a tradition brought to the colony from England of burying a shoe under or in the walls of new buildings. It is generally accepted this was to keep malevolent spirits away. Lots of people have suggested we put it back!



Next Issue

I hope you've enjoyed this first issue of IOGD. The next issue is scheduled for the end of May 2022 so if you have anything you'd like to send to me for inclusion in our newsletter please have it to me by the end of April. Email, snail mail or call - whatever communication method suits you. Here are some examples of the sort of articles that are of interest to our members:

- Reunions
- Casual get-togethers
- Births, deaths and marriages
- Stories of where you've run into other Stella women
- "Where are they now" stories about you or someone you know. Can be a whole paragraph or a single sentence. Please send a photo too.
- Your memories of school days fun or kindnesses shown to you along the way

The more contributions come from our members, the more energetic and interesting IOGD will become!

[Email SMESA](#) with your feedback about IOGD. What did you like? What would you like to see more of? What is not of interest to you?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Your 'To Do' List

1. MOST IMPORTANT! Send in your SMESA membership details for our database by clicking one of the membership buttons or [HERE](#)
1. Express your interest in future events by clicking [HERE](#)
2. Order your SMESA 90th Anniversary wine [HERE](#)
3. Join us on Facebook [HERE](#)
4. Register your business with our SMESA Business Network Directory [HERE](#)
5. Submit reunion advertisements and event photos [HERE](#)
6. Express your interest in our mentoring program [HERE](#)
7. Volunteer or find out more [HERE](#)
8. Send your memories or photos to [HERE](#)
9. Email your IOGD feedback [HERE](#)
10. Enter our trivia competition BELOW

Trivia

A simple Trivia Quiz for the end of our first issue. There's a prize coming to the first person with all answers correct! (Hint: It's an easy one this time. All the answers can be found on the [College website](#))

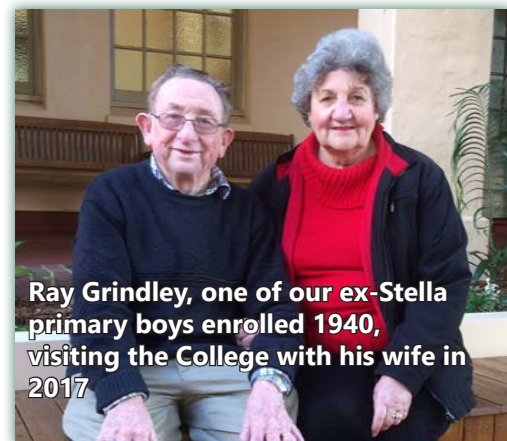
1. How many students were in the first intake in 1931?
2. What year was the Chapel built?
3. Who is the current Director of Administration, Risk and Compliance? (Class of 1980)
4. What is the official name of the College Library?
5. Which parable of Jesus is foundational to the Sisters?
6. Who is the first alumna to be featured on the Ex-students 'After Stella' page?
7. What is the name of the second campus opened in 2012 (formerly the Manly Fishos Club)?
8. What year was the last intake of primary-aged boys?
9. When was Stella Day inaugurated?
10. Who was the last Good Samaritan Sister principal? (Class of 1957)



Scholastica Tour 2018



Dr Gemma Walmsley Class of 2014, graduating Medicine from UWS 2019



Ray Grindley, one of our ex-Stella primary boys enrolled 1940, visiting the College with his wife in 2017

**ENTER YOUR
ANSWERS HERE**

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